WENTWORTH SHIRE
HERITAGE STUDY

Prepared for the Council of the Shire Of Wentworth
by Hassell Planning Consultants Pty Ltd
in association with Colin Pardoe

June 1989

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Wentworth Heritage Study was undertaken by Hassell Planning Consultants Pty Ltd at the request of the Wentworth Shire Council. Specialist input to the Study was provided by Colin Pardoe, Archaeologist. Funding assistance for the Study was obtained through the National Estates Programme.

The Council, government authorities and the local community have all recognized the extensive heritage significance of the Wentworth Shire. However, due to the size of the Shire previous historical investigations have been limited to selected areas. This Study aims to be a more detailed and comprehensive assessment of the Shire's heritage.

The Study involved the identification and assessment of items of heritage significance within the Shire and the formulation of practical recommendations relating to the recognition, preservation and restoration of those items. The Heritage Study could not have been undertaken without the valuable assistance and hospitality provided by the people of the Wentworth Shire.

HERITAGE ITEM REVIEW

The assessment of the heritage significance of the Wentworth Shire involved a lengthy investigation of historical documents, publications, unpublished material, surveys, plans, newspaper articles and photographs. Additionally, discussions were held with members of the community, the National Trust and relevant government authorities. Mr Jeff Whyte a local historian, provided valuable assistance and material for the purposes of the Study. Additionally, recent local publications relating to the history of Wentworth, Pooncarie, Gol Gol and Coomealla enabled quick reference to places and events of local historical importance. The research enabled the formulation of a thematic history of the Shire which is detailed in Appendix 4. Particular 'snap shot' periods were selected to represent important phases of the development of the Shire. The periods included the following:

- 1829-1845: Exploration and the Overland Route
- 1846-1860: Squatters and Townships
- 1861-1870: The River Trade
- 1871-1880: Municipality and Pastoral Expansion
- 1881-1890: Droughts, Deluge and Rabbits
- 1891-1900: Resumption and Settlement
- 1901-1910: Irrigation
- 1911-1930: Weirs, Locks, Roads and Rail
- 1956: The Great Flood

As a further means of reference, historical themes relevant to the development of the Shire were established. These themes when combined with the information in each development phase enabled a picture of local lifestyles and events which could easily be related to specific item assessment providing a recognizable context. The themes chosen include:

- Landscape
- The People
- Townships
- Agriculture
- Commerce
- Transport and Communication
- Services and Community Facilities
- Social Organization and Recreation

The thematic history does not provide a new history of the Shire, but enables easy reference to the lifestyle and settlement patterns of the time, which assist in identifying the significance of particular places items.

Historical research and discussions with members of the local community enabled the formulation of a list of items which may have some heritage significance to the Shire. These items were assessed by site investigation and valuated according to specific criteria which included:

- architectural/design quality of the item
- condition or integrity of the item
- any historic associations
- environmental and/or streetscape value

Each item assessed was documented in a format depicting name, location and significance as detailed in Appendix 5 of this report. Each item is provided with a conservation recommendation based upon its given significance as determined by the evaluation criteria.

The south-west region of New South Wales contains the most complete record of Aboriginal occupation in the continent. Thus, a significant component of the Heritage Study was the evaluation and assessment of items of Aboriginal heritage significance undertaken by Colin Pardoe. Appendix 2 provides a history of Aboriginal occupation in the Wentworth Shire and describes the tribes and their customs. Further to this, Appendix 3 details the types of archaeological sites in the Shire and there distribution. Additionally, a predictive analysis of areas likely to contain items of Aboriginal significance is attached to Appendix 3 and focusses on areas with development potential. To determine the location of known sites of Aboriginal heritage significance the National Parks and Wildlife register was consulted.

HERITAGE OF THE WENTWORTH SHIRE

The Wentworth Shire contains significant and important items of natural, Aboriginal and European heritage.

The appearance, habitation and development of the Shire and region has been dominated and controlled by the presence of the Murray/Darling River System. The rivers have been an important feature in the development of eastern Australia. Additionally, the dry plains and numerous lakes and ancient drainage basins provide extensive and unique areas of landscape and vegetation providing habitats for vast forms of birdlife and wildlife.

The Shire contains very significant examples of geological, palaeontological and archaeological interest including part of the Willandra Lake Conservation area which has world heritage listing. There are substantial examples of fossil remains throughout the Shire particularly that of the extinct mega-fauna.

Wentworth contains some of the most significant known sites of Aboriginal occupation in Australia. Some of the first records of Aboriginal occupation of the continent are found at Lake Mungo on the eastern border of the Shire. The River Murray, its foreshores, tributaries and adjacent lakes are home to a large distribution of aboriginal artifacts, middens, burials and the like. Some of the oldest known burials in Australia and the earliest recorded cremation in the world are located in the Shire. Some of the significant sites include Lake Nitchie, Rufus Creek, Snaggy Bend, and Lake Mungo.

European occupation in the Shire began in the late 1840's with the expansion of pastoralism into the area. Rural settlement was highly dependant upon the rivers and this was intensified after the 1850's when a regular river boat trade pass through Wentworth. Wentworth township served as a vital port due to its location on the confluence of the Murray and Darling Rivers. Additional to the pastoral and trade significance of the Shire was the introduction of irrigation at the turn of the century. Curwlaa was the first irrigation area established in New South Wales.

In assessing the environmental heritage of the Shire a number of specific items relating to the development of Wentworth have been selected to be included in a schedule within the new draft Local Environmental Plan enabling their protection. These items are listed in the recommendations.

However, all items selected within the survey have some heritage noteworthiness and reference to their individual recommendations should be considered with regard to future development proposals.

HERITAGE CONTROLS

Some of the items within the Shire are controlled under existing heritage provisions. The Australian Heritage Commission Act of 1975 is primarily concerned with the identification and registration of items comprising the National Estate. The powers of the Australian Heritage Commission are related solely to properties controlled by the Crown. However, the register of the National Estate lists those places that have been identified to date as comprising part of the nations heritage. A number of items within the Wentworth Shire are registered as items of the National Estate including:

- Mallee Cliffs National Parks
- Nearie Lake Nature Reserve
- Rufus Creek Massacre Burial Site
- Snaggy Bend Aboriginal Burial Ground
- Willandra Lakes Conservation Area
- Wentworth Courthouse
- Wentworth Gaol
- Tarawi Mallee area (nominated)
- Lake Nitchie Skeleton and Lake Nitchie Area (nominated)

Of utmost significance is the Willandra Lakes region which has world heritage listing because of its outstanding universal value of both cultural and natural features.

The New South Wales Heritage Act of 1977 ensures the cultural and natural heritage of New South Wales is adequately identified and conserved. The Heritage Act established the Heritage Council in New South Wales which is responsible to the Minster of Planning. The Heritage Council is obliged to keep a public register of buildings, works, relics, and places that are subject of conservation instruments and any orders made and notices served under the Act. Interim conservation orders are placed upon items likely to warrant permanent protection. The order takes effect when published in the government gazette and remains for a maximum period of two years until further investigation into the significance of the item is undertaken and a possible permanent conservation order is implemented. Three items within the Wentworth township are currently listed under the state heritage register:

- St Johns Anglican Church and Rectory
- Wentworth Hotel (interim)

Historic sites and natural areas owned or being required by the Crown come under the ambit of the National Parks and Wildlife Act. Some of the Shire's heritage falls under the control of the National Parks and Wildlife Services. The National Parks and Wildlife Act has sole jurisdiction and control over aboriginal relics and places. the Service compiles a Register of Aboriginal Sites which can be viewed in detail in Appendix 3.

The National Trust of Australia (New South Wales) is a private conservation body established by an act of parliament that which has no statutory powers. The Trust plays an active role in the conservation and enhancement of items of the environmental heritage through local advice and publications, purchase and restoration of properties, community awareness campaigns and recommendations for urban conservation areas and subsequent advice to local government authorities. An active branch of the National Trust is established in Wentworth and has been responsible for the recognition, enhancement and restoration of some items. Properties in Wentworth Shire listed in the Trust Register include:

- Former Wentworth Gaol
- Former Catholic School House
- Former Customs Officers Residence
- Wentworth Post Office
- St John the Evangelist Anglican Church
- Wentworth Courthouse
- McClymont House

Much of the Shire's environmental heritage is located within townships or on freehold land which is subject to Council planning controls. As such it is recommended that clauses be provided within the new Local Environmental Plan, as detailed in Appendix 6, to enable consideration of the Shire's heritage and its preservation and enhancement. Additionally building officers are empowered to use flexibility and discretion in requiring compliance of building regulations for heritage items under the Local Government Act and the Heritage Act. In assessing building and development applications submitted for heritage items or for development adjacent to heritage items, positive advice on suitable design, style and building materials to compliment the traditional building form or locational character should be forthcoming from the Council.

MANAGEMENT OF THE SHIRE'S HERITAGE

The following are the management recommendations which should be adopted by the Council to enable and encourage conservation of the Shires Heritage. The Council has a major role in determining the extent to which the Shires heritage is maintained through its own policies and guidelines and the determination of information to the local community. These recommendations should be read in context with additional material in Section 5 of this report.

The Council

Attitude

The Wentworth Shire Council to adopt a positive and clear policy framework regarding heritage conservation as set out in this report.

The Planning Department

The Council's Planning staff make full and consistent use of Section 90 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act in dealing with heritage matters.

The heritage provisions as set out by Appendix C to be included within the draft Local Environmental Plan currently being prepared by the Shire.

The Council's planning staff to maintain positive attitudes towards conservation. Encouragement should be given to sympathetic development and discouragement to proposals which work against conservation objectives.

Recognize the heritage worth of all items listed in Appendix 5 of this report by considering their level of significance and recommendations prior to consideration of development, building or alteration proposals of the item or adjacent items.

The following items to be included within a schedule of heritage items within the Local Environmental Plan and afforded the protection provided by those clauses within the LEP having specific reference to that schedule:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
3	Customs Officers Residence, Wharf Street	Wentworth
11/12	Post Office and Residence, Darling Street	Wentworth
13	Courthouse, Darling Street	Wentworth
14	Anglican Rectory, Darling Street	Wentworth
15	St Johns Anglican Church, Darling Street	Wentworth
19	Wentworth Gaol, Beverley Street	Wentworth
20	Rendlesham House, Sandwych Street	Wentworth
21	Yampa, Sandwych Street	Wentworth
31	'The Nunnery', Cadell Street	Wentworth
32	St Ignatius Convent, Cadell Street	Wentworth
33	'Crangs', Cadell Street	Wentworth
36	The Murray-Darling Junction, Cadell Street	Wentworth
39	Lockmasters Residence, Cadell Street	Wentworth
40	Wentworth Cemetery, Cadell Street	Wentworth
45	Wentworth Water Tower	Wentworth
46	Telegraph Hotel, Tarcoola Street	Pooncarie
47	Pooncarie Police Station, Tarcoola Street	Pooncarie
49	Pooncarie Cemetery, Menindee Road	Pooncarie
50	Dareton State Bank, Tapio Street	Dareton
54	Gol Gol Cemetery	Gol Gol
60	Curlwaa Store, Delta Road	Curlwaa
65	Tara Downs Homestead	Anabranch
68/69	Avoca Homestead and outbuildings, Pomona Road	Central
72	Para Homestead, Lower Darling Road	Central
73	Para Woolshed, Lower Darling Road	Central
76	Moorna Station Homestead, Renmark Road	Central
80	Lake Victoria Homestead and Store	Lake Victoria
86	Kulkurna Woolshed	Lake Victoria
92	Nulla Nulla Woolshed, Renmark Road	Lake Victoria
99	Windamingle Homestead, Silver City Hwy	Anabranch
109	Moorara Homestead, Menindee Road	Darling

The Building Department

The issue of demolition notices on buildings which are part of the Shires heritage should only be undertaken by Council when no other alternative is available.

The provisions of the Heritage Act should be used, where practicable, to avoid the issue of notices which would damage the Shire's heritage.

The flexibility available in Ordinance 70 should be used to avoid damage to the Shire's heritage in the case of change of use of an existing building.

The Council should give approval to the use of building materials which are sympathetic to the character of heritage items.

- Local Government Representatives
- Shire President
- Council Planner
- Council Health and Building Inspector
- Council Engineer
- National Parks and Wildlife Service Representative
- Western Lands Commission Representative
- Department Water Resources Representative
- Heritage Council Representative
- National Trust of New South Wales Representative
- Aboriginal Representative
- Local Community Representative
- Heritage Advisor or Local Conservation Architect

The Council should alert the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Western Lands Commission and Department of Water Resources to the findings of this study.

The Council should advise all relevatn State and Commonwealth government departments and agencies of the findings of this study and ask for their co-operation in conserving the heritage of the Wentworth Shire.

The Community

The Council should ensure that residents are aware of the heritage of the Shire and of the importance of heritage to the future of the Shire.

The Council should display this report and its recommendations for public information and comment.

The Council should encourage residents to undertake maintenance and building works in a manner sympathetic to the original character of the building.

The residents should be guided and assisted to conserve those items of the Shire's Heritage under their ownership and control.

The Council should compile a brochure explaining the implications of the Heritage Study, Council's approach to the Shire's heritage, and the role of the community in conserving heritage.

The Council should make available information pamphlets on restoration and renovation of heritage buildings to the general public.

The Council should contribute to columns in the local press providing practical advice on conservation of the Shire's heritage.

The Council should initiate local public meetings and seminars aimed at disseminating information about the Shire's heritage and methods/attitudes to aid its conservation.

The Council should initiate civic and rural awards to encourage heritage conservation in townships and rural areas.

Development Pressures

The Council should pursue early consultation with Developers to ensure proposals enhance and do not negate the Shire's heritage.

The Community should be given the opportunity to comment on proposals affecting the Shire's heritage.

Council should refer development proposals on land likely to contain aboriginal relics, as depicted in Appendix 3 to the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Local Aboriginal Lands Council prior to approval.

Heritage and Tourism

The Council should encourage the utilization of the Shire's heritage for tourism but without compromise to that heritage.

Funding and Incentives

The Council should investigate State Government funding opportunities for conservation projects.

The Council should alert local businesses of the importance of heritage to the future economy of the Shire, in an endeavour to attract local business and corporate funding or assistance in conservation projects.

The Council should seek opportunities to provide financial incentives to residents actively promoting heritage conservation.

Management of Areas of Archaeological Significance

Outlet Creeks

Outlet Creeks for lakes in the development area, specifically Fletcher's and Gol Gol Creeks, should be reserved.

Floodplains and Lake Margins

High ground on the cliffed margins of the River Murray floodplain should be protected from erosion and development to a distance of at least 30 metres.

Sand dunes on the flood plains should be carefully monitored and investigated prior to any development.

Lake margins, especially the lunettes, should be protected from erosion and development.

Sand Dunes

Perry Sand Hill should be protected and the use of recreation vehicles discouraged.

Access to the sand quarry area west of Wentworth should be limited.

Specific Sites

The shell midden opposite the Dept of Agriculture Research Station, to the south of and immediately adjacent to the Sturt Hwy should be preserved.

Museums and Displays

The Council to seek funding assistance from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Museums Association and the Australian Heritage Commission to develop suitable displays of Aboriginal culture in the Shire.

Development of Archaeological Sites

The Council employ the services of a site curator in the event of any development that involves clearing of bush or disturbance of ground where reasonable expections are held for the finding of archaeological relics.

The appropriate Aboriginal Land Councils be consulted in the event of development proposals that may endanger or disturb archaeological relics and sites.

WENTWORTH SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY

Prepared for

THE COUNCIL OF THE SHIRE OF WENTWORTH

by

HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD

In association with

COLIN PARDOE

AUGUST 1989

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

During 1988, Wentworth Shire Council requested Hassell Planning Consultants Pty Ltd to undertake a Heritage Study of the Shire, after receiving notification of success in obtaining a grant from the New South Wales Department of Environment and Planning under the National Estates Programme.

The Shire of Wentworth is located in south western New South Wales and contains some of the most significant landforms and Aboriginal relics in the country. The presence of the two largest rivers in Australia, the Murray and the Darling, have enabled settlement and the development of the Shire. Wentworth and district has played an extremely important role in the development of New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria due to the impact of early pastoral, river trade and irrigation undertakings.

Government authorities, the Council and local interest groups recognize the extensive heritage significance of the Wentworth Shire. Unfortunately, due to the size of the Shire much of the previous historical investigation has been limited to the townships. However, recent release of local publications relating to the historical development of selected areas within the Wentworth district have highlighted the local interest in understanding and recognizing the Shire's environmental heritage. Current development pressures and subsequent threatened neglect, modification and demolition of potential heritage items have resulted in the need for a much more comprehensive and condensed review of the heritage significance of selected items and places.

The limitations of existing heritage investigations within the Shire suggest that further detailed analysis is warranted and this report aims to provide that information in a concise and informative manner.

The Study involved the identification and assessment of items of heritage significance within the Shire and formulation of recommendations relating to the recognition, preservation and restoration of those items.

Mr Colin Pardoe, an archaeology consultant, has undertaken work relevant to the extent and nature of the environmental heritage within the Shire relating to Aboriginal culture and morphology. He has established a predictive summary of the likely locations and items that may be found in the Shire, as well as identifying known sites.

1.2 STUDY AIMS

The overall aims of the study are to:

- Identify and analyze the environmental heritage of the Shire.
- Make practical recommendations for its conservation and management.

The study will include the identification and assessment of items of environmental heritage within the Shire and make predictive analysis of areas likely to obtain items of Aboriginal significance.

1.3 REPORT STRUCTURE

The Wentworth Heritage Study report has been set out in the following stages:

- An overview of the methodology and documentation processes involved in the heritage study.
- Analysis of the Shire's historic development and description of historic themes consistent throughout each development era within the Shire.
- Identification and analysis of existing legislative and council provisions to protect heritage items.
- Recommendations for actions to enhance the awareness, maintenance and preservation of the Shire's heritage including recommendations regarding sites warranting specific recognition.
- Appendices detailing the assessment of individual heritage items and outlining the thematic development of the Shire with additional appendices specifically relating to Aboriginal occupation/sites and potential sites within the Shire.

1.4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The heritage study could not have been undertaken without the helpful input and hospitality provided by the people of the Wentworth Shire. The consultants wish to thank all those who provided historical information and access to their properties. In particular, the following people are recognized for their valuable assistance:

John Foley, Shire Clerk
Howard Clay, Shire Planner
Jeff Whyte, President Wentworth Historical Society
Mary Dawes, President Wentworth Branch of the National Trust
John & Annabel Walsh, Moorna Station
Jock & Barbara Taylor, Nampoo Station
Peter Kiely, Wentworth Gaol Museum
Peter Clark, Western Lands Commission
Rod & Dawn Smith, Dareton LALC

2 HERITAGE ITEM REVIEW

2.1 EVALUATION CRITERIA

The recommendation for items for conservation has been based upon assessment of four specific criteria, these being the following:

- Architectural/Design quality of the item.
- Condition or integrity of the item.
- Any historic associations.
- Environmental and/or streetscape value.

The assessment of architectural/design quality has been based on an item's expression of notable, prominent or unusual architectural style or design, the use of a particular building material, method of construction, or its representation of a particular architectural/design style or period.

Consideration of the condition or integrity of an item has involved an assessment of the degree to which the original significant aspects of an item have been retained, and whether an item is structurally sound and the degree to which any alterations or additions have been made, with the resultant level of compromise of the item itself.

The evaluation of the historical associations of an item involved consideration of the item's specific association with the lives or activities of particular individuals or organizations of local or state importance, its association with a specific event of importance to the state or locality, or its notability for design or construction by an architect or builder of state or local significance.

Finally, the assessment of the environmental/streetscape value of the item has been based on its importance in contributing to the continuity or character of a streetscape or locality or its location within a general environment, which as part of a group of items, establishes a particular character within that environment.

As a further means of categorization, historical themes and periods relevant to the development of the Wentworth Shire have been established. These themes assist in the assessment of the level of historical representation of items. The themes are titled as follows:

- Landscape
- The People
- Townships
- Agriculture

- Commerce
- Transport and Communication
- Services and Community Facilities
- Social Organization and Recreation

To complement these themes, particular 'snapshot' periods have been selected to represent important eras in the development of the Shire. When combined with the historic themes they enable a 'picture' of local lifestyles and events which can easily be related to specific item assessment providing a recognizable context. These periods are titled to enhance the important development phases of the Shire, and include the following:

- 1829-1845: Exploration and the Overland Route
- 1846-1860: Squatters and Townships
- 1861-1870: The River Trade
- 1871-1880: Municipality and Pastoral Expansion
- 1881-1890: Droughts, Deluge and Rabbits
- 1891-1900: Resumption and Settlement
- 1901-1910: Irrigation
- 1911-1930: Weirs, Locks, Roads and Rail
- 1956: The Great Flood

Analysis of these periods and the themes are outlined in the following section and detailed within Appendix 4. They do not aim to provide a new history of the Shire, but enable easy reference to the lifestyle and settlement patterns of the time, which assist in identifying the significance of particular items.

2.1.1 Previous Heritage Listings

In addition to the assessment of individual items during this study, the prior recording of items on one or more of the recognized heritage lists of state or national relevance has been utilized as an important information source. Four specific lists have been referred to, being the National Trust Register, the Register of the National Estate, the State Heritage Register, and the National Parks and Wildlife register of Aboriginal relics. Items contained within these lists are documented later in this report.

The National Trust Register includes items on two lists, they being the classified and recorded lists. The distinction between the two lists is that the preservation of items of the classified list is considered essential while the preservation on the items on the recorded list is encouraged until such time that further research can justify its classification. The National Trust Register has no legal status and accordingly does not control the alteration or demolition of listed items.

The Register of the National Estate generally contains those items identified as part of the nation's heritage, often including items on the classified list of the National Trust Register. The Australian Heritage Commission Act, 1975, established this register and requires Commonwealth Departments and Authorities to have regard to any items listed therein in the course of their activities.

The State Heritage Register is a list established under the State Heritage Act and contains those items of environmental, social or cultural heritage importance to the state which have come to the attention of the New South Wales Heritage Council due to threatened demolition or dereliction. An item is placed under an Interim Conservation Order until such time that its importance has been assessed and, if warranted, a Permanent Conservation Order is issued. The register does not list all items in the State which the Heritage Council considers worthy of conservation. It only lists those cases where action has been taken under the Act.

All finds relating to Aboriginal morphology, including burials, middens and campsites are recorded and protected by the National Parks and Wildlife Service of New South Wales. The service maintains a list of sites which refers to name, site type and map reference. This list is mainly the result of specific research projects and contract studies.

The abovementioned lists by no means provide a comprehensive grouping of items of heritage significance within the Shire of Wentworth. The absence of any particular place from one of these registers should not be taken to mean that the place or item has no significance. Due to the extensive and isolated nature of the Shire there has been limited review of potential items of environmental heritage significance, which this study aims to address. The registers provide an appreciation of items which by one means or another have come to the attention of heritage organizations and have sufficiently impressed these organizations to warrant their recording. They therefore provide an important basis for the examination and selection of items suitable for heritage protection.

2.2 DOCUMENTATION

2.2.1 Data Sources

Data for the documentation of the heritage items has come from a number of sources including local publications, newspaper articles, unpublished diaries, local historians, and government archives. Items were inspected, and where possible photographs taken. All references are detailed within the Bibliography (Appendix 1).

2.2.2 Documentation Format

The heritage item documentation has been undertaken in a format which satisfies the requirements of the State Heritage Council as recommended in the 'Heritage Study Guidelines', published by the New South Wales Department of Planning. The format includes an item description, a statement of environmental heritage significance, reference to the item's context in the thematic history of the Shire, item location and photograph. Each item is provided with a conservation recommendation based upon its given significance.

2.2.3 Listing Recommendations

On the basis of the foregoing analysis process, a series of items have been identified as being of environmental significance to the Shire and warranting the protection offered by their inclusion in a Schedule attached to the Shire of Wentworth Local Environmental Plan, the purpose of the Schedule being to require such items to be subjected to specific conservation clauses contained within the document proper.

The broad intent of these conservation clauses is to ensure the preservation of the listed items. A full list of items recommended for inclusion within the Schedule is contained within Chapter 5, while documentation of these items and all other items reviewed for their possible inclusion in the Schedule is contained within Appendix 5.

All the items surveyed were selected according to their possible historical associations or noteworthiness as determined by the investigation phase. While only some of the items were chosen to be included in the Local Environmental Plan for conservation purposes, it should be recognized that all the items selected to be surveyed have some heritage value to the Shire. The listing recommendation provide guidelines as to their maintenance restoration where appropriate.

2.3 ASSESSMENT OF ITEMS OF ABORIGINAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The southwest of New South Wales contains the most complete record of Aboriginal occupation in the continent. The large repositories of Aboriginal history lie in the places most often subject to present day development pressures such as river frontages and lakes. As such it is vital to address the needs and interests of all parties concerned with increasing development within the Shire without destroying a history and heritage dating back some 40,000 years, by identifying areas where further consultation and archaeological research is required prior to development.

To determine the location of known and likely sites of Aboriginal heritage significance the National Parks and Wildlife Service register was consulted. This list however, is not a complete record of all sites in the area. Further to this, an assessment was made of the landforms within the shire and the likely distribution of sites amongst those landforms according to scattered finds and knowledge of seasonal settlement patterns, rituals and custom. This analysis, in association with the description of different types of archaeological remains and their common distributions, enabled the formulation of predicted locations for potential site finds. The predictive analysis focussed on those areas in the Shire most likely to be subject to development pressures.

During the research phase the consulting archaeologist discussed the work and aims of the Heritage Study with officers of the National Parks and Wildlife Service, members of the Dareton Local Aboriginal Land Council and other members of the Aboriginal community.

3 HERITAGE OF THE WENTWORTH SHIRE

3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SHIRE

3.1.1 Natural

The Shire is dominated by the Murray-Darling River system and the town of Wentworth is located on the confluence of those two rivers. The dry plains and numerous lakes and ancient drainage basins provide extensive and unique areas of landscape and vegetation providing habitats for vast forms of birdlife and wildlife.

The Shire contains very significant examples of geological, paleontological and archaeological interest, for instance, part of the Willandra Lakes Conservation area, which has been recognized as a World Heritage Area and contains extensive fossil remains from the pleistocene period. There are many examples of the remains of extinct mammals and birds, including the mega fauna, or large marsupials, that died out over 20,000 years ago. Throughout the Shire there are examples of mallee extending westward from the Darling River and there are areas of very special scenic quality related to sand dune progression, erosion and drainage.

3.1.2 Aboriginal

Wentworth Shire contains some of the most significant known sites of Aboriginal occupation in Australia. The earliest Australians arrived on the continent some 40,000 year ago. The first records of these people are found at Lake Mungo. The River Murray was one of the most densely populated parts of Australia therefore its foreshores, tributaries and adjacent lakes are home to a large distribution of artifacts, middens, burials and the like.

The Shire has some two hundred and eighty four registered sites currently listed with the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service, and many new sites are being investigated. These sites include some very important finds in Australia, relating to Aboriginal morphology and culture, including the significant Lake Nitchie area, the Rufus Creek Massacre burial site and the Snaggy Bend Aboriginal burial ground. The area has not been extensively investigated and many potential sites are subject to change through urban and rural development, and in particular, the effects of flooding, farming practice, tourism, and recreational development.

3.1.3 European

European occupation of the Shire began in the late 1840's with the expansion of pastoralism into the area. Agricultural pursuits and the subsequent rural settlement of the area was highly dependent upon the rivers for water supply and as a transportation route. By the 1850's a regular river boat trade passed through Wentworth carrying wool clips to markets and importing domestic items which

precipitated the Shire's development. Wentworth township served as a vital port due to its location on the confluence of the Murray and Darling Rivers.

The Shire, due to its distant location from the State's nucleus, Sydney, was often forgotten by the administrative powers and lacked financial aids of the State. The main ties were with South Australia and Victoria and as a result the extent of its development was hindered by lack of funds and attention. However, the Wentworth township and nearby Moorna Station were central to the administration of the vital and wealthy pastoral concerns of the Darling District. A town site surveyed at Moorna Station was even given consideration as the capital of Australia at the time of Federation.

The dominance of pastoralism is notable on the frontages of the Murray, the Darling and the Anabranch by the abundance of fine homesteads, of which many today are derelict or altered.

The expansion of the river boat trade was mainly the responsibility of Adelaide entrepreneurs. The New South Wales Government were mostly concerned with the collection of duties resulting from interstate trade. However, at the turn of the century funding was forthcoming for the purpose of irrigation. Horticulture, resulting from irrigation, developed early in the twentieth century and is mainly responsible for the establishment of the settlements of Curlwaa, Dareton, Buronga and Gol Gol.

3.2 SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT ERAS

As previously mentioned, the history of the Shire can be viewed as a series of development eras which reflect the main events or happenings with the Shire. The following is an overview of each of these eras, which are detailed in Appendix 4.

3.2.1 1829-1845: Exploration & The Overland Route

Exploration parties headed along the unknown Murray and Darling Rivers in an endeavour to discover the inland sea. Captain Charles Sturt, in 1829 entered the headwaters of a wide river which he named the Darling. A Government conceived expedition then sent Sturt to trace the Murrumbidgee and he entered a mighty river which he named the Murray. He came across a river junction which he was convinced was the Darling, in 1830. In the following years Surveyor General Major Thomas Mitchell travelled similar routes confirming Sturt's finds.

Joseph Hawdon and Charles Bonney drove cattle overland from NSW to Adelaide along the Murray and arrived at the Darling/Murray river junction in 1838. Other overlanders followed the route and the river junction spot became an established camp site known as

Hawdon's Ford. The actual junction at the time was called 'The Rinty'. The settlement was later referred to as the 'Darling Junction'.

In 1844, exploration of the lower Darling from Laidleys Ponds (Menindee) to the Darling/Murray Junction, was undertaken by Edward John Eyre.

3.2.2 1846-1860: Squatters and Townships

A number of squatters established reign over the land along the Darling and Murray Rivers, expanding their holdings westwards from the Murrumbidgee area and north eastwards from South Australia. The junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers was the site of the settlement now known as 'McLeods Crossing'. Transport to the area had been improved with the coming of the Murray River boats and steamships. The land proved to be ideal location for grazing large stocks of sheep. Squatters continued to take claim to land along the frontages disregarding the territory of the Aborigines.

3.2.3 1861-1870: The River Trade

The river boat activities along the Murray and Darling Rivers encouraged further active growth of the area. Settlements and stations continued to concentrate around the frontages to take advantage of the river trade and a reliable water source. The arrival of the first river borne wool at Goolwa was start of an important era in Australian history. Steam navigation of the river followed and the junction of the Murray and Darling naturally became the site of the township to become an emporium of river traffic and a depot for the supply to the interior. Further settlements started to spring up as points of exchange along the river, and located where the steamships could renew their supplies of wood.

3.2.4 1871-1880: Municipality and Pastoral Expansion

The great flood of 1870 was the largest to be recorded in the Shire. The township of Wentworth had gained recognition as a major port and growth centre within New South Wales. By 1879 the town was proclaimed a municipality. The squatters and graziers continued to expand their holdings and expend great amounts of capital on improving the capacity of the land.

3.2.5 1881-1890: Droughts, Deluge and Rabbits

The western land was thrown open for settlement and the wealthy western squatters had their vast lands reduced in size. The settlers and squatters were stricken with seven seasons of dry weather and subsequent poor wool clips. The additional onslaught of the rabbit plague coupled with overstocking began to cause much erosion and land degeneration. Nonetheless, the settlements

continued to thrive and grow at a reasonably rapid pace. Across the Murray the Victorians had been investigating the possibility of developing an irrigation area at Mildura.

3.2.6 1891-1900: Resumption and Settlement

The agricultural viability of the land was rapidly diminishing as a result of the rabbit plague, exacerbated by overstocking, drought and land clearing. The pastoral properties divided into small resumed allotments caused grief to many a settler because of the inability to sustain ample production. Some holdings were being abandoned and as a result, a new Land Act was passed to hand back resumed lands to the stations until required for settlement. The dismal pastoral industry resulted in demands for the sufficient funding of an irrigation scheme to be established along the Murray, east of Wentworth.

3.2.7 1901-1910: Irrigation

Irrigation breathed new life into the district that had been ravaged by rabbits and drought. The Wentworth Irrigation Scheme (Curlwaa) enabled the production of fruits and vines of high quality.

The pastoral leases had expired by 1900 and land administration initiatives were enacted to assist in repairing the damaged properties.

3.2.8 1911-1930: Weirs, Locks, Road and Rail

By 1929 a series of locks and weirs, to assist navigation and pumping, had been completed on the Murray River. An improved system of road networks, statewide rail links and motorised transport reduced the need for river boats as a source of transportation, communication and trade. Irrigation areas within the Shire expanded and new settlements were established, including Dareton. The Victorian town of Mildura continued to grow and prosper, acting as a regional focus, reducing the potential expansion of facilities in the towns within the Wentworth district.

3.2.9 1956: The Great Flood

During 1956 Wentworth Shire experienced one of the largest floods on record, second only to the 1870 flood. The flood was more damaging than any previous due to the intensification of development along the river frontages.

Wentworth was proclaimed a Shire in 1956. Wentworth township no longer provided the focus for commercial activity due to the demise of the river trade and expansion of Mildura. Horticulture was gaining credence as a most valuable industry in the Shire. Communications and services in the Shire improved significantly.

3.3 CONTINUOUS THEMES OF THE SHIRE'S DEVELOPMENT

The continuity of the Shire's development has been explained by a series of themes which are described within each of the eras of development. The following paragraphs detail the environmental heritage of the Shire with specific reference to these themes, which are expanded upon in Appendix 4.

3.3.1 Landscape

The Rivers

The Murray River, Darling River and Great Anabranch of the Darling are integral to the heritage of the Wentworth Shire. The otherwise flat and dry landscape of the district is given life and vitality by the two largest rivers in Australia.

The ancient river and lake systems within the Shire enticed habitation by the earliest recorded Aboriginal populations. The Aboriginal tribes lived closely with nature in the district for some forty thousand years.

After the first fifty years of white settlement in Australia, the rivers attracted numerous exploration parties and subsequent expansion of pastoral exploits to the river banks. Utilization of the Murray and Darling Rivers as major transport arteries supporting the explosive river trade of the late nineteenth century encouraged further development of the area. Later, management of the Murray River through a system of dams, locks and weirs resulted in the first irrigation settlement in New South Wales. Management of the river, increase of surrounding human activities, and introduction of exotic aquatic flora and fauna have significantly changed the appearance of the rivers. The Murray was once recorded as a blue stream adorned with water lilies. This is by no means a description of the turbid river seen today.

The junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers, at Wentworth, is the site of first European settlement within the Shire. This, along with the river channels themselves are rated to be of important environmental heritage significance to the Shire. Furthermore, the Murray and Darling Rivers are vital to the heritage of Australia as they initiated and continue to play an important role in the development of the nation.

Lakes and Billabongs

Numerous lakes and billabongs are scatted throughout the Shire. Many lakes are remnants of the ancient drainage basin of the Lachlan River and are presently dry salt beds. An extension of the Menindee lake system is evident in the northern portion of the Shire.

Further south, as part of the Murray system, Lake Victoria has significant heritage value. Acquired by the South Australian Government as a vital part of the Renmark Irrigation scheme and a source of water for South Australian settlements, the lake is a retainer of important fossils, aboriginal relics and was a drawcard for early pastoralists. All the lakes within the Shire provided habitats for past Aboriginal communities and vital water source for intricate and unique ecosystems.

Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area

Part of the Willandra Lakes World Heritage area lies within the Wentworth Shire. Willandra Lakes are the remnants of the ancient Lachlan drainage system and are comprised of a series of dry lake beds with intricate and unusual dune and lunette formations. The area has world heritage listing due to its geomorpholigical significance.

Sand Dunes

The usually flat landscape of the Shire is corrugated by a series of longitudinal dune systems. These dunes, sometimes vegetated, provide an interesting and colourful addition to the landscape and often play host to important Aboriginal relics and fossils, particularly burials, and bones of mega fauna which are believed to have become extinct some 20,000 years ago. Some of the more obvious and significant dunes within the Shire include:

- Perry Sand Dunes
- Moreton Alley
- Foreshore of Lake Victoria
- Lake Mungo Shores

River Cliffs

A notable landscape feature of the Shire are the cliffed banks of the Murray river. These are particularly evident downstream from Wentworth. A passengers guidebook issued by Murray Shipping Limited, quoted comments of a journey down the river describing the cliffs in the following fashion:

> *"we pass through cliffs of sedimentary rock, composed of friable sandstone and clay, with an amazing richness of coloration, running from the bright browns and yellows of the sandstone to the blue and black in the banks of clay."* (Drage, 1976, pg 39).

Vegetation

The red, orange and sandy hues of the Shire's landscape are interspersed with the grey/green Eucalypts and blue bush. The water courses are characterized by significant vegetation stands including the majestic River Red Gum. Large expanses of Mallee are distributed throughout the Shire, particularly in the western and eastern portions. Other tree species include the Murray Pine, used extensively for rural constructions, Belah, Box, Rosewood (Bullock Bush) and Sugarwood.

The native peach, or Quangdong, is prolific in the north western section, and scattered throughout the Shire. This small tree is known in some Aboriginal dialects as Curlwaa, thus naming New South Wales' first irrigation area.

There are some rare occurrences of plants, including that of the spotted fuschia near Tuckers Creek.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service manage areas of environmental significance incorporating areas of unique or typical vegetation such as:

- Mallee Cliffs National Park
- Lake Nearie Reserve
- Junction Island
- Tarawi (proposed)

Fauna

There is a wide variety of native fauna within the Shire, the most noticeable being the kangaroo, wallaby, emu, parrot and cockatoo as well as a number of reptiles. The smaller marsupials are less evident and threatened by the presence of introduced species and loss of habitat through agricultural expansion.

Sheep are the most common domestic animal within the Shire, however, their numbers today are far less than in the early days of pastoral domination. The rabbit is prolific and responsible for massive loss of vegetation and land degradation in the late nineteenth and mid twentieth centuries. Feral cats, introduced in the 1890's to cull the rabbit population, have drastically reduced the extent of small native fauna. Wild goats have multiplied as a result of improved pastures and water supply and owe their existence to early settlers in the townships of Wentworth and Gol Gol who held goats on the adjacent commons.

Droughts Floods and Bushfires

The landscape of the Wentworth Shire is controlled by the extremes of climate experienced in the locality. In particular the hot dry summers and low rainfall contribute to the parched and sparsely vegetated appearance of most of the Shire. Droughts have played a significant role in the lives of the Shire's residents. On many occasions drought has been responsible for heartbreaking loss of stock and agricultural productivity. One of the most significant droughts occurred in 1890. Many landholders have experienced extreme hardships as a result of large and recurring dry spells.

In contrast to the damage of drought is the damage from the floodwaters of the Murray and Darling Rivers. There have been two great floods recorded in the Shire since white settlement. The first occurred in 1870, and the most recent in 1956. The latter has been responsible for defining the boundaries of the 1 in 100 year flood levels. Flood waters converging upon the Shire remain spread out over the flat landscape for many months. The swollen waterways provided many incidents of isolation and property damage as well as loss of life. As a result of the severity of the 1956 flooding, high levee banks were erected around the Wentworth township and within the nearby irrigation areas.

Bushfires are common in the outback, particularly so since human settlement. During the summer of 1974 to 1975 the Shire experienced its worst out-break of fires. A State of Emergency was declared in December of that year with a fire causing a burnt out area of some 1.3 million hectares within Balranald and Wentworth Shires.

Human Settlement

. Townships

There are only five townships within the Shire, the largest being Wentworth with a population of some 1,400 persons. The expansion of townships has been largely limited by the growth of nearby Mildura. Three of the townships are located on the Murray River between Mildura and Wentworth, and only one settlement is located on the Darling. Some smaller irrigation settlements are scattered along the rivers.

All the townships are characterized by low density housing, predominantly timber structures, grid pattern layout (excluding Dareton) and a small linear commercial focus. The prominent visual features include water towers, telecommunication towers, and in the case of Wentworth, a church steeple.

Since the earliest days of municipal administration in Wentworth, the town was complimented on its neat and modern appearance which included kerb and guttering, wide well maintained streets and attractive street planting. Shade trees were considered vital in an area that experienced hot, dry summers. The Wentworth Municipal Council minutes of August 1896 record a motion offering a reward to anyone giving information that would lead to the conviction of persons found injuring or destroying trees planted in the street. Such early street planting usually included Eucalypt, Kurrajong, and Peppercorn trees. Some of these remain today but many have given way to road improvements. More recent Council planting has been dominated by Eucalypts. The Jacaranda tree is prominent in all townships and provides an attractive mauve hue to the settlements throughout November.

Agriculture

The dominant agricultural activity within the Shire is sheep grazing, while wheat farming is conducted to a much smaller extent. Additionally, horticulture, conducted within the irrigation areas is the Shire's most valuable industry. These activities have resulted in distinctive landscape modifications throughout the Shire.

Within the pastoral districts farm dwellings and woolsheds are present along the length of the rivers. Large areas of open or cleared land are used for grazing or planting of cereal crops. Wire fencing traverses thousands of kilometres, replacing the shepherds used in the mid 1800's. The introduction of new animals and removal of vegetation has caused large areas of destructive erosion, visible as gullies and dustpans.

The irrigation areas, made viable by management of the river through the construction of locks and weirs, is characterized by intricate channel systems and numerous, orderly orchards and vine plantations, providing an attractive patchwork effect. The unnaturally green and lush landscape is in stark contrast to the dust blown plains and grey foliage of the pastoral areas. Small vernacular timber dwellings are dotted amongst the orchards, their presence often only identified by a tall palm tree, typical within gardens planted early this century.

3.3.2 The People

Aborigines

The Wentworth Shire has played host to a variety of significant people and their associated occupations. The Aborigines were the first human inhabitants in the area. As previously mentioned, some of the earliest recorded evidence of Aboriginal occupation of Australia is found in the Shire. The local tribes included the Maraura of the Lower Darling and Lake Victoria, the Paakantjii of the Darling River, the Barindji to the east, the Kureinji along the mid Murray, and the Danggali in the north west of the Shire.

Settlement of the Shire by Europeans resulted in a decimation of the Aboriginal populations by introduced diseases such as influenza and smallpox. Additionally, tribal countries were claimed by pastoralists and native habitats destroyed by clearing and the introduction of exotic animals.

Tensions and misunderstandings between white and black man resulted in many murders, the Rufus Creek Massacre being the most notorious. The Aboriginal peoples were forced to live in camps on the stations, relying on food traded for stockman services. As the tribal populations diminished, so did the size of stations and many could not support their Aboriginal communities. As a result missions were set up and many families displaced to other areas,

often separated. Notable missions at Yelta, across the Murray River, and at Pooncarie no longer exist. Today the Aboriginal population mostly reside at Dareton and predominantly consist of communities originating from outside the district.

Their are many items of heritage significance within the Shire relating to the Aboriginal people. These are dealt with in Appendix 3. Access to land and important sites is often difficult. Some sites are registered with the National Parks and Wildlife Service, however the location of many sites is unknown and can only be predicted according to typical land forms and known customs.

Explorers, Pastoralists and Early Settlers

The first known white person to enter the Shire was Captain Charles Sturt in 1829, on a government conceived expedition to trace the Murrumbidgee River. He discovered the Darling/Murray junction in 1830. Further exploration into the area was undertaken again by Sturt and also Major Thomas Mitchell and Edward John Eyre. Sturt is immortalized in the area by the namesake Sturt Highway, linking Mildura with Balranald. Additionally street names in Wentworth and Dareton bear testimony to the explorers.

At the same time of exploration in the area, pastoralists and overlanders where enthusiastically searching for new grazing lands and suitable routes to drove sheep and cattle into South Australia. John Hawdon and Charles Bonney followed Sturt's route along the Murray River. They found that the Murray/Darling junction provided an ideal campsite and ford.

The reliable water source encouraged pastoralists to expand their runs into the district. Notable pioneers include George Melrose, Charles Wreford, Charles Barritt, the Pyle Brothers, Arthur Crozier, D H Cudmore and W B Chaffey.

Prominent figures in the townships were usually the inn keeper, store owners, coachmen or river boat owners. Additionally, the administrative figures such as the Commissioner of Lands, Stock Inspector, Magistrate and Mayor held significant status. Many of these people were responsible for initiating and recording development within the Shire. The likes of William Gunn, J O Edwards, John Egge, William Bowring, and Captains Cadell and Randall are recognized as important commercial pioneers in Wentworth.

Stockmen, Shearers, Woodcutters and Itinerants

Many stockmen and tradesmen were employed on the large pastoral stations to manage the huge stock holdings spread out over great distances. Seasonal employees would flock to the area during shearing time, boosting the economy of the townships, particularly the hotels. The river ports attracted a variety of people, many in search of employment from the Victorian goldfields, and later as a result of depressions. Some wandered through the

countryside as swagmen. The most notable in the district was 'Possum', a retrenched shearer, who wandered the Darling and Murray waterways in isolation for over fifty years. He ate food caught in the bush and had a number of makeshift campsites throughout the Shire.
The banks of the Darling and Murray Rivers were scattered with woodcutters' camp sites. The woodcutter was vital to the operation of river steamers, providing numerous timber stocks to fuel the vessels as they travelled the Rivers. The wood-piles were set in locations suitable for loading onto the steamer.

Horticulturalists

Many of the early horticultural allotments were taken up by local townsfolk from Wentworth and Mildura. Once the Curlwaa area was established and the likes of Walter Sage had proven the productivity of the land, people travelled from both Victoria and South Australia to partake in the industry. The irrigation farmers lived in small austere dwellings, devoting as much land as possible to the planting of vines and orchards. Many of the irrigation allotments were granted to returned soldiers.

Immigrants

The first non-British immigrants within the Shire were of Chinese origin. They moved from the Victorian goldfields in search of employment and often set up commercial market gardens along the Murray River. Sometimes they were employed by sheep stations to grow fresh vegetables for the large workforce, or were employed on the river boats as cooks. The most notable person of Chinese origin in the Shire was John Egge who was a prominent wealthy businessman in Wentworth. He owned steamships, a bond store and butchery. He was well respected for his large contribution to local charity.

More recently southern European immigrants have established productive irrigation holdings in the area, particularly in the Gol Gol area.

Monuments and Memorials

There are few monuments and memorials in the Wentworth Shire. Those that exist include war memorials and commemoration of unique people and events in the Shire. The most notable monuments include the following:

- War Memorial - located on the corner of Sandwych and Darling Streets, Wentworth. Erected in memory of those who fought and died in the Great War. The attractive statue of a soldier is placed on a tall granite pedestal. The monument is situated on a very prominent corner in the township.

- Tractor Monument - located on the corner of Adelaide and Adams Streets, Wentworth. The brass sculpture of a Ferguson tractor set on a stone cairn, commemorates the vigourous efforts of Wentworth residents, and the implements they used, to construct vital levee banks in battling the rising waters of the 1956 flood.

- Hawdon's Ford Cairn - located at the Murray/Darling river junction. The copper embossed plaque depicting the overlanders commemorates the importance of the junction as Sturt's and Hawdon's camp.

- 'Possum' - located in Fotherby Park, Wentworth. The 'larger than life' statue pays tribute to the recluse David Jones, who became a local legendary figure.

- Curlwaa Memorial Gates - located at the Curlwaa Memorial Hall, Memorial Road. Wrought iron gates displaying memorial stones are fixed to the hall and commemorate those who died in both world wars.

Other memorials include the Town Hall Roll of Honour and the Cal Lal Roll at the Wentworth Club.

Cemeteries

A number of cemeteries containing the graves of notable people in the Shire are located in the townships and on some of the stations. The headstones in the cemeteries often describe the hardships endured by the Shire's residents and the variety of people and occupations found in the Shire. Many inscriptions deal with the perils of the river and isolation. There are no grand or ostentatious headstones in any of the cemeteries. Most headstones were made in Adelaide and usually in the form of rounded or arched marble slabs. They often display minor decorative masonry such as a floral border. Many graves are bordered with cast iron fences.

The Wentworth cemetery contains memorials to many notable families in the Shire. It is the oldest town cemetery in the Shire. It contains attractive cast iron denomination markers and grave numbers.

Pooncarie cemetery bears testimony to many of the significant pastoralists. Gol Gol exhibits some old graves, but of note are the newer more elaborate memorials to locals of Italian origin or descendancy.

Cemeteries of note are located at:

- Wentworth
- Pooncarie
- Gol Gol
- Moorna Station
- Cal Lal
- Mount Dispersion Station
- Lake Victoria Station
- Bunnerungie Station
- Greenvale Station
- 'Possums' Grave - Wangamma Station (with the express permission of the Scadding family)

3.3.3 Townships

Hierarchy and Function

The Wentworth Shire has five towns. They are Wentworth, Pooncarie, Dareton, Gol Gol and Buronga. Wentworth is the largest town, supporting a population of some 1,400 persons. Wentworth was first settled in the 1840's. The town was known as Hawdon's Ford, the Darling Junction and McLeod's Crossing, respectively, during the early years of settlement. A survey plan was submitted of the town in 1858 and the settlement was proclaimed as the town of Wentworth in 1859, the name paying tribute to William Charles Wentworth.

Wentworth flourished as a busy and vital inland port during the river transport era. Today, the township remains as the main service and administration centre in the Shire with role of servicing the pastoral areas to the north and west as well as the nearby irrigation areas. The extent of Wentworth's service function has been severely reduced by the explosive growth of nearby Mildura which has been developed as a major regional centre.

Pooncarie is a small service town located on the lower Darling, midway between Menindee and Wentworth. The village, first named Pooncaria, was gazetted in 1863. The town provided a vital depot for supplies and a communication link to the large outback stations and was an important centre for social gatherings. The town was built at the site of a natural two-tier wharf which could be easily utilized during both high and low rivers. Today, the village function has been significantly reduced as a result of improved transportation methods which provide the rural population with accessibility to larger centres.

Gol Gol was proclaimed as a township in 1866, however the village allotments were not occupied until the late 1870's. Located on the Murray, opposite Mildura, the town acts as a service centre to the surrounding irrigation area. The town holds historical significance as an important coach stop. A wharf also added vitality to the township. Today, Gol Gol has an expanding residential area and has essentially become a suburb of Mildura.

Buronga, located adjacent to Gol Gol, developed in response to the construction of the Mildura Bridge in 1927. The small township has an industrial and administrative function, the latter achieved by the presence of the offices of the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Soil Conservation Service of New South Wales and Western Lands Commission. The town is dominated by the junction of the Sturt and Silver City Highways. The settlement is effectively an extension of Mildura, and due to its proximity to the regional centre, has potential for rapid expansion.

Dareton was erected as a service centre to the adjacent Coomealla Irrigation area. Dareton, named after a former Commissioner of the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission, was settled in 1924. The town hosts the regional office of the Department of Water Resources and Department of Agriculture and has a popular recreational function due to the presence of the large Coomealla Services Club. The Dareton Aboriginal settlement at Namatjira Drive, supports a large population of descendants of local tribal communities. It was established in 1968 and is characterized by a number of improvised dwellings.

Irrigation Settlements

Small irrigation settlements providing minor services include:

- Pomona and Ellerslie on the Darling.
- Curlwaa, in the Wentworth (Curlwaa) Irrigation Area.
- Williamsville, on the Murray at Abbottsford Bridge.
- Trentham Cliffs, Monak and Paringi, along the Murray east of Gol Gol.

Curlwaa is the most significant irrigation settlement. It was established in 1888 and is acclaimed as the first in New South Wales. Scattered commercial and community facilities were erected in the area, with only a few, such as the Curlwaa Store, remaining functional today.

Moorna and Cal Lal

Two settlements that played important roles in the development of the Shire no longer exist. They are Moorna and Cal Lal, west of Wentworth on the Murray River.

Moorna was the administrative centre of the Shire. The Commissioner of Lands and local police force held office and resided on the property. Wentworth's first postal service and two bush hotels were also established at Moorna. There are no remains of these establishments. The present dwelling was built by William Crozier in 1872. A town site was surveyed at Moorna and it was once intimated that the site should become the Federal Capital of Australia. The proposed town was never established.

Cal Lal, located between Wentworth and the South Australian border, on the Murray River, was an administrative centre serving the Lake Victoria community containing a post office, police station, courthouse, hall and small school. The town's function halted during 1930 to 1940. Today only the courthouse/police station and post office stand.

Layout and Appearance

The townships of Wentworth, Pooncarie, and Gol Gol are designed in grid fashion, typical of most country townships designed during the 19th century by the Government surveyor of the time. Each of these townships were located on sites where activity was already present. However, Dareton was a township planned and designed specifically to serve the needs of the new Coomealla irrigation area during the 1920's. Dareton's layout is a variation on the grid theme by including a "central park", around which the main roadway was originally diverted in a diamond fashion.

All the townships, excluding Dareton, are located on the banks of their adjacent river. This locational occurrence is a result of the traditional need to locate adjacent to the water source. Dareton, which is located on high ground above the river, was constructed during an era when water could be pumped to the town site thus affording the ability to reduce flooding hazards by locating away from the river. The township of Wentworth is located around both the Darling and Murray Rivers, however, the earliest settlement within Wentworth was located adjacent to the Darling River where the bridge approach now stands.

All of the townships have a small linear commercial centre. They are as follows:

- Darling Street, Wentworth
- Tarcoola Street, Pooncarie
- Tapio Street, Dareton
- Sturt Highway, Buronga and Gol Gol

The commercial focus of Buronga which largely consists of a number of regional government offices, is set off the highway reflecting the modern nature of the township. The main streets of Pooncarie, Wentworth and Gol Gol are located very close to the river which was a necessity for the survival and viability of businesses during the river boat era. Proximity of commercial activities to the wharf was vital. The mains streets in Wentworth, Pooncarie and Gol Gol were dominated by the presence of either one or more hotels which were a focus of activity. However, in Dareton, the main street is dominated by the large State Bank.

Wentworth township has important administrative buildings with historical significance including the court-house, post office, jail and customs house. Additionally, the township plays host to a number of impressive churches including St John's Anglican Church and St Francis Xavier Catholic Church. The hospital and schools also played an important role in the development of Wentworth, however their functional significance has been reduced by the expansion of facilities in Mildura.

Pooncarie, a winner of tidy town awards, has an attractive entrance to the township as a result of the presence of well maintained parks adjoining the river.

Two attractive parks have been established in the Wentworth township adjacent to the junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers and at the old wharf site.

Residential Character

A significant number of dwellings in the Wentworth township were constructed prior to 1920. The dwellings are characteristically rectangular in shape and displaying a wrap-around verandah. These verandahs are often supported by turned or chamfered wooden posts with decorative wooden brackets. Most dwellings have a single front doorway with timber casement displaying the side and top lights, and a single double hung window either side of the doorway again in a timber casement. The majority of dwellings are weatherboard however there are some notable brick dwellings in the township. The bricks were made locally at a works originally located near the junction of the Darling and Murray Rivers. Dwellings built prior to 1890 were characterized by gambrel roofs clad with iron sheeting. Dwellings constructed at the turn of the century are characterized by a high gabled roof also clad with iron sheeting. Characteristic and notable dwellings constructed prior to 1900 include the following:

- The Lockmasters residence, Cadell Street
- Crangs, Cadell Street
- Rendelsham (The Nunnery), Cadell Street
- Rendelsham House, Sandwych Street
- Yampa, Sandwych Street
- Customs Officers Residence, Wharf Street
- Anglican Rectory, Darling Street

Some of the characteristic and notable dwellings constructed after 1900 include the following:

- 25 Sandwych Street
- 29 Sandwych Street
- 36 Sandwych Street
- 34 Adelaide Street

From the previous two lists it is clear that both Cadell Street and Sandwych Street are comprised of the some of the more notable dwellings in the Wentworth township. It is important that the character of these two streets is retained. As well as these typical dwelling styles there are three unique dwellings within the township. Two dwellings located in Armstrong Avenue are early federation style dwellings constructed of brick featuring decorative timber fretwork. The third dwelling located on the corner of Darling and Perry Streets is designed with spanish influence including an archway enclosed brick verandah.

Pooncarie is typified by small corrugated iron clad dwellings, some with pressed metal facades, reflecting the influence of Broken Hill and the lack of local building materials, thus requiring the transportation of such materials by river and road.

Buronga, Gol Gol and Dareton are typified by small timber homes with little or no decoration and more recently new elaborate brick dwellings built as a response to spill over effect of population from Mildura.

3.3.4 Agriculture

The Stations

During the 1840's land was claimed by squatters for grazing cattle and sheep along the frontage of the Darling, Murray and Lake Victoria. Reliable water sources and flat terrains enticed squatters from the Murrumbidgee district, Victoria and South Australia. The first surveys were conducted in 1847, however much of the land had already been taken up. When the surveys were completed in 1854 the squatters were able to tender for their runs. Additional runs were taken up along the great Anabranch frontage by the mid 1860's. Some of the earliest and largest holdings included:

- Lake Victoria
- Polia
- Para
- Tarcoola
- Mallara
- Moorara
- Tapio
- Moorna
- Mallee Cliffs

It was usual to combine several runs into one holding. Station activity was usually focused on the river frontage where the homestead, workers' cottages, stock yards and woolsheds were erected. Some out-stations were built on land held at great distances on the outback runs which provided lush feed during the wet seasons. The outback runs were taken up by an annual licence, each usually averaging 162,500 hectares in area, ample to support at least 4,000 sheep. Lake Victoria, Polia and Moorara Stations combined runs to the total holding of well over half a million hectares each, with Lake Victoria Station apparently exceeding 800,000 hectares at one time.

In 1884 a new Land Act enabled the taking up of areas by selectors and security for a definite term for the squatters. Pastoral leases were divided into equal parts being the resumed area and lease hold area. The division of the larger stations resulted in a number of new holdings and a subsequent reduction of the original pastoral dynasties. Unfortunately, the affects of overstocking, major land clearing, rabbit plague and drought were dismal and many selectors found their resumed holdings far too small to be viable. Land division resulted in properties which remain today, including:

- Lethero
- Burtundy
- Hazelldell
- Garston
- Wangamma
- Nampoo
- Noola
- Carstairs

Pastoral holdings within the Shire have typically endured severe hardships caused by drought, rabbits, flood and land clearing. In 1900 all pastoral leases in the Shire expired and the Western Lands Act support by the Pastures Protection Act were passed to administer all land matters and control stock numbers and movements, in an attempt to restore the denuded landscape.

Homesteads and Buildings

The main homesteads were always constructed along the river frontages to take advantage of the much needed reliable water source, proximity to the river boats for wool collection and trade and the aesthetic attributes of the river. The earliest homesteads were constructed of hand adzed murray pine slabs erected over a packed earth floor. They were usually only one or two rooms in size and divided and lined internally with hessian. There are few slab dwellings remaining along the river front today. Windamingle, on the Anabranch, is a fine example of a slab dwelling although it is quite elegant and differs from the earlier austere dwellings. Some homesteads have incorporated the original sections including:

- Avoca Homestead
- Para Homestead
- Tapio Homestead

Many of the original slab dwellings were removed by flood waters in either 1870 or 1956. Rather than adding onto the old dwelling in most cases a new dwelling was established. Timber is the predominant building material on the pastoral holdings. However, in some cases stone quarried on the site has been utilized. In such cases the result has been impressive and reinforces the strength and dominance of the pastoral industry. Such homesteads include the following:

- Avoca Homestead
- Moorna Homestead
- Lake Victoria Homestead

The rural homesteads and adjacent workers cottages acted as small townships due to the large populations that resided on the properties. Many stations had stores which were supplied by river boats.

The woolshed was one of the most important structures on the property and was always located along the river bank so that the wool bales could be easily pushed down to the waiting barges which carried them to their ports. In addition, wool scouring was often conducted in the river prior to baling. Most of the wool sheds were constructed with pine slab or corrugated iron sheeting. Located adjacent to the wool sheds were shearers quarters, often constructed of similar materials and usually containing a large kitchen containing a baker's oven.

As the importance of river travel declined after the 1920's many of the stations moved their focus of activity to the outback holdings where most of the stock were located. Therefore, today, it is difficult to find many home sites and associated dwellings in their original form. Para homestead and wool shed are one of the original structures still remaining on the river. Stations such as Lake Victoria moved most of their activity north to Nulla Nulla and incorporated old dwellings and building materials into new dwellings and farm structures.

Irrigation

In the late 1880's irrigation schemes were underway in Renmark in South Australia and approval was given to the Chaffey Brothers to establish an irrigation area at Mildura. An active local movement for irrigation around Wentworth resulted in the decision to allocate land east of Wentworth, utilized as temporary commons, for the purpose of irrigation, resulting in the establishment of the Wentworth Irrigation Trust in 1890. Between 1896 and 1900 the first channel of the Wentworth irrigation area was built along the west bank of Horseshoe Billabong. Subsequently, the first irrigation sections in New South Wales were open for settlement.

In 1908, land was set aside along the Darling River and made available to a private company which established pumps. This site was known as Pomona and in 1931 it was brought under the control of an elected trust with a government appointee as a chairman. During the 1920's, the large Coomealla irrigation area was established east of the Wentworth Irrigation Area.

Many of the larger stations carried out their own small irrigation schemes in an attempt to improve the productivity and self sufficiency of the holdings. A notable effort was that undertaken by Chaffey on his property Bunnerungie, situated on the Anabranch. Chaffey built a water pipe which extended nine miles west from a well located at the homestead. The pipe was constructed from Kauri Pine, wrapped with wire. The scheme failed miserably as the pipe was unable to retain the water. To this day many a fence in the district has been repaired with the wire that surrounded the wooden pipe conduct.

The horticultural industry is the most valuable within the Shire. The majority of irrigated holdings are planted with citrus orchards and grape vines.

Dwellings and Associated Buildings

Dwellings in the irrigation areas are characteristically small. Most dwellings are clad with weatherboard or in some cases corrugated iron sheeting. The square dwelling of one or two rooms is usually enlarged with a lean-to area at the rear providing kitchen and laundry space. A front porch/verandah supported by plain wooden posts provided shade and in some cases were built in to provide additional living space. Whilst these are the typical dwellings located in the irrigation settlements, there are scattered large dwellings, particularly in the Curlwaa irrigation area. These dwellings are usually characterized by large wrap around verandahs often supported with chamfered timber posts and adorned with ornate verandah brackets. These larger dwellings reflect the earlier wealthy interests in horticulture prior to 1910. However, the majority of dwellings were built during the years of the great war and depression which are reflected in the austerity of their style.

Other structures typically found within the irrigation areas included sulphur sheds. These sheds, were used for the drying of fruit by a process which involved the burning of sulphur. Drying racks were wheeled into the shed via small railway tracks. The sheds were typically built with timber posts and clad with corrugated iron sheeting. They were rectangular in shape with a high pitched roof and top ridge opening for the purposes of ventilation. Other structures included packing sheds which are scattered throughout the irrigation areas. However, most of the packing is now undertaken in the large co-operative stores.

3.3.5 Commerce

Wentworth, Darling Street

Darling Street is the commercial focus of the Wentworth Shire. Additional commercial activity is present in Sandwych and Adams Streets. Historically, the earliest commercial activities were located in the vicinity of the wharf adjacent to the Darling River. There are no commercial stores or warehouses remaining around the wharf site today.

Most of the commercial premises are situated on Darling Street, between Wharf and Sandwych Streets. At the height of commercial activities in the late nineteenth century, the street was identified by a continuous series of brick buildings, mostly single storey, which displayed squared and gabled parapets and large awnings extending over the footpaths, supported by timber posts. Bowrings Store (now Wheeldon's Hardware) provided a unique addition with its elaborate curved and adorned parapet. The facade has been altered considerably and now displays a plain parapet. The continuity of the steetscape has been broken by the addition of aluminium fascias, the removal of awnings and posts, and the use of unsympathetic signage and advertising.

Hotels

The hotels were important commercial sites, historically providing the services of store, post office, meeting hall and church. The first Inn was built at Wentworth on the site of the existing Wentworth Hotel. The now demolished Crown Hotel, located on the south west corner of Darling and Sandwych Streets, was the most ornate structure in the Shire. The two storey brick hotel was surrounded by a verandah and balcony, elaborately adorned with cast iron balustrading and frieze. The new single storey Crown Hotel has attempted to imitate some of the decorative elements of the old.

Other Townships

The commercial activities in the other townships are minor compared to those in Wentworth. Pooncarie has only had two stores operating at any one time. Additionally, the Telegraph Hotel and the previous Pooncaria Hotel acted as stores in the absence of other commercial premises.

Gol Gol's first store was erected in 1880 by William Bradshaw. The Gol Gol Inn provided the focus of activity for many years, attracting patrons from Mildura and providing an important stage coach exchange. The original slab dwelling has been altered progressively and today bears no resemblance to its original form. The commercial function of Gol Gol has been superseded by Mildura.

Dareton's commercial focus is Tapio Street and consists of a number of small shops and agencies mostly with brick and aluminum fascias and awnings. The dominant feature is the large and impressive State Bank building, constructed in 1927. The State Bank (formerly the Rural Bank) played a vital role in the development of the Coomealla Irrigation area.

The Coach Stops

A number of hotels existed along the length of the Darling River, acting as coach stops for the regular stages travelling through to Victoria and South Australia from Sydney and northern townships. The hotels were located every twelve miles and enabled horse changes, comfort stops and accommodation. Hotels were also established on the Murray, Anabranch and Lake Victoria. None of these hotels remain today.

River Trade

The dominant trading activities were carried out by the river boats between 1853 and 1920's. The large steamers provided supplies to commercial outlets and in bulk to the large stations on the river frontages. River hawkers were prolific, providing a large variety of goods and services including specialty services such as watchmaking and shoe repairs. There are few remains of the important commercial functions of the river boats in the Shire. The major bond stores and warehouses that were erected adjacent to Wentworth wharf have been removed or remodelled. The customs officers' residence is the only related structure existing today.

The Station Stores

Many of the large stations had their own stores, supplied in bulk by the river steamers. Station hands, adjacent land holders and Aborigines would purchase goods from the stores and place orders to be filled by the next steamer. Evidence of these stores still remain on the following stations:

- Lake Victoria
- Avoca
- Moorara

3.3.6 Transportation and Communication

River Steamers

The settlement of the Wentworth Shire was largely enabled by the utilization of the Murray and Darling Rivers as major arterial routes. In 1853 Captains Cadell and Randall raced the first paddle steamers up the Murray River. The impetus was a large financial bonus offered by the South Australian Government for navigating the waterways.

Navigation of the Murray enabled extensive trade between the colonies. The establishment of customs houses on the river enabled the reaping of duties from the prolific trade. The Darling was first navigated in 1859, although it remained an unreliable water course.

River navigation enabled expansion of the pastoral industry into the western division. Vital access to ports and markets could be easily achieved. Additionally, supplies and building materials could be easily obtained. The large pastoral homesteads located along both rivers are testimony to the important relationship between the squatters and river steamers.

Wentworth, located at the junction of the two river routes owes it early vitality to the steamers. As previously mentioned, there are few remains of the important era within the township. The wharf, bond stores, warehouses and lift span bridge have all been removed or altered.

Coaches

The coaches were a vital communication and transport medium within the Shire. Several lines operated in the Shire including Cobb & Co, Burton Bros, Charters Bros, Kidman Nichols, McMahon and John Hill & Co. The regular coach services to Balranald, Swan Hill, Echuca, Wilcannia, Blanchetown and Mannum connected to Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide routes. The coach services were carriers of the Royal Mail. During the dry months they compensated for the loss of navigable waterways by placing extra services for passengers.

The large commons and Police Paddocks adjacent to the townships often held coach horses. Many hotels were established along the coach routes, particularly up the Darling and along the Murray, providing horse change, comfort and accommodation facilities. Gol Gol Inn was an important change and some 200 horses could be found in the common.

The Loggy Bridge Road just west of Wentworth is one of the original overland and coach routes to Adelaide. There are no other physical remains of the coach era within the Shire.

Bullocks, Donkey and Camel

The transport of wool clips to the nearest wharf or barge stop was often performed by the use of bullock teams, donkey teams or camel trains. Afghans were sometimes employed to guide the camels on their journey.

Punts and Bridges

River crossings were important to enable travel within the Shire. Punts were initially used at Wentworth (on the Darling), Abbotts Ford, Gol Gol and Pooncarie. Small row boats were used over Tuckers Creek to reach the Wentworth hospital. Stations that comprised land on both sides of the Darling River and Anabranch often left row boats on the river banks. Private punts were sometimes operated on these holdings.

The first bridge built was over the Darling at Wentworth. The lift span bridge enabled steamers to travel the length of river without man-made obstacle. Similar bridges were constructed at Abbotts Ford and Buronga. The Abbotsford Bridge is the only remaining lift span structure in the Shire. The Pooncarie Bridge over the Darling was constructed more recently in 1962.

The Anabranch is crossed by built up fords and small timber bridges. A larger timber bridge is located on the Renmark Road. An early make-shift bridge which enable stock and cart crossings is still visible at Bunnerungie Station.

Locks

The Murray River was locked by 1929. The lock and weir schemes enabled regular control of the river and much more reliable river navigation. Lock No. 10 is located at Wentworth with an adjacent dwelling acting as the Lockmaster's residence. Locks 11, 9 and 8 are also within the Shire.

Roads

The original overland route connecting the Riverina with Adelaide, passed through Wentworth which was originally a major campsite on the route. The northern route between Wentworth and Menindee, via Pooncarie was an important coach route. Many of the Shire's roads were established as mail run routes.

Postal Services

The first postal service in the Shire was based at Moorna Station. When it moved to Wentworth it was operated from a shed in Darling Street. The existing Wentworth Post Office is one of the more impressive structures in the townships.

In other centres, the hotels often acted as important mail changes. Sometimes services were undertaken in private homes prior to a post office being constructed. The Curlwaa Cash Store also acted as a post office.

The post office at Pooncarie held the important role of displaying the river height of the day. Post offices were also the base for telecommunications in the Shire. Pooncarie and Wentworth post offices were both telephone exchanges prior to automation (which in the case of Pooncarie has only recently been completed).

The mail routes were important links to the large stations. The mail was delivered by horseback for large distances prior to the introduction of motor vehicles.

Newspapers

The Shire has historically been exposed to a variety of local newspapers including the Federal Standard, the Wentworth Evening News and the Wentworth Telegraph. World news was received via Grebbles Telegram Co.

3.3.7 Services and Community Facilities

Education

Education facilities in the Shire were established from as early as the 1860's as a result of strong commitment by the local community, who provided funds, land, buildings and equipment to enable schools to successfully operate. Early school buildings usually consisted of a single crude timber hut providing little comfort or room. Gol Gol school has erected a replica of a school house constructed in 1908 which demonstrates the austerity of the buildings. Retaining teachers in the isolated Shire area was often difficult and schools encountered a continuous stream of new teachers. Fluctuating enrollments were experienced during the 1890's as a result of drought and depression. Floods and disease epidemics often caused closure of schools for months at a time.

The first national school opened in Wentworth in 1860. The present brick building (southern end) was built in 1869 and altered over the years. Gol Gol's first school was erected in 1882 (the present school commenced in 1911). The provisional school at Pooncarie commenced in 1887, whilst the present site was occupied from 1900.

Some small private boarding schools operated in Wentworth from the 1860's. In 1892 the Sisters of Mercy opened a select day high school and primary school in two buildings (Cadell Street). A third dwelling was utilized as a boarding school. These ceased operation in 1925 and a new brick school was built. The original one room St Ignatius high school has been recently restored by the local branch of the National Trust.

Distance from townships caused difficulties in educating rural children. Many stations operated subsidised or private schools. These have been replaced by correspondence and school of the air facilities. Two remaining school houses, a slab hut at Lethero and a corrugated iron shed at Heatherbloom, typify the early school buildings of the outback.

Health

The first medical services in the Shire were administered by the retired Dr Fletcher, owner of Tapio Station. Dr Renner arrived in Wentworth township in 1855 and set up a small hospital. Some private homes were used as hospitals until 1889 when the Wentworth Hospital was built across the Darling River, at Wentworth. The attractive brick building was demolished in 1946 to make way for the present small hospital.

Pooncarie established a branch of the Bush Nurses Association in 1926. Prior to that, ill residents of the northern area travelled to Wentworth. Today, Pooncarie is included in the Royal Flying Doctor Service clinic run.

Law

The local law enforcement bodies were originally located at Moorna, where some twenty mounted troops were stationed. During the 1850's, Major Lockyer had a one-roomed police hut in Wentworth. A slab lock-up was located at the southern end of Darling Street which was overcrowded and poorly maintained. The impressive Wentworth Gaol was built in 1879-1881. Constructed of locally made red bricks and imported bluestone, the facility acts as important tourist drawcard to the Shire today. The gaol closed in 1927.

The Wentworth Courthouse, constructed in 1863 remains in operation and is an important heritage item within the township. A court of petty sessions was held in Pooncarie from 1869 at the local pub. A small courthouse and lock-up was constructed in 1875, and replaced by the existing building in 1905.

The paddocks, essential to graze the mounted police horses, were located on the outskirts of the town. The 40 hectare block at Pooncarie, adjacent ot the River is still known as the Police Paddock.

The police established small lock-ups which were often located on larger stations or outback routes to hold offenders waiting for more suitable transport to the courthouses. The remains of one such lock-up cell is located at Kulkurna woolshed, on the Murray.

A police station/courthouse was established at Cal Lal to service the western corner of the Shire. However, it ceased operation in the 1940's. The building still stands.

Religion

The first ministers in the area were established at Yelta Aboriginal mission, across the Murray. The clergy would sometimes travel the district to provide services. The first church was erected in Wentworth in 1871. St John's Anglican Church is one of the most notable structures in the district. Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches followed soon after. The first brick building in Wentworth was the Presbyterian Manse, erected in 1859, but later destroyed by fire. All the church buildings in Wentworth are brick. The school, courthouse and hotels provided facilities for services in the period when churches were not available.

The Wentworth clergy made regular trips to the Murray, Darling and Anabranch properties by bicycle or buggy to provide services including baptisms and weddings.

More recently some small churches have been erected at Curlwaa, Dareton and Buronga, most of which are timber clad. Unusually, there are no churches at Pooncarie. The town survey marked sites for religious uses, however they were never constructed.

Utilities

Water supplies were usually only available direct from the river, rainwater tanks and wells. The water tower at Wentworth was constructed in 1888. Most other townships were not provided with water supply schemes until the 1960's.

Electricity reached Wentworth in 1933, Gol Gol in 1944 and another 30 years until it was made available in Pooncarie in 1974. The steam operated water pumps utilized prior to electricity were vital to the success of the irrigation industry.

3.3.8 Social Organization and Recreation

Various halls distributed throughout the Shire provided important venues for social activities, which included dances, travelling picture shows, plays, musicals, and local celebrations. These activities were often combined with other popular local events such as sporting days, horse races or agricultural shows. One of the largest halls was the Mechanics Institute in Wentworth, later used and remodelled by the Municipal Council as the Town Hall. Halls are located in Dareton, Gol Gol, Pooncarie and Curlwaa. Two significant halls located in the rural areas are the Anabranch

Hall and Lethero Hall. These halls have played an important role in establishing communication links and combatting isolation in the pastoral areas.

Sporting events including tennis, cricket and football were, and continue to be, popular in the Shire. Many grounds and facilities are distributed throughout the Shire. Sporting fixtures were usually identified by the presence of a bough shed used for shade. Other sporting activities included rowing, gymkhanas and clay shooting.

Horse racing had an avid following in the Shire. Many pastoralists were keen thoroughbred owners and breeders. Popular races in Wentworth used the main street as a track and the Crown Hotel balcony as a grandstand. Wentworth race meetings were conducted on the clay flats of the billabong to the north of the township. The racecourse was moved to the eastern side of the Darling in 1880. Pooncarie residents established a race course in the 1890's, the present track being utilized from 1920. Some race and steeplechase tracks were occasionally established on properties along the Darling and use intermittently.

The first agricultural show was conducted in Wentworth in 1885. The site of the present showgrounds was gazetted in 1899. The show was one of the most important social events of the year.

The formation of progress associations, farming associations and development groups such as the Curlwaa Fruitgrowers Association have played a vital role in the development of the Shire and particularly the horticultural area. Clubs and affiliations such as the Returned Servicemen's League have had similar influence in the development of the Shire, the latter responsible for one of the most popular attractions, the Coomealla Services Club. The Wentworth Club was also originally a Retired Servicemen's League Club.

3.4 THE SHIRES HERITAGE TODAY

Much of the heritage of the Wentworth Shire has been removed or altered as a result of development pressures, land management practices and neglect. Those places and items of heritage significance or noteworthiness remaining in the Shire have been detailed in the Appendices.

The Shire's natural heritage has been altered substantially as a result of farming practices. Significant areas have been set aside to be protected by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Western Lands Commission. Further to this, significant places are to be incorporated in the Shire Wide Local Environmental Plan as being Environmentally Sensitive, and appropriate clauses included to warrant their conservation.

The Aboriginal heritage is controlled by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. There are extensive and significant sites throughout the Shire, many of which are presently under threat by

farming practices and riverine development pressures. There is a general lack of communitive recognition as to the heritage significance of Aboriginal sites and relics which further threatens their destruction or alteration. Appendix 2 and 3 highlight the importance of the Aboriginal heritage of the shire and details likely locations of sites in areas subject to development pressures.

The European heritage is largely dominated by items relating to the pastoral era. These items are therefore subject to alterations resulting from technological changes, weathering and neglect. It is difficult to ensure the conservation of such items due to their isolation, however recent community awareness and local interest in the history of the Shire has improved the likely retention and or enhancement of such items. Such community interest has encouraged the retention and enhancement of items in townships, particularly those threatened by new developments, such as the Wentworth Services Club extensions.

4 HERITAGE CONTROLS

4.1 NATIONAL CONTROLS

A Committee of Inquiry into the National Estate was appointed by the Federal Government in 1973. The report from that Committee indicated an overwhelming recognition that the national environmental heritage was coming under the threat of damage and potential destruction due to the influence and pressures of development and other human action.

The Australian Heritage Commission Act of 1975 is based on the recommendations made in the National Estate Report. The Act is primarily concerned with the identification and registration of items comprising the National Estate, which is taken to consist of:

"those places being components of the natural environment of Australia or the cultural environment of Australia, that have aesthetic, historic or social significance or other special value for future generations as well as for the present community" (Australian Heritage Commission Act 54(1)).

The powers of the Australian Heritage Commission are related solely to properties controlled by the Crown and do not extend to privately owned property. However, the Register of the National Estate lists those places which have been identified to date as comprising part of the nation's heritage. A number of items within the Wentworth Shire are registered as items of the National Estate including:

Registered

- Mallee Cliffs National Park
- Nearie Lake Nature Reserve
- Rufus Creek Massacre Burial Site
- Snaggy Bend Aboriginal Burial Ground
- Willandra Lakes proposed Aboriginal area
- Wentworth Courthouse
- Former Wentworth Goal

Nominated for Registration

- Tarawi Mallee Area
- Lake Nitchie Skeleton

Of utmost significance is the Willandra Lakes Region which has World Heritage Listing because of its outstanding universal value based on both cultural and natural features. The landforms provide valuable information on late Pleistocene climates. An Aboriginal cremation, dated some 26,000 years old is the oldest cremation in the world and a burial some 30,000 years old has parallels to customs in upper Paleolithic France.

4.2 STATE CONTROLS

4.2.1 The New South Wales Heritage Act, 1977

The Heritage Act, 1977 ensures the cultural and natural heritage of New South Wales is adequately identified and conserved. The Act was established in response to the demands of the community, including conservationists, developers, trade unionists and others, for the rational conservation of the environment. For the purposes of the Heritage Act, the term 'environmental heritage' describes those buildings, works, relics or places of historic, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic significance for the State of New South Wales.

Responsibility of the administration of the Act lies with the Minister for Planning. The Heritage Act established the Heritage Council of New South Wales, which is responsible to the Minister for recommendations and advice pertaining to the conducting of his functions under the Act. The Heritage Council consists of eleven members representing expertise and interest of a comprehensive nature. The council is supported by a professional and administrative staff within the Heritage and Conservation Branch of the Department of Planning.

The Heritage Council is obliged to keep a public register of buildings, works, relics and places that are the subject of conservation instruments and any orders made and notices served under the Act, including:

- Interim conservation orders.
- Permanent conservation orders.
- Approvals of controlled activities.
- Notices and orders for repairs.
- Orders for curtailment of modification of other laws.
- Notices and orders for prevention of demolition.
- Emergency prevention of demolition orders.

A conservation instrument is an interim or permanent conservation order and is the major instrument of the Act for the conservation of the environmental heritage. The conservation instruments control the following activities:

- Demolition of buildings or works.
- Damage or despoliation of relics, places or land.
- Excavation of any land to expose or move relics.
- Development of land on which buildings, works or relics are situated.
- Alteration of the buildings works or relics.
- Displaying of any notice or advertisement.
- Removal damaging or destroying of any trees.

A person intending to carry out any of the above activities, on an item registered by the State, must first obtain permission for the Heritage Council.

Interim conservation orders are placed upon items likely to warrant permanent protection. The order takes effect when published in the Government Gazette, and remains for a maximum period of two years in which time further investigation into the significance of the item is undertaken. Upon the recommendation of the Heritage Council, the Minister may then make a permanent conservation order over the site. Public notice of the intention to place an order is required and submissions may be made within a twenty eight day period. Not all items recommended for permanent protection require interim protection due to their obvious significance.

An order under Section 130 of the Act may be placed by the Minister to control demolition or alteration of an identified heritage item. The order is principally a holding measure which allows the Heritage Council forty days to investigate the significance of the item and determine the effect of the proposed demolition or alteration and any further protective action that may be required.

An item under immediate threat of demolition or damage may be subject to a Section 136 Order which halts demolition for a period of twenty eight days in which time further investigations into the significance of the item may be undertaken.

The Minister is enacted with the power to:

- make available grants and loans to assist the conservation of heritage items;
- execute guarantees for the repayment of money expended in acquiring or conserving items of environmental heritage;
- acquire property or accept gifts or bequests of any property, (acquisition usually being a last resort measure to ensure conservation of an item);
- provide a rating and land tax value based on existing use as opposed to highest or best potential use on land subject to a permanent conservation order.

Two items within the Wentworth township are currently listed under the State Heritage Register, being:

- St Johns Anglican Church and Rectory, Darling Street (Permanent Conservation Orders)
- Wentworth Hotel, Darling Street (Interim Conservation order)

4.2.2 National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974

Historic sites and natural areas owned or being acquired by the Crown come under the ambit of the National Parks and Wildlife Act. Much of the land within the Wentworth Shire comes under the jurisdiction of the Western Lands Commission and the New South Wales Department of Water Resources. As such, some of the responsibility of the Shire's heritage falls under the control of the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

It is the legislative intention the Heritage Act be complementary to the National Parks and Wildlife Act. The Director of National Parks and Wildlife, by nature of office, is a member of the Heritage Council.

The National Parks and Wildlife Act has sole jurisdiction and control over aboriginal relics and places. All sites or items identified or discovered must be notified to the National Parks and Wildlife Service who record and assess the significance of the item. The items are given instantaneous protection.

Permits to disturb excavate or interfere with any land for the purpose of discovering an aboriginal relic must be obtained from the Director. Any person aware of the location of a relic who does not notify the Director within a reasonable time is guilty of an offence under the Act, unless that person believes the Director is already aware of the location.

4.2.3 The National Trust (NSW)

The National Trust of Australia (New South Wales) is a private conservation body established by an Act of Parliament but which has no statutory powers. The non-government community organization is concerned with the promotion and conservation of items of heritage significance. The Trust has a register of buildings and sites considered to be of significance to the State's Heritage. The Trust plays an active role in the conservation and enhancement of items of environmental heritage by local advice and publications, purchase and restoration of properties, community awareness campaigns and recommendations for urban conservation areas and subsequent advice to local government authorities.

An active branch of the National Trust is established in Wentworth and has been responsible for the recognition, enhancement and restoration of some items, the most notable being the St Ignatius Convent in Cadell Street, Wentworth.

4.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

4.3.1 Planning Controls

The Wentworth Shire Council has limited planning control over the vast expanse of land within the Shire boundaries, due to the extent of Crown land managed by the Western Lands Commission and Department of Water Resources. However, the much of the Shire's environmental heritage is located within townships or on freehold land which is subject to council planning controls.

The New South Wales Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979, requires that all development applications should be determined according to their compliance with a number of matters detailed in Section 90, including:

- The provisions of any conservation agreement or management plan entered into under the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

- The impact of the development on the environment.

- The effect of the development on the landscape or scenic quality of the locality.

- The social effect of the development.

- The character and appearance of the development.

- The relationship of the development to adjoining land or development.

These matters for consideration can be directly relevant to an application proposing to develop, amend, or demolish an item, or land adjacent to an item of heritage significance, or potential heritage significance.

The New South Wales Department of Planning requires that Local Governments have suitable regard to the environmental heritage. The Shire is currently in the process of undertaking a comprehensive review of its planning legislation which will result in the formulation of a new Local Environmental Plan to replace the existing Interim Development Order No 1. As a result, the draft Local Environmental Plan will include specific clauses relating to conservation, preservation, and enhancement of items of environmental heritage significance. Particular reference will be given to items identified within this report as being of heritage significance.

The Department of Planning recommend clauses be provided within Local Environmental Plans as detailed in Circular No 84, to cater for development, and protection of the Shire's environmental heritage. These clauses are set out in Appendix 6. The recommended clauses are currently under review and it is expected that additions and alterations will be provided later this year.

4.3.2 Building Controls

Construction, extension, additions and renovations of buildings are required to be submitted for approval by the Council. Such applications are assessed by Council's Building Department according to the requirements of ordinances of the Local Government Act. Additionally, the health and building officer has the power to place demolition orders on structures. Most of these functions have significant bearing on retention and enhancement of heritage items within the Shire.

Many building regulations and accepted building standards can have a negative impact on the retention of items of heritage significance. For instance, the change of use of the structure may require alterations for fire safety or health requirements. Compliance with these regulations could result in the damage to

the interior or exterior of valuable heritage buildings.
Building officers are empowered to use flexibility and discretion in requiring compliance with building regulations for heritage items. Clauses in Ordinance 70 of the Local Government Act limit the extent of compliance required for existing buildings. Additionally, Section 129 of the Heritage Act can revoke the strict application of fire control regulations on items of heritage significance thus reducing unsympathetic internal or external alterations that may otherwise ensue. These discretionary clauses can only be utilized providing the Council is satisfied that the building has structural and fire safety.

In assessing building applications submitted for heritage items or for structures adjacent to heritage items, positive advice on suitable building materials and design styles to compliment the traditional building form should be forthcoming from the Council, and in particular from the building department.

5 MANAGEMENT OF THE SHIRE'S HERITAGE

The following section details the management recommendations which should be adopted by Council to enable and encourage conservation of the Shire's heritage. The Council has a major role in determining the extent to which the Shire's heritage is maintained through its own policies and guidelines and the dissemination of information to the local community.

5.1 THE COUNCIL

5.1.1 Attitude

Adoption of a positive attitude to conservation by the Wentworth Shire Council and staff is integral to the preservation, recognition and enhancement of the Shire's environmental heritage. Such an attitude can be engendered by the adoption of the policies and recommendations put forward in this report.

Recommendation

The Wentworth Shire Council to adopt a positive and clear policy framework regarding heritage conservation as set out in this report.

5.1.2 The Planning Department

Local government has been given prime responsibility for local planning and heritage conservation within their council area through the Environmental Plans and subsequent development control practices. The Shire Council is currently revising the local planning scheme. The new comprehensive Local Environmental Plan should incorporate the appropriate standard heritage conservation clauses as issued by the New South Wales Department of Planning (see Appendix 6). Those items warranting conservation should be itemized within the LEP and appropriately mapped.

The planning department should provide a flexible, informative and positive approach to the local community and developers in regard to conservation. Positive initial advice on suitable development to enhance and preserve the Shire's heritage is essential. The existing Village zones enable a more flexible approach to the use of environmental heritage items in townships which ultimately encourages viability. Such a flexible approach should also be encouraged within the rural zone, without compromising the overall intention of the zone.

Recommendations

The Council's Planning staff make full and consistent use of Section 90 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act in dealing with heritage matters.

The heritage provisions as set out by Appendix 6 to be included within the draft Local Environmental Plan currently being prepared by the Shire.

The Council's planning staff to maintain positive attitudes towards conservation. Encouragement should be given to sympathetic development and discouragement to proposals which work against conservation objectives.

Recognize the heritage worth of all items listed in Appendix 5 of this report by considering their level of significance and recommendations prior to consideration of development, building or alteration proposals of the item or adjacent items.

The following items to be included within a schedule of heritage items within the Local Environmental Plan and afforded the protection provided by those clauses within the LEP having specific reference to that schedule:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
3	Customs Officers Residence, Wharf Street	Wentworth
11/12	Post Office and Residence, Darling Street	Wentworth
13	Courthouse, Darling Street	Wentworth
14	Anglican Rectory, Darling Street	Wentworth
15	St Johns Anglican Church, Darling Street	Wentworth
19	Wentworth Gaol, Beverley Street	Wentworth
20	Rendlesham House, Sandwych Street	Wentworth
21	Yampa, Sandwych Street	Wentworth
31	'The Nunnery', Cadell Street	Wentworth
32	St Ignatius Convent, Cadell Street	Wentworth
33	'Crangs', Cadell Street	Wentworth
36	The Murray-Darling Junction, Cadell Street	Wentworth
39	Lockmasters Residence, Cadell Street	Wentworth
40	Wentworth Cemetery, Cadell Street	Wentworth
45	Wentworth Water Tower	Wentworth
46	Telegraph Hotel, Tarcoola Street	Pooncarie
47	Pooncarie Police Station, Tarcoola Street	Pooncarie
49	Pooncarie Cemetery, Menindee Road	Pooncarie
50	Dareton State Bank, Tapio Street	Dareton
54	Gol Gol Cemetery	Gol Gol
60	Curlwaa Store, Delta Road	Curlwaa
65	Tara Downs Homestead	Anabranch
68/69	Avoca Homestead and outbuildings, Pomona Road	Central
72	Para Homestead, Lower Darling Road	Central
73	Para Woolshed, Lower Darling Road	Central
76	Moorna Station Homestead, Renmark Road	Central
80	Lake Victoria Homestead and Store	Lake Victoria
86	Kulkurna Woolshed	Lake Victoria
92	Nulla Nulla Woolshed, Renmark Road	Lake Victoria
99	Windamingle Homestead, Silver City Hwy	Anabranch
109	Moorara Homestead, Menindee Road	Darling

5.1.3 The Building Department

The Building Department's actions should be orientated towards conservation. Discretion and flexibility by building officers with regard to the issue of demolition notices should ultimately

prevent the removal of buildings which are part of the Shire's heritage. Some fire regulations which can often have the effect of damaging the interiors and exteriors of heritage buildings can be avoided by utilization of Section 129 of the Heritage Act. Clauses in Ordinance 70 enable flexibility in the requirements for compliance alterations, provided the Council is satisfied the building has structural and fire safety. The use of heritage buildings should be encouraged, particularly those used for exterior renovation. Consultation between the building and planning departments should be undertaken, where appropriate, in regard to items of environmental heritage.

Recommendations

The issue of demolition notices on buildings which are part of the Shires heritage should only be undertaken by Council when no other alternative is available.

The provisions of the Heritage Act should be used, where practicable, to avoid the issue of notices which would damage the Shire's heritage.

The flexibility available in Ordinance 70 should be used to avoid damage to the Shire's heritage in the case of change of use of an existing building.

The Council should give approval to the use of building materials which are sympathetic to the character of heritage items.

The Council's building staff to make full and consistent use of Section 313 of the Local Government Act in dealing with matters of environmental heritage significance.

5.1.4 The Burra Charter

The adoption of the Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural significance (The Burra Charter) as a document to guide Council in making decision about heritage matters is vital.

Recommendation

The Council to adopt the Burra Charter as its basis for administering heritage matters in the Shire.

5.1.5 Council Works and Development

Council's own building works can drastically impinge upon the conservation of the Shire's heritage. Roadworks, street planting, tree lopping, drainage works and similar council functions can destroy or adversely alter heritage items and places. Such works should be carried out in consideration of the location of heritage sites and the character of the locality.

The actions of Council in enhancing and conserving the Shire's heritage can result in a similar community response. The restoration of Council owned property of historic value such as the Town Hall, public halls and recreation facilities is desirable. Such works may only involve the painting of a facade, reinstatement of an original awning or the like. However minor the change, it results in a significant addition to the conservation movement within the Shire.

Recommendations

The Council should adopt the policy to conserve existing structures in the course of its works and development of its property.

The Council should undertake tree maintenance, carefully and sympathetically, so as to enhance the Shire's heritage.

Any excavation works undertaken by Council should not disturb aboriginal relics.

Any roadworks, drainage works and landscaping undertaken by Council should take into consideration the historic character and layout of the area and not impose unsympathetic engineering or planting standards within the Shire.

The Council should ensure a close working relationship between its Planning, Building and Engineering staff.

Where possible, the Council should initiate restoration and heritage enhancement projects upon its own property.

5.2 EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

The Council should continuously maintain a register of the Shire's heritage by regular review and update where appropriate. Council's awareness and recognition of the Shire's heritage and appropriate methods of conservation can be heightened by the establishment of a comprehensive library through the collection of local documents from the now defunct historical society and acquisition of reference books recommended in Appendix 7 of this report. In addition, the services of a heritage advisor are highly recommended to assist Council in assessing development proposals, maintaining the register of heritage items and educating Council and the local community on their role in the conservation of the Shire's heritage. Such an advisor should have a conservation architectural background, good local knowledge and availability at call. Possibly employed under contract, the advisor may only be required a few times a year due to the minimal nature of development in the area.

Participation in seminars and conferences pertaining to heritage and conservation is encouraged for both Council and staff.

Recommendations

The Heritage Register to be updated by regular revision of the Shire's heritage.

The Council should investigate the possibility of employing a heritage advisor and the extent of assistance available from the Heritage and Conservation Fund for such an appointment.

The Council should encourage the establishment of a library containing reference material relating to the Shire's heritage and conservation, for public use.

The Council representatives and staff should attend relevant seminars and conferences regarding heritage and conservation.

5.3 CONSULTATION

The Wentworth Shire is largely comprised of land administered by the Western Lands Commission and Department of Water Resources. However, most items identified in this study are located on freehold land and administered by the Council. This is not the case for aboriginal sites, which are usually located on irrigated or pastoral leases and are administered by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. There are numerous government bodies which require consultation prior to development. It is vital that a unified approach to the Shire's heritage is achieved by the numerous government authorities involved in the Shire. Continuous consultation between the Council, Western Lands Commission, Department of Water Resources and National Parks and Wildlife Service is essential. Additionally, the local community and heritage interest groups should be privy to such consultation. Ideally, the formation of a Shire conservation committee should comprise nominated council members, government authority representatives, Heritage Council representatives, National Trust representative, Planning, Building and Engineering Department representatives, the local Heritage Advisor, and nominated interested representatives from the local community (including a member of the Aboriginal Community). Such a committee can be formed under Ordinance 1 of the Local Government Act and can be expected to result in a development of a unified approach to the Shire's heritage and development issues. Additionally, the committee would provide a forum for the dissemination of new information regarding heritage and conservation.

Recommendations

The Council should establish a Heritage Advisory Committee under Ordinance 1 of the Local Government Act including the following members:

- Local Government Representatives
- Shire President
- Council Planner
- Council Health and Building Inspector

- Council Engineer
- National Parks and Wildlife Service Representative
- Western Lands Commission Representative
- Department Water Resources Representative
- Heritage Council Representative
- National Trust of New South Wales Representative
- Aboriginal Representative
- Local Community Representative
- Heritage Advisor or Local Conservation Architect

The Council should alert the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Western Lands Commission and Department of Water Resources to the findings of this study.

The Council should advise all relevant State and Commonwealth government departments and agencies of the findings of this study and ask for their co-operation in conserving the heritage of the Wentworth Shire.

5.4 THE COMMUNITY

The conservation of the Shire's Heritage necessitates the active involvement of the local community. Generally, there is strong local support for heritage conservation in the Shire. However, an overall lack of community awareness of what constitutes heritage, how to conserve it and its importance to the Shire is evident. The Council can rectify these deficiencies by providing information about the Shire's heritage and stressing its significance by its own actions and through local publications.

Community activities including building renovation, gardening, fencing and facade painting can seriously amend the nature and character of heritage structures. A unified attitude to heritage retention is vital. The Council's positive approach to heritage can be enhanced by provision of advice and brochures on heritage retention and organization of seminars and information days regarding the Shire's heritage.

It is important that uncharacteristic 'heritage' enhancement is avoided. For instance bullnose verandahs and iron lace, often used to provide an historic appearance to a building, are out of character with typical building design in the Wentworth district.

Recommendations

The Council should ensure that residents are aware of the heritage of the Shire and of the importance of heritage to the future of the Shire.

The Council should display this report and its recommendations for public information and comment.

The Council should encourage residents to undertake maintenance and building works in a manner sympathetic to the original character of the building.

The residents should be guided and assisted to conserve those items of the Shire's Heritage under their ownership and control.

The Council should compile a brochure explaining the implications of the Heritage Study, Council's approach to the Shire's heritage, and the role of the community in conserving heritage.

The Council should make available information pamphlets on restoration and renovation of heritage buildings to the general public.

The Council should contribute to columns in the local press providing practical advice on conservation of the Shire's heritage.

The Council should initiate local public meetings and seminars aimed at disseminating information about the Shire's heritage and methods/attitudes to aid its conservation.

The Council should initiate civic and rural awards to encourage heritage conservation in townships and rural areas.

5.5 DEVELOPMENT PRESSURES

The most significant impact of development on the Shire's heritage is the potential destruction or disturbance of Aboriginal relics by subdivision or other development activity (these are referred to in Section 5.8), while the most visible impact of development on the Shire's heritage are those activities occurring within the townships and involving or adjoining recognized heritage sites. The recent proposed expansion of the Wentworth Club, which is situated in the vicinity of important heritage items, is one such example.

Consultation between Council, the developer and local community is vital in ensuring heritage conservation is not abated by new developments. Development should not be viewed as the ultimate threat to heritage items. New and old are able to complement each other with similar use of architectural elements, building materials, colours, building lines and bulk. Developers proposing schemes or modifications to items of heritage significance should be advised to consult with local conservation architects and the Council prior to submitting development plans.

Recommendations

The Council should pursue early consultation with Developers to ensure proposals enhance and do not negate the Shire's heritage.

The Community should be given the opportunity to comment on proposals affecting the Shire's heritage.

Council should refer development proposals on land likely to contain aboriginal relics, as depicted in Appendix 3 to the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Local Aboriginal Lands Council prior to approval.

5.6 HERITAGE AND TOURISM

Tourism is an important industry within the Wentworth Shire. The Murray River attracts many visitors who tour the Shire to view items such as Mungo National Park, the Wentworth Gaol and the horticultural areas. Tourism is often viewed as the prime means by which the local economy can be boosted.

Heritage can provide an important drawcard for tourism but it must be handled sensitively and expertly managed. The Shire's natural, Aboriginal and European heritage can be utilized for tourism purposes. Council should encourage the development of tourism schemes such as heritage walks, organized tours to large rural homesteads, museums and displays and recreation works, such as the re-building of the Wentworth Wharf. However, it is important that all activities and construction be of a quality and style befitting the nature of the heritage item or activity.

Recommendations

The Council should encourage the utilization of the Shire's heritage for tourism but without compromise to that heritage.

5.7 FUNDING AND INCENTIVES

The enhancement and maintenance of the Shire's heritage is largely hindered by the costs associated with such schemes and works. Long standing submissions to the Commonwealth Government on behalf of the Heritage Council and other related bodies to provide taxation incentives for enhancement of heritage items have not succeeded. Some funding provision is available for local heritage conservation through the Heritage Conservation Fund, administered by the Heritage Council of New South Wales. However, the list is long and funds are limited. It is the Council's responsibility to initiate projects which may be assisted by such funds and to actively seek other forms of government funding.

Financial assistance to owners of local heritage items for upgrading and maintenance may be achieved by the development of a Local Heritage Fund. The establishment of such Funds are enabled by Section 504(1) of the Local government Act, 1919. Finance could be paid in the form of an annual subsidy for appropriate maintenance of heritage items or 'one-off' assistance for special projects approved by Council.

Local businesses and corporations should be encouraged to support the local community in heritage conservation. For instance, the reinstatement of traditional architectural elements in Wentworth's main street could be initiated with guidelines and some funds from Council, supported by negotiated discounts of paints and building materials from local businesses. The attraction to provide such assistance could be the increase in business resulting from increased tourism or local interest in the enhanced streetscape. A successful main street project in Glen Innes operated along these lines.

Recommendations

The Council should investigate State Government funding opportunities for conservation projects.

The Council should alert local businesses of the importance of heritage to the future economy of the Shire, in an endeavour to attract local business and corporate funding or assistance in conservation projects.

The Council should seek opportunities to provide financial incentives to residents actively promoting heritage conservation.

5.8 MANAGEMENT OF AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

An increase in development activity can be expected to result in an increasing threat to archaeological remains. This is particularly so on the River Murray. It is possible to accommodate both interests by taking into account the likely positions of various sites and burials. Generally, areas of environmental sensitivity coincide with areas of the archaeology in this region. Most sites are going to be near water sources, both ancient and modern, and on or in landforms most sensitive to erosion. These are areas enjoyed by Aborigines for environmental, recreational and heritage reasons and are discussed specifically in the following paragraphs.

5.8.1 Outlet Creeks

Outlet creeks that connect lakes to River channels are of prime archaeological importance. The wealth of tools, burials, middens and the few fish traps attest to their importance in prehistoric Aboriginal economy. The same is true today, with the use of lakes as water reservoirs. Earthworks to better manage water flow are common, but they must be controlled to disturb the area as little as possible. The same mistakes as were made at Tandou should not happen again. There, a number of burials which were very likely a prehistoric cemetery, were completely destroyed by the massive irrigation system.

Flood mitigation and irrigation control demands the use of the lakes and their outlet creeks, of course, but such works should probably be located and developed having regard to the archaeology as well as the hydrology.

In the Development Options, Map 13a of the Preliminary Investigations Report of the Local Environmental Study, land nominated for rural living covers both sides of Gol Gol creek. The creek bed and margins should be avoided in any development, as should any associated sand dunes. It is possible that older and now defunct channels may exist between the Swamp and the River Murray. These will be restricted by local topography to near the present day course, except in the northwest corner of the proposed rural living section.

Recommendation

Outlet Creeks for lakes in the development area, specifically Fletcher's and Gol Gol Creeks, should be reserved.

5.8.2 Floodplains and Lake Margins

All high ground on the edge of the River Murray flood plain is very likely to contain shell middens that date back over 10,000 years. Burials are extremely common at these locations, with some areas having one burial every 15 metres or less. Most sites are within 30m of the cliff edges, and often less. Since these strips of land are also under the greatest threat from erosion, either natural or from trail bikes or stock, it makes good sense to preserve them from any disturbance. These areas include Trentham Cliffs where a proposed rural living zone abuts the River, Gol Gol Bend south and west of the Sturt Hwy., Rocky Point just west of Chaffey Bend, Boeil Lagoon, Halfway Rocks, and Cowanna Bend near the pumping station.

Ideally, development should avoid all present day river channels and old river courses. This is practical given that most of this land is low and grey clay country. However, higher patches, such as dunes bordering the channels will inevitably contain sites and burials in densities greater than on the open land away from the rivers or on the grey clay floodplains surrounding. These archaeological deposits are most often in the upper sandy loams of the dunes and would be disturbed by any building or agriculture. Archaeological investigation of these sites is necessary before proceeding with any development. Unfortunately, the risk of uncovering something is quite high, so even with a survey and small test excavations it will be possible to miss burials particularly. It would help to have a Sites Curator assist while excavation works are undertaken.

Gol Gol Lake, Swamp and Creek are known to be important to Aboriginal people. These are ephemeral lakes associated with the River Murray. The swamp used to have many carved and scarred trees. Burials are known from many places on the edges of the lakes and like all other lakes in southwest NSW, contain archaeological materials covering tens of thousands of years. These are extremely fragile dune systems that suffer from stock, trail bikes and even people walking on them. For example the visitors area at the Walls of China, at Lake Mungo, has suffered severe erosion over the last 10 years.

All lake margins and lunettes (crescentic sand dunes on the eastern side) should be avoided. The impact of stock should be minimised, if at all possible. Vehicular use should be banned, except in rare cases where sealed roads traverse the dunes. Although this affects the Shire mostly with Fletcher's and Gol Gol lakes, all other lakes in the Shire are as important.

Recommendations

High ground on the cliffed margins of the River Murray floodplain should be protected from erosion and development to a distance of at least 30 metres.

Sand dunes on the flood plains should be carefully monitored and investigated prior to any development.

Lake margins, especially the lunettes, should be protected from erosion and development.

5.8.3 Sand Dunes

Perry Sand Hill has been extensively studied by archeologists from the Western Lands Commission. They are concerned at the rate of destruction by recreation vehicles of not only the archaeology and megafauna, but of the dune itself. Investigations show that many of the sites have been broken up and some destroyed. They have also documented the mobilization of the dune, slowly covering the trees on the eastern side.

Vehicles should be restricted and a walking and interpretation area established, along the lines of Mungo National Park. There is no advantage to continued use of the dune to the point where it one day covers the Silver City Highway. The problem of finding an area for recreation vehicles is difficult, but will not be solved by destroying this area.

The series of sand dunes associated with ancient river channels just to the west of Wentworth town have been heavily quarried in the past. It was the main Wentworth Shire sand quarry at one time and is now closed. Small recent diggings show that people are getting trailer loads of sand, probably for gardens and the like. Even though quarrying has officially stopped there, recent developments show how events conspire to demonstrate the problems of sand quarrying. Examination of the general area highlighted the extent of archaeological features on the surface, including some disturbed human bone to the south of the road. At a nearby footpath to the east of the golf course it was evident a front end loader had recently dug into the sand beside the footpath and a number of leg and arm bones from a disturbed burial were lying on the surface.

Recommendations

Perry Sand Hill should be protected and the use of recreation vehicles discouraged.

Access to the sand quarry area west of Wentworth should be limited.

5.8.4 Specific Sites

The shell midden opposite the Department of Agriculture Research Station is known to the Aboriginal community and they have watched the road, drainage ditch and trail bikes destroy substantial parts of it. NP&WS is interested in some formal study of this early midden and in its preservation.

Lake Victoria is currently the subject of a plan of management being carried out by Mr Alan Lance (ANU-Tech). Aboriginal burials, cemeteries, dense occupation, and megafauna are all present in this area. All are under threat from off road vehicles and stock, which accelerate erosion and destroy archaeological sites. Recommendations will be examined by the interested authorities later this year.

Recommendation

The shell midden opposite the Dept of Agriculture Research Station, to the south of and immediately adjacent to the Sturt Hwy should be preserved.

5.8.5 Museums and Displays

The Shire is centrally placed in the Murray - Darling River basin. The scope for developing awareness of Aboriginal history is ideal in terms of tourism (day trips, exploration, archaeological research) and education. The National Parks and Wildlife Service office in Buronga is an obvious place for tourists to get information about the history of the area, both Aboriginal and European. Wentworth should also be a source of such information. Currenlty, the town has two museums, neither with more than a few stone artifacts nor any explanatory displays or material.

As a matter of urgency in promoting Australian history both within the region for education and for tourists, the museums in Wentworth need upgrading. At present there is no comparable institution in Mildura, but that is likely to change. Some museums have come to strife with the display of Aboriginal skeletal remains, even those of great antiquity. There are some who do not even like the idea of casts being displayed. This is a sensitive issue that calls for courtesy and common sense. For any tourist or education displays, the Shire should not have skeletal remains for public view. Photographs or casts should be vetted by the local Aboriginal community, or the Regional Land Council. As an artefact associated with burial, the kopi mourning caps have a great religious and social importance. They are part of a funeral process and should be accorded the same respect as skeletons. Any question of museum display of these objects should be thoroughly discussed with local Aboriginal people.

Displays of Aboriginal culture are both interesting and desirable. Thought should be given to expanding the current display at Wentworth Gaol Museum and perhaps incorporating one in the new Folk Museum. Funds for these might be sought from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, the Museums Association, Heritage Commission and other government bodies as well as private investors.

Photographs, old and modern artifacts (especially wooden ones), interpretive material and cabinets would all enhance a display. For instance, different grinding slabs displayed 'in action' with seeds, nardoo or ochre and with a map of where such objects are found makes for a more informative and interesting visit.

Another possibility concerns the collection of very old wooden artifacts currently held by managers of the Gaol Museum, in anticipation of proper curation and display facilities. Discussions have been held with the Dareton LALC about possible displays for the wooden artifacts and also about some of the bones of extinct giant marsupials preserved at Lake Victoria. Members of the community who visited Lake Victoria recently were very impressed with the fossils and would be interested in collecting and mounting the bones for display within the Shire. Single displays like this are difficult, but there are Museum training courses (such as at Canberra College of Advanced Education) which might be interested in working on such a project.

Aboriginal training/ employment for museums or displays is probably a difficult proposition for the privately run Gaol Museum, but if an Aboriginal section were envisaged in the Folk Museum it should be considered. There are training opportunities for this at TAFE's and at the Department of Aboriginal Affairs (DAA). These museums also provide a suitable outlet for locally made, modern versions of wooden artifacts, manufactured by members of the local Aboriginal community.

Recommendation

The Council to seek funding assistance from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Museums Association and the Australian Heritage Commission to develop suitable displays of Aboriginal culture in the Shire.

5.8.6 Development of Archaeological Sites

The Council should have a thorough understanding of the archaeology in the proposed development area before any earth moving or other works start. This is done by having a contract archaeologist undertake a detailed survey which may included excavation. Lists of such people may be found through NP&WS or by directly contacting consultants such as ANU-Tech or National Heritage Studies.

APPENDIX 1

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX 2

A HISTORY OF ABORIGINAL OCCUPATION IN WENTWORTH SHIRE

A HISTORY OF ABORIGINAL OCCUPATION

The southwest of New South Wales contains the most complete record of Aboriginal occupation in the continent. This section is an overview of that history, drawing from a wider region and focussing on Wentworth Shire.

The great events of human history are the colonisation of new worlds; Eurasia by one million years ago, Australia by 40,000 years, the Americas about 12,000 and the Pacific in the last 6,000. The people who settled Australia came from Southeast Asia and these were the descendants of Homo erectus, our ancestor from before 100,000 years ago. These are not the Indo-chinese who now live in that part of the world, but peoples who have no direct modern counterpart except perhaps in Australia and New Guinea.

These earliest Australians were part of the fully modern family of humans, the species Homo sapiens. They sailed to Australia at least 40,000 years ago when the Ice Age had locked much of the sea water in polar ice caps and the sea levels were up to 60m lower than today. New Guinea and Tasmania were attached to the mainland. The first records of these people come not from the north of Australia, but from Perth and Mungo. These are dates from fireplaces on the Swan River and Lake Mungo respectively.

ABORIGINAL GROUPS OF WENTWORTH SHIRE

Five groups, or tribes live in what is now Wentworth Shire. These are the Maraura (Mara wara) of the Lower Darling and along the Murray to Lake Victoria, the Paakantji (Barkindji) of the Darling River, the Barindji to the east and including the Willandra lakes, the Kureinji to the east of the Maraura and south of the Barindji, and the Danggali in the northwest part of the shire. Their languages were part of a continent wide family, Pama Ngungan. Each is a language in its own right with closer relationships between adjacent groups. Evidence of these languages still exists, not only with people who can speak a language or know part of it, but in place names all over the Shire: Momba, a clan name of the Danggali (Moomba gas fields) ; Nielyi-gulli, a Barindji clan name (Nelia-Gaari station); Karndilke, a clan name of the Paakantji (Lake Cawndilla).

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE MATERIAL REMAINS

The River Murray, from its junction with the Murrumbidgee to its mouth at the Coorong, was one of the most densely populated parts of Australia. Aborigines settled here as early as anywhere in the continent, expanding southwards from their landing spots to the Darling corridor and piercing to the very heart of the Southeast. By natural population increase alone in an empty land, this could have been accomplished in about two thousand years[1]. So an initial colonisation at 40,000 years ago could easily have seen people living on the Willandra Lakes and using a hearth at 38,000 years ago.

Another early date of 36,300 comes from the shores of Lake Tandou[2], from a shellfish midden buried in the sands of the lunette and now exposed. These dates also tell us that the area was very different then. The lakes had water in them for much of the time and the rivers were also more constant, for with the Ice Age came a lowering of temperatures and increased rainfall in the area and to the north, where the Darling receives most of its water. The Murray was fed by the permanent ice fields of the Dividing Range. The Shire, as today, has been affected by weather and people outside its boundaries and these have had a great impact.

There has been continuous occupation of the region since it was first settled. Radiocarbon dates, usually of shell middens, occur in every time period, however the evidence is less for the very early times. This is because of erosion, the natural destruction of archaeological features. Furthermore, many parts of a culture do not survive as material objects: language, symbolic relations, perishable items of wood, leather, hair.

People in this area had to adapt to a changing environment that has been partially mapped by archaeological and geological investigation[3]. Changes in rainfall, river flow and temperature affected vegetation and animal populations as well as altering lake and swamp environments. The Willandra Lakes system had periods of sand deposition and preservation of mussel shell middens at around 32,000 and later at 15,000 years ago. The final demise of the Willandra system is related to the changes in the Lachlan River. In other areas evidence for occupation is found in different time periods; 27-22,000 years at Lake Tandou, 13,000 on the Darling Anabranch, 8-6,000 at the Talyawalka Lakes, and 18,000, 15,000 and 7-6,000 years at Lake Victoria.

Although the environments may have changed dramatically over the long term, such as the complete destruction of lakeside habitats in extremely dry periods, or with new river channels being carved out, people would have still lived in and around these places. An example of this is the fact that the sand dunes around lakes (lunettes) are large water reservoirs, even when the lakes are dry. Soaks occur, or can be dug on any lunette. The one at Mungo is part of a series of waterholes that connect the Darling River at Wilcannia to the River Murray at Lake Benanee, near Robinvale.

Even though the amount of archaeology studied in this region is very limited, much can be made of the diversity of life in the past and of the patterns that proved successful over tens of thousands of years.

WHERE DID PEOPLE LIVE?

What people did in various places in the landscape is the stuff of archaeology; piecing together a pattern of past lifeways from the residue of their endeavours. This includes where people camped and cooked, what they ate and at what time of year, where and how they made their stone tools, where people were buried and who they were (male or female, adult or child). The very nature of the land in southwestern New South Wales and specifically Wentworth Shire demands that people did not distribute themselves evenly, but in relation to the Mallee, the rivers, lakes, billabongs, swamps and stone sources.

The density of people was greater on the river systems[4] and so more archaeological remains might be expected there. The two Aboriginal tribes on the River Murray in Wentworth Shire had small territories: 5,700 square kilometres. for the Maraura and 4,400 square kilometres for the Kureinji. The Paakantji of the River Darling, with its less predictable flow, covered an area of 19,500 square kilometres. Away from the rivers, the Danggali owned 25,500 square kilometres. and the Barindji, 23,400 square kilometres.

Then, as now, the environment played a major part in determining where people would live and what their seasonal round of movements would be. Fitted in with regular movements to water and food sources would have been travel for ceremony at various religious sites throughout the area and outside it; trade of valuable and routine items. Trade was important for non-local goods such as Pituri, or native tobacco[5], and for grinding slabs for processing wild plant seeds. Trade was also important, not for the goods exchanged, but for cementing relations between different groups. In this case not only marriage partners, but also various tools would change hands, not because one group had substantially better spears or boomerangs, but as a means of formalising group and interpersonal relations. These ancient trade patterns come out in the distribution of non-local artefacts, such as greenstone hatchet heads[6], stone points and in the biological relations between groups determined by genetic studies of skeletons.

Most of the major archaeological sites in the Shire are close to water. This represents a fairly accurate picture of where people lived, but an important point to be made, especially for management purposes, is how and where sites are preserved. The dune fields have not been extremely mobile in the past forty thousand years. This means that not only do archaeological remains not get severely eroded, they often do not get preserved in the first place.

On the other hand, places of active soil deposition are more likely to preserve a greater number of events, from the death of a giant kangaroo to the dinner camps and burials of Aborigines over a long period of time. These places are the most important archaeologically because they preserve events with continual layers of sand or fine clay pellets. They are also the most sensitive to destruction because they are fragile parts of the environment, susceptible to massive erosion and because they are almost all the product of water and air movement. Sand dunes form where water has carried sediment and then receded to allow wind to whip that sand up to create source bordering dunes on the edges of ancestral rivers and more modern ones; lunettes, the giant crescentic sand dunes that ring the eastern margins of lakes; levees along the banks of prior streams; point bars on the inside curves of river bends[7].

WAYS OF MAKING A LIVING

All these people over a vast area and an even greater period of time shared a common way of making a living. They hunted for meat, collected mussells, fished for cod and yabbies, gathered plant tubers, seeds, berries and nuts. They collected firewood for warmth, wood and bark for tools and weapons. They mined stone sources for suitable material for stone tools and grinding slabs.

By far the most common archaeological remains in Wentworth Shire are small campsites denoted by concentrations of stone flakes, tools and waste; hearths; or food remains, often mussel shell. The distribution of these remains on the landscape is rather different to what we might expect in excavating a north american Indian village site, for instance. By convention, a site in NSW is a concentration of stone, a hearth, burial, midden. Each of these is actually an event, not necessarily related to any other. The distribution of these sites, or events, is based partly on archaeological preservation but mainly on where people were. A place where people camped relatively often will have many hearths, a greater density of stone tools and so on. The main point though, is that all these events are not strictly related to each other in space, and they may cover an immense time period.

An Indian village site will have structures that are related: house foundations for occupation, a midden that was the rubbish tip; the post-holes of a protecting wall; large pits for storage. Each relates to the other and the whole site takes on the sense of community life and interaction. That same knowledge can only be gleaned from western NSW by looking at the gradual accumulation of fragments of that whole. For example, land between two lakes often has the greatest density of artefacts anywhere. Although every artefact and other remain may have been discarded or left at a different time, over thousands of years, a picture builds up of the proportions of mussell shells, fish and other bones, grinding slabs and their worn out fragments that denote collection and processing of various seeds, stone tools and the debris left from flaking the stone.

Most of the archaeology that has been done in Wentworth Shire has concentrated on the sand bodies where accumulation of sediment has preserved a very long sequence of cultural material. The bias of this water based occupation means that we know very little about what people were doing in the back country, on the red linear dune fields. Nonetheless, for parts of the year, large numbers of Aboriginal people would be fishermen: "Six hundred Natives encamped together, all of whom were living at the time upon fish procured from the lake"[8]. They were fishing with nets and traps for Golden Perch and Murray Cod. We know this from 24,000 year old middens where hundreds of fish bones remain[9]. The fish were of a certain size range that can only be selected by nets or traps. Nets would have been used in lakes and when the rivers were full. Traps and weirs would have been more useful in outlet channels of lakes and swamps. The stone arrangement on the floor of Nearie Lake, at the outlet creek is a durable example of this. Doubtless, others were made from wood and grass.

Yabbies were taken in season and the remains of their carapaces and internal calcium-storing 'stones' are numerous and surprisingly well preserved. These concentrations are found on the Anabranch Lakes, Willandra Lakes and Lake Victoria[10]. Single pieces are often found in blowouts on sand deposits.

The other large water resource is the shellfish, Velesunio ambiguus. This mussel is common, easily harvested and has a unique feature that proved invaluable for travel. Mussels can stay alive for a period of time out of water by keeping a small store of water locked in their shells. They make an ideal meal to be taken on a trip away from the river. The remains of these meals are small 'dinnertime camps' that are scattered over the plains in remarkable abundance. They consist of a small quantity (perhaps a dilly bag full) of fragmented and eroded shell.

Other meat resources are mammals, birds, lizards and insects. The remains of these are not as common as those of aquatic animals. That does not mean that they weren't important in the diet, but that the method of capture and butchering, the numbers, the place where they were caught, were not conducive to preservation. At large, well preserved sites, there are the remains of many different species of animal.

Plant resources are very difficult to examine in the archaeology of Wentworth Shire.

RITUAL BEHAVIOUR

Much, but not all of the richness of prehistoric society is invisible to archaeology. We are not able to examine religious life nor changing morals, manners and philosophies over the millenia. We can document some rituals in time and space, and perhaps draw some conclusions from that. Four important examples of this are tooth avulsion, widow's caps, cylcons and cemeteries.

Tooth avulsion is a well known trait over most of the world. It occurs throughout Australia and the oldest known occurrence in the world is at Lake Nitchie[11]. Knocking out the front tooth is a ritual marking the passage of children into adulthood. It is a way of marking group membership and is often seen as personal adornment, in much the same vein as earrings, tattoos, body scars and so on.

Avulsion is found in many prehistoric remains from Wentworth Shire. One or more teeth may be missing, with no tooth roots left (as might be expected if they were knocked out in a fight). The boney gum is resorbed and uninfected. It appears to be far more common in men than women on the River Murray, but the proportion changes following the Darling upstream into Queensland, until it is found in about the same numbers of men and women.

Widow's Caps, or Kopi mourning caps, are a graveside artefact that is restricted to the Lower Darling and the River Murray in Wentworth Shire[12]. These caps were made from kopi, a locally occurring white gypseous clay. White is a colour associated with all important religious business over much of Australia. These caps were made by women on the death of their husband and were plastered on the head to a thickness of as much as 10 cm. They would be worn for a prescribed period of time or until they came off. The caps would then be placed on the grave. Sometimes a number of caps would be made, not for wearing, but to be placed directly on the grave. The antiquity of this cultural trait is not known, but most of the examples are probably from within the last couple of thousand years.

As an artefact associated with burial, the kopi mourning caps have a great religious and social importance. They are part of a funeral process and should be accorded the same respect as skeletons.

Cylcons are artefacts made from sandstone (about 61%), or more rarely quartzite (15%) or other stone[13]. They are sometimes referred to as 'phallic' and 'initiation' stones, although these make up only a small number of the total . They are generally less than 30 cm long and about 8 cm in diameter. Their name comes from a discrete description of their shape: cylindro-conical.

Cylcons are found by themselves over much of the Darling River region and into Lake Eyre, southwest Queensland and eastern NSW. The greatest density of these artefacts is in the central Darling River, from Menindee to Bourke (75% of known examples). About 20 (4% of public collections) come from Wentworth Shire.

In the Darling River region, most have been found on sandhills and to a lesser extent lying on blowouts or clay pans. These latter are usually broken up. These are all found close to the river. Cylcons are not found in association with burials, as is the case with mourning caps, and have never been found in direct association with other cultural material.

Cylcons have been called 'mystery stones' because nothing was known of their ritual significance. With Aboriginal people there is a view that these are of religious significance, although that is not a view held by all. There is also not unanimous agreement about whether these are Men's or Women's 'Business', or both. The seeming lack of knowledge about cylcons may be that their use and ritual significance had stopped millenia ago, or that Aboriginal people have not spoken about religion and ritual following the destruction of their society.

Cemeteries are found along the River Murray in southeastern Australia[14]. These are not simply places where lots of people were buried, but were bounded and probably consecrated in the same way as cemeteries all over the world. Cemeteries are not generally thought to be associated with people who are 'hunters and gatherers'. However, as mentioned before, groups along the River Murray organised their societies very differently to those of the hinterland. Cemeteries are an example of this. They are places where people of a clan or lineage were buried, providing a marker and a symbol of territorial ownership by preserving the remains of a line of ancestors.

Kow Swamp and Coobool Creek[15], near Swan Hill are the oldest cemeteries in Australia and among the oldest in the world at a date of between 9 and 13,000 years ago. This burial practise probably swept the River Murray quickly and other cemeteries encompass dates of between 7,000 and 2,000 years. The Snaggy Bend cemetery at Wentworth has an earliest date of 10,000 years before the present.

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE PEOPLE

There are more burials known and covering a longer time in and around Wentworth Shire than anywhere else in Australia. For the period between ten and thirty thousand years ago there are more burials here than for virtually any other place in the world. These give a great opportunity to look at variation and change in one place. Table 1 is a list of most of the remains that have a secure date associated with them.

Skeletons of people long since dead inform us today of many aspects of life in the past. These include health and disease, patterns of marriage and inter-relationships between groups, adaptations to various living conditions, and short term evolutionary changes. Burials also have a social significance that is respected by all people in all cultures. This is made doubly sensitive in Australia by the interests of a dominant European culture that has in the past disregarded that respect.

Burials are seen as a symbol of the continuity of an Aboriginal lineage and as the graves of their ancestors by Aboriginal people, as a nuisance by people wishing to quarry sand, as a valuable source of information by archaeologists. Without doubt, burials are the most sensitive part of Aboriginal history, loaded with symbolic and genealogical ties. One of the results of this report will be to identify where burials are likely to be and in what numbers and one of the recommendations will be to identify alternative sources of sand for construction.

The following section is a short description of what we have learned from studying some of the ancient Aboriginal skeletons from and around Wentworth Shire. This part is not meant to be a review of the biological and evolutionary studies in the region, for there are many aspects to that. Rather, it is a sketch of colonisation as it relates to the continent, adaptations in the region, and a particular piece of information to show how various studies in archaeology inter-relate.

THE ORIGINAL COLONISTS

Colonisation has been an ongoing topic of research in Australia for many years[16]. The study of ancient skeletons has shed light on where people came from, who they were and what they looked like. An early theory suggested that there were three original groups, the Murrayans, the Carpentarians and the Barrineans of northeast Queensland. The Murrayans were held to be the oldest and most 'archaic' group who were displaced southwards by the later Carpentarians (named for the Gulf of Carpentaria). The Barrineans were seen as a sideline of rainforest dwelling peoples related to the 'Negritos' of southeast Asia. This latter is thoroughly discredited, but the idea of two founding groups has remained. Alan Thorne has suggested that the larger and more heavily built groups such as Kow Swamp and Lake Nitchie man were descendants of the original migrants from Java: a direct lineage to Homo erectus from that island. He has also suggested that smaller, more lightly built individuals such as the young female cremation from Mungo and the male from Kielor, Victoria, were descendants of people who colonised Australia from China.

The prevailing view, based on more information and ecological factors, states that all these ancient individuals and the populations they represent share a common history[17]. Their ancestry goes back to 'Java Man'. While it is true that migrants have been coming into Australia for tens of thousands of years (trade between New Guinea and Cape York, the Macassans, the Europeans, and most recently the Boat People), the biological base of Aboriginality has been stable and recognisable for the 28,000 years for which there are skeletal remains.

A PARTICULAR STUDY OF SKELETONS IN A REGIONAL CONTEXT

Swimming is a strange topic for skeletal studies. There is a condition of the ear known as Surfer's, or Diver's Ear. This is a small lump of bone that grows in the ear canal and is related to exposure of the middle ear to cold water. It is uncommon in most parts of the world, but occurs in Australia. This feature can be seen in the skull, and I have measured the relative frequencies for ancient populations throughout the country[18]. The River Murray has the highest incidence of this feature. More interestingly, men have it far more than women, and some children have it as well. Given what we know about prehistoric dependence on aquatic resources such as fish, mussels and birds, this information means that men

were probably doing more of the swimming and diving than women (who were also doing a lot), and that children also were swimming at an early age. On the south coast of Victoria and Tasmania, it was women who were in the water more often. There the incidence of Diver's Ear is more common in women than in men.

CULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL EVOLUTION[19]

The size, density, age, sex and kin structure of a population is important in shaping how that group evolves. Migration between neighbouring groups, and marriage are the ways in which diversity and patterns of relationships develop. These are mediated by, and interact with, group social organisation, demographic patterns and local environmental constraints and possibilities.

The river corridors supported more people partly from a higher carrying capacity and partly because the wide oscillation of food and water availability away from the rivers would exert a powerful control on population.

Basic demographic differences between riverine groups and their non-riverine neighbours are found in population size and density, patterns of mortality and morbidity (disease, infection and trauma), and of migration and marriage.

Birdsell (1953) presented ecological information on rainfall, size of group area and group numbers. His results for the Murray - Darling tribes are truly staggering. His estimates of their density and numbers were an order of magnitude greater, in fact 20 to 40 times greater than non-riverine populations in the same region.

SOCIAL ORGANISATION

Resource-rich environments are characterised by larger groups, smaller and more clearly defined territories, more vigorous boundary maintenance and some form of corporate group behaviour. The social relations of groups in the more arid areas away from the rivers may be called 'inclusive'; local organisation extends personal, social and territorial networks over large areas. This makes movement across boundaries easier.

Conversely, the resource-rich areas tend to 'exclusivity'. Local organisation is corporate. There are well defined boundaries and more elaborate procedures for crossing them; shorter marriage distances; boundary maintenance in the form of warfare and other forms of inter - group competition. Descent was based on unilineal groups such as clans rather than sections or moieties.

The River Murray fits a pattern of 'exclusion'. Unlike the Centre, people here did not maximise kin relations, but rather organised themselves in localised clans and clusters of clans. Warfare was known and of the material culture surviving to the present, articles of war predominate. Centralised authority seems also to have existed here. One of the main cultural features of these groups along the River Murray is the presence of cemeteries maintained over thousands of years. These groups were territorially based and their cemeteries are one of the symbols validating corporate ownership of that territory.

Because people preferentially married along the river, the linking effect of intermarriage was channelled in one dimension, along the river. Spouses would be more readily available. Socially it would make more sense to cement relationships with the larger, more densely packed groups on either side who have the potential to become your greatest ally or your greatest foe.

BIOLOGICAL VARIATION IN THE SOUTHEAST

Overall differentiation is low in the Pleistocene and the earlier southeastern skeletons are homogeneous in size and shape of the skull, although variable. (This is in distinction to multiple migration theories).

Differentiation in Australia in the last few thousand years is greatest along the River Murray. After the separation of the Southeast from the rest of the continent, the major biological groupings are three River Murray regions at a level exceeding the difference between Queensland and Western Australia. One of these groupings comprises the area of Wentworth Shire: the central Murray. There are also clines that run the length of the river, linking groups in a systematic pattern of variation. These clines are regular changes in skeletal characteristics.

SIZE DECREASE

The effects of large, densely packed populations are readily apparent: skull and arm fractures from increased violence; infection, periods of growth arrest and anaemia from different diseases and the effects of famine; arthritis from new and different forms of labour.

One of the most obvious results is that size must decrease. From 13,000 to less than 5,000 years ago there was a 5% size reduction of groups along the River. Famine and disease take their toll of the growing child. Size reduction is the necessary result of a deteriorating environment.

THE PATTERN OF BIOLOGICAL VARIATION

A new order arises in the later Pleistocene. Social organisation, population and population genetic structure all change in concert. Rising population suddenly or slowly affects local migration patterns. The greater proportion of marriages takes place over shorter distances and with the more numerous riverine neighbours. This is reproductive isolation of the river corridor. As boundary maintenance and warfare becomes important, large populations may actually be selected for by society.

It is not population growth per se, but the differentials between riverine and hinterland groups that are important. In this view, River Murray populations have always been large compared to those away from the river. Population growth through time is a good interpretation of the size decreases, heightened diversity and increased morbidity of River Murray groups. The timing of this coincides with the rise of cemeteries. This had its beginning ten to twelve thousand years ago and continued for at least 5,000 years and maybe more.

As social and reproductive barriers serve to isolate the river corridor in addition to the ever-present environmental differences, groups started to differentiate biologically. Size and shape are one aspect of this and like all variation serve to visually differentiate individuals and groups. Cumulative genetic change is exaggerated by the lineal nature of the corridor. Inter-marriage in one dimension (along the river) constricts relations between groups and leads to faster and greater differentiation than in the two dimensional case.

As exclusion is a principle of social organisation, reproductive isolation is its biological correlate. People are able to locate and identify different groups by their appearance. This can be done by constructing social systems that effect change in marriage and migration patterns, and ultimately group differences. It can also be consciously achieved. Cranial deformation, or head-binding as was practised on the River Murray 10,000 years ago at Kow Swamp and Coobool Creek is the conscious social correlate of genetic differentiation. These are people exaggerating their uniqueness; pushing the exclusion principle to one logical limit.

The River Murray is not a Garden of Eden, a Utopia of infinite resources. The ramifications of the genetic and social models, coupled with differing environments and population densities are that large groups would be necessary. Boundary maintenance and warfare become necessary evils. Disease, famine, size decrease, a deteriorating environment and the quest for available resources become part of a new ecology.

The differences and changes in social organisation might indicate that density differentials between river and hinterland were a major factor in that groups may have been forced to accept the problems of deteriorating environment to reap the benefits of large populations necessary to maintain themselves in a densely packed, resource hungry string of neighbours.

In summary, Peoples of the River Murray Corridor probably settled the region at least 38,000 years ago. By around 12,000 years ago, some expressions of social behaviour indicate that organisation was firmly grounded in the principle of exclusion. The elaboration of this is more evident by about 5,000 to 3,000 years ago with good evidence of reproductive isolation and demographic competition. Population increase and maintenance was probably necessary in the face of pressure from hinterland groups and especially larger populations along the River playing in the same game. Two of the costs of surviving in this struggle were an increased disease load and a decrease in overall size: both effects of a deteriorating environment.

The historical information suggests a continuity with unilineal clan based organisation, warfare and territorially exclusive groups.

Population increase may not have continued unabated; we don't yet know. But it is likely that while resources, disease and death set limits to growth; social organisation, warfare, exclusive territoriality, intermarriage with powerful riverine neighbours and perhaps adoption of new food resources were working to redefine those limits and to overcome a biological equation.

AFTER CAPTAIN COOK AND CHARLES STURT

Settlement of the area in the 1830's by Europeans was disastrous for Aboriginal people. Diseases like Influenza and Smallpox decimated the populations. Murders are still remembered (such as the Rufus River Massacre). Displacement and the breaking up of families is still a childhood memory of many Aboriginal people. But Aboriginal culture and heritage is not forgotten. A resurgence of interest and pride is gaining momentum. Aboriginal communities identify themselves with their forebears and continue an unbroken cultural lineage.

The enforced relocation of Aborigines in southwestern NSW has not separated people from the land. It has created a wide network of related people not unlike the mix that is Australia, Canada or England itself. Aboriginal people from the Maraura (Mara wara), Paakantji, Barindji, Kureinji and Danggali are spread all over much of New South Wales and Victoria, and people from many other groups now live in Wentworth Shire.

The parcelling of land into free and leased holdings and the radical changes in employment within the pastoral industry have made access to land and important sites difficult, if not impossible. Places of religious and economic importance have not been forgotten, even though much associated with this has.

With some ancient relics it is sufficient that they exist to be important. Burials are the most obvious example of this. All burials are important. The fact that a genealogy cannot be established is of no account to Aboriginal people; in much the same way that it is not important to most other people.

The history of human occupation in Australia is longer, richer and more varied in Wentworth Shire than any other place in the country. These large repositories of Aboriginal history lie in the very places where people always want to live and develop the land. That is the problem faced with increasing development of the Shire, how to serve the needs and interests of all parties without mindlessly destroying a history and heritage that is not 150 years old, but 250 times that number; 40,000 years.

Notes

1 J. Birdsell, 1953.

2 J. Hope and J. Balme, work in progress.

3 J. Birdsell, 1953, N. Tindale, 1974, C. Pardoe, 1988.

4 K. Kefous, 1983; Clark and Hope, 1985; Bowler et al. 1976.

5 P. Watson, 1983.

6 I. McBryde, 1978, 1984.

7 Appendix 3, Site documentation, is an outline of those landforms which are known to be highly valuable for their archaeological content. More detailed lists of known sites is included in the Appendix as well as descriptions of various archaeological features and artefacts.

8 E.J. Eyre, 1845 vol.2, pg 252.

9 J. Balme, 1983, R. Lawrence, 1969.

10 K. Kefous 1977, 1983; J. Balme, 1983

11 N.W.G. Macintosh, 1971.

12 R. Etheridge, 1899; Goddard, 1936; Davidson, 1949.

13 G. Hamm, 1987.

14 C. Pardoe 1988a, b.

15 A.G. Thorne, 1975; P. Brown 1982.

16 N. Macintosh, 1967; A. Thorne, 1975, 1976, 1977; R. Kirk and A. Thorne, 1976; A. Thorne and M. Wolpoff, 1981; P. Brown, 1987.

17 P. Brown, 1987, P. Habgood, 1986, C. Pardoe, in press.

18 C. Pardoe, 1984.

19 C. Pardoe, 1988.

Table 1 - Dated Burials of the River Murray and Lower Darling

Individual	Date	Sex	Source
Mungo III	28,000?	Male	Bowler and Thorne 1976
Mungo I	24,700	Female	Bowler et al. 1972
Tandou	15,000?	Male	Freedman and Lofgren 1983
Kow Swamp 5	13,000	Male	Thorne 1975
Coobool Creek 65	12,500	Male	Brown 1987
Snaggy Bend 79	10,000	Male?	Clark and Hope 1985
Kow Swamp 9	9,590	Male	Thorne 1975
Roonka 89	6,910	Male	Pretty 1977:297
Nitchie	6,820	Male	Macintosh 1971
Mallee Cliffs I	6,610	Male	Pardoe 1989
Mossgiel	6,010	Male	Macintosh 1967
Keera Station no. 2	5,900	?	Blackwood and Simpson 1973:105
" " 29	5,840	?	" "
" " 28	5,350	?	" "
" " 11	4,400	Female	" "
" " 10	4,170	?	" "
" " 69	750	Female	" "

Almost all of these are from Wentworth Shire or within 100km. Those highlighted are from within the Shire. From Pardoe 1989.

Table 2 - Burial Distribution on Lakes in Wentworth Shire

Survey area	Lunette	West Shore	Outlet Creek	Local Sandhills	Total
Nitchie	12				12
Toora	4+			5	9+
Nialia	8				8
Yelta	12				12
Nearie	11		2		13
Victoria	12		43		55
Total	59		45	5	109
Total %	54	0	41	5	**100**

The numbers from the lunettes represent a small fraction of those that are likely to still be buried. The lack of burials from most outlet creeks may reflect the uneroded nature of the land, where soil deposition from water flow would be greater than erosion. The small number from the Lake Victoria lunette is not indicative of the number of burials there, as this was the result of a very short survey at the southern end. More extensive work has shown burials to be common all along the lunette. Over 230 burials were taken from the Lake Victoria & Rufus River area in the mid 1940's by a 'private collector'. From Pardoe (1985).

REFERENCES ON ARCHAEOLOGY

This bibliography covers most, but not all of the published work in Wentworth Shire and surrounding area. It is broken up into sections on burial, other archaeology and Willandra Lakes.

BURIAL: WENTWORTH SHIRE

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APPENDIX 3

THE DISTRIBUTION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN THE WENTWORTH SHIRE (KNOWN AND PREDICTED)

SITE DOCUMENTATION

This section presents known information on archaeological sites and their distribution in Wentworth Shire. There are four parts to it. The first is a description of major landforms and what general archaeological deposits are found in them. The second describes regions of the Shire with known archaeological sites. The third part is a description of different types of archaeological remains and their common distributions. The fourth is a summary which focusses on the northern margin of the River Murray in the eastern part of the Shire, since this is the area slated for development. An appendix lists all those sites in the NP&WS register. This list is by no means a complete record of all sites in the area. It is mainly the result of specific research projects and contract studies.

DOCUMENTATION OF SITES IN THE SHIRE BY LANDFORM AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGION

Sand Plain

Much of the Shire north of the Murray and away from the Darling is made up of dunefields. Most sites here are 'open campsites'. These are generally stone artefact scatters (see part 3 below). Little site recording has been done in these regions, although numerous surveys demonstrate that site distribution is sparse, and each particular artefact scatter is of little overall significance. Bone and shell is extremely rare here. It may be that accumulation of overlying soils is not common or that soil conditions lead to quick destruction of organic remains.

Rivers

River systems crosscut the dunefields, with three general forms of channel partly based on age and partly on hydrology. Prior streams are the oldest, with more water flow and consequently more sand and gravel load. They appear as winding dunes with an associated depression marking the channel. Prior streams are straighter than later channels, which formed with slower waterflow rates. Archaeological deposits may be found in and on them, but the channels had long since stopped running before Australia was colonised at about 40,000 years ago. Burials are common on these, along with some hearths and shell middens.

Ancestral rivers formed later, with larger channels and meanders than modern ones. While sand deposits were actually deposited by prior streams, ancestral rivers are characterised by sands blown up to the leeward by wind. Billabongs and meander scrolls are characteristic remnants of ancestral rivers. These rivers probably ceased after about 15,000 years ago, although they would still carry water occasionally. All kinds of archaeological deposit are found here, where sand was contiuously covering artefacts and hearths. The dunes generally have a loamy soil down to 60cm and most artefacts and burials occur in this level.

Modern rivers are 'highly sinuous', or winding with deeply cut channels. Archaeological deposits on these features are generally less than 10,000 to 6,000 years old. Occupation of these is more widespread, partly because natural processes have not had the greater length of time to erode the sites. Many shell middens and artefact scatters attest to the rivers as foci of occupation by Aborigines in this area.

Lakes

Lakes are common in the Shire. These ephemeral basins were probably local hollows associated with older channels, where evaporation and wave action in turn deepened the basins and created large crescentic dunes on the leeward half of the lakes. These 'lunettes' are composed of clay pellets or sand and built up over long periods of time, sometimes with interludes of soil stability. It is these lunettes which have provided some of the best records of human habitation and burial in the continent. Artefact density is greater than most other site forms, although this might be considered sparse by comparison to rock shelters, for instance. Since habitation would have normally been at times with water in the lakes, it is not surprising that large quantities of fish bones (mostly perch and cod) and mussel shell are found. Along with these are hearths of many types, as described later in this report.

The best known remains from lunettes are the people themselves. The cremation and burial at Mungo from over 25,000 years ago are the first instances of a more or less continuous record of burial practises up to present times.

Below the human evidence of occupation we find many examples of extinct mammals and birds; the megafauna, or large marsupials that died out before 20,000 years ago (although some archaeologists consider they may have died out earlier).

DOCUMENTATION OF SITES IN THE SHIRE BY REGION

River Murray

River channel and floodplain

The extent of alluvial plains in Wentworth Shire is less than 2,000 square kilometres. These are characterised by grey cracking and self mulching clays with associated billabongs, swamps, levees and source bordering dunes. Sand deposits are distributed primarily on the eastern sides of channels and vary from well sorted river sands to sandy loams.

Sites on the grey clays are less common than on the sand bodies, which are often above flood levels. Recent shell middens (less than 2,000 years) are abundant, while stone artefacts and hearths are relatively rare. Few burials are known from the grey clay deposits, although this is in part due to the lack of excavation or erosion. Although it would be unlikely to find large sites or burials on the floodplain clays, the possibility is there (site 46-3-4, Boeil Creek is one such case).

The sand bodies are another story altogether. Archaeological remains are common and dense on levees, point bars, source bordering dunes and prior stream dunes. Artefacts and burials are most often seen in the upper parts of the dunes, characterised by brown to red loamy sands. Dates for these may be in excess of 6,000 years. Any digging into these bodies is likely to disturb archaeological sites and burials.

Lakes associated with the River Murray

There are four main lakes along the southern boundary of the Shire. These are Lake Victoria, Fletcher's and Gol Gol Lakes, and Gol Gol Swamp. They are characteristic of ephemeral lakes; shallow, clay beds, lunettes and surrounding box and gum forest. Each of these has among the densest archaeological deposits in the Shire, along with their outlet creeks.

Cemeteries are known to exist at Lake Victoria and Rufus River, Tucker's Creek (46-2-3) near the Fletcher's Lake outlet, at Snaggy Bend (46-2-1) near Wentworth and possibly on the western shore of Fletcher's Lake (46-3-9, 11, 12, 13). The cemeteries at Lake Victoria were dug by G. Murray Black in the 30's and 40's. Their locations are being rediscovered with current fieldwork by the consultant and Allan Lance. These are of the highest significance to Aboriginal people and by themselves are good reason for avoiding disturbance. All lakeside lunettes will contain burials in large numbers, as will outlet creeks.(see table 2).

Other features of lakes have been mentioned briefly above. The majority of sites in the NP&WS register come from lake complexes: Lake Victoria (56 sites), lower Anabranch lakes (70) and Willandra lakes (88). Most of these are open campsites, local concentrations of artefacts followed by shell middens and burials. Middens become more common on the creeks, such as a Rufus River.

Darling River

Approximately 1,200 square kilometres of river floodplain, both Darling and its Anabranch, are sited in the Shire. This land is much like that described for the River Murray floodplain. The rivers are slow, meandering courses with many lakes attached to the Anabranch. This is the older of the two courses, and dates from Tandou lake are among the oldest in the country at 36,000 years. The Darling channel is younger, with a probable age of about 6,000 years. Thus, the archaeology of these two channels records different time periods (although Aborigines were of course living on the Anabranch in the last 6,000 years).

The sorts of sites to be expected on the Murray are roughly the same suite to be seen on the Darling and Anabranch. The Darling does not have as wide a floodplain in many areas as the Murray or Anabranch. Many of the sites on the NP&WS register are open camp sites. These records are mainly the result of contract surveys and are associated with lakes, swamps and creeks. Two stone arrangements are on the Anabranch Lakes system.

Willandra Creek and Lakes

Just as the Darling Anabranch is the ancestral channel of the Darling, Willandra Creek is the river ancestral to the Lachlan. This area is on World Heritage listing and part is a National Park. Management of this area is vested in those two authorities.

Aeolian Sand Plain

While sites on the dunefields are generally thought to be of low archaeological and individual significance, very little work has been carried out in these areas. Most of this has been surveys in advance of seismic or transmission lines. These have documented mainly stone artefacts.

An area with almost no previous study is north of Lake Victoria and west of the Darling Anabranch. There are numerous saline ground water discharge basins with lunette development and kopi sources. This is the land to which 'Nanya' fled last century. Sarah Martin, an archaeologist living in Broken Hill, is about to start a major project in the land from the Anabranch west. Her results will be of interest to the Shire.

DOCUMENTATION OF THE ARCHAEOLOGY BY SITE TYPE

Burials

Burials are found all over the western region of New South Wales. Aboriginal people did not only bury the dead; there are instances of cremation and of secondary burial as well. This is where the body is interred for a short period of time and then exhumed. The bones are then taken back to some other spot of religious significance. A secondary burial is identifiable in the field by the arrangement of the bones, that is to say they are usually in a bundle rather than in anatomical position.

Burials are usually associated with sand deposits and with water. Although skeletons may be found in the dune fields or on the edges of scalds, these are comparatively rare. A few burials were dug into the gray clays of the river. Normally these only come into view in an area of active erosion, since these are areas of soil deposition.

The cliffed margin of the River Murray has many burials along it, especially in the eastern part of the Shire. Since this area is already under great threat from erosion, many burials are exposed.

Cemeteries

Headstones and fences do not adorn these ancient cemeteries. Often the only indications are the bones themselves. They are invariably located on sand bodies near the River Murray; usually discrete source bordering dunes, although some are found on lunettes of lakes. The four features used to define them are numbers, density, boundedness and exclusivity of use. There are upwards of 100 individuals found in a small area with a density of greater than one grave per 10 square meters. Few graves occur outside the main boundary. Occupation debris, such as campfires and stone tools are rare inside the bounds of the graveyard, but may be found nearby.

Known cemeteries in Wentworth Shire are Snaggy Bend, Tucker's Creek, a number at Lake Victoria and Rufus River. The latter does not include the Rufus River massacre site. These cemeteries generally date back many thousands of years.

Preservation and restoration of Snaggy Bend and Tucker's Creek have been a high priority with the Aboriginal community and NP&WS for a number of years.

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Quarries

Stone was the main durable source for cutting and grinding tools in the past. The other source of these sorts of tools was river mussel shells. Quarries are very rare on the flood plains, occurring only as localised outcrops of variable quality silcrete (a silicified sandstone).

- Lake Mungo one of the most important of these quarries is the site on the western shore of Lake Mungo, not far from the homestead. This is one of the main reasons for the intensive occupation of Mungo, quite apart from the lake environment.

- Lake Victoria this source is described by Allan Lance in the Lake Victoria Plan of management. It is back from the wide, highly eroded eastern lunette.

- Devil's Elbow west of Lake Victoria on the bank of the River Murray, this site produces small nodules of a very glassy chert.

Stone Artefacts

Grinding slabs and stones were an important part of the technology of the people in the western region. They formed the basis, undoubtedly with woven baskets, for the collection and processing of wild grains. Most homesteads, museums and private homes have collections of these slabs, which are often very large (up to 80 by 40cm).

Interestingly, no suitable sandstone sources occur in the Shire. All these grinding slabs were traded in from as far afield as Mootawingee, northwest of Broken Hill.

Flaked stone to make points and knives is comparatively rare on the Murray and lower Darling. Most stone must be brought in, and was consequently heavily used, resulting in smaller tools. Otherwise, stone was replaced by shell for many purposes.

Ground stone axes formed an integral part of the tool kit. These were hafted and formed the heavy duty and durable chopping implement for chopping bark, making footholds into trees and the like. These are rarely found now since most were collected from the surface over the years. Axes were traded in from far afield, notably from the greenstone quarries of Victoria.

Shell Middens

Everyone has seen scatters and small thick layers of shell near rivers, lakes and lagoons. These are often associated with hearths. Larger middens may cover a large area and include other food remains such as yabbies, fish and bird bones. They may be 10 or 15 cm thick and very extensive. Other smaller scatters probably represent dinnertime camps for one or a few people. They are spread out over the sand plain back from their collection source, such as a lake, and decrease in frequency with distance, as common sense dictates.

Since shell middens are so common, their archaeological importance lies partly in their distribution rather than their contents. This must be qualified for the larger middens which signify areas of long and relatively dense occupation. It is likely that these sites would be of greater archaeological significance.

Shell is also the preferred material for use in radiocarbon dating (a method of finding the age of organic materials from the decay of radioactive carbon atoms). The sequence of occupation for the Darling River has been made from mussel shell.

There are specific shell middens known of in the Wentworth - Dareton region which are known by Aboriginal people and who see these as historical monuments. One of these lies beside (and under) the Sturt Highway, just west of Dareton at the Dept of Agriculture research station. This is a large midden which covers one half hectare or so on the cliff above the river flood plain. The shell were collected from Tucker's Creek, directly below. The shells are large and thick, and are covered by a thin layer of carbonate, or limestone that has been deposited on them in the ground. Tucker's Creek has long since ceased to be an active channel, and this suggests that this particular midden is in the vicinity of 12,000 to 13,000 years old.

Another midden on the River Murray south and east of the Pumping Station at Dareton represents another time phase in history, and different ways of making a living. Here the shells are of various sizes (from 4 to 12 cm), but mainly smaller and thinner than at the Research Station midden. They are more recent as well. What is interesting about a comparison of these two middens is that the older one was probably the result of hand picking the mussels, while the later one on the Murray was likely the result of using nets to drag the riverbed and consequently, all sizes of mussel were collected.

Habitation Mounds

Low mounds of gray to black, ashy soils are common in the eastern riverine plain, but are relatively rare in Wentworth Shire. The mounds are visible as low, bounded areas with soil distinctively darker than the surrounding soils. They are surface features and are built up not from wind action but from occupational refuse over a long period of time. These mounds are later in time, seeming to occur only in the last couple of thousand years. They are rich in organic refuse; bone, some shell and stone, charcoal and ash.

One mound at the outlet regulator of Lake Victoria is under considerable threat from the impromptu parking lot/picnic area.

Hearths

Hearths may vary from a gray stain or smear on the surface to large mounds of burned clay. Hearth stones were, and are, used to cook food in a slow, moist fashion. A pit with a fire would have small clay lumps, broken up ant nest caps or stones put in to heat. The fire would be scooped out and lined with moist grasses and then the food would be put in with the stones going back on top. The whole oven would be covered with the same result as a pit barbeque, a hungi or even a Weber. These stones would be reused, so that a spot might be revisited many times. The distribution and density of hearths correlates closely with available food resources. For

instance, the Research Station midden has many hearths throughout it, while in the sand plains they are less common.

Campsites

An 'open campsite' is a term used for a concentration of stone flakes and/or hearths. Imagine that, over great stretches of time, people would camp on their seasonal round, going from water hole to a grass stand for the harvesting of grass seed to a stand of tress for a quandong harvest to a stand of mallee for spears and so on. At each of these stops which would be in different places over the millenia, there would be a fire, perhaps some maintenance of stone tools resulting in flaking debris, the loss or discarding of tools, some bones from the days hunt might be thrown into the fire. The present day distribution of these would look like a more or less continuous distribution of archaeological remains over the landscape.
Campsites are common and may usually be found in areas of erosion, such as scalds where the artefacts are to be seen eroding from the edges and lying on the surface.

Fish traps

As stated previously, stone is rare in the study area and occurs in stoney rises along the rivers and as outcrops throughout the sand plains. Where it does surface on the river channels, it may be used as a source material for constructing fish traps. One of these lies on the western floor of Nearie Lake, on the lower Anabranch. It is simply a series of lines of small stones placed near the outlet creek that connects the lake to the Anabranch. The purpose behind this is to either direct water flow or to create small ponds in which to trap fish.

Similar formations might be expected to exist on most outlet creeks of lakes in the region, although they might have been made of wood rather than stone. Historical observations show that Aborigines managed fish resources by taking advantage of the seasonal variation in water flow to construct traps, dams and weirs. The importance of such sites and the spots they might exist lies in their uniqueness. Billabongs, lagoons, outlet creeks and swamps might all be expected to have been used for these purposes. The fish trap at Nearie Lake is probably one of the few visible examples of this. It is well protected since it is in a Nature reserve.

Scarred Trees

Red gums, box and Murray Pines can all have sections of bark cut out. These were used for canoes, coolamons, torches, shields and other tools. Most stands of river forest will have scarred trees, often in great abundance.

Specific Artefacts

. Kopi mourning caps mourning caps, as mentioned in the introductory section, are of relatively restricted distribution, centred on the lower Darling and central Murray. They were part of funeral rites well into historic times but with an unknown time depth.

Mourning caps are sometimes visible on the surface, denoting a burial in the immediate area that has eroded out. They are rarely complete and may look like a small piece of white clay.

. Cylcons these artefacts are stone, or more rarely kopi or clay. They are generally referred to as 'phallic' and 'initiation' stones. They are generally less than 30 cm long. Their name comes from a discrete description of their shape: cylindro-conical. Cylcons are found in graves and by themselves over much of the Darling River region. Many are in the local station collections and have no archaeological provenance. They may be expected to be found only rarely.

Megafauna Fossils

Strictly speaking, these remains of extinct giant marsupials do not form part of the archaeological record. People co-existed with these animals as part of the wider environment for many thousands of years, until the megafauna died out. This happened some time between thirty and fifteen thousand years ago. No megafauna remains have been found in direct association with human occupation deposits (such as burned bones in a fireplace, or a stone point in a rib), but there is some speculation that hunting by the newly arrived Australians over some twenty thousand years contributed to their demise.

Remains of these giant marsupials do occur in some of the older soil deposits of lake shore lunettes and are of importance to the wider natural history of the region and of Australia. These sites are outside the brief, but a partial listing from various research sources may be interesting.

Nialia Lake	Protemnodon	some bones collected by Dr J Hope, ANU
Lake Victoria	Various species	
Lake Popiltah	Diprotodon Procoptodon	
Perry Sand Hills	Diprotodon Genyornis	recorded by Peter Clarke of WLC

SUMMARY

The landforms of greatest archaeological value are lakes, outlet creeks, sand dunes associated with river channels and cliffed river margins. In effect, the closer to water, the more likely it is that archaeological sites will be found and in greater numbers.

Sites registered with NP&WS reflect particular research of various people and except in the broadest terms, are not representative of sites on the ground. The register does highlight the number and diversity of sites on the lakes and outlet creeks, but not along this stretch of the Murray. Two new sites were recorded in the field, both near Dareton. These shell middens fit in with general predictions of site distribution and density.

RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATIONS

There are two organisations which are responsible for the protection of archaeological sites in western New South Wales, NP&WS and WLC. These people assess archaeological and management reports.

Mr Harvey Johnston
Regional Archaeologist

Mr Karl Williams
Sites Officer

National Parks and Wildlife Service
PO Box 318
Buronga 2648

Mr Dan Witter
Regional Archaeologist

Mr Badger Bates
Sites Officer

National Parks and Wildlife Service
PO Box 459
Broken Hill 2880

Mr Peter Clark
Archaeologist
Western Lands Commission
Buronga 2648

The above representatives can be called upon, not to do archaeological surveys, but to aid in the management of sites and in assessing the impact of development.

Furthermore, it is important to realize that Aborigines will be consulted over proposed development that may endanger archaeological and historic relics and sites as explicit policy of NP & WS. Local Offices of the New South Wales Aboriginal Land Councils are:

Western Regional Aboriginal Land Council
PO Box 494,
Broken Hill 2880

(080) 32 33
Mr Bill Cunningham, Chairman

Dareton Local Aboriginal Land Council

(050) 274 336 or 274 429
Ms Jenny Moore, Secretary

CONSULTATION WITH ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

The consultant travelled to Wentworth Shire between January 30 and February 5, 1989. The aim was not to do any archaeological fieldwork, since the brief called for an overview of the region, rather than specific and detailed survey. Rather, the consultant wished to discuss the Heritage Study with the Aboriginal community.and to find any particular information about sites or burials that might not be known.

An initial meeting was held with Rod Smith and Hector Bates at the Dareton LALC office, providing them with copies of the Heritage Study proposal as well as the introductory chapter on the prehistory. Over the next couple of days (February 1-2) the consultant travelled with Rod and Dawn Smith around Dareton and Wentworth to examine sites that were of importance to the community. These are discussed in the documentation and management sections.

On February 3, a meeting was held with Mrs Rene Mitchell and John and Julie Mitchell. Mrs Mitchell is an older member of the community, while John and Julie are active with the church and community.

Generally, people appreciate the need for development in the region, but hope that it can be pursued with prior consultation so that important sites can be preserved and access to them safeguarded.

ABORIGINAL SITES IN THE WENTWORTH SHIRE RECORDED ON THE NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (NSW) REGISTER

(FEBRUARY 1989)

Sites on the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NSW) register

(Wentworth Shire, maps 31,32,39,40,46,47: 32.7-34.6,141-143.6)
Data last updated: 20Sep88

Siteid	Sitename		Calc from 250K		Sitetype(s)
RUFUS RIVER AND LAKE VICTORIA					
46-1-0033	Rufus River		518600	6231900	Midden
46-1-0035	Rufus River		518600	6233600	Scarred tree
46-1-0031	Rufus River		518600	6234300	Midden
46-1-0032	Rufus River		518600	6234400	Midden
46-1-0030	Rufus River		518600	6234500	Midden
46-1-0029	Rufus River		518700	6234600	Midden
46-1-0028	Rufus River		518800	6234700	Midden
46-1-0034	Rufus River		518900	6236000	Scarred tree
46-1-0027	Rufus River		519000	6235400	Midden
46-1-0026	Rufus River		519200	6234200	Open camp site
46-1-0018	Rufus River		519200	6234300	Midden
46-1-0022	Rufus River		519200	6235000	Midden
46-1-0021	Rufus River		519200	6235100	Midden
46-1-0024	Rufus River		519200	6235100	Open camp site
46-1-0025	Rufus River		519200	6235100	Open camp site
46-1-0020	Rufus River		519200	6235200	Midden
46-1-0023	Rufus River		519200	6235500	Midden
46-1-0019	Rufus River		519200	6235600	Midden
46-1-0017	Rufus River		519300	6234800	Midden
46-1-0016	Rufus River		519300	6235300	Midden
46-1-0014	Rufus River		519400	6235200	Midden
46-1-0015	Rufus River		519400	6235800	Midden
46-1-0013	Rufus River		519500	6234400	Midden
46-1-0012	Rufus River		519600	6235600	Midden
46-1-0010	Rufus River		519900	6234200	Midden
39-4-0002	Noola	Lake Victoria	520100	6237800	Midden
39-1-0019	Tararra 1	Tararra Station	520300	6317800	Open camp site
46-1-0009	Rufus River		520600	6234400	Midden
46-1-0008	Rufus River		522400	6233300	Open camp site
46-1-0007	Rufus River		522400	6233600	Open camp site
46-1-0006	Rufus River		522400	6233700	Open camp site
46-1-0037	Rufus River	Brilka	523400	6232400	Scarred tree

46-1-0038	Rufus River	Brilka	523600	6231900	Scarred tree	
46-1-0039	Rufus River	Brilka	523900	6232000	Scarred tree	
46-1-0040	Rufus River	Brilka	524000	6236300	Scarred tree	
46-1-0005	Rufus River		524200	6232800	Midden	
46-1-0036	Rufus River	Brilka	524700	6232400	Scarred tree	
46-1-0004	Rufus River		525000	6232300	Midden	
46-1-0041	Rufus River	Brilka	525400	6231500	Scarred tree	
46-1-0042	Rufus River	Brilka	525500	6231500	Scarred tree	
46-1-0043	Rufus River	Brilka	525600	6231500	Scarred tree	
46-1-0044	Rufus River	Brilka	525700	6231600	Scarred tree	
46-1-0045	Rufus River	Brilka	525800	6231700	Scarred tree	
46-1-0001	Lake Victoria		526500	6232300	Midden	Burial
39-4-0001	Lake Victoria		526900	6244300	Midden	
39-1-0024	Salt Lakes 4	Nanya Station	529200	6327900	Open camp site	
39-1-0020	Nanya 1	Nanya Station	530300	6329100	Open camp site	
39-1-0016	Argumenta Yards 1	Tararra Station	530600	6313800	Open camp site	
39-1-0017	Argumenta Yards 2	Tararra Station	531000	6313500	Open camp site	
46-1-0003	Rufus Creek Massacre Site		531100	6231000	Burial	Contact, Mission
46-1-0002	Rufus Creek Burial site	Lake Victoria	531100	6233300	Burial	
39-4-0003	Talgarry Station		531100	6245100	Midden	
39-1-0022	Salt Lake 6	Springwood Station	534900	6333900	Open camp site	
39-1-0023	Salt Lakes 5	Springwood Station	535200	6331000	Open camp site	
LOWER DARLING ANABRANCH AND LAKES						
39-1-0010	1E.S.1	Malley Tank	535300	6317700	Open camp site	
39-1-0015	Yanky Doodle Tank 1	Belvedere Station	535500	6309100	Open camp site	
39-1-0027	Salt Lake 1	Popiltah Station	536600	6335200	Open camp site	
39-1-0025	Salt Lakes 2	Popiltah Station	536700	6335500	Open camp site	
39-1-0026	Salt Lake 1	Popiltah Station	537400	6335800	Open camp site	
39-1-0012	11.S.1	White Lake	539100	6347000	Open camp site	
39-1-0013	11.S.2	White Lake	539300	6347200	Open camp site	
39-1-0014	11.S.3	White Lake	539300	6347200	Open camp site	
39-1-0011	12E.S.1	Square Tank	540900	6316700	Open camp site	
39-1-0002	Ironstone Claypan	Popiltah	541000	6337700	Open camp site	
39-1-0030	Two Tanks 1	Springwood Station	541600	6322900	Open camp site	
39-1-0009	11.S.6	White Lake/Woolcunda Lake	541600	6344800	Open camp site	
39-1-0004	10.S.1	White Lake	542500	6344400		
39-1-0005	10.S.2	White Lake	542500	6344400	Open camp site	
31-4-0003	11.S.4		542500	6349500	Open camp site	
31-4-0004	11.S.5	White Lake	542600	6350000	Open camp site	
31-4-0012	Woolcunda lake 2	Woolcunda Station	542600	6350700	Open camp site	

39-1-0006	10.S.3	White Lake	542700	6344600	Open camp site
31-4-0013	WOOLCUNDA,LAKE,1:	WOOLCUNDA STATION	542900	6350700	Open camp site
39-1-0007	10.S.4	White Lake	543000	6345200	Open camp site
39-1-0008	10.S.5	White Lake	543000	6345200	Open camp site
39-1-0003	White Lake	Popiltah	543000	6348100	Open camp site
39-1-0018	White Lake 9	Popiltah Station	543000	6348500	Open camp site
31-4-0005	11.5.7	Woolcunda Lake	543600	6350700	Open camp site
31-4-0009	White Lake 5	Woolcunda Station	543900	6350400	Open camp site
31-4-0006	White Lake 8	Popiltah Station	544100	6348500	Open camp site
31-4-0011	White Lake 3	Woolcunda Station	544100	6349300	Open camp site
31-4-0008	White Lake 6	Woolcunda Station	544300	6348600	Open camp site
39-1-0001	Kopi Plain 1	Springwood	544700	6323700	Open camp site
31-4-0007	White Lake 7	Woolcunda Station	544700	6348900	Open camp site
39-1-0029	Bore Hut 1	Popiltah Station	544900	6341300	Open camp site
39-1-0032	WHITE LAKE.10	POPILTAH STATION	544900	6346600	Open camp site
31-4-0010	White Lake 4	Woolcunda Station	544900	6350200	Open camp site
31-4-0001	10.S.6	White Lake	545100	6348900	Open camp site
39-1-0028	Bore Hut 2	Popiltah Station	545200	6341900	Open camp site
39-1-0021	White Lake 2	Popiltah Station	545200	6345700	Open camp site
31-4-0002	10.S.7	White Lake	545200	6349000	Open camp site
39-1-0031	Emu Bore 1	Springwood Station	545700	6319300	Open camp site
39-2-0021	Emu Bore 2	Springwood Station	545800	6319400	Open camp site
39-2-0008	Long Tank	Springwood	551000	6326700	Open camp site
39-2-0009	Box Swamp 5	Springwood	553400	6319300	Open camp site
39-2-0011	Box Swamp 3	Springwood	554200	6318200	Open camp site
39-2-0013	Box Swamp 1	Springwood	554300	6318200	Open camp site
39-2-0010	Box Swamp 4	Springwood	554300	6318500	Open camp site
39-2-0012	Box Swamp 2	Springwood	554500	6318300	Open camp site
31-5-0011	Coombah Lake 8	Coombah Station	555600	6355200	Open camp site
31-5-0012	Coombah Lake 7	Coombah Station	555600	6355700	Open camp site
31-5-0013	Coombah Lake 6	Coombah Station	555700	6355800	Open camp site
31-5-0007	Coombah Lake 2	Coombah Station	556100	6356700	Open camp site
31-5-0006	COOMBAH LAKE,1	COOMBAH STATION/LAKE	556200	6356600	Open camp site
31-5-0010	Coombah Lake 5	Coombah Station	556300	6356500	Open camp site
31-5-0009	Coombah Lake 2	Coombah Station	556500	6356800	Open camp site
31-5-0008	Coombah Lake 3	Coombah Station	556500	6356900	Open camp site
39-2-0015	Coombah Creek 5	Coombah Creek	560600	6343800	Open camp site
39-2-0016	Coombah Creek 4	Coombah Creek	560800	6344200	Open camp site
39-2-0017	Coombah Creek 3	Coombah Creek	560900	6344200	Open camp site
39-2-0018	Coombah Creek 2	Coombah	561500	6344700	Open camp site
39-2-0014	Wild Dog Tank	Springwood	561800	6321200	Open camp site

39-2-0019	Coombah Creek 1		562000	6342600	Open camp site		
39-2-0020	Popiltah Well 1	Coombah Station	564700	6348200	Open camp site		
39-5-0001	Wilton Willow		566700	6255200	Open camp site	Burial	
39-2-0001	Woodlands Station		574000	6319200	Open camp site	Burial	Stone arrangement
39-5-0007	Milkengay Lake	Southwest Beach M9b	576800	6288100	Open camp site		
31-5-0001	Popio 1	Wenthworth	576900	6362200	Open camp site		
39-5-0006	Milkengay Lake	M9a	577700	6287600	Open camp site	Burial	
39-2-0007	Milkengay Lake M3		577700	6293100	Midden		
39-5-0004	Milkengay Lake	SE-Blowout Fossil Bone	577800	6287600	Open camp site		
39-2-0002	Nitchie Lake		578100	6299300	Burial		
39-2-0003	Nearie Lake		579500	6302700	Stone arrangement		
39-2-0005	Milkengay Lake	M8	580000	6293100	Open camp site		
39-2-0004	Popio Lake	Popio Station	580300	6339100	Burial		
39-2-0006	Milkengay Lake	M7	580400	6292900	Open camp site		
39-5-0005	Milkengay Lake	M6	580400	6293100	Open camp site		
39-5-0002	Milkengay Lake	M1	581300	6292200	Burial	Open camp site	
39-5-0003	Milkengay Lake	M2	581800	6287600	Open camp site	Burial	
39-3-0005	Yartla Lake	Y3	611100	6333300	Open camp site	Burial	
39-3-0003	Yartla Lake	Y5	612000	6332000	Open camp site		
39-3-0006	Yartla Lake	Y2	612000	6334700	Open camp site		
39-3-0004	Yartla Lake	Y4	612400	6335200	Midden		
39-3-0001	Yartla Lake	Y1	613800	6336100	Burial	Open camp site	
39-3-0002	Yartla Lake	Y6	614200	6332900	Open camp site		
LOWER DARLING RIVER							
39-6-0006	Keleen 2S-12	Pooncarie	609200	6286300	Open camp site		
39-6-0001	Burtundy	via Wentworth	611600	6262500	Burial		
39-6-0007	Keleen 2S-11	Pooncarie	612100	6285400	Open camp site		
39-6-0008	Keleen 2S-10	Pooncarie	612400	6285100	Open camp site		
39-6-0010	Keleen 2S-8	Pooncarie	612400	6285800	Open camp site		
39-6-0012	Keleen 2S-1	Pooncarie	613800	6284400	Open camp site		
39-6-0002	Burtundy	via Wentworth	618000	6265400	Burial		
39-6-0014	Keleen 2S-2	Pooncarie	618800	6282600	Open camp site		
39-6-0013	Keleen 2S-3	Pooncarie	620000	6279600	Open camp site		
39-6-0015	Keleen 2S-5	Pooncarie	623100	6280800	Open camp site		
39-6-0017	Keleen 2S-4	Pooncarie	623200	6279900	Open camp site		
39-6-0011	Keleen 2S-7	Pooncarie	623200	6280800	Open camp site		
39-6-0016	Keleen 2S-6	Pooncarie	623400	6279000	Open camp site		
31-6-0002	Willotia		628100	6366300	Burial	Open camp site	
39-6-0009	Keleen 2S-9	Pooncarie	628400	6278500	Open camp site		

39-3-0007	Harcourt	Moon Site	629800	6346600	Nat. Myth. Ritual	
39-3-0008	Harcourt	Moon Site	630500	6346800	Burial	
31-6-0003	Pinnelco Huts		634300	6380000	Burial	
40-1-0005	Pooncarie Aboriginal Mission		641500	6308900	Burial	
40-1-0001	Lotties Bend Burial		641700	6308800	Burial	
40-1-0006	Lotties Island		644000	6305500	Open camp site	
40-4-0003	Stockyard Tank		663600	6268000	Open camp site	
40-1-0002	Wyoming 1S-1	Pooncarie	665900	6341300	Open camp site	
40-1-0003	Wyoming 1S-2	Pooncarie	669300	6340700	Open camp site	
40-1-0004	Wyoming 1S-3	Pooncarie	671100	6340200	Open camp site	
WENTWORTH AND MURRAY RIVER						
31-5-0004	Red Fank 2	Wentworth	567400	6350500	Open camp site	
31-5-0002	Red Fank	Wenthworth	567800	6351600	Open camp site	
31-5-0003	Red Fank 3	Wenthworth	567800	6352200	Open camp site	
31-5-0005	Red Fank 1	Wentworth	568200	6350900	Open camp site	
46-2-0001	Wentworth Massacre Site	Snaggy Bend	577700	6224100	Burial	Contact, Mission
46-2-0008	Snaggy Bend	Lot 22,1/7,11 & 11a Wentworth	578600	6224100	Midden	
46-2-0009	Scarred Trees	Mildura	578800	6224600	Scarred tree	
46-2-0005	Perry Sand Hills	Thegoa	579500	6225900	Burial	
46-2-0004	Perry Sand Hills	Thegoa	581300	6225900	Burial	
46-2-0002	Wentworth	Perry Sands	581300	6226900	Open camp site	Burial
46-2-0006	Lock No 10 Wentworth	Thegoa	582300	6225000	Burial	
46-2-0012	Wentworth Hospital 1		584800	6224900	Open camp site	Midden
46-2-0011	Wentworth Hospital 3		584900	6224900	Open camp site	Midden
46-2-0013	Wentworth		585000	6224100	Scarred tree	
46-2-0010	Wentworth Hospital 2		585100	6224900	Open camp site	Midden
46-2-0014	Wenthworth		585900	6223200	Scarred tree	
DARETON AND MURRAY RIVER						
46-2-0003	Dareton	Tuckers Creek	588900	6201800	Burial	
39-6-0018	Spectacle Lake		593500	6237500	Burial	
46-3-0009	~~Gol Gol~~ Lake Fletcher's	Dareton	594100	6235100	Burial	
46-3-0011	Fletchers Lake	Tapio Station	594100	6236500	Burial	
46-3-0002	Merbein	River Road Buronga	603300	6220500	Scarred tree	
46-3-0001	Merbein	River Road Buronga	603300	6221400	Midden	
39-6-0003	Keleen 2S-15	Pooncarie	603700	6288800	Open camp site	
46-3-0003	Merbein	River Road Buronga	604200	6221400	Scarred tree	
39-6-0004	Keleen 2S-14	Pooncarie	604200	6288600	Open camp site	
46-3-0004	Merbein	River Road Buronga	605100	6221400	Open camp site	Burial
46-3-0005	Merbein	River Road Buronga	605100	6221400	Bora / ceremonial	now destroyed

39-6-0005	Keleen 2S-13	Pooncarie	605600	6288600	Open camp site	
46-3-0010	Mildura	Mildura/Buronga Bridge	608300	6217300	Scarred tree	
46-3-0006	Gol Gol Lake		614200	6224100	Carved tree	
46-3-0007	Redcliffs		614700	6206300	Midden	
46-3-0008	Irymple		615200	6206800	Scarred tree	
47-4-0001	Robinvale		664500	6173800	Mia mia	
47-4-0005	Dry Lake		670500	6175600	Burial	
47-4-0006	Dry Lake		670500	6175600	Burial	Midden
47-4-0003	Lake Benanee	Robinvale	672300	6178200	Burial	
47-4-0002	Lake Benanee		673700	6176600	Burial	
WILLANDRA LAKES						
40-4-0006	Chibnalwood Lakes	CL1	682300	6257500	Open camp site	
40-4-0005	Chibnalwood Lakes	CL2	682300	6257900	Open camp site	
40-4-0001	Zanci		683300	6273500	Open camp site	
40-4-0004	Chibnalwood Beach		683700	6246100	Open camp site	
40-4-0008	Top Hut 3	Long Waterhole Gully	684200	6261800	Midden	
40-4-0007	Top Hut 2		684400	6261500	Midden	
40-4-0002	Zanci		684500	6271700	Open camp site	
40-5-0045	Outer Arumpo 2		685100	6259800	Open camp site	Burial
40-5-0046	Outer Arumpo		685100	6260200	Open camp site	
40-4-0009	Top Hut 1		685200	6261000	Midden	Open camp site
40-5-0068	Mungo	Arumpo 108	685500	6270700	Open camp site	
40-5-0039	Watara Tank	Mungo Arumpo 1	686000	6259800	Open camp site	Burial
40-5-0063	Mungo Arumpo 110		686000	6266200	Open camp site	
40-5-0042	Mungo Arumpo		686000	6266600	Open camp site	
40-5-0044	Mungo	Arumpo 107	686000	6266600	Open camp site	
40-5-0062	Mungo	Arumpo 111	686000	6266600	Open camp site	
40-5-0041	Mungo	Arumpo 105	686500	6266600	Open camp site	
40-5-0043	Mungo Arumpo 104		686500	6266600	Open camp site	
40-5-0036	Mungo	Arumpo 102	686900	6267100	Open camp site	
40-5-0031	Mungo Backshore		687400	6267100	Open camp site	
40-5-0040	Mungo	Mungo Backshore 100	687400	6267500	Open camp site	
40-5-0024	Chibnalwood		687600	6250900	Open camp site	
40-5-0002	Garnpung		687600	6290100	Open camp site	
40-5-0066	Mungo Arumpo 109		687800	6267500	Open camp site	
40-5-0038	Mungo Backshore 101	Arumpo 101	687800	6268000	Open camp site	
40-5-0032	Leaghur		688300	6279000	Open camp site	
40-5-0033	Leaghur		688300	6279000	Open camp site	
40-5-0034	Leaghur		688300	6279000	Open camp site	
40-2-0001	Garnpung		688300	6300000	Open camp site	

40-5-0022	Joulni		688700	6253800	Open camp site	
40-5-0020	Joulni		688700	6260400	Open camp site	
40-2-0002	Garnpung		689000	6298800	Open camp site	
40-5-0021	Joulni		689300	6259600	Open camp site	
40-5-0023	Joulni		689900	6252800	Open camp site	
40-2-0003	Garnpung		689900	6292700	Open camp site	
40-5-0025	Joulni		691500	6250700	Open camp site	
40-4-0010	Mungo/Leaghur 50	(the zanci c site)	691900	6273500	Open camp site	
40-5-0067	Mungo	Leaghur 50	691900	6273500	Open camp site	
40-5-0026	Wampo		692200	6248700	Open camp site	
40-5-0064	Joulni	Collection Grid	692200	6256300	Open camp site	
40-5-0065	Joulni	Mulvaney's Trenches	692200	6256800	Open camp site	
40-5-0001	Joulni	Mungo 1	692900	6257000	Open camp site	Burial
40-5-0028	Joulni	Mungo 3	693300	6257100	Burial	
40-5-0027	Joulni		693800	6258300	Open camp site	
40-5-0029	Joulni	Mungo 5	693900	6257700	Burial	Open camp site
40-5-0060	Mungo Lake Bed 9		694700	6265700	Open camp site	
40-5-0061	Mungo Lake Bed 10		694700	6265700	Open camp site	
40-5-0049	Mungo Lake Bed 13		694700	6266200	Open camp site	
40-5-0058	Mungo Lake Bed 11		694700	6266200	Open camp site	
40-5-0059	Mungo Lake Bed 12		694700	6266200	Open camp site	
40-5-0050	Mungo Lake Bed 1		694700	6266600	Open camp site	
40-5-0030	Joulni	Mungo 4	694900	6258900	Burial	
40-5-0003	The Walls of China		694900	6267700	Open camp site	
40-5-0055	Mungo Lake Bed 6		695100	6265700	Open camp site	
40-5-0056	Mungo Lake Bed 7		695100	6266200	Open camp site	
40-5-0057	Mungo Lake Bed 8		695100	6266200	Open camp site	
40-5-0051	Mungo Lake Bed 2		695100	6266600	Open camp site	
40-5-0052	Mungo Lake Bed 3		695100	6266600	Open camp site	
40-5-0019	The Walls of China		695200	6259100	Open camp site	
40-5-0054	Mungo Lake Bed 5		695600	6265700	Open camp site	
40-5-0053	Mungo Lake Bed 4		695600	6266600	Open camp site	
40-5-0035	Garnpung 1		695600	6290800	Open camp site	
40-5-0013	The Walls of China		695700	6260000	Open camp site	
40-5-0014	The Walls of China		695700	6260000	Open camp site	
40-5-0015	The Walls of China		695700	6260000	Open camp site	
40-5-0016	The Walls of China		695700	6260000	Open camp site	
40-5-0017	The Walls of China		695700	6260000	Open camp site	
40-5-0018	The Walls of China		695700	6260000	Open camp site	
40-5-0037	Mungo East 100	Joulni	696100	6259300	Open camp site	
40-5-0009	The Walls of China		696100	6260900	Open camp site	

40-5-0010	The Walls of China		696100	6260900	Open camp site		
40-5-0011	The Walls of China		696100	6260900	Open camp site		
40-5-0012	The Walls of China		696100	6260900	Open camp site		
40-5-0007	The Walls of China		696500	6261600	Open camp site		
40-5-0008	The Walls of China		696500	6261600	Open camp site		
40-5-0004	The Walls of China		696500	6264300	Open camp site		
40-2-0007	Garnpung 1	Lake Garnpung	696500	6295400	Midden		
40-5-0006	The Walls of China		696700	6262500	Open camp site		
40-5-0005	The Walls of China		696800	6263500	Open camp site		
40-5-0048	Garnpung South 10		707000	6281200	Open camp site	Midden	Burial
40-5-0047	Garnpung South		708400	6281200	Open camp site	Midden	
40-2-0004	Mulurula 1		722100	6317400	Open camp site		
40-2-0005	Mulurulu 3		722100	6317400	Open camp site		
40-2-0008	Mulurulu 3	Lake Mulurulu	723900	6326500	Midden		
40-2-0006	Mulurulu 1	Lake Mulurulu	724800	6320100	Midden		

Total number of sites: 284

APPENDIX 4

THEMATIC HISTORY OF THE SETTLEMENT
OF THE WENTWORTH SHIRE

KNOWN AND PREDICATED ABORIGINAL SITES IN PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AREAS OF THE WENTWORTH SHIRE

INTRODUCTION

This section summarises the history of the settlement and development of the Wentworth Shire. Themes which explain the social and cultural history of the area are utilised. This thematic history is described by means of a series of development eras which outline the appearance of, and lifestyle within, the Shire at a particular point in time.

The outline does not aim to be a new history of the area but draws on the information supplied in a number of recent local history documents and other primary and secondary source material established through investigation of archival information, library information, graphic information and discussions with local historians and residents. Detailed historical contribution was obtained from Mr Jeff Whyte, Wentworth resident, local historian and president of the Wentworth Historical Society.

The historical eras chosen to represent significant periods in the Shire's development are as follows:

- 1829-1845: Exploration and Overland Route
- 1846-1860: Squatters and Townships
- 1861-1870: The River Trade
- 1871-1880: Municipality and Pastoral Expansion
- 1881-1890: Droughts, Deluge and Rabbits
- 1891-1900: Resumption and Settlers
- 1901-1910: Irrigation
- 1911-1930: Weirs, Locks Roads and Rail
- 1956: The Great Flood

Within each of these historical periods there are particular development themes which are evident throughout the settlement of the Shire, including:

- The people
- Townships
- Agriculture
- Commerce
- Transport and communications
- Services and community facilities
- Social Organization and recreation.

The following will detail the themes within each of the development periods and enable a clearer understanding as to the historical context of individual items assessed within the report.

1829-1845: EXPLORATION AND THE OVERLAND ROUTE

Overview

Exploration parties headed along the unknown Murray and Darling Rivers in an endeavour to discover the inland sea. Captain Charles Sturt, in 1829 entered the headwaters of a wide river which he named the Darling. A Government conceived expedition then sent Sturt to trace the Murrumbidgee and he entered a mighty river which he named the Murray. He came across a river junction which he was convinced was the Darling, in 1830. In the following years Surveyor General Major Thomas Mitchell travelled similar routes confirming Sturt's finds.

Joseph Hawdon and Charles Bonney drove cattle overland from NSW to Adelaide along the Murray and arrived at the river junction in 1838. Other overlanders followed the route and the river junction spot became an established camp site known as Hawdon's Ford. The actual junction at the time was called 'The Rinty'. The settlement was later referred to as the 'Darling Junction'.

In 1844, exploration of the lower Darling from Laidleys Ponds (Menindee) to the Darling/Murray Junction, was undertaken by Edward John Eyre.

Landscape

The flat open plains were disturbed only by the incisions made by the Murray and Darling Rivers, the Great Anabranch to the west of the Darling and the small tributaries and billabongs of those rivers. Dry salt plains being the remnants of lake beds and the ancient drainage basin of the Lachlan River system are scattered throughout the north of the Shire. Series of sand dunes and lunettes are found throughout the Shire exposing the red and orange hues of the outback.

The indigenous vegetation varies across the plains and at this time largely undisturbed by the activities of man. The vegetation, consisting mainly of salt bush and blue bush with large mallee stands and other scattered acacia and small woody trees are well adapted to the arid conditions. Along the watercourses splendid stands of River Red Gum and unique examples of wetland vegetation and grasses were evident. A well travelled roadway developed between Sydney and Adelaide via the Murray River. The junction of the Darling and Murray provided an important camping and supplies location as well as a river crossing.

The People

The Murray and Darling River districts were occupied by Aboriginal tribes who lay claim to district territorial boundaries governed by landform and food sources. The Aboriginal people travelled between the river and their outland 'countries' according to the seasons and no permanent settlements existed. The small European population in the area at this time was limited to those camped at Hawdon's Ford and those travelling overland from Sydney and the Bathurst Plains to Adelaide with stock or exploration parties.

Conflicts between the white settler and the Aborigine persisted along the river frontages. The natives were puzzled and curious about the exploits of the overlanders with their sheep and cattle. A number of clashes were recorded between the white man and the Aborigine on the overland route, often related to the Aboriginal preoccupation with the stock and the attempted, and often successful, slaughter of these for food consumption. The additional lack of tolerance and understanding, on behalf of the overlanders, to the lifestyle of the Aboriginal peoples and the importance of their river territories as a habitat further complicated the often tense situation. In 1841 the ambush of Inman and Field who were travelling with sheep, near the Rufus River led to a subsequent retaliation where it is said that some 200 Aborigines may have been massacred.

Townships

There were no settlements in the West Darling region and the only evidence of European settlement were the occasional overlander camps, tents and bark/log huts set up around Hawdon's Ford. The Aboriginal tribes lived in a symbiotic relationship with the natural environment and were often seen by the overland travellers fishing along the riverbanks or collecting food near the waterways.

Agriculture

Agricultural activity had barely commenced in the region. A few of the overland travellers chose suitable locations to feed their stock during periods of favorable weather and concentrated mainly along the banks of the Murray River and Darling River. In 1830 a Government Gazette had banned land occupation beyond the 19 counties which extended no further west than Yass. However, settlers continued to illegally graze land between the crowded Murrumbidgee and the Lower Darling.

Commerce

The only commercial activity at this stage was at the Darling Junction where small tents and huts began to spring up providing services to the overlanders, including alcohol and refreshments, and tradesmans services such as blacksmithing.

Transport and Communication

The only reliable form of transport possible in the region at this time were horses. The lack of water restricted the distances which they could be travelled, therefore all routes remained close to the waterways. Horse drawn vehicles such as wagons and drays were the only form of transport or communication within the area. River crossings were selected where horse, cattle and sheep could easily be forded or in some cases make-shift bridges or punts built.

Services and Community Facilities

There were no services within the district, at the time. The availability of drinking water determined the location of any activities, therefore the Murray River which was well explored at this stage became the main thoroughfare and point of transport and settlement.

Social Organization and Recreation

The only true social organization in the region at this time was carried out by the Aboriginal communities who had established their own long standing culture and customs. Some of the more prominent activities being burial customs, initiations and food gathering described in Appendices 2 and 3.

1846-1860: SQUATTERS AND TOWNSHIPS

Overview

A number of squatters established reign over the land along the Darling and Murray Rivers, expanding westwards from the Murrumbidgee area and north eastwards from South Australia. The junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers was the site of the settlement now known as 'McLeods Crossing' (previoulsy "Hawdon's Ford" and the "Darling Junction"). Transport to the area had been improved with the coming of the Murray river boats and steamships. The land proved to be ideal location for grazing large stocks of sheep and squatters continued to take claim to land along the frontages disregarding the territory of the Aborigines.

Landscape

The onslaught of stock to the banks of the Murray and Darling Rivers brought with it drastic change to the natural landscape within those areas. The sheep began to erode away the native grasses and the stockmen and squatters cleared the land for the purposes of erecting their own establishments and to provide greater stock carrying capacity.

The People

By 1851 the Census showed 132 white people resided west of the Darling, dominated by squatters and their families and a number of small tradesmen and innkeepers at McLeod's Crossing. No record was taken of the Aboriginal population. The Aborigines were no match for the onslaught of pastoralism. Disease, hunger and death assailed the people and they abandoned their diminishing tribal countries to work on stations and sometimes move onto missions such as that set up at Yelta, across the Murray River in Victoria.

Townships

In the mid 1840's the 'Darling Junction' became known as 'McLeod's Crossing'. Bates and McLeod were the first white residents of the settlement. James McLeod opened a hotel named the Junction Inn on the West bank of the Darling in 1847. By 1858 McLeod's Crossing had four shops, one butcher and four boarding houses. However, at this time the commercial vitality of the centre was being ignored by the NSW Government who proceeded to enforce Moorna Station, west of the junction, on the Murray, as the administrative centre of the area with the presence of a Commissioner of Lands, a police station and post office.

In 1857, Surveyor General Barney considered it time to establish a proper township at McLeod's Crossing. The town site was approved in 1859 and the first allotments were sold on 29 October 1859. The settlement was proclaimed a town in 1860 and took the name of Wentworth in honour of William Charles Wentworth.

As early as 1850 a survey of a town planned for Mt Lookout, known as Morquong was submitted. However this was later cancelled in 1893. The large stations became small townships within themselves due to the fact that stock would be run on properties far from the homestead and many hands would be required to maintain and manage the distances and the numbers of stock. Each of the properties were almost self sufficient with their own food supplies, fuel supplies and building materials.

Agriculture

Since 1847 land had been claimed for grazing along the frontages of Murray and Darling and the shores of Lake Victoria. At that time land administration in NSW lagged behind settlement. The first survey of the Darling was conducted in 1847 by McCabe and White, but much of the frontage had been taken up.

By 1851 formally unlicensed runs could be held under a grazing licence entitling a squatter to any number of runs adequate for 4,000 sheep. In 1853 the Commissioner of Crown Lands estimated 300,000 sheep in the Albert District which comprised all NSW land beyond the Darling, at which time only the lower Darling was occupied.

By 1854 the southern surveys were completed giving squatters ability to tender for their runs and gain the much needed security of tenure. The runs were adjusted to ensure each squatter had adequate water frontage. Rental value was appraised for a 14 year lease. The squatters considered that the 14 year leases were well worth the rental.

In 1851 it was recorded that William Campbell owned Pooncarie and Tarcoola runs to the north of the Shire along the Darling River and in earlier 1848 surveyor McCabe recognized that McLean was on both Polia and Moorara Stations within the same area. The squatters were establishing houses on their runs along the riverbanks to gain permanent access to water supply.

Quite a number of farming establishments were being created along the Murray River on both the New South Wales and Victorian sides which were able to gain access to improved provision of supplies and communication by introduction of the riverboat along the Murray River.

The grazing of sheep and beef cattle were the main agricultural pursuits of the time. These activities were particularly heightened along the Murray River due to access to riverboat transport enabling wool clips to be transported easily from the outback stations to the main markets and ports of Adelaide and Melbourne. Such activities resulted in the building of a number of woolsheds along the riverbanks.

The stations were not fenced, therefore shepherds were employed to tend the stock and ensure their access to water sources and protection from wild dogs and Aborigines.

Commerce

William Randell opened a store at the Junction in 1850's. John McLeod's Darling Inn was opened in 1853, and Francis Cadell opened a trading post in 1856. This was supported further by the incidence of trading on the riverboats during the mid 1850's. Many of the stations and overlanders required provisions to be imported from Adelaide for construction work or necessities such as food and clothing. In 1856, the River Murray Navigation Company established a storage depot at McLeod's Crossing for goods and supplies with the ability to contain 1,000 wool bales.

Transport and Communications

In 1851 the South Australian Government offered 4,000 pounds bonus for the first two iron steamboats to successfully navigate the Murray from Goolwa to the Darling Junction. The MaryAnn built by William Randell made a trial run and was the first steamship on the Murray in 1853. Lady Augusta, with Captain Francis Cadell at the helm raced upstream with Randell to initiate the success of the Murray River as a means of transport and communication.

At this stage settlers on the Darling were despondent at the impracticability of transporting wool to a port or obtaining supplies. The Darling was an unreliable river to navigate. In 1858 Cadell submitted a plan to lock and de-snag the Darling but the NSW Government was unenthused to enhance the trade of South Australia. The first trading up the Darling by riverboat was accomplished in 1859, during a time of high water flow, with Cadell at the helm of the 'Albury' and Randell with the 'Gemini'.

Services and Community Facilities

A mission station for Aborigines, known as Yelta was set up on the south bank of the Junction in 1855 and in that same year the first doctor, Dr Renner arrived and stayed in the settlement until the 1870's.

Social Organization and Recreation

No recorded recreation activities were taking place at this stage but there is no doubt those on the stations and in the small settlement at the Junction created their own amusements and activities to pass the many hours of isolation.

1861-1870: THE RIVER TRADE

Overview

The riverboat activities along the Murray River and Darling Rivers encouraged further active growth of the area. Settlements and stations continued to concentrate around the frontages to take advantage of the River trade and reliable water source. The arrival of the first river borne wool at Goolwa was an important era in Australian history. Steam navigation of the river followed and the junction of the Murray and Darling naturally became the site of the township to become an emporium of river traffic and a depot for the supply to the interior. Further settlements started to spring up as points of exchange along the river, and located where the steamships could renew their supplies of wood.

Landscape

Scrub and timber stands were vastly cleared and many water points put down in the more arid areas. The soil was firmed so as to increase the stock numbers. Efforts on behalf of the squatters to increase their land capacity was proving disastrous, particularly in the drier years. However, the squatters were spurred on by the wet season of 1863-1864 which truly marked the beginning of infiltration into the outback areas, where many rushed to lay claims to runs with lush feed.

The large scale modification of the landscape was aided by cheap, rapid, river transport which brought fencing materials and building materials to the outer country. The land improvements to cater for enormous numbers of sheep were starting to result in irreparable damage to the landscape. Many of the stations were running sheep at a capacity of one sheep every fifteen hectares whereas the current capacity is one sheep per 40 to 65 hectares.

The People

In 1861 Wentworth had a recorded population of some 200 white persons. The township was thriving with two brick hotels, several stores, a police station, district court, a school master and room, Presbyterian manse and a small surgery/hospital. By 1866 the population had grown rapidly with a recorded 50 births, 13 marriages and 42 deaths which compared to 17 births, 7 marriages and 9 deaths the previous five years. The Wentworth settlement was characterised by a mixture of tradesmen, itinerant workers, store keepers, riverboat men, stockmen and squatters. There continued to be large drift from the Victorian gold fields by persons searching for new employment. During 1869, the Duke of Edinburgh (Queen Victoria's youngest son) visited Wentworth for several weeks at the invitation of the Wright family.

Townships

Wentworth settlement was expanding rapidly and had become a major port of exchange for the river trade. River ports were establishing along the Murray and Darling Rivers and they owed their vitality as business centres to the actual river trade.

Pooncarie on the Darling was developing at this stage. The port was considered a vital link to river transport for the outlying holdings. By 1870 the township had an estimated population of 70.

In 1865 a survey was undertaken to determine the site of the Gol Gol township on the Murray, which was notified in the Government Gazette of 1866.

Agriculture

By 1861 many of the squatters had confidently expected to double production of their grazing stock within a year. The 14 year lease reduced to a five year lease and rents increased. Squatters complained of high rents, insecure tenure and the 'stay-at-home' Commissioners who were involved in too many other duties. There was a severe shortage of surveyors which resulted in delayed marking out of squatters leases and many of the squatters felt they could not afford to risk capital on improving their runs.

The 1863-1864 wet season marked the beginning of South Australian infiltration into the area. The adjoining South Australian land had been settled for many years and the enticement of the outback, lush with feed, promoted a rush to lay claims to the runs. Areas along the Great Anabranch started to open up. The outback runs were taken up under an annual licence and most of them estimated areas of 162,560 hectares, however some remote blocks were as large as 325,120 hectares. It was usual to combine several runs into one holding. Those outback runs that were without water conservation facilities failed miserably in surviving the following dry years and the Depression years of 1868 to 1870.

In 1867 Andrew McLymont the local 'stock' inspector recorded the sheep returns at some 287,065 for the district. At that time the main stations in the area were Lake Victoria, Moorna (Mootherie), Tapio, Mallee Cliffs, Para, Tarcoola, Mallara, Moorara, Polia and Cuthero.

Commerce

By 1861 licenced hawking steamers were travelling the Murray and Darling Rivers. Hawkers supplied many household items, fabrics, and supplies and often provided specialised services such as watchmaking and shoe repairs. Much of the trade continued to occur along both of the rivers on a regular basis. In the same year Thomas McGeorge built a single storey brick hotel known as the Wentworth Hotel which replaced the original McLeod's shed which had burnt down. A number of bush hostelries opened up along both the Murray and Darling Rivers acting as trading posts, points of accommodation, coach stops, horse changes and mail exchanges. The hotel at Pooncarie was built in 1865.

In 1864 the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney opened an office in Wentworth. After 1864, a New South Wales customs office was built on the Murray. There were many repercussions up the Darling and settlers complained of increased food and supply costs. Local bonded stores were then established. The whole pastoral industry was hampered by duties on intercolonial stock movement and border hopping became common.

Transport and Communication

The rivers continued to provide the major source of transport and communication for the district. Pooncarie was developed as a vital port with a natural two tier wharf which was unaffected by flooding. However, the unreliability of the Darling remained as a problem for many seasons, resulting in delays in removal and collection of supplies, goods and wool clips. In 1865 the Government sent out a survey team to investigate the improvement of navigation on the Darling, however, no works resulted from the survey.

The North East Road remained a much travelled highway, passengers on coach from Sydney to Hay made their way across to Pooncarie where they joined the crowded coaches for Victoria.

By 1860 a Post Office established in Wentworth in a shed in Darling Street. Four mail routes converged on Wentworth in 1861, with the mail to Melbourne taking up to $4\frac{1}{2}$ days to reach its destination. The first telegram was made available in the settlement in 1866.

The first Post Office was established at Pooncarie in 1869, in a room in the 'Pooncaira' Hotel. Mail was delivered to the stations along specified routes via horseback or horse drawn carriages.

Services and Community Facilities

A national school, church buildings, doctors, newspaper services and a hospital were available in Wentworth during the 1860's and an impressive court house was built in 1863.

The first police presence was felt as far north as Pooncarie with the permanent arrival of one mounted senior constable.

Social Organization and Recreation

The hotels became important points for community congregation and were utilized as halls and places for religious ceremonies on the occasions when such facilities did not exist.

In 1861 Wentworth's first race meeting was held on New Years Day with the main street being the course. The pub balcony became the grandstand for the occasion. In 1864 the Wentworth Turf Club was founded, with many of the squatters having interests in horse breeding and racing.

1871-1880: MUNICIPALITY AND PASTORAL EXPANSION

Overview

Wentworth and district were inundated by the great flood of 1870 as a result many areas were isolated for months. The township of Wentworth gained recognition as a major port and growth centre within New South Wales. By 1879 the town was proclaimed a municipality. The squatters and graziers continued to expand their holdings and expend great amounts of capital on improving the capacity of the land. One of the largest steamers ever to be on the river was built and utilized constantly for trading and transportation.

Landscape

The expansive plains continued to be cleared and sheep grazed away the native grasslands and vegetation. Fences were appearing in many locations and channels were begun to be dug away from the riverbanks to supply water to station gardens tended by the Chinese. The River Red Gum, and Box tree were removed to cater for the hungry wood supplies of the river steamers.

The People

Some of the great pastoral pioneers were present in the district including names like Crozier, Cudmore, Pyle and Barritt. The Aboriginal population had diminished gradually and were concentrated on the large stations and mission points established along the river. The remaining wandering tribes relied upon the stations for many of their food supplies.

Townships

In 1871 sales began of allotments at Gol Gol but it was a decade until many of them were occupied. By 1879 Wentworth had been proclaimed a municipality and two months earlier the first Council met, comprising of Messrs. Gunn, Edwards, Upton, Bowring, Mitchell and Saunders. Gunn was the first Mayor elected onto the Municipal Council.

A typical feature of the townships was the surrounding commons which enabled the large busy coach lines and mounted police a facility for grazing and resting horses. Local residents often kept milking cows and established small produce gardens on the commons at a fee.

Agriculture

By 1870 the New South Wales and South Australian boundary had at last been defined and a number of run holders found themselves straddling the border and continued for many years to pay rents into two Treasuries.

By 1876 the outback was not fully settled, particularly the large areas of dry country. When pastoralism gained a foothold in well watered country squatters expended enormous funds to improve runs. The likes of D H Cudmore spent some 63,000 pounds on improving Avoca Station over a period of 30 years.

During the mid 1870's there was much tension between shearers and the Darling squatters. Shearers were being accused of laziness and unruliness. However, the shearer's lot continued to be difficult because the western wool was matted with grass seeds and burrs and work and accommodation conditions were cramped and lacked sanitation. The disputes were an extension of similar strife spreading around New South Wales at the time.

Commerce

The river steamers continued to play a very important trade role within the district. Numerous hotels and wine shanties were established along the rivers and by the mid 1870's between Wentworth and Cuthero Station there were some 10 hotels including Ellerslie, The Welcome Inn, The Roadside Necessity (Burtundy), Burtundy, The Maid and Magpie (Camborn), Middle Yard Hotel, Tarangara Hotel, Darling Hotel (Lethero), Southern Cross Hotel (Old Malara), Yartala Creek Hotel (Polia) and the Hotel at Pooncarie which may have earlier been known as the Mail Coach Hotel. Large stores were establishing in Wentworth such as that owned by William Bowring.

Transport and Communication

The river boats continued to provide the vital source of transport and communication for the area. However, increased communications were becoming available through telegraph facilities, mail routes and newspaper publications. In 1871 Cobb & Co established a coach route from Swan Hill to Wentworth. A coach and mail run was established between Wentworth and Willcannia, via Pooncarie whilst Kidman and Nichols ran a service on the western side of the Darling.

In 1875 advancement of the railways which was anticipated to be a great boon to the district was realised when a survey was made for a railway from Cootamundra to Pooncarie, however, the line was never established.

In 1877 the large steamer Avoca (one of the largest steamers on the river) was built and commenced activities along the Murray. That same year, the telegraph line to Pooncarie was completed, the station acting as an important repeater station between Sydney and Adelaide.

Services and Community Facilities

In 1870 Reverend Cocks was sent to Wentworth to establish a committee to build an Anglican church. The curch was the first erected on the Darling. Reverend Cocks and ministers like him regularly travelled to the outlying areas to administer the faith. Some rode their bicycles up the length of the Darling as far as Wilcannia. That same year, the Wentworth Catholic Church was commenced and completed in 1872.

By 1879 work had commenced on the construction of the Wentworth Gaol which was to provide employment and further recognition to the township and improve the conditions of prisoners in the existing, overcrowded lock-up. At this stage Pooncarie erected a courthouse and lock-up at the southern entrance of the township.

Social Organization and Recreation

As within the previous decade group activities such as race meetings and sports days were occurring in and around Wentworth.

1881-1890: DROUGHTS, DELUGE AND RABBITS

Overview

The western land was thrown open for settlement and the wealthy western squatters had their vast lands reduced in size. The settlers and squatters were stricken with seven seasons of dry weather and subsequent poor wool clips. The onslaught of the rabbit plague coupled with overstocking began to cause much erosion and degeneration. The settlements continued to thrive and grow at a reasonably rapid pace. Across the Murray the Victorians had been investigating the possibility of developing an irrigation area at Mildura.

Landscape

During the 1880's a huge rabbit plague killed about 90% of the salt bush and trees in the Wentworth district leaving the whole area like desert. In an attempt to reduce the rabbit plague, New South Wales netted the South Australian border and controlled the fence. A number of the squatters invested funds into netted fencing, however the plague continued and the ravages were desperate. The effect of the rabbits and the many seasons of dry weather coupled with overstocking of sheep caused much further erosion and pasture degeneration. The area held some 15 million sheep compared with 6 million since.

In 1890, Pooncarie recorded its highest flood level. Flooding damage was significant along the Darling and Anabranch, contributing further to erosion of the fragile landscape. The township of Wentworth was protected by levee banks constructed in the 1880's resulting from the memory of the great flood of 1870.

The People

In 1884 Wentworth had recorded 100 births, 27 marriages and 55 deaths. The district had some 250 shearers and by 1886 severe trouble was brewing between the shearers and the western squatters. Travellers noticed that there were now only a few Aboriginies in contrast to the once numerous populations on the river banks. Additionally, there was a growth of the population of those of Chinese descent who found their way from the Victorian gold fields. The Chinamen had many market gardens around the townships and on the stations but their presence was often criticised and in 1880 the introduction of the Chinaman's Act enforced a 10 pound toll on all Chinese in the state. One notable Chinaman was a much respected man within the Wentworth township. John Egge had many commercial concerns including river boats and trading houses and contributed to many charities. He was so well liked that the school children went around the township and collected money to pay for his toll.

Townships

An article written for the Adelaide Observer by Cornelius Proud in 1883 described Wentworth as a township which strikes the visitor with a fresh and healthy appearance due mostly to the credit of the Municipal authorities. It was observed that the wide streets were planted for most with umbrageous trees and footpaths and gutters were finished off in wood.

The township was considered to have a noticeable absence of churches and an abundance of hostelries of which none were considered ideal at the time. Proud considered that from its geographical position Wentworth was certain to become a most important railway centre. He further described Pooncarie which he considered to be one of the most uninviting localities on the river.

Another article which was to appear in the Age newspaper in 1885 described the main street of Wentworth as a good roadway with broad sidewalks planted with shade trees, red brick houses and stores and white painted weatherboard cottages with a smart 'spick-and-span' appearance.

Gol Gol, in the early 1880's was a township of six families. The mostly underdeveloped town site was recorded as having one hotel, one store, one stone building residence, a cemetery with three graves and one log hut.

By 1889, Pooncarie had a Police Station, Post Office, School, two hotels and a number of houses.

Agriculture

In 1884 Farnell's Land Act came into being and appeared to meet most of the settlers needs which provided for the taking up of areas by selectors and security for a definite term for the squatters. In accordance with the Act, pastoral leases were divided into about equal parts these sections were titled the 'resumed' area and the 'leasehold' area, the former being held under occupation licence which was immediately thrown over for selection and the latter which was left to the former lessee. The incidence of dry years, low wool prices and the effects of the rabbit saw an amendment to Farnell's Act in 1889 which gave an extension of lease to squatters, who then became known as graziers, for the leasehold areas. The amendment also offered larger blocks of the resumed area under better tenure to selectors. Although many of the stations were divided up into much smaller areas the larger stations such as Lake Victoria still had some 1,660,000 acres.

Mechanization of agriculture increased with the first trial of the Woolsley shearing machine being undertaken at Dunlop station further north. Avoca Station was one the first in the district to install the machinery.

In 1888, after two dry years, work was scarce, many of the towns folk of Wentworth looked for land or work in Victoria. Irrigation schemes were underway in Renmark in South Australia and the local movement for irrigation became vociferous. On the 8 August 1888 the Councillors and Commoners (responsible for the commons surrounding Wentworth) held a meeting to consider a petition to Parliament proposing a portion of the commons be set aside for irrigation settlement. The Commoners agreed to alienate 12,000 acres of temporary commons, embracing an area known as Websters Plain, for the purpose of irrigation. Subsequently, the Wentworth Irrigation Act was introduced to the Legislative Assembly by J P Abbott Esquire M.L.A. for Wentworth.

Around the same time the Victorian Government had passed an agreement for the Chaffey brothers, from California, to establish an irrigation area at Mildura. The Wentworth Irrigation Trust was established in 1890 in an endeavour to precipitate the horticultural development of the Websters Plain.

Commerce

In the 1880's each colony imposed its own trade regulations and customs officers were located at all trading points to collect duties. Wentworth's customs branch was one of the busiest in NSW.

In 1885 the 'Gem' and 'Ruby' were the best of the South Australian river craft built on American models with magnificent accommodation. The river trade continued to thrive. In 1883 the value on imports from South Australia to Wentworth reached 404,332 pounds whilst to Victoria only 54,241 pounds. Export to South Australia from Wentworth rated some 782,552 pounds and from Victoria only 72,331 pounds.

Wentworth occupied fourth place on the list of shipping towns in New South Wales with 199 vessels arriving from South Australia and 51 from Victoria, in 1883. Many small boats belonged to hawkers. Most of the goods came from Adelaide.

Much frustration was engendered in the township regarding the inability of the New South Wales Government to expend adequate finances within the area. It was considered that many a seaport on the New South Wales coast had thousands of pounds spent on it by an anxious Government in an endeavour to encourage progress, but these ports had no more, and often less, than the steady income Wentworth received. However, Wentworth had had no great outlay invested in it.

William Bradshaw opened the first store in Gol Gol. Alexander Scott built the first store at Pooncarie. Many of the stations including Moorna, Lake Victoria and Avoca operated stores which were supplied by the steamships.

Transport and Communication

The River Darling Navigation Company was formed in 1882, which employed snaggers using bullock teams and winches to keep the river clear for boats.

In 1884 the people of Wilcannia got together a private syndicate to propose locking of the upper Darling which had been loudly demanded for years. But, by 1885 the railway line to Bourke had been completed which commenced the demise of the Darling boats.

A private proposal to link Broken Hill and Wentworth with a rail line to join the Victorian system across the Murray was abandoned in 1890 when the New South Wales Government showed signs of toying with the idea of a railway line from Orange to Wilcannia and then set on a plan to connect Wentworth to Hay, which never eventuated.

The coach services continued to provide a vital link between townships, particularly during times of low river. However, their progress and reliability continued to be hampered by rough roads.

Services and Community Facilities

This decade saw the commencement of provisional schools at both Pooncarie and Gol Gol. Many children on the larger stations who were isolated from the settlements had governesses or established school houses of their own.

In 1885 Wentworth was recorded as having three hotels, four churches, two banks, one public school, a customs house, a court house, a lock-up, a gaol, police barracks and mail communications to Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney. Telegraph news was sent via Grebbles Telegram Company and the two newspapers were able to provide up-to-date information daily. In the same year the Wentworth Water Tower was erected at the rear of the hospital.

By 1887 the much awaited brick hospital was built at Wentworth across both the Darling River and Tuckers Creek, which had to be crossed by patients rowed by a wardsman who was summoned by bells. Many previous visitors to Wentworth often considered it ludicrous that there was such a lavish and fine gaol built in the township but no hospital. It was even recorded once that a man who needed an arm amputation was convicted as a vagrant so he could be sent to the gaol to receive the adequate treatment required.

The Wentworth school was considered to be a fine building which had play yard and shelter sheds. Of special note were the windows which were tinted blue glass to neutralize the hot summer glare.

Social Organization and Recreation

The people of Wentworth held race meetings, numerous bazaars, amateur concerts and dramatic entertainments often in aid of any project. The first agricultural show was held at Wentworth in 1885. Horse races and pigeon shoots were popular during the 1880's. The first race meeting was held at Pooncarie in 1883. Steeple chase courses were evident at both Lethero and Camborn, near Pooncarie.

1891-1900: RESUMPTION & SETTLEMENT

Overview

The land was quickly becoming destroyed by the ravages of the rabbit plague, exacerbated by overstocking, drought and land clearing. The pastoral properties divided into resumed allotments caused grief to many a settler because of the inability to sustain ample production. Some holdings were being abandoned and as a result a new land Act passed to hand back resumed lands to the stations until required for settlement. There were strong local demands for the ample funding of an irrigation scheme to be established along the Murray, east of Wentworth.

Landscape

The impact of the rabbit plague, drought, overstocking, land clearing and wind and water erosion had dramatically changed the landscape. Netted fences appeared and cats introduced into the district in an attempt to destroy the rabbit, but in effect destroying much the birdlife and native marsuipials. The impact of flooding and heavy rain was far more severe than ever before. The townships provided an oasis from the dry outback and street planting was considered a vital duty of the municipality. Destruction of a street tree became a serious offence. A network of canals and trenches was established on Webster's Plain.

The People

The Aboriginal people could no longer live off the denuded landscape. The smaller stations comprising the resumed lands had no place for Aboriginal communities or their employ. With increasing redundancy and relentless prohibition on hunting the Aborigines were gradually forced into towns were the Protection Board of NSW provided handouts. The towns were demoralising and idleness led to alcohol abuse.

Townships

Wentworth's precedence within the district was being slowly diminished by the growth of the Mildura township across the river. However, the reliance upon the Darling-Murray River trade still flourished and Wentworth continued to be an important point of exchange. Gol Gol's growth was precipitated by Mildura's expansion and improved transport links. Pooncarie continued to flourish as a service centre to the Darling stations and a new store opened.

Agriculture

The destruction of pastoral land by drought and rabbits was further exacerbated by the 'carving-up' of stations under the Farnell's Land Act of 1884. The 'resumed' runs were too small for ample production, particularly during such hard times. The abandonment of the smaller holdings resulted in a revision of the leasing arrangements and introduction of Carruther's Land Act in 1894 which allowed for selection on an improvement basis and the return of leased resumed areas to the stations, until required for settlement. The effect of the rabbits,

drought and land administration was felt by even the largest stations. During 1895, Lake Victoria Station comprised an area greater than 1½ million acres. The following year the station declared no income. The wool stations were also experiencing further trouble with the shearing industry which was in a state of flux since mechanization. The big strike of 1894 saw the destruction of the riverboat 'Rodney' carrying 'non-union' shearers headed up the Darling to Tolarno Station. The steamer was completely burnt out adjacent to Polia Station by striking shearers in revenge.

The progress of the Wentworth Irrigation Area continued with the employment of an engineer and loan approvals from the Australian Joint Stock Bank in Darling Street. The boundaries of the irrigation area was increased by the Irrigation Trust to take in the nine mile gate (now Dareton). However, as a result the Trust were unable to raise sufficient loans to carry out required works. In 1896 the Trust was dissolved and the Government took over the exercise. Between 1896-1900 the first channel was built along the west bank of Horshoe Billabong and the first irrigation sections in the state were opened for settlement.

Commerce

The commercial attributes of the Shire's river system continued to be explored and the Rolyston family of Pooncarie achieved fruition with the commencement of a small commercial fishing venture on the Darling.

The Wentworth Customs House was erected in 1898 and acted as a clearing house for three states. The checkpoint handled the largest volume of goods in the State, surpassed only by Sydney and Newcastle. Within a few miles of customs points, regular smuggling services operated, with the particular aim of avoiding the Victorian stock tax.

Transport and Communications

During 1892 Charles McMahon purchased the Swan Hill to Wentworth coach service from the Burton Bros. The service flourished and McMahon was known to keep up to 170 horses at the Gol Gol mail change (on the common) and some 200 horses at Wentworth.

In 1895 a road carting service was established between Pooncries and Wentworth, enabling a reliable exchange of goods and supplies.

Punts were put into operation over the Murray at both Curlwaa, and Wentworth. A bridge was erected over the Darling River at Wentworth, and all steamboats coming down river were required to whistle on approach to alert the bridgekeeper to prepare to raise the lift span.

Services and Community Facilities

A new school was erected at Pooncarie and a small community of the Sisters of Mercy, from Deniliquin opened two Catholic schools in Wentworth.

Social Organization and Recreation

A site for Wentworth Showgrounds was gazetted in 1899. A cricket club was formed at Pooncarie and regular matches were played between the township club and sides formed from large stations. Athletic sports days were often followed by a grand ball or similar event.

1901-1910: IRRIGATION

Overview

Irrigation breathed new life into the district that had been ravaged by rabbits and drought. The pastoral leases had expired by 1900 and land administrative initiatives were enacted to assist in repairing the damaged properties.

Landscape

The land had been denuded by the rabbit, overstocking and drought. Dry salt pans and severe erosion was evident. The lowest reading of the Darling River level was recorded in 1902. Land along the Murray frontages, east of Wentworth was undergoing rapid changes. Channels were being built, orchards and vines planted and a neat patchwork of horticultural activity was becoming evident.

The People

Gol Gol's population continued to increase steadily as a result of irrigation works and growth of Mildura. Wentworth population remained at a steady growth.

Townships

The Wentworth Irrigation area was beginning to grow and require further facilities available from townships. A rapid population increase was being experienced at Gol Gol, particularly as a result of surrounding irrigation works on both sides of the river. By about 1917 Gol Gol was considered a suburb of Mildura. However, growth of the northern Murray townships was halted by the New South Wales government's reluctance to pursue the construction of a rail line which could link up with Victoria, at Mildura

Agriculture

The year 1900 saw all 316 pastoral leases expire in the Western Division and a Royal Commission was undertaken into the Western Division. As a result the Western Lands Act was passed in 1901 giving power to administer all land matters. The following year the Pastures Protection Act was empowered to control stock movements, disease, vermin stock brands, and the like. Wealthy pastoralists such as Cudmore, who had spent 63,000 pounds improving Avoca Station and large sums for waterworks on the Anabranch Station, now had a gloomy future due to denudation of the land.

By 1906, 800 acres of the 1,200 acres set aside for the Wentworth Irrigation Area, was open for selection on practically perpetual leasehold terms. All channel construction, and pumping facilities were completed. The popularity of irrigation was waning in Sydney where it was considered more development of arable land in the eastern and central divisions of the state was warranted prior to large expenditure on irrigation in the far-reaching western division. However, Walter Sage provided a catalyst and inspiration to settlers by achieving remarkable success with

horticultural produce in 1908. That same year 458 acres were under production in the Wentworth Irrigation area. At this stage the Government had also set aside land at Pomona for irrigation.

Commerce

In the early 1900's, Chinaman Wing Lee operated a market garden on the Victorian banks of the Murray and would row over the river to sell his produce to the people of Gol Gol. Boats still carried on up the Darling as trading vessels.

In the mid 1910's, Crozier constructed a slaughter house adjacent to the Gol Gol punt to serve the needs of residents in Mildura. It was operational until 1927.

Transport and Communication

In 1902 an agreement was reached between Victoria and New South Wales whereby Victoria was empowered to construct and operate four lines of railway linking the Riverina with the existing Victorian railway system. One connection was proposed between Gol Gol and Mildura, but never undertaken.

The 'PS Ruby' was built at Morgan for the Gem Navigation Company in 1907 and registered for navigation in 1909. River boat activity still retained the vital link between outback and port. Coach services continued to rally along the overland route. However, the much awaited trains never arrived in the Wentworth Shire.

In the mid 1910's a punt was installed at Gol Gol to enhance vital links with the rapidly growing town of Mildura.

Services and Community Facilities

Gol Gol recieved its first town water supply by means of a hand operated pump which carried water by pipe to the top of the riverbank. A new police station and courthouse was erected at Pooncarie to cater for the two troopers employed in the township.

Social Organization and Recreation

William Wilkes took over the licence of the Gol Gol hotel after returning from the Boer War in 1908. William organised sports days and similar entertainment activities. In the early days of temperance in Mildura, residents drove their horse and cart to the Murray south bank and were ferried across to the Hotel by two Aborigines, Wurlong and Black Mack, for sixpence return.

Tennis started to become popular and tennis courts were erected on stations and within townships.

The Pooncarie Pastoral and Agricultural society was established in 1911. A hall was erected at Curlwaa in 1909 with money raised from sports days, dances and shows.

1911-1930: WEIRS, LOCKS, ROADS & RAIL

Overview

By 1929 a series of locks and weirs, to assist navigation and pumping, had been completed on the Murray River. An improved system of road networks, statewide rail links and motorised transport reduced the need for river boats as a source of transportation, communication and trade. Irrigation areas within the Shire expanded and new settlements were established, including Dareton. The Victorian town of Mildura continued to grow and prosper, acting as a regional focus, reducing the potential expansion of facilities in the towns within the Wentworth Shire.

Landscape

Further intensification and expansion of horticultural activities continued along the Murray resulting in large scale clearing and planting of trees and vines. Each irrigation area was signified by a myriad of channels and tracks. The Murray River had become a more stable water source due to the construction of locks and weirs along its course, the water level being regulated by the new Hume Dam.

The People

The Shire's population increased by the influx of persons being involved in horticulture. The number of persons employed on large stations however, reduced due to declining income and the effects of the Depression. Many young men in the district went to war and more returned to take up soldier settlement allotments within the irrigation areas.

Townships

After 1928 Coomealla (now Dareton) grew as a small settlement to support the surrounding irrigation area. The other townships within the Shire maintained steady growth. However, the emphasis was upon irrigation settlements. Wentworth township began to lose its strategic importance due to the declining significance of river trade and communication. Its population, however, was boosted by construction of Lock No 10. Mildura, was gaining commercial importance and improved transportation links enhanced its accessibility and significance to settlers in Wentworth. Settlement began to occur around the bridge site at Mildura which was later to form the village of Buronga.

Agriculture

The reliance upon horses for farming was reduced by the introduction of mechanised vehicles such as the tractor and rotary hoe which became vital on irrigated allotments.

Horticultural produce come under strict scrutiny following the 1914 Fruit and Vegetable Packing Act which controlled quality. A number of fruit disease outbreaks occurred the most serious being fruit fly strike in 1924. That same year the Curlwaa Co-operative Packing Society formed.

The Coomealla Irrigation area was comprised in 1923. By 1928, 92 horticultural and 10 residential holdings were occupied.

Commerce

Mildura's presence as the commercial centre of the district increased, reinforced by such activities as stores providing 'order boys' to Gol Gol followed by deliveries of bread and groceries by horse and cart.

The Pooncarie store continued to be supplied by river steamers such as the 'Renmark' and 'Colonel'. Two new stores opened at Pooncarie, which installed petrol pumps.

A shop was set up at Abbortsford Bridge and the Curlwaa settlement had a number of commercial activities including barber, bank and fruit canning. A store was set up within the new Coomealla Irrigation area.

Transport and Communication

The bridge over the River Murray between Buronga and Mildura was completed in 1927. The iron lift-span bridge was expensively built and designed to carry trains, but rail transport never eventuated withn the Shire due to a lack of government funding.

Private punts commenced operation along both rivers, particularly utilized by stations which had runs on both sides of the river banks.

A new post office building was constructed in Pooncarie to cater for the wider role as telephone exchange to the newly installed party lines being established throughout the district. Curlwaa was granted a Post Office in 1916.

Abbottsford Bridge, which commenced construction in 1925, was opened in 1928. The iron lift opan bridge provided a vital traffic link across the Murray for Wentworth and Curlwaa settlers.

Services and Community Facilities

In 1926 the Bush Nursing Association opened in Pooncarie, occupying a site reserved for a hospital. The local area was served by an ambulance after 1919. A school was opened in Curlwaa in 1917, settling up in the local hall until the school building was completed in 1921.

Social Organization and Recreation

Pooncarie residents were treated to regular Saturday night dances in the towns two halls, which were also utilized for balls, shows, travelling picture theatre, club meetings and visiting clergy.

Australian Rules football began to be played in the district. Clubs were formed at Wentworth, Pooncarie and Curlwaa. After the war a regular competition was drawn up for the district.

Cricket and Tennis competitions continued to be popular. During the construction period of Lock 10 sporting teams were formed by construction workers and fielded sides in local competitions. The Lock construction authorities had laid tennis courts and an oval alongside the cemetery. Rowing in Wentworth had become very popular and other Murray River settlements formed competitive rowing clubs.

1956: THE GREAT FLOOD

Overview

The 1956 flood was one of the largest recorded floods to inundate the Wentworth Shire, second only to the 1980 flood. The damage caused by the 1956 flood was far more devastating than 1890 because of the extent of intensive development along the riverbanks and flood plains. Momentous efforts on behalf of the local residents to build levee banks and assist the isolated are well recorded within the Shire today by plaques and memorials.

During 1956 Wentworth Municipal Council was given the authority to form a Shire, taking in all the land of today's existing boundaries.

The focus of activity in the Shire was in the new irrigation areas of Coomealla and Buronga.

Landscape

The 1956 flood was a result of the merging of the swollen waters of the Murray and Darling Rivers. Downstream from Wentworth the inundation was referred to as the Great Flood. Wentworth became like an island, protected only by huge levees frantically constructed by volunteers as the floodwaters ravaged the Shire.

The irrigation holdings were increasing in size and new channel works and clearing of mallee was being carried out east of Coomealla.

The pastoral holdings were being stringently controlled by the Pastures Protection Board and Western Lands Commission in an attempt to revive the denuded landscape. Further effects of rabbit plagues and floodwaters caused some serious erosion problems.

The People

The epic struggles of local volunteers and army/police relief to reduce the devastating impact of flooding is well recorded in the Shire. During the flood one third of Wentworth's population were evacuated. Volunteers worked tirelessly to build and patch levee banks.

The makeup of people in the Shire had changed significantly from the previous 20 years. The river boat captains, deckhands, woodcutters and the like no longer dominated the Wentworth footpaths.

Some 100 returned soldiers and their families moved into the Shire to take up Soldier settlement irrigation farms at Coomealla and Dareton.

The Aboriginal population was dispersed. The mission at Pooncarie closed in 1933 and the people moved to Menindee. Many Aborigines, both local and from other districts set up humpies and crude improvised dwellings outside the Coomealla irrigation area.

The Townships

Wentworth's service role had drastically diminished with the removal of the river trade and the increasing growth of Mildura which had the advantage of rail and major highway links. Additionally, Pooncarie stagnated.

Dareton and Buronga continued to grow with the vitality of the horticultural industry boosted with Government funding and the increased population of returned servicemen.

The Wentworth municipality was given the authority to become a Shire in 1956. The original proposal to embrace all land under the authority of the Pastures Protection Board, came under local objection. A compromise plan resulted in today's existing Shire boundaries.

Agriculture

The Coomealla irrigation area was expanded with an extension scheme carried out by the Water Resources Commission under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme. One hundred holdings to the east of Coomealla were created as soldier settlement allotments. The State Bank functioned as a Statutory Agent for the government and administered funds for the scheme.

Eligibility for the allotments required previous experience with fruit growing. Applicants were boosted with reserve nominations who were awarded allotments by ballot. Farm size varied according to land classifications. Planting was approved according to the allocation recommendations made by the Australian Agricultural Council and Bureau of Agriculture Economics.

The Water Resources Commission carried out works in the form of concrete lined supply laterals, pipe lines, access culverts and deep drainage facilities.

A Horticultural Research Station was established in 1951, west of Dareton in response to pressure from local fruit growers associations. Agricultural industries including fruit packing were established in Coomealla in 1949.

Commerce

Wentworth's commercial domination declined as Mildura's commercial role expanded.

Dareton's commercial establishments grew in the post war years and the local Rural Bank (now State Bank) played a vital role in the development of the area.

Transport and Communication

The increase in road transport bought about a local lobby for improved roads. The majority of works were not carried out until the 1960's.

Without the river boats, many of the outback areas experienced a new isolation, particularly during the great flood when air lifts and food drops became necessary. Improved telecommunications compensated for the loss of regular visits from river boats.

The mail runs became important communication links and often acted as supply carriers. Many of the Shire's roads are named according to their mail run. A new mail service was established from Pooncarie to the west saving properties in 1948.

Services and Community Facilities

A number of Churches were built during the mid 1930's at Dareton. The Roman Catholic Church was erected in 1953.

The schools gained new additions including classrooms and weather sheds.

New and improved household items made life in the isolated areas more comfortable. Improved electricity and water services in the townships reinforced the era of "comfort" established in the post-war years.

Social Organization and Recreation

The period saw a boom in local progress associations and professional/occupational groups, particularly regarding horticultural production. Of prime importance was the establishment of the Returned Services Leagues and Memorial Clubs which resulted in one of the Shire's most popular tourist activity today, the services Club.

APPENDIX 5

ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE ITEMS WITHIN THE WENTWORTH SHIRE

KNOWN AND PREDICTED ABORIGINAL SITES IN PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AREAS OF THE WENTWORTH SHIRE

No	ITEM NAME	LOCATION
1	Wharf Site	Darling River, Wentworth
2	Kilmarnock	Wharf Street, Wentworth
3	Former Customs Officers Residence	Cnr Darling/Wharf Street, Wentworth
4	Cookes Butchery	Cnr Adelaide/Darling Street, Wentworth
5	Royal Hotel	Darling Street, Wentworth
6	Elders Store	Darling Street, Wentworth
7	Home Care Services	Darling Street, Wentworth
8	Wentworth Drapery	Darling Street, Wentworth
9	Wentworth Hotel	Cnr Darling/Sandwych Street, Wentworth
10	Shops and Offices	Darling Street, Wentworth
11	Post Office Residence	Sandwych Street, Wentworth
12	Wentworth Post Office	Cnr Darling/Sandwych Street, Wentworth
13	Courthouse	Darling Street, Wentworth
13a	Police Station	Darling Street, Wentworth
14	The Rectory	Darling Street, Wentworth
15	Church (St John the Evangelist)	Darling Street, Wentworth
16	Primary School (Wentworth Central)	Darling Street, Wentworth
17	Dwelling	135 Darling Street, Wentworth
18	Dwelling	Cnr Perry/Darling Street, Wentworth
19	Gaol	Beverley Street, Wentworth
20	Rendlesham House	Cnr Sandwych/Adams Street, Wentworth
21	Yampa	Sandwych Street, Wentworth
22	Dwelling	36 Sandwych Street, Wentworth
23	Dwelling	25 Sandwych Street, Wentworth
24	Dwelling	29 Sandwych Street, Wentworth
25	Dwelling	34 Adelaide Street, Wentworth
26	Captain Sturt Hotel	Adams Street, Wentworth
27	Town Hall	Adelaide Street, Wentworth
28	Church (St Francis Xavier Catholic)	Short Street, Wentworth
29	St Francis Xavier Primary School	Short Street, Wentworth
30	Church (St Andrews Uniting)	Short Street, Wentworth
31	'The Nunnery'	Cadell Street, Wentworth
32	School (St Ignatius)	Cadell Street, Wentworth
33	'Crangs'	Cadell Street, Wentworth
34	Dwelling	40 Cadell Street, Wentworth
35	Dwelling	35 Cadell Street, Wentworth
36	River Junctions (Hawdons Ford)	Cadell Street, Wentworth
37	Dwelling	85 Cadell Street, Wentworth
38	Lock No 10	Cadell Street, Wentworth
39	Lockmasters' Residence	Cadell Street, Wentworth
40	Wentworth Cemetery	Cadell Street, Wentworth
41	Snaggy Bend Aboriginal Burial Ground	South West of Wentworth
42	P S Ruby	Fotherby Park, Wentworth
43	Dwelling	11 Armstrong Street, Wentworth
44	Dwelling	13 Armstrong Street, Wentworth
45	Water Tower	Wentworth (rear of hospital)
46	Telegraph Hotel	Cnr Tarcoola/McKinley Street, Pooncarie
47	Police Station (Pooncarie)	Tarcoola Street, Pooncarie
48	Pooncarie Post Office	Tarcoola Street, Pooncarie
49	Pooncarie Cemetery	Menindee Road, Pooncarie
50	State Bank	Cnr Tapio/Neilpo Street, Dareton
51	Dwelling	Lot 545, Silver City Highway, Buronga
52	Mildura Bridge	Sturt Highway, Buronga
53	Paddlewhell Hotel	Sturt Highway, Gol Gol
54	Gol Gol Cemetary	Cnr William/Bligh Street, Gol Gol
55	Williamsville Homestead	Williamsville, Curlwaa
56	Bellevue Homestead	Bridge Road, Curlwaa
57	Abbottsford Bridge	Bridge Road, Williamsville

58	Dwelling	Lot Section 6, Delta Road, Curlwaa
59	Curlwaa School	Delta Road, Curlwaa
60	Curlwaa Store	Delta Road, Curlwaa
61	Dwelling	Lot 5, Delta Road, Curlwaa
62	Curlwaa Memorial Hall	Memorial Road, Curlwaa
63	Sulphur Shed	Church Road, Curlwaa
64	Dwelling	Channel Road, Curlwaa
65	Tara Downs Homestead	Tara Downs Station, Anabranch
66	Wilpitara Homestead	Tara Downs Station, Anabranch
67	Tapio Homestead	Pooncarie Road, Wentworth
68	Avoca Homestead	Pomona Road
69	Avoca Station Outbuildings	Pomona Road
70	Sturts Billabong	Lower Darling Road
71	Hazeldell Homestead	Lower Darling Road
72	Para Homestead	Lower Darling Road
73	Para Woolshed and Shearers Quarters	Lower Darling Road
74	Burtundy Homestead	Wentworth Road
75	Moorna Woolshed	Renmark Road, Wentworth
76	Moorna Homestead	Renmark Road, Wentworth
77	Moorna Cemetery	Renmark Road, Wentworth
78	Moorna Town Site	Moorna Station, Wentworth
79	Wangamma Homestead	Scaddings Bridge Road
80	Lake Victoria Homestead	Lake Victoria Station
81	Nampoo Homestead	Nampoo Station
82	Cal Lal Post Office	Cal Lal Road, Cal Lal
83	Cal Lal Police Station, Courthouse	Cal Lal Road, Cal Lal
84	Warakoo Homestead	Cal Lal Road
85	Kulkurna Homestead	Cal Lal Road
86	Kulkurna Woolshed	Cal Lal Road
87	Kulkurna Lock-Up	Cal Lal Road
88	Tareena Homestead	Cal Lal Road
89	Provincial Border Obelisk	SA/NSW border
90	Rufus Creek/Massacre Burial Site	Lake Victoria
91	Noola Homestead	Noola Station
92	Nulla Nulla Woolshed	Redmark Road
93	Nulla Nulla Homestead	Renmark Road
94	Anabranch Hall	Anabranch Road, Anabranch
95	Bunnerungie Homestead	Silver City Highway, Anabranch
96	Bunnerungie Bridge	Silver City Highway, Anabranch
97	Bunnerungie Cemetery	Silver City Highway, Anabranch
98	Irrigation Pipe	Silver City Highway, Anabranch
99	Windamingle Homestead	Silver City Highway, Anabranch
100	Willow Point Shearers Quarters	Willow Point Station, Anabranch
101	Lethero School	Wentworth Road, Pooncarie
102	Lethero Hall	Wentworth Road, Pooncarie
103	Carstairs Homestead	High Darling Road
104	Tarcoola Homestead	Wentworth Road, Pooncarie
105	Mallara Homestead	Top Darling Road, Pooncarie
106	Mallara Woolshed	Top Darling Road, Pooncarie
107	Darling Bridge	Menindee Road, Pooncarie
108	Heatherbloom School	Polia Road, Pooncarie
109	Moorara Homestead	Menindee Road, Pooncarie
110	Wreck of the Rodney	Menindee Road, Pooncarie
111	Nearie Lake Nature Reserve	North of Wentworth
112	Lake Nitchie Area/Skeleton	North of Wentworth
113	Tarawi Mallee Area	North West of Lake Victoria
114	Willandra Lakes Region	North of Balranald
115	Mallee Cliffs National Park	East of Mildura

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wharf Site, Wentworth
LOCATION:	Public Recreation Reserve R84700, Darling River, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Recreation Reserve (Wharf)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	Wharf constructed 1879, demolished 1983
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communication
CONDITION:	Demolished
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The wharf site is marked by an attractive grassed recreation area and a Cairn identifying the historical significance of the site. Large River Red Gums and remnant wharf timber surround the Cairn. The park provides a mooring point for visiting houseboats.

History:

The Wentworth wharf was constructed of local timber in 1879, enabling the mooring, maintenance, loading and unloading of riverboats and steamships until their demise in the mid 20th century. The wharf provided the focus of activity for the Wentworth township and shire and enabled Wentworth to operate as one of Australia's busiest ports. The site marks one of the most significant eras in Wentworths history and should preserved.

RECOMMENDATION:

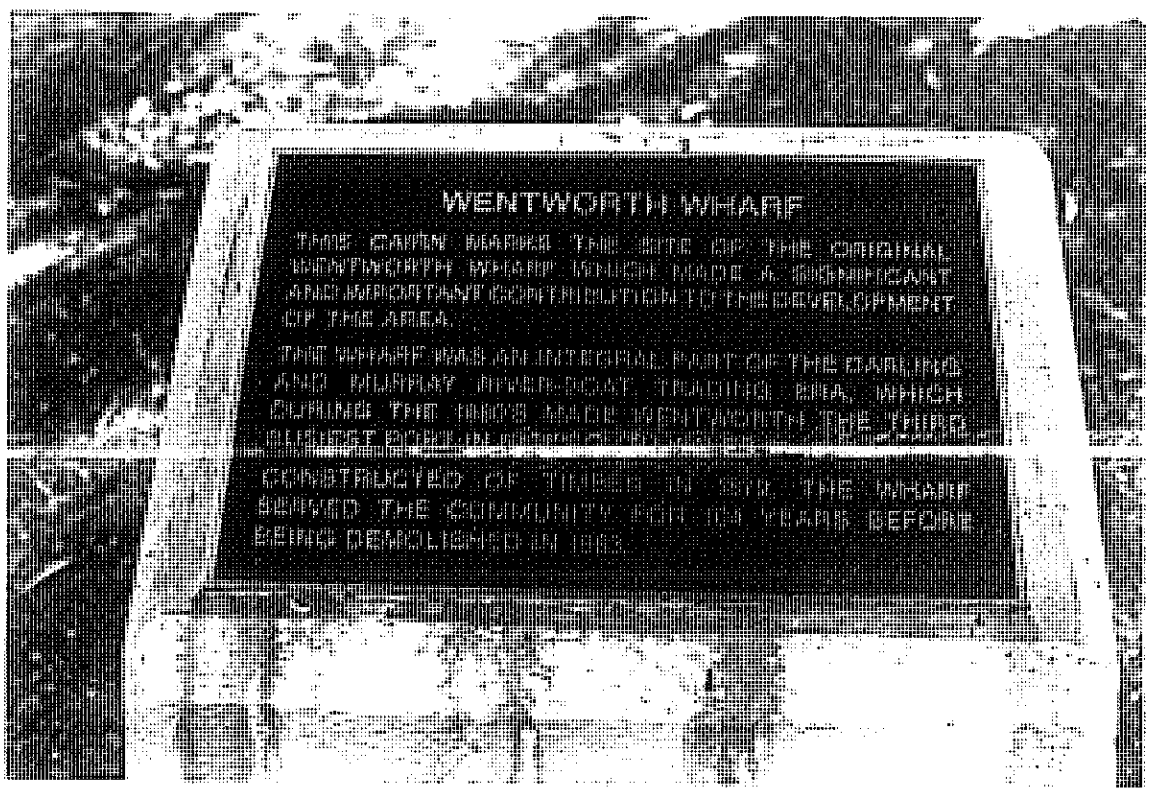
Maintain the site as a picnic and mooring facility. Provide additional educational information about the wharf. Investigate the possibility of reconstructing a portion of the wharf as a replica of its original form to provide historical, educational and tourist significance to the site.

REFERENCES:

Drage W & Page M, 'Riverboats and Rivermen'
Bowring W J, 'History of Wentworth'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

9099/19



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 29/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Kilmarnock
LOCATION:	Wharf Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1910
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The brick dwelling has a long bullnose verandah supported by turned wooden posts. The front doorway has decorative timber casing with top and side lights. The building is largely hidden from view by a tall fence. The dwelling provides an attractive addition to the commercial focus of the township.

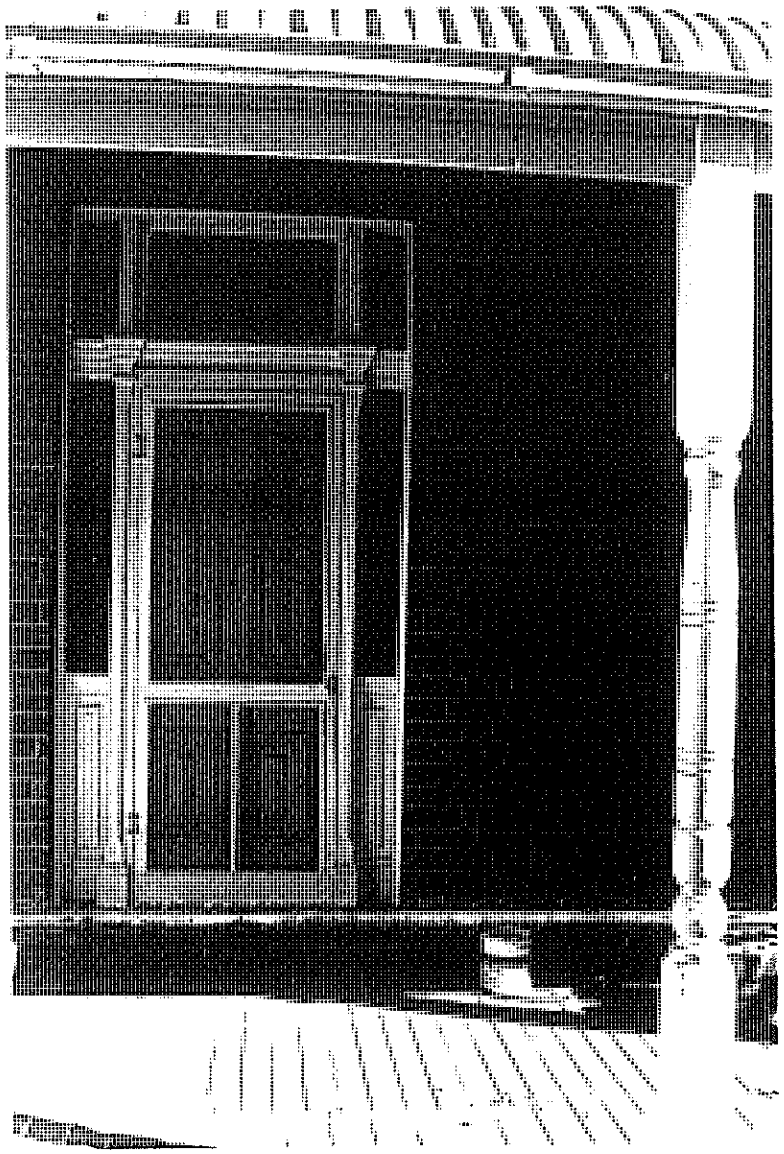
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance of facade in existing form
Encourage lowering of fence

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

9099/18



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 17/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Former Customs Officers Residence
LOCATION:	S E Corner Darling and Wharf Streets, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Customs Officers Residence
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1884
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and communication
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Classified by National Trust (NSW)

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single storey weatherboard cottage with a hipped iron roof and a separate straight pitched iron verandah to two sides on squared chamfered posts. One cast iron verandah bracket remains. A squat rendered chimney stack protrudes from the roof. The dwelling is sited on an intersection opposite two other buildings of sympathetic late nineteenth century character.

History:

The Wentworth customs residence was designed by colonial architect James Barnet. The customs store was located on the west bank of the Darling River, near the bridge and handled the largest volume of goods in the State after Sydney and Newcastle, during the 1880's. The house became a private dwelling soon after Federation. The dwelling is a reminder of the large river trade, now completely vanished, to which Wentworth owed much of its prosperity in the nineteenth century.

RECOMMENDATION:

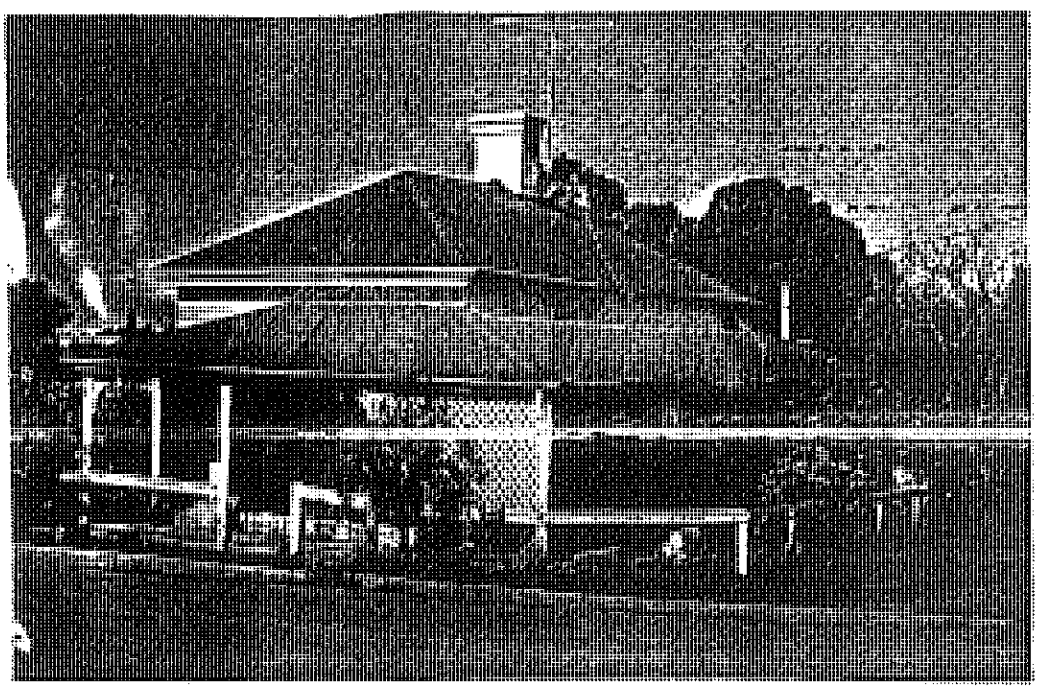
Conservation by inclusion within the Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

National Trust (NSW) Register

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

A1



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 4

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Cookes Butchery
LOCATION:	Corner Adelaide and Darling Streets, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Butchers Shop (Lyric Theatre)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1890
HISTORICAL THEME:	Social Organization and Recreation
CONDITION:	Poor
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A series of three rectangular buildings clad with corrugated iron connected by a corner facade constructed of brick. An original awning that extended the length of the facade has been partially removed. The building exhibits four timber 4/4 double hung windows.

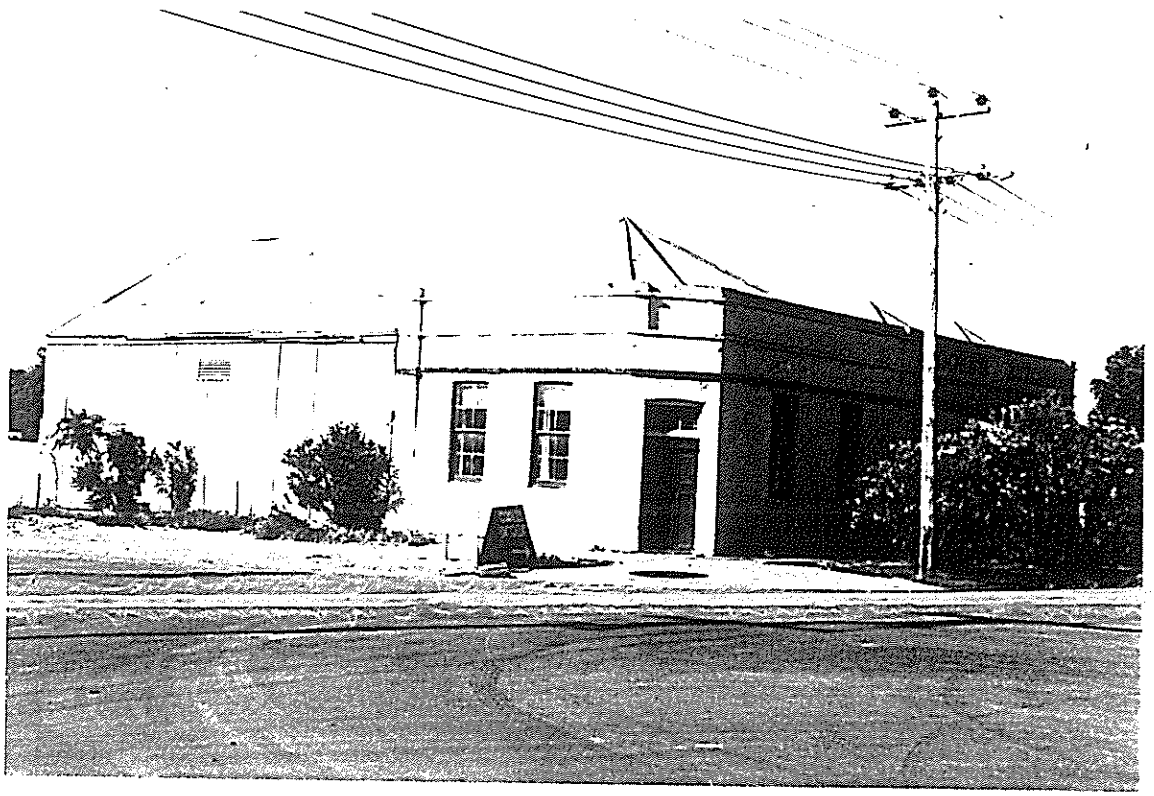
History:

Part of the building is currently used as a butchery. The vacant portion was previously utilized as a theatre. The building is an important component of the Shire's social history.

RECOMMENDATION:

Upgrade facade, reinstate replica awning

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
9099/14



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Royal Hotel
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Hotel
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1860
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Fair, modified
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

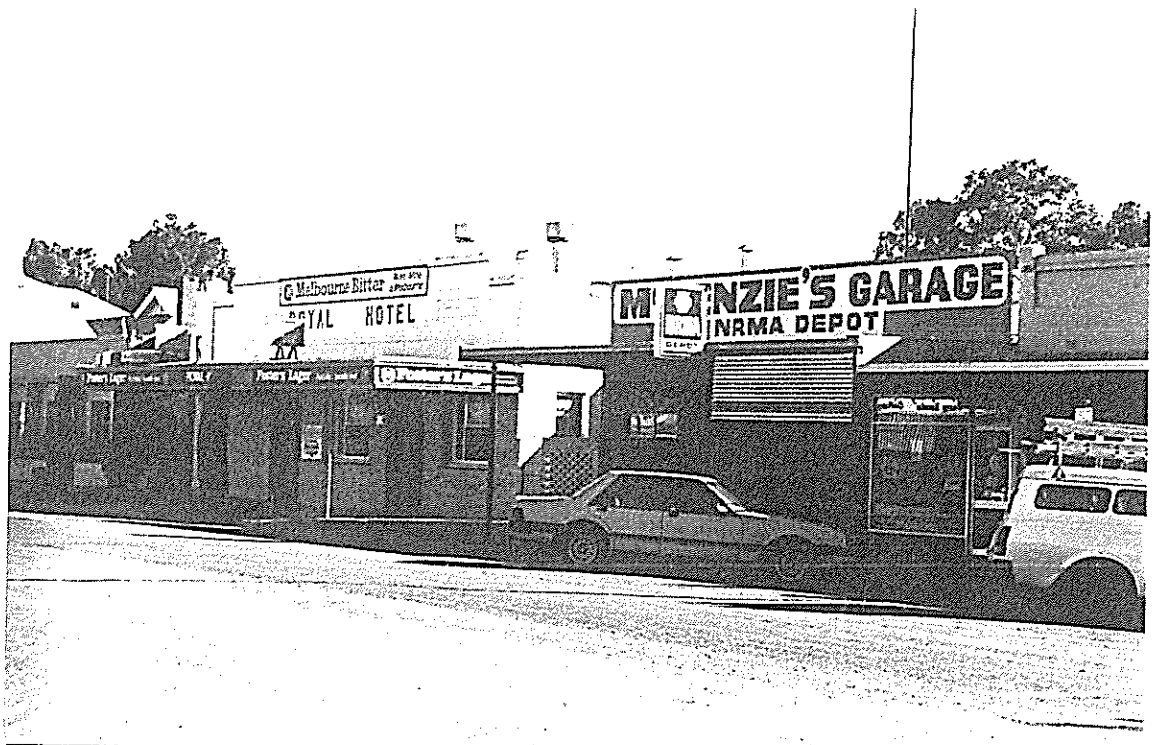
The single storey brick structure has a new brick fascia. However, structures at the rear exhibit the original form of the hotel. The series of buildings belonging to the hotel display hip iron roofs. An iron awning extends from the side of the rear building. The hotel is located near the Wentworth Wharf site.

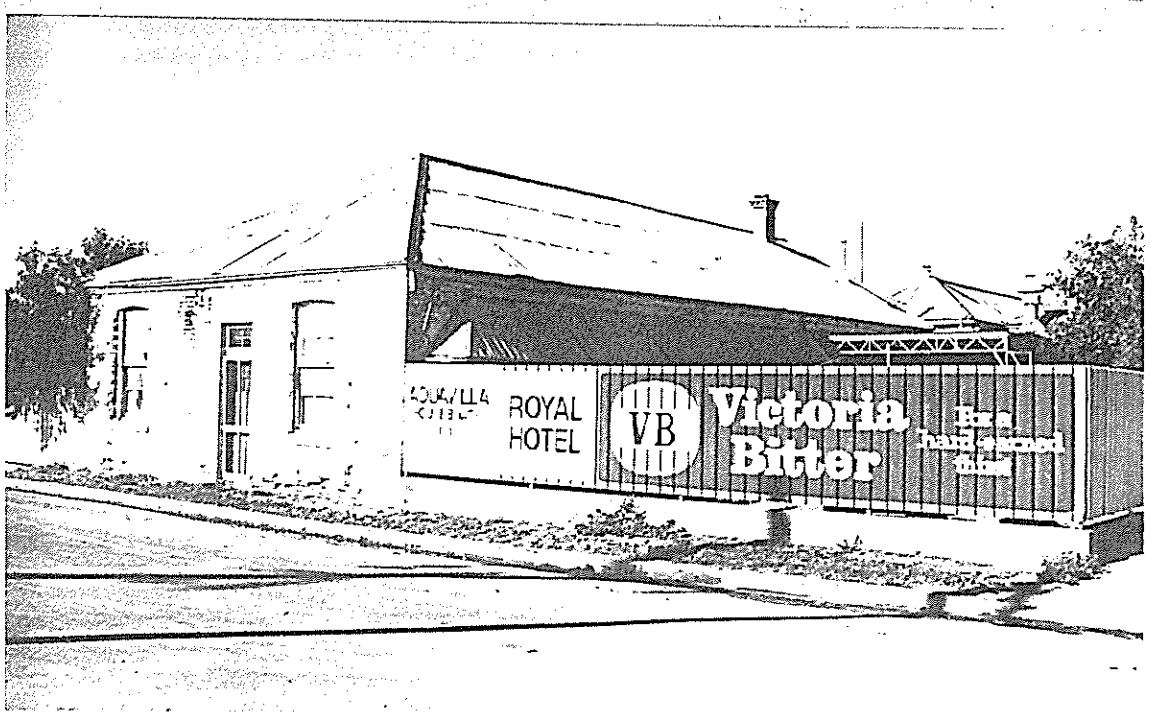
RECOMMENDATION:

Encourage Restoration of the rear portions of the hotel. Views to the wharf site should be opened up to emphasise the historic relationship between the hotel and river activity.

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
9099/11,16





HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 15/12/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 6

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Elders Store (Clarkes Newsagency)
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Stock and Station Agency and Rural Supplies Store (Newsagency)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1890
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commercial
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

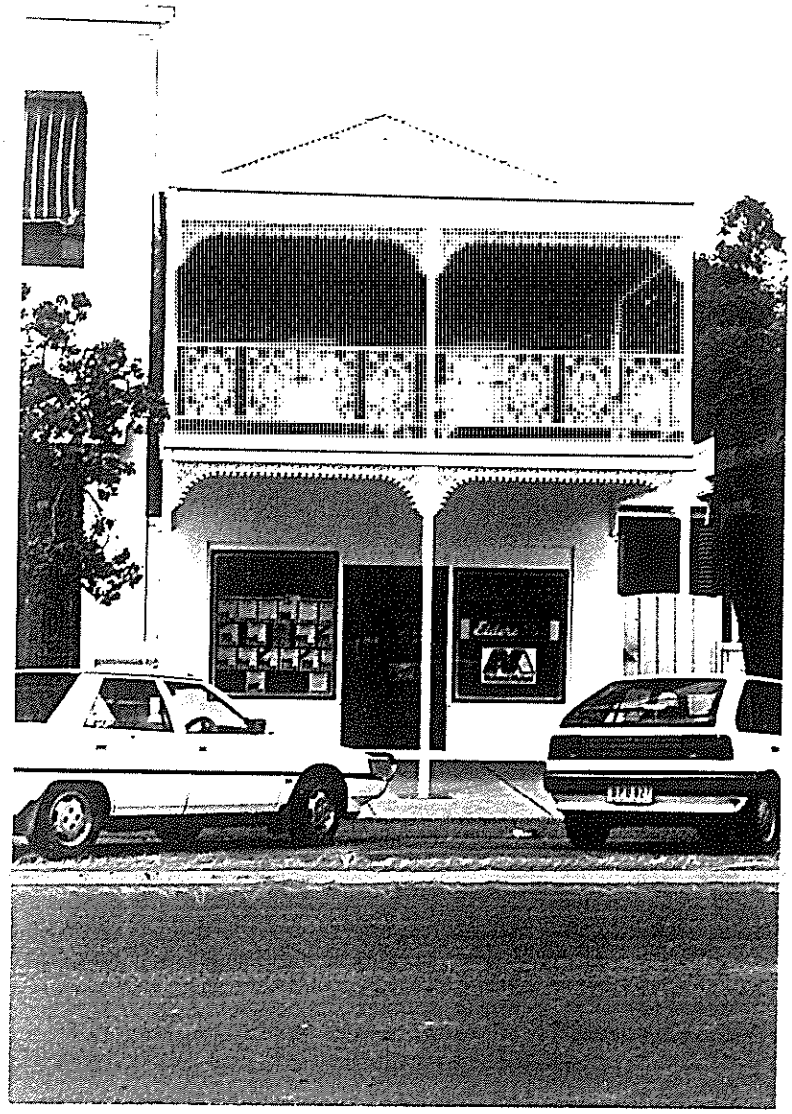
An attractive two storey brick building. The ground level facade is rendered. The balcony is decorated with uncharacteristic and new iron lace spandrels and balustrades. The building is an unusual addition to the main street, which is largely comprised of single storey buildings and plain parapet walls. However, its bulk and style compliment the adjacent two storey building and the new Crown Hotel opposite.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/1



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Home Care Services of New South Wales
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Offices (bank)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A two storey rendered brick building. The ground floor has two large windows with four glass panes edged with obscured glass side panels. A large cast iron gate secures the covered entranceway. The upper storey is dominated by three panelled windows separated by ionic style columns. The indented windows sit on a half wall displaying simple moulded panels. Two large pilasters on either side of the second level support a plain parapet highlighted with a moulded string course. The structure is the only one of its style in the township and adds an unusual dominating feature to the main streetscape.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance, Reinstatement of awning, Investigation and adoption of original colour scheme.

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/2

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 8

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wheeldons Store/Wentworth Drapery (Bowrings)
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Store
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1860
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Fair, modified
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A brick building comprising two storeys identified by a plain crested parapet. A footpath awning is supported by timber posts. An iron rain head is attached to the central post. The existing facade replaces an ornate parapet which displayed a decorative frieze with brackets and festoons and a curved pediment surrounded by two ornate pillars and acroterion. The existing awning exhibits some original elements.

History:

The two stores originally comprised the single Bowrings Store, operated by William Bowring and Co. of Wentworth. The firm operated a large business in drapery, groceries, ironmongery, timber and iron, boots and shoes, and squatters requirements. In addition the firm operated a steamboat trade between South Australia and Wilcannia. Bowring opened a branch store at Mildura in 1888. William Bowring resided in Rendlesham House and was one of the first Mayors of Wentworth. The store was one of the busiest and notable features in Wentworth's main street.

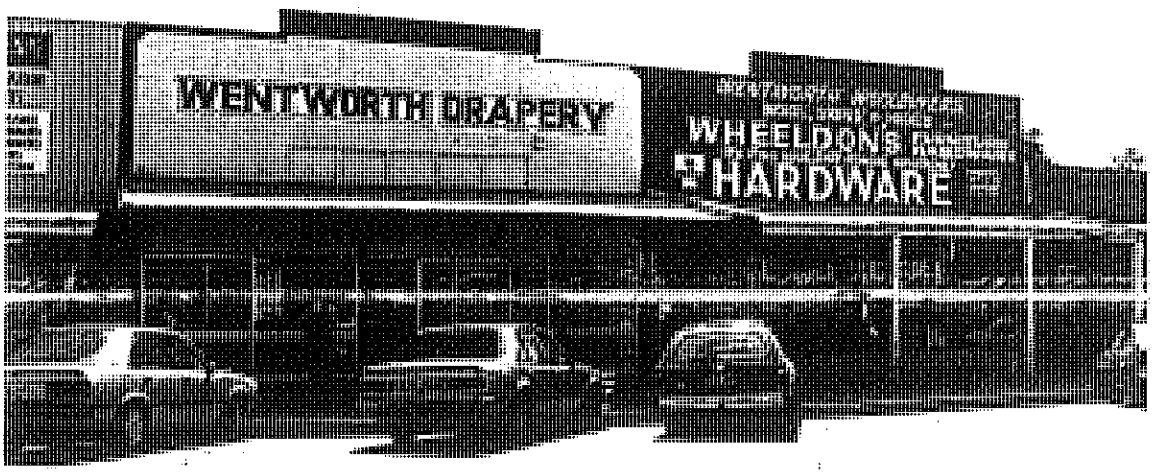
RECOMMENDATION:

Encourage restoration to reinstate a replica of the original parapet and adopt original colour scheme and complimentary signage.

REFERENCES:

The Cyclopedia of Victoria

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/26



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wentworth Hotel
LOCATION:	NE Corner Darling and Sandwych Streets, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Former Hotel
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1861-1937
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Fair, modified
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Interim Conservation Order

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A two storey rendered brick structure with iron hipped roof. The corner entranceway is highlighted by two large angled pillars with an upper level balcony opening, adorned with a curved pediment. The half wall brick balcony is supported by double chamfered posts identical to the lower level supports which are set on capped pedestal blocks. The building is situated on the approach to the Darling Bridge at the junction of Darling and Sandwych Streets. It is a dominant feature in the main streetscape, while contributing to the historic townscape provided by the post office, courthouse and adjacent buildings. However, the completeness of that townscape character is severely compromised by the loss of the Crown Hotel from the south western corner of Darling and Sandwych Streets, diagonally opposite the Wentworth Hotel.

History:

The hotel stands on the site of Wentworths first inn. That first inn was a slab hut construction built in the early 1850's, but was burnt down shortly before 1861, when John McGeorge erected a masonry hotel structure on the site. The existing hotel bears no apparent resemblance to this masonry structure, which was a single storey building surrounded, by a low, wide verandah with corrugated iron roof. From the 1890's, a gradual process of alteration of the 1861 structure took place. The second storey and verandah modifications seen today were erected only in 1937 and dramatically changed the character of the hotel. The hotel played a significant role in the early community life of Wentworth and surrounding region, being used for church services prior to the construction of the various churches, Council meetings and other community service organization meetings and activities. The site is currently under development pressure from the adjacent services club, which is proposing demolition to enable expansion. The original character of the building and significance of the site as supporting one of the first establishments in the town should be incorporated in any future development proposal.

RECOMMENDATION:

There is little apparent physical connection between the existing hotel structure and that of its forerunners and hence the historical relevance of the item relates to the site rather than the building. Accordingly, conservation of the building is not essential, however, its incorporation into any redevelopment of the site is strongly encouraged. In any event, it is essential that the townscape qualities of the Darling Street Sandwych Street intersection be reinforced by the retention of a significant built form on the Wentworth Hotel site, whether that be through the use of the existing structure of by other aesthetically acceptable means.

REFERENCES:

Tulloch D 'The historic town of Wentworth'; J Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6184/4

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ESTABLISHED
1860
WENTWORTH
HOTEL
FOSTERS LAGER
CARLTON DRAUGHT

COACH HOUSE RES
FOSTERS LAGER

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Shops and Offices
LOCATION:	35 Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Shops and Offices
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1910
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

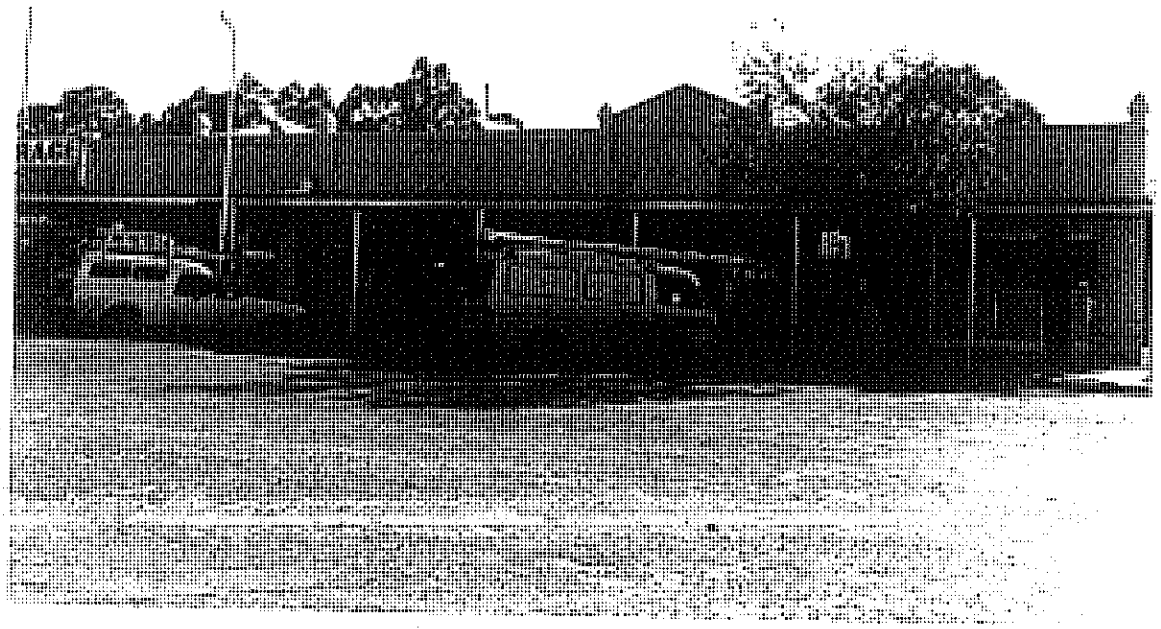
A series of single storey shops/offices connected by a continuous masonry facade with awning. The parapet has a central triangular pediment bordered by capped piers. The facade has been altered by removal of some original window casements and replacement of the original awning. The shops are representative of the early main street facades and their scale and design provide a suitable basis for guiding other main street facade restoration and infill development.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance. Encourage reinstatement of replica of original awning. Rendering with original colour scheme.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

9099/15



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 14/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Post Office Residence
LOCATION:	Sandwych Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Post Master's Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1900
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communication
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Recorded, National Trust Register

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A large attractive single storey brick dwelling with gambrel roof. The corrugated iron clad roof extends over a front and half side verandah supported by turned timber posts. The verandah is adorned with curved timber braces and square timber balustrade. Side lights and fan light surround the panelled door. The brick chimney stacks have teracotta chimney pots. The dwelling is located at the rear of the post office and faces Sandwych Street. The high aluminum fence is out of character with the dwelling and largely prevents a view of the residence.

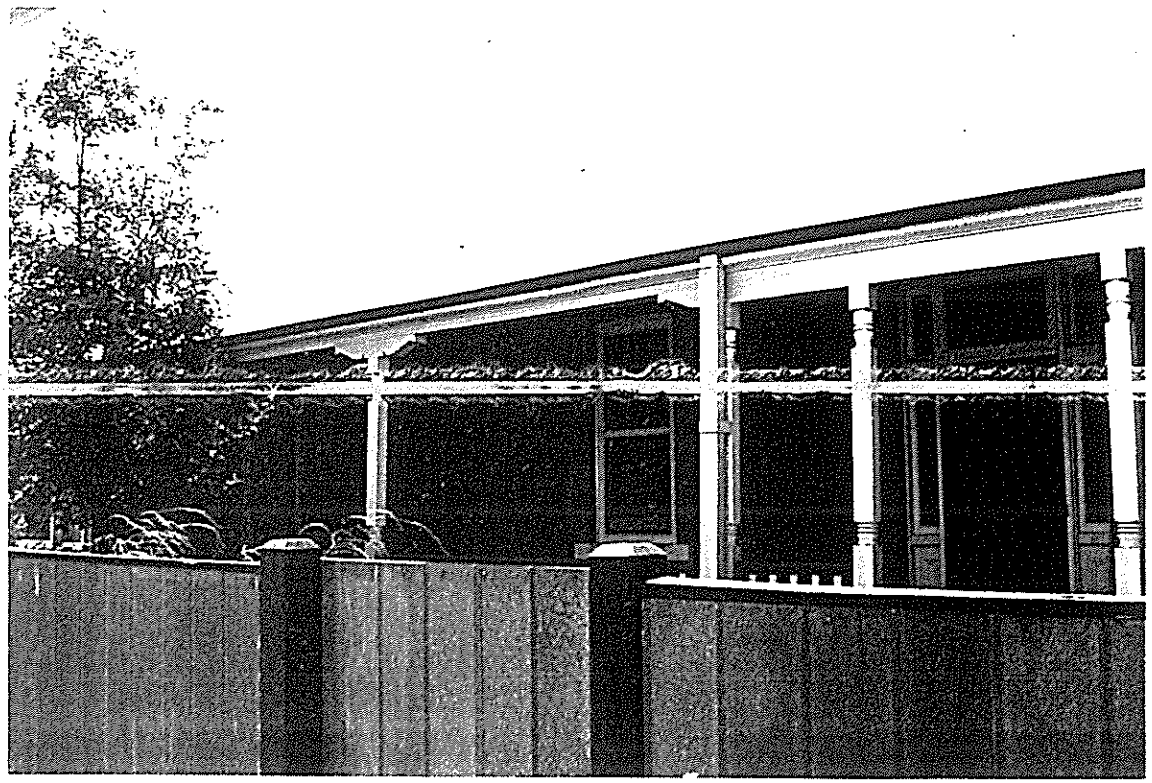
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion within Local Environmental Plan
Erection of a fence more sympathetic with the architectural style of the building

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/22-24

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88



APPENDIX 5

ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE ITEMS WITHIN THE WENTWORTH SHIRE

KNOWN AND PREDICTED ABORIGINAL SITES IN PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AREAS OF THE WENTWORTH SHIRE

No	ITEM NAME	LOCATION
1	Wharf Site	Darling River, Wentworth
2	Kilmarnock	Wharf Street, Wentworth
3	Former Customs Officers Residence	Cnr Darling/Wharf Street, Wentworth
4	Cookes Butchery	Cnr Adelaide/Darling Street, Wentworth
5	Royal Hotel	Darling Street, Wentworth
6	Elders Store	Darling Street, Wentworth
7	Home Care Services	Darling Street, Wentworth
8	Wentworth Drapery	Darling Street, Wentworth
9	Wentworth Hotel	Cnr Darling/Sandwych Street, Wentworth
10	Shops and Offices	Darling Street, Wentworth
11	Post Office Residence	Sandwych Street, Wentworth
12	Wentworth Post Office	Cnr Darling/Sandwych Street, Wentworth
13	Courthouse	Darling Street, Wentworth
13a	Police Station	Darling Street, Wentworth
14	The Rectory	Darling Street, Wentworth
15	Church (St John the Evangelist)	Darling Street, Wentworth
16	Primary School (Wentworth Central)	Darling Street, Wentworth
17	Dwelling	135 Darling Street, Wentworth
18	Dwelling	Cnr Perry/Darling Street, Wentworth
19	Gaol	Beverley Street, Wentworth
20	Rendlesham House	Cnr Sandwych/Adams Street, Wentworth
21	Yampa	Sandwych Street, Wentworth
22	Dwelling	36 Sandwych Street, Wentworth
23	Dwelling	25 Sandwych Street, Wentworth
24	Dwelling	29 Sandwych Street, Wentworth
25	Dwelling	34 Adelaide Street, Wentworth
26	Captain Sturt Hotel	Adams Street, Wentworth
27	Town Hall	Adelaide Street, Wentworth
28	Church (St Francis Xavier Catholic)	Short Street, Wentworth
29	St Francis Xavier Primary School	Short Street, Wentworth
30	Church (St Andrews Uniting)	Short Street, Wentworth
31	'The Nunnery'	Cadell Street, Wentworth
32	School (St Ignatius)	Cadell Street, Wentworth
33	'Crangs'	Cadell Street, Wentworth
34	Dwelling	40 Cadell Street, Wentworth
35	Dwelling	35 Cadell Street, Wentworth
36	River Junctions (Hawdons Ford)	Cadell Street, Wentworth
37	Dwelling	85 Cadell Street, Wentworth
38	Lock No 10	Cadell Street, Wentworth
39	Lockmasters' Residence	Cadell Street, Wentworth
40	Wentworth Cemetery	Cadell Street, Wentworth
41	Snaggy Bend Aboriginal Burial Ground	South West of Wentworth
42	P S Ruby	Fotherby Park, Wentworth
43	Dwelling	11 Armstrong Street, Wentworth
44	Dwelling	13 Armstrong Street, Wentworth
45	Water Tower	Wentworth (rear of hospital)
46	Telegraph Hotel	Cnr Tarcoola/McKinley Street, Pooncarie
47	Police Station (Pooncarie)	Tarcoola Street, Pooncarie
48	Pooncarie Post Office	Tarcoola Street, Pooncarie
49	Pooncarie Cemetery	Menindee Road, Pooncarie
50	State Bank	Cnr Tapio/Neilpo Street, Dareton
51	Dwelling	Lot 545, Silver City Highway, Buronga
52	Mildura Bridge	Sturt Highway, Buronga
53	Paddlewhell Hotel	Sturt Highway, Gol Gol
54	Gol Gol Cemetary	Cnr William/Bligh Street, Gol Gol
55	Williamsville Homestead	Williamsville, Curlwaa
56	Bellevue Homestead	Bridge Road, Curlwaa
57	Abbottsford Bridge	Bridge Road, Williamsville

58	Dwelling	Lot Section 6, Delta Road, Curlwaa
59	Curlwaa School	Delta Road, Curlwaa
60	Curlwaa Store	Delta Road, Curlwaa
61	Dwelling	Lot 5, Delta Road, Curlwaa
62	Curlwaa Memorial Hall	Memorial Road, Curlwaa
63	Sulphur Shed	Church Road, Curlwaa
64	Dwelling	Channel Road, Curlwaa
65	Tara Downs Homestead	Tara Downs Station, Anabranch
66	Wilpitara Homestead	Tara Downs Station, Anabranch
67	Tapio Homestead	Pooncarie Road, Wentworth
68	Avoca Homestead	Pomona Road
69	Avoca Station Outbuildings	Pomona Road
70	Sturts Billabong	Lower Darling Road
71	Hazeldell Homestead	Lower Darling Road
72	Para Homestead	Lower Darling Road
73	Para Woolshed and Shearers Quarters	Lower Darling Road
74	Burtundy Homestead	Wentworth Road
75	Moorna Woolshed	Renmark Road, Wentworth
76	Moorna Homestead	Renmark Road, Wentworth
77	Moorna Cemetery	Renmark Road, Wentworth
78	Moorna Town Site	Moorna Station, Wentworth
79	Wangamma Homestead	Scaddings Bridge Road
80	Lake Victoria Homestead	Lake Victoria Station
81	Nampoo Homestead	Nampoo Station
82	Cal Lal Post Office	Cal Lal Road, Cal Lal
83	Cal Lal Police Station, Courthouse	Cal Lal Road, Cal Lal
84	Warakoo Homestead	Cal Lal Road
85	Kulkurna Homestead	Cal Lal Road
86	Kulkurna Woolshed	Cal Lal Road
87	Kulkurna Lock-Up	Cal Lal Road
88	Tareena Homestead	Cal Lal Road
89	Provincial Border Obelisk	SA/NSW border
90	Rufus Creek/Massacre Burial Site	Lake Victoria
91	Noola Homestead	Noola Station
92	Nulla Nulla Woolshed	Redmark Road
93	Nulla Nulla Homestead	Renmark Road
94	Anabranch Hall	Anabranch Road, Anabranch
95	Bunnerungie Homestead	Silver City Highway, Anabranch
96	Bunnerungie Bridge	Silver City Highway, Anabranch
97	Bunnerungie Cemetery	Silver City Highway, Anabranch
98	Irrigation Pipe	Silver City Highway, Anabranch
99	Windamingle Homestead	Silver City Highway, Anabranch
100	Willow Point Shearers Quarters	Willow Point Station, Anabranch
101	Lethero School	Wentworth Road, Pooncarie
102	Lethero Hall	Wentworth Road, Pooncarie
103	Carstairs Homestead	High Darling Road
104	Tarcoola Homestead	Wentworth Road, Pooncarie
105	Mallara Homestead	Top Darling Road, Pooncarie
106	Mallara Woolshed	Top Darling Road, Pooncarie
107	Darling Bridge	Menindee Road, Pooncarie
108	Heatherbloom School	Polia Road, Pooncarie
109	Moorara Homestead	Menindee Road, Pooncarie
110	Wreck of the Rodney	Menindee Road, Pooncarie
111	Nearie Lake Nature Reserve	North of Wentworth
112	Lake Nitchie Area/Skeleton	North of Wentworth
113	Tarawi Mallee Area	North West of Lake Victoria
114	Willandra Lakes Region	North of Balranald
115	Mallee Cliffs National Park	East of Mildura

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wharf Site, Wentworth
LOCATION:	Public Recreation Reserve R84700, Darling River, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Recreation Reserve (Wharf)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	Wharf constructed 1879, demolished 1983
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communication
CONDITION:	Demolished
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The wharf site is marked by an attractive grassed recreation area and a [illegible] identifying the historical significance of the site. Large River Red Gums and remnant wharf timber surround the Cairn. The park provides a mooring point for visiting houseboats.

History:

The Wentworth wharf was constructed of local timber in 1879, enabling the mooring, maintenance, loading and unloading of riverboats and steamships until their demise in the mid 20th century. The wharf provided the focus of activity for the Wentworth township and shire and enabled Wentworth to operate as one of Australia's busiest ports. The site marks one of the most significant eras in Wentworths history and should preserved.

RECOMMENDATION:

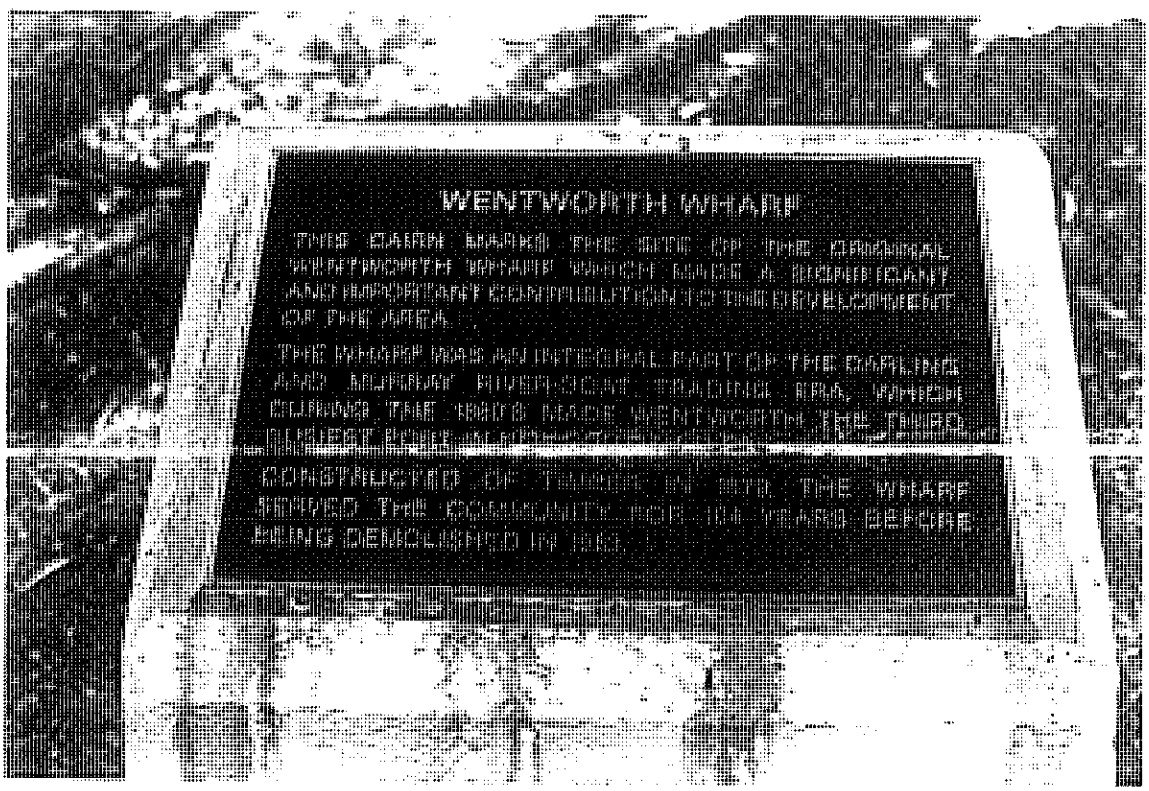
Maintain the site as a picnic and mooring facility. Provide additional educational information about the wharf. Investigate the possibility of reconstructing a portion of the wharf as a replica of its original form to provide historical, educational and tourist significance to the site.

REFERENCES:

Drage W & Page M, 'Riverboats and Rivermen'
Bowring W J, 'History of Wentworth'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

9099/19



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 29/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Kilmarnock
LOCATION:	Wharf Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1910
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The brick dwelling has a long bullnose verandah supported by turned wooden posts. The front doorway has decorative timber casing with top and side lights. The building is largely hidden from view by a tall fence. The dwelling provides an attractive addition to the commercial focus of the township.

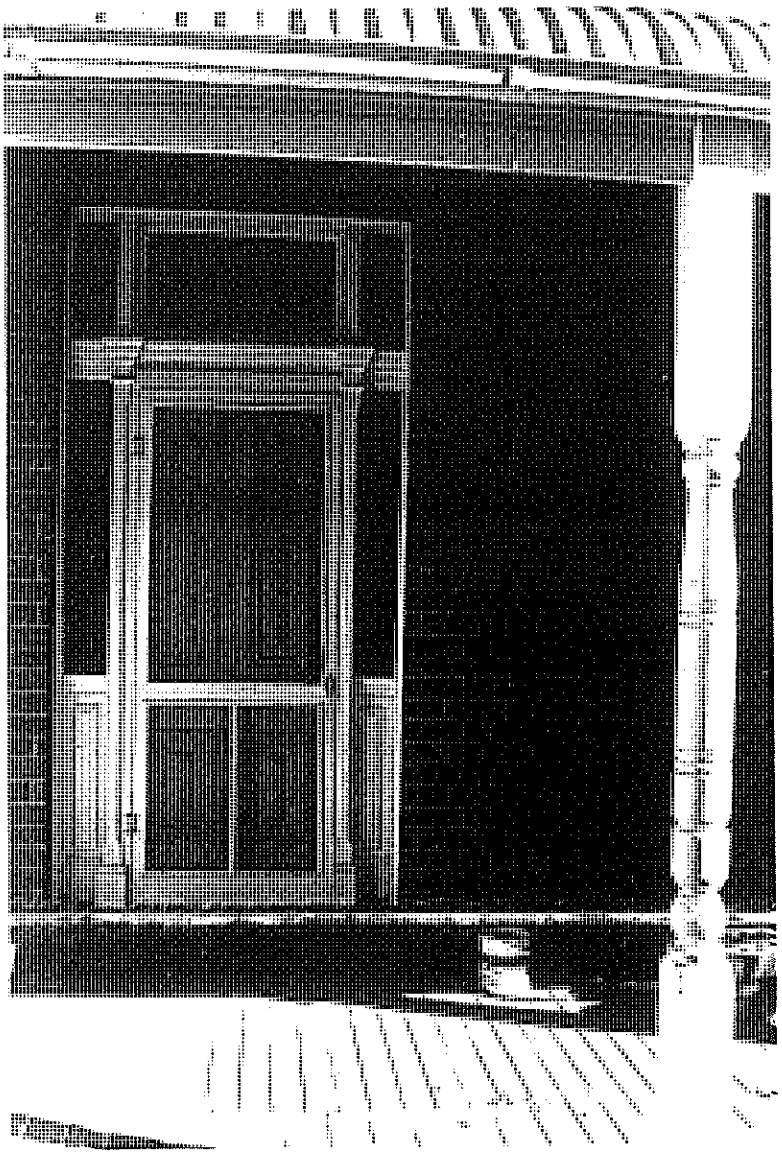
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance of facade in existing form
Encourage lowering of fence

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

9099/18



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 17/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Former Customs Officers Residence
LOCATION:	S E Corner Darling and Wharf Streets, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Customs Officers Residence
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1884
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and communication
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Classified by National Trust (NSW)

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single storey weatherboard cottage with a hipped iron roof and a separate straight pitched iron verandah to two sides on squared chamfered posts. One cast iron verandah bracket remains. A squat rendered chimney stack protrudes from the roof. The dwelling is sited on an intersection opposite two other buildings of sympathetic late nineteenth century character.

History:

The Wentworth customs residence was designed by colonial architect James Barnet. The customs store was located on the west bank of the Darling River, near the bridge and handled the largest volume of goods in the State after Sydney and Newcastle, during the 1880's. The house became a private dwelling soon after Federation. The dwelling is a reminder of the large river trade, now completely vanished, to which Wentworth owed much of its prosperity in the nineteenth century.

RECOMMENDATION:

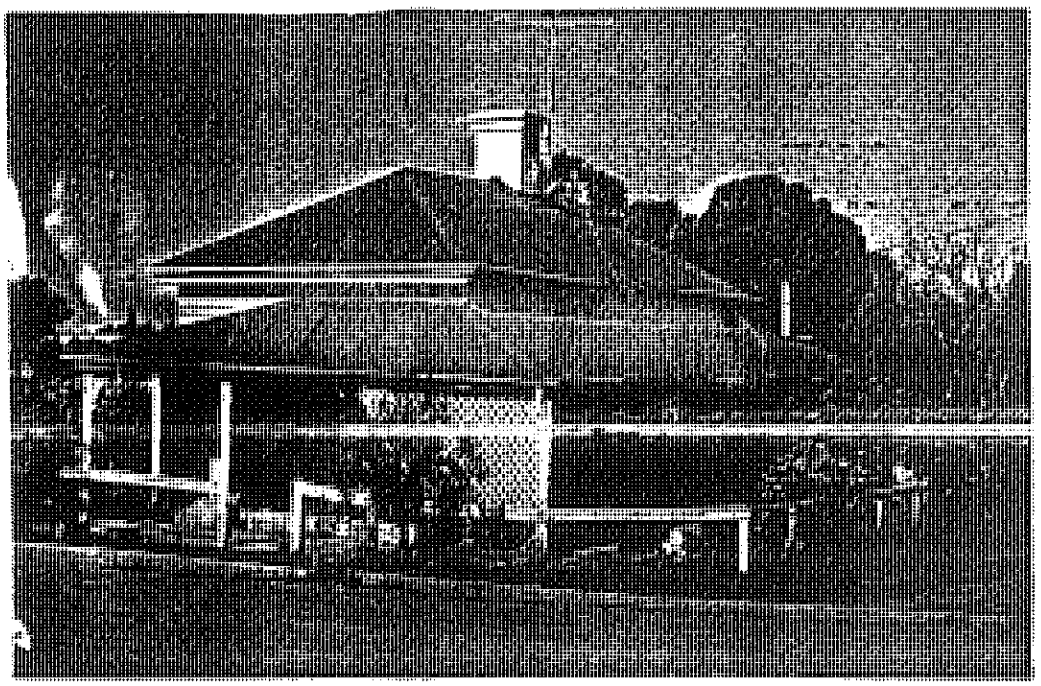
Conservation by inclusion within the Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

National Trust (NSW) Register

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

A1



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 4

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Cookes Butchery
LOCATION:	Corner Adelaide and Darling Streets, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Butchers Shop (Lyric Theatre)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1890
HISTORICAL THEME:	Social Organization and Recreation
CONDITION:	Poor
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A series of three rectangular buildings clad with corrugated iron connected by a corner facade constructed of brick. An original awning that extended the length of the facade has been partially removed. The building exhibits four timber 4/4 double hung windows.

History:

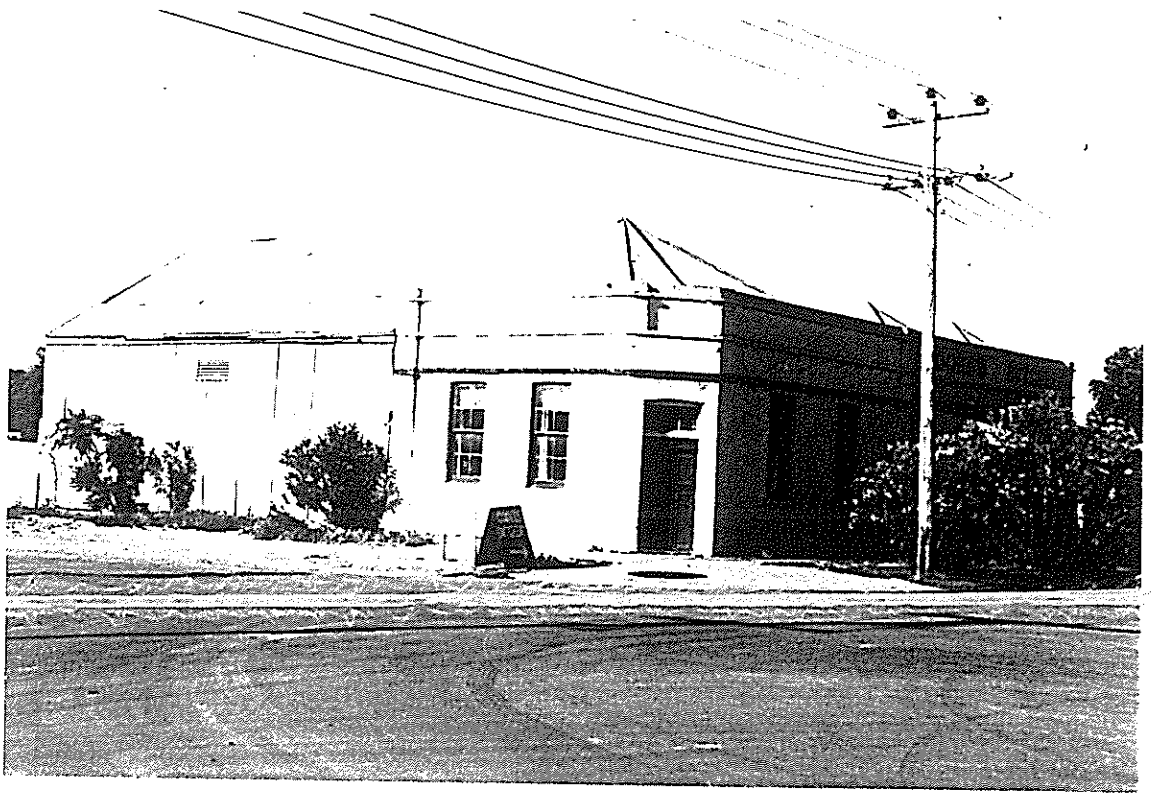
Part of the building is currently used as a butchery. The vacant portion was previously utilized as a theatre. The building is an important component of the Shire's social history.

RECOMMENDATION:

Upgrade facade, reinstate replica awning

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

9099/14



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Royal Hotel
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Hotel
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1860
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Fair, modified
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

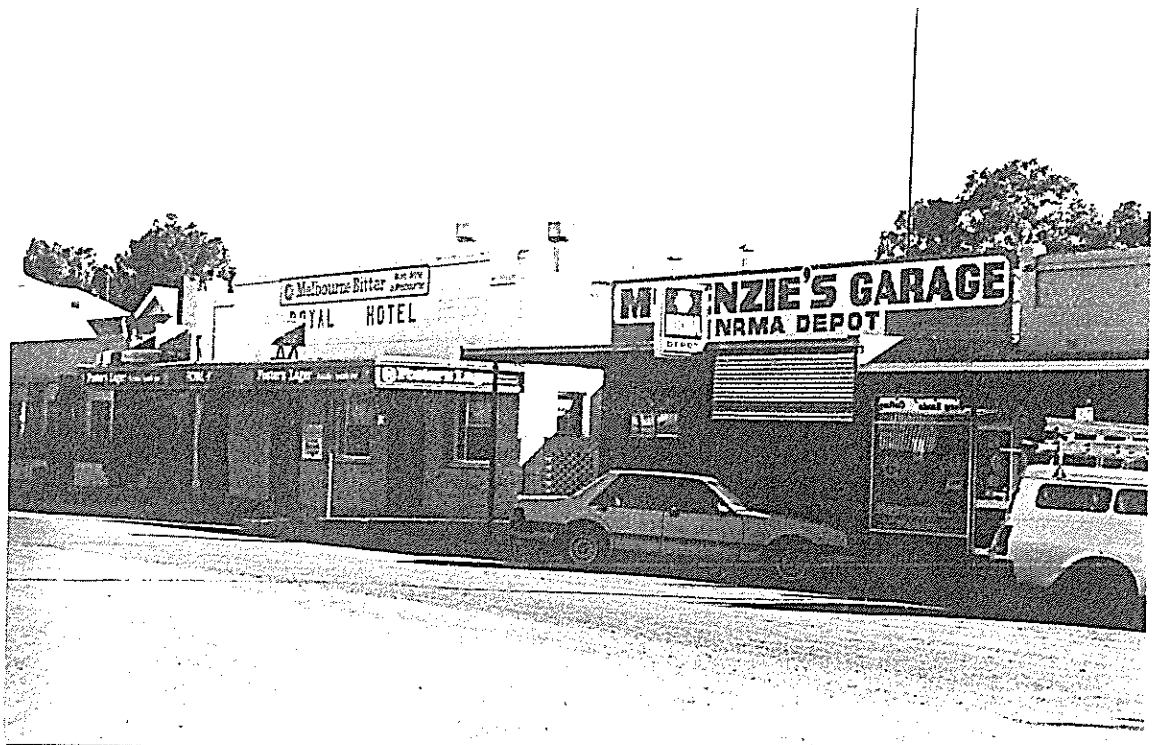
The single storey brick structure has a new brick fascia. However, structures at the rear exhibit the original form of the hotel. The series of buildings belonging to the hotel display hip iron roofs. An iron awning extends from the side of the rear building. The hotel is located near the Wentworth Wharf site.

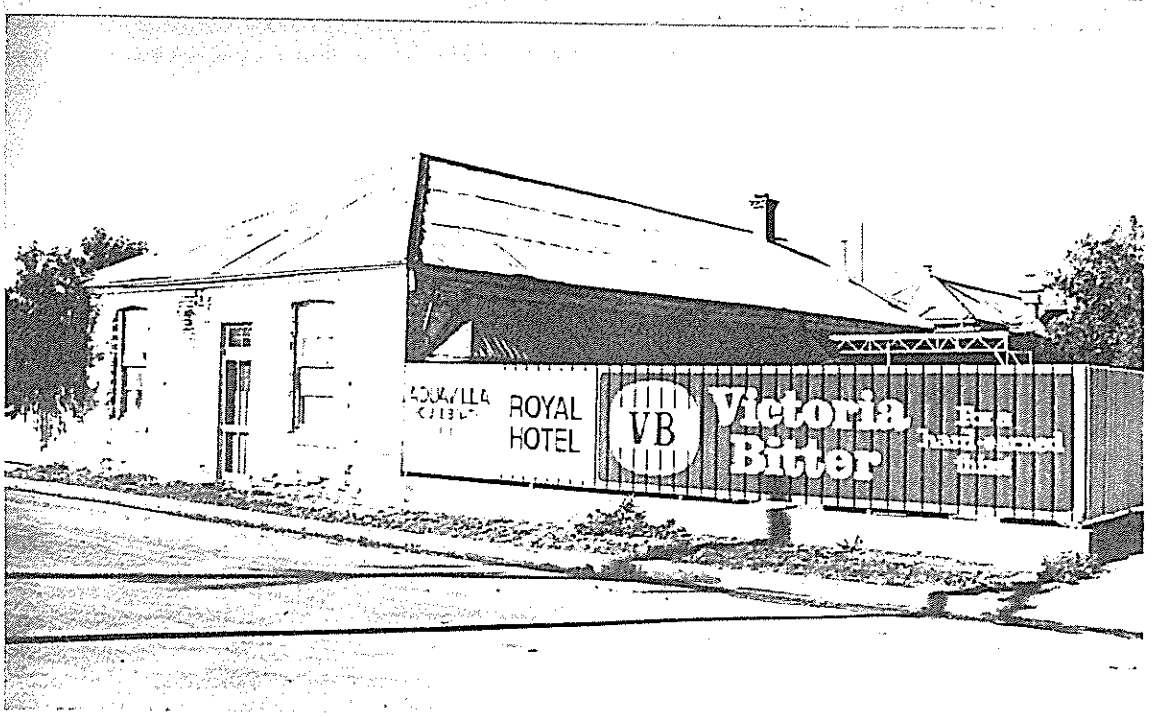
RECOMMENDATION:

Encourage Restoration of the rear portions of the hotel. Views to the wharf site should be opened up to emphasise the historic relationship between the hotel and river activity.

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
9099/11,16





HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 15/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Elders Store (Clarkes Newsagency)
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Stock and Station Agency and Rural Supplies Store (Newsagency)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1890
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commercial
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

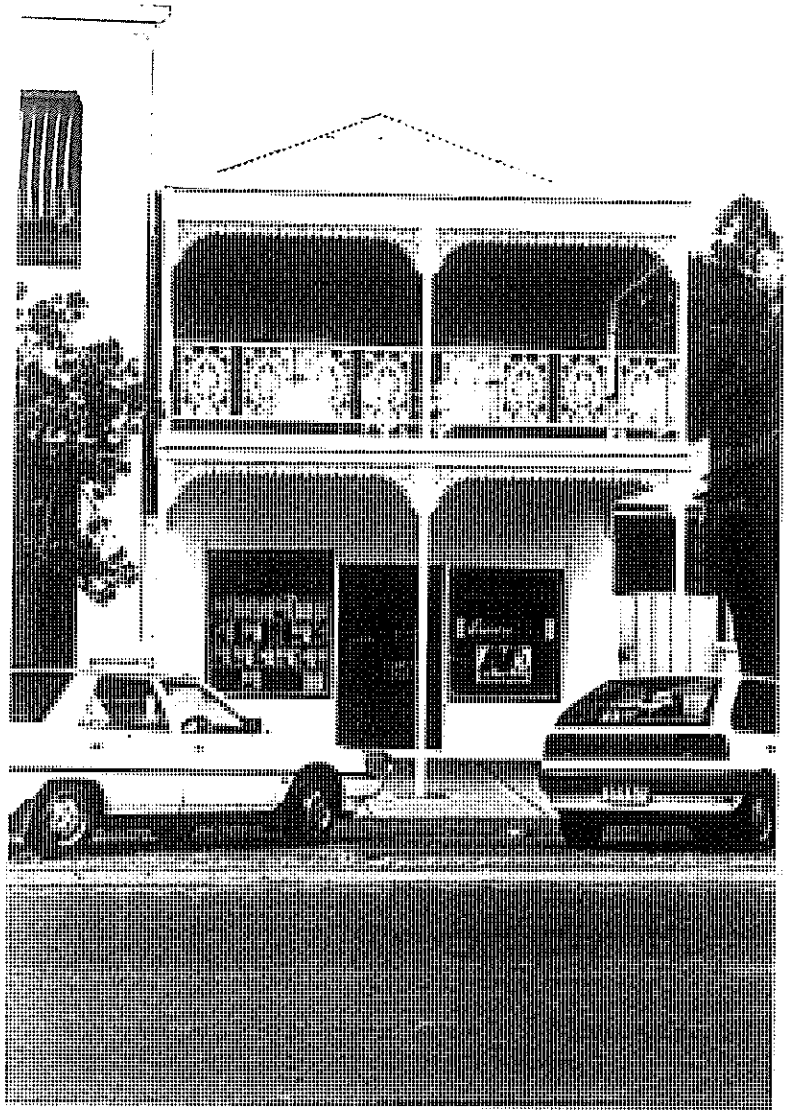
An attractive two storey brick building. The ground level facade is rendered. The balcony is decorated with uncharacteristic and new iron lace spandrels and balustrades. The building is an unusual addition to the main street, which is largely comprised of single storey buildings and plain parapet walls. However, its bulk and style compliment the adjacent two storey building and the new Crown Hotel opposite.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/1



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Home Care Services of New South Wales
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Offices (bank)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A two storey rendered brick building. The ground floor has two large windows with four glass panes edged with obscured glass side panels. A large cast iron gate secures the covered entranceway. The upper storey is dominated by three panelled windows separated by ionic style columns. The indented windows sit on a half wall displaying simple moulded panels. Two large pilasters on either side of the second level support a plain parapet highlighted with a moulded string course. The structure is the only one of its style in the township and adds an unusual dominating feature to the main streetscape.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance, Reinstatement of awning, Investigation and adoption of original colour scheme.

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/2

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wheeldons Store/Wentworth Drapery (Bowrings)
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Store
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1860
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Fair, modified
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A brick building comprising two storeys identified by a plain crested parapet. A footpath awning is supported by timber posts. An iron rain head is attached to the central post. The existing facade replaces an ornate parapet which displayed a decorative frieze with brackets and festoons and a curved pediment surrounded by two ornate pillars and acroterion. The existing awning exhibits some original elements.

History:

The two stores originally comprised the single Bowrings Store, operated by William Bowring and Co. of Wentworth. The firm operated a large business in drapery, groceries, ironmongery, timber and iron, boots and shoes, and squatters requirements. In addition the firm operated a steamboat trade between South Australia and Wilcannia. Bowring opened a branch store at Mildura in 1888. William Bowring resided in Rendlesham House and was one of the first Mayors of Wentworth. The store was one of the busiest and notable features in Wentworth's main street.

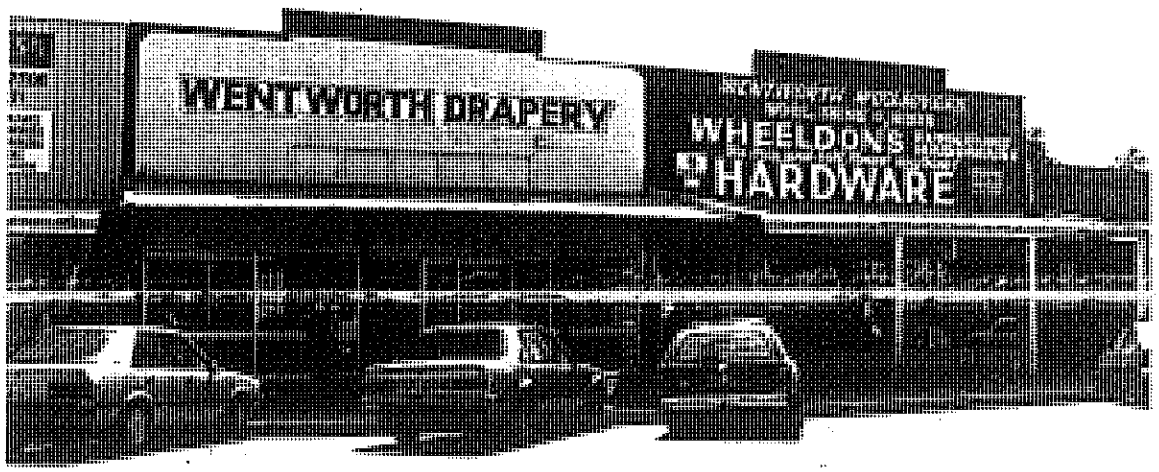
RECOMMENDATION:

Encourage restoration to reinstate a replica of the original parapet and adopt original colour scheme and complimentary signage.

REFERENCES:

The Cyclopedia of Victoria

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/26



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wentworth Hotel
LOCATION:	NE Corner Darling and Sandwych Streets, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Former Hotel
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1861-1937
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Fair, modified
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Interim Conservation Order

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A two storey rendered brick structure with iron hipped roof. The corner entranceway is highlighted by two large angled pillars with an upper level balcony opening, adorned with a curved pediment. The half wall brick balcony is supported by double chamfered posts identical to the lower level supports which are set on capped pedestal blocks. The building is situated on the approach to the Darling Bridge at the junction of Darling and Sandwych Streets. It is a dominant feature in the main streetscape, while contributing to the historic townscape provided by the post office, courthouse and adjacent buildings. However, the completeness of that townscape character is severely compromised by the loss of the Crown Hotel from the south western corner of Darling and Sandwych Streets, diagonally opposite the Wentworth Hotel.

History:

The hotel stands on the site of Wentworths first inn. That first inn was a slab hut construction built in the early 1850's, but was burnt down shortly before 1861, when John McGeorge erected a masonry hotel structure on the site. The existing hotel bears no apparent resemblance to this masonry structure, which was a single storey building surrounded, by a low, wide verandah with corrugated iron roof. From the 1890's, a gradual process of alteration of the 1861 structure took place. The second storey and verandah modifications seen today were erected only in 1937 and dramatically changed the character of the hotel. The hotel played a significant role in the early community life of Wentworth and surrounding region, being used for church services prior to the construction of the various churches, Council meetings and other community service organization meetings and activities. The site is currently under development pressure from the adjacent services club, which is proposing demolition to enable expansion. The original character of the building and significance of the site as supporting one of the first establishments in the town should be incorporated in any future development proposal.

RECOMMENDATION:

There is little apparent physical connection between the existing hotel structure and that of its forerunners and hence the historical relevance of the item relates to the site rather than the building. Accordingly, conservation of the building is not essential, however, its incorporation into any redevelopment of the site is strongly encouraged. In any event, it is essential that the townscape qualities of the Darling Street Sandwych Street intersection be reinforced by the retention of a significant built form on the Wentworth Hotel site, whether that be through the use of the existing structure of by other aesthetically acceptable means.

REFERENCES:

Tulloch D 'The historic town of Wentworth'; J Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6184/4

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ESTABLISHED
1860
WENTWORTH
HOTEL
FOSTERS LAGER
CARLTON DRAUGHT

FOSTERS LAGER

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 10

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Shops and Offices
LOCATION:	35 Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Shops and Offices
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1910
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

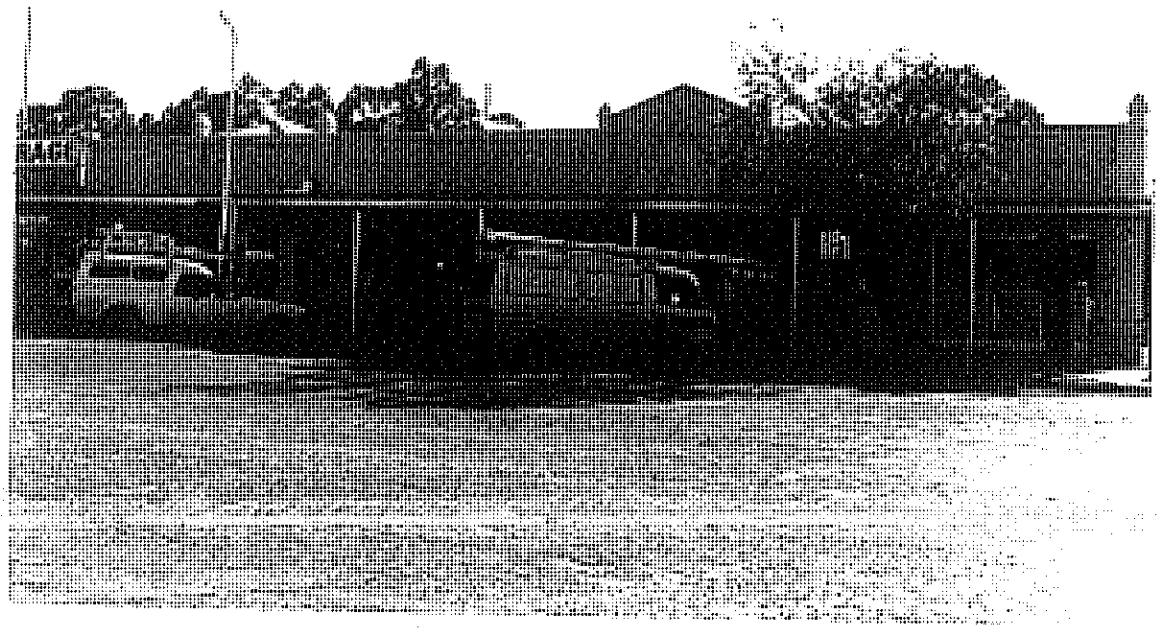
A series of single storey shops/offices connected by a continuous masonry facade with awning. The parapet has a central triangular pediment bordered by capped piers. The facade has been altered by removal of some original window casements and replacement of the original awning. The shops are representative of the early main street facades and their scale and design provide a suitable basis for guiding other main street facade restoration and infill development.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance. Encourage reinstatement of replica of original awning. Rendering with original colour scheme.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

9099/15



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 14/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Post Office Residence
LOCATION:	Sandwych Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Post Master's Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1900
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communication
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Recorded, National Trust Register

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

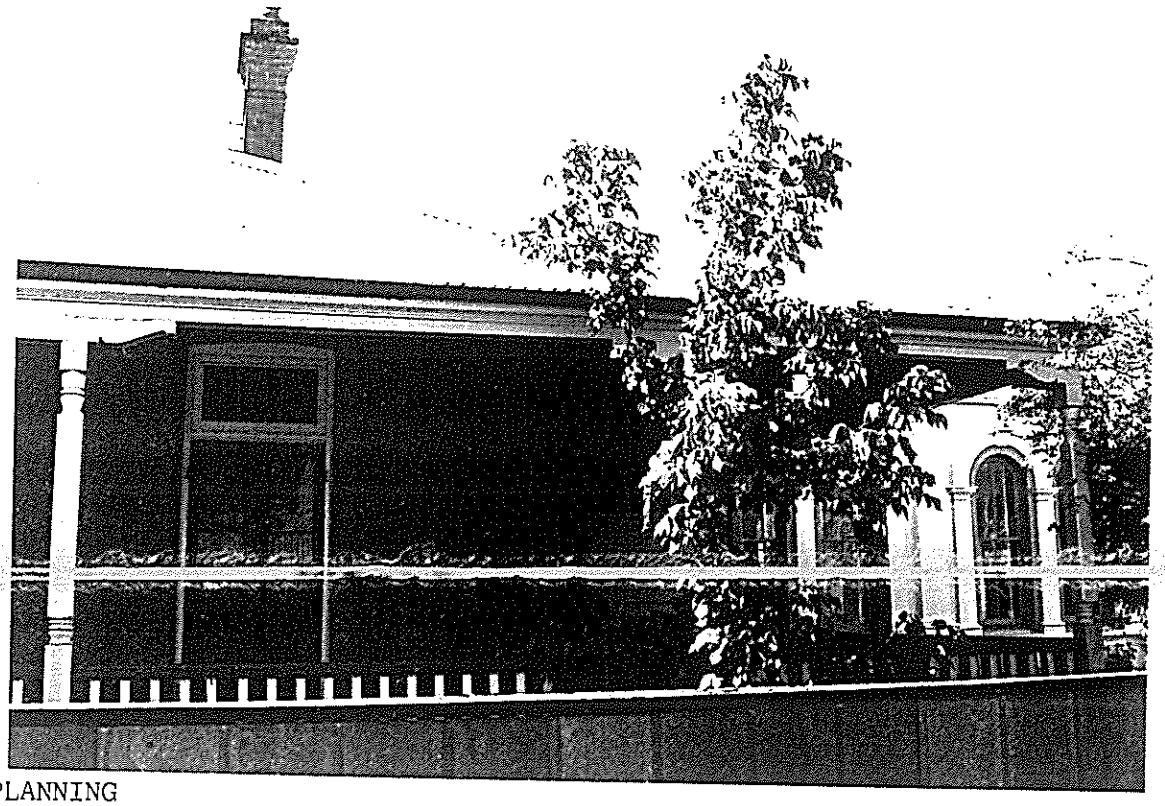
A large attractive single storey brick dwelling with gambrel roof. The corrugated iron clad roof extends over a front and half side verandah supported by turned timber posts. The verandah is adorned with curved timber braces and square timber balustrade. Side lights and fan light surround the panelled door. The brick chimney stacks have teracotta chimney pots. The dwelling is located at the rear of the post office and faces Sandwych Street. The high aluminum fence is out of character with the dwelling and largely prevents a view of the residence.

RECOMMENDATION:

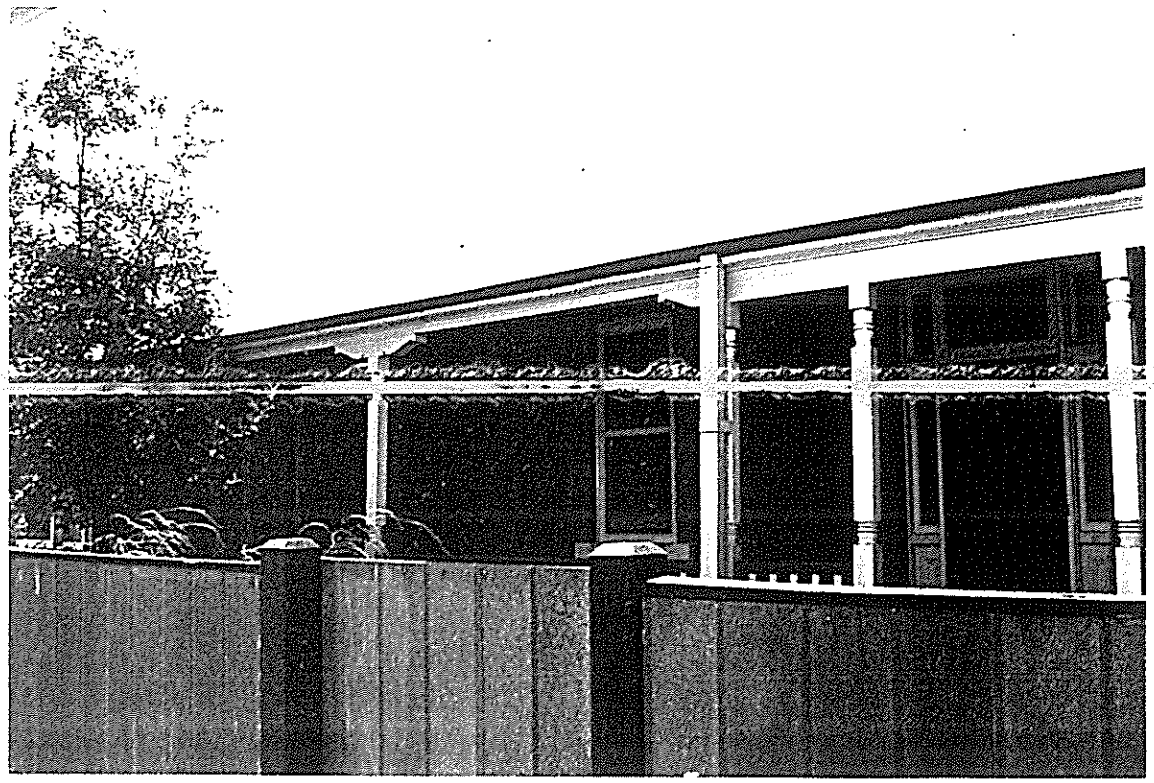
Conservation by inclusion within Local Environmental Plan
Erection of a fence more sympathetic with the architectural style of the building

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/22-24



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88



ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wentworth Post Office
LOCATION:	NW Corner Darling and Sandwych Streets
USE (Former Uses):	Post Office
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1895
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communication
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Recorded, National Trust Register (NSW)

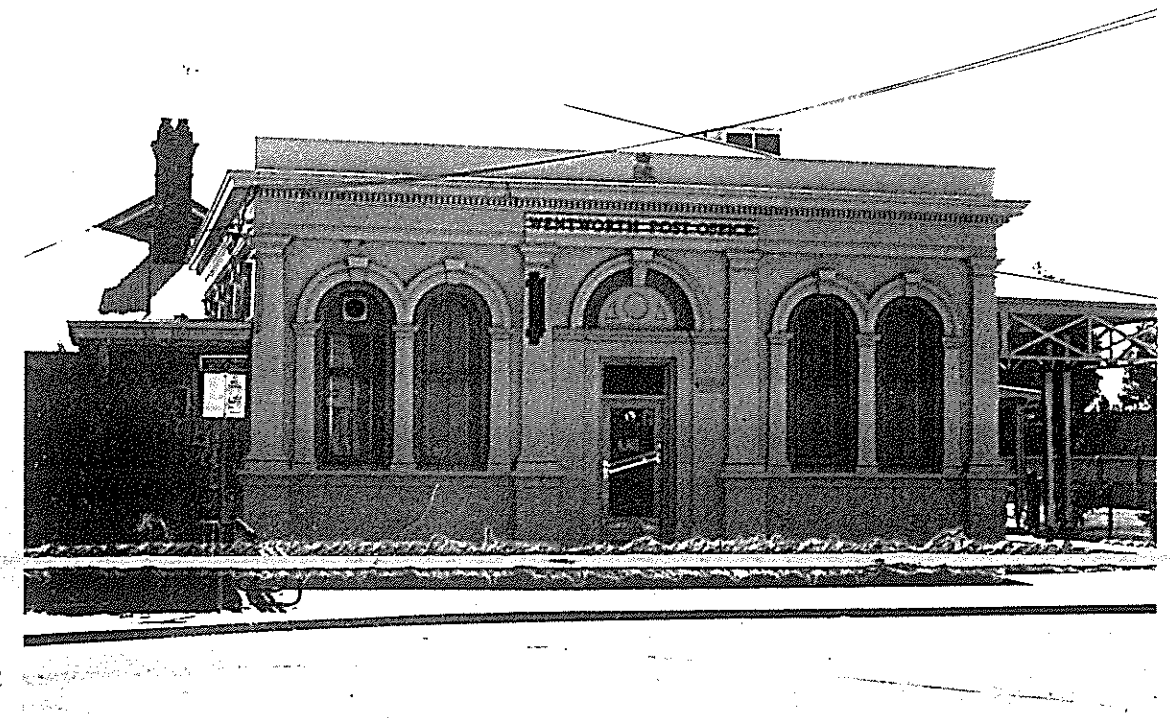
STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

An ornate single storey [illegible] brick structure displaying a series of double round headed windows. These windows are hooded with stilted arches with keystones and divided by doric style pilasters. The building corners and entranceway are bordered with tall doric pilasters. The entranceway is highlighted by a large romanesque arch with keystone surrounding a moulded panel. A plain parapet wall sits above a mouldered string course adorned with dentils. A side awning is supported by chamfered posts and decorated with a timber criss-cross frieze. The post office is one of the most prominent structures in Wentworth and importantly compliments the surrounding heritage items of Darling Street.

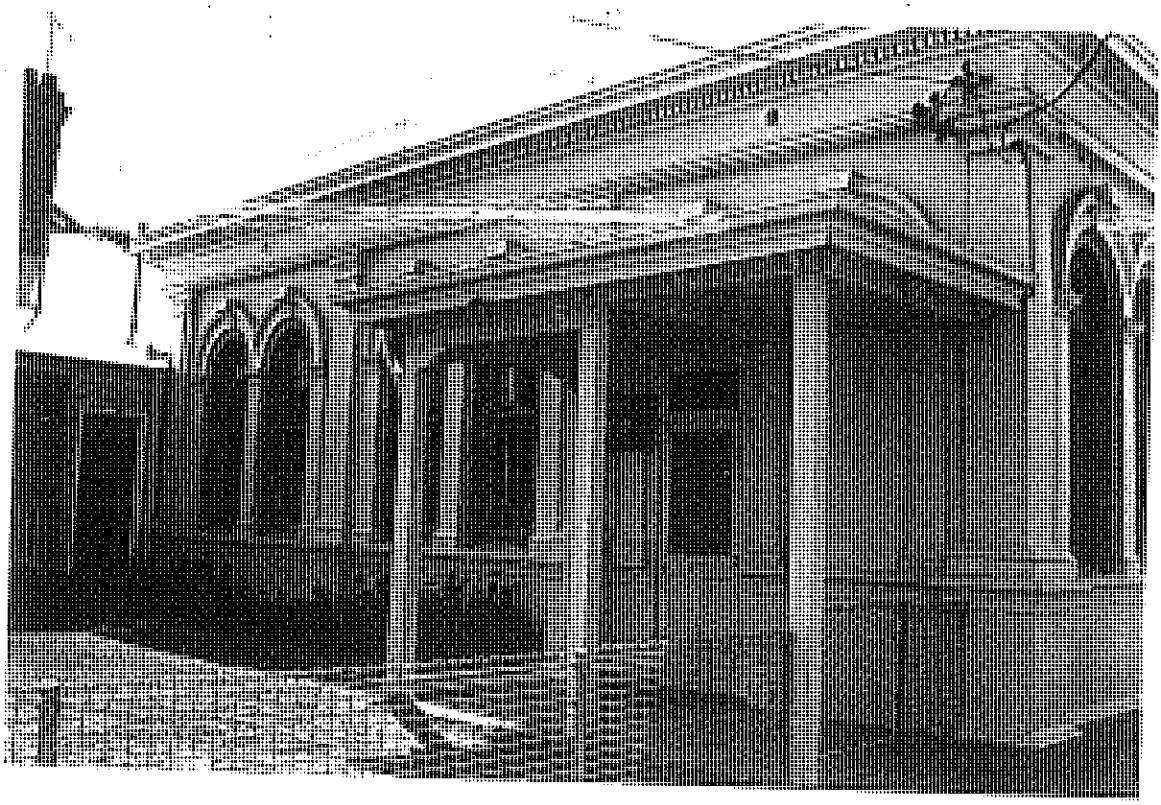
RECOMMENDATION:

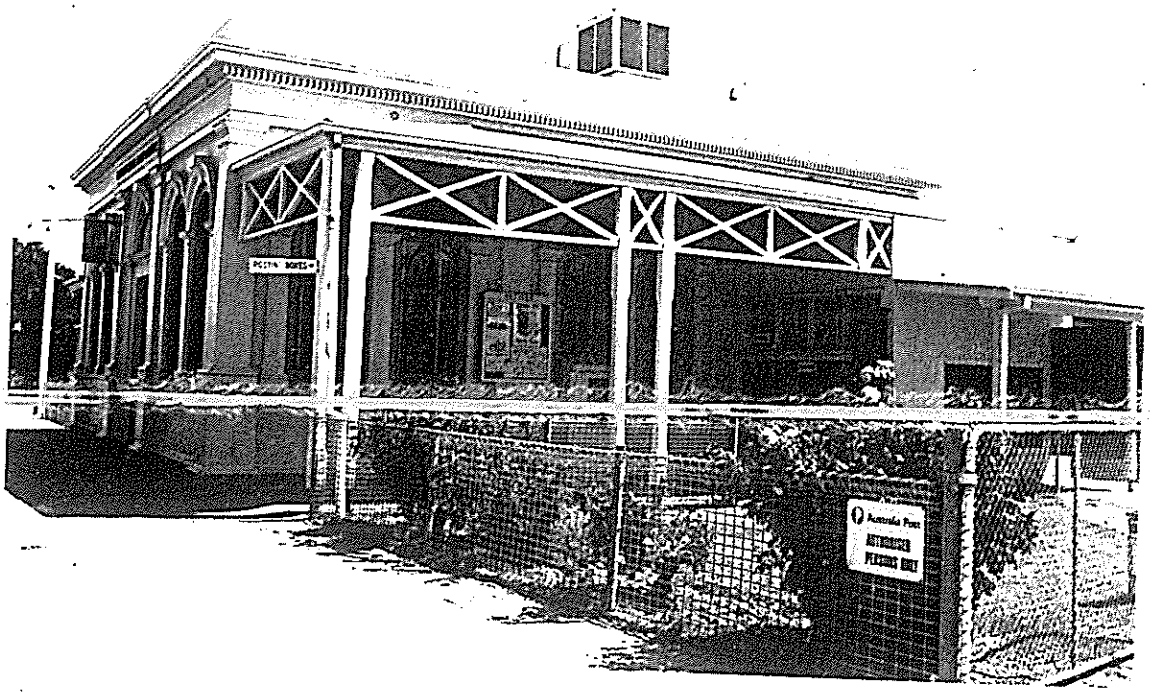
Conservation by inclusion within Local Environmental Plan

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/16,18,19



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88




POSTAL BOXES

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Courthouse
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Courthouse
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1863
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Very Good; recently restored
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Recorded, National Trust Register; Item of the National Trust

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

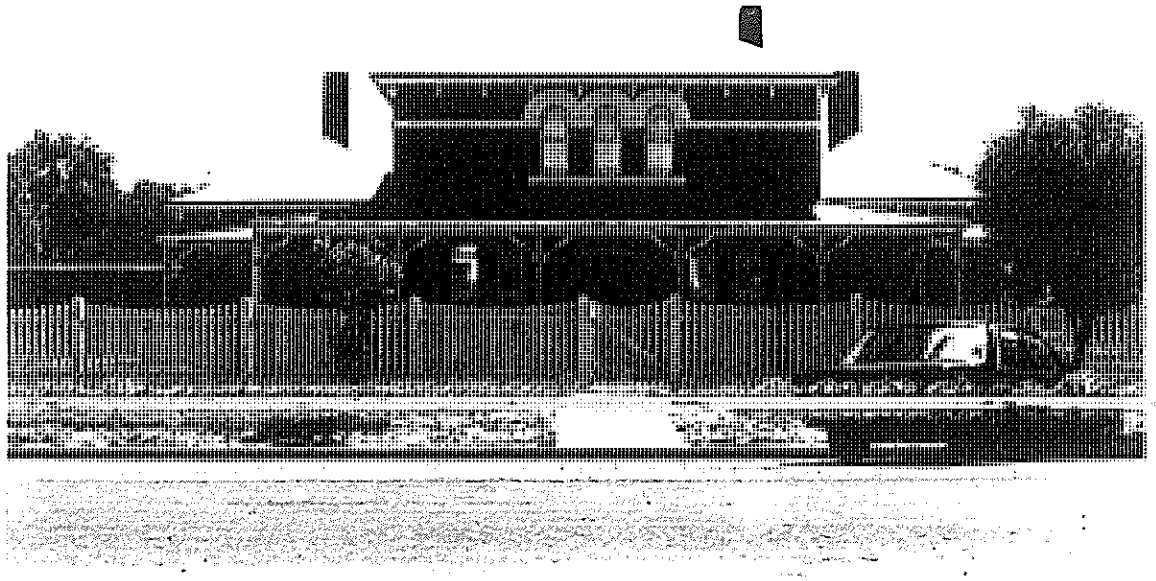
The building comprises a two storey structure with hip roof, complimented at the rear with identical single storey extensions displaying the same roof line. A straight pitched verandah surrounds the building, supported by chamfered posts adorned with elegant timber brackets. The upper level features three round headed windows highlighted by stucco hood trim. The ground floor windows are adorned in the same manner. The front entrance door consists of double circular panels and topped with a large fan light. The courthouse is bounded by a picket fence which traditionally adorned most properties in Darling Street, north of Sandwych Street. The structure is the dominant administrative building in the Shire and a vital component of the streetscape complimenting surrounding heritage items including the Post Office and St Johns Church.

RECOMMENDATION:

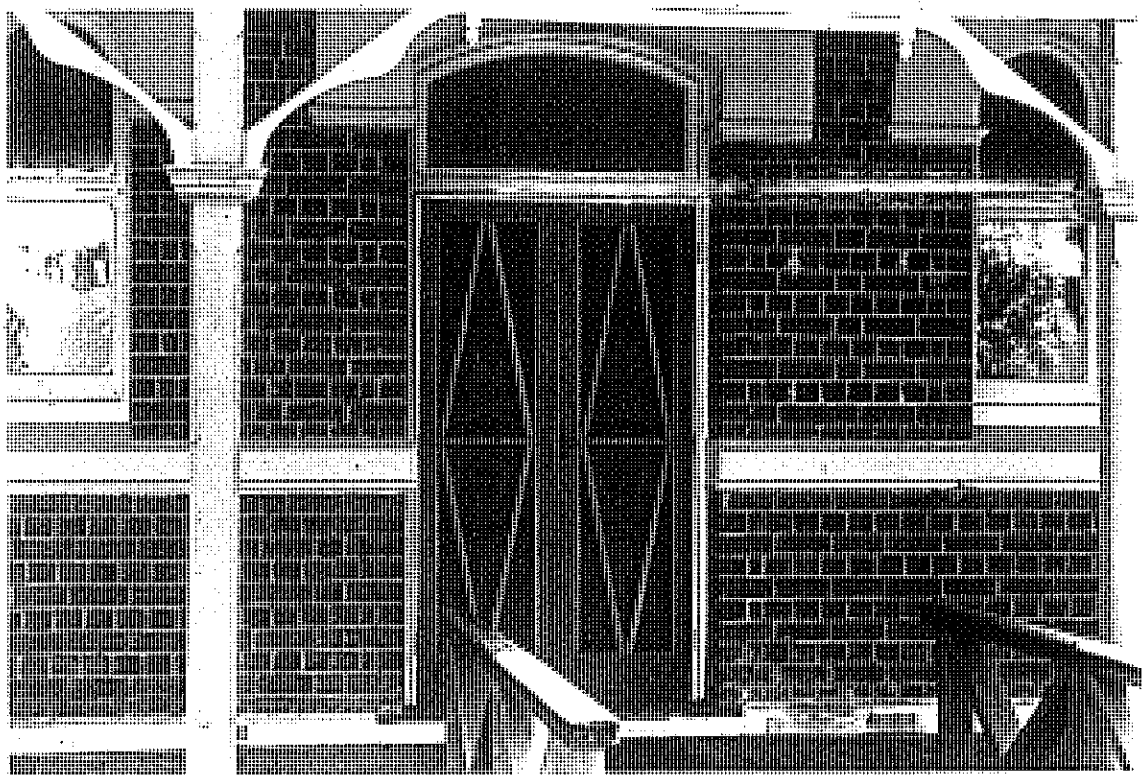
Conservation by inclusion within the Local Environmental Plan

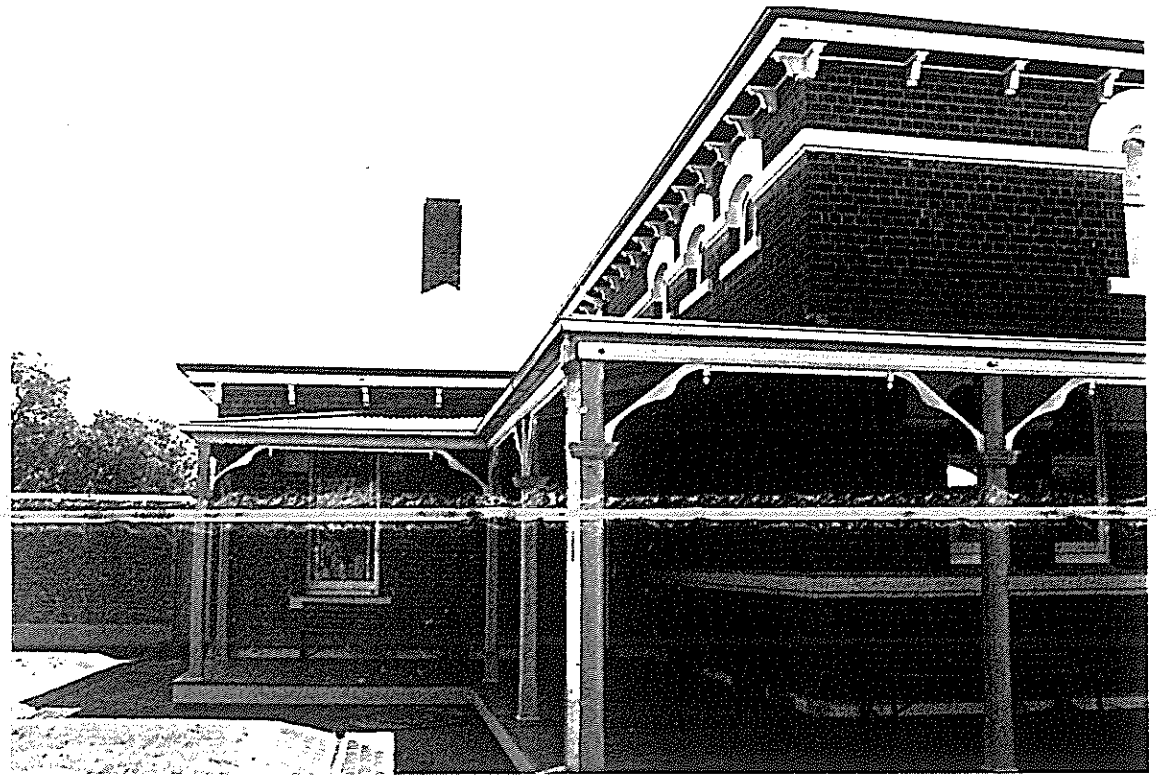
REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/11-13



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88





SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 13a

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Police Station
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Police Station
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community facilities
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

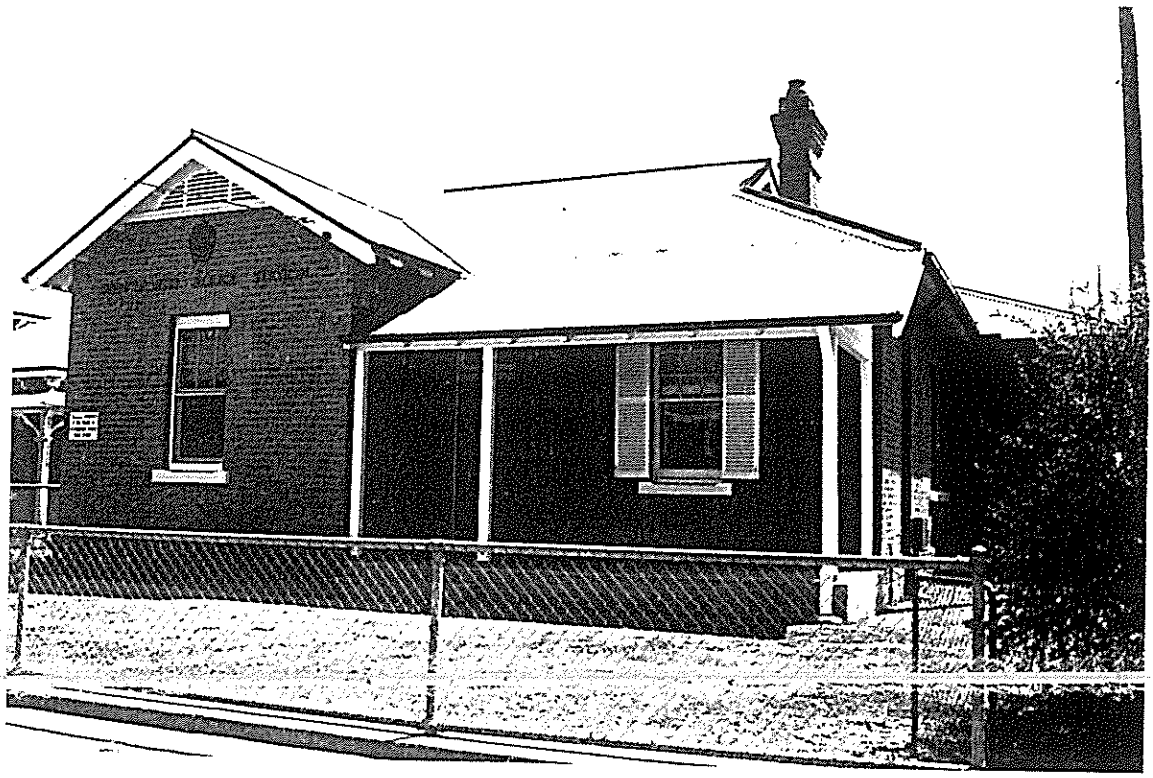
STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single storey brick building with high gambrel roof and extended front gable. A front porch is supported by timber chamfered posts. The structure complements the adjacent courthouse and emphasises the administrative function of north Darling Street.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/8



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 14/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	The Rectory
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Anglican Rectory
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1873
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services & Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Permanent Conservation Order

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A large single storey rendered brick building with corrugated iron roof and [illegible] around verandah supported by cylindrical columns on cement blocks. The four brick chimney stacks have slender cast iron pots. The dwelling is in poor structural condition and requires renovation. The verandah has been modified and does not represent the original design. The Dwelling provides an important buffer between the adjacent 'St John the Evangelist' Anglican Church and the Wentworth Services Club. The dwelling is one of only a few early brick residences in Wentworth. The Rectory provides a valuable addition and eastern boundary to the historic precinct of Darling Street which incorporates the Courthouse, Post Office, Police Station, Anglican Church and Primary School.

History:

The Rectory was commissioned to be built by Rev William Cocks who was sent to Wentworth in 1871 to establish a church in the Parish. The impressive Anglican Church was erected in 1872 and a contract let in 1873 to construct the adjacent Rectory. When completed it was reported as the largest dwelling house in the district. Rev Cocks acted as architect and contractor and building materials were supplied from the local brickworks or imported by barge.

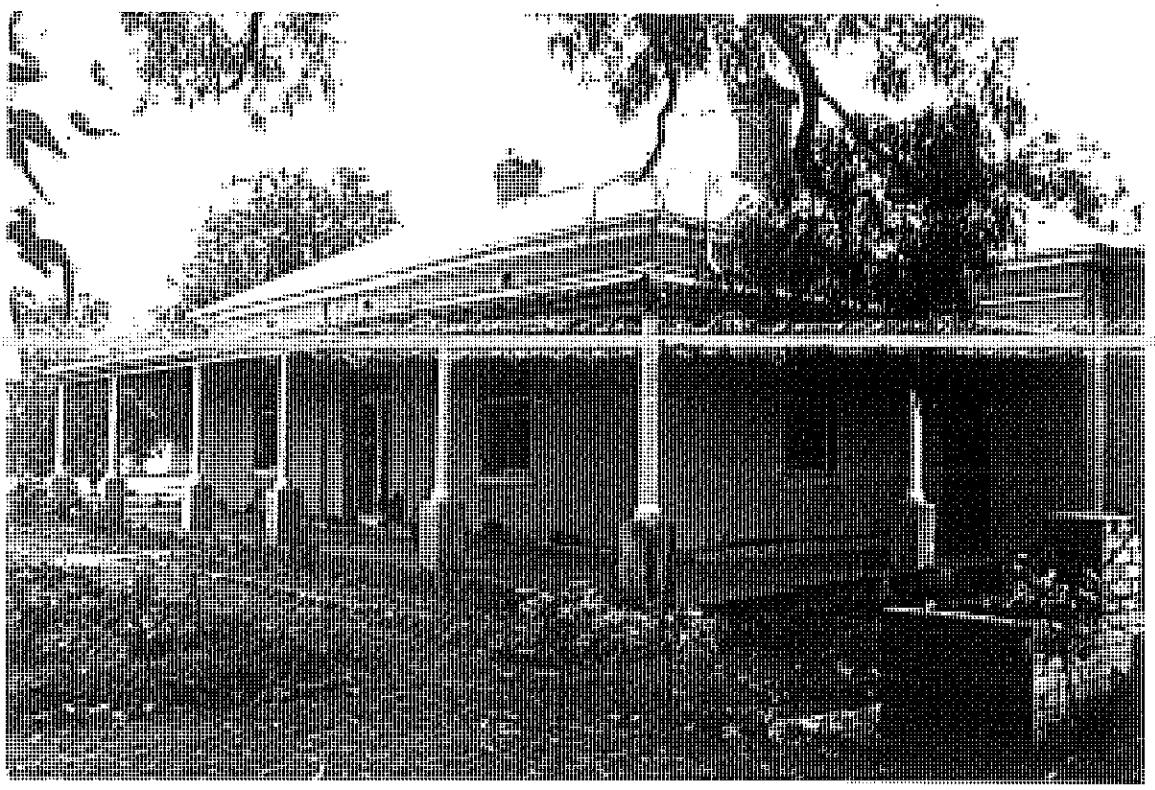
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan
Restoration of the verandah to reflect the original style and structural improvement is required. Upgrading of grounds to compliment the adjacent Church.

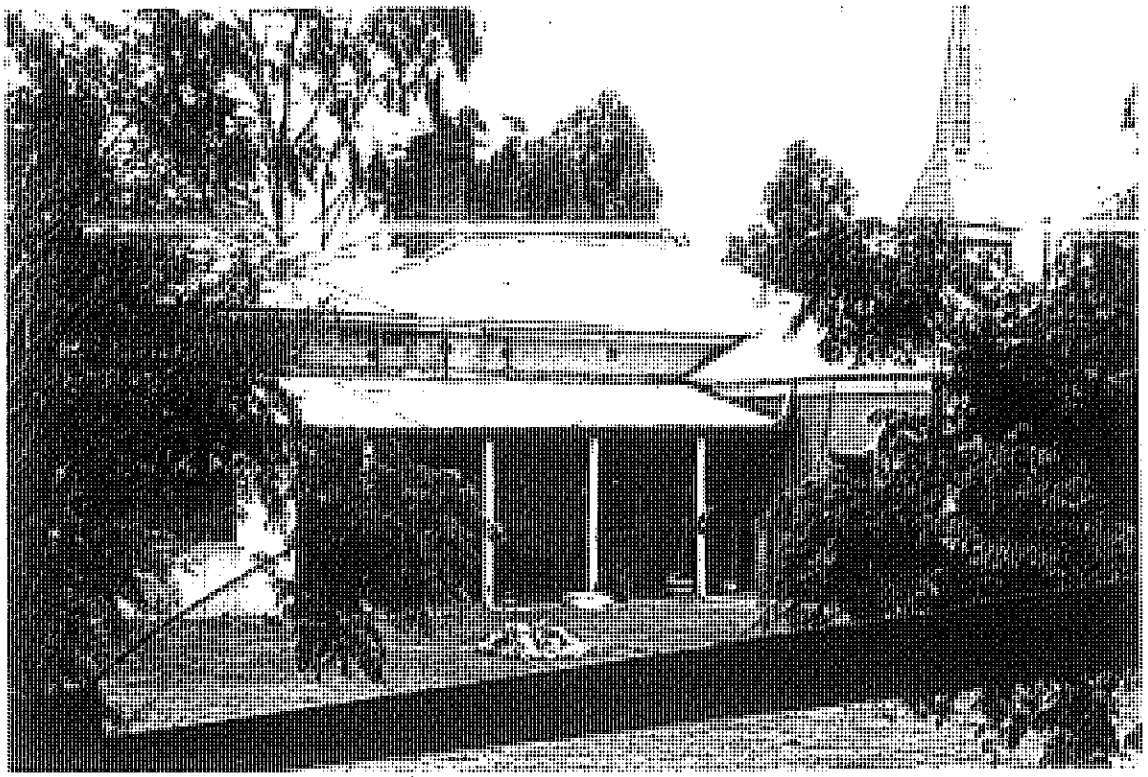
REFERENCES:

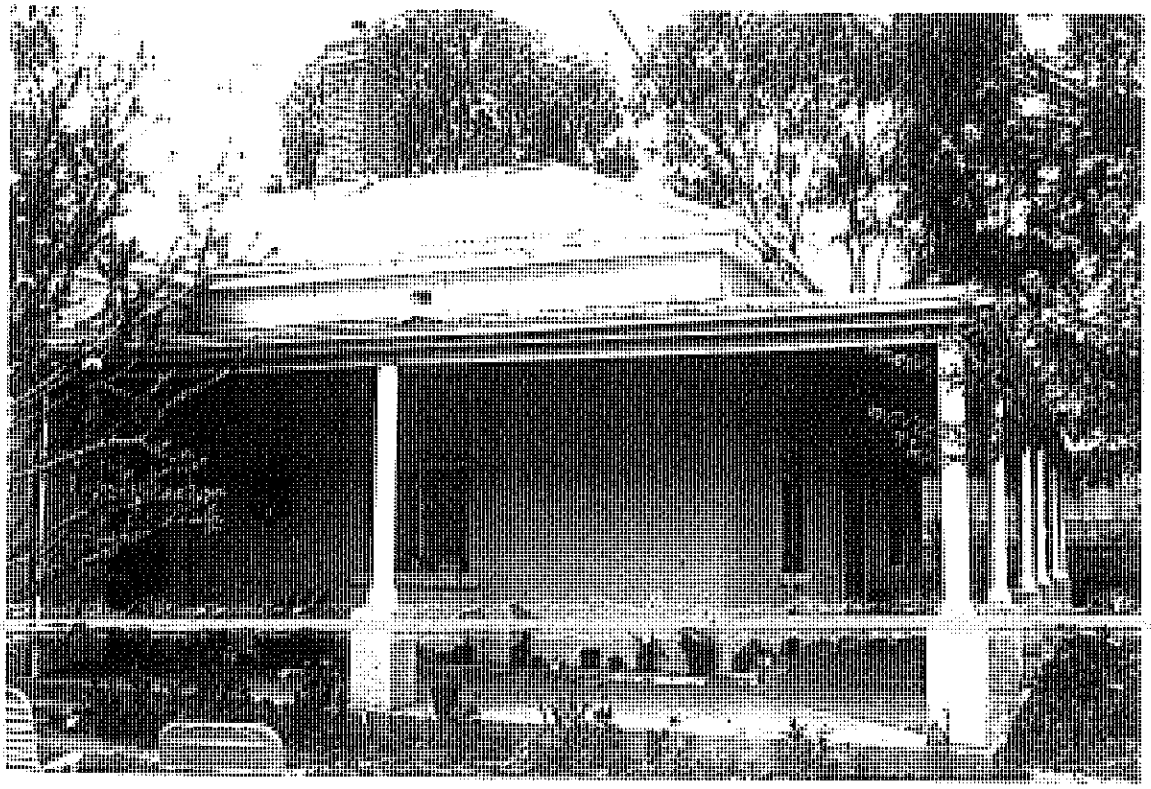
N Grace, 'The first Church on the Darling'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6181/0,3,11,13



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 29/11/88





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Church of St John the Evangelist
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Anglican Church
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1871
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Permanent Conservation Order; Classified by National Trust

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The church is constructed of stone with brick quoins and buttresses. The structure comprises an entrance porch, nave, vestry and spire. The thin pointed arch windows exhibit raised hood moldings with circular endings mimicking similar geometric design of the stained glass panes. The exterior has an attractive mix of brick, course stone and rendered decorative additions all highlighting the angular form of the structure. The broach spire is some 28 metres in height and is clad with slender timber louvres, painted grey. The interior is comprised of cedar pews, communion rails and pulpit. The ceiling of the nave has four arches of oregon and pine. The chancel window is 4 metres high and the side windows 3 metres. These windows have stained glass figures of St John, Christ on the Cross and Mary imported from Newcastle-on-Tyne.

History:

The Anglican clergy were the first to visit the Wentworth District. A number of Ministers were stationed at the nearby Yelta mission from 1855 until its closure in 1869. At that time Anglicans in Wentworth attended regular services in the Wentworth Hotel. A visit by Bishop Thomas in 1870 precipitated local calling for the construction of a church. Rev William Cocks formed the Parish of Wentworth in 1871 and established a committee to instigate the construction of a church. The plan supplied by Rev Cocks is believed to be based upon an English structure. Cocks acted as overseer and contractor. The building fund was largely supported by Baroness Burdett - Coutts, Mr Phelps MP, M W Jamieson (Mildura Station), Mr Scott (Para Station), Mr Pile (Cuthero Station), Mr Cudmore (Avoca Station), and Mr Crozier (Moorna Station). Mr William Jamieson performed the opening ceremony. The materials were brought to the site by barge. The locally made bricks were acquired from the Presbyterian Church committee who had abandoned the intention of building, and the stained glass windows intended for the 'lagging in construction' Catholic church were acquired from the contractor. St Johns is the first church erected on the banks of the Darling River. The church is one of the most notable features in Wentworth and merits conservation.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion within the Local Environmental Plan
Upgrading of grounds should be encouraged

REFERENCES:

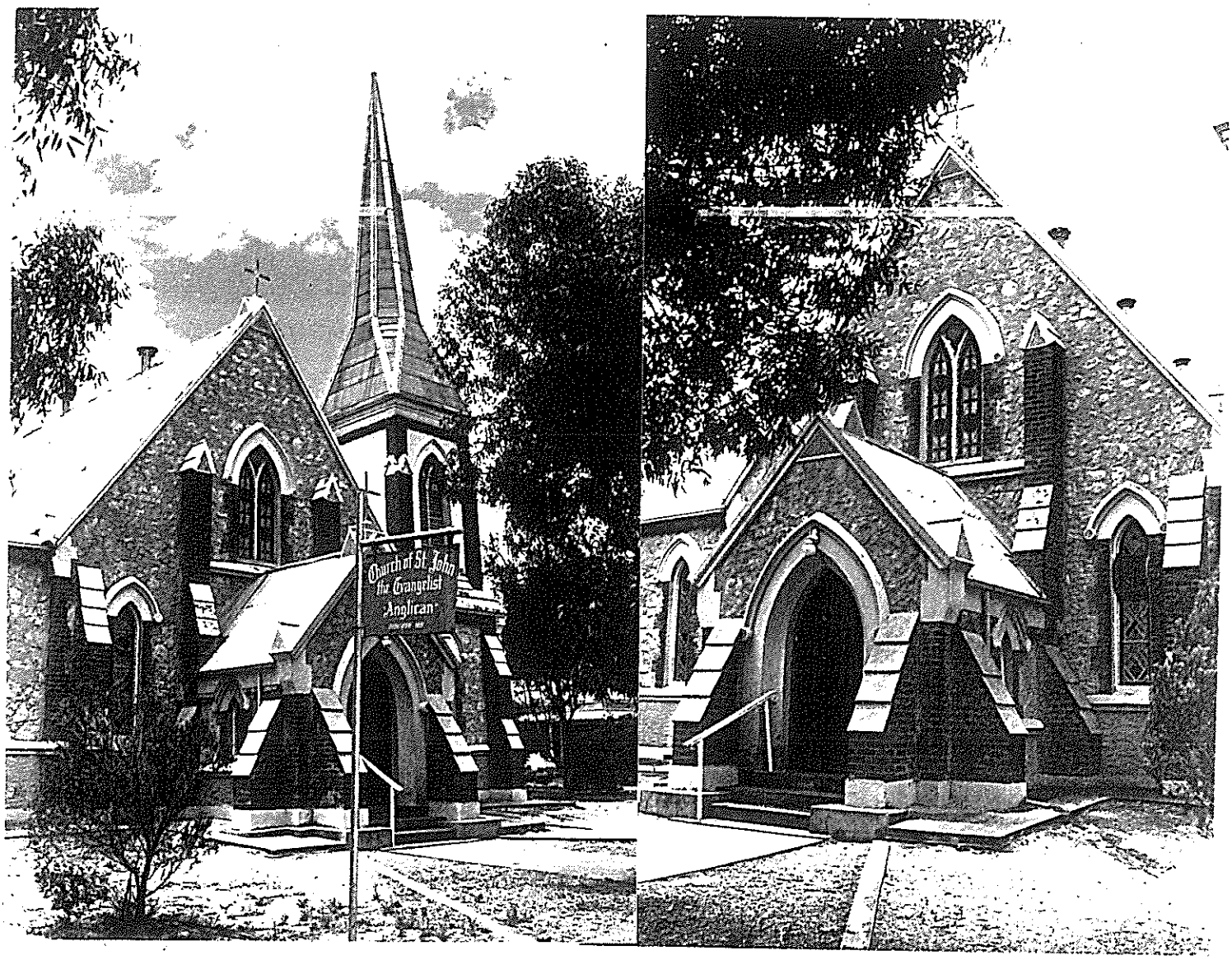
Cocks W - unpublished letters
Grace N, 'St Johns on the Darling'
Tulloch D, The Historic Town of Wentworth

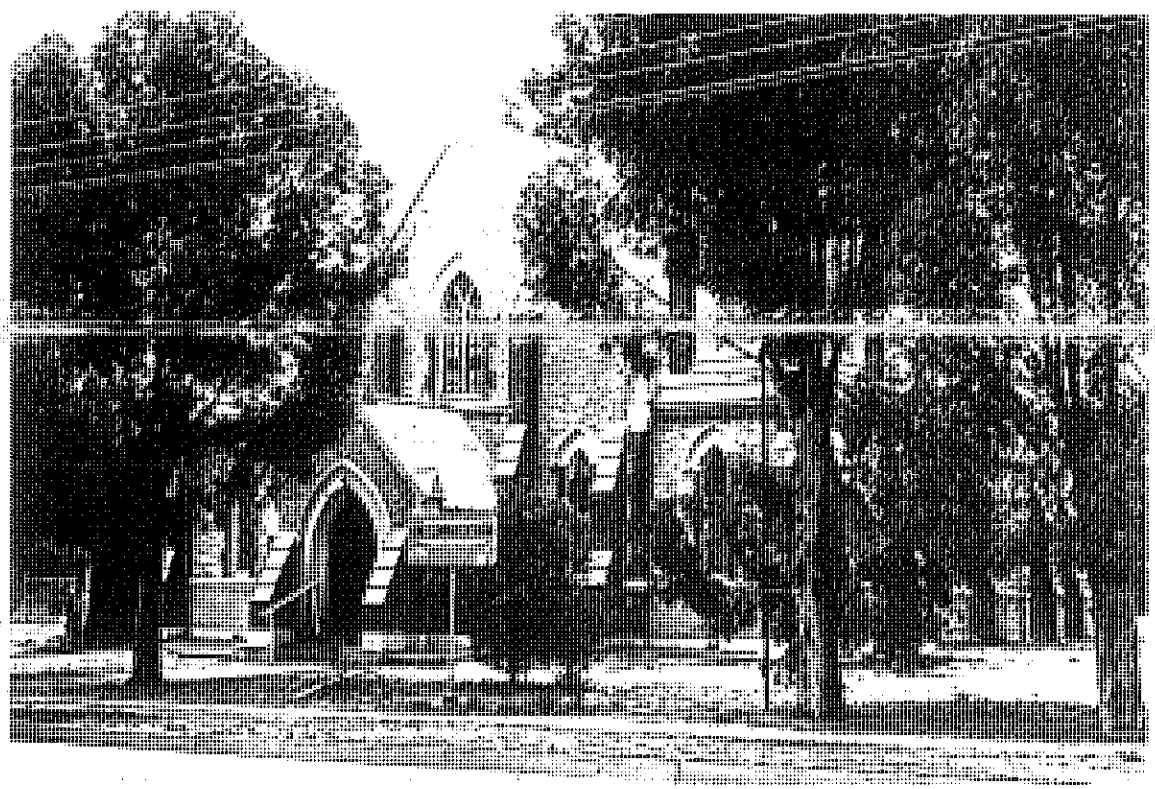
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

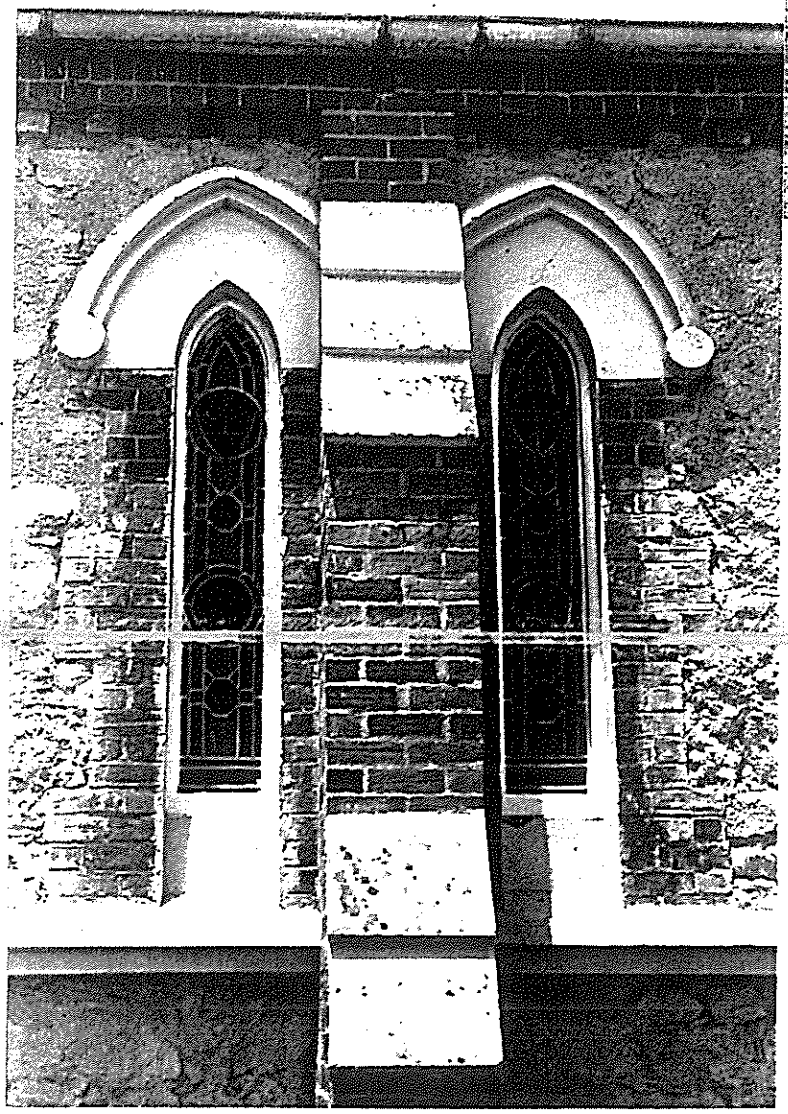
6181/5,6,9,10,16

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 29/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Church of St John the Evangelist
LOCATION: Darling Street, Wentworth







ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wentworth Primary School (Wentworth Central School)
LOCATION:	Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	School
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1869
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
History:

Wentworth's first public school was established in 1860. Prior to that education was carried out in private institutions. A wooden classroom was built in 1860 and utilized until 1869, when a new classroom was erected. The school building was to accommodate 128 pupils and was attached to a three room residence. Extensions were carried out in 1880 which added length and height to the buildings. An adjacent infants school was erected in 1886. During the mid 1880's school attendance was in excess of 200 pupils, this declined to some 39 by 1905, but progressively increased. Substantial additions were made since 1960. The school became a primary school in 1974 due to the opening of Coomealla High School. The two brick school buildings represent an important era of growth within the township.

RECOMMENDATION:

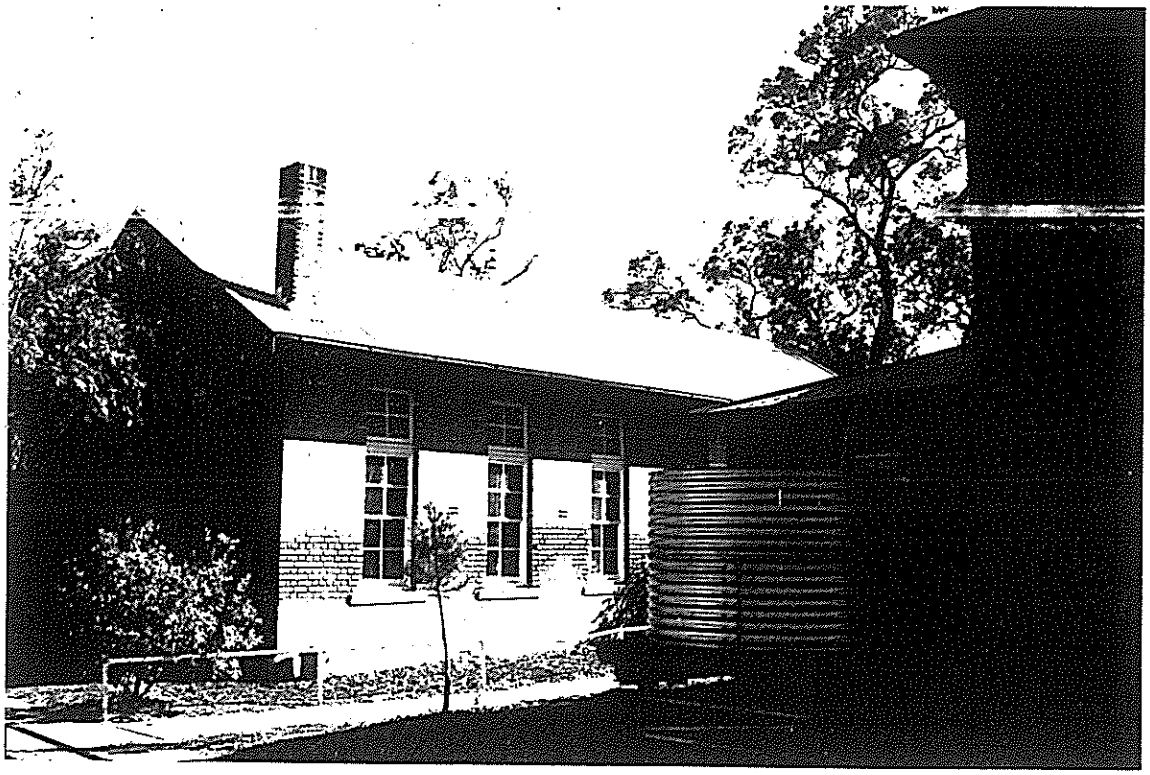
Maintenance of the two original buildings and improved landscaping

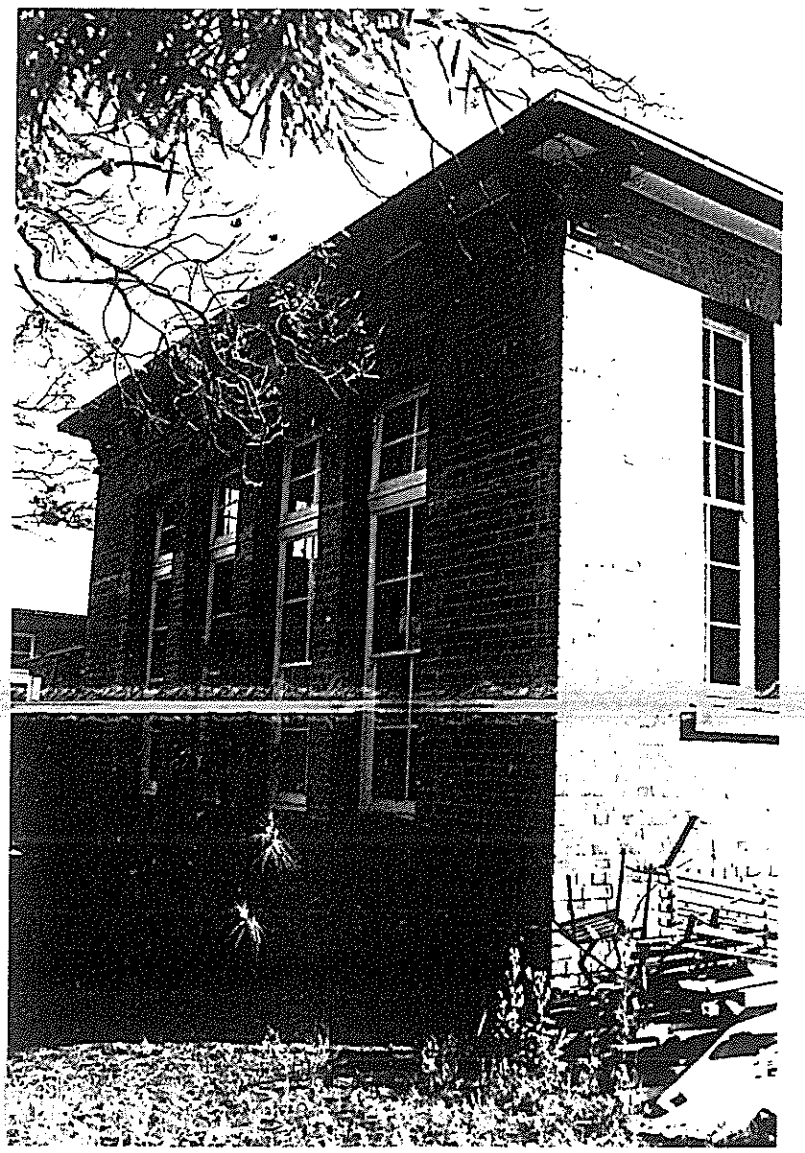
REFERENCES:

'Wentworth Central School Reunion 1860-1988', Booklet

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
9099/23,25,26

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	135 Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	Circa 1880
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Poor
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

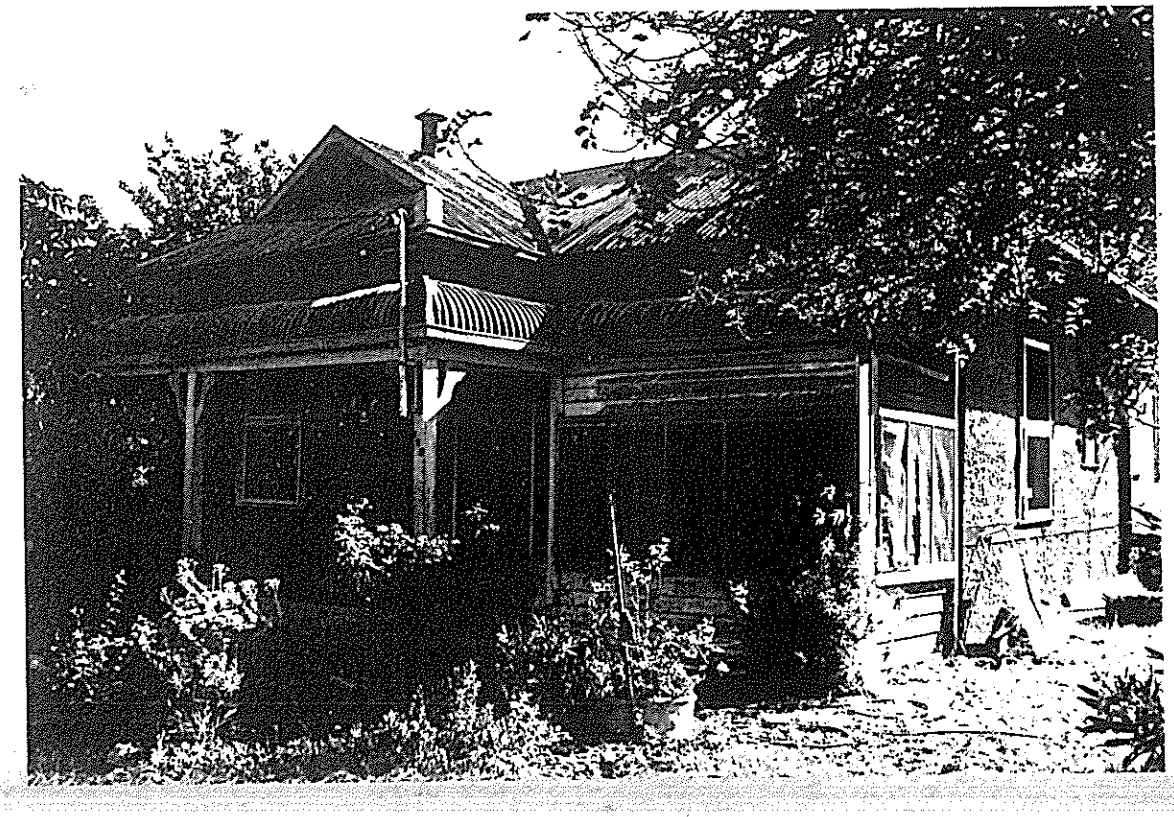
STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A villa with stuccoed surround and return verandah supported by timber posts decorated with wooden brackets. A small louvered gable is a feature of the gambrel iron roof. The dwelling has been modified by a rear extension and a built-in addition of the front verandah clad with weatherboard. Remnants of the original garden exist but are poorly maintained. The dwelling appears to require structural maintenance. This is the only villa style dwelling in Wentworth.

RECOMMENDATION:

Encourage structural upgrading; building and garden maintenance; reinstatement of verandah to original form.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
9099/28



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	Corner Perry and Darling Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1910
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Good, some modifications
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

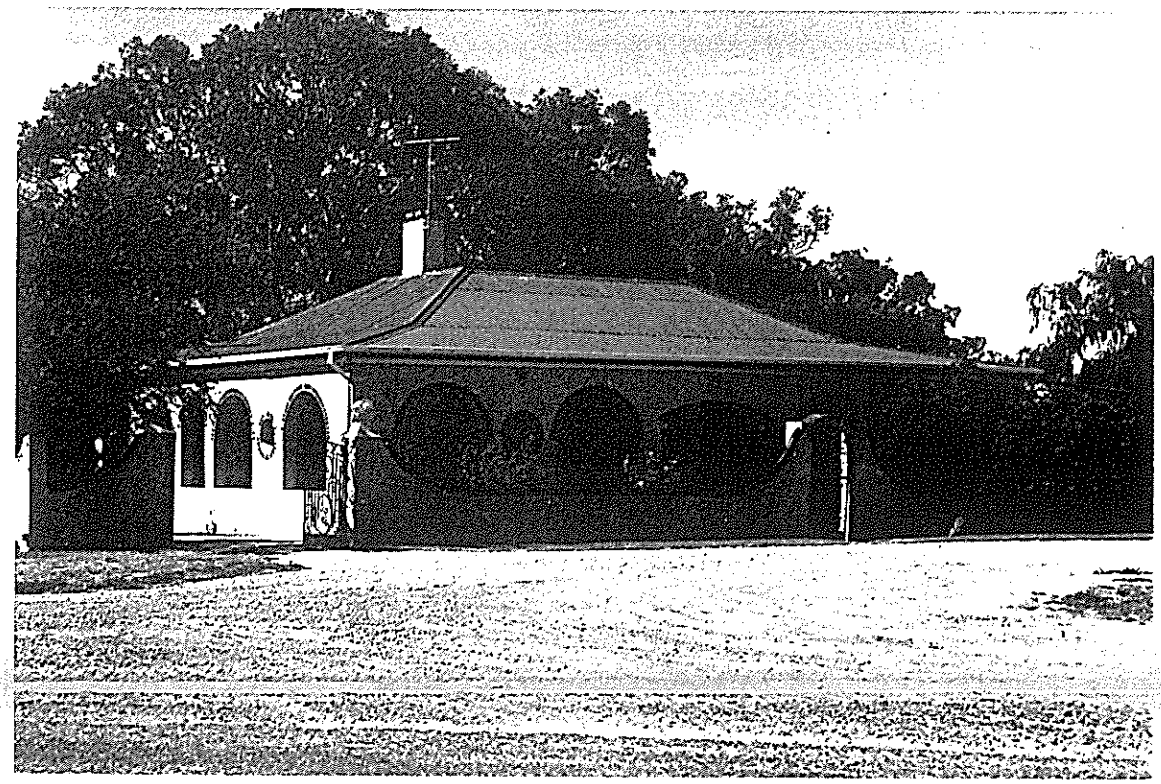
An unusual rendered brick dwelling displaying spanish influence design elements including arched and oiel de boeuf verandah openings. The arches are hooded with an exposed brick outline. The dwelling has an iron hip roof. The property curtilage is defined with a cement rendered fence with curved border featuring an arched gateway. The dwelling was designed and constructed by J Duncan, who also built the Burtundy Homestead and the Chaffey residence 'Rio Vista' in Mildura. The dwelling is the only one of its style in the Shire.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6609/30



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 14/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wentworth Gaol
LOCATION:	Beverley Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Former Gaol
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1879-1881
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Classified by National Trust (NSW), Registered as an item of the National Estate

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A small single storey brick gaol with bluestone trim. The entrance is highlighted by a large panelled doorway set in an arch surrounded by stone quoins. The front parapet has a stone corbel trim. The large square windows are surrounded by bluestone quoins. The roof is tiled with slate. The structure is a typical small gaol of the late Victorian period similar to others built in Hay and Gunnedah. Probably the best example in New South Wales.

History:

The building was designed by the colonial architect - J Barnet, and built by Whitecombe Bros. (Hay). The bricks were made locally by Joseph Fritz and the bluestone was transported by rail and bullock wagon from Malmsbury, Victoria. The gaol replaced overcrowded lock-ups and was utilized until its closure in 1927. The building acted as extra classrooms for many years to 1963 and today is a major tourist attraction.

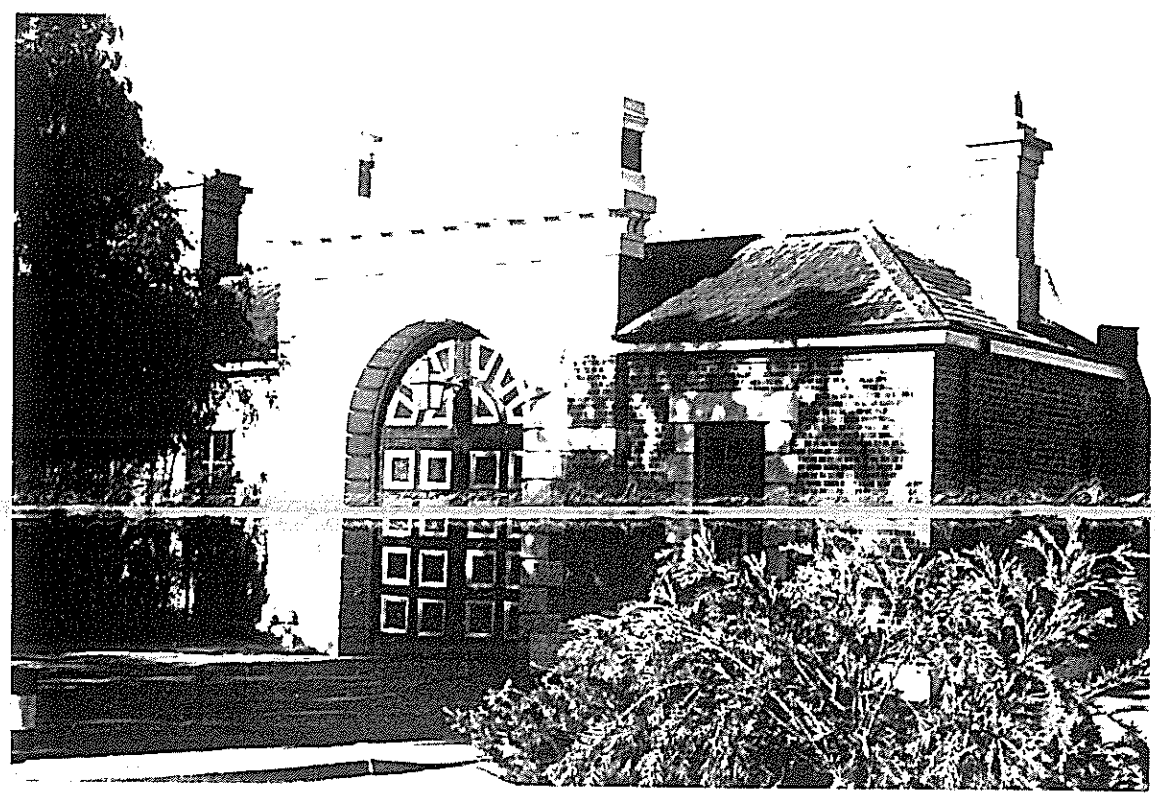
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion within Local Environmental Plan

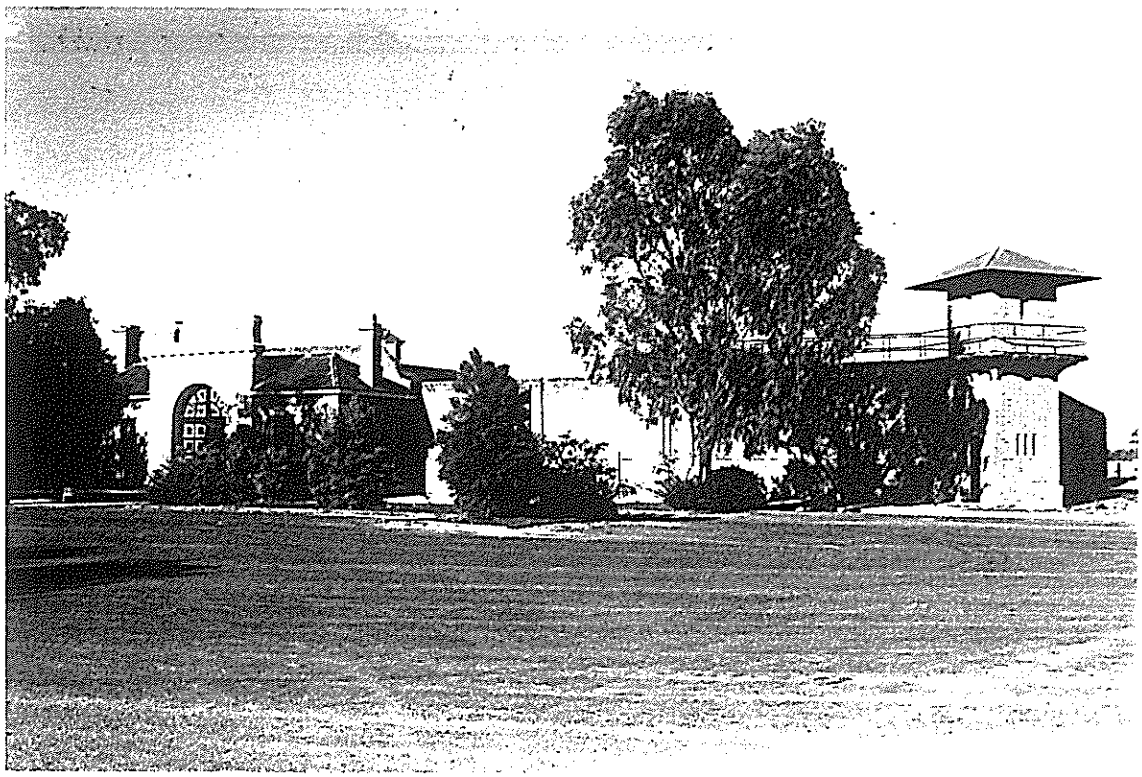
REFERENCES:

National Trust Register

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
9099/4,5



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88



ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Rendlesham House
LOCATION:	Corner Sandwych and Adams Streets, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Tea Rooms (former dwelling)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1884
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A large brick dwelling with a low hip roof clad with corrugated iron. A wrap around verandah with separate concave roof supported by chamfered timber posts surrounds the dwelling. Two squat brick chimneys with stucco caps protrude from the roof. The decorative front doorway has double arched glass panels set in a casement with side and fan lights. The dwelling is surrounded by an elaborate cast iron fence with masonry piers. The dwelling is one of the largest and most impressive in Wentworth. The cast iron fence is unique within the township which was traditionally characterized by timber picket fences. The dwelling is a significant landmark, which dominates the important intersection for traffic to and from Broken Hill.

History:

Rendlesham House was built as a residence for William Gunn, Wentworth's first Mayor. The Gunn's originated from Rendlesham, near Robe in South Australia. This dwelling replaced his residence in Cadell Street (also known as Rendlesham) which was sold to the Catholic Church to be used as a presbytery. Rendlesham House was purchased by William Bowring at the turn of the century. Bowring also held the office of Mayor and was proprietor of important business establishments. Rendlesham House has important historical significance as the residence of some of the town's most important and memorable pioneers.

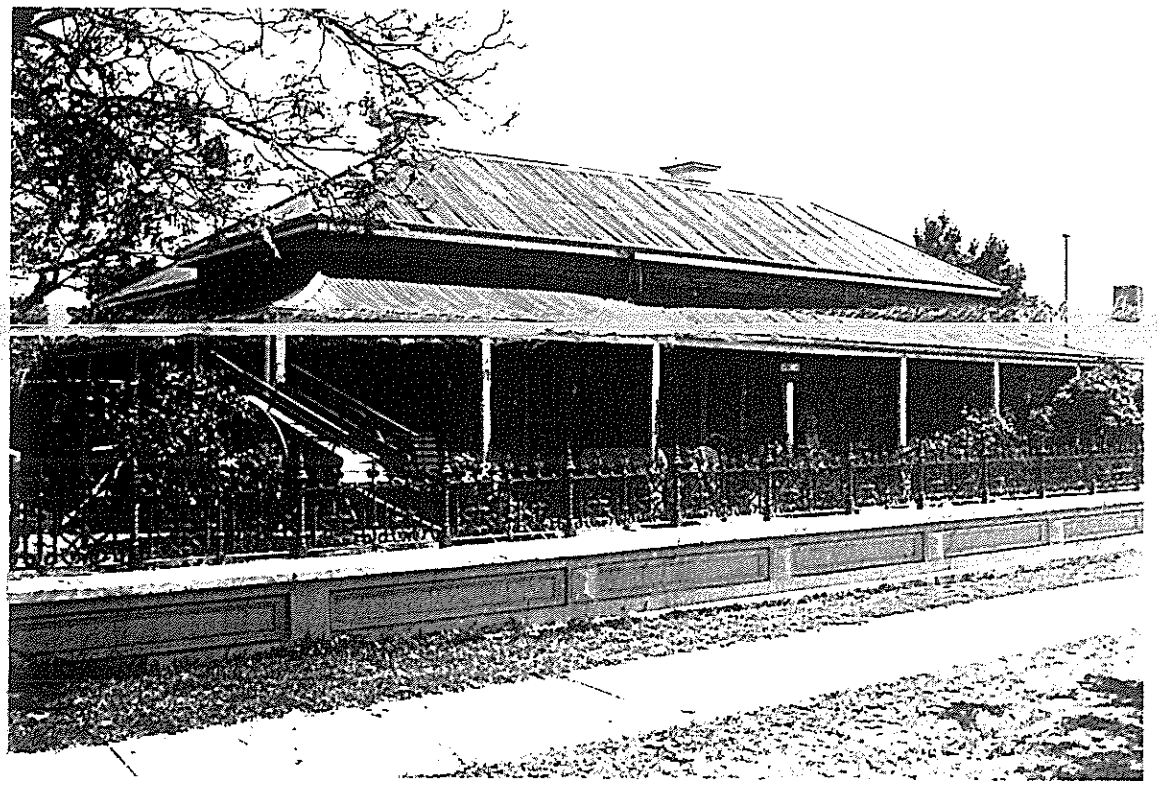
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion within the Local Environmental Plan

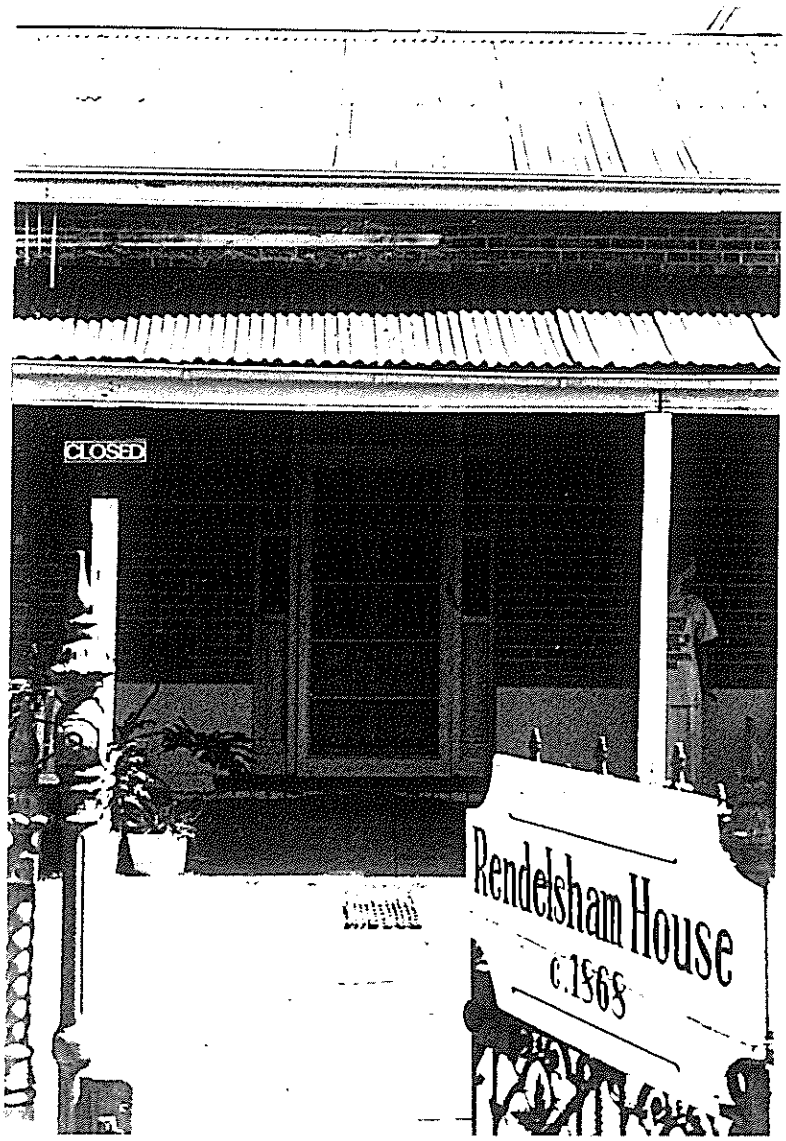
REFERENCES:

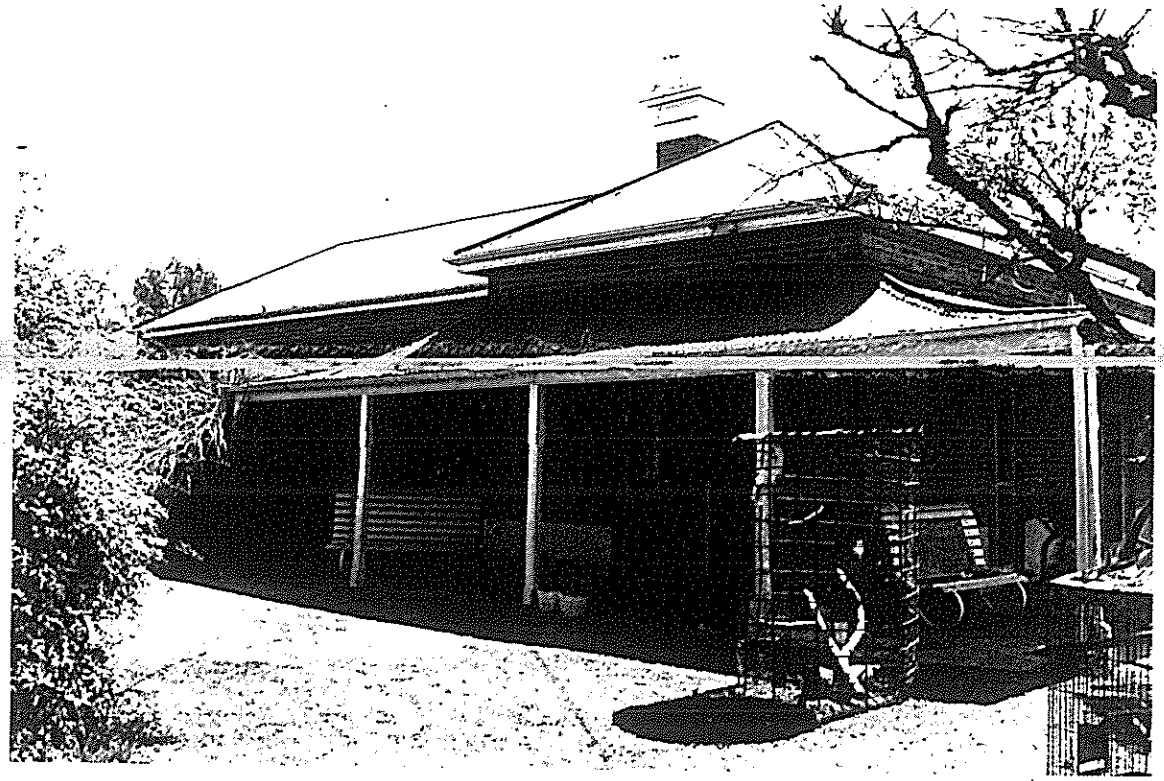
J Whyte; The Cyclopedia of Victoria;
Tulloch D "The Historic Town of Wentworth"

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/34-36



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88


CLOSED
Rendelsham House
c.1968



SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 21

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Yampa
LOCATION:	28 Sandwych Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1890
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

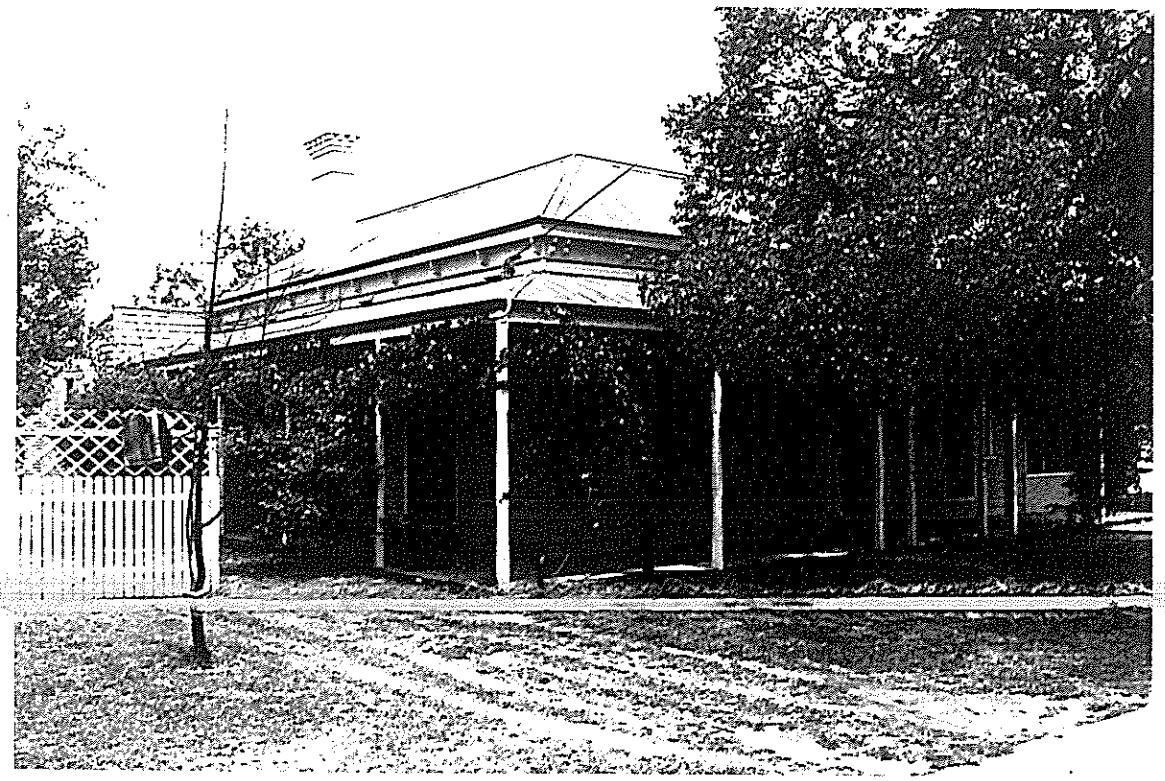
STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

An attractive weatherboard dwelling with a low hip roof clad with corrugated iron. A separate concave roof over a wrap around verandah is supported by chamfered posts. The entrance-way is highlighted by two turned wooden posts. The arch panelled door is set in an attractive tripartite casement with carved lower side panels. An iron lace ornamental frieze decorates the verandah. Wooden brackets adorn the upper eaves. The house is set in a delightful small garden, shaded by large deciduous trees and the verandah is adorned with grape vines and climbing roses. The dwelling is a notable and attractive addition to the townscape and particularly compliments the nearby Rendlesham House.

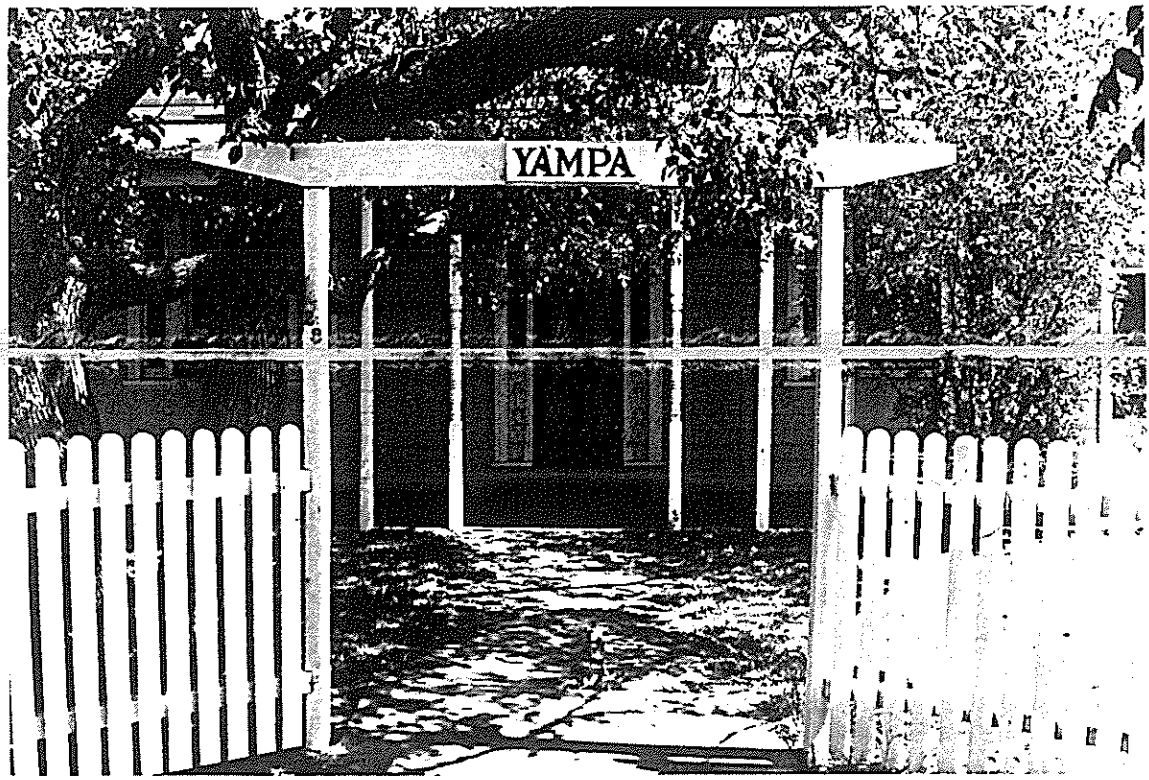
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion within Local Environmental Plan

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/32, 33, 36



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/11/88


YAMPA

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 22

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	36 Sandwych Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1900
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

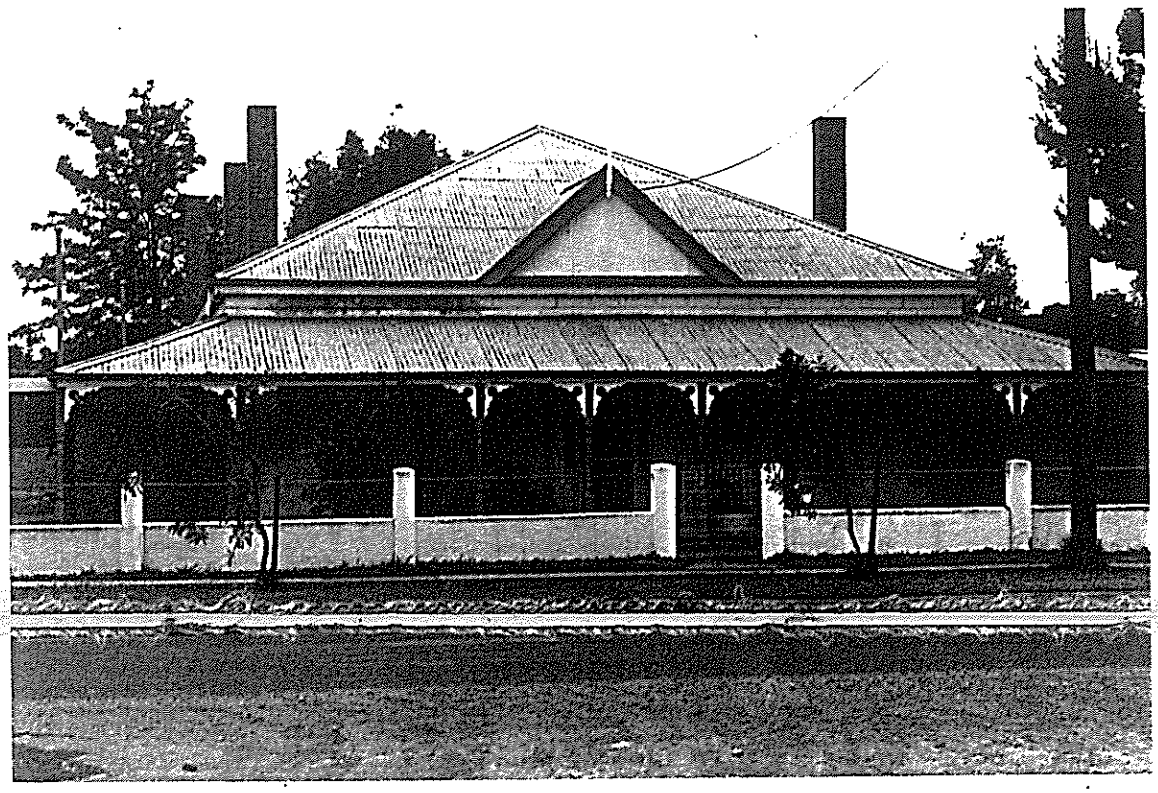
STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A large masonry dwelling with a high hip iron roof displaying a centre front gable adorned with a timber finial. The wrap around verandah has a separate straight pitched iron roof supported by turned verandah posts. Large decorative wooden spandrel brackets adorn the verandah. The panelled door is set in a timber casement with top and side lights. There are four tall slender plain brick chimneys protruding from the sides. The dwelling has some minor exterior modifications. The front curtilage is defined by a low cement rendered fence with square piers and an iron rail. The building is an impressive example of the typical Wentworth dwelling design and the facade is an important component of the Sandwych Street character.

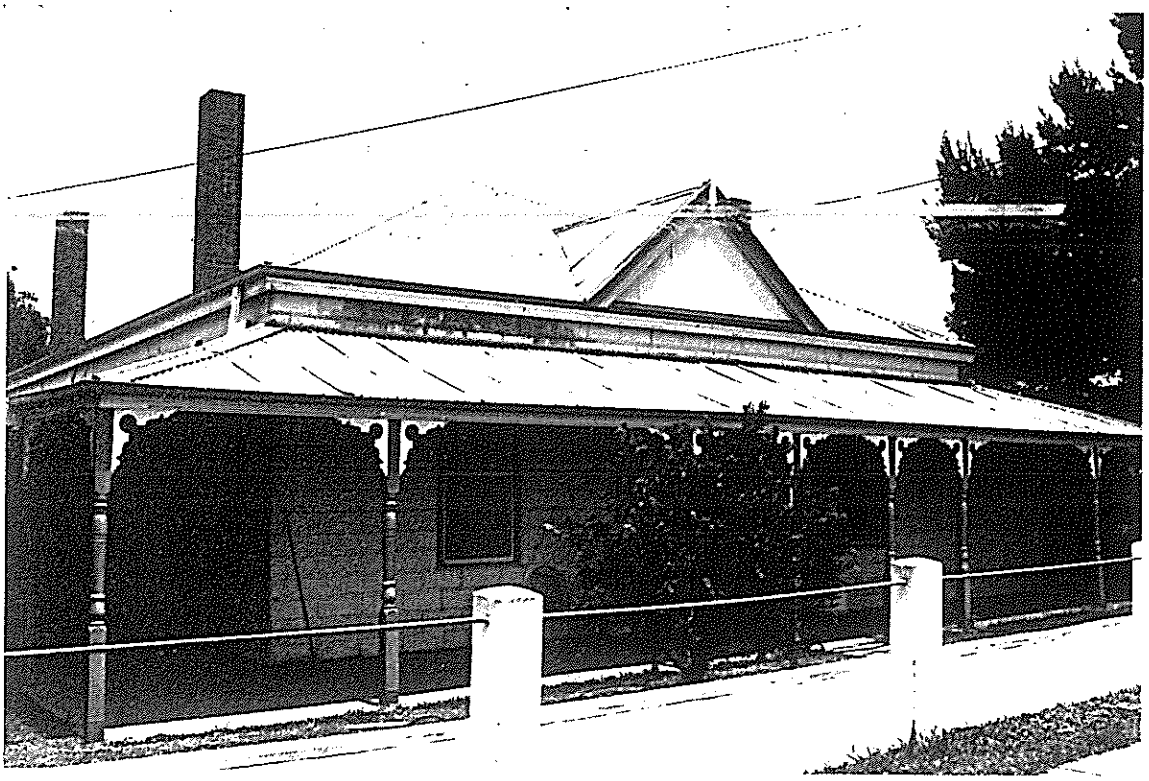
RECOMMENDATION:

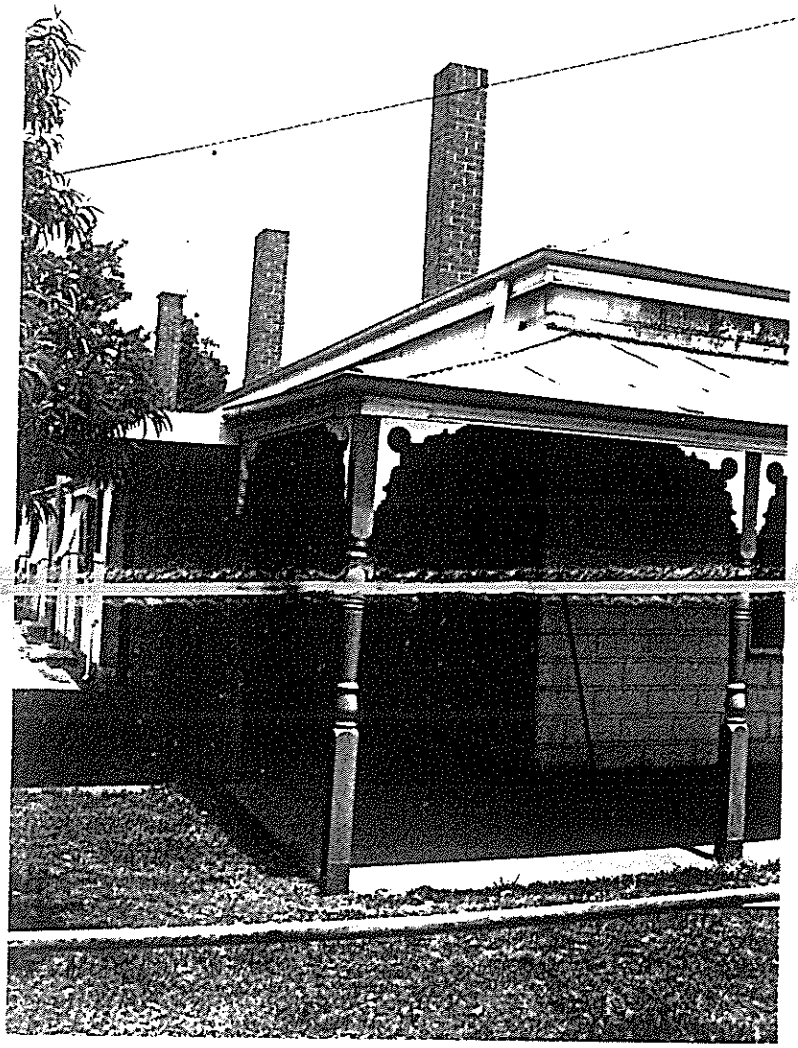
Maintenance, Retention of the existing facade style

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6181/25,26,28



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 29/11/88





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	25 Sandwych Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

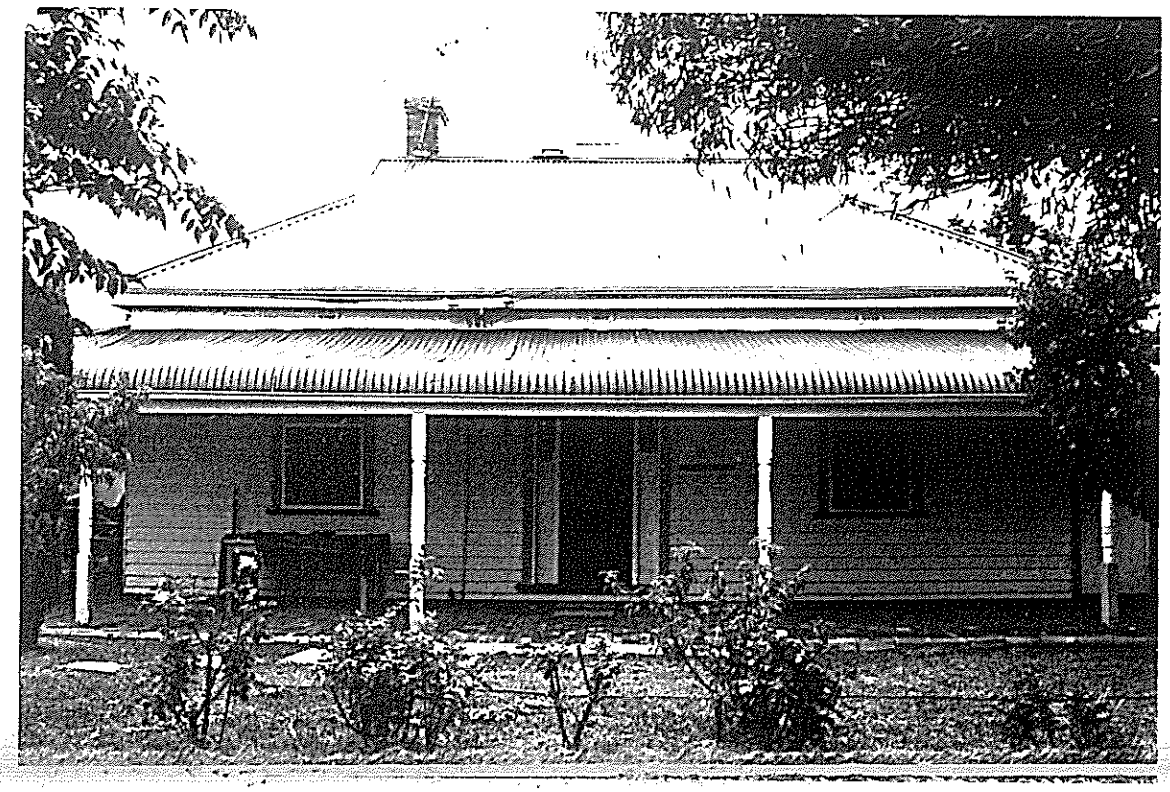
A single storey weatherboard dwelling with a hip, iron clad roof. A separate bullnose roof covers a wrap around verandah which is supported by turned wooden posts. The verandah flooring has been removed and replaced by brick paving. The doorway has a wooden casement with top and side lights. The verandah roofing style is not common in the district. The facade is an important addition to the character of Sandwych Street which has a number of similar dwellings.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6181/33



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 29/11/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 24

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	29 Sandwych Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

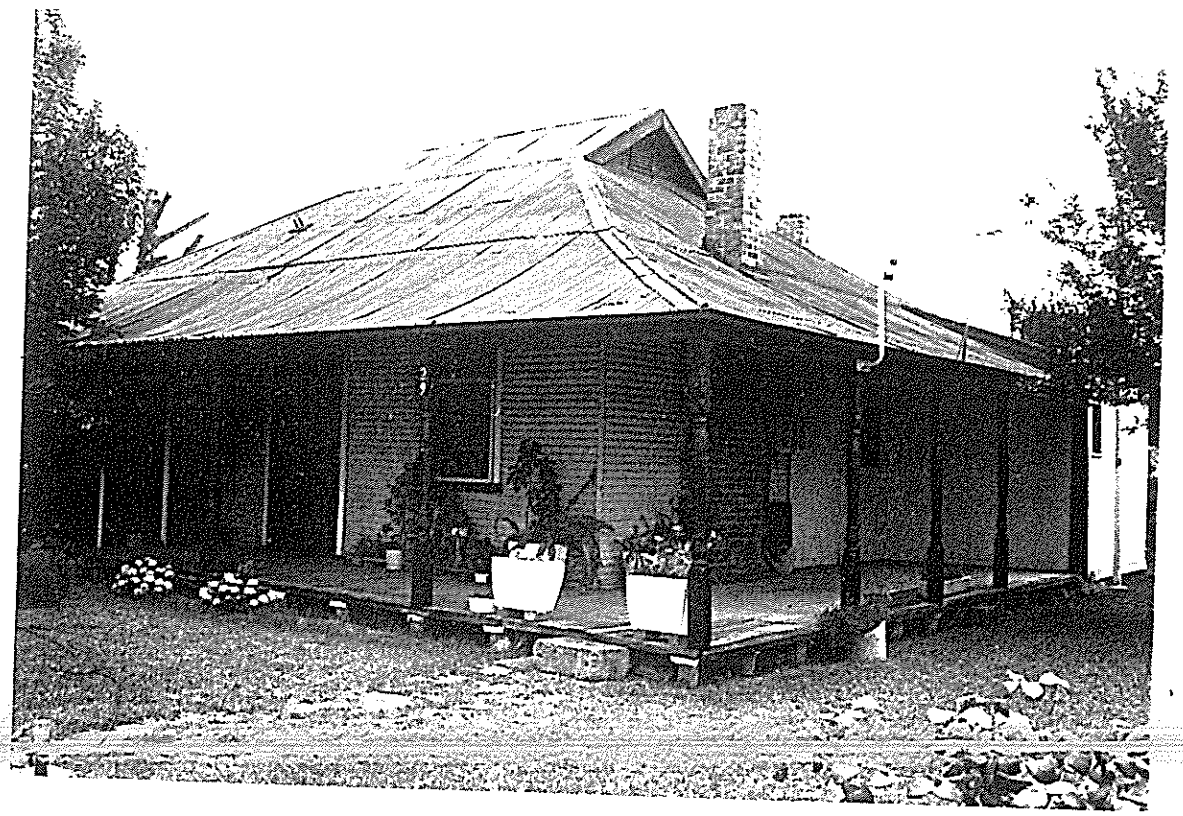
An iron clad dwelling with high gambrel roof extending over a verandah supported by turned wooden posts. The wooden floored verandah sits on small posts driven into the ground. A plain brick chimney is exposed on the eastern side verandah. Sections of the verandah have been enclosed and clad with board and masonite. The house compliments adjacent dwellings of similar style.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance and verandah flooring repair

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6181/29



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	34 Adelaide Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1900
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Good, recently restored
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

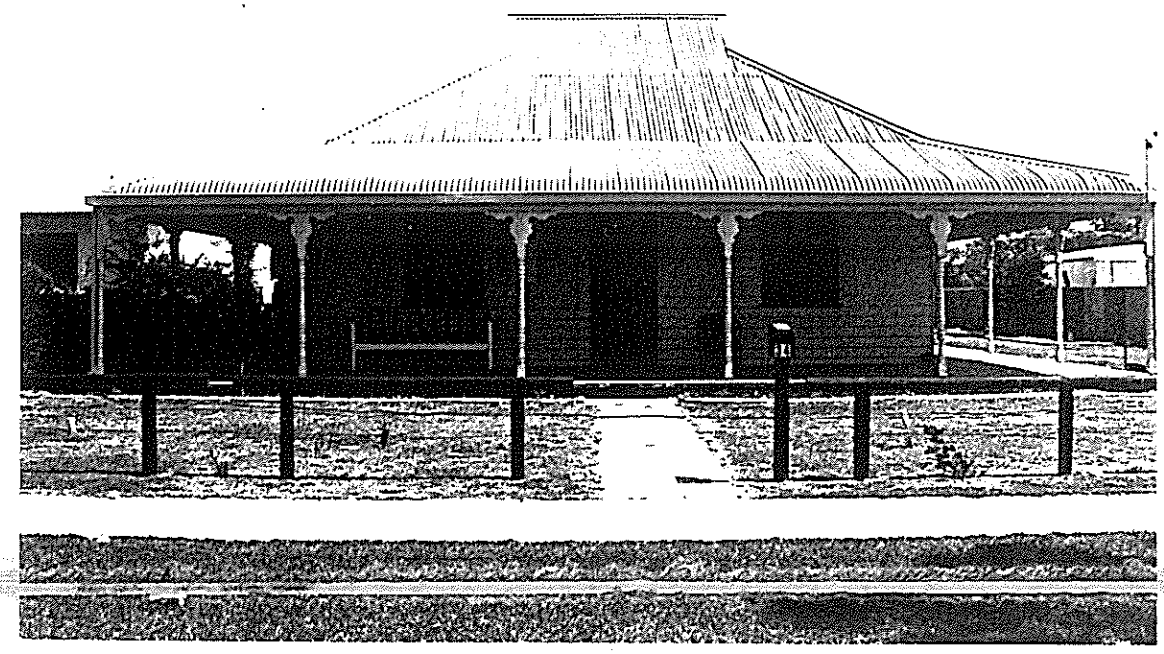
A weatherboard dwelling with high gambrel roof extending over a wrap around verandah supported by turned timber posts. Valance boards decorate the verandah. The dwelling is typical of others located in Sandwych Street and the upgraded facade demonstrates the possible improvements available to other similar dwellings in Wentworth.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6184/29



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Captain Sturt Hotel
LOCATION:	Adams Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Hotel/Motel
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	Major additions 1925
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Good, some modifications
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

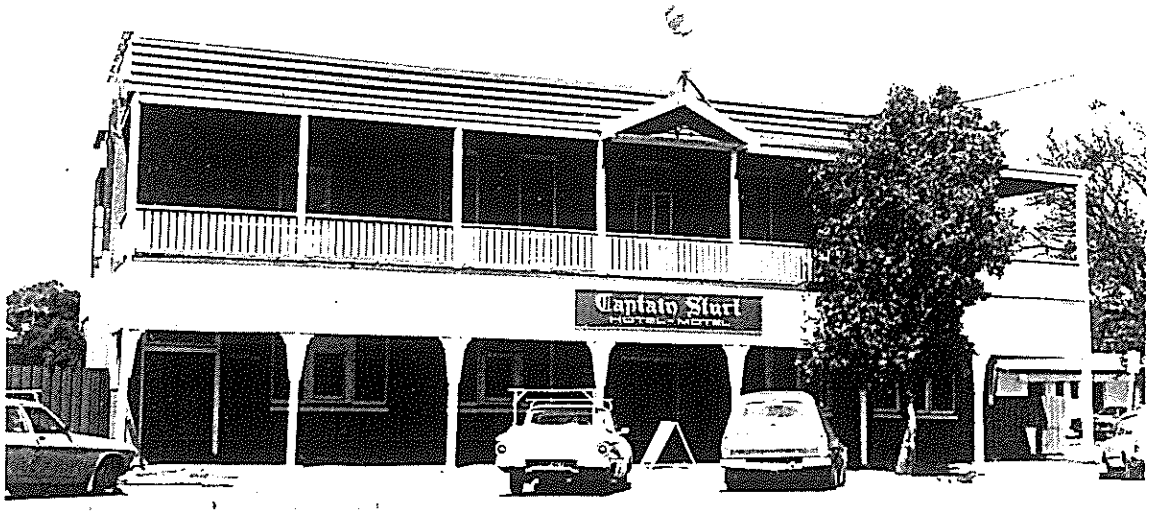
STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A two storey masonry structure with an upper level timber balcony decorated with a timber paling balustrade. Wooden brackets adorn the timber verandah supports. The attractive ground level window casements have coloured glass central panels. The facade, upper storey and laver front we constructed in 1925. Only a small rear portion of the hotel is representive of the original single storey hotel buildng (construction date unknown).

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance of existing facade

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6184/36



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 27

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Town Hall (Mechanics Institute)
LOCATION:	Adelaide Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Town Hall
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1870 altered facade circa 1930
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	good, substantially altered
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A brick building with masonry facade. The double parapet demonstrates horizontal reliefs. The original building has been largely altered and extended. The earlier form comprised a plain brick facade with stone quoins surrounding the doorway and long, narrow double hung windows.

History:

The original building was utilized as mechanics institute for public hall facilities until the late 1880's when the Wentworth Municipal council utilized the facility as a town hall and administrative centre. The structure currently caters for a baby health clinic, newspaper office and some local functions. The building is a reminder of the early and ongoing administrative functions within the Shire.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance. Encourage reinstatement of the original facade.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

9099/10

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 14/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	St Francis Xavier Catholic Church
LOCATION:	Short Street. Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Church
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1872
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A brick structure with steeply pitched roof clad with corrugated iron. The church features a cross gable extension displaying a large arched window with stained glass decoration. The arched windows along the main hall are smaller but similarly highlighted by stucco quoins and hood moldings. The front gable facade is dominated by a large elongated stained glass feature window and half arch upper window with complimentary design. A tall pilaster supports a brick tower with crenelated edging.

History:

The second church to be constructed in Wentworth.

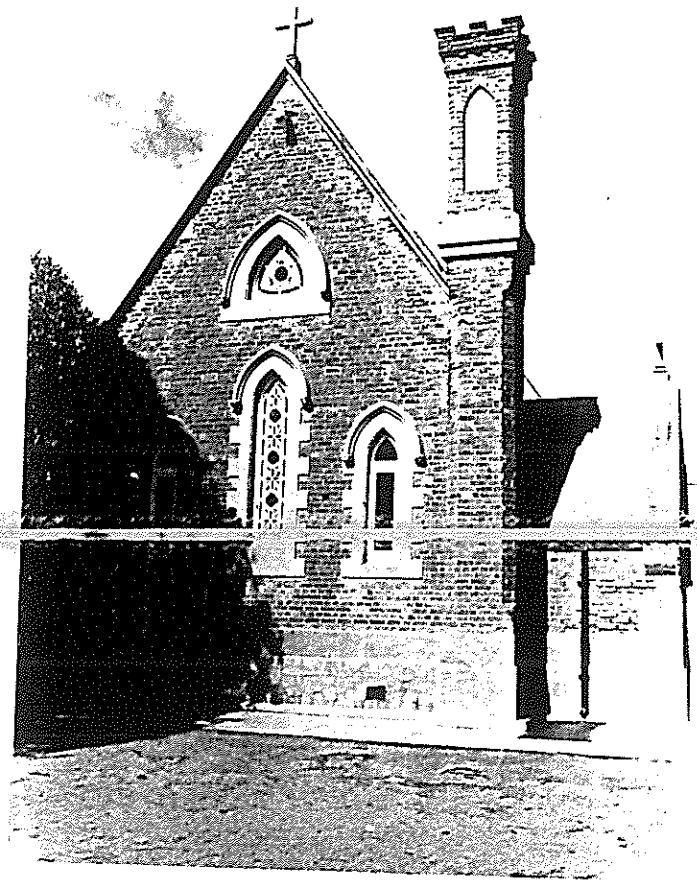
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

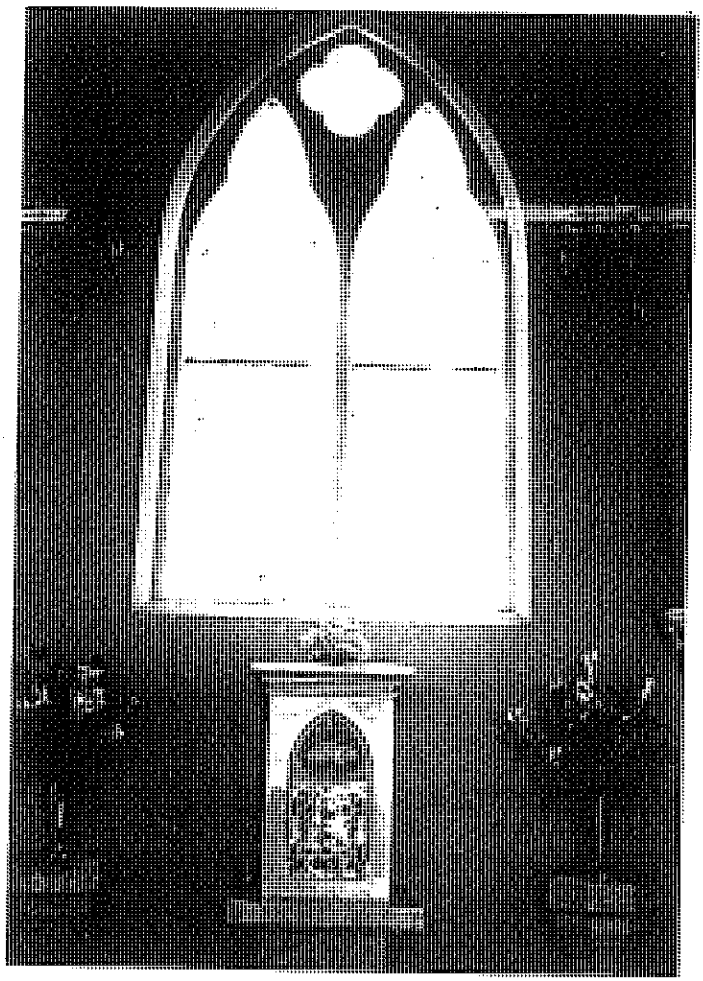
REFERENCES:

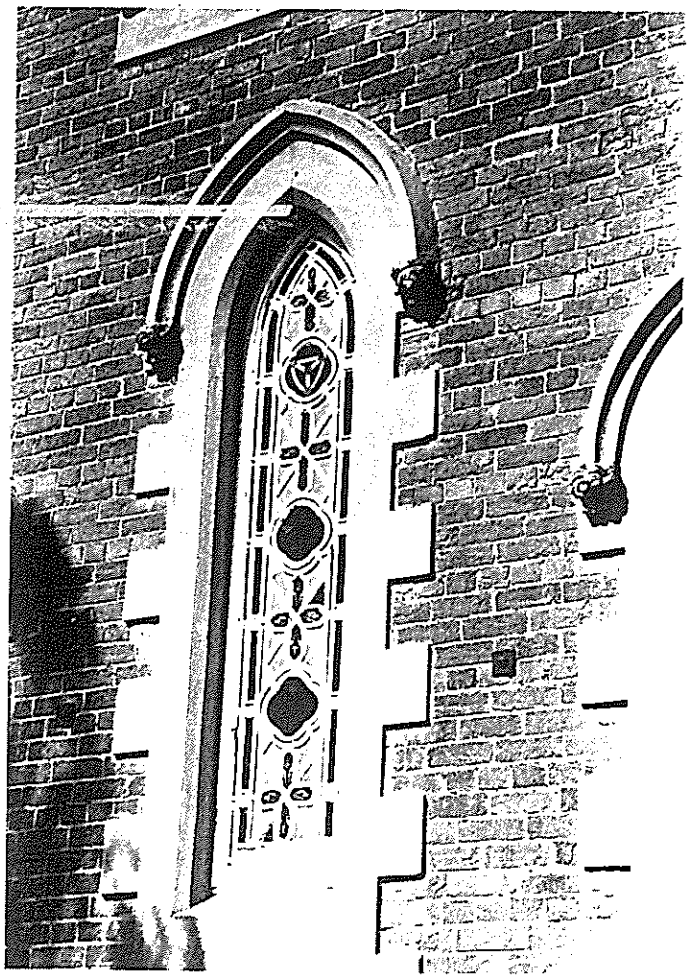
Tulloch D 'The Historic Town of Wentworth'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0905/26,27,25,35



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	St Francis Xavier Primary School
LOCATION:	Short Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Primary School
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1925 (additions later)
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community facilities
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The front building of the school is of brick construction with a decorative masonry crenelated parapet on the facade. The building has a gambrel roof.

History:

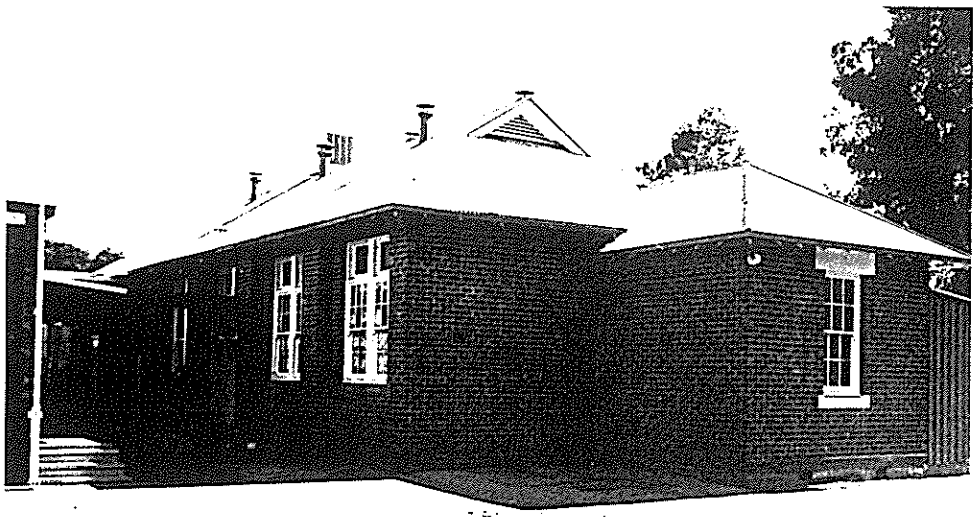
Erected in 1925 to cater for the expanding demand for catholic educational facilities which could not be accommodated at the St Ignatius school house in Cadell Street.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0905/24



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 14/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	St Andrews Uniting Church
LOCATION:	Short Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Uniting Church (Presbyterian)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1881
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A small brick church with low front porch and rear extension. The arched windows are hooded with stucco trim. The original building comprised the central hall. The porch and rear vestry added later. The church the chimney stack of Wentworth's first brick building is displayed in the grounds of the church.

History:

The towns first brick building was the Presbyterian manse built in 1859 which was later destroyed by fire. A church site was dedicated in 1863 but not built until 1881. In 1977 the Methodist and Presbyterian churches merged to form the Uniting Church.

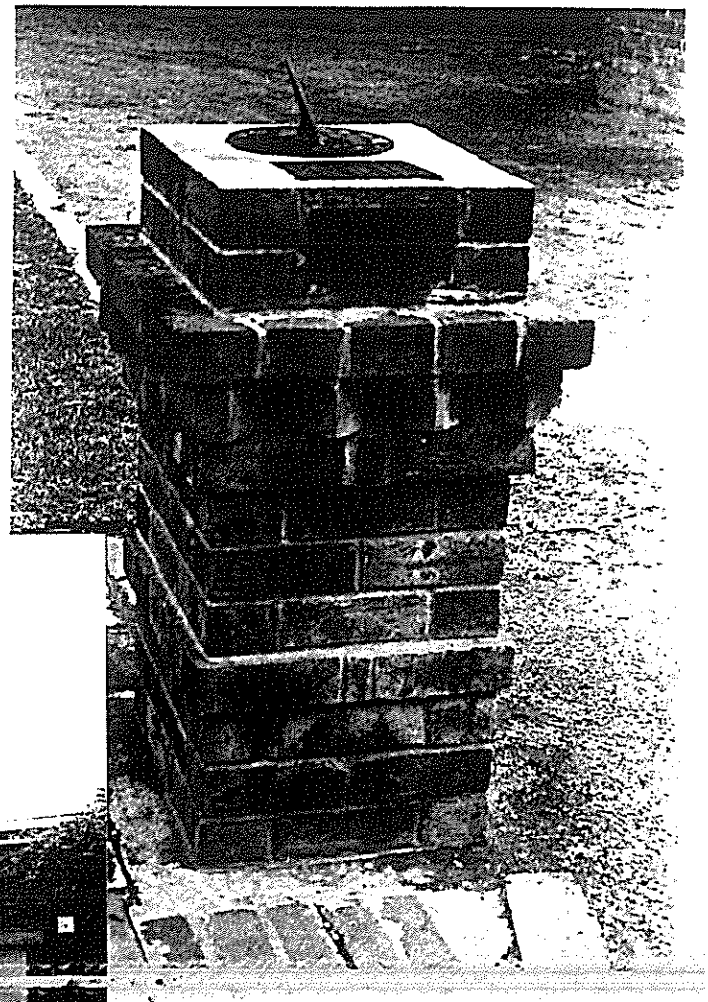
RECOMMENDATION:

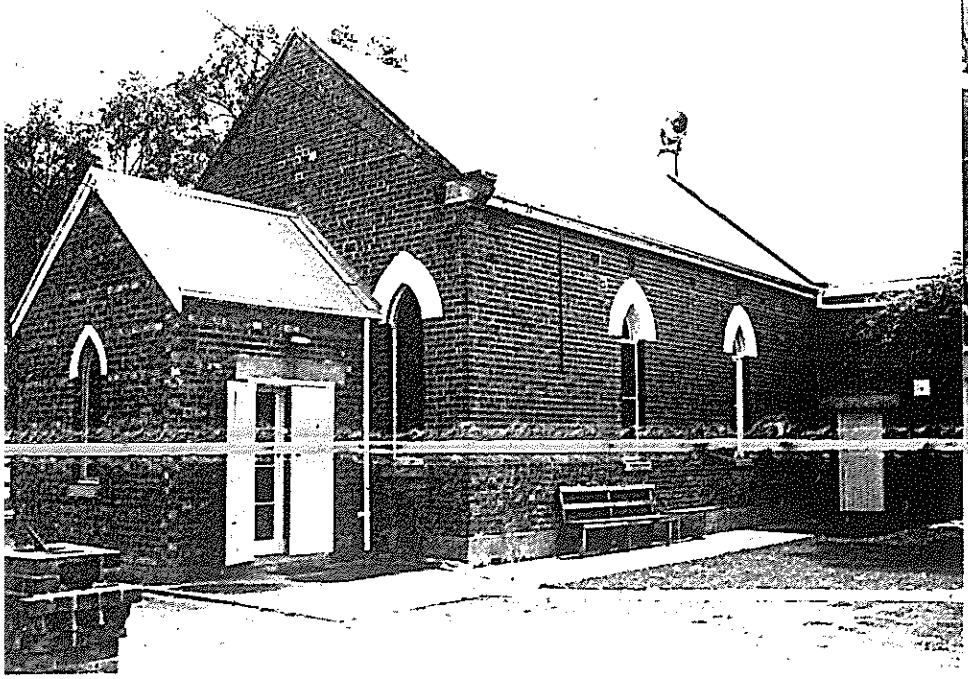
Maintenance

REFERENCES:

Tulloch D 'The Historic Town of Wentworth'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0905/18,16





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	'The Nunnery'
LOCATION:	28 Cadell Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling (Convent of Mercy)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1867
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Fair/Currently being renovated
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

This attractive large single storey brick building has elaborate decorative brackets supporting the eaves of the low hip iron roof and is surrounded by a wrap around verandah with iron roof supported by wooden posts. There are two chimneys with decorative horizontal and vertical brick relief work. There are remains of timber fretwork along the verandah at the rear. Only a small section of the original floor boarding remains and there is some brick paving evident around the verandah area. The building, in its renovated form, will compliment the adjacent convent school building and reflect the significance of Cadell Street as a notable address in the early settlement of Wentworth.

History:

The dwelling was erected as a residence for Mr W H Gunn and was known as 'Rendlesham' named after the area where the Gunn family originated. The property was later transferred to the Sisters of Mercy who taught at the adjacent convent school. William Gunn was the first Mayor of Wentworth and had many interests within the Wentworth township. He built hotels and houses, owned steamships and stores. The dwelling is currently undergoing renovation to be restored to its original form.

Recommendation:

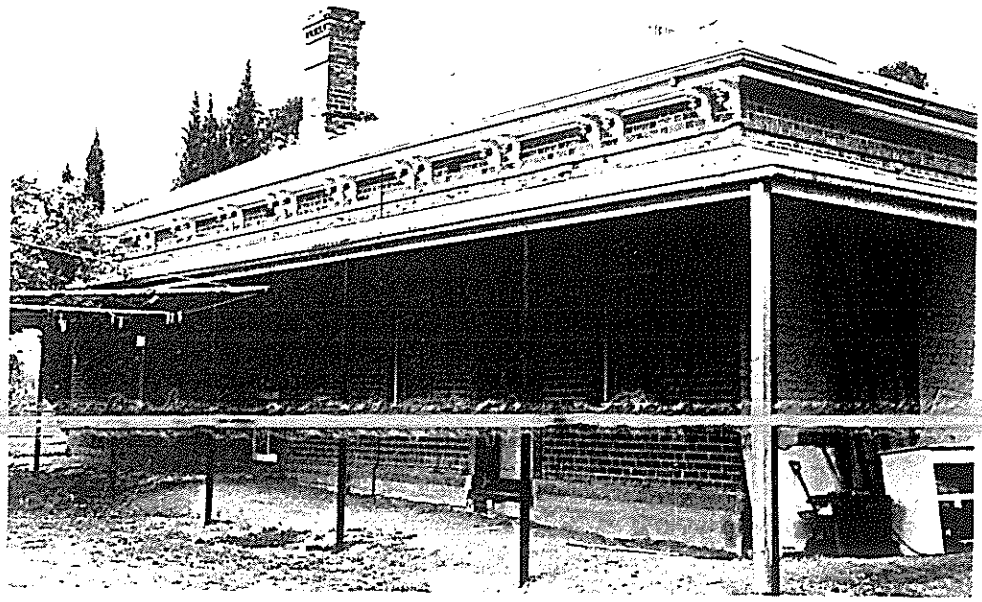
Conservation by inclusion within Local Environmental Plan
Restoration to original form

REFERENCES:

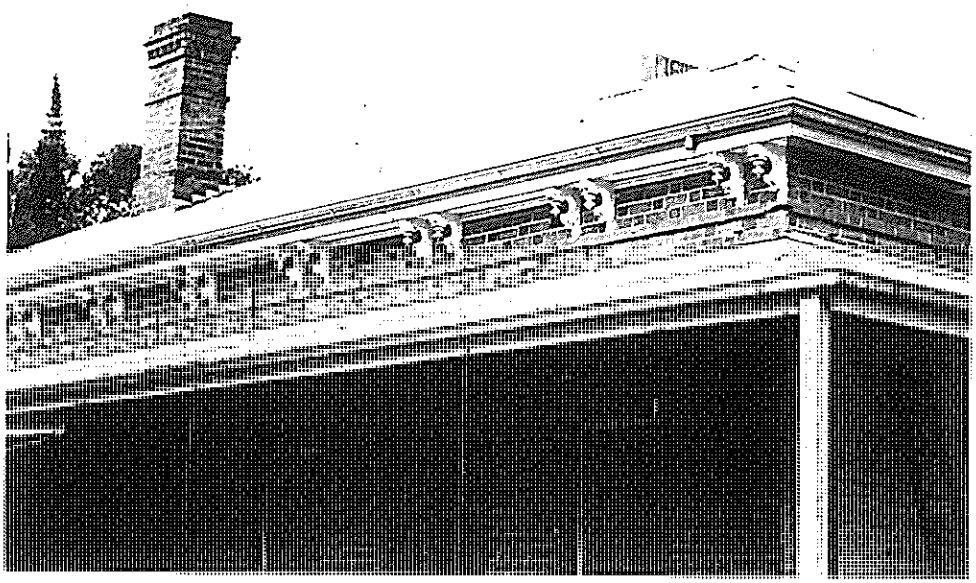
J Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0905/7-10



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88



ITEM NAME (Former Names):	St Ignatius School
LOCATION:	Cadell Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Former Catholic Schoolhouse
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1912
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Good, recently restored
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Classified by National Trust (NSW)

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

An unusual symmetrical building of weatherboard construction. The single room structure has a centrally located entrance porch on the northern side. The main gambrel roof is clad with corrugated iron sheeting and the little gable over the porch has simple timber decoration. The building is supported on timber posts set in the ground. There is a curved, embossed iron window hood over the northern porch window. The former schoolroom has a boarded ceiling and much internal joinery remains intact. The large main windows have the appearance of double hung windows however, the sashes operate as casements. The building has been recently restored and repaired. A brick fireplace and chimney on the western side has been replaced with a replica. The original two-tone colour scheme has been rendered.

History:

A small community of Sisters of Mercy opened two schools in Wentworth, the St Ignatius High School and Francis Xavier Primary School. St Ignatius was utilized until 1925 when the new existing school was constructed in Short Street. The small, unusual schoolhouse has many original details and features an early colour scheme. The building is both architecturally and historically important to the township of Wentworth.

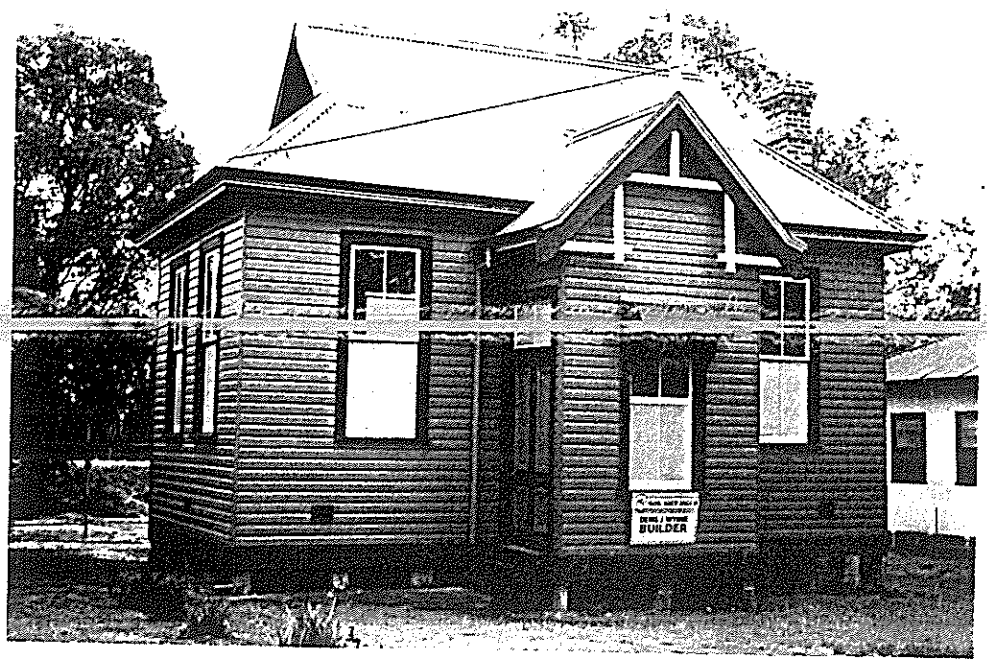
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion within the Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

National Trust of Australia (NSW) Register,
Tulloch D "The Historic Town of Wentworth"

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0905/5



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): 'Crangs'
LOCATION: 36 Cadell Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses): Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1890's
HISTORICAL THEME: Township
CONDITION: Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS: Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The single storey brick building has a low gable iron roof with a front verandah supported by wooden posts. Of note are the decorative wooden brackets supporting the eaves. Two squat chimneys protrude from the roof with verticle and horizontal brick relief.

History:

One of the first dwellings in Cadell Street. Built by W H Gunn, being one of three brick houses built for his family. It was later the residence of W B Crang an active member of the local community.

Recommendation:

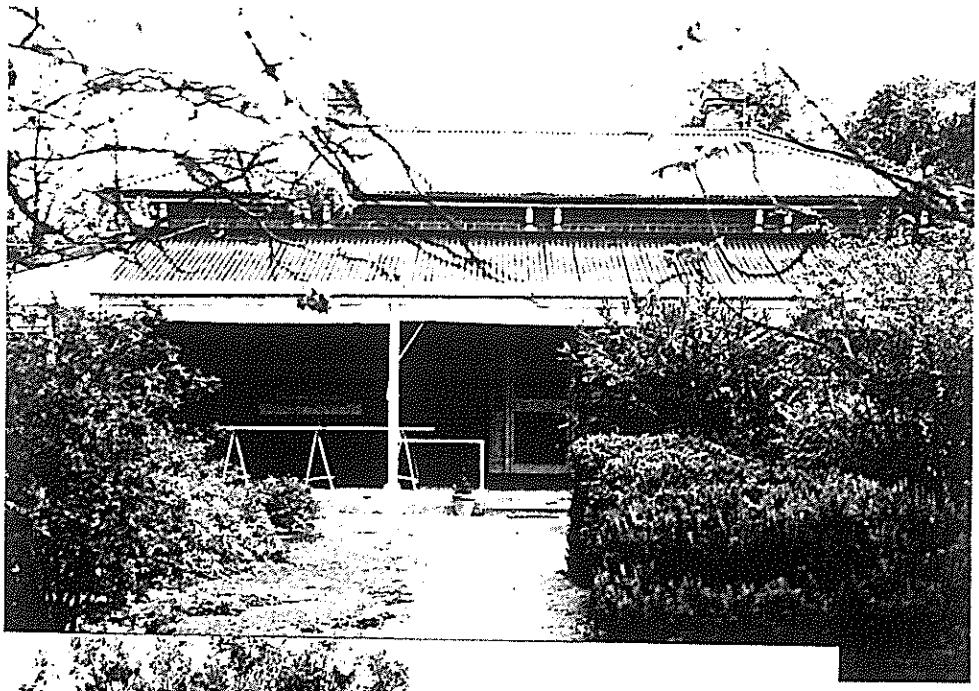
Conservation by inclusion within Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

J Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0905/12,13



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Dwelling
LOCATION: 40 Cadell Street. Wentworth
USE (Former Uses): Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1920's
HISTORICAL THEME: Township
CONDITION: Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS: Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single storey dwelling with stucco exterior in the bungalow style. The front gable has vertical timber fretwork. The adjacent verandah is supported by tapered cylindrical verandah pillars on blocks. The facade has matching wooden verandah brackets and similar decoration on the eaves of the front gable. There are decorative coloured window panels on the front portion. The adjoining garage has a raised parapet and built of similar materials. The exterior of the building and surrounding fence is in original condition.

Recommendation:

Encourage maintenance and suitable painting, upgrading of garden to reflect construction era.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0905/3-4

HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date:

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 35

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Dwelling
LOCATION: 47 Cadell Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses): Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1880's
HISTORICAL THEME: Township
CONDITION: Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS: Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

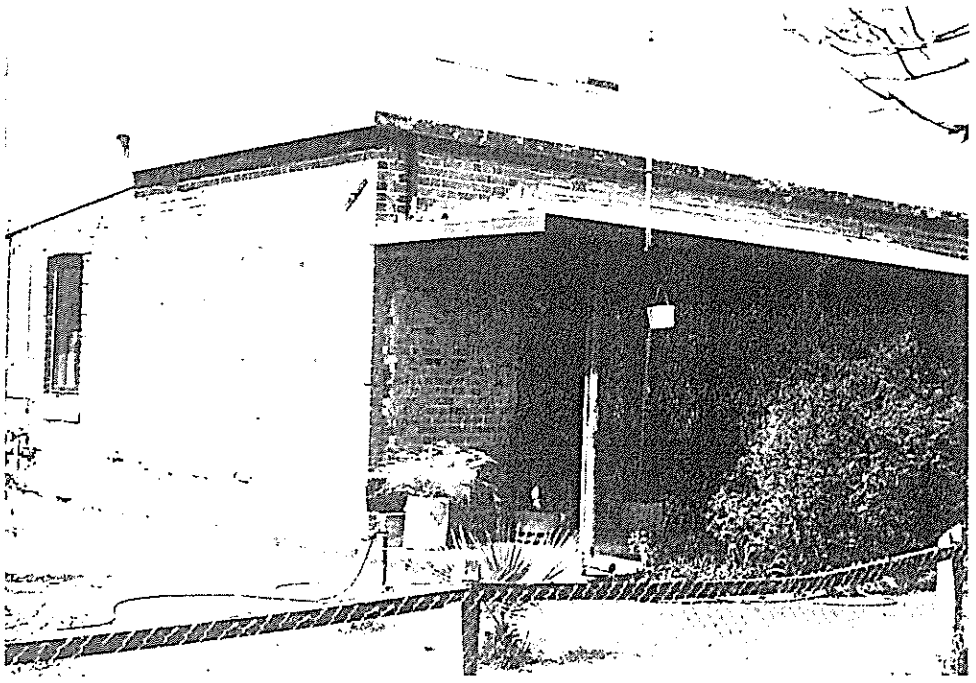
A single fronted small brick cottage with low hipped roof and front verandah supported by iron columns. This early building is constructed with brick stock made in Wentworth. The wooden window cases are surrounded by arch vertical joints. Two slender brick chimneys with external vertical reliefs from the rear of the building. The dwelling is in original form, excluding the rear extension and renovated verandah.

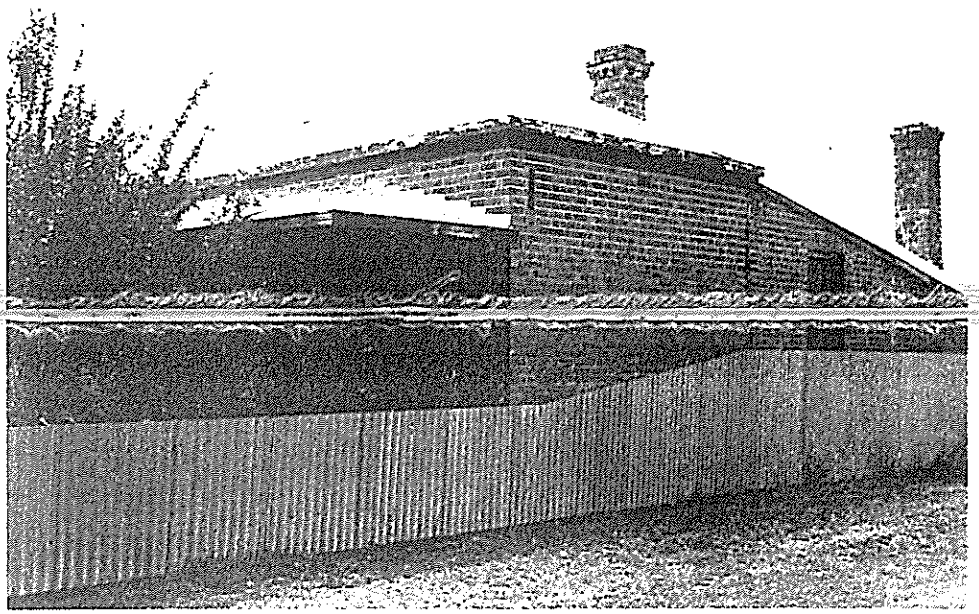
Recommendation:

Encourage restoration

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0907/33,34





HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Murray/Darling Rivers Junction (Hawdons Ford)
LOCATION:	Cadell Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	River Junction
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	N/A
HISTORICAL THEME:	Landscape
CONDITION:	N/A
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	National Estate List

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Environment:

The junction of Australia's two most significant rivers, the Murray and Darling, provides a gentle scene of merging waters surrounded by the impressive River Redgums and natural riverine vegetation with a scattering of birdlife such as the pelican. An attractive and well maintained picnic spot is located on the northern bank.

History:

Captain Charles Sturt came across the junction in 1830 whilst on an inland expedition. Sturt established a route, following the Murray, to South Australia, which became much travelled by overlanders with stock. Joseph Hawdon and Charles Bonney drove cattle overland to Adelaide and arrived at the river junction in 1838. A camp was established at the site which was to grow into the township of Wentworth. The presence of the junction is the purpose behind the establishment of Wentworth and particularly caused its growth as a port town during the River Trade era. The junction continues to act as a drawcard for tourists.

Recommendation:

Conservation
Continue to maintain picnic grounds
Preserve natural vegetation

REFERENCES:

B Hardy 'West of the Darling'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0907/18

HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 15/11/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY

Item No: 37

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	85 Cadell Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1890's
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

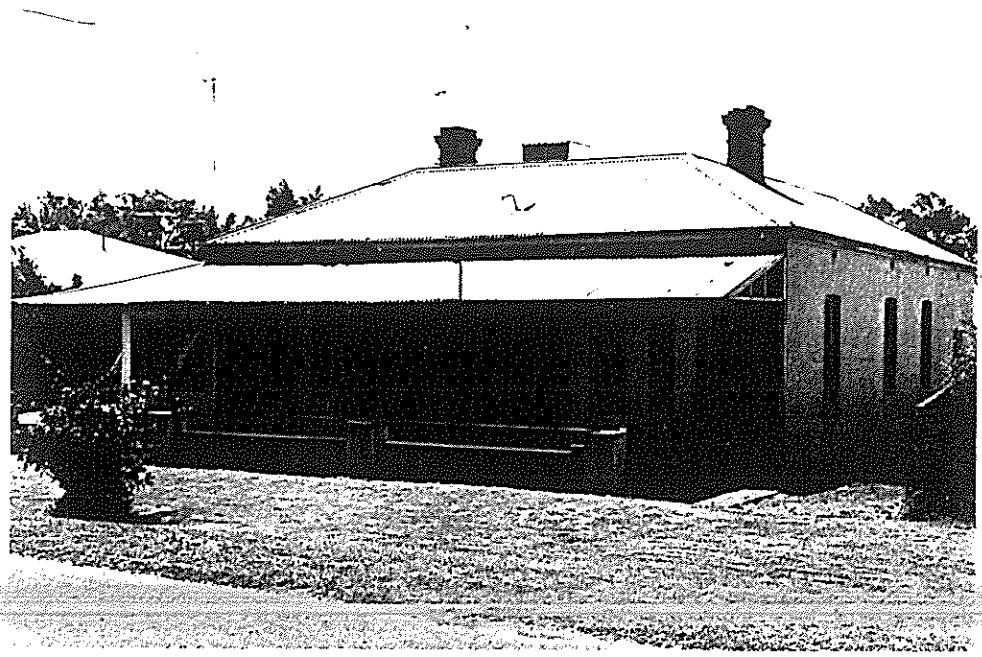
The single storey structure has a stucco exterior and hipped roof with front verandah supported by wooden posts. The roof is constructed of galvanized iron. The front of the building has two large bay window areas consisting of four double hung windows in each bay. The building has two brick chimneys with horizontal and vertical reliefs. The dwelling is undergoing renovation and an extension has been added to the north side. The building is typical of structures erected during the Wentworth growth period evident towards the end of the nineteenth century.

Recommendation:

Continued restoration

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0907/21



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Lock No 10
LOCATION:	Cadell Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	River Lock and Weir
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1929
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communications
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The Boule design weir has a lower pool level [illegible] and an upper pool level of 31.77 metres. The lock is a chamber built alongside the weir which enables river craft to be transferred between the two stream levels. The northern bank is comprised of attractive grounds and information boards.

History:

Lock 10 is one of 13 locks and 15 weirs on the Murray River. The purpose of the locks and weirs is to maintain a high level of water for navigation and pumping, intrinsic today to the use of the river as an irrigation source. The loading piles (young lopped redgum trees) used in construction of the Lock were transported by boat from Wangumma Station. A number of dwellings, including Dr Renner's old residence were removed to enable construction. A construction camp was set up, opposite the current Lockmaster's residence, but nothing remains.

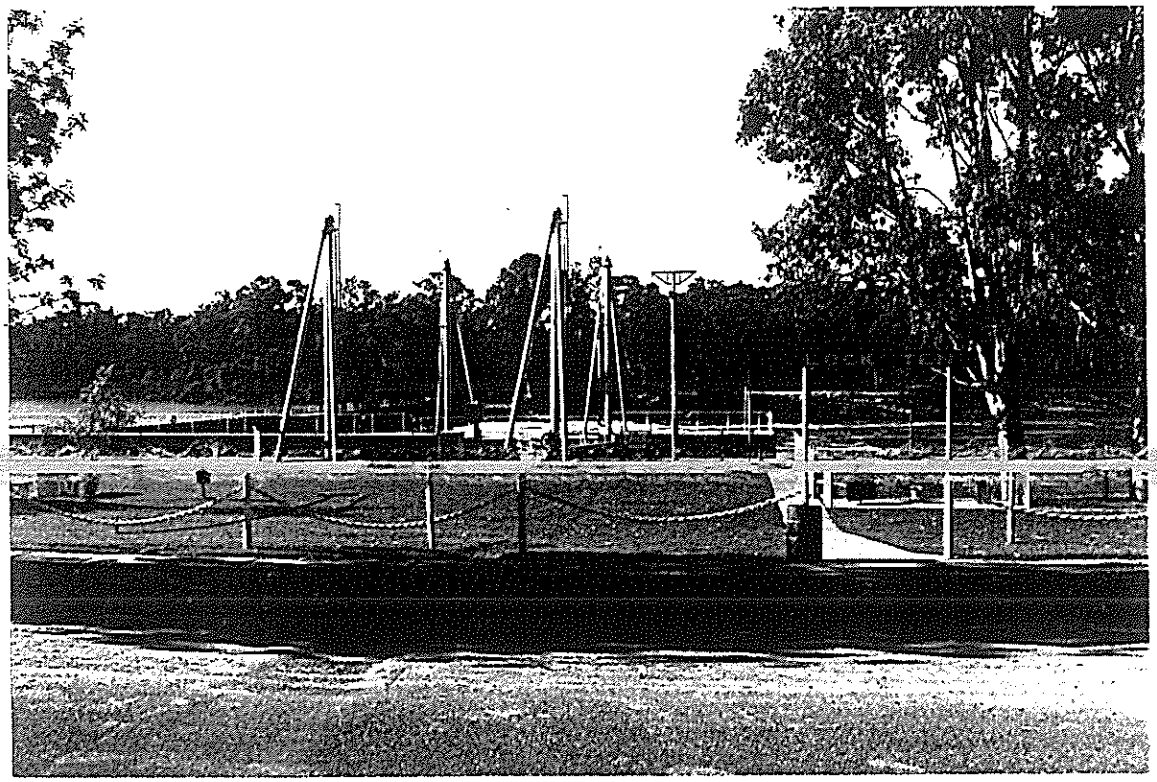
RECOMMENDATION:

Continued maintenance of grounds

REFERENCES:

Drage and Page 'Riverboats and Rivermen'
Tullock D 'The History of Wentworth'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
9099/7



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 13/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Lockmasters' Residence (Edith Cottage)
LOCATION:	Cadell Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Lockmasters' Residence (dwelling)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1889
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A mid Victorian single-storey brick cottage, originally constructed as a single fronted dwelling with the additional portion being added at the turn of the century. The dwelling has a hipped iron roof and separate wrap around inverted verandah supported by wooden posts. Some portions of the verandah have been screened and enclosed. The eaves are supported by decorative wooden brackets. The building has four single slender chimney stacks with horizontal and vertical relief brickwork.

History:

The dwelling was built for Joseph Gurney, who was a local wool scourer and felmonger. The bricks were most probably supplied by the nearby brickyard run by Joseph Fritz. This is one of the only remaining buildings adjacent to the Lock, which was constructed in 1929, and the dwelling then utilized as the Lockmasters' residence.

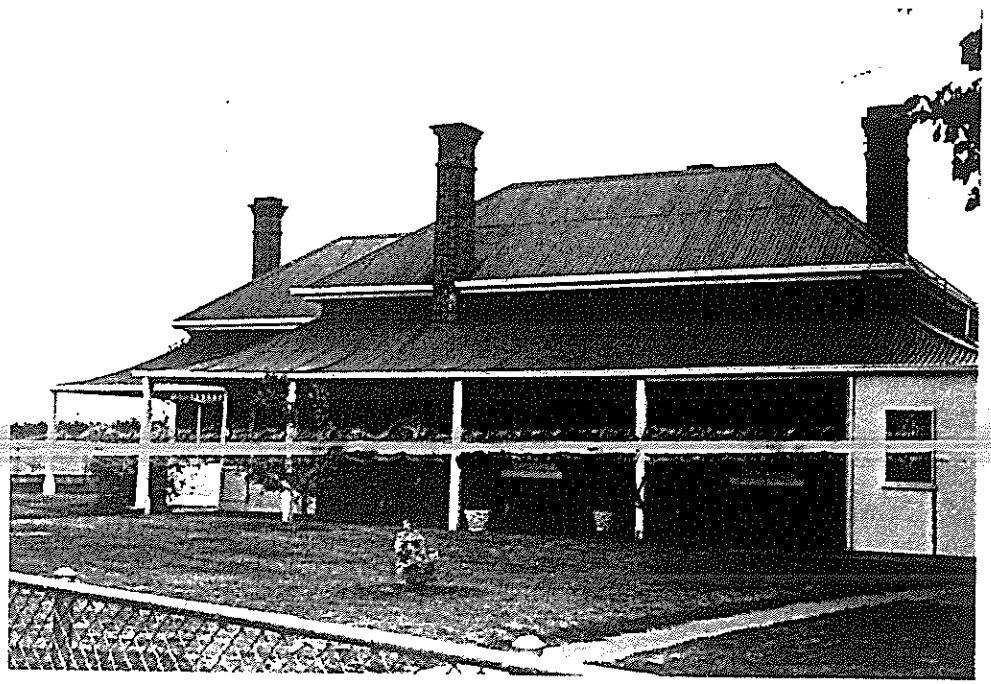
Recommendation:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan

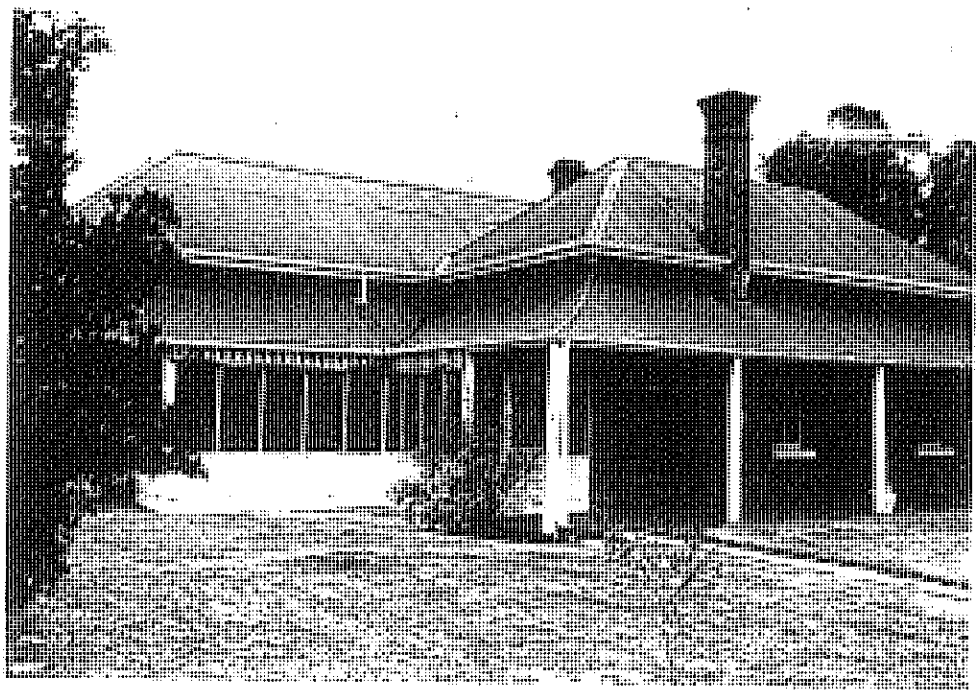
REFERENCES:

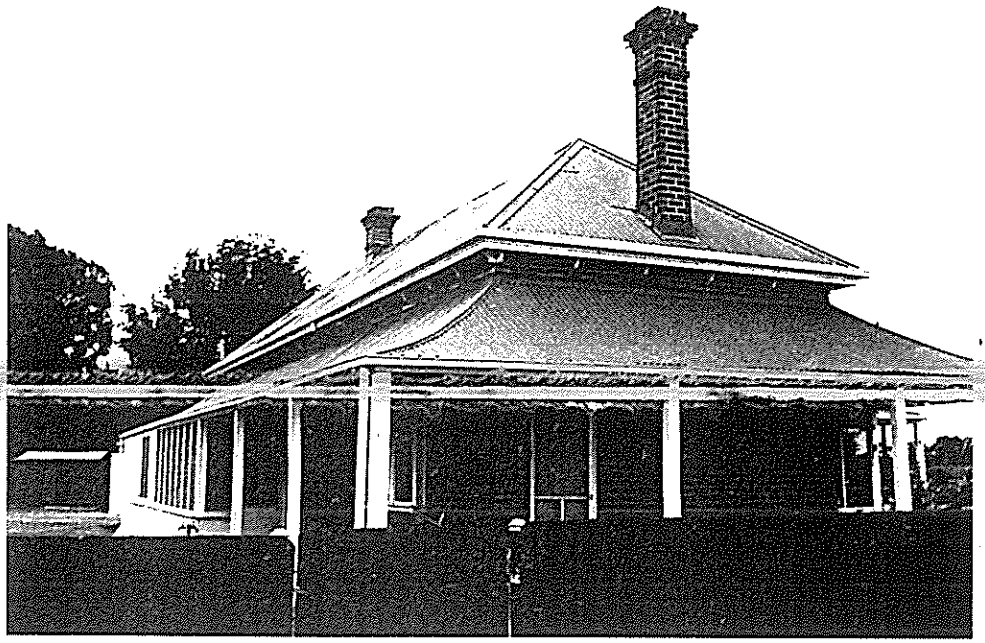
Tulloch D 'The Historic Town of Wentworth'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0907/26-28



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/11/88





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wentworth Cemetery
LOCATION:	Cadell Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Cemetery
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1870's
HISTORICAL THEME:	The People
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A mixture of gravestones, including sandstone, marble and granite. The older graves typically surrounded by wrought iron fencing to identify an individual or family plot. Some elaborately carved stones are evident, usually masoned in Adelaide. The small wrought iron grave number markings and denomination symbols are an attractive feature.

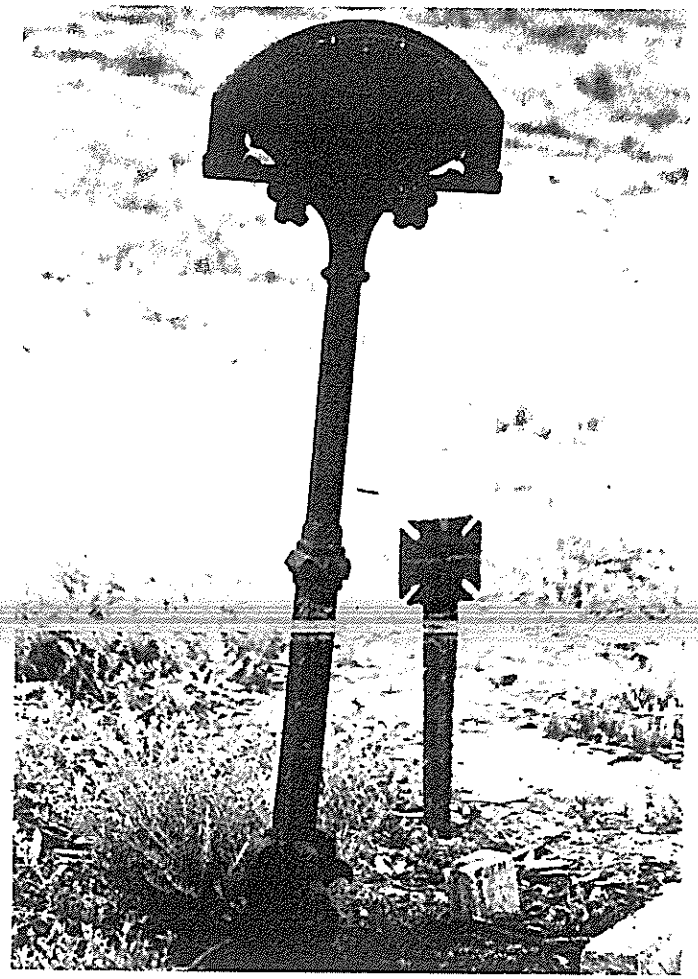
History:

The cemetery is comprised of a number of graves which mostly date from the mid 1880's. Some earlier graves include those of Rebecca, wife of William Bradshaw, first ship owner of Gol Gol (1877) and the three children of William Holding, one of the earliest settlers in Wentworth (1866, 1870, 1871). There are graves of many notable residents of the Wentworth district including that of John Egge, of Chinese nationality, who was a storekeeper and owner of steamboats and gave much to charity and the development of Wentworth in the 1880's.

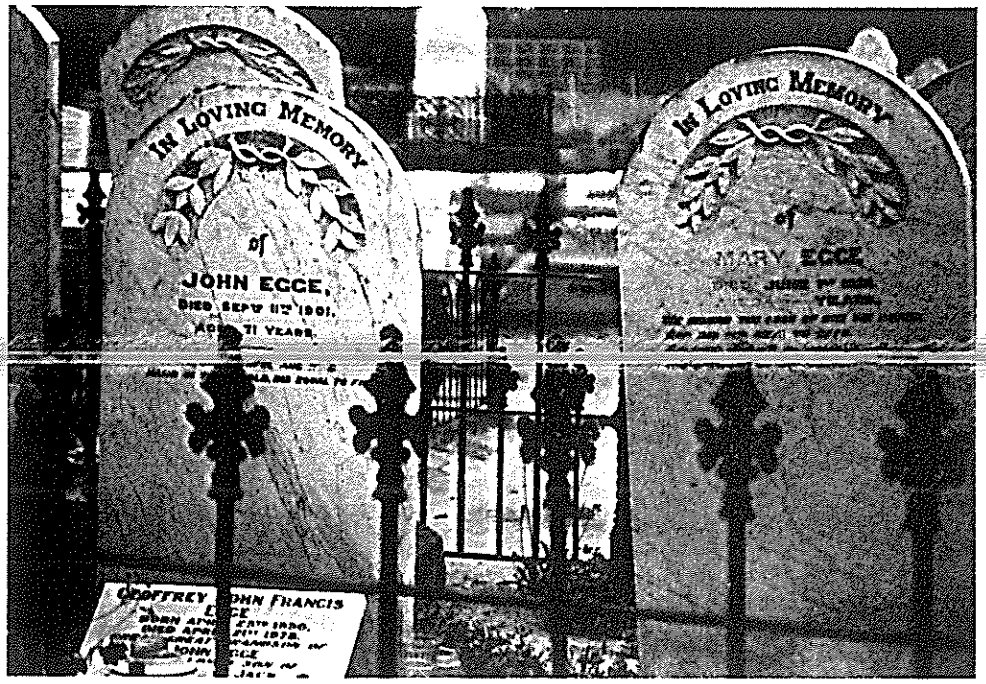
Recommendation:

Conservation by inclusion in Local Environmental Plan. Maintain the grounds and ensure prevention of grave deterioration. Construct a new fence and gateway sympathetic with the historic nature of the site.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0907/8,13,15,17



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15.11.88


IN LOVING MEMORY
of
JOHN ECCE,
IN LOVING MEMORY
of
MARY ECCE

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Snaggy Bend Aboriginal Burial Ground
LOCATION:	4 km south west of Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Sand dune/burial
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	
HISTORICAL THEME:	The People
CONDITION:	Wind Erosion disturbance to dune, burials intact
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Registered Item of National Estate; NP&WS Aboriginal Sites Register

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The sand dune is typical of those found along the Murray as it has been used for burials. The burials occur on a source-bordering dune 150 metres X 300 metres, rising up to 5 metres above the flood plain. A blowout area has exposed burials on the western side. Sand is being deposited to the east. The dune has little vegetation but the surrounding grey clay flood plain supports Black Box vegetation. Brush fencing and mallee branches have been installed to stabilize the blowout area and the dune has been fenced. The area covers some 20 hectares.

History:

The site is of particular historic and scientific importance as it is the largest known prehistoric Aboriginal burial ground in New South Wales. It was clearly an important place for the people of the Murray Darling junction and is known to have been used from 12,000 years ago to after European arrival. These latter historic features add to the cultural continuity of the site and contribute to its research importance.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

Register of the National Estate

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 20/11/87

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	P S Ruby
LOCATION:	Fotherby Park, Wentworth Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Paddle Steamer
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communication
CONDITION:	Undergoing Restoration. Not Riverworthy
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
History:

The P S Ruby was acquired by Wentworth Shire in 1969 and was one of the last boats engaged in passenger and cargo trade on the Murray. The boat is displayed in Fotherby Park and is one of the only visible reminders of the Shire's reliance on, and role in, the era of river trade and transport.

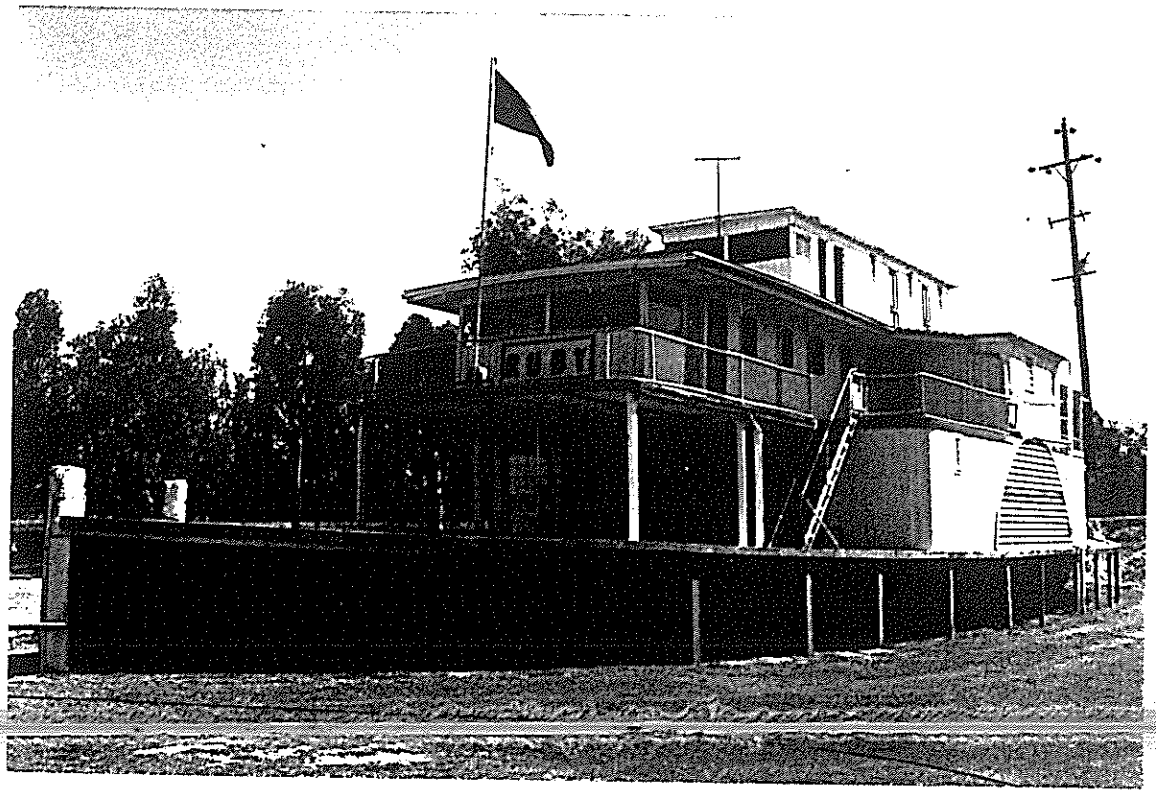
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

REFERENCES:

Tulloch D 'The Historic Town of Wentworth'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6609/17



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	11 Armstong Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1910
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

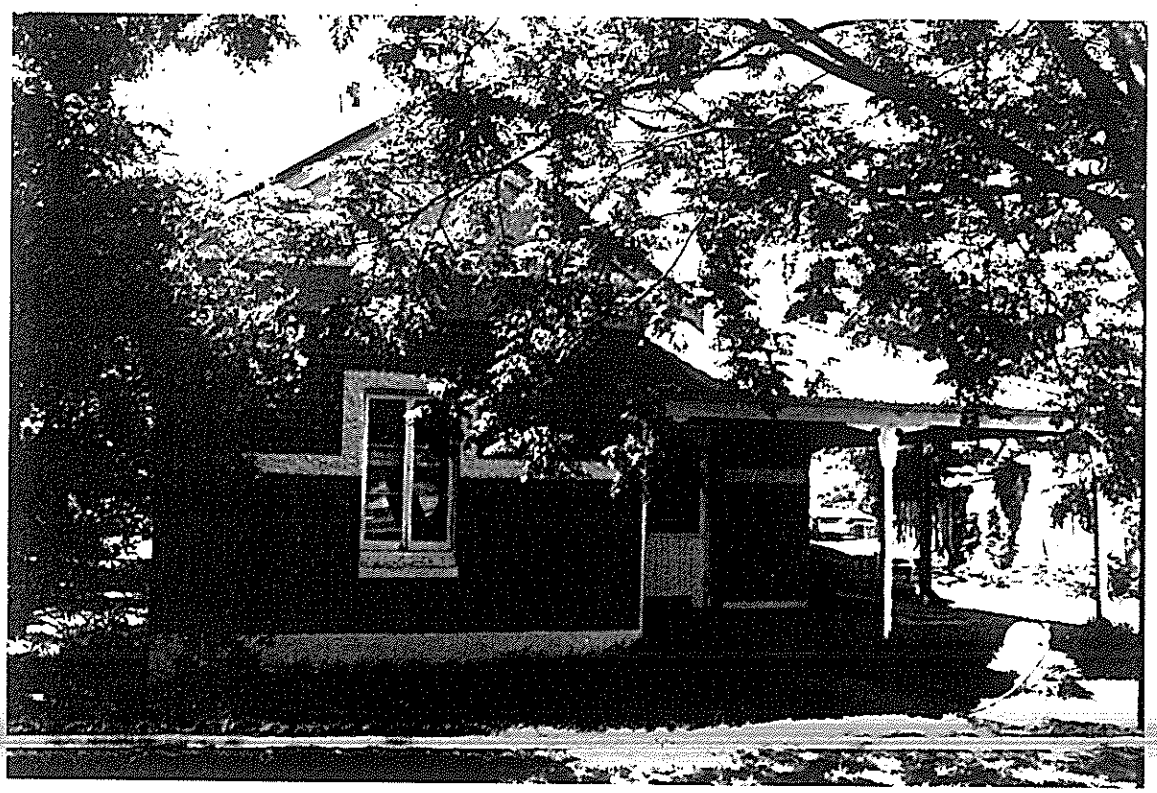
STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single storey brick federation style dwelling with high gambrel iron clad roof extending over a side and half front verandah. A high centre front gable has vertical timber fretwork. The verandah is supported by plain timber posts and adorned with timber braces. The building is highlighted with stucco border trim. The dwelling compliments the adjacent property which is of similar design.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6609/18



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 44

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	13 Armstrong Street, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1910
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

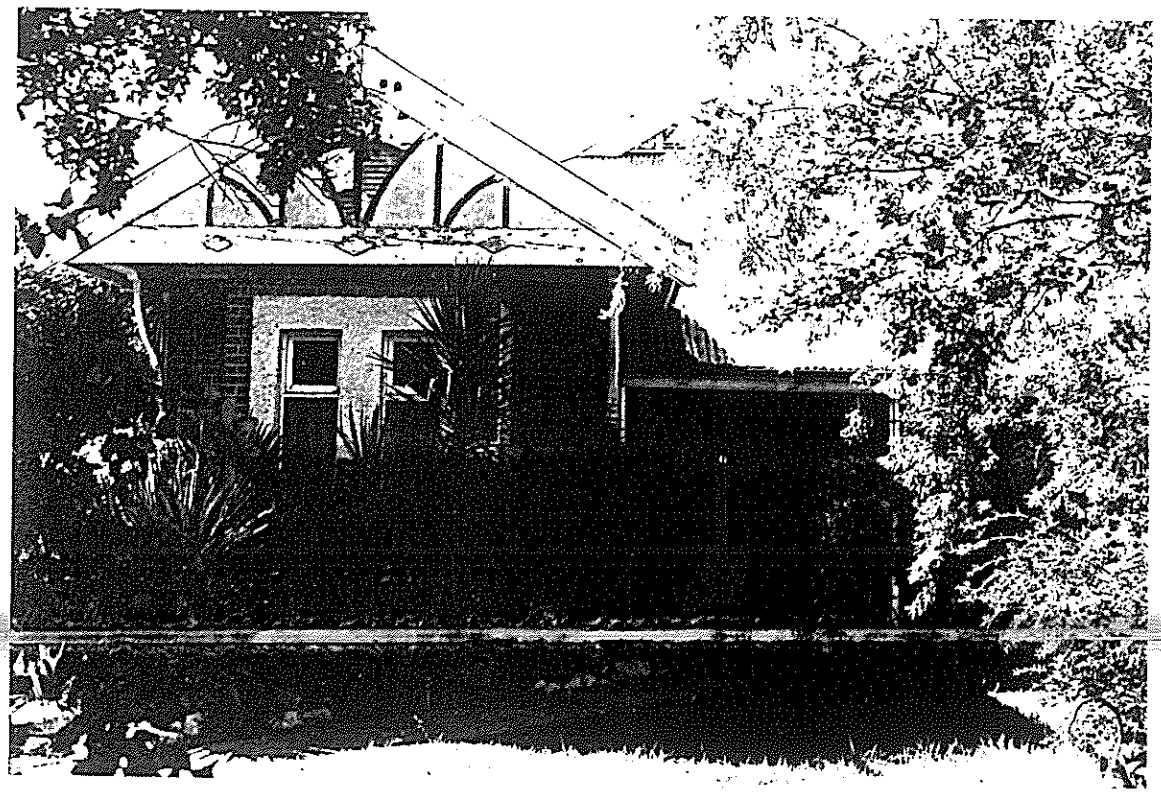
STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single storey brick federation style dwelling with high gambrel roof. The front extension features a large gable decorated with timber fretwork and a curved finial. The gable forms an awning over the front window which is set in a bay extension. The gable awning is supported by decorative wooden brackets. The front and side verandah are supported by turned timber posts. The elaborate front and side doors have large diamond shape glass panels set in panelled and patterned timber work. The attractive dwelling compliments the adjacent dwelling of similar style. Both dwellings are set amidst large trees, including a palm tree, typical planting of the construction years.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance of facade including upgrading of front gable

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6609/20



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 45

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Water Tower
LOCATION:	Wentworth (rear of hospital)
USE (Former Uses):	Water Tower
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1885
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The ornate structure is comprised of a tall pre-stressed tower of nine cylindrical iron columns bolted in four sections, supporting a water tank with galvanised iron polygonal roof and decorative wrought iron finial.

History:

The water tower was made by Hudson Brothers Ltd, of Clyde and imported to Australia. The town's water supply commenced in 1888. The impressive tower is an important feature of the Wentworth skyline and a fine representation of the provision of services in the initial years of municipal government.

Recommendation:

Conservation. Prevention of deterioration. Maintenance of surrounding open area. Improved road and information board.

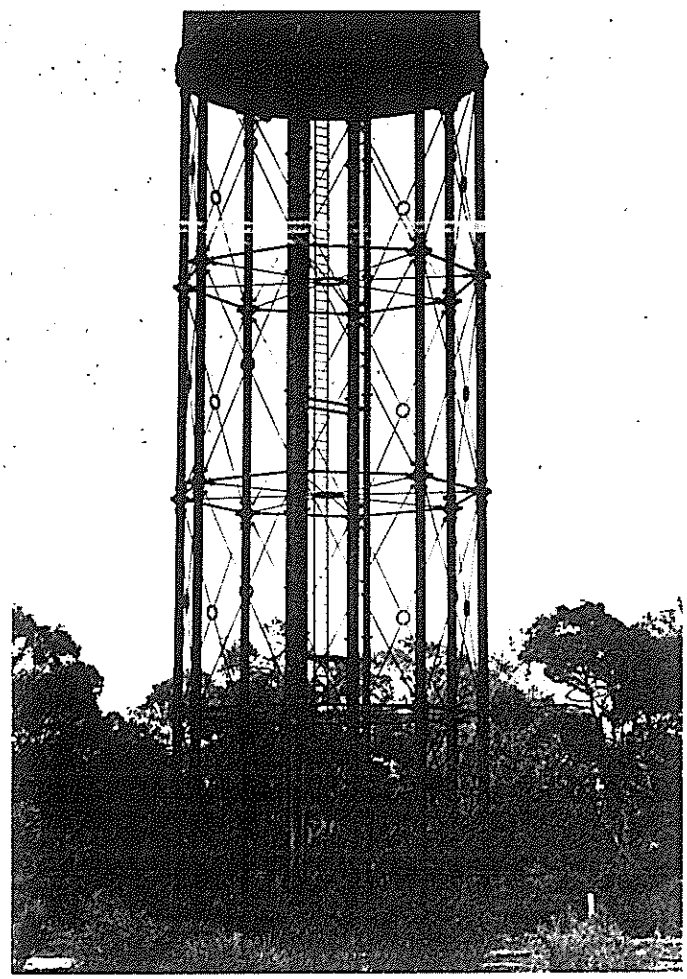
REFERENCES:

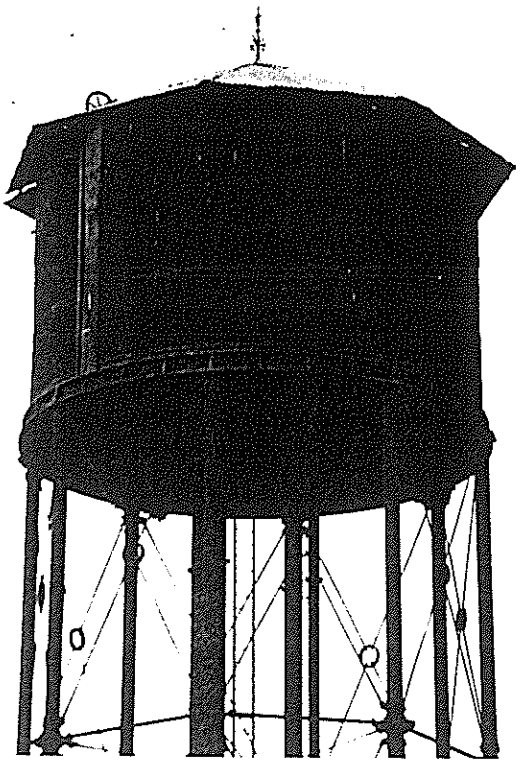
J Whyte

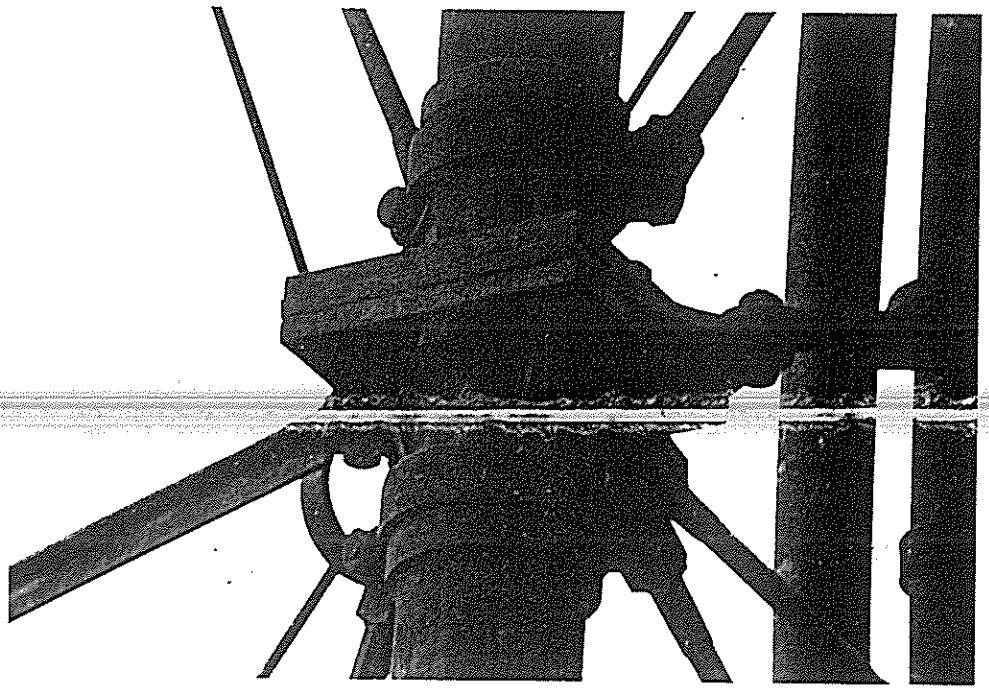
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0906/8, 15, 18, 25

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Water Tower
LOCATION: Wentworth (rear of hospital)







ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Telegraph Hotel
LOCATION:	Corner Tarcoola and McKinley Streets, Pooncarie
USE (Former Uses):	Hotel
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1926
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The single storey building is constructed of cement blocks. The walls are reinforced with local stone quarried nine kilometres north of Pooncarie. Cement brick quoins are located around the doorways and windows and at wall corners. A wrap around verandah is supported by plain timber posts. The iron roof displays two facade gables with a small louvered diamond air vent. The hotel is pleasantly surrounded by a lawn verge and set adjacent to two large gums. These, in conjunction with the fresh white paintwork provide an attractive and inviting addition to Pooncarie.

History:

The original Telegraph hotel was located on the corner of McKinley and Mallara Streets. It was erected in 1875 and consisted of a slab building with iron roof. Edward Edwards, an accomplished state football representative from Adelaide became licensee of the hotel in 1922. He began building the present day Telegraph Hotel in that same year. The construction was carried out by Messers McManus, Duncan and Thornton. The building took three years to complete, progress hampered at one stage by a dust storms. The old hotel was then dismantled. The hotel played an important role in development of Pooncarie acting as a vital meeting place. It is the only remaining hotel between Wentworth and Menindee.

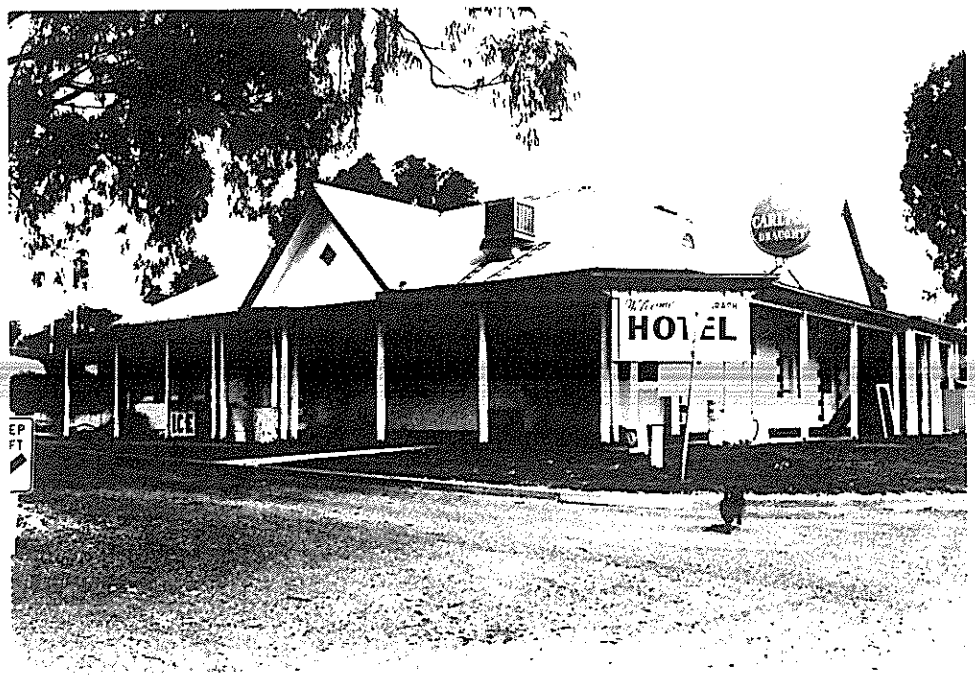
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

Lans & Smith, 'History of Pooncarie and District'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0908/5



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Pooncarie Police Station
LOCATION:	Tarcoola Street, Pooncarie
USE (Former Uses):	Police Station (and courthouse)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1906
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A weatherboard structure with front porch and side verandah with timber flooring supported by timber posts decorated with angular brackets. The building has two steep iron roofs, both with a protruding plain brick chimney stack with plain pots. The front wall displays three timber encased 6/1 windows covered by a single slated awning supported by four slender turned wooden brackets. The front gable has both timber louvering and shingle cladding and name plate. The rear timber structure which was once the courthouse has been renovated to become part of the residence.

History:

The town's first police presence was established in 1868 and formed part of the south western police district which had headquarters at Deniliquin. A crude courthouse and lock-up were constructed in 1875. Construction commenced on the new police station and courthouse on the present site in 1905 but was destroyed by fire. The present structure was built soon after. The station closed in 1944 due to war-time staff shortages but re-opened in 1947. Today the police patrol area is some 9,000 kilometres.

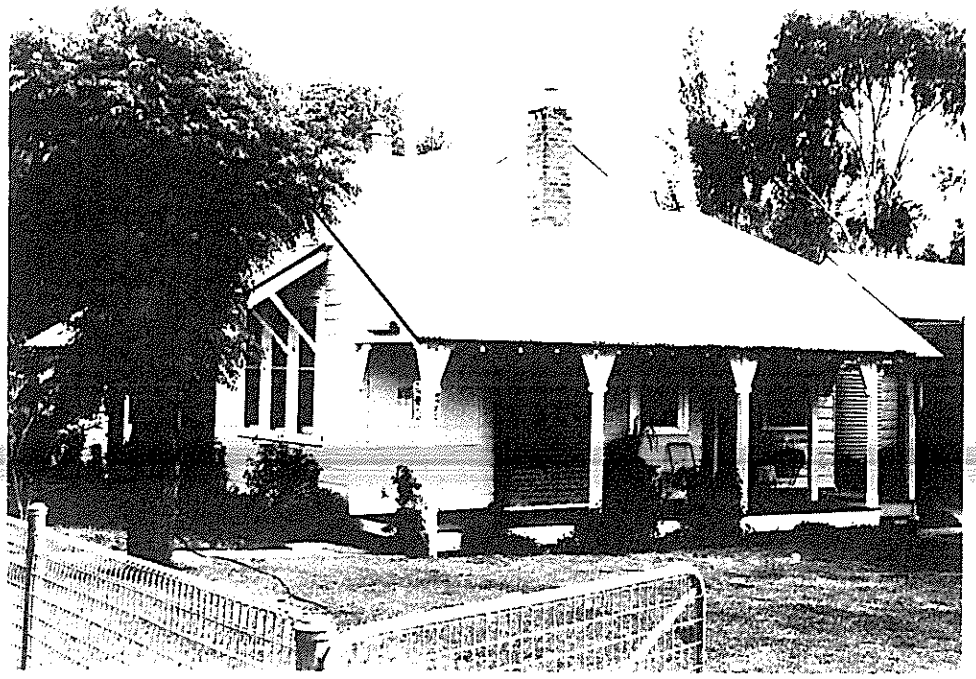
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation within the Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

Lans & Smith, 'The History of Pooncarie and District'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0908/6



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Pooncarie Post Office
LOCATION:	Tarcoola Street, Pooncarie
USE (Former Uses):	Post Office (telephone exchange)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1928
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Fair, some modifications
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A plain weatherboard structure with low hip iron roof. A small front porch is encased by a half wall with ledge and two slender timber posts. A side extension is constructed with matching materials. The window hoods are supported by decorative timber brackets.

History:

The first Post Office in Pooncarie was established in 1869 and situated in a room of the Pooncarie Hotel. A post office building was erected in 1877 but deteriorated rapidly. A portable building was shipped from Sydney in 1886 and erected in the main street. the present post office was erected next door to that very building which was later removed to the store across the street. The building was extended in 1952 to provide for a comfortable living area. The families of post masters were responsible for boosting the population of Pooncarie. The Post Office (now Agency) continues to play an important role in the isolated district.

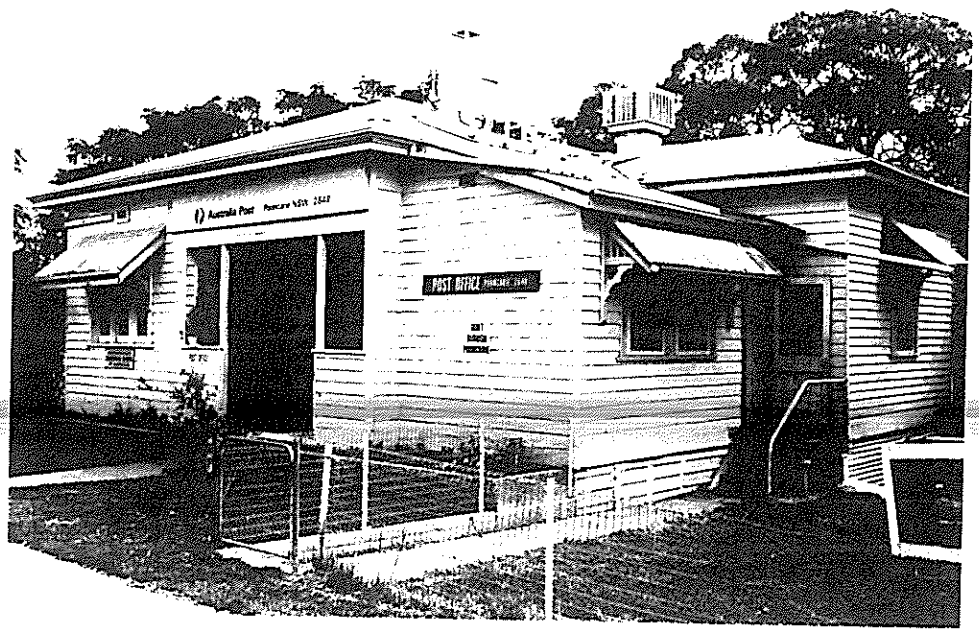
RECOMMENDATION:

Retention of existing facade, maintenance

REFERENCES:

Lans & Smith, 'History of Pooncarie & District'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0908/8



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Pooncarie Cemetery
LOCATION:	Menindee Road, Pooncarie
USE (Former Uses):	Cemetery
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1903 (gazetted), Graves marked 1870
HISTORICAL THEME:	The People
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A small cemetery displaying headstones dating from 1870. The majority of headstones are semi-circular in shape and the graves defined by cast iron fencing. Majority of headstones masoned in Adelaide. The oldest portion of the cemetery is situated on a rise enabling them to be the dominant feature. The large tree adjacent to these graves requires replacement.

History:

The earliest marked grave is of Simon McDonald (1870) who was one of the first landholders in Pooncarie and the first licensee of the 'Pooncaira Hotel'. Others include that of Charles Barritt, renown landholder and pioneer. Administration of the cemetery has been undertaken by Wentworth Shire Council since 1934. The cemetery provides an important record of the early settlers of the Darling frontage, and an important reminder of the hardships of pioneering life and isolation including tragic drownings and family epidemics.

Recommendation:

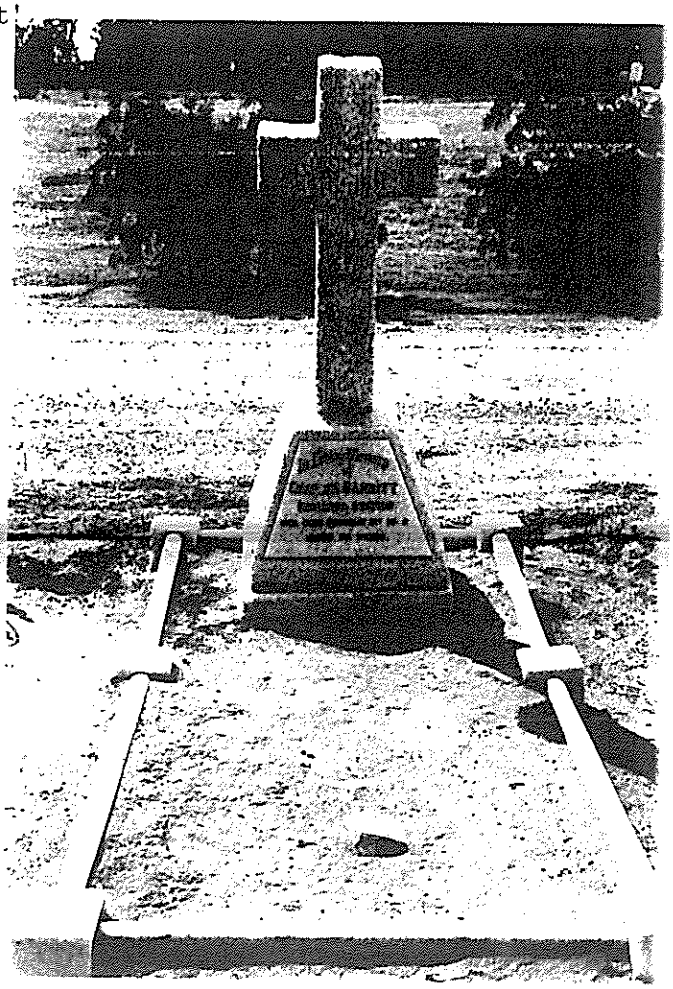
Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan
Maintenance of grounds and headstones
Replacement of dead tree by a suitable similar species

REFERENCES:

Lans & Smith 'The history of Pooncarie and District'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0908/2



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 18/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	State Bank, (Rural Bank of New South Wales)
LOCATION:	Corner Tapio and Neilpo Streets, Dareton
USE (Former Uses):	Bank
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1935
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A squat brick building with a rounded entrance highlighted by cement pillars forming a porch and supporting a large curved pediment displaying horizontal and vertical reliefs and a plaque of the coat of arms. The tiled high hip roof is punctuated with an elegant turret with ornamental timber panels and a bell cast roof. Two slender brick chimneys protrude from the roof. A protruding bricked extension with two double hung windows faces each street and covered with curved awnings complimenting the entrance.

History:

The bank was one of the first buildings to be erected in Dareton and the only commercial building of such stature existing within the Shire. The solidness of the construction and its dominant corner location indicates the confidence that the bank had in the future of Coomealla.

RECOMMENDATION:

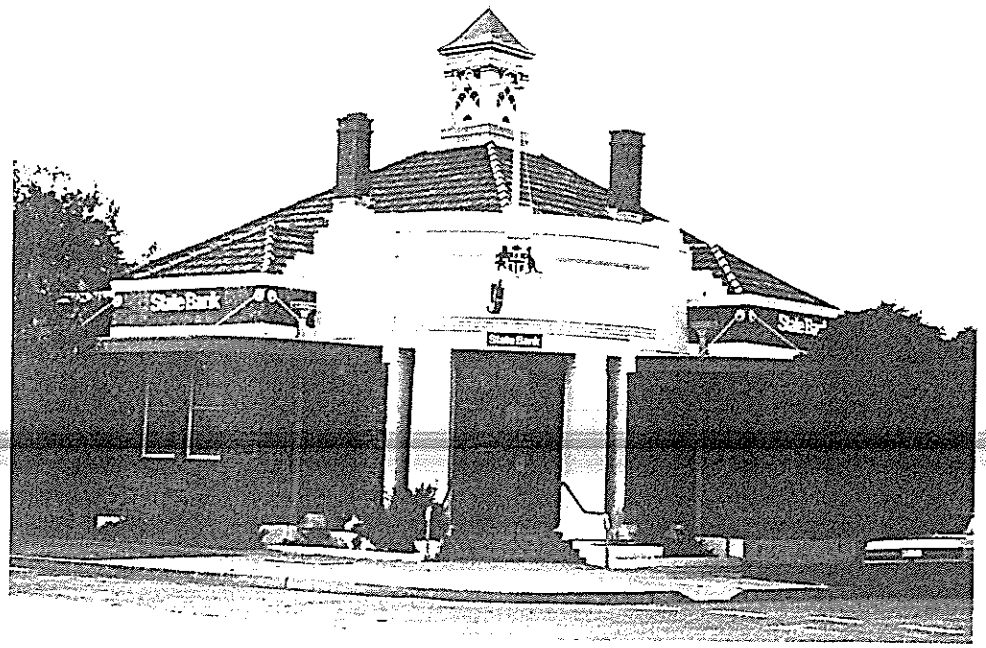
Conservation by inclusion within the Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

Slade L & Williams M, 'A History of Dareton and the Coomealla Irrigation Area'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0903/2



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 28/11/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 51

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Dwelling
LOCATION: Lot 545, Silver City Highway, Buronga
USE (Former Uses): Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE: circa 1910
HISTORICAL THEME: Agriculture
CONDITION: Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A rendered brick dwelling with a high gable iron roof. The small front porch is supported by wooden posts and has a cement pavement exposing original brick paving. The single room dwelling has an attached rear lean-to section with low sloping roof line. A large exterior brick chimney is located on the extended rear wall. The stack is showing evidence of deterioration. The small single fronted cottage is characteristic of early dwellings erected on irrigation allotments. The cottage is aptly surrounded by remnants of vines and orchards. The crude dwelling has no ornamentation and is unique within the newer township of Buronga which is dominated by post war dwellings.

History:

Unknown

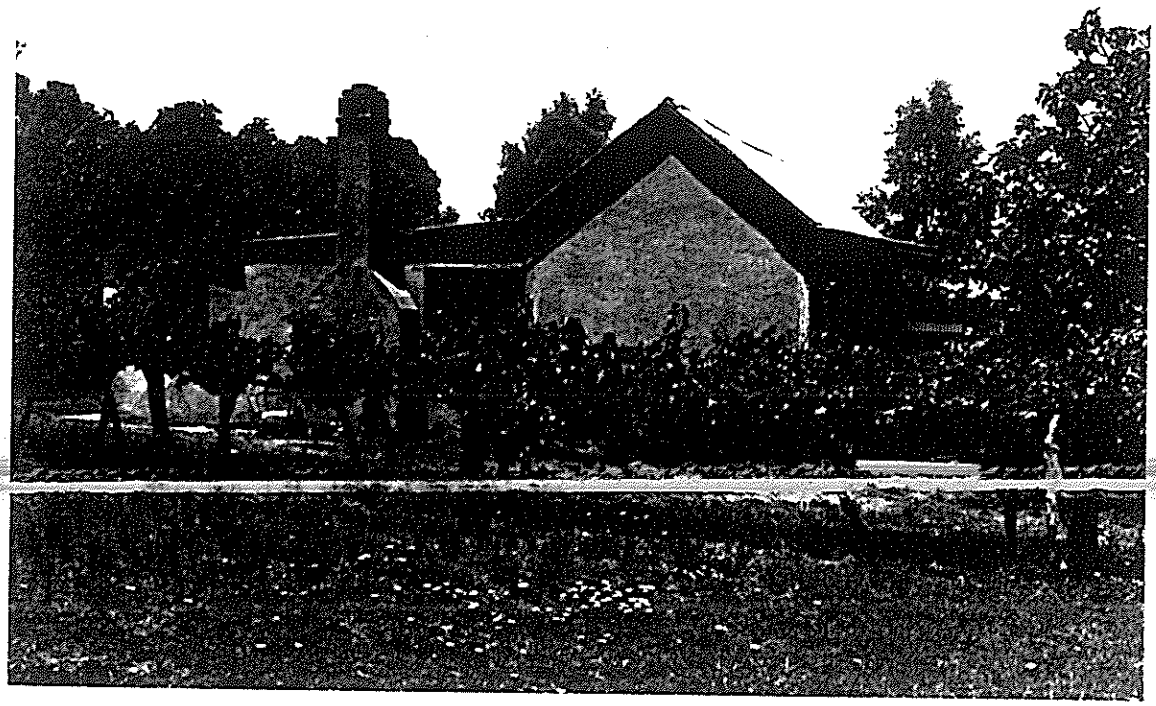
RECOMMENDATION:

Restoration of facade and upgrading of surrounding orchard

REFERENCES:

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6610/27



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 29/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Mildura Bridge (previous)
LOCATION:	West of existing Mildura Bridge, Sturt Highway, Buronga
USE (Former Uses):	Previous Bridge
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1927 (now demolished)
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communication
CONDITION:	Dismantled
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

An iron lift span bridge supported by concrete pylons. The bridge had sufficient strength to allow a train to pass over it and the lift span enabled a steamship to pass underneath. The bridge is now replaced by a masonry road bridge.

History:

The Murray River crossing between Mildura and Gol Gol was integral to the development of both townships. Gol Gol was established in its existing location due to the ability of fording the river during low water. Crossing the river was usually by row-boat but it was possible to cross by foot or horse and sulky in times of drought. A public punt operated by the Dring brothers began in about 1915 enabling transport of stock and goods between Mildura and Gol Gol. A rail system was proposed, connecting Gol Gol to Mildura with the aim of opening up land north east for fertile irrigation holdings. The bridge was constructed to enable such a connection, resulting in closure of the punt. The railway never eventuated. However, the location of the bridge resulted in the development of Buronga and reduced the commercial significance of Gol Gol. The bridge was replaced by a road bridge in response to traffic increases.

RECOMMENDATION:

Formation of a park to incorporate remnants

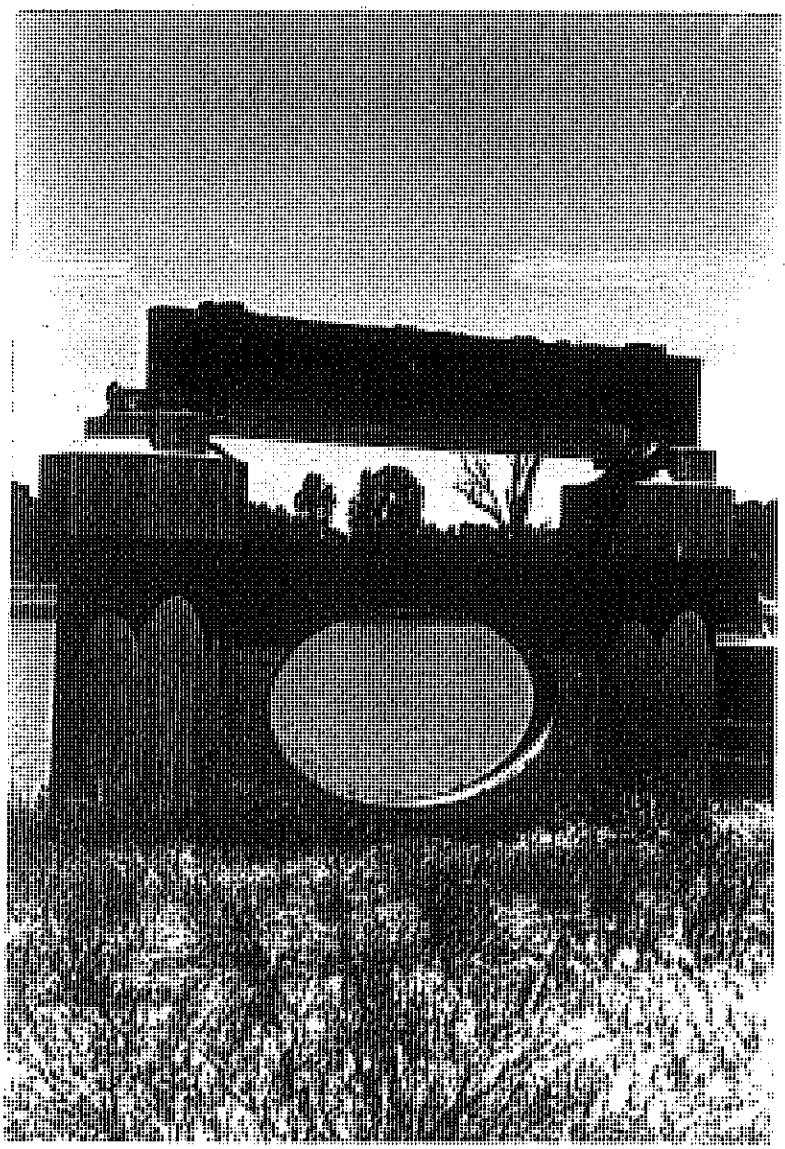
REFERENCES:

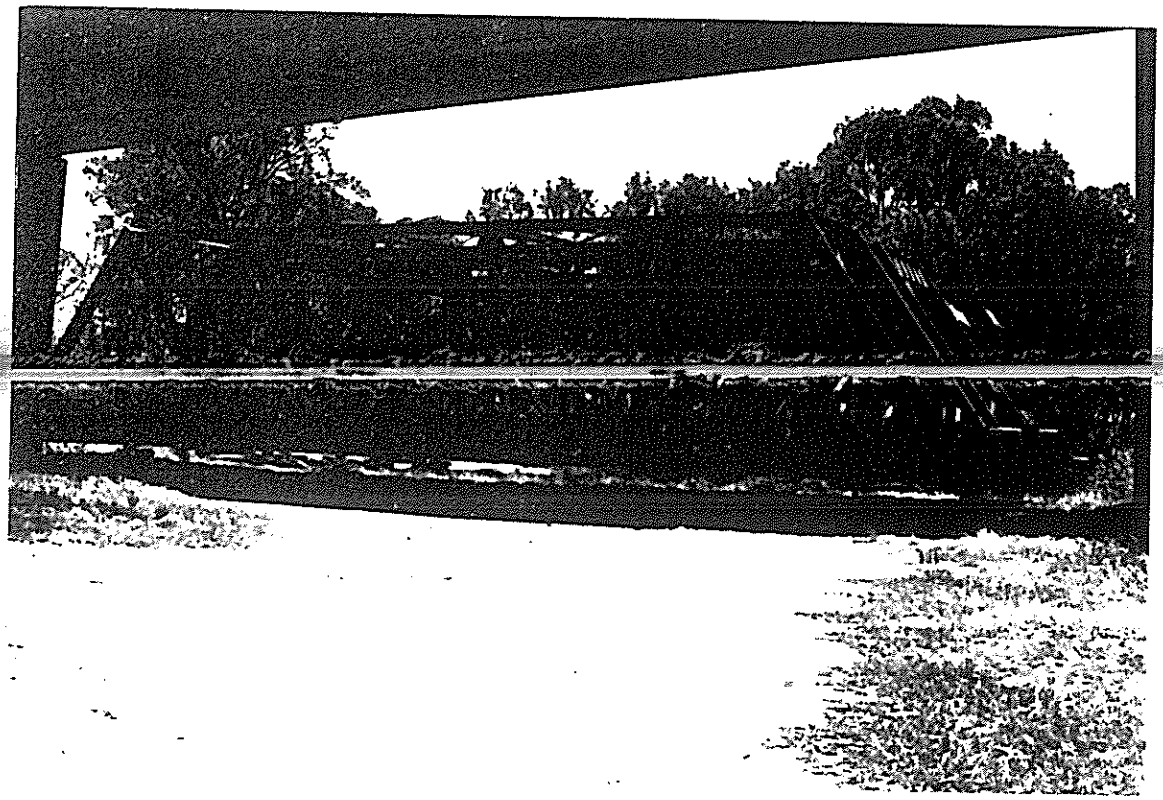
Voullaire K, 'Gol Gol'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6610/33-35

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Mildura Bridge
LOCATION: West of existing Mildura Bridge, Sturt Highway





SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 53

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	The Paddlewheel Hotel (Gol Gol Inn)
LOCATION:	Sturt Highway, Gol Gol
USE (Former Uses):	Hotel
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1877
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Considerably Altered
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
History:

The Gol Gol Inn was constructed by John Little Thompson as a simple log cabin. The hotel was an important refreshment site for the Mail Change coaches. The hotel played a vital role in the local community, housing some of Gol Gol's most notable residents such as the Wilkinson family who held the licence to the Inn for 56 years. The appearance of the Inn has changed dramatically from the timber room to todays brick structure. At the rear there is evidence of the brick facade which first clad the building in the 1920's. The Hotel is significant to the development of Gol Gol.

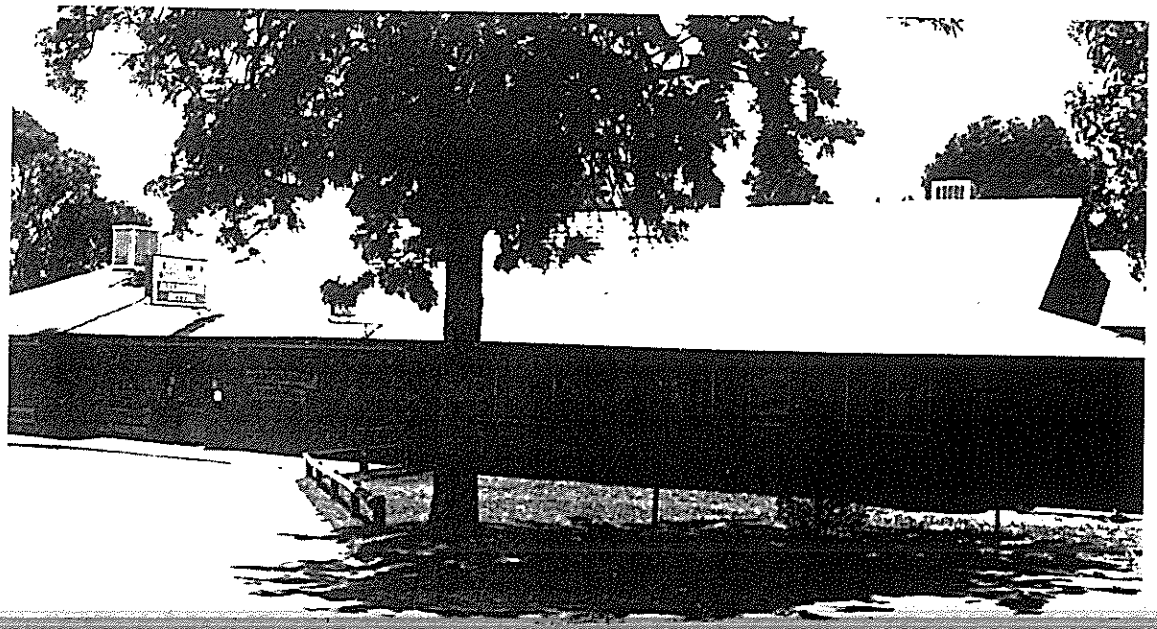
RECOMMENDATION:

Encourage restoration
Reinstate a verandah

REFERENCES:

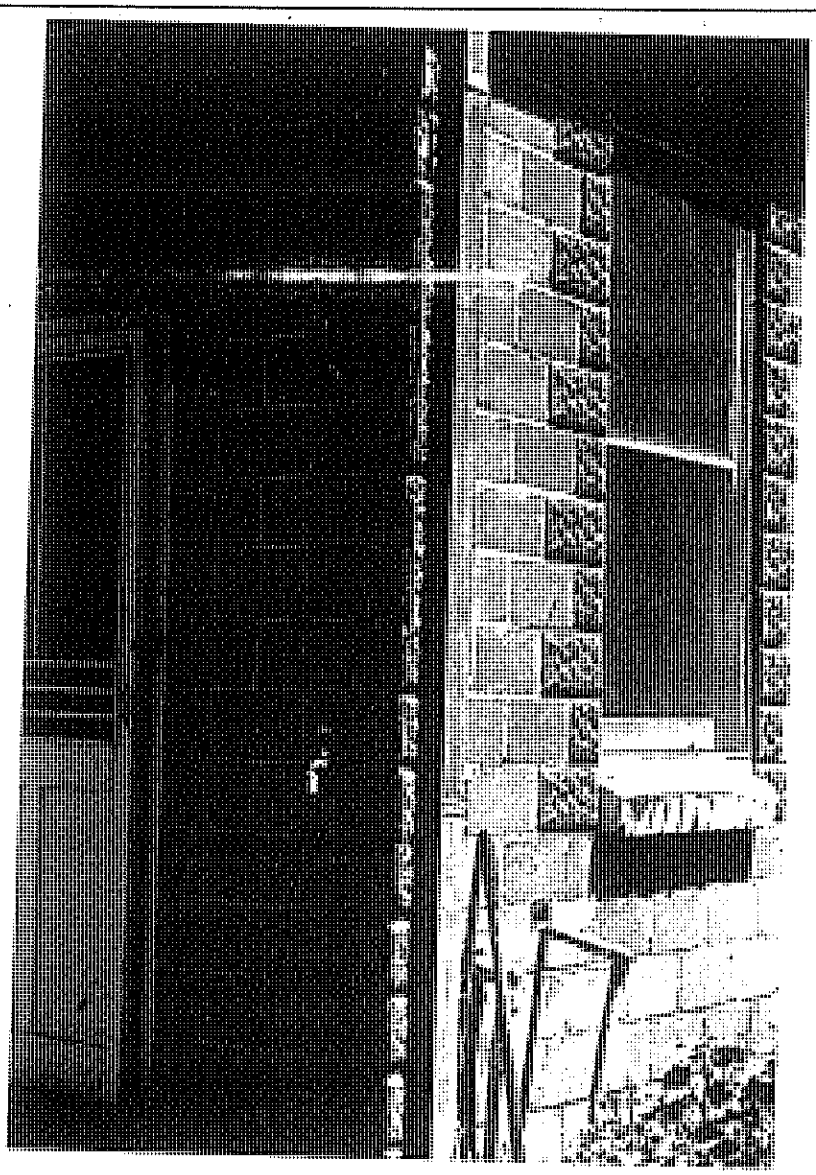
Voullaire K 'Gol Gol'

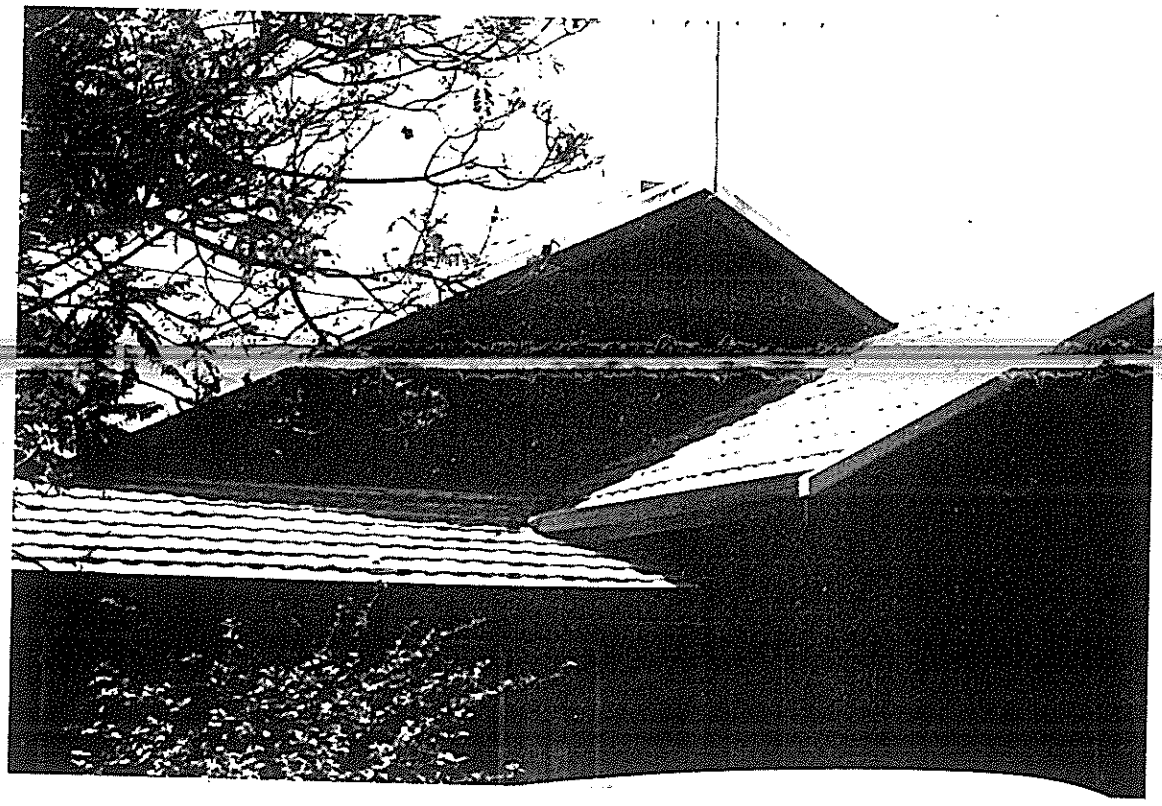
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6610/4,6,7



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): The Paddlewheel Hotel (Gol Gol Inn)
LOCATION: Sturt Highway, Gol Gol





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Gol Gol Cemetery
LOCATION:	Cnr William and Bligh Streets, Gol Gol
USE (Former Uses):	Cemetery
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1878 (gazetted)
HISTORICAL THEME:	The people
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The small cemetery consists of a number of graves dating back to the 1880's. The headstones are typically semi-circular, constructed of marble by Adelaide stone-masons. Many of the earlier graves are defined by cast iron fences. Of contrast are the most recent headstones commemorating the death of residents with Mediterranean origin. There is one large granite monument in memory of a serviceman.

History:

Some of Gol Gol's earliest residents and pioneers of the township and surrounds are buried in the cemetery, including the Dring family. The oldest graves are for Charles Bradshaw (1880) and Oswald Bradshaw (1877).

Recommendation:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan
Ensure no deterioration of grave stones
Maintain and upgrade grounds

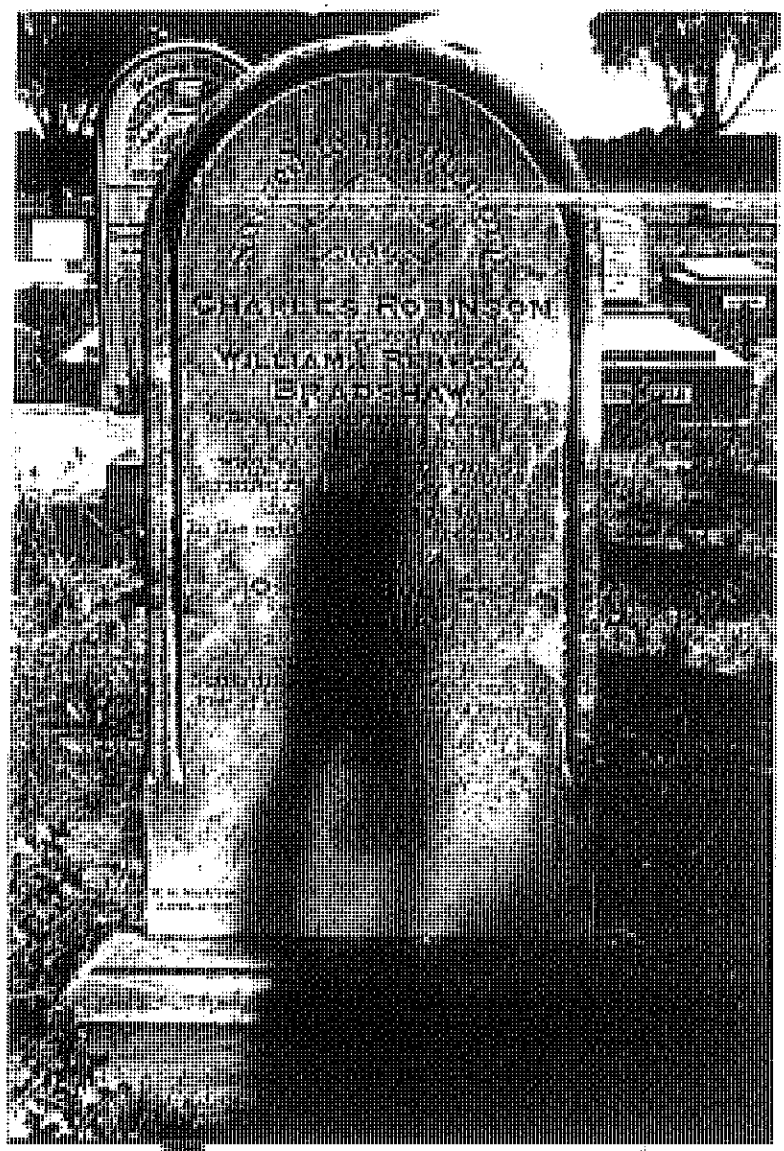
REFERENCES:

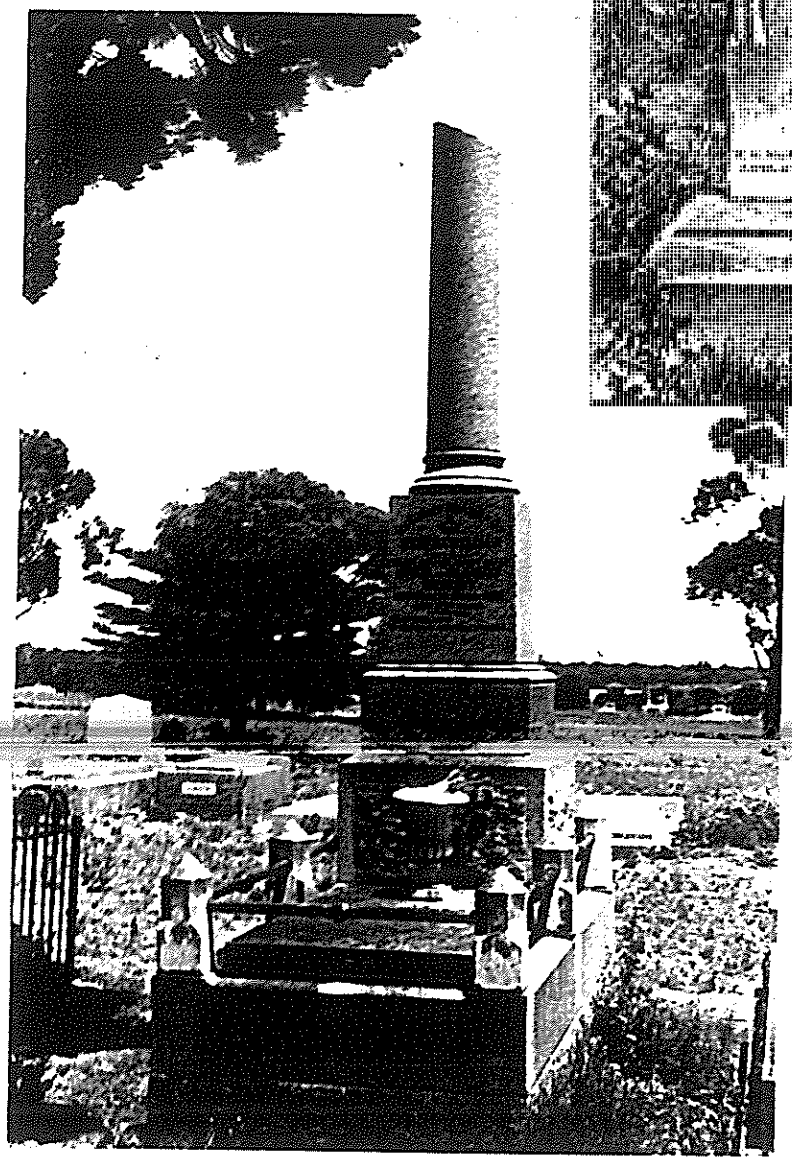
K Voullaire 'Gol Gol Township and School 1882-1982'.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6610/18,23,27

HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Gol Gol Cemetery
LOCATION: Cnr William and Bligh Streets, Gol Gol





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	'Williamsville' Homestead
LOCATION:	Williamsville, Curlwaa
USE (Former Uses):	Abandoned dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1880
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Derelict
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

This now derelict dwelling is constructed of timber and partly clad with corrugated iron. The wrap around verandah is supported by plain timber piers. The iron clad gambrel roof has an off-set gable with vertical fretwork. The verandah roof is partly damaged and the verandah floor is completely removed. The dwelling is not habitable. The dwelling is set on the banks of the Murray River and is bordered by an avenue of tall palms.

History:

Williamsville was taken up by John Williams in 1865. The property was purchased by the Bowrings in 1902 and then by Duncan McKenzie in 1916. Williams developed the first orchard in the area at Williamsville which was rejuvenated by the McKenzies. Williamsville was an important social centre, with the McKenzies providing tennis days and parties for the surrounding establishing residents of Curlwaa.

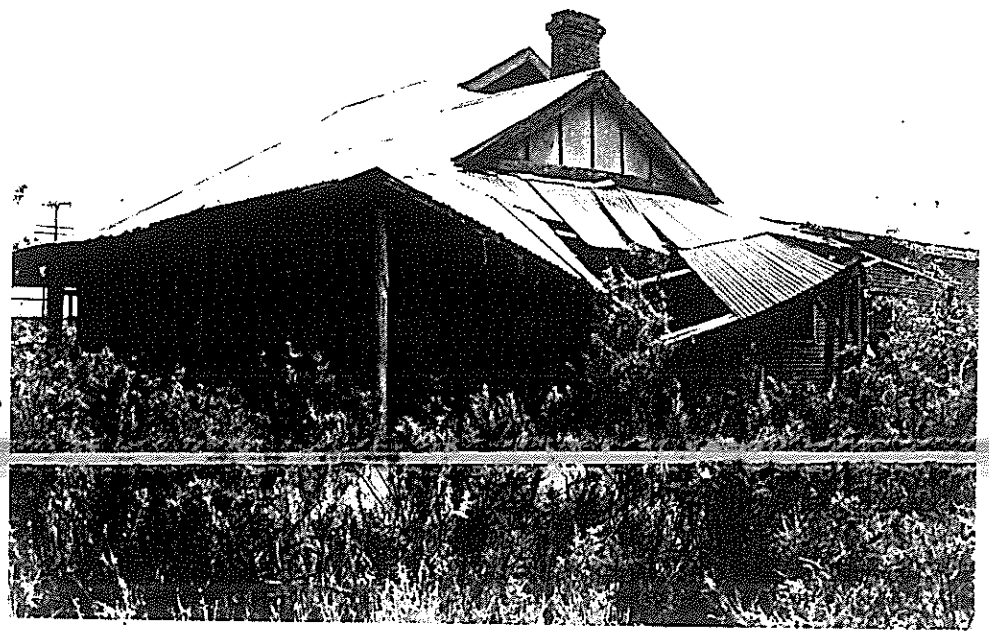
RECOMMENDATION:

Encourage reconstruction to replicate original form

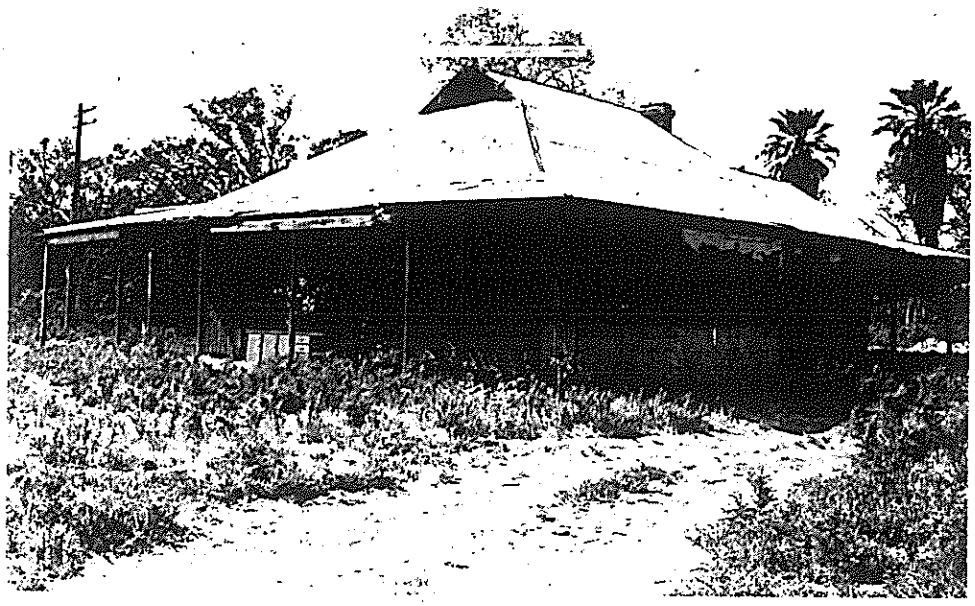
REFERENCES:

James CJ & Taylor PL 'Curlwaa'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0903/12-14



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/11/88



SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 56

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Bellevue Homestead
LOCATION:	Curlwaa Caravan Park, Bridge Road, Williamsville (Curlwaa)
USE (Former Uses):	Shop, Dwelling and Office for Caravan Park
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1930
HISTORICAL THEME:	Social Organization and Recreation
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single storey cement rendered cottage in the Californian Bungalow style. The long narrow verandah is supported by seven tapered cement columns each with single block mounts. The iron roof has multiple gables. The broad centre gable is adorned with timber fretwork. Two large windows with side panels are located at the front of the dwelling. The windows have timber casements and decorative lead light glass panels. The bungalow style, construction materials and decorative facade are unique features of a dwelling within an irrigation area which is characterized by the timber vernacular cottages.

History:

The dwelling provided the residence for the Bellevue Grove which was converted to a caravan park by L Metcalf after damage sustained during the 1956 flood.

RECOMMENDATION:

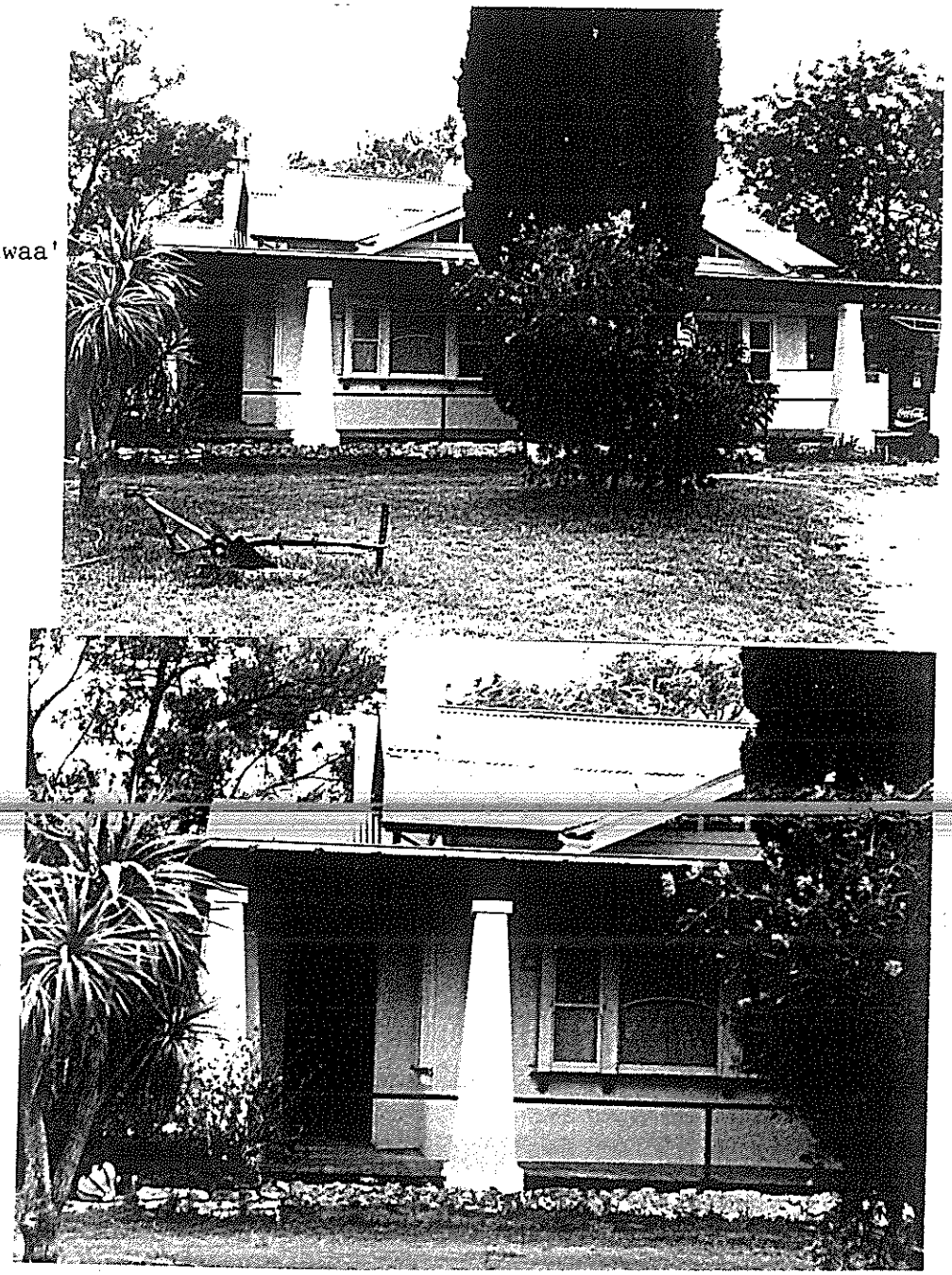
Maintenance

REFERENCES:

James C J & Taylor P L, 'Curlwaa'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0903/16,17



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 28/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Abbottsford Bridge
LOCATION:	Bridge Road, Williamsville
USE (Former Uses):	Road Bridge
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1928
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communication
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
History:

An iron lift span bridge supported by cylindrical cement piers. The bridge replaced a punt. It is the only lift span bridge remaining in the Shire and is a significant reminder of the important river trade era within the Shire.

RECOMMENDATION:

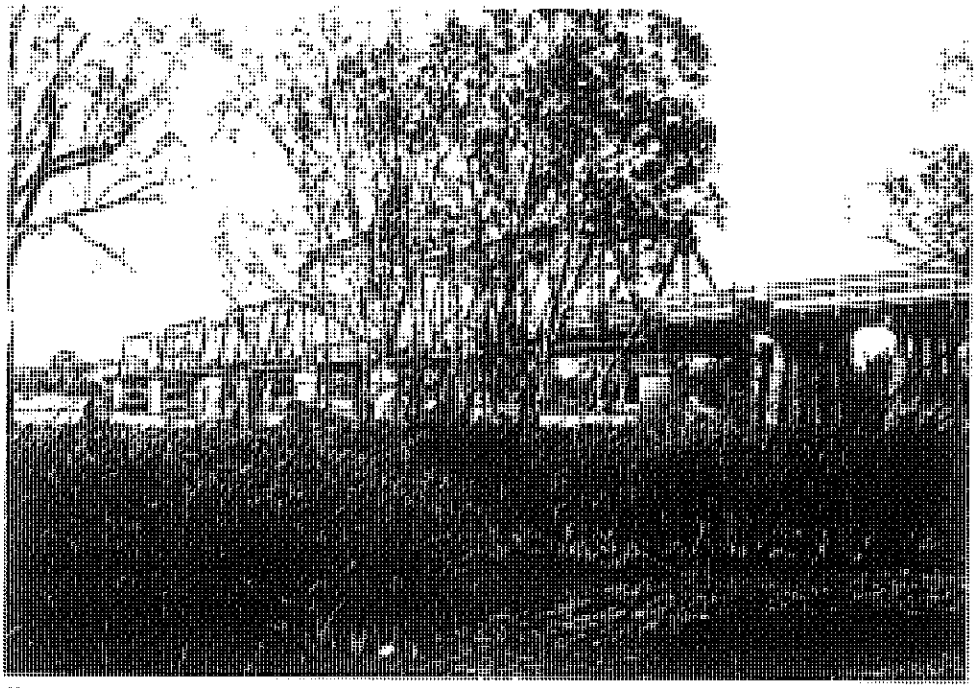
Conservation by inclusion within Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

James CJ & Taylor PL 'Curlwaa'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0903/15,25



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 17/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Dwelling
LOCATION: Lot Section 6, Delta Road, Curlwaa
USE (Former Uses): Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1915
HISTORICAL THEME: Agriculture
CONDITION: Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS: Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single storey weatherboard dwelling comprising a gambrel iron roof. The front verandah has wooden flooring and is supported by chamfered posts decorated with ornate wooden brackets. The dwelling is set in a cottage garden hidden from view by the adjacent orchard. The dwelling is one of the most attractive in the Curlwaa irrigation area, uncharacteristically large and ornate. There appears to have been structural additions including built in verandahs, however the facade is in original condition reminiscent of similar dwellings in Sandwych Street, Wentworth.

History:

The holding is within the second allocation of the irrigation area. First worked by William Winn in 1909 and taken over by Gordon Cumming in 1915. It was settled by his brother Loris who was a founding member of the Delta co-operative, who used his shed for packing.

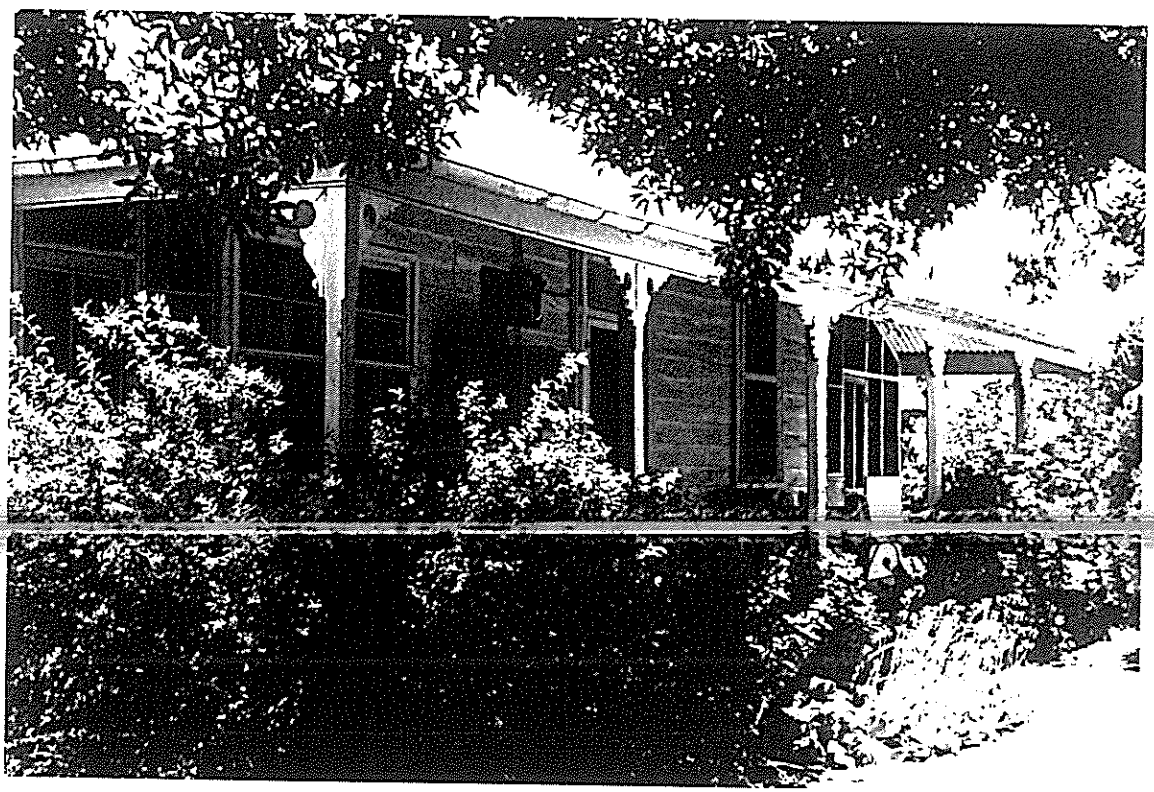
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance of facade and garden

REFERENCES:

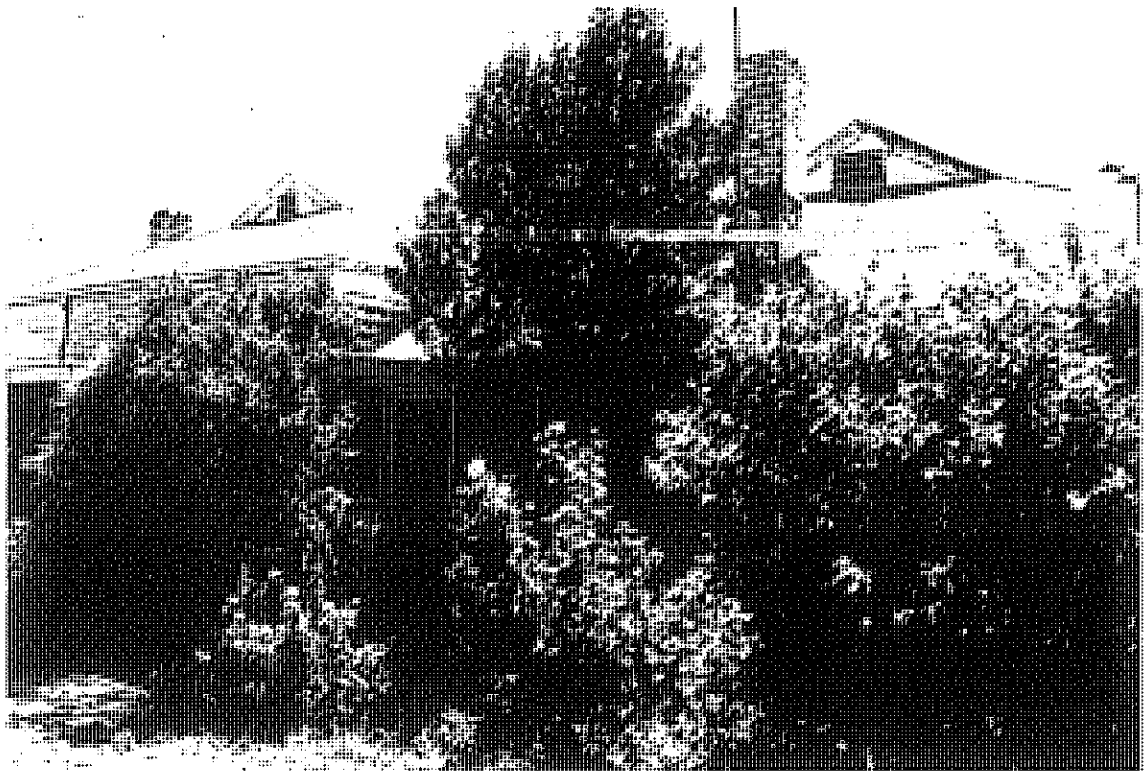
James & Taylor (Curlwaa)

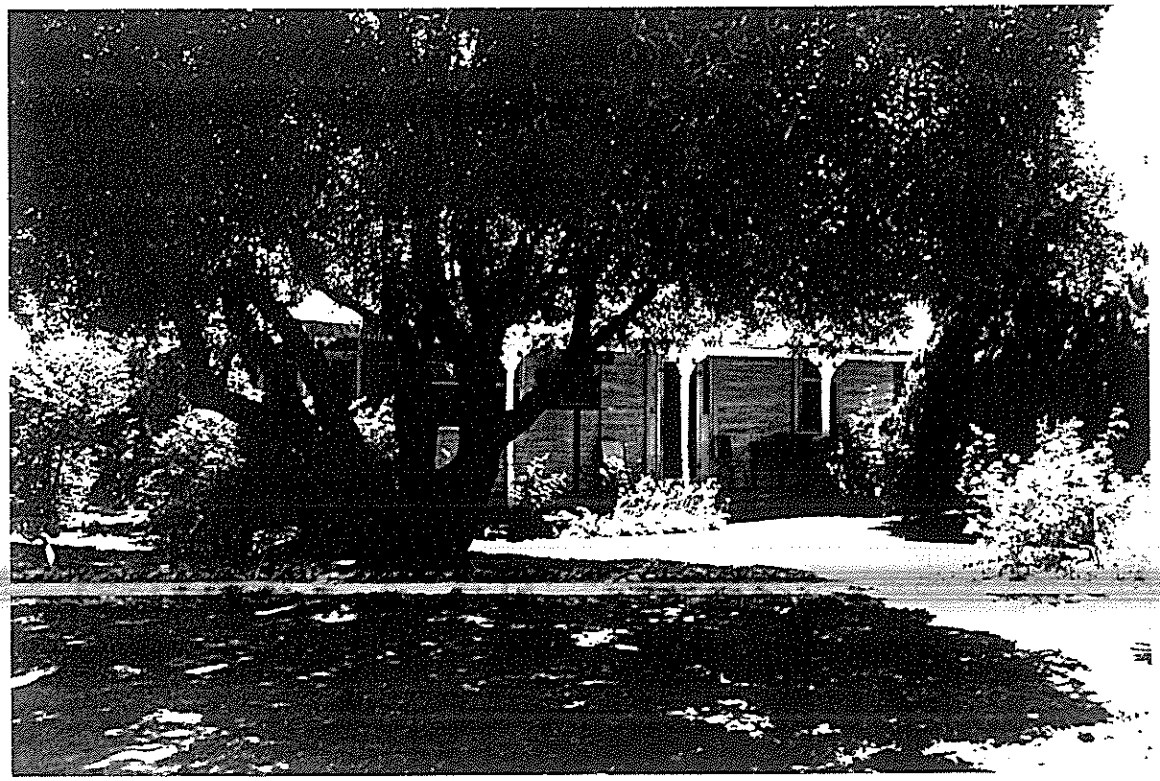
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6607/24-26



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Dwelling
LOCATION: Lot Section 6, Delta Road, Curlwaa





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Curlwaa School
LOCATION:	Section 3, Delta Road, Curlwaa
USE (Former Uses):	Disused School
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1917
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Poor
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A series of connected weatherboard classrooms with extensions including built-in verandas. Currently approaching dereliction.

History:

In 1917 settlers were notified that their application for a school in Curlwaa had been approved. W Wood, a local building contractor constructed the school, in which lessons began in 1919. Due to enrolment increases extra accommodation was added in 1934. After 1960 attendance decreased and the school closed in 1974.

Recommendation:

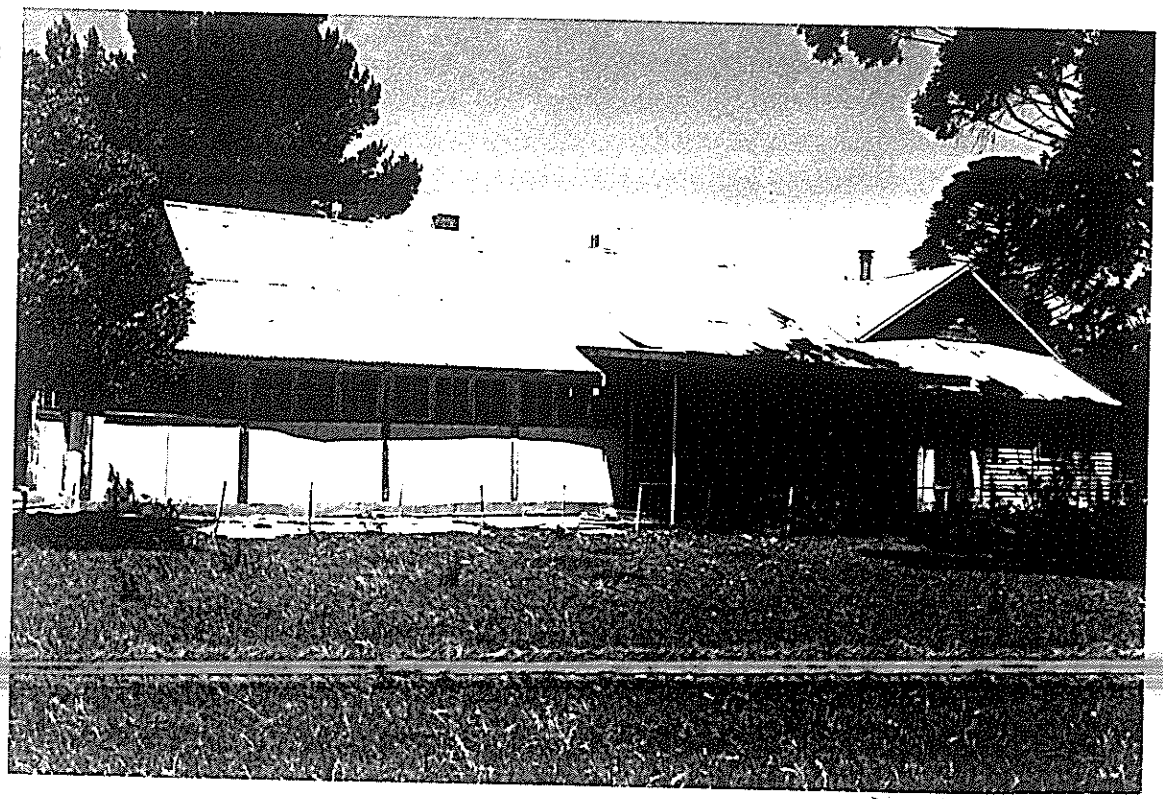
Encourage restoration and seek consultation with the Department of Education to determine a suitable use for the buildings.

REFERENCES:

C James and P Taylor 'Curlwaa'

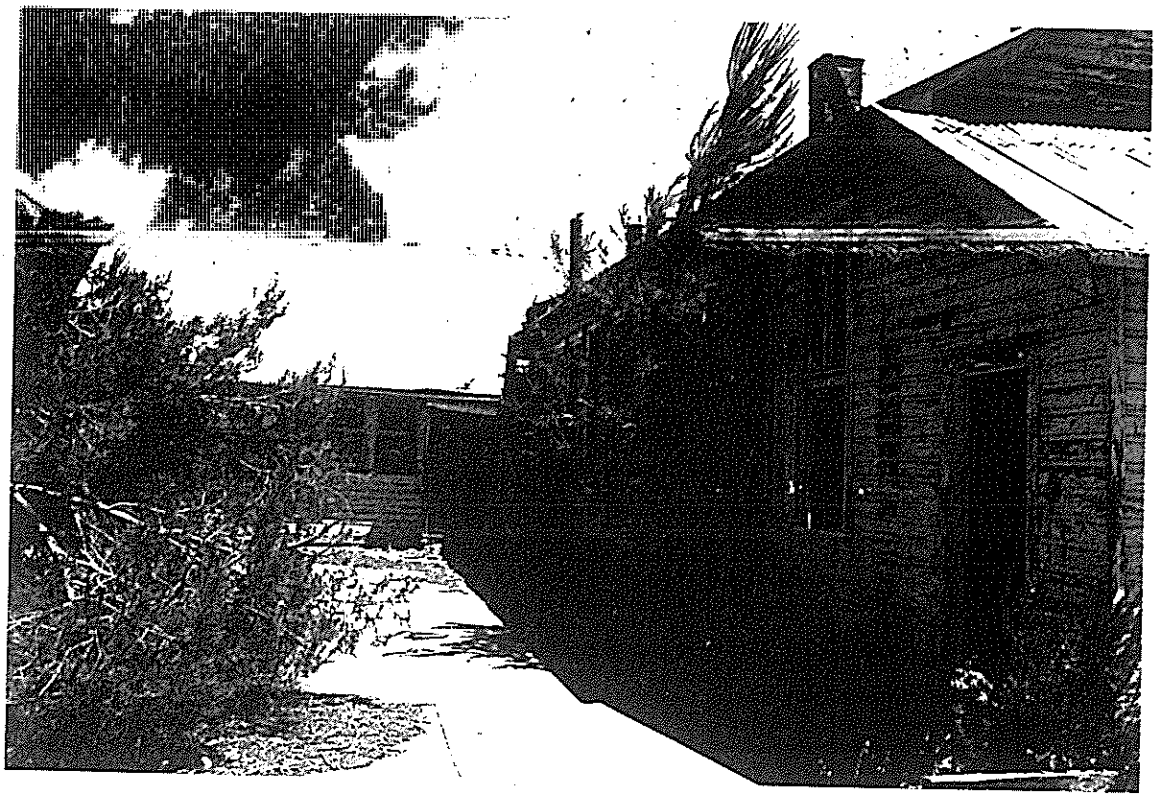
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6607/15
6607/17-18



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Curlwaa School
LOCATION: Section 3, Delta Road, Curlwaa



ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Curlwaa Store
LOCATION:	N I H 69 Delta Road, Curlwaa
USE (Former Uses).	Store (and Post Office)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1927
HISTORICAL THEME:	Commerce
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The Curlwaa store is a single fronted brick structure with a stucco rendered gable. Two decorative pillars in chimney form are located on either side of the gable. Two bay windows and a double timber swing door form the shop front. A small front porch supported by timber posts with iron roof forms an awning. The facade is in original state, due to renovation after a condemn notice was issued. The interior remains in original state with wide benches and rear shelving. The Post Office function has been utilized in an adjacent new shed.

History:

Approval for a Curlwaa Post Office was granted in 1916 and postmistress was Mary Sage wife of Arthur who is known as the father of Curlwaa Irrigation area. The store commenced in that same year. The combined store and post office was built by Norman Radford, replacing the post office function of the now demolished adjacent residence owned by Mary Sage. Edgar Wilkinson bought the store and post office. The Wilkinsons were very active in the community, he was an estate and commission agent and professional photographer. The store provides a focal point for the community and is a significant component of the oldest irrigation settlement in Australia.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion within Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

James C J & Taylor P L, 'Curlwaa'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6607/27

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	Lot 5 Delta Road, Curlwaa
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Poor
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A weatherboard dwelling with high gamble roof clad with corrugated iron. The roof extends over a wrap around verandah which is partially enclosed. The verandah is supported by plain timber piers. The dwelling sits on timber posts providing slight elevation. The dwelling has remnants of an early colour scheme. It is situated in a prominent position, in viewing distance from the Curlwaa Store and highlights the historical character of the immediate locality.

RECOMMENDATION:

Upgrading and maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6607/29

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 13/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Curlwaa Memorial Hall (Mechanics Institute)
LOCATION:	Section 2, Lot 12, Memorial Road, Curlwaa
USE (Former Uses):	Hall
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1909 (major alterations 1958)
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Good (modified)
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A timber frame, single storey structure with corrugated iron cladding. The structure is comprised of two sections, the rear providing an elevated stage area. The gabled hip roof has simple timber fretwork. The wooden doorway is adorned with the gates forming a war memorial.

History:

The Curlwaa hall is constructed on land originally alloted to G Cumming in 1907. The hall underwent a number of renovations and extensions until 1945 when it was decided that the hall and adjacent Curlwaa War Memorial were in a decrepit state and required restoration. A fund was established and the hall was to be dedicated as a public War Memorial. The renovated hall was opened in 1958 and the old war memorial demolished as a traffic hazard.

Recommendation:

Maintain

REFERENCES:

C James and P Taylor 'Curlwaa'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6607/13

HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Sulphur Shed
LOCATION:	'Sage Grove' Church Road, Curlwaa (Section 4, Lot 8)
USE (Former Uses):	Fruit Drying Shed
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1920's
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A timber post frame shed clad with corrugated iron displaying a monitor roof type enabling ventilation. There are remnants of railway tracks entering the building.

History:

The structure was utilised for grape and fruit drying process, whereby sulphur was burnt under the fruit racks to promote drying. The design of the shed allowed for sufficient ventilation and rail tracks enabled the drying racks to be pushed out into the sunshine once the sulphur process was completed. The shed is located on land settled by Walter Sage in 1908 often referred to as 'The Father of Curlwaa'. Sage was often responsible for bringing the irrigation settlement to the Government's attention and achieved great horticultural success. Experimental co-operative packing was undertaken in the shed in 1921 and assisted in the formation of a local citrus packing society.

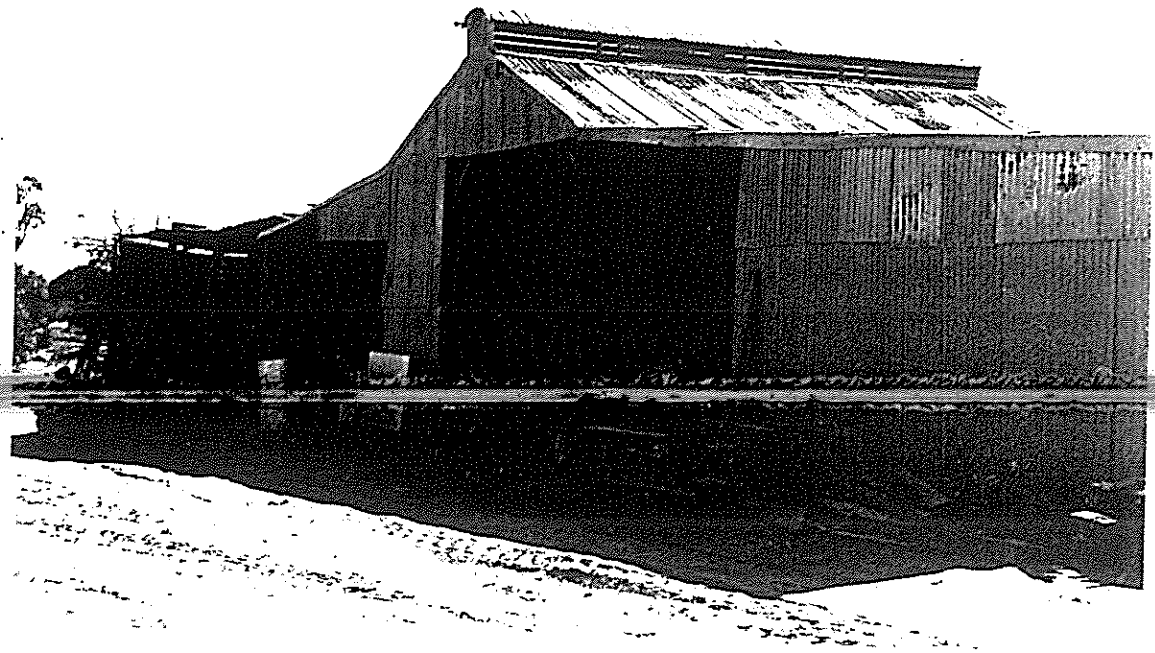
Recommendation:

Encourage maintenance.

REFERENCES:

C James & P Taylor 'Curlwaa'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6609/32



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 64

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Dwelling
LOCATION:	Lot 2, Section 10, Channel Road, Curlwaa
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A very attractive single storey dwelling constructed of hand made cement blocks made on the property. The dwelling features an iron hip gable roof. A second roof-line covers the wrap around verandah, built at a later stage which is supported by slender timber posts. The double panel front windows and doorway have side and top lights of coloured glass. The dwelling is set adjacent to Tuckers Creek amidst a well maintained garden. Recent renovations include a colorbond roof, and enclosed side verandah. The dwelling is unique within the irrigation area due to its larger size, construction materials and style. The dwelling's interior is Oregon timber. Two fire places are of English Oak.

History:

The allotment was first owned by Gabrial Wells (butcher) and taken up by Taylor in 1912. The architect designed dwelling was built for the Taylor family and sold to the Midgley's in 1923.

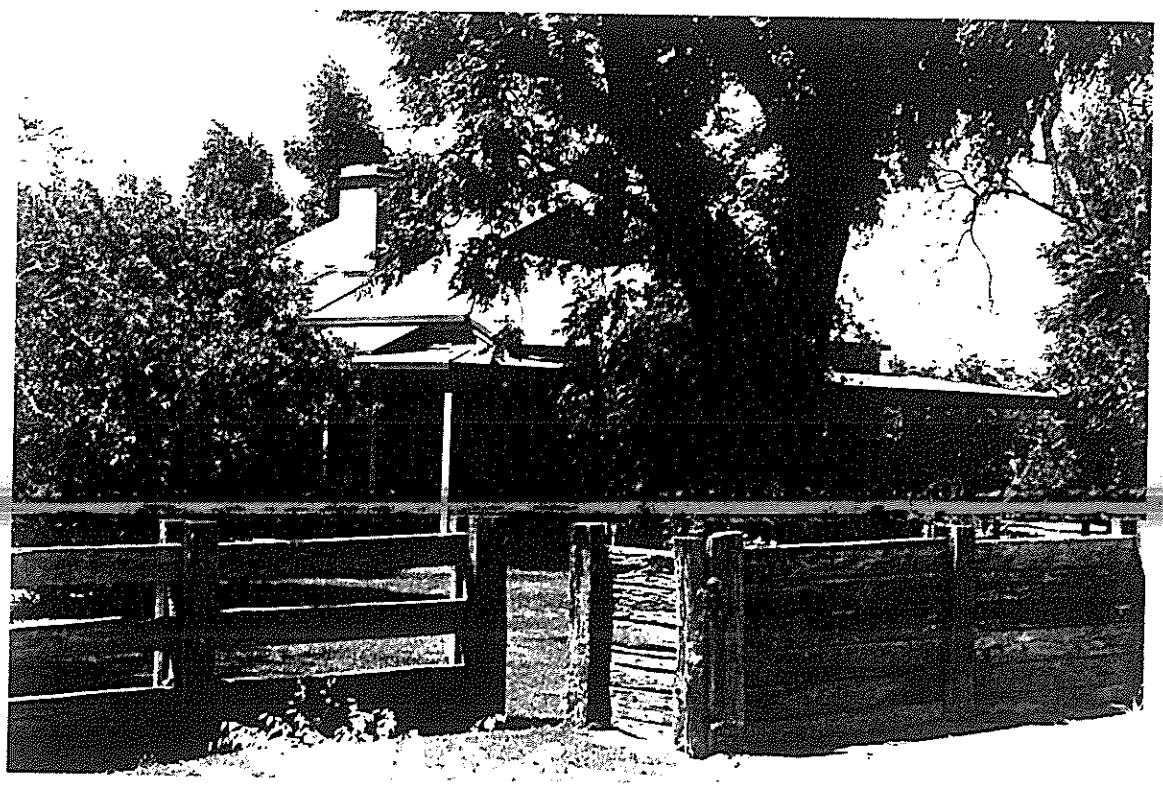
RECOMMENDATION:

Continued Maintenance of house and garden in existing form.

REFERENCES:

James C J & Taylor P L, 'Curlwaa'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6607/35



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Tara Downs Homestead
LOCATION:	Tara Downs Station (central)
USE (Former Uses):	Former Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1884
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Poor
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A homestead consisting of two structures connected by a breezeway. The smaller rear building provided a kitchen/preparation area. It has a low hip iron clad roof. The main structure has a high gambrel roof and second straight pitch roof which covers a large wrap around verandah supported by plain timber posts. Some decorative wooden verandah brackets still exist. Both buildings are clad with corrugated iron. The facade is comprised of three panelled doors with patterned side lights. The internal walls are lined with decorative pressed metal and waist height vertical boards. The hallway ceiling has pressed metal panels with highlight painting. Timber, mirror backed fireplaces are an attractive internal feature. The dwelling is sited on the western bank of the Great Anabranch.

History:

Tara Downs was one of the most impressive homesteads on the Anabranch. The property was an outstation of Lake Victoria until it was thrown open to selectors under Farnell's Land Act of 1884. Grace settled the property.

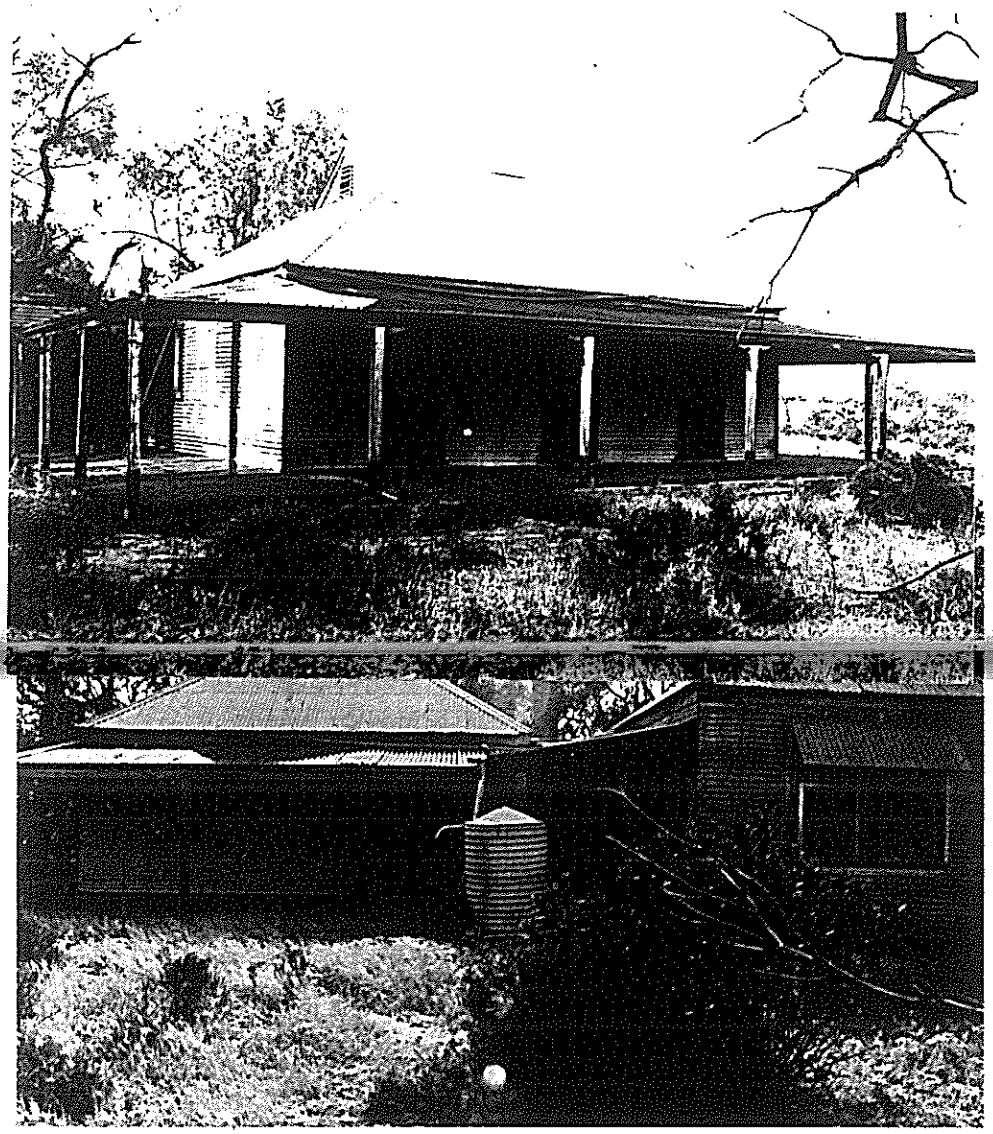
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan
Encourage restoration

REFERENCES:

R Smith; J Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0904/15a, 17a



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 19/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wilpitara Homestead
LOCATION:	Tara Downs Station, Anabranch (central)
USE (Former Uses):	Former Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1917
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Derelict
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A square weatherboard dwelling with gambrel roof clad with corrugated iron sheeting. The small roof gables have louvered vents, and are adorned with timber finials. The building was once encircled with a wrap around verandah, now demolished. The interior walls and ceilings are lined with patterned pressed metal. The now derelict dwelling is located on the western banks of the Anabranch, adjacent to the current Tara Downs Homestead.

History:

Wilpitara acted as an outstation of Moorna Station until taken up by Bashman. The existing dwelling replaces a pine slab hut, constructed in 1886, now demolished.

RECOMMENDATION:

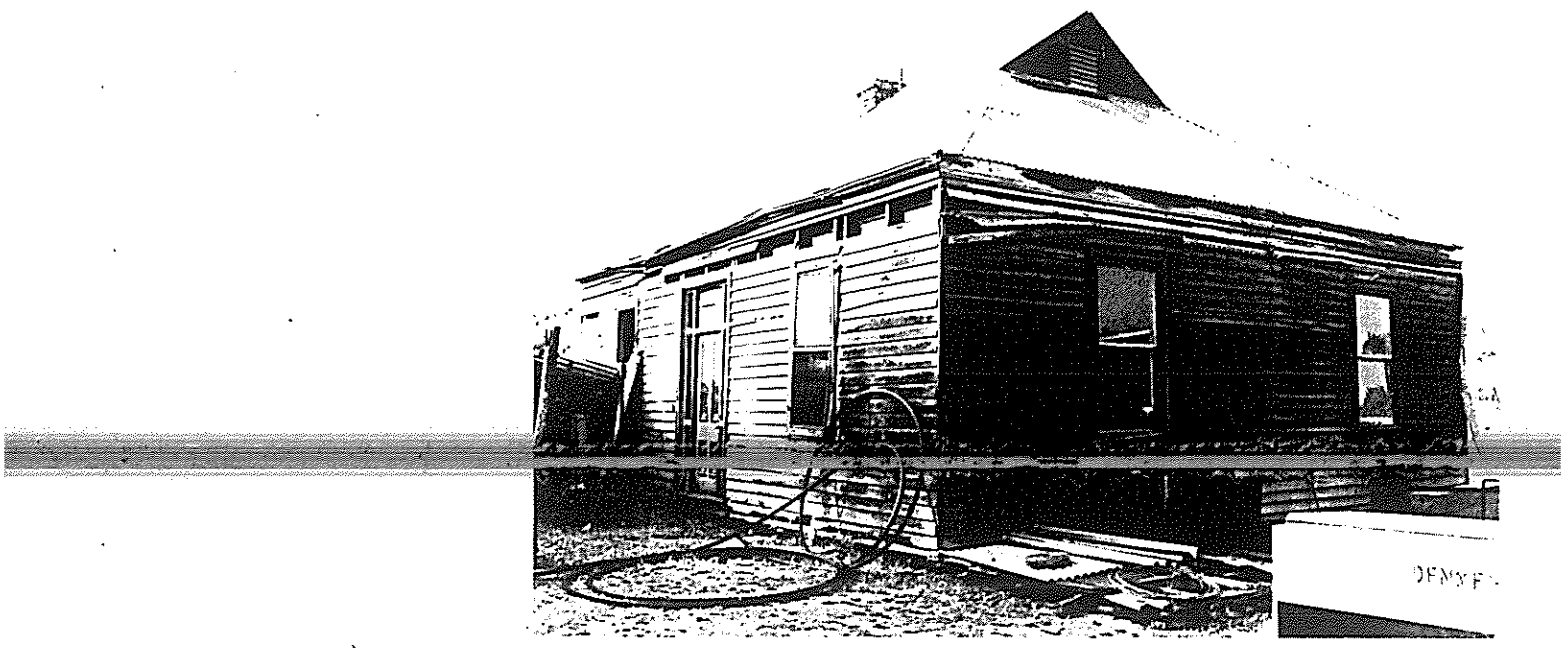
Encourage restoration, including reinstatement of the verandah

REFERENCES:

J Whyte; R Smith

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0904/14a



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 19/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	'Tapio' Homestead
LOCATION:	Tapio Station, Pooncarie Road, Wentworth (central)
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	Incremental from 1850's
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Fair, modified
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

An unusual homestead which has developed incrementally since the 1850's. The building displays slab and weatherboard walls and corrugated iron and tiled roofs. The slab portion at the rear of the dwelling appears to be the oldest section. A notable feature includes the side entrance door which displays attractive art deco coloured glass top, side and central panels. The dwelling, located on the eastern bank of the Darling River, demonstrates the varied history attached to the largest stations in the Shire.

History:

The Fletcher Bros took up land known as Tapio Station, in 1847. Their father Dr Fletcher, who resided at Tapio, was highly sought after in the district for his medical expertise. By 1861, Tapio held 20,000 sheep. Tapio was one of the largest stations in the district. The western portion of the property became 'Avoca' in 1873. Ben Chaffey acquired Tapio at the turn of the century and divided the holding. Tapio was sold to Eli Barnfield, proprietor of the Crown Hotel in Wentworth, during 1907.

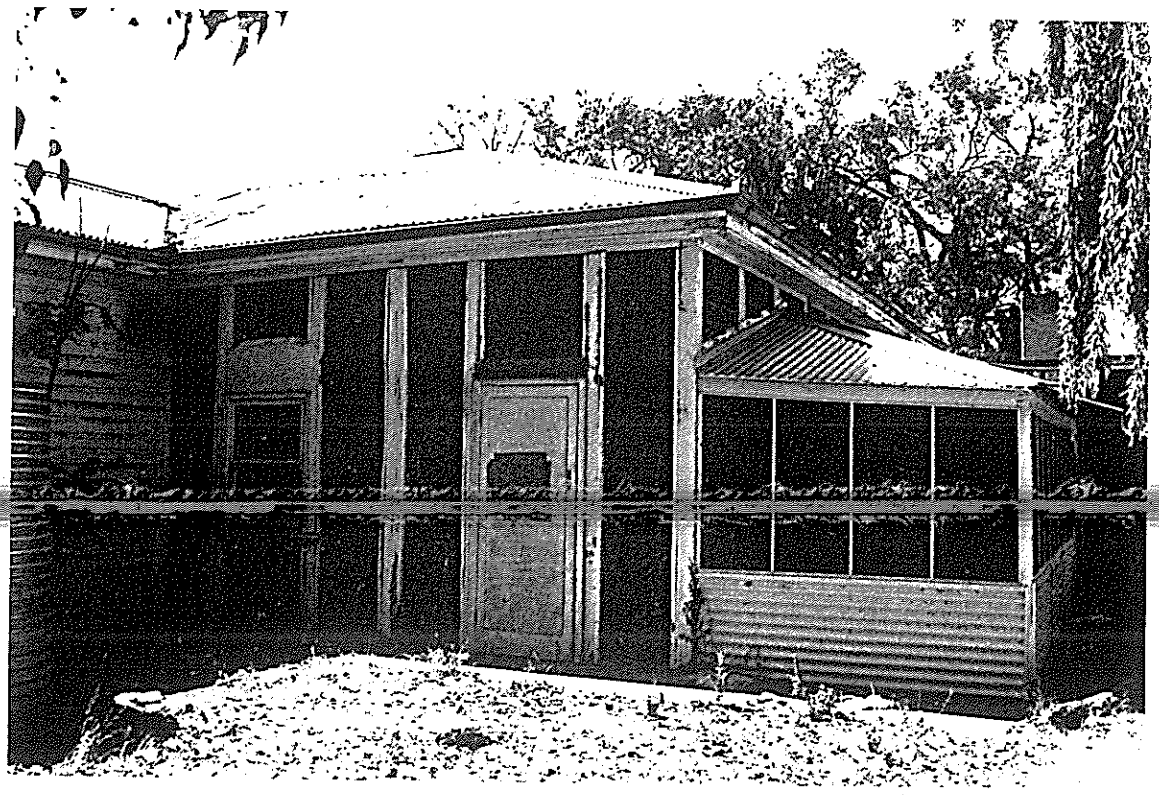
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

REFERENCES:

J Whyte; D Tulloch 'The historic town of Wentworth'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6609/13,14



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Avoca Homestead (Tapio)
LOCATION:	Avoca Station, Pomona Road (central)
USE (Former Uses):	Homestead/Holiday Accommodation
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1871
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The homestead has been erected in two stages. The earliest portion is constructed of horizontal pine logs supported by an external wooden wall frame. This section of the building arrangement indicates additions and renovations. Of note are the weatherboard gables with decorative wooden barge boards and finials. The newer portion of the homestead is constructed of local stone. A large wrap around verandah with inverted corrugated iron roof is supported by chamfered posts. The doorways, window cases and wall corners are characterised by large quoins, reminiscent of South Australian architectural style. The substantial and attractive dwelling is further enhanced by a well maintained garden, with plants and form characteristic of the era of construction.

History:

Avoca Station was originally known as 'Tappeo' and later 'Tapio', taken up by the Fletcher brothers in 1847, who moved their sheep from the crowded Murrumbidgee area to the Darling. Their father, Dr Fletcher from Melbourne, and families settled on the property and undertook substantial improvements. In 1873 the property, now know as West Tapio was sold to D H Cudmore, who converted to name to Avoca station. The homestead is one of only a few stone dwellings in the Shire and reflects the prosperity and importance of the early squatter dynasties.

Recommendation:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan

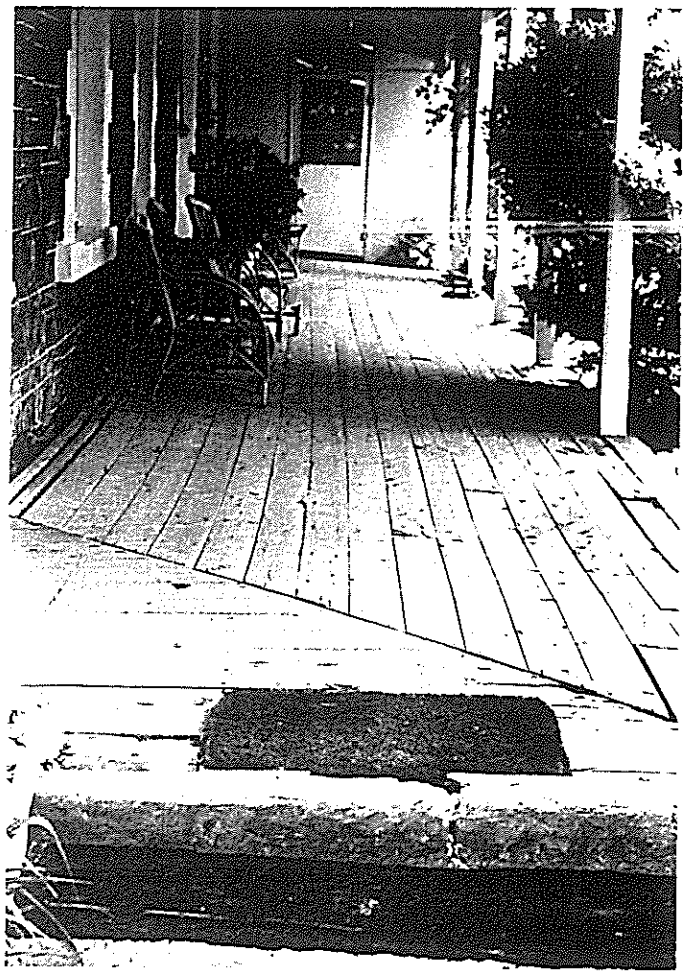
REFERENCES:

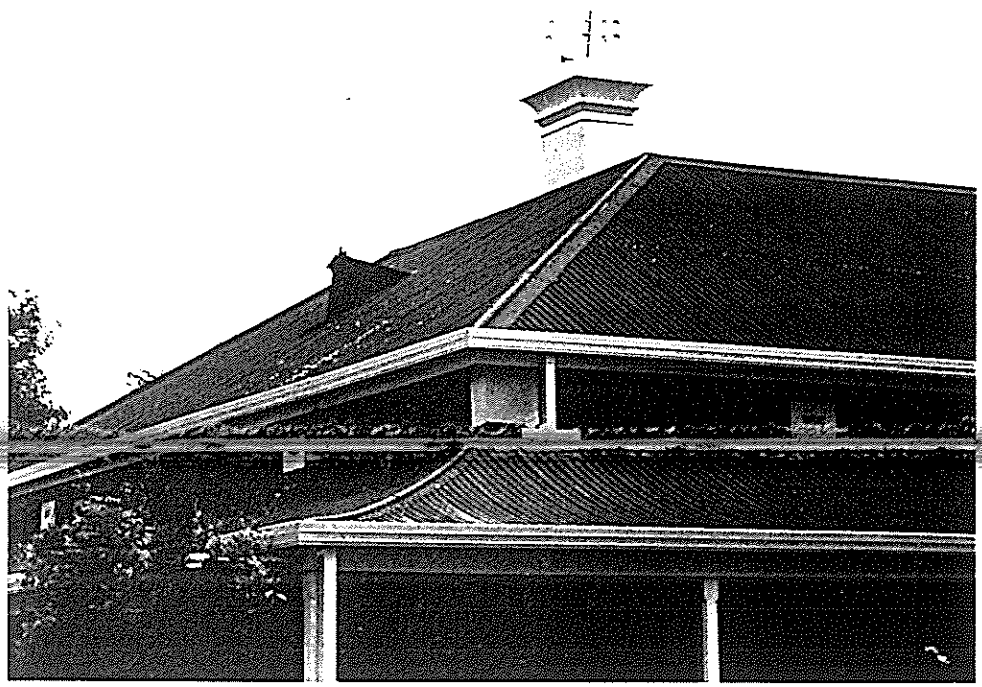
B Hardy "West of the Darling"; Mrs M Dawes; Unpublished Station records; 'History of Wentworth'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

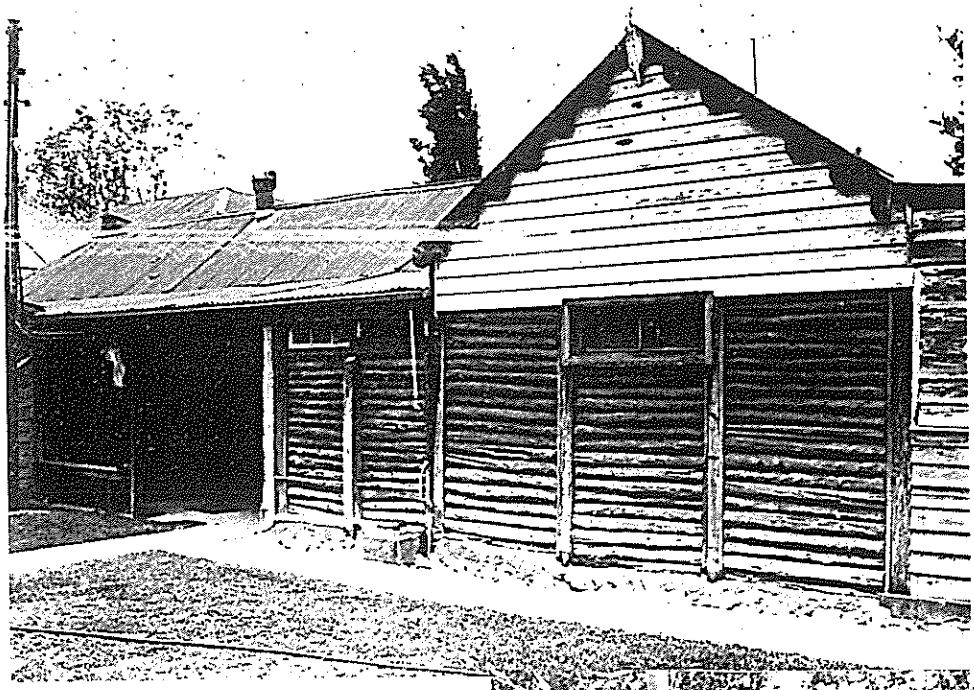
0906/29,31,32,
34,35,36

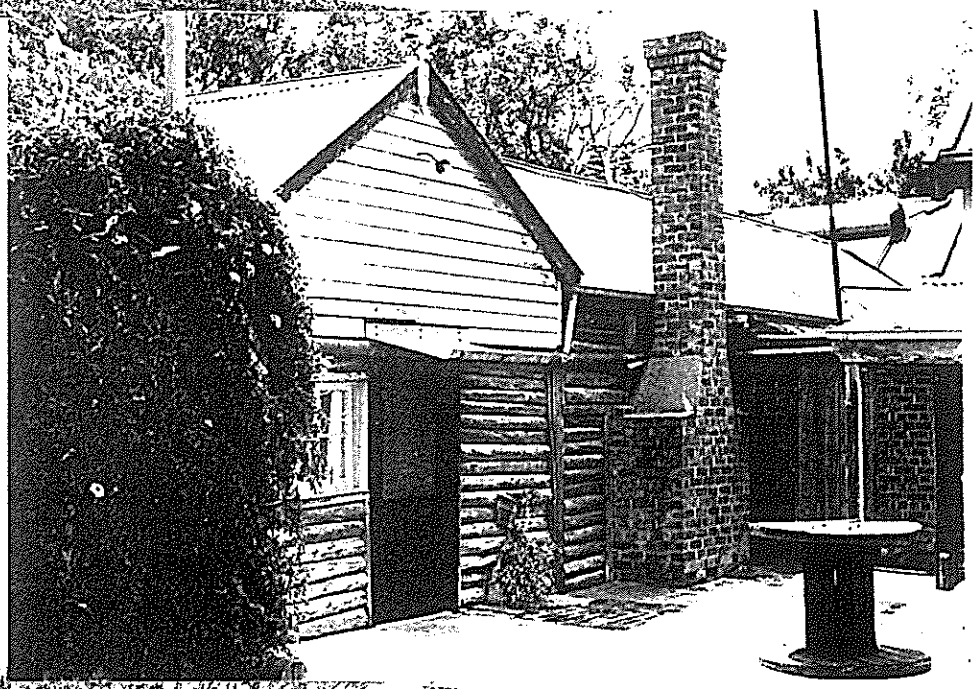
HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15/11/88

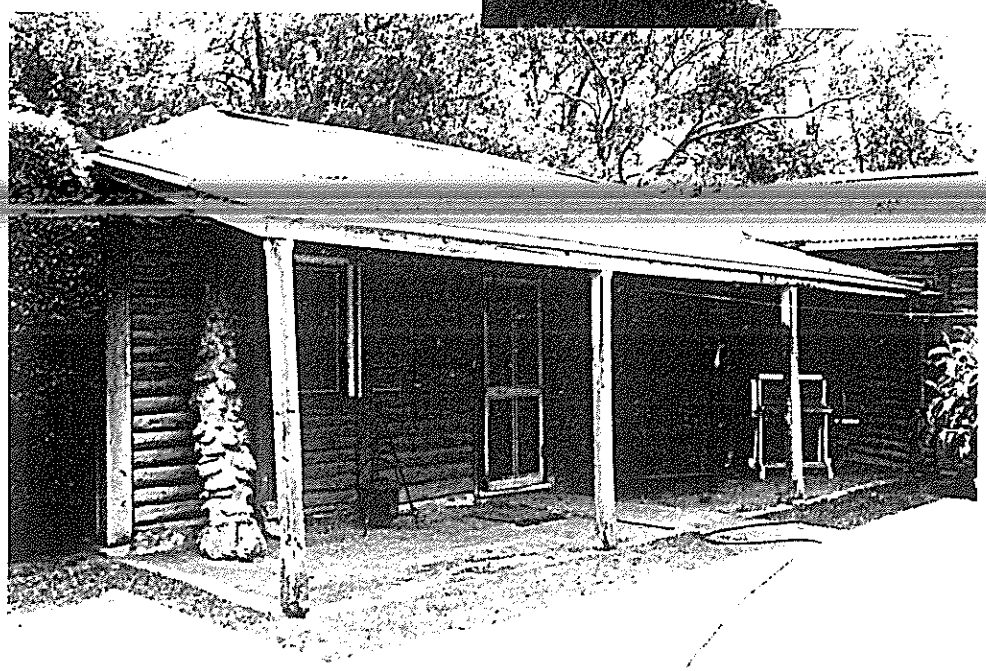




ITEM NAME (Former Names): Avoca Homestead (Tapio)
LOCATION: Avoca Station, Pomona Road







ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Avoca Station Outbuildings
LOCATION:	Avoca Station, Pomona Road (central)
USE (Former Uses):	Agricultural buildings/holiday farm accommodation
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1870's
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Fair to Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

Avoca Station outbuildings, consisting of barn, stables, and workers quarters have a mixture of building materials and construction periods. Of note are the pine slab walls and wooden lattice window treatment of the barn and horizontal pine log walls of the workers quarters. The mixed architectural styles are given continuity with the ornamental wooden barge boards and gable finials.

History:

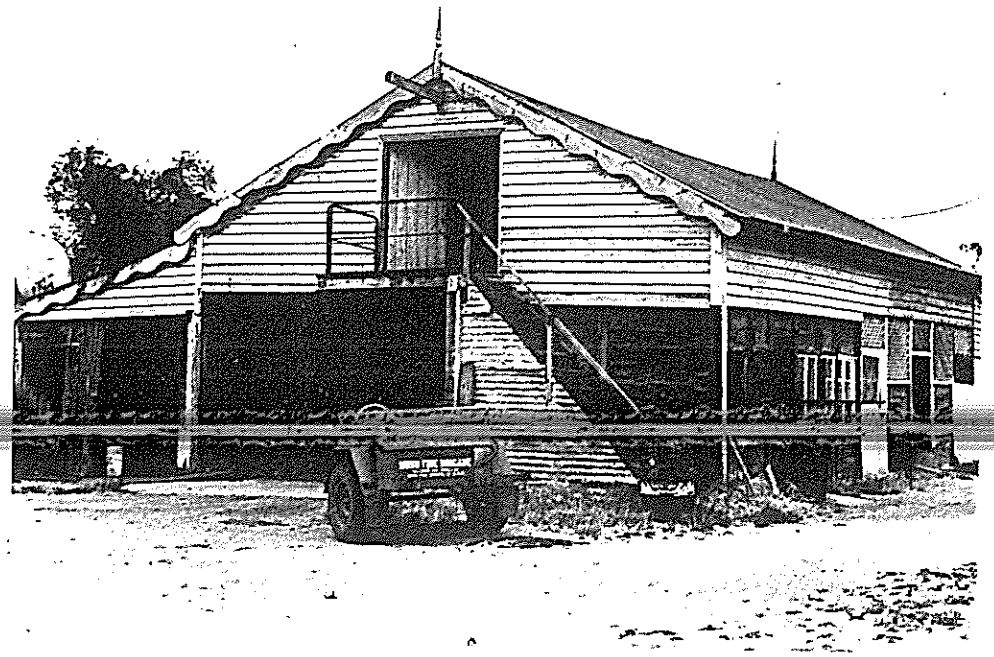
The agricultural outbuildings of Avoca station reflect the extent of activity typical on the large stations, prior to this century. The station, due to its size and relative isolation, acted as a small township providing accommodation and facilities for numerous workers, tradesmen and their families. These particular buildings have unique character defined by their decorative architectural elements, usually retained to distinguish the character of the main homestead.

Recommendation:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan
Maintenance and retention of existing appearance

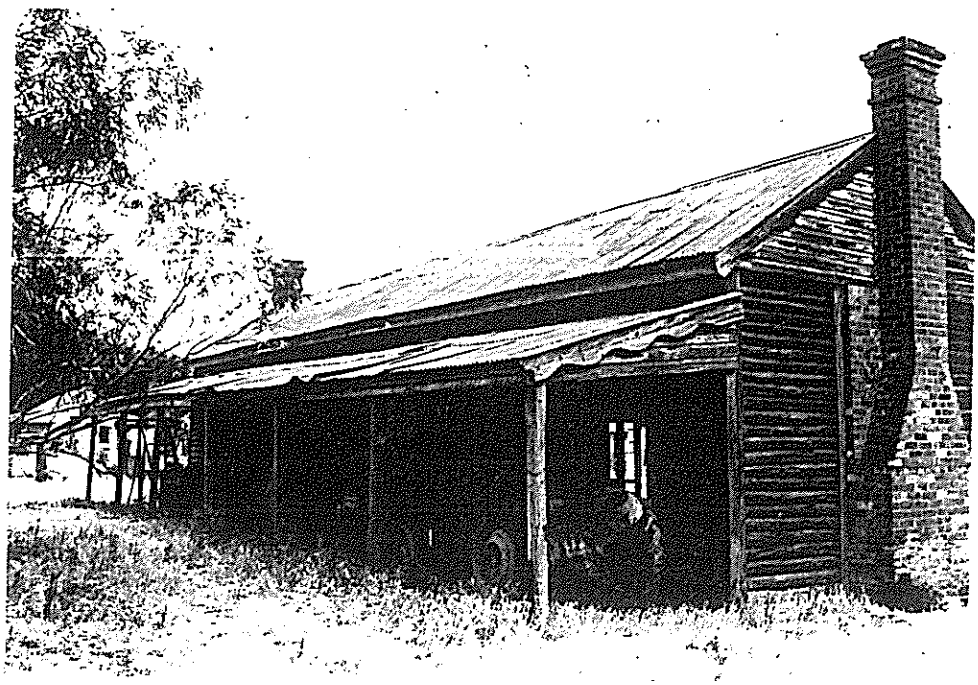
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

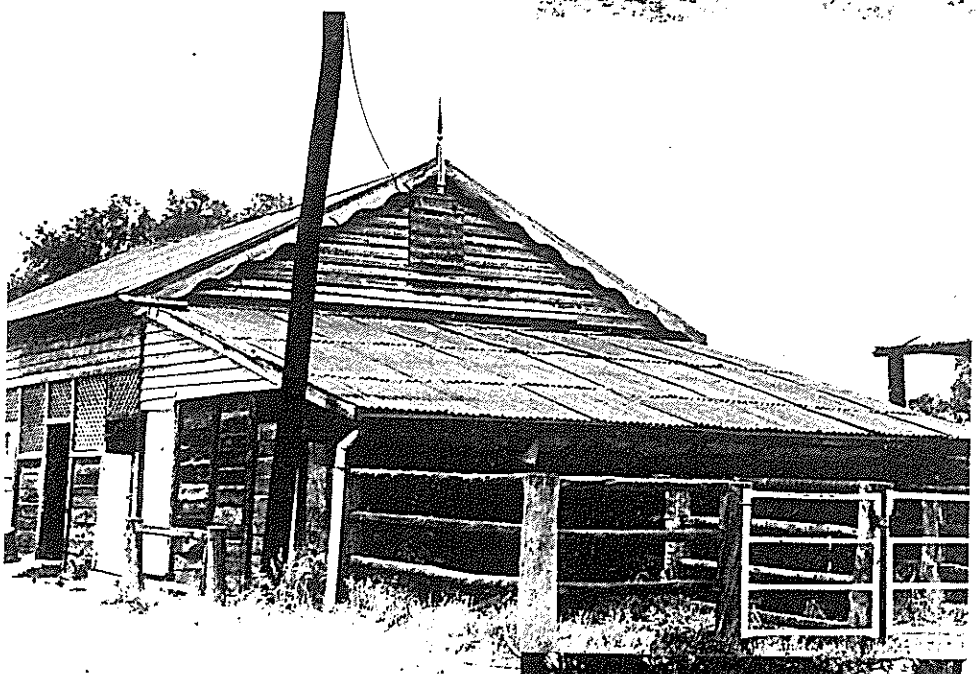
0906/36A
0907/00,0,1

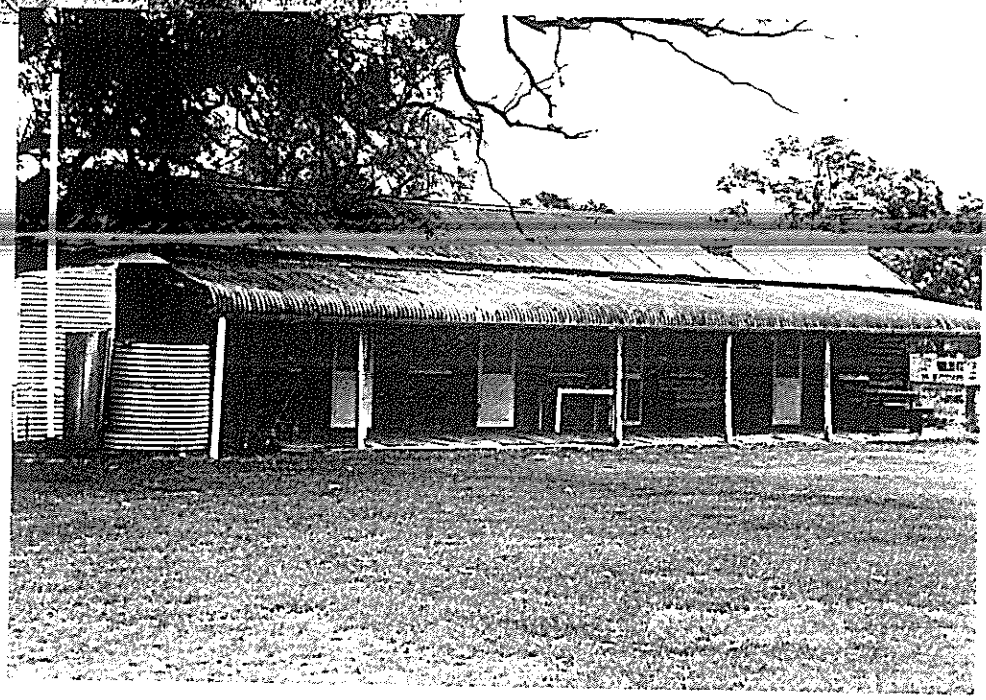


HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): Avoca Station Outbuildings
LOCATION: Avoca Station. Pomona Road (central)







ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Sturts Billabong
LOCATION:	Lower Darling Road (central)
USE (Former Uses):	Agricultural
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	N/A
HISTORICAL THEME:	The People
CONDITION:	N/A
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Architecture/Environment:

This billabong of the Darling river is surrounded by large, majestic River Red Gums.

History:

Sturts Billabong is named so, after explorer Charles Sturt, who rested at this place whilst undertaking his first journey up the Darling River from its confluence with the Murray.

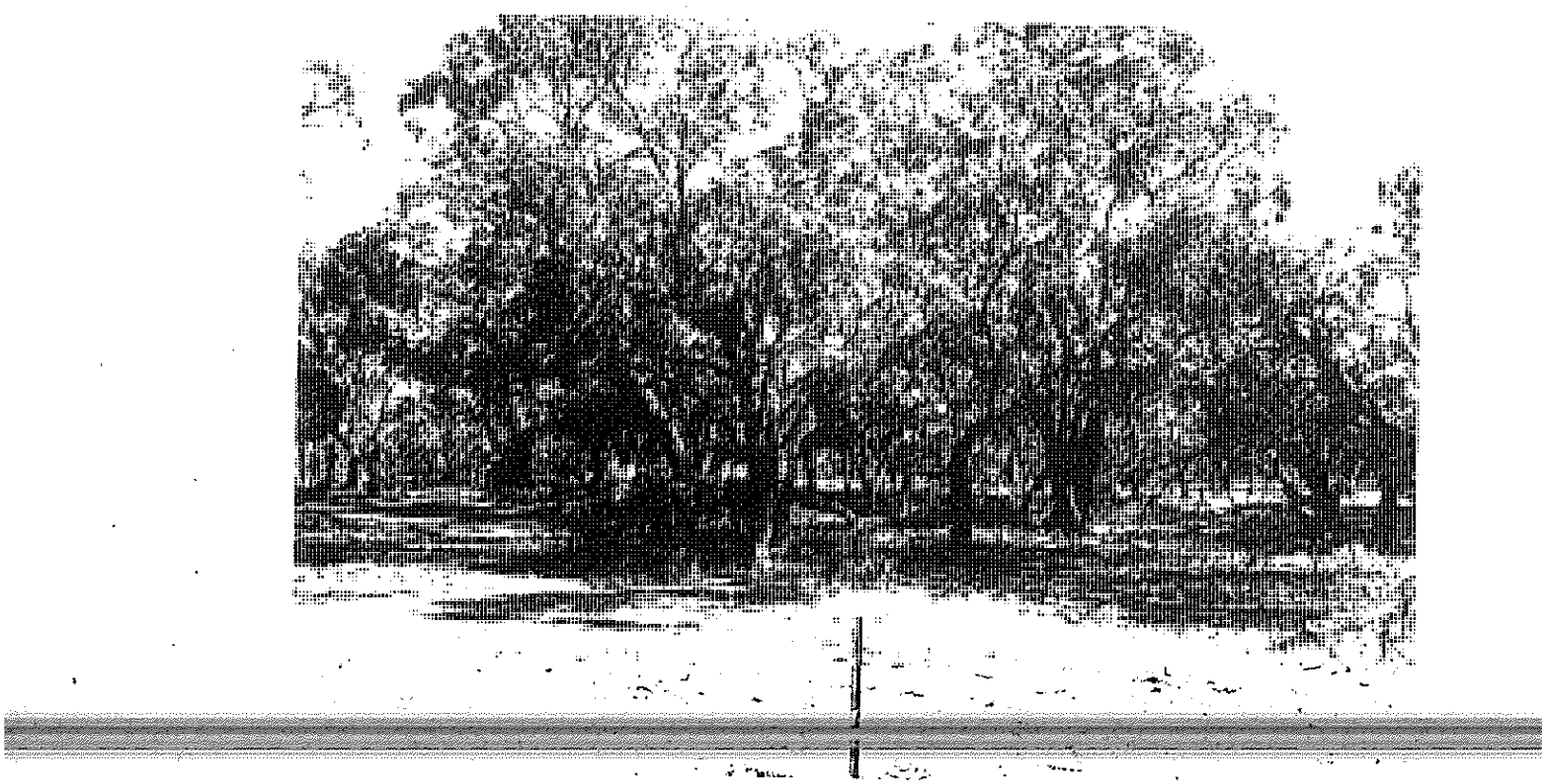
Recommendation:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Film/Frame Nos:

6616/1



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:

Date: 16.12.88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Hazeldell Homestead
LOCATION:	Hazeldell Station, Lower Darling Road (central)
USE (Former Uses):	Homestead, vacant
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1914
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The homestead has a pressed metal exterior, corrugated iron gambrel roof and wrap around bullnose verandah. The original wooden turned verandah posts have been replaced by iron posts mounted on cement blocks. Other modifications include a triple glass panelled door replacing a double hung window, removal of brick chimney stacks, and enclosed side verandah. However, the homestead remains in much the original form. Of note is the panelled doorway with side and top leadlight glass.

History:

The house was constructed by H D Nichols, who settled the property after it was resumed from Avoca. The original holding was some 17,000 acres. The current owners have built a new dwelling and this remains vacant but in good care.

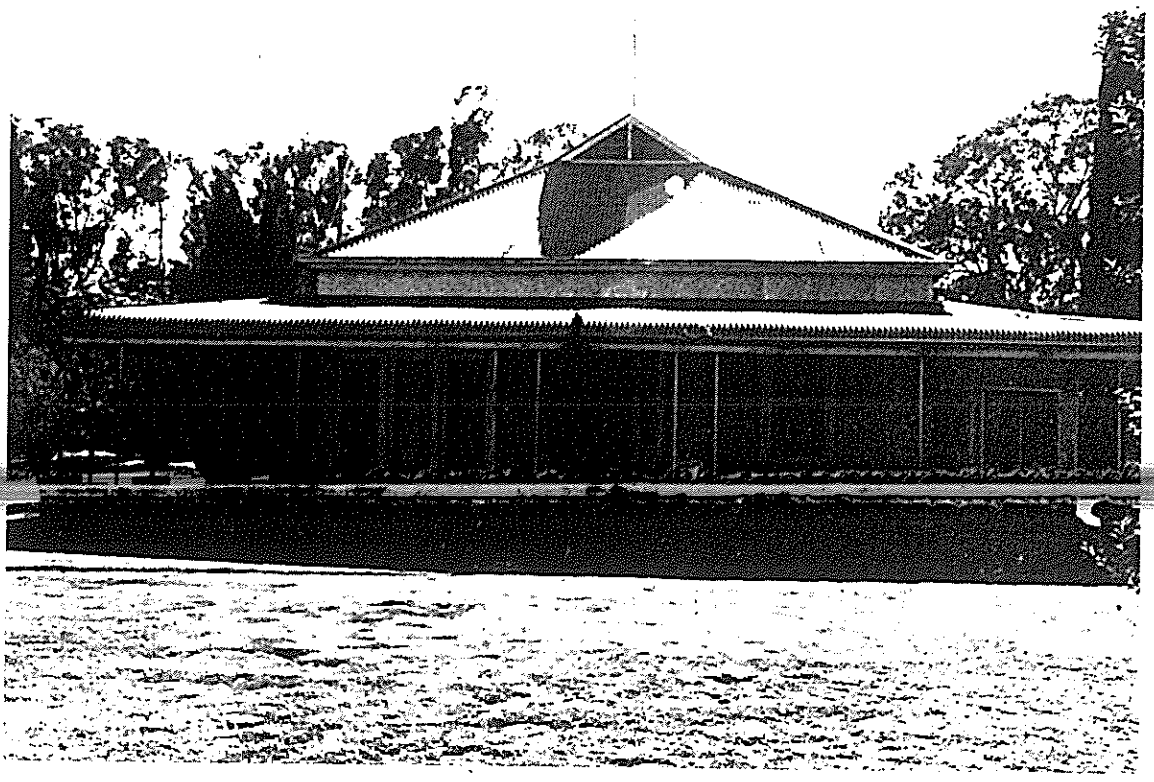
Recommendation:

Maintenance

REFERENCES:

M Follet

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6616/8



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 14/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names): 'Para' Homestead
LOCATION: 'Para' Station, Lower Darling Road (central)
USE (Former Uses): Homestead, vacant
CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1870's
HISTORICAL THEME: Agriculture
CONDITION: Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS: Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The homestead consists of a number of connected structures of various building materials, including pine logs, pine slab and corrugated iron. The main living area is of horizontal slab construction with a high gabled hip roof and wooden wrap around verandah supported by chamfered posts. The original axe chipped roofing battens remain under the iron roofing of the verandah. A separate kitchen area constructed with horizontal pine logs is connected to a pine slab structure by a breezeway. This building was most likely the workers quarters. Of note are the wooden window awnings.

History:

Bagot & Bailey laid claim to land above Tappeo (now Avoca) in 1847. During an 1848 survey of the Darling, McCabe recorded Baynton was at Para. J Hope settled the property and the station was recorded as one of the largest in the district by stock returns of 1867. In 1884, Para consisted of 528,000 acres. The homestead and associated buildings are a fine example of slab dwelling construction, and reflect the mixed periods of agricultural development in the district.

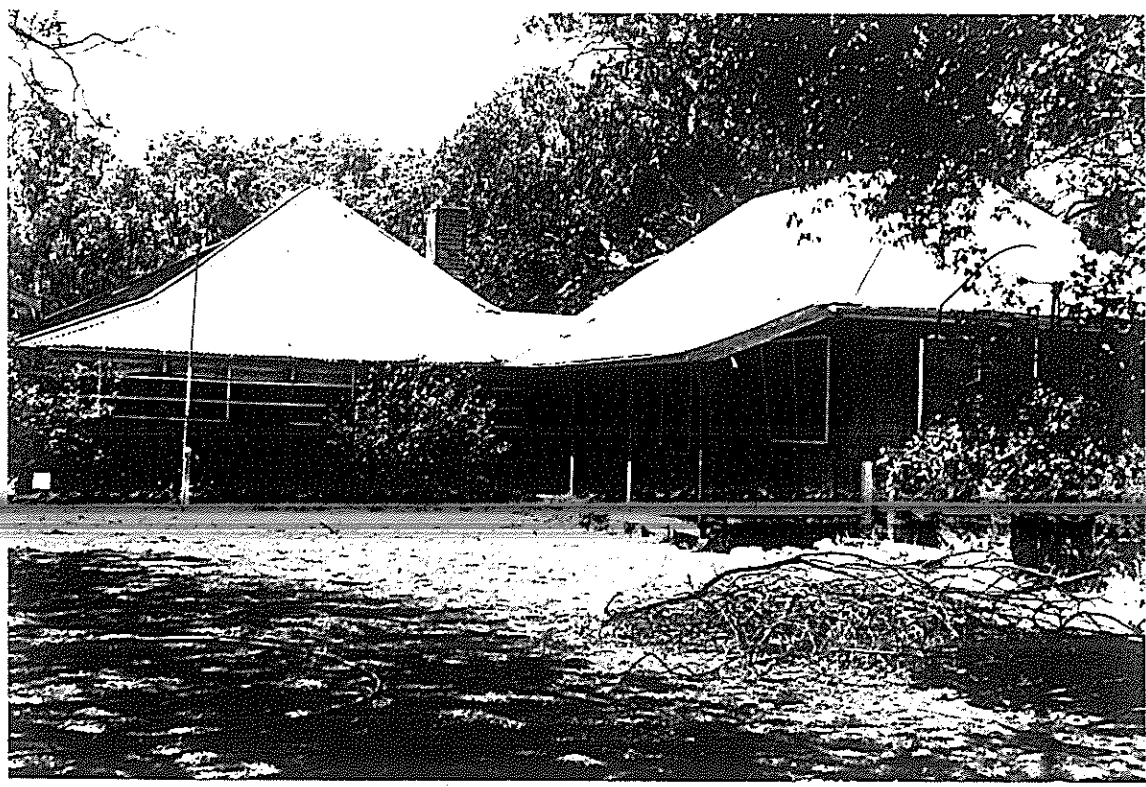
Recommendation:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan

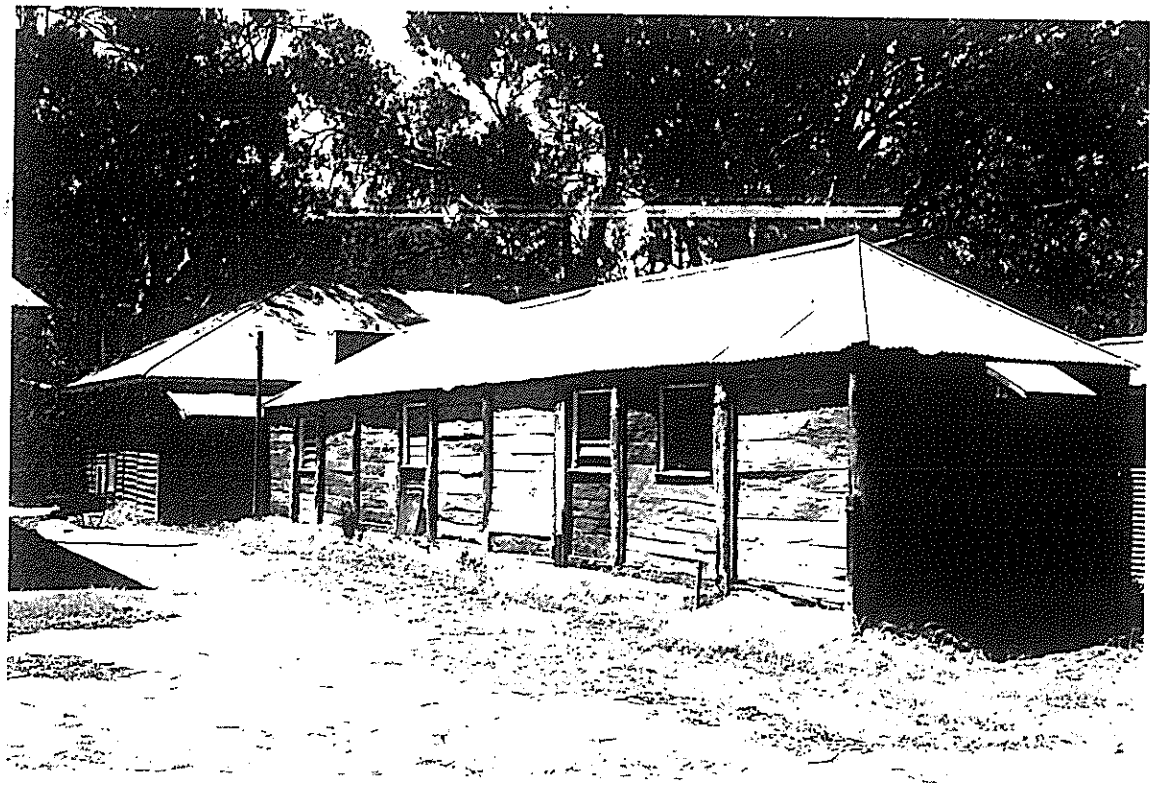
REFERENCES:

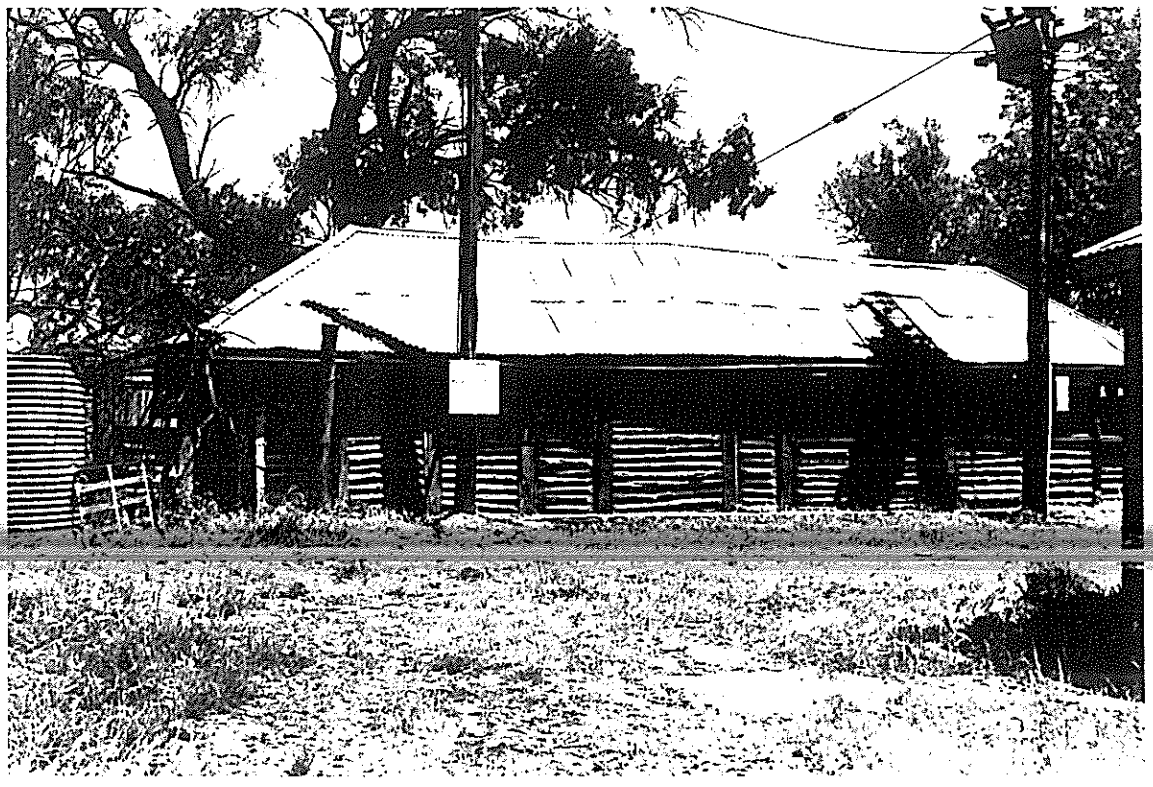
B Hardy 'West of the Darling'; A McClymont, Unpublished diaries.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6605/6,10,14



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 15/12/88





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Para Woolshed and Shearers Quarters
LOCATION:	Para Station, Lower Darling Road (central)
USE (Former Uses):	Woolshed, unused
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1880's
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The twelve stand woolshed is constructed with horizontal pine logs and pine slab, with internal roughly hewn wooden support posts. The roof is corrugated iron. The extensive yards are still in reasonable condition. The shed is constructed at ground level with slightly elevated shearing board and internal holding yards. The adjacent shearers quarters consist of a number of structures of mixed building materials including corrugated iron, weatherboard and pine logs. The oldest portion appears to be the kitchen constructed of hand chipped pine logs with vertical hand sawn supports and a large bricked bakers oven.

History:

The large woolshed and shearers quarters are fine examples of the extent and importance of the wool industry in the lower Darling district. Built largely of local materials and by local labour, the structure is in good condition. Remnants of the loading slipway to the river still exists.

Recommendation:

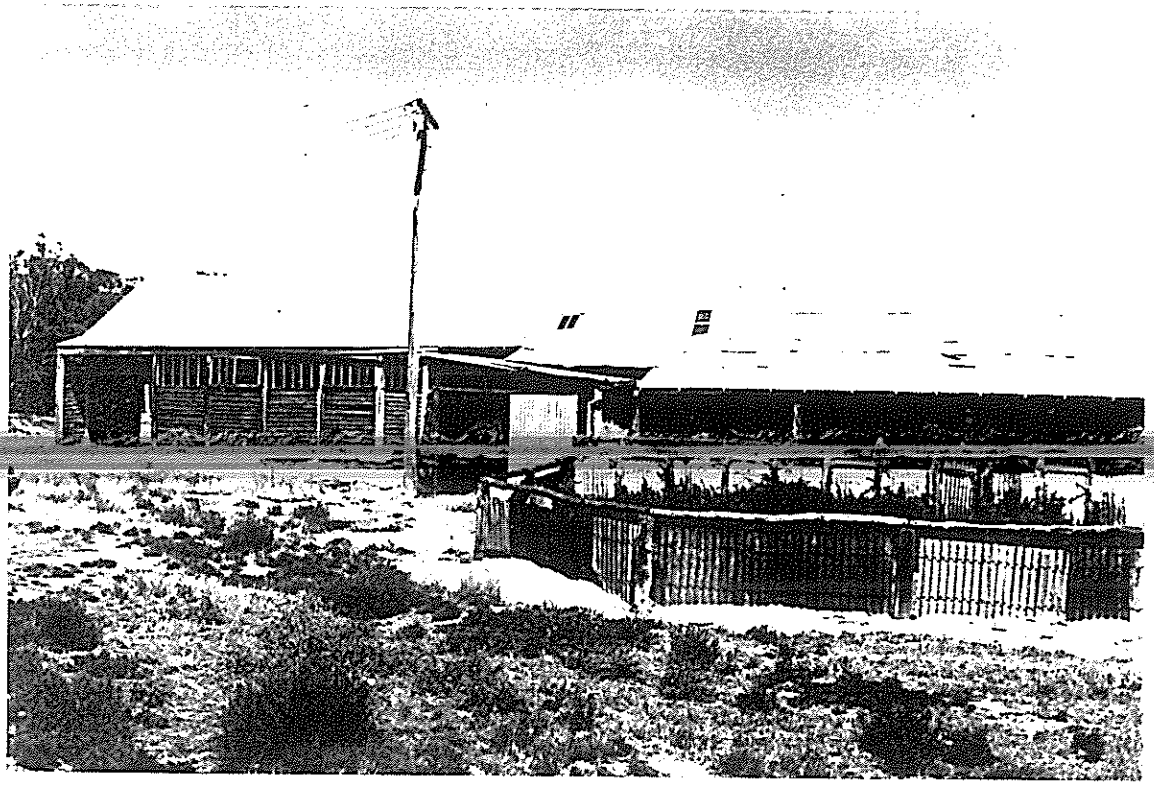
Conservation by inclusion in Local Environmental Plan.
Encourage utilization of the structures for accommodation/tourism activities compatible with the heritage significance of the structures.

REFERENCES:

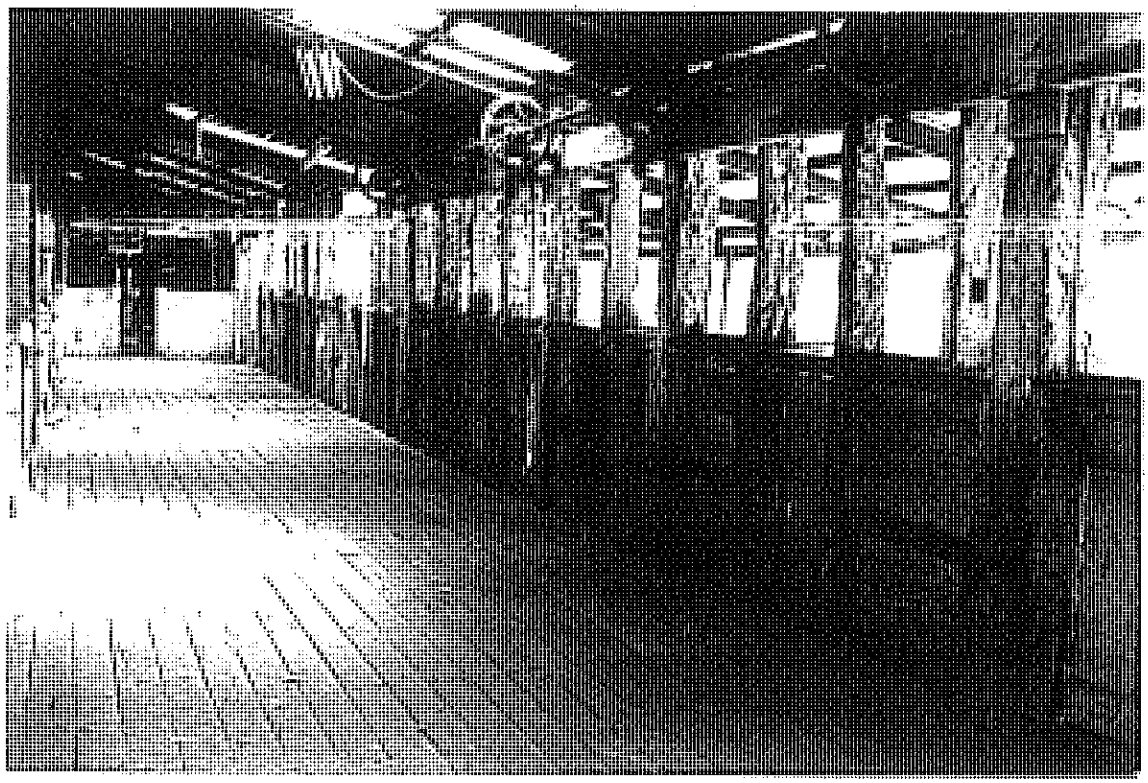
B Hardy, 'West of the Darling'; 'History of Wentworth'

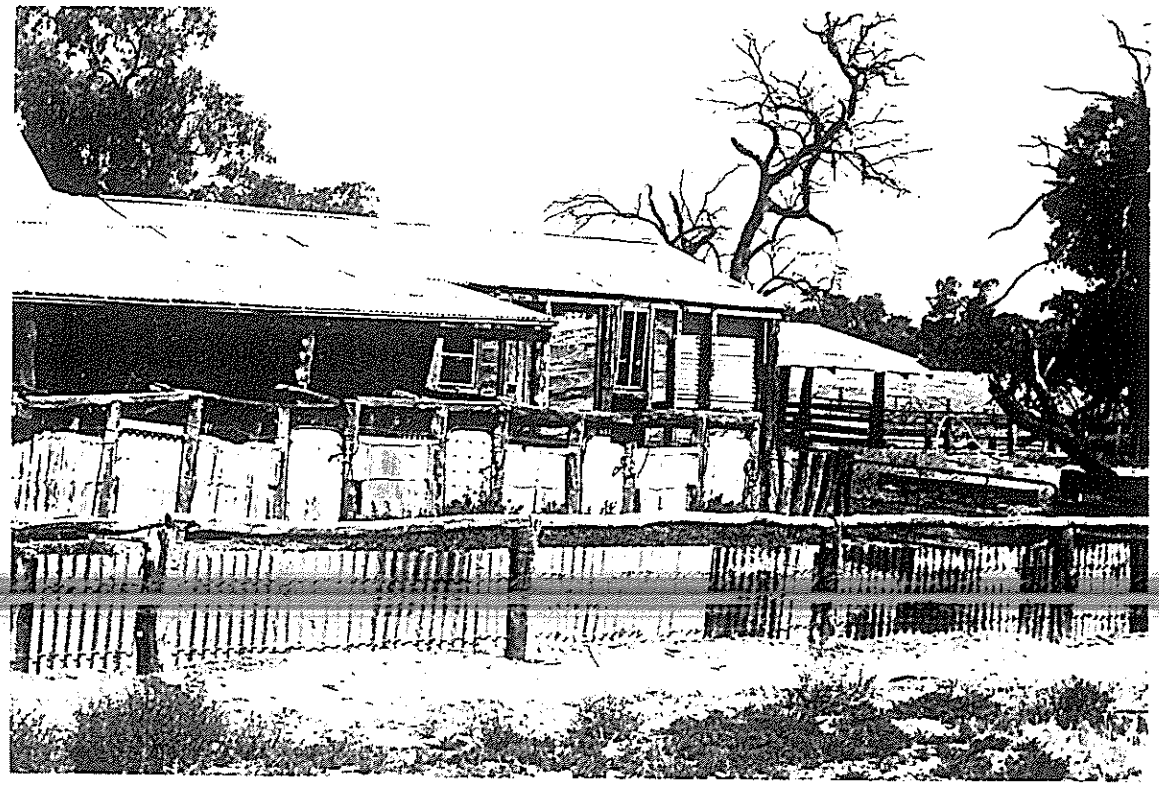
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

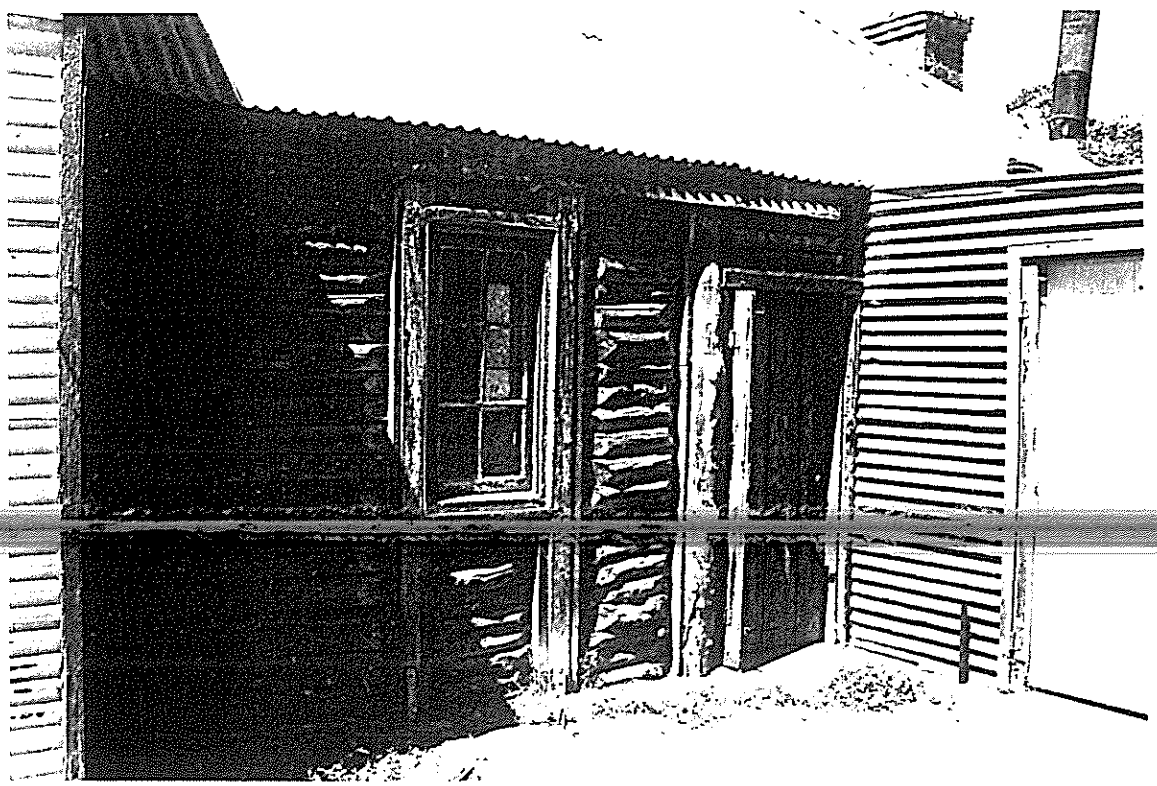
6616/16-20
32-33,35



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 15/11/88







ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Burtundy Homestead
LOCATION:	Burtundy Station, Wentworth Road (central)
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1923
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good, modified
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The large, impressive homestead is constructed of bricks which were made on the property. The bricks are rendered with a teak finish. The doorways and windows are highlighted by a white rendered border trim. The exterior corners are highlighted by large quoins, also rendered white. The long gambrel roof exhibits a small central gable and an off-set gable. A separate bullnose verandah wraps around the dwelling. The verandah was originally supported by turned wooden posts with a decorative timber balustrade. However, due to white ant infestation, these have been replaced with white brick piers and balcony wall. The wooden verandah flooring has been replaced with cement. A large panelled door is decorated with elaborate coloured glass central and side lights. The glass depicts rural scenes in art nouveau style. The building displays some attractive carved and moulded timber window casements. The interior is characterized by high ceilings, lined with coloured pressed metal. The plaster walls are decorated with coloured stencilling above a high picture rail. The house is sited over a large cellar. A dumb-waiter connects the cellar to the upstairs warming room. The dwelling is located on the east bank of the Darling. Its unique style and decorative structural and interior appointments are worthy of restoration.

History:

Burtundy was divided from the adjacent Tapio Station. The homestead was designed and built by Duncan, who also built the Chaffey residence in Mildura.

RECOMMENDATION:

Encourage reinstatement of verandah to replicate original appearance

REFERENCES:

M Davies

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6609/10,11

HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 17/11/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 75

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Moorna Woolshed
LOCATION:	Fort Courage, Renmark Road, Wentworth (central)
USE (Former Uses):	Woolshed
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1880
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A large shed with elevated floor. The structure which has a high hip roof is entirely clad with corrugated iron sheeting. Located on the banks of the Murray River, which enabled easy transport of wool bales to barges.

History:

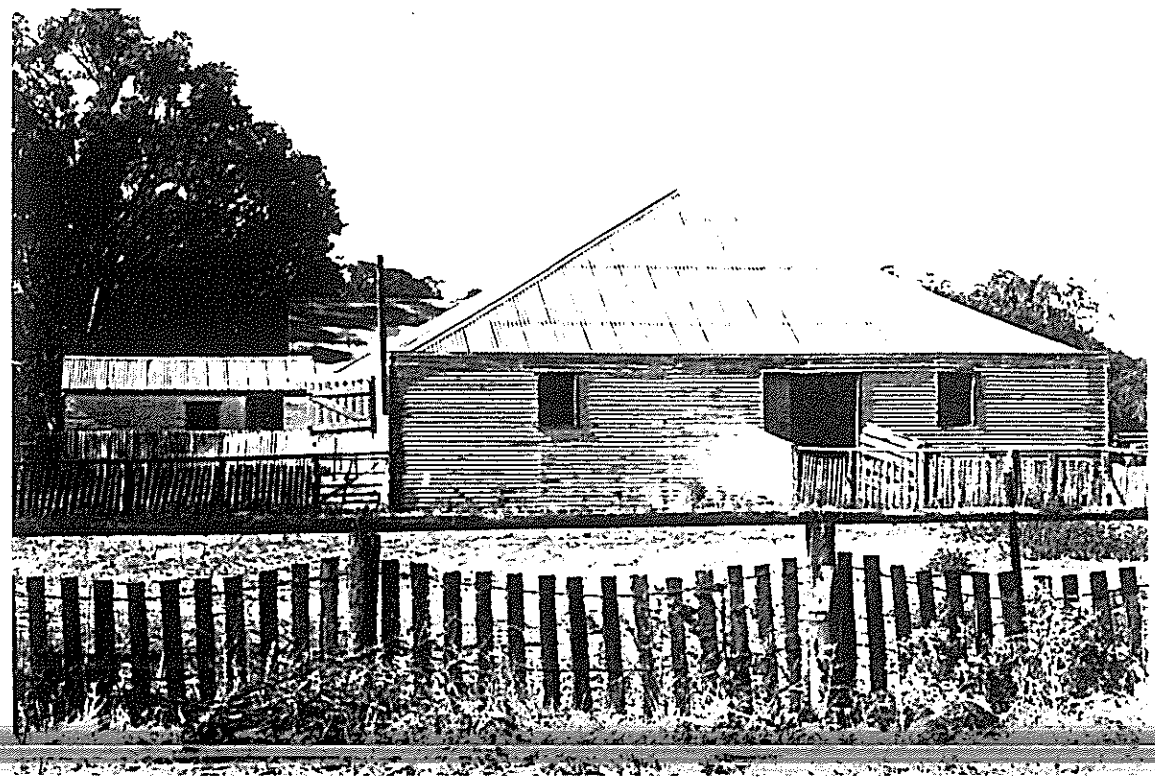
Moorna was one of the largest stations in the Shire and the woolshed provided a height of activity in shearing season. The shed has been altered.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6182/1



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 19/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Moorna Homestead
LOCATION:	Moorna Station, Renmark Road, Wentworth (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Homestead
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1869
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Very Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The large and impressive dwelling is constructed of stone and brick quarried from the property. The homestead consists of a two connected structures. The main dwelling is connected to a kitchen/workmans quarters by an enclosed former breezeway and open courtyard. The homestead has a multiple gable roof clad with corrugated iron. A number of rendered chimney stacks with elongated iron pots, extend from the roof line. The large verandah on the front is covered by a separate straight pitched roof and supported by cement columns set on squared pedestals. The columns are adorned with cast iron brackets. The cement pillars and wall replace the original timber posts and balustrade. The front doorway has central, side and fan lights displaying attractive coloured glass and leading. Likewise a north eastern triple window has coloured lead lighted panels set in timber casements. The interior is attractively appointed with moulded plaster ceilings, elaborate cedar window casements and fireplaces. The homestead is largely in original condition. The rear building is more austere in style. The walls and ceilings are clad with fluted iron and lining boards. An old schoolroom and office are contained in this portion. The homestead is located on the northern banks of the Murray River. It is an impressive component of the Murray landscape and a homestead of particular architectural merit. It is one of the largest and most ornate homes in the Shire still in excellent condition.

History:

The homestead was constructed by William Crozier. It replaced the original dwelling built by Edward Bate Scott who originally settled Moorna after acquiring it from Ned Bagott. By 1856 Moorna was the administrative centre of the Shire. The Commissioner of Lands, police station and post office were established on the property. From 1854 a Court of Petty Sessions sat at Moorna. Additionally two bush inns were established on the property. There are no remnants of these structures. The existing dwelling was only ever utilized as a pastoral homestead. Ben Chaffey purchased the property from Crozier and made improvements to the house. The dwelling has played host to some of the Shire's most significant pastoralists and located on the site of a vital administrative area of the western district.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion within Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

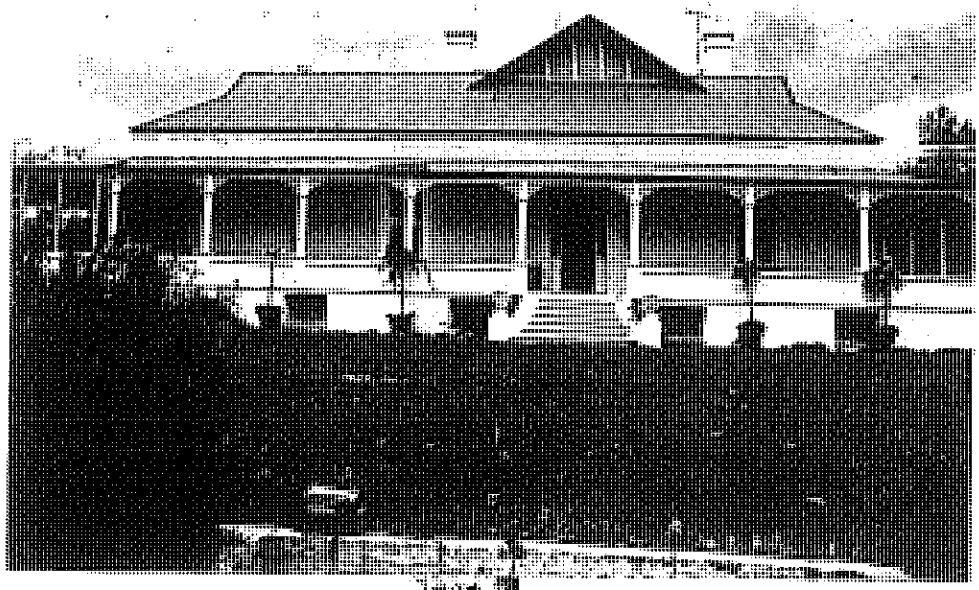
J Whyte; J Walsh; Tulloch D 'The Historic Town of Wentworth:

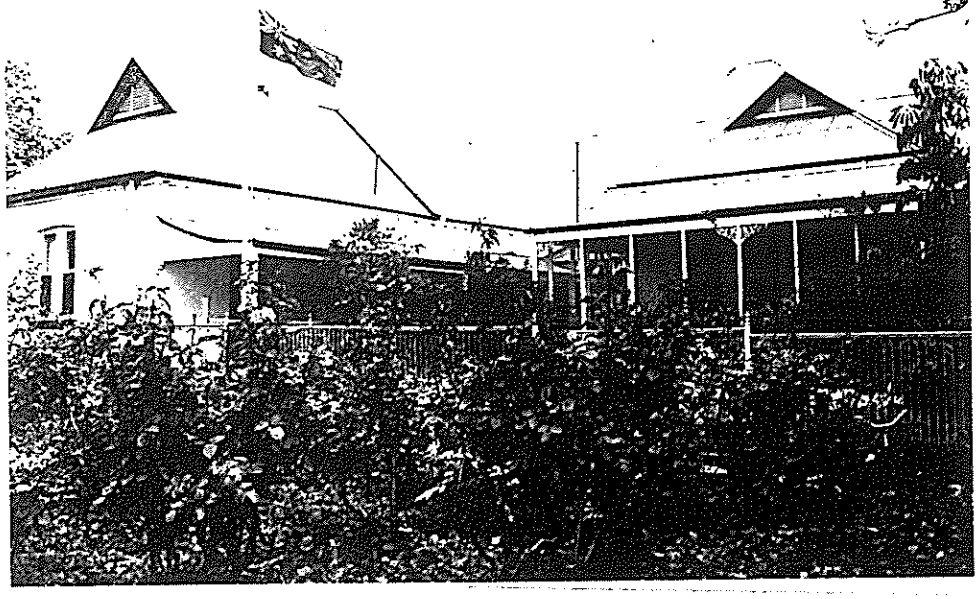
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

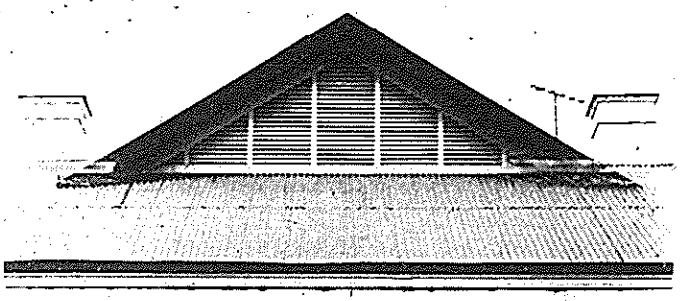
0903/33, 34, 36
0904/6a, 7a

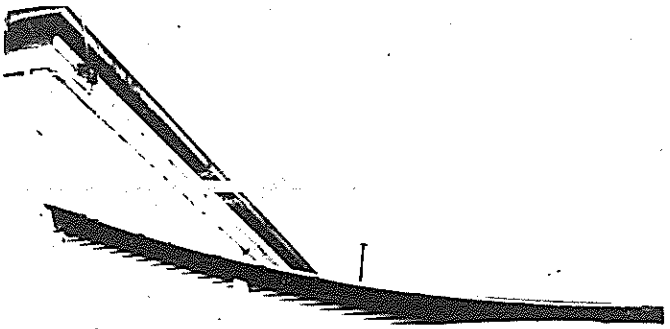
HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 18/11/88

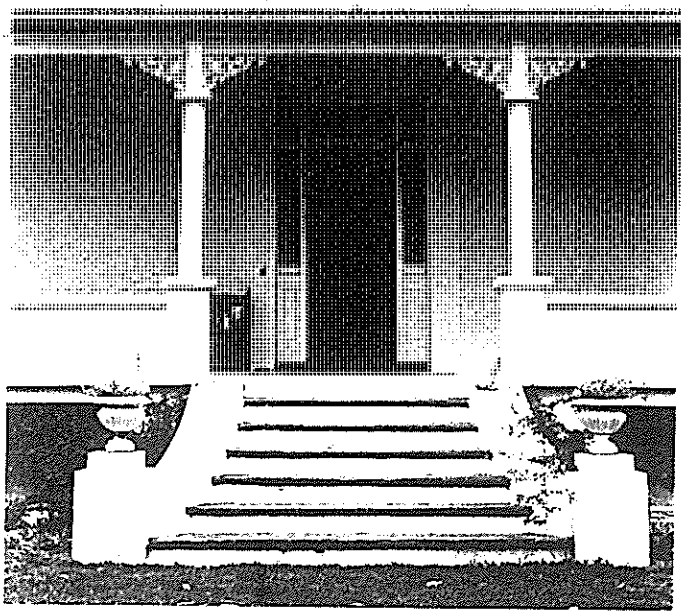
ITEM NAME (Former Names): Moorna Homestead
LOCATION: Moorna Station, Renmark Road, Wentworth

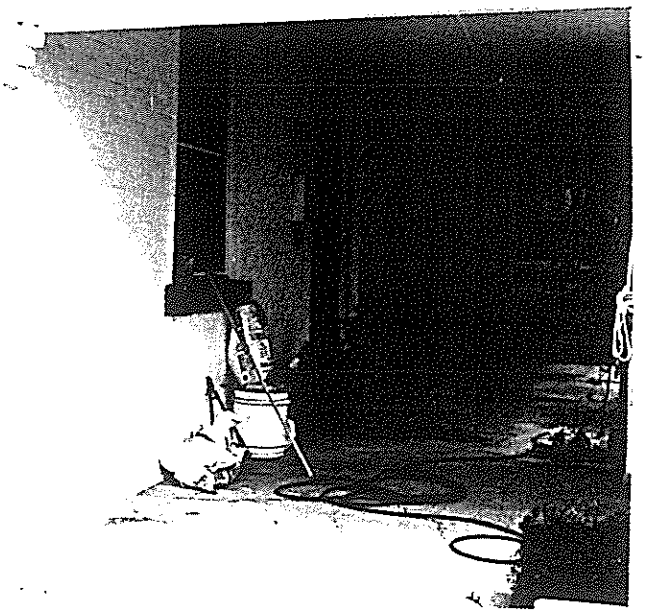


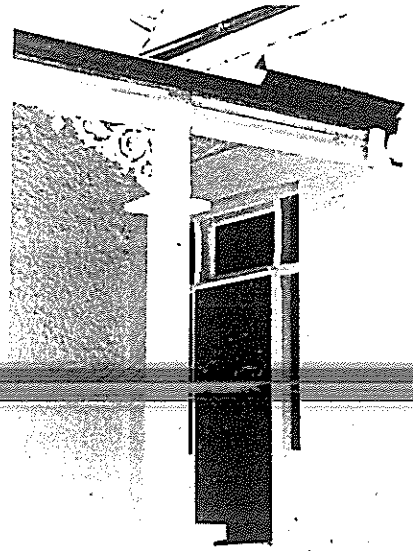


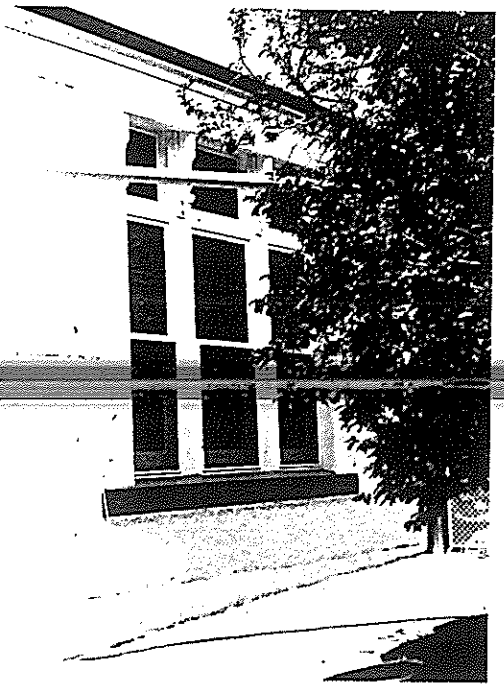












ITEM NAME (Former Names): Moorna Cemetery
LOCATION: 'Moorna Station', Renmark Road, Wentworth (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses): Graveyard
CONSTRUCTION DATE: circa 1860
HISTORICAL THEME: The people
CONDITION: Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS: Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A small graveyard with a variety of headstone designs made of marble and sandstone. One grave (Harry Crozier) is defined by a cast iron fence. The headstones are set amidst bluebush stands and shaded by a large eucalypt.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0904/10a, 11a

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 18/11/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 78

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Moorna Town Site
LOCATION:	Moorna Station, Wentworth
USE (Former Uses):	Surveyed Town Site
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	na
HISTORICAL THEME:	Township
CONDITION:	na
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
History:

A town site was surveyed at Moorna during the era of administrative headquarters operating on the property. It was once suggested that the site be chosen for the capital of Australia in the years of Federation. The township was never erected. Only survey marks remain on the site today as a reminder of the proposed town.

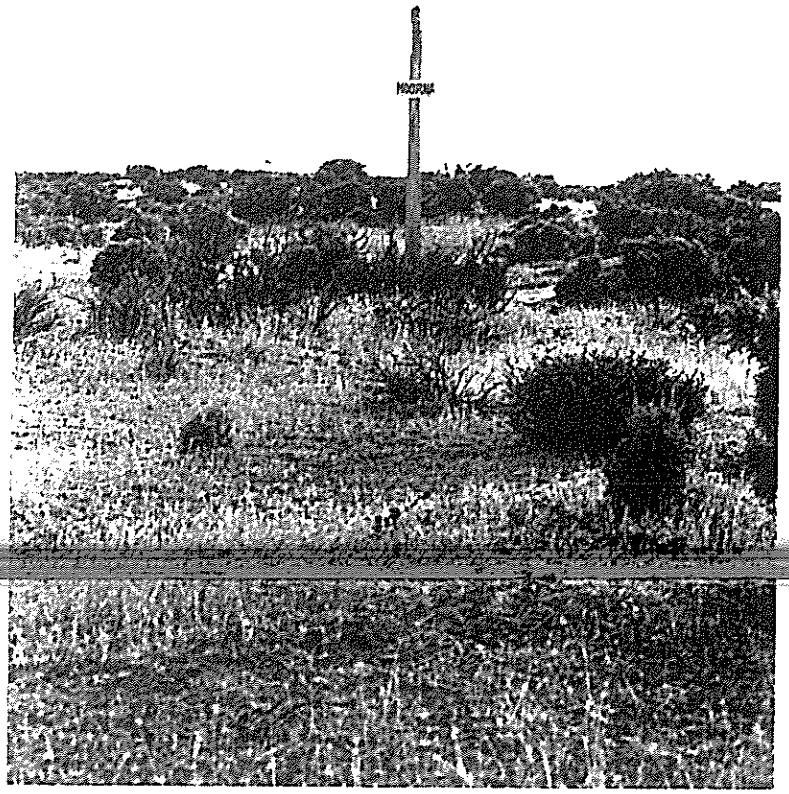
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintentance of survey works

REFERENCES:

J Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6182/4



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/11/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 79

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wangamma Homestead
LOCATION:	Wangamma, Scaddings Bridge Road (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1900
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A brick dwelling with iron clad gambrel roof. A separate bullnose roof covers a wrap around verandah supported by plain timber posts. A separate brick room, connected to the main dwelling by a breezeway has a high hip roof and straight pitched verandah. It appears to be an older structure and features a large external chimney.

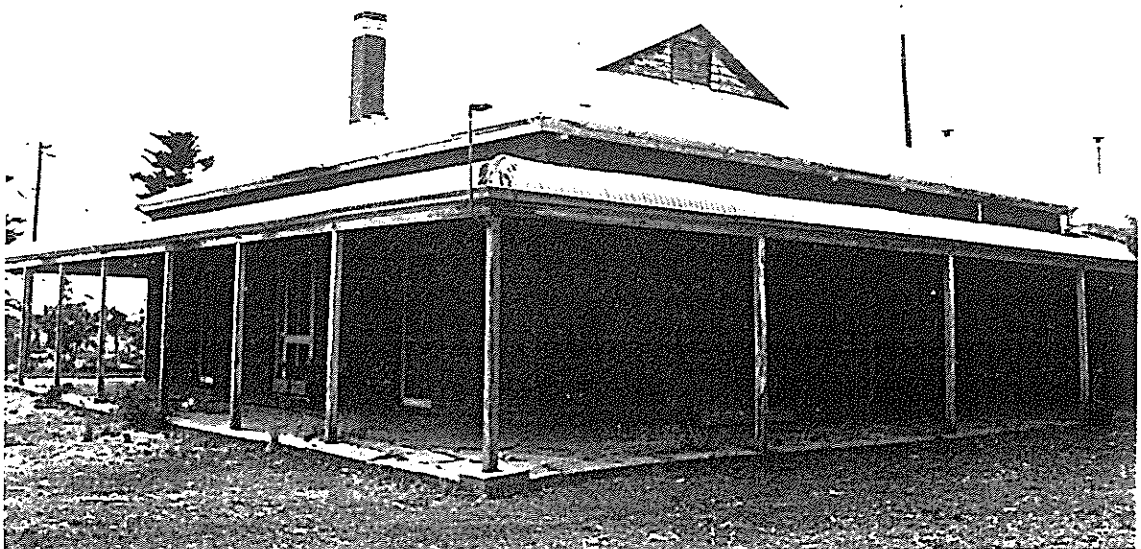
History:

Wangamma was taken up by the Scaddings family late last century and their name is given to nearby bridge and road. The homestead is now used as a 'weekender' holiday cottage. The legendary recluse 'Possum' is buried on the property.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6182/9,10



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 19/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Lake Victoria Homestead and adjacent buildings
LOCATION:	Lake Victoria Station (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Homestead (also store and wagon shed)
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1880
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Homestead - good, outbuildings - derelict
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The homestead is a fine single storey rendered brick building. The long, rectangular dwelling is surrounded by a large wrap around verandah supported by turned wooden posts and displaying an attractive frieze of turned timber balustrettes. The dwelling is attached by breezeway to a second rendered brick structure comprising the kitchen and servants quarters. Both buildings have been recently upgraded and mildly altered. Adjacent to the homestead are a series of connected buildings, partially derelict, which comprised the former station store, wagon shed and workshop. These buildings are constructed of stone rubble walls with the corners and window casings of brick quoins, similar to buildings in South Australia. The high gable iron roof and verandah is supported by timber posts. The store still contains a large cedar bench with money drawer. A loft remains, which leads to an upper level doorway which enabled supplies to be dropped down to the wagon.

History:

Lake Victoria Station is recognized as being one of the largest and most prosperous holdings within the Shire. The land was first taken up in 1847 by George Melrose. By 1886 it was recorded as being some 1,660,000 acres in size. Located on the Murray it was an important riverboat stop, however, the focus of station activity was moved to Nulla Nulla out-station during the 1920's when reliance on river transport was no longer necessary. The homestead and adjacent buildings are located on one of the most significant stations in the Shire and are worthy of preservation.

RECOMMENDATION:

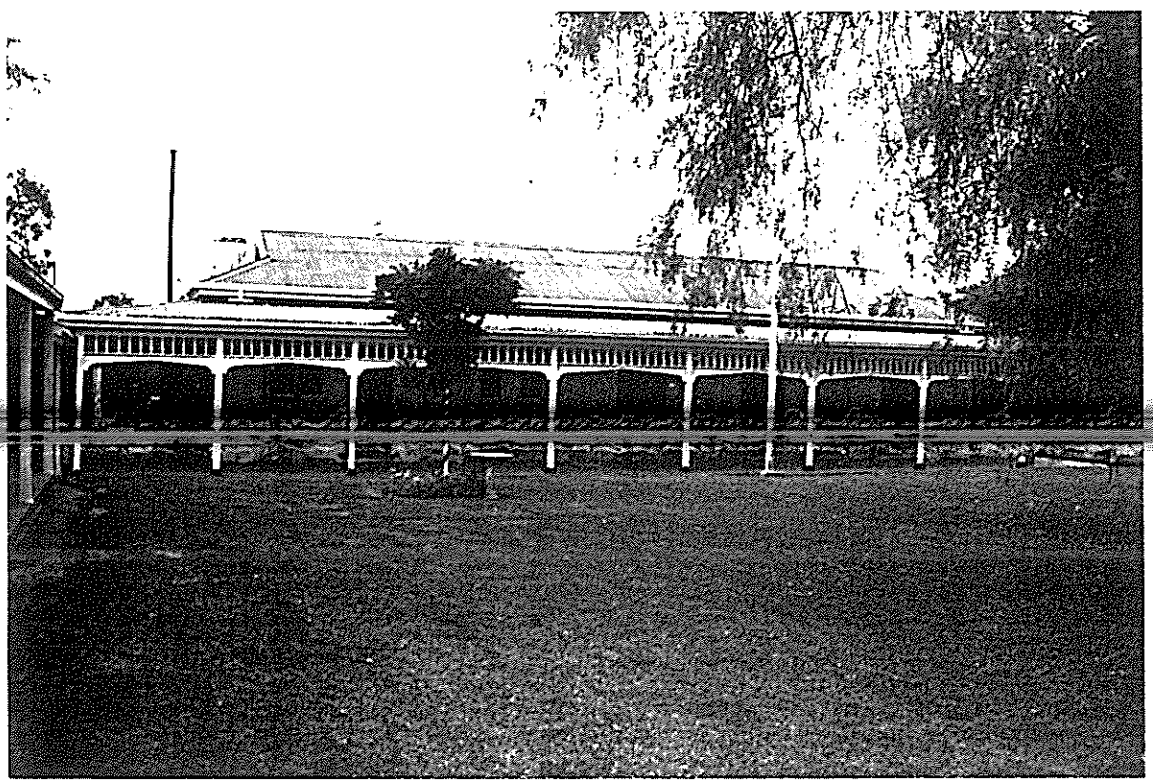
Inclusion in Local Environmental Plan
Conservation. Encourage restoration of store and adjacent buildings.

REFERENCES:

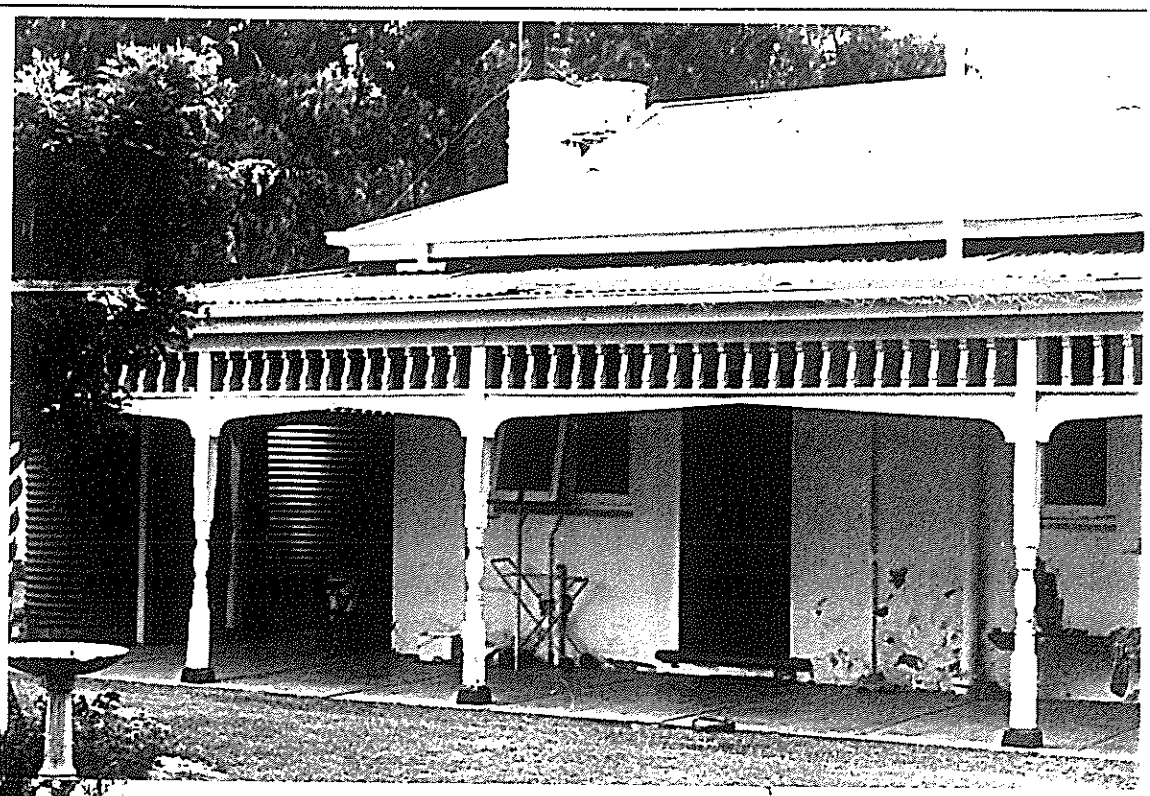
J Taylor

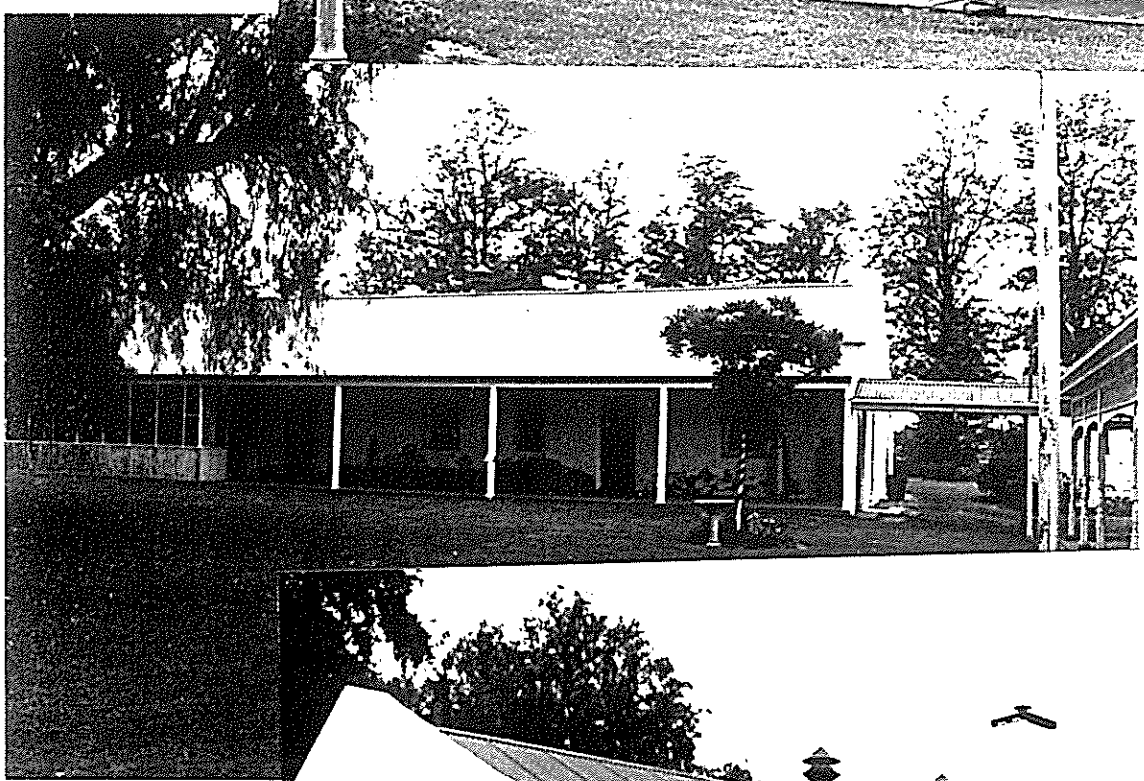
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

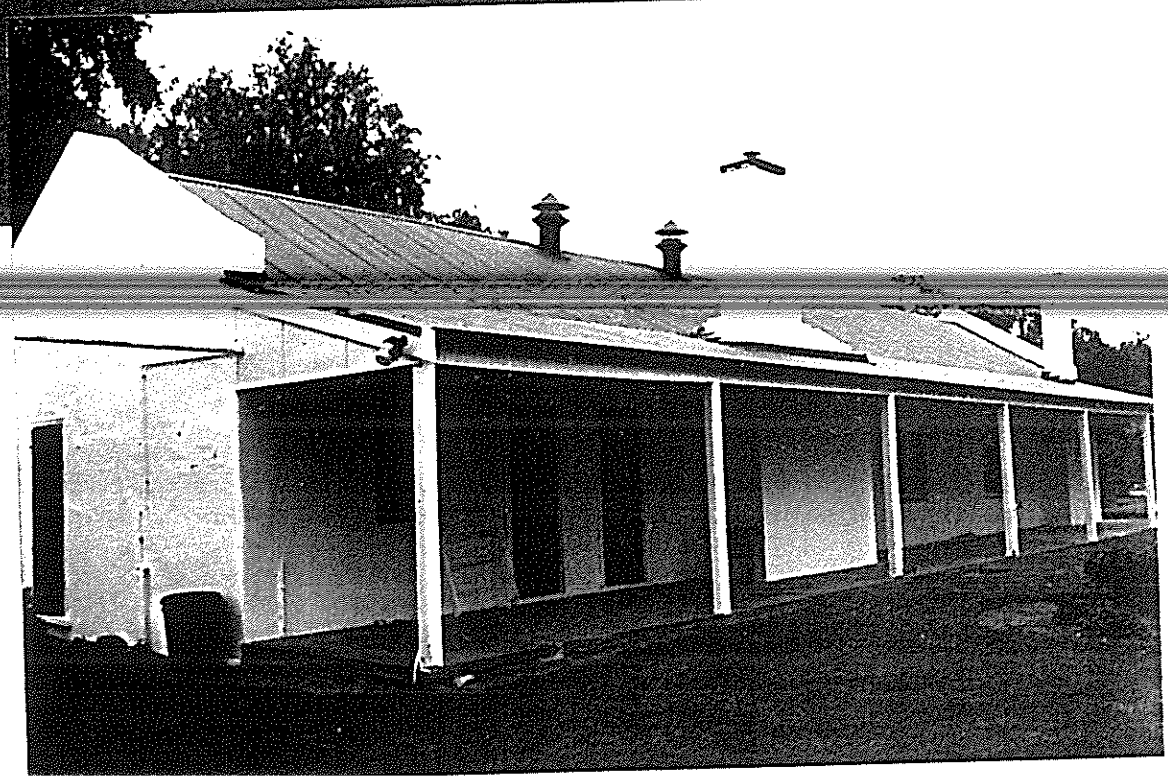
6182/17,20,23, 24,27,28

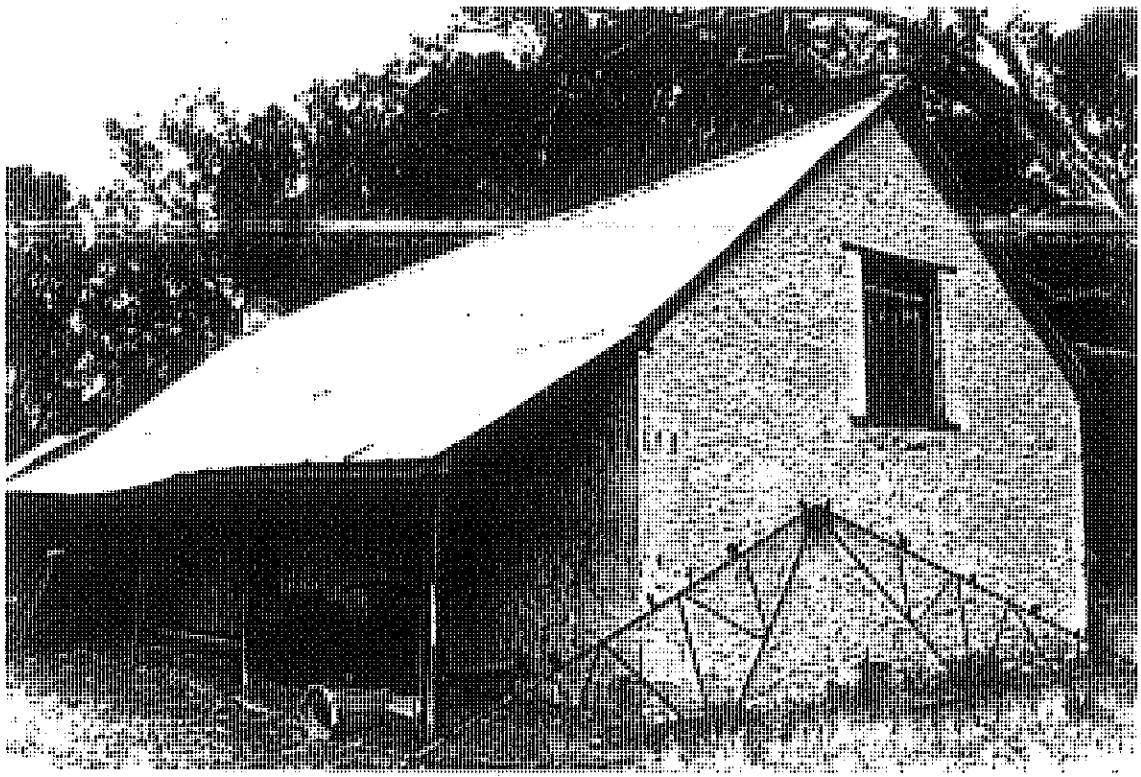


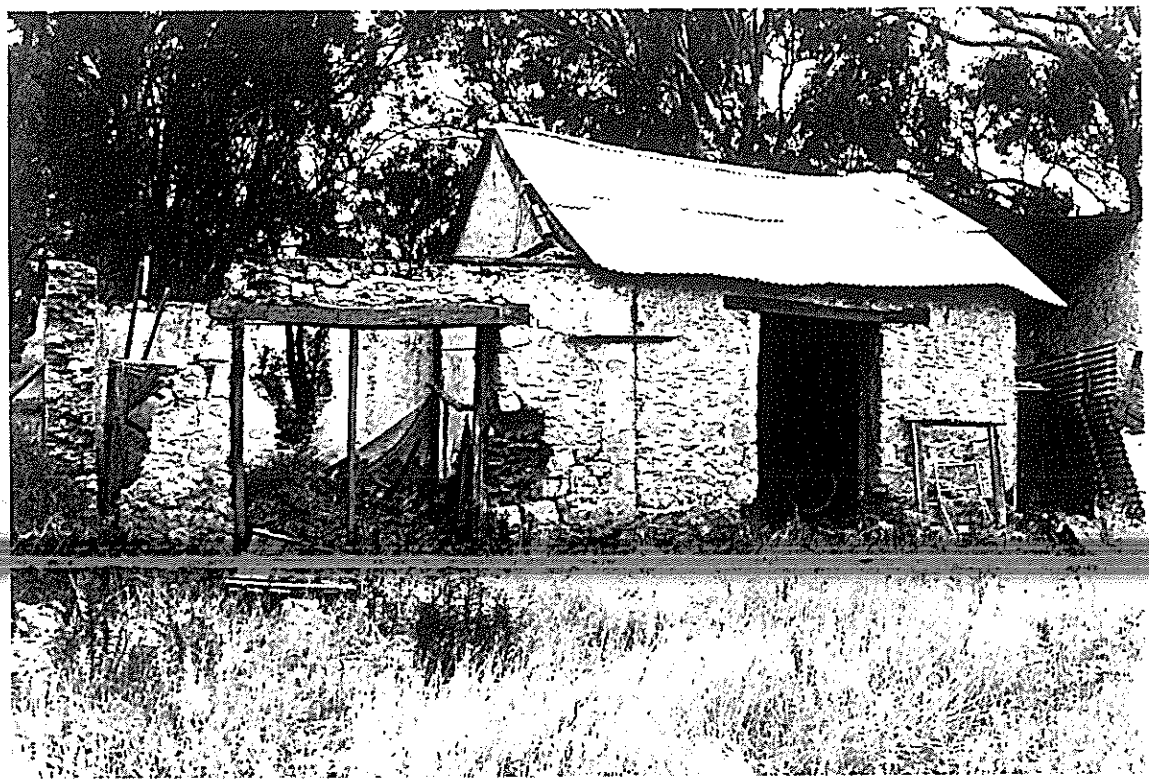
HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 30/11/88











SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 81

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Nampoo Homestead
LOCATION:	Nampoo Station, Rufus River (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Homestead
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1882
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single storey dwelling constructed of jointed cement blocks. The building has a gambrel iron roof, with adjoining verandah supported by turned timber posts displaying shaped timber brackets. The roof gables are highlighted by decorative cast iron finials. The homestead is located on the edge of a large gully overlooking a heavily timbered area and billabong. The exposed "wall" of the gully demonstrates unusual soil striations and has been recently recognized as being of geological significance. The dwelling and its setting form an impressive reminder of the pastoral pioneers and the relationship with the delicate and ancient natural environment.

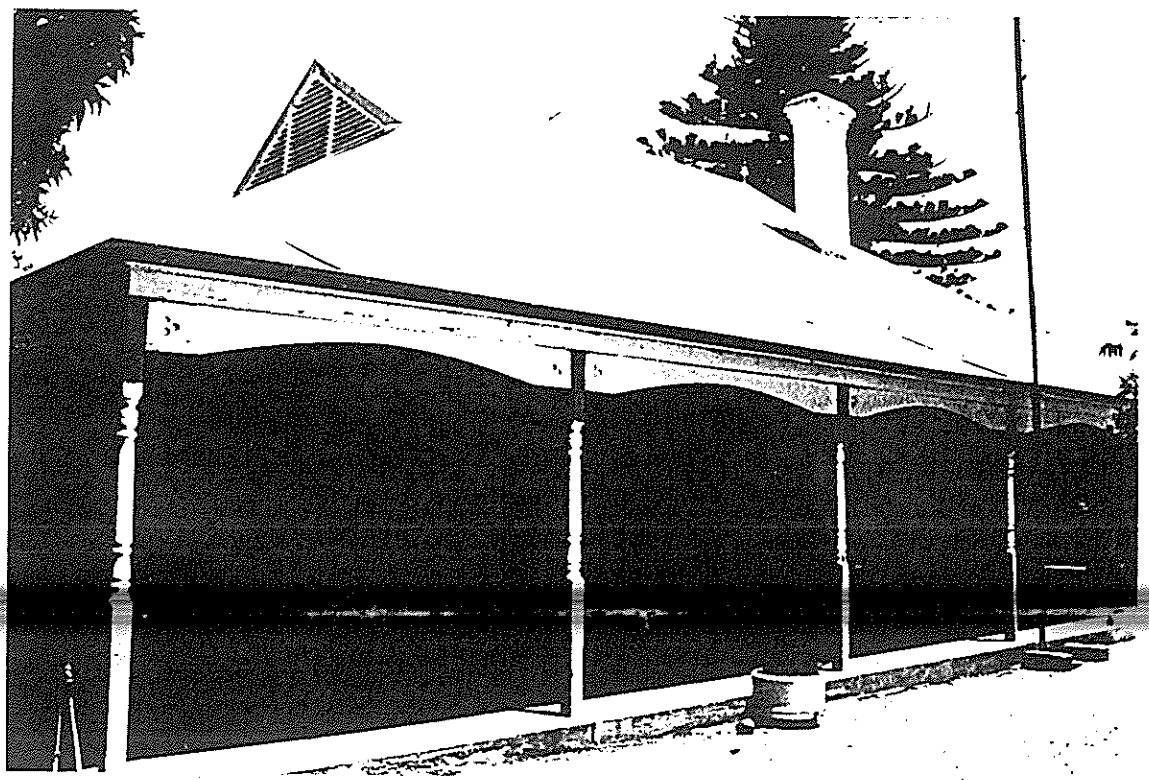
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

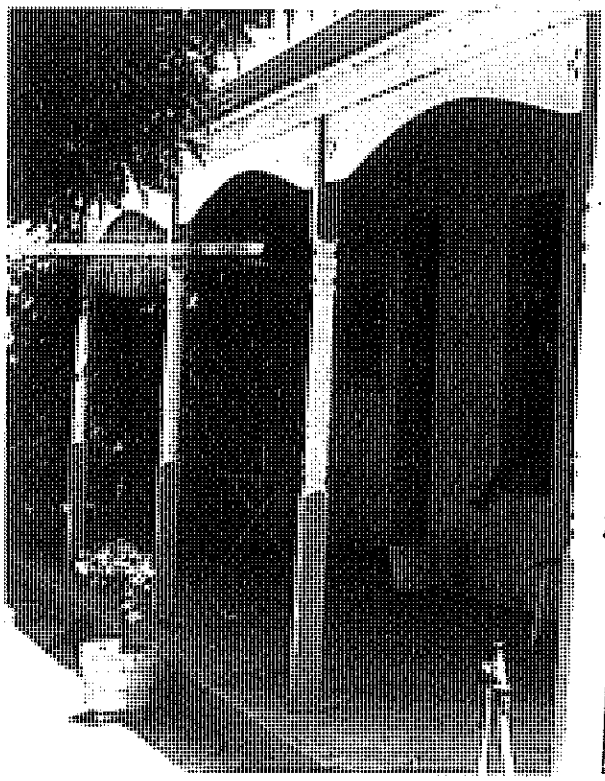
REFERENCES:

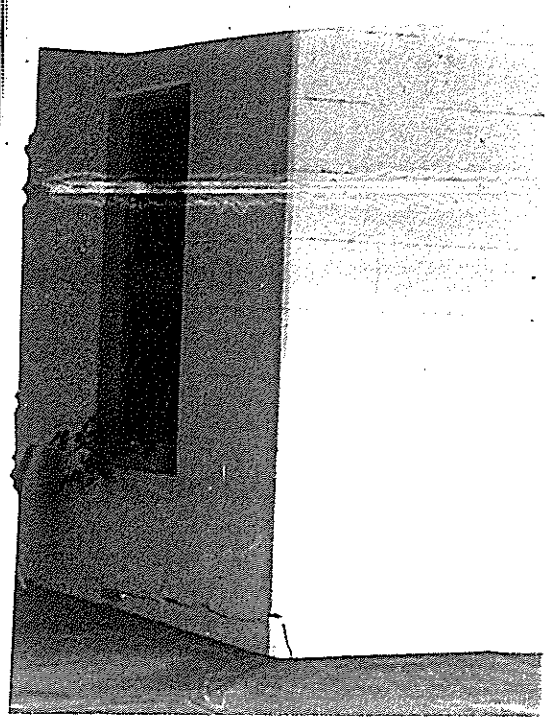
J Taylor

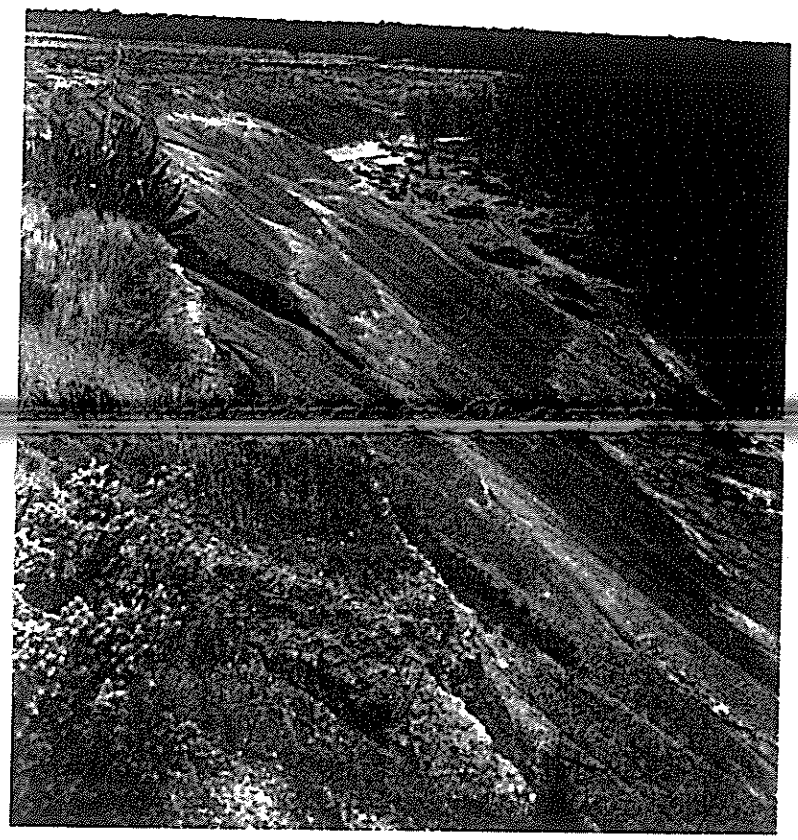
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6182/32,34,35



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 30/11/88







SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 82

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Cal Lal Post Office
LOCATION:	Cal Lal (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Former Post Office
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community facilities
CONDITION:	Poor
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A simple structure of cement bricks and corrugated iron roof with front awning supported by plain timber posts. The only decoration being small finials on the side gables.

History:

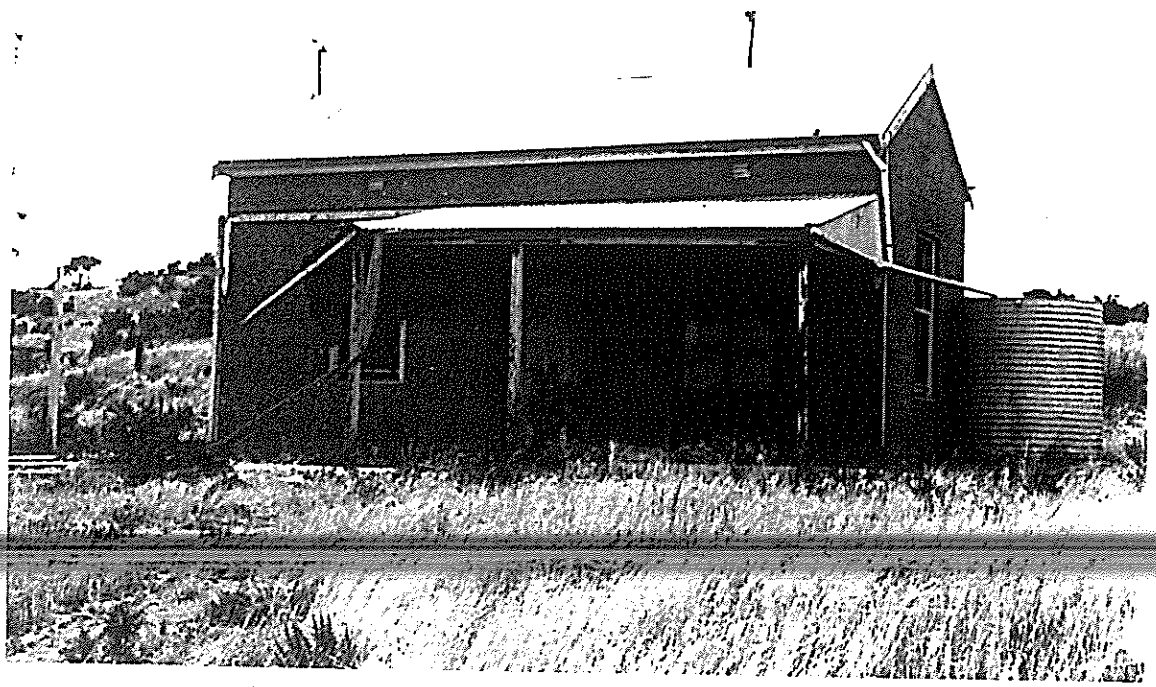
Cal Lal Post Office was established as part of a small service centre for the adjacent Lake Victoria farming community. The township no longer exists.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6183/10



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 30/11/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 83

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Cal Lal Police Station and Courthouse
LOCATION:	Cal Lal (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Former Police Station and Courthouse
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1900
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Poor, modified
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A weatherboard structure with gambrel roof clad with corrugated iron extending over a front verandah. The elevated building is supported by posts. Wooden steps and side rails lead to the verandah, which is surrounded by a timber balustrade. The courtroom has a platform where the magistrates bench was once located. A rear extension accommodated the police office and prison cell. The interior has been significantly modified to provide a private dwelling, which is now abandoned.

History:

Mounted policemen used to monitor the boundaries of local properties and the State border. There have been no police in the building since 1938.

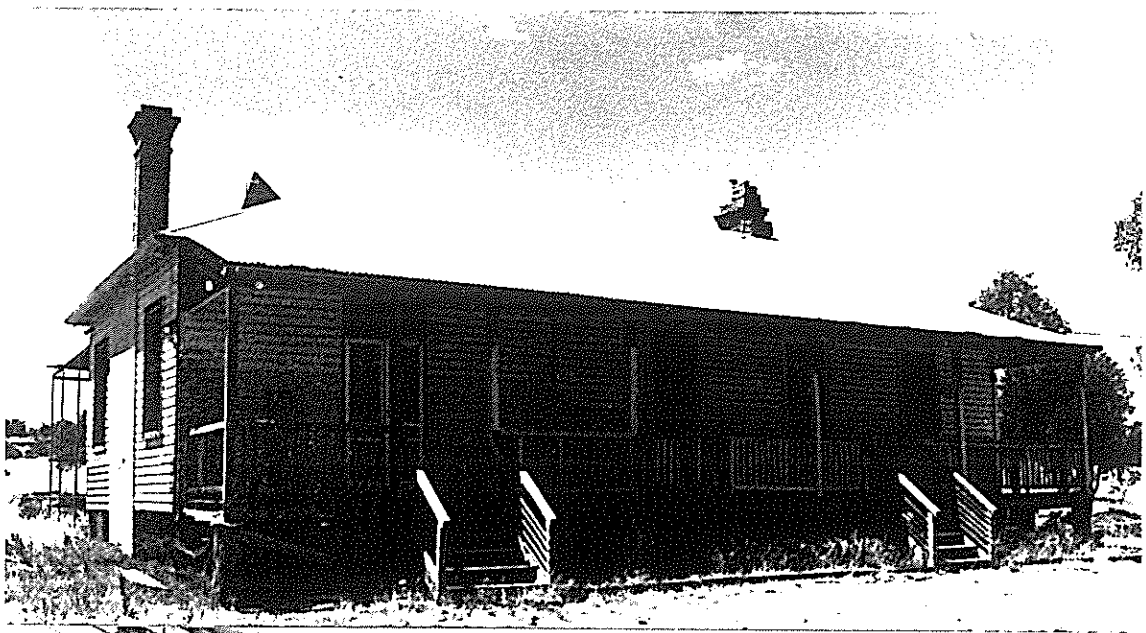
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance of the facade
Reconstruction of cell and courtroom to original state

REFERENCES:

J Taylor

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6183,11,13



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 30/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	'Warakoo' Homestead and adjacent residences
LOCATION:	Thai Hai Farm (Warakoo), Cal Lal Road (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Dwellings
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1885 and 1914
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The three adjacent dwellings located on Warakoo are constructed of bricks made on the property. The oldest and main homestead, perched on a rise, has an iron clad hip roof and a separate concave verandah roof with light panels. The verandah, now mostly built-in, is supported by chamfered posts. The iron lace valance brackets and roof cresting are likely later additions. The other two dwellings built in 1914, have gambrel roofs and separate roofs over wrap around verandahs supported by turned and chamfered posts. Recent occupants have substantially altered the interiors of all buildings.

History:

The property was originally held by 'Warakoo' Smith, who had active interests in local horse racing clubs and the Wentworth Show and Graziers Association. The dwellings were constructed for various members of the Smith family. The property's recent history is of interest and unique within the Shire. During the 1970's it was taken up by the Hare Krishna community as a retreat. The Chinese government now own the property as a pastoral training centre for Chinese students.

RECOMMENDATION:

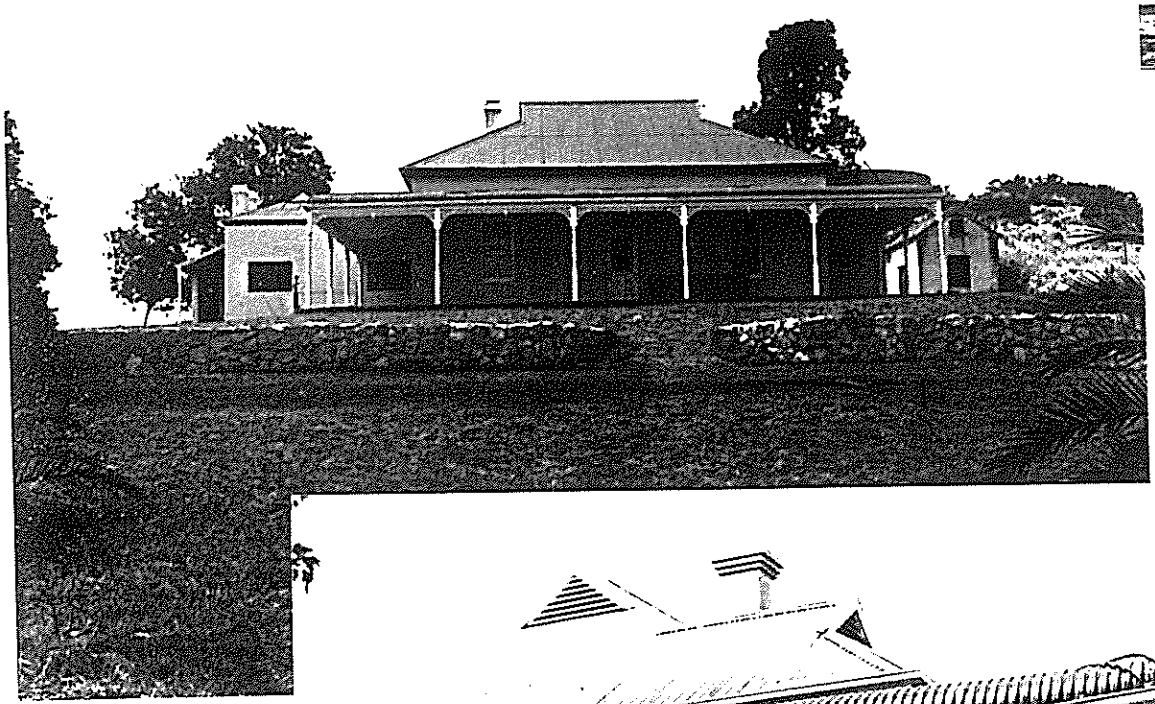
Maintenance

REFERENCES:

J Taylor

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6183/2,3,4,8,9

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 30/11/88



SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 85

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	'Kulkurna' Homestead
LOCATION:	'Kulkurna', Cal Lal Road (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1900
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A brick dwelling with stucco rendering which has a high multiple gable roof clad with corrugated iron. The roof extends over a verandah supported by tapered pylons. An unusual feature is the small 'attic' room with timber fretwork gable and long rectangular window divided into four small panels. The homestead is located on the northern banks of the Murray River.

History:

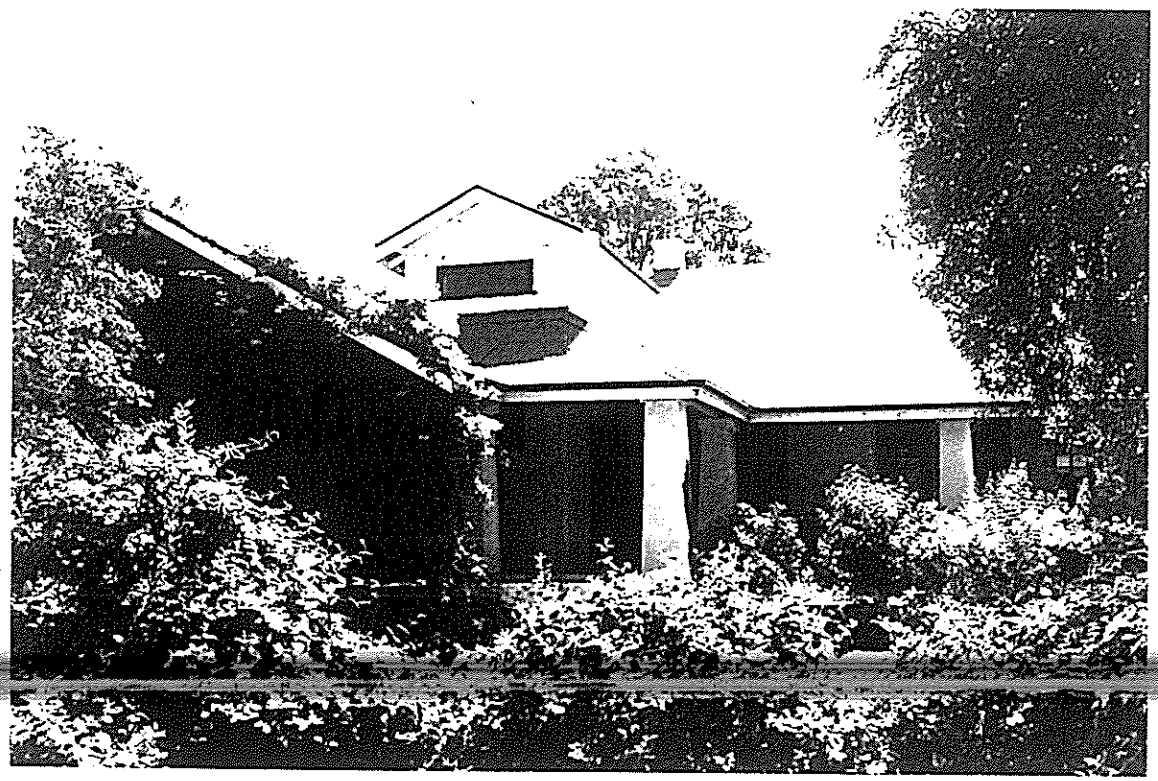
Kulkurna was a resumed holding from Lake Victoria Station, settled in 1894

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6183/18



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 30/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Kulkurna Woolshed
LOCATION:	'Kulkurna', Cal Lal (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Woolshed
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1880
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Poor
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

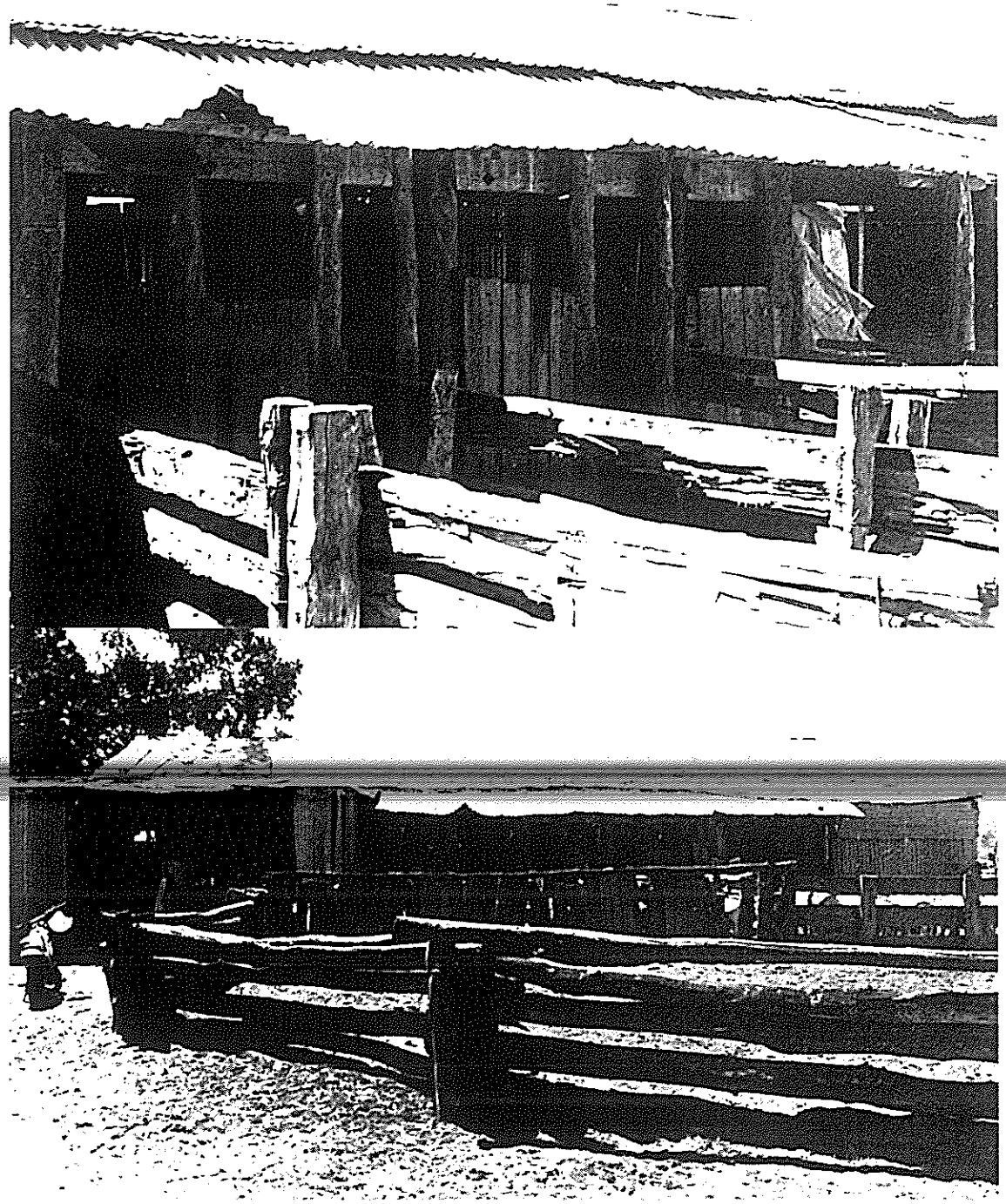
STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A crudely constructed woolshed comprising mixture of pine slab, weatherboard and corrugated iron walls. The building is supported by hand sawn posts. The structure is built on the ground and has a small elevated area supporting the wool press. The woolshed is still operational but reflects the working conditions of the previous century. It is located on the banks of the Murray, which historically enabled loading of the wool clip onto barges for transport to Melbourne and Adelaide ports.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan
Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6183/19,20



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 30/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Kulkurna Lock-up
LOCATION:	Kulkurna Station (Lake Victoria), adjacent Kulkurna Woolshed
USE (Former Uses):	Prison Cell and Sentry Hut
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1870
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Derelict
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
History:

The site comprises the remains of a small timber prison cell and police hut situated on the banks of the Murray River. Window bars are still in place on a high opening in the cell. Prisoners under arrest were placed in the cell during the overnight stays required by horseback journey to Wentworth, or for awaiting more suitable transport. The remains are testimony to the hardships encountered by the mounted troopers in policing such expansive areas.

RECOMMENDATION:

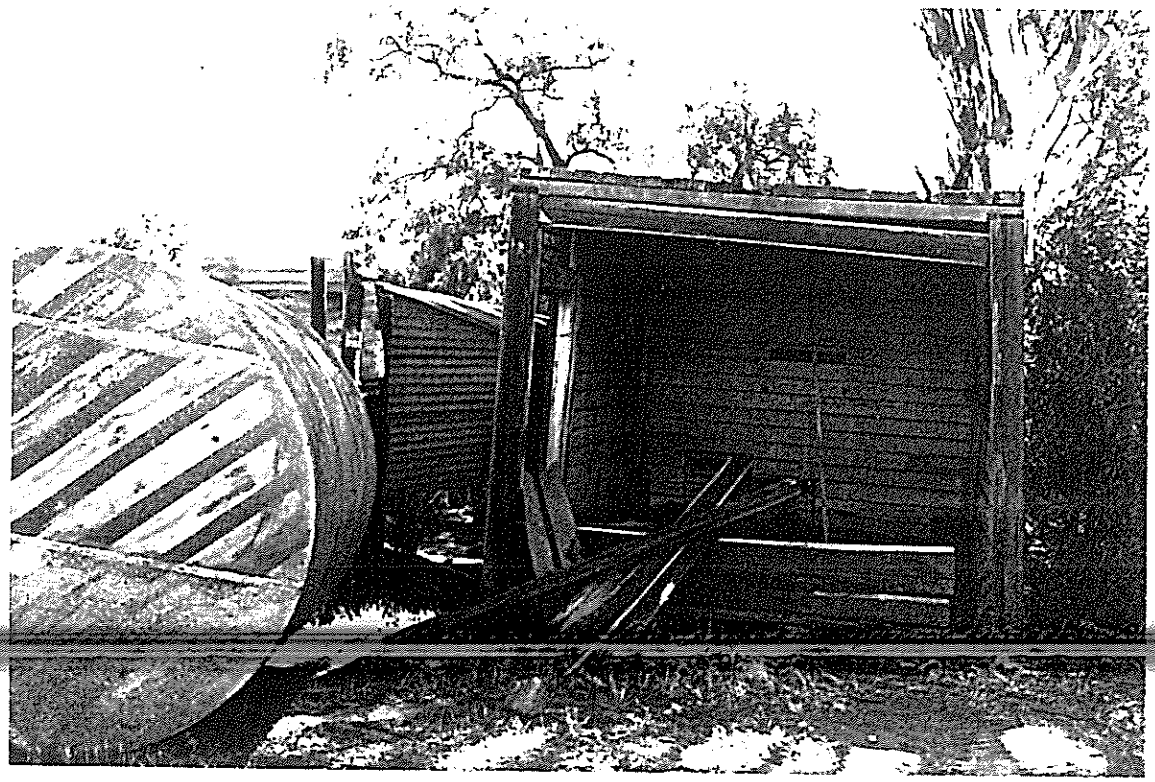
Encourage restoration

REFERENCES:

J Taylor

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6183/22



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15/12/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	'Tareena' Homestead (Salt Creek)
LOCATION:	'Tareena', Cal Lal Road, (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1881
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Poor
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

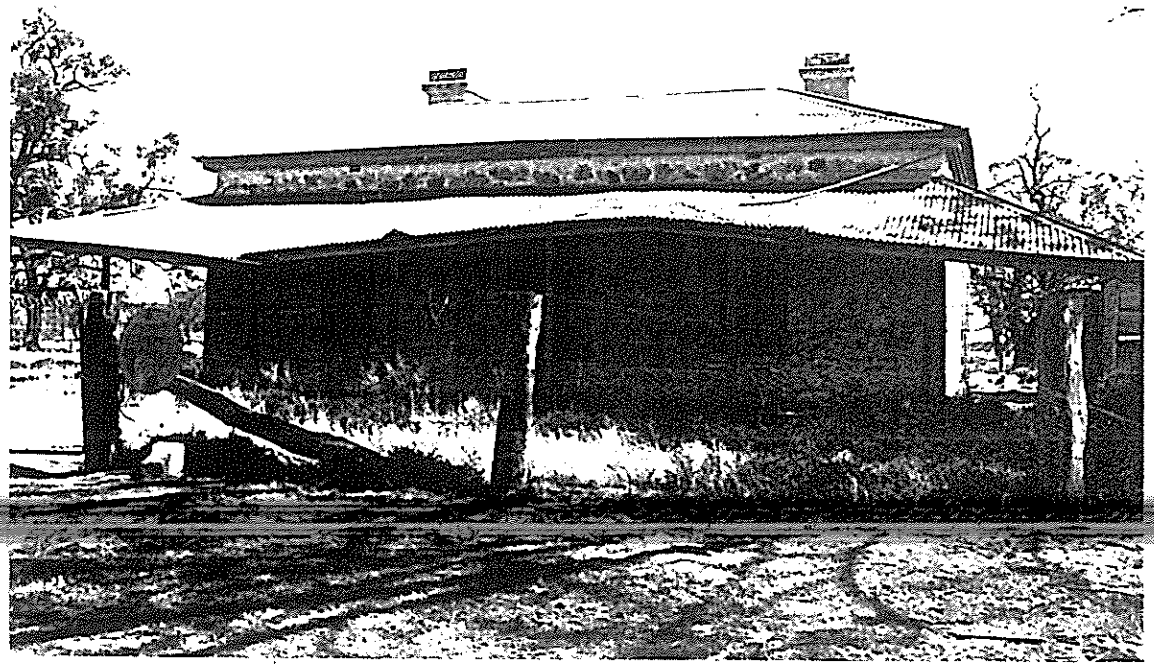
STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A simple stone dwelling with low hip roof clad with corrugated iron sheeting. A separate straight pitch roof covers a wrap around verandah supported by plain timber posts. Two squat stone chimney stacks protrude from the roof line. The panelled door has a plain fan light. Stone quoins surround the doorway. Two markings are found in the stonework, one the date of construction and the other the level of the 1956 flood. The homestead is not habitable and as a result no garden exists. Tareena is the only known dwelling existing in the Shire constructed with random rubble stone coursing. The building is reminiscent of South Australian structures, reflecting its proximity to the State border.

RECOMMENDATION:

Encourage restoration

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6183/28



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 30/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Provincial Border Obelisk
LOCATION:	South Australia/New South Wales border (West of Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Border Marker
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1869
HISTORICAL THEME:	The People
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A brick pyramid having 4 rendered plaques with chiselled labels stating PROVINCE BOUNDARY.

History:

The official borderline along the 141° east longitude was unsurveyed at the time of pastoral expansion into the Western Darling district. Pastoral pioneers were pushing beyond the confines of South Australia unsure of which set of land laws would ultimately determine their claims. Pastoralists such as George Melrose, who had taken up land at Lake Victoria in 1847, were unable to obtain a lease from either colony until the position of the border was fixed. An agreement was reached between the colonies that South Australia should undertake the border survey which commenced in 1869. The Obelisk is a marker resulting from that survey.

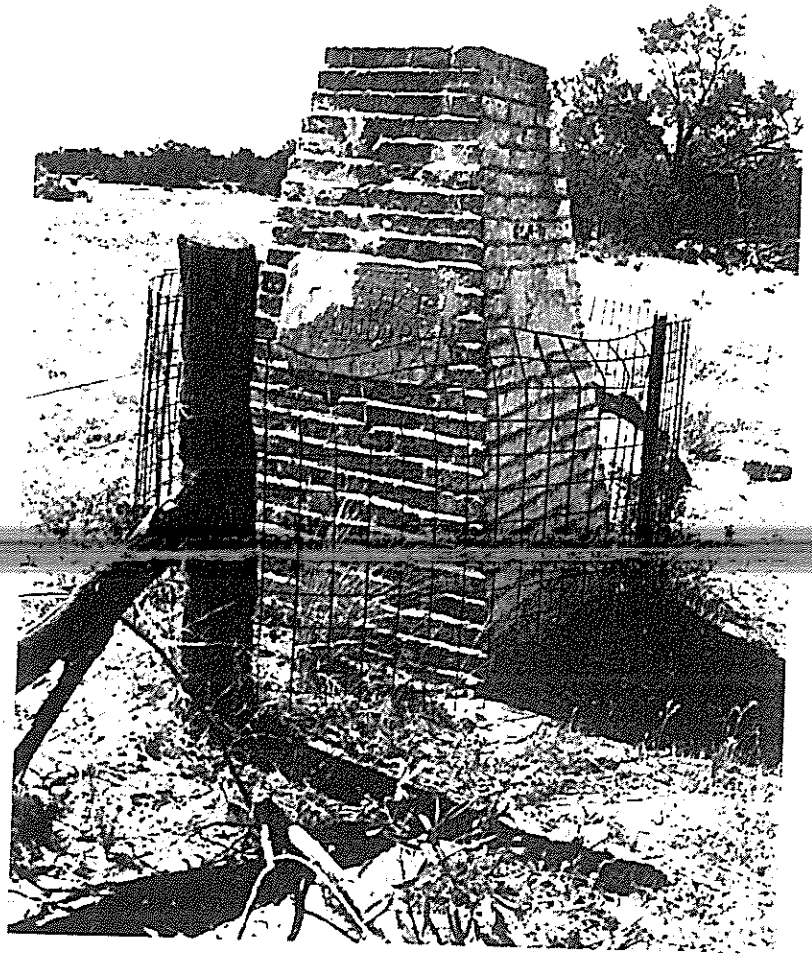
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

REFERENCES:

Hardy, B 'West of the Darling'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6183/29



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 30/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Rufus Creek Area & Massacre Burial Site
LOCATION:	Adjacent to and south of Lake Victoria
USE (Former Uses):	Massacre Site
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	
HISTORICAL THEME:	The People
CONDITION:	Burials disturbed and scattered by erosion processes
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Registered Item of the National Estate; NP&WS Aboriginal Sites Register

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The massacre site is in Rufus Creek, 50 metres downstream from the weir at Lek Victoria. The actual burial site is located about 100 metres due north of the massacre site in the sand dunes about 25 metres north of the fence line. The entire area covers some 700 hectares.

History:

The site signifies the conflict which was associated with European colonization of Australia. Violent clashes between Aboriginals and Europeans were common occurrences throughout most of the nineteenth century. This site marks the place of one of the better documented massacres of Aboriginals which occurred in 1841 as a result of reprisals for frequent attacks on droving teams.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

Register of National Estate

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 91

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	'Noola' Homestead
LOCATION:	Noola Station (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1910
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A masonry dwelling with pebbledash rendering. The structure has a hipped iron roof and a separate roof over a front verandah supported by plain timber posts. The verandah is highlighted by linear timber fretwork. A large bay window is a feature of the facade. The entrance is encased by timber panels with top and side lights. The dwelling is located near the western shores of Lake Victoria and set amidst a landscape dominated by bluebush. Surrounding the homestead are numerous buildings including woolshed, shearers quarters, managers quarters and worksheds.

History:

Originally known as Taraminga, the property was held by Thompson in 1886. The property name changed to Noola in 1892 when Thomas acquired the land.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6183/31

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 30/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Nulla Nulla Woolshed (Lake Victoria Woolshed)
LOCATION:	Nulla Nulla Station, Renmark Road (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Woolshed and adjacent shearers quarters
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The large elevated shed is clad with corrugated iron and supported on timber posts. The saw tooth roof line has nine sections, each consisting of gauzed light/ventilation openings. The woolshed has 27 shearing stands however, only twelve are operable. Swing gates at each stand lead to covered counting yard within the shed. The internal yards and shearing machinery are supported by oregon beams. The nearby shearers quarters consist of a series of corrugated iron structures, able to accommodate some 36 workers. The Nulla Nulla shed is one of the largest existing shearing sheds in the Shires.

History:

During the 1890's the proprietors of Lake Victoria, Armstrong Bell & Co., commenced moving the activity centre of Lake Victoria Station away from the river and to the outstation Nulla Nulla. Improved transport methods enabled less reliance on the river and steamboats. It was more appropriate to locate activities where the stock was held. By the early 1920's most activity and some structures had relocated from Lake Victoria Homestead to Nulla Nulla. The woolshed and shearers quarters are established from portions of the transferred structures previously located on Lake Victoria Station and Bunnerungie Station. The woolshed and quarters reflect a significant era in the pastoral industry resultant of the improved technologies and transport.

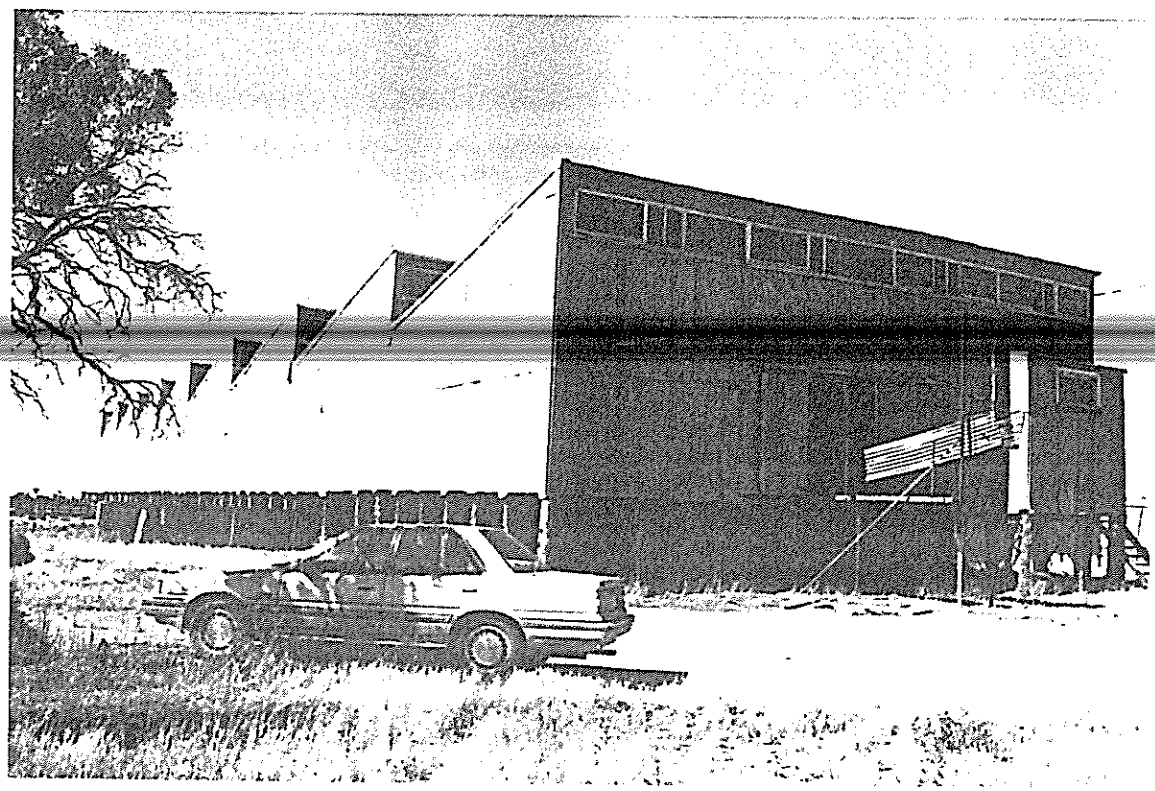
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation of shed and quarters
Inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan

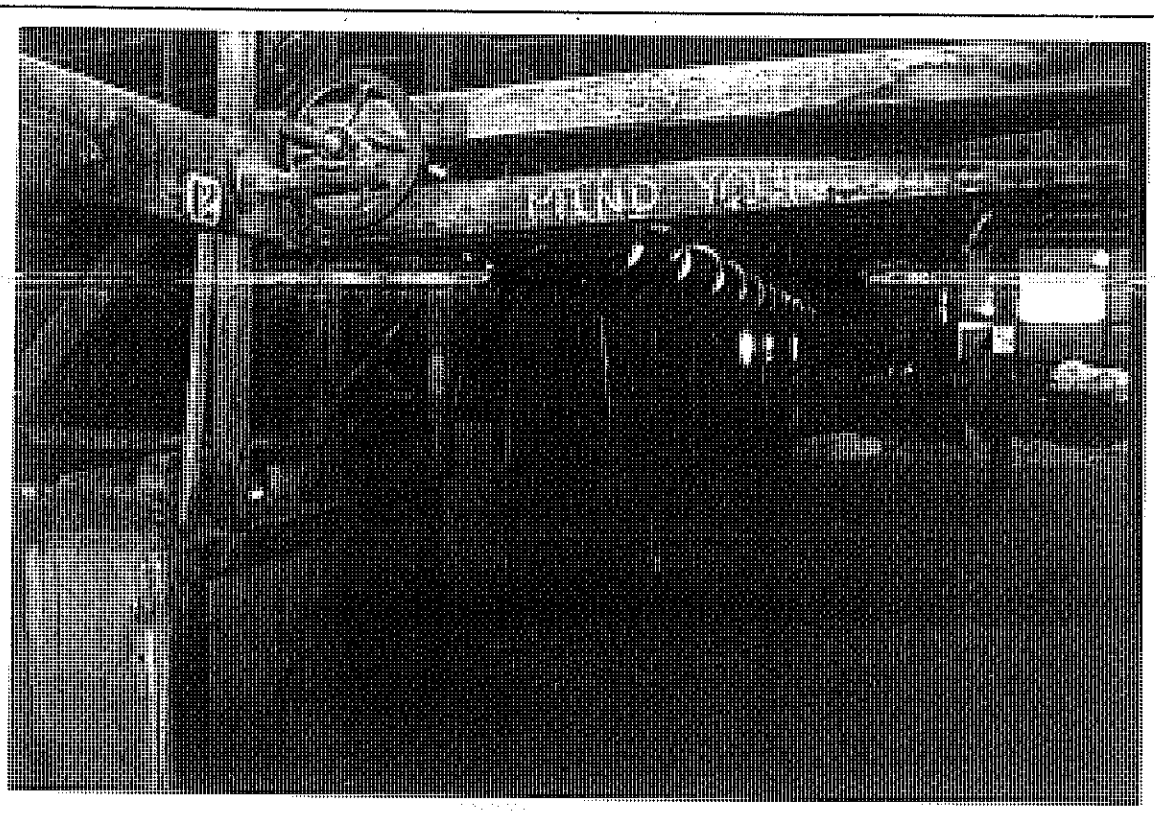
REFERENCES:

J Whyte; J Taylor;
B Hardy 'West of the Darling'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6608/28,29,30,31



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15/12/88



ITEM NAME (Former Names):	'Nulla Nulla' Homestead and associated dwellings
LOCATION:	Nulla Nulla Station, Renmark Road (Lake Victoria)
USE (Former Uses):	Dwellings
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

Nulla Nulla supports numerous dwellings established around the owner/managers residence. The main residence and the dwelling directly adjacent to the north west have architectural merit. Both dwellings are clad with weatherboard corrugated iron and extend over wrap around verandahs, partially enclosed. The verandahs are supported by chamfered posts and decorated with timber balustrades. The elevated homes, reminiscent of Queensland architecture, are designed in an attempt to increase ventilation and reduce the impact of high temperatures during the hot dry summers. They are the only dwellings of this style in the Shire.

History:

Nulla Nulla became the main centre of activity for Lake Victoria Station in the early 1920's when reliance on river transport was no longer necessary. The numerous homesteads and worksheds reflect the size and importance of the inland holding.

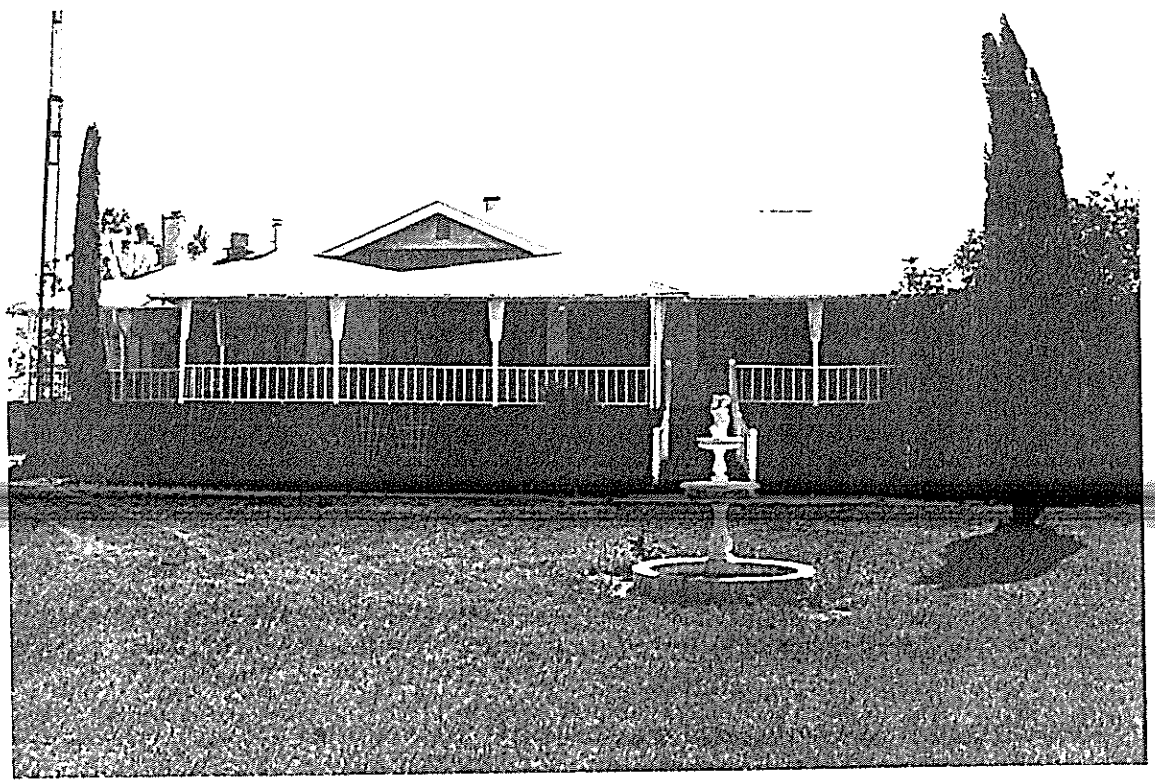
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance of the main dwellings in existing form

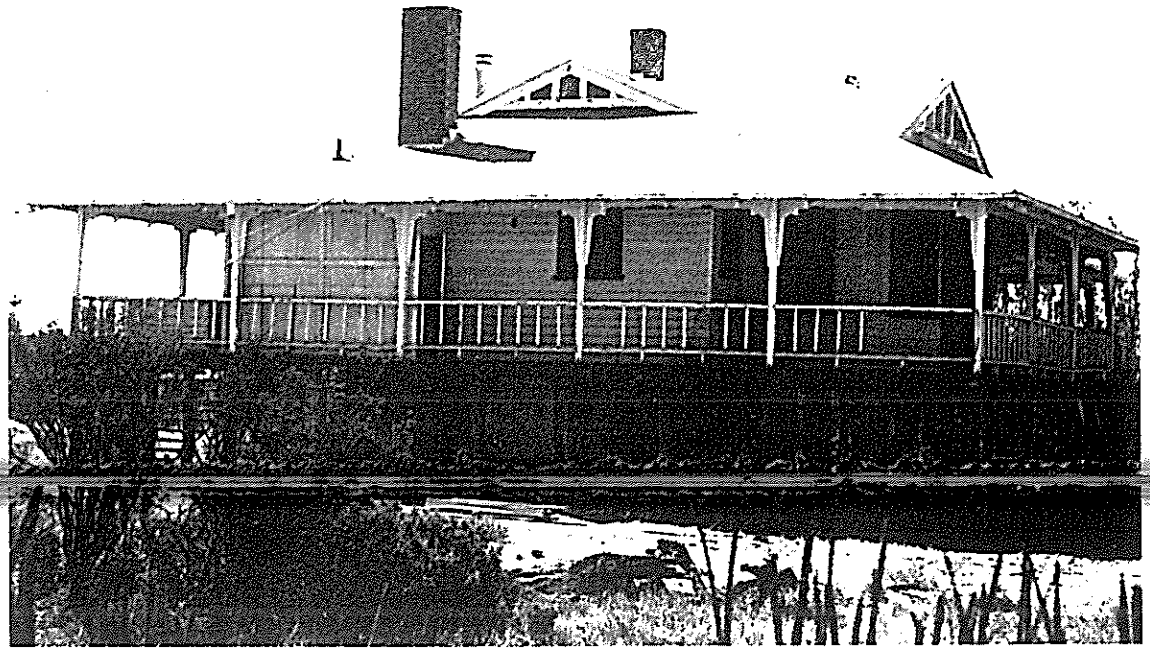
REFERENCES:

Hardy B 'West of the Darling'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6608/17,19,21



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 15/12/88



ITEM NAME (Former Names): Anabranch Hall
LOCATION: Anabranch Road (Anabranch)
USE (Former Uses): Hall and Tennis Courts
CONSTRUCTION DATE:
HISTORICAL THEME: Social Organization and Recreation
CONDITION: Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS: Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A timber framed hall clad with corrugated iron sheeting. Contains a hall with stage, kitchen and preparation rooms. The hall has plain wooden doors and louvered windows. The structure is slightly elevated, being set on wooden posts. The hall is set on the banks of the Anabranch adjacent to tennis courts and sports ground.

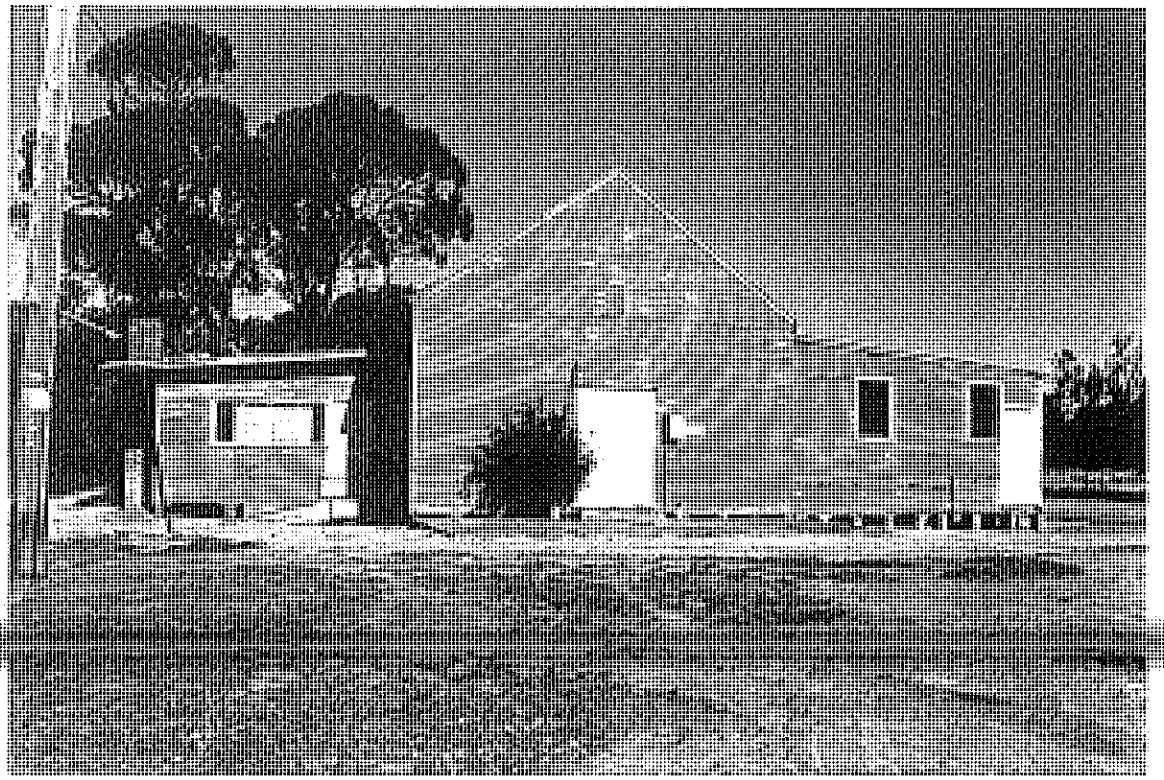
History:

The Anabranch Hall provided a vital venue for social interaction for persons living in the isolated Anabranch district. Dances and sport days, utilizing the adjacent tennis courts and bough shed are popular. Local interest classes, such as furniture restoration, are also held in the hall.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
9909/1



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 14/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Bunnerungie Homestead
LOCATION:	Bunnerungie Station, Silver City Highway, (Anabranch)
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1880
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Derelict
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A rectangular timber dwelling with a high hip bellcast roof clad with iron sheeting, extending over a wrap around verandah supported by timber posts. The interior walls are lined with fluted iron sheets. The structure is situated on the eastern bank of the Great Anabranch. Many other buildings including kitchen and workmans quarters were removed to Nulla Nulla Station at Lake Victoria, as part of the shearer's quarters.

History:

Bunnerungie was the first homestead built on the frontages of the Great Anabranch. The property was originally part of Lake Victoria Station. The land was taken up by Crozier in the early 1860's. Ben Chaffey held the property for a short time. During his term of possession he fenced the property with netting and unsuccessfully attempted to construct a water pipe to irrigate land without river frontage.

RECOMMENDATION:

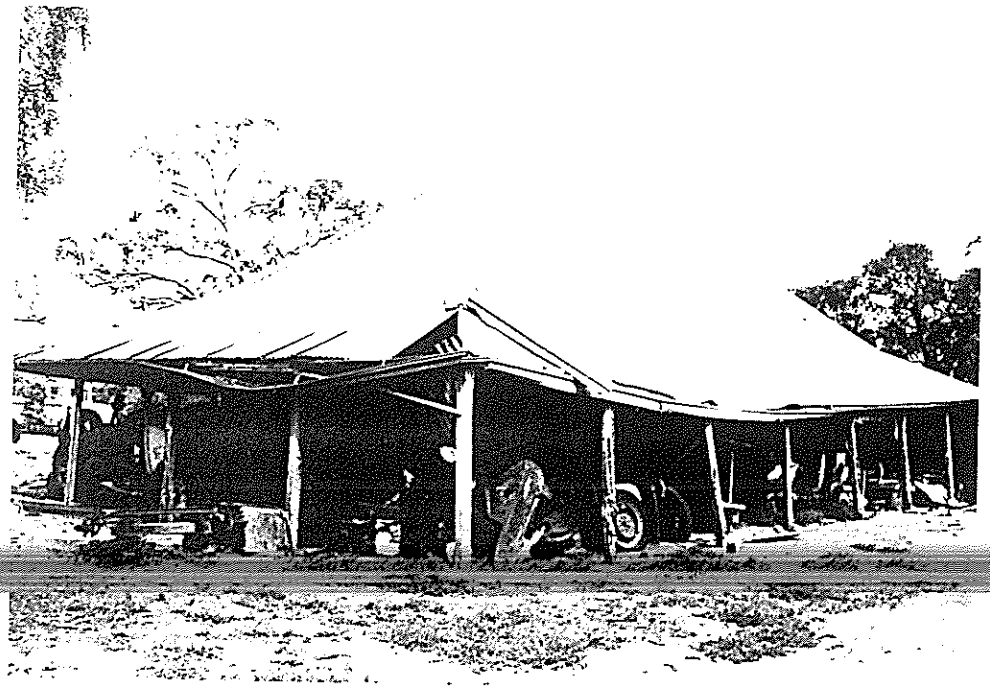
Encourage restoration

REFERENCES:

J Whyte; A Cunningham

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0904/28a



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 19/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Bunnerungie Bridge
LOCATION:	Bunnerungie Station, Silver City Highway (Anabranch)
USE (Former Uses):	Bridge
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1870
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communication
CONDITION:	Derelict
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

Remains of a log bridge erected over the Anabranch. The handsawn logs and posts are supported by large logs driven into the river bed.

History:

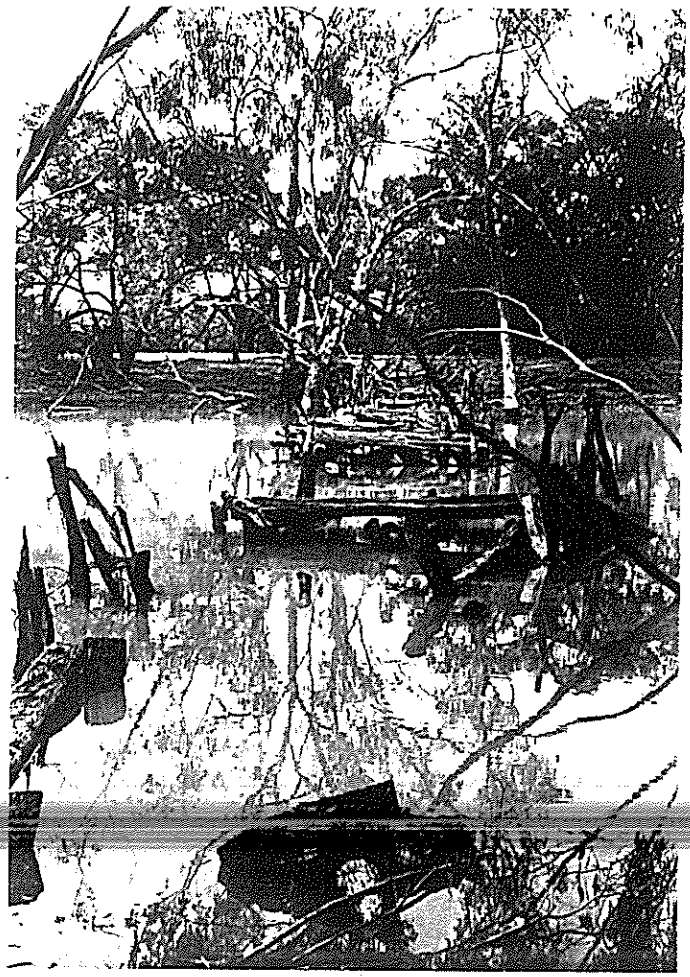
The only bridge to survive the 1890 flood and subsequently the 1956 flood. The bridge enable sheep to transported from the western portion of the property to the woolshed once located near the homestead. The bridge reflects the transport difficulties encountered by earlier settlers, caused by extending their runs to the western sector of the property but requiring to base the home activity near reliable waterways.

REFERENCES:

J Whyte; A Cunningham

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0904/18a



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 18/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Bunnerungie Cemetery
LOCATION:	Bunnerungie Station, Silver City Highway (Anabranch)
USE (Former Uses):	Graveyard
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1864
HISTORICAL THEME:	The People
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A small graveyard containing 2 headstones, one with wire netting fence. There is also an unmarked grave surrounded by a dilapidated paling fence.

History:

The marked graves belong the Donald Cameron, a shepherd who died in 1864, and Ethel Colley a 20 month old child who drowned in Bunnerungie Creek. The graveyard contains the oldest known memorial in the Anabranch district and one of the few reminders of the shepherds who tended the large sheep flocks prior to fencing.

RECOMMENDATION:

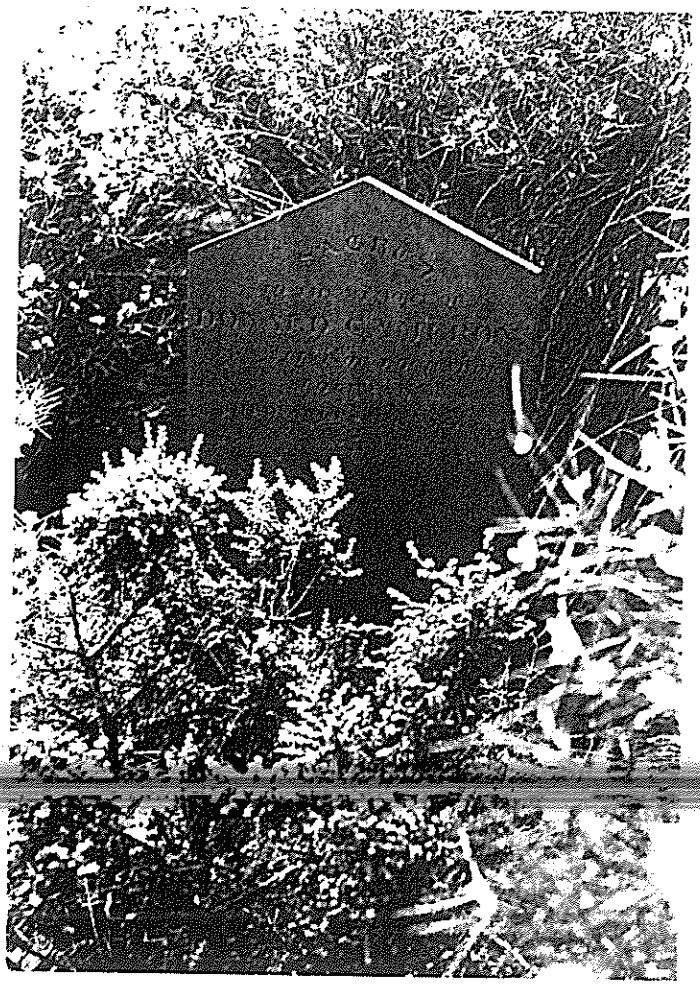
Maintenance

REFERENCES:

C Larwood

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0904/269



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 19/11/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 98

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Irrigation Pipe
LOCATION:	Bunnerungie Station, Silver City Highway (Anabranch)
USE (Former Uses):	Former Water Pipe
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	circa 1905
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Poor
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

Remnant of a water pipe some 10 centimetres in diameter made of Kauri Pine planks connected in tooth and grind manner and tightly wrapped with galvanized wire. The remnant is some 2 metres in length and set in a display beside two steam engine pumps used to draw water to the pipe. The display is situated in front of the new Bunnerungie homestead. The pipe represents a unique attempt to irrigate the dry western portion of the Shire.

History:

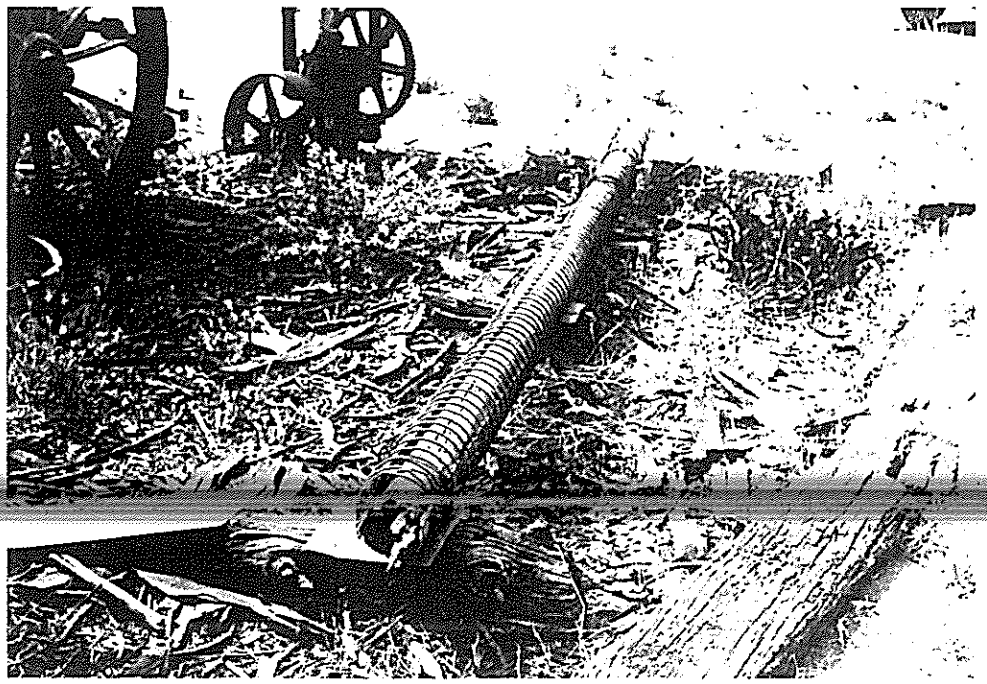
Ben Chaffey was son of George Chaffey who developed the Mildura irrigation area. Ben Chaffey had interests in many properties throughout the Shire and was responsible for many improvements to the pastoral holdings. The pipe was designed to carry water from a well beside Bunnerungie homestead, some fourteen kilomentres west over the Anabranch. The attempt to water the dry land failed. The pipe could not retain the water. The wire used on the pipe became useful fencing material.

REFERENCES:

J Whyte; A Cunningham

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0904/20a



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 19/11/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Windamingle Homestead
LOCATION:	Windamingle Station, Silver City Highway (Anabranch)
USE (Former Uses):	Dwelling
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1913
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

An attractive homestead constructed with dropped Murray Pine slabs, supported with pine posts. The hand sawn slabs are some 8 centimetres thick with flattened edges. The dwelling has a high gambrel roof clad with corrugated iron sheeting. A finial adorns the top gables. A second inverted roof covers a wrap around verandah which is supported by chamfered timber posts. Shaped wooden brackets adorn the front and side verandahs. The interior walls and ceilings are lined with elaborate pressed metal panels. The house is situated on the western bank of the Anabranch amidst an attractive garden. The homestead is mostly in original condition and worthy of conservation as the only complete slab dwelling in the Shire.

History:

Windamingle homestead replaced a small slab hut which was built in 1884, now demolished. The existing slabs were made by Harvey, owner of the Wentworth Hotel. Most early buildings in the district were constructed with pine slabs, however there few constructed after the turn of the century. The building materials reflect the reliance on the surrounding landscape in establishing home sites on the northern Anabranch which, unlike the Darling and Murray, was isolated by the lack of access to river transport.

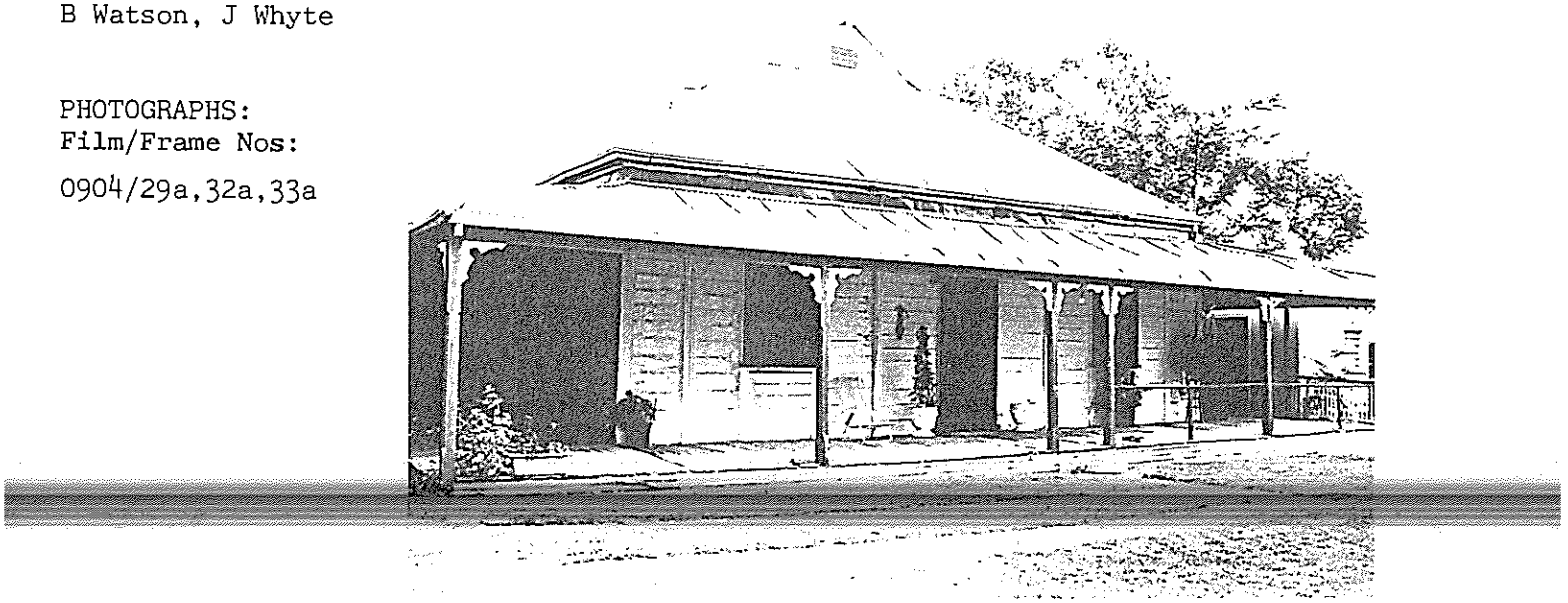
RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion within Shire Local Environmental Plan

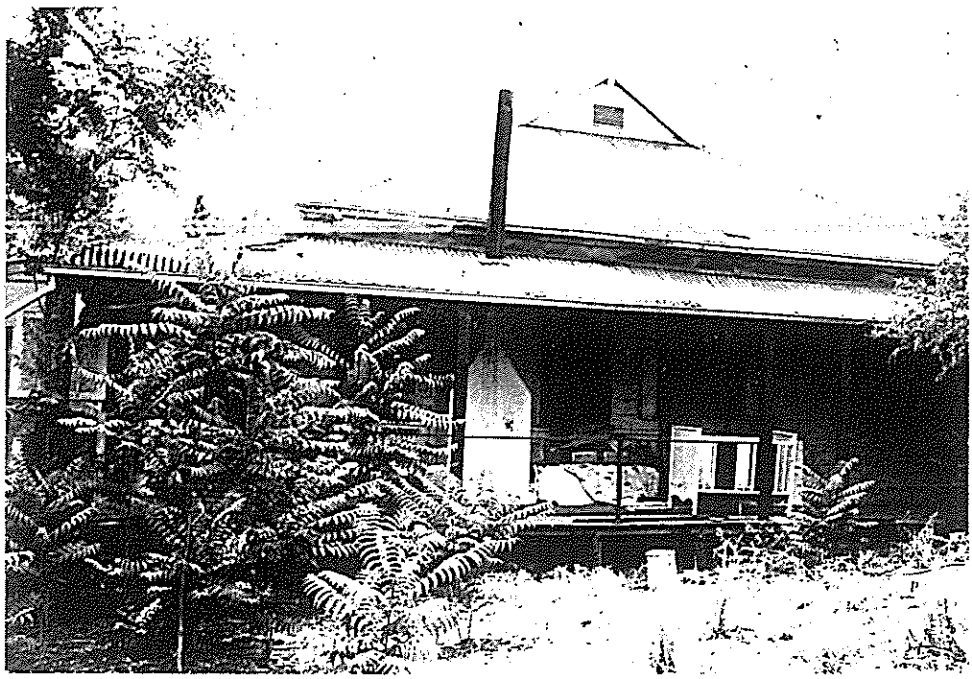
REFERENCES:

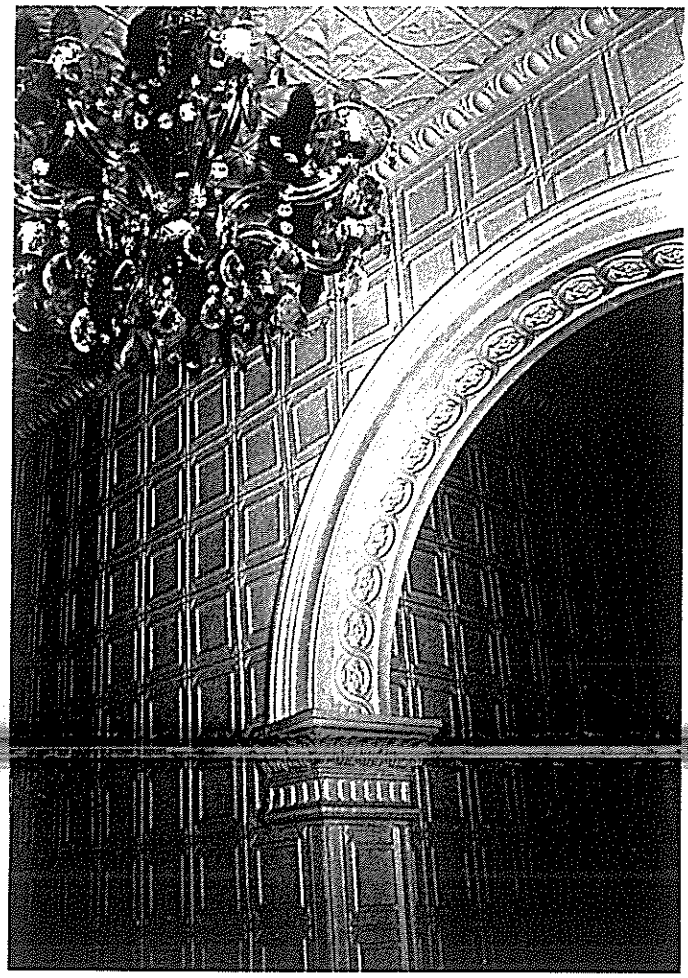
B Watson, J Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
0904/29a,32a,33a



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 19/11/88





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Willow Point Shearers Quarters
LOCATION:	Willow Point Station, (Anabranch)
USE (Former Uses):	Shearers Quarters
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1926
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Architecture/Environment:

Multiple timber framed structures clad with corrugated iron sheeting. The main kitchen/dining building surrounded by small verandahs supported by plain posts. A large bakers oven with double stout brick chimneys is the major feature of the shearers quarters. Louvered skylights protrude from the main room roof.

History:

These shearers quarters were constructed to comply with the accommodation requirements of the Shearers Union of the time. The size and style of the quarters indicates the importance of shearing to the locality and the large numbers employed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance

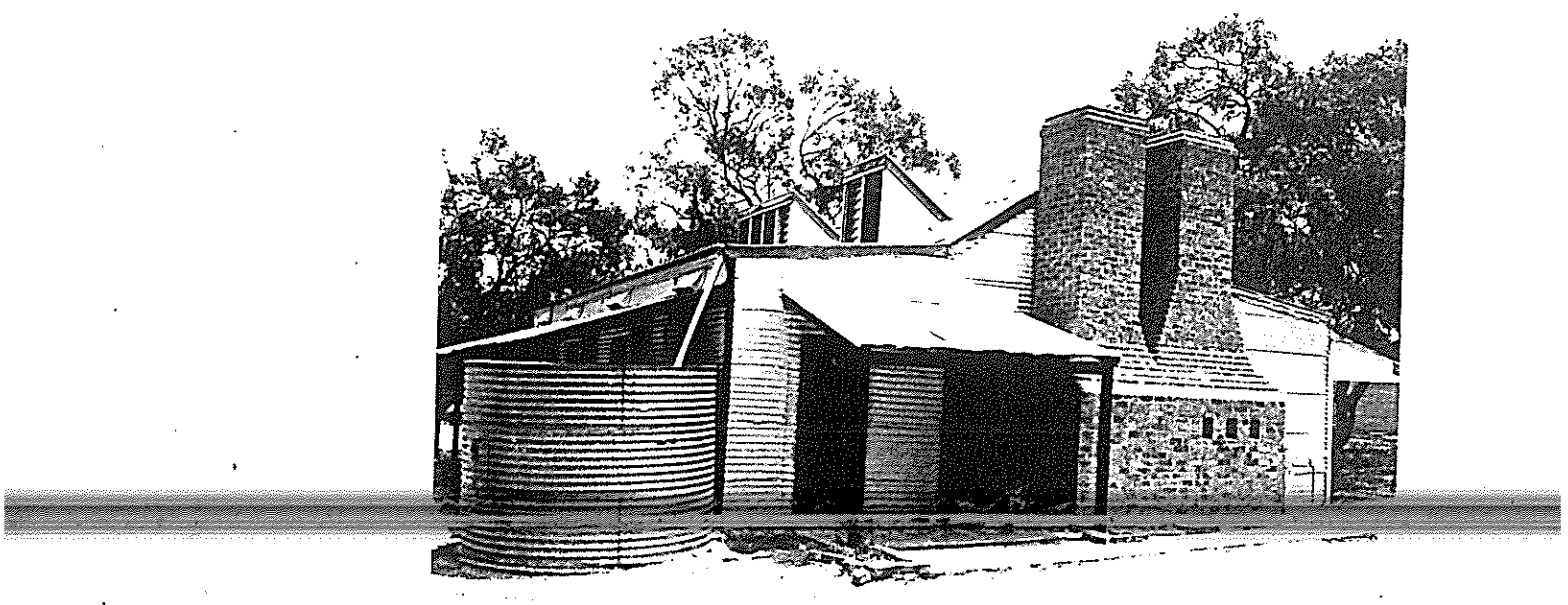
REFERENCES:

J Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Film/Frame Nos:

0904/34a



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 19/11/88

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 111

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Nearie Lake Nature Reserve
LOCATION:	75 kilometres north of Wentworth on the Anabranch
USE (Former Uses):	Nature Reserve
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	
HISTORICAL THEME:	Landscape
CONDITION:	Prior grazing of land surrounding lake
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	registered Item of National Estate

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

Nearie Lake Nature Reserve encompasses Lake Nearie, a small overflow lake on the Anabranch of the Darling River and is subject to flooding from the Menindee Lake storage scheme. It supports a complex pattern of vegetation including natural grassland, shrub steppes, red gum, mallee and acacia. Stands of Black Box occupy the drainage depressions and provide nesting sites for arboreal nesting waterfowl. The reserve provides an excellent habitat for Kangaroos, including the Western Grey, the Red Kangaroo, and the Wallaroo.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan as being environmentally sensitive

REFERENCES:

Register of the National Estate

HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 20/11/87

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Lake Nitchie Area/Lake Nitchie Skeleton
LOCATION:	85 kilometres north Wentworth, east side of Lake Nitchie
USE (Former Uses):	
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	
HISTORICAL THEME:	The People
CONDITION:	Excavated
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nominated Item of National Estate; NP&WS Aboriginal Sites Register

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

One of five burials on an ancient dry lake. A tall robust male, modern, with some archaic features. The Nitchie skull is more marked than any other Australian skull. The burial (in a small grave, body fully flexed and a niche cut into the left floor for feet) is unique. The missing upper incisors may be the earliest example of ritual tooth evulsion in Australia. Probable age of the skeleton is 6,820 (+/- 200) BP. A "sarcophilus harrisi" tooth necklace with 178 pierced canine teeth was found with the skeleton. This animal has been extinct on the mainland since circa 3,000 BP.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan as being environmentally sensitive

REFERENCES:

Register of the National Estate

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 101

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Lethero School
LOCATION:	'Lethero' Station, Wentworth Road. Pooncarie (Darling)
USE (Former Uses):	Schoolhouse, vacant
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	Late 1900's, circa 1905
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single cell cottage constructed of hand sawn timber with a high gable roof of corrugated iron and a small timber verandah supported by plain posts.

History:

The original Lethero school was established in the 1890's on Lethero, but was moved to Pomona in the early 1900's. In 1927 an old building formerly attached to the main homestead was moved from the house and used as a schoolroom. The building has been retained in its original form. The structure represents local attempts to combat isolation from basic community facilities.

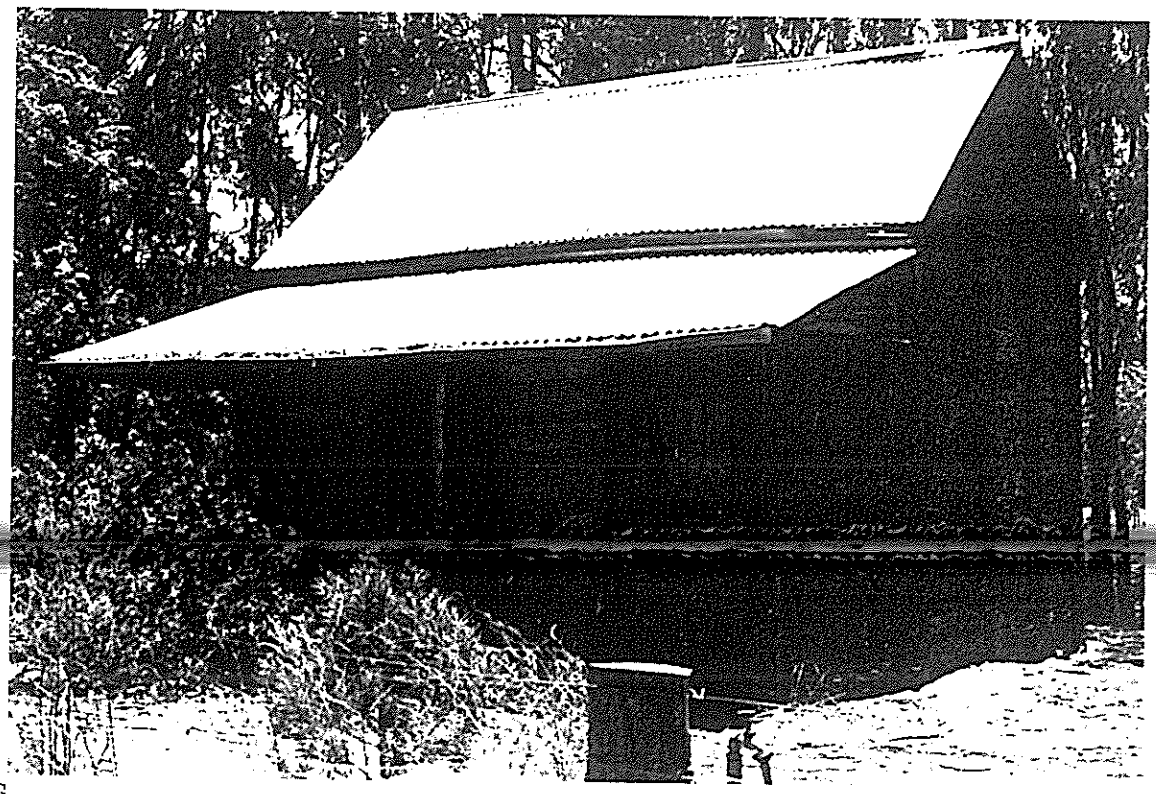
Recommendation:

Maintenance

REFERENCES:

Lans & Smith, 'History of Pooncarie of District'.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6609/4



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Lethero Hall
LOCATION:	'Lethero' Station, Wentworth Road, Pooncarie (Darling)
USE (Former Uses):	Hall
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1941
HISTORICAL THEME:	Social organization and recreation
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

History:

The Lethero hall was constructed over the site of the old dance hall, attached to the Darling Hotel and store and mail change, which was demolished in 1925. Local functions continue to be held at the hall. The hall is maintained and managed by a local trust and has significance as a reminder of the important community ties and traditions established in isolated districts. The hall marks the site of the annual New Years day picnic which has been continuing for 100 years, and commenced at Lethero 1917 by Charles Summers.

Recommendation:

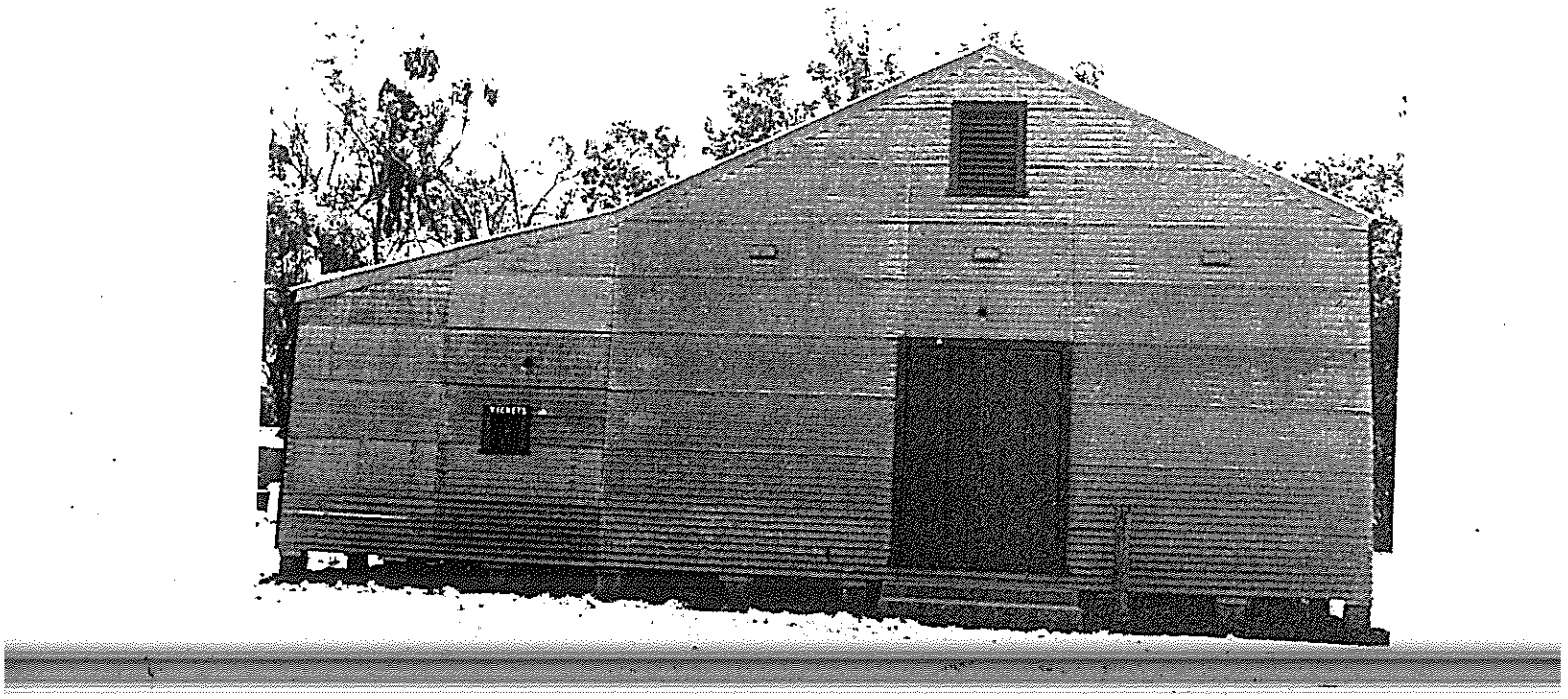
Maintenance

REFERENCES:

Lans & Smith, 'History of Pooncarie and District'; Mrs Barnes.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6609/8



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Carstairs Homestead
LOCATION:	'Carstairs', High Darling Road
USE (Former Uses):	Homestead
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	around 1910
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Good, modified
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The original portion of the homestead is constructed of local sandstone quarried from a ridge on the property. The sandstone has been rendered and ruled. The building is surrounded by a wrap around convex verandah, now built-in with gauze. Of note is the decorative cast iron rain head attached to the eaves.

History:

Carstairs was divided up from Para and Mallara and settled by the Cullinan family. The homestead is one of only a few stone buildings in the district, by has been modified and extended. However, the original form remains in tact and well kept.

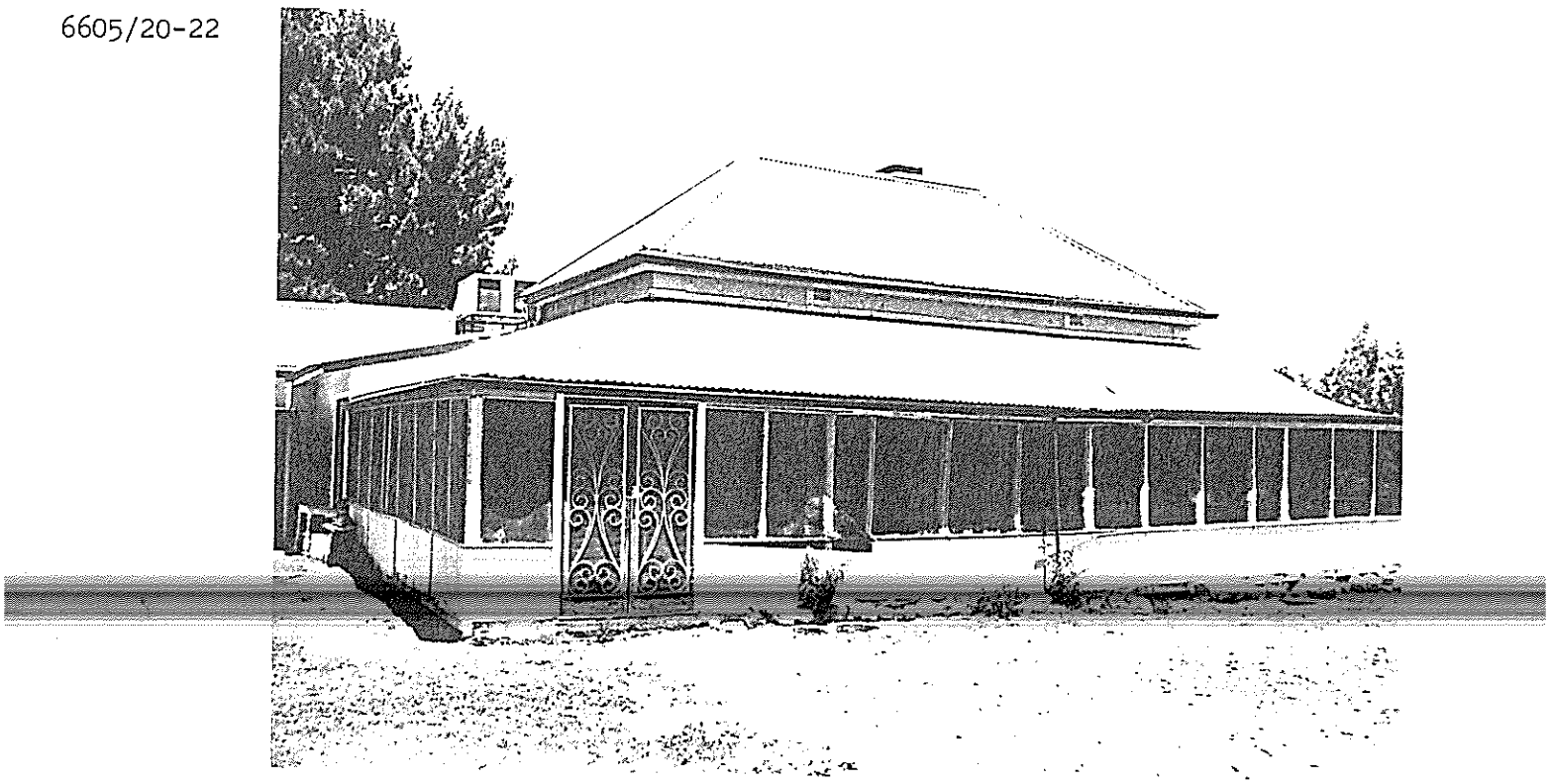
Recommendation:

Encourage restoration of original facade

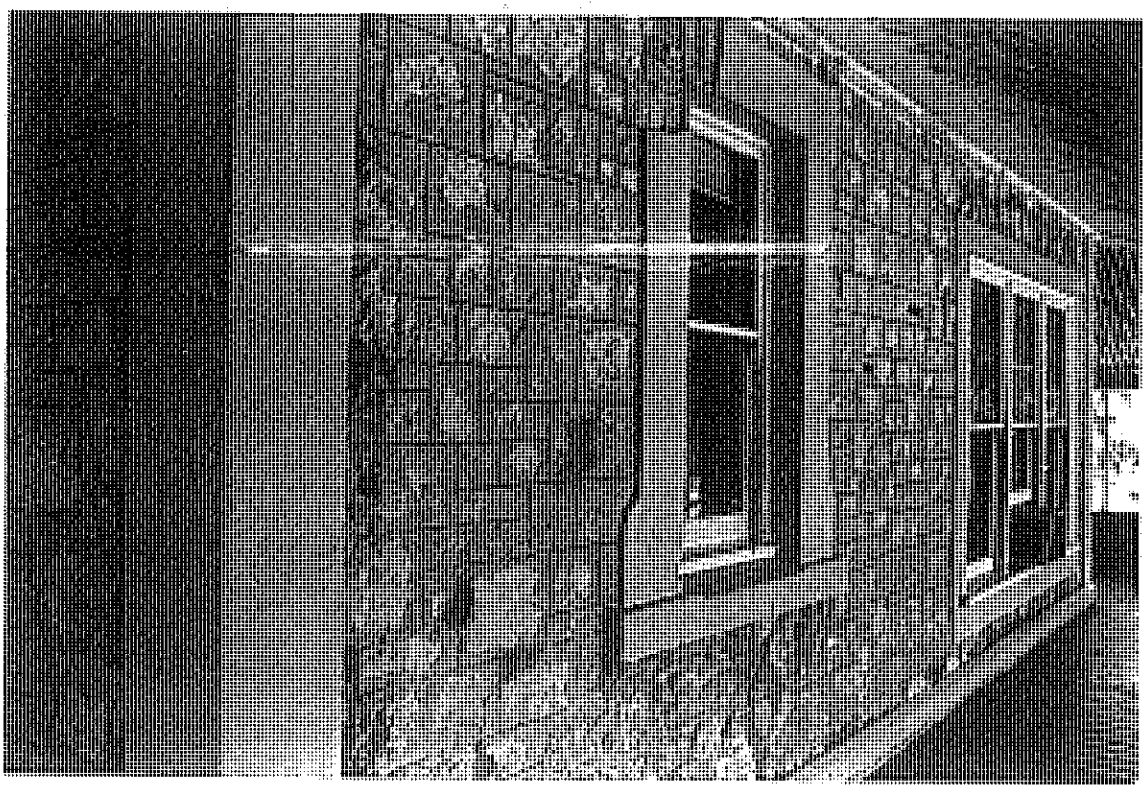
REFERENCES:

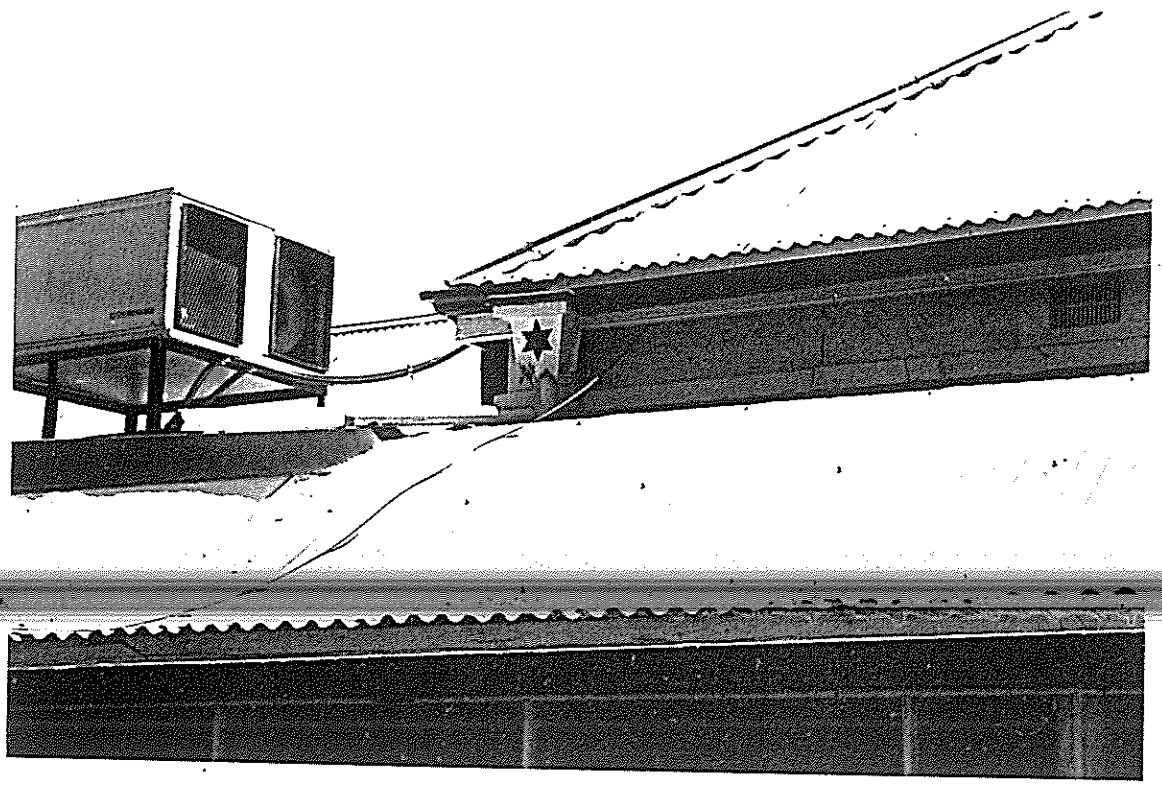
C Cullinan

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
6605/20-22



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15/11/88





ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Tarcoola Homestead
LOCATION:	'Tarcoola' Station, Wentworth Road, Pooncarie (Darling)
USE (Former Uses):	Homestead, vacant
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	Mid 1880's
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Fair
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The small homestead consists of two connected dwellings constructed of timber frame and corrugated iron. The portion facing the Darling River is a single room with low gable roof and bullnose verandah supported by turned verandah posts. This section of the dwelling is lined with fluted iron. At the rear, an addition of 4 rooms is surrounded by a wisteria covered trellis. A covered walkway extends from the dwelling, however the previously attached building has been removed.

History:

William Campbell is regarded as the first owner of the Tarcoola run in 1848, sometimes referred to as "Campbell's" on earlier maps. During their 1860 Victorian Overland expedition, Burke & Wills reached the Darling at Tarcoola and set up camp where they loaded some baggage onto the steamer 'Moolgewanke' which transported to Menindee.

Charles Nicholson officially took up the run in 1851, which was about 30,000 acres and a grazing capability of 4,000 sheep. John Phelps took over the run in 1857. By 1882 the station covered an area of more than 1 million acres. The Darchys managed Tarcoola for the Phelps brothers and later the Australian Mortgage, Land and Finance Company. In 1881-82, twenty one workmen were employed at Tarcoola. In 1918 the Tarcoola lease expired and was divided into 10 leases ranging from 14,000 to 35,000 acres. The AML & F moved the stations headquarters to 'Arumpo' taking materials and buildings from Tarcoola.

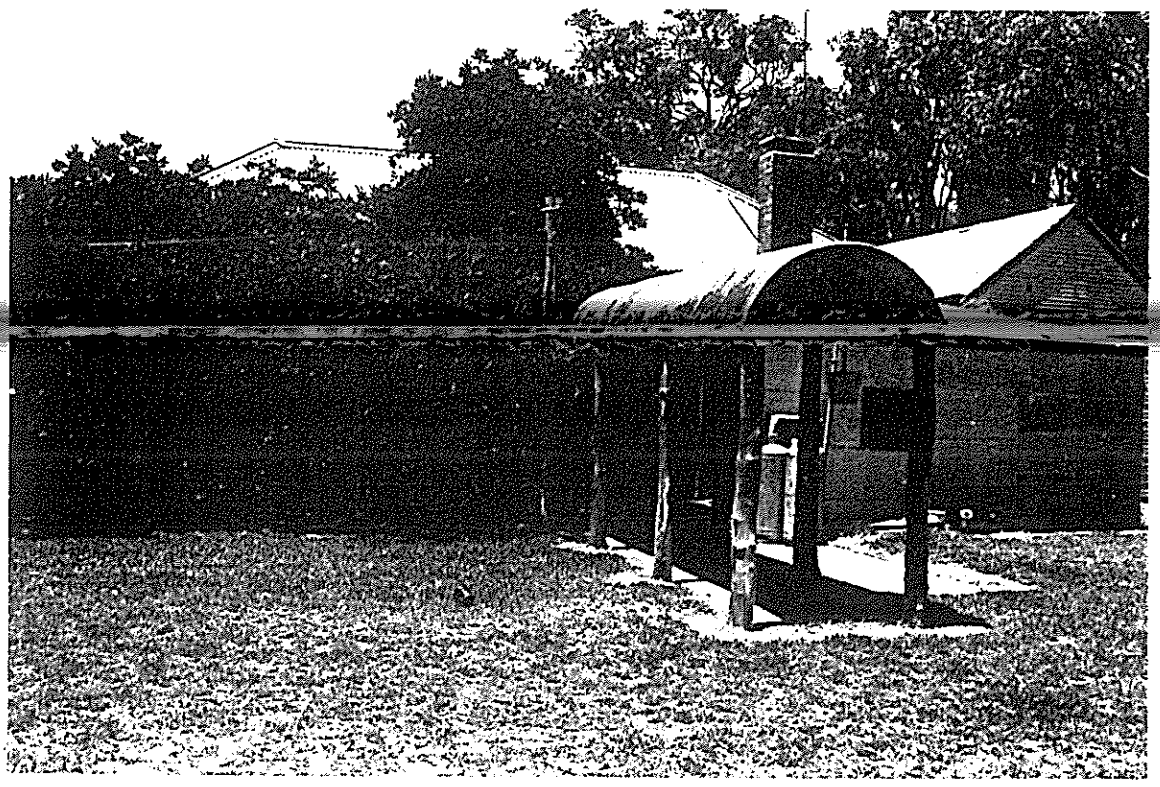
Recommendation:

Encourage restoration

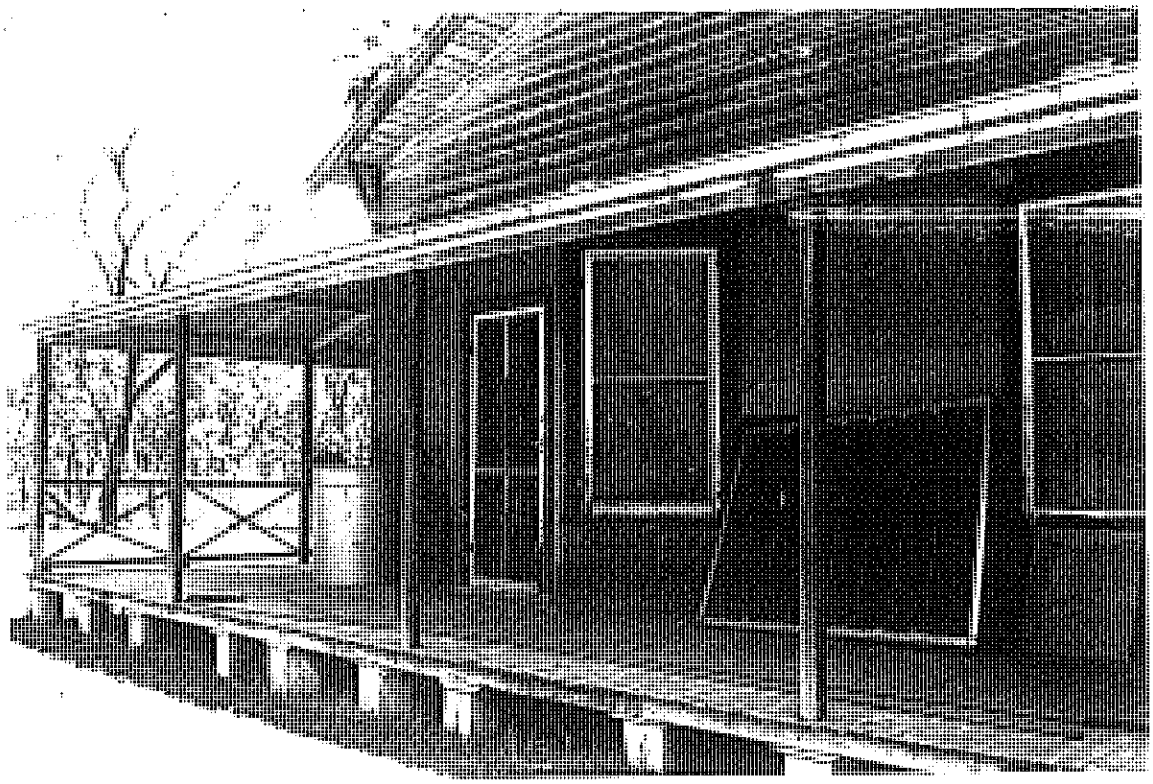
REFERENCES:

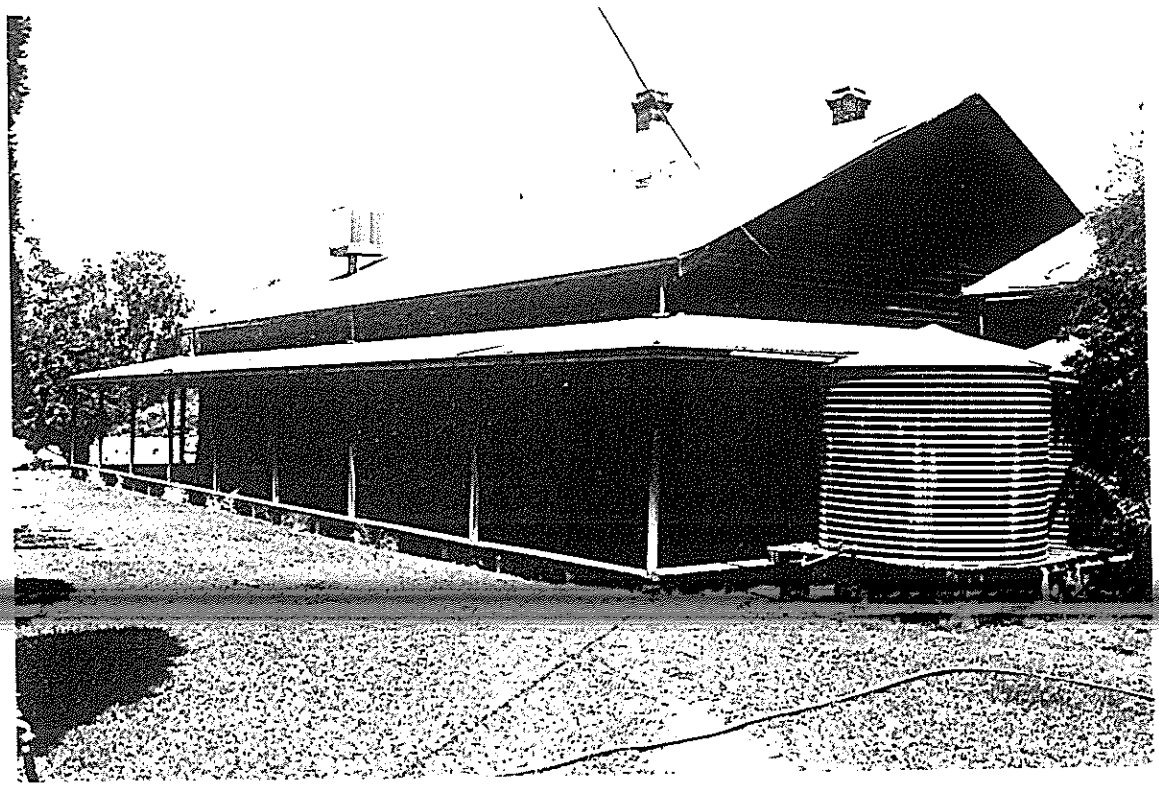
Lans & Smith, 'History of Pooncarie & District'.

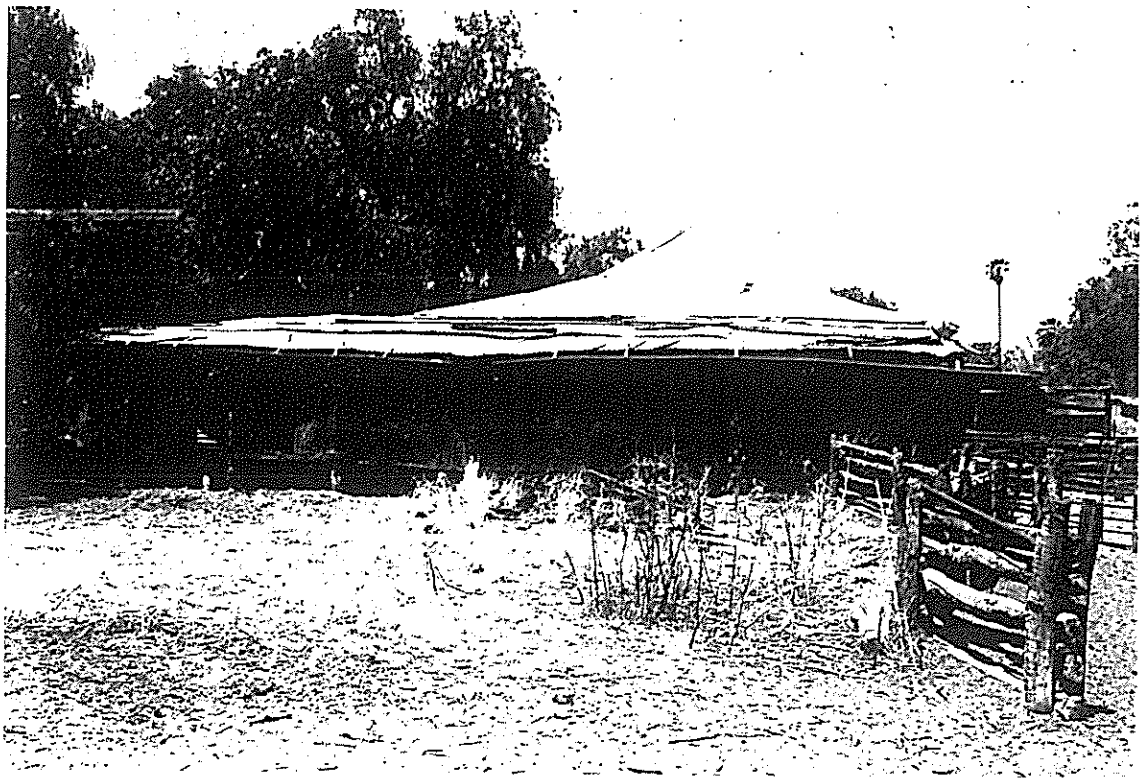
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:
9099/369



HASSELL PLANNING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD:
Date: 16/12/88







ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Darling Bridge, Pooncarie
LOCATION:	Menindee Road, Pooncarie (Darling)
USE (Former Uses):	Road Bridge
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	1963
HISTORICAL THEME:	Transport and Communication
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The Department of Main Roads describes the bridge as being some 100 metres long, 7 metres wide and consisting of one 60 metre long Callender - Hamilton type truss span with three 15 metre composite steel and concrete approach spans on the eastern side and one similar span on the western side.

History:

The bridge constructed over the Darling River replaced a punt which began operation in 1941. Continued road improvements around Pooncarie at the time and subsequent additional road traffic between Broken Hill and the Murray towns instigated construction of the bridge. It is the only bridge crossing over the Darling River between Wentworth and Menindee. The bridge prevents the passage of riverboats due to its limiting height.

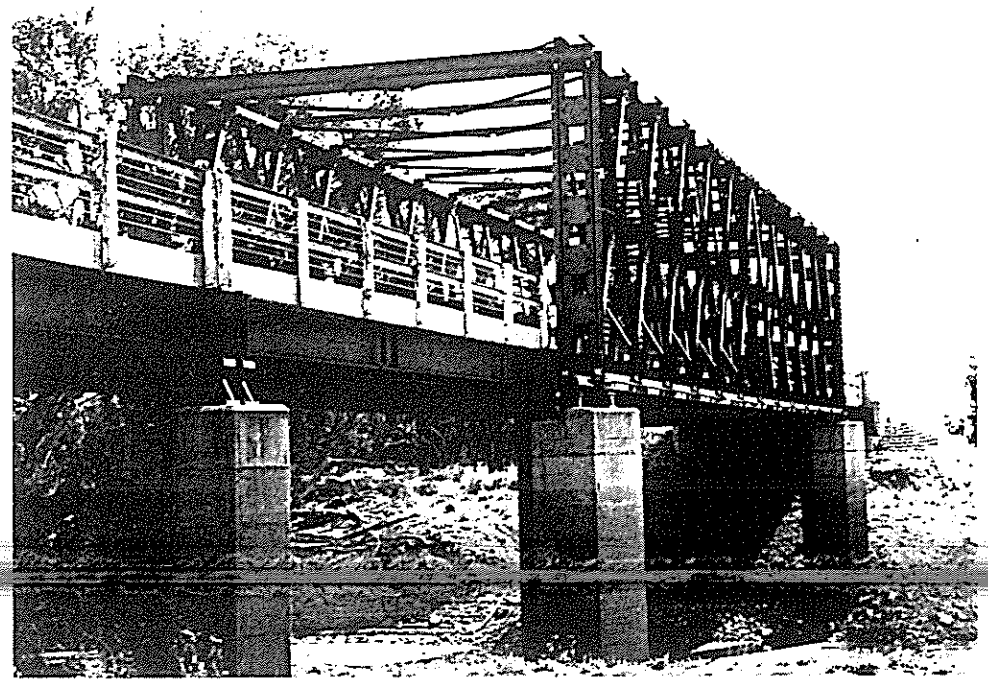
RECOMMENDATION:

Maintenance
REFERENCES:

Lans & Smith 'History of Pooncarie and District'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

0908/21



ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Heatherbloom School
LOCATION:	'Heatherbloom' Polia Road, Pooncarie (Darling)
USE (Former Uses):	School house
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	About 1920
HISTORICAL THEME:	Services and Community Facilities
CONDITION:	Derelict
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

A single room, corrugated iron structure supported by stumps with a front and rear wooden verandah. Currently in extreme disrepair.

History:

Mr A Smith drew the lease to Heatherbloom, which was one of five properties formerly part of Polia, in about 1910. Mrs Smith, who had seven children, was concerned for their education and organised a subsidised school which was worked on a shared basis with families from nearby properties.

Recommendation:

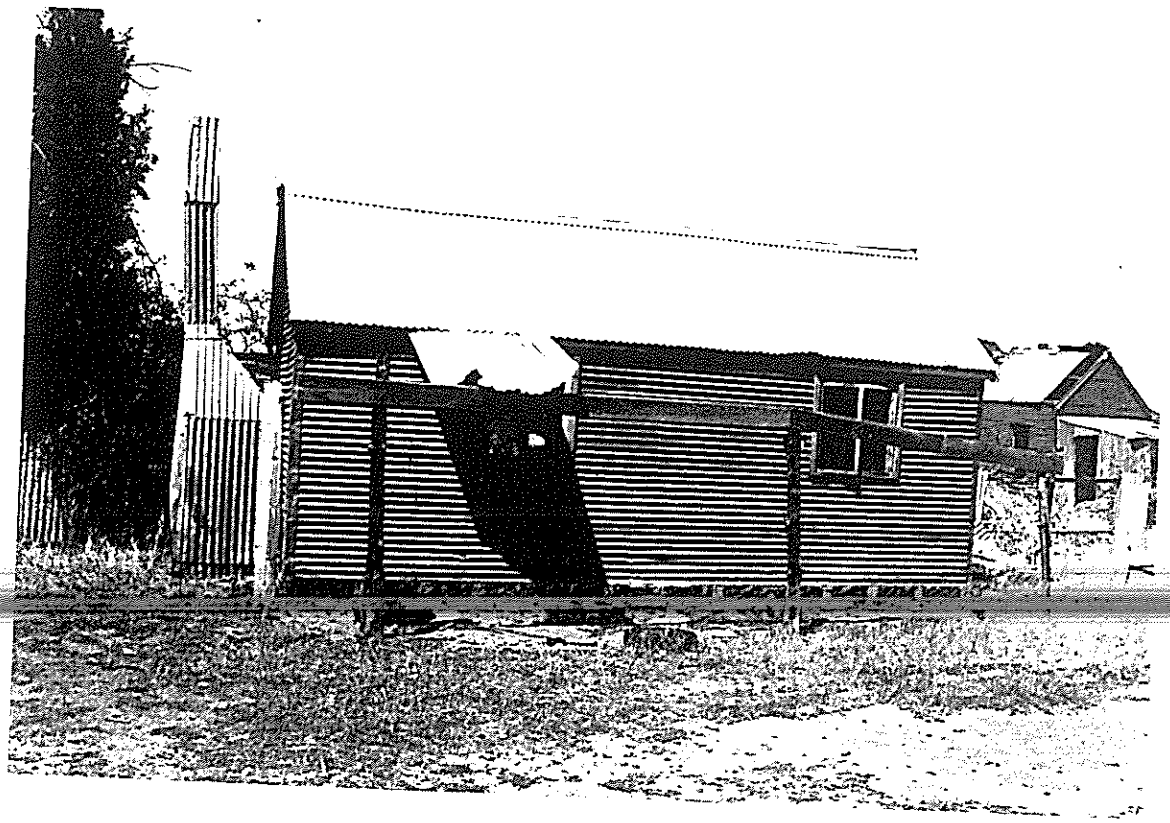
Encourage restoration

REFERENCES:

Lans & Smith, 'History of Pooncarie and District'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

6605/36



HASSELL PLANNING
CONSULTANTS
PTY LTD:
Date: 15/12/88

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	'Moorara' Homestead
LOCATION:	'Moorara' Station, Menindee Road, Pooncarie (Darling)
USE (Former Uses):	Homestead and adjacent buildings
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	Early 1890's
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Very good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The charming weatherboard homestead located on the east bank of the Darling River has a large inverted wrap around verandah, which is elevated to the front and features an attractive wooden balustrade. The chamfered verandah posts have curved wooden support brackets. Steps at the front, edged with a curved cement baluster, lead to a double wooden panelled doorway with top and side lights. The hipped gable corrugated iron roof exhibits two squat rendered chimneys and the gutters are decorated with cast iron corner rain heads. Only minor structural charges are evident including replacement of the rear verandah floor and supports, and enclosed side verandas.

History:

In the early 1860's Joseph Barritt bought Moorara from McLeod, and worked it successfully for many years as a sheep and cattle station adding considerably to its area. He disposed of the property in 1875 to his eldest son Charles in partnership with Charles Wreford, (who owned the adjacent 'Mallara' station). In the 1881 Wentworth electoral roll, some 33 men were recorded at Moorara. In 1904 Moorara subsequently became the property of Mr Ben Chaffey's second son, George Chaffey, of irrigation fame. In 1911 the property was sold to Aurther Crozier. Moorara is notably one of the largest stations along the Darling, in the Pooncarie district. The homestead and surrounding buildings and workers cottages are in excellent condition and continue to reflect the eminence of the Pastoral period in the shire.

Recommendation:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan

REFERENCES:

A D Aldersey, 'Pastoral Pioneers of South Australia'; R Lans, T Smith & B Smith, 'The History of Pooncarie and District'; 'McPhails Squatters Directory'; A McLymont Unpublished diaries.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
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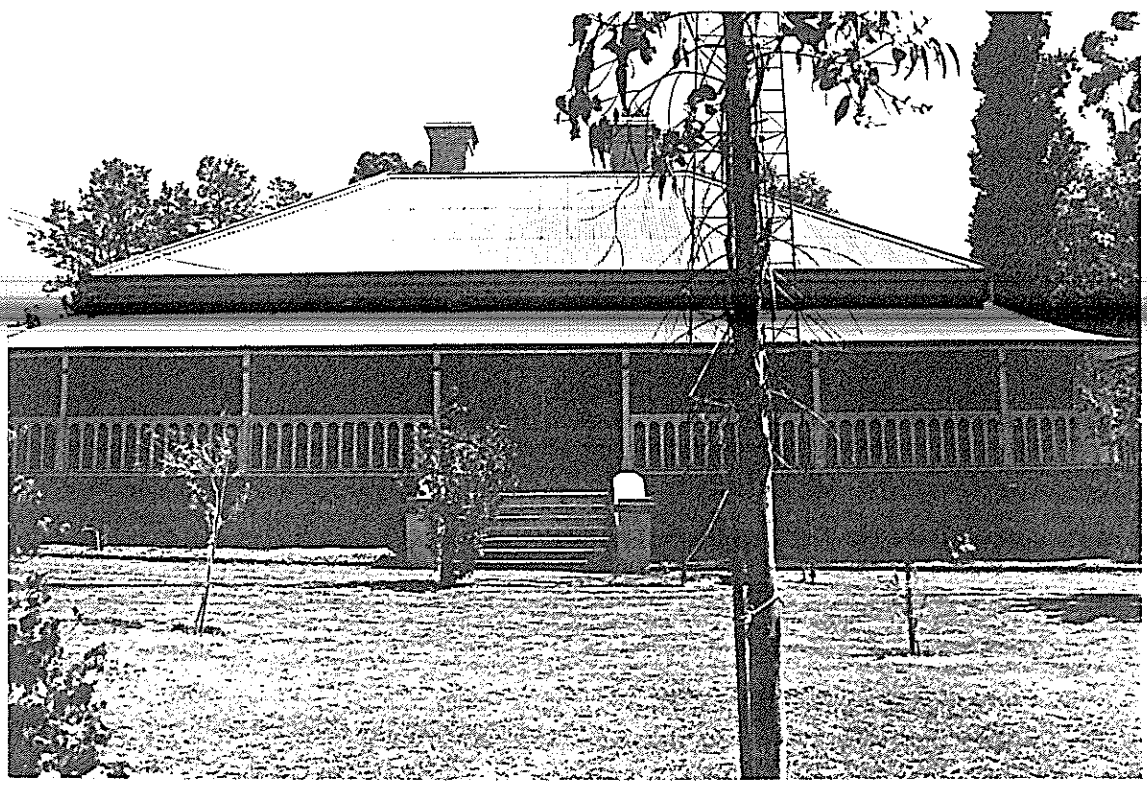

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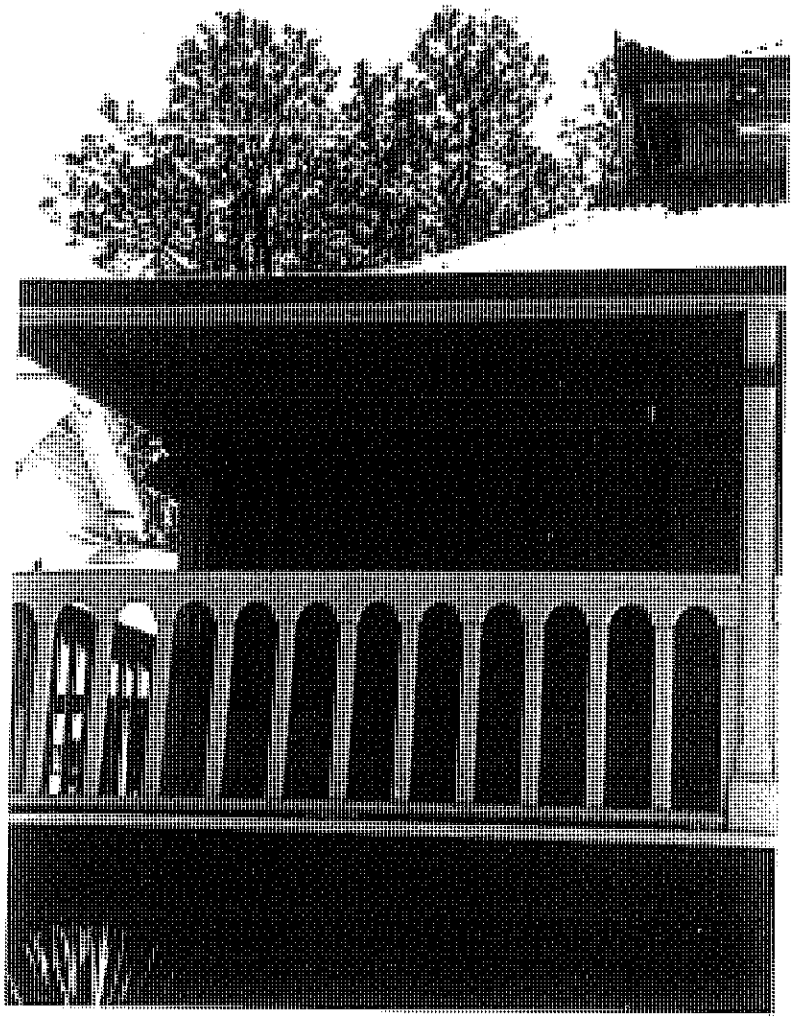

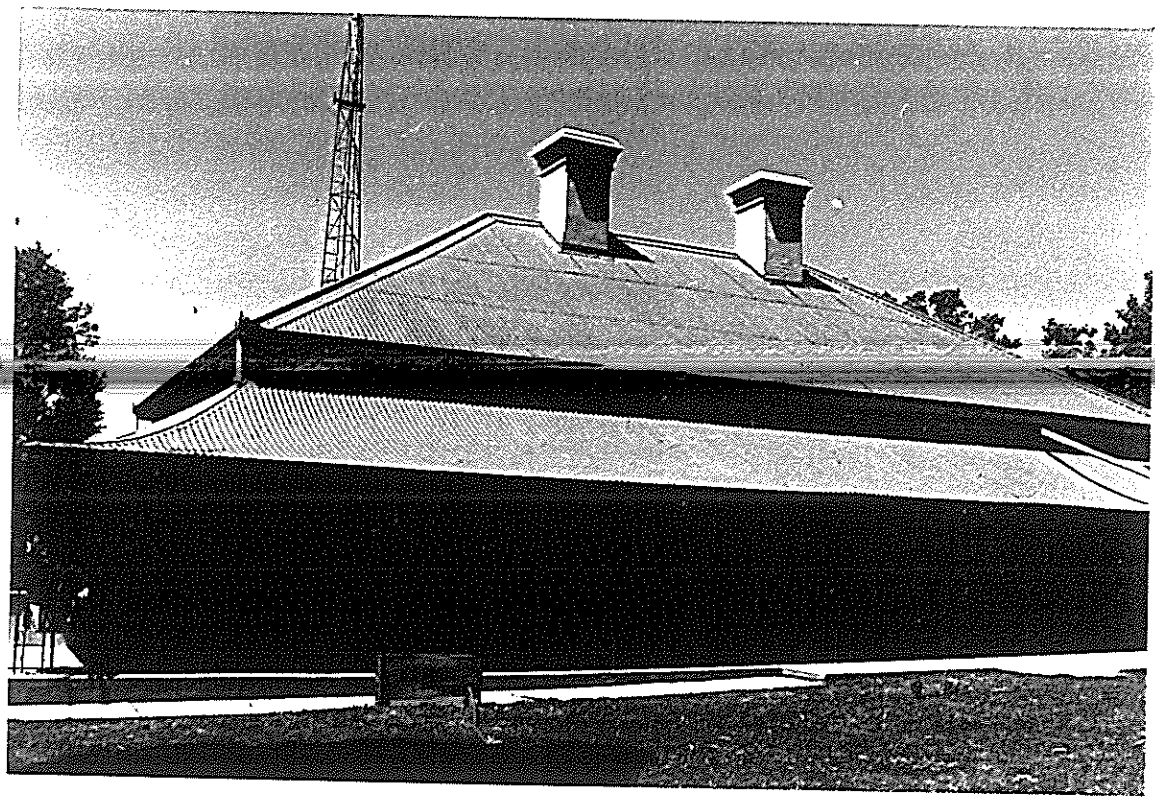

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Wreck of the Rodney
LOCATION:	Moorara Station, Menindee Road (Darling)
USE (Former Uses):	Paddle Steamer
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	(event: 1894)
HISTORICAL THEME:	Agriculture
CONDITION:	Only Remnant Shell remains
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nil

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

Skeleton remains of the hull of a paddlesteamer destroyed by fire. Located in the Darling River between the stations of Moorara and Polia, only visible during low river.

History:

The 'Rodney' was set alight by striking shearers. The boat was carrying non-union shearers north to Tolarno Station. The remains of the steamer is a clear reminder of the turbulent confrontations surrounding the many shearers strikes of the 1890's which significantly interrupted the pastoral industry which dominated the Shire.

REFERENCES:

Tulloch D 'The Historic Town of Wentworth'

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Film/Frame Nos:

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Tarawi Mallee Area
LOCATION:	33,574 hectares located 80 kilometres north west of Lake Victoria
USE (Former Uses):	Western Land Holding
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	
HISTORICAL THEME:	Landscape
CONDITION:	Good
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Nomination - National Estate Register

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

The country comprises relatively level sand plains and dune fields. The plains are calcareous with brown soils. The dune fields have mainly red sandy soils. Dense mallee covers the area, with almost complete cover on the dune fields. White mallee and red mallee are dominant species with belah, rosewood, sugarwood and shrub species. Tarawi is representative of the mallee that would have once covered the area wet of the Darling River. The area is important as it is adjacent to Danggali Conservation Park in South Australia, thus forming a continuum of mallee vegetation and the habitat for the endangered mallee fowl.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan as being environmentally sensitive

REFERENCES:

Register of the National Estate

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Willandra Lakes Region
LOCATION:	Approximately 120 kilometres north of Balranald (partially contained in Wentworth Shire)
USE (Former Uses):	Former Lakes System
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	
HISTORICAL THEME:	Landscape
CONDITION:	
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	World Heritage Listing; Registered Item of the National Estate; NP&WS Aboriginal Relic Register

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Architecture/Environment:

The Lakes System, a remnant of the of the Lachlan River drainage pattern is approximately 150 kilometres long and 40 kilometres wide and runs generally in a north south direction from Lake Muluru in the north to the Prungle Lakes in the south. Parallel to the eastern shores, white sand and clay lunettes rise 40 metres above the plain, while deep gullies have been cut through the lake shore deposits. The landscape surrounding the system is one of low parallel ridges of fine red sand. The extensive flat plains of lake floors preserve evidence of their final saline phase in the stunted blue bush and salt bush.

History:

Aboriginal occupation of the area is thought to be 40,000 years old. A cremation dated 26,000 BP is the oldest cremation in the world. A male in humated burial dated approximately 30,000 BP had been thickly dusted with ochre. The use of ochre parallels with use in upper paleolithic France. Due to alkaline sediments, shell, bone and fish otholiths and stone tools are preserved well. Research on the former lake shores of Mungo, Arumpo, Leaghur and Garnpang have provided data amongst the oldest in the world. Stone artifacts from Lake Mungo sere as a type assemblage for "The Australian Core and Scraper Tradition". There are 8 middens, 6 burial and 70 open sites in the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan as being environmentally sensitive

REFERENCES:

National Estate Register

SHIRE OF WENTWORTH HERITAGE SURVEY Item No: 115

ITEM NAME (Former Names):	Mallee Cliffs National Park
LOCATION:	30 kilometres east of Mildura
USE (Former Uses):	National Park
CONSTRUCTION DATE:	
HISTORICAL THEME:	Landscape
CONDITION:	Damaged by grazing and bushfire but now regenerating
HERITAGE ENDORSEMENTS:	Registered Item of the National Estate

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:
Architecture/Environment:

Mallee Cliffs National Park has an area of some 50,000 hectares and contains an important representation of mallee Communities (including both Bull Mallee and Whipstick Mallee) which are continuing to be extensively cleared on private property for grazing. This is the only reserve in New South Wales with Mallee Fowl habitat. The park also includes significant populations of western Grey Kangaroos.

Mallee Cliffs National Park is typical of the flat red plain country of south west New South Wales and is an important habitat for the endangered mallee fowl.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conservation by inclusion in the Local Environmental Plan as being environmentally sensitive

REFERENCES:

National Estate Register

APPENDIX 6

HERITAGE PROVISIONS TO BE INSERTED IN LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS

PROVISIONS TO BE INSERTED IN LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS

Aims, objective, etc.

This clause should contain, at minimum, the following provision.

( ) to conserve and enhance the environmental heritage of the Shire.

Definitions (to be inserted in the interpretation clause.)

"conservation area" means the land edged blue and marked "Conservation Area" on the map;

"demolition" in relation to a building or work means the damaging, defacing, destruction, pulling down or removal of the at building or work, in whole or in part;

"item of the environmental heritage" means those buildings, works, relics or places of historic, scientific, cultural, social, architectural, archaeological, natural or aesthetic significance to the Shire:

(a) situated on land coloured orange on the map;

(b) described in schedule ....; or

(c) identified in a development control plan;

"relic" means any deposit, object or material evidence relating to the settlement (including aboriginal habitation) prior to 1 January 1900, of the area of the Council;

"renovation" in relation to a building or work means:

(a) the making of structural changes to the inside or the outside of the building or work; or

(b) the making of non-structural changes to the fabric or appearance of the outside of the building or work, including changes that involve the repair or painting, plastering or other decoration of the outside of the building work.

Items of the environmental heritage

1. (1) A person shall not, in respect of a building, or work within a conservation area or in respect of a building, work, relic or place that is an item of the environmental heritage:

(a) demolish, renovate or extend any such building or work;

(b) damage or despoil any such relic or any part of any such relic;

(c) excavate any land for the purpose of exposing or removing any such relic;

(d) erect a building on the land on which the building, work or relic is situated or the land which comprises that place; or

(e) subdivide the land on which that building, work or relic is situated or the land which comprises that place,

except with the consent of the Council.

(2) The council shall not grant consent to a development application made in pursuance of subclause (1) unless it has made an assessment of:

(a) the significance of the item as an item of the environmental heritage of the Shire;

(b) the extent to which the carrying out of the development in accordance with the consent would affect the historic, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic significance of the item and its sites;

(c) whether the setting of the item, and in particular, whether any stylistic, horticultural or archaeological features of the setting should be retained; and

(d) whether the item constitutes a danger to the users or occupiers of that item or to the public.

Development in the vicinity of an item of environmental heritage

2. The Council shall not grant consent to a development application to carry out development in the vicintity of the environmental heritage unless it has made an assessment of the effect which the carrying out of the development will have on the historic, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic significance of the item of environmental heritage and its setting.

Conservation Area

3. (1) A person shall not, in respect of a conservation area:

(a) demolish, extend or change the outside of a building or work within that area, including changes to the outside of a building or work that involve the repair or the painting, plastering or other decoration of the outside of the building or work;

(b) damage or despoil a relic or part of a relic within that area;

(c) excavate any land for the purpose of exposing or removing a relic within that area;

(d) erect a building within that area; or

(e) subdivide land within that area,

except with the consent of the Council.

(2) The Council shall not grant consent to a development applicaion made in pursuance of subclause (1) unless it has made and assessment of:

(a) the extent to which the carrying out of the developmentin accordance with the consent would affect the historic, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic significance of the conservation area; and

(b) whether a refusal to grant consent would constitute a danger to the users or occupiers of theat land or the public.

Heritage Council to be given prior notice of demolition consent

4. Where a person makes a development application to demolish a building or work that is an item of the environmental heritage or within a conservation area the Council shall not grant consent to the application until the Council has notified the Secretary of the Heritage Council of its intention to do so.

Advertising of heritage applications

5. (1) Subject to subclause (2), the provisions of Sections 84, 85, 86 87(1) and 90 of the Act apply to and in respect of:

(a) the demolition of a building or work within a conservation area;

(b) the demolition of a building or work that is an item of the environmental heritage; and

(c) the use of a building or land referred to in clause 6(1) for a purpose which, but for the that clause, would be prohibited under this plan,

in the same way as those provisions apply to and in respect of designated development.

(2) Subclause (1) does not apply to the partial demolition of a building or work where, in the opinion of the Council, the partial demolition is of a minor nature and does not adversely affect the significance of the building or work as part of the environmental heritage of the City.

(3) For the purposes of subclause (1), section 84(4)(a) of the Act shall be construed as if the words "the Department" (where the Minister or the Director is not the consent authority) were omitted therefrom.

Conservation incentive relating to heritage items

6. (1) Nothing in this plan prevents the Council from granting consent to:

(a) the use for any purpose of a building within a conservation area or of the land on which that building is erected; or

(b) the use for any purpose of a building that is an item of the Environmental Heritage or of the land on which that building is erected,

where the Council is satisfied that:

(c) the use would have little or no adverse effect on the amenity of the area; and

(d) conservation of the building depends on the council granting consent in pursuance of this subclause.

(2) The Council, when considering an application to erect a building on land upon which there is building which is an item of the environmental heritage, may exclude from its calculation of the floor space of the buildings erected on the land the floor space of the item of the environmental heritage:

(a) for the purposes of determining the floor space ratio; and

(b) for the purposes of determining the number of parking spaces to be provided on the site,

but only if the Council is satisfied that the conservation of the building depends upon the Council granting consent in pursuance of this subclause.

APPENDIX 7

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF USEFUL PUBLICATIONS ON HERITAGE CONSERVATION

USEFUL PUBLICATIONS ON HERITAGE CONSERVATION

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The Council for Historic Environment,
P O Box 57,
Carlton, Victoria 3053

* HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND PRESERVATION NEWS

National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue
Washington DC 20036 USA
(strongly recommended)

JOURNAL

Australian Society of Historical Archaeology
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* Indicates basic texts which shoud form part of a resource collection in the Planning. Health and Building Department of a Local Council.

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Australian Council of National Trusts,
P O Box 1002, Civic Square,
Canberra 2608

HERITAGE OUTLOOK

Civic Trust, UK,
17 Carlton House Terrace,
London SW1Y5AW

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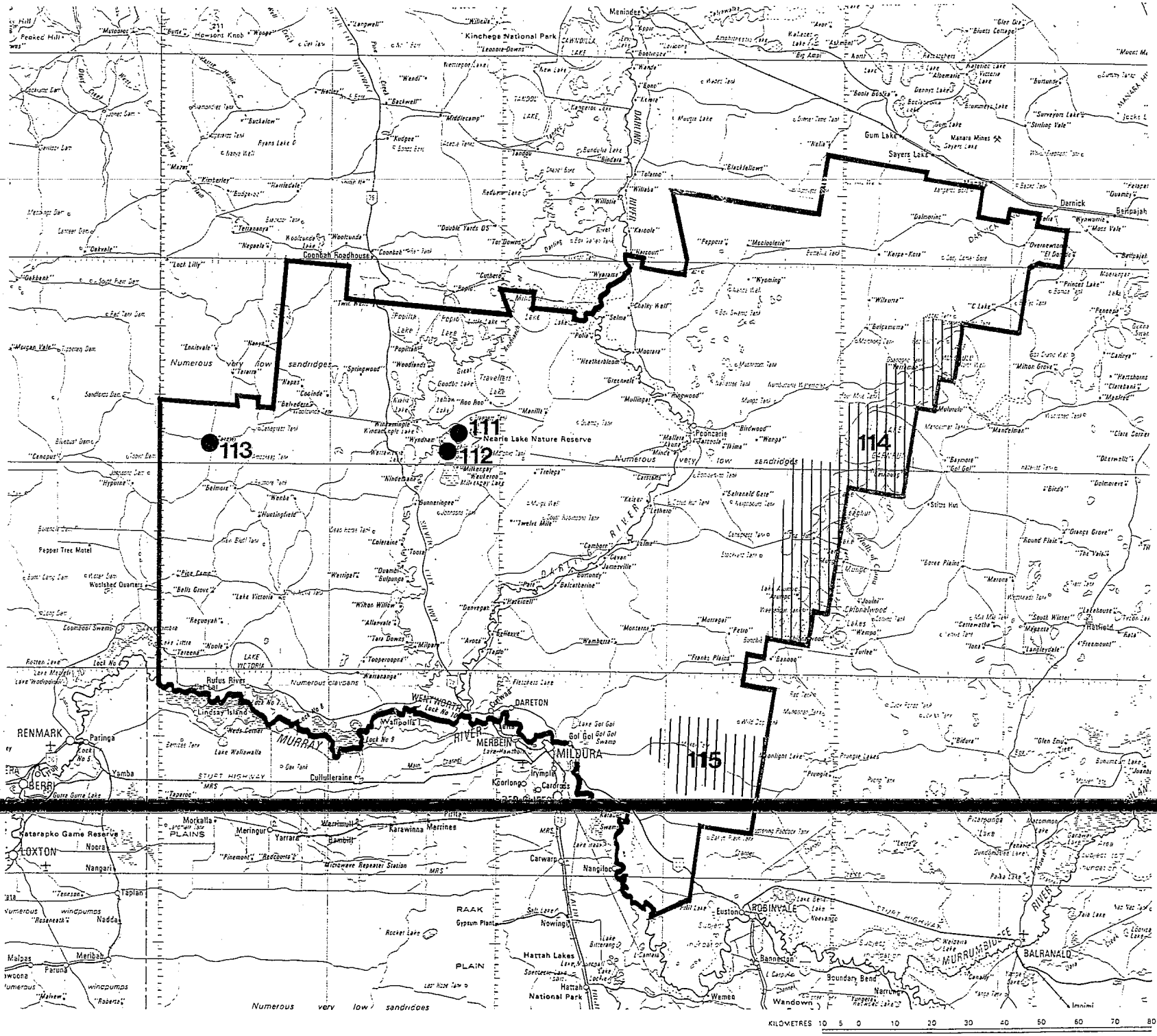
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Nearie Lake Nature Reserve
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Numerous very low sandridges
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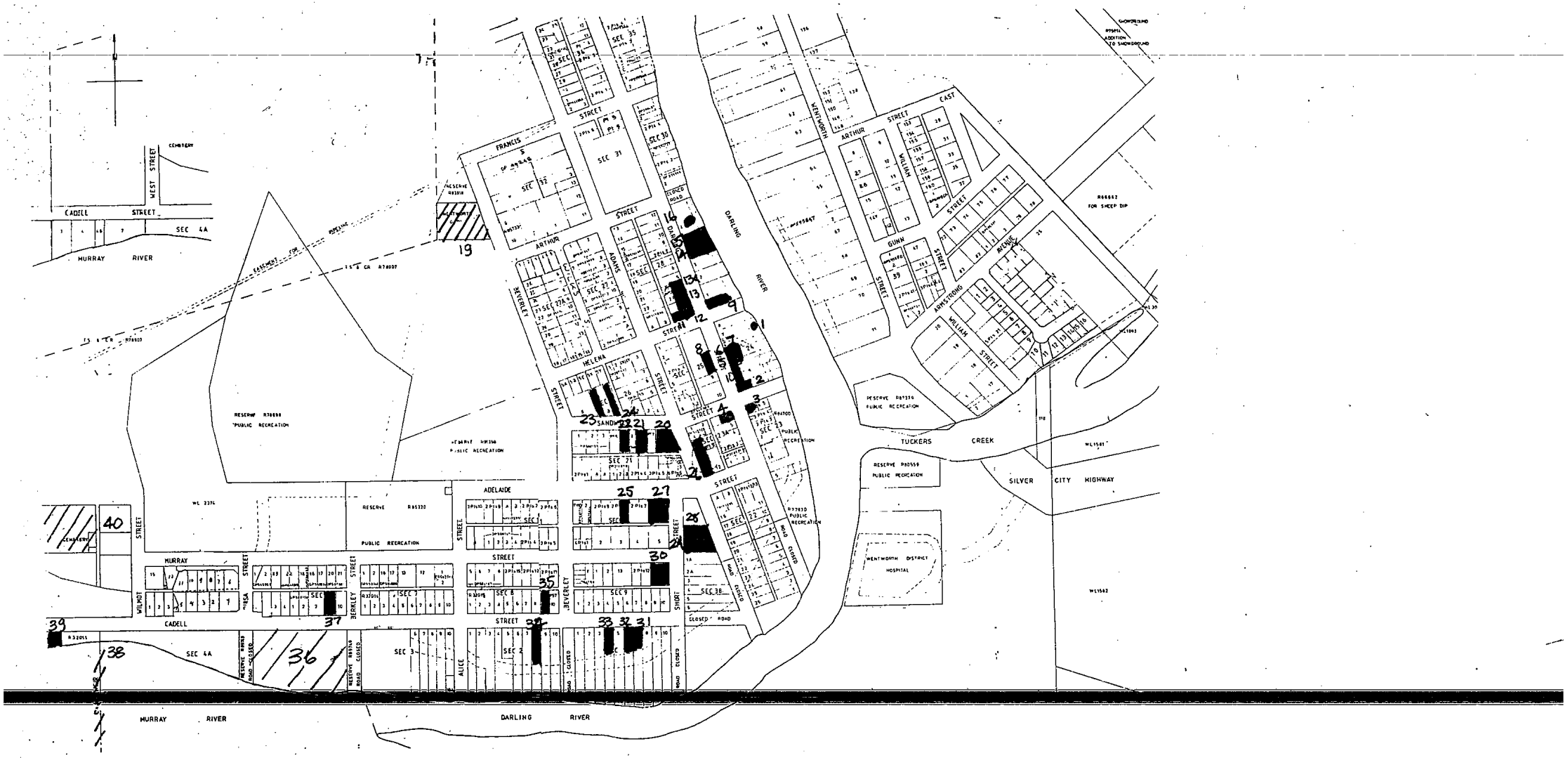

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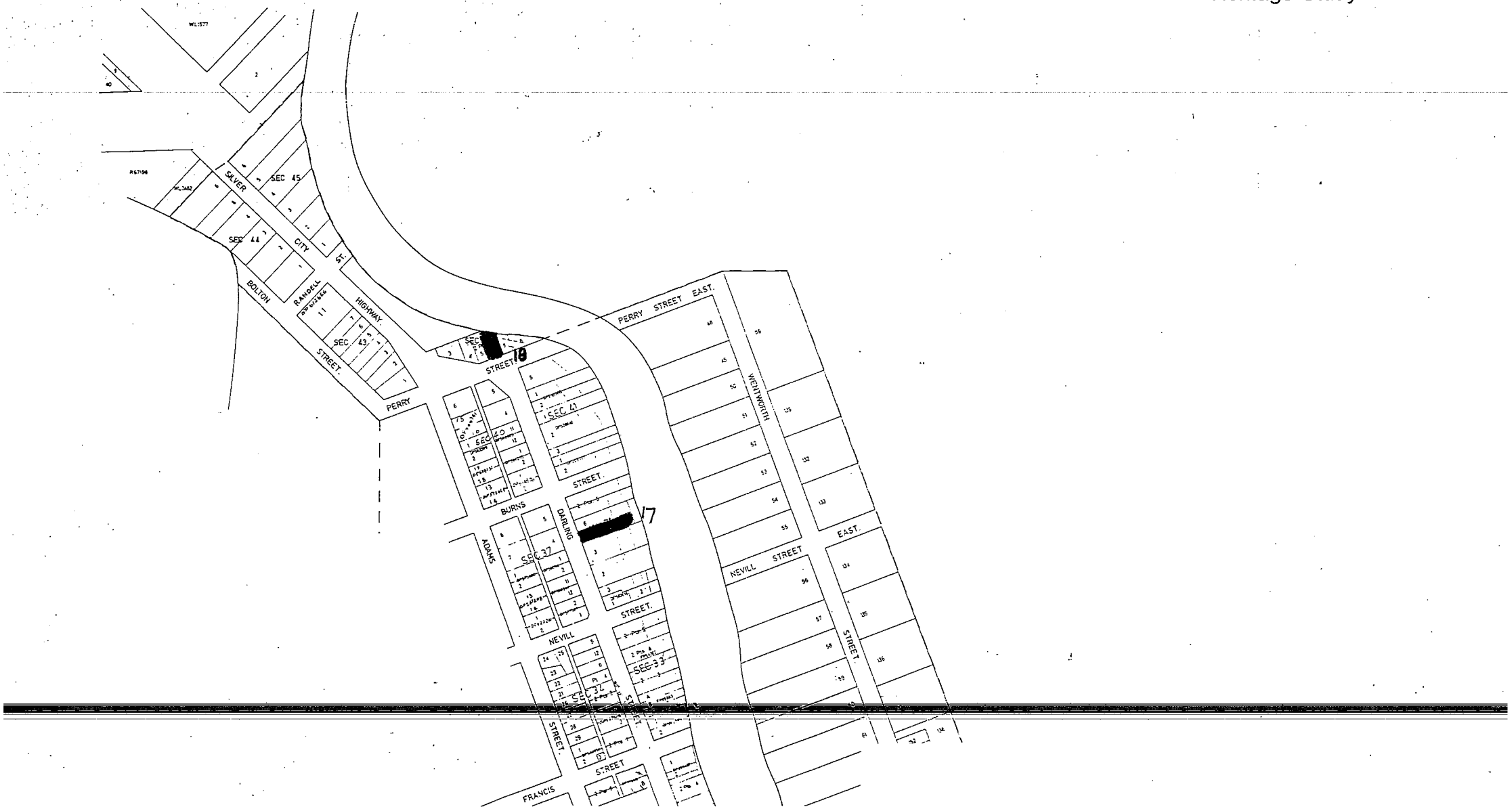
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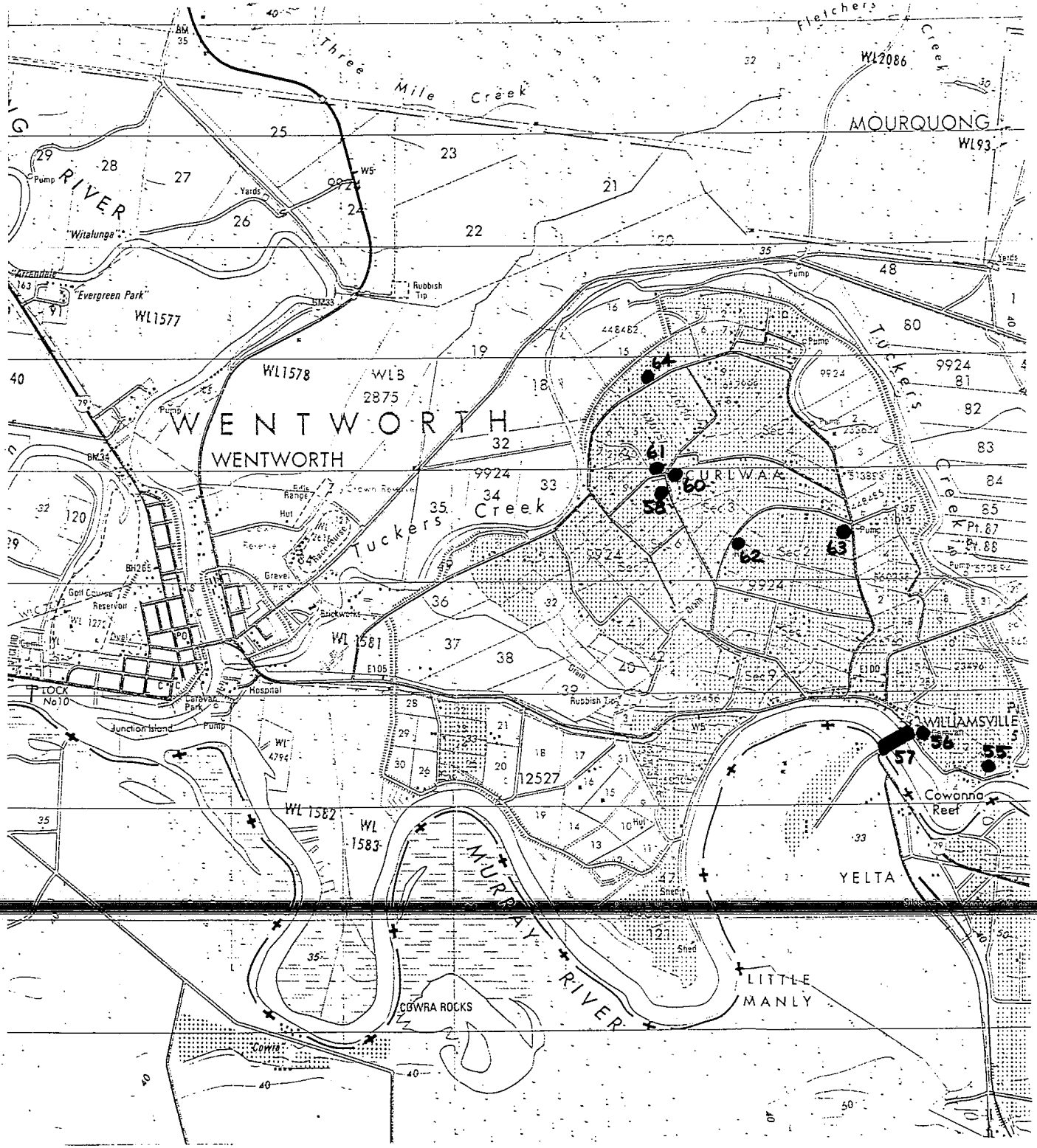

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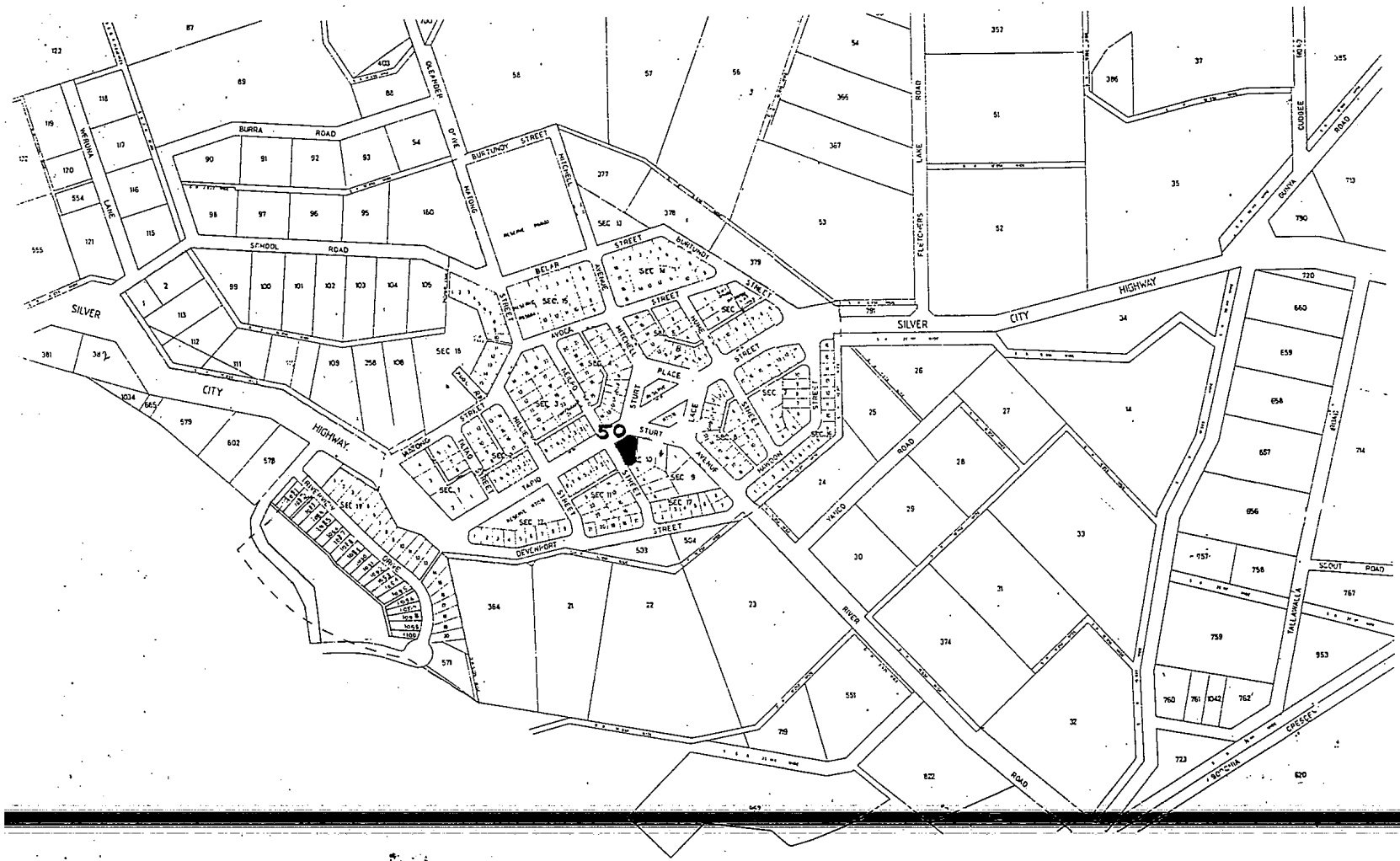

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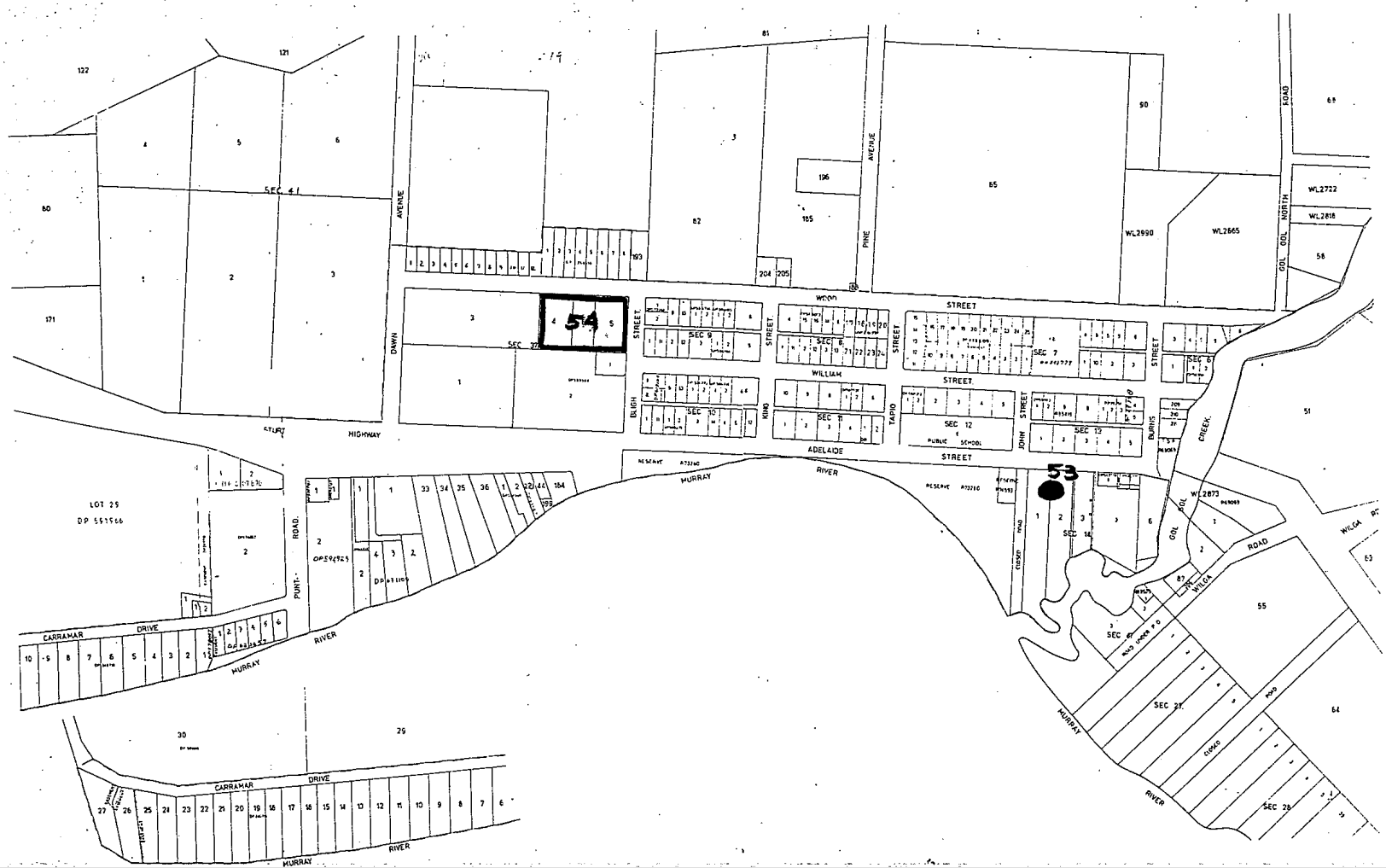

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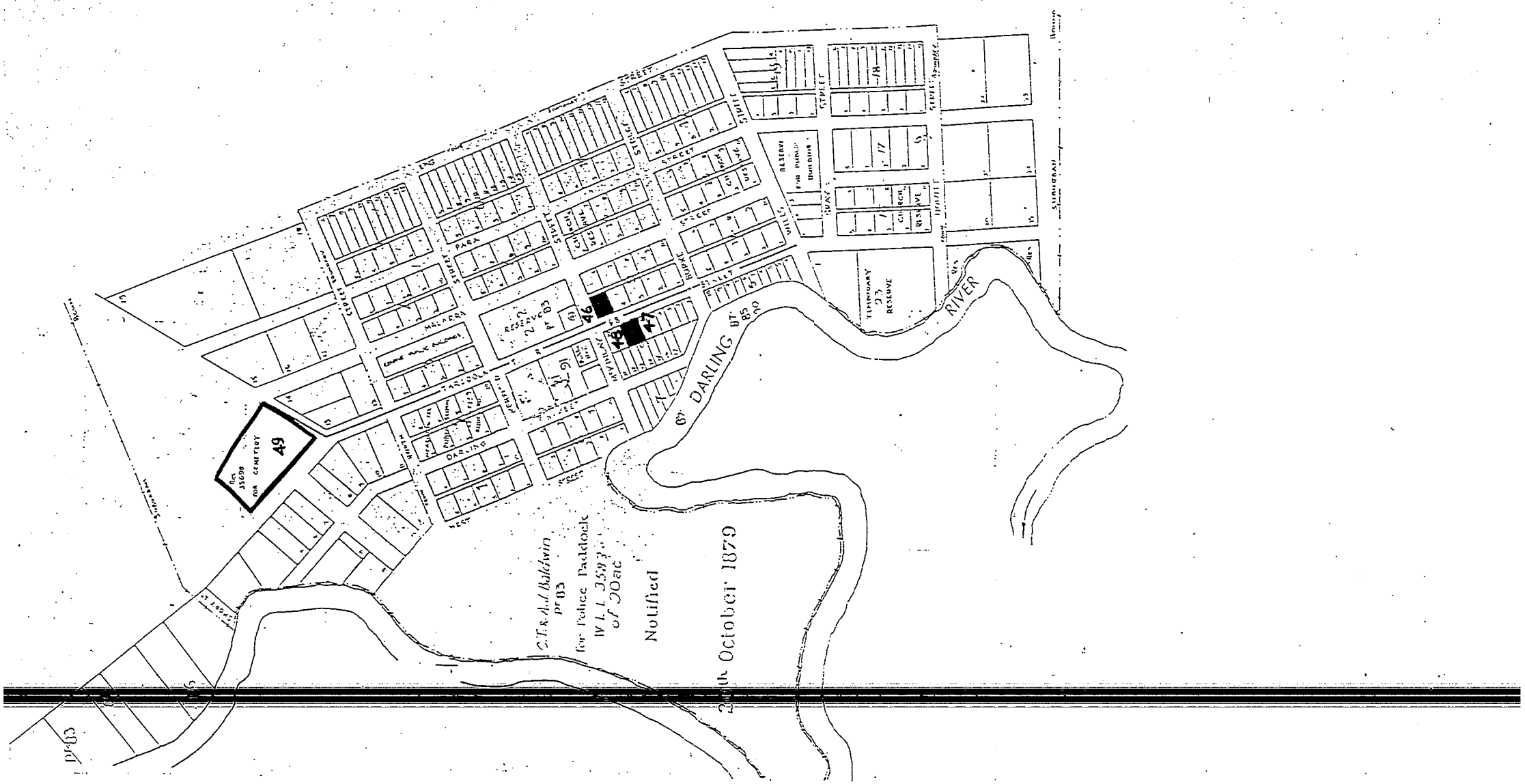

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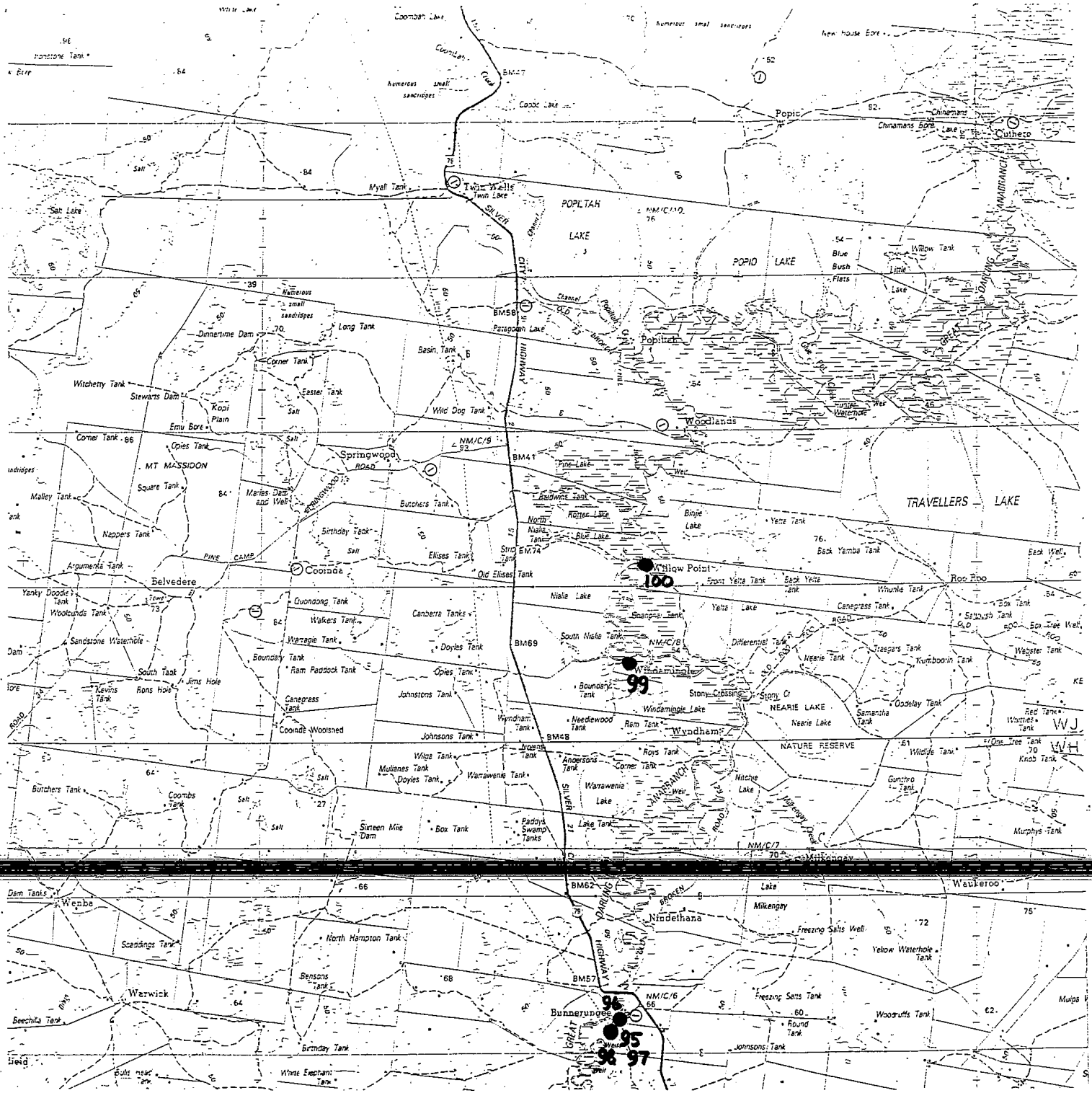

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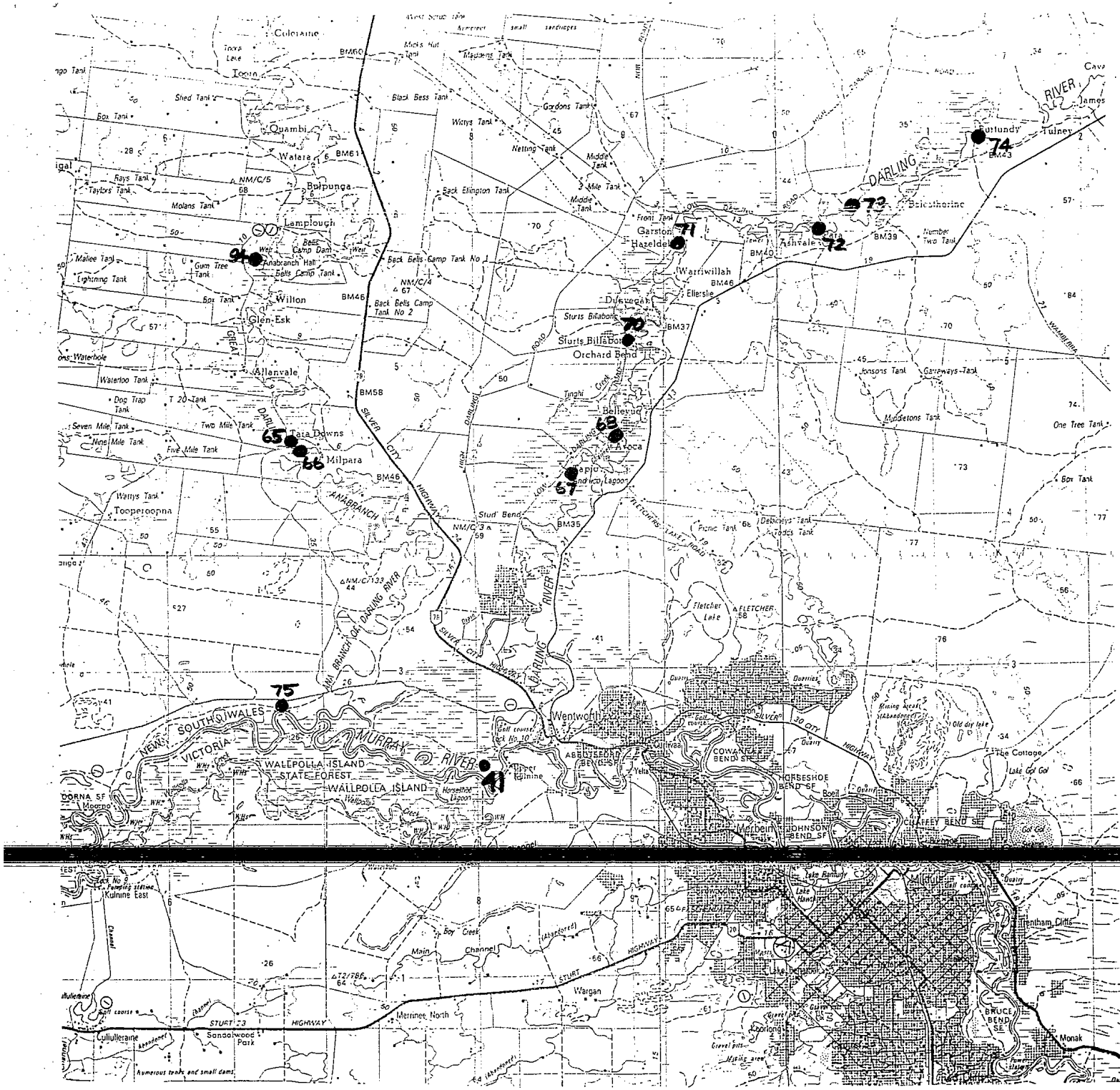
SHIRE OF WENTWORTH

Heritage Study


Coleraine
Iowna
Quambi
Watara
Bulpunga
Lamplough
Willon
Glen-Esk
Allanvale
Taia Downs
Milpara
Tooperoopna
Wentworth
Darling River
Murray River
Wallpolla Island
Wallpolla Island State Forest
South Wales
Victoria
Merbein
Sandilwood Park
Merrinee North
Wargan
Monak
Gutundy
Tulner
Ashvale
Garston
Hazeldene
Warriwillah
Ellersie
Sturts Billabong
Orchard Bend
Bellevue
Yoca
Tinghi
Jonsons Tank
Garraways Tank
Middletons Tank
One Tree Tank
Box Tank
Fletcher Lake
Lake Ramsay
Lake Hawk
Lake Hattah
Trentham Cliffs
Bruce Bend SE
Cowanyalee Bend SE
Horseshoe Bend SE
Johnson Bend SE
Chaffey Bend SE
Abbotsford Bend SE
Lake Gol Gol
The Cottage
Old dry lake
Kulnine East
Boy Creek
Main Channel
Numerous tanks and small dams
Silver City Highway
Sturt Highway
Anabranch of Darling River
Great Darling Anabranch
Darling
Cave
James
Molans Tank
Back Bells Camp Tank No 1
Back Bells Camp Tank No 2
Back Ellington Tank
Middle Tank
Front Tank
Number Two Tank
Waterhole
Waterloo Tank
Dog Trap Tank
T 20 Tank
Seven Mile Tank
Nine Mile Tank
Two Mile Tank
Five Mile Tank
Wanys Tank
Stud Bend
Picnic Tank
Debneys Tank
Todds Tank
Fletchers Tanks Road
Sturts Billabong Road
Golf course
Quarry
Gravel pits
Mining area
Pumping station
Weir
Beer Camp Dam
Bells Camp Tank
Gum Tree Tank
Lightning Tank
Malee Tank
Rays Tank
Taylors Tank
Box Tank
Shed Tank
Black Bess Tank
Gordons Tank
Netting Tank
Withys Tank
Mucks Hut Tank
Meadows Tank
Abandoned
Horseshoe Lagoon
Wallpolla Creek
Channel
Sandhills
Small sandhills
Gravel pits
Mining area
Power station
Quarry
Golf course
Abandoned
Irrigation
Yelta
Boeil
Merbein
Yelta
Mallee
Woorlong
Kulnine
Merbein
Irrigation
Abandoned
Golf course
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Mining area
Power station

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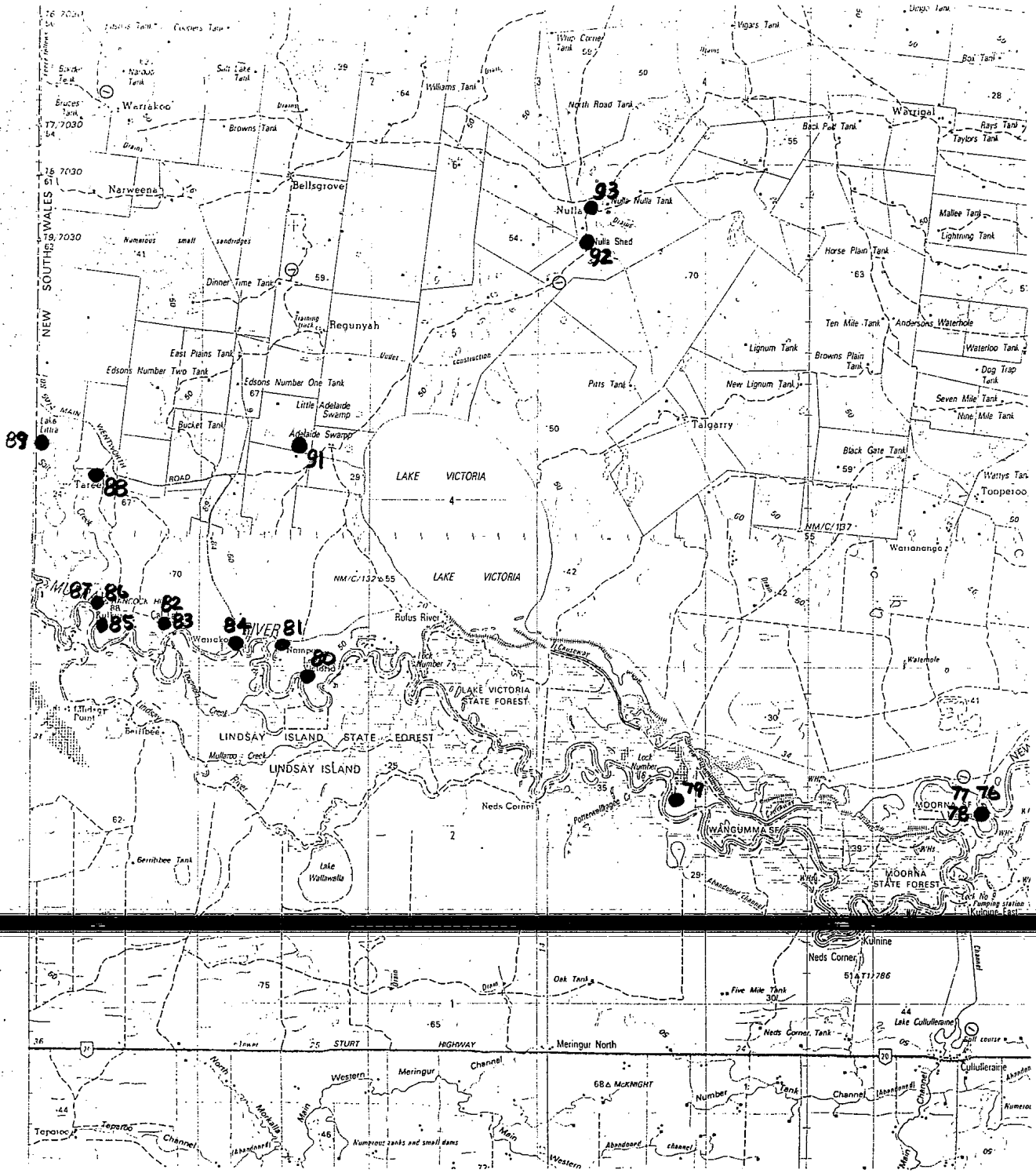

LAKE VICTORIA

kilometres 0 5 10

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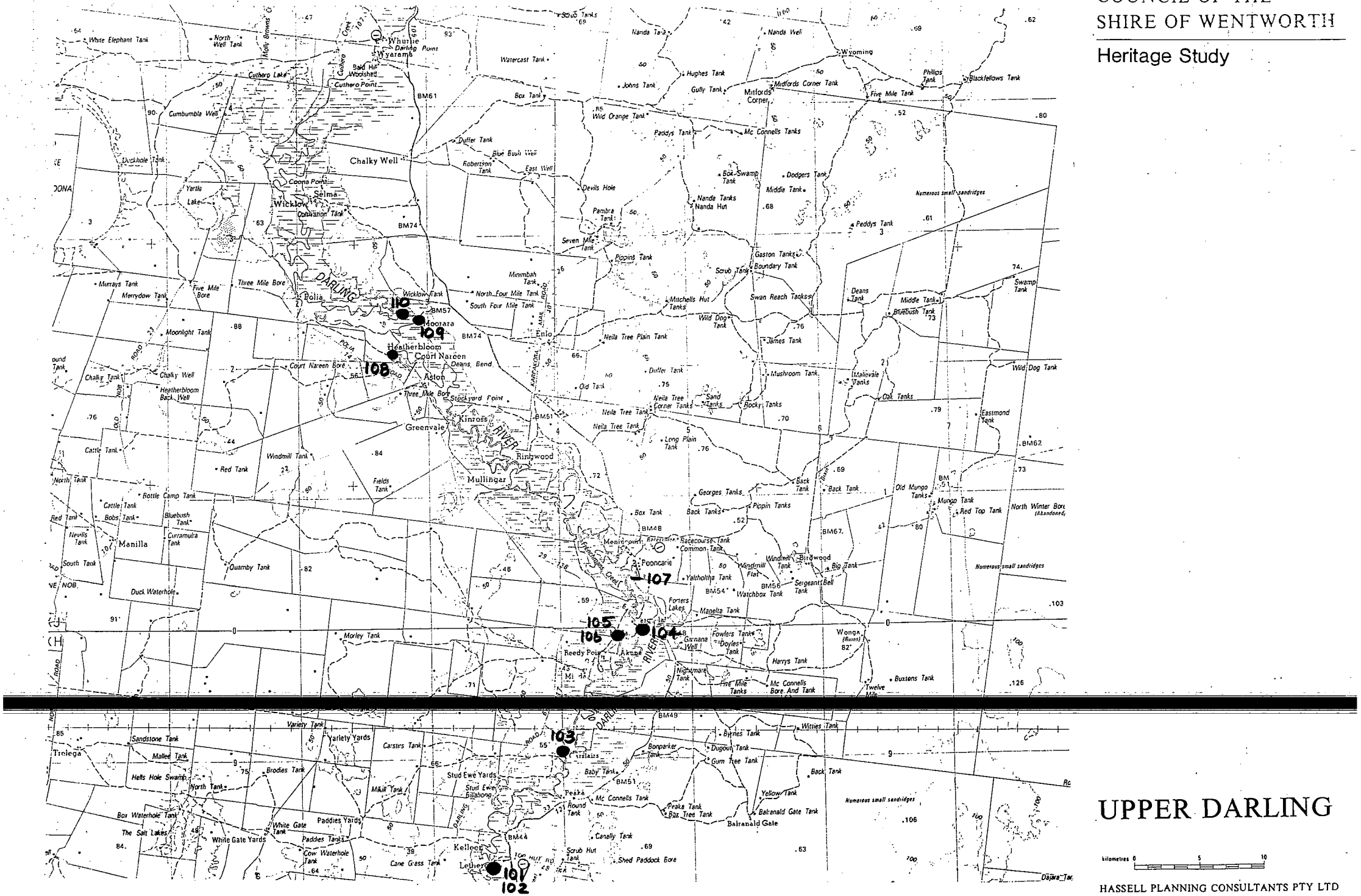
Whurlie Wyaramo
Darling Point
Cuthero Lake
Cuthero Point
Bald Hut Woolshed
Cumbumbla Well
Chalky Well
Coona Point
Selma
Wicklow
Yartla Lake
Cottanion Tank
Polia
DARLING
Wicklow Tank
Moorara
Heatherbloom
Court Nareen
Court Nareen Bore
Deans Bend
Aston
Three Mile Bore
Stockyard Point
Kinross
Greenvale
RIVER
Ringwood
Mullingar
Manilla
Curramulla Tank
Quamby Tank
Duck Waterhole
Morley Tank
Reedy Point
Akuna
Pooncarie
Darling River
Wonga (Ruins)
Enio
Mitfords Corner
Wyoming
Mc Connells Tanks
Nanda Tanks
Nanda Hut
Devils Hole
Pambra Tank
Seven Mile Tank
Pippins Tank
Boundary Tank
Swan Reach Tanks
Mitchells Hut Tanks
Wild Dog Tank
Neila Tree Plain Tank
Neila Tree Tank
Neila Tree Corner Tanks
Sand Tanks
Rocky Tanks
Long Plain Tank
Mushroom Tank
Old Tank
Duffer Tank
Georges Tanks
Back Tanks
Pippin Tanks
Common Tank
Racecourse Tank
Windmill Flat
Yaltholtha Tank
Watchbox Tank
Sergeant Bell Tank
Manelta Tank
Forters Lakes
Fowlers Tanks
Doyles Tank
Granana Well
Harrys Tank
Nightmare Tank
Five Mile Tanks
Mc Connells Bore And Tank
Twelve Mile
Buxtons Tank
Variety Tank
Variety Yards
Sandstone Tank
Mallee Tank
Hells Hole Swamp
North Tank
Brodies Tank
Carsurs Tank
Stud Ewe Yards
Stud Ewe Billabong
Mikill Tank
Box Waterhole Tank
The Salt Lakes
White Gate Tank
White Gate Yards
Paddies Yards
Paddies Tanks
Cow Waterhole Tank
Cane Grass Tank
Kellees
Lelleen
Scrub Hut Tank
Shed Paddock Bore
Canelly Tank
Peaka
Round Tank
Mc Connells Tank
Peaka Tank
Box Tree Tank
Baby Tank
Byrnes Tank
Witties Tank
Dugout Tank
Gum Tree Tank
Bonparker Tank
Yellow Tank
Balranald Gate Tank
Balranald Gate
Numerous small sandridges
Dajara Tank
Trelega
Hughes Tank
Johns Tank
Gully Tank
Midfords Corner Tank
Five Mile Tank
Phillips Tank
Blackfellows Tank
Wild Orange Tank
Paddys Tank
Box Swamp Tank
Dodgers Tank
Middle Tank
Peddys Tank
Gaston Tanks
Scrub Tank
Deans Tank
Bluebush Tank
Swamp Tank
Mallowale Tanks
Oak Tanks
Eastmond Tank
Wild Dog Tank
Old Mungo Tanks
Mungo Tank
Red Top Tank
North Winter Bore (Abandoned)
Numerous small sandridges
Back Tank
Birdwood Tank
Big Tank
Sergeant Bell Tank
Watchbox Tank
Byrnes Tank
Witties Tank
Dugout Tank
Gum Tree Tank
Back Tank
Yellow Tank
Balranald Gate Tank
Balranald Gate
Numerous small sandridges
Dajara Tank
Nanda Tank
Nanda Well
Watercast Tank
Box Tank
Duffer Tank
Blue Bush Well
East Well
Robertson Tank
Coonamon Tank
Yartla Lake
Murrays Tank
Merrydow Tank
Five Mile Bore
Three Mile Bore
Moonlight Tank
Chalky Tank
Chalky Well
Heatherbloom Back Well
Court Nareen Bore
Deans Bend
Aston
Three Mile Bore
Stockyard Point
Cattle Tank
Windmill Tank
Red Tank
Fields Tank
Bottle Camp Tank
Bobs Tank
Bluebush Tank
Nevills Tank
Curramulla Tank
South Tank
Quamby Tank
Duck Waterhole
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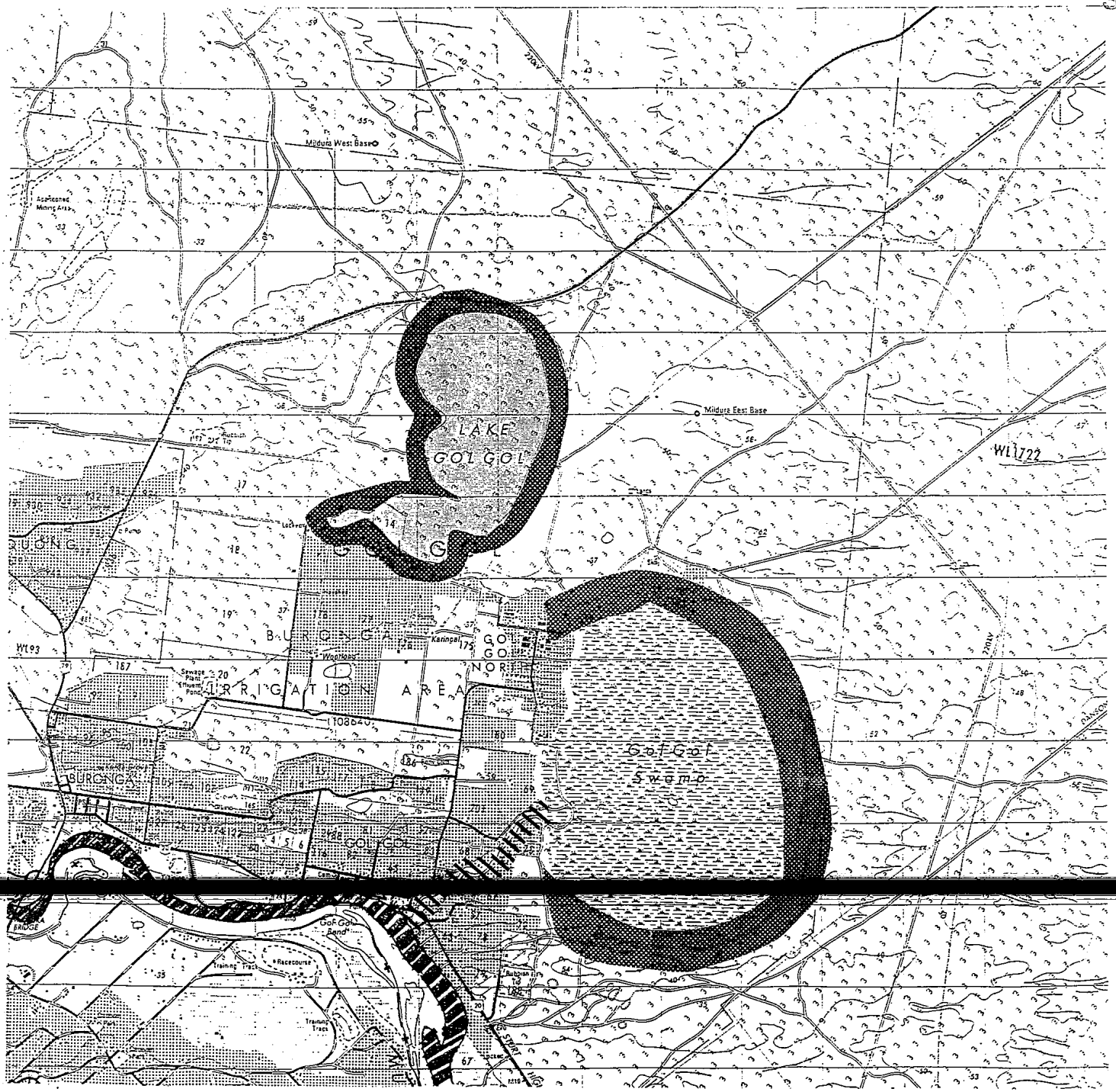
Witties Tank
Dugout Tank
Gum Tree Tank
Bonparker

SCANNED



COUNCIL OF THE
SHIRE OF WENTWORTH

Heritage Study

Known archaeologically important Sites

Areas extremely likely to have significant archaeological Sites

River Murray bank– archaeological sites along floodplain edge

ABORIGINAL SITES IN DEVELOPMENT AREAS

- Known & Predicted

SCALE 1:50000

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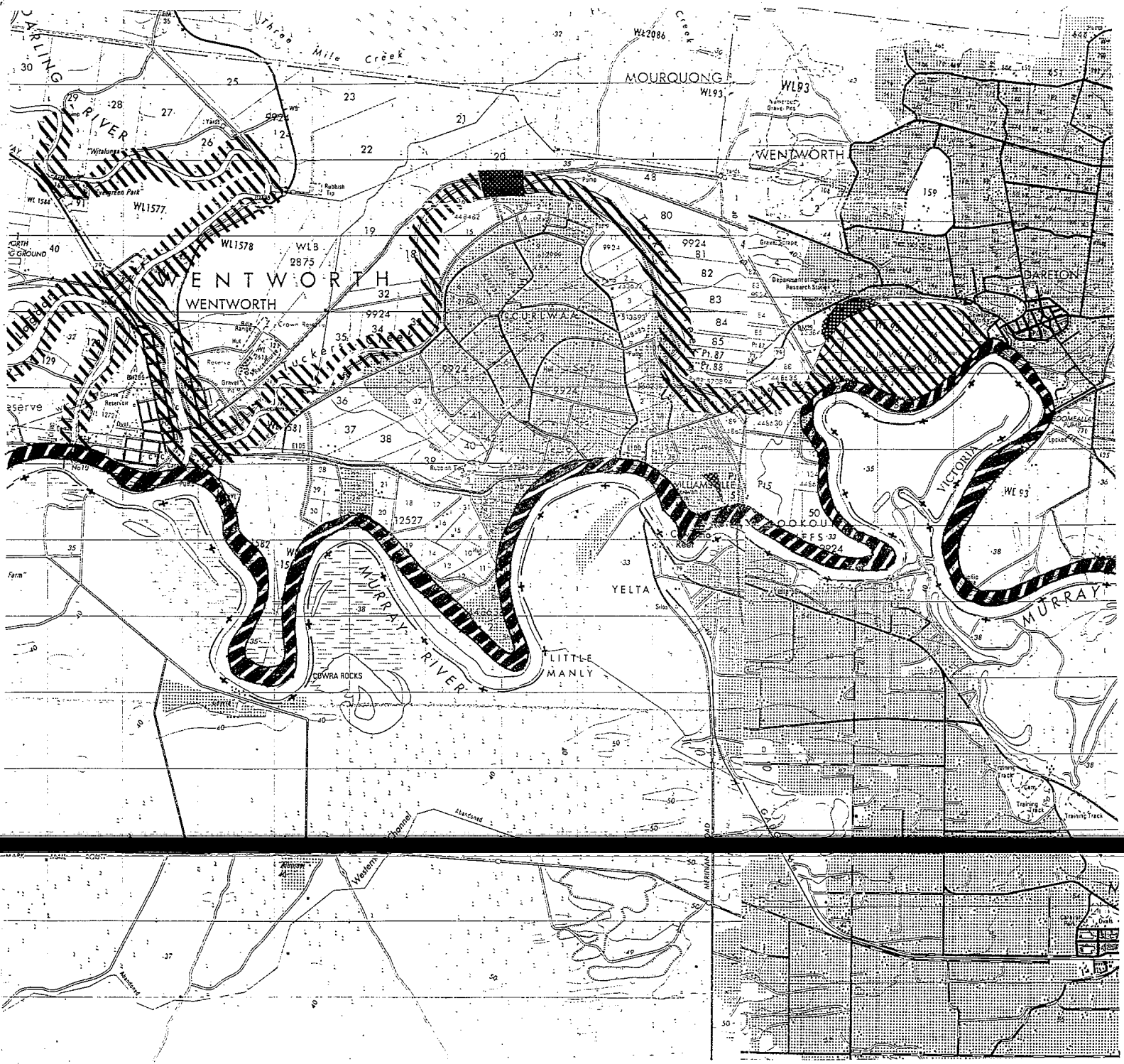

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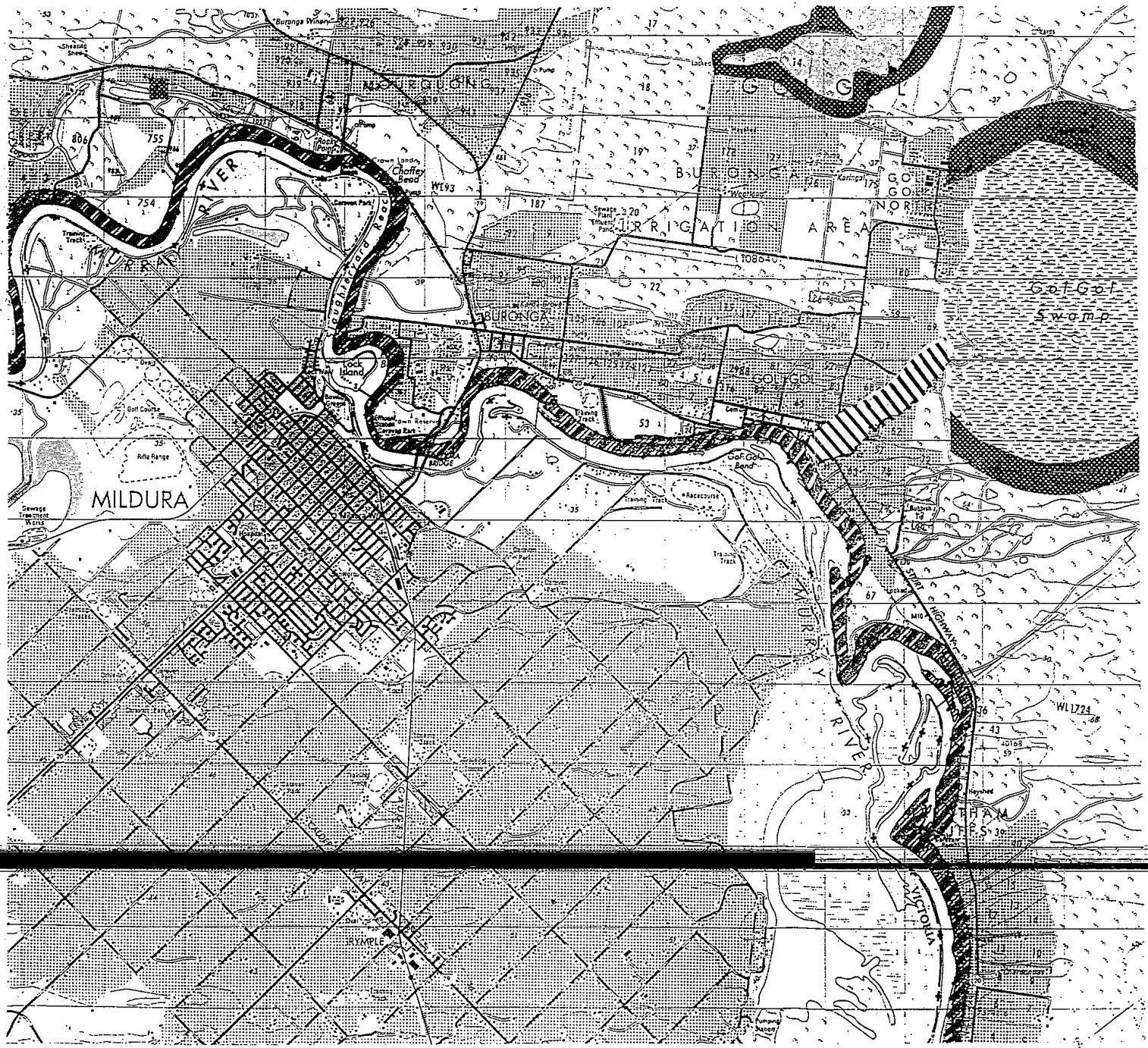

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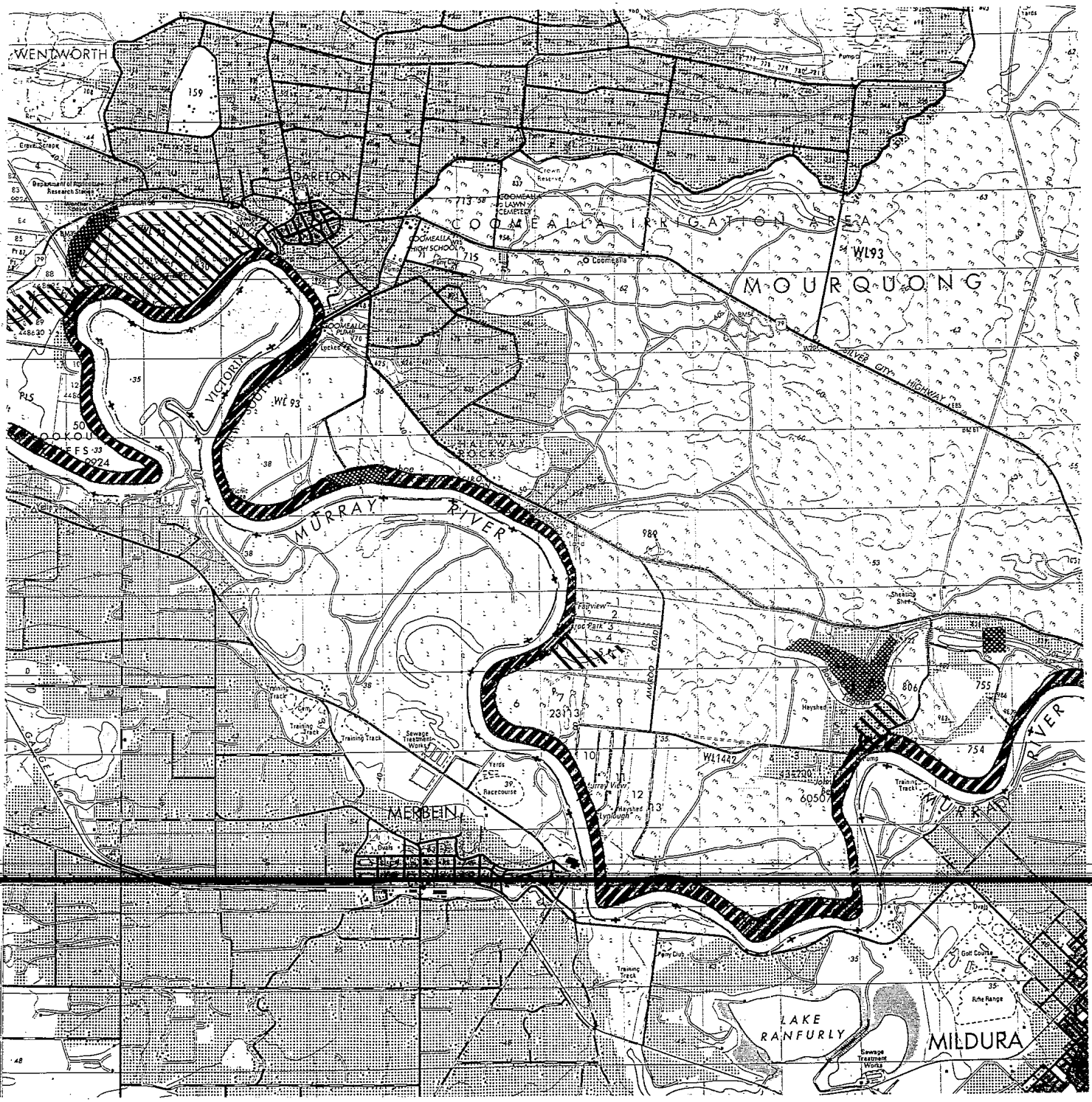

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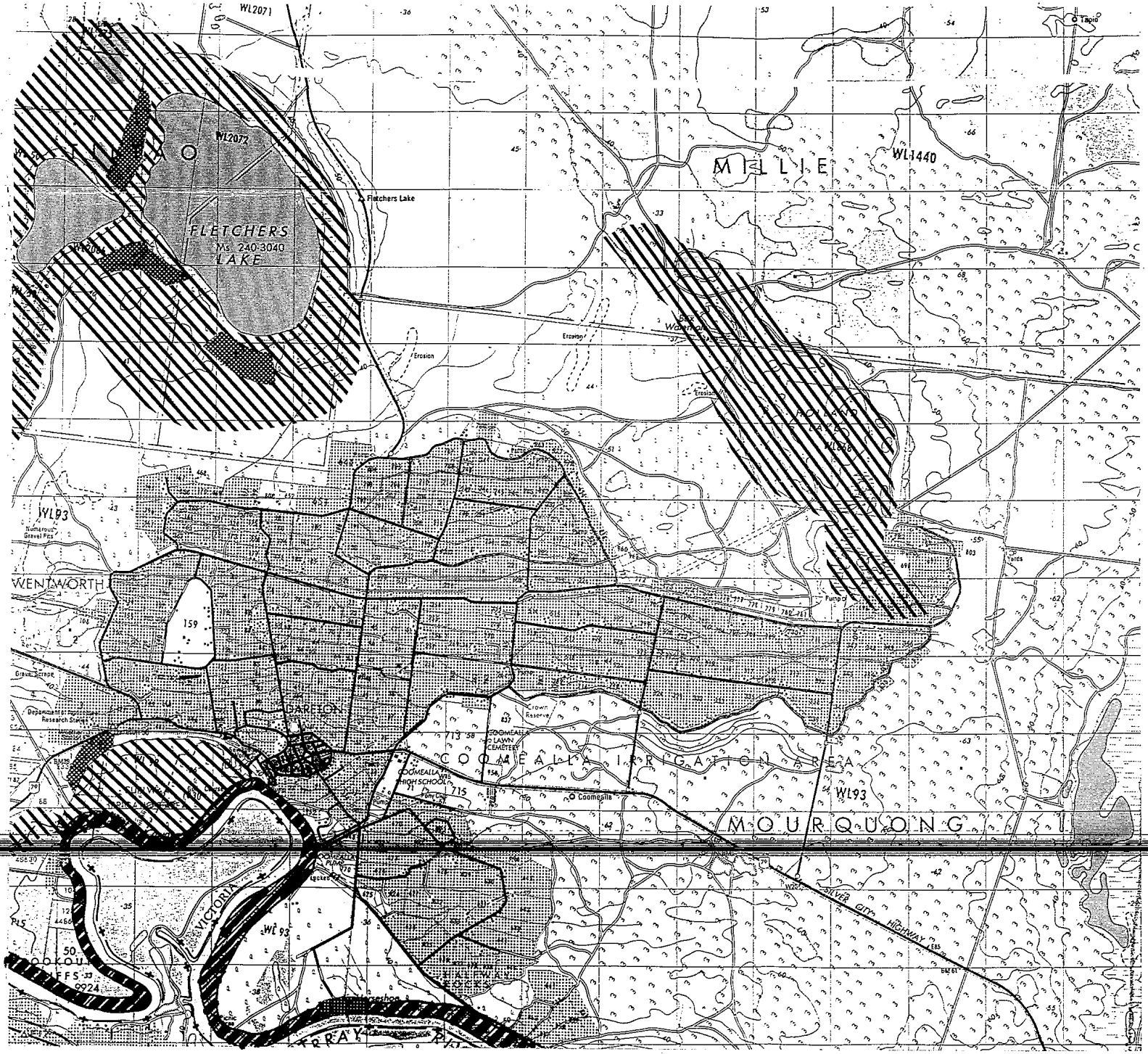

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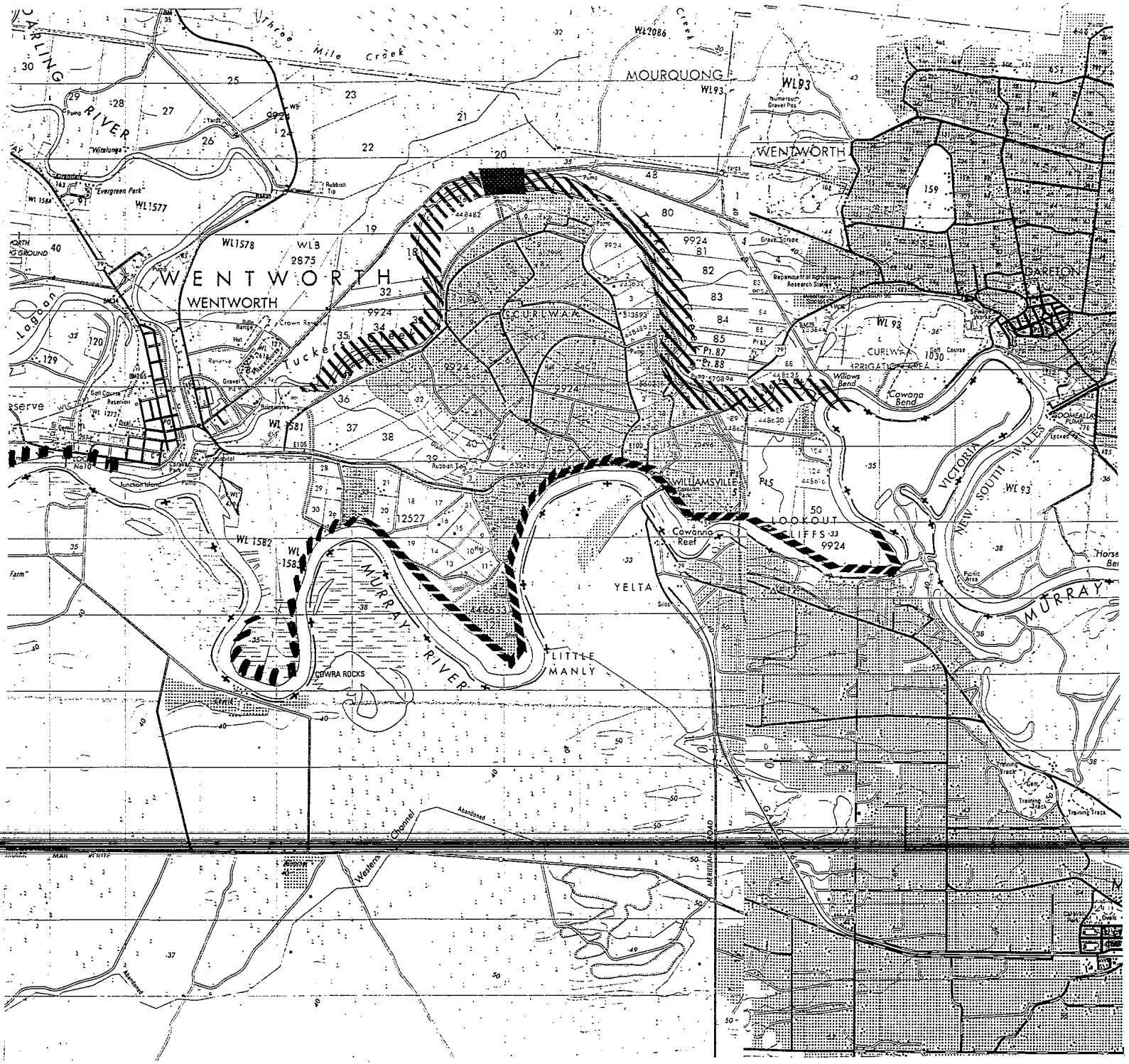

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