

# Sydney Metro Northwest Castle Hill Station

Archaeological test excavation report  
Nineteenth century cottage & the former Castle Hill Station  
Prepared for Transport for NSW | 1 February 2016



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## Sydney Metro Northwest - Castle Hill Station

Final

Report J14017 Castle Hill FINAL REPORT | Prepared for Transport for NSW | 1 February 2016

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|-------------|---|-------------|--|
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| Date        | 12 December 2015  | Date        | 1 February 2016  |

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## Executive Summary

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EMM Consulting Pty Limited (EMM) was commissioned by Boulderstone Pty Ltd (Boulderstone) on behalf of Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) to undertake an archaeological investigation at the Castle Hill Station construction site (the site) as part of the early works program of the Sydney Metro Northwest Project (the project). The report details the results of archaeological test excavation (test excavation) and provides a significance assessment of the archaeological evidence.

The objective of the test excavation was to ascertain the level of archaeological preservation of the late nineteenth century cottage and the early twentieth century Castle Hill station and railway as identified through historical research. The archaeological assessment and research design (EMM 2013) identified that there was moderate potential for remnants of these structures. The potential archaeological resource of the nineteenth century cottage included remnants of a weatherboard house, bricks from fireplaces, post holes for structures including outbuildings, structural materials, cesspits, wells and cisterns. The potential archaeological resource of the Castle Hill Station included structural elements of the station building and indicators of the railway track alignment.

The test excavation sought to determine if any uncovered features could be defined as 'relics' under the NSW *Heritage Act 1977*. A determination of intact relics would be a trigger to conduct salvage excavation on the site to collect information relating to the use of the site as the former Castle Hill railway and a late nineteenth century cottage. EMM concluded that the archaeological resource would be of local heritage significance if relics were identified through test excavation.

The test excavation was conducted over three days between 27 and 29 August 2013. Jillian Comber (Comber Consultants Pty Ltd) was excavation director, with Pamela Kottaras (EMM) as excavation co-director. A team of archaeologists assisted with excavation and site recording.

The archaeological investigation revealed that the site, being subject to such repeated use, left little archaeological evidence from any one event and shows high levels of disturbance. It is likely that land-use in the twentieth century caused the majority of the disturbance from events such as grading the site for a railway, the removal of the railway components, the construction and demolishing of an RSL club, landscaping and the installation of utilities.

The results of the test excavation concluded that:

- No archaeological evidence was identified relating to the nineteenth century cottage belonging to the Knight Family.
- Limited archaeological evidence was identified relating to the Castle Hill Station and railway. The railway components and station structures have been removed and/or demolished. Only ballast for the construction of the railway remains. This evidence does not meet local or state heritage significance criteria.
- Sufficient information was gained to indicate that it is highly unlikely any relics remain on the site. As such it is considered that Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) has fulfilled its obligations under SSI-5100 Minister's Condition of Approval E10.
- As such it fulfils SSI-5414 Minister's Condition of Approval C31 which has the same requirement as SSI-5100.

- No further archaeological investigation is recommended for the site.

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

EMM Consulting Pty Limited (EMM) was commissioned by Boulderstone Pty Ltd (Boulderstone) on behalf of Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) to undertake an archaeological investigation at the Castle Hill Station construction site (the site) as part of the early works program of the Sydney Metro Northwest Project (the project). This report details the results of test excavation and provides a significance assessment of the archaeological evidence.

This report is in accordance with the Project Approval SSI-5100 and specifically responds to Condition E10 which states that:

Prior to the commencement of pre-construction and/ or construction activities that will impact the historical archaeological sites identified in identified in table 4.2 of the North West Rail Link EIS: Technical Paper 3, - European Heritage, dated March 2012, the Proponent shall undertake an archaeological excavation program in accordance with the Heritage Council of NSW Archaeological Assessments Guideline (1996) using a methodology prepared in consultation with the Heritage Council of NSW, and to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This work shall be undertaken by an appropriately qualified archaeological heritage consultant.

Within 2 years of completing the above work, unless otherwise agreed by the Director General, the Proponent shall submit a report containing the findings of the excavations, including artefact analysis, and the identification of a final repository for any finds, prepared in consultation with the Heritage Council of NSW and to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

It is also in accordance with the Project Approval SSI-5100 and specifically responds to Conditions C31 (Application No. SSI-5414), which states that:

Prior to the commencement of pre-construction and/ or construction activities that will impact the historical archaeological sites identified in identified in table 4.2 of the North West Rail Link EIS: Technical Paper 3, - European Heritage, dated March 2012, the Proponent shall undertake an archaeological excavation program in accordance with the Heritage Council of NSW Archaeological Assessments Guideline (1996) using a methodology prepared in consultation with the Heritage Council of NSW, and to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This work shall be undertaken by an appropriately qualified archaeological heritage consultant.

Within 2 years of completing the above work, unless otherwise agreed by the Director General, the Proponent shall submit a report containing the findings of the excavations, including artefact analysis, and the identification of a final repository for any finds, prepared in consultation with the Heritage Council of NSW and to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

If the impacts or works have been addressed in accordance with Condition E10 of State Significant Infrastructure Approval SSI-5100, the requirements of this condition are taken to be fulfilled.

In 2006, Casey and Lowe identified an area of archaeological potential at the site. This was identified as the Castle Hill tramway that comprised of a single track with a reversing loop at Castle Hill. In 2012, Godden Mackay Logan Pty Limited (GML) further addressed the archaeological potential by suggesting that evidence of a railway may also exist (GML 2012 p. 24). GML proposed that the site was unlikely to retain archaeological evidence of the tramway or railway because of the level of disturbance involved in the construction of the existing reserve.

Prior to construction activities, the site contained a number of movable heritage items (not listed on state or local heritage registers) in what was formerly a local park named Arthur Whitting Reserve. The reserve was assessed to be of local significance by GML (GML 2012 p.25); however, no statutory listing applied. EMM undertook photographic archival recording of the heritage items in 2013 which were subsequently collected by The Hills Shire Council.

In July 2013, EMM continued the archaeological investigation in greater detail and identified that there was potential for the remnants of a nineteenth century cottage and the former Castle Hill Station and railway which were potentially of local heritage significance. After consultation with the Heritage Division of the Office of Environment and Heritage on behalf of the Heritage Council of NSW, EMM and Comber Consultants Pty Limited completed a test excavation program from 27 and 29 August 2013 in accordance with the archaeological assessment prepared for the site in July 2013. No significant archaeological remains were identified and an interim test excavation report was prepared in September 2013 to advise TfNSW about the preliminary test excavation results and to provide recommendations to allow construction activities at the site to start.

The current report expands on the interim test excavation report to fulfil the Minister's Conditions of Approval (MCoA) task E10. More detailed information about the archaeological assessment including historical analysis, archaeological site evaluation and research design can be found in the archaeological assessment prepared for the site (EMM 2013). Table 1.1 provides the conditions of consent and their compliance status.

**Table 1.1**      **Compliance table**

| Condition #    | Condition   | How condition is addressed   |
|----------------|---|--|
| E8 (SSI-5100)  | Archival recording all affected heritage items shall be undertaken in accordance with the NSW Heritage Council Guidelines.  | The archaeological investigation of the Castle Hill Station site was recorded in accordance with the guidelines for archival recording.<br>Additionally, the site of Castle Hill Station was included the archival record prepared for the project (EMM March 2013 in draft).                |
| E10 (SSI-5100) | As above (p.1)  | A test excavation was undertaken in August 2013. The results were presented in an interim report and are expanded within this report   |
| C31 (SSI-5414) | As above (p.1)  | The impacts have been addressed in accordance with Condition E10   |
| EH15 (EIS)     | Any exposed archaeological features and deposits related to the Parramatta to Castle Hill tramway would be fully investigated and recorded prior to their removal.<br><br>Any information retrieved regarding the Parramatta to Castle Hill tramway would be used to inform the interpretation of the site for communication of the site's history. | Archaeological features (of low significance) were discovered. These features were recorded prior to their removal.<br><br>The archaeological features did not possess sufficient significance to categorise them as relics and interpretation specific to relics is therefore not required. |

## 1.2 Project description

The Sydney Metro Northwest is a priority transport infrastructure project for NSW and will provide a new 23 km electrified passenger rail line between Epping and Rouse Hill. The project includes eight new stations (Cherrybrook, Castle Hill, Hills Centre, Norwest, Bella Vista, Kellyville, Rouse Hill and Cudgegong Road), a stabling facility and associated infrastructure (Figure 1.1).

Construction for the project has been divided into a number of stages:

- Early Works including site establishment, power supplies, demolition and roads and traffic works;
- Tunnel and Station Civil Works (TSC) including extensive subsurface excavation and construction to build the Epping to Bella Vista tunnel, five stations and associated works;
- Surface and Viaduct Civil (SVC) including building the 4 km skytrain between Bella Vista and Rouse Hill; and
- Operations, trains and systems (OTS) including building stations and car parks, supplying trains, installing the tracks, signalling, mechanical and electrical systems and operating the rail system.

TfNSW commissioned Boulderstone as the managing contractor for the early to allow construction site establishment prior to commencement of the major works for Sydney Metro Northwest. Early works construction is now completed and included extensive subsurface excavation of up to 25 m for the emplacement of a cut and box cover structure. The site will become the Castle Hill Station at the completion of the project.

## 1.3 The study area

Construction is currently being undertaken at the site. It is approximately 18,000 m<sup>2</sup> and located in the commercial centre of Castle Hill in The Hills Shire Local Government Area (LGA). The site occupies most of the existing Arthur Whitling Reserve and is bound by Old Castle Hill Road to the north, Old Northern Road to the south and McMullen Avenue to the east. The affected lots (referred to as the study area) are listed below and have been assessed for their archaeological potential.

- Lot 7006/DP 93757;
- Lot 1/DP 1129465;
- Lot 215/DP 752020; and
- Lot 198/DP 752020.

The construction site boundary for the site is shown in (Figure 1.2).

The scope of the archaeological investigation did not include Lot 101/SP 19086 and Lot 101/DP 734482 as these lots are outside the study area.

## 1.4 Report method

This report was prepared in accordance with the *Archaeological Assessment Guidelines* (Heritage Council 1996) as prescribed by the MCoA. This report is also guided by the philosophy of the *Charter for Places of*

*Cultural Significance* commonly known as the *Burra Charter* (Australian International Council on Monuments and Sites, ICOMOS 1999).

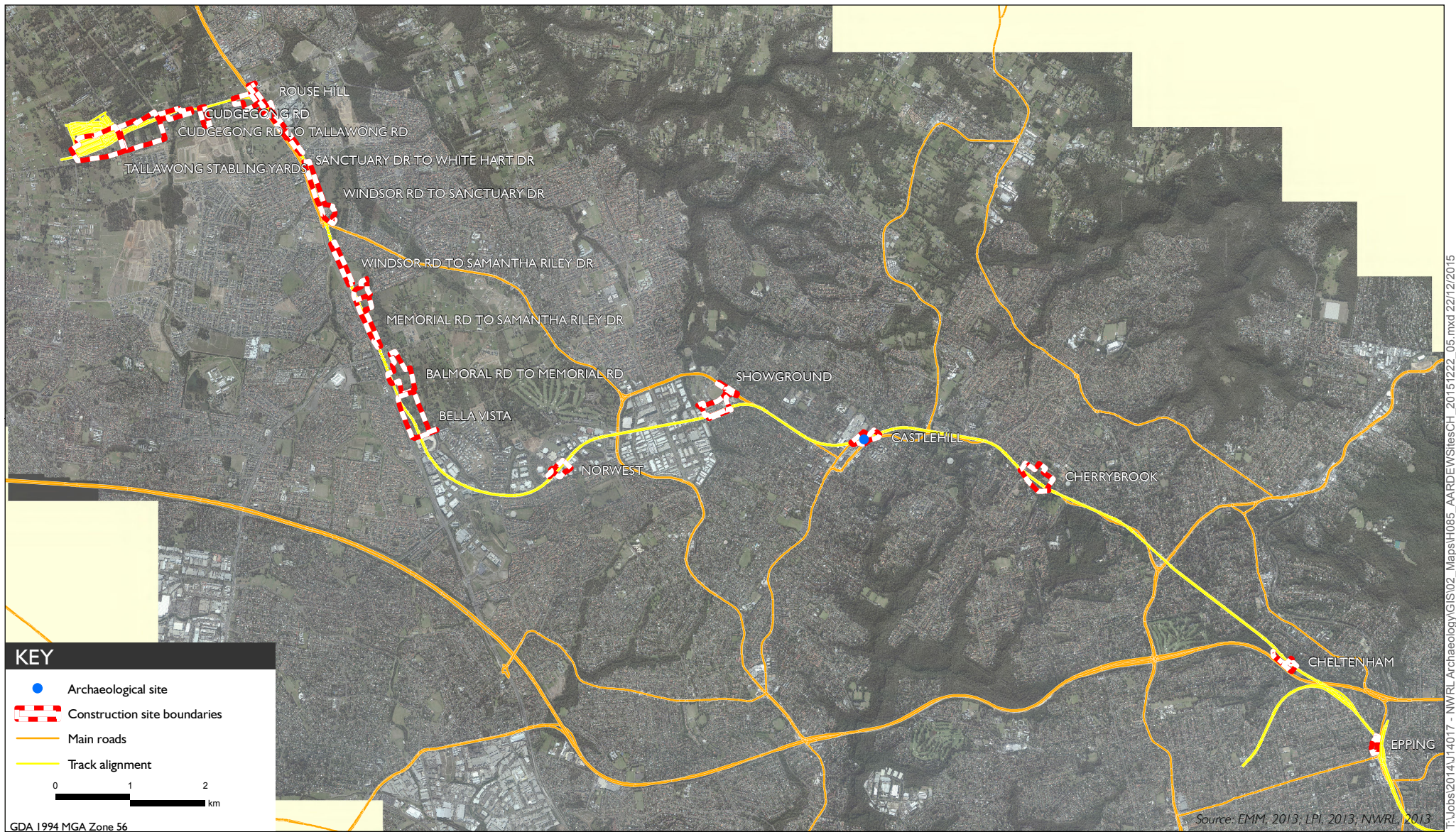
Significance and impacts to significance have been assessed using the following guidelines:

- *Statements of Heritage Impact Guidelines* (Heritage Office 2006);
- *Investigating Heritage Significance* (Heritage Office 2004);
- *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'* (Heritage Branch Department of Planning 2009);
- *Historical Archaeology Code of Practice* (Heritage Office 2006); and
- *How to Prepare Archival Records of Heritage Items* (Heritage Office 1998).

## 1.5 Authorship

This report was written by Ryan Desic (EMM). Analysis, report direction and review was provided by Pamela Kottaras BA Hons (Archaeology) – Associate Archaeologist (EMM). External review was undertaken by Jillian Comber of Comber Consultants, who is one of the nominated excavation directors.









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## 2 Historical background

The history of the study area has been explored in detail in the archaeological assessment for the site (EMM 2013) and is provided in full in Appendix A. The historical background provided in this report aims to summarise the phases of occupation of the study area since European settlement. The main historical events are listed below:

- **Castle Hill Government Farm (1801–1811):** The study area was originally part of the 14,000 hectares operated by convicts to provide food and stock for the colony. Archival research did not identify any potential archaeological deposits relating to this phase.
- **Early land grants (1815–1877):** The first land grants on the study area were a 60 acre Crown Grant to James Duff in 1818 (in the eastern portion of the study area) and a 40 acre grant to Stephen Hunter (western portion of the study area). The study area passed through a number of owners in the mid 1800s, but no specific structures or land uses were identified during archival research.
- **Oddfellows Hall (1878–1909):** The first recorded structure in the study area was called Oddfellow's Hall which was the first public hall erected in Castle Hill. It was a weatherboard structure built for the Independent Order of Good Templars on Algernon James Medcalfe's property in 1878 (The Hills Historic Society 2013). Oddfellows Hall was destroyed by fire in May 1894 only one night before a social was to be held there (Evening News 25 May 1894 p.3). The Hall was rebuilt in August of the same year and where it stood for a further 15 years in the study area. The Methodists purchased the hall in 1909 and moved it to the northern side of Castle Hill Public School in Old Northern Road to use as a church (the Hills Shire Council 2013).
- **Late nineteenth century cottage (1884–c.1921):** The Castle Hill Township subdivision plan (1889) indicated that a house structure belonging to William Knight existed in the south-western corner of the study area. There were also records of William Knight and his son Thomas leasing the property as far back as 1884. There are references to William's son, Thomas Knight, having lived at the cottage up until his death in 1908 (The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate 6 June 1908). However, by the 1921 Garthowen Estate Subdivision, the house was no longer referenced or shown on any plans. If the house was not already demolished by 1921, it would have occurred soon after to allow for the Castle Hill Station and railway built later that year.
- **Castle Hill Tramway (1910–1922):** The Castle Hill Tramway was constructed in 1909 as part of the expansion of Sydney's tramway system from Parramatta to Castle Hill. Research has indicated that the tramway did not extend into the study area. Subdivision plans for Garthowen in 1921 and the historic sources (Carr, Pullen and McCluskey 1990 p. 23) indicated that the tramway terminated 5 m short of the Castle Street and Cranes Lane intersection. This evidence placed the tramway terminus approximately 50 m south of the study area.
- **Castle Hill Station and railway (1921–1934):** The Castle Hill Station and railway was constructed from 1921–1922 by upgrading the existing tramway and extending the line to Rogans Hill. The Castle Hill Station and railway was opened in 1924 and was in service until 1932. The station was a standard platform of 70 feet in length, and included a run-round loop and a goods siding built to accommodate 13 trucks. The railway closed because it was economically unsustainable and additional space was needed for motor vehicle traffic on the adjacent roads. There are accounts that most of the railway components were removed by 1934 (Forsythe and Dease 1950 p.11).

- **1930s house and outbuildings (between 1928 and 1943–late twentieth century):** A property with a house and outbuildings belonged to Herbert Mobbs. Sources cannot confirm when the Mobbs Family purchased the land or when the structures were built, but they first appear between 1928 and 1943 according to aerial imagery of the study area. Another house is visible in the adjacent lot in a 1956 aerial photograph. These structures were located outside Castle Hill Park, to the north of the ANZAC memorial. The house and sheds have since been replaced by a modern business complex, which includes a car park basement.
- **ANZAC Memorial Hall/ Castle Hill Community Centre (1935–2005):** In c.1935 the Commissioner of Railways released the southern portion of the study area for the construction of the Castle Hill ANZAC Memorial Hall. In 1954 the hall was granted a liquor licence and became known as the Castle Hill RSL Club. After mounting distaste about its location, the club was re-housed on Castle Street but the building remained and was converted in the Castle Hill Community Centre where it functioned until it was demolished in 2005.
- **Castle Hill Park/ Arthur Whitling Reserve (1935–2013):** Most of the study area has been used as a park since the Castle Hill station and railway was removed. Castle Hill Park was renamed Arthur Whitling Reserve on 26 January 1989 in honour of the councillor who served The Hills Shire from 1908–1948. A War Memorial (replacing a previous smaller memorial erected by the Castle Hill RSL Club) was completed in May 2001 at the northern end of the reserve. The reserve also hosted remnants of the Parramatta to Castle Hill tramway in a commemorative plaque and a rail signal is on display nearby. A number of mature plantings and various other small garden beds were placed throughout the reserve.

## 3 Test excavation

### 3.1 Overview

The test excavation was conducted over three days between 27 and 29 August 2013. Jillian Comber (Comber Consultants Pty Ltd) was excavation director, with Pamela Kottaras (EMM) as excavation co-director. A team of archaeologists assisted with the test excavation and site recording.

### 3.2 Rationale

The test excavation followed the methodology in the research design presented in the archaeological assessment. This was approved by the Heritage Division of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DP&I – now the Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E)) on the 14 August 2013 and 21 August 2013 respectively.

The objective of the test excavation was to ascertain the level of archaeological preservation of the late nineteenth century cottage and the early twentieth century Castle Hill station and railway as identified through historical research. The archaeological assessment and research design (EMM 2013) identified that there was moderate potential for remnants of these structures. The potential archaeological resource of the nineteenth century cottage included remnants of a weatherboard house, bricks from fireplaces, post holes for structures including outbuildings, structural materials, cesspits, wells and cisterns. The potential archaeological resource of the Castle Hill Station included structural elements of the station building and indicators of the railway track alignment.

The test excavation sought to determine if any uncovered features could be defined as ‘relics’ under the NSW *Heritage Act 1977*. A determination of intact relics would be a trigger to conduct salvage excavation on the site to collect information relating to the use of the site as the former Castle Hill railway and a late nineteenth century cottage. EMM concluded that the archaeological resource would be of local heritage significance if relics were identified through test excavation.

Also identified was moderate potential for the remains of the Castle Hill Memorial Hall (1935–2005). The archaeological assessment found that this resource did not meet *local* or *State* heritage significance criteria, and therefore it was not pursued for archaeological investigation. The archaeological assessment also identified that a 1930s house and outbuildings once existed between 1928 and 1943 within the Lot1/DP 1129465 but the subsequent development of a modern business complex would have removed any archaeological evidence and therefore it was not investigated further. No other potential archaeological remains warranted further investigation.

### 3.3 Test excavation layout

Three open area excavations were completed in the western portion of the study area where it was identified that the archaeological resources may survive. Testing was targeted in the areas for evidence of the Castle Hill Station and railway components (Open Area 1 and Open Area 3) and the nineteenth century cottage (Open Area 2). The open areas were orientated at roughly a north-south axis in an attempt to capture a cross-section of the structures that were on an east-west axis through the study area (Figure 3.1). The position of the open areas aimed to avoid areas with existing utility trenches and other areas thought to have been disturbed by previous development. The dimension of Open Area 1 and Open Area 2 were 10 m x 5 m and Open Area 3 was 5 m x 1 m.

There were limitations to the test excavation layout which resulted in test areas diverging from the areas set out in the archaeological assessment. Open Area 1 had to be relocated approximately 4 m south to avoid identified utilities. To compensate for the changed location, the smaller Open Area 3 was placed in an attempt to capture any remnants of the Castle Hill Station building. Open Area 3 was moved approximately 10 m south-east to avoid an existing garden bed. This placed OA3 on the predicted western corner of the nineteenth century cottage.

### 3.4 Test excavation method

The first stage of test excavation involved the use of a machine excavator monitored by one or more archaeologists to identify any archaeological deposit. An excavator with a smooth edged bucket was used to remove soil overburden down to any potential occupational surface or structural remains. The excavator operator was monitored and guided by an archaeologist and by clearly marked open area boundaries.

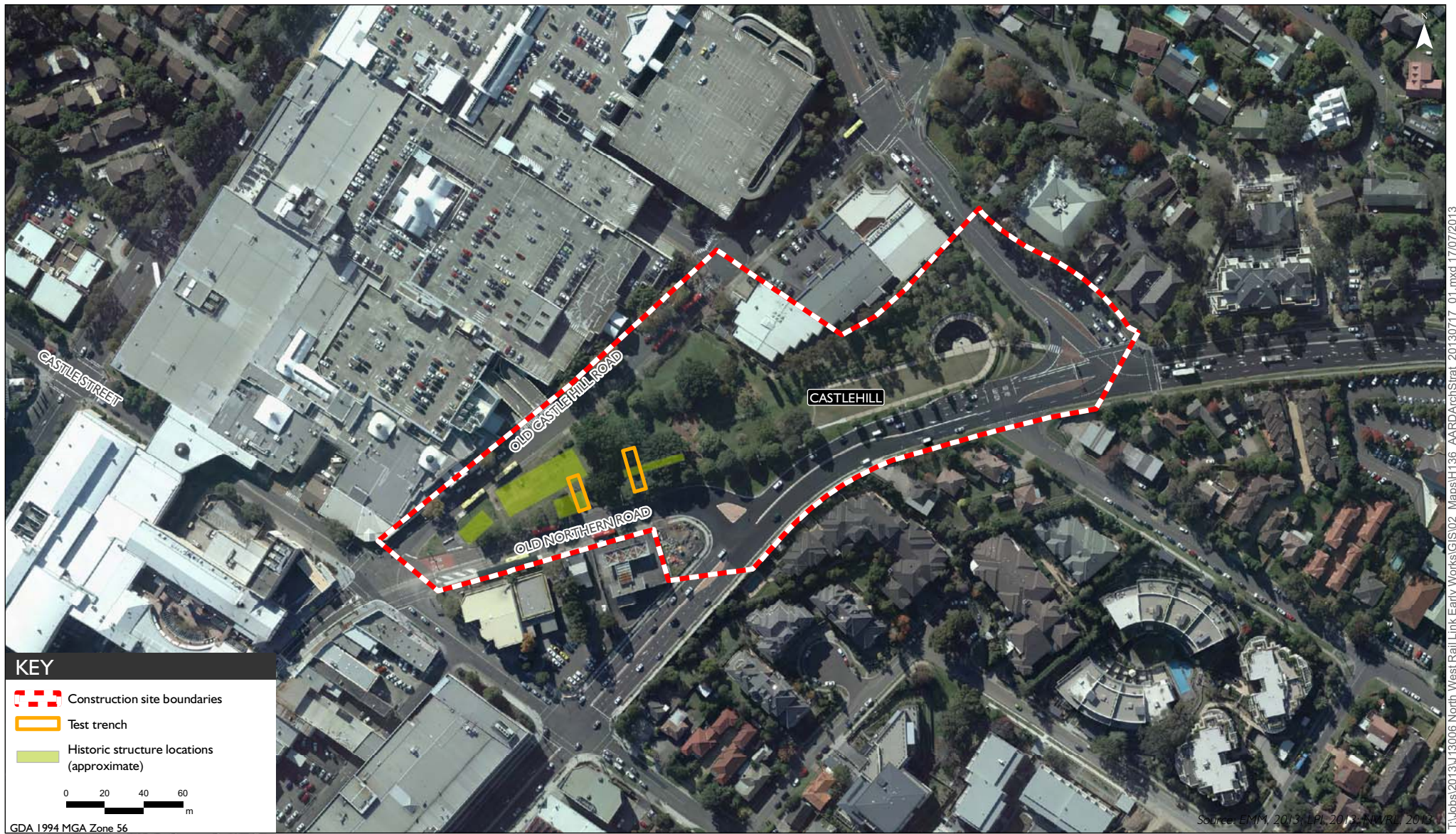
Archaeologists clarified all potential archaeological evidence through hand excavation techniques after it had been identified by the monitoring of the excavator.

### 3.5 Recording methods

Archaeologists recorded the test excavation using the following techniques:

- The establishment of a 1 m x 1 m grid within each open area;
- GPS recording of each open area location;
- detailed archaeological scale plans and cross sections;
- the use of context recording forms and context numbers for each archaeological deposit, cut and feature;
- detailed photographic recording using appropriate photographic equipment, scales and a photographic register; and
- collecting and labelling all artefacts with detailed reference to their context information.









## 4 Test excavation results

### 4.1 Open Area 1

#### 4.1.1 Test excavation results

Open Area 1 was located near Old Northern Road within a grassed section of Arthur Whitling Reserve (Photograph 4.1 ). Open Area 1 aimed to uncover the Castle Hill railway tracks and station building. The majority of Open Area 1 was excavated by machine to a depth of 0.8 m and consisted of a brown loam topsoil [context 1] ([1]) overlaying a very firmly compacted mottled brown layer with high clay content [2]. This layer contained angular gravels, charcoal, sandstone fragments and fragmented glass and ceramic, with larger fragments accumulated at the base of the layer. A rusted service pipe c.50 mm in diameter was found running across Open Area 1 on an east-west axis. Beneath [2] was dark grey/black ashy sand with frequent fragmented volcanic stones likely to be railway ballast [3] (Photograph 4.2). A smaller trench (DE4) was hand excavated to determine the soil profile beneath the ballast layer. Trench DE4 was excavated to a depth of 1.2 m. It contained a layer of crushed sandstone rubble [4] overlaid onto a truncated natural grey and orange clay [5]. Figure 4.1 and Figure 4.2 shows a cross section of Trench DE4 with the deposit layers annotated.

#### 4.1.2 Interpretation

The archaeological record in Open Area 1 starts during its use as the Castle Hill Station and railway. The area was likely to have been cleared of vegetation during the early stages of colonial settlement with its use as government grounds and subsequently farmland. However, any indicator of agriculture has been lost during the construction of the Castle Hill Station and railway. There are clear signs of ground grading which has removed the natural A soil horizon and truncated the clayey B soil horizon. The grading can be attributed to the Castle Hill Station and railway which had a grade ratio of 1 in 25 (4% slope) (Irwin 1996).

There is evidence of a crushed sandstone layer deposited as an initial layer of ballast above the truncated B soil horizon. This layer may also have served as levelling fill for the volcanic stone ballast layer deposited above. Track ballast is used for track stability, drainage, and weed prevention whilst giving the tracks some elasticity to the iron tracks. It is likely that the ashy/charcoal accumulation above the ballast was once the ground surface where soot from train exhaust and other debris formed the dark soil colour. There is no remaining evidence of the railway tracks or sleepers which is consistent with evidence of their removal by 1934 (Forsythe and Dease 1950 p.11).

The fill layer [2] above the ballast layer [3] is likely to have been deposited after the removal of the Castle Hill Station and railway and the site's subsequent use Castle Hill Park. There is approximately 0.4 m of fill laid over the ballast layer and it is likely that this was deposited to provide the adequate topsoil for tree planting and garden construction.

The phasing of the archaeological remains agrees with the major chronological events identified in the historic research of the site. Phasing for Open Area 1 can be summarised as:

- Phase 1: Natural landscape and possibly Aboriginal occupation (although no archaeological evidence remains);
- Phase 2: Government Farm and privately owned farmland (1801–1921) (archival evidence only);
- Phase 2: Site levelling and construction of Castle Hill Station and railway (c.1921–1923);

- Phase 3: Removal of Castle Hill Station and railway (c.1932–1934); and
- Phase 4: Landscaping area for use as Castle Hill Park (later Arthur Whitling Reserve) (c.1935–present).



**Photograph 4.1**      **Open Area 1 before test excavation showing open area layout method (facing north). OA1 was 10m x 5 m**





Photograph 4.2      Open Area 1 showing railway ballast [3] (facing south)



Photograph 4.3      Trench DE4 showing excavation down to basal clay (facing east)





Figure 4.1 Cross-section of Trench DE4 showing context numbers (west facing wall)

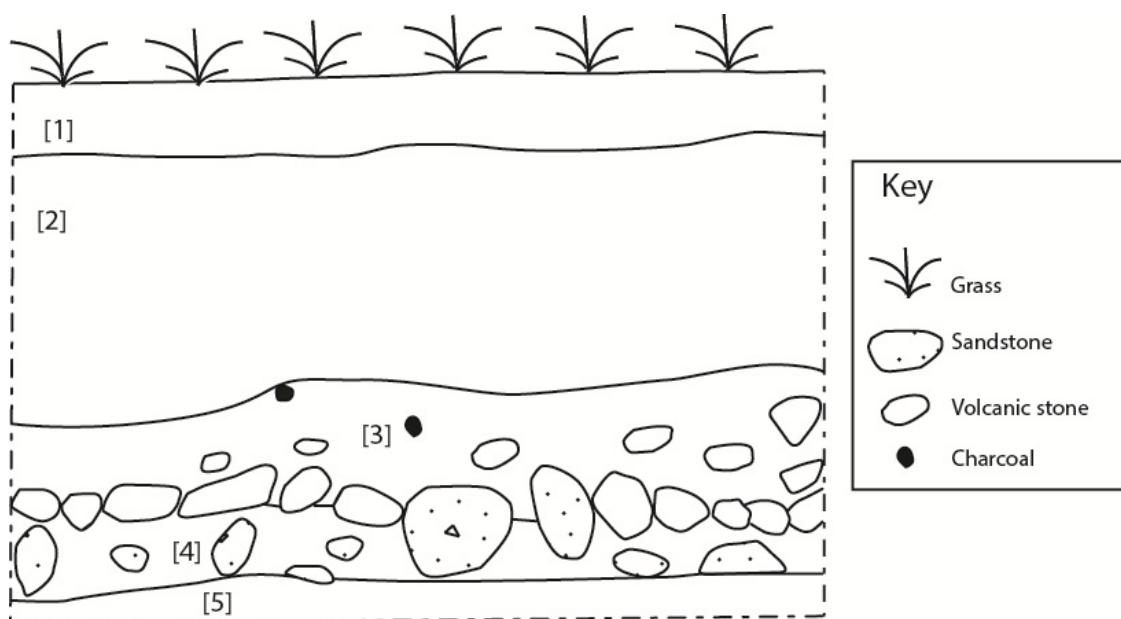


Figure 4.2 Drawn cross-section of DE4 showing layer boundaries (west facing wall)

## 4.2 Open Area 2

Open Area 2 was placed in a grassed section of Arthur Whitling Reserve (Photograph 4.5). Open Area 2 aimed to uncover archaeological evidence of a cottage from the 1880s identified in this area through archival research. The upper layer of the deposit was brown loam topsoil fill [6] layer which continued onto a compact clay base layer [7]. A row of bricks one course high [8] was identified above layer [7] in the south-west of Open Area 2 (Photograph 4.6). Open Area 2 was expanded by 1 m to the west following the row of bricks, however they only continued for another 30 cm. The bricks were clearly extruded with modern cement bonding visible on the brick surface.

A 1 m by 3 m test trench was excavated within Open Area 2 to investigate the depth of the compact clay base layer. The clay base layer [7] was shown to be a mottled clay fill layer continuing down beyond the limit of excavation (Photograph 4.7). There was no evidence of railway ballast in this area such as that found in Open Area 1.

### 4.2.1 Interpretation

The brick feature is on an east-west alignment roughly coincides with the area adjacent to the ANZAC Memorial Hall (1935–2005) and is mostly likely the remnants of a brick pathway or garden bed border. Photograph 4.4 shows the extensive use of brick in the area for the hall construction, pathways and garden beds. The brick alignment was situated on a clay fill base that continued in depth. The clay fill layer is likely to be associated with ground levelling events for the ANZAC Memorial Hall.

There was no evidence of the nineteenth century cottage in Open Area 2. Later modifications to the study area included site preparation for the ANZAC Memorial Hall and landscaping to the surrounding park. These events appear to have removed evidence of the earliest substantial use of the site in the historic period.



**Photograph 4.4** ANZAC Memorial Hall c.1960 showing brick alignments used for garden beds around the building. View facing east from the corner of Old Castle Hill Road and Old Northern Road





**Photograph 4.5**      **Open Area 2 showing row of bricks and test trench in the background (facing north-east)**



**Photograph 4.6**      **Open Area 2 showing brick wall and pebble concrete feature (facing north)**





**Photograph 4.7**      **Test trench in Open Area 2 onto a mottled clay fill layer (facing north)**

### 4.3      Open Area 3

Open Area 3 was a 1 m by 5 m excavation located south-west of Open Area 1. It was used to ascertain if there were remains of the train station adjacent to Open Area 1. Open Area 3 was excavated to 30 cm and consisted of a brown loam and fill layer (Photograph 7). At 30 cm depth a water service was uncovered and excavation ceased. The deposit had been disturbed through the introduction of services.



**Photograph 4.8**      **Open Area 3 showing uncovered utility services (facing south-west)**

#### 4.4      Artefacts

One artefact was uncovered during the test excavation. It was an unidentifiable metal object highly decorated and possibly used as a fastener (Photography 4.9). No other artefacts were identified and as such no artefact analysis was undertaken.



**Photograph 4.9**      **Unidentified artefact recovered from Castle Hill**

## 5 Response to the research design

### 5.1 Overview

The archaeological assessment presented a series of research questions for the potential archaeological resource, the late nineteenth century cottage and the Castle Hill Station building and railway, as part of a research design. A research design is a set of research questions developed for a specific site, which contributes to current and relevant knowledge.

The area of interest for the cottage was focused on the historical context of a rural landscape characterised by orcharding and farming which hosted the locally eminent fruit growers known as the Knight Family. Investigation into the Castle Hill Station building and railway sought to answer questions about the NSW government's attempts to develop local economies and infrastructure whilst also gathering site specific information about the use and layout of Castle Hill Station.

The archaeological investigation retrieved very limited information to address the themes. The following presents a response to each of the research questions developed in the archaeological assessment which were framed as general and site-specific questions.

### 5.2 Response to research questions

#### 5.2.1 Nineteenth century cottage

The archaeological investigation cannot answer any of the research questions presented in the archaeological assessment because no archaeological evidence was identified.

#### 5.2.2 Castle Hill Station and railway

##### i General research questions

- *Does the archaeological resource verify the assessed potential and significance of the site?*

*That is:*

- i) *What is the condition and extent of the surviving archaeological evidence?*

The surviving archaeological evidence is limited to the constructional phase of the railway, ie the deposition ballast used as bedding for the railway tracks. No archaeological features were identified.

- ii) *What is the nature of extant archaeological features?*

No archaeological features have been identified, only a deposit of ballast.



- iii) *Do the deposits and features contribute new information about the occupation and development of the site?*

The archaeological deposit of railway track ballast provides limited information about the occupation and development of the site. The archaeological evidence indicates that the ground had been firstly graded and subsequently covered with a deposit of ballast to support the railway tracks. This information was already available from historical sources. The subsequent removal of the railway tracks and deposition of levelling fill for the Castle Hill Park was already identified in the archaeological assessment. Therefore the archaeological investigation primarily to confirm the information gathered through historical research.

ii **Site specific research questions**

- iv) *Is there any physical evidence of the original layout of the Castle Hill Station building, platform or railway components such as rail loop and goods siding?*

No.

- v) *To what extent has the station and railway components been removed from the site after it was decommissioned in 1932?*

Although the test excavation only uncovered a cross section of the extensive track alignment, the results indicate that the station and railway components have been completely removed. No structural indicators such as post holes for the station building have survived in the archaeological record within the open areas; however this cannot be discounted for the entire site.

- vi) *What artefactual evidence of the railway remains, for example track and fittings, fixtures, signage, and fencing?*

No artefactual evidence of the station or railway was identified.

- vii) *Does any archaeological evidence provide wider information about the economic growth and transport of the local area?*

The limited evidence of railway ballast is widely known as a standard method of railway track preparation. No wider information about the local economy or transport has been identified.

- viii) *Does the archaeological evidence provide any information about the people who worked or frequented the station?*

No.

- ix) *Is there any evidence of what goods and materials were transported by rail? Specifically, is this evidence related to the goods siding area that occurs parallel to the main rail line and passing loop?*

No.

## 6 Re-evaluation of significance

### 6.1 Overview

The results of the test excavation have provided the opportunity to re-assess the significance of the archaeological resource (refer to EMM 2013). The poor representation of the rail infrastructure and the late nineteenth century cottage within the archaeological record has influenced the re-assessment of significance presented in Table 6.1. The table firstly presents the significance of the potential archaeological remains as predicted in the archaeological assessment and then presents the revised significance based on the results of the archaeological investigation.

The assessment and statement of significance is based on the guideline *Assessing Heritage Significance* (Heritage Office 2009). Cultural significance is defined as “aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations” (*Burra Charter* 1999: Article 1.2). It identifies that conservation of an item of cultural significance should be guided by the item’s level of significance.

### 6.2 Revised Statement of Significance

The recovered remnants of the Castle Hill Station and associated railway are not of local or state significance. The deposit of railway track ballast is rudimentary and largely disturbed. It does not yield any information that could contribute to an understanding of NSW’s cultural or natural history that cannot be obtained from any other source. Archival research did not indicate that relics, if they existed, would be associated with any notable person or organisation. The disturbed insubstantial features did not demonstrate aesthetic characteristics or evidence of technical achievement. They are not rare and are not a good representative example of their type. It is clear that the railway structures have been either removed from the area or demolished.

No archaeological evidence was recovered that could relate to the late to the nineteenth century cottage and therefore it does not meet local or state significance criteria.

The potential archaeological remains of the ANZAC Memorial Hall are not considered to be of significance. Architectural plans, aerial photographs, historic photographs, and oral histories of the Hall have provided more information than the archaeological resource could. No archaeological investigation was undertaken for this resource.

Remnants of the 1930s house and outbuildings in Lot 1/DP 1129465 are likely to have been completely removed by the post-depositional activities in the study area. Therefore no heritage significance currently applies to this area. No archaeological investigation was undertaken for this resource.

**Table 6.1**      **Assessment of significance summary**

| NSW Heritage criteria (NSW <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> )   | Significance assessment of the potential archaeological resource (prior to the archaeological investigation)   | Revised significance assessment based on the results of the archaeological investigation  |
|---|--|---|
| Criterion (a) an item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the local area); | <p><b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b></p> <p>The potential archaeological resources is historically associated with the late eighteenth and early twentieth century use of the local area particularly orcharding and farming. The agricultural use of the site demonstrates the importance of the region in producing food for the region and was one of many such orchards, none of which survive commercially in the local area.</p> <p>Archaeological evidence demonstrating the commercial uses of the study area is unlikely to be found. However, evidence of domestic use of the study area associated with orcharding would be of local significance.</p> | <p><b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b></p> <p>The features identified in the test excavation, including a small brick alignment, are not likely to be associated with the 1880s cottage. These features are not significant in the course or pattern of the local area or NSW's cultural or natural history. The features uncovered are disturbed and do not provide any additional information on the history of NSW or the local area. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p> |
|   | <p><b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b></p> <p>The Castle Hill Station and a section of the Castle Hill to Rogans Hill railway passed through the study area. Evidence of the railway would be significant at a local level for demonstrating the growth of the area around industry; it would be significant at a local level, as infrastructure development during a period of transition from earlier forms of transport to motorised road vehicle transport and so represents an infrastructure investment that was impacted by this transition.</p>  | <p><b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b></p> <p>The deposit of ballast identified in the test excavation including a layer of large stones, gravels and grey silt and a layer of crushed sandstone rubble are not significant in the course or pattern of the local area or NSW cultural or natural history. The features uncovered are disturbed and do not provide any additional information on the history of NSW or the local area. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p>              |
|   | <p><b><i>ANZAC Memorial Hall</i></b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>  | <p><b><i>ANZAC Memorial Hall</i></b></p> <p>No change.</p>  |
|   | <p><b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>   | <p><b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b></p> <p>No change.</p>   |

**Table 6.1**      **Assessment of significance summary**

| NSW Heritage criteria (NSW <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> )  | Significance assessment of the potential archaeological resource (prior to the archaeological investigation)  | Revised significance assessment based on the results of the archaeological investigation  |
|--|---|---|
| Criterion (b) an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the local area); | <p><b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b></p> <p>The Knight Family were people of interest key to the local orcharding industry. William Knight had the Oddfellows Hall community hall built on his property and records indicate he was a religious and community orientated man. William's son Thomas Knight was a locally famed orchardist who made appearances in the local paper regarding his fruit growing expertise. Archaeological evidence associated with the Knight cottage would provide further information of their lives and contribute to an understanding of this locally significant family.</p> <p>At a local level Oddfellows Hall was locally significant as it hosted community and religious events, some of which were associated with the Good Templars and the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows. The Hall was also associated with the Knight Family who commissioned the Hall to be built. Although the hall represented evidence of rural religious minorities and insight into the Knight family's life and beliefs, it was removed in 1909.</p> <p>The low archaeological potential of this site is unlikely to add to the knowledge of the Good Templars, the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows, or the Knight Family.</p> | <p><b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b></p> <p>No features relating to the cottage or other structures were uncovered. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p>  |
|  | <p><b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>   | <p><b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b></p> <p>The features uncovered do not have a strong or special association with the life or work of a person or persons of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p> |
|  | <p><b><i>ANZAC Memorial Hall</i></b></p> <p>The ANAZ Memorial Hall (1935) is locally significant as it provides a strong link with local veterans and the associated culture. However, evidence of the Hall and its varied function over time is already well documented. The Hall was demolished relatively recently in 2005. The potential archaeological remains of the Hall are not likely to contribute knowledge that no other resource or site can.</p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>   | <p><b><i>ANZAC Memorial Hall</i></b></p> <p>No change.</p>  |
|  |   |   |



**Table 6.1**      **Assessment of significance summary**

| <b>NSW Heritage criteria (NSW Heritage Act 1977)</b>  | <b>Significance assessment of the potential archaeological resource (prior to the archaeological investigation)</b>  | <b>Revised significance assessment based on the results of the archaeological investigation</b>   |
|---|--|---|
| Criterion (c) an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area); | <b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b><br>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.  | <b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b><br>No change.  |
|   | <b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b><br>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological resource fulfils this criterion. The expected archaeological resource may include remains of a cottage that is unlikely to be aesthetically significant. However, if evidence survives that demonstrates rudimentary building techniques such as slab construction, these technical aspects of the resource would be of local significance. | <b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b><br>No features relating to the cottage or other structures were uncovered. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource. |
|   | <b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b><br>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological resource fulfils this criterion. Any evidence of the railway station or the railway is unlikely to be aesthetically significant. The archaeological remains are likely to be fragmentary and would not embody any engineering of technological style.  | <b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b><br>The features uncovered did not survive intact or in substantial proportions. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.       |
|   | <b><i>ANZAC Memorial Hall</i></b><br>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.   | <b><i>ANZAC Memorial Hall</i></b><br>No change.   |
|   | <b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b><br>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.  | <b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b><br>No change   |

**Table 6.1**      **Assessment of significance summary**

| <b>NSW Heritage criteria (NSW Heritage Act 1977)</b>  | <b>Significance assessment of the potential archaeological resource (prior to the archaeological investigation)</b>   | <b>Revised significance assessment based on the results of the archaeological investigation</b>   |
|---|---|---|
| Criterion (d) an item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW for social, cultural or spiritual reasons (or the local area); | <p><b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p> <p>Oddfellows Hall was locally significant as it housed regular meetings for The Good Templars and the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows — two minority groups in Australia that practiced the field of temperance. The second version of the hall, rebuilt after a fire in 1894, existed on the study area for 15 years before its removal in 1909.</p> <p>The low archaeological potential of this site is unlikely to add to the knowledge of the Good Templars or the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows.</p> | <p><b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b></p> <p>No features relating to the cottage or other structures were uncovered. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p>                            |
|   | <p><b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>   | <p><b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b></p> <p>The features uncovered were in poor condition and could not be associated with a community or cultural group. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p> |
|   | <p><b><i>ANZAC Memorial Hall</i></b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>   | <p><b><i>ANZAC Memorial Hall</i></b></p> <p>No change.</p>  |
|   | <p><b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>  | <p><b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b></p> <p>No change.</p>   |

**Table 6.1**      **Assessment of significance summary**

| NSW Heritage criteria (NSW <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> )   | Significance assessment of the potential archaeological resource (prior to the archaeological investigation)  | Revised significance assessment based on the results of the archaeological investigation  |
|---|---|---|
| Criterion (e) an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the local area); | <p data-bbox="526 387 963 419"><b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b></p> <p data-bbox="526 427 1377 659">The subject site is likely to include archaeological resources relating to a vernacular cottage. The site has the potential to yield new information that would contribute to an understanding of land use and possible some insights into the construction techniques and materials used to build the cottage. Information gained from a test excavation of this phase of the site could be used to compare similar archaeological sites in the local area, particularly where related to the once extensive orcharding industry and to contribute to our understanding of a former industry that was important to the growing colony</p> <p data-bbox="526 667 1377 786">In addition, archaeological evidence relating to the life of the Knight Family that lived there may shed light on their way of life, their economic situation as well as answer questions related to farming in what had been recognised as an important food-producing area on the outskirts of Sydney.</p> <p data-bbox="526 794 840 826"><b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b></p> <p data-bbox="526 834 1377 954">The potential archaeological resource in the study has potential to provide scientific archaeological data on Castle Hill Station and railway on a local level. There is likely to be minimal archaeological evidence for the railway, however there is potential for the structure and layout of the station and platform.</p> <p data-bbox="526 962 1377 1195">Although there is substantial historical information of the Castle Hill to Rogan's Hill Railway, there is little detailed reference to the associated structures. There is photographic evidence of the nearby Rogan's Hill Station and platform, but none for the structures at Castle Hill. The potential archaeological resource at the former Castle Hill Station could provide information about its layout and dimensions, structural materials, and design. The archaeological resource related to Castle Hill Station and Railway would be of local significance.</p> | <p data-bbox="1400 387 1848 419"><b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b></p> <p data-bbox="1400 427 2119 515">No features relating to the cottage or other structures were uncovered. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p> <p data-bbox="1400 794 1713 826"><b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b></p> <p data-bbox="1400 834 2119 954">The deposit which survived included an area of railway ballast. The remains did not yield further information on the railway. As such the features did not yield information that would contribute to an understanding of NSW's or the local areas' cultural or natural history.</p> |



**Table 6.1**      **Assessment of significance summary**

| NSW Heritage criteria (NSW Heritage Act 1977)  | Significance assessment of the potential archaeological resource (prior to the archaeological investigation)   | Revised significance assessment based on the results of the archaeological investigation  |
|--|--|---|
|  | <p><b>ANZAC Memorial Hall</b></p> <p>The potential archaeological remains of the hall are unlikely to contribute any information not already known for item. The item has detailed photographic and historical records that already describe the hall's function and significance to the community. The site had not previously been considered to have heritage significance before it was demolished in 2005.</p>  | <p><b>ANZAC Memorial Hall</b></p> <p>No change.</p>   |
|  | <p><b>1930s house and outbuildings</b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>  | <p><b>1930s house and outbuildings</b></p> <p>No change.</p>  |
| Criterion (f) an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the local area); and | <p><b>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</b></p> <p>Archaeologically, there is little known about structures and the domestic life of the orcharding industry. The nearby investigation of Kentwell Cottage is the only of its type into housing of this period. Even so, the study was of a standing house and not the archaeological remains. The cottage remnants may provide insight into the important but deleted history of the area. This resource fulfils this criterion at a local level.</p>  | <p><b>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</b></p> <p>No features relating to the cottage or other structures were uncovered. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p>   |
|  | <p><b>Castle Hill Station and Railway</b></p> <p>There is little archaeological evidence of the early twentieth century railway that passed through this area besides track cuttings that occur to the east at Garthowen Crescent. Railway paraphernalia exists within Arthur Whitling Park today, however they are not related to the study area. The potential resource fulfils this criterion at a local level. Any archaeological remains of the station or railway would provide a tangible link to the historically well-documented railway.</p> | <p><b>Castle Hill Station and Railway</b></p> <p>The deposit uncovered did not possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's or the local area's cultural or natural history. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p> |
|  | <p><b>ANZAC Memorial Hall</b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>   | <p><b>ANZAC Memorial Hall</b></p> <p>No change</p>  |
|  |  |   |

**Table 6.1**      **Assessment of significance summary**

| <b>NSW Heritage criteria (NSW Heritage Act 1977)</b>  | <b>Significance assessment of the potential archaeological resource (prior to the archaeological investigation)</b>   | <b>Revised significance assessment based on the results of the archaeological investigation</b>  |
|---|---|--|
| Criterion (g) an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places or cultural or natural environments (or the local area). | <p><b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>  | <p><b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b></p> <p>No change.</p>  |
|   | <p><b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b></p> <p>The potential archaeological remains of the cottage are likely to be a good example of a successful orcharding and farming family and their life. The potential archaeological resources are associated with the Knight Family who owned the study area and Oddfellows Hall. The archaeological evidence would be of local significance.</p> | <p><b><i>Nineteenth century structures and orchards</i></b></p> <p>No features relating to the cottage or other structures were uncovered. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p>   |
|   | <p><b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b></p> <p>The potential remains of the Castle Hill Station and Railway are likely to be a good representation of the techniques used to construct the railway and of railway station building construction and railway practice in the early twentieth century. The archaeological evidence would be of local significance.</p>                                   | <p><b><i>Castle Hill Station and Railway</i></b></p> <p>The deposits uncovered are not a good representative example of a class of NSW's or the local area's cultural or natural places or cultural or natural environments. The surviving evidence of the former railway line was ephemeral and generic; better examples are likely to survive elsewhere. This criterion was not demonstrated by the archaeological resource.</p> |
|   | <p><b><i>ANZAC Memorial Hall</i></b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>   | <p><b><i>ANZAC Memorial Hall</i></b></p> <p>No change.</p>   |
|   | <p><b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b></p> <p>The research conducted to date has not indicated that the potential archaeological remains fulfil this criterion.</p>  | <p><b><i>1930s house and outbuildings</i></b></p> <p>No change.</p>  |

## 7 Discussion and conclusion

### 7.1 Discussion

The study area has experienced a rich history of mixed uses since European settlement. The area was firstly used for agricultural purposes as part of government grounds and then private orchards. Subsequent developments and subdivisions into the late nineteenth century saw the site placed in the centre of Castle Hill, where it became a private cottage, a community hall, the Castle Hill train station and railway, an RSL club and finally a park.

The archaeological investigation has revealed that the site, being subject to such repeated use, has left little archaeological evidence from any one event and shows high levels of disturbance. It is likely that land-use in the twentieth century has caused the majority of the disturbance from events such as grading the site for a railway, the removal of the railway components, the construction and demolishing of an RSL club, landscaping and the installation of utilities.

Evidence of the nineteenth century cottage has been removed from the site. It is likely that grading from railway construction and the development of nearby RSL that once stood to the north has removed any remnants of the cottage.

The recovery of a railway ballast layer has confirmed that the Castle Hill Station and railway alignment crossed through the site. There is little more information that can be gathered from this evidence other than it is highly likely that the railway components had been removed after the decommissioning of the train service in 1932. The removal of the railway was a costly exercise (an estimated 198,000 pounds) but it was unavoidable because of pressure from the Main Roads Board to widen the adjacent road for increased traffic along with economic difficulties faced by the railway service. It is possible that the railway components were reused elsewhere in Sydney.

### 7.2 Conclusion

The archaeological investigation has sought to determine the nature and significance of the potential archaeological resource (a nineteenth century cottage and the former Castle Hill Station and railway) identified in the archaeological assessment for the proposed Castle Hill Station. The results can be summarised as thus:

- No archaeological evidence was identified relating to the nineteenth century cottage belonging to the Knight Family.
- Limited archaeological evidence was identified relating to the Castle Hill Station and railway. The railway components and station structures have been removed and/or demolished. Only ballast for the construction of the railway remains. This evidence does not meet local or state heritage significance criteria.
- Sufficient information was gained to indicate that it is highly unlikely any relics remain on the site. As such it is considered that the Minister's Conditions of Approval E10 and E31 have been fulfilled.





## 8 Recommendations

The recommendations for the Castle Hill Station site are:

1. Construction work should continue without further archaeological assessment, testing or monitoring except where unexpected finds (potential relics not identified in the archaeological assessment) are uncovered.
2. The results of the archaeological assessment (primarily information from historical analysis) and test excavation program should be incorporated into the Sydney Metro Northwest historic heritage interpretation strategy.
3. If any unexpected finds are uncovered, the following procedure must be followed:
  - a) all work must stop in the immediate area and a nominated archaeologist be consulted to assess whether the find can be identified as a potential relic.
  - b) an archaeologist is to complete a preliminary assessment and recording of the find;
  - c) if the find is not considered to be a relic, then work may proceed;
  - d) if the find is a relic, then formally notify OEH by letter;
  - e) consult with OEH and TfNSW to determine the most appropriate management action based on the provisions in the relevant contractor's heritage management plan; and
  - f) implement management actions.



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## Abbreviations

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| Abbreviation   | Term  |
|----------------|---|
| £              | Pounds  |
| \$             | dollars   |
| AHD            | Australian Height Datum                               |
| AHIMS          | Aboriginal heritage information management system     |
| BOM            | Bureau of Meteorology                                 |
| BH             | borehole  |
| c              | circa   |
| cm             | Centimetres   |
| DP             | Deposited Plan  |
| DP&E           | Department of Planning and Environment                |
| DP&I           | Department of Planning and Infrastructure             |
| EMM            | EMM Consulting Pty Limited                            |
| EP&A Act       | <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> |
| GML            | Gooden Mackay Logan                                   |
| km             | kilometres  |
| LEP            | Local Environmental Plan                              |
| LGA            | Local Government Area                                 |
| m              | metres  |
| m <sup>2</sup> | metres squared  |
| MCoA           | Ministers Conditions of Approval                      |
| mm             | millimetres   |
| NSW            | New South Wales                                       |
| NWRL           | North West Rail Link                                  |
| OEH            | Office of Environment and Heritage                    |
| PAD            | Potential archaeological deposit                      |
| RMS            | Roads and Maritime Services                           |
| SHR            | State Heritage Register                               |
| t              | Tonne   |
| TfNSW          | Transport for NSW                                     |
| TP             | Test pit  |



## Glossary of Terms

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Many of these definitions use throughout this report have been taken from the *Archaeological Assessments Guidelines* (Heritage Branch 1996).

**Archaeological Potential:** a sites potential to contain archaeological relics as defined in the Heritage Act 1977. The degree of physical evidence present on an archaeological site usually assessed on the basis of physical evaluation and historical research. It refers to the surviving condition of archaeological sites). Common terms for describing archaeological potential are:

- known archaeological features/sites (high archaeological potential);
- potential archaeological features/sites (medium archaeological potential); and
- no archaeological features/sites (low archaeological potential).

**Archaeological Site:** a place that contains evidence of past human activity. Below ground archaeological sites may include building foundations, occupation deposits, features, artefacts and relics. Above ground archaeological sites may include buildings, works, or industrial structures that are intact or ruined.

**Archaeology:** the study of the human past using material evidence.

**Archaeological investigation or excavation:** the manual excavation of an archaeological site.

**Artefact:** an object produced by human activity. In historical archaeology the term usually refers to small objects contained within occupation deposits. The term may also encompass food or plant remains and ecological features (for example, pollen).

**Conservation:** all of the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance.

**Building:** a part of a building, structure or part of a structure.

**Heritage:** encompasses both Aboriginal and historic heritage including sites that predate European settlement and a shared history since European settlement such as the shared associations in pastoral landscapes as well as associated link with the mission period.

**Heritage Item:** an item defined under the *Heritage Act* 1977 and assessed as being of local, State and/or National heritage significance.

**Heritage Significance:** a term used to encompass all aspects of significance (see Cultural Significance). Defined in the *Heritage Act* 1977 (Section 4A) as being of State or Local significance in relation to historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, natural or aesthetic value of the item.

**Historical Archaeology:** in NSW historical archaeology is the study of the physical remains of the past, in association with historical documentation, since European occupation of NSW in 1788.

**Item:** a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct.

**Listing:** an item is placed on a statutory heritage list.



**Local Significance:** in relation to a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct, means significance to an area in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item.

**Place:** site, area, land, landscape, building or other work group of buildings or other works and may include components, contents, spaces and views.

**Potential Archaeological Site:** a place which may contain physical evidence of past human activity (see Archaeological Site).

**Relic:** any deposit object or material evidence that (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and (b) is of State or local heritage significance.

**Research Design:** a set of questions, which can be investigated using archaeological evidence and a methodology for addressing them. A research design is intended to ensure that archaeological investigations focus on genuine research needs. It is an important tool which ensures that when archaeological resources are destroyed by excavation, their information content can be preserved and can contribute to current and relevant knowledge.

**Research Potential:** the ability of a site or feature to yield information through archaeological investigation. The significance of archaeological sites is assessed according to their ability to contribute information to research questions.

**State Significance:** in relation to a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct, means significance to the State in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item. An item can be both of State heritage significance and local heritage significance. An item that is of local heritage significance may or may not be of State heritage significance.

## Appendix A

### Historical analysis

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## A.1 Aboriginal people

The majority of information about the social and cultural structure of Aboriginal society before contact with new settlers comes from accounts made by Europeans. These accounts and observations were made after massive social disruption due to disease and displacement. As a result, this information is often contentious, particularly in relation to language area boundaries. The discussion below is based on information obtained from early settlers and explorers in the Castle Hill area.

The dominant Aboriginal language group for the study area was the Darug (hinterland) (Attenbrow 2010 p. 34). Their territory extended from the mouth of the Hawkesbury River inland to Mount Victoria, Campbelltown and Liverpool (Tindale 1974). The surrounding landscape, including the Hawkesbury River, would have provided fresh drinking water and yielded fresh water fish, crustaceans and shellfish. Men and women fished, women hunted small animals such as lizards and snakes while men hunted the larger animals such as kangaroos (GML 2012c, Hornsby Shire Council 2013). This diet was supplemented by edible flowers and plant roots, honey, berries and fruits.

Suitable stone for manufacture of stone tools occurs across the Cumberland Plain. The closest raw material would have been the silcrete of the St Mary's formation at Plumpton Ridge, Eastern Creek and Marsden Park (GML 2012c p.13).

The Aboriginal cultural heritage issues on site have been addressed in GML 2012c.

## A.2 Historical context

The first European visitors to the district were Governor Phillip on an excursion from Parramatta which reached the area in April 1791. The area was flagged as new land for settlement and farming to sustain the Sydney colony.

The Castle Hill area was initially reserved by the colonial Government in 1801 as part of a 34,539 acre area known as the Government Grounds, shown in Figure A.1 (Carr et al 1997). This area was largely uninhabited by the new settlers but included government run model farms to test the productivity of the soil (Carr *et al* 1997). In 1811, a lunatic asylum was created in Castle Hill by Governor Macquarie, while the remaining area of the Government Grounds remained unoccupied but under the Government's control (Neil 1992 p.6). After approximately 1815, the Government Grounds were released to settlers as Crown Grants and the asylum was closed in 1826 (Carr *et al* 1997).

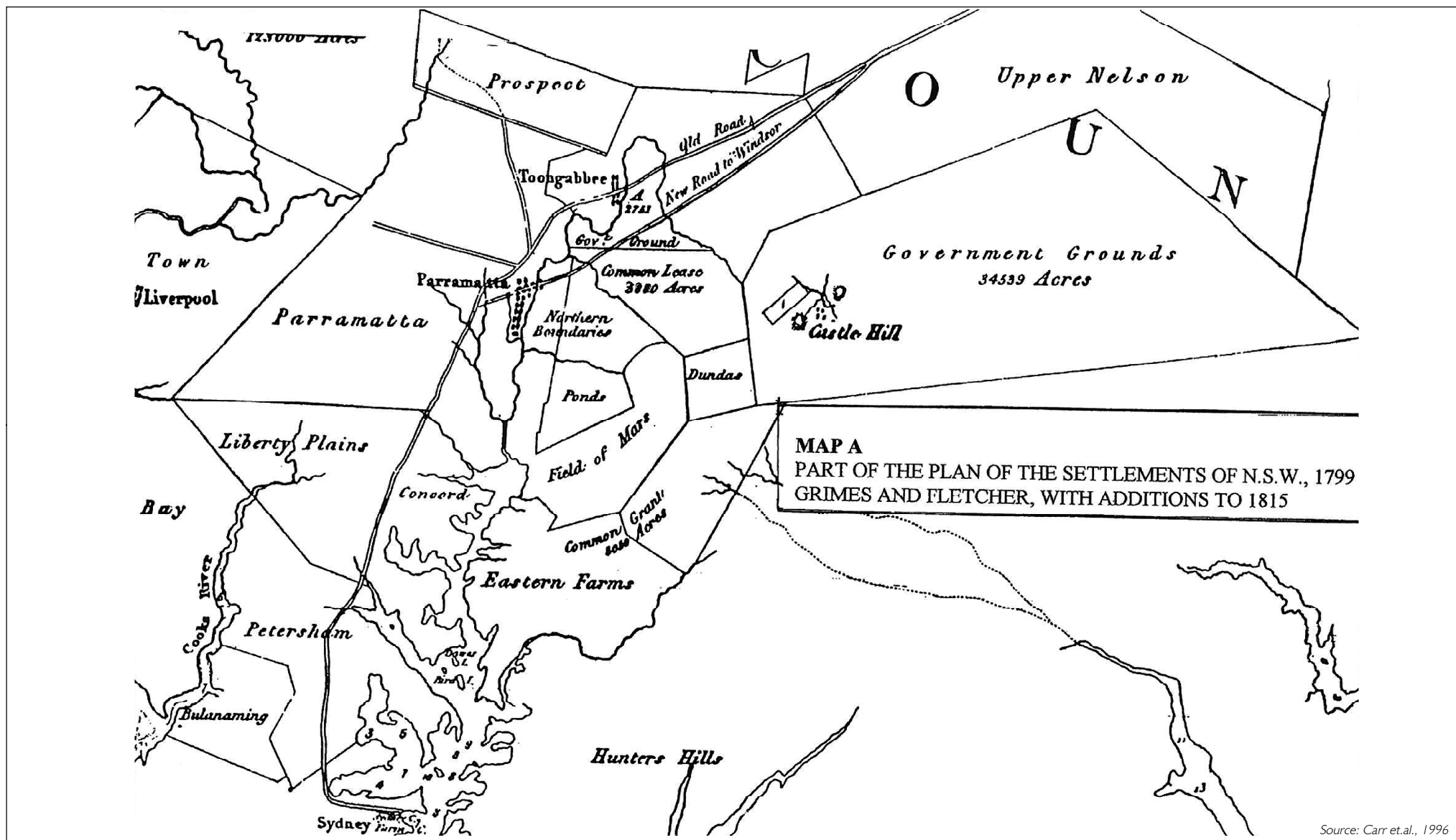
The model farms were a moderate success and the settlers who came to the area created a large agricultural district. Large land grants were given to George Suttor, the Mobbs family, Andrew McDougall and Matthew Pearce. The rich loamy soil of the area was suitable for the cultivation of fruit trees, particularly citrus, nectarines and peaches. Numerous plans, surveys and aerial photos note a number of orchards along Old Castle Hill Road, Old Northern Road (former Castle Hill Road) and the greater Castle Hill rural area to the west.

The study area and surrounds was subject to more intensive subdivisions in the late nineteenth century, which portioned off large 40–100 acre grants into smaller estates to accommodate residential housing. Early subdivisions included the *Castle Hill Township* (1889) which was part of the original 157 acre Jenner Estate and comprised parts of three grants. This was centred on the Castle Hill Township (including the study area) and consisted of 74 quarter acre house blocks closest to the main roads. Initially, areas radiating out from the town centre were generally larger in size and ranged from one to 10 acres.



Residential and business subdivisions around the town centre increased into the twentieth century. The location of Castle Hill's business area became clear when the Parramatta to Baulkham Hills tramway was extended to Castle Hill in 1910, with its terminus at the Castle Street/Cranes Lane intersection. The area around the study area became a focus for fruit growers to transport their produce to the greater Sydney Market. A railway and station was built at the town centre from 1923, and due to financial difficulties and increased vehicle traffic on the roads, the railway was closed in 1932.

The study area has remained undeveloped since the closure of the railway, and has been the site of Arthur Whitling Reserve (the former Castle Hill Park) since 1934. The broader Castle Hill area remained largely rural until the 1960's, which opened the area to further growth, and land holdings were reduced to suburban blocks common in the area today. From the 1990s, the emphasis of development has been towards medium and high density housing. The rezoning of the land closest to public transport and a major shopping centre, The Castle Towers, has seen the demolition of many houses and the erection of some apartment buildings.



Part of the plan of settlements of NSW 1799 Grimes and Fletcher with additions to 1815

**Figure A.1**      **Part of the plan of the settlements of NSW 1799 Grimes and Fletcher, with additions to 1815**

## A.3 Development of the Castle Hill study area

### A.3.1 1800–1900: Early grants to citrus orchards

From 1788 to approximately 1815 the study area was part of the Government Grounds (Figure A.1). The first land grants on the study area were a 60 acre Crown Grant to James Duff in 1818 (eastern portion of the study area) and a 40 acre grant to Stephen Hunter (the western portion of the study area). Their names are noted on parish maps for Castle Hill in 1840 and 1897 and for Pennant Hills in 1882 (Figure A.2, Figure A.3 and Figure A.4).

In 1821, James Duff was listed in the Sydney Gazette for tendering supplies of wheat (100 bushels) for the use of the Crown's stores (Sydney Gazette 1821). When the Great North Road was surveyed in 1826, it was shown to cut Stephen Hunter's and James Duff's properties into sections, leaving a triangular portion which is the study area today.

Stephen Hunter was the Constable in the Cow Pastures, tasked to protect the cattle of the Hills district (The Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser 1817). Stephen Hunter's grant was obtained by the McCarthy family in the 1850s. Martin McCarthy senior died in the estate in 1860 and the land passed to his three small children Martin McCarthy Junior, Joseph McCarthy and Amelia Ann McCarthy. Samuel Moore became guardian of the McCarthy estate until Martin McCarthy Junior turned 21 in 1882. It appears that the land was leased to three different groups while the McCarthy's lived across Old Northern Road to the south.

At the junction of Old Castle Hill Road and Old Northern Road, the land was leased to William Matchett, a storekeeper, Edwin Joseph Black, a farmer and Daniel Purdy Horwood, a blacksmith in 1879 on behalf of the Oddfellows Society for the provision of a hall for the brothers of which all three were members.

The Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows (M.U.I.O.O.F) was first established in Australia in 1839. Eight brothers that had been members of the Manchester Unity Friendly Society in England opened the M.U.I.O.O.F in Sydney (Manchester Unity 2013). The first branch was named Strangers Refuge. M.U.I.O.O.F is a friendly society which is an association in which voluntary subscription of its members provide for the relief and maintenance of members and their families in sickness and old age. A lodge was soon formed in Parramatta in the 1840s (Manchester Unity 2013). The Prince of Wales Lodge was the name of the lodge in the Windsor and Castle Hill areas.

Edwin Black while listed as a farmer was also a coach proprietor establishing a line of coaches between Galston and Parramatta (The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate 1932). He received the contract to deliver the post in 1895 and 1896 (The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate 1896). He was a keen horse breeder and was one of the founders of the Castle Hill Show (The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate 1932).

Daniel Horwood was a blacksmith and publican. He built the second of three hotels on the site of the current Bull and Bush Hotel at the junction of Windsor and Old Northern Roads in Baulkham Hills. His obituary states that he lived in the Hills district his whole life and was known as the 'Grand Old Man' of the Hills (The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate 1946). Adjacent to this parcel of land in the east the land was leased to William and Thomas Knight in approximately 1884. The rest of the land was owned and leased by a number of people including Francis Thomas Watkins (1884), George Sargent (1892) and William Thomas Armstrong (1920). William Armstrong was a member of the Oddfellows Lodge and on his death had reached the office of Noble Grand (Windsor and Richmond Gazette 1943). Sargent appears to have leased the land to Robert Miller and lived instead in Craig Gowan a mansion in Castle Hill (The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate 1906).



A small section of the land now considered to be Lot 1 DP 1129465 was then obtained by John Strang in 1921. The Strang family were well known in the area, Mrs Strang being a member of the Windsor Branch of the Country Women's Association (Windsor and Richmond Gazette 1948). By 1941 it appears that the family had moved to the larger Garthowen (The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate 1941).

The late nineteenth century saw the earliest subdivisions occur in the greater Castle Hill area. In 1889 the study area is shown to have bordered on the *Castle Hill Township* subdivision (Figure A.5) which extended from Showground Road and along Old Northern Road and Old Castle Hill Road (Watson 2010 p.49). Nearby Castle and Pennant Streets were created in this plan. The subdivision included 74 quarter acre lots with large house blocks closest to the main roads. Lots of increasing size (of one, two, three, and four acres) were situated away from the town centre. The subdivision plan shows two structures within the study area close to the fork of Old Castle Hill Road and the Old Northern Road (former Castle Hill Road). One building is labelled as Oddfellows Hall and the other is labelled as the house of William Knight.



Bemi's Castle Hill Parish Map 1840s

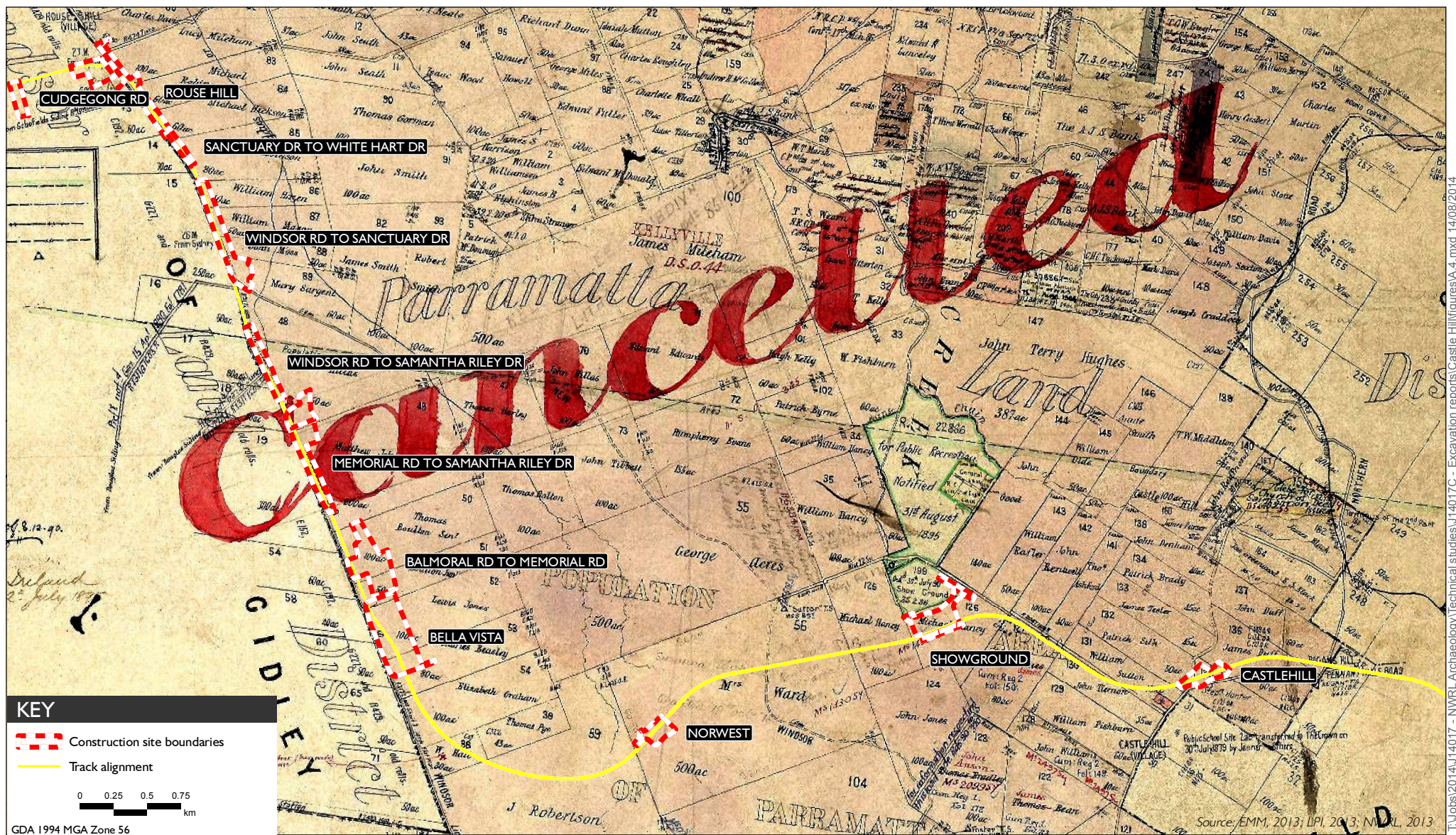
Sydney Metro Northwest

Figure A.2



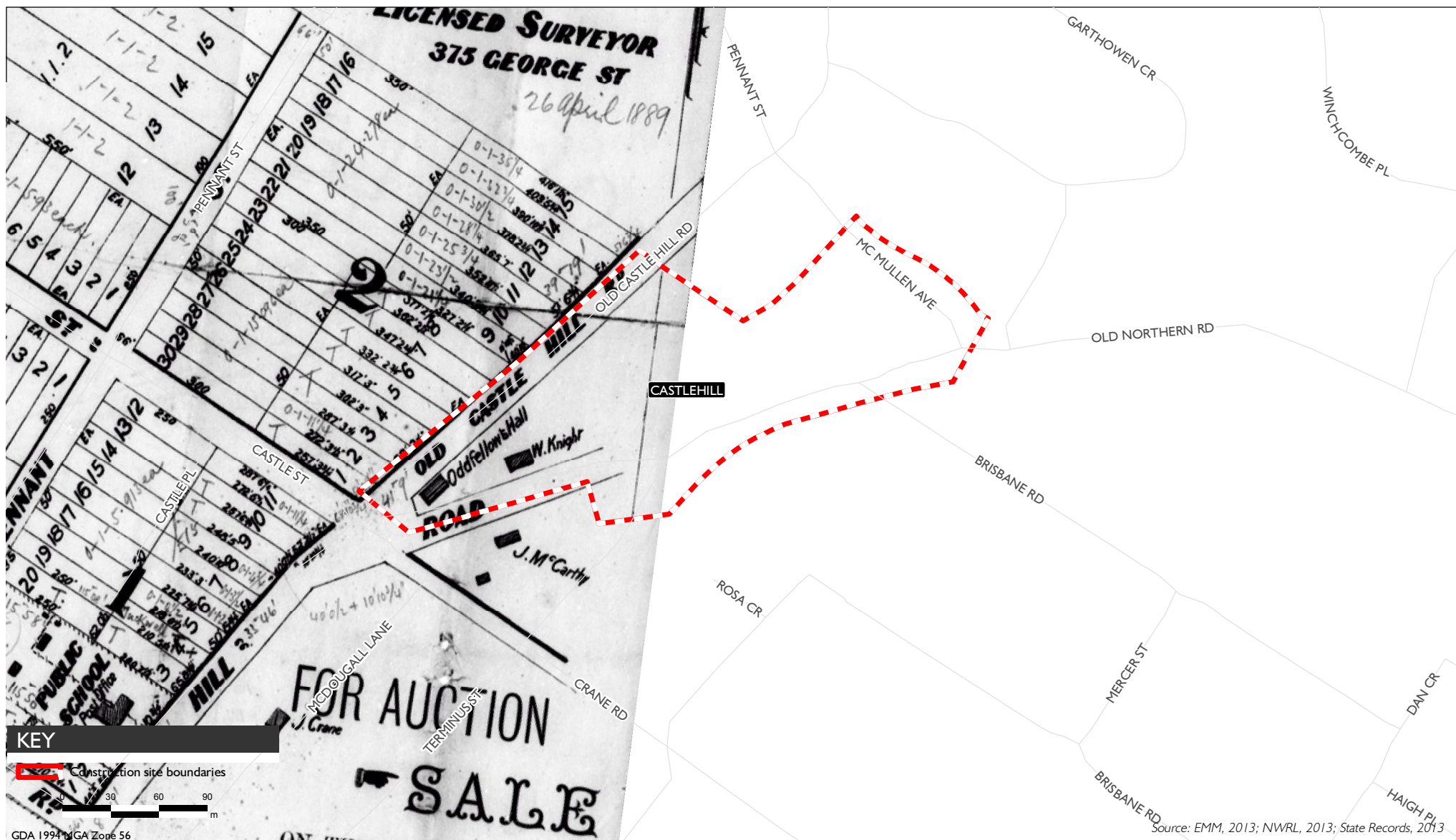






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Castle Hill Township Estate subdivision 1889

Sydney Metro Northwest

Figure A.5

Oddfellows Hall was the first public hall erected in Castle Hill. It was a weatherboard structure built for the Independent Order of Good Templars on Algernon James Medcalfe's property in 1878 (The Hills Historic Society 2013). The Hall received a considerable amount of media attention in the early 1890s for being the location of public meetings focused on the topic of The Prohibition. The Good Templars (also known as the Sons of Temperance), who hosted weekly meetings at the Hall, were renowned for practising temperance and were noted to have supported The Prohibition, much to the distaste of local publicans (*The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* 1891a, 1891b, 1891c). Oddfellows Hall was destroyed by fire in May 1894 only one night before a social was to be held at the Hall (*Evening News* 1894). The *Evening News* paper refers to the Hall being on the property of Thomas Knight who was a 'well-known fruit grower' (1894). The Hall was rebuilt in August of the same year and where it stood for a further 15 years in the study area (Photograph A.1). The Methodists purchased the hall in 1909 and moved it to the northern side of Castle Hill Public School in Old Northern Road to use as a church (the Hills Historic Society).



**Photograph A.1**      **Oddfellows Hall c.1908 (source: Watson 2010)**

The house structure shown in Figure A.5 was owned by William Knight in 1889. He was to die only three years later at the age of 72 at his Castle Hill property. (*The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* 1891c). The property was then given to Thomas William Knight as noted on the land title application for John Strang in 1921. A newspaper article dedicated to Thomas Knight's death in 1908 indicates his success as a fruit grower for over 30 years (*The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* 1908a). It makes the interesting point that Knight's oranges stayed on the trees very late and commanded the highest prices at the markets. The article also stated that the late William Knight and his son Thomas formerly resided at the 'Castle Hill hall (Oddfellows Hall), and the cottage and small orchard adjoining being their property' (*The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* 1908). Until his death, Thomas remained devoted to his business and not to public affairs or the business of his neighbours (*The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* 1908b). With his wife Jane, Thomas had seven children, who remained living in the house after Thomas' death. Thomas Knight lectured to the Mildura Horticultural society and provided advice on fruit growing and tree stock for the Castle Hill areas (*The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* 1892).

In 1897, a portion of James Duff's 1818 grant was subdivided into the Medcalfe Estate (Figure A.6). This division was bounded to the west by Old Castle Hill Road, crossing Old Northern Road to north-east to Rogans Hill. The estate was divided into 10 farms averaging 10 acres each. Lot 2 of this subdivision contained the northern half of the study area.

Subdivisions surrounding the study area occurred in the early twentieth century. This included the *Tram Terminus Estate* in 1910, which was comprised of 28 blocks averaging less than half an acre starting at the corner of Old Northern Road and Crane Road to the south-east of the study area. The *Rebecca Hill Estate* further subdivided Stephen Hunter's 40 acre grant on the eastern side of Old Northern Road (to the east of the study area). This included nine house blocks on Old Northern Road and 22 larger, deeper blocks, along Brisbane Road.

### A.3.2 Castle Hill tram and railway: 1909–1934

Castle Hill and the surrounding areas were characterised by their large rural estates that were prime locations for fruit growing. As the colony expanded in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century's, so too did the demand for produce in Parramatta and Sydney region.

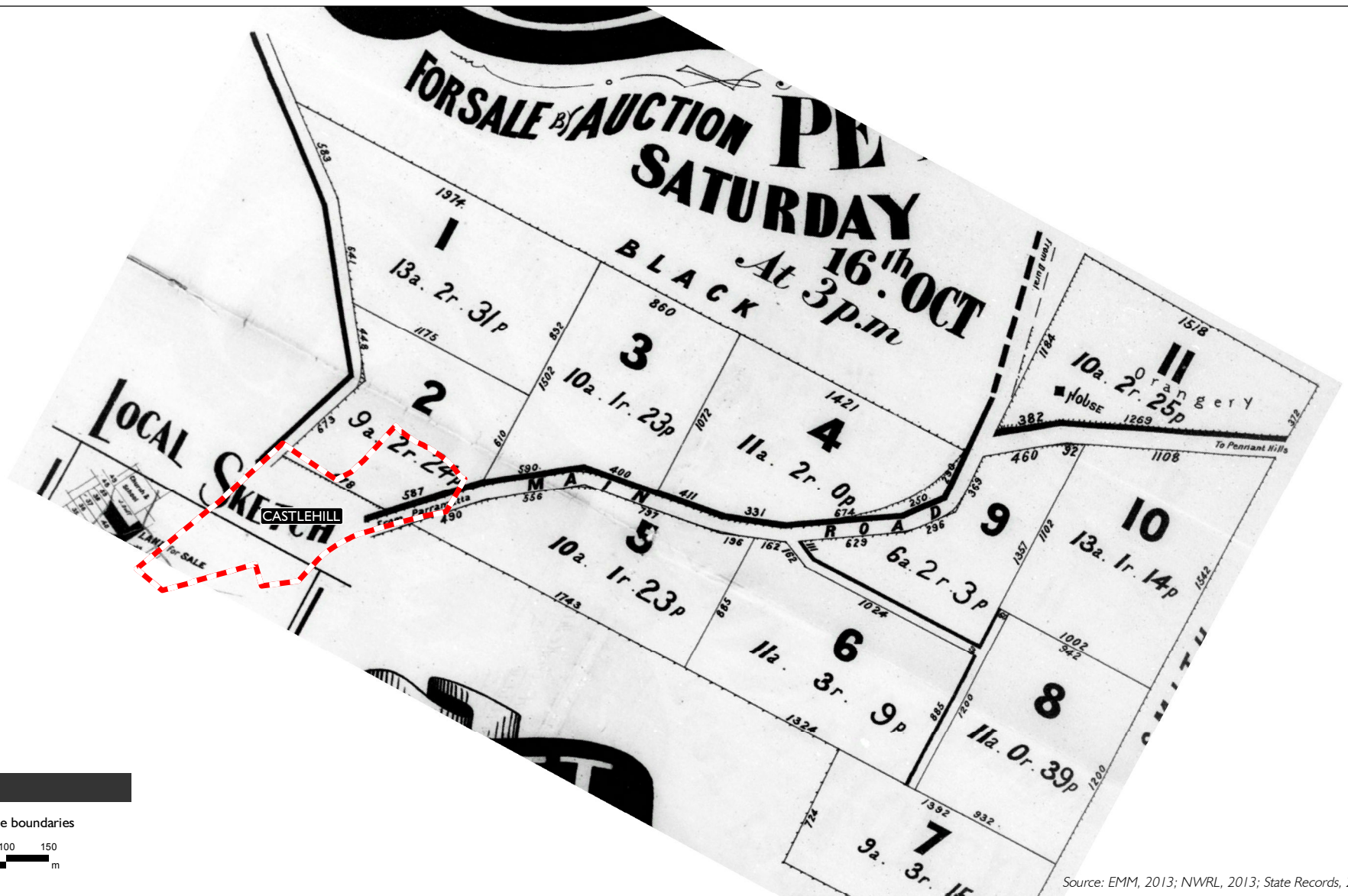
Interest in encouraging trade with the Castle Hill area was first considered in the late nineteenth century but the farmers of Castle Hill called for a more efficient means of transporting fruit to markets in Parramatta and Sydney. This was to be achieved by the extension of a steam tramway that existed from Parramatta to Baulkham Hills. A number of proposals to extend a tramway from Parramatta to Castle Hill, firstly in 1893 and then in 1897, were unsuccessful (Forsythe and Dease 1950 p.4). However, the latter proposal did result in the construction of a tramway from Parramatta to Baulkham Hills, which was completed in 1902.

It was not until 1909 that construction started for a tramway extending to Castle Hill from Baulkham Hills. The extension was commissioned by the Minister for Works, Mr. Lees, with the intention for it to carry goods as well as passengers. It was also the Minister's initial intension for the extension to be capable of carrying railway wagons too. However, the reality of the construction was less than what was anticipated; which produced only an extension fit for a steam tram locomotive (Irwin 1996 p.5).




**Photograph A.2** Laying of the tram tracks in 1909 (source: Hills District Historical Society 1990)





# KEY

 Construction site boundaries

0 50 100 150 m

GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56



Medcalfe Estate subdivision 1887

Sydney Metro Northwest

Figure A.6

From 1910 the tramway transported goods traffic in flat ballast bogie (a wheeled wagon) vehicles (Photograph A.3). The line consisted of a single track with a reversing loop at on Old Northern Road, close to the junction of Crane Road. Subdivision plans for Garthowen Estate in 1921 show the tramway as terminating at Castle Street and Cranes Lane (now Cranes Road) (Figure A.7). The length of the tramway was 2 miles 18 chains and it terminated approximately 5 m short of the Castle Street-Cranes Lane intersection (Irwin 1996) and to the south. The terminal loop was laid 3 chains clear, with a terminal stub of 150 feet (Irwin 1996). The rail loop is shown to have occurred just south of Crane Street before the terminal stub (Singleton 1955 p.77). The line was laid with 60 lb T-rail throughout fastened to hardwood sleepers with white metal used for ballast (Irwin 1996).



Photograph A.3 Steam tram at Castle Hill terminus (source: Watson 2010)

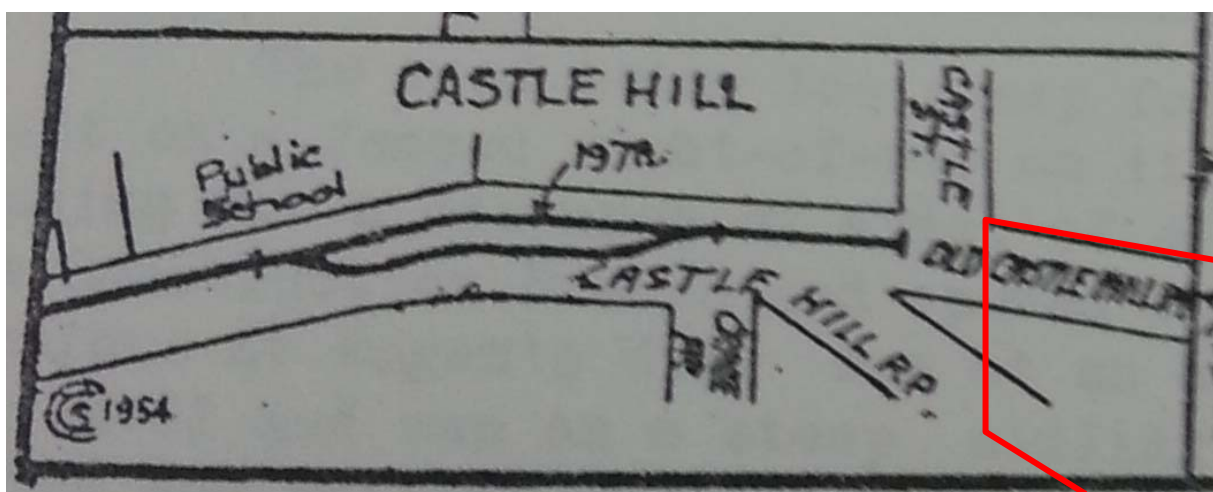
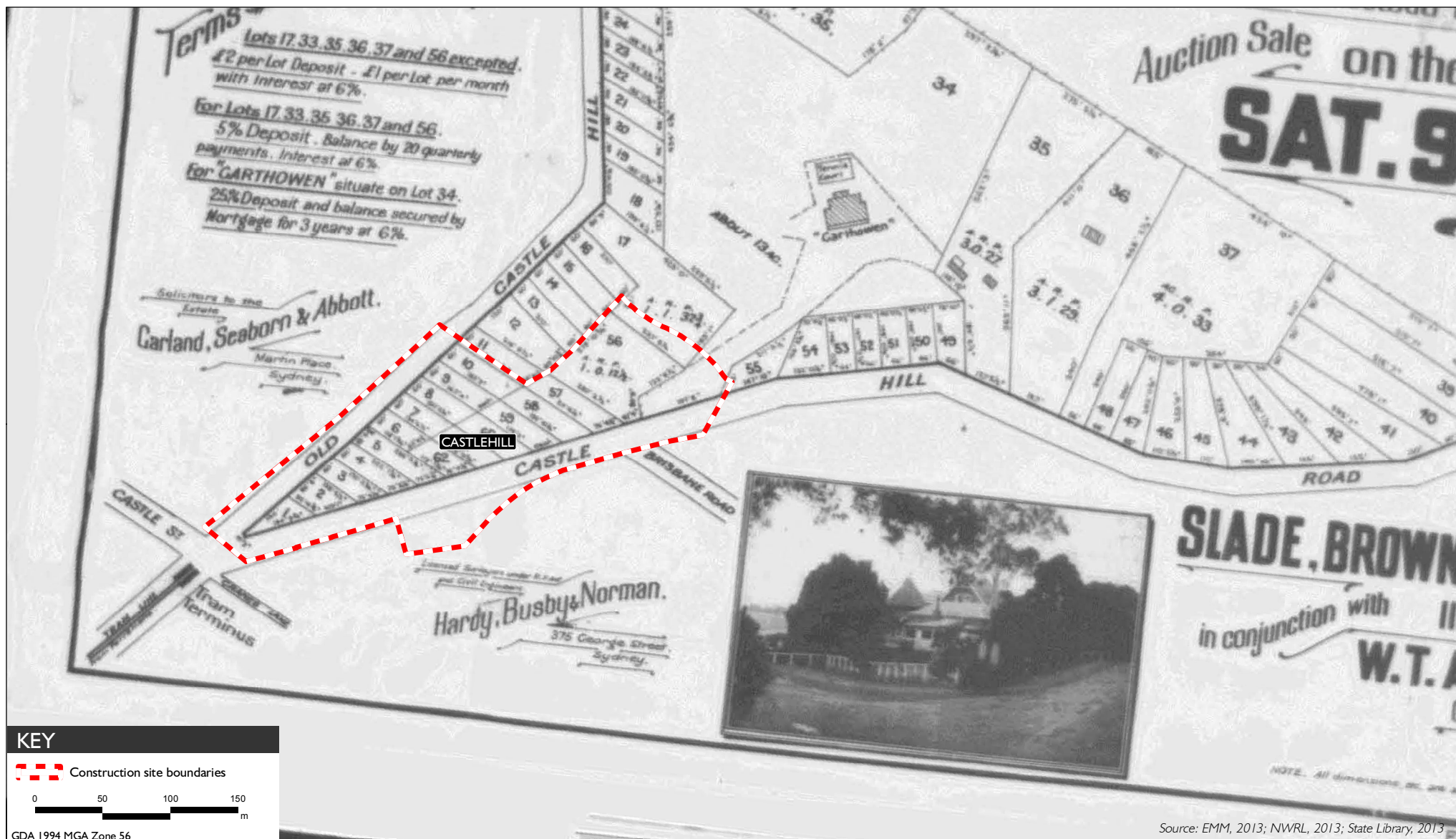


Figure A.7 Detail sketch showing the tramway terminus and rail loop. Approximate western extent of study area boundary shown in red (source: Singleton 1955)





Ten return trips were completed each week day to Castle Hill, 16 on Saturday and 12 on Sunday. The service was extended and in 1923 18 return journeys were being operated daily to and from Castle Hill (Irwin 1996 p.30). At its height in 1922 it carried over 1 million passengers (Forsythe and Dease 1950 p.6).

During the late 1910s, plans were made to change the tramway into a railway to further integrate the Sydney rail network and increase the movement of produce between Castle Hill and Sydney. Apart from the fruit growers, most locals thought it an expensive and useless modification (Irwin 1996 p.80). Singleton argues that in 1919, the Minister for Works was influenced by certain 'outside sources' and began to take a paternal interest in the proposed conversion, thereby encouraging the subdivision of local estates for residential purposes (Singleton 1955 p.76).

At this time the Kentwell family purchased land in to the north-east of the study area. They built a weatherboard cottage on the site in 1912 and Alice Kentwell lived there until her death in 1948 (The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate 1948). The Kentwell family were Methodists (Watson 2010) and possibly encouraged the sale and movement of the Oddfellows hall to the Methodist Church. The Kentwell house is visible on the 1947 aerial photograph and was present until the late 1980s. Other houses were built in adjoining lots and are visible on aerial photographs however there is little information on their owners.

In April 1921 a portion of the study area was part of the *Garthowen Estate* subdivision. The study area comprised 17 lots; including a small portion of an 18<sup>th</sup> lot (Lot 17 — Figure A.8). These lots were likely to be part of either the 'business sites (and) residential' lots advertised by the subdivision plan. The advertisement also included the 13 acre 'Garthowen' house and property to the north-east of the study area. The subdivision also had the luxury of access to city water which was advertised in the estate subdivision.

The auction on 9 April 1921 saw the NSW Department of Railways acquire a large portion of the study area for the construction of the Castle Hill Railway Station. Work to convert and extend the tramway to become the Castle Hill to Rogans Hill Railway commenced late in 1921 (Irwin 1996 p.69). The grading of the tramway had to be reduced to 1 in 25 and the whole width of the affected roads was re-graded (Irwin 1996 p.69). Removal of the Castle Hill tramway loop finished in late 1922.

By 1924, the entirety of the lots containing the railway had been acquired (Figure A.9). Within the study area, only Lots 9 and 10 (currently occupied by a business complex) and a small portion of Lot 17 remained in private ownership.

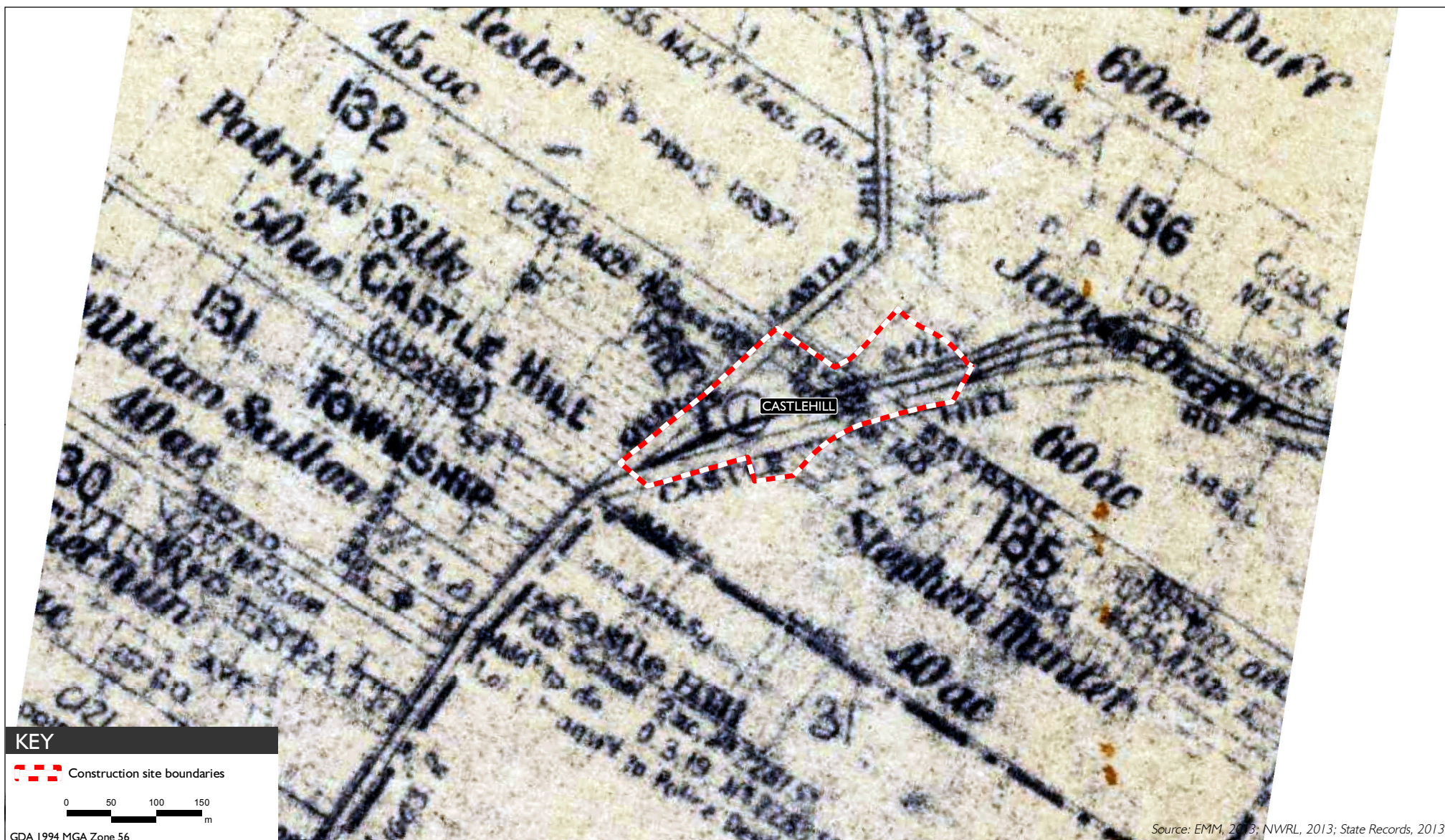
In January 1923, the Castle Hill Railway and Station was officially opened. The railway was extended to Rogan's Hill in 1924. The area of Arthur Whitling Reserve was originally the site of the Castle Hill to Rogans Hill Railway including the Castle Hill station building (Irwin 1996 p.72). The Castle Hill station was a standard platform of 70 feet in length (Forsythe and Dease 1950 p.8). A run-round loop and a goods siding to accommodate 13 trucks were also built (Forsythe and Dease 1950 p.8). The NSW Government Railway plan shows the station at the west apex of the Reserve and train tracks running through the park and along Castle Hill Road towards Rogans Hill where the train terminated (Figure A.8).

The plan also shows the main railway line, the run-round loop and dead-end goods siding within the study area. The goods siding and station area can be seen in Photograph A.4. The station platform was situated towards the fork of Old Castle Hill Road and Old Northern Road. The 1924 parish map of Castle Hill also confirms this location (Figure A.10). The subdivision plan for the Gungaroo Estate along Cecile Avenue (Figure A.11) and the Sellars Estate subdivision (Figure A.12) also show the train platform but place it much closer to the fork of Old Castle Hill Road and Old Northern Road.



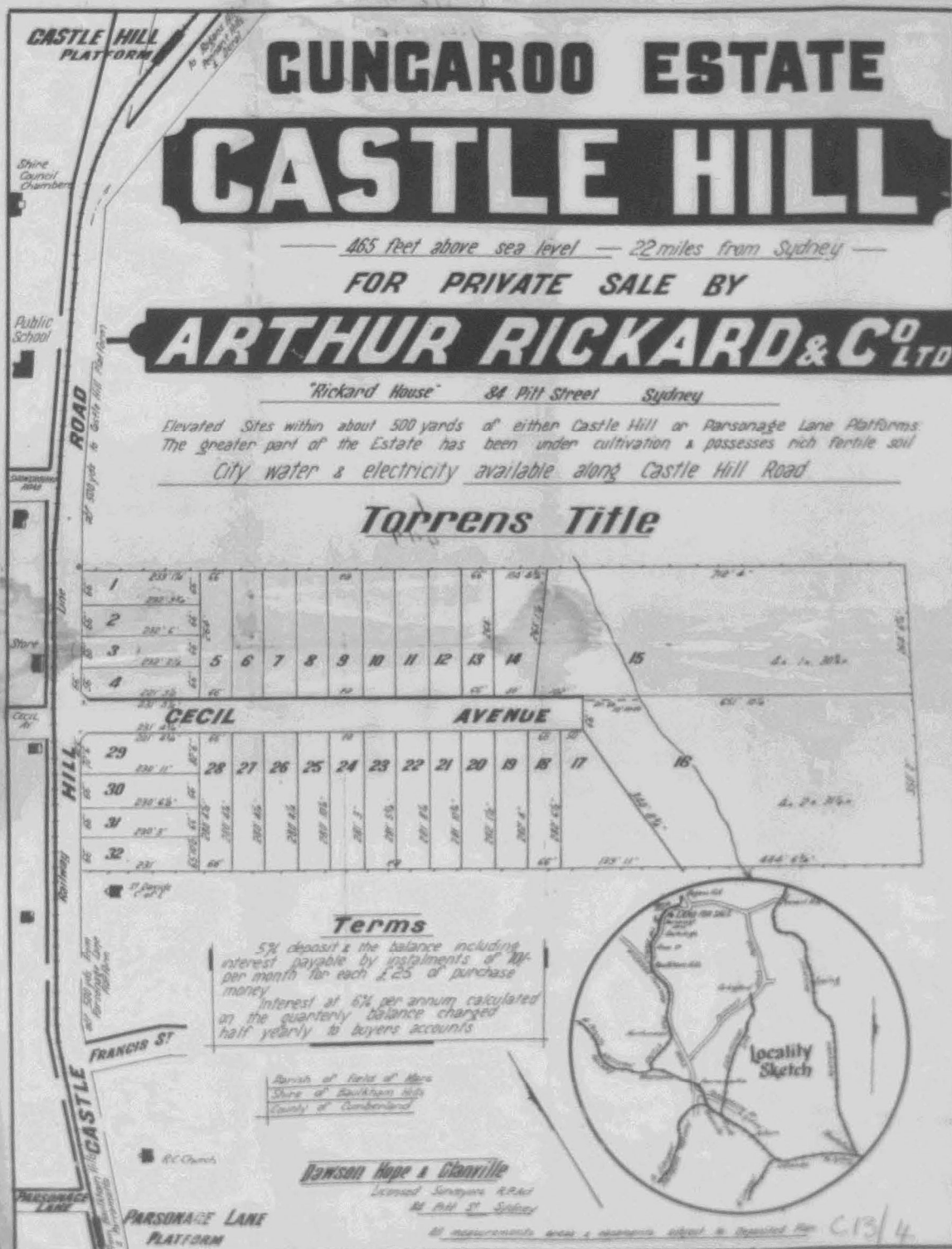






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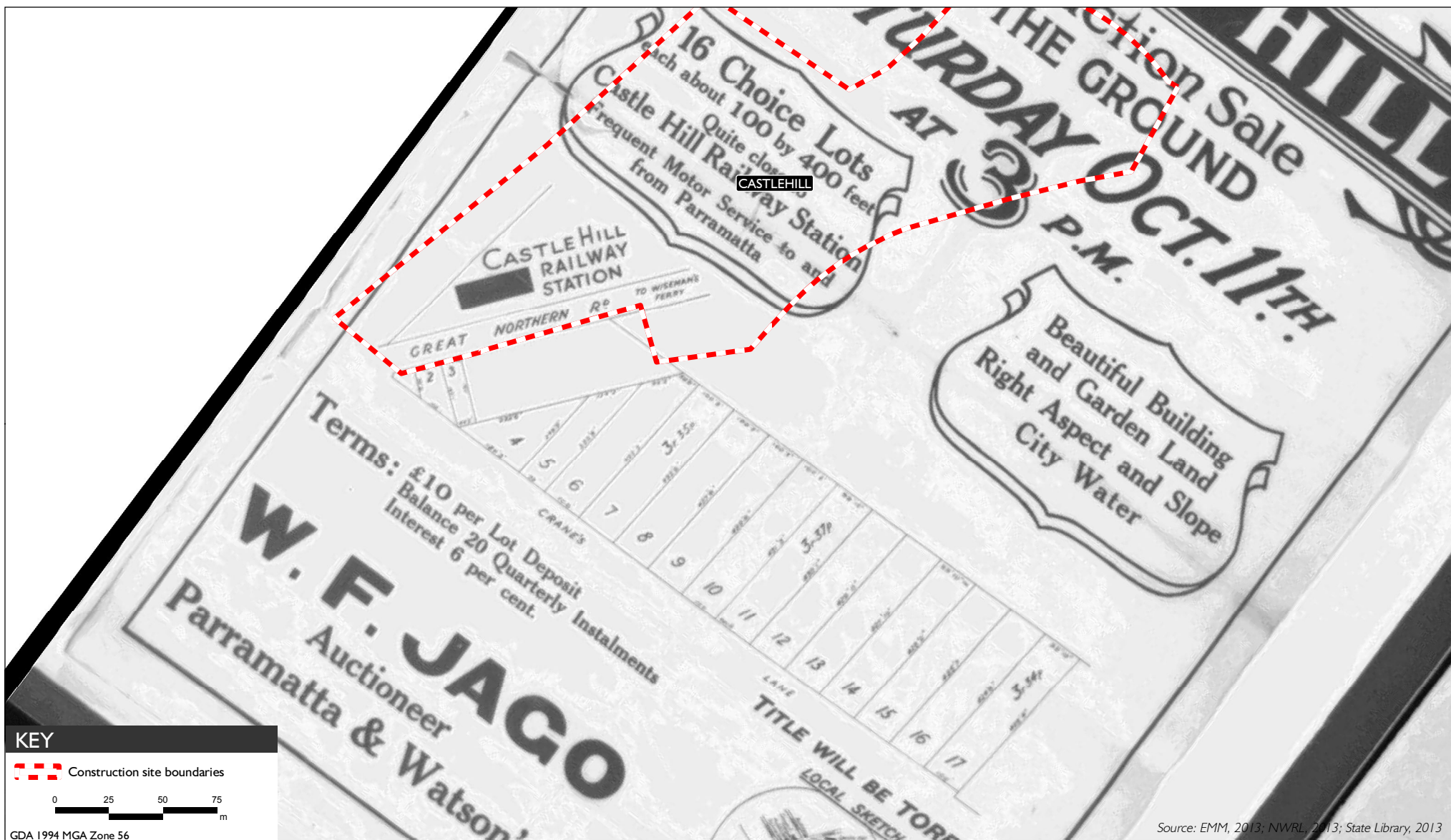
Source: EMM, 2012; State Library, 2013

Gungaroo Estate Subdivision

Sydney Metro Northwest

Figure A.11







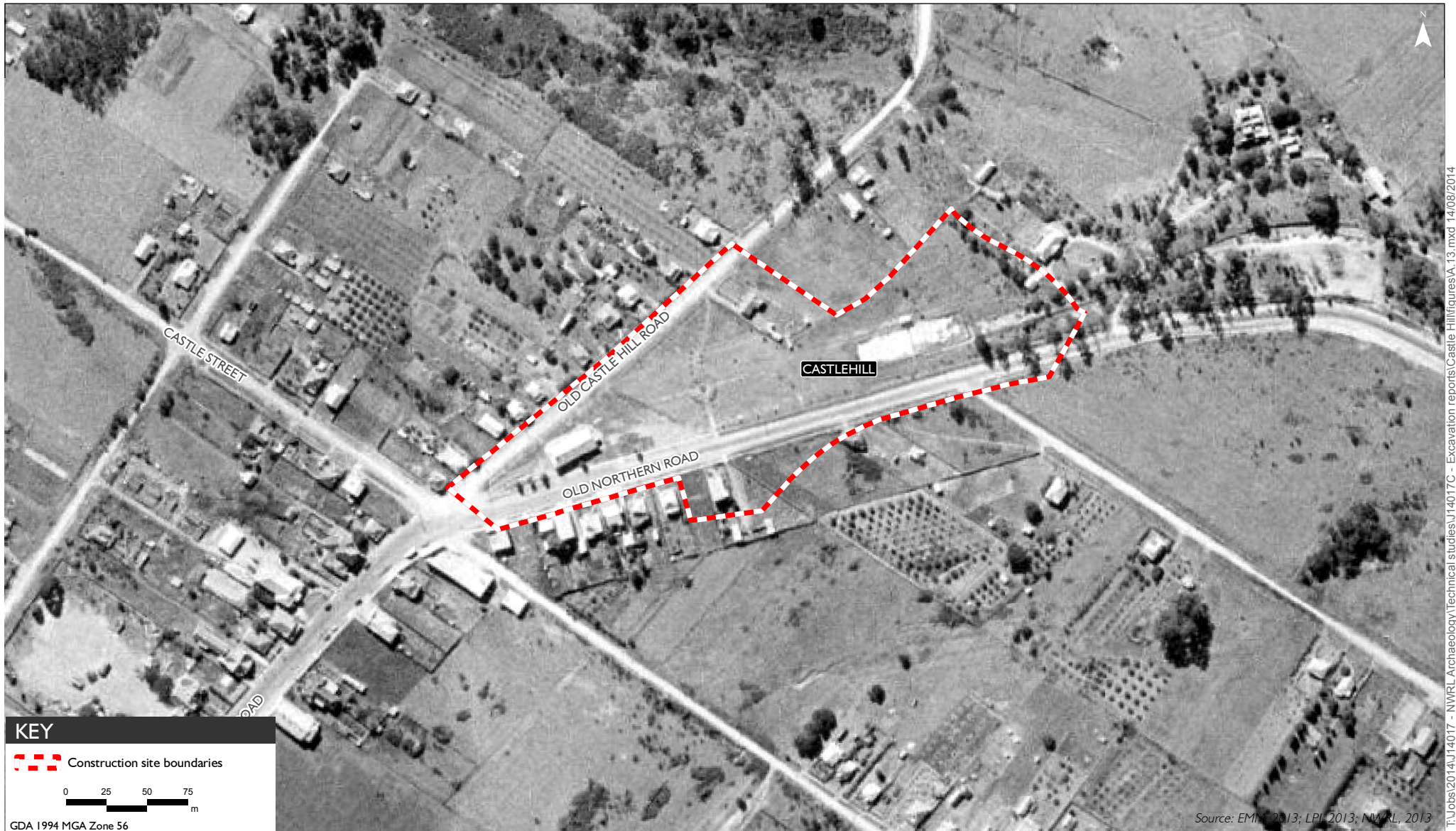
**Photograph A.4**      **Train entering Castle Hill goods yard and station area on opening day 28 January 1923 (source: Watson 2010)**

From the beginning, the conversion from tramway to railway was unpopular with most of the community. The railway lost money from its first year as fruit growers took advantage of the increase in motorised road trucks. Additionally, the timetable was inferior both to the previous tram timetable and to the comparable bus services, which were also cheaper. In 1926 the railway lost over £22,000 and only carried 64,273 passengers (Forsythe and Dease 1950 p.10). As traffic increased on Old Northern and Windsor Roads, calls to either move or close the railway were frequent (Irwin 1996 p.80). The railway was closed in 1932 and most components were removed by 1934 (Forsythe and Dease 1950 p.11).

### **A.3.3      1930s–present**

After the closure of the railway and the removal of the majority of its components, most of the study area remained unused and became Castle Hill Park. In c.1935 the Commissioner of Railways released the southern portion of the study area for the construction of the Castle Hill ANZAC Memorial Hall. Local resident Ron Smith (born 1930 and quoted in Watson 2010) recalls that prior to WWII the only structures within the park were ‘a couple of tennis courts’ — these can be seen in the 1943 aerial (Figure A.13)





The ANZAC Memorial Hall was used for many local functions, including dances and weddings (Smith 2009) (Photograph A.5). After the completion of the Hall in around 1935, it was realised that local veterans did not have a club room. The space beneath the hall's stage (being 5 ft off the ground) was excavated by hand to approximate dimensions of 12 ft wide by 30 ft long. The club house was known as the 'Dugout' and it would have involved an approximate 3 ft depth of ground excavation (Smith 2009). Entry was gained by a set of steps leading from the park. Around this time, an old army hut from the Masonic Schools was erected adjacent to the 'Dugout' to cater for the increasing club member populations.



**Photograph A.5**      **ANZAC Castle Hill Memorial Hall opening c1935 (source: Watson 2010)**

In 1954 the club was granted a liquor licence and became a legal identity known as the 'The Castle Hill RSL Sub-Branch Club'. This was Castle Hill's first RSL club. Up until this time the club was operating illegally but was tolerated by the authorities (Castle Hill RSL Club 2013). By 1974 there was some level of local distaste of the Hall's location, with parking congestion being a notable problem (Smith 2009). In 1974 the RSL moved venue to Castle Street.





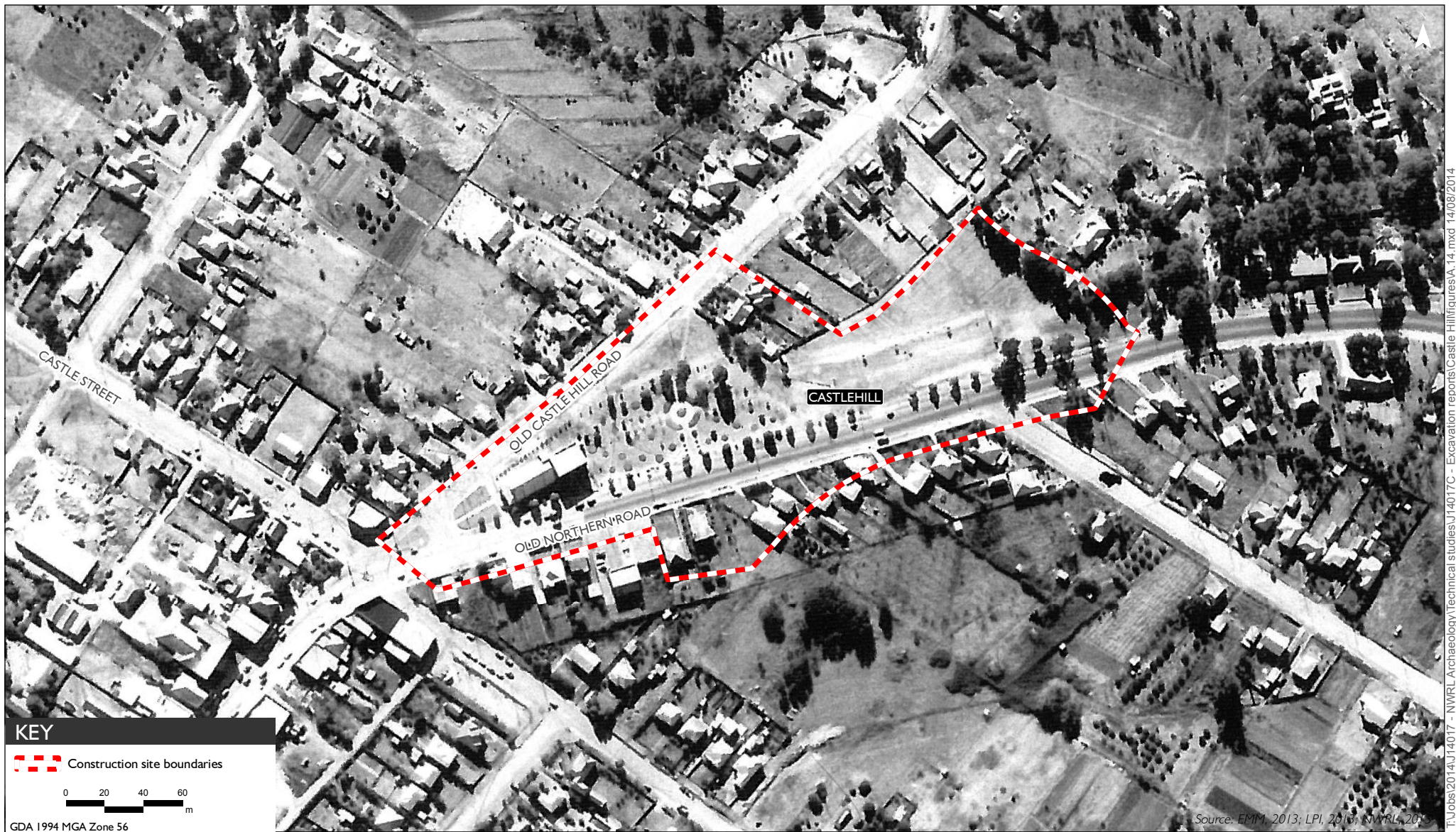
**Photograph A.6**      **ANZAC Memorial Hall in southern end of Castle Hill Park c.1960 facing east**  
(source: Watson 2010)

From 1974 the Hall was converted into the Castle Hill Community Centre. This included the Castle Hill Library and the Hills District Historical Society Museum that was located in the former Dugout. The hall was demolished in 2005 after the new Castle Hill Library and Community Centre was opened in Castle Street in 2004.

On 26 January 1989 Castle Hill Park was renamed Arthur Whitling Reserve in honour of the councillor who served The Hills Shire from 1908–1948, 19 of the 40 years in the capacity of Shire President. It was funded by contributions from Baulkham Hills Shire Council, Castle Hill RSL Club Ltd, and Commonwealth Government’s “Australia Remembers 1945-1995” initiative. An earlier memorial had been unveiled on 20 April 1969 (Watson 2010 2013).

The only record of residential housing within the study area apart from the Knight Family’s late nineteenth century cottage is that of a house, sheds and property that belonged to Herbert Mobbs. Sources cannot quantify when the Mobbs Family purchased the land or when the structures were built, however they firstly appear between 1928 and 1943 according to aerial imagery of the study area. Another house is visible in the adjacent lot in a 1956 aerial photograph. These structures were located outside Castle Hill Park, to the north of the ANZAC memorial (within the current Lot 1/DP 1129465) (Figure A.14). Some of the shed structures can be seen in a photograph taken from the southern end of Castle Hill Park c.1940 (Photograph A.7). The house and sheds have since been replaced by a modern business complex, which includes a car park basement.





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**Photograph A.7**      **Photograph of Herbert Mobbs' packing shed taken from the southern end of Castle Hill Park c1940. The Old Northern Road would be in the north-eastern corner of the image (source: Watson 2010)**

Today the majority of the study area is in the Arthur Whitling Reserve. A War Memorial (replacing a previous smaller memorial erected by the Castle Hill RSL Club) that was completed in May 2001 is located at the northern end of the reserve and features a Cenotaph and a Remembrance Pool. The reserve currently hosts remnants of the Parramatta to Castle Hill tramway in a commemorative plaque and a rail signal is on display nearby. A number of mature plantings and various other small garden beds are scattered throughout. The plaques and heritage items are currently being removed by the Hills Shire Council. The study area outside the reserve within Lot 1/DP 1129465 has undergone extensive development for a commercial office building, constructed in the early 1990s.



## Appendix A references

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- 1892, 'Mr Knight on the Subject', Saturday 17 September 1892.
- 1896, 'Postal Contracts', Saturday 29 February 1896.
- 1906, 'A Big Purchase', Saturday 20 October 1906.
- 1908a, 'Death of Thomas Knight A Pioneer Orange Grower', Wednesday 3 June 1908.
- 1908b, 'The Late Mr T Knight', Saturday 6 June 1908.
- 1932, 'Mr E.J Black Death Last week Pioneer Coach Proprietor', Thursday 21 April 1932.
- 1946, 'Daniel Horwood Dies At Age Of 96', Wednesday 31 July 1946.
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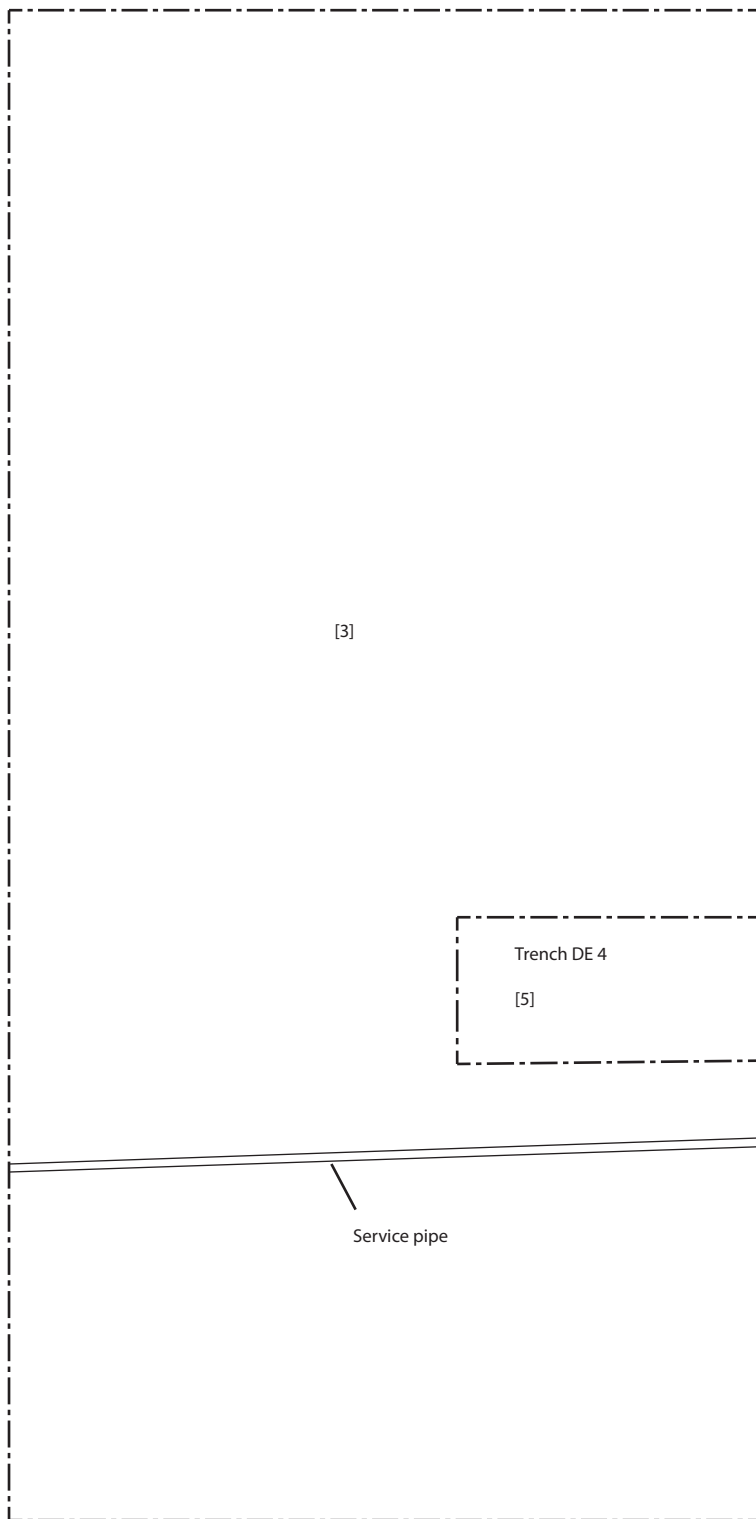


## Appendix B

### Archaeological plans

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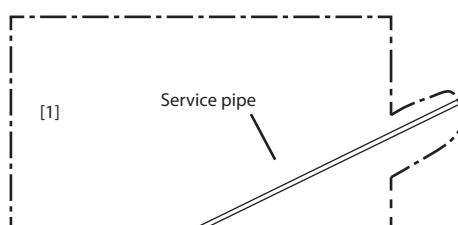
Open Area 1

Trench DE 4

[5]

Service pipe

Open Area 3



Service pipe

[1]



EMM Castle Hill Station

Plan no. 1

Scale 1:50

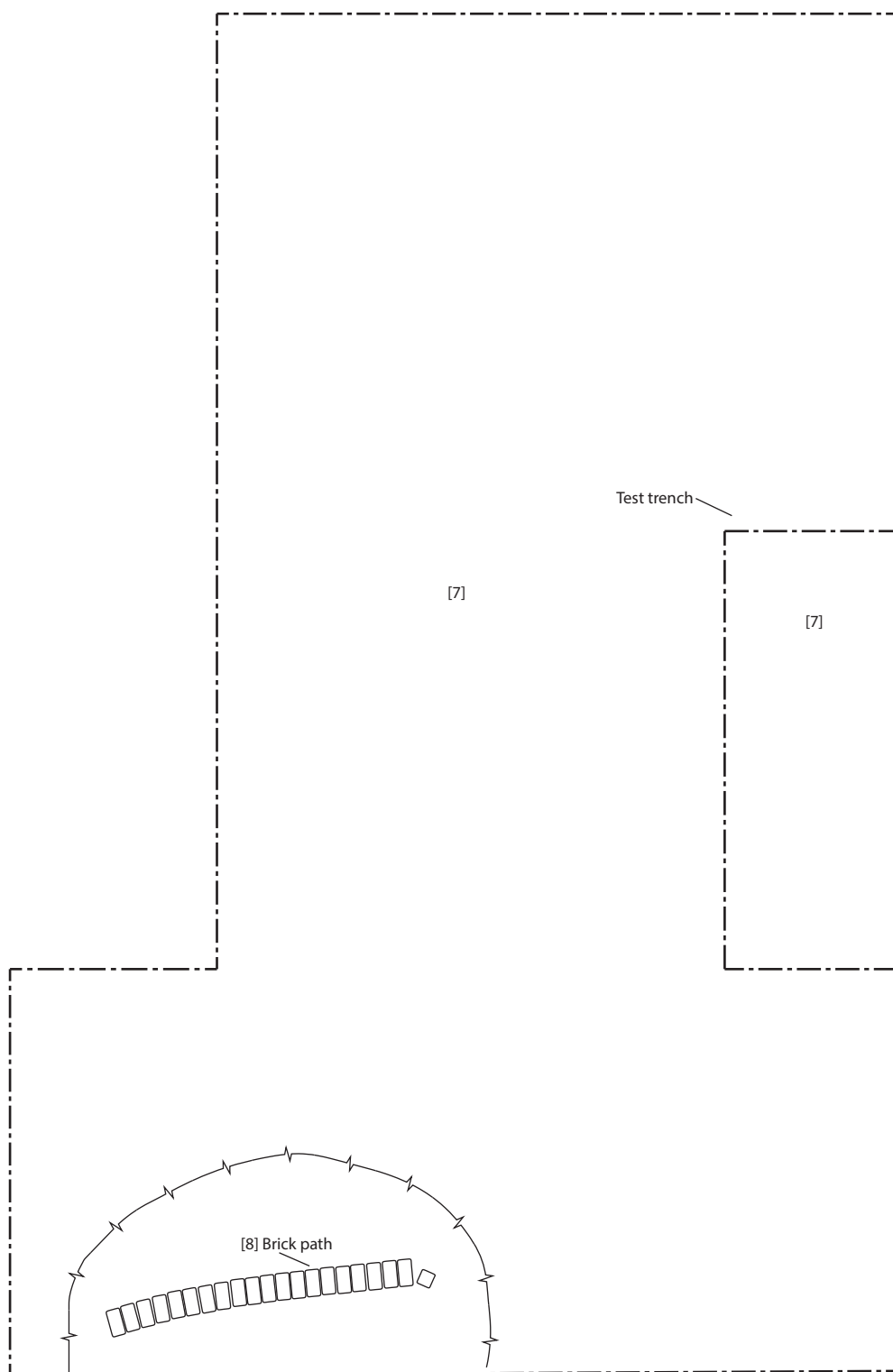
Date: 27 August 213

Open Area 1 and Open Area 3



2 m





EMM Castle Hill

Plan no. 2

Scale 1:50

Date: 27 August 2013

Open Area 2



2 m

## Appendix C

### Excavation photography

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## PHOTO CATALOGUE: Sydney Metro Northwest CASTLE HILL TEST EXCAVATION

| #        | Date       | Location | Description   | Aspect    |
|----------|------------|----------|---|-----------|
| IMG_4714 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Grassed parkland prior to excavation. Area located over former rail lines. Services precluded the location over former rail station | NW        |
| IMG_4715 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Working shot at northern end of excavation  | NE        |
| IMG_4716 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Working shot  | E         |
| IMG_4717 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Working shot  | SE at top |
| IMG_4718 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Working shot  |           |
| IMG_4719 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Working shot  |           |
| IMG_4720 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Irek Golka and Glen Sui on western side of excavation   | SE        |
| IMG_4721 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Working shot  | NW        |
| IMG_4722 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Working shot  | SE        |
| IMG_4723 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Working shot  | SE        |
| IMG_4724 | 27.08.2013 | OA2      | Pre excavation  | N         |
| IMG_4725 | 27.08.2013 | OA2      | Pre excavation context  | N         |
| IMG_4726 | 27.08.2013 | OA2      | Pre excavation context  | NW        |
| IMG_4727 | 27.08.2013 | OA2      | Pre excavation context  | W         |
| IMG_4728 | 27.08.2013 | OA2      | Pre excavation context  | SW        |
| IMG_4729 | 27.08.2013 | OA2      | Working shot – Glen Sui   | SW        |
| IMG_4730 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Working shot cleaning back to reveal ballast  | NE        |
| IMG_4731 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Working shot – Ryan Desic   | NW        |
| IMG_4732 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Ballast   | N         |
| IMG_4733 | 27.08.2013 | OA1      | Ballast   | N         |
| IMG_4734 | 27.08.2013 | OA2      | Brick row – Irek Golka planning   | NE        |
| IMG_4735 | 27.08.2013 | OA2      | Brick row   | NW        |
| IMG_4736 | 27.08.2013 | OA2      | Brick row context   | N         |
| IMG_4737 | 27.08.2013 | OA2      | Context shot – Irek Golka planning  | SE        |
| IMG_4738 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | Photo board OA1 (open area 1)   |           |
| IMG_4739 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | Context   | NW        |
| IMG_4740 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | Context   | NE        |
| IMG_4741 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | Context showing the area near the pipe with lower concentration of ballast  | NE        |
| IMG_4742 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | Context   | SW        |
| IMG_4743 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | Context   | SW        |
| IMG_4744 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | Context   | W         |
| IMG_4745 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | Context close up  | W         |
| IMG_4746 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | Photo board. Says Trench 1. Should be Area 1  |           |
| IMG_4747 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | T: DE4 pre-exc  | NW        |
| IMG_4748 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | T: DE4 pre-exc  | NW        |
| IMG_4749 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | T: DE4 pre-exc  | NE        |
| IMG_4750 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | T: DE4 pre-exc  | NE        |
| IMG_4751 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | T: DE4 pre-exc. Range poles indicate the location of the test trench where a lower concentration of ballast was seen.               | NE        |
| IMG_4752 | 28.08.2013 | OA1      | T: DE4 pre-exc. Range poles indicate the location of the test trench where a lower concentration of ballast was seen. Close up      | NE        |



## PHOTO CATALOGUE: Sydney Metro Northwest CASTLE HILL TEST EXCAVATION

|          |            |     |  |           |
|----------|------------|-----|--|-----------|
| IMG_4753 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | T: DE4 Context pre-exc. Range poles indicate the location of the test trench where a lower concentration of ballast was seen. With pegs showing outline. | EN        |
| IMG_4754 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | T: DE4 pre-exc. Range poles indicate the location of the test trench where a lower concentration of ballast was seen. With pegs showing outline.         | NE        |
| IMG_4755 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | T: DE4 View down at [3]  | NE at top |
| IMG_4756 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | T: DE4 NE section  | NE        |
| IMG_4757 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | Photo board DE 4   | NE at top |
| IMG_4758 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | T: DE4 after the removal of rail ballast [3] to reveal sandstone rubble fill [4]   | NE        |
| IMG_4759 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | T: DE4 after the removal of rail ballast [3] to reveal sandstone rubble fill [4]. Detail.  | NE        |
| IMG_4760 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | T: DE4 NE section detail.  | NE        |
| IMG_4761 | 28.08.2013 | OA3 | Photo board Open Area 3 (OA3)  | SW        |
| IMG_4762 | 28.08.2013 | OA3 | Start of Open Area 3 showing removal of topsoil [1] and copper service pipe. Excavation to the left is to trace service. Trench abandoned.               | SE        |
| IMG_4763 | 28.08.2013 | OA3 | Start of Open Area 3 showing removal of topsoil [1] and copper service pipe. Excavation to the left is to trace service. Trench abandoned.               | E         |
| IMG_4764 | 28.08.2013 | OA3 | Start of Open Area 3 showing removal of topsoil [1] and copper service pipe. Excavation to the left is to trace service. Trench abandoned.               | SE        |
| IMG_4765 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | T: DE4 removal of ballast; working shot (Irek Golga and Glen Sui).   | NW        |
| IMG_4766 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | Photo board OA1 [DE:4]   | NE        |
| IMG_4767 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | Top of [DE:4] sandstone levelling fill beneath ballast   | NE        |
| IMG_4768 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | Top of [DE:4] sandstone levelling fill beneath ballast   | NE        |
| IMG_4769 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | Top of OA1 [DE:4] sandstone levelling fill beneath ballast   | NE        |
| IMG_4770 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE:4] NE section  | NE        |
| IMG_4771 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | Top of OA1 [DE:4] sandstone levelling fill beneath ballast   | NE        |
| IMG_4772 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Open Area 2 photo board top of fill [OA2:1]  | NE        |
| IMG_4773 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] on clay base layer [7]   | NE        |
| IMG_4774 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] on clay base layer [7]   | NE        |
| IMG_4775 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] on clay base layer [7]   | NE        |
| IMG_4776 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] on clay base layer [7]   | NE        |
| IMG_4777 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] on clay base layer [7]   | NE        |
| IMG_4778 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] on clay base layer [7]   | NE        |
| IMG_4779 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] on clay base layer [7]   | W         |
| IMG_4780 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] on clay base layer [7]   | W         |
| IMG_4781 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] on clay base layer [7]   | N         |
| IMG_4782 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Pebble feature adjacent to brick feature   | NW        |
| IMG_4783 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Pebble and brick features  | NW        |

## PHOTO CATALOGUE: Sydney Metro Northwest CASTLE HILL TEST EXCAVATION

|          |            |     |   |    |
|----------|------------|-----|---|----|
| IMG_4784 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Pebble and brick features                         | NW |
| IMG_4785 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Pebble and brick features                         | NW |
| IMG_4786 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Pebble and brick features                         | NW |
| IMG_4787 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Pebble and brick features                         | NW |
| IMG_4788 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | Photo board OA1 [DE4:5]                           |    |
| IMG_4789 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] (degrading bedrock/residual soil)     | NE |
| IMG_4790 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] (degrading bedrock/residual soil)     | NE |
| IMG_4791 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] Section                               | NE |
| IMG_4792 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] (degrading bedrock/residual soil)     | NE |
| IMG_4793 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] (degrading bedrock/residual soil)     | NE |
| IMG_4794 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] (degrading bedrock/residual soil)     | NE |
| IMG_4795 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] Section                               | NE |
| IMG_4796 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] Section                               | NE |
| IMG_4797 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] Section                               | NE |
| IMG_4798 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] (degrading bedrock/residual soil)     | NE |
| IMG_4799 | 28.08.2013 | OA1 | OA1 [DE4:5] (degrading bedrock/residual soil)     | NE |
| IMG_4800 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Photo board OA2                                   | NW |
| IMG_4801 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] in [7] fill                     | NW |
| IMG_4802 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Working shot – context                            | NW |
| IMG_4803 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] in [7] fill                     | W  |
| IMG_4804 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] in [7] fill                     | NE |
| IMG_4805 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] in [7] fill                     | NE |
| IMG_4806 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] in [7] fill                     | NW |
| IMG_4807 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] in [7] fill                     | W  |
| IMG_4808 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] in [7] fill                     | W  |
| IMG_4809 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] in [7] fill (low) & section     | SW |
| IMG_4810 | 28.08.2013 | OA2 | Brick feature [8] in [7] fill (low) & section     | SW |
| IMG_4811 | 29.08.2013 | OA2 | Photo board for final shots                       |    |
| IMG_4812 | 29.08.2013 | OA2 | Open Area 2 showing brick feature and test trench | SE |
| IMG_4813 | 29.08.2013 | OA2 | SE corner of OA2 with test trench in foreground   | SE |
| IMG_4814 | 29.08.2013 | OA2 | [Brick feature [8] in [7] fills                   | SE |
| IMG_4815 | 29.08.2013 | OA2 | [Brick feature [8] in [7] fill, Section           | SE |
| IMG_4816 | 29.08.2013 | OA2 | Fill [6]  | SE |
| IMG_4817 | 29.08.2013 | OA2 | Base of fill [7] in test trench (rename)          |    |
| IMG_4818 | 29.08.2013 | OA2 | Base of fill                                      | NW |
| IMG_4819 | 29.08.2013 | OA2 | OA2 general context shot                          | N  |
| IMG_4820 | 29.08.2013 | OA2 | Base of fill [7]                                  | NW |





IMG\_4711



IMG\_4710



IMG\_4712



IMG\_4713



IMG\_4714



IMG\_4715



IMG\_4716



IMG\_4717



IMG\_4718



IMG\_4719



IMG\_4720



IMG\_4721



IMG\_4722



IMG\_4723



IMG\_4724



IMG\_4725



IMG\_4726



IMG\_4727



IMG\_4728



IMG\_4729



IMG\_4730



IMG\_4731



IMG\_4732



IMG\_4733



IMG\_4734



IMG\_4735



IMG\_4736



IMG\_4737



IMG\_4738



IMG\_4739



IMG\_4740



IMG\_4741



IMG\_4742



IMG\_4743



IMG\_4744





IMG\_4745



IMG\_4746



IMG\_4747



IMG\_4748



IMG\_4749



IMG\_4750



IMG\_4751



IMG\_4752



IMG\_4753



IMG\_4754



IMG\_4755



IMG\_4756



IMG\_4757



IMG\_4758



IMG\_4759



IMG\_4760



IMG\_4761



IMG\_4762



IMG\_4763



IMG\_4764



IMG\_4765



IMG\_4766



IMG\_4767



IMG\_4768



IMG\_4769



IMG\_4770



IMG\_4771



IMG\_4772



IMG\_4773



IMG\_4774



IMG\_4775



IMG\_4776



IMG\_4777



IMG\_4778



IMG\_4779







IMG\_4815



IMG\_4816



IMG\_4817



IMG\_4818



IMG\_4819



IMG\_4820



section

## Appendix D

### Context register

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## CONTEXT REGISTER

[illegible]



#### SYDNEY

Ground floor, Suite 01, 20 Chandos Street  
St Leonards, New South Wales, 2065  
T 02 9493 9500 F 02 9493 9599

#### NEWCASTLE

Level 5, 21 Bolton Street  
Newcastle, New South Wales, 2300  
T 02 4927 0506 F 02 4926 1312

#### BRISBANE

Level 4, Suite 01, 87 Wickham Terrace  
Spring Hill, Queensland, 4000  
T 07 3839 1800 F 07 3839 1866

