

Appendix 13

Due Diligence Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment

Timbrell Park Sportsfield Minor Works

Due Diligence Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment



Report to
City of Canada Bay

Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology

June 2025

Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Lands, Waters and Sky of Greater Sydney and pay our respect to all Elders past and present.

Timbrell Park Sportsfield Minor Works – Aboriginal archaeological impact assessment – June 2025

Document control

Project name	Timbrell Park Sportsfield Minor Works. Due Diligence Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment
Report for	City of Canada Bay
Recipient	Ron Piddock
Draft	12 June 2025
Final	17 June 2025

Report summary

The City of Canada Bay is proposing to undertake upgrade works at Timbrell Park in Five Dock that is located at the head of Iron Cove and occupies terrain that originally formed an inter-tidal zone. A large proportion of the park has thereby been created on reclaimed land within an embayment that is enclosed by a sandstone seawall. This Aboriginal heritage impact assessment of the proposal has followed the *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010). The purpose of this report is to evaluate whether the proposal is likely to impact Aboriginal objects as they are defined and are protected by the National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974 and whether approval for the works via an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) that is issued by Heritage NSW under the NPW Act is required if impacts to Aboriginal objects is found likely.

Upgrade proposal

The works comprise drainage improvements that will require elevating the height of the sports field for installation of an improved drainage and irrigation system and reproofing. Works will entail surface levelling and installing subsurface irrigation with a maximum depth of excavation to 800mm. The removal of existing and installation of new lighting in similar locations with 800mm diameter footings, socketed into sandstone bedrock at around 1900mm in depth.

Landscape context

Most of the parkland is Crown land that has been reserved for public recreation since 1944. Much of the present-day Park area was reclaimed from Iron Cove from the 1920s when the then Drummoyne Municipal Council pursued a vigorous policy of removing unsightly mangrove-covered mudflats along the Parramatta River foreshores and bays. Dredging and reclamation of the area where the park is now situated was still taking place in the 1930s. The potential of the location as a sports venue was recognised early. Timbrell Park was named in 1942.

Geology and soils

The geology of the Timbrell Park study area is mapped as disturbed ground for the Quaternary, geological and soil landscape mapping.

Archaeological context

There is one AHIMS site in the parkland (AHIMS #45-6-3322) but it will not be harmed by the proposal. The site comprises shell that is not cultural in origin but is natural shell that form part of modern reclamation fill materials that have been upcast from below ground by excavations for the creation of a bike track.

Field observations

Inspection of the works locations for the drainage improvements identified no surface Aboriginal objects (because no natural ground is exposed) and no subsurface areas of potential archaeological sensitivity were identified because the land is filled and reclaimed. The new light pole locations are each located in disturbed/landscaped contexts.

Geotechnical evaluation

Geotechnical borehole logs show an average depth of fill that is present across the site extends to a depth of around 1.6m below ground surface. Localized spots have fills to 1.3m below ground surface.

Evaluation

The majority of the proposed excavation works are shallow (800mm maximum) and will be located entirely within fill deposits that extend to depth below this level (fills are 1.2 to 1.6m in depth), and these fills have low to no potential to contain Aboriginal objects (or archaeological deposits). Localised excavation to bedrock for new light poles may impact remnant residual soils below the fills. Topsoils are not likely to be preserved and the now filled and reclaimed landscape context of the works locations does not suggest that potential buried soils are likely to contain Aboriginal objects. The subsurface works that exceed fill depths are not likely to result in harm occurring to Aboriginal objects.

Recommendations

- I There are no AHIMS sites or objects located within proximity of the proposal and there is low potential for Aboriginal objects to be present or to be harmed by the proposal.
- II There are no Aboriginal archaeological constraints to the proposal from proceeding as planned and an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) approval under the NPW Act 1974 for the proposal is not required.
- III If any Aboriginal object is discovered during future works, the activity must cease at the find location that is to be secured so as to avoid further harm. The proponent will also be required to notify the Environment Line (131555) and provide details of the find and works are not to recommence unless authorised in writing by Heritage NSW.
- IV If skeletal remains are encountered during future works, all site activity must stop immediately, and the area must be secured to prevent unauthorised access, and NSW Police and Heritage NSW must be contacted.

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Attachment A: Timbrell Park Sportsfield Minor Works

Attachment B: Aboriginal Heritage Information Management Systems (AHIMS) data

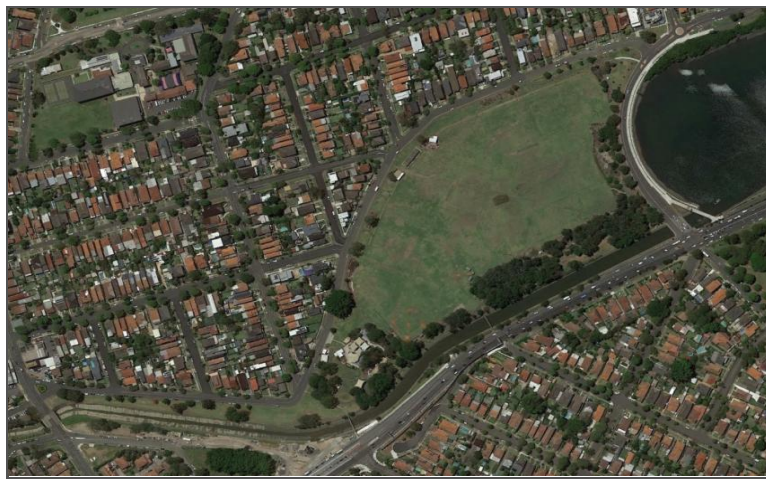
Attachment C: Due Diligence flow chart - Protection of Aboriginal objects in NSW – NPWS Act 1974

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

The City of Canada Bay is proposing to undertake drainage improvement works in an area of the playing fields at Timbrell Park in Five Dock and to replace existing sports field light poles. The parkland is located at the head of Iron Cove and occupies terrain that originally formed an inter-tidal zone that featured sandflats, mudflats, and mangroves. A large proportion of the park has thereby been created on reclaimed land within an embayment that is enclosed by a sandstone seawall.

Figure 1.1: Landscape position of Timbrell Park at the head of Iron Cove in Five Dock. Most of the parkland has been created on reclaimed land by in-filling of the tidal zone mudflats and mangroves during the c.1920s to 1940s



This Aboriginal heritage impact assessment of the proposed works has followed the *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010). The purpose of this report is to evaluate whether the proposal will or is likely to impact Aboriginal objects as they are defined and are protected by the National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974 (as amended). Based on this assessment this report also advises whether statutory approval for the proposal is required if impacts to Aboriginal objects is found likely to occur as a result of the proposed upgrade works. This approval would occur in the form of an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) that is issued by Heritage NSW under the NPW Act.

1.2 Upgrade proposal

The locations and scope of works are appended (Attachment A). Drainage improvements will require elevating the height of the sports field for installation of an improved drainage and irrigation system and reproofing. Works will entail surface levelling and installing subsurface irrigation with a maximum depth of excavation to 800mm. The removal of existing and installation of new lighting in similar locations with 800mm diameter footings, socketed into sandstone bedrock at around 1900mm in depth.

Figure 1.2: Timbrell Park Draft Masterplan (City of Canada Bay 2025)



1.3 Statutory heritage context and controls

1.3.1 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

Legal protections are provided to Aboriginal heritage under the National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act). The Aboriginal heritage provisions of the NPW Act are currently administered by Heritage NSW, Department of Premier & Cabinet. The NPW Act gives statutory protection to Aboriginal 'objects' under Section 90, and to 'Aboriginal Places' under Section 84 of the NPW Act. It is an offence under the NPW Act to cause 'harm' to Aboriginal objects, which includes destroying, defacing, damaging and moving them. There are penalties for knowingly and unknowingly harming Aboriginal objects under section (s86(1) & (2)) of the NPW Act and also defences for unknowing harm. These include having undertaken a process of Due Diligence which concluded that a proposed activity would not result in harm to Aboriginal objects, and exceptions for a range of minor activities on land defined as disturbed.

Activities that will harm Aboriginal objects require an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under s90 of the NPW Act. AHIP application can only be submitted to HNSW after development consent has been granted. The application must be accompanied by an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) which must be prepared following current Requirements.

1.4 Assessment method and report objectives

1.4.1 Due diligence method

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

- NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water. (DECCW September 2010). Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales.

The *Due Diligence Code of Practice* (DECCW 2010) is an Aboriginal heritage impact assessment method that encourages a precautionary approach for assessing activities that may harm Aboriginal objects by *‘taking reasonable and practical measures to determine whether your actions will harm an Aboriginal object and, if so, what measures can be taken to avoid that harm’* (ibid:4). The processes aim to identify whether or not Aboriginal objects are present or likely to be present in an area and whether the proposed activity in the area is or is likely to cause harm to Aboriginal objects. If this is the case, approval for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) from Heritage NSW under s.90 of the NPW Act is required.

The steps in the due diligence processes are as follows:

1. *Step 1 - Determining if the activity will disturb the ground surface or any culturally modified trees*
2. *Step 2a - Database search of Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) and other sources to identify if there are previously recorded Aboriginal objects or places in a study area*
3. *Step 2b - Landscape assessment through identification of landscape features including, land within 200 metres of water, dune systems, ridge tops, headlands, land immediately above or below cliff faces and/or rock shelters/caves*
4. *Step 3 - Impact avoidance assessment*
5. *Step 4 - Desktop assessment & visual inspection to identify if Aboriginal objects present (and if AHIP required)*
6. *Step 5 – Further investigation and assessment*

The Code specifies that if the initial assessment identifies Aboriginal objects will or are likely to be harmed by a proposed activity, then further investigation and impact assessment is required. Where an AHIP is sought from HNSW, it will require the completion of a full program of Aboriginal community consultation (that follows the OEH (2010) *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* to prepare a comprehensive Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) to support the AHIP.

2.2 Soil landscapes

The study area is located on ‘soils’ classed as disturbed terrain (‘xx’ in the geological maps) that refers to in this instance to land that was reclaimed in the 1920s and 1930’s by Drummoyne Council to create space suitable for sportsgrounds and general-purpose recreational space (see Birch et al 2009; Drummoyne Council 1994; Master Builders' Federation of Australia 1952). These soils are described after Chapman and Murphy 1989: 150-151):

‘xx1: Loose black sandy loam. This is black loamy sand to loam-fine-sandy with loose apedal single grained structure and sandy fabric. It is used for topsoiling turf and often corresponds to the lowland Nepean River alluvium or Elderslie soil series of Walker (1960). Local sands have also been used for topdressing. This material occurs as topsoil (A1 horizon). The material is brittle when dry and crumbly when moist. The colour ranges from a dark brown to black (10YR 3/3-10YR 2/1) or brown (10YR 4/6). It is often water repellent and a surface crust may be present. The pH ranges from moderately acid (pH 5.0) to neutral (pH 7.5). Roots are common to abundant when turfed and ironstone nodules are occasionally present.

xx2: Compacted mottled clay. This is a mottled, compacted sandy clay loam to medium clay with an apedal massive to moderately pedal structure. It generally has been compacted to form an impermeable isolating cap over potentially hazardous buried materials. Peds when present are often platy and smooth-faced. Colour is highly variable and mottles are common. The pH is also variable, ranging from extremely acid (pH 3.5) to slightly alkaline (pH 8.0). Platy or concretionary ironstones are occasionally present and roots are absent.

xx3: Variable transported fill. This material is commonly referred to as fill and may consist of any type of soil or regolith material. It often includes demolition rubble and industrial and household wastes. Colour, texture, structure, fabric, degree of compaction, porosity and pH vary markedly.

xx4: Dark dredged muds and sands. This material consists of dark dredged sands, sandy loams to silty clay loams and sandy clays with apedal single-grained to massive structure and sandy fabric. This material occurs as subsoil. Colour varies from black (10YR 2/1) to a yellowish-brown (2.5Y 5/2). Charcoal, shells or shell fragments are commonly present. This material swells, is highly saline and neutral (pH 7.0) to moderately alkaline (pH 9.0) when first dredged, but with drainage and oxidation the salinity levels drop and acidity may increase dramatically.’

Prior to reclamation the area would have been a combination of alluvial, estuarine and beach deposits. The Park is surrounded by three natural soil landscapes, disturbed to varying degrees by urbanisation. These are the Blacktown (residual soil), Gymea (residual soil but on an eroding landscape) and Birrong Soil (alluvial) Landscapes. All three soil landscapes were potential sources of sediment into the study area in the form of eroded soils for the Blacktown and Gymea Soil Landscapes and alluvial sediments from the Birrong Soil Landscape.

2.3 Landscape context

Most of the parkland is Crown land that has been reserved for public recreation since 1944. Much of the present-day Park area was reclaimed from Iron Cove from the 1920s when the then *Drummoyne Municipal Council* pursued ‘a vigorous policy of removing unsightly mangrove-covered mudflats along the Parramatta River foreshores and bays’. Council’s 1996 Plan of Management (1996:2) records:

Timbrell Park was named in 1942 after a former alderman of Drummoyne Council. Dredging and reclamation of the area where the park is now situated was still taking place in the 1930s. Its potential as a sports venue was recognised about this time. History records that in 1938 the Hon. Secretary of the Balmain and District Cricket Association made a request to Council to “provide a temporary wicket until such time as the filling of the swamp area is completed”. The request was agreed to and two wickets were provided for the 1938/39 season.

Figure 2.3: Reclamation works at Timbrell Park 1941 (Source: State Library of NSW 2019)



Figure 2.4: The final stages of reclamation of Iron Cove and creation of Timbrell Park – draining and filling behind the sandstone seawall at the head of the bay – in 1942 (Six Maps 2019)



3.0 Aboriginal heritage context

3.1 Archaeological heritage sites in the City of Canada Bay

An *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study and Management Plan* for the City of Canada Bay was prepared for Council in 2006 (Gondwana Consulting Pty Ltd 2006). At the time, nineteen (19) Aboriginal archaeological sites were recorded within the City of Canada Bay LGA. These comprise open shell middens similar to AHIMS Site #45-6-1955 (that are the most predominant type in the local landscape), rock shelters with midden/occupation deposit, some artefact recordings (flaked stone items associated with midden materials), painted art in rock shelters, one rock engraving, and one burial. All of these sites occur along, or are located within, approximately 80 metres of the foreshores of either the harbour itself or are on the margins of Parramatta River.

The records for these sites vary in their both their age (when they were first reported) and in their reliability. Two (2) of these are now over 40 years old, and a further five (5) were originally compiled over 25 years ago. The remaining sites were recorded during the 1980s and early 1990s. A number of these sites have incorrect and/or inaccurate location coordinates (given the records were made pre GIS with topographic maps), and the conditions at a number of sites has also changed considerably in a number of cases over time because of ongoing urban development.

Since the 2006 Aboriginal heritage management plan, one new site recording has been accessioned onto the OEH AHIMS database (AHIMS Site #45-6-2843 - Canada Bay Midden - Shelter with Midden), and one possible scarred tree has been brought to Council's attention.

3.2 Previous assessments of Timbrell Park

Timbrell Park was subject to an archaeological and cultural heritage survey by Aecom Australia and the MLALC in 2015 as part of the WestConnex M4 East project. It was predicted (Aecom Australia 2015:35) prior to the walkover that Aboriginal shell midden sites would most likely occur in tidal estuarine foreshore zones. This was defined as within 10 metres of high water level, and it was concluded to be unlikely that cultural materials would survive in the study area because of the gross disturbance of those areas where they once may have occurred as a result of waterway channelization, land reclamation and urban development. The inspection of Timbrell Park that was completed in partnership with the MLALC for this study found 'no Aboriginal archaeological sites or areas of PAD (Aecom Australia 2015: Table 7-1: p.40).

3.3 AHIMS

Searches of AHIMS (Client Service ID: 1013540, 16 June 2025) show one AHIMS recording within Timbrell Park (AHIMS ID 45-6-3322). The site card is appended and described below.

Figure 3.1: AHIMS map for Timbrell Park



3.4 AHIMS ID 45-6-3322

This site recording is for shell materials that are in the southeast of the parkland. These shells are believed to be natural rather than cultural in origin and to derive from reclamation fills that occur below current surfaces that appear to have been exposed and upcast by excavations in recent times. The appended site card describes the site comprising several dense clusters of shell exposed from past earthworks for ramps and approaches associated with bike tracks within the planted and landscaped area illustrated below.

Figure 3.1: Image to the left shows shell materials recorded as AHIMS #45-6-3322 (majority Sydney cockle – no bones or stone artefacts apparent) exposed around earthworks (ramps and bridges) associated with a bike track located within this planted and landscaped zone. The image to the right shows the newly created landscape zone in 2000. The shell materials may have been disturbed in situ by the construction of the bike track or brought in as fill



3.5 Investigation of AHIMS ID 45-6-3322

A low-impact archaeological investigation of AHIMS #45-6-3322 was undertaken in 2021 according to the terms and conditions of an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP #4685) issued for the site by Heritage NSW under s.90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. The investigations sought to establish with scientific certainty whether or not the shells at AHIMS #45-6-3322 were Aboriginal midden materials or represented fill deposits. This was achieved via hand-auger soil sampling of sediments making up the stratigraphic profile and by having the sediments analysed for soil chemistry properties (heavy metals).

Six sediment samples were submitted for laboratory analysis. All samples indicated high levels of contaminants including Lead, Zinc, Copper, Nickel and Arsenic and the soil chemistry which is very mixed indicated a variety of sources including dredged estuarine deposits (likely source of shells in sediment matrix) and industrial waste. These deposits do not represent in situ soils with Aboriginal cultural shell midden materials but are modern non-archaeological sediments with natural shell materials with no Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity.

The results of stratigraphic recording and chemical analysis at AHIMS #45-6-3322 demonstrated the shell deposits are not cultural in origin but are natural shells that form part of modern and contaminated reclamation fill materials that have been upcast from below ground by excavations undertaken for the creation of a bike track in the southeast corner of the park.

On the basis of the background geoarchaeological information, the results of fieldwork, and findings from laboratory analyses of sediment samples taken from AHIMS #45-6-3322 it was recommended that the shells recorded at AHIMS #45-6-3322 are not Aboriginal in origin and *City of Canada Bay* should seek from Heritage NSW to have the site de-registered from the AHIMS sites register.

4.0 Aboriginal heritage impact assessment

4.1 Field observations

Inspection of the works locations for the drainage improvements identified no surface Aboriginal objects (because no natural ground is exposed) and no subsurface areas of potential archaeological sensitivity were identified because the land is filled and reclaimed. The new light pole locations are each located in disturbed/landscaped contexts.

4.2 Geotechnical evaluation

City of Canada Bay have had a Detailed Site Investigation of Timbrell Park undertaken to inform the current sports field upgrades and this has included a geotechnical study. The geotechnical borehole logs show an average depth of fill that is present across the site extends to a depth of around 1.6m below ground surface. Localized spots have fills to 1.3m below ground surface.

4.3 Due diligence

Step 1. Will the activity disturb the ground surface?

The works proposed will require excavation to a depth of about 800mm for the drainage improvements and this depth of excavation will be entirely in fill. The light poles (800mm) will extend to bedrock and are located in a heavily modified landscape and disturbed ground contexts.

The proposal will disturb top-dressed reclaimed land (fill) through excavation for the drainage works and the installation of the light pole footings may extend to depths below reclamation fill and into natural estuarine deposits below but with minimal likelihood to harm Aboriginal cultural materials. It is not expected that the proposal will result in the exposure of any in situ soil profiles with the potential to contain Aboriginal objects.

Step 2a. Search the AHIMS database and use any other sources of information of which you are already aware

There are Aboriginal archaeological sites listed on AHIMS around the margins of Iron Cove, but excluding AHIMS #45-6-3322, all these heritage sites are located outside of the Park and well-away from the proposed amenities upgrade study area. AHIMS #45-6-3322 will not be affected by the proposal.

Step 2b. Activities in areas where landscape features indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects

Iron Cove and the embayment at its head (now reclaimed as Timbrell Park) was likely to have been frequently used by Aboriginal people in the past. However, the original bay and creek have been filled and turfed for recreational surfaces.

Step 3. Can you avoid harm to the object or disturbance of the landscape feature?

No Aboriginal sites or areas of surface or subsurface potential archaeological sensitivity will be impacted by the proposed works.

Step 4: Desktop assessment and visual inspection

The proposal will affect reclamation fills and disturbed ground and it is not expected that the activities will result in the exposure of Aboriginal objects or archaeological deposits.

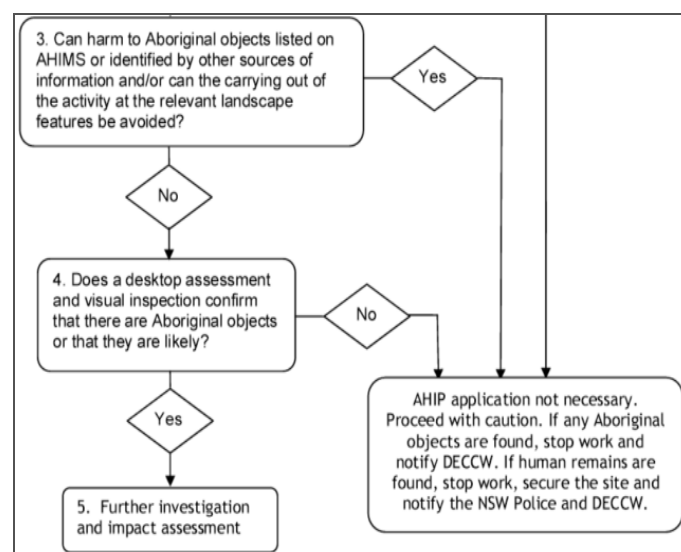
Step 5. Further investigations and impact assessment

There are no Aboriginal heritage restraints apparent at Timbrell Park study area. The site does not require further investigations and impact assessment prior to the commencement of works.

4.4 Evaluation

The majority of the proposed excavation works are shallow (800mm maximum) and will be located entirely within fill deposits that extend to depth below this level (fills are 1.2 to 1.6m in depth), and these fills have low to no potential to contain Aboriginal objects (or archaeological deposits). Localised excavation to bedrock for new light poles may impact remnant residual soils below the fills. Original topsoils are not likely to be preserved and the now filled and reclaimed landscape context of the works locations does not suggest that potential buried soils are likely to contain Aboriginal objects. These subsurface works that exceed fill depths are not likely to result in harm occurring to Aboriginal objects.

Figure 4.1: This Aboriginal heritage assessment has arrived at 'Step 5' of the due diligence process – whereby it is evaluated that an AHIP application is not necessary.



5.0 Recommendations

5.1 Basis for recommendations

The following recommendations are based on the archaeological heritage assessment results detailed in this report and recognition of the statutory protection provided to Aboriginal ‘objects’ under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (as amended).

5.2 Recommendations

- I There are no AHIMS sites or objects located within proximity of the proposal and there is low potential for Aboriginal objects to be present or to be harmed by the proposal.
- II There are no Aboriginal archaeological constraints to the proposal from proceeding as planned and we recommend that an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) approval under the NPW Act 1974 for the proposal is not required.
- III If any Aboriginal object is discovered during future works, the activity must cease at the find location that is to be secured so as to avoid further harm. The proponent will also be required to notify the Environment Line (131555) and provide details of the find and works are not to recommence at the location unless authorised in writing by Heritage NSW.
- IV If skeletal remains are encountered during future works, all site activity must stop immediately, and the area must be secured to prevent unauthorised access, and NSW Police and Heritage NSW must be contacted.

6.0 References

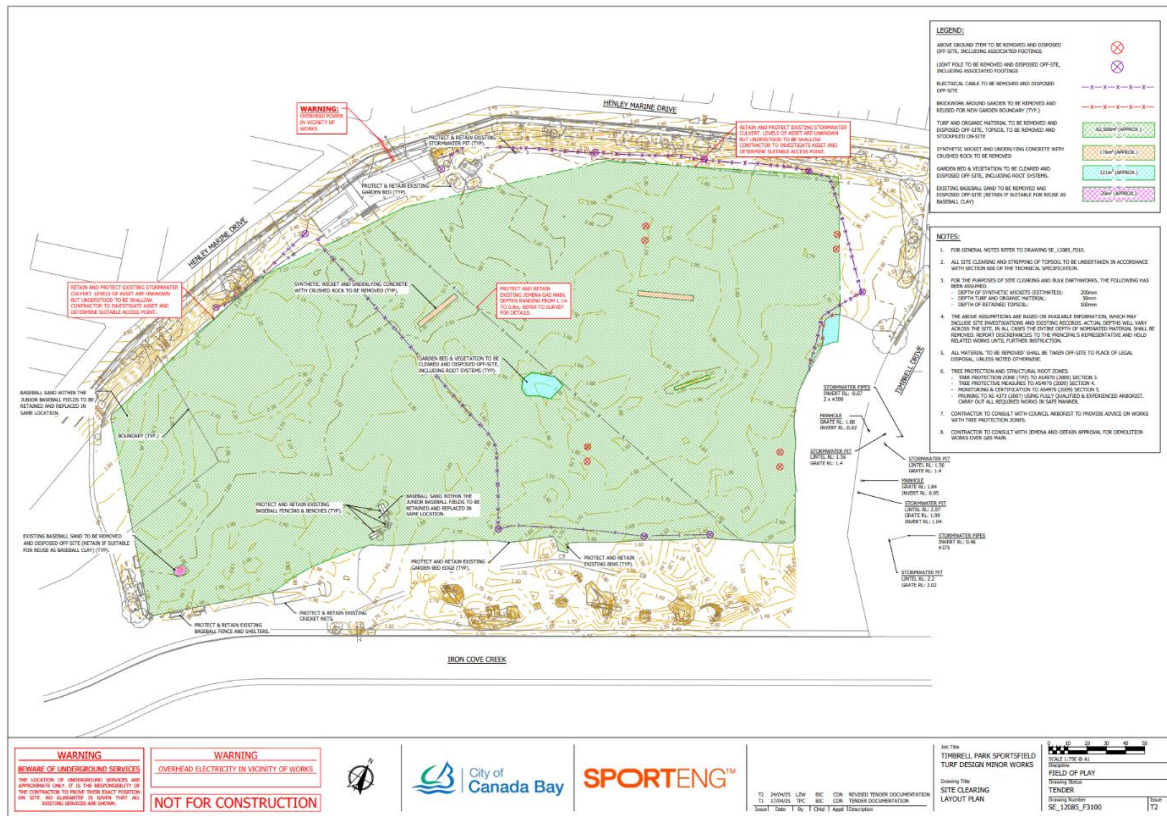
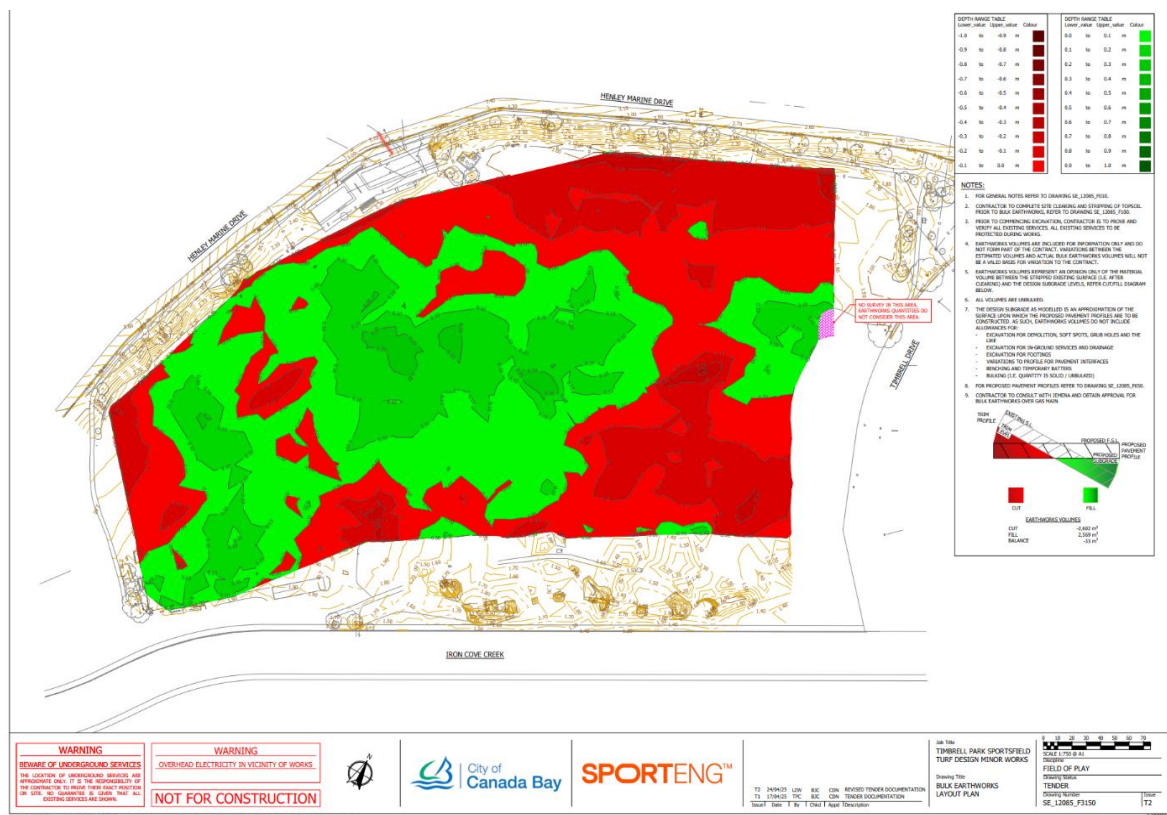
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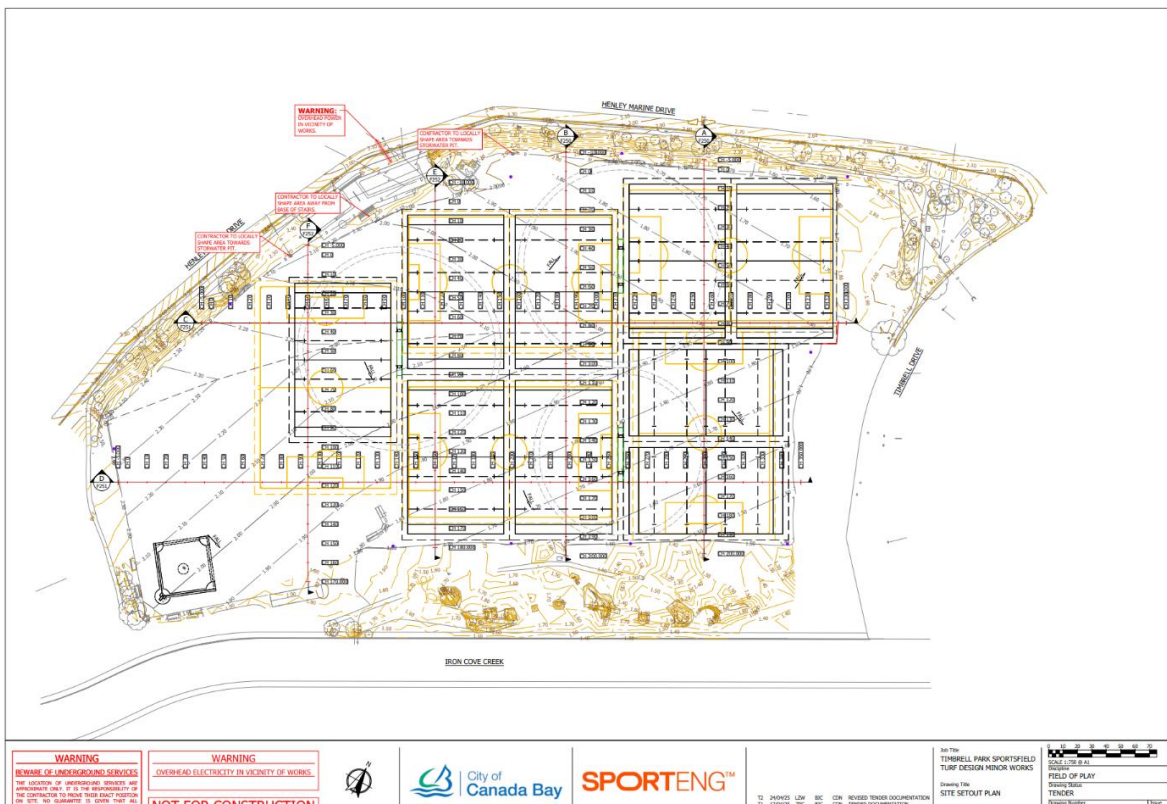
Attachment A:

Timbrell Park Sportsfield Minor Works

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Timbrell Park Sportsfield Minor Works – Aboriginal archaeological impact assessment – June 2025

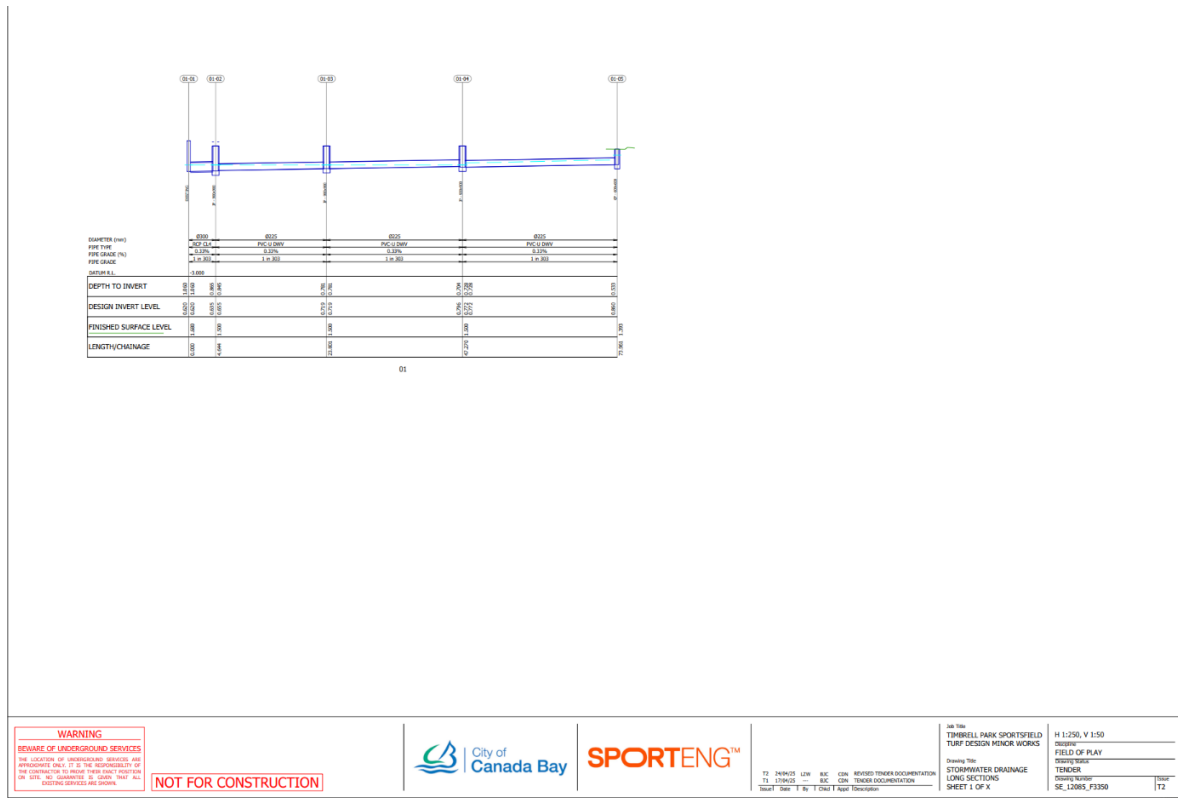
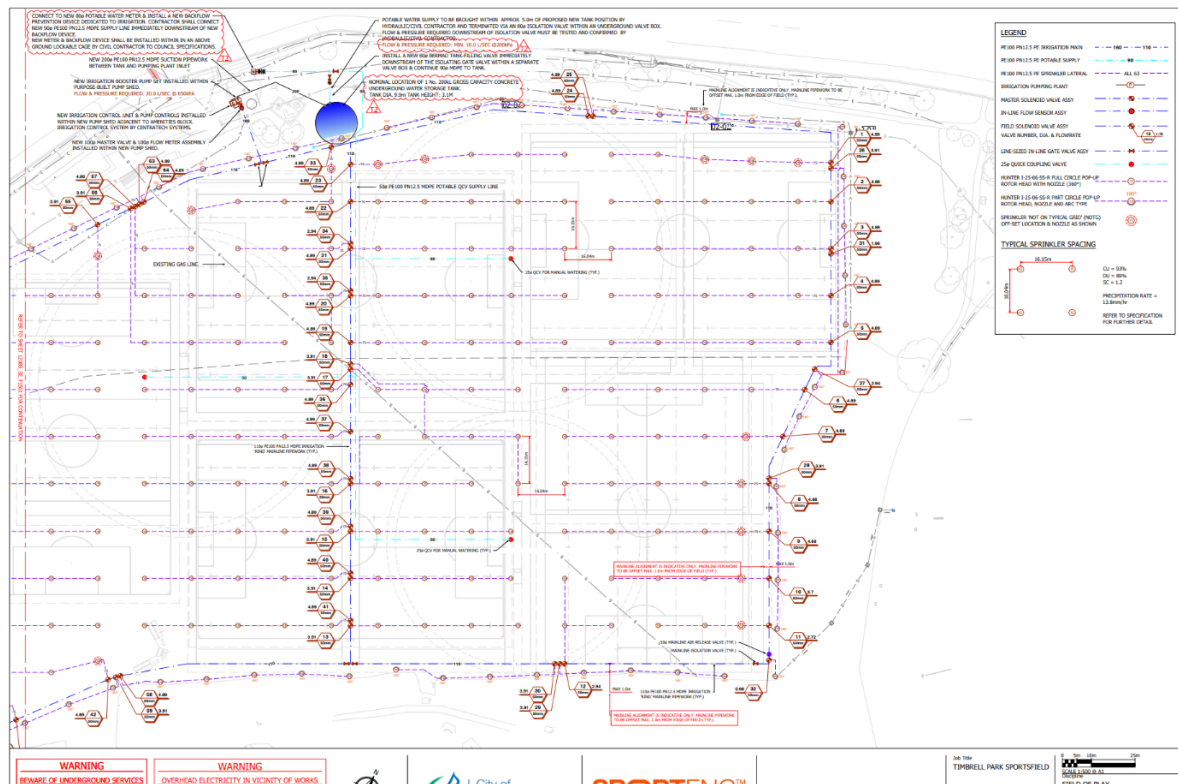


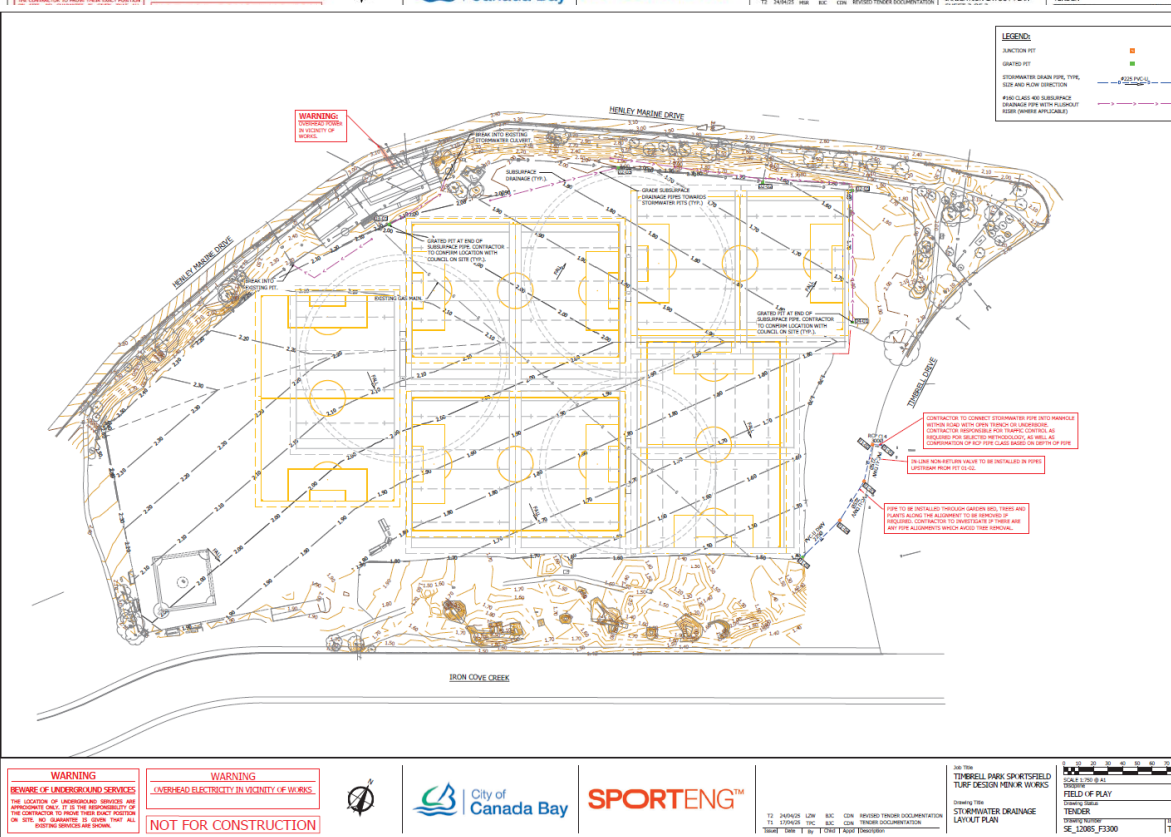
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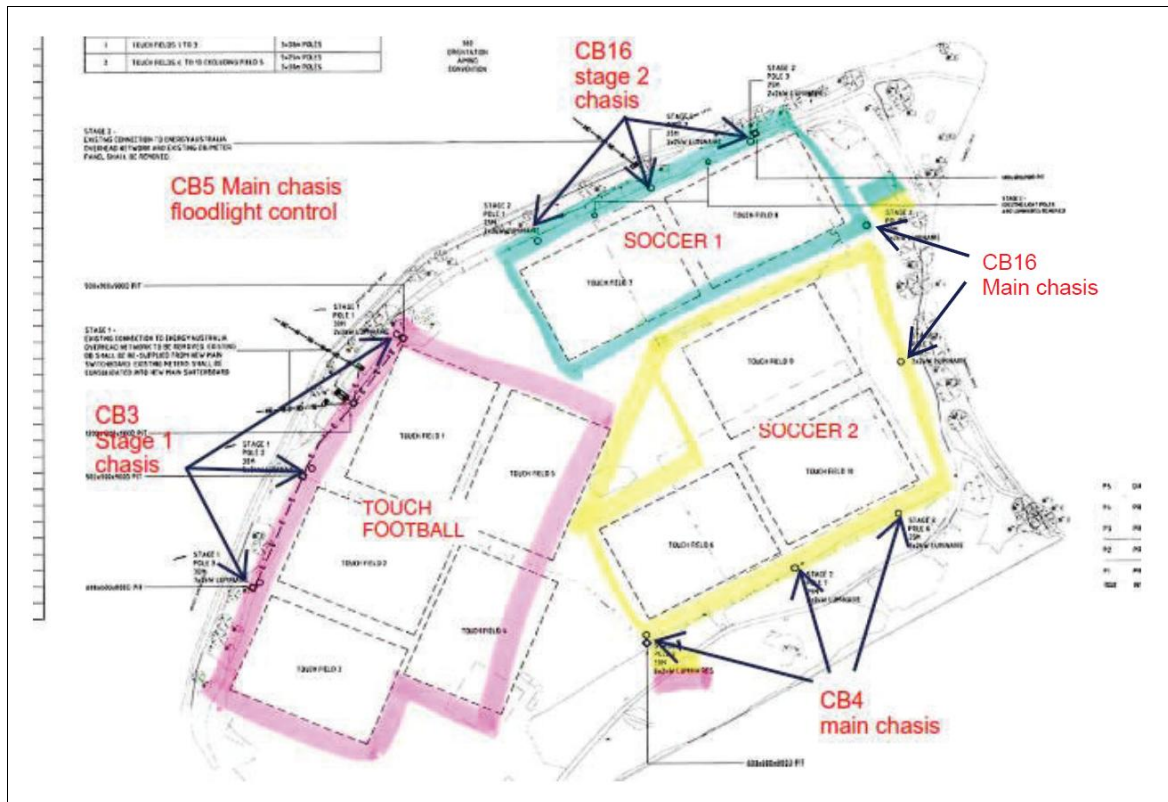
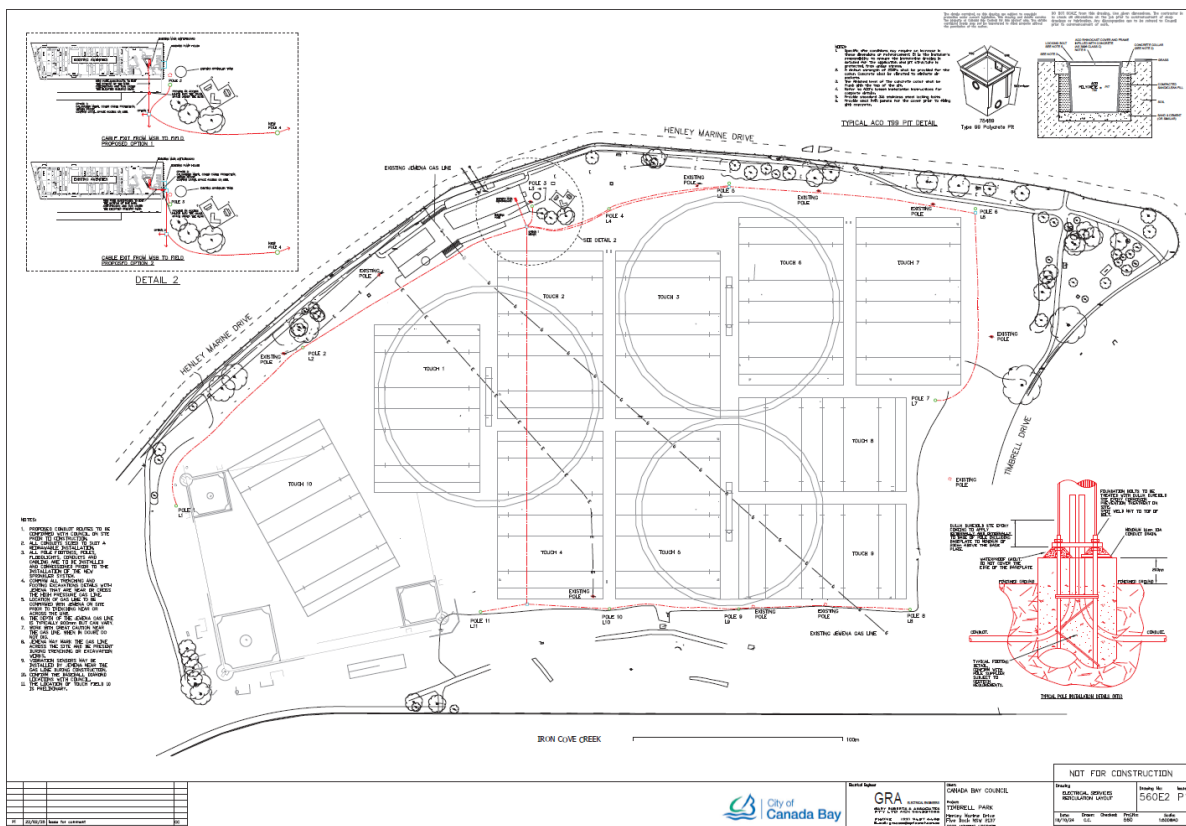
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Timbrell Park Sportsfield Minor Works – Aboriginal archaeological impact assessment – June 2025





Timbrell Park Sportsfield Minor Works – Aboriginal archaeological impact assessment – June 2025



Attachment B:

Aboriginal Heritage Information Management Systems (AHIMS) data



AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Your Ref/PO Number : 1

Client Service ID : 1014540

Eric Claxton

31 King Street
Concord West New South Wales 2138

Attention: Eric Claxton

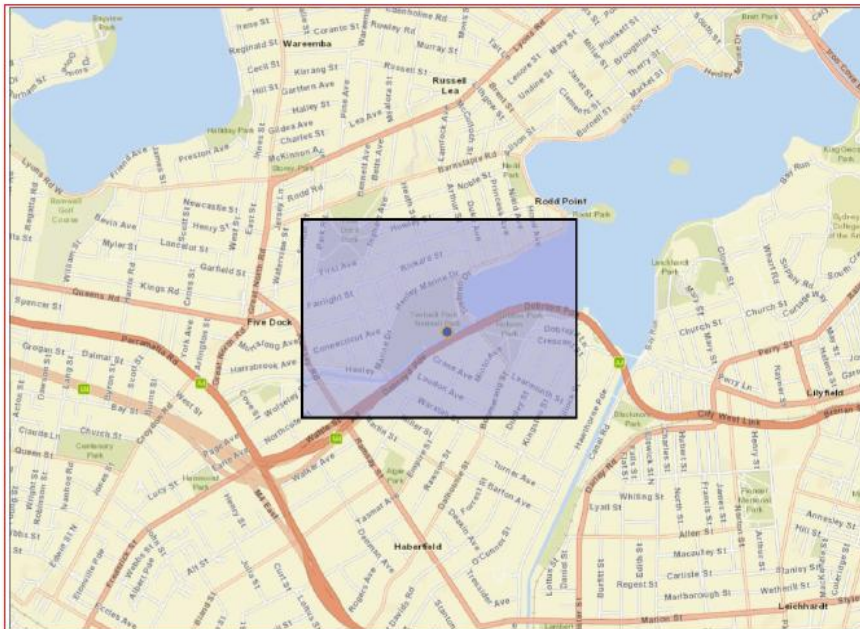
Email: eric.claxton.work@gmail.com

Date: 16 June 2025

Dear Sir or Madam:

AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Lat, Long From : -33.8749, 151.1321 - Lat, Long To : -33.8659, 151.1475, conducted by Eric Claxton on 16 June 2025.

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.



A search of Heritage NSW AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

1	Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.
0	Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location. *

If your search shows Aboriginal sites or places what should you do?

- You must do an extensive search if AHIMS has shown that there are Aboriginal sites or places recorded in the search area.
- If you are checking AHIMS as a part of your due diligence, refer to the next steps of the Due Diligence Code of practice.
- You can get further information about Aboriginal places by looking at the gazettal notice that declared it. Aboriginal places gazetted after 2001 are available on the [NSW Government Gazette \(https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/gazette\)](https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/gazette) website. Gazettal notices published prior to 2001 can be obtained from Heritage NSW upon request

Important information about your AHIMS search

- The information derived from the AHIMS search is only to be used for the purpose for which it was requested. It is not to be made available to the public.
- AHIMS records information about Aboriginal sites that have been provided to Heritage NSW and Aboriginal places that have been declared by the Minister;
- Information recorded on AHIMS may vary in its accuracy and may not be up to date. Location details are recorded as grid references and it is important to note that there may be errors or omissions in these recordings.
- Some parts of New South Wales have not been investigated in detail and there may be fewer records of Aboriginal sites in those areas. These areas may contain Aboriginal sites which are not recorded on AHIMS.
- Aboriginal objects are protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 even if they are not recorded as a site on AHIMS.
- This search can form part of your due diligence and remains valid for 12 months.

Level 6, 10 Valentine Ave, Parramatta 2150
Locked Bag 5020 Parramatta NSW 2124
Tel: (02) 9585 6345

ABN 34 945 244 274
Email: ahims@environment.nsw.gov.au
Web: www.heritage.nsw.gov.au

Timbrell Park Sportsfield Minor Works – Aboriginal archaeological impact assessment – June 2025



AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 1
Client Service ID : 1014540

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status **	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
45-6-3322	Timbrell Park Midden	GDA	56	327989	6250589	Open site	Not a Site	Shell :-		
	Contact	Recorders		DPIE - Armidale, Ms. Sam Higgs				Permits	4685	

** Site Status

Valid - The site has been recorded and accepted onto the system as valid

Destroyed - The site has been completely impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There is nothing left of the site on the ground but proponents should proceed with caution.

Partially Destroyed - The site has been only partially impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There might be parts or sections of the original site still present on the ground

Not a site - The site has been originally entered and accepted onto AHIMS as a valid site but after further investigations it was decided it is NOT an aboriginal site. Impact of this type of site does not require permit but Heritage NSW should be notified

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 16/06/2025 for Eric Claxton for the following area at Lat, Long From : -33.8749, 151.1321 - Lat, Long To : -33.8659, 151.1475. Number of
Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 1

This information is not guaranteed to be free from error omission. Heritage NSW and its employees disclaim liability for any act done or omission made on the information and consequences of such acts or omission.

Page 1 of 1



Aboriginal Site Recording Form

AHIMS Registrar
PO Box 1967, Hurstville NSW 2220



Office of
Environment
& Heritage

Office Use Only <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div> Site Number 451-61-1313,2,2 Date received <input type="text"/>/ <input type="text"/>/ <input type="text"/> </div> <div> Date entered into system <input type="text"/>/ <input type="text"/>/ <input type="text"/> </div> <div> Date catalogued <input type="text"/>/ <input type="text"/>/ <input type="text"/> </div> </div> Entered by (I.D.) <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Information Access <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> ☐ Gender/male ☐ Gender/female ☐ Location restriction ☐ General restriction ☐ No access </div>		<div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Office Use Only</div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Client on system</div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Client on system</div>
For Further Information Contact: ☐ Nominated Trustee <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Title <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>Surname <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>First Name <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>Initials <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Organisation <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>Address <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Phone number <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>Fax <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div>		
☐ Knowledge Holder <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Title <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>Surname <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>First Name <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>Initials <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Organisation <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>Address <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Phone number <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>Fax <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div>		
Aboriginal Heritage Unit or Cultural Heritage Division Contacts <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Geographic Location <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Site Name Timbrell Park midden <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Easting 327989</div> <div>Northing 6250589</div> <div>AGD/GDA GDA</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Mapsheet <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Zone 56</div> <div>Location Method Differential GPS</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Other Registration <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div>		
Primary Recorder <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Title <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> <div>Surname Higgins</div> <div>First Name Sam</div> <div>Initials <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Organisation OEH</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Address Lv 6 10 Valentine Av Parramatta</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Phone number 99956824</div> <div>Fax <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Date recorded 15/06/2017</div> </div>		<div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Client on system</div>

NPWS Aboriginal Site Recording Form - Site Information

page 3

General Site Information

Closed Site

Shelter/Cave Formation

- ☐ Boulder
☐ Wind erosion
☐ Water erosion
☐ Rock collapse

Rock Surface Condition

- ☐ Boulder
☐ Sandstone platform
☐ Silica gloss
☐ Tessellated
☐ Weathered
☐ Other platform

Condition of Ceiling

- ☐ Boulder
☐ Sandstone platform
☐ Silica gloss
☐ Tessellated
☐ Weathered
☐ Other platform

Shelter Aspect

- ☐ North
☐ North East
☐ East
☐ South East
☐ South
☐ South West
☐ West
☐ North West

Open Site

Site Orientation

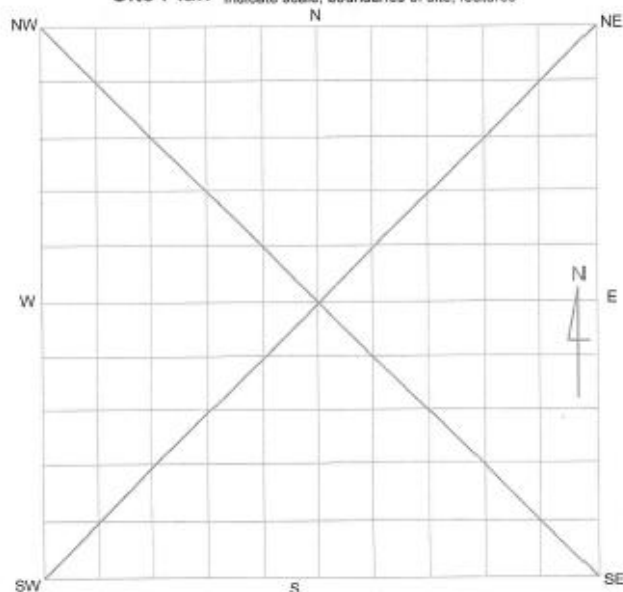
- ☐ N-S
☒ NE-SW
☐ E-W
☐ SE-NW
☐ N/A

Features

- ☐ 1. Aboriginal Ceremony & Dreaming
☐ 2. Aboriginal Resource & Gathering
☐ 3. Art
☐ 4. Artefact
☐ 5. Burial
☐ 6. Ceremonial Ring
☐ 7. Conflict
☐ 8. Earth Mound
☐ 9. Fish Trap
☐ 10. Grinding Groove
☐ 11. Habitation Structure
☐ 12. Hearth
☐ 13. Non Human Bone & Organic Material
☐ 14. Ochre quarry
☐ 15. Potential Archaeological Deposit
☐ 16. Stone Quarry
☒ 17. Shell
☐ 18. Stone Arrangement
☐ 19. Modified Tree
☐ 20. Water Hole

Site Plan

Indicate scale, boundaries of site, features



Site Dimensions

Closed Site Dimensions (m)

- Internal length
 Internal width
 Shelter height
 Shelter floor area

Open Site Dimensions (m)

- 180 m Total length of visible site
 5 m Average width of visible site
 Estimated area of visible site
 Length of assessed site area

NPWS Aboriginal Site Recording Form - Site Interpretation and Community Statement page 4

Aboriginal Community Interpretation and Management Recommendations

Preliminary Site Assessment

Site Cultural & Scientific Analysis and Preliminary Management Recommendations

Several dense clusters (labeled c1-6 on map) of shell (majority cockle) exposed in earthworks (ramps and bridges) for a bike track with lower density deposit along the bike track in between the clusters. The midden material is present along the entire bike track and around nearby trees.

The exposed deposit was contained within the bike track and within the clearings of nearby trees. It's unclear whether the midden was disturbed in situ by the construction of the bike track or brought in as fill. However the surrounding land is covered with leaf litter, lawn and garden beds which may be covering further midden deposit.

OEK will investigate the harm to this site and negotiate appropriate management.

This section should only be filled in by the Endorsees

Endorsed by: ☐ Knowledge Holder ☐ Nominated Trustee ☐ Native Title Holder ☐ Community Consensus

Title	Surname	First Name	Initials
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Organisation <input type="text"/>			
Address <input type="text"/>			
Phone number <input type="text"/>		Fax <input type="text"/>	

Attachments (No.)

- ☒ A4 location map
- ☐ B/W photographs
- ☒ Colour photographs
- ☐ Slides
- ☐ Aerial photographs
- ☐ Site plans, drawings
- ☐ Recording tables
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Feature inserts-No.

Comments

see attached map

Co-ordinates for map :

c1 327896E 6250550N

c2 (start) 327913E 6250548N

c2 (end) 327934E 6250559N

c3 327946E 6250574N

c4 327989E 6250589N

c5 328006E 6250599N

c6 (start) 328022E 6250608N

NPWS FEATURE RECORDING TABLE - ART MOTIF

page 2

Instance	Recording Date	Motif	Application Technique	Form	Main Colour	Location	Condition
----------	----------------	-------	-----------------------	------	-------------	----------	-----------

Motif

Anthropomorphic
Bird
Bird Track
Canoe
Circle
Contact material culture
Duck
Eel
Emu
Emu track
European figure

Female
Fish
Foot
Hand
Jellyfish
Kangaroo
Line
Lizard
Macropod
Macropod Track
Male

Marine-Other
Other
Pattern
Quadruped
Reptile
Rifle
Shield
Ship
Snake
Spear
Wallaby

Application Technique

Abraded
Drawn
Other
Painted
Pecked
Pigment & Engraved
Stencilled

Form

Fill
Line
Line+ Fill
Other
Pattern

Main Colour

Black
Mauve *
N/A
Orange *
Other
Red *
White *
Yellow *

Art Location

All over shelter surfaces
ceiling
Floor
Mostly near largest sheltered space
Mostly on out of the way surfaces
Other
Wall

Condition

Faded
Stained
Mineralisation Evident
Vibrant Colours
Unweathered
Weathered

Comments:

NPWS FEATURE RECORDING FORM - SHELL

page 1

Site I.D.		Site Name	Timbrell Park midden	Aboriginal Information Recorded?	No
First recorded date	15/06/2017	Importance	Cannot be presently determined		
No. of instances					
Recorded by	Sam Higgs				

Feature Context & Condition

Easting 3 2 7 9 8 9 Northing 6 2 5 0 5 8 9

Dimensions of Whole Feature

180 Length (m) 5 Width (m) Depth (m)

Shell Distribution

- ☐ Surface scatter
- ☐ Stratified deposit
- ☐ Mounded
- 0 Distance to high water mark (m)

Feature Condition

- ☐ Very good
- ☐ Good
- ☒ Poor

General Condition

- ☐ Weathered
- ☐ Vandalised
- ☐ Surface water wash
- ☐ Mineralisation
- ☐ Graffiti

General Condition ctd

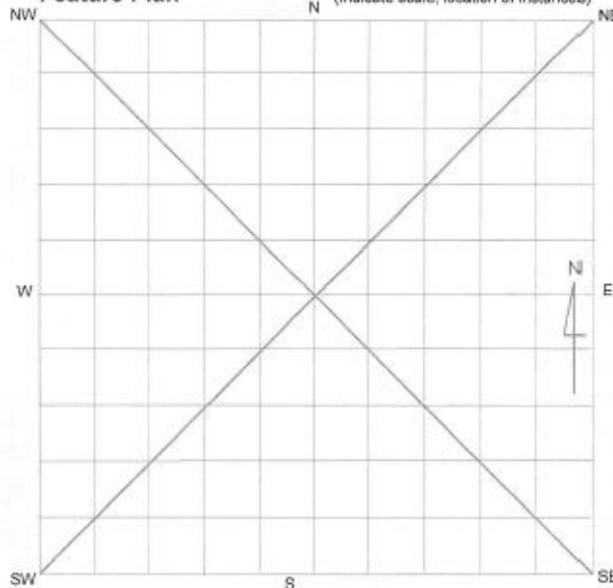
- ☐ Fire damage
- ☐ Vehicle damage
- ☐ Insects/termites
- ☐ Erosion
- ☐ Stock damage
- ☐ Unstable structure
- ☐ Exposed bone material
- ☒ Exposed archaeological material

Recommended Action

- ☐ Boardwalk
- ☐ Cage/barrier/fencing
- ☐ Closure to public
- ☐ Continued inspection
- ☐ Expert assessment
- ☐ Fire hazard removal
- ☐ Graffiti removal
- ☐ Meeting with land manager
- ☐ Insect/bird nest removal
- ☐ Revegetation
- ☐ Rubbish removal
- ☐ Signage
- ☐ Erosion control
- ☐ Track closure/re-routing
- ☐ Additional recording

Feature Plan

(Indicate scale, location of instances)



Feature Environment

(Complete when feature environment differs to site environment, use attributes from cover card, p. 2)

- Land form
- Land form unit
- Slope
- Vegetation
- Land use

Water

Distance to permanent water source metresDistance to temporary water source metres

Name of nearest permanent water source

Iron Cove Creek

Name of nearest temporary water

NPWS FEATURE RECORDING TABLE - SHELL

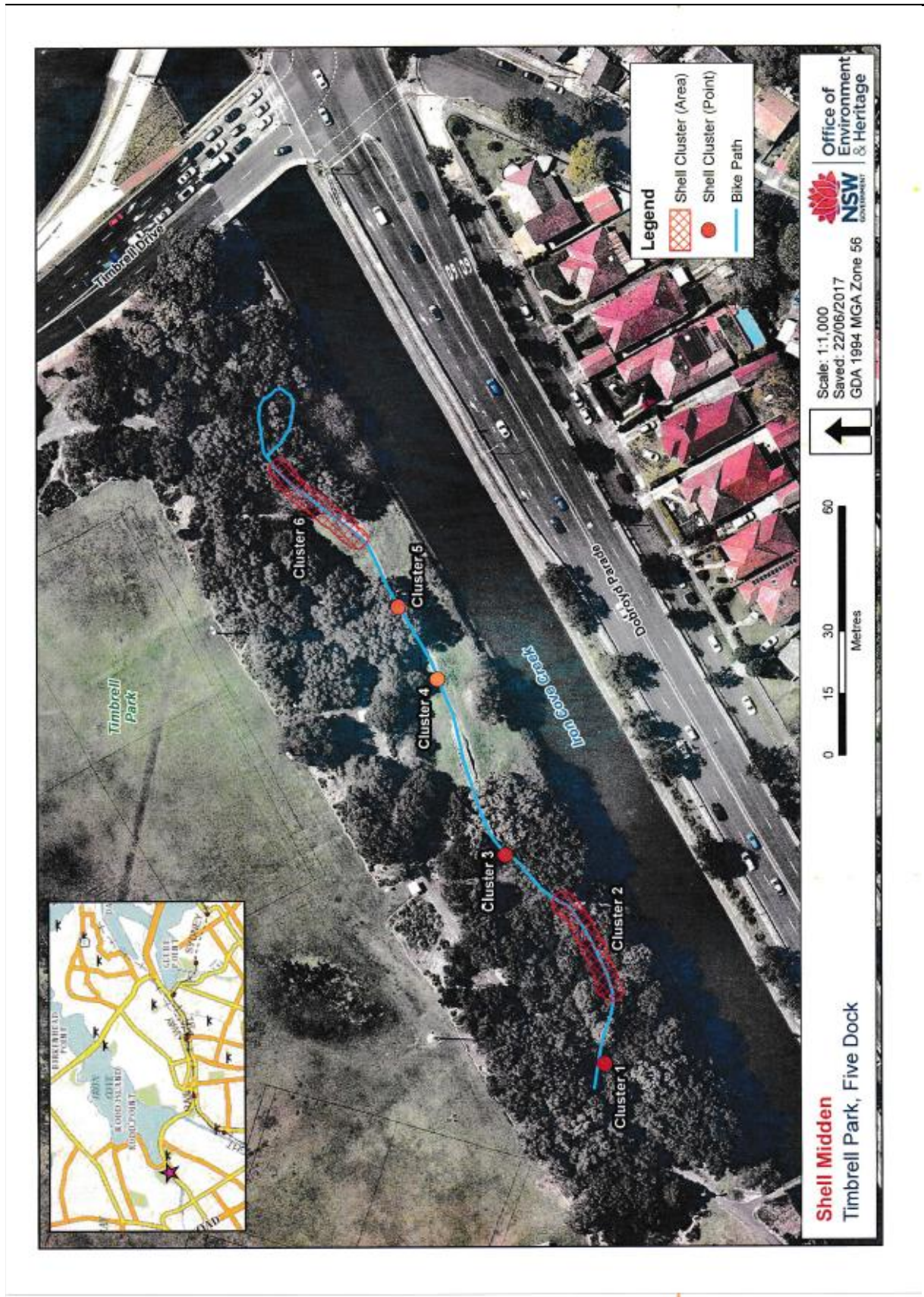
page 2

Instance No.	Recording Date	Shell Species	% of this species shell to % total of other shell
		Anadara	90-100%
		Triton	0-9%

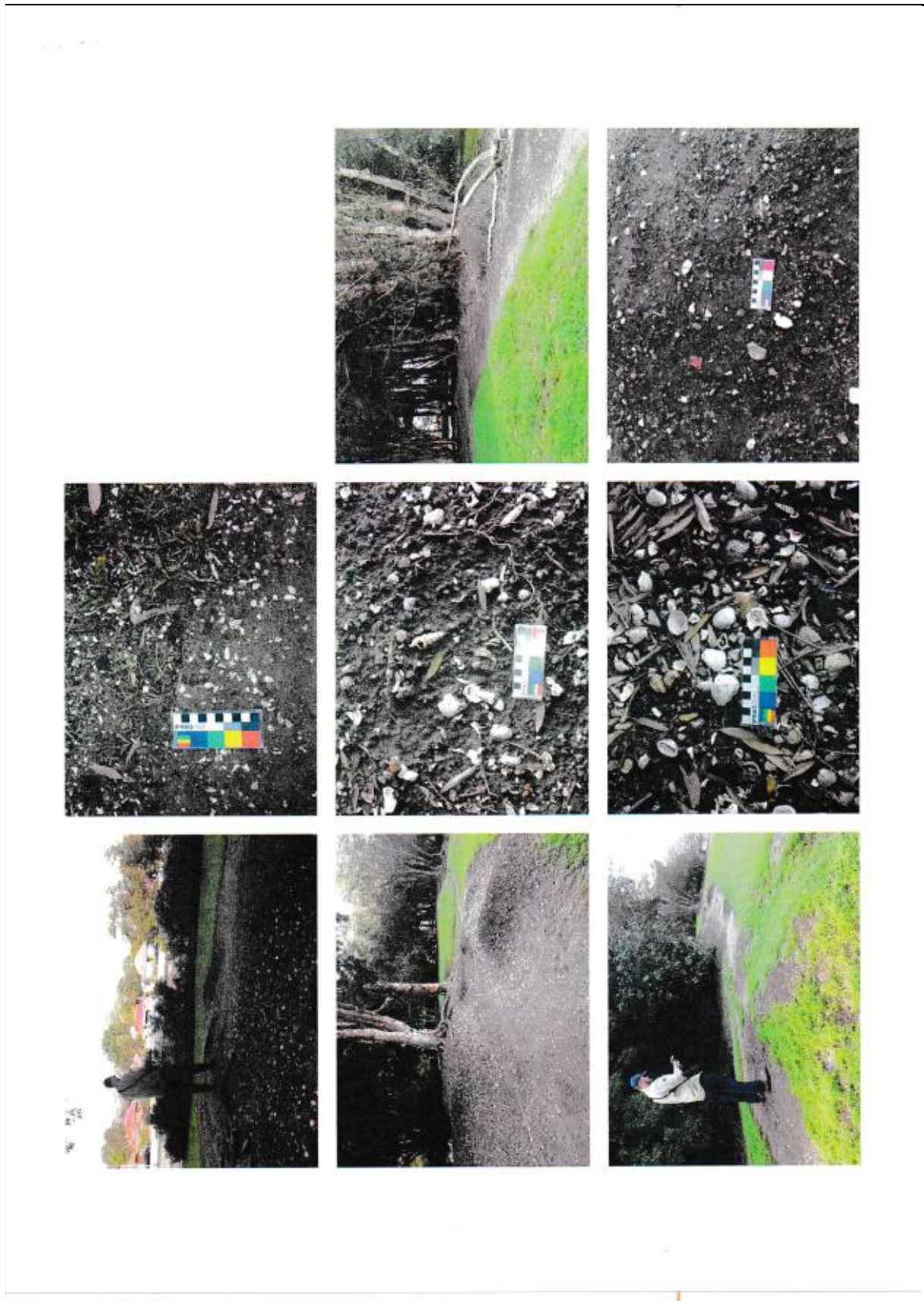
Species		Percentage of this Species Shell to Percentage Total of other Shell
Anadara	Nerita	0 – 9%
Bimbala	Ocean Snail	10 – 19%
Chiton	Periwinkle	20 – 29%
Cowrie	P	30 – 39%
Dog Cockle	Ribbed Cockle	40 – 49%
Duck Bill	Rock Oyster	50 – 59%
Limpit	Whiad	60 – 69%
Mud oyster	Triton	70 – 79%
Mutton Fish	Turban (large)	80 – 89%
		90 – 100%

Comments:

Majority cockle with a small proportion of gastropod shells visible. No bones or stone tools observed.
See attached map and photos



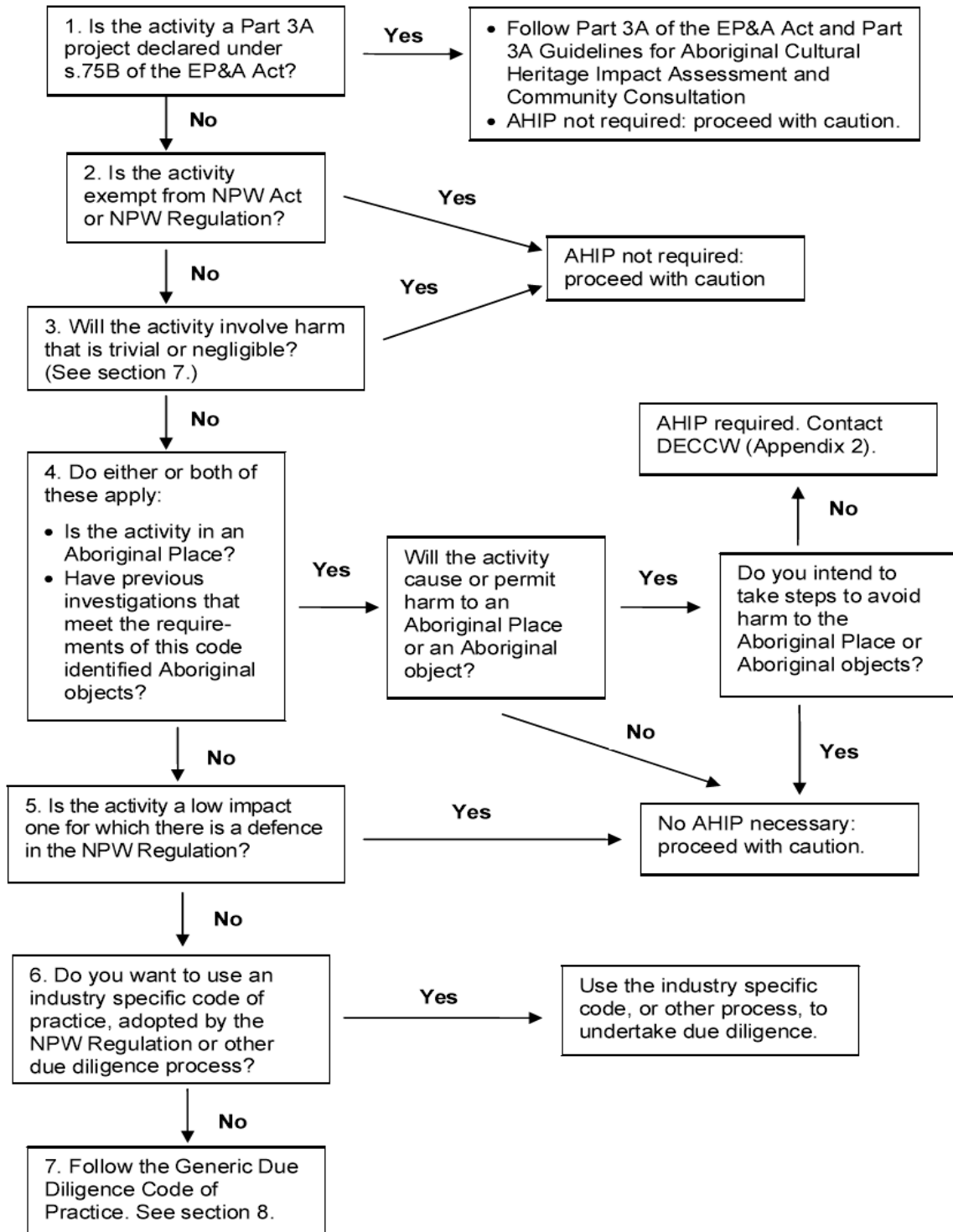




Attachment C:

Due Diligence flow chart - Protection of Aboriginal objects in NSW – NPWS Act 1974

1 Do you need to use this due diligence code?



8 The generic due diligence process

