

FINAL REPORT:

Plumpton Precinct Structure Plan (PSP No. 1078), Victoria: Post-Contact Heritage Assessment

HV Report No: 4309

CLIENT

Growth Areas Authority

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

This Post-Contact Heritage Assessment (PCHA) has been prepared for the proposed Plumpton Precinct Structure Plan (PSP, No 1078) in Plumpton, Victoria (Melton City Council) (Map 1). The purpose of the assessment is to identify post-Contact (historical) heritage sites within the precinct to inform future land use and the future urban structure for the PSP. The study area is approximately 1,015 ha in size and is bounded by Melton Highway to the north, Taylors Road to the south, rural properties and the proposed Outer Metropolitan Road (OMR) reservation and the Rockbank North PSP area to the west and the Caroline Springs development front to the east (Map 2).

Methods

The assessments undertaken as part of this PCHA were a desktop review, and a field survey/inspection program over a period of four days by two archaeologists/heritage advisors.

Desktop Review

The desktop review included a review of all relevant historical heritage registers and databases (at local, State and Commonwealth level), a review of previous heritage studies and historical archaeological assessments held by Heritage Victoria, a review of historical mapping and aerial imagery and a review of anecdotal evidence provided by landowners and other stakeholders. This review was used to prepare a map of potential historical sites, which formed the basis for targeting land parcels to survey. Prior to fieldwork commencing, all identified parcel landowners were contacted by letter and telephone to seek permission to access the land. Most landowners provided access permission although some did not. Where permission to access was denied, the assessment was based on either the most recent aerial imagery, visual inspection from outside the property or from previous assessments.

Field Survey and Inspection

The field investigation consisted of a targeted survey of land parcels based on the desktop review. All other land parcels were visually inspected either from roads or from neighbouring land parcels. The visual inspection was used to determine whether any there were any visible signs of historical heritage potential that were not identified in the desktop review and, along with the survey, to ground-truth the areas that were identified in the desktop review. In some cases land parcels that were identified as potentially having historical heritage were subsequently found not to; in some cases the potential heritage sites were found to be on land parcels that were not initially included in the survey program. The landowners of these properties were contacted by telephone during the survey and, where access was granted, these parcels were surveyed. In some cases, potential historical sites were identified by opportunistic observations during the fieldwork or through anecdotal evidence provided by neighbouring landowners. In these cases the landowners were contacted and the land surveyed.

Results

Desktop Review

The background research indicated that there is one previously recorded historical heritage site within the study area (Map 3). This site consists of a house in the north east corner of the study area that is listed on the Heritage Overlay to the Melton Planning Scheme (HO58).

The desktop review also identified that several farmhouses, waterholes and dry stone walls occur or once occurred in the study area. The background research concluded that standing farmhouses (built heritage), and former farmhouse sites, pastoral sites, farming sites, road infrastructure sites and dry stone walls were the types of historical sites most likely to occur within the study area.

Survey Results

The field survey was undertaken on 3-5 June 2013 and 18 June 2013 by Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd Archaeologists/Cultural Heritage Advisors Rick Bullers and Sylvana Szydzik.

Excluding road reserves, the private land component of the study area totals 1,031.28 ha in 55 individual land parcels. Of that, a total of 15 land parcels were surveyed, totalling 475.97 ha (45.89%). With an average ground surface visibility of 10%, the effective survey coverage for this investigation is 47.60 ha (4.62%).

The survey identified the following historical heritage sites or areas of historical archaeological likelihood:

- One previously registered built heritage site; a farmhouse complex at 911-935 Melton Highway, Plumpton (Property Ref #25), listed on the Heritage Overlay to the Melton Planning Scheme (HO58). This is the only remaining farmhouse from the Closer Settlement Board subdivision of the Overnewton Estate remaining in the study area, and is the only extant house in the study area assessed as having historical heritage significance;
- One significant archaeological site that has been listed on the Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI):
 - H7822-2318 - *Beattys Road House Site* at 206 Beattys Road, Plumpton (Property Ref #12). This is the site of a former weatherboard farmhouse that is shown on the 1917 and 1938 Ordnance survey maps and, like HO58 above, is probably associated with the Closer Settlement Board Overnewton Estate subdivision of 1905-6. This site is also identified as Lander's House (Site 470) in the Melton Heritage Study Stage 1.
- Four areas of historical archaeological likelihood:
 - *Former Farmhouse* at 35 Saric Court, Plumpton (Property Ref #55), which was identified from aerial imagery but not confirmed during the fieldwork due to access restrictions. Until confirmation of historical significance is confirmed, this site has not been listed on the VHI;
 - *Melton Highway Cellar Site* at 971 Plumpton Road, Plumpton (Property Ref #15). This is the site of what is claimed to be the cellar of a former hotel building but, after discussions with Heritage Victoria, has not been listed on the VHI. The site has been identified as Site 408 in the Melton Heritage Study as a Conservation Desirable Site (Moloney *et al.* 2008: 67);
 - *Melton Highway Cobbled Road Surface* at 963-987 Melton Highway, Plumpton (Property Ref #23). This site is within the Melton Highway road reserve and may be an example of the original road alignment but, after discussions with Heritage Victoria, has not been listed on the VHI;
 - *Former Ford* at 61-93 Tarletons Road, Plumpton (Property Ref #8). This is the site of a possible historical ford shown on the 1917 and 1938 ordnance maps, but not confirmed during the fieldwork

due to access restrictions. Until confirmation of historical significance is confirmed, this site has not been listed on the VHI.

- A total of four waterholes that were present on historical mapping (although none are considered to have any heritage significance);
- A total of fourteen separate dry stone walls were identified, located predominantly in the south west quadrant of the study area. Of these, only two had citations prepared under the *Melton Dry Stone Wall Study* (Moloney *et al.* 2008). Identified dry stone walls are located on/between Property Ref #s: 1, 2, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 23, 39, 40, 42, 43, 48 and 49.
- One dry stone wall enclosure identified from aerial imagery but not confirmed during the fieldwork due to access restrictions. Probable remnants occur on Property Ref #s 45 and 46, whilst possible or 'ghost' remnants are visible on aerial images of Property Ref #s 34, 35, 36, 38 and 47.

Summary of Management Recommendations

Recommendation 1

A Permit will be required from the Melton City Council to disturb, damage or alter the listed heritage place at 911-935 Melton Highway, Plumpton (H058). Under the planning scheme, heritage tree controls apply to the curtilage of this place. It also contains outbuildings and fences that **are not** exempt under Clause 43.01-3 of the Planning Scheme; that is, they are not exempt from the notice requirements under Section 52(1) (a), (b) and (d), and the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. However, prohibited uses may be permitted.

Recommendation 2

A Consent from Heritage Victoria will be required to damage or disturb Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318). It is recommended that if impacts to the site are likely to the listed extent, then a program of test excavation is conducted to gain a better understanding of the site formation processes to determine if any early 20th century occupation deposits occur.

Recommendation 3

In relation to Melton Highway Cellar Site (Property Ref #15), following discussions with Heritage Victoria (J. Smith, pers. comm., 28 June 2013) it has been determined that whilst the number of artefacts suggest the site is of moderate local significance, the extremely disturbed nature of the site indicates that the site does not warrant listing on the VHI at this stage and that further detailed archaeological investigation should be considered prior to any development impacts occurring.

However, as a Conservation Desirable Site within the Melton Heritage Study a referral to the Council Heritage Advisor is required under Section 29A of the *Building Act 1993* for any demolition requests under a Council Permit application.

Recommendation 4

In relation to Melton Highway Cobbled Road Surface (adjacent Property Ref #23) the exact nature of the site, and indeed its classification as a historical site, is unknown. It is recommended that if impacts to the site are likely, then a program of test excavation be conducted to gain a better understanding of the site formation, and to confirm that it is a former road surface.

Recommendation 5

In relation to the former house site at 55 Saric Court, Plumpton (Property Ref #55), it is recommended that if development impacts are likely to occur at this location, then the site is assessed for its archaeological potential and, if confirmed, then site is entered on the VHI. In that event a Consent from Heritage Victoria would be required to disturb the site.

Recommendation 6

In relation to the ford site at 61-63 Tarletons Road, Plumpton (Property Ref #8) it is recommended that if development impacts are likely to occur at this location, then the site is assessed for its archaeological potential and, if confirmed, then site is entered on the VHI. In that event a Consent from Heritage Victoria would be required to disturb the site.

Recommendation 7

All historical archaeological sites listed on the VHI are protected under the *Heritage Act 1995*. If any impacts to the sites are considered likely to occur as a result of proposed developments, then a Consent will be required from Heritage Victoria.

Recommendation 8

Dry stone walls are not considered archaeological features and are not listed on the VHI. However, dry stone walls in the Shire of Melton are considered by the Melton City Council to be important historical landscape features worth preserving. Council is pursuing planning controls under Clause 52.37 of the Shire of Melton Planning Scheme Particular Provisions, which may require a permit to disturb dry stone walls within the local Council area. These controls do not yet apply; however should these protective provisions come into force then the Council Heritage Advisor should be contacted for advice on permitting requirements regarding any dry stone walls in the study area.

Recommendation 9

Should there be potential impacts to the dry stone walls on Property Ref #s 45 and 46 (Section 5.1.4.4), then it is recommended that formal inspection and recording of these walls by a heritage consultant occurs prior to any future development of these properties. Melton City Council should be contacted for advice on any permitting requirements.

Recommendation 10

The Beattys Road alignment is a significant reminder of the early transportation routes established during the squatting and gold rush eras. Consideration should be given to retaining the current route within the PSP.

Recommendation 11

There are no other known historical heritage issues identified in the study area. If any historical issues are encountered during the course of future development then works should cease within 10 m of the area of concern and a qualified Cultural Heritage Advisor (or Heritage Victoria) should be contacted to investigate.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	i
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Background and Scope of Works	1
1.2 Report Framework	2
1.3 Name of Cultural Heritage Advisors	2
1.4 Notice of Intention to Survey to Heritage Victoria	2
1.5 Aboriginal Heritage	2
1.6 Location and Description of Study Area	2
1.7 Proposed Activity	3
1.8 Name of Client	3
1.9 Report Review and Distribution	3
1.10 Heritage Legislation	3
1.11 Limitations	4
2 Environmental Context	5
2.1 Geographic Region	5
2.2 Geomorphology and Landforms	5
2.3 Geology and Soils	5
2.4 Vegetation	6
2.4.1 Climate	6
3 Thematic history and Framework	7
3.1 Thematic History	7
3.1.1 Introduction	7
3.1.2 Pastoralism and Squatting	7
3.1.3 Freehold: Farming and Pastoralism in the Mid to Late Nineteenth Century	9
3.1.4 Smaller Farming Allotments and ‘Closer Settlement’	13
3.1.5 Transport	17
3.1.6 Community	17
3.2 Thematic Framework	17
3.2.1 The Natural Environment	18
3.2.2 Squatting and Early Settlement	18
3.2.3 Transforming the Land	18
3.2.4 Farming	19
3.2.5 Migrating and Making a Home	19
3.2.6 Connecting People by Transport	19

3.2.7	Developing Industry	20
3.2.8	Developing Sport and Recreation.....	20
4	Archaeological Context	22
4.1	Database Searches.....	22
4.1.1	Victorian Heritage Register.....	22
4.1.2	Victorian Heritage Inventory	22
4.1.3	Victorian War Heritage Inventory.....	22
4.1.4	Local Council.....	22
4.1.5	National Trust Register	23
4.1.6	Commonwealth and International Heritage Lists.....	23
4.1.7	Discussion.....	24
4.1.8	Summary.....	24
4.2	Previous Archaeological Investigations and Heritage Studies.....	24
4.3	Historical Archaeological Site Prediction Statement	27
5	Field Assessment and Results	29
5.1	Survey.....	29
5.1.1	Aims and Objectives	29
5.1.2	Field Methodology.....	29
5.1.3	Survey Coverage.....	30
5.1.4	Results of the Survey	30
5.2	Registered Historical Archaeological Sites	45
5.2.1	Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318).....	45
6	Cultural Heritage Significance.....	48
6.1	Assessing Cultural Heritage Significance	48
6.1.1	Assessment of Significance	48
6.1.2	Historical Cultural Significance	48
6.1.3	Statements of Significance.....	48
6.2	Cultural Heritage Significance of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)	49
6.2.1	Assessment of Significance	49
6.2.2	Historical Cultural Significance	49
6.2.3	Statement of Significance.....	50
6.2.4	Interpretation and Discussion	50
7	Management Recommendations.....	51
	Maps.....	53
	Appendices	60
	References.....	89

Appendices

Appendix 1: Investigation Brief.....	61
Appendix 2: Notice of Intent to Conduct and Archaeological Survey	68
Appendix 3: Cadastral Details of the Study Area.....	71
Appendix 4: Heritage Legislation.....	80
Appendix 5: Site Gazetteer	84
Appendix 6: Significance Assessment.....	85
Appendix 7: Glossary.....	88

Figures

Figure 1: Squatting Runs North West of Melbourne showing the location of the Plumpton PSP area superimposed on James Pinkerton's and Yuille's Runs (Source: Spreadborough and Anderson 1983: maps)	8
Figure 2: W.C. Yuille (1819-1894), unknown photographer (Source: SLV IAN28/01/74/8)	8
Figure 3: Yuille's Rockbank Station Lease (Source: Lands Victoria, in Maloney <i>et al.</i> 2007: 27)	9
Figure 4: Excerpt from Parishes of Holden, Kororoit and Maribyrnong map from 1854, showing the parcels and land ownership within the Plumpton PSP area (Source: SLV dq001260)	10
Figure 5: Excerpt from Parish of Maribyrnong map from the 1880s, showing the 640 acre parcels and land ownership within the Plumpton PSP area (Source: SLV ha000970).....	10
Figure 6: W.J.T. 'Big' Clarke (1805-1874), by Samuel Calvert, 1874 (Source: SLV IAN28/01/74/8)	11
Figure 7: Sir W.J.' Clarke (1831-1897), by Johnstone, O'Shannessy & Co, c.1895 (Source: SLV H6257)	11
Figure 8: Subdivision plan from 1904, following William Taylor's death, showing the proposed lots in the southern and eastern sections of the Plumpton PSP area (Source: SLV ha000521) ...	12
Figure 9: Excerpt from Parish of Maribyrnong map from 1917 showing the original ownership of lands in the eastern half of the Plumpton PSP area following the sell-off of lands in the big estates in the early 20 th century. The dotted line denotes the boundary of the former Overnewton Estate (Source: SLV dq006541).	13
Figure 10: Excerpt from Parish of Kororoit map from 1916 showing the original ownership of lands in the western half of the Plumpton PSP area following the sell-off of lands in the big estates in the early 20 th century (Source: SLV dq004399).	14
Figure 11: Excerpt from the Ordnance Survey map from 1917 showing the locations of homesteads, dry stone walls, and water holes. Two wind mills are also marked (Source: SLV vc001517-001)	15
Figure 12: Excerpt from Ordnance Survey map from 1938 showing the farmhouses, dry stone walls, water holes and wind mills, as well as some road infrastructure including two fords and a culvert on Melton Highway (Source: SLV ey000237)	15

Tables

Table 1: Summary of the Thematic Framework for the Kororoit PSP Area and Examples of Potential Evidence.....	20
Table 2: Summary of Previously Identified Sites within the Study Area	24
Table 3: Archaeological Reports Relevant to the Study Area	25
Table 4: Dry Stone Walls Identified in the Study Area	37
Table 5: Assessment of the Scientific Significance of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318).....	49
Table 6: Assessment of the Cultural Heritage Significance of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318).....	49

Plans

Plan 1: Location of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)	46
Plan 2: Extent of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)	47

Maps

Map 1: Location of Study Area	54
Map 2: Extent of Study Area	55
Map 3: Previously Registered Historical Heritage Places in the Study Area	56
Map 4: Previously Recorded Historical Sites and Potential Historical Sites from Historical Mapping	57
Map 5: Land Parcels Surveyed or Visually Inspected During the Fieldwork	58
Map 6: Heritage Places and Historical Archaeological Features Identified in the Study Area	59

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- Growth Areas Authority for project and site information.
- Melton City Council for site information.
- Heritage Victoria.

Cover Photo: The house at 935 Melton Highway, Plumpton (HO58)
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Scope of Works

This Post-Contact Heritage Assessment (PCHA) has been prepared for the Growth Areas Authority (GAA) to identify post-Contact (historical) heritage sites within the Plumpton Precinct Structure Plan (No 1078) area in Plumpton, Victoria (Melton City Council) (Map 1). The assessment will inform future land use and the future urban structure for the PSP, and to provide recommendations for how any significant places and sites should be managed. The significance assessment and management recommendations are supported by a brief thematic history, based on the principal Victorian Historic Themes and how these are expressed in the significant historical places and sites.

The project brief agreed upon by Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd and the Sponsor is as follows:

- Review the relevant historical heritage databases (e.g. City of Melton Heritage Overlay, Victorian Heritage Register and Inventory, the National Trust Register, the Register of the National Estate, the National Heritage List);
- Review relevant available literature including the Melton Heritage Study, Melton City Council Dry Stone Wall Study, relevant heritage strategies, and previous historical archaeological reports;
- Conduct searches of archival sources (e.g. historical maps and aerial photographs) and review local histories that are relevant for identification of heritage buildings, sites and places;
- Prepare thematic history of the land use of the study area, identifying places or events that are significant to the locality's history;
- Conduct a site assessment by qualified Cultural Heritage Advisors to identify any historical cultural heritage within the study area, including negotiation of access requirements with relevant landowners;
- Prepare a list of known buildings, sites and places of heritage significance within the PSP area and associated historical themes;
- Identification of significant historical archaeological sites;
- Assessment of significance of identified heritage elements and make recommendations regarding retention of those elements;
- Identify and provide a series of maps as required showing any historical heritage or areas likely to contain historical heritage;
- Provide information in relation to any implications of Commonwealth and State environmental legislation and Government policy associated with the proposed development;
- Discuss any opportunities and constraints associated with the study area;
- Liaise with any key stakeholders (e.g. Melton City Council and Heritage Victoria [HV]); and
- Production of a PCHA report.

1.2 Report Framework

The report has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines set out in the ICOMOS Burra Charter and referencing relevant Heritage Victoria and Melton City Council guidelines including:

- *The Burra Charter: the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (Australia ICOMOS 1999);
- *Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes* (Heritage Council of Victoria 2009);
- *Guidelines for Conducting Historical Archaeological Surveys* (Heritage Council of Victoria and Heritage Victoria 2008);
- *Ruined Places: A Guide to their Conservation and Management* (Heritage Victoria 2012); and
- *Landscape Assessment Guidelines* (Heritage Victoria 2009); and
- *The Dry Stone Walls of Melton: Guidelines for the Assessment and Planning Applications, Conservation Works and Repair* (Shire of Melton 2010).

Places of cultural heritage significance were assessed using the Heritage Council Criteria for the Assessment of Cultural Heritage Significance (HERCON).

1.3 Name of Cultural Heritage Advisors

This report was prepared by Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd Archaeologists/Cultural Heritage Advisors Rick Bullers and Terence MacManus.

The quality assurance review was undertaken by Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd Director/Principal Heritage Advisor Oona Nicolson. The field work was undertaken by Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd Archaeologists/Cultural Heritage Advisors Rick Bullers and Sylvana Szydzik. Mapping was provided by Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd GIS Officers Monique Elsley and Robyn Giles.

1.4 Notice of Intention to Survey to Heritage Victoria

A Notice of Intention to Conduct an Archaeological Survey was submitted to Heritage Victoria (HV) on 24 April 2013. A written response to this notice was sent by HV to Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd on 24 April 2013. The HV reference number for this project is 4309. A copy of this correspondence is presented in Appendix 1.

1.5 Aboriginal Heritage

The scope of works for this project did not include an assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage.

1.6 Location and Description of Study Area

The study area is located in Plumpton, Victoria, within the Melton City Council LGA. The study area is approximately 1,015 ha in size and is bounded by Melton Highway to the north, Taylors Road to the south, rural properties and the proposed Outer Metropolitan Ring Road (OMR) reservation and the Rockbank North PSP area to the west and the Caroline Springs development front to the east (Map 2).

The study area consists predominantly of flat to very gently sloping volcanic plains landforms with elevations ranging from 100 m above mean sea level (amsl) at Taylors Road to 140 m amsl at Melton Highway.

The study area contains a total of 55 individual land parcels, each of which has been given an identifying property reference number (Property Ref #), which is used throughout this report. The landholdings within the study area are predominantly small rural farming properties with sizes ranging from less than 1 ha up to approximately 110 ha, with most parcels around 12 to 15 ha. Land use is predominantly sheep grazing, although some parcels are cropped. The two largest properties occur along Taylors Road and Beattys Road. Additional land area in the PSP consists of existing road reserves.

Access to Melton from the PSP area is either along the Melton Highway via Taylors Road and Plumpton Road or along the Western Freeway via Neale Road and Hopkins Road. There is no direct on-ramp to the Western Freeway for eastbound traffic to Melbourne.

The cadastral details of the study area are shown in Appendix 3.

1.7 Proposed Activity

The GAA is preparing a Precinct Structure Plan (PSP) for the study area to provide a master plan for future development within the study area. This investigation is intended to identify issues relating to historical (non-Aboriginal) cultural issues that may form either opportunities or constraints to the overall master planning process.

1.8 Name of Client

This report has been commissioned by Growth Areas Authority (ABN: 77 803 352 468).

1.9 Report Review and Distribution

Copies of this HHA will be lodged with the following organisations:

- Growth Areas Authority;
- Melton City Council; and
- Heritage Victoria.

1.10 Heritage Legislation

An overview of the Victorian *Heritage Act 1995*, the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*, the *Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993*, the Victorian *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) is included below (Appendix 4). This legislation is subordinate to the Victorian *Coroner's Act 2008* in relation to the discovery of human remains.

1.11 Limitations

The assessment is limited to the requirements outlined in the brief provided by GAA (Appendix 1). Therefore it provides a brief analysis of the known heritage places within the PSP, together with a list of historical features that were identified in the study area through a targeted archaeological survey. Physical identification of historical features is limited to those areas where landowner access was granted, or was visible from public land (e.g. roadsides).

Analysis of the historical archaeological potential for the study area was based on analysis of known heritage listings, previous archaeological and heritage reports, anecdotal evidence from landowners in the area, and analysis of available historical mapping to identify potential archaeological features.

2 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

Environmental factors influence how land may have been used in the past. This section reviews the environmental context of the study area to gain an understanding of environmental factors relevant to historical cultural heritage.

2.1 Geographic Region

The study area forms a part of the Victorian Volcanic Plain bioregion (VVP). The VVP is a wide-scale geological unit that stretches over most of western Victoria, from western Melbourne to the South Australian border. It is dominated by Cainozoic volcanic deposits which form extensive flat and undulating basaltic plains containing stony rises, old lava flows, volcanic cones and old eruption points. The VVP is also dotted with numerous lakes and river systems, both fresh and saline. Specifically, the study area occurs in a more discreet unit of the VVP, being the Werribee-Keilor Plains.

For the purposes of this report, the geographic region relating to the study area is defined as the geomorphological characteristics of the VVP within the boundaries of the study area. These geomorphological characteristics are defined by the Department of Primary Industries' (DPI) Victorian Geomorphological Framework (VGF) as 'plains with poorly developed drainage and shallow regolith (Wingeel)' (VGF 6.1.3) across most of the study area, with a small section in the north of the study area defined as 'stony rises (Mt. Eccles, Pomboineit, M. Rouse)' (VGF 6.1.2) (DPI 2013a).

2.2 Geomorphology and Landforms

The majority of the study area comprises the shallow plains characterised by the VGF 6.1.3 geomorphological unit. These plains developed from the lava flows across the area during the Late Pliocene and during the Pleistocene, during a geological time known as the 'Newer Volcanics' (between approximately 1 and 2 million years ago). They are characterised by a thin basaltic regolith which clearly displays lava flow boundaries and has led to frequent corestones ('floaters') extruding on the surface. The boundaries of these lava flows have led to shallow drainage lines throughout this geomorphological unit, which feed into ephemeral wetlands and swamps (DPI 2013b). These drainage systems can be seen within the study area itself, as it contains several ephemeral watercourses/drainage lines.

Contrastingly, a small section in the north of the study area is classified by the DPI as part of the stony rises associated with VGF 6.1.2. This geomorphological unit is scattered sporadically around the VVP and represents some of the youngest landforms in Australia, with parts of these most recent volcanic flows being dated to approximately 59,000 years old. The stony mounds of this geomorphological unit generally have little or no soil, however the older stony rise landscapes do have some soil development and even some wetlands, swamps and ephemeral lakes which have formed in the depressions between the stony rises due to the lack of significant surface drainage systems (DPI 2013c).

2.3 Geology and Soils

The VVP, and the study area, is characterised by the ancient volcanic lava flows discussed above. These lava flows have led to the development of shallow sodic and non-sodic texture contrast soils such as *sodosols* and *dermosols*. Sodosols typically display a stark contrast between the A and B horizons, with both colour and texture markedly different in the weakly acidic soil and clay layers. Dermosols do not share this distinction between the A and B horizons, instead having gradational colours and textures between the two units, although they tend to have a more layered structure throughout the B horizon. Due to the shallow nature of the soils in the region, the clay B horizons tend to expand and contract with moisture, leading to cracking throughout the units (DPI 2013b).

2.4 Vegetation

According to the Department of Sustainability and Environment's (DSE) Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) the volcanic soils of the VVP bioregion would have historically supported a large range of vegetation (DSE 2013a). Within the current study area at the time of European settlement, the vegetation would have been predominantly representative of EVC 132_61: *Heavier-soils Plains Grassland*. This vegetation class consisted of low-lying treeless plants such as graminoids and herbs and included such species as *Pimelea humilis* (common rice-flower), *Leptorhynchus squamatus* (Scaly Buttons), *Themeda triandra* (kangaroo grass) and *Convolvulus erubescens* (pink bindweed). A relatively small part of the study area appears to have held vegetation indicative of a different vegetation class; EVC 125: Plains Grassy Wetland. This EVC is listed as 'usually treeless', similar to EVC132_61, although it has been noted to include some instances of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (river red gum) or *Eucalyptus ovata* (swamp gum). Primarily, EVC 125 historically supported herbs and graminoids similar to EVC 132_61 but also including species such as *Potamogeton tricarinatus* s.l. (floating podweed), *Triglochin procerum* s.l. (Water Ribbons) and *Austrodanthonia duttoniana* (brown-back wallaby-grass) due to the slightly wetter conditions within the region this EVC is found.

2.4.1 Climate

The climate of Plumpton is characterised by warm summers and cool winters; temperatures range between an average maximum of 26.5°C and minimum of 12°C in summer to an average maximum 13.6°C and minimum 5.4°C in winter. Rainfall varies between a maximum of 63 mm in November and minimum of 35.4 mm in July, with annual average rainfalls of 539.2 mm (BOM 2013).

3 THEMATIC HISTORY AND FRAMEWORK

3.1 Thematic History

3.1.1 Introduction

The Plumpton PSP area falls within the City of Melton municipal area, an area that is characterised by wide volcanic plains, which forms part of the Victorian Volcanic Plains bioregion, a province that stretches from western Melbourne to the South Australian border. The environmental and geological characteristics of the region encouraged the establishment of large pastoral enterprises: the abundance of basaltic field stone, timber (e.g. she-oak and thick box forests) and shallow clay deposits were a readily available resource for building materials, whilst the extensive grassy plains provided a ready food source for the introduction of grazing animals (cattle and sheep).

However, increased population expansion, resulting largely from the gold rush in the 1850s, together with the introduction of the Selection Acts in the 1860s and the Closer Settlement Scheme during the early 20th century, saw a marked change in use of the landscape from the vast sheep runs to smaller, mixed-use, small-scale freehold farming enterprises.

3.1.2 Pastoralism and Squatting

Hume and Hovell investigated the Melton area in the 1820s, giving favourable reviews of what they encountered throughout the Werribee Plains (Murphy and Dugay-Grist 2008), and the region was first officially mapped in 1837 by William Darke (Starr, n.d., in Edmonds and Long 2006). Darke reported evidence of 'deserted huts' within the Melton area, although it is unknown when, or by whom, these were occupied. From 1838, early settlers moved into the region, and pastoral advance proceeded rapidly with the establishment of large sheep runs on the plains between the Maribyrnong and Werribee Rivers. There was a considerable turnover of runs in the early years. Early squatters in the region included the transient squatter Desailly, and James Pinkerton who settled first on Kororoit Creek before moving onto the Werribee River (Moloney *et al.* 2007: 25).

The township of Melton was founded in 1852, when the village lots were first successfully sold, and within ten years the township boasted a post office, school, church, hotel and general stores, and supported a pastoral and agricultural district of approximately 1,000 people working as agriculturalists and pastoralists in the area (Starr, n.d., in Edmonds and Long 2006).

According to Spreadborough and Anderson (1983: 261) the Plumpton PSP area was once part of two principal squatting runs. The western two-thirds of the PSP area was part of W.C. Yuille's Rockbank run, the south east corner of the PSP area was covered by Pinkerton's run. The north east quadrant was once part of Taylor's Overnewton Estate. Both Desailly's homestead and Pinkerton's run are shown in Figure 1, although Desailly's homestead is what became the main homestead for first Yuille's and then Clarke's Rockbank Estate.

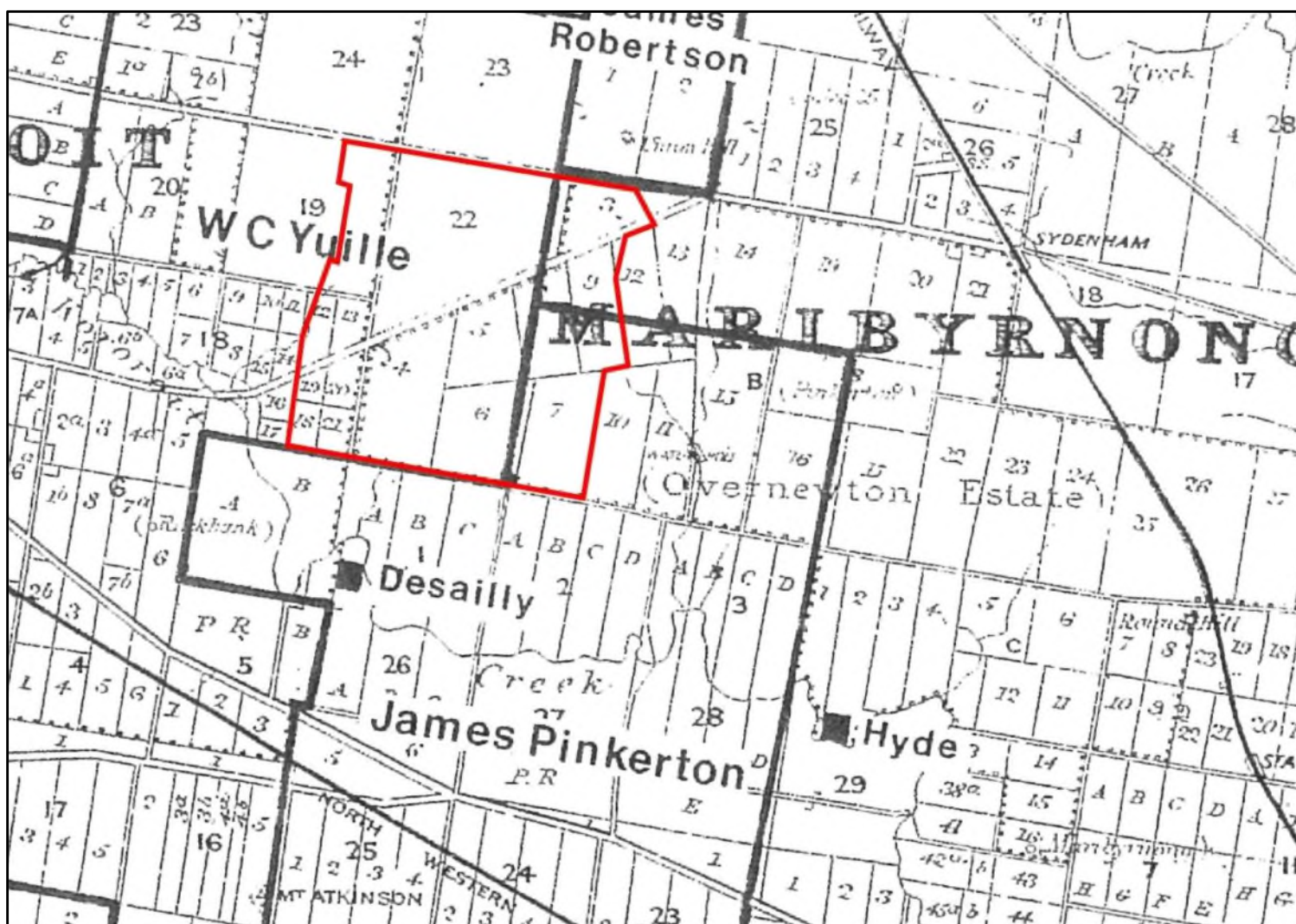


Figure 1: Squatting Runs North West of Melbourne showing the location of the Plumptre PSP area superimposed on James Pinkerton's and Yuille's Runs (Source: Spreadborough and Anderson 1983: maps)

Rockbank Station (W. C. Yuille)

In the 1840s William Cross (W. C.) Yuille, after having held runs on the Barwon River (1836) and at Ballarat and Lake Wendouree, known as Yuille's Swamp (1838), took up the Rockbank run in the Werribee Plains, of which he became sole lessee in 1846 (ADB 2013). The Rockbank run was a very large pastoral lease covering some 11,361 acres (5,498 ha) of the Parishes of Kororoit, Maribyrnong and Pywheittjorrk (Spreadborough and Anderson 1983: 261; Figure 1). Yuille established Rockbank Station immediately south of the Beattys Road crossing on Kororoit Creek (Figure 3), just west of the Plumptre PSP area (Moloney *et al.* 2007: 24), the site of which later became the Rockbank Inn (registered on the VHR as H1933 and the HO as HO10).

Following the extensive Crown land sell-off in the early 1850s, Yuille was forced to sell his land to W. J. T. Clarke and Yuille's run became part of Clarke's vast Rockbank Estate.

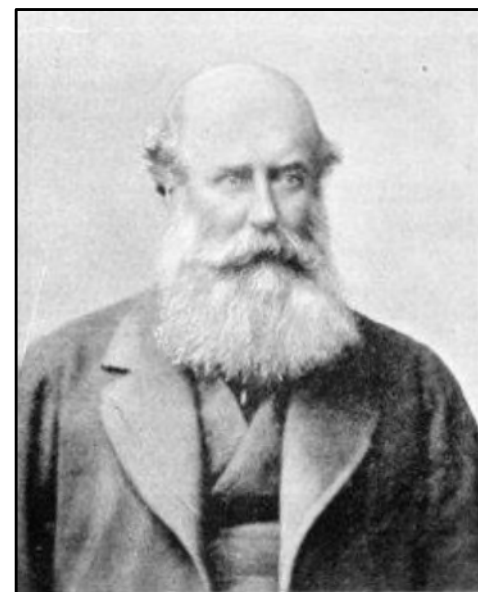


Figure 2: W.C. Yuille (1819-1894), unknown photographer (Source: SLV IAN28/01/74/8)

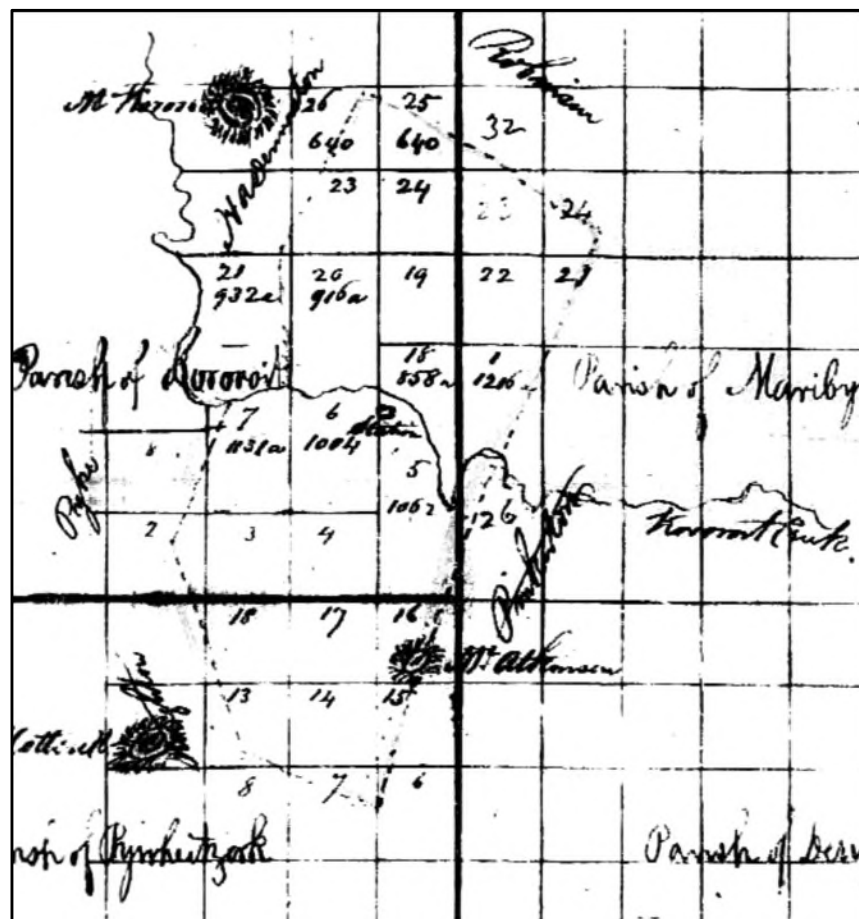


Figure 3: Yuille's Rockbank Station Lease (Source: Lands Victoria, in Moloney *et al.* 2007: 27)

Pinkerton's Run

James Pinkerton obtained the lease to 8,444 acres of the Maribyrnong and Derrimut Parishes in September 1845 (Spreadborough and Anderson 1983: 261; Figure 1) and established a family home on Kororoit Creek between 1845 and 1848, which was 'made of wattle and daub with hession. Some of the better rooms were lined with green baize'. Eventually, Pinkerton's run was swallowed up in Clarke's massive land purchases; the 'grass-right' to Clarke's feehold land (Section 3.1.3) absorbed much of his run. Pinkerton then leased grazing country from Clarke, but following the outbreak of scab and falling wool prices following the easing of the 1850s boom, Pinkerton was unable to afford Clarke's high rent and he was eventually ruined (Peel 1974, in Moloney *et al.* 2007: 27, 29-30).

3.1.3 Freehold: Farming and Pastoralism in the Mid to Late Nineteenth Century

During the early years of the 1850s, the general area was divided into allotments of mostly 640 acres and auctioned by the Crown. This, together with the introduction of the Selection Acts of the 1860s, resulted in three influential people of the time – W. J. T. Clarke, Thomas Chirnside (Werribee Park) and Simon Staughton (Exmoor) – buying up large swathes of land in the region (Cekalovic 2000; Moloney *et al.* 2007: 28; Muir and Newby 1996). Staughton and Clarke were by far the biggest landowners in the Melton Shire, and soon dominated the Port Phillip district.

The Parish of Kororoit map from 1856 (Figure 4) shows that the land between Tarleton's Road and Taylors Road, west of Plumpton Road was set aside as a village reserve, which is also shown in parish plans from the 1880s (Figure 5). The 1880s Parish plans also shows that Clarke held the land on the eastern side of Plumpton Road, Cantwell held 640 acres in the north central section (east of Plumpton Road), whilst the eastern and southern sections, on the northern side of Taylors Road were part of Taylor's Overnewton Estate (Figure 5).

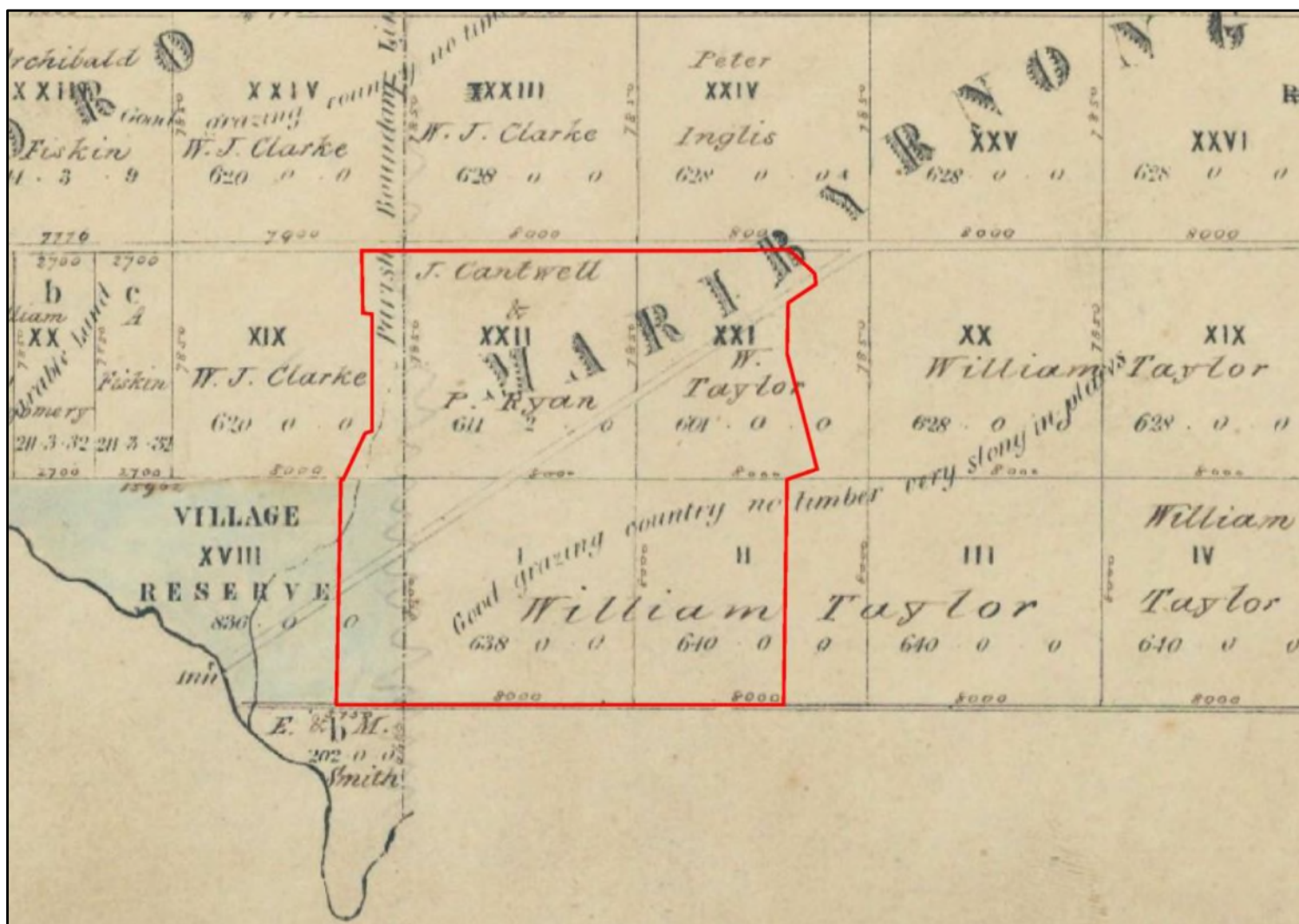


Figure 4: Excerpt from Parishes of Holden, Kororoit and Maribyrnong map from 1854, showing the parcels and land ownership within the Plumpton PSP area (Source: SLV dq001260)

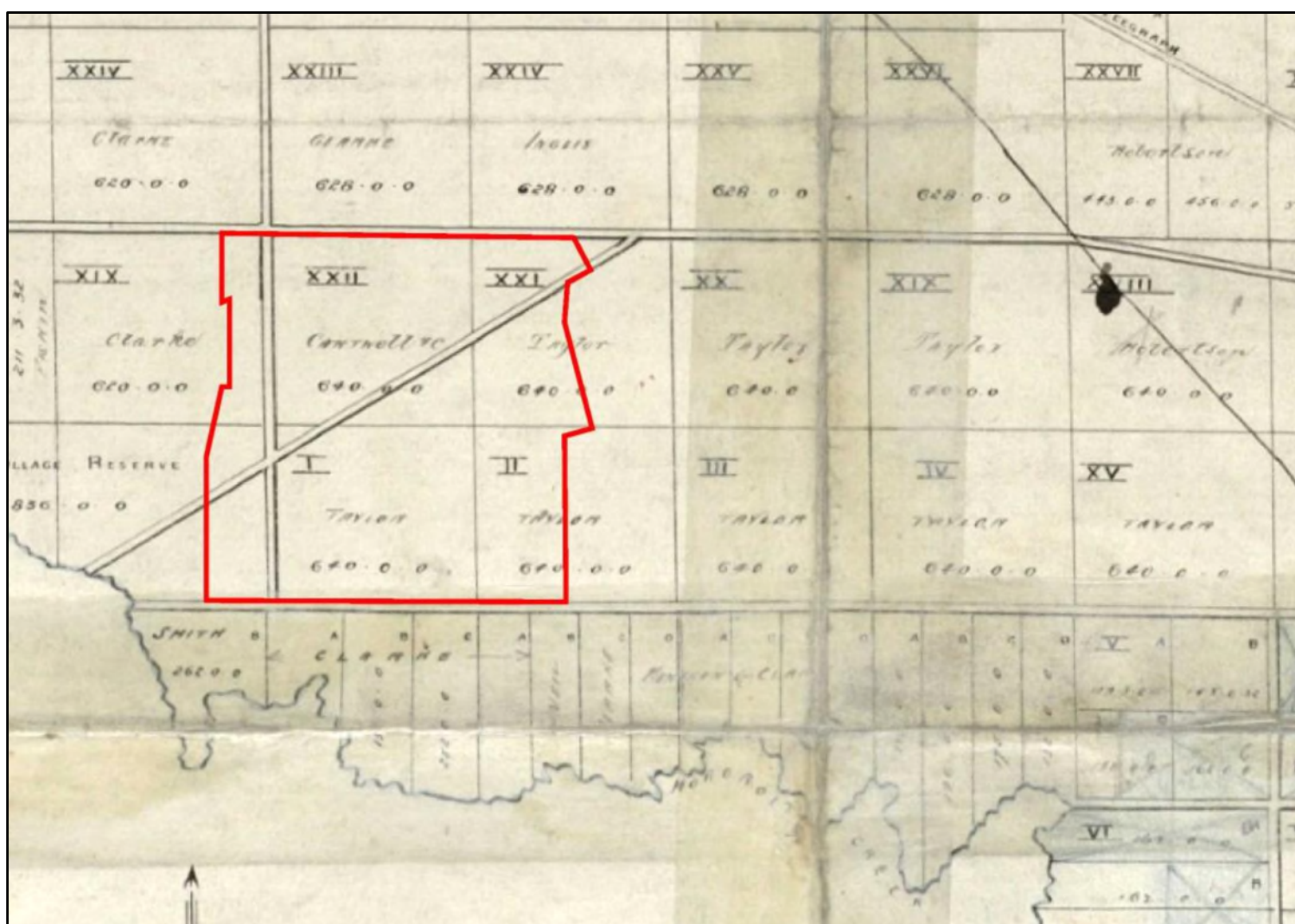


Figure 5: Excerpt from Parish of Maribyrnong map from the 1880s, showing the 640 acre parcels and land ownership within the Plumpton PSP area (Source: SLV ha000970)

3.1.3.1 Large Freehold Pastoral Estates

Rockbank Estate (Clarke family)

In 1850 William John Turner (W. J. T.) Clarke, also known as 'Big' Clarke, arrived from Tasmania and, under the 'special survey' clause of the Waste Lands Act, purchased 31,317 acres of prime Crown land, which he established around Mt Cotterell and Rockbank, down to Truganina and which, under protest from the squatters, incorporated many of the previous squatting runs (Moloney *et al.* 2007: 28-29; ADB 2013a), including Yuille's Rockbank run and Pinkertons run. He was also entitled to three times this land area in 'grass right'. The 'grass-right' entitlement didn't last long and most of that land was auctioned over the next few years. This allowed many of the smaller pastoralists to re-establish themselves, although many could not afford the purchase costs when they were offered for sale. James Pinkerton managed to purchase the pre-emptive right to his 640 acre home station, but the 'grass right' to Clarke's freehold land absorbed much of his run.

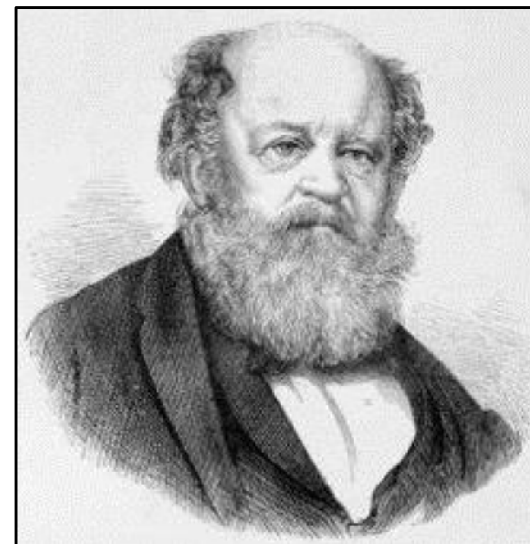


Figure 6: W.J.T. 'Big' Clarke (1805-1874), by Samuel Calvert, 1874 (Source: SLV IAN28/01/74/8)

As part of Clarke's major land purchases, he also purchased some (but not all) much smaller tracts of land along Kororoit Creek, including the western edge of the study area which, at the Crown land sales in 1854, was described as being 'chiefly rich, black soil...excellently adapted for farming' (Moloney *et al.* 2007: 30). With the exception of some land owned by Taylor (Overnewton Estate), Clarke held most of the land from Tarneit through Rockbank, Sunbury, Bolinda Vale and Merriang by 1892. After 'Big' Clarke's death in 1874, his Victorian estates (he also held vast land parcels in Tasmania, South Australia and New Zealand), worth about £1.5 million, were left to his eldest son Sir William John (W.J.) Clarke (ADB 2013a, b).

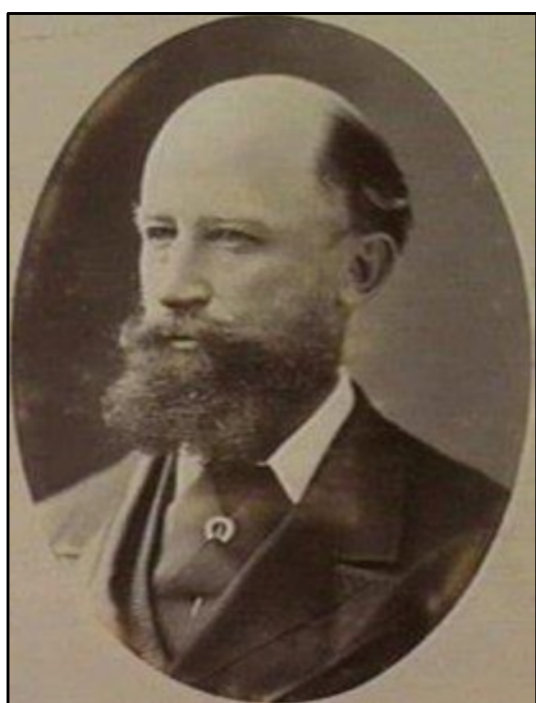


Figure 7: Sir W.J. Clarke (1831-1897), by Johnstone, O'Shannessy & Co, c.1895 (Source: SLV H6257)

W.J. Clarke lived a lavish lifestyle, and built a mansion "Rupertswood" at Sunbury, and was famous for championing scientific farming. He charged his tenants moderate rents with long leases and encouraged improvements. He imported machinery for his farms and subdivided sheep runs in West Bourke (ADB 2013b).

From at least the 1870s, Clarke leased some of his better land along Kororoit Creek to smaller farmers to increase their land holdings, sometimes with conditions attached on how the land was to be used. For example, Clarke leased land along Kororoit Creek to Mary Tarleton, for 'grazing purposes only', and not to 'keep any sheep' or 'break up or cultivate the premises' (Moloney *et al.* 2007: 31).

In 1882 Clarke was made a baronet for his role as a prominent colonist and for his services as president of the Melbourne Exhibition of 1880-81. As a governor of the Colonial Bank of Australia, a position he held for 20 years, he was involved in speculation and lost heavily in the bank crash of 1893.

Clarke died in 1895 and, although he lost much of his fortune in the bank crash, his estate still realized well over £1 million, and was distributed to his widow and ten surviving children (ADB 2013b). 'Rupertswood' and much of the landholdings in western Melbourne, including lands south of Taylors Road (Land Title, volume 3211, folio 196), passed to his eldest son Sir Rupert Turner Havelock Clarke (the second baronet).

In 1897 Sir Rupert Clarke received local pressure to make land available for farming and considered leasing 40,000 acres to dairy farmers after (Moloney *et al.* 2007: 37). However in the early years of the 20th century, Clarke began subdividing and selling off portions of the estate. In 1907 he sold off the portion of the estate south of the Western Highway, around Mt Atkinson Road, and the balance of the Rockbank Estate to the east and north of the Melton Shire (Moloney *et al.* 2007: 62-63). Title documents for the lands south of Taylors Road show that these parcels were also part of that sell-off (Land Title, volume 3211, folio 196).

Overnewton Estate (W.J. Taylor)

William Taylor arrived in the Port Phillip district in 1840 and, after having purchased a sheep run on the Moorabool River near Geelong and taking up 206,000 acres (83,366 ha) in the Wimmera region, he purchased Overnewton, an estate of some 13,000 acres (5,260 ha) at Keilor in 1849 (ADB 2013; Keilor Historical Society 2013). The Estate included much of the area between Mt Kororoit and Sydenham (Moloney *et al.* 2007: 32).

Taylor died in June 1903. By this time his property assets were seriously eroded by mortgage debt and his estate was valued for probate at £117,446. However when all of his mortgage debts were discharged his estate was found to have a final deficit of some £12,000 (ADB 2013; Moloney *et al.* 2007: 37). In 1904 Overnewton Estate was sold off at auction (Figure 8).

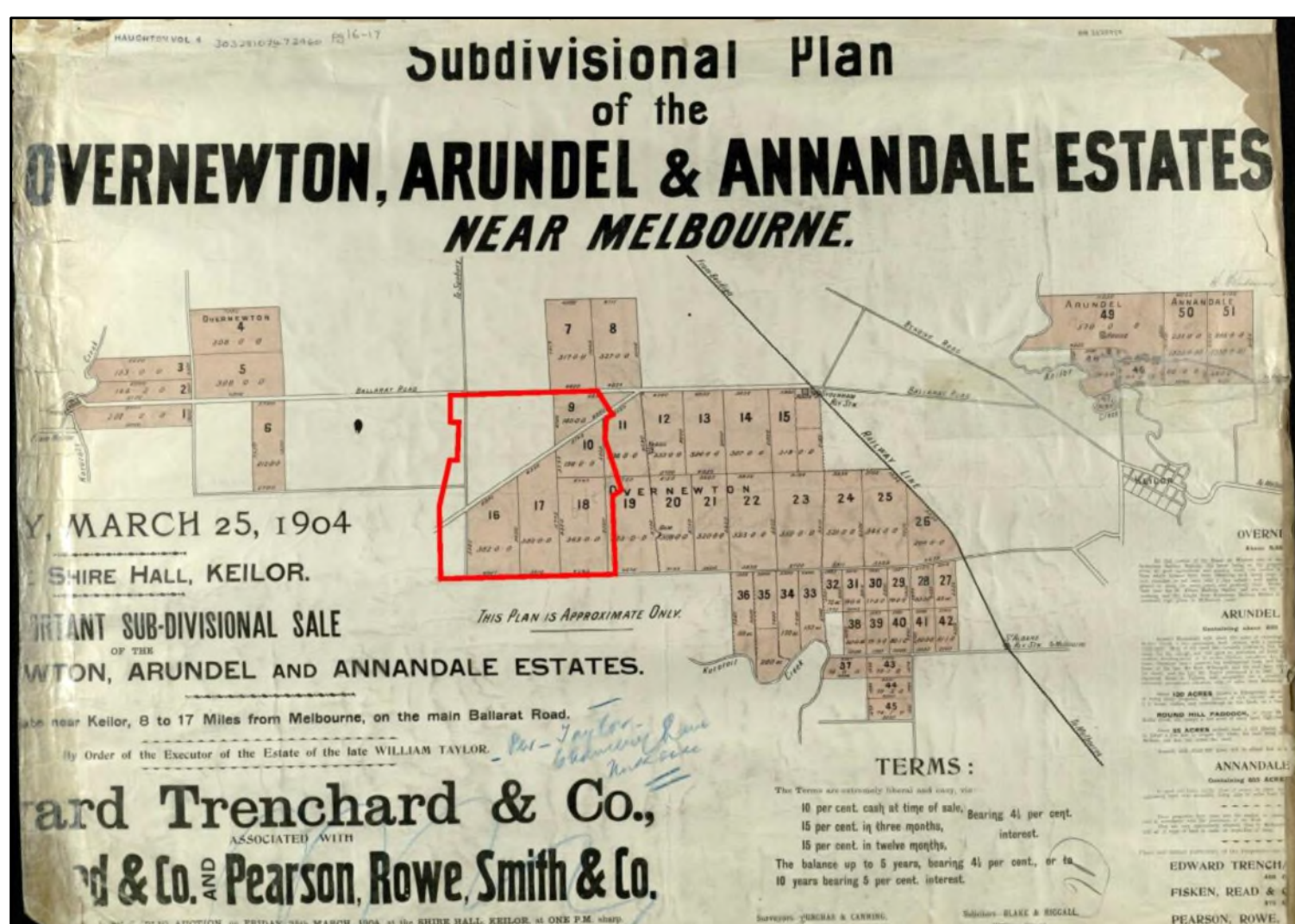


Figure 8: Subdivision plan from 1904, following William Taylor's death, showing the proposed lots in the southern and eastern sections of the Plumpton PSP area (Source: SLV ha000521)

3.1.4 Smaller Farming Allotments and 'Closer Settlement'

In the early years of the 20th century, lands that were once part of the vast pastoral estates were progressively sold. The vast sheep-runs that dominated the region for more than half a century were considered by many in the region to have obstructed progress and, in the early 20th century gave way to small dairy and hay farms (Moloney *et al.* 2007: 36). From 1891 to 1911, the population of the Melton Shire increased by 60% as a direct result of the availability of smaller allotments for farming. Under the *Closer Settlement Act 1904*, land was acquired by the government and subdivided into small farm allotments. Following Taylor's death, the Overnewton Estate was subdivided into smaller allotments of between 138 and 309 acres (56 to 125 ha), as part the government's 'Closer Settlement' Scheme which, in the years following World War I, was designed to settle returning soldiers with their own land.

The lot layout shown in the subdivision plan for the Overnewton Estate in 1904 did not go ahead as originally planned, at least in the south eastern section. Parish plans from 1917 show that a minor amendment was made to align some of the properties more or less parallel to Beattys Road (Figure 9).

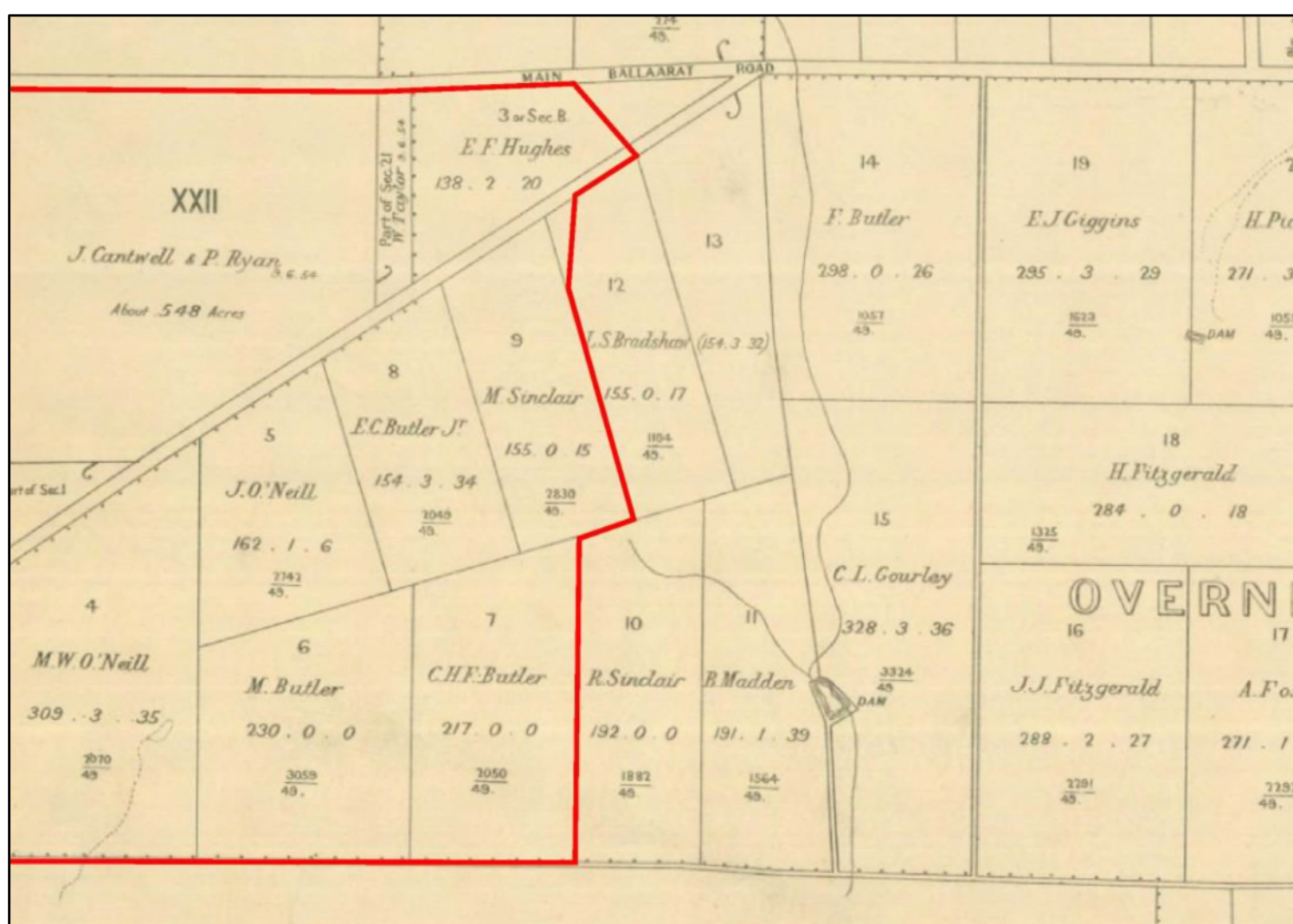


Figure 9: Excerpt from Parish of Maribyrnong map from 1917 showing the original ownership of lands in the eastern half of the Plumpton PSP area following the sell-off of lands in the big estates in the early 20th century. The dotted line denotes the boundary of the former Overnewton Estate (Source: SLV dq006541).

The original farmers who purchased the land in 1917 were the Butler family, who held a total of about 61 acres (25 ha) in the south east quadrant of the PSP, the O'Neill's, who held about 471 acres (191 ha) east of Plumpton Road and south of Beattys Road, the Sinclairs, who held 155 acres (63 ha) along with another 192 acres outside the PSP area, and E. Hughes, who held 138 acres (56 ha) in the north east corner of the PSP. The 1917 plans still show Cantwell and Ryan as holding 548 acres (222 ha) of their original 640 acre allotment, which they acquired in June 1854, although it is likely that the land was legally someone else's by 1917. East of Plumpton Road, land in the south west corner of the PSP area

OVERNEWTON ESTATE

T.L. Aitken
80 . 2 . 28
Master of Education
7 . 0 . 0

E.S. Watters
83 . 1 . 21
1872
45.

R. Trethowan
105 . 1 . 0

XX
W. Montgomery
193 . 3 . 10 211 . 3 . 32

C
M. Tarleton
221 . 1 . 6
1908
45.

XIX
W.J. Clarke
620 . 0 . 0

XXI
C. Montgomery
1 . 0 . 0

D
Montgomery
0 . 0 . 0

VIIA
W.J. T. Clarke
93 . 1 . 2 85 . 3 . 45 38 . 3 . 27

W.H. Powell
80 . 0 . 0
20/4468

C. Beatty
35 . 0 . 0
31/0001

W. Murphy
47 . 1 . 16
31/0124

MARIBYRNONG

TO MELBOURNE

- Two on the Butlers' land, one on Lot 7 (C.H.F. Butler) and one on Lot 8 (E.C. Butler);
- One on Lot 5 (J. O'Neill);
- One on Cantwell and Ryans property adjacent to Beattys Road;
- One on Hugh's property on Main Ballarat Road (Melton Highway); and
- One on Cahill's property east of Plumpton Road.

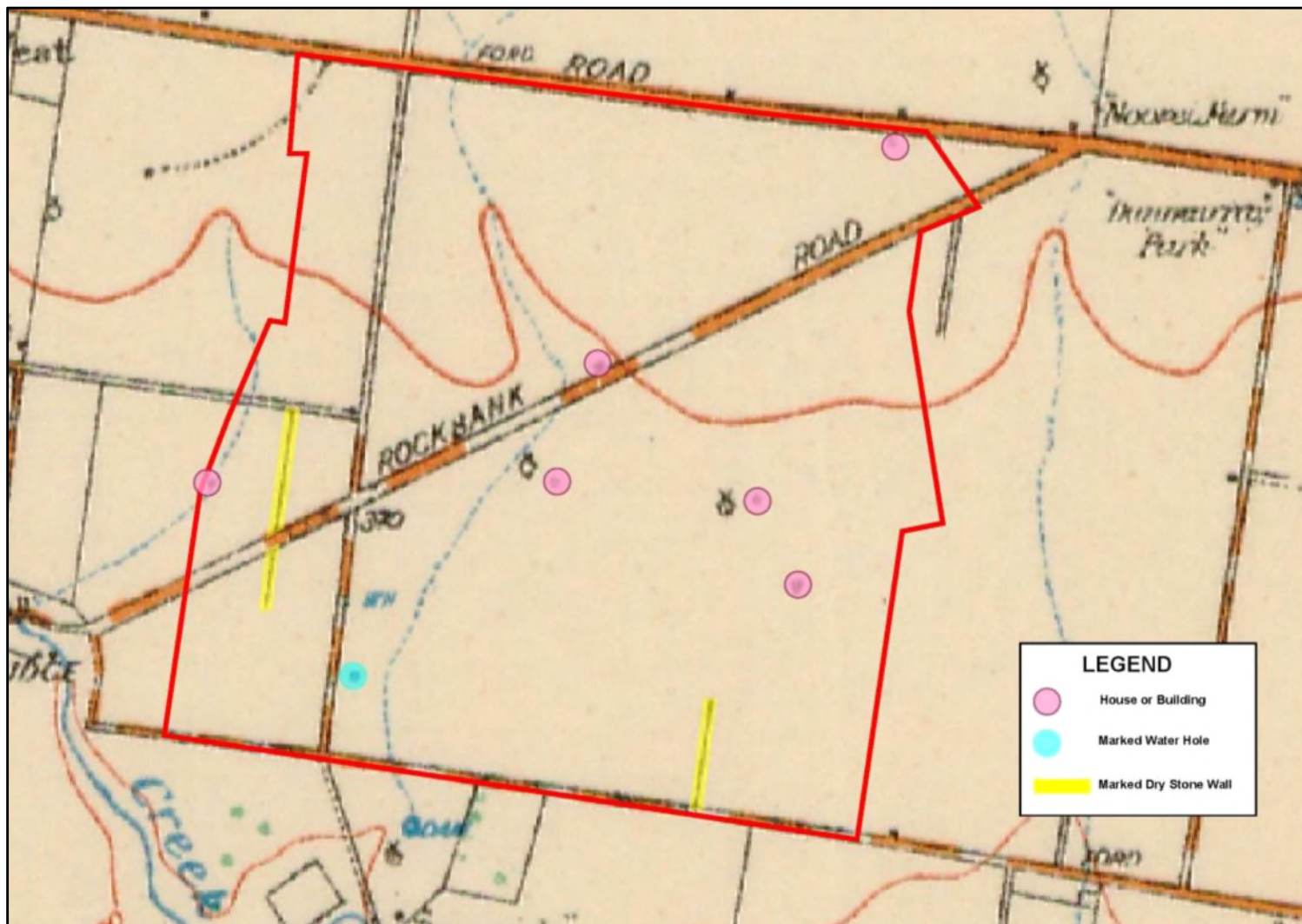


Figure 11: Excerpt from the Ordnance Survey map from 1917 showing the locations of homesteads, dry stone walls, and water holes. Two wind mills are also marked (Source: SLV vc001517-001)

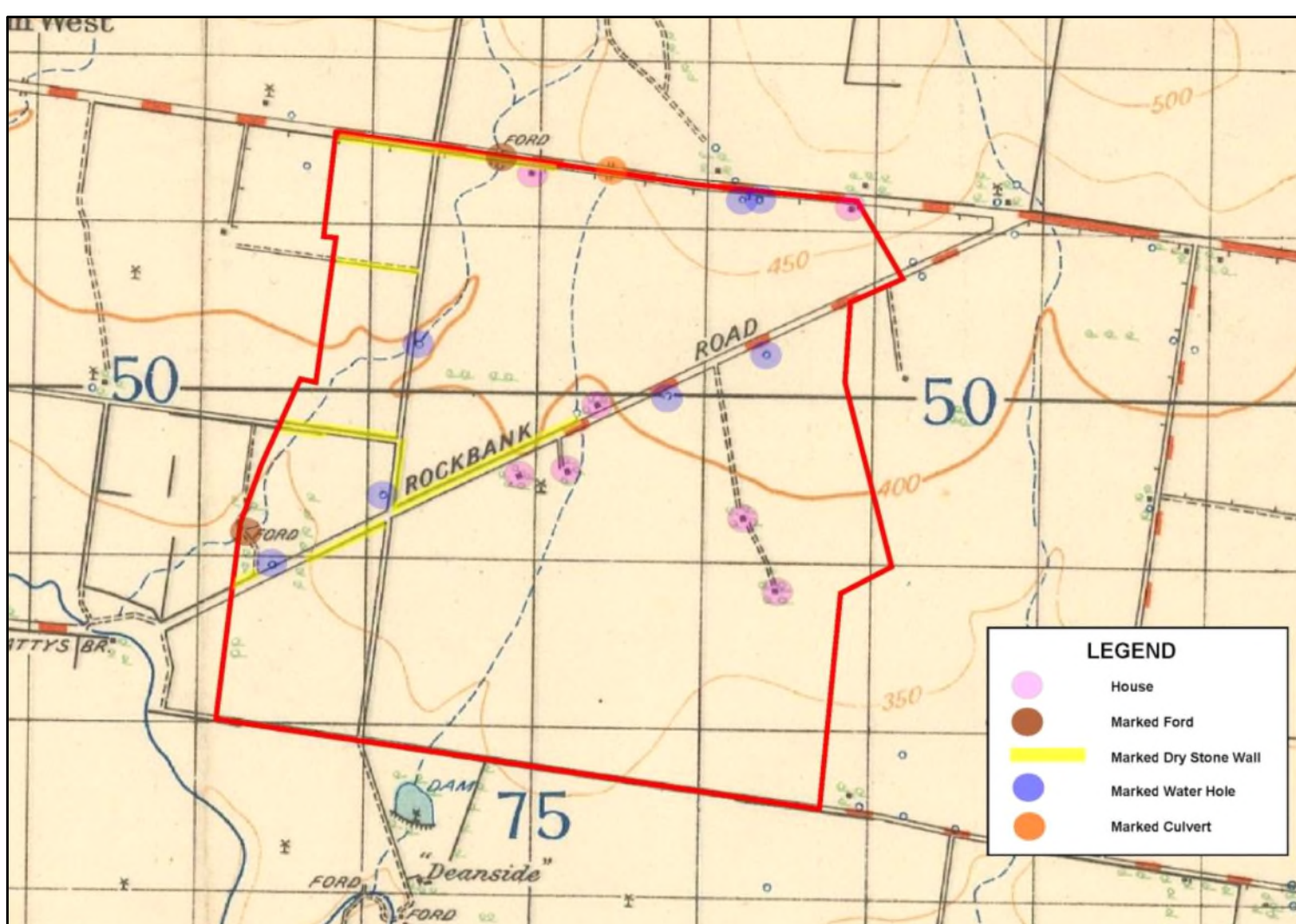


Figure 12: Excerpt from Ordnance Survey map from 1938 showing the farmhouses, dry stone walls, water holes and wind mills, as well as some road infrastructure including two fords and a culvert on Melton Highway (Source: SLV ey000237)

3.1.4.1 **Property Fencing and Stock Management**

During the squatting era, fencing of properties was largely unknown because of the huge capital investment involved. However from the 1850s, once freehold was obtained, there was far more incentive to erect fencing particularly when the gold-rush resulted in a shortage of labour for shepherding (which was the primary form of stock management during the squatting era). According to Moloney *et al.* (2007: 35), the Clarkes (W.J.T Clarke and his heirs) were responsible for construction of nearly half the dry stone walls in the Melton Shire, with 74 km of extant walls built as part of Clarke's Rockbank Estate.

Availability of abundant basaltic fieldstone, which is thought to have covered 20-50% of the ground surface across the volcanic plains, is a major factor in the use of stone for building early farmsteads, dry stone walls or dry stone dams. On the larger pastoral properties, stock were often free to roam but the smaller farming properties required boundary definition as well as internal enclosures to exclude stock from crops and home gardens, resulting in a much denser pattern of walls in those area (Vines 1990: 33).

In the Plumpton PSP area, historical mapping suggests that few dry stone walls were constructed. The ordnance survey map from 1917 (Figure 11), at the time when the Overnewton Estate was subdivided, only two walls are depicted:

- One oriented north-south on the north side of Taylor's Road partially marking the boundary between M. Butler's Lot 6 and C.H.F. Butler's Lot 7 (refer Figure 9); and
- One oriented north-south on both sides of Beattys Road (east of Plumpton Road), which subdivided Cahill's and Strettle's holdings (refer Figure 10).

By 1938 (Figure 12), neither of these walls are depicted, but new walls are shown along Beattys Road (Rockbank Road), Plumpton Road, Tarlton Road, Melton Highway and an unnamed property access track on the east side of Plumpton Road. Of note is that these walls all occur in the western half of the PSP area, and there are none in the former Overnewton Estate lands.

3.1.4.2 **Watering Stock**

According to Peel (1974, cited in Moloney *et al.* 2007: 35) one of the first 'permanent improvements' that pastoralists instigating after achieving security of tenure was to erect fences and sink waterholes. Provision of water to stock was problematic in the area due to the low rainfall in the local area and possibly due to the abundance of basaltic rock at shallow depths. In the early years of pastoralism, Clarke's innovative solution was to construct a series of dry stone wall dams, one of which is still extant at the Rockbank Estate head station just south of the PSP area. From the 1870s, large 'tanks' (dams across dry gullies) began to come into general use in Australia, but these were unlikely to have been used extensively in the Melton Shire. By the 1880s and 1890s, windmills pumping stock water were becoming widespread (Hughes *et al.* 1885, cited in Moloney *et al.* 2007: 36).

Early 20th century maps show an interesting picture: in 1917 (Figure 11) only one 'water hole' is shown (on M.W. O'Neill's property on the eastern side of Plumpton Road) and two wind mills: one on J. O'Neill's Lot 5 and one on E.C. Butler's Lot 8. By 1938 (Figure 12), the O'Neill windmill is shown but Butler's is not. O'Neill's water hole is not shown but seven new water holes are shown in the northern half of the PSP.

3.1.5 Transport

Prior to the 1850s inland travel was rudimentary but, following the gold rushes, the road to Mount Macedon and Ballarat (variously known as Ballarat Road, Main Ballarat Road, and now Western Freeway) was thronged with traffic and was one of Victoria's most important inland roads. As the district grew, Cobb and Co began to use the Ballarat Road as a stopover between Melbourne and Ballarat, and the railway was extended to the Melton township in 1884, increasing transport options for people and goods and likely contributing in a population boom in the area at this time (Edmonds and Long 2006).

Within the Plumpton PSP area, the road layout existing today is little changed from the layout from the latter half of the 19th century, with the current alignment of Melton Highway, Taylors Road, Plumpton Road and Beattys Road all present by the 1880s (Figure 5).

With the breakup of the vast pastoral estates for small-scale farming in the early 20th century, new roads were constructed to service the farms and small communities in the region such as nearby Rockbank (e.g. Beattys Road [formerly Rockbank Road]). Beattys Road, and its crossing of Kororoit Creek, apparently originated to provide access to Yuille's pastoral homestation, which was rebuilt as the Rockbank Inn during the gold rush (Moloney *et al.* 2008: 104-105). The present line of Taylors Road itself was also the main track to Melbourne, appearing on plans as early as 1839. The track that now forms Taylors Road continued on via Footscray and on to Williamstown, suggesting that this was probably one of the original routes that squatters drove the first flocks into the western plains (Arrowsmith, in Moloney *et al.* 2008: 105). This highlights the significance of Taylors and Beattys Roads as early transportation routes during the squatting and gold rush eras (Maloney *et al.* 2008: 105). In the PSP area only Tarleton Road, established prior to 1917, is a significant road addition since the 1880s.

Evidence of early road construction in the PSP area is likely to be confined to evidence of early culverts (one is shown on the 1938 map on Melton Highway) and fords across water-courses (two are shown on the 1938 map), particularly where these occur on rural properties. Major road upgrades during the 20th century is likely to have destroyed the majority of any of the original fabric, leaving only the alignments themselves as a visible link in the early settlement of the region. However, some fabric may still be visible on 'unimproved' roads (e.g. Beattys Road).

3.1.6 Community

Continuing settlement in the area over the next century saw the growth of smaller rural settlements in the nearby region, such as Plumpton to the west of the PSP area at Leakes Road. However, within the PSP area community development has had little effect and the utilisation of the land has changed little since the early days of pastoralism and farming. Up to the present day the area is still predominantly used for agriculture and pastoral activities. Immediately east of the PSP more recent residential development has encroached into the farming tradition of the area.

3.2 Thematic Framework

Within *Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes* (Heritage Council of Victoria 2010) there are nine main themes with a variety of sub-themes addressing natural, historical and Aboriginal cultural heritage. The aim of the thematic framework is to provide a holistic and strategic approach to heritage understanding and management.

The relevant historical themes and sub-themes for the study area are shown in Table 1 and discussed in the following sections.

3.2.1 The Natural Environment

The natural environment helped to shape the character of the local area and the way it developed. The naturally grassy plains of the district were favourable for pastoral activities, providing ample fodder for grazing stock (sheep and cattle). Early in the region's history, the rich volcanic soils were recognized for their potential for agricultural development, such as cereal and vegetable farming. Abundant basaltic field stone (surficial and subsurface), together with shallow clays and timber resources provided readily available building materials for the construction of homes and farm complexes.

Relevant historical themes include:

- 1.6 Living with natural processes (e.g. responding to and experiencing drought; utilizing natural and seasonal resources);
- 2.3 Adapting to diverse environments.

3.2.2 Squatting and Early Settlement

Following favourable reports from early explorers regarding the Western District's suitability for pastoral activities, large tracts of land were taken up in squatting runs. The increased settlement during the 1850s as a result of the gold rush, together with the opening up of the land to smallholders as a result of the Selection Acts of the 1860s, allowed the establishment of small farming operations.

Relevant historical themes include:

- 2.6 Promoting settlement (e.g. Crown survey and sales of country and town lands; Selecting and clearing land for small-scale farming);
- 4.3 Grazing and raising livestock;
- 4.4 Farming.

3.2.3 Transforming the Land

Land in the Plumpton district was slowly transformed from the early Contact period of the 1830s through the clearing of land (both stone and timber), the introduction of grazing livestock, and the establishment of agricultural industries.

Relevant historical themes include:

- 2.6 Promoting settlement (e.g. selecting and clearing land for small-scale farming);
- 4.6 Exploiting other mineral, forest and water resources (exploiting natural resources for building materials);
- 4.7 Transforming the land and waterways (e.g. clearing the land and 'civilising' the landscape).

3.2.4 Farming

Following the sell-off of Crown land during the 1850s and the introduction of the Selection Acts in the 1860s, the large pastoral estates gave way to small-scale, mixed farming enterprises in the form of freehold farming on subdivided land or with tenant farming on larger pastoral properties.

Relevant historical themes include:

4.3 Grazing and raising livestock;

4.4 Farming.

3.2.5 Migrating and Making a Home

With favourable reports regarding the pastoral potential of the district, migrants from English and Scottish backgrounds began to establish in the district during the 1830s and 40s. The region was a busy thoroughfare during the gold rushes of the 1850s and small communities began to establish in the region to cater for travellers. In the 1860s, freehold land became more widely available and the population increased with the establishment of small farms and communities. Closer settlement also encouraged further migration from English people. In the post-war period, immigration of people from other European nations began to increase.

Relevant historical themes include:

2.4 Arriving in a new land;

2.5 Migrating and making a home;

2.6 Maintaining distinctive cultures;

8.6 Marking the phases of life;

9.1 Participating in sport and recreation.

3.2.6 Connecting People by Transport

Prior to the 1850s inland travel was rudimentary but, following the gold rushes, the road to Mount Macedon and Ballarat (variously known as Ballarat Road, Main Ballarat Road, and now Western Freeway) was thronged with traffic and was one of Victoria's most important inland roads. As the district grew, Cobb and Co began to use the Ballarat Road as a stopover between Melbourne and Ballarat, and the railway was extended to the Melton township in 1884, increasing transport options for people and goods and likely contributing in a population boom in the area at this time (Edmonds and Long 2006).

With the breakup of the vast pastoral estates for small-scale farming in the early 20th century, new roads were constructed to service the farms and small communities in the region such as nearby Rockbank. Within the Kororoit PSP area, the road layout existing today is little changed from the layout from the latter half of the 19th century, with the current alignment of Taylors Road, Clarkes Road, Monaghans Road, Deanside Drive and Neale Road West all present by the 1880s. Deanside Drive is an improvement of the original access track to the Deanside complex and Sinclairs

Road is an improvement of the original access track to Stoneleigh; the road was extended from Stoneleigh north to Taylors Road sometime after 1938 (Figure 10). Gray Court, Earl Place Reed Court, Vere Court and Waugh Court all date from the mid- to late- 20th century.

Evidence of early road construction in the PSP area is likely to be confined to evidence of early culverts and fords across water-courses (two are shown on the 1938 map), particularly where these occur on rural properties. Major road upgrades during the 20th century is likely to have destroyed the majority of any of the original fabric, leaving only the alignments themselves as a visible link in the early settlement of the region.

Relevant historical themes include:

3.1 Establishing pathways;

3.4 Linking Victorians by road in the 20th century.

3.2.7 Developing Industry

Early industries in the Melton Shire included dairying, chaff milling, quarrying and saw milling. There is no known archaeological evidence of any of these industries in the Plumpton PSP area.

Relevant historical themes include:

5.1 Processing raw materials.

3.2.8 Developing Sport and Recreation

The Melton region helped establish the horse, hound and hare sporting pastimes. Foxes were introduced into Victoria in 1845. Pykes Hunt (1844 to 1854) at Pyle's Run, near Melton, was one of the earliest foxhounds established in Victoria (Gardiner 2010). Greyhound racing was established at Diggers Rest, with the first coursing built at Plumpton in 1882. Archaeological remains associated with foxhound sports include dry stone wall/timber fence coursings, circuits and enclosures (Moloney *et al.* 2007: 131-132).

Relevant historical themes include:

9.1 Participating in sport and recreation.

Table 1: Summary of the Thematic Framework for the Plumpton PSP Area and Examples of Potential Evidence

Theme	Sub-Theme	Prompts	Examples of Places and Objects
1.0 Shaping Victoria's environment	1.5 Living with natural processes	Responding to and experiencing drought, bushfire and floods	Irrigation channels; Tanks, dams, water holes
2.0 Peopling Victoria's places and landscapes	2.3 Adapting to diverse environments	Responding to dryer climates	Irrigation channels; Tanks, dams, water holes
	2.5 Migrating and making a home	Migrating to seek opportunity	

Theme	Sub-Theme	Prompts	Examples of Places and Objects
2.0 cont.	2.7 Promoting settlement	Selecting and clearing land for small-scale farming	Former property boundaries (treelines, fencing)
3.0 Connecting Victorians by transport and communications	3.1 Establishing pathways	Providing stream crossings	Fords, bridges, culverts, avenue plantings
	3.4 Linking Victorians by road in the 20 th century	Formalising early routes	milestones
4.0 Transforming and managing land and natural resources	4.3 Grazing and raising livestock	Squatting and the wool industry	Pastoral landscapes; Homesteads and outbuildings (shearing sheds, shepherd's huts, wool stores, sheep washes);
		Dealing with failure and hardship	Abandoned pastoral stations;
		Marking property boundaries	Boundary markers; Fencing (inc. dry stone walls)
	4.4 Farming	Protecting and containing crops and stock	Fences (inc. dry stone walls); Windrows and hedges;
		Dealing with hardship and failure	Abandoned farm houses
		Stock management	Stock yards; Stock watering (troughs, pipes, dams)
	4.6 Exploiting other mineral, forest and water resources	Exploiting natural resources for building materials	Quarries and clay pits; Timber industry places (e.g. saw pits); Stone building ruins.
		Using and managing water for irrigation and industry	Irrigation channels
	4.7 Transforming the land and 'civilising' the landscape	Farming cultural landscapes	Dry stone walls
5.0 Building Victoria's industry and workforce	5.1 Processing raw materials	Processing primary produce for local and export markets	Deanside woolshed complex
6.0 Building towns, cities and the garden state	6.1 Establishing settlements in the Port Phillip district	Places of first settlement	Squatting sites (e.g. Deanside)
8.0 Building community life	8.6 Marking the phases of life	Birth, life, death	Isolated graves; cemeteries
9.0 Shaping cultural and creative life	9.1 Participating in sport and recreation	Horse, hound and hare sporting industry	Dry stone wall/timber fence coursings; Circuits and enclosures.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The section reviews the historical context of the study area and includes an examination of historical and ethnohistorical sources, previously recorded historical archaeological site types and locations near to the study area, and previous archaeological studies undertaken in the surrounding area. Together, these sources of information can be used to formulate a predictive site statement concerning what types of sites are most likely to occur in the study area, and where these are most likely to occur.

4.1 Database Searches

As a result of a review of the various relevant databases, a total of **one (1) registered heritage place** was identified within the study area. The database review is discussed below in relation to the study area and surrounding region.

4.1.1 Victorian Heritage Register

The Victorian Heritage Register (VHR), established by the Victorian *Heritage Act 1995*, provides the highest level of statutory protection for historical sites in Victoria. Only the State's most significant historical sites are listed on the VHR.

A search of the VHR was conducted for the study area. There are **no** places listed on the VHR within the Plumpton PSP area.

4.1.2 Victorian Heritage Inventory

The Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI), established by the Victorian *Heritage Act 1995*, provides the statutory protection for all historical archaeological sites, areas or relics, and private collections of relics, in Victoria. Sites listed on the VHI are not of State significance but are usually of regional or local significance.

A search of the VHI was conducted for the study area. There are **no** places listed on the VHI within the Plumpton PSP area.

4.1.3 Victorian War Heritage Inventory

The Victorian War Heritage Inventory (VWHI) was established in 2011 as a means to catalogue Victoria's war history such as war memorials, avenues of honour, memorial buildings, former defence sites and places of commemoration. Places listed on the VWHI do not currently have discrete statutory protection, however many are concurrently listed on the VHR, VHI, or local planning schemes.

A search of the VWHI was conducted for the study area. There are **no** places listed on the VWHI within the Plumpton PSP area.

4.1.4 Local Council

The study area is located within the Melton City Council and is governed by the Melton Planning Scheme. Planning schemes set out policies and provisions for the use, development and protection of land.

The Heritage Overlay (HO) of the Melton City Council Planning Scheme was examined for the PSP area. There is **one (1) heritage place** listed on the heritage overlay (Map 4):

- HO58 House at 911-935 Melton Highway, Plumpton.

This heritage place includes the house and boundary plantings of Monterey cypresses. Under the planning scheme, heritage tree controls apply to the curtilage of this place. It also contains outbuildings and fences that **are not** exempt under Clause 43.01-3 of the Planning Scheme; that is, they are not exempt from the notice requirements under Section 52(1) (a), (b) and (d), and the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. However, prohibited uses may be permitted.

In addition to the HO, it should also be noted that the *Melton Heritage Study* contains schedules that list places that may be worthy of consideration for protection: Schedule 3 lists conservation desirable places and Schedule 4 lists potential archaeological sites. There is **one (1) places** listed in Schedule 3 (Conservation Desirable Places) of Volume 1 of the Heritage Study in the Plumpton PSP area. (Map 4):

- CD 408 – Ruin (Reputed Hotel) on Melton Highway, c.150 m south of road, c.400 m east of Plumpton Road.

4.1.5 National Trust Register

The National Trust of Australia (Victoria) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that classifies a number of heritage places. Listing on the National Trust Register (NTR) does not impose any statutory protection, however often National Trust listings are supported by the local council Planning Scheme.

A search of the NTR was conducted for the study area. There are **no** places listed on the NTR within the Plumpton PSP area.

4.1.6 Commonwealth and International Heritage Lists

The Commonwealth Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC) maintains the National Heritage List (NHL), a register of exceptional natural, Aboriginal and historical heritage places which contribute to Australia's national identity. SEWPaC also maintains the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL), a register of natural, Aboriginal or historical heritage places located on Commonwealth land which have Commonwealth heritage values.

A place can be listed on one or both lists, and placement on either list gives the place statutory protection under the EPBC Act.

The World Heritage List (WHL) lists cultural and natural heritage places which are considered by the World Heritage Council to have outstanding universal value.

SEWPaC also maintains the Register of the National Estate (RNE) which is a list of natural, Indigenous and historic heritage places throughout Australia. Following amendments to the *Australian Heritage Council Act 2003*, the RNE was frozen on 19 February 2007, and no new places were added or removed after that date. The Register ceased operation as a statutory register in February 2012. However, items listed on the RNE may continue to be considered during approvals processes.

Listings on the NHL, CHL, WHL and RNE are accessed via the Australian Heritage Database (AHD), managed by SEWPaC.

A search of the AHD was conducted for the study area. There were **no** heritage places listed on the AHD for the Plumpton PSP area.

4.1.7 Discussion

There are currently no sites of State significance registered on the VHR or VHI within the PSP area or of Commonwealth significance listed on the NHL or CHL. The only currently listed heritage site is a house on Melton Highway near the north eastern corner of the PSP area. The site (HO58) consists of a moderately intact Late Victorian/Federation era house built in 1906. The site includes a large landscaped land parcel with both exotic trees and plants and open grassed areas, as well as an intact substantial row of Monterey Cypruses along the front of the property. The site is locally significant for its architectural values and as one of the few remaining houses in the Melton Shire built as result of the Closer Settlement Board's acquisition and subdivision of the Overnewton Estate. The house is shown on the 1917 and 1938 Army Ordnance maps (Figures 11 and 12).

4.1.8 Summary

A review of the relevant historical heritage registers and databases identified **one (1) registered heritage place** within the study area. A summary of the relevant historical archaeological sites appears in Table 2.

Table 2: Summary of Previously Identified Sites within the Study Area

Register & Site No	Site Name	Site Type	Protection	Property Ref No
HO58	House (911-935 Melton Highway, Plumpton	Built Structure – Residential	Local (Planning Scheme)	25

4.2 Previous Archaeological Investigations and Heritage Studies

Regional and localised archaeological investigations have established the general character of historical archaeological sites located within the same geographic region as the study area and heritage studies have been conducted for the Shire of Melton. These studies often define the historical character of the LGA or for a specific township, predominantly for built heritage but also for archaeological heritage. This information, together with the information gathered in Section 4.1, can be used to form the basis for a site prediction statement (Section 4.3).

The *Shire of Melton Heritage Study* (Moloney *et al.* 2007) was adopted in 2008, and provides a large-scale thematic history of the Melton area, in addition to listing all known historical cultural heritage present within the Shire (at time of publication). This study was completed in two stages, with Stage One being dedicated to developing the history of the Shire and reviewing areas where historical cultural heritage may be present. Stage One identified a total of 475 places of 'potential heritage significance', including places with state or national significance (n=8), places recorded on the Shire Council's Heritage Overlay (n=113), places listed as "Conservation Desirable" (n=57), places recommended for conservation following future heritage studies (n=22) and places listed as "historical and potential archaeological places" (n=61). Stage Two of the heritage study listed the details of these places, as well as summarising the results and implications of Stage One of the report. The Heritage Study indicated that the most prevalent historical places in the Shire of Melton were those associated with farming activities and rural settlement, such as dry stone walls, homesteads, wells, and farming complexes.

The Shire of Melton also undertook a study of dry stone walls within the council area. This large scale study was one of the first of its kind to be attempted in Victoria, and aimed to provide a condition and significance assessment for all the dry stone walls present in the Shire. The study involved both the assessment of the known dry stone walls within the study area, and targeted surveys within the shire in order to identify previously unrecorded dry stone wall sites. These

surveys included part of the current study area although, whilst the study did identify dry stone walls within and surrounding the current study area, the majority of the current study area was not extensively surveyed. The report also identified the particular prevalence of dry stone walls within the Melton Shire region and highlighted the likelihood for many more stone walls to be present in the Shire that were not identified in the study. The report therefore indicated areas where future studies should be undertaken in order to assess the potential presence of dry stone walls – these areas did include sections of the current study area.

Several smaller-scale studies have also been undertaken which included land within the current study area. Of these, the most relevant is the survey undertaken by Murphy and Morris undertaken in 2011 (reported by Kurpiel, 2011). This survey, undertaken for the proposed installation of a subsurface gas pipeline, runs approximately 150 m into the southern section of the current study area at the pipeline's northern end. The investigation by Murphy and Morris identified a dry stone wall within their study area, however this was not recorded with Heritage Victoria as it was not considered to be of sufficient significance. Instead, the dry stone wall was to be included in the Melton Dry Stone Wall study being undertaken at the time. This wall does not appear to be located within the current study area, however no specific details of the wall's location were given in Murphy and Morris', or Kurpiel's, report.

A summary of all historical archaeological reports and heritage studies which have included the study area appears below (Table 3).

Table 3: Archaeological Reports Relevant to the Study Area

Author Date Report #	Description and Location	Results
Cochrane, G. 1999 #803	An archaeological survey was undertaken along the drainage channels associated with Kororoit Creek, and along the alignment of Stony Creek. Part of this investigation was undertaken within the current study area, in the very north-eastern corner.	Two previously recorded historical archaeological sites were identified within Cochrane's study area and although several additional features were added to the listing of one of these sites, there were no new historical archaeological sites identified during the survey. These two sites consisted of a 1920's homestead and associated dry stone wall ("Westlands"; H7822-0156), and a 'Closer Settlement'-era farmhouse with associated dry stone wall and cypress plantings (unnamed in report).
Vines, <i>et al.</i> 2004 #2083	A large-scale cultural heritage study was undertaken for the Melton East growth corridor, inclusive of the entire current study area.	Eight previously recorded historical archaeological sites were identified within Vines <i>et al.</i> 's study area including farms, homesteads, stone walls, infrastructural sites and historical dams. None of these sites are located within the current study area, and no new sites were identified during Vines <i>et al.</i> 's investigation.

Author Date Report #	Description and Location	Results
Moloney, D. <i>et al.</i> 2007	A municipality-wide study was undertaken of all historical cultural heritage within the Melton Shire Local Government Area.	<p>This report was produced in two stages: in Stage One, a thematic history of the Melton Shire was produced, detailing the settlement and development of the region, particularly in relation to identifying areas with historical significance to the Shire. Stage one also identified.</p> <p>In Stage Two, a systematic listing and analysis was presented for all known historical site listings within the Shire of Melton, and areas that Stage One identified as potentially significant were also investigated, leading to a number of new listings on the Heritage Overlay and Heritage Inventory. The condition and significance of each place were assessed, and recommendations for future management of the sites were also detailed.</p>
Gardiner, R. 2010. #3915	A large-scale reassessment of known historical archaeological sites was undertaken throughout the Melton and Wyndham regions, including through the entirety of the current study area.	The re-assessment of the all recorded historical archaeological sites in the region did not include any sites located within the current study area, although as a result of this study a further 109 sites of potential historical heritage significance were identified throughout the entire Wyndham and Melton areas. Of these 109 sites, 42 were selected for assessment in this project and 18 of these were actually assessed. This did not include any sites within the current study area.
Kurpiel, R. 2011 #3897 Associated CHMP: Murphy, A. and Morris, A. 2011. #11609	An archaeological survey and excavation program was undertaken along the proposed alignment of a gas pipeline that runs partly within the current study area (in the southern section). Although this is a CHMP, it is associated with a letter submitted to Heritage Victoria regarding the historical heritage values in the area (letter listed as HV report #3897)	No historical heritage values of state significance were identified within the activity area of the CHMP, therefore no report was prepared for Heritage Victoria. A letter to Heritage Victoria (HV report #3897) notes that a dry stone wall was identified during the survey, and recommends it be placed on the Heritage Overlay of the local government planning scheme. No location or details are given for this dry stone wall.
Harbour, M. <i>et al.</i> 2011 #3975	An archaeological survey was undertaken for a proposed road extension to Talyor's Road, part of which lies along the southern boundary of the current study area.	The survey identified one new historical site that was subsequently listed on the Heritage Inventory ("Beattys Road Bluestone Cottage and Cistern"; H7822-2301). A dry stone wall was also identified during the survey which was not listed on the Inventory or Melton Heritage Overlay, but that was mentioned in the Melton Shire Dry Stone Wall Study and which had approval for the Heritage Overlay pending at the time of investigation. Neither of these sites are located within the current study area.

Author Date Report #	Description and Location	Results
Holdsworth, J. <i>et al.</i> 2011	A municipality-wide study of Dry Stone Walls was undertaken within the Melton Shire Local Government Area.	A systematic listing and condition analysis was presented for all known dry stone wall sites within the Shire of Melton, as well as several new dry stone wall sites identified by the assessment related to this report. The study detailed the types of dry stone walls present in the shire, their condition, and proposed management recommendations regarding their protection (where warranted) and interpretation. As part of the study, the land encompassing the current study area was surveyed, although not exhaustively (survey areas Q and N). No dry stone walls were identified within the study area as a result of this survey.

4.3 Historical Archaeological Site Prediction Statement

The following site prediction statement has been formulated from the review of previous assessments. The statement presented is based on a site type approach. The review of the previously recorded historical archaeological sites and previous archaeological investigations indicates that the most likely site type to be present within the study area are dry stone walls, due to their known high distribution throughout the entire Melton area. Other site types that are likely to occur include domestic sites, tree plantings, farming sites, pastoral sites and road or rail infrastructure sites. (*Likely* is an assessment of site types with a 50% or more chance of occurring; *Unlikely* is an assessment of site types with 50% or less chance of occurring).

Domestic Sites

Domestic sites are considered likely to occur in the study area, given the study area's long settlement and long-standing allotment boundaries.

Evidence of domestic occupation may include structural remains or ruins of homesteads and/or outbuildings, domestic rubbish dumps or bottle dumps, wells or underground storage tanks.

Dry Stone Walls

Dry stone walls are considered likely to occur in the study area as they are ubiquitous throughout the Melton area and form one of the most common site types in the region. Dry stone walls are depicted on the ordnance survey maps from 1917 and 1930. Additionally, the high quantity of basalt floaters in the geographic region are conducive to the construction of dry stone walls, with the raw materials being readily available as rocks are removed from paddocks and crop zones.

Dry stone walls may line internal property divisions or external property boundaries.

Tree Plantings

Tree plantings are considered likely to occur in the study area given the study area's past settlement and land use. Tree plantings are especially likely to occur in conjunction with other historical site components such as domestic, farming or pastoral sites. At least one tree planting is associated with a register heritage place (HO58) in the north east corner of the PSP.

Historical tree plantings may be evidenced by large introduced trees planted along original driveways, paddock boundaries or close to homestead sites.

Farming Sites

Farming sites are considered likely to occur in the study area, given the area's long history as a rural farming zone.

Evidence of farming may include fence lines, dams, water channels, plantings or terracing.

Pastoral Sites

Pastoral sites are considered likely to occur in the study area given the area's long use as pasture for grazing.

Breeding of livestock and dairying may be evidenced by the remains of stockyards, stables, barns and holding pens.

Road and Rail Infrastructure Sites

Road and rail infrastructure sites are considered likely to occur in the study area, as long-term roads are present along the boundary and centre of the study area which may contain remnant evidence of past use.

Old road or railway routes may be evidenced by bridges, railway tracks or road or railway embankments.

5 FIELD ASSESSMENT AND RESULTS

5.1 Survey

The field assessment included the ground survey of the study area to detect the presence of historical cultural heritage in or associated with the study area.

5.1.1 Aims and Objectives

The aim of the survey was to:

- To identify and record any surface indications of historical heritage sites and/or areas of historical archaeological likelihood;
- To verify the results of the background review and site predictive statement; and
- To assess the cultural heritage significance of any historical sites identified in the survey.

5.1.2 Field Methodology

The study area was surveyed on 3, 4 and 18 June 2013 by Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd Archaeologists/Cultural Heritage Advisors Rick Bullers and Sylvana Szydzik.

The survey took the form of a targeted pedestrian and vehicle-based survey in areas that background research identified as having potential historical heritage values (Map 5).

The survey used the following equipment and materials: 4WD vehicle, ranging pole, photographic equipment, Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS), maps, and notebooks.

The protocols used to define a site depended on the nature of the site. For individual places, the extent of historical fabric was recorded using DGPS and a buffer of 5 m was established as the site's curtilage. For built heritage structures, the curtilage was identified as either the title boundary (where this contributes to the heritage values of the place) or a defined area around the structure that was deemed likely to have archaeological potential. For dry stone walls, the site extent consisted of either the extent of an individual wall plus a 5 m buffer either side of the wall or, for wall complexes, the entire area of the complex plus a 5 m buffer around the extent of the historical fabric.

Once locations of potential historical fabric or heritage potential were identified in the background research, a list of properties for access was provided to the GAA. A letter was sent to each landowner requesting access approval to survey. Follow up telephone calls to landowners was made prior to and during the survey to confirm access approvals and requirements. Where additional land parcels were identified as having potential heritage values during the course of the survey, the appropriate landowners were contacted by telephone or by direct approach to the house to arrange access approvals. It should be noted that some land parcels were not surveyed due to either access restrictions or landowner contact details being unavailable. A list of all land parcels in the PSP area is provided in Appendix 3, with details on which properties were access or, if not, the reason why.

Site designation numbers used in this report are the same as those used on the heritage registers. For dry stone walls the identifier consists of the PSP area abbreviation (P), DSW (dry stone wall) and the range of Property Ref #s associated with the wall (e.g. P-DSW #11-12 is the identifier for a wall that is associated with properties 11 and 12). The

exception to this is where a wall has previously been identified in the Melton Dry Stone Wall Study; in these cases the identifier in that study is used here.

5.1.3 Survey Coverage

5.1.3.1 Ground Surface Visibility

Ground surface visibility in the study area varied from 0% in most of the grazing properties, to 100% in the cropped properties. These differences in visibility are due to high recent rainfall resulting in heavy grass/weed growth in the grazing properties, and recent ploughing for crop sowing in the cropping paddocks.

5.1.3.2 Effective Survey Coverage

The effective survey coverage calculations for this investigation are based on the number of land parcels actually access and surveyed (Appendix 3; Map 5). Excluding road reserves, the private land component of the study area totals 1,031.28 ha. Of that, a total of 15 land parcels were surveyed, totalling 475.97 ha (45.89%). With an average ground surface visibility of 10%, the effective survey coverage for this investigation is 47.60 ha (4.62%).

5.1.3.3 Limitations

The survey was a targeted investigation based on background research (including review of aerial photographs and Google Earth imagery), and opportunistic inspections based on visual sightings of potential historical features during the course of the survey. Ground-truthing of the study area was also carried out during the survey to confirm that the majority of the land parcels were not sensitive for historical heritage.

Some land parcels that demonstrated some potential historical heritage value were not accessed due to either:

- Access approval not being granted;
- Limitations in contacting the landowners;
- Where visual inspections from the road or neighbouring properties indicated that survey was not required; and/or
- Where potential historical heritage items identified in background research were subsequently found to occur on neighbouring properties instead. In these cases the original properties were not surveyed but the landowners of the parcels with the heritage items were contacted in the field for access permission. In most cases this was given.

Whilst not all properties in the study area were formally surveyed, all properties in the study area were, however, visually inspected either from the road/s and/or from neighbouring properties.

A list of all properties surveyed or inspected is provided in Map 5 and Appendix 3.

5.1.4 Results of the Survey

The survey confirmed the presence of existing registered/listed heritage places and identified several previously unknown heritage places (Map 6). The sites identified can be can be classified under following site types:

- Built Heritage Sites (e.g. standing farm houses);

- Historical Archaeological sites (e.g. demolished farmhouses; farm complexes; former roads/access tracks);
- Areas of Historical Archaeological Likelihood (e.g. former farmhouse sites that were not investigated); and
- Historical landscape features (e.g. dry stone walls; waterholes).

5.1.4.1 Built Heritage Sites

1. Previously Registered Heritage Places

One previously registered built-heritage site was identified in the study area. The site is already listed on the Heritage Overlay to the Melton Planning Scheme.

HO58 - House at 911-935 Melton Highway, Plumpton.

Located at 911-935 Melton Highway, Plumpton (Property Ref #25), this site consists of a symmetrical, single storey, weatherboard rudimentary Late Victorian / Federation styled house. It has a corrugated iron hipped roof across the width of the building, a skillion verandah at the front, rear skillion additions and red brick chimney (Plate 1). The existing curtilage includes a formerly landscaped garden with exotic trees and plants (now becoming overgrown), as well as open grassed areas and various outbuildings/sheds. The house itself is set behind a large, high fence and there is an intact and substantial row of Monterey Cypresses along the front of the property (Plate 2). However the eastern end of this row of trees is outside the study area (and PSP area).

The property is currently unoccupied and maintenance appears to be infrequent. The property is in fair to poor condition.

The house is the only remaining small-scale farmhouse remaining in the PSP area that was associated with the Closer Settlement Board Overnewton Estate subdivision of 1905-6.

Shire of Melton Historical Theme: 'Farming'.



Plate 1: View of the front of the house



Plate 2: Row of Monterey Cypresses east of the house.

2. Potential Sites Identified from Historical Sources

In 1917 there were a total of six houses shown in the PSP area (Figure 10), most of which were also shown on the 1938 map (Figure 11). Where site access was provided by the landowner, each of these sites was inspected during the survey. Only one house marked on these maps is still standing – the house at 911-935 Melton Highway, Plumpton (see

HO58 above). All other houses have been demolished since 1938. One house, at 206 Beattys Road, Plumpton (Property Ref #12), was only recently demolished (c.2012) and is discussed in greater detail as an historical archaeological site in Sections 5.1.4.2 and 5.2. Another house, thought to have been located on Property Ref #55 (38 Saric Court, Plumpton), was not inspected due to access restrictions by the landowner, but is discussed in Section 5.1.4.3 as an area of historical archaeological likelihood.

5.1.4.2 Archaeological Sites

One archaeological site was identified in the study area during the survey and listed on the VHI:

- H7822-2318 - *Beattys Road House Site* at 206 Beattys Road, Plumpton. This is the site of a former weatherboard farmhouse that is shown on the 1917 and 1938 Ordnance survey maps and, like HO58 above, is probably associated with the Closer Settlement Board Overnewton Estate subdivision of 1905-6.

These sites are discussed in detail in Section 5.2.

5.1.4.3 Areas of Historical Archaeological Likelihood

Four areas of historical archaeological likelihood were identified (Map 6). These sites were identified through either historical map interpretation or through information supplied by neighbours. Two were not surveyed due to access restrictions:

- *Melton Highway Cellar Site* at 971 Plumpton Road, Plumpton. The house is listed in the *Shire of Melton Heritage Study* (Maloney *et al.* 2008: 67) as being a Conservation Desirable site (CD 408). This is the site of what is claimed to be the cellar of a former hotel building. The surface expression of the site consists of a scatter of historical building fabric (dressed bluestone blocks, brick fragments, pipes) and domestic ceramic fragments (willowware). The site has been bulldozed recently and scrapes are evident across the site. A vehicle track runs across the south eastern edge of the site, and the artefact scatter continues across this track.

The site is said to have been the site of the former hotel building and the cellar was the remains of the site (L. Campisano, neighbour [Property Ref #16], pers. comm., 3 June 2013). Following discussions with Heritage Victoria (J. Smith, pers. comm., 28 June 2013) it was decided not to register this site on the VHI at this stage until further historical and archaeological investigation confirms the site's heritage significance;



Plate 3: View of Melton Highway Cellar Site facing south west



Plate 4: Artefacts from Melton Highway Cellar Site

- *Melton Highway Cobbled Road Surface.* This site is within the Melton Highway road reserve and may be an example of the original road alignment. A raised 4 m wide embankment continues eastwards across the front of the property, with a minor drainage channel along its northern edge (Plate 5). A number of flattened bluestone stones have been exposed by the trenching of the north-south gas pipeline at the western end of this site (Plate 6).

Following discussions with Heritage Victoria (J. Smith, pers. comm., 28 June 2013) it was decided not to register this site on the VHI at this stage until further historical and archaeological investigation confirms the site's heritage significance;



Plate 5: View of Melton Highway Cobbled Road Surface facing east, showing possible cobbles in foreground



Plate 6: Possible cobbles exposed from gas pipeline trenching works.

- The 1917 and 1938 maps show a house present on Property Ref #55 (38 Saric Court, Plumpton). Although the landowner did not grant access, he did provide information to suggest that there may be archaeological remains of the house present near the north west corner of the property (P. Lazarkov, landowner, pers. comm., 21 June 2013). The landowner said that this area had been heavily ploughed for decades and that the only potential evidence he had seen was the presence of atypical weed species in a small area of the north west corner, and the presence of rusted iron objects being dispersed across the paddocks due to ploughing. Since ploughing is only likely to have disturbed the upper 200 mm of the soil profile, there is potential for intact archaeological evidence to be present below this level.

Prior to any development works occurring at this location, it is recommended that further detailed investigation of the site be conducted and, if confirmed, that the site be listed on the VHI.

- The 1917 and 1938 maps show a ford across a tributary of Kororoit Creek present on Property Ref #8 (61-63 Tarletons Road, Plumpton). The GAA had previously requested access to the property but this was denied. Consequently, at GAA request, there was no attempt to gain access permission for this investigation. Aerial photo interpretation did not identify a ford feature and it is possible the ford was on the neighbouring property to the west (Rockbank North PSP area).

Prior to any development works occurring at this location, it is recommended that further detailed investigation of the site be conducted and, if confirmed, that the site be listed on the VHI.

5.1.4.4 *Historical Landscape Features*

Landscape features that have historical associations that were identified in the study area include:

- Waterholes, these include water holes that were marked on historical mapping (e.g. the 1917 and 1938 Ordnance survey maps) and traces of which are present in the study area today; and
- Dry Stone Walls, which include walls that can be traced back to either the pastoral era or the Closer Settlement Board subdivision of the Overnewton Estate.

1. Waterholes

A total of eight waterholes were identified from historical mapping. When georeferenced, these waterholes were shown to be on Property Ref #s 8, 10, 12, 21, 23, 27, 28 and 44. Seven of the sites were visited during the survey; one site (Property Ref #8) was not visited because access to the property was not granted. Of the seven sites visited, five are still present as farm dams (Plates 7 to 9, 11 to 12). The remaining two waterholes could not be identified: on Property Ref #23 there was a damp area in the approximate location that had recently been impacted by the installation of the north-south gas pipeline (Plate 10). In Property ref #44, a slight depression marks the location of the former waterhole, which is no longer used. According to the landowner, that area gets very damp (Plate 13).

Their locations are shown in Map 6, but none of these features are considered to have historical heritage significance.



Plate 7: Waterhole on Property Ref #10 along Plumpton Road.



Plate 8: Dam (waterhole) on Property Ref #12 along Plumpton Road.



Plate 9: Waterhole on Property Ref #21 along Melton Highway.



Plate 10: Site of disused waterhole on Property Ref #23 along Melton Highway.



Plate 11: Dam (waterhole) on Property Ref #27 along Beattys Road.



Plate 12: Dam (waterhole) on Property Ref #28 along Beattys Road.



Plate 13: Site of disused waterhole on Property Ref #44 along Plumpton Road.

2. Dry Stone Walls

Dry Stone Walls are by far the most prominent historical feature of the PSP area. Whilst possibly not as extensive as they once were, they none-the-less provide a snapshot of some of the boundaries or internal paddock divisions of former pastoral holdings or small-scale farms.

Dry stone walls in the study area are categorised by four main construction types:

- All Stone Double walls, which consist of stone walls with double thickness of stone to heights greater than 1 m, without any form of post and wire or post and rail fence attached;
- Post and Wire Single walls, which consist of a post and wire fence augmented by a single low wall of stones;
- Post and Wire Double walls, which consist of very low stone walls (usually less than 700 mm), with a post and wire fence incorporated into the structure to give it height; and
- Post and Rail Double walls, which are the same except that timber rails are used instead of wire.

A total of sixteen separate walls were recorded during the survey (Map 6; Table 8). The majority of the walls in the study area (n=11) are of the composite construction type (consisting of eight Post and Wire Doubles, two Post and Rail Doubles and one where Single or Double construction could not be determined). One wall is a substantial All Stone Double wall and four are wall remnants where construction type could not be determined. The greatest concentration of walls is in the south west quadrant of the study area in the Taylors, Plumpton and Beattys Roads convergence.



The majority of walls are in poor to very poor condition having suffered some degree of either collapse or loss of stones over time (probably the result of stone theft). Only two are considered to be largely intact and in good to excellent condition. Both these walls (P-DSW #1-2 and P-DSW #39-1) are considered in the Melton Dry Stone Wall Study (Moloney *et al.* 2008), and are included in DSW precincts (Melton Highway Precinct and Beattys Road Precinct). A third wall (P-DSW #15-16), although in poor condition, is included in Moloney *et al.*'s Melton Highway Precinct, presumably because they are considered to be the same wall as P-DSW #1-2. However, due to the different construction styles, together with the different historical landholders, this investigation considers them to be separate walls.



Most of the walls in the study area (n=10) are located along the road boundaries of various properties. Only three form the boundaries between separate land holdings (P-DSW #s 9, 39-40 and 48-49) and one (P-DSW #17) forms an internal paddock division within the one landholding.



3. Unconfirmed Dry Stone Walls

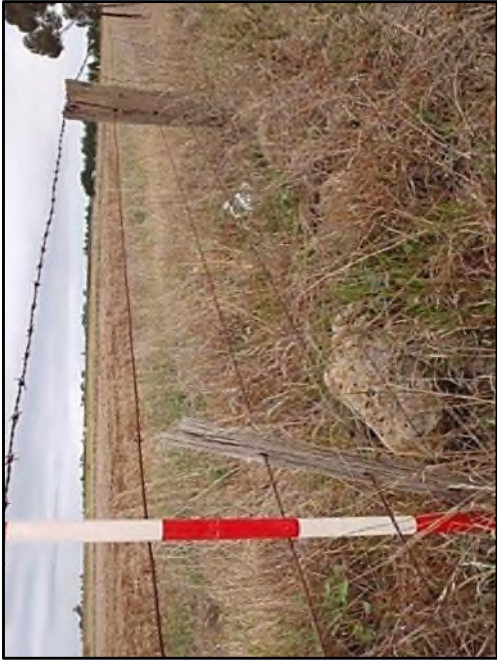

In addition to the dry stone walls that were identified and recorded (see above and Table 4), a large dry stone wall-enclosed paddock was identified from air photo interpretation (Map 6). The air photo indicates that the enclosure is aligned north east to south west on the same alignment as Beattys Road and straddled Property Ref #s 34, 36, 37, 38, 45, 46 and 47. Analysis of the air photo indicates that the wall is no longer extant on Property Ref #s 34, 36, 37 and 38 leaving only the 'ghost' of its footprint visible. On two properties (#s 36 and 38) the location of the wall is now covered by an orchard. It does appear, however, that extant remains may still be present on Property Ref #s 45, 46 and 47. Attempts to contact the owners of #45 were unsuccessful and previous requests by GAA for access to #s 46 and 47 were denied. Consequently, physical inspection of the enclosure was not conducted. It is recommended that formal inspection and recording of these walls occurs prior to any future development of these properties.



Table 4: Dry Stone Walls Identified in the Study Area



Wall ID	Location	Property Ref #s	Wall Type	Description	Heritage Significance	Photograph
MCC – Q254 (P-DSW #1-2)	Melton Highway, west of Plumpton Road	1	All Stone Double	<p>Oriented east to west.</p> <p>Substantial double stone wall along northern boundary of one of Clarke's properties shown on 1938 map. Wall ≤ 1 m high, 1.2 m wide at base, 400 mm wide at cope. Technically proficient construction: well graded in 3-4 courses. Cope stones are present for most of its length, foundation stones visible and plenty of hearting/plugging.</p> <p><i>Condition: Good to excellent</i></p>	High; Local	 <p>Plate 14: Example of DSW #1-2 along the Melton Hwy</p>
		2	Post and Wire Double	<p>Oriented east to west.</p> <p>An extension of #1 eastwards, but in a technically unrefined construction style. < 500 mm high, ≤ 1 m, 1-2 courses high although there are some higher rocks just piled on. No plugging or hearting visible. Timber posts 1.1 m high (250 x 100) at 6 m centres. No timber droppers present, although modern metal 4-wire droppers are.</p> <p><i>Condition: Poor to fair</i></p>	Low; Local	 <p>Plate 15: Example of DSW #1-2 along the Melton Hwy near Plumpton Road</p>



Wall ID	Location	Property Ref #s	Wall Type	Description	Heritage Significance	Photograph
MCC – Q253 (P-DSW #15-16)	Melton Highway, east of Plumpton Road	15	Post and Wire Double	Oriented east to west. DSW along northern boundary Cantwell and Ryan's property shown on 1938 map. Technically unrefined composite construction, with haphazard piling of rocks up to 800 mm high; 800 mm wide at base; no plugging or hearting visible. Wall breached in several places for gates. <i>Condition: Poor</i>	Low; Local	 <p>Plate 16: Example of DSW #15-16 near the Plumpton Road/Melton Hwy intersection</p>
		16	Post and Wire Double	Oriented east to west. Technically unrefined composite construction, with haphazard piling of rocks up to 800 mm high; 800 mm wide at base; no plugging or hearting visible. In front of the house, the wall has collapsed to the base course or foundation stones. <i>Condition: Poor</i>	Low; Local	 <p>Plate 17: Example of DSW #15-16 at its eastern end</p>



Wall ID	Location	Property Ref #s	Wall Type	Description	Heritage Significance	Photograph
P-DSW #23	Melton Highway, east of Plumpton Road	23	Unknown	<p>Oriented east to west. Remnant of a longer DSW, now only consisting of a single line of weathered stones. Formed northern boundary along a narrow land parcel belonging to William Taylor (Overnewton Estate). <i>Condition: Largely destroyed</i></p>	Nil; Local	 <p>Plate 18: Example of DSW #23</p>
P-DSW #17	SW corner of #17	12, 17	Post and Wire Double	<p>Oriented east to west. Technically unrefined composite construction, approximately 38 m long. Fallen fence posts suggest composite construction type. Located within the Cantwell and Ryan property, this wall would have been an internal paddock division fence. <i>Condition: Poor</i></p>	Low; Local	 <p>Plate 19: Example of DSW #17</p>

Wall ID	Location	Property Ref #s	Wall Type	Description	Heritage Significance	Photograph
P-DSW #11	East side of Plumpton Road	11	Post and Wire Single or Double	Oriented north to south Wall shown on 1938 map forming partial western boundary of the Cantwell and Ryan property. Remnant of a longer DSW, now only 4 m long consisting of a single line of weathered stones. <i>Condition: Mostly destroyed; remnant only</i>	Low; Local	 <p>Plate 20: Example of DSW #11 near the Plumpton/Beattys Road intersection</p>
P-DSW #11-12	Northern side of Beattys Road, east of Plumpton Road	11, 12	Post and Wire Double	Oriented south west to north east. Wall shown on 1938 map forming southern boundary of the Cantwell and Ryan property. Wall now just a low remnant consisting the base course/foundation stones only; 200 mm high, 900 mm wide at base, small sections demonstrate double wall construction. Overgrown in places. A single timber fence post indicates a composite wall construction. Modern fenceline 1 m north of DSW. <i>Condition: Largely destroyed; remnant only</i>	Low; Local	 <p>Plate 21: Example of DSW #11-12 near the Plumpton/Beattys Road intersection</p>

Wall ID	Location	Property Ref #s	Wall Type	Description	Heritage Significance	Photograph
P-DSW #9	North of Beattys Road, west of Plumpton Road	9	Unknown (probably Post and Wire Double)	<p>Oriented north to south</p> <p>Access to property not available. Assessment taken from aerial photo and visual from Beattys and Tarlton Roads.</p> <p>Wall shown on 1917 map forming boundary between Cahill and Strettle properties. Runs north to south up centre of modern paddock. Construction details not visible, but consists of sections of low stone wall, fence posts not visible. Long breaks in the fenceline.</p> <p><i>Condition: Very poor</i></p>	Low; Local	 <p>Plate 22: Example of DSW #9 taken from Beattys Road looking north west</p>
MCC – N234 (P-DSW #39-1)	South side of Beattys Road, west of Plumpton Road (also 20 m section down Plumpton Road)	39	Post and Wire Double	<p>Oriented south west to north east.</p> <p>Formed the northern boundary of Crenigan's property and is shown on the 1938 map.</p> <p>Substantial double stone wall, 800 mm high, 900 mm wide at base, 220 mm wide at cope. Technically proficient construction: well graded in 3-4 courses. Cope stones are intact for most of its length, foundation stones visible in some places and plenty of hearting/plugging.</p> <p>P/W Fence: Timber posts at 5 m centres embedded in wall, timber droppers not embedded</p> <p><i>Condition: Good to excellent</i></p>	Moderate to High; Local	 <p>Plate 23: Example of DSW #1-2 near Plumpton Road</p>

Wall ID	Location	Property Ref #s	Wall Type	Description	Heritage Significance	Photograph
MCC – N235 (P-DSW #39-2)	West side of Plumpton Road, south of Beattys Road	39	Post and Rail Double	<p>Oriented north to south</p> <p>Wall reduced to base course along most of its length. 150-200 mm high, 900 mm wide at base. Some rocks have been haphazardly piled on by farmers to a maximum of two courses. Some extant original timber fence posts (1.2 m high) with 2 x rebates for rails, separated by a single wire. A new P/W fence installed approx. 1.5 m inside original fenceline.</p> <p><i>Condition: Very poor</i></p>	Low-Moderate; Local	 <p>Plate 24: Example of DSW #1-2 near Plumpton Road</p>
P-DSW #39-40	South side of Beattys Road	39, 40	Unknown	<p>Oriented north to south between two land parcels.</p> <p>Shown on the 1917 map, this DSW formed the boundary between Beatty's and Crenigan's properties.</p> <p>Wall no longer intact; just piles of stones measuring 5 x 2 m with 10 m gaps between.</p> <p><i>Condition: Destroyed</i></p>	Nil	 <p>Plate 25: Example of DSW #1-2 near Plumpton Road</p>

Wall ID	Location	Property Ref #s	Wall Type	Description	Heritage Significance	Photograph
MCC – N237 (P-DSW #42-43)	West side of Plumpton Road, north of Taylors Road	42, 43	Post and Rail Double	<p>Oriented north to south.</p> <p>Technically unrefined wall 600-800 mm high, 900 mm at base, 400-500 mm wide at top, 1-3 courses, except one 3 m section technically competent with copestones, plugging and hearting. In #42, wall is mostly just foundation stones or base course but increases 1-2 courses at northern end.</p> <p>P/W fence: mostly timber posts at 2-3 m centres except at northern end where most posts missing; occasional star picket replacements. V. few droppers.</p> <p><i>Condition: Poor (one 3 m section very good)</i></p>	Low-Moderate; Local	 <p>Plate 26: Example of DSW #43-43 along Plumpton Road</p> <p>Wall forms the eastern boundary of Murphy's property, but is not shown on the 1917 or 1938 maps.</p>
P-DSW #41-43	North side of Taylors Road, west of Plumpton Road	41, 43	Post and Wire Double	<p>Oriented east to west.</p> <p>This wall formed the southern boundary of both Beatty's and Murphy's properties.</p> <p>Technically unrefined composite wall along southern boundary of properties. Consists mainly of double row of large base course stones (500-700 mm diameter); 300 mm high (some larger stones up to 600 mm high), 900-1100 mm wide at base.</p> <p>Largely overgrown at eastern end at Plumpton Road (small section visible).</p> <p>Large, long earth stone mound (1 m high) inside fenceline of #43.</p> <p><i>Condition: Poor</i></p>	Low; Local	 <p>Plate 27: Example of DSW #41-43 near western end</p> <p>Wall is not shown on the 1917 or 1938 maps'</p>

Wall ID	Location	Property Ref #s	Wall Type	Description	Heritage Significance	Photograph
MCC – No. unknown (P-DSW #48-49)	North side of Taylors Road, east of Sinclairs Road	48, 49	Post and Wire Double	<p>Oriented north to south.</p> <p>DSW shown on the 1917 map, and formed the boundary between C.H.F. Butler and M. Butler's landholdings. DSW is 3-4 m east of current boundary fence between #s 48 and 49.</p> <p>Technically unrefined composite wall, 1-2 courses high with stones piles haphazardly, no structure. Measurements not taken due to property access restrictions. Timber fence posts at 4-5 m centres. Occasional timber droppers.</p> <p><i>Condition: Poor</i></p>	Low; Local	 <p>Plate 28: Example of DSW #48-49</p>
P-DSW #49	North side of Taylors Road, east of Sinclairs Road	49	Unknown	<p>Oriented east to west.</p> <p>Wall is not shown on either the 1917 or 1938 maps. It former the southern boundary of C.H.F. Butler's property.</p> <p>Remnant of a longer DSW, now only consisting of a single line of weathered stones.</p> <p><i>Condition: largely destroyed</i></p>	Low; Local	 <p>Plate 29: Example of DSW #49</p>

5.2 Registered Historical Archaeological Sites

One confirmed historical archaeological site is present within the study area.

5.2.1 Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)

The site is also identified as Site 470 in the Melton Heritage Study Stage 1.

5.2.1.1 Location of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)

Primary Grid Coordinate: AGD66, Zone 55, E 297800, N 5824950.

- Lot 2; TP819023K; Parish of Maribyrnong, County of Bourke.

The site is located at 206 Beattys Road, Plumpton (Property Ref #12), and approximately 1.2 km east of the Plumpton Road/Beatty Road intersection. It is located on the eastern side of an ephemeral drainage line that has been dammed (one large rectangular dam and one small dam to the west of the house site).

5.2.1.2 Extent of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)

The site measures approximately 100 x 100 m (Map 6, Plan 1 and Plates 30 and 31).

5.2.1.3 Nature of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)

The site consists of the remains of a recently demolished farmhouse. In the south east corner of the site is a concrete slab, with the remains of a collapsed brick chimney (some white bricks marked "Darley FB Co", and some other bricks marked "Glen Iris"). Immediately south, near the road, is a bitumen pad measuring about 20 x 5 m. The main concrete slab is L-shaped and covered in rubble (red/white bricks, some basalt stone, coarse-grained concrete fragments, iron water pipe, roof guttering).

Associated features include a large open-fronted shed to the north west of the house site, a small shed to the west and the remains of a small stockyard with stock ramp on the western side of the site adjacent to the road. To the north west, on the drainage line are two dams (one large, one smaller). A formal garden of succulents is located immediately north of the house site.

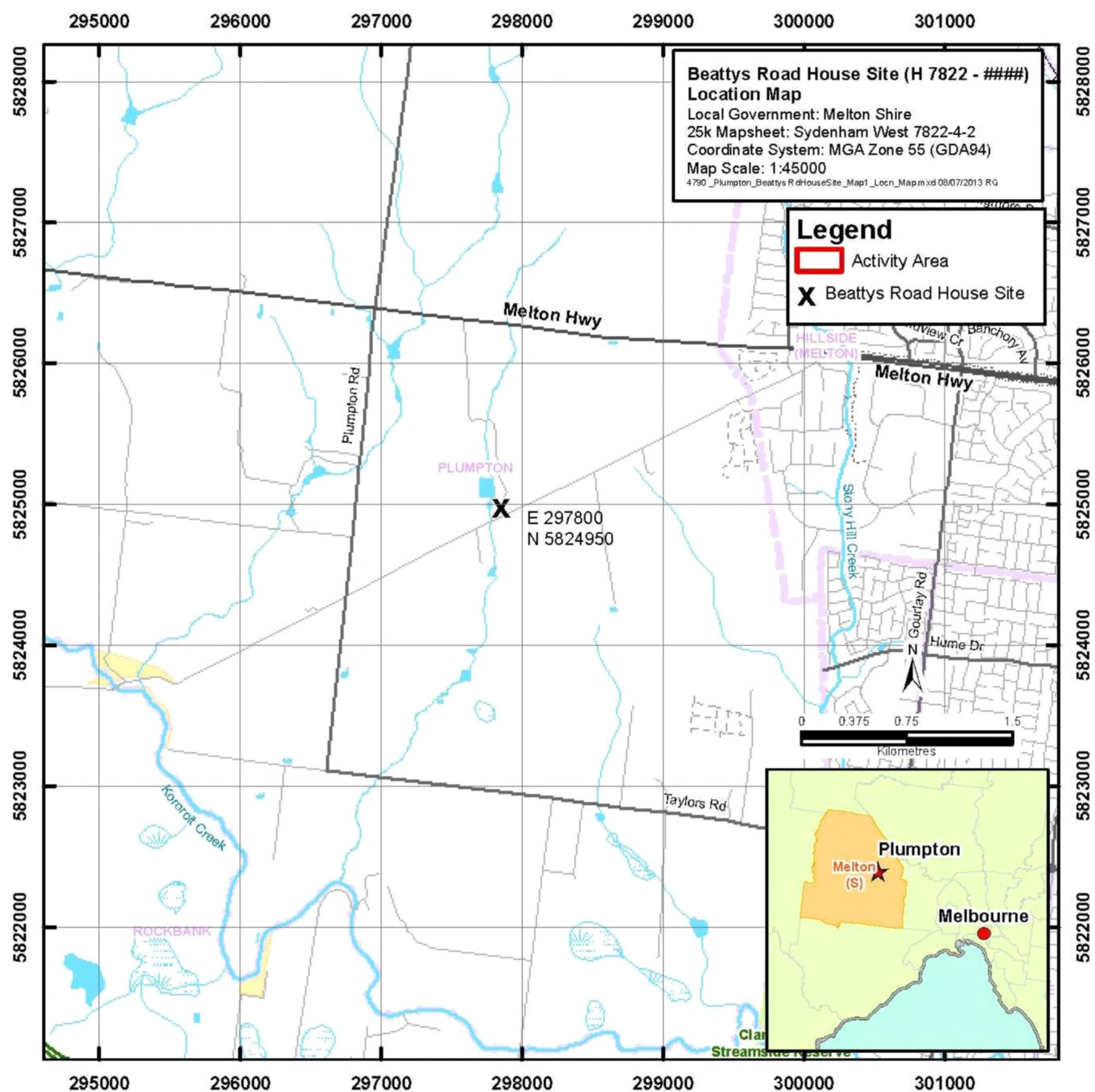
The entire site is becoming infested with prickly pear and other weeds.

It is understood the site was demolished in 2012 (C. Tolli, neighbour [Property Ref #31], pers. comm., 4 June 2013).

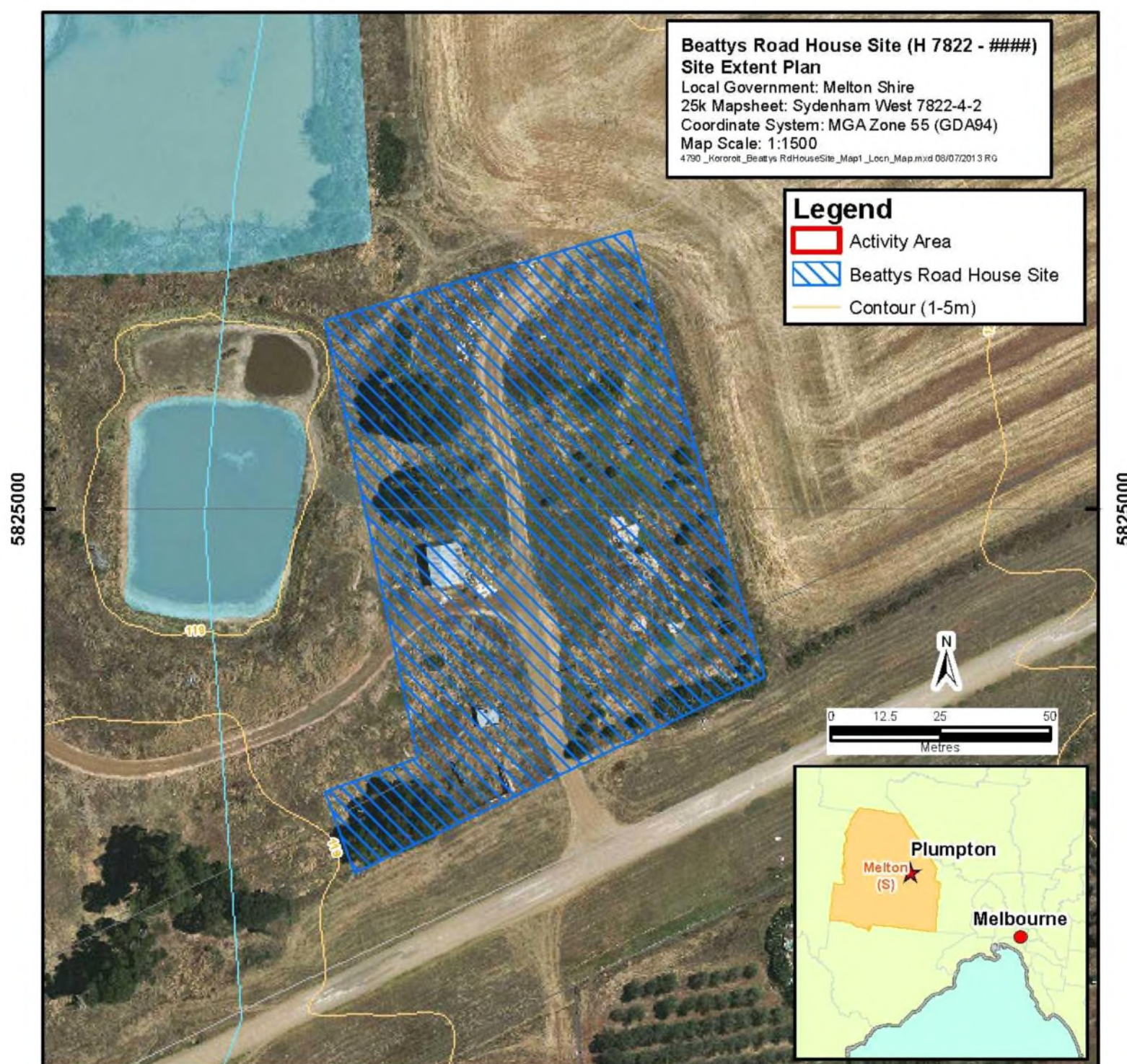
5.2.1.4 Significance of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)

A Statement of Significance for the site is provided in Section 6.4.

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Plan 1: Location of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)



Plan 2: Extent of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)



Plate 30: View of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318) facing north, looking across collapsed chimney towards the concrete slab.



Plate 31: The western side of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318) showing the two sheds and dams to the rear. The house site is to the right and the stockyard is to the left.

6 CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This section addresses the cultural heritage significance of sites identified during the investigation. A full description on the methodology used for the significance assessment is provided in Appendix 6 and outlined in Section 6.1 below.

6.1 Assessing Cultural Heritage Significance

6.1.1 Assessment of Significance

Scientific significance of a heritage place (particularly archaeological sites) is also assessed in Victoria using a commonly accepted formula developed by Bowdler (1981) and Sullivan and Bowdler (1984). These are relative estimates of significance based on the current knowledge available about sites or places in a region. The assessment criteria used to assess the scientific significance of historical sites in Victoria are presented in Appendix 4. The same three main categories apply to historical sites: *site contents* (cultural material, organic remains and site structure), *site condition* (degree of disturbance of a site), and *'representativeness'* (the regional distribution of a particular site type).

Each site is given a score (or rating) on the basis of these criteria - the overall scientific significance is determined by the cumulative score. The results for each site are in Tables 6, 8 and 10 below.

6.1.2 Historical Cultural Significance

Heritage Victoria administers the *Heritage Act 1995*, and has provided formal criteria for assessing cultural heritage significance. Applying these criteria will determine if a heritage place should be considered for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register or other statutory lists.

On the basis of these criteria, heritage places are generally given a significance ranking of State, Local or none. Historical archaeological sites, as with other heritage places, can be considered for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register if they have State significance.

However, all historical archaeological sites are included on the Victorian Heritage Inventory and are given statutory protection, irrespective of their level of significance. Sites that are considered to be of local historical interest, but are not considered to be of specific archaeological significance are allocated 'D'-list numbers (e.g. D7822-0099). 'D'-listed sites are not protected by legislation.

The historical sites identified within the study area have been assessed using the Heritage Victoria criteria (outlined in Appendix 6). The significance assessments are summarised in Tables 6, 8 and 10.

6.1.3 Statements of Significance

A Statement of Significance describes what is important about a site and is an evaluation of its cultural heritage significance. The Statement of Significance was prepared in accordance with the ICOMOS Burra Charter and the Heritage Council of Victoria's *Criteria for Assessing Cultural Heritage Significance* as required by the HV Technical Guides *Guidelines for Conducting Historical Archaeological Surveys* and *Guidelines for Investigating Historical Archaeological Sites*.

The cultural heritage significance was assessed against the following six categories:

- Aesthetic significance;

- Archaeological significance;
- Architectural significance
- Historical significance;
- Scientific significance; and
- Social or spiritual significance.

A Statement of Significance for each site within the study area is provided below.

6.2 Cultural Heritage Significance of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)

The following is an assessment of the cultural heritage significance of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318).

6.2.1 Assessment of Significance

The scientific significance of the site is presented in Table 5.

Table 5: Assessment of the Scientific Significance of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)

Site Contents	Site Condition
Site contents	4
Site condition	1
Representativeness	1
Overall scientific significance (score)	6
Overall scientific significance (rating)	Moderate

Note: a description of each criterion is provided in Appendix 6.

6.2.2 Historical Cultural Significance

The site is significant to the Shire of Melton, and an assessment of the cultural heritage significance of the site is provided below (Table 6).

Table 6: Assessment of the Cultural Heritage Significance of Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318)

HV Criterion	Assessment	Significance (State/local)
A	The site is one of the few remaining examples of a small-scale farmhouse from the Closer Settlement Board subdivision of the Overnewton Estate in the Shire of Melton.	Local
B	Does not apply	None
C	The site contains building fabric that may offer clues as to the nature and use of the building that once occupied this site.	Low-Moderate
D	Does not apply	None
E	Does not apply	None

HV Criterion	Assessment	Significance (State/local)
F	Does not apply	None
G	Does not apply	None
H	Does not apply	None
Assessed Significance: Local / Low-Moderate		

Note: a description of each criterion is provided in Appendix 6.

6.2.3 Statement of Significance

What is Significant?

Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318) in Plumpton contains the archaeological remains of a former weatherboard farmhouse that was probably constructed during the early 20th century following the breakup of the large pastoral estates and the subdivision for small-scale farming.

Archaeological features include building fabric including white/red brick, bluestone, concrete, bitumen pad, rusted corrugated iron, and iron pipe/guttering. Other features include standing corrugated iron sheds, as small stockyard and two dams.

How is it Significant?

The site is of archaeological significance to the Shire of Melton.

Why is it Significant?

The site is of archaeological significance because it has the potential to provide information about changes in the domestic living arrangements of small-scale farmers over the course of a century.

6.2.4 Interpretation and Discussion

The Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318) has been identified as being of moderate local significance due to a number of factors. Primarily the nature of the site, in terms of artefact material and structural remains, means that there is some potential that useful information about the history of the site can be gathered from further archaeological investigation. Historical documentation should allow a clear picture of the site history to be developed. It is considered likely that further archaeological investigation would offer more detail on the site's early history and its occupants.

The site has also been determined as having only local significance as it is a relatively common site type throughout Victoria.

7 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

This section provides a summary of the recommendations made in relation to the historical heritage values of the study area.

This assessment is intended to inform master planning for a precinct structure plan. Therefore at this stage potential impacts to the sites are unknown. Therefore the following management recommendations are generic. More detailed management recommendations should be developed as part of the approvals process once potential impacts become more apparent.

Recommendation 1

A Permit will be required from the Melton City Council to disturb, damage or alter the listed heritage place at 911-935 Melton Highway, Plumpton (HO58). Under the planning scheme, heritage tree controls apply to the curtilage of this place. It also contains outbuildings and fences that **are not** exempt under Clause 43.01-3 of the Planning Scheme; that is, they are not exempt from the notice requirements under Section 52(1) (a), (b) and (d), and the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. However, prohibited uses may be permitted.

Recommendation 2

A Consent from Heritage Victoria will be required to damage or disturb Beattys Road House Site (H7822-2318). It is recommended that if impacts to the site are likely to the listed extent, then a program of test excavation is conducted to gain a better understanding of the site formation processes to determine if any early 20th century occupation deposits occur.

Recommendation 3

In relation to Melton Highway Cellar Site (Property Ref #15), following discussions with Heritage Victoria (J. Smith, pers. comm., 28 June 2013) it has been determined that whilst the number of artefacts suggest the site is of moderate local significance, the extremely disturbed nature of the site indicates that the site does not warrant listing on the VHI at this stage and that further detailed archaeological investigation should be considered prior to any development impacts occurring.

However, as a Conservation Desirable Site within the Melton Heritage Study a referral to the Council Heritage Advisor is required under Section 29A of the *Building Act 1993* for any demolition requests under a Council Permit application.

Recommendation 4

In relation to Melton Highway Cobbled Road Surface (adjacent Property Ref #23) the exact nature of the site, and indeed its classification as a historical site, is unknown. It is recommended that if impacts to the site are likely, then a program of test excavation be conducted to gain a better understanding of the site formation, and to confirm that it is a former road surface.

Recommendation 5

In relation to the former house site at 55 Saric Court, Plumpton (Property Ref #55), it is recommended that if development impacts are likely to occur at this location, then the site is assessed for its archaeological potential and, if confirmed, then site is entered on the VHI. In that event a Consent from Heritage Victoria would be required to disturb the site.

Recommendation 6

In relation to the ford site at 61-63 Tarletons Road, Plumpton (Property Ref #8) it is recommended that if development impacts are likely to occur at this location, then the site is assessed for its archaeological potential and, if confirmed, then site is entered on the VHI. In that event a Consent from Heritage Victoria would be required to disturb the site.

Recommendation 7

All historical archaeological sites listed on the VHI are protected under the *Heritage Act 1995*. If any impacts to the sites are considered likely to occur as a result of proposed developments, then a Consent will be required from Heritage Victoria.

Recommendation 8

Dry stone walls are not considered archaeological features and are not listed on the VHI. However, dry stone walls in the Shire of Melton are considered by the Melton City Council to be important historical landscape features worth preserving. Council is pursuing planning controls under Clause 52.37 of the Shire of Melton Planning Scheme Particular Provisions, which may require a permit to disturb dry stone walls within the local Council area. These controls do not yet apply; however should these protective provisions come into force then the Council Heritage Advisor should be contacted for advice on permitting requirements regarding any dry stone walls in the study area.

Recommendation 9

Should there be potential impacts to the dry stone walls on Property Ref #s 45 and 46 (Section 5.1.4.4), then it is recommended that formal inspection and recording of these walls by a heritage consultant occurs prior to any future development of these properties. Melton City Council should be contacted for advice on any permitting requirements.

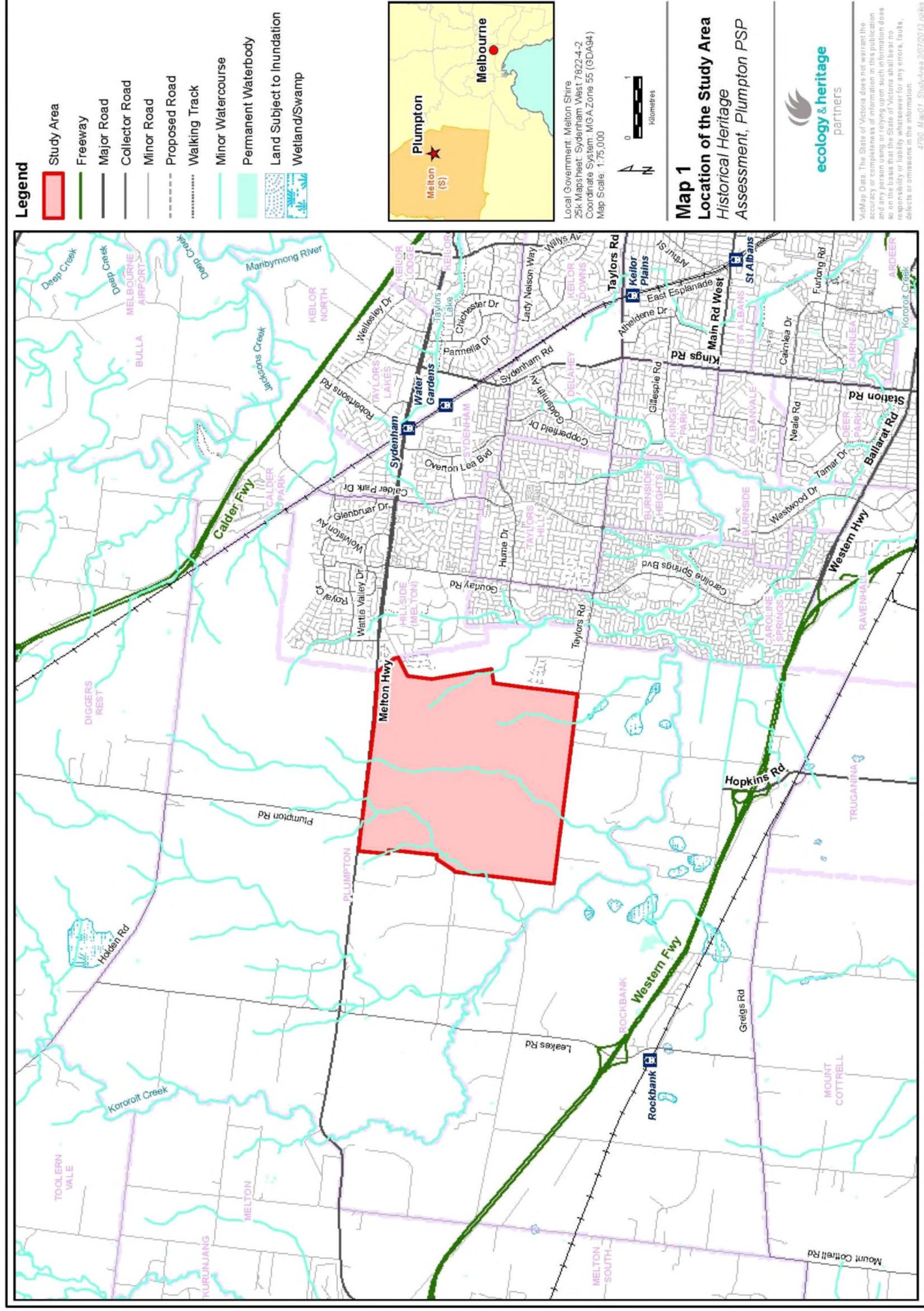
Recommendation 10

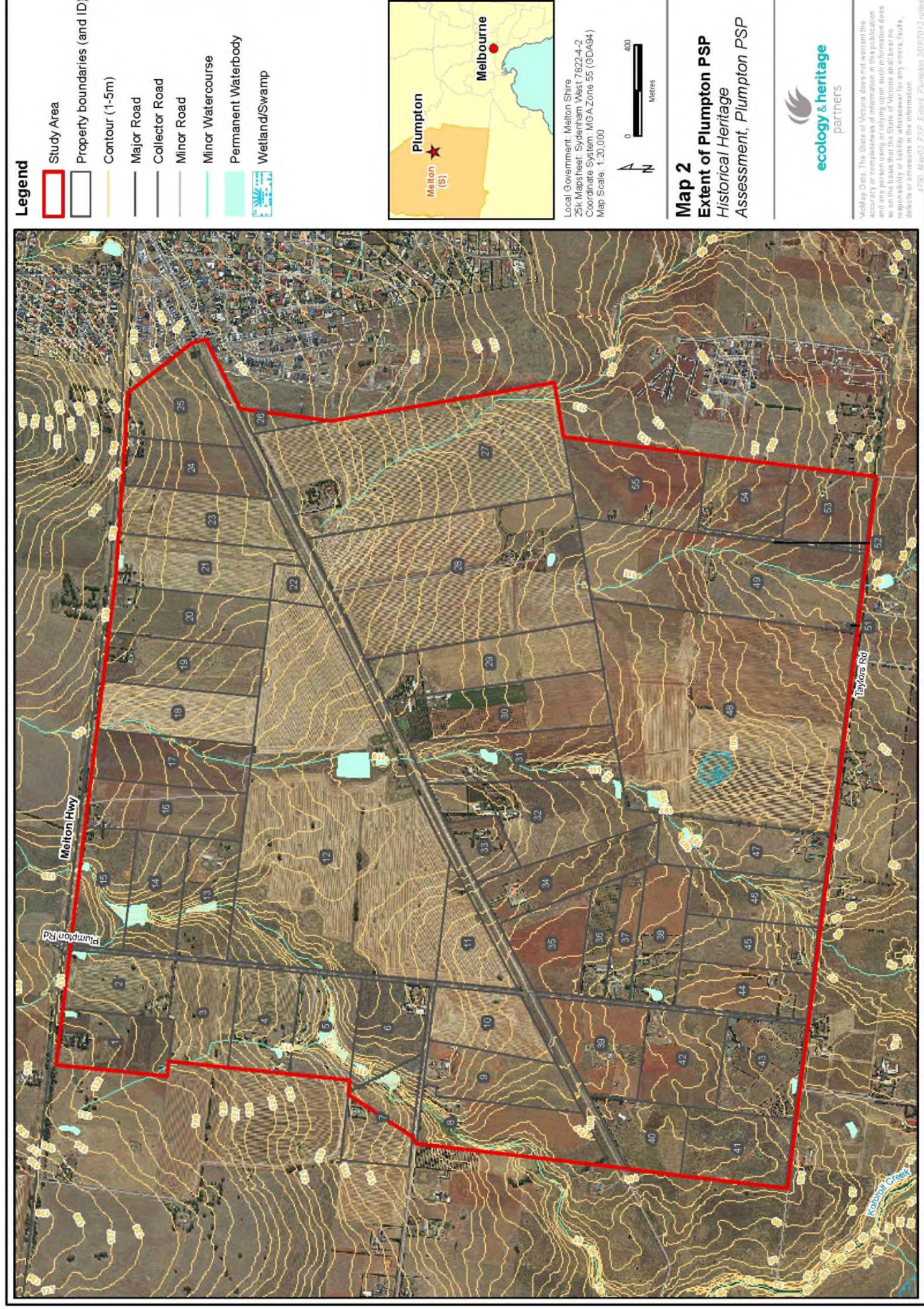
The Beattys Road alignment is a significant reminder of the early transportation routes established during the squatting and gold rush eras. Consideration should be given to retaining the current route within the PSP.

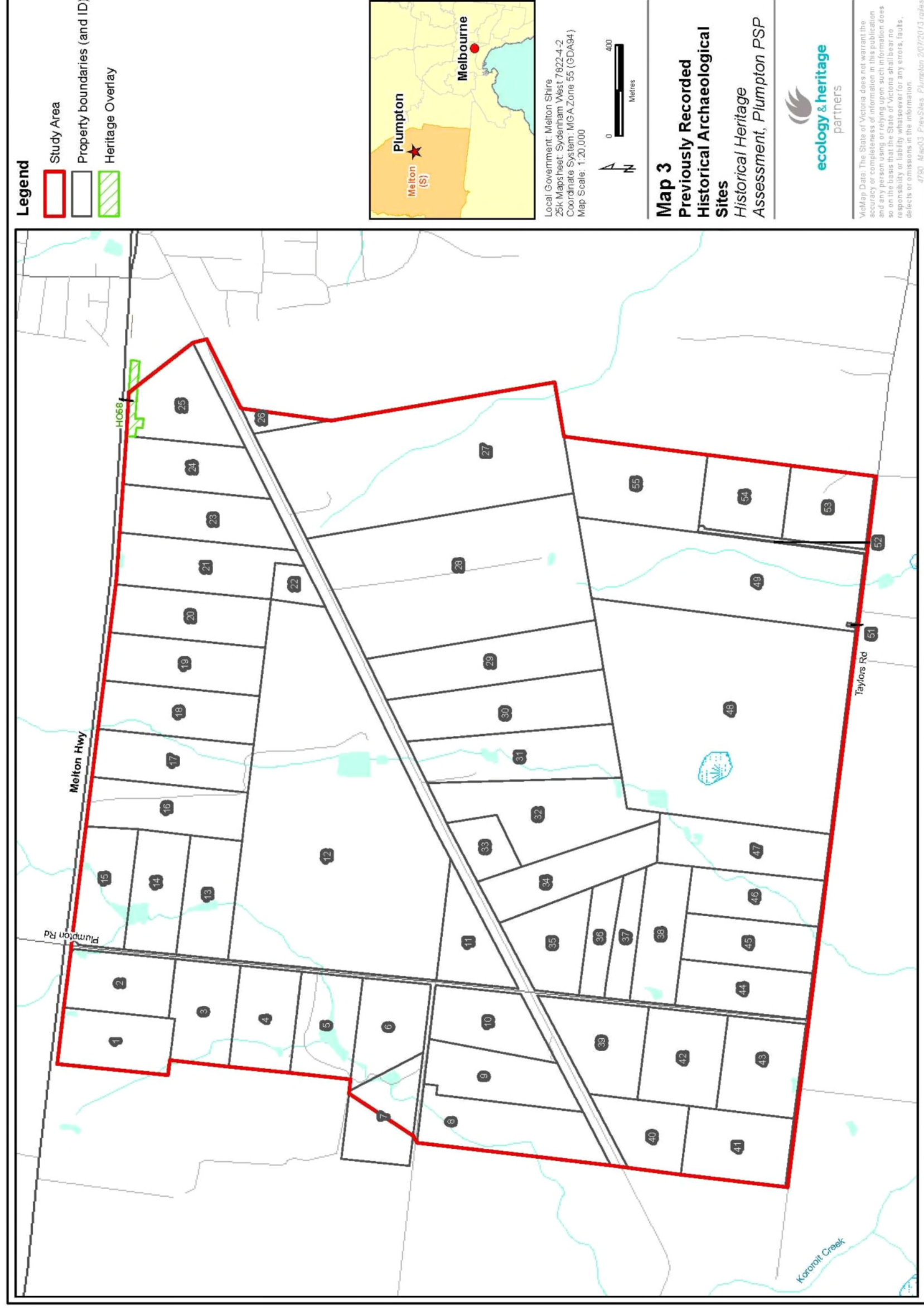
Recommendation 11

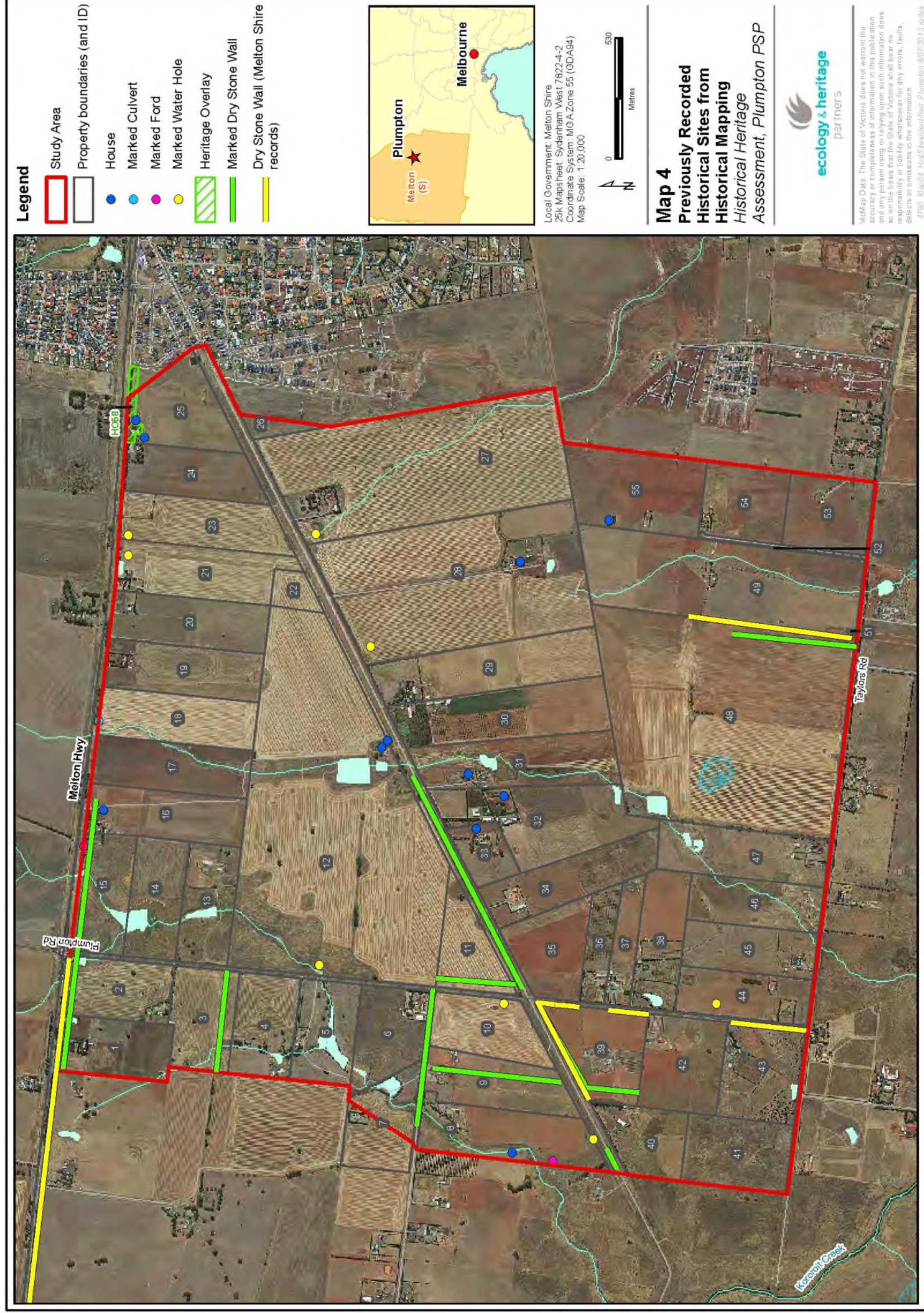
There are no other known historical heritage issues identified in the study area. If any historical issues are encountered during the course of future development then works should cease within 10 m of the area of concern and a qualified Cultural Heritage Advisor (or Heritage Victoria) should be contacted to investigate.

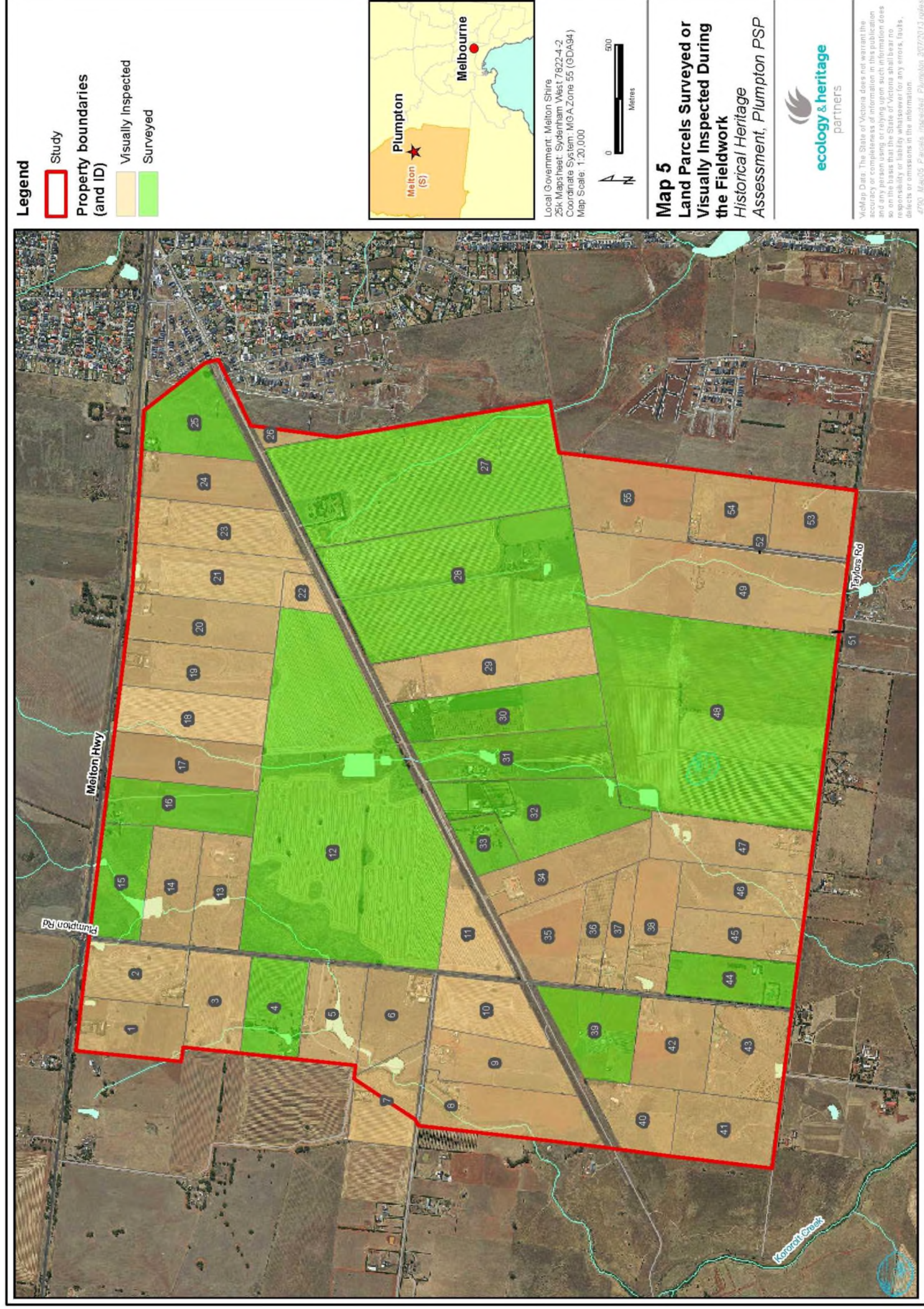
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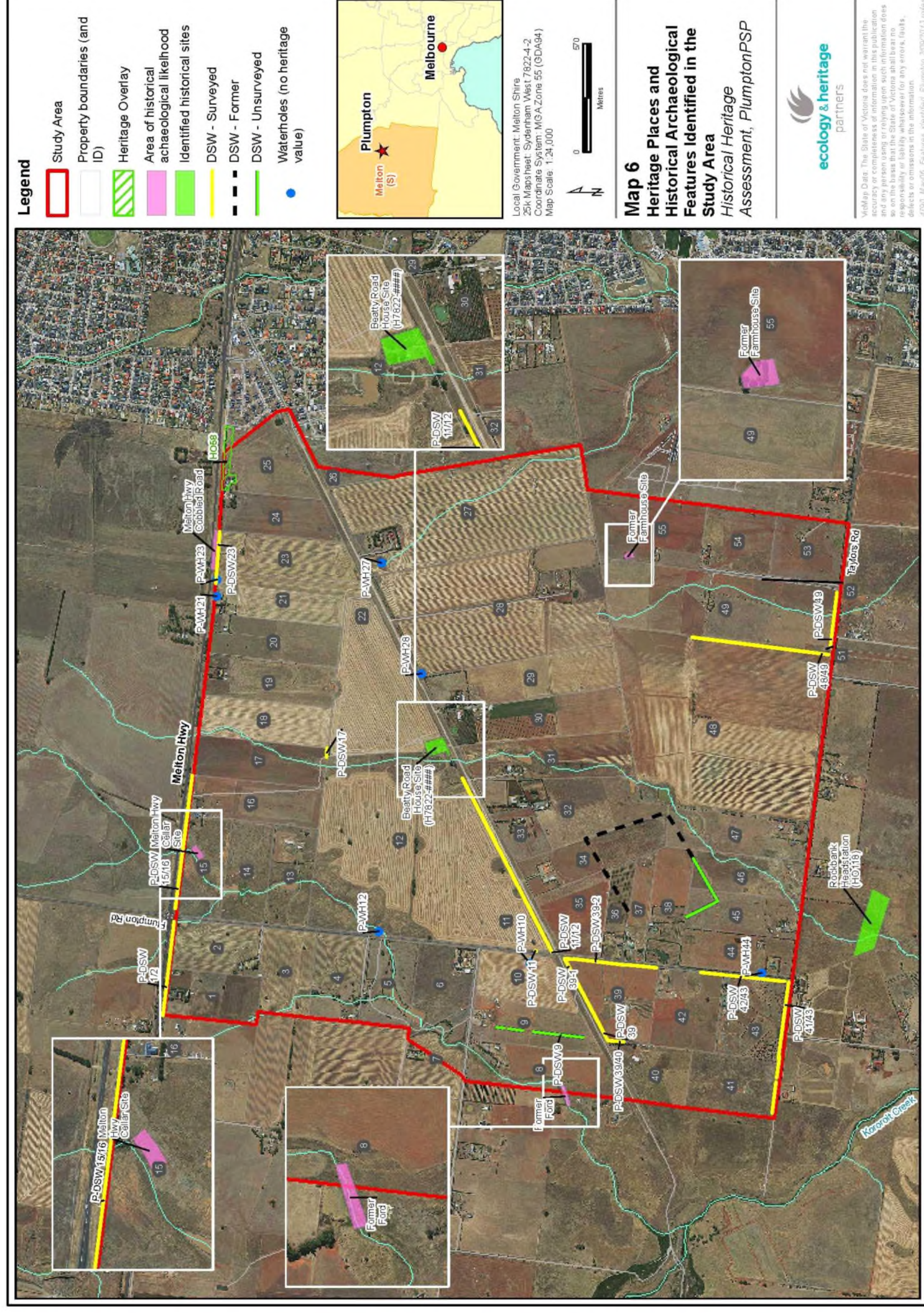












APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Investigation Brief

PART A – PROJECT BRIEF

Services

1. Project Overview

The Growth Areas Authority (GAA) requires a contractor to prepare a Post Contact Heritage Assessment for the Plumpton Precinct Structure Plan (PSP 1078).

The purpose of this study is to identify Post Contact sites within the precinct. This information will be used to determine the future land use and help inform the future urban structure for the Plumpton PSP.

The GAA will be seeking two separate quotes - one for the Plumpton precinct and another that includes the Kororoit precinct within the assessment area. The second quote should demonstrate the efficiencies associated with undertaking the assessment for both precincts together.

The land to be included in the assessment is identified on the attached map (see Attachment 1).

2. Background

Plumpton (PSP 1078)

The Plumpton precinct is located within the Melton City Council municipality, north of Taylors Road, east of the proposed Outer Metropolitan Road (OMR) reservation, south of the Melton Highway and west of the approved Taylors Hill West PSP currently being developed and the Caroline Springs development front.

The Plumpton precinct comprises 1,015 hectares of land, 107 hectares identified as employment, with a projected yield of 9,500 lots and population forecast of 25,500 people.

Given its proximity and access to major arterial roads, this precinct will be well connected to surrounding facilities and public transport options with direct frontage to the Melton Highway and in close proximity to the future Caroline Springs train station at Christies Road.

The development of this area will deliver improved connectivity between the approved Rockbank North PSP and the established area of Caroline Springs and will provide a western interface to the approved Taylor Hill West Precinct. The PSP will also enable the continuation of both Taylors Road and Hume Drive and determine the future alignment of the key North-South Hopkins Road Arterial extension.

The precinct also encompasses the historic Beattys Road alignment, a key route to the Ballarat goldfields, which runs diagonally through the precinct from the Melton Highway to Taylors Road.

The local needs of the community will be serviced by a Major Town Centre, as identified on the approved Western Growth Corridor Plan, local town centres and community hubs that will deliver key local infrastructure such as schools, active open space and community centres.

Planning of this Precinct will also generate significant jobs associated with the Major Town Centre and the nominated employment precinct along the Melton Highway/OMR which will provide opportunity for delivery of industrial jobs in the Melton East corridor.

The precinct has largely been used for grazing and by hobby farms significantly reducing the quantity and quality of the native vegetation. There significant native grasses and ephemeral wetlands remain scattered throughout the precinct. There is also a defined north-south waterway running through the

precinct connecting into the Kororoit Creek within the Kororoit PSP. This waterway is one of the key tributaries of the Kororoit Creek and may have some significant heritage and hydrological value.

Kororoit (PSP 1080)

The Kororoit precinct comprises 1,181 hectares of land with a projected yield of 8,600 lots and population forecast of 24,000 people.

The precinct is located centrally within the corridor with direct access to the Western Highway via the existing Hopkins Road interchange and the future Caroline Springs train station at Robinsons Road.

The Western Growth Corridor Plan (GCP) proposes a north-south arterial road link extending north from the existing interchange at Hopkins Road through the precinct.

The local needs of the community will be serviced by a network of local town centres and the residential population forecast is sufficient to provide for the provision of local community infrastructure including primary schools, active open space and community centres.

The Kororoit Creek runs through the centre of the precinct and is a key landscape feature of both the precinct and the Melton Growth Corridor. This corridor will connect the future communities of this area to a regional open space and movement network. The GCP also proposes to anchor a new regional park off the creek corridor, which will serve the wider Melton growth area.

Kororoit Creek is also a highly significant biodiversity feature within the precinct with a diverse range native flora and fauna. The creek corridor has been identified as a key Growling Grass Frog habitat and this has been reflected in the current Draft Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (BCS).

3. Scope

The Post Contact Heritage Assessment **must** include:

- An initial consultation meeting with GAA and Melton City Council;
- A search of the Victorian Heritage Register, the Victorian Heritage Inventory and local council's heritage overlay and relevant strategies to identify buildings, places or sites of heritage significance within the precincts;
- Review of any previous heritage assessments which are relevant to the PSP area, including Melton City Council's Dry Stone Wall Study and the Melton Heritage Study;
- Review of local histories and conduct a search of archival sources (e.g. historic maps and aerial photos), which are relevant to the identification of heritage buildings, sites and places;
- Site visits to private properties within the PSP area as needed to assess heritage places / elements;
- Contact landowners to arrange access to their property, if required;
- A thematic history of the study area, from the earliest period of non-indigenous settlement to the present, identifying places or events that are significant to the locality's history;
- A list of known buildings, sites and places of heritage significance within the PSP area and associated historic themes;
- Identification of areas which may contain significant archaeological sites associated with non-indigenous heritage;
- Assessment of the significance of identified heritage elements and make recommendations for important elements to be retained;
- Management recommendations for those heritage elements recommended to be retained; and

Register new sites on the Victorian Heritage Register and the Victorian Heritage Inventory, if required.

4. Deliverables

Two separate quotes are sought;

- One quote for the Plumpton precinct
- One quote that combines both the Plumpton & Kororoit precincts. The quote will need to factor in separate reports for each precinct as a deliverable.

The combined quote should demonstrate the efficiencies associated with undertaking the assessments for two precincts together.

4.1 Deliverables

Deliverables for this project shall include:

- One inception meeting with Melton City Council and the GAA
- 1 x Draft Report
- 1 x Final Report

The Report will be used to inform the preparation of the PSP. The Report should be in an easy to read format and capable of being used to support the outcomes of the PSPs for broad agency and community consultation and for possible referral to a Planning Panel.

All deliverables shall be provided in both hard and soft format. For each PSP, three hard copies should be provided (3 bound, 1 unbound). Electronic copies should be provided in both MS Word and Adobe PDF format. Schematics and maps should be provided additionally in AutoCad (.dwg) and in GIS compatible format MapInfo.

4.2 Meetings and Timings

- Meeting 1: Consultant briefing following production of draft report to the GAA, State Agencies and landowners (one hour).
- Meeting 2: Discussion of draft (final) report with the GAA prior to finalisation (one hour).
- Please provide a per hour quote for any additional meetings required above and beyond the meetings listed above.

Deliverable		Delivery Date
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake evaluation of existing historic heritage studies; • Review information received from the GAA, Council, Heritage Victoria etc • Review all relevant data, registers, historical evidence and environmental data to determine Places of significance; • Undertake project meeting with the GAA and Melton City Council to discuss the results assessment. 	8 weeks from date of engagement
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit draft report 	9 weeks from date of engagement
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit final report 	*1 week after feedback is received.

*Comments will be in the form of consolidated comments. Allow for two sets of comments on the draft report.

5. Completion Date	
Refer to the deliverables table above.	
6. Important Dates	
Refer to the deliverables table above.	
7. Service Hours	
The hours during which the Contractor shall normally provide the services to the Department are: 8.30am to 5:00pm Melbourne local time - Monday to Friday (Public Holidays excluded)	
8. Relationship Management	
Management Administration:	
GAA Project Officer(s):	Anthony Battaglia (Senior Precinct Structure Planner) & Stephanie Harder (Structure Planner)
Address:	Level 29, 35 Collins Street. Melbourne 3000
Telephone:	9651 9600
Email:	anthony.battaglia@gaa.vic.gov.au or stephanie.harder@gaa.vic.gov.au
Facsimile	9651 9623
9. Reporting Requirements	
<p>The Contractor shall provide the Project Manager with brief reports on progress at the end of each stage. Any matters which arise that may be deemed to materially affect the development of the project should be communicated to the Growth Areas Authority Project Manager within twenty-four hours of the matter being known to the Contractor.</p> <p>Vision Accessibility</p> <p>The Contractor shall ensure all reports and diagrams, maps or other presentation material are accessible for those with vision of colour impairment. To this end:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All documents shall be provided in MS Word or Adobe PDF (not scanned) formats, which are machine readable or can readily be converted; and • All graphic material shall be developed to be legible by those with colour impairment. This could involve the use of special colour palettes, including monochrome, labelling or the use of layered PDF's. <p>Further information relating to accessibility for those with vision or colour impairment can be found at: http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/planning/planningtoolkit/communicating-data-with-colour</p> <p>Where historic or externally sourced material is used that cannot be made colour accessible, the report should include a note to this effect.</p> <p>Report Format</p> <p>All deliverables shall be provided in both hard and soft formats. Three hard copies should be provided (2 bound, 1 unbound). Electronic copies should be provided in both MS Word and Adobe PDF format. Schematics and maps should be provided additionally in AutoCad (.dwg) and in a GIS compatible format (preferably MapInfo or ArcGIS).</p>	

10. Performance Measures

Performance measures will be measured against the deliverables outlined in 'Section 3'. The Contractor is required to complete the required deliverables in a timely fashion and to the standard required under the contract conditions.

11. Special Conditions Applicable to the Services

The successful Contractor must notify the GAA prior to contacting landowners.

The minimum insurance cover required for this work is:

- Professional Indemnity Insurance - \$5 million
- Public Liability Insurance - \$10 million

12. Allowable Expenses

Provide details and estimates of all expenses (such as travel, accommodation, printing, and other disbursements) you propose to claim from GAA, in Part B in the Travel and Other Expenses Table.

If subcontractors are required to meet the scope of the brief, this must be factored into the budget.

During the contract term, if the contractor determines a task to be outside the original project scope, they must notify the GAA prior to commencing work. All variations must be agreed upon in writing by the GAA prior to commencement.





Appendix 2: Notice of Intent to Conduct and Archaeological Survey

NOI Form



Notice of intention to carry out an Historical Archaeological Survey

All sections must be completed

1. Details of notifier

Name: ...Rick Bullers.....
E-mail address:rbullers@ehpartners.com.au.....
Company:Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd.....
Postal address:PO Box 8048, Newtown Vic Postcode: ...3220.....
Telephone (business hours):0400 990 887..... Fax:
Commissioning agent:Growth Areas Authority.....

2. Survey location

Notice is given that the above-named person intends to undertake a survey of historical archaeological sites in the area delineated on the attached map.

Name (of location):Plumpton PSP Area

Address of location:Various properties in an area bounded by Melton Hwy to the north, Taylors Road to the south, The Caroline Springs development front to the east and the Rockbank North PSP area to the west.

The survey area is located on the following 1:100,000 map sheet/s:

Map number:	Map name:
.....7822-N.....Broadmeadows.....

3. Dates of survey

It is intended that the survey will be conducted between the following dates:

From: ...29.04.2013..... To: ...29.04.2014.....

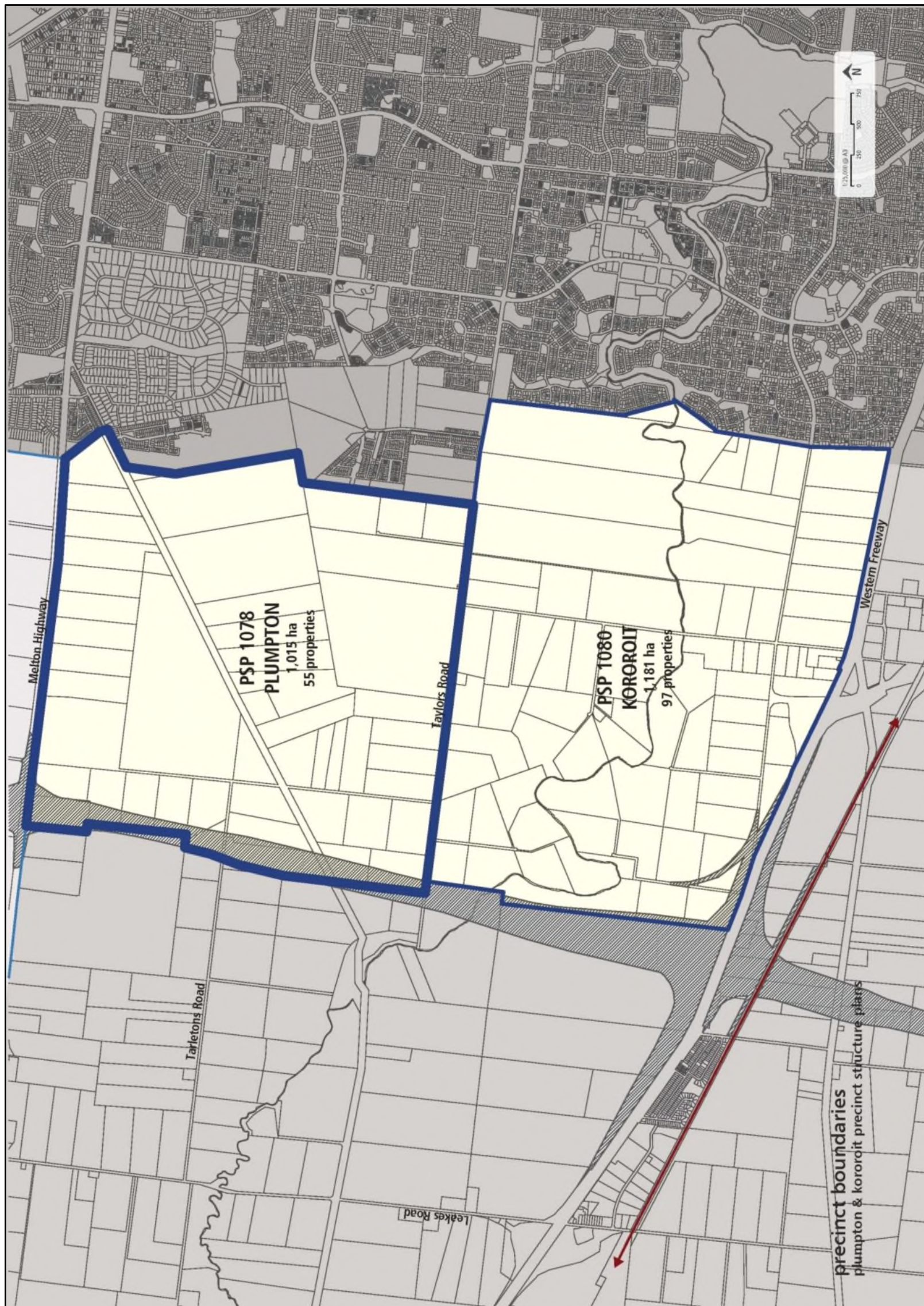
Signature:  Date: ...24.04.2013.....

This form must be lodged to:
Heritage Victoria
GPO Box 2392
Melbourne VIC 3001
Fax: (03) 8644 8811

If you require assistance to complete this form, please telephone (03) 8644 8800.

Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be collected, held, managed, used, disclosed or transferred in accordance with the provisions of the Information Privacy Act 2000 (Vic) and applicable laws. Enquiries about access to information about you held by the Department should be directed to the Privacy Officer, Department of Planning and Community Development, PO Box 2392, Melbourne, VIC 3001.

Notwithstanding the above, please note that information provided to enable the administration of the Heritage Act 1995 may be disclosed to persons with an interest in the heritage place or object particularly, and information provided as part of a permit application may be made available on-line where the application has been publicly advertised under section 68 of the Heritage Act 1995.



HV Response

Rick Bullers

From: bethany.sproal@dpcd.vic.gov.au on behalf of Archaeology.Admin@dpcd.vic.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2013 3:53 PM
To: Rick Bullers
Subject: Re: Archaeological Survey Notification #4309 Plumpton PSP Area: Melton Highway, Caroline Springs Received with Thanks

Dear Rick

Thank you for forwarding the completed Archaeological Survey Notification form regarding the above location. Archaeology Report number **4309** has been allocated for this project. This report is required within 1 year of the date of completion of the survey. Please ensure that the Archaeology Report number is referenced in the report.

In accordance with Section 131(1)(b) of the *Heritage Act* 1995, all site documentation collected during an archaeological survey, including those commissioned for Aboriginal cultural heritage investigations, must be provided to this office. Site documentation includes any required Heritage Inventory Site Cards, and an Archaeology Report. This information is essential in the appropriate management of Victoria's historical archaeological resource.

A report must be submitted even in cases where no historical archaeological sites or relics have been located during the course of the survey.

Heritage Victoria's *Guidelines for Conducting Historical Archaeological Surveys* provides details on the statutory processes and required documentation. Any incomplete or inaccurate documentation will be returned for appropriate completion.

Please note that letters will no longer be provided in response to the submission of Archaeological Survey Notifications and Archaeological Reports to Heritage Victoria. This email may be used as confirmation of the receipt of the above Archaeological Survey Notification.

Kind regards

Beth

4790 - NOIs

Rick Bullers to: archaeology.admin@dpcd.vic.gov.au

24/04/2013 02:19 PM

Hi

Please find attached two NOIs for heritage assessments at Plumpton and Rockbank. If you have any queries please let me know.

Kind regards

Appendix 3: Cadastral Details of the Study Area

Table A2.1: Cadastral Details of the Study Area

Ref #	Lot	Plan	Address	Parish	County	Property Surveyed	Inspected	Reason?	Heritage Values Present?
1	6	LP126604	1251 Melton Hwy, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Melton Hwy	DSW along northern boundary, accessed from Melton Hwy road reserve. No historical potential identified in background research.	Yes, DSW along northern boundary
2	2	LP122381	1064 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Plumpton Road and Melton Hwy	DSW along northern boundary, accessed from Melton Hwy road reserve. No historical potential identified in background research.	Yes, DSW along northern boundary
3	5	LP126604	1128 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Plumpton Road and from #4	1938 Map indicates that a DSW ran E-W across either #3 or #4. Inspection of # 3 at northern boundary showed that the DSW was on the neighbouring Rockbank PSP area, but stopped at the western boundary of #3 (i.e. the section on #3 has been destroyed).	No, DSW destroyed.
4	4	LP126604	1164 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	Yes		1938 Map indicates that a DSW ran E-W across either #3 or #4.	No
5	3	LP126604	1200 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Plumpton Road	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
6	4	LP216928A	2 Tarletons Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Tarlton and Plumpton Roads	No historical potential identified in background research.	No

Ref #	Lot	Plan	Address	Parish	County	Property Surveyed	Inspected	Reason?	Heritage Values Present?
7			42 Tarletons Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Tarlton Road	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
8	7	LP216928A	61 Tarletons Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Tarlton and Beattys Roads	1917 and 1938 map indicates that a ford was once present, and part of a DSW is present along southern (road) boundary. Access to land not granted.	Potential for ford to exist; DSW along Beattys Road not present.
9	6	LP216928A	35 Tarletons Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Beattys Road and #10	1938 Map indicates that a DSW ran N-S across #9, between Tarlton and Beattys Roads. Access requested by letter. No response. No telephone contact details available	Probably, visual inspection and aerial imagery indicates possible DSW remnants in southern half of property.
10	5	LP216928A	1 Tarletons Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Tarlton, Beattys and Plumpton Roads	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
11	3	TP819023K	206 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Beattys and Plumpton Roads	No historical potential identified in background research, except DSW along Beattys and Plumpton Roads	Yes, DSW along Beattys and Plumpton Roads
12	2	TP819023K	206 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		1938 Map indicates a house along Beattys Road and a waterhole along Plumpton Road.	Yes, a demolished house site occurs on Beattys Road (H7822-2318). The waterhole marked on the map still exists as a large dam.

Ref #	Lot	Plan	Address	Parish	County	Property Surveyed	Inspected	Reason?	Heritage Values Present?
13	3	LP116565	1037 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Plumpton Road	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
14	2	LP116565	1005 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Plumpton Road	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
15	3	PS609100D	971 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		Neighbour (#16) informed that a cellar from an old building was present and had recently been filled in.	Yes, artefact scatter from Melton Highway Cellar Site present.
16	4	LP116565	1125 Melton Hwy, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		1938 Map indicates a house present, and DSW along northern (road) boundary.	Yes, DSW along northern boundary. House demolished in 2009 and a new house built
17	5	LP116565	1097 Melton Hwy, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Melton Hwy	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
18	6	LP116565	1069 Melton Hwy, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Melton Hwy	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
19	7	LP116565	1043 Melton Hwy, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Melton Hwy	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
20	8	LP116565	1015 Melton Hwy, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Melton Hwy	No historical potential identified in background research.	No

Ref #	Lot	Plan	Address	Parish	County	Property Surveyed	Inspected	Reason?	Heritage Values Present?
21	9	LP116565	989 Melton Hwy, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Melton Hwy	1938 Map indicates a waterhole near the road.	No, but waterhole is still present as a formed dam.
22	1	TP819023K	206 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Beattys Road	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
23	10	LP116565	963 Melton Hwy, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Melton Hwy	1938 Map indicates a waterhole near the road.	No, but waterhole may be indicated by a damp depression adjacent to the road boundary.
24	11	LP116565	937 Melton Hwy, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Beattys Road	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
25	12	LP116565	911 Melton Hwy, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		Registered historical place (HO58).	Yes
26	C	PS646692N	57 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Beattys Road	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
27	CA: 9	SEC: B	167 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		1938 Map indicates a waterhole near the road.	No, but waterhole is still present as a formed dam.
28	CA	SEC: 8	235 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		1938 Map indicates a waterhole near the road and a house.	No, but waterhole is still present as a formed dam. House has been demolished and replaced in late 20 th century.

Ref #	Lot	Plan	Address	Parish	County	Property Surveyed	Inspected	Reason?	Heritage Values Present?
29	PTL 4	LP115628	313 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Beattys Road	No historical potential identified in background research.	No
30	PTL 3	LP115628	339 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		Possible DSW	No
31	PTL 2	LP115628	365 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		1939 Map indicates a house present.	No, house demolished and replaced c1986.
32	PTL 1	LP115628	391 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		1939 Map indicates a house present.	No, no original house. Owners state that property was empty when they purchased.
33	CA	SEC: B	415 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		1939 Map indicates a house present.	No, no original house. Owners state that property was empty when they purchased.
34	PTL 8	LP219656R	451 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Beattys Road	No historical potential identified in background research. Air photo interp suggests a large rectangular dry stone walled enclosure straddling parcel #s 34, 36, 37, 38, 45, 46 & 47 once crossed this property, but has been removed (air photo shows former position).	No
35	7	LP219656R	1241 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Beattys and Plumpton Roads	No historical potential identified in background research	No

Ref #	Lot	Plan	Address	Parish	County	Property Surveyed	Inspected	Reason?	Heritage Values Present?
36	PTL 6	LP219656R	1251 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Plumpton Road	No historical potential identified in background research. Air photo interp suggests a large rectangular dry stone walled enclosure straddling parcel #s 34, 36, 37, 38, 45, 46 & 47 once crossed this property, but has been covered by an orchard.	No
37	PTL 6	LP219656R	1251 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Plumpton Road	No historical potential identified in background research. Air photo interp suggests a large rectangular dry stone walled enclosure straddling parcel #s 34, 36, 37, 38, 45, 46 & 47 once crossed this property, but has been removed (air photo shows former position).	No
38	5	LP219656R	1259 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Plumpton Road	No historical potential identified in background research. Air photo interp suggests a large rectangular dry stone walled enclosure straddling parcel #s 34, 36, 37, 38, 45, 46 & 47 once crossed this property, but has been covered by an orchard.	No
39	PTL 1	LP31980	519 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	Yes		1938 Map indicates DSW along northern boundary and 1917 Map indicates DSW along western boundary	Yes, DSW along northern, eastern and western boundaries
40		SEC: 18	585 Beattys Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Beattys Road	No historical potential identified in background research	No

Ref #	Lot	Plan	Address	Parish	County	Property Surveyed	Inspected	Reason?	Heritage Values Present?
41		SEC: 18	1384 Taylors Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Taylors Road	No historical potential identified in background research	Yes, DSW along southern (road) boundary
42	2	LP131980	1392 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Taylors Road	No historical potential identified in background research	Yes, DSW along eastern (road) boundary
43	3	LP131980	1440 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Kororoit	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Taylors Road	No historical potential identified in background research	Yes, DSW along southern (road) boundary
44	4	LP219656R	1267 Plumpton Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		No historical potential identified in background research, however visual inspection from road indicated possible stone feature and possible DSW along eastern boundary	No, stone feature was just a very regular stone pile; no DSW present.
45	3	LP19656R	1200 Taylors Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Taylors Road and #44	Air photo interp suggests a large rectangular dry stone walled enclosure straddling parcel #s 34, 36, 37, 38, 45, 46 & 47. Attempted to contact owners to access property – no telephone details and no answer to door knock. Visual inspection from road and adjacent property indicated possible stone features scattered across property. Neighbours (across road) state that they are just stone piles piled by previous owner.	Possible remains of DSW enclosure

Ref #	Lot	Plan	Address	Parish	County	Property Surveyed	Inspected	Reason?	Heritage Values Present?
46	2	LP219656R	1176 Taylors Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Taylors Road	Access permission request sent to landowner by GAA previously. No access approval given. No further access requests made. Air photo interp suggests a large rectangular dry stone walled enclosure straddling parcel #s 34, 36, 37, 38, 45, 46 & 47.	Possible remains of DSW enclosure
47	1	LP219656R	1152 Taylors Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Taylors Road	Access permission request sent to landowner by GAA previously. No access approval given. No further access requests made. Air photo interp suggests a large rectangular dry stone walled enclosure straddling parcel #s 34, 36, 37, 38, 45, 46 & 47.	Possible remains of DSW enclosure
48	CA	SEC: B	1056 Taylors Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		1917 Map indicates a DSW along the eastern boundary	Yes, DSW along approx. half eastern boundary
49	A	PS709426N	1012 Taylors Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Taylors Road and #48	Access not granted. However met owner across the fence. 1917 Map indicates a DSW along the western boundary.	Yes, DSW along approx. half western boundary
50	1	PS709426N	1048 Taylors Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Taylors Road and #48	1917 Map indicates a DSW along the western boundary. Size of block to small – survey not warranted	Yes, DSW along approx. half western boundary
51	1	PS604066C	1052 Taylors Rd, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Taylors Road	No historical potential identified in background research	No
52	RES1	LP216292V	Saric Crt, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	Yes		No historical potential identified in background research	No

Ref #	Lot	Plan	Address	Parish	County	Property Surveyed	Inspected	Reason?	Heritage Values Present?
53	1	LP216292V	58 Saric Crt, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Saric Court and Taylors Road	No historical potential identified in background research	No
54	2	LP16292V	39 Saric Crt, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Saric Court	No historical potential identified in background research	No
55	3	LP216292V	38 Saric Crt, Plumpton	Maribyrnong	Bourke	No	Yes, visual from Saric Court and #28	1917 and 1938 Maps indicate a house on the property. Property access denied by landowner; some anecdotal evidence provided during phone discussion with landowner	Possible archaeological site (former house site)

Note: The reference numbers (ref nos.) above correlate to the property numbers shown on Maps 2-5

Appendix 4: Heritage Legislation

The following provides a description of relevant local, State and Commonwealth heritage legislation.

A3.1 *Heritage Act 1995 (State)*

The Victorian *Heritage Act 1995* (the Act) is administered by Heritage Victoria (HV) and is the Victorian Government's key piece of historical heritage legislation.

The Act identifies and protects heritage places and objects that are of significance to the State of Victoria including:

- historic archaeological sites and artefacts;
- historic buildings, structures and precincts;
- gardens, trees and cemeteries;
- cultural landscapes;
- shipwrecks and relics; and
- significant objects.

The Heritage Register

The Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) lists the State's most significant heritage places and objects. These can be searched on the Victorian Heritage Database.

The Heritage Council determines what places and objects are included and only those places and objects of outstanding significance are added. The process for adding a place or object is a considered one.

A place or object cannot be added to the Register before the Heritage Council seeks the views of the owner. If a heritage place or object is recommended to the Register, then owners are given a report that includes a statement of cultural heritage significance, a proposed extent of registration, and any proposed activities that may not require a permit.

A heritage object can include furniture, shipwreck relics, archaeological artefacts, equipment, transport vehicles, and articles of everyday use that contribute to an understanding of Victoria's history. Objects can be registered in association with heritage places, or in their own right.

The Heritage Inventory

Under Section 121 of the *Heritage Act 1995*, the Heritage Inventory records all places or objects identified as historic archaeological sites, areas or relics, all known areas where archaeological relics are located, all known occurrences of archaeological relics and all persons known to be holding private collections of artefacts.

Under Section 127 of the *Heritage Act 1995* it is an offence to damage or disturb an archaeological site or relic, irrespective of whether it is listed on the Heritage Inventory or Heritage Register.

Under Section 129 of the *Heritage Act 1995* consent from Heritage Victoria is required if a person wishes to

- a) uncover or expose an archaeological relic;

- b) excavate any land for the purpose of discovering, uncovering or moving an archaeological relic; or
- c) deface or damage or otherwise interfere with an archaeological relic or carry out an act likely to endanger an archaeological relic; or
- d) possess an archaeological relic for the purposes of sale; or
- e) to buy or sell an archaeological relic.

Any application for a consent to the Executive Director must be accompanied by the prescribed fee. Various classes of works apply to the application fees. The Heritage Council may waive the fees if it is satisfied that the activities to which the application relates:

- a) are for the purposes of conservation or protection of the archaeological relic; or
- b) are to assist in relevant anthropological, archaeological, ethnographic; historical or scientific research; or
- c) are to educate the public as to the cultural heritage significance of the archaeological relic in its context; or
- d) are for the safety of the public; or
- e) are the same, or primarily the same, as those for which a consent has previously been issued to an applicant in relation to that registered place or registered object.

Up until late 2009, Heritage Victoria had a 'D' classification for places that are considered to have low historical or scientific significance. These sites are listed on the Victorian Heritage Inventory but are not subject to statutory protection, therefore there is no requirement to obtain a Consent to Disturb or destroy these sites. Heritage Victoria has requested that a letter be sent to them informing them if 'D' listed sites or places are destroyed to maintain records of these destroyed sites.

A3.2 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)

The EPBC Act provides a national framework for the protection of heritage and the environment and the conservation of biodiversity. The EPBC Act is administered by SEWPaC. The Australian Heritage Council assesses whether or not a nominated place is appropriate for listing on either the National or Commonwealth Heritage Lists and makes a recommendation to the Minister on that basis. The Minister for the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts makes the final decision on listing. SEWPaC also administers the Register of the National Estate.

The objectives of the EPBC Act are:

- to provide for the protection of the environment, especially those aspects of the environment that are matters of national environmental significance;
- to promote ecologically sustainable development through the conservation and ecologically sustainable use of natural resources;
- to promote the conservation of biodiversity;
- to provide for the protection and conservation of heritage;

- to promote a cooperative approach to the protection and management of the environment involving governments, the community, land-holders and indigenous peoples;
- to assist in the cooperative implementation of Australia's international environmental responsibilities;
- to recognise the role of indigenous people in the conservation and ecologically sustainable use of Australia's biodiversity; and
- to promote the use of indigenous peoples' knowledge of biodiversity with the involvement of, and in cooperation with, the owners of the knowledge.

A3.3 Planning and Environment Act 1987 (State)

All municipalities in Victoria are covered by land use planning controls which are prepared and administered by State and local government authorities. The legislation governing such controls is the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Places of heritage significance to a locality can be listed on a local planning scheme and protected by a Heritage Overlay (or other overlay where appropriate).

In addition to Places of local heritage significance, all Places listed on the VHR or VHI are also listed on the Heritage Overlay and provided with a unique item number (e.g. HO167). For each listed place on the Heritage Overlay, a series of planning controls has been developed. These planning controls are summarised in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay.

Dry stone walls may be protected by listing on either the Heritage Overlay or on the Schedule to Clause 52.37 under the Particular Provisions of the Planning Scheme. It should be noted that not all dry stone walls are protected. Other walls may be protected as a complex or precinct of walls, or as a component of another site type (e.g. they may be included as part of a homestead or farming complex).

Places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance are not often included on local government planning schemes, but are registered on the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) administered by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.

A3.4 Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 (State)

The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* protects Aboriginal cultural heritage in Victoria. A key part of the legislation is that CHMPs are required to be prepared by Sponsors (the developer) and qualified Cultural Heritage Advisors in accordance with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and the accompanying *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007*. A CHMP is the assessment of an area (known as an 'activity area') for Aboriginal cultural heritage values, the results of which form a report (the CHMP) which details the methodology of the assessment and sets out management recommendations and contingency measures to be undertaken before, during and after an activity (development) to manage and protect any Aboriginal cultural heritage present within the area examined.

The preparation of a CHMP is mandatory under the following circumstances:

- If the *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007* require a CHMP to be prepared (s. 47);
- If the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria requires a CHMP to be prepared (s. 48); or
- If an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required by the Environment Effects Act 1978 (s. 49).

The *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007* require a CHMP to be prepared:

- If all or part of the proposed activity is a ‘high impact activity’; and
- If all or part of the activity area is an area of ‘cultural heritage sensitivity’; and
- If all or part of the activity area has not been subject to ‘significant ground disturbance’.

The preparation of a CHMP can also be undertaken voluntarily. Having an Approved CHMP in place can reduce risk for a project during the construction phase by ensuring there are no substantial delays if sites happen to be found. Monitoring construction works is also rarely required if an approved CHMP is in place.

Approval of the CHMPs is the responsibility of either DPCD (AAV) or the Registered Aboriginal Parties. They will be examining the CHMPs in detail with key points including:

- Addressing whether harm to heritage can be avoided or minimised;
- All assessments (including test excavations) must be completed before management decisions are formulated; and
- Survey and excavation must be in accordance with proper archaeological practice and supervised by a person appropriately qualified in archaeology.

There are three types of CHMPs that may be prepared. These are:

- Desktop;
- Standard; and
- Complex.

A desktop CHMP is a literature review with fieldwork. If the results of the desktop show it is reasonably possible that Aboriginal cultural heritage could be present in the activity area, a standard assessment will be required.

The preparation of a CHMP can also be undertaken voluntarily. Having an approved CHMP in place can reduce risk for a project during the construction phase by ensuring there are no substantial delays if sites happen to be found. Monitoring construction works is also rarely required if an approved CHMP is in place.

It is strongly advised that for further information relating to heritage management (e.g. audits, stop orders, inspectors, forms, evaluation fees, status of RAPs and penalties for breaching the Act) Clients should access the Aboriginal Affairs Victoria website (<http://www.aboriginalaffairs.vic.gov.au/>).

A3.5 Victorian Coroner’s Act 2008

The Victorian *Coroner’s Act 2008* requires the reporting of certain deaths and the investigation of certain deaths and fires in Victoria by coroners to contribute to the reduction of preventable deaths. Of most relevance to heritage is the requirement for any “reportable death” to be reported to the police (s. 12[1]). The *Coroner’s Act 2008* requires that the discovery of human remains in Victoria (s. 4[1]) of a person whose identity is unknown (s. 4[g]) must be reported to the police.

Appendix 5: Site Gazetteer

Site Name	Site Number	Primary Grid Coordinate (AGD 66, Zone 55)	Site Type	Landform	Cultural Heritage Significance
Beattys Road House Site	H7822-2318	E 297800 N 5824950	Former house	Plain; creek margin	Moderate; local

Appendix 6: Significance Assessment

A5.1. The ICOMOS Burra Charter

The standard for determining significance of places is derived from an international formula developed by ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites). In Australia, the Burra Charter has been developed by ICOMOS which is a Charter for the Conservation of Cultural Significance (Australia ICOMOS 1999).

The Burra Charter defines cultural significance as “aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations” (Australia ICOMOS 1999: Section 1.2). Cultural significance is a concept which helps in estimating the value of places. The Burra Charter Cultural Significance Guidelines definitions of the values implicit in assessing cultural significance are as follows (Australia ICOMOS 1999):

Aesthetic value: Aesthetic value includes aspects of sensory perception for which criteria can and should be stated. Such criteria may include consideration of the form, scale, colour, texture and material of the fabric; the smells and sounds associated with its place and use.

Historic value: historic value encompasses the history of aesthetics, science and society, and therefore to a large extent underlies all the terms set out in this section.

A place may have historic value because it has influenced, or has been influenced by, an historic figure, event, phase or activity. It may also have historic value as the site of an important event. For any given place the significance will be greater where evidence of the association or event survives in situ, or where the settings are substantially intact, than where it has been changed or evidence does not survive. However, some events or associations may be so important that the place retains significance regardless of subsequent treatment.

Scientific value: The scientific or research value of a place will depend upon the importance of the data involved, on its rarity, quality or representativeness, and on the degree to which the place may contribute further substantial information.

Social value: Social value embraces the qualities for which a place has become a focus of spiritual, political, national or other cultural sentiment to a majority or minority group.

National Historic Themes

It is noted that when assessing historic values that the use of historic themes is of benefit. Historic themes are used by heritage professionals to assist in understanding the meanings and connections that historic places may have in addition to the physical fabric of a place. Themes can help explain how particular elements of a place are significant because of their ability to illustrate important aspects of its history (Australian Heritage Commission 2001). The nine theme groups that are most commonly used nationally are:

Theme 1	Tracing the evolution of the Australian environment
Theme 2	Peopling Australia
Theme 3	Developing Local, Regional and National economies
Theme 4	Building settlements, towns and cities
Theme 5	Working
Theme 6	Educating

Theme 7	Governing
Theme 8	Developing Australia's cultural life
Theme 9	Marking the phases of life

These theme groups are further expanded into more focussed sub-themes which will not be expanded on here. The themes are intended to be non-hierarchical and a historic place may have a number of themes, which reflects how we look at the past, allowing for an integrated, diverse and complex human experience (Australian Heritage Commission 2001).

A5.2. The *Heritage Act* 1995 Criteria

The *Heritage Act* 1995 defines eight criteria against which cultural heritage significance can be assessed. These criteria are used to assist in determining whether places of potential State significance should be included in the Heritage Register. They are as follows:

Criterion A	The historical importance, association with or relationship to Victoria's history;
Criterion B	Good design or aesthetic characteristics;
Criterion C	Scientific or technical innovations or achievements;
Criterion D	Social or cultural associations
Criterion E	Potential to educate, illustrate or provide further scientific investigation in relation to Victoria's cultural heritage;
Criterion F	Importance in exhibiting a richness, diversity or unusual integration of features;
Criterion G	Rarity or uniqueness of a place or object; and
Criterion H	The representative nature of a place or object as part of a class or type of places or objects.

In addition it is appropriate when assessing the significance of a site in Victoria to consider whether it is of Local, Regional or State (or potentially National) significance.

A5.3. Scientific Significance

Scientific significance of a heritage place (particularly archaeological sites) is also assessed in Victoria using a commonly accepted formula developed by Bowdler (1981) and Sullivan and Bowdler (1984). These are relative estimates of significance based on the current knowledge available about sites or places in a region. The assessment uses three criteria; site contents, site condition and representativeness.

Site Contents Rating

- 1 No cultural materials remaining.
- 2 Site contains a small number (e.g. 0-10 artefacts) or limited range of cultural materials with no evident stratification.
- 3 Site contains:
 - a. A larger number, but limited range of cultural materials; and/or
 - b. Some intact stratified deposit.
- 4 Site contains:

- a. A large number and diverse range of cultural materials: and/or
- b. Largely intact stratified deposit; and/or
- c. Surface spatial patterning of cultural materials that still reflect the way in which the cultural materials were laid down.

Site Condition Rating

- 0 Site destroyed.
- 1 Site in a deteriorated condition with a high degree of disturbance but with some cultural materials remaining.
- 2 Site in a fair to good condition, but with some disturbance.
- 3 Site in an excellent condition with little or no disturbance. For surface artefact scatters this may mean that the spatial patterning of cultural material still reflects the way in which the cultural materials were laid.

Representativeness

Representativeness refers to the regional distribution of a site type. It is assessed on whether the site type is common, occasional or rare within a given region. Current knowledge on the number of and distribution of archaeological sites in a region can change according depending on the extent of previous archaeological investigation.

The assessment of representativeness also takes into account the contents and condition of a particular site. An example is that in any region, there may be a limited number of sites of a particular type, which have been subject to minimal disturbance. These sorts of undisturbed sites (containing in situ deposits) would therefore be given a high significance rating for representativeness.

The **representativeness ratings** used for archaeological sites are:

- 1 Common occurrence
- 2 Occasional occurrence
- 3 Rare occurrence

Overall Scientific Significance Rating

An overall scientific significance rating is assigned to the site based on a cumulative score from the assessment. This results in one of the following ratings being assigned for scientific significance:

- 1-3 Low
- 4-6 Moderate
- 7-9 High

Appendix 7: Glossary

Items highlighted in ***bold italics*** in the definition are defined elsewhere in the glossary.

CHMP	Cultural Heritage Management Plan. A plan prepared under the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i> .
DPCD	Department of Planning and Community Development. The Victorian State Government department, of which AAV is a part, responsible for management of Aboriginal cultural heritage in Victoria.
GAA	Growth Areas Authority. Agency responsible for planning and coordinating infrastructure development in Melbourne's growth areas: Casey, Cardinia, Hume, Melton, Mitchell, Whittlesea and Wyndham.
Heritage Place	A <i>registered historical site</i> listed on a heritage planning instrument that affords statutory protection to the site.
HHA	Historical Heritage Assessment.
HO	Heritage Overlay. A list of Heritage Places of local significance with statutory protection under a local government planning scheme.
HV	Heritage Victoria. A division of DPCD responsible for management of historical heritage in Victoria.
OAAV	Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria. A division of DPCD responsible for management of Aboriginal cultural heritage in Victoria.
PSP	Precinct Structure Plan. A master plan to guide development in a specified section of one of Melbourne's growth areas (cf GAA).
Registered historical site	An historical site recorded in the VHR , VHI or other historical site database (cf. <i>Heritage Place</i>).
Taphonomy	the study of the processes (both natural and cultural) which affect the deposition and preservation of both the artefacts and the site itself.
VHI	Victorian Heritage Inventory. A register of places and objects in Victoria identified as historical archaeological sites, areas or relics, and all private collections of artefacts, maintained by HV . Sites listed on the VHI are not of State significance but are usually of regional or local significance. Listing on the VHR provides statutory protection for that a site, except in the case where a site has been "D-listed".
VHR	Victorian Heritage Register. A register of the State's most significant heritage places and objects, maintained by HV . Listing on the VHR provides statutory protection for that a site.

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