



Site OHK11 Telegraph Point, NSW

Historical Archaeological Excavation Report

For NSW Roads and Maritime Services

July 2014



Document control

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Project Manager: Fiona Leslie

Report Author: Fiona Leslie and Dan Tuck

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Author	Revision	Internal Review	Date Issued	Signature
Fiona Leslie	D01	Cameron Harvey	26/06/14	C. Harry
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Cover image: Excavation of Area 3, Site OHK11 Telegraph Point (Niche, 2014)

Heritage

Niche Environment and

A specialist environmental and heritage consultancy

Head Office

Niche Environment and

Heritage

PO Box W36

Parramatta NSW 2150

Email: info@niche-eh.com
All mail correspondence
should be through our Head

Office

Sydney

0488 224 888

Central Coast

0488 224 999

Illawarra

0488 224 777

Armidale

0488 224 094

Newcastle

0488 224 160

Brisbane

0488 224 036

Cairns

0488 284 743

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investigation of Site OHK11 by a suitably qualified historical archaeologist was recommended and a methodology included as part of the HAA & RD (Niche 2013).

This report presents the results of the archaeological excavation of Site OHK11.



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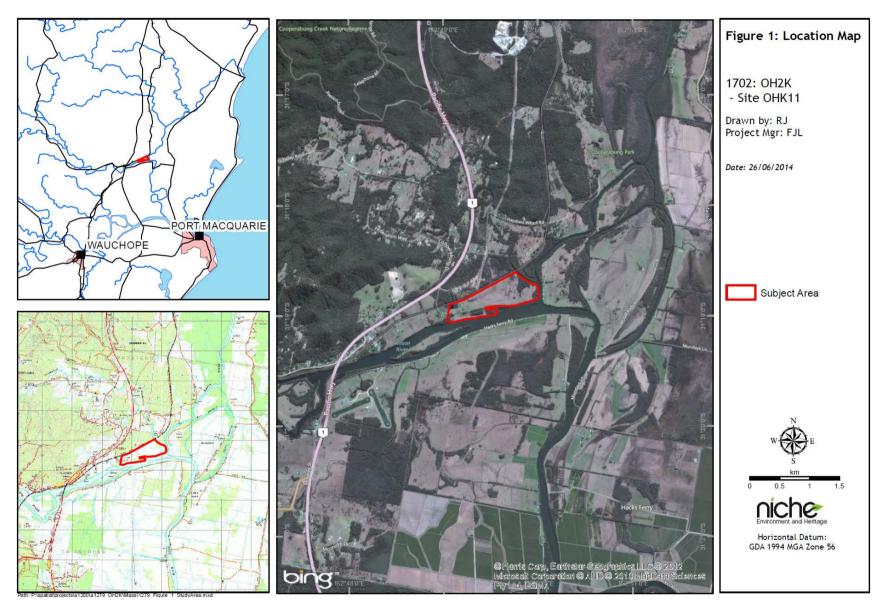


Figure 1: Location of the study area within a regional context (Source: Niche, 2014)

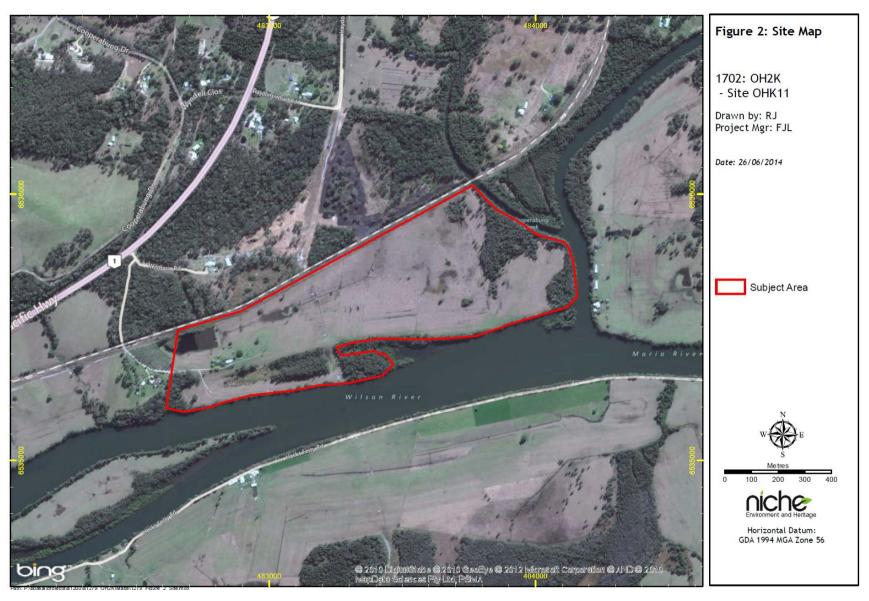


Figure 2: Location of Site OHK11 (Source: Niche, 2014)

TransportRoads & Maritime Services PROPERTY REFERENCE AND REFINED CONCEPT DESIGN (Class A & M build and ultimate Class Design) 18000 17000 — OH2K Design A & M Class (20131209) — OH2K Design Ultimate M Class (20131206) Cadastre (Clipped from RMS) 10Jan14 Cadastre (Clipped from RMS) 10Jan14 CDR_ProjectBoundary_Line_20130523 State Forests KALATEENEE MARIA RIVER BALLENGARRA CAIRNCROSS 16²⁵⁰ National Parks Estate Kumbatine National Park Maria National Park Cooperabung Creek Nature Reserve Rawdon Creek Nature Reserve

Figure 3: Design plan for the proposed development and its impact on Site OHK11 (Source: RMS 2014)

PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE - OXLEY HIGHWAY TO KEMPSEY PROJECT





Machine excavation involved the clearing of grass and vegetative overgrowth and the
subsequent stripping of topsoil using a 5-tonne mechanical excavator fitted with a 1200 mm
wide batter (mud) bucket.
Excavation ceased where there was sufficient soil colour contrast to identify cut in features (such
as pits and post holes). This was generally at the level of the base of the A2 horizon.
At machine excavation end level (generally between 100 and 400 mm below extant ground
level), the levelled surface was manually cleaned using a shovel and hoe, with identifiable
features delineated and defined by troweling.
All excavation areas (and identified features within) were supplied with context numbers; plotted
by the site planner; photographed; excavated out by hand and recorded. Artefacts recovered
were bagged by area and context.
Recording made use of a field diary, context catalogue and photographic register proforma.



The profile demonstrated levelling and topsoils observed were thinnest in the south (where they had been cut into) and thickest to the north (where they had been built up). Visible within the clayey soils of the A2/B horizon were a small rubbish pit (1.005), four post holes (1.008; 1.010; 1.012; 1.015) and the burnt out remains of a tree root (1.007). Neither the arrangement of the features, nor the artefacts recovered from the pit or post hole fills, were demonstrative of a late nineteenth century hut or late nineteenth century occupation. The small rubbish pit (1.005), for example, contained two bottles and a sardine tin set within a clayey loam matrix, that appeared to date to the early-mid twentieth century.



Plate 1: Area 1 (start of excavation); View SSW (Niche, 2014)



Plate 2: Area 1 (stripping topsoil); View E (Niche, 2014)





Plate 3: Area 1 (work in progress); View W (Niche, 2014)



Plate 4: Area 1 (after removal of topsoil); View W (Niche, 2014)



Plate 5: Area 1 (after removal of topsoil); View E (Niche, 2014)





Plate 6: Area 1 (post holes); View ESE (Niche, 2014)

Area 2

Area 2 was set to the east of the main machinery shed and was denoted by an elevated water tank set amongst hard rubbish (including cut up telegraph poles, corrugated iron and a trailer) and woody weed overgrowth. As with Area 1, site assessment in 2013 had identified this location as another possible site for the c.1896 hut.

Mechanical clearing of the overgrowth and hard rubbish revealed the concrete footing and slab remains of a mid twentieth century cow bails/small milking shed (2.005). This rectangular structure measured 9.8 metres (e-w) by 4.75 metres (n-s) and was constructed of medium pebble aggregate concrete (not reinforced) that formerly supported a timber frame with corrugated iron cladding. It was divided into two rooms and featured a shallow, open, in-floor drain (running west-east). The water tank mentioned above was set on an elevated tank stand constructed of metal poles with footplates dyna-bolted to the floor of the eastern room. Clearly the tank stand had been erected after the removal or collapse of the bails roof.

Once the slab remains had been recorded, they were removed - as were underlying soils to the level of the A2/B horizon across an area of 11 metres (e-w) by 7 metres (n-s). The local soil profile was as follows:

2.001 Disturbed, friable, grey-brown loam (A1) between around 100 mm thick

2.002 Dark brown clayey loam subsoil (A2) between 100 mm and 150 mm thick



2.003 Mottled, light brown clay loam grading to heavier loamy clay (A2/B) 100 mm thick

2.004 Heavy, red/brown-orange clay with ironstone and shale inclusions (B)

Visible within the A2/B horizon interface were four post holes (2.006; 2.009; 2.013; 2.017) and the burnt out remains of a tree root ball (2.011). Post holes 2.006, 2.009, 2.013 contained the partial remains of rotted out rough timber posts and were set in an east-west line to the immediate north of the aforementioned cow bails. While they did not relate to the c.1896 hut, artefacts within their respective post hole fills (2.008; 2.010; 2.014) suggest that they were installed in the early to mid twentieth century. The post holes were discontinuous and did not represent a fenceline - they may however (speculatively) represent a discrete timber feature such as a three-post hitching rail. Where the posts had rotted out or been partially removed, the resultant post pipe cavities (2.007; 2.015; 2.016) were infilled with late twentieth century rubbish (including veterinary medicine vials, plastic toys and bread bags).



Plate 7: Area 2 (hard rubbish & tank stand); View NW (Niche, 2014)





Plate 8: Area 2 (removal of vegetation & hard rubbish); View NNW (Niche, 2014)



Plate 9: Area 2 (cleaning of cow bails slab); View NW (Niche, 2014)



Plate 10: Area 2 (cow bails slab); View ESE (Niche, 2014)





Plate 11: Area 2 (removal of concrete slab); View WNW (Niche, 2014)



Plate 12: Area 2 (work in progress - soil stripping); View WNW (Niche, 2014)



Plate 13: Area 2 (at completion of excavation); View WNW (Niche, 2014)





Plate 14: Area 2 (post holes - possibly representing a hitching post); View ESE (Niche, 2014)



Plate 15: Area 2 (tree root remnant and burnt out tree roots); View ESE (Niche, 2014)



Area 3

Area 3 was set on the open, levelled lawn area to the immediate north of the extant brick homestead. As with Areas 1 and 2, site assessment in 2013 had identified this location as a possible site for the c.1896 hut or other ancillary buildings of the same period.

The excavation area measured 8 metres (e-w) by 6 metres (n-s) and was set directly north of the central part of the extant homestead. This siting was designed to avoid two active in-ground sewer lines, inground water lines; and buried mains power connecting the residence to a nearby power pole and overhead wiring.

Mechanical excavation revealed that soils in the location had been heavily modified and the natural slope terraced by infilling at the retained, northern end of the homestead lawn area. The local soil profile in this area was as follows:

3.001 Introduced/modified, dusty grey loam (mod. A) with lenses of introduced light grey yellow sandy soils and clay loam between around 100 mm thick (south end) and 450 mm thick (north end)

3.002 Remnant medium brown, clayey loam subsoil (rem. A) between 100 mm and 150 mm thick

3.003 Mottled, light-medium brown silty clay loam grading to heavier loamy clay with ironstone inclusions (A2) between 100 mm and 200 mm thick

3.013 Heavy, red/brown-orange clay with ironstone and shale inclusions (B)

This area proved to be heavily landscaped - presumably in the c.1970s/80s when the extant house was built. Unstratified artefacts in the modified topsoils (which included plastic toys, plastic pipe and modern beer bottles) were universally of a late date.

There were some evidence of in-situ tree roots (3.008) and truncated post holes in the A2/B horizon interface (3.004; 3.006; 3.010). These were not extensive and did not appear to relate to any substantial or aged structure. Their respective fills were largely devoid of dateable artefacts.





Plate 16: Area 3 (prior to excavation); View WSW (Niche, 2014)



Plate 17: Area 3 (work in progress - grass stripping); View W (Niche, 2014)



Plate 18: Area 3 (after removal of topsoils); View W (Niche, 2014)





Plate 19: Area 3 (post holes); View NW (Niche, 2014)



Plate 20: Area 3 (detail of post hole 3.004); View SW (Niche, 2014)

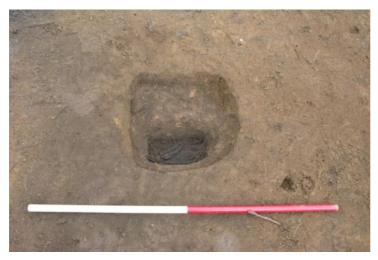


Plate 21: Area 3 (detail of post hole 3.006); View S (Niche, 2014)



Area 4

Area 4 was tentatively identified in the 2013 site assessment as the possible location of a historic well. At the time of the assessment the location was overgrown and only a small portion of what appeared to be concrete capping could be discerned.

The clearing of vegetation on and around this site revealed an in-ground concrete septic tank of mid to late twentieth century date. Its location (downslope of the shed and house) suggest that it once served the extant homestead and/or the earlier twentieth century house that the homestead replaced. The tank was circular (1660 mm in diameter) and projected to around 300 mm above ground level. It was constructed of reinforced medium pebble aggregate concrete (with 55 mm thick walls) and was capped with a two part lid - one side of which featured a breather hole to accommodate a stink pipe. The tank was filled with decomposing (effectively composted) sewerage to a level of 450 mm below the level of the lid. Remnants of an earlier (broken) lid were nearby.

Area 5

Area 5 was located to the east of Area 1 and comprised heavy overgrowth atop concrete. Machine clearance of vegetation revealed a rectangular concrete slab that appears to have been the floor of a garden shed (2.3 metres x 3 metres). Constructed of very coarse aggregate sandy concrete (100 mm thick) with a smoothed 20 mm thick cement finish, the slab had been poured over a layer of bush rock bedding - presumably laid to anchor the slab. The nature of the concrete construction appears to date this feature to the mid twentieth century. It may be contemporary with the cow bails that were evident in Area 2.



Plate 22: Area 4 (prior to vegetation removal); View NNW (Niche, 2014)





Plate 23: Area 4 (concrete septic tank); View S (Niche, 2014)



Plate 24: Area 4 (detail of septic tank & lid); View NE (Niche, 2014)



Plate 25: Area 5 (concrete garden shed slab); View E (Niche, 2014)





Plate 26: Area 5 (removal of slab & bedding); View ESE (Niche, 2014)



Plate 27: Area 5 (at completion of excavation); View ESE (Niche, 2014)





Plate 28: Area 1 (artefacts from small pit fill 1.006) (Niche, 2014)



Plate 29: Area 2 (artefacts from post hole fill 2.010) (Niche, 2014)



Summary of Results

The results of archaeological investigation across five locations can be summarised as follows:

Machine excavation allowed for the removal of vegetation, overburden and topsoils to the level of the A2/B horizon - where soil contrast was such that features cut into the ground (such as pits and post holes) could be clearly discerned.
 All features observed were excavated out by hand and recorded.
 No evidence of the c.1896 government cottage was observed, nor was any specific evidence of late nineteenth century occupation or use of the locale recorded.

The main observations were as follows:

- **Area 1** Featured a levelled platform/terracing that appears to have been resultant of relatively recent cutting and filling.
- Area 2 Featured the concrete slab remnants of a two stalled, cow bails (c.1950s) as well as the remains of three post holes adjacent that may represent a hitching post/rail.
- Area 3 Featured naturally sloping ground (falling from the extant house towards low ground around the existing dam) that had been significantly remodelled in the recent past to create a levelled grassed up yard supported by a low retaining wall.
- Area 4 Thought initially thought to be possible location of a well, the feature revealed beneath dense vegetated overgrowth was a c.1970s concrete septic tank.
- Area 5 Features a thick concrete slab poured over bush rock bedding. This c.1950s feature was likely the base of a garden shed.

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Have remains of the c1896 Government cottage survived on the site? If so, how does the archaeological evidence compare with other slab huts excavated in NSW?

No evidence of the c1896 Government cottage was found during the test excavation.

Does the site contain significant archaeological deposits i.e. underfloor deposits, cesspit fills or well fills? If so, what can they tell us about former occupants of the site?

No significant archaeological deposits were identified during the excavation.

How does the location of historical features on the site (fig tree, fruit trees, well and gate posts) relate to the archaeological evidence? Did topography play a role in their positioning?

The historical features at the site likely relate to the earlier log and fibro cottage that was reportedly present on the site during the early twentieth century. Topography is likely to have played a role in their positioning, with the fruit trees and gateposts established on gently sloping land to the north east of the former house.









Historical Title Search Computer Folio Reference: 3/587955. Supplied by Land and Property Information.

Transfer NSW Real Property Act 1900 Document: AC977157L. Supplied by Land and Property Information.

Newspapers

The Maitland Mercury Saturday 8th October 1887 Old Time Road Notes p 3

Sydney Morning Herald 9th July1906 Family Notice p6

Sydney Morning Herald 9th July1906 Family Notices p12

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Telegraph Point had a number of timber mills operating in the mid 20th century:

Jack Carter had a mill that operated near the railway station from the early 1940's to the late
1950's;
the Mumford's had a mill also near the station that burnt down in the late 1950's;
Gidge Munday had a mill on the southern side of Telegraph Point, it was sold to Roy McMillan
and later closed;
Tom McLachlan had an early mill on the upper Rollands Plains;
Johansson and Clark had a mill a couple of miles north of the town, producing mainly for the
railways;
O'Leary Brothers operated a mill near Kundabung until it closed in the 1960's; and
Dave Durrie had a mill at the top end of Rollands Plains (Fenning 1997:66).

Bullock drays hauled the logs to wharves or mills and milled timber was shipped down the Wilson River, loaded onto punts and droghers from wharves adjacent to the mills (South East Archaeology 2006 p26; Fenning 1997:66).

The construction of the railway line in 1916 proved an economic boom for the industry, due to the demand for railway sleepers. Once the railway was operating, transportation of milled timber was faster and cheaper. Logging could occur inland away from the rivers where suitable timber had become scarce (South East Archaeology 2006 p26).

Settlement and Agriculture

The first land grant in the area went to Joseph Wilson in July 1830, who was granted 50 acres on the banks of Limeburners Creek. Further grants in the area followed (McLachlan 1988, p195). 'Prospect' was an early run located on the north bank of the Wilson River within the modern village of Telegraph Point and extended some distance to the north (South East Archaeology 2006, p25). In September 1832 Sgt Charles Blewett received a land grant of 200 acres at Prospect which is now Telegraph Point (Parish of Prospect 1892; Kneale 1993, p 130).

Land was opened to agriculturalists in the 1850s and settlements mainly occurred on land along the rivers, but it was not until the *Land Alienation Act 1861* that free selection was made available and small farms became more prominent in the region. The Cedar ports along the rivers were revived and town



settlements sprung up at these locations. Maize was a successful crop but lost value due to over production. Other crops were tried and failed (NSW Heritage Office 1996, p61).

The first sugar cane had been planted at Port Macquarie in 1821 (McLachlan 1988:151). Some sugar was produced near Rolland's Plains and Ballyngara on Wilson's River and shipped to Sydney in 1824. Land for sugar plantations was cleared by convicts around Rolland's Plains, Ballyngara and Prospect, but the crops were unsuccessful due to frost and flood, production had ceased by 1830 (South East Archaeology 2006 p28).

By 1866 141 acres of sugar cane was growing on the Manning and Hastings River, and then was taken up on the Macleay and Clarence Rivers. To process the cane a number of mills were built ranging from private horse drawn mills to steam powered mills. The Manning Hastings and Macleay Valleys were not suitable for growing sugar as it was growing at too slow a rate. Much production moved further north and when the industry was attacked by gumming disease it all but died out in the region (Moyes *et al* 1993, pp114-6).

Dairy farming was taken up as an alternative to the sugar industry and from the 1890s onwards became a major industry in the region. Dairy farmers could move away from the rivers to farm and the grass fields needed to feed to cattle was more climatically tolerant than other crops. This successful venture led to villages and towns supporting a greater population many having their own butter factories (NSW Heritage Office 1996, p62). Telegraph Point butter factory opened in 1922. It closed within sixteen years (Moyes *et al* 1993, p118).

Transport

The River systems were the main source of transport for people and goods between Port Macquarie and Kempsey. The original highway took an inland route, initially via Rolland's Plains and then toward the end of the 19th century, via Telegraph Point. A bridge across the Wilson River at Telegraph Point opened in 1902 (South East Archaeology 2006, p29).



Telegraph Point was named because the Kempsey to Port Macquarie telegraph line crossed the Wilson River at that point (Kneale 1993, p131).

The Wauchope to Kempsey railway was completed and opened in 1917. The railway arrived at Telegraph Point in 1915. Railway construction brought an increase in population, but the focus of town settlement shifted from the south bank of the Wilson River to the north (South East Archaeology 2006, p29).

History of Lot 3 DP587955

The following history is, for the most part, a history of Portions 11, 18 and 26 within the Parish of Prospect in the County of Macquarie. It was not until after 1963 that the land titles for the three portions were issued as lots; Site OHK11 being in Lot 3. Prior to this, Portions 11, 18 and 26 were mostly subject to the same land use and the land owners are intrinsically linked.

Lot 3 was originally part of a parcel of land that had been notified as a Village Reserve on the 24th December 1861 (Parish of Prospect 1892) (Figure 1). The area of land was called 'John's Plain's' named by John Allman, the son of Captain Allman (Moyes and Mant 1986, p106). The Maitland Mercury (Saturday 8th October 1887 p 3) described Johns Plains and the surrounding area as follows:

"...three or four miles further is the confluence with the Wilson River, at Fenelon's Island, on the right is a pretty country, known as John's Plains and Lovely Banks. Three miles further is the confluence with Piper's Creek and at the head of the navigation is a village reserve even at this distance from the sea and very near the source of the river the tide is seen to flow the country being so level that this stream is more like a canal than a river."

A Crown plan of Portions 26 (includes part of the study area), 32 and 33 were surveyed for a subdivision of part of the village Reserve (Flynn 1893. 3371.666). Presumably it was at this time that Johns Plains was divided into Parish Portions, Lot 3 is in the southern end of Portions 18, 11 and 26. The Village Reserve was revoked on the 10th February 1894 (Flynn 1893. 3371.666) (Figure 2).

Due to the plan of making Johns Plains a Village Reserve this prime parcel of land on the confluence of two rivers was not available for selection as a land grant to early settlers of the area. It was not until the plans for the Village Reserve were revoked that the land became available for selection.



Portion 26, a parcel of 100 acres was the first Land Grant issued within the study area, granted to John H. Sydenham on the 13th October 1894 (Flynn 1893. 3371.666). Richard Thomas Smith was granted Portion 11, 45 acres on 19th August 1895 and Portion 18, 135 acres on 8th August 1896 (Anon 1895. 3405.666; Anon 1896. 3435.666). The death notice for Smith recorded that his body was at the residence of his sister Mrs J. Sydenham at North Sydney (SMH 9th July1906 p12). Thus it was probably intentional that the two men selected land next to each other as they were family. However, the geographical closeness of the two families did not last long as Sydneham's Land Grant was forfeited on the 27th April 1898, presumably because he could not meet the conditions of purchase. Richard Thomas Smith received the Land Grant for portion 26 on the 22nd August 1898 (Flynn 1893. 3371.666).



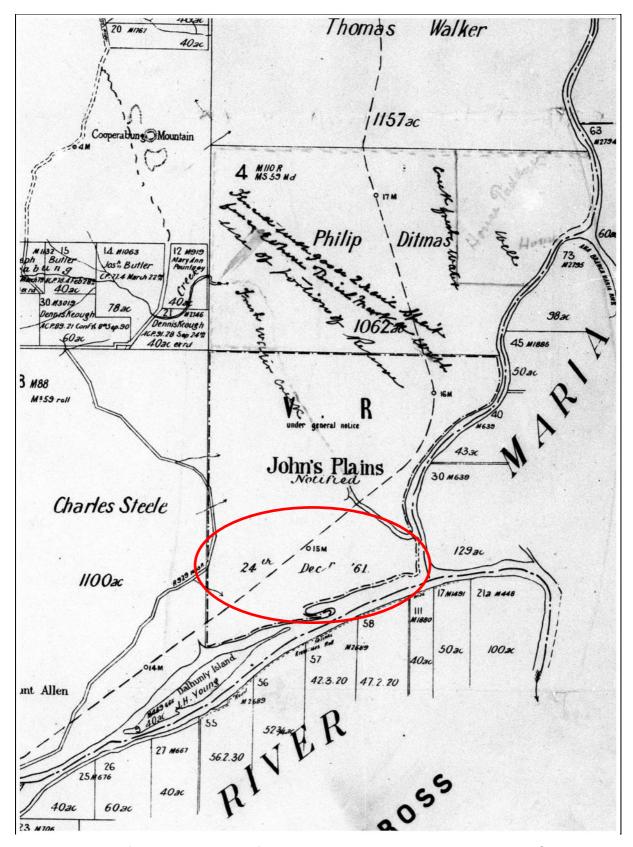


Figure 1: Parish of Prospect, County of Macquarie 1892. Study area is circled RED (Source: Mitchell Library)



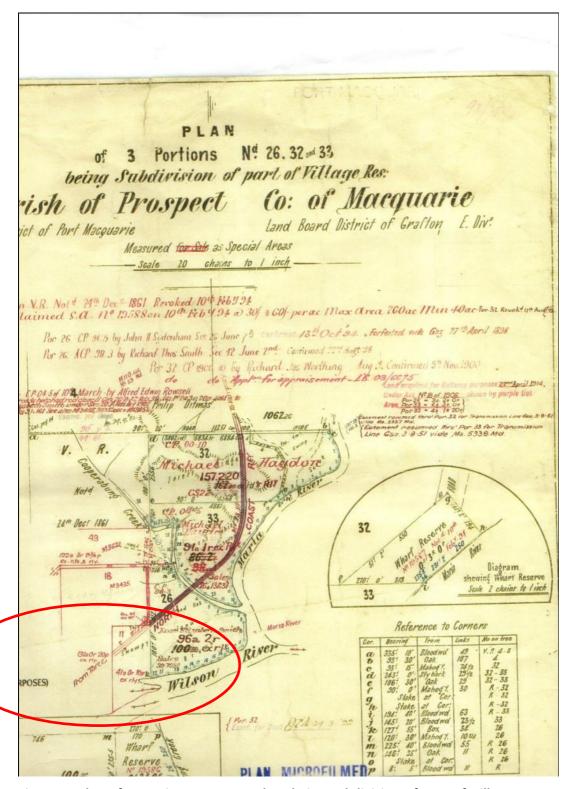


Figure 2: Plan of 3 Portions, 26, 32 and 33 being Subdivision of part of Village Res, N. Study area is circled RED (Source: Department of Lands. Plan 3371.666)



This third Land Grant for Smith meant that he owned all three portions of land. The death notices for Smith further records that he and his family lived on land called "Murrun Murrun" at Telegraph Point:

"dearly beloved husband of Rose Elizabeth Smith, of Murrun Murrun, Telegraph Point" (SMH 9th July 1906 p6). "THOMAS SMITH late of Murrun Murrun Telegraph Point" (SMH 9th July 1906 p12).

As the parish plans show 'R. T. Smith' did not receive any other land grants in the area. Portions 18, 11 and 26 (formerly John's Plain's) must be the area of land the Smith's called Murrun Murrun.

Johns Plains, or Murrun Murrun, was heavily timbered before the turn of the century. The surveyors of the three portions recorded features of the landscape and the variety of timber growing on it. The surveyor Flynn (see Figure 5) described the land of portion 26 as "[...e]nd Oak and Brush", he recorded trees of Blood wood, Oak, Box and Mahogany as the corner references (Flynn 1893 3371.666). The trees used as corner reference by the surveyor for Portion 11 (see Figure 6) were Box, Gum and Oak. The surveyor described the land as consisting of "oak scrub" near the northern border, "flat swampy land" directly south of the present railway, "scrubby forest" to the west "oak, tea tree, gum etc" to the east, "brush" to the south and "oak and [...] swamp" on the northern banks of the Wilson River (Anon 1895. 3405-666). Portion 18 (see Figure 7) was the last of the three portions to be surveyed and contains the most information. The trees used as corner references were Oak, Tea tree, Blood wood and Gum. The land was described as "undulating forest land timbered principally with oak also blood wd, ironbark", a "[Low] Flat and a lagoon" was surveyed in the north west of the portion overlapping into Portion 26. To the south of the portion "Oak Scrub" and "Scrubby Forest" and "swamp" on the bank of the Wilson River were recorded (Anon 1896. 3435.666).

The surveyor for the Crown Plan of Portion 26 not only recorded the natural environment onto the plan but also recorded some cultural features on the portion. From the Main Road between Port Macquarie and Kempsey is an "Old timber track" which runs through the northern part of Portion 18 connecting with the "Main Track to Timber Wharf" located on the north eastern corner of Portion 26 on the Cooperabung Creek (Figure 3).

The Crown Plan of Portion 18 shows a number of relevant features (See Figure 4). Within the actual study area is a large square of land marked as "felled" There are two tracks one that looks as though it connects with the Main Road the other leads into the area of felled timber, the two tracks join and lead



firstly to a "Cottage" and then "to Smith's" in Portion 11. It seems likely that the cottage was crown owned and due to its close proximity to the felled timber area was probably associated with that. The surveyor noted on the plan the "Value of Improvements", the Cottage costing 20 pounds, the felling timber 12 pounds the total being 32 pounds. Indicating these were costs incurred by the Crown and not by the Smiths, who it seems had a cottage in Portion 11 (3435.666 1896).

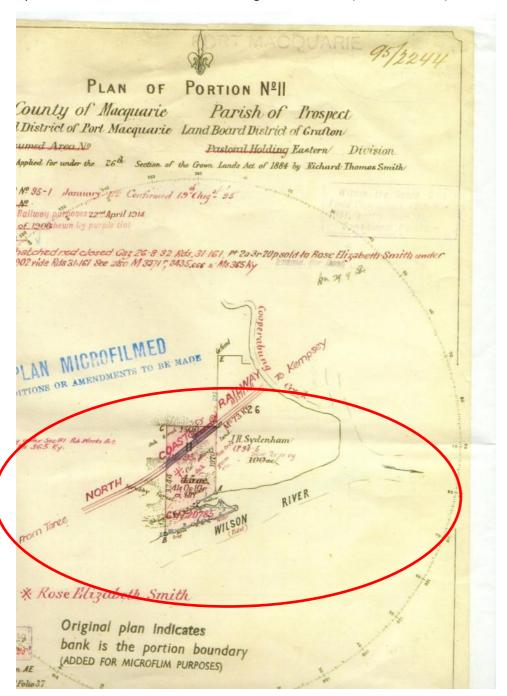


Figure 3: Anon 1895. Plan of Portion No. 11. Study area is circled RED (Source: NSW Department of Lands. Plan 3405.666)



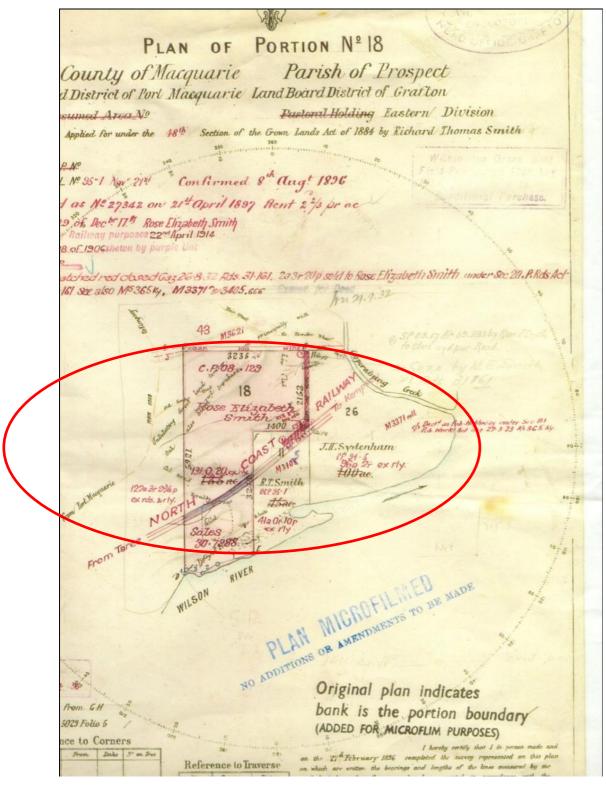


Figure 4: Anon 1896. Plan of Portion No. 18. Study area is circled RED (Source: Department of Lands. Plan 3435.666)



Surveyed into the top east corner of the Crown Plan for Portion 26 (Figure 3) is a 'Wharf Reserve" (Flynn 1893 3371.666). The Crown Plan for Portion 18 (Figure 4) records an already mentioned track leading to the wharf indicating by the time Portion 18 was surveyed in 1896 the wharf had been built (anon 3435-666 1896). The 1907 parish plan has a black square marked on it where the wharf was located (Parish of Prospect 1907, Figure 5). The 1936 parish plan also has marked the location of the wharf and a reference note for the wharf recording that the wharf was notified on the 10th February 1894 and is connected with "Johns Plains Timber Depot Gaz. 2.11.10" (Parish of Prospect 1936 note 6 Figure 5). Together all this information indicates the continued use of the land for felling timber prior to the land being made available for selection in 1894 throughout and beyond 1910 and probably 1936.

In 1906 Richard Thomas Smith died at just 39 years of age (SMH 9th July 1906 p6). The Crown Grants were transferred to the name of his widow Rose Elizabeth Smith as a "*Grant of Land Purchased By Conditional Sale*" (Vol.4424 Fol.26; Vol.4424 Fol.27; Vol.2821 Fol.91).

Rose Smith remarried to Charles Oscar Smith of Coonabarabran, a postmaster (Vol:2829 Fol:91). The size of the land portions were reduced when transferred to Rose Smith as the land acquired for the purposes of the railway was excluded. Portion 26 became 96 acres, Portion 11 became 41 acres and Portion 18 became 131 acres.

The survey plan for the railway from Wauchope to Kempsey records that this section of the railway was gazetted 22nd April 1914. The surveyed plan was examined 4th September 1914 (Anon 73.3065 p2). The plan also records that Mrs. Rose E Smith was the owner of portion 11, 18 and 26 but E. Fisher was the occupier of the property (Anon 73.3065 p17, 18; Figure 10). Possibly she moved to Coonabarabran to her husband's home when she remarried.

Interestingly, there are two government roads leading to the Smith Property. The 1907 Parish plan depicts both roads, one of which runs perpendicular to a road bordering the top of portions 18 and 26 leading to the wharf. The perpendicular road runs between the borders of portions 18 and 26 and stops just south of the rail line marked in the plan. The other road runs south from the rail line to the southern end of Portion 18 (Parish of Prospect 1907; see Figure 5). Both roads also appear in the 1936 parish plan (Figure 6). The more northern road appears on the Crown Plans for Portions 18, 11 and 26 and record that the road was gazetted as an unnecessary road on the 26th August 1932 and sold to Rose Elizabeth Smith (Anon 1895. 3405.666; Anon 1896. 3435.666 Flynn 1893 3371.666, see Figures 2, 3 & 4). A



crown plan dated 22 January 1923 is of the other road leading to Portion 18 from the west of the property. This plan is for extra land being acquired for railway purposes, the road being widened on either side of the railway. The road was "Dedicated as Public Highway under sec 81 Public Works Act Gaz 27th April 1923" (J.S.R 1923. 367.3065). Possibly this road was dedicated as a public highway as it was used to access by road the Johns Plains Timber Depot.

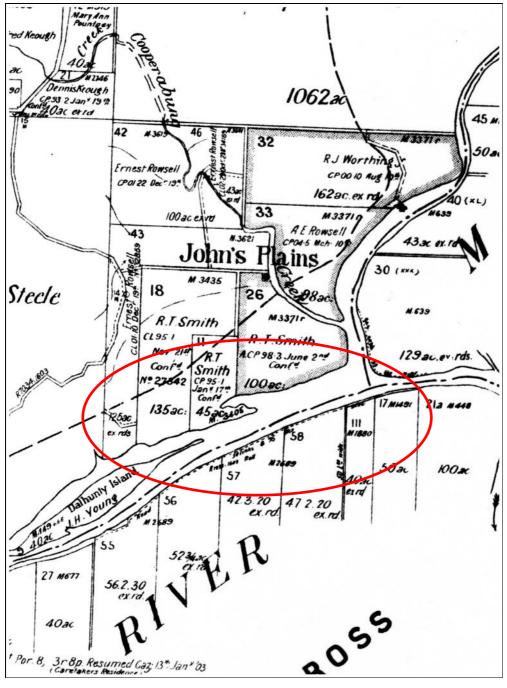


Figure 5: Parish of Prospect, County of Macquarie 1907. Study area is circled RED (Source: Mitchell Library)



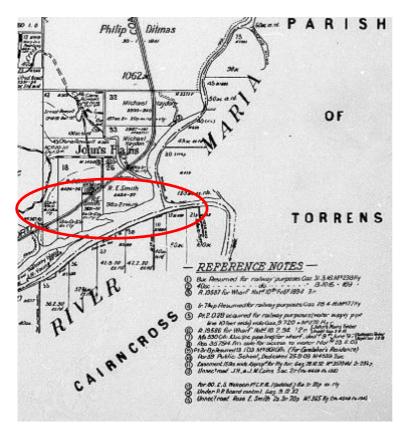


Figure 6: Parish of Prospect, County of Macquarie 1936. Study area is circled RED (Source: Mitchell Library)

On the 16th September 1948 Rose Smith sold the three portions of land to William Joseph Munday a farmer from Telegraph Point (Vol.6476 Fol.133; Vol.4424 Fol.27; Vol.2821 Fol.91). Munday sold portion 18 to Noel Bertram O'Dell on the 27th December 1951 (Vol.4424 Fol.26) but then bought it back on the 7th April 1952 (Vol. 6476 Fol. 133).

Munday sold the properties to Henry Erin May and Allan James Cain and his wife Marie Elizabeth Cain on the 11th July 1963. Henry May and James Cain were both farmers at Telegraph Point (Vol.4424 Fol.26; Vol.4424 Fol.27; Vol.2821 Fol.91).

After this last sale the deed was cancelled and new certificates of title were issued for Lots 1 to 3; Lot 3 being the study area (Vol.6476 Fol.133; Vol.4424 Fol.27; Vol.2821 Fol.91).

L.B.J. Mobile Welding Company bought Lot 3 on the 20th May 1977 (Vol. 13297 Fol.222). It was then brought by Edward Francis and Suzanne Fitzpatrick on the 12th August 1998 (Computer Folio Reference:



3/587955 and AC977157L). The Roads and Traffic Authority of New South Wales brought the property on the 6^{th} March 2007 (AC977157L).

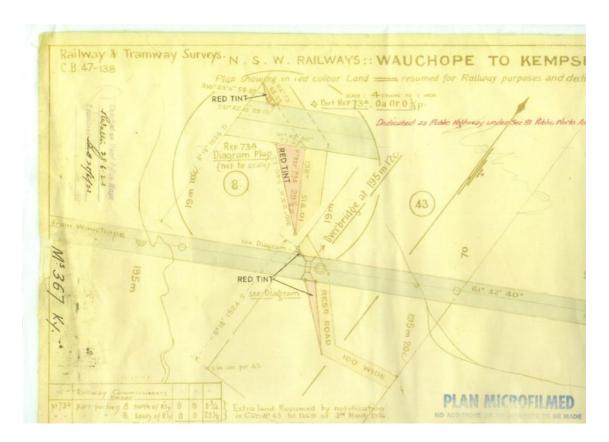


Figure 7: J.S.R 1923. N.S.W Railways: Wauchope to Kempsey Plan showing in red colour land resumed for Railway purposes and dedicated as a Public Highway (Source: NSW Department of Lands. Plan 367.3065)

Table 1: Summary of Chain of Title for Lot 3 DP587955

Area of Title	Name of Purchaser	Date of Conveyance	Reference	Notes
Portion 18	Richard Thomas Smith	8 th August 1896	Plan for Parish of Prospect 1907, 1936, Flynn. 1893	Crown Grant
			3371.666, 3405.666, 3435.666.	
	Rose Elizabeth Smith	17 th December 1908	Vol.4424 Fol.26	Title of Grant transferred
	William J Munday	16 th September 1948	Vol.4424 Fol.26	
	Noel Bertram O'Dell	27 th December 1951	Vol.4424 Fol.26	Deed Cancelled
	William Joseph Munday	7th April 1952	Vol. 6476 Fol. 133	
	Henry Erin May and Allan James	11 th July 1963	Vol. 6476 Fol. 133	New Certificate of
	Cain and his wife Marie			Title Issued for lots 1
	Elizabeth Cain are joint owners			to 3



Area of Title	Name of Purchaser	Date of Conveyance	Reference	Notes
Lot 3 DP 587955	L.B.J. Mobile Welding Company	20 May 1977	Vol. 13297 Fol.222	
	Edward Francis and Suzanne	12 August 1998	Computer Folio Reference:	
	Fitzpatrick		3/587955 and AC977157L	
	Roads and Traffic Authority of	6 th March 2007	AC977157L	
	New South Wales			
Portion 11	Richard Thomas Smith	19th August 1895	Plan for Parish of Prospect	Crown Grant
			1907, 1936, Flynn 1893.	
			3371.666, 3405.666, 3435.666.	
	Rose Elizabeth Smith	29 th January 1918	Vol.2821 Fol.91	Title of Grant transferred
	William J Munday	16th September 1948	Vol.2821 Fol.91	
	Henry Erin May and Allan James	11 th July 1963	Vol.2821 Fol.91	New Certificate of
	Cain and his wife Marie			Title Issued for lots 1
	Elizabeth Cain are joint owners			to 3
Lot 3 DP 587955	L.B.J. Mobile Welding Company	20 May 1977	Vol. 13297 Fol.222	
	Edward Francis and Suzanne	12 August 1998	Computer Folio Reference:	
	Fitzpatrick		3/587955 and AC977157L	
	Roads and Traffic Authority of	6 th March 2007	AC977157L	
	New South Wales	10.0	51 1000 2071	
Portion 26	John H. Sydenham	13 October 1894	Flynn 1893. 3371.666, 3405.666, 3435.666	Crown Grant Forfeited 27 th April
				1898
	Richard Thomas Smith	22 nd August 1898	Plan for Parish of Prospect	Crown Grant
			1907, 1936, Flynn 1893.	
			3371.666, 3405.666, 3435.666.	
	Rose Elizabeth Smith	22 nd August 1898	Vol.4424 Fol.27	Title of Grant
				transferred
	William J Munday	16th September 1948	Vol.4424 Fol.27	
	Henry Erin May and Allan James	11 th July 1963	Vol.4424 Fol.27	New Certificate of
	Cain and his wife Marie			Title Issued for lots
	Elizabeth Cain are joint owners			1to 3
Lot 3 DP 587955	L.B.J. Mobile Welding Company	20 May 1977	Vol. 13297 Fol.222	
	Edward Francis and Suzanne	12 August 1998	Computer Folio Reference:	
	Fitzpatrick		3/587955 and AC977157L	
	Roads and Traffic Authority of New South Wales	6 th March 2007	AC977157L	





