

FACT SHEET

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Shellharbour City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Dharawal Country and recognises their continued connection to the land. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and the contribution they make to the life of this city



ABOUT THE REPORT

Consultant: Extent Heritage Pty Ltd (Extent Heritage)

Aim: Assess the potential impacts on Aboriginal heritage within the study area and provide mitigation strategies.

ASSESSMENT APPROACH

In January 2023, Extent Heritage extended an invitation to Aboriginal stakeholders that held cultural knowledge in the study area to register an interest in the project. The individuals and organisations that expressed interest have formed the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs).

The RAPs have been engaged in the development of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) with opportunities to provide feedback on assessment and test excavation methodology, as well as participation in field work.

REPORT FINDINGS

Evidence for Aboriginal artefacts in the study area were identified through:

- The results of the archaeological survey, including test excavations carried out in December 2023 and January 2024
- Background research
- Aboriginal stakeholder consultation

All Aboriginal artefacts uncovered during the excavations were assessed as low value and low significance.

The Activity area was determined to have low aesthetic and historical significance. Consultation with Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) acknowledged the social importance of the continued occupation of the wider Illawarra area and use of its resources over many generations.

What is an Environmental Impact Statement?



The EIS identifies and assesses the environmental and social impacts associated with the proposed construction and operation of Tripoli Way, as well as proposing measures to minimise and manage them. The EIS was prepared by SLR Consulting who engaged specialist consultants.

Planning approvals and EIS



The EIS was prepared in accordance with the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs). The SEARs identifies matters that must be addressed in the EIS and therefore guides its development. A series of technical studies and reports to assess potential impacts are completed as part of the EIS.

Can I provide feedback?



Submissions are invited during the public exhibition stage of the Tripoli Way Extension. All submissions will be submitted to the Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure (DPHI). To find out more visit the Tripoli Way Extension Project page on Let's Chat.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES THAT WILL BE APPLIED

Impact	Environmental Safeguard
Impacts to Aboriginal Heritage	Prior to the start of construction, an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) is to be obtained for all Aboriginal sites identified and registered with Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) within the Activity area.
Impacts to unexpected Aboriginal Heritage	Throughout the duration of the construction works the following procedures must be followed: - Immediately cease all activity at the location. - Ensure no further harm occurs, secure the area. - Notify the Manager Project Delivery, Shellharbour City Council - The Council contact is to advise the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council and the Department of Housing, Planning and Infrastructure (DHPI). - No further action is to be undertaken until the required investigations have been completed and any permits or approvals obtained, where required, in accordance with the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.
Artefact reburial	- An appropriate Keeping Place or reburial site must be determined to house the Aboriginal artefacts. The location of the Keeping Place is to be chosen in consultation with the RAPs, Illawarra LALC and NSW Heritage through AHIP process and the reburial is to be undertaken under the AHIP approval. - If changes are made to the proposed works which result in impact to locations outside of the current study area, further archaeological investigation and survey may be required.

LEARN MORE

A detailed assessment of the impact on Aboriginal heritage is contained in **Section 6.5 of the EIS**.