

Wingecarribee Shire

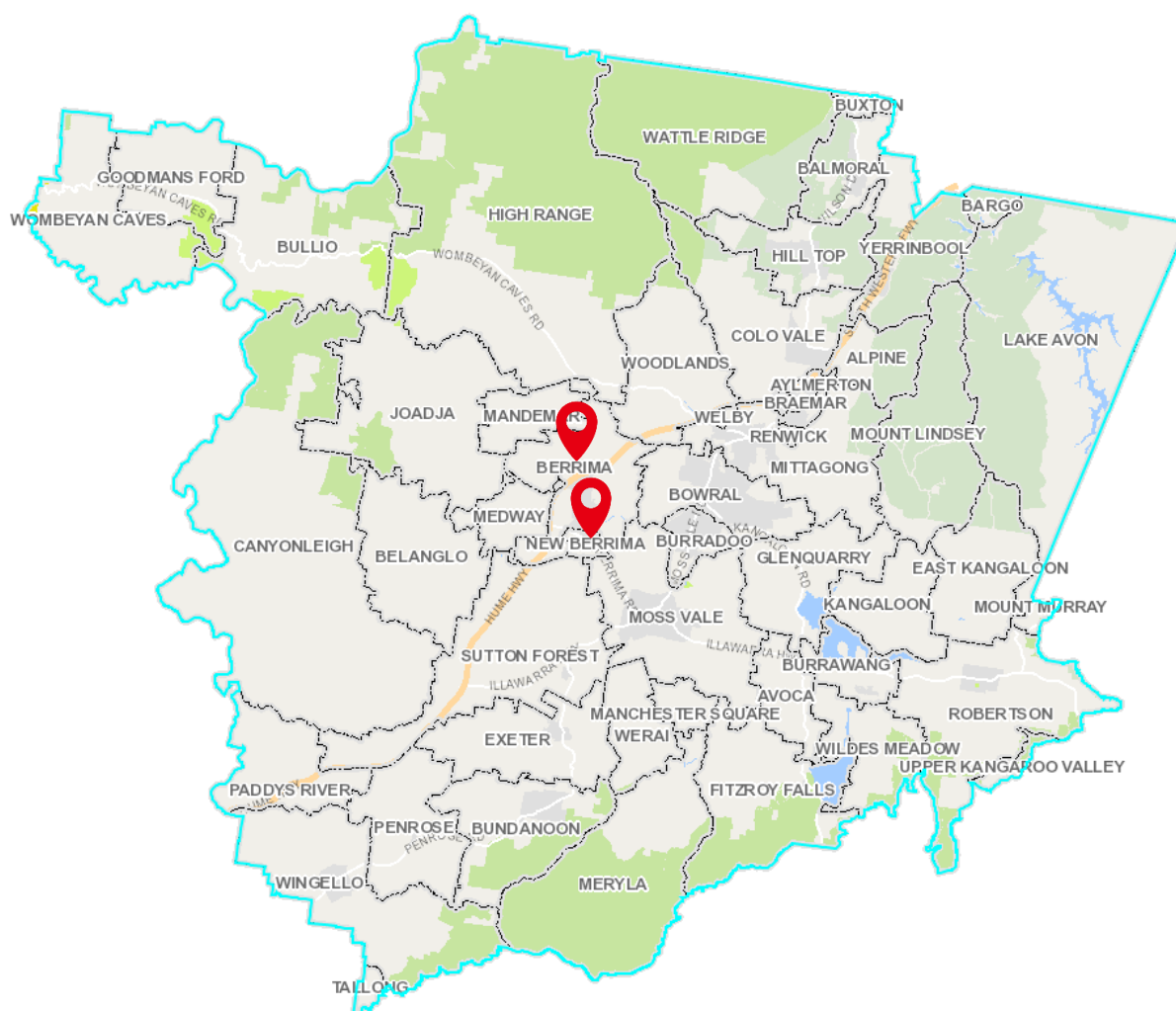
Heritage Study 2021-23

A Community Based Heritage Study

Volume 3.2

Preliminary Evidence Sheets for **Berrima & New Berrima**

August 2023



We're with you

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Part A: Recommended Heritage Places



‘Cordeaux Cottage’—sandstone cottage 224 Greenhills Road, Berrima (Cordeaux) (2681183) 2020/6

Recommendation

Include as a new heritage item in Schedule 5 (Part 1 Heritage items) of the Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010.

Heritage Survey 2009 Recommendation

List as a heritage item with the following statement of significance (from Wingecarribee Heritage Study 1993):

Cordeaux is of State significance as one of few remaining early 19th century sandstone cottages in the Berrima township, clearly associated with an important local family. The cottage, originally called Bendooley, was owned and occupied by the Cordeaux family from at least 1818 to 1917. The property is most strongly associated with William John Cordeaux and his son, both of whom were active in local politics, instrumental in the development of local banking services and prominent members of the Anglican church.

Description

October 2020: Not able to see building from the road in 2020. Good notes from internet below. A small symmetrical sandstone cottage from the 19th century.

Description from Heritage Survey 2009: This site needs more detailed inspection to accurately determine significance. A rural property that includes a very large barn with raised central section, and a large dwelling with sandstone block work and steeply pitched colorbond roof. Both buildings have historic architectural references but from a distance appear to be substantially re-modelled or new. A closer inspection would be necessary to determine the precise nature of their heritage value.



Above: Real estate photo of the stone cottage from 2020 (Source: <https://www.realestate.com.au/property-other-nsw-berrima-700103586>).

Internet Review

22 good photos including image above, 2 plans, 1 air drone photo and notes at this site

<https://www.realestate.com.au/property-other-nsw-berrima-700103586>

A Grand Southern Highlands Estate on 65 Stunning Acres

224 Greenhills Road, Berrima

As you enter through the commanding double arched doors of this magnificent residence, its French inspired modern farmhouse design evokes an opulence befitting of a home of this calibre. Built in 2002, each design element has been meticulously curated to reflect an aesthetic of historic authenticity. Recycled and antique materials abound, while architectural pieces originating from

convent and chateau ruins in Burgundy, meld perfectly with the home's subtle contemporary touches. Every room is lavish in size and boasts tranquil vistas, each with its own unique perspective of the surrounding land.

The spectacular grounds include both equine and cattle facilities, while a restored early 19th century sandstone cottage elevates what is already a truly impressive property.

Homestead

- *A multitude of 19th century French doors effortlessly blends indoor and outdoor spaces*
- *17th century stone fireplace takes centre stage in the exquisite lounge and dining room*
- *Separate library/sitting area with its own fireplace enhances the generous floorplan*
- *Expansive country kitchen boasts a Lacanche gas cooktop, 2 ovens, walk-in pantry*
- *Four sizeable bedrooms, the substantial master with sitting room and lavish ensuite*
- *Underground garaging for up to 10 cars, plus a wine collector's cellar and walk in safe*
- *Hydronic heating and vast storage throughout; guest bathroom and laundry also at hand*

Cordeaux Cottage

- *Lovingly restored, early 19th Century residence, featuring original sandstone walls*
- *Well-equipped kitchenette; stunning bathroom; beautiful open wood fire*
- *Ideal as holiday or in-law accommodation, comfortably sleeping 4 people*

Grounds

- *Exceptional equestrian facilities; Olympic sized arena, stabling for six horses; fenced paddocks; cattle yard & loading ramp*
- *Self-sustaining veggie patch, heritage rose garden and a fruit orchard*
- *Tennis court and private maze, with Cordeaux Creek flowing behind the estate*
- *Across the creek is a pine forest and native woodland regeneration area*
- *Absolutely private and a superb setting, Cordeaux is a unique and character-filled lifestyle property ideally situated within close proximity of both Berrima and Bowral.*

History

Wingecarribee Heritage Study 1993 History

William Cordeaux Snr was born in 1792 the son of a veterinary officer. He joined the British Army Commissariat service in Spain as clear in 1810, became a deputy assistant in 1814, served in Flanders in 1815 and was appointed to the Commissariat Department of NSW in 1817. Cordeaux arrived in the Colony in January 1818 aboard the convict transport Friendship. Immediately upon his arrival Cordeaux was directed to replace the existing Commissary Drennan, who had been arrested.

Cordeaux himself was later accused by a convict of goods, theft and passing stores and receipts under fictitious names, but was never convicted. Cordeaux became involved with Commissioner Bigge's enquiry into the Commissariat and in 1820 he accompanied Oxley and Bigge on tour from Bathurst to Lake Bathurst and the following year took charge of the commissariat at Liverpool. Cordeaux continued in the commissariat until 1833 and during this time received considerable land grants (including the Berrima grant), making his home at Leppington and his Liverpool Estate. William Cordeaux Jnr was born in 1820 and educated at the Kings School. After completing school, William took over the management of the Berrima estate (then known as Bendooley). Following his mother's death in 1877 (one month after William Snr.'s death) Cordeaux Jnr inherited the property and continued to manage it.

William Jnr died in 1917 and his younger brother, Arthur, took over the management of Bendooley in 1898 and later rented the cottage from his brother, until 1917 when William Jnr died. Both brothers were active in local banking and Arthur is believed to have been the youngest ever bank manager in NSW. It should be noted that when Arthur took over management of Bendooley, he was already in his early 90s. The Cordeaux family continued to occupy Bendooley until 1919, when the property was sold. Nothing more is known of the property since that time, or the Cordeaux brothers and it is not known when the property name was changed from Bendooley to Cordeaux.

Ryerson Index (name):

The Ryerson Index is an online index of death notices from Australian newspapers, past and present, compiled by the Sydney-based non-profit organisation Ryerson Index Incorporated.

Surname	Given Names	Notice Type	Date	Event	Age	Other Details	Publication	Published
CORDEAUX	William John	Death notice	25JUN1898	Death	78	at Bendooley, Berrima	Sydney Morning Herald	27JUN1898

Heritage Significance Assessment

The proposed item has been assessed against the seven NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria. To be considered for local heritage listing, an item must meet one or more criteria on a local level. To understand more about the NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria, refer to the Heritage NSW publication *Assessing Heritage Significance* available online at <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/assessing-heritage-significance>.

NSW heritage assessment criteria	Assessment of site
	<i>(no content = site has not been assessed against that criterion)</i>
(a) HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Cordeaux is of State significance as one of few remaining early 19th century sandstone cottages in the Berrima township, clearly associated with an important local family. The cottage, originally called Bendooley, was owned and occupied by the Cordeaux family from at least 1818 to 1917. The property is most strongly associated with William John Cordeaux (1821-1898) and his son, both of whom were active in local politics, instrumental in the development of local banking services and prominent members of the Anglican church. (Wingecarribee Heritage Study 1993)</i>
(b) ASSOCIATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Cordeaux has State significance under this criterion through its association with the development of Berrima village in the early 19th century. The site has further significance through its association with the Cordeaux family, who built the cottage c.1818 and continued to reside in it until 1919. The Cordeaux family are associated with the NSW Commissariat, the development of banking in country NSW, local politics and the local Anglican church. (Wingecarribee Heritage Study 1993)</i>
(c) AESTHETIC OR TECHNICAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>The stone cottage is aesthetically significant as an example of an extant early 19th century sandstone cottage.</i>

NSW heritage assessment criteria	Assessment of site
(d) SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Cordeaux has Local significance under this criterion through its association with the development of Berrima village in the early 19th century. The site has further significance through its association with the Cordeaux family, who built the cottage c.1818 and continued to reside in it until 1919. The Cordeaux family are associated with the NSW Commissariat, the development of banking in country NSW, local politics and the local Anglican church. (Wingecarribee Heritage Study 1993)</i>
(e) RESEARCH POTENTIAL	<i>Cordeaux has research potential to determine the origin of the stone used.</i>
(f) RARITY	<i>Cordeaux is considered to be quite rare within a local and wider context, based on its age, construction and association with a prominent local family. (Wingecarribee Heritage Study 1993)</i>
(g) REPRESENTATIVENESS	

Integrity/Intactness

The external form of the cottage appears substantially intact. Further information is required to determine internal changes.

Statement of Heritage Significance

Cordeaux is one of few remaining early 19th century sandstone cottages in the Berrima township, clearly associated with the Cordeaux family, an important local family, particularly William John Cordeaux. The cottage, originally called Bendooley, was owned and occupied by the Cordeaux family from at least 1818 to 1917. Cordeaux is associated with the development of Berrima village in the early 19th century. The stone cottage is aesthetically significant as an example of an extant early 19th century sandstone cottage and has research potential in determining the original of the stone. Cordeaux is considered to be quite rare within a local and wider context, based on its age, construction and association with a prominent local family.

Berrima Bridge Nursery—house, outbuildings, garden and plants

38 Jellore Street, Berrima

Recommendation

Include as a new heritage item in Schedule 5 (Part 1 Heritage items) of the Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010.

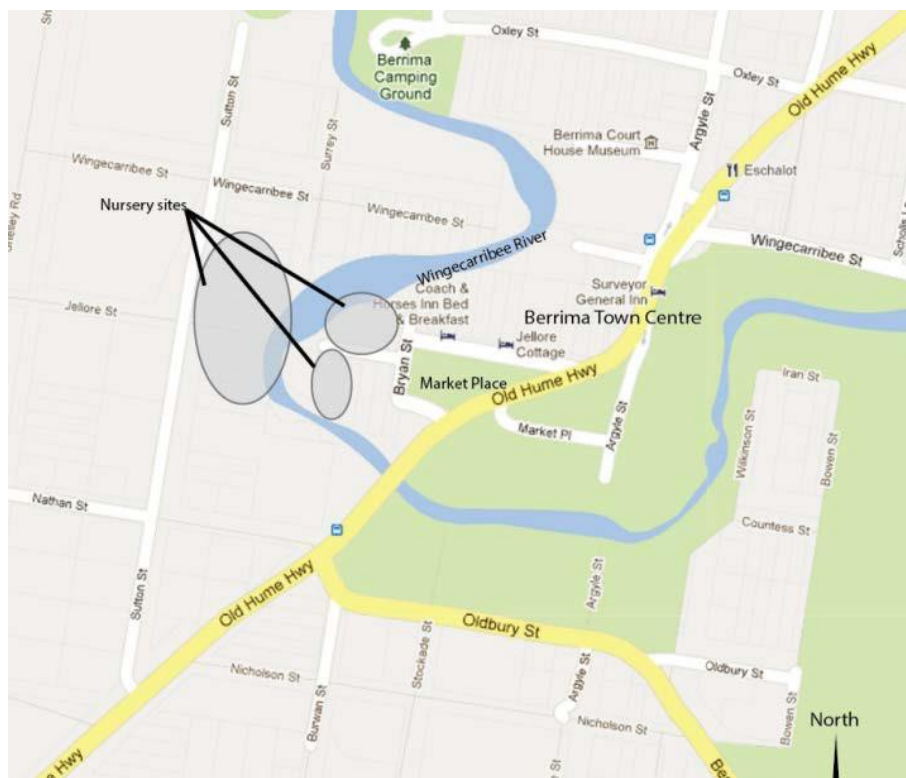
Property is contained within the Berrima Conservation Area.

Description

Note: This site is the subject of a comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CMP) by Chris and Charlotte Webb, *Conservation Management Plan Berrima Bridge Nurseries* April 2013 prepared for the Australian Garden History Society, a copy of which is held by Council. The information is drawn from the CMP but the CMP itself is the most complete and useful reference and should be referred to.

Description from the CMP: Note the CMP covers 3 sites but only 38 Jellore Street is recommended for listing in this Study. This site is shown clearly on the photo map below (Figure 2 from the CMP).

Claude and Isobel Crowe developed Berrima Bridge Nurseries for growing seeds and ornamental plants to the retail and wholesale trade. As the Nursery developed numerous structures were added, including four glasshouses, cold frames for seed productions, three shade house areas and a garage/workshop on 38 Jellore Street. Other sites were developed over time including 23 – 25 Jellore Street and 21- 41 Sutton Road, referred to by the Crowes as “Across the River”. The garden surrounding the original house and throughout the nursery area is characterised by plantings of cold climate trees and shrubs including a significant collection of Camellias planted by the Crowes. The Nursery and surrounding garden elements remain intact. They provide a living record of the Nursery operations of one of the most significant 20th Century nurseries in the Southern Highlands.



Above: Figure 1 from the CMP showing a map of the Berrima Township and location of the Berrima Bridge Nursery sites



Above: Figure 2 from the CMP showing an aerial photo of the three nursery sites (Source: Wingecarribee Shire Council).

Internet Review

23 images and listing notes at this April 2013 site accessed April 2021. This site shows the site in the same year as the CMP was undertaken.

<https://www.realestate.com.au/sold/property-house-nsw-berrima-111725571>

MOST RARE FIND. 38 JELLORE STREET, BERRIMA Original site of Berrima Bridge Nurseries Established 1943. Large parcel of land approx 1 Hectare. Quiet and very private. Numerous established plants and trees. Wingecarribee River at rear boundary. Existing two bedroom country cottage



Above: Cottage at Berrima Bridge Nurseries in 2013 (Source: <https://www.realestate.com.au/sold/property-house-nsw-berrima-111725571>, accessed April 2021).

Background information supplied by Laurel Cheetham, May 2021

Berrima Bridge Nurseries 38 Jellore Street Berrima

Information in this report is taken from the Conservation Management Plan Report prepared by Chris and Charlotte Webb Pty. Ltd. Heritage Consultants, Bowral for Berrima Bridge Nurseries, 38 Jellore Street Berrima NSW, dated April 2013 and prepared for the Australian Garden History Society. The report recommends the listing of the property as an Item of Local Heritage Significance, with particular note of the valuable living plant collection on the site. The significant camellias, Berrima Bridge Maple and the Berrima Gold Calocedrus are recommended for inclusion in the Wingecarribee Shire Significant Tree Register.

Although Berrima Bridge Nurseries operated on three sites in Berrima, only the property at 38 Jellore Street is recommended for listing. Claude Crowe and Isobel Crowe lived on this site until their deaths in 1999 and 2002 respectively. The garden surrounding the original house and throughout the nursery area is characterised by plantings of cold climate trees and shrubs including a significant collection of camellias planted by the Crowes.

History

Historical information supplied by Laurel Cheetham, May 2021

The land was vacant until the early 1940s when the existing house was constructed. Claude Crowe and his wife, Isobel, established the Nursery in 1943, specialising at first in seed and food crops to supply quick cash crops and to help with food supply during the war years. Crowe constructed cold frames to the north of the house, a shed/workshop, a bush house using tea tree harvested from along the river, cutting frames, a shade house and four glasshouses, as well as many walls of stone, brick and concrete. Large open ground areas were developed for growing trees and shrubs. A small

bush rock lined set of ponds and streams was located near the car entrance. Details of the structures are provided in the Conservation Management Plan.

Crowe sold his seed through a co-operative known as United Seed Growers which had been formed by Anderson & Co., Rumseys Nursery, and Gallatlies. The United Seed Growers was part of a program, initiated by the Commonwealth Vegetable Seed Committee to produce food crop seed to be stored and protected in the event of invasion during World War II. The program was also to produce "mother seed" to keep the crops true to variety and develop new strains.

As the Nursery developed, the emphasis changed to cold climate ornamental plants. The Nursery rapidly became one of the most significant nurseries in the Southern Highlands. Additional land was acquired in Jellore Street and across the Wingecarribee River in Suttor Street to enable more stock to be grown, and small portions of Reserve, adjacent to the western and northern boundaries of 38 Jellore Street also accommodated some of the nursery operations. Several other properties in Berrima were leased to grow nursery stock. The 1963 aerial photograph of Berrima shows nursery plants growing on the southern side of Jellore Street from next to Berrima bridge over the Wingecarribee River on land not owned by the Crowes.

"For over 50 years Claude Crowe operated and ran Berrima Bridge Nurseries where he supplied plants and provided horticultural advice. His strong opinions on plant selection and their cultural requirements was a distinguishing feature of his nursery and his character. Although other nurseries operated in the area during this time including Fergusons & Sons at Mittagong and Jensen's Nursery at Exeter, Berrima Bridge Nurseries was by far the most respected because of the knowledge and time Crowe spent with each customer to ensure they had exactly the right plants."¹

"The Nursery provided a palette of plant material which Crowe included in landscape designs he prepared at no cost for customers. Over 200 of these plans are held in the Caroline Simpson Library. Crowe was commissioned to design and carry out numerous local landscape projects including: Holy Trinity Church Berrima, St Johns Church Moss Vale, St Judes Church Bowral, Christchurch Bong Bong, SCEGGS school Moss Vale, Moss Vale High School, Chevalier College, Burradoo, Frensham Mittagong, Tudor House Moss Vale, Bowral Primary School, Leighton Gardens and Seymour Park Moss Vale, Glebe and Venables Parks Bowral, Bowral Hospital, Berrima Scout Camp, Bowral Girl Guides, Moss Vale Swimming Pool, Remembrance Driveway plantations near Berrima, Mittagong and Moss Vale."²

After Claude Crowe died in 1999 the Nursery continued to operate under the management of his son Noel. It closed in 2003.

The Nursery site has been a residential property since its closure. Most of the infrastructure remains relatively intact. Its new owners are working to restore some of the buildings such as the glasshouses. At the time when the conservation plan was prepared, all mature trees and shrubs were identified and plotted. Significant Camellias growing on the site were Camellia japonica 'Chandleri', Camellia japonica 'Odoratissima' and Camellia japonica 'Queen of Denmark'. Unfortunately the Berrima Bridge maple died soon after when the irrigation system failed. Today, it is not known whether the camellias and the Calocedrus are still alive. However, cuttings taken from these are now successfully growing in the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens, and cultivars of the Berrima Bridge Maple are available from specialist maple retail outlets including Mt Murray Nursery at Moss Vale.

Ryerson Index (name):

The Ryerson Index is an online index of death notices from Australian newspapers, past and present, compiled by the Sydney-based non-profit organisation Ryerson Index Incorporated.

Surname	Given Names	Notice Type	Date	Event	Age	Other Details	Publication	Published
CROWE	Claude Colquhoun	Obituary	31OCT1999	Death		formerly of Berrima	Southern Highlands News (Bowral)	05NOV1999

Surname	Given Names	Notice Type	Date	Event	Age	Other Details	Publication	Published
CROWE	Isobel Florence	Death notice	22APR2009	Death	95	late of Berrima	Southern Highlands News (Bowral)	01MAY2009

Obituary Notes on Isobel Crowe from 2009 at this site <http://peonyden.blogspot.com/2009/05/vale-mrs-crowe-remarkable-woman.html>.

Heritage Significance Assessment

The proposed item has been assessed against the seven NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria. To be considered for local heritage listing, an item must meet one or more criteria on a local level. To understand more about the NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria, refer to the Heritage NSW publication *Assessing Heritage Significance* available online at <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/assessing-heritage-significance>.

The following assessment is taken from the Conservation Management Plan for the Berrima Bridge Nurseries by Chris & Charlotte Webb (2013).

NSW heritage assessment criteria	Assessment of site
	<i>(no content = site has not been assessed against that criterion)</i>
(a) HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE	
(b) ASSOCIATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Berrima Bridge Nurseries site is significant because it has strong association with the life and works of Claude Crowe 1914-1999 and Isobel Crowe 1913-1919 who lived on the site and "were important in the development of the broad landscape character of the Southern Highlands. Their influence on private and public gardens extended beyond the Southern Highlands to rural areas including Berry, Kiama, Bombala, Tumut and Armidale.</i>
(c) AESTHETIC OR TECHNICAL SIGNIFICANCE	
(d) SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Berrima Bridge Nurseries has local significance in its contribution to the aesthetic character of Berrima and the overall landscape of the Southern Highlands.</i>
(e) RESEARCH POTENTIAL	<i>The intact fabric of the glasshouses allows an understanding of the operation of nurseries over the past 50 years and Berrima Bridge Nurseries houses a number of significant camellias, important in understanding camellia introduction into Australia associated with Camden Park.</i>
(f) RARITY	<i>Berrima Bridge Nurseries is the site where 3 new plants were bred/cultivated by Claude Crowe. The plants are <i>Acer palmatum dissectum</i> 'Berrima Bridge', <i>Calocedrus decurrens</i> 'Berrima Gold' and <i>Populus</i> 'Monyun' and they are considered to be of exceptional significance." <i>Camellia japonicas</i> Prince Eugene Napoleon (variegated), Chandleri, Paolini Maggi, Mrs Harriet Beecher Sheather, Miniata and Paolini Maggi are considered to be of High Significance because of their rarity, and known connections with the Camden Park and Camellia Ark Camellia Projects. The Conservation Management Plan identifies a further 4 trees as of high significance and 21 trees as having moderate significance due to their rarity in Australia at that time.</i>
(g) REPRESENTATIVENESS	

Integrity/Intactness

The Conservation Management Plan assessed the significance of the structures to the significance of the site and generally to horticulture in Australia and suggested that the glasshouse complex as a

whole, the cold frame and the Berrima Bridge sign (now with Noel Crowe) had a high level of significance, with the sandstone book leaf retaining wall and the swing having a moderate level of significance.

Statement of Heritage Significance

The Berrima Bridge Nurseries site is significant because it has strong association with the life and works of Claude Cowe (1914-1999) and Isobel Crowe (1913-2009), who lived on the site and “were important in the development of the broad landscape character of the Southern Highlands. Their influence on private and public gardens extended beyond the Southern Highlands to rural areas including Berry, Kiama, Bombala, Tumut and Armidale. It has has significance in its contribution to the aesthetic character of Berrima and the overall landscape of the Southern Highlands. The intact fabric of the glasshouses allows an understanding of the operation of nurseries over the past 50 years and Berrima Bridge Nurseries houses a number of significant camellias, important in understanding camellia introduction into Australia associated with Camden Park. It is the site where 3 new plants were bred/cultivated by Claude Crowe. The plants are *Acer palmatum dissectum* ‘Berrima Bridge’, *Calocedrus decurrens* ‘Berrima Gold’ and *Populus* ‘Monyun’ and they are considered to be of exceptional significance. *Camellia japonicas* Prince Eugene Napoleon (variegated), Chandleri, Paolini Maggi, Mrs Harriet Beecher Sheather, Miniata and Paolini Maggi are considered to be of High Significance because of their rarity, and known connections with the Camden Park and Camellia Ark Camellia Projects. The Conservation Management Plan identifies a further 4 trees as of high significance and 21 trees as having moderate significance due to their rarity in Australia. The structures of significance to the site and generally to horticulture in Australia include the glasshouse complex as a whole, the cold frame and the Berrima Bridge sign (now with Noel Crowe) and the sandstone book leaf retaining wall and the swing.

Oak Tree planted by Sir Henry Parkes Market Place, Old Hume Highway, Berrima

Recommendation

Include as a new heritage item in Schedule 5 (Part 1 Heritage items) of the Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010.

Property is within the Berrima Conservation Area.

Description

A tree reportedly planted in 1890 by then Premier, Sir Henry Parkes.

In 1890 this small tree was planted in the Georgian Square at Berrima by Sir Henry Parkes, sometimes called the Father of Federation. It is now an enormous shady tree.

On 21 March 1890 the Premier Sir Henry Parkes visited Bowral school, where the staff and students gave him a generous reception. According to the *Scrutineer* of 25 March 1890: On Thursday evening last Sir Henry Parkes was received with a great demonstration of applause on his arrival at the Bowral railway station by the express train, and was then driven to the School of Arts, where an audience of over 400 people were waiting to hear his address. He then visited Berrima, where he then planted the famous oak tree at the request of the people of the town.



Above: Henry Parkes Oak Tree in Berrima Market Place Reserve, 2021 (Source: <https://explorertree.com/2021/03/07/berrima-nsw-the-beauty-of-history/?fbclid=IwAR0q2SULupl6pzE8f6v0JCiDwUYYdHvYEj9daikZab1Cd5pYIQ8qyN9RKQU>).

In April 2022, the tree was damaged by a tornado weather event and on 21 February there was a failure of the union and one of the major branches fell. To save the tree it was necessary for major

pruning work to be undertaken which occurred in March 2023. The photo below shows the tree following this pruning.



***Above:** The Henry Parks Oak Tree in March 2023 following pruning to save the tree after a limb collapse (Source: WSC).*

Internet Review

Good internet coverage and images including image and notes below:

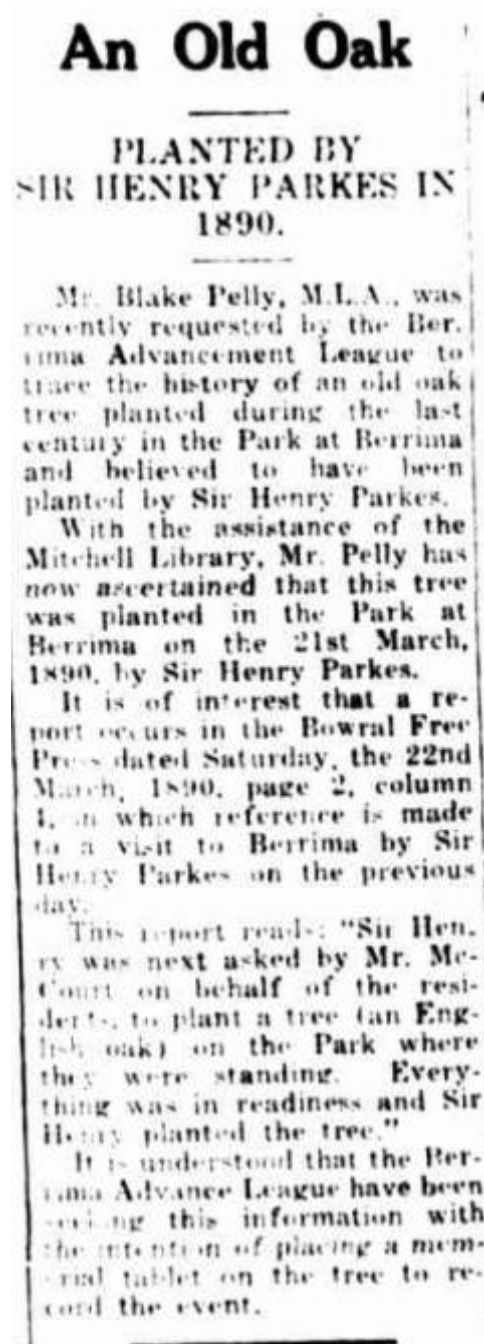
https://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMPXPW_Henry_Parkes_Federation_Tree_Berrima_NSW

History

There are some contemporary newspaper articles giving details of Henry Parkes' visit, including one that summarises his speech, although none specifically mention the planting of a tree:

- 1890 'Sights on the Southern Line.', *Illustrated Sydney News* (NSW : 1881 – 1894), 21 June, p. 24., viewed 26 Jun 2023, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article63615238>.
- 1890 'SIR HENRY PARKES AT BERRIMA.', *National Advocate* (Bathurst, NSW : 1889 – 1954), 25 March, p. 3. , viewed 26 Jun 2023, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article156381988>.

An article in 1954 gives details of the planting of the tree by Henry Parkes (see below).



Above: Article about the Henry Parkes Oak 1954 'An Old Oak', *The Southern Mail* (Bowral, NSW : 1889 - 1954), 5 March, p. 5. , viewed 26 Jun 2023, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article113878223>.

Heritage Significance Assessment

The proposed item has been assessed against the seven NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria. To be considered for local heritage listing, an item must meet one or more criteria on a local level. To understand more about the NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria, refer to the Heritage NSW publication *Assessing Heritage Significance* available online at <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/assessing-heritage-significance>.

NSW heritage assessment criteria	Assessment of site (no content = site has not been assessed against that criterion)
(a) HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>The tree marks the visit of the Premier of the Colony of New South Wales to Berrima. He held a breakfast assembly during his visit in which he made a speech about Federation.</i>
(b) ASSOCIATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Associated with Sir Henry Parkes, the 'Father of Federation' who planted the tree in the park in 1890 during a visit to Berrima in his fifth and final stint as Premier of the Colony of New South Wales.</i>
(c) AESTHETIC OR TECHNICAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>The tree serves as an important visual element on the corner of the Old Hume Highway and Jellore Street and has landmark quality. Prior to the failure of one of its limbs, the tree was a beautiful symmetrical example of an English Oak.</i>
(d) SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>The tree is located on a site with special significance as a War Memorial and is the site of Anzac Day ceremonies and Australia Day celebrations.</i>
(e) RESEARCH POTENTIAL	
(f) RARITY	<i>It is likely a rare example of such a tree and one that is still standing more than 130 years after it was planted.</i>
(g) REPRESENTATIVENESS	

Integrity/Intactness

Badly damaged in early 2023 and spared through heavily pruning.

Statement of Heritage Significance

The tree is historically significant to mark the visit in March 1890 of the Premier of the Colony of New South Wales, Henry Parkes, on a visit to Berrima. The tree is associated with Sir Henry Parkes, who later became known as the 'Father of Federation'. The tree serves as an important visual element on the corner of the Old Hume Highway and Jellore Street and has landmark quality. Prior to the failure of one of its limbs, the tree was a beautiful symmetrical example of an English Oak. The tree is located on a site with special significance as a War Memorial and is the site of Anzac Day ceremonies and Australia Day celebrations. It is a likely rare example of such a tree and one that is still standing more than 130 years after it was planted.

‘Bendooley’—sandstone Georgian homestead (including interiors), gardens and grounds (including trees) 3020 Old Hume Highway, Berrima

Recommendation

Include as a new heritage item in Schedule 5 (Part 1 Heritage items) of the Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010.

Heritage Survey 2009 Recommendation

List as a heritage item with the following statement of significance:

The site has significance for its association with William Cordeaux of Leppington, a grazier. As to garden the Heritage Study for Wingecarribee Shire Council by JRC Planning Services, 1993 states: “The Bendooley garden is significant, among its other attributes, for its mature tree specimens, particularly the oaks which are probably the oldest specimens in the district. The tree planting makes a significant contribution to the landscape character of the area and is highly visible from the Hume Highway.

The garden itself is also an excellent example of an early Nineteenth Century simple geometric garden style associated with cottages or homesteads (it is not known however, if this is a newly created garden or a reconstruction of the original).

Description

October 2020 Inspection: Not able to see building from the gated drive within the property near the current restaurant in 2020.

Heritage Survey 2009 Description

The place was not accessible.

The Heritage Study for Wingecarribee Shire Council by JRC Planning Services, 1993 states: “The garden is approached via a long red earth drive from the Highway through an avenue of mixed conifers and deciduous trees. The kidney shaped turnaround in front of the residence has a significant collection of mature trees with shrub woodland border of mixed azaleas edging an expansive lawn area. A circular rose planting is featured in the centre. The south of the house has a swimming pool in a brick terrace on an axis with

a line of white timber hitching rails set amongst mature pines. The area is sheltered by a mature laurel hedge. The rear of the house has a lawn area with individual tree plantings of mature cypress, quercus and prunus. A simple paved terrace adjoins the house with stone columns and timber arbour. A row of cypress borders the north and west of the house. The house site overlooks a formal dam with island set in a steam valley just north of the house. Brick kerb and guttering of drive. Lush vegetation of driveway avenue creates cool dark spaces in contrast to surrounding district. Many fine examples of cedrus, quercus and pinus species set along avenue and on lawns. Small garden shed in same style as house. It is said that many of the oaks are the oldest in the district.”



Above: Photo of 'Bendooley' homestead

History

Extracts from article in BDHS Newsletter July 2018. 6 images at this same site

<https://www.berrimadistricthistoricalsociety.org.au/data/documents/507-July-2018-BDHS-Newsletter.pdf>

History of Arthur and Linda Cordeaux by Linda Emery

William Cordeaux (1792-1839) was the founder of the Cordeaux family in Australia. He grew up in Yorkshire only a few miles from Westow, the childhood home of John Oxley and the two families were undoubtedly known to each other, perhaps explaining how they came to have neighbouring properties in the Berrima district. In 1817 Cordeaux was appointed to the Commissariat Department in NSW and arrived in Australia in January 1818 to take up the post.

The Bendooley property at Berrima was originally granted to William Henry Moore, the brother of William Cordeaux's wife Ann, in 1821. Cordeaux also received land grants in the area in 1827 and 1828, the properties known as Wanganderry (the Aboriginal name for the area) and Bullio, both of which he had been using to de-pasture stock with the permission of the Governor since at least 1823.

He appears to have been managing both his own properties and those of William Moore. However, William Cordeaux's main property was at Leppington, where he and his family lived. William Cordeaux died in August 1839, by which time his son, William John Cordeaux, had taken over the running of the family interests in the Berrima district and was living at Bendooley.



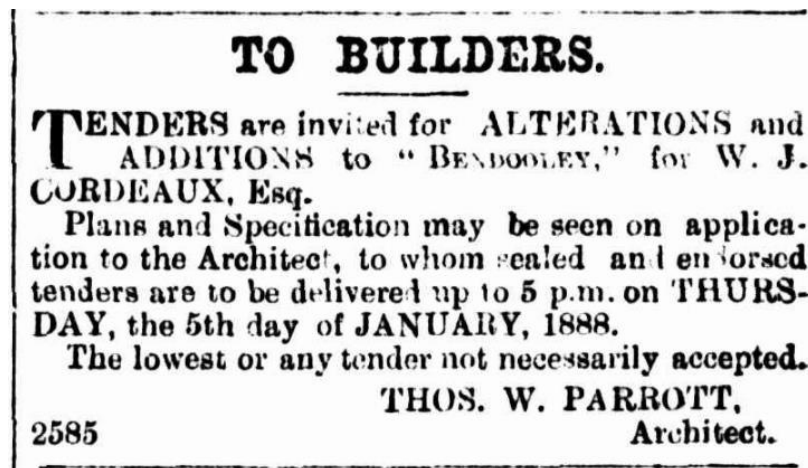
Above: Bendooley Berrima c. 1920 (Source: Berrima District Historical & Family History Society).

Heritage Survey 2009 History

The Heritage Study for Wingecarribee Shire Council by JRC Planning Services, 1993 states: "William Cordeaux of Leppington, near Minto, was a grazier here on the land owned by his father-in-law, W.H. Moore, early in the 1820's. The three old English oaks and several species of Pinus which dominate the front garden were planted by the Cordeaux family, and the oaks are reputed to be among the oldest and largest in the district. After the Cordeaux family left in 1919 the property was sold to the Murdock family, who planted the avenue of trees lining the main driveway. After several changes of ownership the property was acquired by its present owners in 1977, partly as a private home and partly as a home for their large book business, then located in Sydney. In 1982 the Book Barn was built on the site of a former building, and now houses the second-hand book department. The rare book department is located in a separate building near the house." was acquired by its present owners in 1977, partly as a private home and partly as a home for their large book business, then located in Sydney. In 1982 the Book Barn was built on the site of a former building, and now houses the second-hand book department. The rare book department is located in a separate building near the house. (Existing WSC Inventory)

The Heritage Study for Wingecarribee Shire Council by JRC Planning Services, 1993 states: "The 3 old English oaks and several species of pinus which dominate the front garden were planted by the Cordeaux family (from the 1820's) and the oaks are reputed to be among the oldest and largest in the district. In 1919 the Murdoch family bought the property and planted the avenue of trees lining the main driveway."

28 December 1887. Alterations and additions to Bendooley at Berrima for William John Cordeaux 1820-1898. Thomas Wilson Parrott (1862-1921) is the architect.



Above: Advertisement for building tenders for alterations to 'Bendooley' in 1887 (Source: Trove - 1887 'Advertising', Bowral Free Press and Berrima District Intelligencer (NSW : 1884 - 1901), 28 December, p. 1. , viewed 10 Jul 2023, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article112414422>).

Heritage Significance Assessment

The proposed item has been assessed against the seven NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria. To be considered for local heritage listing, an item must meet one or more criteria on a local level. To understand more about the NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria, refer to the Heritage NSW publication *Assessing Heritage Significance* available online at <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/assessing-heritage-significance>.

NSW heritage assessment criteria	Assessment of site (no content = site has not been assessed against that criterion)
(a) HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Of significance to the history of the local area because it illustrates the development of this part of the Berrima District in the 19th Century.</i>
(b) ASSOCIATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Of significance because of its association in the local area with the pioneering William Cordeaux (1792-1839) of Leppington, grazier from the 1820's.</i>
(c) AESTHETIC OR TECHNICAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Of significance in demonstrating aesthetic achievement in the local area because the beauty of its setting and architectural form. The garden is significant for its early trees The 1993 Heritage Study noted that the old English Oaks and several species of Pinus in the front garden from the 19th century are reputed to be among the oldest and largest in the district. The avenue of trees lining the main driveway were planted in 1919.</i>
(d) SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE	
(e) RESEARCH POTENTIAL	
(f) RARITY	
(g) REPRESENTATIVENESS	<i>Of significance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of the local area's heritage in this case in this case an early sandstone Georgian Style residence</i>

Integrity/Intactness

Substantially intact although some alterations have been made and new buildings added to the site.

Statement of Heritage Significance

The Bendooley Group and Garden at 3020 Old Hume Highway Berrima is significant because it illustrates the development of this part of the Berrima District in the 19th Century and its association

in the local area with the pioneering William Cordeaux (1792-1839) of Leppington, grazier from the 1820's. It also demonstrates aesthetic achievement because of the beauty of its setting and architectural form and demonstrates the principal characteristics of an early sandstone Georgian Style residence. The garden is significant for its early trees including old English Oaks and several species of *Pinus* in the front garden reputed to be among the oldest and largest in the district.

Stone Cottage

7-9 Oldbury Street, Berrima

Recommendation

Add stone cottage to existing heritage listing of “Slab cottage”, 7-9 Oldbury Street, Berrima, in Schedule 5 (Part 1 Heritage items) of the Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010.

Property is contained within the Berrima Conservation Area.

Description

Note regarding listing : LEP shows it to be already listed although taken by some to mean slab building only and not stone structure at rear.



*Above: is an image of the slab cottage accessed January 2021
(Source:https://www.google.com.au/travel/hotels/entity/Cqsl0L2o9f6_s-rzARAB/photos).*



Above: Stone cottage from the rear (Source: https://www.google.com.au/travel/hotels/entity/CgsloL2o9f6_s-rzARAB/photos)

Tom Mitchell's Slab Hut

1 Raglan Street, Berrima

Recommendation

Include as a new heritage item in Schedule 5 (Part 1 Heritage items) of the Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010.

Property is contained within the Berrima Landscape Conservation Area.

Heritage Survey 2009 Recommendation

List as a heritage item with the following statement of significance:

The site has significance for its association with Tom Mitchell.

Description

October 2020: A one storey freestanding house ruin set on a large site in a rural setting that has retained its context. The building is set on the Raglan Street alignment. The site has a collapsed strand wire fence. The surrounding area is strewn with collapsed debris. The façade was a simple symmetrical elevation constructed of slab timber and rough hewn stone. The roof is hipped with a steep pitch and has close eaves. The roof is clad in galvanized corrugated sheet metal. The building is in very poor condition. The building is in a ruinous condition but is capable of conservation as a ruin rather than restoration.

The Heritage Survey 2009 noted that "Historic and social values of the ruin would need to be understood before a recommendation to list could be made."



Above: 1 Raglan Street, Berrima. October 2020

Internet Review

Nil

History

Ryerson Index (name):

The Ryerson Index is an online index of death notices from Australian newspapers, past and present, compiled by the Sydney-based non-profit organisation Ryerson Index Incorporated.

Surname	Given Names	Notice Type	Date	Event	Age	Other Details	Publication	Published
MITCHELL	Thomas (Tommy)	Funeral notice	31MAR2004	Death	67	late of Berrima	Southern Highlands News (Bowral)	02APR2004

Heritage Significance Assessment

The proposed item has been assessed against the seven NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria. To be considered for local heritage listing, an item must meet one or more criteria on a local level. To understand more about the NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria, refer to the Heritage NSW publication *Assessing Heritage Significance* available online at <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/assessing-heritage-significance>.

NSW heritage assessment criteria	Assessment of site (no content = site has not been assessed against that criterion)
(a) HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Of significance to the history of the local area because it illustrates the very early development of this section of Berrima</i>
(b) ASSOCIATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE	
(c) AESTHETIC OR TECHNICAL SIGNIFICANCE	
(d) SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE	
(e) RESEARCH POTENTIAL	
(f) RARITY	<i>Of significance because the item possesses a rare aspect of the local area's heritage in this case an unrestored early settlers cottage.</i>
(g) REPRESENTATIVENESS	

Integrity/Intactness

This building is a ruin and ongoing practical management as a ruin is considered to be the appropriate strategy for this item.

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Tom Mitchell's Slab Cottage at Lot 14 Raglan Street Berrima is important because it illustrates the very early development of this section of Berrima and it possesses a rare aspect of the local area's heritage in this case an unrestored early settler's cottage.

Boral Cement Works, including Crowe and Sorensen tree planting

Taylor Avenue & Berrima Road, New Berrima

Recommendation

Include as a new heritage item in Schedule 5 (Part 1 Heritage items) of the Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010.

Heritage Survey 2009 Recommendation

List as a heritage item with the following statement of significance (from Wingecarribee Heritage Study 1993):

“A major industry which has played an important role in the State’s economy. A large employer for Berrima and a highly visible part of the shire’s landscape.

Its association with the railway to Medway Colliery has historic and landscape connotations.”

Note: The Study Group discussed this site in the context of three large industrial sites in the Shire – this site, Bowral Brickworks and Medway Colliery. It was agreed that they should be LEP listed and any information noted on the NSW Heritage Data base but that the management of them is best handled at the time of any major development proposal or redevelopment of the sites and that words to that effect should be included in the listing record. At such time it would be normal to require a CMP to set out more fully the heritage values of the site including recommendations for items and artefacts that should be retained and interpreted.

Description

Formerly Blue Circle Southern Cement Works.

October 2020: seen from road only.

January 2022 inspection of the tree planting on the site: Charlotte Webb has advised that the major tree planting in front of the Cement Works along both Berrima Road and Taylor Avenue is important involving landscape architect Sorensen and nurseryman Claude Crowe from Berrima Bridge Nursery at Berrima. See Bio notes below on Sorensen. Around the now demolished old administration building site in Berrima Road east of the railway line there is significant exotic tree planting. Along Taylor Avenue to the west starting just before Perth Street and extending west past Howard Street is a very wide parkland tree planting mostly of native trees.

Description from Heritage Survey 2009: A twentieth century industrial cement works in fully operational condition. The facility is constructed on a large site set well back behind landscaped grounds on one side of which is the village of New Berrima with pastoral land on the other 3 sides. The facility is large with many inter-related components, and is visible for many kilometres. It is a prominent industrial landmark in this otherwise rural landscape. Its modern industrial character contrasts significantly with the nearby historic towns of Berrima, Bowral and Moss Vale.



Above: Boral Cement Works with the company town (New Berrima) visible to the north (top). (Source: Nearmap - image date 22 May 2023.)



Above: Berrima Cement Works in 2009 (Architectural Projects).

Internet Review

Many image results from the following Google images search:

[https://www.google.com.au/search?q=Blue+Circle+Southern+Cement+Works\)&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKewjHsu7uq7vsAhWKM_CsKHRLBCXoQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=Blue+Circle+Southern+Cement+Works\)&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQDFDZ9wRY2fcEYMWKBWgAcAB4AIABiQKIAYkCkgEDMi0xmAEAoAEBqgELZ3dzLXdpei1pbWfAAQE&sclient=img&ei=Ob2KX4eyMorhrAGSgqfQBw&bih=598&biw=1275&hl=en-GB](https://www.google.com.au/search?q=Blue+Circle+Southern+Cement+Works)&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKewjHsu7uq7vsAhWKM_CsKHRLBCXoQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=Blue+Circle+Southern+Cement+Works)&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQDFDZ9wRY2fcEYMWKBWgAcAB4AIABiQKIAYkCkgEDMi0xmAEAoAEBqgELZ3dzLXdpei1pbWfAAQE&sclient=img&ei=Ob2KX4eyMorhrAGSgqfQBw&bih=598&biw=1275&hl=en-GB)

History

Heritage Survey 2009 History

Works started by the Hoskins family (which had many residences in the locality) to service the processing of the Marulan limestone they had originally intended to use at Port Kembla for their Australian Iron & Steel plant. The company was merged with Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers (Aus) in 1957. The current plant is said to be the largest in Australia and was in 1979 the most modern of its type in the world. The plant is connected to its Medway colliery (west of Berrima) by a private rail track which runs alongside the Main Southern Railway at Berrima Junction and then joins the Moss Vale to Unanderra railway (built for Aus. Iron & Steel to bring Marulan limestone to Port Kembla). (Existing WSC Inventory)

Early Industries in the Berrima District by Philip Morton, 2012

Extract from pages 19-20.

Taylor's Cement Works Dream became reality in 1929

A. S. (Stan) Taylor was an industrious local man with a sawmill business at Berrima who befriended the Germans interned at Berrima Gaol during World War 1. From them he learnt about the wealth of minerals in the district, especially coal, as several of the Germans had knowledge of minerals and daily wandered about the area.

In 1926 Taylor formed the Southern Portland Cement and Coal Company (SPC) in fulfilment of his dream to construct a cement works on land south of Berrima linked by rail to the colliery at Medway and a limestone source at Marulan.

He had done his research and knew that Portland cement, which originated in England in 1824, produced a uniform product made from accurately controlled proportions of material containing calcium, silica, alumina and iron. This had resulted from years of study into mixtures of lime and clay with other ingredients.

By 1929, with Taylor as Chairman and Managing Director, the controlling interests of the SPC Company were Arthur Hoskins, who owned Australian Iron and Steel Ltd (AIS) at Port Kembla, and Howard Smith Limited, a major Australian firm with many interests.

Medway Colliery became the source of coal for the cement works and limestone came from quarries purchased at South Marulan. Gypsum was obtained from South Australia. Shale and sand were available on site. A permanent supply of water was made available by building a dam on the Wingecarribee River, less than 3 kilometres away.

All the necessary ingredients to make Portland cement were on hand; the materials used at the cement works today still come from these areas. Stan had done his research well.

The cement works officially opened in 1929 and Taylor established the nearby township of New Berrima. Many of the 600 men employed in constructing the cement works stayed on to work in the plant. The cement works became the area's main hub, supplying water, light and power to New Berrima and electricity to Berrima.

Stan Taylor loses control of his company but battles on

Unfortunately the downturn in business during the depression of the 1930s proved fatal for Stan Taylor and he had to sell his shares in SPC. The Hoskins family business was also affected and in 1935

their AIS Company merged its steel operations at Port Kembla with Broken Hill Pty Ltd Company (BHP) and so AIS and SPC became subsidiaries of BHP.

Not to be beaten, Taylor became involved in many other ventures. In the late 1940s he opened a cement works at Maldon near Picton and initially coal was obtained by opening an old Medway mine, renamed Lock Catherine.

The Cement works an ongoing success

Since its inception, the cement works has supplied huge amounts of material to many major national undertakings, including the construction of Canberra, and to massive construction sites such as Warragamba Dam, the Snowy Mountains Scheme, the Sydney Opera House and the second Parliament House in Canberra.

SPC became Blue Circle Southern when an amalgamation of several Australian cement companies was formed in 1974 as a joint venture between BHP and Blue Circle, UK. Then in 1988 Blue Circle Southern was sold to its current owner Boral.

Highlands History: Highlands Cemented into History

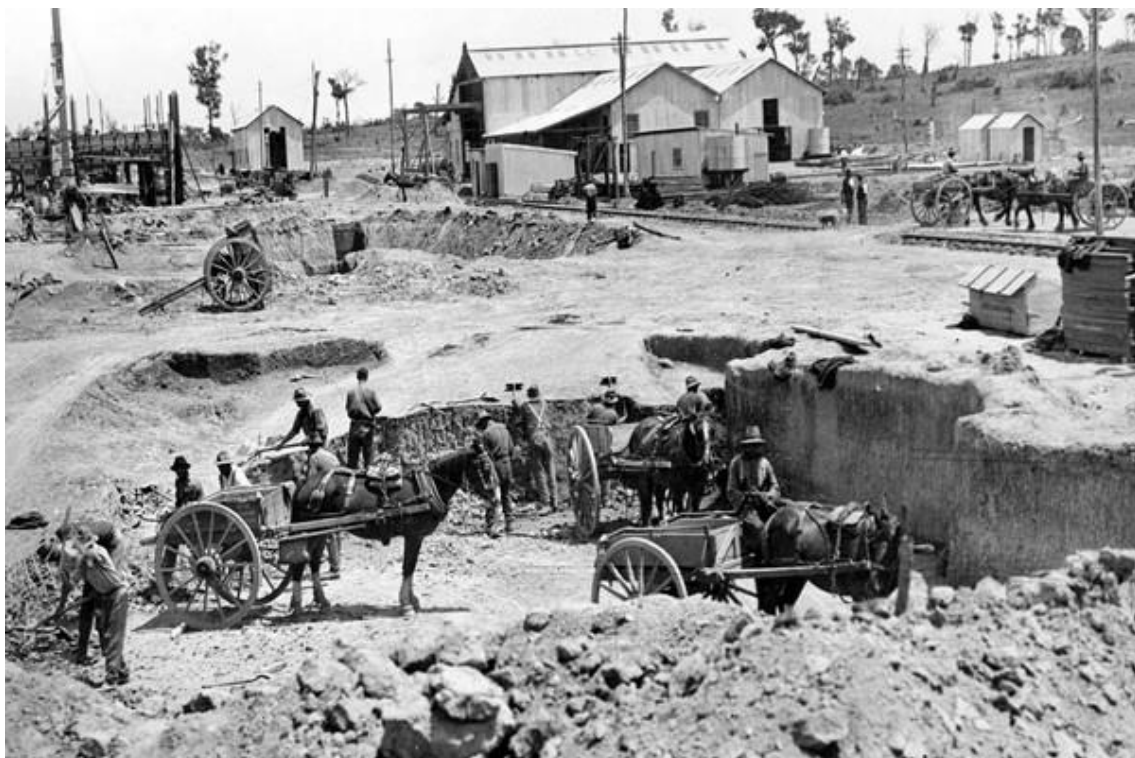
Extract from <https://www.southernhighlandnews.com.au/story/110496/highlands-cemented-into-history/> (including image).

In 1924, Stan Taylor took up one of the old Medway Rivulet leases and opened a new coal mine there. An industrious local man, Mr Taylor owned sawmills at Berrima and operated a blue metal quarry on Mount Gingenbullen.

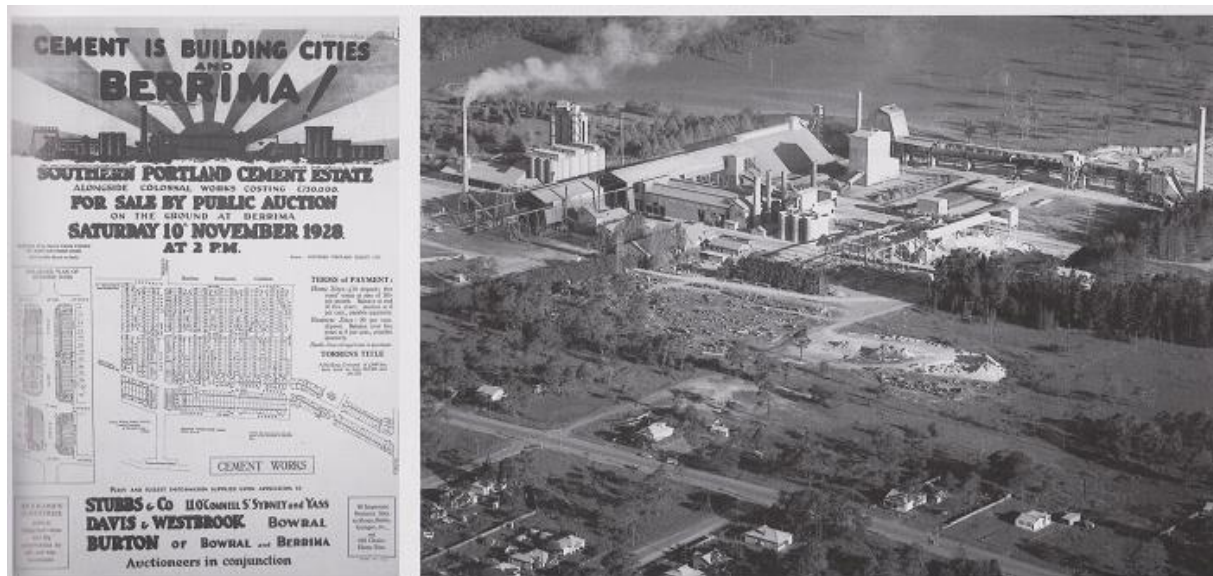
He repositioned Atkinson's old rail tracks to his new colliery site and rebuilt the run-down rail spur from Berrima West to Berrima Junction near Moss Vale.

Having taken out a lease on the limestone deposits at South Marulan, Mr Taylor formed the Southern Portland Cement and Coal Company (SPC) in 1926 and set about building a cement works on Moss Vale Road.

The SPC project was financed by the Hoskins family and Howard Smith Limited, a major Australian firm. They were in the process of moving their iron and steel operations from Lithgow to Port Kembla.



Above: Early photo of the Southern Portland Cement site (Source: Berrima District Historical & Family History Society via <https://www.southernhighlandnews.com.au/story/110496/highlands-cemented-into-history/>).



Above: From *Pictorial History of the Southern Highlands* by Linda Emery book, 2008 (p. 15). Left image shows Township of New Berrima's first lots auctioned Nov. 1928 it shows the Cement Works to the south and the proposed (BDHS) and right image shows the old plant in the late 1960s when 5 kilns were in operation (Leonie Knapman).

Brief history from the Boral New Berrima site

From <https://www.boral.com.au/locations/boral-cement-works-berrima>.

- 1926 Arthur Stanley Taylor decides to build the Cement Works for processing limestone from his Marulan South mine.
- 1927 The Cement Works site is purchased and Southern Portland Cement formed. Equipment begins arriving at site for construction.
- 1928 Subdivided land in New Berrima is offered for employee housing.
- 1929 (24 May) Production starts with Kiln 2. Kiln 1 comes online later in the year.
- 1935 Production of the first 'low heat' cement for the Sydney Metropolitan Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board.
- 1948 Supply of 'low heat' cement to the Warragamba Dam construction project begins.
- 1954 Kiln 3 comes online, lifting annual plant capacity to 260 000 tonnes. A decision is made later in year to commence Kiln 4, triggering a major site upgrade including a new raw mill, two new cement mills and a coal mill.
- 1964 Kiln 5 begins production as the largest of its type in the British Commonwealth. It has a capacity of 435 000 tonnes per annum. A new cement mill, three 2000 tonne silos and a new coal mill are also built in support. Kiln 4 and 5 capacity is now 600 000 tonnes per annum.
- 1974 Berrima becomes part of the Blue Circle Southern Cement group. Kilns 1-4 are gradually phased out of production through the early 1970s.
- 1978 Kiln 6 is commissioned, producing 750 000 tonnes per annum.
- 1987 Blue Circle Southern is acquired by the Boral Group, but the business retains Blue Circle branding.
- 1998 \$36 million upgrade increases Kiln 6 capacity to potential output of 1 million tonnes per annum.
- 2004 A further \$94 million upgrade to Kiln 6 and ancillary plant incorporates new technology and increases output to 1.35 million tonnes per annum.

- 2007 Cement Mill No 7 is commissioned to cope with increased demand.
- 2010 Blue Circle operations convert to the Boral brand.
- 2011 Removal of Kiln 5 and other structures as part of a major site overhaul.
- 2016 Approval received from the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) for site to begin using Solid Waste Derived Fuels (SWDFs) as part of the energy mix for the kiln.
- 2017 Construction begins on the plant and equipment needed to integrate SWDFs into production.
- 2018 SWDF system completed and Proof of Performance Trial successfully executed.
- 2019 SWDF feed system extended to allow greater intake of materials into energy mix. Second NSW Government grant received to support implementation of chloride bypass, allowing greater volumes of SWDFs to be used.

Some of the best known public infrastructure built in NSW and the ACT has included cement produced at the Berrima Cement Works:

- Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme
- Sydney Opera House
- Federal Parliament House
- High Court of Australia
- National Art Gallery, Canberra
- Anzac Bridge, Sydney
- Sydney Harbour Tunnel
- Motorway sections of the Hume, Pacific and Federal Highways.

Biographical Summary on Paul Sorensen and association with Sir Cecil H. Hoskins and Cement Works

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Sorensen_\(landscape_gardener\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Sorensen_(landscape_gardener)) (refer to source for detail of references in square brackets).

(References to Landscaping at New Berrima are highlighted in bold).

Paul Sorensen was born on 16 December 1891 at Frederiksberg,[1] a town now part of the urban area of Copenhagen, Denmark, which is the site of two extensive public gardens, Frederiksberg Gardens and Søndermarken.

Sorensen was employed at a Copenhagen nursery, Hørsholm Planteskole, at the age of thirteen. He enrolled at the Hørsholm Tekniske Skole to study horticulture. For the last two years of this training, Sorensen was under the direction of Lars Nielsen, a leading horticulturist, who at that time was responsible for the design of much of the open spaces of Copenhagen. During that same period, Sorensen did garden maintenance work at Hvidøre, which at that time was a summer residence owned by King Christian IX's daughters, Queen Alexandra of the United Kingdom and Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna of Russia. After performing national service, he worked in Germany, France, and Switzerland. He was employed by the landscape designers and contractors Mertens Bros.[1][2][3]

Sorensen was later to state that it was the outbreak of the First World War (although his homeland Denmark was neutral) that motivated him to migrate to Australia, when he saw his French, German, Austrian, and Italian friends in Switzerland being recalled to their homelands for military service.[4]

Career in Australia

Sorensen arrived in Australia in 1915. He initially found employment as a farmhand in Victoria, prior to getting work at Ormond Plant Farm propagating ferns. He moved to the Blue Mountains and obtained work as a gardener at the Carrington Hotel at Katoomba. He opened a plant nursery, called Sorensen's Nursery, at Katoomba, before moving the business in 1920 to Leura,[1] a nearby mountain village that would become his lifelong home.

Initially maintaining existing gardens, Sorensen was soon planting large gardens for wealthy people who had homes in the Blue Mountains. During the 1920s, he created gardens in the area for the residences "Sylvan Mists", "Gabo", "La Vista" at Wentworth Falls, "Dean [or Dene] Park", and "Cheppen". Sorensen assisted Lady Fairfax, the widow of the Sydney newspaper magnate Sir James Oswald Fairfax (1863–1928), with the garden of "Sospel" at Leura.[1][5] He also improved an existing garden in Leura, "Leuralla".[6][7] Sorensen's garden designs influenced other gardens in the Blue Mountains, such as "Benison", at Leura.[8]

Sorensen redesigned and expanded an existing garden at "Mahratta" at Wahroonga, in 1925 for its then owner, Gerald Allen of the mercantile firm Samuel Allen & Sons. After 1930, Sorensen also worked for the next owner of "Mahratta", James Joynton Smith who, as owner of the Carrington Hotel, had given Sorensen his first work in Australia as a gardener.[9][10][11] In 1932, he started a garden at "Heaton Lodge", Mudgee, for the Lonergan family, owners of the town's department store;[1][12] this was the first garden that he created in an area of relatively low rainfall.

In 1933, Sorensen met Henri van der Velde, a Belgian-born manufacturer and the owner of Feltex Carpets, who had a vision for a garden at "Everglades", Leura;[13][1] this garden would become probably Sorensen's best known.[14] During the 1930s, Sorensen worked for seed supplier Anderson & Co in garden design, while keeping his private clients.[1] In 1934, he donated his time, plants and materials to laying out the memorial garden and stone flagging at the War Memorial Hall—now the Country Women's Association Hall—at Leura.[4][15]

Industrialist Sir Cecil Hoskins, who also had a passion for gardens, became a client and lifelong friend. Sorensen designed and planted the garden of Hoskins' newly-built home, "Invergowrie", at Exeter (1936). "Invergowrie" was built on land Hoskins had bought from the estate of Arthur Yates in 1929. In making the new garden, Sorensen was able to make use of some mature trees, hedgerows, beds of daffodils, and orchards planted during Yates' ownership, but photographs taken at the time show the area in front of the house was newly-planted and almost all of the large garden was his work.[16]

The association with Cecil Hoskins led to other garden projects, mainly in the Illawarra and Southern Highlands; "Gleniffer Brae", in Wollongong, for Cecil's brother Sidney Hoskins; "Green Hills" and "Hillside" executive housing for Australian Iron & Steel; and the Hoskins Memorial Church at Lithgow. He also created the gardens for "Redlands" at Mittagong.[1][17][18][19]

Most of the gardens that Sorensen designed and built were for residences. Noteworthy exceptions were the rooftop garden that he created at Feltex House (an office building) or Henri van der Velde, in 1939,[2][20] and three garden projects associated with the Hoskins family; the Mount Keira Scout Camp;[21] **the garden landscaped surroundings of the Southern Portland Cement Ltd's cement plant, near Berrima**; and a Remembrance Drive of memorial tree plantings along the Old Hume Highway south of Berrima.[17][21]

In 1939, by now doing significant work in the Southern Highlands and Illawarra areas, he set up a second nursery at Berrima, which operated until 1944. At "Mahratta" in Wahroonga, he redesigned and renovated his earlier garden to suit a new art deco style mansion built there for Thomas Alfred (T.A.) Field, a wealthy grazier and meat merchant, in 1941.[11][9] Also in the 1940s, he created a cool climate garden for "The Braes" at Leura.[22][23]

Sorensen became friendly with Lady Gowrie, wife of the Earl of Gowrie, Governor-General of Australia, and he assisted in the creation of a small garden at "Yarralumla" (Government House, Canberra), in memory of the Gowries' son, Patrick, who died on active service during the Second World War.[24] Two of Sorensen's own sons died in the war and Cecil Hoskins invited Sorensen to erect a memorial to them in the grounds of the Hoskins Memorial Church at Lithgow; he created a simple memorial, using natural rock.[19]

After the war, he constructed mainly smaller gardens, for country properties—including "Bethune" near Orange—and for houses in the Blue Mountains and on the Upper North Shore in Sydney.[25]



Above: Cement plant at New Berrima, with park-like gardens designed and planted by Paul Sorensen (July 2010) (Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Sorensen_\(landscape_gardener\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Sorensen_(landscape_gardener))).

He returned to "Everglades"—from 1962 a National Trust of Australia (NSW) property—and expanded the garden.[1] and to "Mahratta", where he renovated the garden for its new owners—Bank of New South Wales—in 1964.[11][9]

He did work at the country estate of the Field family, Lanyon Homestead, in the A.C.T.[26][27] Also in the A.C.T. he carried out tree surgery that saved some very old cedar trees at "Yarralumla".[26] In the late 1960s, he also returned to "Invergowrie" and restored and extended the garden for its new owners.[16] He also designed and constructed new gardens for "Mereworth House" at Berrima, in 1965,[28] and "Fernhill" at Mulgoa in 1969.[29] Such large commissions became rarer; the era of grand residences with extensive parkland gardens was largely over by the 1960s.

Sorensen kept working until his death in 1983, with his younger son and grandson doing the heavier work.[1]

Notes on Claude Colquhoun Crowe AM (1914-1999) and his wife Isobel Florence Crowe, nee Tacon (1913-2009)

Source: <https://researchdata.edu.au/papers-claude-isobel-crowe/938090>.

Claude Colquhoun Crowe AM (1914-1999) and his wife Isobel Florence Crowe, nee Tacon (1913-2009) were noted horticulturists who, as owners and operators of Berrima Bridge Nurseries for more than 50 years, built a state-wide reputation for growing and retailing cold climate trees and shrubs. The early years of Claude and Isobel's partnership was shaped by the outbreak of World War II and their involvement in the Australian Government's war-time "Mother Seed" program, growing seeds for the Commonwealth Vegetable Seeds Committee. Isobel Tacon was one of the first women to qualify in horticulture through Sydney Technical College and was a foundation office bearer of the Australian Institute of Horticulture. Claude Crowe was a foundation member of the Australian Nursery Association (later the Nursery Industry Association of Australia). He was also a landscape planner who developed planting schemes for many gardens in NSW, particularly in the Southern Highlands. His training in this area came from his early employment as manager of the garden planning department of the Sydney firm of Anderson & Co, Seed Merchants, which brought him into contact with the noted landscape designer Paul Sorensen

Summary Biography on Sir Cecil Hoskins (1889-1971)

Sir Cecil Harold Hoskins (1889–1971) was an Australian industrialist associated with the iron and steel industry. He is notable mainly for the establishment of the steel industry at Port Kembla, the company Australian Iron & Steel, and its subsequent merger with BHP in 1935. He was also on the

board of the Australian Mutual Provident Society for many years and was its chairman from 1947 to 1962. He is less well known for his involvement in centre-right political organisations and the scouting movement, and his interest in landscape gardens.

Full Wikipedia biography at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cecil_Hoskins.

Full Australian Dictionary of Biography at <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/hoskins-sir-cecil-harold-7072>.

Not checked 'The Story of Cement at Berrima' by Leonie Knapman.

Heritage Significance Assessment

The proposed item has been assessed against the seven NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria. To be considered for local heritage listing, an item must meet one or more criteria on a local level. To understand more about the NSW Heritage Assessment Criteria, refer to the Heritage NSW publication *Assessing Heritage Significance* available online at <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/assessing-heritage-significance>.

NSW heritage assessment criteria	Assessment of site (no content = site has not been assessed against that criterion)
(a) HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Of significance to the history of the local and wider area as a major industrial enterprise from the Interwar period.</i>
(b) ASSOCIATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Of significance because of its association with local entrepreneur Arnold Stanley Francis (Stan) Taylor c.1896-1952 of Berrima, Chair and Managing Director of the 1927 Southern Portland Cement Ltd and directors Sir Cecil Hoskins (1889-1971) and Harry Bellingham Howard Smith. The tree planting is of significance because of its association with Sir Cecil Hoskins, the landscape gardener and nurseryman Paul Sorensen (1891-1983) and the nurseryman Claude Crowe AM (1914-1999) of Berrima.</i>
(c) AESTHETIC OR TECHNICAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Of significance in demonstrating technical achievement in the local area because of the quality of the cement produced from this site and the technology used.</i>
(d) SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE	<i>Of significance because of its strong or special association with the New Berrima and wider community as a major presence and employer from 1929 to the present.</i>
(e) RESEARCH POTENTIAL	
(f) RARITY	<i>Of significance because the item possesses a rare aspect of the local area's heritage in this case one of the largest cement works in Australia.</i>
(g) REPRESENTATIVENESS	

Integrity/Intactness

The New Berrima Cement Works is twentieth century industrial site in fully operational condition and subject to ongoing operational changes.

Statement of Heritage Significance

The Boral Cement Works at New Berrima is significant to the history of the local and wider area as a major industrial enterprise and of significance because of its association with local entrepreneur Arnold Stanley Francis (Stan) Taylor c.1896-1952, Chair and Managing Director of the 1927 Southern Portland Cement Ltd and directors Sir Cecil Hoskins (1889-1971) and Harry Bellingham Howard Smith. The tree planting is of significance because of its association with Sir Cecil Hoskins, the landscape gardener and nurseryman Paul Sorensen (1891-1983) and the nurseryman Claude Crowe AM (1914-1999) of Berrima. The cement works is also of significance for its strong association with the village of New Berrima and wider community as a major presence and employer from 1929 to the present.

The works are also of significance in demonstrating technical achievement because of the quality of the cement produced from this site and for possessing a rare aspect of the local area's heritage in this case for having become one of the largest cement works in Australia.

Part B: Not Recommended Heritage Places (Nil)

