

The page features large, white, minimalist line art on a light beige background. On the left, there are two concentric semi-circles. Below them is a larger, more complex shape resembling a stylized 'U' or a wide bowl. To the right of this is a tall, narrow rectangle. Further right is a large, slanted parallelogram. On the far right, there is a trapezoid. These shapes are arranged horizontally across the middle of the page.

APPENDIX 23

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment : ACHM



ACHM

AUSTRALIAN CULTURAL
HERITAGE MANAGEMENT

ADELAIDE

BRISBANE

MELBOURNE

PERTH

SYDNEY

1300 724 913

email@achm.com.au

www.achm.com.au

Cultural Heritage Assessment Report

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

Southern Barossa Winery & Tourism
Accommodation Project

Final

By: Amy Ziesing

Date: 17 July 2025

Client Name: Turner and Townsend

Client Contact: Melody Young

Address: Level 12, 19 Grenfell Street, Adelaide, SA

Phone: 0484 511 820

Email: Melody.Young@turntown.com

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Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Present within the Activity Area: Yes

www.achm.com.au 1300 724 913 email@achm.com.au

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Prepared by:	Amy Ziesing	Date: 13/01/2025	Signature:	
Reviewed by:	Matt Chamberlain	Date: 16/01/2025	Signature:	
Approved by:	Matt Chamberlain	Date: 16/01/2025	Signature:	

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The professional advice and opinions contained in this document do not constitute legal advice.

Spatial Data

Spatial data captured by Australian Cultural Heritage Management (Victoria) Pty Ltd in this document for any newly recorded sites has been obtained by using hand held or differential GPS units using the GDA94 co-ordinate system.

Abbreviations

Term	Meaning
AAR-AGD	Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, Attorney General's Department
ACHM	Australian Cultural Heritage Management
ACH	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
AHA	Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA)
AHD	Australian Heritage Database
DEW	Department of Environment and Water
DEWNR	Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources
ERD	Environment, Resources and Development Court
km	kilometres
KYAC	Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation
NNTT	Native Title Tribunal
NTA 1993	<i>Native Title Act 1993</i> (Commonwealth)
NTA 1994	<i>Native Title Act 1994</i> (SA)
Registrar	Registrar of Aboriginal Sites and Objects
RNTBC	Registered Native Title Body Corporate
SA	South Australia
SAM	South Australian Museum
SANTS	South Australian Native Title Services
SAPOL	South Australian Police
SBWTAP	Southern Barossa Winery and Tourist Accommodation Project

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- Kitanah Wanganeen
- Shine Wanganeen
- Tyrese Wanganeen

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They would also like to acknowledge ACHM and Turner and Townsend for facilitating this on-site meeting.

Executive Summary

Australian Cultural Heritage Management Pty Ltd (ACHM) has been commissioned by Strategic Alliance to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Desktop Assessment for a proposed winery and tourist accommodation project, located east of Williamstown, in the southern Barossa Valley, South Australia (SA). The project is known as the Southern Barossa Winery and Tourist Accommodation Project (SBWTAP). This assessment involves identifying areas of potential Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) that may be impacted by the proposed ground disturbances associated with the new tourist development. This report is based on the information presented to ACHM by Turner and Townsend and a review of the known ACH available for the project area.

A pedestrian archaeological field inspection was completed on 4 February 2025 with four Kurna Traditional Owners to assess the likelihood that the project area may contain unidentified ACH sites or potentially sensitive archaeological landforms that require further investigation.

To summarise the known data covered by this assessment:

- The project area does not contain any previously recorded Aboriginal sites, objects or remains, and no sites have been recorded in the 1 km buffer zone (n=0).
- A long history of European land use for both residential, commercial and agricultural purposes will have resulted in disturbance and landscape modification to the ground surface both within the project area and surrounding landscape.
- The level of disturbance can only be fully determined by completing an archaeological field inspection, in consultation with Traditional Owners.
- If any intact undisturbed hill crests and spurs or ephemeral creekbanks remain present in the Barossa Valley project area, these are likely to contain evidence of past Aboriginal occupation. This assumption is based on previous archaeological studies completed in the Barossa Valley and surrounding Northern Adelaide Plains region.
- Based upon the current information provided, the Barossa Valley project area is assessed as having moderate-high potential for ACH sites, objects and remains to be present. The level of previous ground disturbances and archaeological sensitivity; however, cannot be fully determined without an on-ground pedestrian survey.

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Desktop Assessment indicated that there are landforms of potential archaeological and cultural sensitivity within and surrounding the activity area, therefore the following recommendation is provided:

- Undertake an archaeological survey of the SBWTAP project area with Kurna representatives and a qualified archaeologist. The purpose of the survey is to determine the presence of ACH and the degree of previous ground disturbance, especially in areas determined to have moderate to high archaeological sensitivity (Map 6-1).

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1 Introduction

Australian Cultural Heritage Management Pty Ltd (ACHM) has been commissioned by Strategic Alliance to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Desktop Assessment for the proposed Southern Barossa Winery Tourist Accommodation (SBWTAP) project, located northeast of Williamstown, South Australia (SA). This assessment involves identifying areas of potential Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) that may be impacted by the proposed ground disturbances associated with the development. The project area is located approximately 75 kilometres (km) northeast of Adelaide (Map 1-1). The project area is bounded by Tweedies Gully Road to the southeast and northeast, Hoffnungsthal Road to the northwest and Menzel Road to the southwest (Map 1-2). This report is based on the information presented to ACHM by Turner and Townsend and a review of the known cultural heritage available for the project area. No field inspection has been undertaken to further assess the likelihood that the project area may contain unidentified Aboriginal cultural heritage sites or potentially sensitive archaeological landforms.

1.1 Limitations

No subsurface testing or excavation was undertaken during the preparation of this report.

1.2 Survey Team

The field survey was completed by:

- Darren Wanganeen
- Kitanah Wanganeen
- Shine Wanganeen
- Tyrese Wanganeen
- Amy Ziesing (ACHM)



Figure 1–1:SBWTAP Heritage Survey Team (L-R): Amy Ziesing, Kitanah Wanganeen, Shine Wanganeen, Darren Wanganeen and Tyrese Wanganeen.

1.3 Proposed Activity and Potential Impacts of Cultural Heritage Values

1.3.1 Location

The land for the proposed Turner and Townsend project is located approximately 75 km northeast of Adelaide in the Barossa Valley Local Government Area (LGA) and is situated within the Northern and Yorke Land System (DENWR Soil and Land Program) (Table 1–1).

The land use for SBWTAP and the surrounding region is primarily residential, commercial and viticultural. The current project area contains existing vineyards, an ephemeral creek line and cropping areas. The project area is approximately 21.5 hectares of agricultural and commercial land.

Table 1–1: Property covered by this desktop assessment.

Parcel Plan	Title	Street Name	Street Type	Suburb
D120944 A102	CT6227/450	Hofmannsthal	Road	Lyndoch

1.3.2 Proposed Activity

The proposed new SBWTAP project involves, but is not limited to:

- Clearing existing invasive vegetation (eg. olives) and soil
- Excavation for road batters, road construction and stabilisation, electrical conduits, drainage and maintenance
- Access for earthwork related equipment and trucks
- Construction of tourist hotel accommodation and associated services
- Construction of internal roadways, including kerb and gutting and bituminisation.
- Construction of a winery and cellar door.

1.3.3 Potential Impacts on Cultural Heritage

Construction of the proposed SBWTAP will likely involve the following activities that may have the potential to cause harm to cultural heritage sites and objects through disturbance:

All the proposed activities outlined above in Section 1.2.2 involve ground disturbance to varying degrees, which have the potential to cause impacts to unidentified surficial and sub-surface archaeological sites, objects or remains.

Traditional Owners

Williamstown is located within the traditional lands of the Kurna People, whose heritage interests are managed by South Australian Native Title Services (SANTS), on behalf of on behalf of the Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC) RNTBC (Registered Native Title Body Corporate).

Native Title

There is an active native title claim for the Kurna Peoples Native Title Claim (SCD2018/001; SAD6001/00) and the Kurna Peoples Native Title Settlement Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) (SI2018/004) (Map 1-1).

The Kurna People's Native Title Claim extends over approximately 8160 square kilometres of the region, encompassing the Adelaide metropolitan area from the Fleurieu Peninsula in the south to Light River in the north.



Map 1-1: Map showing the SBWTAP project area and the wider Kurna Peoples Native Title Claim Determination.



Map 1–2: The SBWTAP project area.

2 Heritage Protection Legislation

This section outlines all the relevant state and Commonwealth legislation designed for the protection of Aboriginal and historic cultural heritage to be considered during this project.

2.1 Aboriginal Heritage Act 1998 (as amended) (South Australia)

The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* (AHA) (as amended) for SA legally protects all Aboriginal sites, objects, and remains of significance, registered or not, and provides guidelines for dealing with objects or areas of significance to Aboriginal heritage. The AHA also protects previously unknown Aboriginal sites, objects and remains. The AHA was amended in 2017 to include provisions to a new process that encourages early engagement between proponents and relevant Traditional Owners or Recognised Aboriginal Representative Bodies (RARBs) to make decisions and agreements about managing Aboriginal cultural heritage. This included the establishment of the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2017 relating to the local heritage agreement process between proponents and RARBs.

Under Section 3 of the AHA, an Aboriginal site, object or remains are defined as being of significance according to Aboriginal tradition or to Aboriginal archaeology, anthropology, or history. The three classes are each defined:

- 'Aboriginal site' – an area of land and includes an area or an area of a class declared by regulation to be an Aboriginal site but does not include an area or an area of a class excluded by regulation from the ambit of the definition.
- 'Aboriginal object' – an object or an object of a class declared by regulation to be an Aboriginal object but does not include an object or an object of a class excluded by regulation from the ambit of the definition.
- 'Aboriginal remains' – the whole or part of the skeletal remains of an Aboriginal person but does not include remains that have been buried in accordance with the law of the State.

If a site, object or remains are determined to be of significance according to Aboriginal tradition, or of significance to Aboriginal archaeology, anthropology or history then, under Section 12 of the AHA, the site, object or remains can be entered into the Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects which is maintained by the Registrar of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, Attorney General's Department (AAR-AGD) of the SA Government.

Section 20 of the Act puts an onus of responsibility on landowners and occupiers of private land to inform the Minister if Aboriginal sites or objects are discovered on the landscape. Potential Aboriginal sites, objects or remains (in regard to the definition set out in Section 3 of the Act) that may be discovered during cultural heritage work or in site development work need to be assessed by the Minister in order to determine whether the newly discovered site or object should be included on the Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects. A determination can be requested from the appropriate Minister under Section 12 of the Act, if the person who proposes to take action in relation to the newly discovered site or object and feels that that action may constitute an offence under Section 23 of the Act.

Section 23 of the Act gives legal protection to all Aboriginal sites, objects and remains in SA. The Act makes it a legal offence attracting a fine and/or imprisonment to damage, disturb or interfere with Aboriginal sites or objects without the permission and written authorisation of the appropriate Minister. Aboriginal objects and remains must also not be removed. If Aboriginal sites, objects or remains are to be impacted upon or destroyed in the process of a development a permit to destroy (under Section 23 of the Act) must be gained from the Minister. Therefore, it is advisable that any ground disturbances, earthworks and/or excavations be conducted with due care by the machine operators doing the work in order to prevent a possible breach of Section 23 of the Act.

In the case of human remains, the South Australian Coroner's Act 2003 applies upon discovery, and the South Australian Police (SAPOL) must be contacted immediately. SAPOL will then determine the remains as being, or not being, Aboriginal ancestral remains. If the remains are determined to be Aboriginal remains and not a crime scene, then the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (as amended) applies.

Section 37 of the Act maintains that nothing in the Act prevents Aboriginal people from doing anything in accordance with tradition in relation to Aboriginal sites, objects, or human remains, and preserves the rights of Aboriginal people to act according to tradition. This may include undertaking ceremony, management practices and stewardship responsibilities that relate to Aboriginal site, object, or human remains.

2.2 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984 (Commonwealth)

Whereas the state Act provides legal protection for all the physical evidence of past Aboriginal occupation, the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984* deals with Aboriginal cultural property in a wider sense.

Such cultural property includes any places, objects, and folklore that 'are of particular significance to Aboriginals in accordance with Aboriginal tradition'. Aboriginal tradition is defined as the body of traditions, observances, customs, and beliefs of Aboriginal people generally or of a particular community or group of Aboriginal people, and includes any such traditions, observances or beliefs relating to particular persons, areas, objects, or relationships.

There is no cut-off date, and the Act may apply to contemporary Aboriginal cultural property as well as ancient sites. The Commonwealth Act takes precedence over state cultural heritage legislation where there is conflict. In most cases, Aboriginal archaeological sites registered under the state act will also be Aboriginal places subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth Act.

The Commonwealth Act provides a mechanism for the Minister for the Environment to protect an Aboriginal site or place from potential destruction where it is considered that state or territory law is insufficient to the task. Under Section 21H of the Act it is an offence bringing fines of \$10,000- or 5-years' imprisonment for an individual or \$50,000 and up to 2-year prison sentence to contravene a Ministerial declaration where an Aboriginal place is concerned.

2.3 Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth)

The main purpose of the *Native Title Act 1993* (NTA 1993) is to recognise and protect native title. Native title is the rights and interests in land and waters that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders have under their traditional laws and customs. Further general information about native title can be obtained from the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT)(www.nntt.gov.au). The NTA 1993 results from the Commonwealth's reaction to the High Court's decision in *Mabo v Queensland (No.2)* and adopts the common law definition of native title, defined as the rights and interests that are possessed under the traditional laws and customs of Aboriginal people in land and waters, and that are recognised by the common law. These rights may exist over Crown land but do not exist over land held as freehold title. The NTA 1993 recognises the existence of an Indigenous land ownership tradition where connections to country have been maintained and where acts of government have not extinguished this connection.

There is an active native title claim for the Kurna Peoples Native Title Claim (SCD2018/001; SAD6001/00) and the Kurna Peoples Native Title Settlement Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) (SI2018/004).

2.4 Native Title Act 1994 (South Australia)

As stated above, the Commonwealth NTA 1993 is a part of the Commonwealth's response to the High Court's decision in *Mabo v Queensland (No. 2)* and adopts the common law definition of native title defined as the rights and interests that are possessed under the traditional laws and customs of Aboriginal people in land and waters, and that are recognised by the common law. Provisions with the Commonwealth NTA 1993 allow for the states to develop their own native title legislation provided the state legislation does not conflict with the Commonwealth Act.

SA has enacted an alternative state right to negotiate scheme as authorised by the Commonwealth under NTA 1993 Section 43. This scheme is operative and to date comprises the *Native Title Act 1994* (NTA 1994) (SA); *Land Acquisition (Native Title) Amendment Act 1994*; *Mining (Native Title) Amendment Act 1994*; *Opal Mining Act 1995* and the *Environment, Resources and Development Court (Native Title) Amendment Act 1995*. Regulations are in force for all these Acts together with Rules of Court for the Environment, Resources and Development Court (ERD).

2.5 Discussion

The central legislation for the protection of Aboriginal heritage in the project area is the AHA. However, while the development area may not contain any previously recorded Aboriginal heritage sites, it may contain Aboriginal objects or remains covered by this Act. The NTA 1993 and 1994 are also relevant to this project as SBWTAP and its surrounding regions are presently subject to the active native title claim for the Kurna Peoples Native Title Claim (SCD2018/001; SAD6001/00) and the Kurna Peoples Native Title Settlement Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) (SI2018/004).

3 Heritage Database Searches

3.1 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Databases

AAR-AGD Central Archive

The Central Archive, including the Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects, is maintained by the AAR-AGD. The archive is a database of previously recorded Aboriginal sites in the state. A database search allows previously recorded Aboriginal sites in a survey area to be identified before development activities or ground-disturbing works are carried out. If a database search does not result in the identification of any previously recorded sites, unknown or unrecorded sites may still be present. The lack of registered or recorded sites does not reflect a lack of cultural heritage, but generally a lack of previous targeted archaeological investigation, which are mostly completed in conjunction with specific developments.

A search of the Central Archive, including the project area and a 1 km buffer zone, was completed on 26 November 2024. The search results revealed there are no registered or reported sites within a 1 km buffer zone to the proposed project area (Appendix A).

It should be emphasised that this is not generally a reflection of a lack of ACH in the area, but simply a lack of targeted archaeological survey, which results in the registration of sites. Landforms and areas of archaeological sensitivity remain in the project area that may contain evidence of past Aboriginal occupation.

SA Museum Database

The South Australian Museum (SAM) database documents Aboriginal cultural material and human remains held by the museum. The database contains information such as how and when materials and remains were acquired, and where they came from. Not all items have exact acquisition dates and/or precise details of the locations where they were found. Due to these limitations, the records listed on the SAM database serve only as a guide to the types of Aboriginal cultural material and/or human remains which may be present in an area.

The SAM database was searched to see if any artefacts or skeletal remains have been identified in the project area and the surrounding suburbs, using the keyword "Kurna," "Barossa Valley," "Lyndoch" and "Williamstown". A search of the SAM database revealed no Aboriginal artefacts or skeletal remains within the search areas.

ACHM Corporate Archive

The ACHM corporate archive holds records of all heritage surveys conducted by ACHM consultants since the company commenced operations. The archive was searched for details of previous cultural heritage survey reports and/or desktop reports concerning areas in proximity to the SBWTAP project area. It should be noted that while an excellent resource, the ACHM corporate archives are by no means definitive.

Any previous ACHM assessments within proximity of the current project, that may be relevant, have been included in section 4.2.4 below.

Note on database Searches

It is important to note that any searches of heritage databases cannot be assumed to be definitive. Search results indicating no sites are present are usually a reflection of a lack of systemic survey in any given region, rather than a lack of sites existing at any given location.

3.2 Discussion

The lack of previously recorded ACH sites in the AAR Register does not necessarily reflect a lack of cultural heritage within the current assessment area, but more likely a lack of targeted archaeological investigation. Objects, sites and remains are generally only registered or recorded as a result of targeted survey and it is therefore possible that ACH is present in the SBWTAP project area, but that pedestrian survey has never occurred here.

4 Kurna Background

The Aboriginal people of the Adelaide Plains and western Mount Lofty Ranges region are now recognised as Kurna people (Edwards 1972; Groome & Irvine 1981; Hemming 1990). Their traditional lands stretch from Crystal Brook and the Clare Valley in the north to Cape Jervis at the southern end of the Fleurieu Peninsula. This boundary is reflected in the area lodged under the Kurna Native Title claim (SC00/1) (Map 1-1).

4.2.1 Kurna People and the Gawler Region

The Gawler River is located within the ancestral lands of the Kurna Aboriginal group (Edwards 1972; Tindale 1974; Hemmings 1990; Groome and Irvine 1981). In pre-colonial times there were more than 20 local Kurna clans along the plains, from Crystal Brook in the north to Cape Jervis in the south (ACHM 2001a). In the summer months, large-scale gatherings and ceremonial progressions took place along the coastline. This included fishing, meeting and trading with visitors from other Aboriginal clans, and following and celebrating the creation journeys of Kurna's creation ancestors, including *Tjilbruke/Tjirbruki* (Tindale 1987). During the winter, Kurna moved inland to sheltered locations in the foothills of the Mount Lofty Ranges (Tindale 1987) and in villages along coastal streams such as the Gawler and the Para Rivers.

There are several references to Aboriginal land use in early history books focusing on the Gawler and Northern Adelaide Plains region (Nott 1860; Loyau 1880; Whitelock 1989). Most references are typical of other early histories of Australian towns in that few details of Kurna occupation are given, and assumptions of imminent 'extinction' are implied.

One early reference to discoveries of Indigenous remains around Gawler is pertinent:

*Few, if any, of the...*Aborigines are extant, though the town is sometimes visited by the Murray River blacks. The advance of civilisation, with its numerous vices, has, doubtless, been instrumental to sweeping off the original possessors of the soil, whose bones are occasionally unearthed during ploughing operations, and show by their formation that they were not inferior to those now extant. (Loyau 1880).*

The Gawler region was an environment rich with resources for Aboriginal seasonal occupation prior to colonial contact. The fertile soil and the rivers meandering through the region would have provided abundant food and water resources. The evidence of archaeological sites and artefacts, including human remains, noted above, further demonstrate that the Gawler and Rivers environment had been well utilised over a long period. Wood discusses the manner in which Kurna engaged with the wide range of ecosystems available within the Adelaide region, which included "coastal sand dunes, marshes and lagoons, riverine estuaries and littoral zones, the plains and undulating foothills to the north and the Mount Lofty Ranges to the east" (Wood 1994: 9). She states:

The Kurna were well aware of the seasonal availability of food resources. They moved to the sea h o r e s in summer where they utilised the bountiful marine resources and moved inland during the cold, wet winters seeking firewood and shelter. It appears that the Kurna followed regular movement patterns and used well-worn tracks between their campsites. These seasonal patterns were not however fixed. The Kurna utilised many of the ecological zones simultaneously. (Wood 1994: 9).

Controlled burning or 'firestick farming' (Whitelock 1989) was practiced throughout the Adelaide Plains to ensure continual food supply by creating favourable conditions for preferred vegetation as well as driving out game (Wood 1994: 9). Wood notes that, "Soil structure would have been altered by the annual firing, further selecting for and against specific types of vegetation" (Wood 1994: 9).

The Gawler area was previously known as 'Kaleeya' or 'Kalteeya' (anglicised) which is a Kurna name for the area (Whitelock 1989: 16). 'Para' remains a Kurna name for what is now known as the North, South and Little Para Rivers. The word 'Para' is derived from the Kurna word, 'Pari', meaning water, and is also found in the Aboriginal name for the Torrens River, which is 'Karrawirraparri', roughly translated as 'River of the Red Gum Forest' (Auhl 1976: 125).

Prior to European migration to the Gawler River, beginning around November 1838, it was known by the local Kurna as 'Moole Yerke Perre' (Gawler River Notes, undated). Not long after colonial incursion into the Gawler region, Colonel Light and other explorers mention the presence of Kurna people as they travelled across the Para district and up to the Barossa. Similarly, Eliza Reid, a young European lady living on 'Clonlea' on the North Para, wrote of approximately two hundred Indigenous people camping nearby (Whitelock 1989: 12). In terms of population size immediately post-contact, Howchin (in his prematurely titled book, *The Stone Implements of the Adelaide tribe of Aborigines (Now Extinct)*) notes that, "The Wirra Tribe, or those inhabiting the border of the Para River, numbered 120" (Howchin 1934: 3).

An undated photograph of 'Warrette', captioned, 'Last of the Gawler Tribe' (Mattingley & Hampton 1988), is a rare example of photographic evidence of Aboriginal occupation in the Gawler area (Figure 4-1).



Figure 4–1: 'Warrette', undated photo (from Mattingley & Hampton, 1988).

4.2.2 Historical Records of Kurna Archaeological Sites

There are a reasonable number of historical newspaper articles which report on findings of Aboriginal sites in the Northern Adelaide Plains region from between the early 1900s through to the 1960s. A correspondent wrote to the Editor of the Adelaide Advertiser newspaper in January 1906 about the Aboriginal history and archaeological sites of the northern plains of Adelaide:

...the tribe of Aboriginals afterwards known as the Adelaide tribe, because their haunts embraced the plains between the neighbourhood of Brighton and that of Gawler, used to make the Little Para, which runs through Salisbury, a rendezvous. Early settlers have often told stories of their meetings with companies of natives in the district, on their way north...There are few localities where better evidence of the popularity of the place as a native resort in the early days can be found than along the banks of the serpentine water - course, and even trees bear testimony to the boat-building industry of the coloured race...Further evidence of the fact that the natives used to congregate there has been found on many occasions by the turning over of small hillocks on the slopes near the creek, which had been built up by generations in the process of baking the game and fish on which the blacks used to live. The remains of numerous Aboriginal ovens have been unearthed, and the soil, which was little else than decomposed vegetable matter and ashes, has been spread over many of the gardens as manure... ..In addition to these facts the discovery of Aboriginal skeletons and skulls at various times along the Para has proved beyond a doubt that the place was a burial ground also long before the white man took possession of the country (Adelaide Advertiser 22/1/1906).

A similar article to the one above also appeared in the Adelaide Advertiser on the 5/11/1908. In 1909 an article appeared in the Adelaide Observer reporting a burial found near the Para River on the Fenden Park Estate which was unearthed while cutting a portion of the riverbank for the purpose of making a more direct route. The single burial was uncovered in 'a particular position, with the knees projecting upwards and the head thrust downwards' (Adelaide Observer 14/8/1909; page 55). The article reports that a local doctor 'proved that the skeleton was that of an aborigine [sic]... that of a male about 6 ft. high'. The article also reported that two years ago a similar skeleton was found along the Riverbanks, the skull of which remained in Mr. Jacob Hooper's possession (Adelaide Observer 14/8/1909; page 55).

Another article appeared in the Adelaide Observer in 1914 reporting that several individuals were uncovered at Mallala during construction of a bridge over the River Light. The following extract includes details of the burials.

...Some of the residents inspected the skeletons, and were surprised to see the lower jaws, containing a complete set of teeth, in a well-preserved condition. The skulls were noted for their thickness, and the arm and wrist bones showed little sign of decay. Doubtless the remains are those of aborigines [sic], and probably this spot was the burial ground of the natives long before the white men came to the locality. Early settlers in this part recollect seeing tribes encamped along the valley of the Light (Adelaide Observer 25/4/1914 :33).

A particularly relevant article in the Register in 1926 reported that the remains of six Aboriginal people were discovered at a quarry six miles from Two Wells. Mr E. A. Brooks of Two Wells told the reporter that:

...it was not unusual for the remains of aboriginies [sic] to be found in the district. Many skulls and even complete skeletons had been discovered by the Gawler River, and in the vicinity of the town there were a number of mounds, measuring up to 25 ft. in length and about 2 ft. broad, akin to the larger "barrows" found in England and other parts of Europe, which are thought to have served for burial places for the people that lived there in prehistoric times. (Register 22/4/1926; page 9)

The articles presented in Table 4-3 below also report on Aboriginal burials uncovered around the general Northern Adelaide Plains region. The overview provided by these historical articles identifies the Northern Adelaide Plains and Rivers as having high potential to contain significant buried Aboriginal sites in locations where the earth has not been previously disturbed by development. The significance of rivers and floodplains as potential burial sites is further highlighted in the literature (Gara and Turner 1982; Blair 1997).

Table 4-3: Articles Detailing Aboriginal Burial Sites Found 1930s-1960s

Newspaper	Date	Location and Details
Advertiser	05/09/1933, p.10	Four burials unearthed during road construction at One Tree Hill
Advertiser	19/08/1938, p.25	One burial found in a paddock at Gepps Cross
Advertiser	07/09/1953, p.3	Human remains found by a rabbit trapper in a rabbit warren in a paddock near Salisbury Highway at Parafield
Advertiser	10/12/1958, p.13	One burial unearthed during construction work on SE corner of Main North Road and Grand Junction Roads, Gepps Cross
Advertiser	16/02/1959, p.14	One burial unearthed during the sinking of a well on a property near Port Wakefield Road at Bolivar
Advertiser	30/07/1965, p.6	One burial uncovered at Parafield Gardens
Advertiser	03/11/1965, p.6	At least six burials exposed at Dry Creek by a bulldozer during construction of a railway spur line near junction of Churchill Rd and Thompson St; remains were then recovered by SA Museum
Advertiser	29/07/1968, p.6	Two burials found in a market garden on Port Wakefield Rd, Waterloo

4.2.3 Previous Archaeological Research

The Northern Adelaide Plains traditionally provided Kaurna with a diverse range of high resource environments, including open grasslands, densely wooded alluvial wetlands and watercourses such as the Gawler River and Smith Creek and *Para* Rivers. The North *Para*, South *Para* and Gawler Rivers represent a particularly sensitive archaeological landscape on account of their predictable freshwater sources, raised and well drained camping areas, and their ability to attract larger game such as kangaroos.

In 1926 Norman Tindale and Harold Sheard report on Aboriginal rock paintings within some of the many rock shelters found along the course of the South *Para* River between Yatalunga and Gawler (Tindale and Sheard 1926: 14). Within the shelters were found hammer stones and other evidence of use, while immediately outside some shelters were emu shells, mussel shells, and charcoal to a depth of 2 feet, indicating mound sites which demonstrate that the area had been used for camping purposes on many occasions. Tindale and Sheard describe the paintings within one of the shelters in the following manner:

A complicated group of designs executed partly on a black background; the figures being in black and red outlined in white. Several striking examples are noticeable, the central figure being that of a bird, probably an emu. The bird is partially framed by a painting having some resemblance to a snake, and there is a boomerang design on the other margin. The white area in the centre represents a weathered portion of the rock. ... The characteristic circle and line, the latter either curved or straight, is repeated several times in this and other caves. (Tindale and Sheard 1926: 14).

Recorded Aboriginal art sites in the Barossa region were again reviewed in 2007 by Robin Coles, who notes that "Ongoing survey work around known Aboriginal archaeological sites has resulted in the description of 70 art sites in the Mount Lofty Ranges" (Coles 2007: 1). Coles attributes many of these paintings to the Peramangk nation, while paintings near the

western border of the Peramangk tribal border, including the South *Para* painting sites to the southeast of the project area, are attributed to the Kurna nation.

Tindale and Sheard (1926) comment that there is little information about the people who had inhabited the Gawler region. They note that the Wirra tribe, a local group that formed part of the broader Adelaide tribe, lived throughout the country between Angaston, Lyndoch, Port Adelaide, Yatala, and Tea-Tree Gully. They further comment that the name *Yatalunga* is "probably derived from the words *yertala unga*, meaning 'flood place', and the name Yatala has evidently a similar derivation" (Tindale and Sheard 1926: 17).

In addition to the rock shelters found near the foothills, the coastal strip of the Northern Plains, located between distinct alluvial and estuarine habitats, has been found to contain numerous mounds and other sites. Mound sites occur as low accumulations of sediment saturated with white ash and charcoal, containing rock material that acts as a heat retainer, such as baked clay fragments, calcrete nodules and river cobbles. Mound sites often contain low numbers of artefacts and small amounts of faunal remains and are commonly 20-30m in diameter and less than a metre high. Burials are often located within larger mounds.

Several mound sites have been located within the Adelaide Plains area (Wood 2005), with one of the most significant mound sites on the Adelaide Plains being the Greenfields Indigenous site (Draper 1992; ACHM 2000b; ACHM 2001b). The Greenfields site is situated just north of the Greenfields wetlands area and is a low mound (about 80m in diameter and up to a metre higher than the surrounding plain) on the flood plain of Dry Creek. The food remains found at the site were very well preserved and included fish (including snapper, mullet and bream), birds, shellfish (freshwater mussels, abalone, cockles), crabs, reptiles, kangaroo, wallabies, bettongs, bandicoots, and several smaller mammals. There is also fragmented emu shell. Dingo bones are common, and two burials of complete dingoes were also encountered, which signifies a very different status for those canines.

The stone artefacts include larger cobble grindstones, hammers, and anvils, as well as a variety of cutting tools. These include cobble choppers, knife-like flakes of quartz and quartzite, small chisels and adzes of quartz and imported chert, and small, mass-produced barbs for spears and for saw-knives, made from quartz, quartz crystal, silcrete and chert. The mound also contains many traditional Indigenous burials. Some of these burials were accidentally damaged and partially or entirely removed during construction of a factory. Part of the mound was removed by earthmoving machinery for garden fill. Most of these remains have been reburied.

In archaeological and anthropological terms, the Greenfields Site has world-class significance. The archaeological materials from the Greenfields excavations have enormous scientific potential for the Kurna People and the world at large, as a unique record (in terms of preservation and availability for study) of a permanent Kurna settlement on the northern Adelaide Plains and wetlands before European arrival, for perhaps the preceding 3,000 years. The broader significance of the site lies not only in the extensive and well-preserved archaeological record, but also in the major contribution to scientific knowledge, which it offers with respect to traditional hunter-gatherer settlement systems and the nature and role of permanent living places, and the relationship of such places to hunter-gatherer use of wetland ecosystems.

Mound sites are of relevance to the project area insofar as their distinct soil characteristics have been associated with cave sites along the *Para* Rivers. The probability of recurrent seasonal occupation along the North *Para*, South *Para* and Gawler Rivers is high, and attention to the possibility of disturbing dwelling places or burials during the proposed bank stability works is advisable.

4.2.4 Previous Cultural Heritage Surveys

In August 1994 Denise Wood undertook an archaeological survey of five river flats along the North *Para* River at Gawler and Rosedale for Clay and Mineral Sales Pty Ltd (Wood 1994). The survey results included oyster shells, quartz cores and glass artefacts. As Wood (1994) notes:

The use of glass as a raw material for tool production is indicative of the rapid technological adaptations achieved by Aboriginal peoples during early contact with Europeans, and highlights their capacity to successfully exploit a new raw material while still remaining within the framework of existing stone working techniques (Knight 1994: 1). Where glass artefacts are found, it appears that bottles were a favoured raw material, with the thick bases in particular, targeted for knapping (Knight 1994: 4). (Wood 1994: 14).

In March 2000 ACHM carried out an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment of land at Gawler for the South Australian Department of Trade and Industry. Although no new sites were identified within the survey, the report discusses the effects of extensive and ongoing ploughing in the region upon archaeological heritage (ACHM 2000a).

In June 2003, Wood and Westell undertook an Indigenous heritage study of the Gawler River junction for the Town of Gawler and Gawler Environment and Heritage Association in the context of a proposed redevelopment of the junction of the North *Para*, South *Para* and Gawler Rivers. The survey identified one site, which is located within the present study area, the Gawler Rivers Junction Artefact Scatter (AARD Number 6628-6692). Notably, the site was exposed along the edge of a high sloop about 6m above the riverbank of the North *Para* (Wood & Westell 2003: 15). The site will be reassessed in the present survey, given that it is located within the present study area.

In March 2004, Vivienne Wood undertook an Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage study for a flood control dam site and inundation area on the North *Para* River for the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority. The survey identified two previously unrecorded Aboriginal artefact sites, and five new non-Indigenous heritage sites. Further, the recommendations from the report stated the following:

Kurna would like it acknowledged that the entire landscape itself is of great significance and importance to contemporary Indigenous communities. It and all of its features were created by ancestral beings/people and there remains a deep and inalienable connectedness with the land, along with the desire for this spiritual belonging to be recognised. (Wood 2004a: 27).

In April 2007, ACHM produced the Northern Expressway Aboriginal Heritage Technical Paper (ACHM 2007a) as part of the Environmental Report.

The technical paper reported on the findings of a full cultural heritage survey of most of the proposed route alignment of the Northern Expressway, including the Wakefield Road upgrade, and followed a preliminary cultural heritage assessment conducted by Wood (2005) whose intention was to develop a predictive model of Aboriginal occupation by identifying potentially archaeologically sensitive landforms (Wood 2005). Portions of the Gawler River just west of Evanston were included in the survey area, and the Gawler River Archaeological Site (AARD Site number 6628-0091) was identified in the course of this survey.

The Gawler River Archaeological Site is located on a raised terrace adjacent to the Gawler River and consists of a large number of stone artefacts (n=more than 100). These artefacts are predominantly quartz flakes and quartz cores, with a maximum density of 5/m² and a minimum density of 1/m². Also present are quartzite retouched flakes, with chert flakes identified. All of the quartz flakes and cores appear to have been flaked using the bipolar flaking method.

The site contained over 100 stone artefacts on the surface. The artefacts included a range of quartz, quartzite and chert flakes that would have been used for tasks such as scraping and decorating wooden artefacts such as spears and shields, cutting food such as kangaroos and emus, and possibly scraping animal skins to make cloaks and other clothing. The presence of chert flakes, not local to the Adelaide Plains, also indicates a trade and exchange system operated between the Kurna and Indigenous tribes to the north of the Adelaide Plains. Because of the high number of artefacts at this location, the spatial association of these artefacts with each other, and the variety of rock types used for stone artefacts at this location, this raised terrace fulfils the standard archaeological criteria to identify this as an Aboriginal site.

In July 2007 ACHM carried out a two-day heritage survey as part of the Australian Water Environments Lower Gawler River rehabilitation works. Four Aboriginal sites were identified during this survey (ACHM, 2007b). Additionally, in August 2008, ACHM undertook a cultural heritage survey for Australian Water Environments Gawler River Stream Rehabilitation and Revegetation Works between Gawler and Bakers Road Wetland (ACHM, 2008). The one-day survey identified the cultural significance of the Gawler River to Kurna people and identified two new archaeological sites and two areas with high potential for containing buried archaeological material.

4.1 Discussion

This summary of background research within the Northern Adelaide Plains and North *Para*, South *Para* and Gawler Rivers demonstrates that a wide range of archaeological artefacts, human remains, dwelling places, and painting sites have been found in the vicinity of the project area. For this reason, a thorough pedestrian survey is recommended, particularly in areas assessed as having moderate to high archaeological sensitivity (Section 6.2).

5 Environmental Background

This section of the report provides a brief overview of the relevant details regarding environment, natural history, and land use in the project area. The activity area is situated within the Lyndoch (LYN) and Glen Gillian (GLG) Land Systems (NatureMaps). Both land systems are described in detail below.

The Lyndoch Land System comprises undulating rises and flats. Soils on rises are moderately deep to shallow red loams over basement rock. These are fertile and well drained, with high horticultural potential. They are associated in places with deep clay loamy soils and cracking clays, with very high potential for all types of agriculture. The flats have deep, mostly texture contrast soils, usually with hard setting surfaces and dispersive clay subsoils. Drainage, workability, emergence and root growth are impeded. Black clay loamy soils are typical of the flats in the Lyndoch area. Although highly fertile, these soils have shallow water tables and are susceptible to salinity. Overall, the flats are potentially productive, but drainage and irrigation management requirements are high.

The Glen Gillian Land System comprises a belt of mainly moderately steep low hills to the southeast of the Barossa Valley. Three quarters of the land is non arable due to its slope, but most is accessible for management of pastures or perennial crops. The soils are moderately deep to shallow over basement rocks and typically consist of acidic sandy loam surfaces over red clayey subsoils. These are moderately well drained and reasonably fertile, so there is potential for both improved pastures and horticultural crops (where water is available). There are minor areas of gentler slopes with similar soils and productive potential. Deep soils occur on creek flats and outwash fans. On narrow creek flats in the hills, these soils are prone to waterlogging and flooding, but can be productive, albeit in small areas. Broad gentle slopes in the north (an extension of the Barossa Valley) have deep sandy loam over red alkaline clay soils with high production potential (Map 5-1).

5.1.1 Geology

LYN - The land is formed on siltstones, slates and fine sandstones. Between the basement rock highs are extensive deposits of alluvium derived mainly from the rocks, but also from Tertiary deposits of adjacent land systems. These sediments are generally clayey, but silts and sands are common. There are minor residual Tertiary sand deposits on some basement highs. The rocks and unconsolidated sediments are generally mantled by a veneer of soft to semi hard carbonate of aeolian origin. This occurs as a layer between the soil and the underlying materials.

GLG - The land is formed on basement phyllites and schists of the Woolshed Flat Formation, with slates, metasiltstones and minor dolomitic rocks of the Skillogalee Formation. There are small areas of locally derived outwash sediments in drainage depressions.

5.1.2 Topography

LYN - The Land System includes most of the upper Lyndoch Creek valley, although small areas drain into the adjacent Williamstown Land System to the southwest. The landscape is a broad very gently inclined to flat valley drained by the north flowing Lyndoch Creek. The flats are flanked by low basement rock rises. Isolated hillocks of remnant Tertiary sediments are superimposed on the rises. Elevation is 310 m in the south to 150 m in the north where the Lyndoch Creek flows out. Relief is up to 30 m in height.

GLG – The system comprises a belt of moderately steep low hills to the east of the Lyndoch Valley and extending southwards to the Warren Reservoir. Along the eastern side, the slopes are irregular, with an overall drainage pattern to the west. The western side is characterized by a series of north - south trending ridges, with watercourses cutting across the grain. The main drainage system in the south is Victoria Creek which flows into the South *Para* catchment. In the north, the creeks flow into the Lyndoch Valley and eventually to the North *Para*. In the north is a small internally draining depression containing two seasonal lagoons. 240 m (lagoons) in the north to 495 m in the south. Relief is up to 100 m in height.

5.1.3 Soils

LYN - Most soils are deep over alluvium or deeply weathered rock. Red loamy texture contrast profiles account for half the soils of the System. Brown loamy and sandy texture contrast soils and deep dark clay loams are typical associated soils. On basement rock highs, shallow red loamy soils are predominant.

GLG - The soils are mainly moderately deep to shallow over basement rock. The most common have sandy loam surfaces, usually with red clayey subsoils, but on steeper or rocky slopes, the clay may be absent. Texture contrast soils with sandy loam surfaces dominate the minor creek flats.

5.1.4 Pre- European Vegetation

Three pre-European vegetation communities existed across the SBWTAP project area. Each of these is described below (Map 5-1).

SA Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon*) woodland - AP0003PE covered the majority of the central and eastern covered the southern portion and northeast corner of the project area. *camadulensis*), Grey Box (*E. macrocarpa*), Pink Gums (*E. fasciculosa*) and Rough-Bark Manna Gums (*E. viminalis*). Smaller trees comprised Golden Wattles (*Acacia pycnantha*), Drooping Sheoak (*Allocasurina verticilla*), Silver Banksia (*Banksia marginata*), Native Cherry (*Exocarpos cupressiformis*) and Native Apricots (*Pittosporum angustifolium*). The understorey comprised a range of acacia species, including Wreath Wattle (*A. acinacea*), Cup Wattle (*A. cupularis*) and Kangaroo Thorn (*A. Paradoxa*), bush peas (*Pultenaea largiflorens* and *P. pedunculata*), hakeas (*Hakea carinata* and *H. rugosa*), daisies (*Vittadina blckii* and *V. gracilis*), Lavendar grevillea (*Grevillea lavandulacea*) shrubs. Native grasses included Wallaby (*Austrodanthonia caespitosa* and *racemosa*), Spear (*Austrostipa* spp.) (Windmill (*Chloris truncata*), Tussock (*Poa labillardieri*) and Kangaroo (*Themeda triandra*) grasses. Groundcover included Bindweeds (*Convolvulus* spp), Saltbush (*Einadia nutans*), Scarlet Runner (*Kennedia prostrata*) and Pale Fanflower (*Scaevola albidia*). Climbers comprised Sweet Apple-Berry (*Billardiera cymosa*), Old Man's Beard (*Clematis microphylla*), Native Lilac (*Hardenbergia violacea*) and Harlequin Mistletoe (*Lysiana exocarpi*).

Red Gum (*E. Camadulensis*) Woodland – AP0005PE covered the northwestern portion of the project prior to clearing. This woodland contained a variety of Eucalypts and Acacia species in the upper storey. Shrubs included Wreath wattle, saltbush, tea-trees groundsel and yaccas. The native grasses included wallaby, spear, windmill, wheat and rice and kangaroo grasses. Ground cover included bindweed and kidney weed. Climbers comprised Sweet Apple-Berry (*Billardiera cymosa*), Old Man's Beard (*Clematis microphylla*) and Native Lilac (*Hardenbergia violacea*).

Peppermint Box (*E. odorata*) +/- Blue Gum (*E. leucoxylon*) Woodland – MN0003PE covered the southern portion and northeastern corner of the project area prior to clearing. The only additional upperstorey tree not previously mentioned above present here was the Southern Cypress Pine (*Callitris gracilis*). The understorey; however, contained Common Eutaxia (*Eutaxia microphylla*), Wingless Fissure-Plant (

5.15 Remnant Vegetation in the SBWTAP Project Area

Only a small central portion of remnant native vegetation is present surrounding the northern and central portion of the first order ephemeral creek line present in the project area. This 2.2-hectare (ha) area of SA Blue Gum Woodland described in Section 5.1.4 above has potential to contain evidence of Aboriginal cultural modification in the form of scarred trees (Map 5-1).

5.16 Watercourses and Catchment Areas

The Gawler River catchment encompasses an area of 1,100 square kilometres and can be divided into three main sections, the North *Para* River, the South *Para* River and the Gawler River, which is downstream of the junction of the North and South *Para* Rivers. The Gawler River flows west through Gawler West, past Angle Vale, and out to the coast at Port Gawler. Across the Adelaide Plains, the Gawler River traverses areas that are primarily rural in land use, including the Virginia market gardens (includes vegetables, nurseries and cut flowers, almonds, stone fruit, apples and wine grapes).

The North *Para* River rises from the Barossa Ranges near Eden Valley and flows southwest through the Barossa Valley, passing through the towns of Nuriootpa, Tanunda, before merging with the South *Para* River in Gawler. Land uses of the North *Para* Catchment include broadscale grazing, cereal cropping and viticulture within the Barossa Valley. The ephemeral North *Para* River has low to zero flow during summer months. It is an important source of water to the economy of the Region, particularly viticulture in the Barossa Valley. Given the level of water extraction from the North *Para* River, parts of the surface water and watercourses of the Barossa Valley are prescribed under the NRM Act.

The South *Para* rises in the Mount Lofty Ranges near Mount Crawford and Kersbrook and flows northwest, passing through the Warren Reservoir and the South *Para* Reservoir, before merging with the North *Para* River in Gawler. Land uses contained within this catchment include broadscale grazing, forestry and viticulture.

The Gawler Catchment contains the three metropolitan water storages; South *Para* Reservoir, Barossa Reservoir and Warren Reservoir. The first two are used for water storage prior to drinking water treatment and distribution, while the Warren predominately stores pumped water from the River Murray, prior to transport to the Barossa Valley for irrigation. The South *Para* Reservoir is the second largest in South Australia behind Mount Bold, but because of its size in relation to its catchment area, it will not fill completely more than about once in every five years.

Overall water quality declines with distance downstream from the headwaters in the Mount Lofty Ranges with urban, rural and industrial development contributing to poorer water quality. Accumulated diffuse and point source pollutants in addition to higher salinity are a common feature of the lower reaches of this river.

Flooding downstream of the monitoring location is also a considerable risk.

The SBWTAP project area does not have any significant river systems running directly through it, but it is part of the wider Gawler River catchment area and is surrounded by the North and South *Para* Rivers. An ephemeral second and first order stream traverse the centre, southeast and southwest portions of the project area and any area within 200 m of this creek line have increased archaeological sensitivity for previously unidentified Aboriginal objects, sites and remains (Map 5-1).

5.1.7 Land Use History

The LGA region of the Barossa Valley Council was first named “Barossa” by Colonel Willaim Light in 1837, but German and European settlement did not really become established until 1842 and a strong German influence can still be seen in the architecture and culture today. The earliest winery, Jacob’s Creek, was established here in 1847.

The current land use for the project area comprises a mixture of horticulture, viticulture and rural residential with the majority of the northwest, southern and eastern portions of the project area being covered in vineyards. The central creek line seems to have been relatively undisturbed, except for a potential installation of a previous farm dam. Unless laser levelling for horticulture has occurred across the site, which does not appear to be the case, based on desktop analysis of contour maps, then there is a moderate to high likelihood that the creekbanks, hills crests and spurs across the project area may contain evidence of past Aboriginal occupation.

5.2 Discussion

The above environmental background indicates the types of geological formations, topographic features, soils and vegetation that may be present in the project area. The geography and soil composition are particularly important if subsurface archaeological investigation is required. The topography and vegetation, if intact, suggest landscape features and native vegetation that were likely to be appealing to past Aboriginal people for cultural modification, camping or hunting practices. This environmental information, in correlation with, research and previous archaeological investigations of the Northern Adelaide Plains region, suggests locations that are likely to contain Aboriginal sites objects or remains.



Map 5-1: Map showing the land systems, remnant native vegetation and ephemeral creek line within the SBWTAP project area.

6 Desktop Assessment Summary

6.1 Culturally Sensitive Landforms

Previous archaeological and geomorphological research indicates that archaeological evidence of past Aboriginal practices is likely to be associated with certain culturally sensitive landforms.

Examples of such landscape features are listed below:

- Within 200 m of water,
- Within a sand dune system,
- On a ridge top, ridge line or headland,
- Within 200 m below or above a cliff face,
- Elevated landforms associated with ephemeral watercourses (eg. Drainage and creek lines and paleochannels),
- Within 20 m of or in a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth.

The SBWTAP project area is located within a rural area where varying degrees of previous disturbance has occurred. Based on desktop assessment of historical aerial imagery it appears that little development has occurred on the SBWTAP suite, excluding the installation of vineyards and rural access tracks, which have been present since at least 2004. The installation of vineyards and the removal of previous native vegetation is likely to have only disturbed the top section of surface soil, unless laser levelling has been employed across the site.

The degree of previous disturbance cannot be determined from a desktop assessment only. It is, therefore, suggested that an archaeological field inspection of the project area be completed to ensure that any previously unidentified ACH is not impacted by the project.

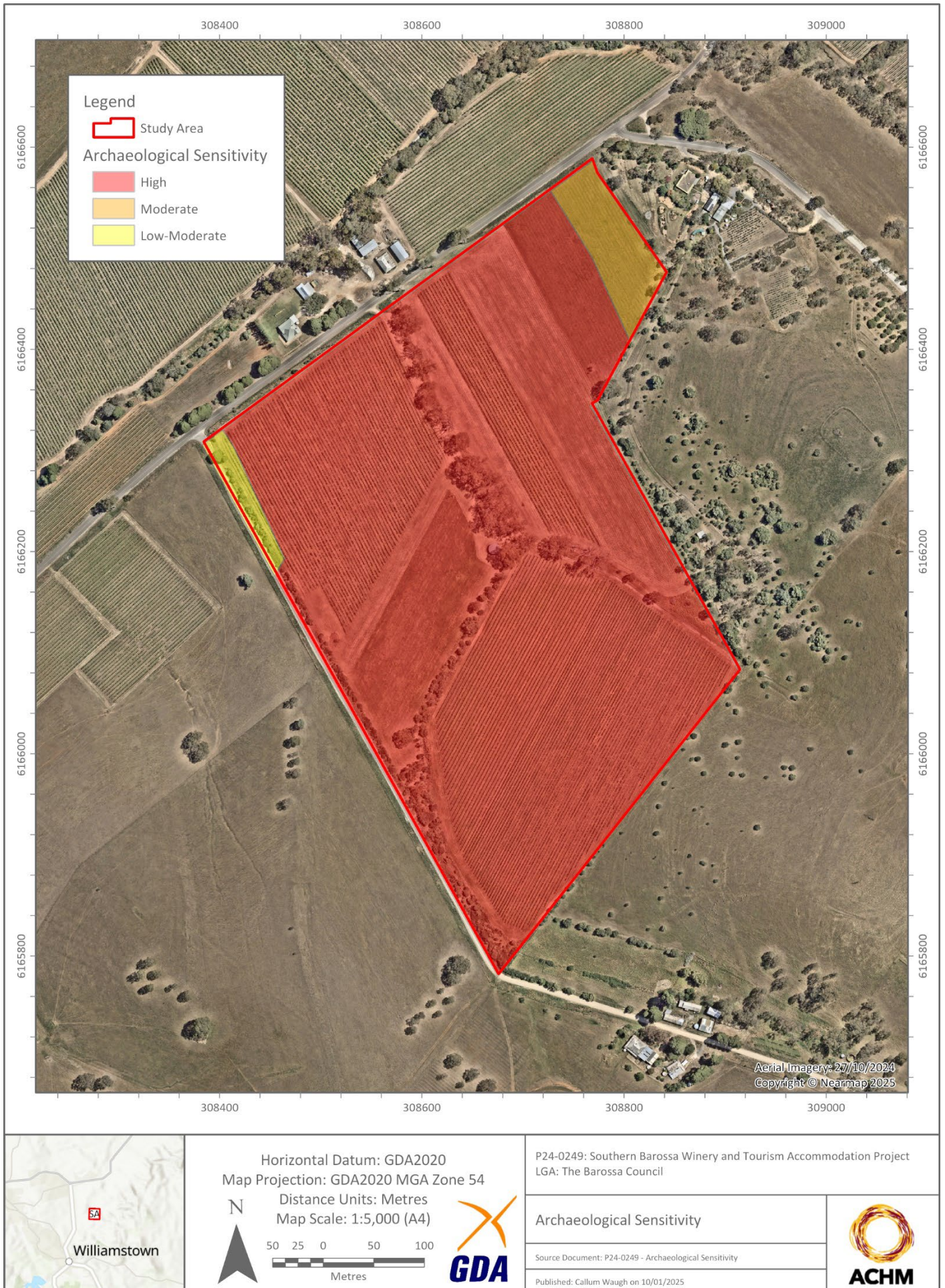
If any portions of undisturbed archaeologically and culturally sensitive landforms remain within the project area, they may contain evidence of Aboriginal remains or sub-surface cultural deposits that may be impacted by the proposed works.

Under the AHA, it is an offence to knowingly impact on sites or objects of ACH and an archaeological field inspection, in conjunction with Traditional Owners, is recommended to mitigate against any potential impacts.

6.2 Desktop Archaeological Sensitivity Model

Based on the results of the AAR-AGD *Taa Wika* search, previous archaeological studies in the region, environmental background, and historical documentation on the SBWTAP and wider Northern Adelaide Plains region, it is possible to provide the following model of archaeological sensitivity in relation to the proposed SBWTAP project area (Map 6-1).

The project area has been utilised primarily for prolonged farming and viticultural activities, but this has not removed the topographic elements, which include undulating hills, spurs, elevated hill crests and an unnamed second and first order creek line. The wider topographic and landscape features of the region include the Gawler River water catchment area and the North and South *Para* Rivers, all of which are important cultural features to the Kaurna. The lack of previously recorded ACH sites in the area does not necessarily reflect a lack of heritage, but more likely a lack of targeted archaeological survey. The combination of these environmental factors and the cultural significance of this landscape, suggests that unidentified Aboriginal sites, objects or remains may be present in areas that have not undergone extensive previous disturbance. Even if previous disturbances have occurred, traces of past Aboriginal people may remain, as disturbance does not remove cultural material from the landscape. Given that Aboriginal people have lived in the region for tens of thousands of years, there is an overall moderate to high potential for archaeological evidence to occur within the project area. This assessment is particularly relevant to any hill crests, spurs and creekbanks within 200 m of the ephemeral creek line in the project area. Any areas of remnant old growth native vegetation also have potential to contain evidence of past Aboriginal occupation (Map 6-1).



Map 6—1: Predicted Desktop Archaeological Sensitivity Map of the SBWTAP project area.

6.3 Desktop Assessment Summary

To summarise the known data covered by this assessment:

- The project area does not contain any previously recorded Aboriginal sites, objects or remains, and no sites have been recorded in the 1 km buffer zone (n=0).
- A long history of European land use for both residential, commercial and agricultural purposes will have resulted in disturbance and landscape modification to the ground surface both within the project area and surrounding landscape.
- The level of disturbance can only be fully determined by completing an archaeological field inspection, in consultation with Traditional Owners.
- If any intact undisturbed hill crests and spurs or ephemeral creekbanks remain present in the Barossa Valley project area, these are likely to contain evidence of past Aboriginal occupation. This assumption is based on previous archaeological studies completed in the Barossa Valley and surrounding Northern Adelaide Plains region.
- Based upon the current information provided, the Barossa Valley project area is assessed as having moderate-high potential for ACH sites, objects and remains to be present. The level of previous ground disturbances and archaeological sensitivity; however, cannot be fully determined without an on-ground pedestrian survey.

7 Fieldwork Methodology

7.1 Archaeological Survey and Recording

The reinspection of previously recorded ACH sites and the pedestrian survey employed a method of archaeological site assessment and site identification recording.

7.1.1 ACHM Archaeological Survey Methods and Recording Standards

Geographic Information System (GIS) data was uploaded to a hand-held Garmin (Global Positioning System) GPSmap 64s unit for navigation and orientation in the field and this was also to be used to record points of interest such as site boundaries, areas of maximum artefact density within sites, the location of identifiable artefacts within sites and the location of isolated artefacts within the wider survey area. Notebooks were used to record field notes such as ground and archaeological visibility, landscape features, Traditional Owner participation, disturbances, and archaeological data. Scaled digital photography using a Google Pixel 9 Pro XL with f/2.0 aperture lens and 150x macro-zoom was employed to record cultural and natural features relating to the site with the assistance of the Solocator application. A Galaxy A9 Tablet was also used, equipped with Avenza Maps, to ensure continual reference to the spatial data and mapping for the project and to provide the Traditional Owners with updated mapping and site information throughout the fieldwork.

Areas of potential moderate to high archaeological sensitivity were targeted by the fieldwork, including the ephemeral creek line, areas of remnant old growth native vegetation, hillcrests, and areas within 200 m of the ephemeral creek line. It was requested that we not walk through the existing vineyards, so these areas were not surveyed.

Discussions were held with Kurna representatives at each location to ensure any cultural information was documented and recommendations for next steps recorded.

8 Archaeological Survey Results

Prior to the commencement of the pedestrian archaeological survey, on Tuesday February 4 2025, an on-site meeting was held between ACHM Principal Archaeologist Amy Ziesing, the four KYAC representatives (Darren Wanganeen, Kitanah Wanganeen, Shine Wanganeen and Tyrese Wanganeen) and two Principal contractors George Economou (Strategic Alliance) and architect, Chris Watkins (Baukultur). Discussions were held on the project design, outcomes, cultural concerns, cultural tourism and other employment opportunities for KYAC representatives and the wider community.

The efforts that were made to facilitate this meeting were greatly appreciated by KYAC representatives and they hope that this was the first step in establishing meaningful relationships between First Nations people and the SBWTAP project team.

The archaeological survey was completed on 4 February 2025 with ACHM Principal Archaeologist Amy Ziesing and four KYAC representatives: Darren Wanganeen, Kitanah Wanganeen, Shine Wanganeen and Tyrese Wanganeen.

The weather conditions on the day comprised very hot and sunny with minimal cloud cover and a temperature of approximately 37° Celsius. Ground surface visibility was poor (0-20%) across most of the surveyed areas, although increased in areas of previous disturbance (20-80%), along vehicle access tracks.

Areas of moderate to high archaeological sensitivity were targeted during the survey, including:

- the ephemeral creek line traversing the centre of the project area;
- any land within 200 m south of the creek line;
- areas of old growth native vegetation; and
- the hill crests.

Conversations were had with the Kaurna representatives at each area of cultural sensitivity and at the newly identified site recorded in the creek line of the project area. A final conversation was had to discuss the proposed recommendations and next steps that they would like to see for the SBWTAP and to ensure that all cultural information had been recorded accurately.

Based on the sensitivity of creek line and hill crest formations in the surrounding northern Adelaide Plains region and the identification of ancestral remains previously in the SBWTAP project area, cultural monitoring by KYAC representatives was seen as an essential next step. If any intact soil profiles or cultural deposits are present, then additional test excavation of these areas, with KYAC representatives, was requested.

Figures 8-1 to 8-6 provide an overview of the environment as encountered during the survey of the project area.



Figure 8–1: View southwest of the KYAC Heritage Team walking a transect over the northeastern portion of the project area.



Figure 8-2: View southwest of the ground surface visibility encountered along the hill crest formations and vehicle access tracks.



Figure 8-3: View north of the view from the hill crest that will accommodate the proposed hotel.



Figure 8-4: View northeast of the ephemeral creek line and the hill in the background that will accommodate the proposed winery.



Figure 8-5: View northeast of some exposed quartz on the proposed hotel hill crest.



Figure 8–6: View northeast showing the existing shiraz vineyards which will be partially removed to accommodate the proposed hotel.

9 Archaeological Survey Summary

This section details the results of a pedestrian archaeological survey conducted with KYAC representatives, on 4 February 2025 across the SBWTAP project area.

The survey area lies approximately 75 kilometres northeast of Adelaide. Any moderate to high areas of archaeological sensitivity were targeted by the survey completed with KYAC Traditional Owners.

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Appendix A AAR Search Results

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE SITES



Amy Ziesing
ACHM
34 Whittington Street
Enfield 5085 South Australia

Dear Amy

Thank you for the search request dated 26 Nov 2024. The search was based on the spatial file or coordinates provided. The search area is centred on the suburb of WILLIAMSTOWN. Your reference is 8320.

I advise that the central archive, which includes the Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects (the Register), administered by Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (AAR), has no entries for Aboriginal sites at this location.

The applicant is advised that sites, objects or remains may exist in the proposed development area, even though the Register does not identify them. All Aboriginal sites and objects are protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* (the Act), whether they are listed in the central archive or not. Land within 200 metres of a watercourse (for example the River Murray and its overflow areas) in particular, may contain Aboriginal sites and objects.

Pursuant to the Act, it is an offence to damage, disturb or interfere with any Aboriginal site, object or remains (registered or not) without the authority of the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (the Minister). If the planned activity is likely to damage, disturb or interfere with a site, object or remains, authorisation of the activity must be first obtained from the Minister under Section 23 of the Act. Section 20 of the Act requires that any Aboriginal sites, objects or remains, discovered on the land, need to be reported to the Minister. Penalties apply for failure to comply with the Act. It should be noted that this Aboriginal heritage advice has not addressed any relevant obligations pursuant to the *Native Title Act 1993*.

Please be aware in this area there are Aboriginal groups/organisations/traditional owners that may have an interest. These may include:

Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation

Chairperson: Mitzi Nam

Address: C/- South Australian Native Title Services Level 6, 27 Currie Street ADELAIDE SA 5000

Telephone:

Email: info@nativetitlesa.org

Contact Officer: Tom Jenkin

Telephone: 08 8110 2800

Email: tomj@nativetitlesa.org

If you require further information, please contact the Aboriginal Heritage Team on telephone (08) 7133 8855 or send to our generic email address AAR.HeritageSites@sa.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

**HERITAGE INFORMATION TEAM
ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS & RECONCILIATION**

28 November 2024

Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation | Date: Thu Nov 28 2024 16:13:26 GMT+1030 (ACDT)

Level 16, 30 Wakefield Street | GPO Box 464 Adelaide SA 5001

Tel (+61) 08 7133 8855 | www.agd.sa.gov.au | ABN 15 088 976 178

Appendix B Unanticipated Find Procedure

A.1.1 Purpose

This unanticipated finds protocol has been developed to provide a method for managing unexpected non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal heritage items identified during the construction and maintenance of the Project. The unanticipated finds protocol has been developed to ensure the successful delivery of the Project while adhering to the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA).

Despite undertaking appropriate heritage assessment prior to the commencement of the Project, unexpected heritage items may still be identified during construction, operation, and maintenance works. If this happens the following unanticipated finds protocol plan should be implemented.

A.1.2 What is an Unanticipated Heritage Find?

An unanticipated heritage find is defined as any possible Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal heritage object or place, which was not identified or predicted by the project's heritage assessment and is not covered by appropriate permits or development consent conditions. Such finds have potential to be culturally significant and may need to be assessed prior to development impact.

Unexpected heritage finds may include:

- Aboriginal stone artefacts, shell middens, modified trees, hearths, and rock art.
- Human skeletal remains; and
- Remains of historic infrastructure and relics.

A.1.3 Unanticipated finds management procedure

In the event that any unanticipated Aboriginal heritage places are unexpectedly discovered during the Project, the following management protocols will be implemented:

- Works at that identified heritage location will cease with an appropriate buffer zone of at least 20 metres to allow for the assessment and management of the find. All site personal will be informed about the buffer zone with no further works to occur within the buffer zone.
- A heritage specialist will be engaged to assess the Aboriginal place or object encountered, and
- Representatives from the relevant Aboriginal Stakeholders will also be engaged to assess the cultural significance of the place or object.
- The Project approvals will be reviewed to assess consistency with the approvals to impact Aboriginal heritage within the Project area.
- The discovery of an Aboriginal place or object will be reported to the local office of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation.
- If the Aboriginal heritage places or objects are found to be covered under the existing approvals to impact Aboriginal heritage within the Project area, works may continue to be conducted in accordance with mitigation measures and approval requirements.
- If the Aboriginal heritage places or objects are found to not be covered under the existing approvals to impact Aboriginal heritage within the Project area, works will not recommence at the heritage place or object until advised to do so by Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation.
- If the heritage place or object can be managed in situ, works at the heritage location will not recommence until appropriate heritage management controls have been implemented, such as protective fencing.
- Depending on the nature of the discovery, additional assessment may be required prior to the recommencement of work in the area. At a minimum, any find should be recorded by an archaeologist.

A.1.4 Human Skeletal Remains

Where human skeletal remains are unexpectedly found during works for the Project the following protocol would be adopted:

- Works at that location will cease, and an appropriate buffer zone of at least 50 metres will be established.
- The human remains will not be moved.
- The SA police will be notified, and if the human remains are deemed a crime scene, the place will be managed by the police.

- Should the human remains be deemed Aboriginal or historical by the police, Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation must be notified immediately to assess the remains; and
- Should the human remains be deemed Aboriginal in origin all registered Aboriginal parties for the Project are to be notified in writing.

The above process functions only to appropriately identify the human remains and secure the site, from which time the management of the remains is to be determined through liaison with the SA police, Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, and the relevant Aboriginal stakeholder.