ATTN: Shane Harding  
Yenolam Management Pty Ltd  
c/o North Western Surveys Pty Limited  
PO Box 1045  
Blacktown NSW 2148

Dear Mr Harding,

RE: ABORIGINAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT IN RELATION TO A RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION AT 36 GREENACRES DRIVE, TAHSOMOOR NSW

This report has been prepared by MDCA [Mary Dallas Consulting Archaeologists] at your request on behalf of Yenolam Management Pty Ltd. It concerns the proposed residential subdivision of 36 Greenacres Drive (also known as Lot 6 in DP263172) at Tahmoor NSW (Figure 1 & 2). The subject land is bound to the north and west by residential allotments and Greenacres Drive and to the east and south by rural allotments. The current assessment has included background research and a site inspection to determine whether any Aboriginal heritage or potential archaeological remains are present within the property that may be affected by the current proposal.

An inspection of the property was undertaken on 20th July 2017 by MDCA archaeologist, Tamika Goward and Cubbit Cherta Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation (CBNTCAC) representative, Glenda Chalker. Tharawal Local Aboriginal Land Council (TLALC) were also invited to participate in the current study but were unable to attend. Attached to this report is a comment on the assessment by both TLALC and CBNTCAC (see Attachment 2). During the current investigations, it became apparent that the subject land had been previously assessed by Biosis Research in 2012 as part of the Aboriginal heritage component of the Wollondilly Shire Council Local Environmental Study1. Mrs Chalker of CBNTCAC clearly remembers traversing this property as part of this prior study. TLALC also participated in the Biosis survey.

The previous survey undertaken by Biosis included a series of potential urban release areas in Tahmoor and Thirlmere. The current subject land is located at the south-eastern end of the “East Tahmoor” release area. Although not described in detail in the Biosis report, a portion of the creek 270m east of the subject land was identified as archaeologically sensitive [Biosis 2012 Plan 7a]. The current subject land is outside of this area of sensitivity. No sites were located nor any areas of archaeological potential [PAD] were identified within the subject land.

1 Biosis Research in 2012. Wollondilly Shire Council Local Environmental Study: Aboriginal and Historical Heritage Assessment (Report for Cardno on behalf of Wollondilly Shire Council).
Figure 1. The subject land in its local context.

Figure 2. Proposed subdivision layout.
The subject land is 2.195 hectares in size and comprises moderately sloping land in the southern portion above a drainage depression which runs through the northern portion (Figure 3). The subject land has had a long history of agricultural use and is within the Blacktown residual soil landscape, which is prone to erosion.

To confirm whether any Aboriginal sites had previously been recorded within the subject land, the Office of Environment and Heritage (‘OEH’) Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (‘the AHIMS Register’) and Catalogue of Archaeological Reports was consulted. An online search of the AHIMS Register of a 5km x 5km area centred on the subject land revealed that 56 Aboriginal sites had been previously recorded in the search area (see Attachment 1, see also Figure 4). None of these previously recorded sites are located within or adjacent to the subject land.

Figure 3. Aerial view of the subject land.

[Source: Google Earth]
During the inspection it was noted that the northern half the property comprises a boggy, low-lying drainage depression and the southern half is characterised by a hillslope which has been affected by cut and fill earthworks associated with the construction of a brick dwelling and access drive (Figure 5). Greenacres Drive has been built up above the drainage depression, as has the access drive to meet it. The entire property has been cleared of original vegetation. Visibility was low due to long pasture grasses but in exposures around the dwelling in the south-western portion and fences in the south-eastern portion, subsoils were observed. No Aboriginal archaeological sites or areas of Aboriginal archaeological potential were identified during the site inspection and no landforms within the subject land are associated with Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity.

Figure 4. Sites registered on AHIMS in the vicinity of the subject land.
[Subject land outlined in red]
Figure 4. The brick dwelling and slope down to the drainage line from the rear of the subject land. View north-west.

In conclusion, Lot 6 in DP263172 has been found to contain no evidence of past Aboriginal use, and very low likelihood for surviving deposits of Aboriginal stone artefacts. There are no archaeological grounds for the current proposal not to proceed as currently envisaged. With the exception of the recommended actions below, no further archaeological investigations are considered warranted within the subject land in relation to the current proposal.

It is recommended that:

1. No further archaeological investigations or actions are considered warranted in relation to the current plan for proposed subdivision of Lot 6 in DP263172.

2. One copy of this report should be forwarded to the Cubbitch Barta Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation and the Tharawal Local Aboriginal Land Council.

3. One copy of this report should be forwarded to:
The Manager
Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
P.O. Box 1967
Hurstville NSW 2770

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Tamika Goward
Archaeologist
Mary Dallas Consulting Archaeologists
Attachment 1

AHIMS Online Search Records
Attachment 2
Community Consultation Record