

**PLATE 11:** View from Throsby Park North showing the pattern of introduced and indigenous tree forms



**Photograph:**

**C Tallents**

The overall pattern of this cultural landscape unit is that of a rich and well ordered pastoral character. The topography is flat to gently undulating as a result of it being the floodplain of the Wingecarribee River and its tributary, Kelly's Creek. Topographically the unit is discrete, being surrounded by higher, dissected landforms. Land use is predominantly grazing with a mixture of dairy and beef herds and stock breeding.

The Wingecarribee reservoir provides an expanse of water that is visible from both this landscape unit and portions of cultural landscape unit 1.

The pastoral mosaic is complemented and given distinctive character by the vegetation patterns of pine belts and scattered groups of eucalypts; the latter are remnants of the original eucalypt forest. The attractive, open park-like landscape mosaic and lush grazing present a classic pastoral quality. This quality would have probably been present to some extent when the first settlers arrived, due to the presence of low swampy areas where Wingecarribee reservoir now exists.

The overall impression is that of a well-managed and cultured scene which suggests historic associations with all periods of settlement, including modern subdivision patterns and newer farm buildings.

PLATE 12: View towards Throsby Park House



PLATE 13: Throsby Park House

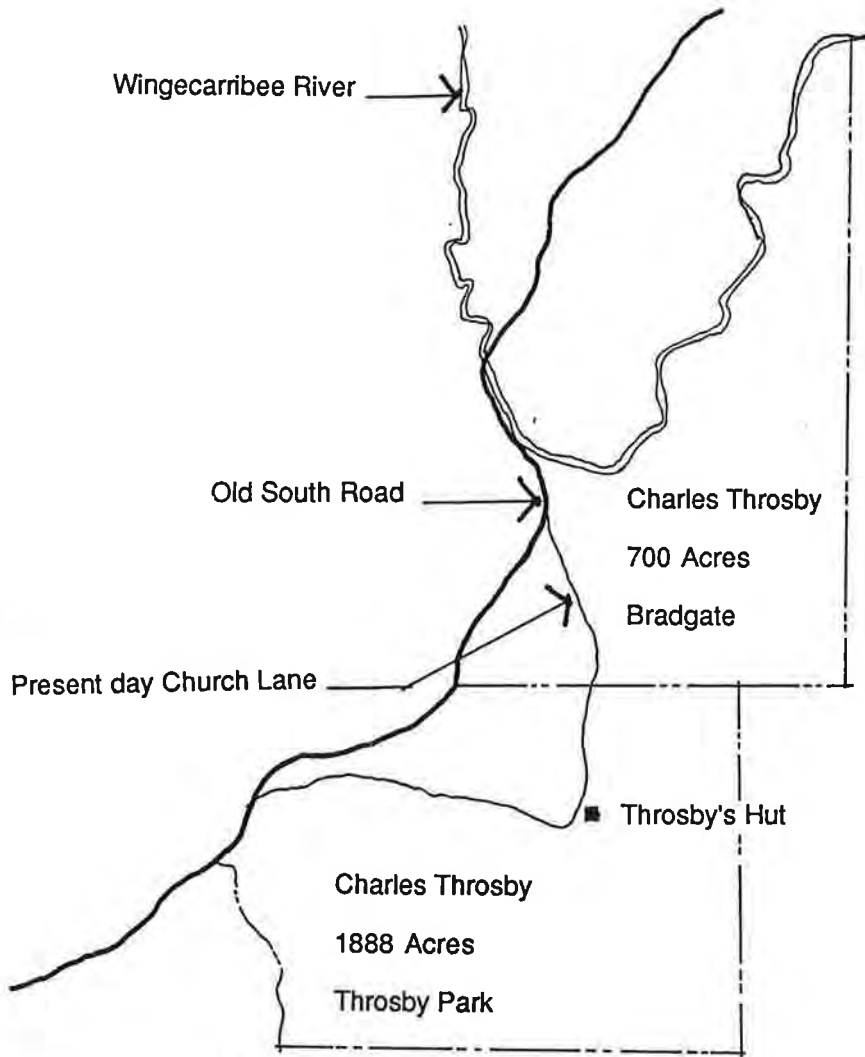
**Photographs:****C Tallents**

The homestead groupings of prosperous looking buildings are sited away from the main perimeter road network along their own access tracks and lanes. Many of the building groups feature the term "Park" as part of their name, reflecting the character of this distinctive cultural landscape.

A map dated 1859<sup>24</sup>, shows most of the land in this unit in the large scale ownership of Charles E Throsby, William Rowe (?) and E Shipley (?). Land flanking the now Illawarra Highway is shown as smaller unoccupied portions with small lots north of the Wingecarribee River. Present building clusters reflect two post 1859 settlement events. The first dates from the 1860s - 1890s resulting from intensification of occupation over the earlier broadacre pastoralism. This period of development and associated landscape patterns may be seen as the flowering of this yeoman landscape and traces of it remain with some buildings, tree patterns and paddocks. The remnant farmstead building groups represent an important phase in the making of this landscape.

The second settlement phase is modern, resulting from the sale of dairy farms and is marked by modern building clusters.

The earliest significant historic buildings are associated with Throsby Park and the site of the 1830's township of Bong Bong. Dr Charles Throsby took up a land grant of 1000 acres which Governor Macquarie named Throsby Park when he visited the area in 1820. Throsby had a hut on the land shown on a plan of 1829 (refer to Figure 3.4). The site of the hut is now occupied by the cottage in Church Lane recently acquired by the NSW Parks & Wildlife Services from Miss Rachel Roxburgh. Parts of the existing cottage structure date from the 1820s. Throsby Park house was built in 1837 by Charles Throsby's nephew, Charles Throsby, who inherited the estates when his uncle died in 1828. It is sited on a hill across the creek east of the hut site. (Refer to Plates 14 & 15 illustrating the original cottage and Throsby Park house.)



**FIGURE 3.4:** 1892 PLAN  
SHOWING THROSBY'S LAND & HUT  
(REPRODUCED FOR CLARITY)

Source: Archives Office (NSW): 1387 (B.712)

Throsby Park House



Site of Throsby's hut and subsequent cottage

Evidence of the original garden

**PLATE 14: Throsby Park House (1837) & the original cottage**



Large pine tree, probably part of the original planting

**PLATE 15: Throsby Park Cottage**

PLATE 16: Church Lane adjacent Throsby Park



Photograph:

C Tallents

The line of the Old South Road and the now Church Lane are marked on the 1829 map mentioned previously. The Old South Road's crossing of the river and ascent over the Mittagong Range was completed in 1821. Church Lane is located on the line of the access track to and from Throsby's hut.

Surveyor Robert Hoddle opened a line of road from Bong Bong to and through the Yarrawa

Brush country in 1830 via the ridge north of Kangaloon Road. This unit is bounded on most sides by the wider circulation routes of the Illawarra highway, the Old South Road, Kangaloon Road and Sheepwash Road. The Moss Vale - Port Kembla railway passes through the southern portion of this valley. Within the centre of this unit roads are infrequent and where present, they are narrow roads serving as access to the properties rather than through routes.

ORIGINAL ENTRY DRIVE  
ORNAMENTAL LAKE

CHURCH ROAD

INTRODUCED TREES CREATE  
DISTINCTIVE LANDSCAPE PATTERN

WINGECARRIBEE RIVER  
REMNANT EUCALYPT



PLATE 17: View from Throsby Park north-west



PLATE 18: Throsby Park House & Garden from the original Entry Drive (1837)

**PLATE 19:** Contrad Marten's "View of Throsby Park" c1836



**PLATE 20:** Present Day View



**Photograph:**

**C Tallents**



PLATE 21: Throsby Park setting



Photograph:

C Tallents

Historical associations are prominent in this cultural landscape unit and span three significant phases of development in the area, which are identified in Section 3.1 (Settlement Patterns) previously.

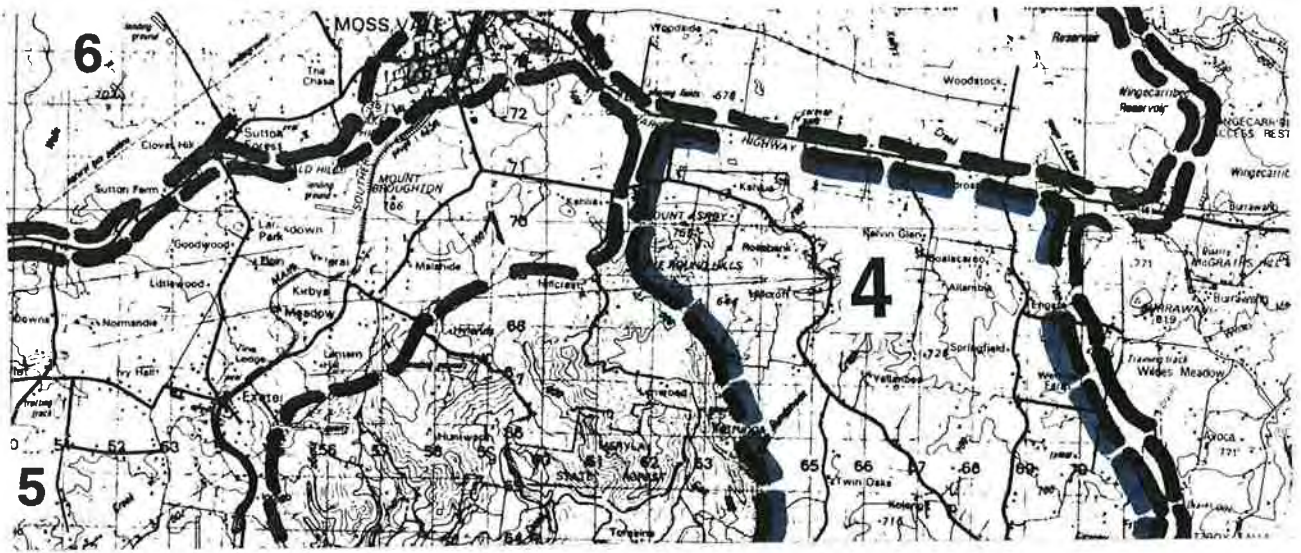
- \* Early Exploration & Settlement early 1800's-1840's
- \* Consolidation of Major Pastoral Holdings 1840-1860
- \* Post 1860's Rural Extensions.

The site of the township of Bong Bong and its remnant church and graveyard are cogent reminders of the past, as is Throsby Park. Both are linked to the earliest occupation of the area from circa 1819 onwards and associated with well known figures in history, for example Dr Charles Throsby and his nephew Charles Throsby at Throsby Park. The site of Throsby's hut, now marked by the later timber cottage (refer to Plates 16 & 17), and the view from it were noted by Governor Macquarie, who wrote in his diary

for Wednesday 18 October 1820:

*We crossed the Wingecarribee River by a good sound pebbly ford where the country opens into very rich pasturage.....We met a numerous herd of about 400 head of cattle belonging to Mr Throsby feeding in a fine rich meadow.....The grounds adjoining Mr Throsby's hut are extremely pretty, gentle hills and dales with an extensive rich valley in his front, the whole surrounding grounds having a very park-like appearance, being very thinly wooded.....*

The view thus described by Macquarie substantially remains intact. The only major alterations are the partial clearing of indigenous trees and the inclusion of introduced plantings. To the west of Church Lane development on the outskirts of Moss Vale predominates, characterised by rural residential subdivision. The current cultural conservation effort by the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service at Throsby Park includes restoration work on the house and garden reconstruction. Refer to Plate 19.



Landscape Pattern

Unit 4

PLATE 22: View from Yarrunga Road west showing pattern of dense indigenous tree cover and dominant windrows



Photograph:

C Tallents

The characteristics of this cultural landscape type are its moderately to steeply undulating topography with frequent creeks overlain with a

pattern of scattered eucalypts and substantial forests of eucalypts traversing the valley floor, slopes and hilltops. The tree groups are

augmented by pine windbreaks and plantings around homestead clusters. The landscape is predominantly dairying with farmstead clusters liberally dotted around a landscape which has a comforting and productive air. The overall spatial organisation is small scale, held by the folds of the

landform and tree groups into which the paddocks and farmsteads neatly sit. This mosaic, created by natural features and cultural components, is a vernacular landscape based on dairying activity dating from the late 1860-1881's.

## Building Clusters, Structures & Other Special Features

## Unit 4

**PLATE 23: Abandoned timber farmstead on Yarrunga Road**



**Photograph:**

**C Tallents**

Dairy farms are located along the roads and tracks emphasising the vernacular character of the landscape as an everyday, working landscape. Each cluster of farmstead, sheds and silos sits neatly in the folds of the landscape surrounded by paddocks. Remnants of late 1860-1880's

occupation of the land as dairying became a major local industry are apparent in deserted timber farmstead buildings, a specific example is sited on the western side of the Fitzroy Falls road immediately south of the valley, along which the major power line runs.

**PLATE 24:** Sheepwash Road showing Eucalyptus flanking the road**Photograph:****C Tallents**

The area was first crossed by Europeans in 1818 when Charles Throsby refers to camping at a creek at Yarranghaa (Yarrunga) (Jervis p 55). After selector occupation of the area starting in the 1860's movement of produce was mainly by packhorse. The existing modern roads through Yarrunga and Avoca sit comfortably in the undulating landscape.

**PLATE 25: Dense Vegetation retained with minimal clearing****Photograph:****C Tallents**

Settlement of this area commenced in the 1860's. In 1866 land in the locality was said to be exceedingly fertile, much of it taken up by free selectors under the Robertson Land Act. This landscape unit is geographically and historically an extension of the Robertson unit and parallels its historical settlement as a vernacular landscape. Patterns reflect its yeoman background from the 1860's free selection days with which it has

associations. The small scale nature of the properties similarly mirrors its 1860's occupation and the cultural landscape pattern clearly suggests links with the past as a vernacular landscape. It stands as an interesting contrast to unit 6 with a notable correlation between historical development and response to natural features, particularly in the relatively restrained nature of the clearing. The current landscape has definite picturesque qualities as a 'folk' landscape.

UNIT 6 SUTTON FOREST

KEY HISTORIC UNIT

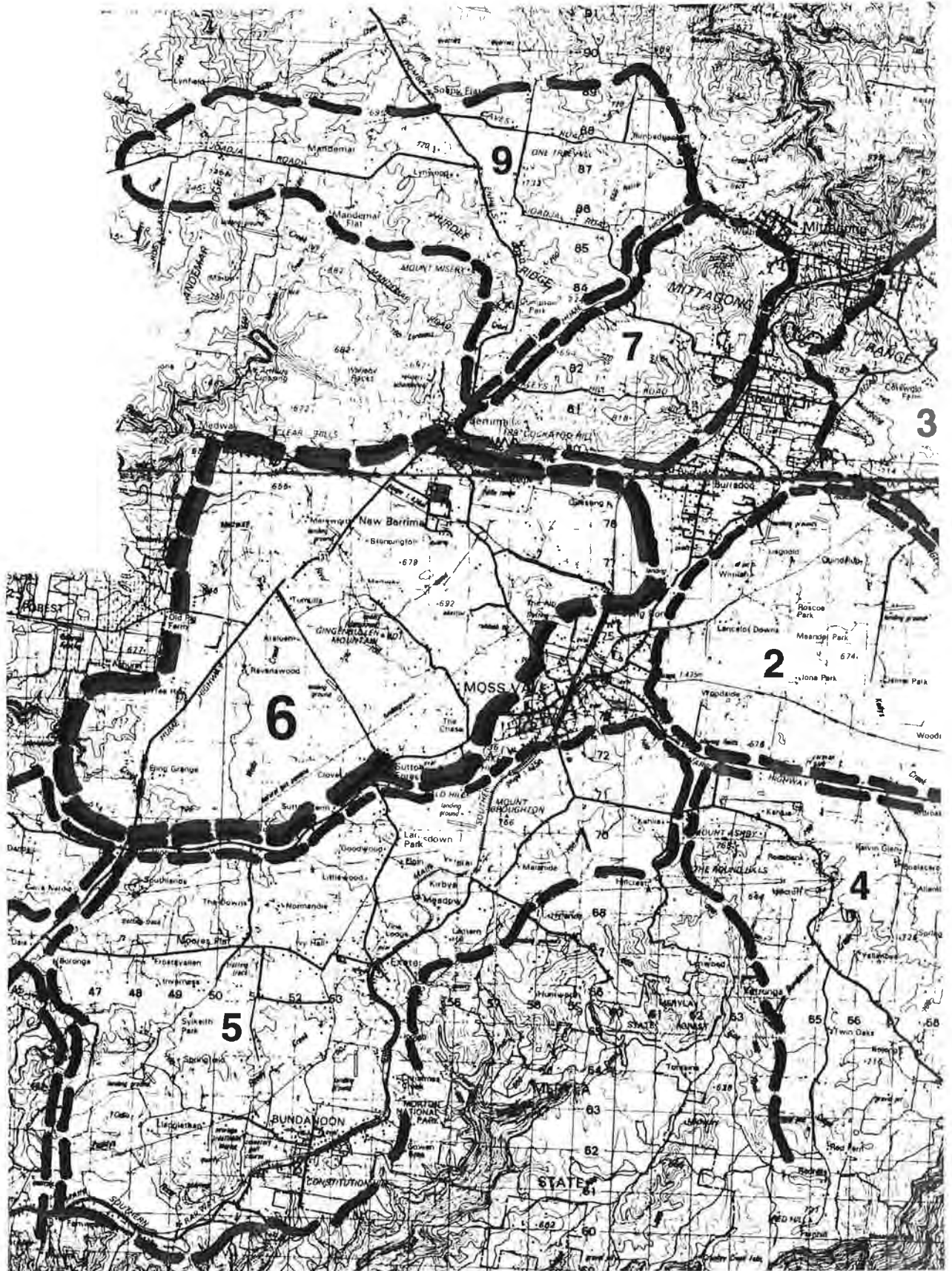


PLATE 26: View towards Moss Vale from Mt Gingenbullen footslopes at 'Whitley'



**Photograph:**

**C Tallents**

The combination of landform, vegetation and landuse result in a broad, open rolling landscape with remnant areas of Eucalypts on ridges and scattered eucalypt timber dotting the country. The broad plain at a general height of about 660 metres is overlooked by the dominant mass of Gingenbullen Mountain (800 metres) and drained by the Wingecarribee River, Medway Rivulet and Well's Creek. The unit abuts the town of Moss Vale along its eastern boundary but is separated from the town by a low north-south ridge extending from Blake's Hill. Blakes Hill, Bald Hill and Mt Broughton form identifiable landmarks to the south-east of this unit.

The extensive rolling landscape is complemented by the large scale paddocks associated with grazing, predominantly for beef cattle. Pastoral properties are extensive and homestead sites are marked by distinctive groups of introduced planting. In addition there are various late nineteenth century houses and gardens (referred to in the next section). A nucleus of the larger pastoral properties date from the 1820's period of settlement. Smaller homesteads, now disappeared, have their sites marked by groups of introduced tree plantings.

Pines, poplars, elms and other deciduous trees predominate as grand scale trees within the landscape, with windrows of pines and hedgerows of hawthorn forming distinct linear elements. The rivers and creeks are generally heavily flanked by dense willows and shrubs, being strongly identifiable against the open pasture as a meandering pattern on the landscape. The contrasting colour of the remnant eucalyptus woodlands is present within some of the hillslopes but is generally lacking from the open valleys and the isolated knolls.

The overall character is that of a rich and varied cultural landscape shaped by associations with early land grants and settlement of the region. Spatial organisation is large scale in relation to the rest of the study area. Variety in the landscape is a result of the range of tree species and the importance placed on plantings by landholders. There is a high degree of sense of stewardship of the landscape.

**PLATE 27: Hillview - summer residence of Governor in 1882****Photograph:****C Tallents**

The substantial homestead building clusters are a significant component of this pastoral landscape in harmony with its scale, richness and variety. Homesteads are discretely sited away from main access and through roads. The properties of Newbury, Oldbury and Mereworth are associated with the oldest land grants in the area dating from 1821. The buildings at Newbury and Oldbury date from early in the last century. The original house at Mereworth was demolished in 1918 (Jervis p19), while the existing one was built in 1968 and has a garden designed by Sorensen. Oldworth and Newbury have simple but significant gardens including the stately elms along the driveway at Newbury, which were amongst the earliest planted in the Sutton Forest district. Other significant building groups include Golden Vale, a neo-Georgian style stone complex dating from the 1860's with earlier outbuildings, including a former kitchen and stables. The site of an earlier house is adjacent to the stables.

Subdivision of the early extensive land grants in the latter half of the last century introduced a further layer of settlement and architectural style. Also in the late nineteenth century a number of large country houses were built by Sydney people including Whitley, Hillview and Summerlees. Each of these has a significant garden. Building was boosted by the leasing of Throsby Park by the Governor of NSW in 1865. An important landscape element at Whitley is the hawthorn hedges planted by the original owners. Equally important is the garden which has its origins in the late nineteenth century and which has been reconstructed and developed by the current owners, the Hawkins.

The township of Sutton Forest dating from the 1820's, and that of Berrima established as an alternative to Bong Bong in the 1830's, are part of this cultural landscape unit. Both have buildings of significance.



**PLATE 28: Canyonleigh Road****Photograph:****C Tallents**

The main circulation routes in this unit are historically important dating from the 1820's and 1830's onwards. The line of the Old South Road through Sutton Forest and the new line of road from the 1830's, surveyed by Major Mitchell and on which Berrima stands, are remnants from the past.

A notable feature of the many smaller roads and tracks is the peripheral tree planting or tree growth. A specific example is Golden Vale Road with its fringing eucalypts, which create a particular sense of place and rural character.

## PLATE 29: View from Hillview south west

Blakes Hill

Bald Hill

Mt Broughton



## Photograph:

C Tallents

Historical associations are particularly resonant in the making and presentation of this cultural landscape. There are strong associations with figures important in local history and the development of the area dating from the earliest land grants to people such as James Atkinson at Oldbury, John Nicholson at Newbury and others such as J Wright, W Hutchinson and H Badgery. The role of these people in the early development of the area is covered in Jervis' book. These men, for example, were involved in community activities such as annual ploughing matches held in the Sutton Forest - Bong Bong area from 1827 (Jervis p23). The significance of such activities is related to early ploughing and crop growing, particularly wheat and maize, which were important crops from the 1830's and 1840's onwards. Early in 1847 Sutton Forest was regarded as one of the finest wheat growing districts of the colony (Jervis p25). There are archaeological remains of early ridge and furrow ploughing on the lower hill slopes west of Sutton Forest and at Newbury. These run up the slopes and are particularly noticeable on the northern side of the Illawarra Highway. It is likely that they were associated with early wheat and maize crop cultivation.

The current cultural landscape is a montage or composite picture resulting from 170 years of occupation. There is a strong feeling of continuity and also participation in history. New patterns from the twentieth century including introduced tree planting, dams and improved pasture overlay nineteenth century patterns of development. Whilst the scene has changed in detail, the 1798 description from the top of Gingenbullen (then Mount Pleasant) can be appreciated:

*We got to the top of this hill, where we had a most delightful prospect of the country, and in my opinion one of the finest in the world. It certainly must be a pleasure to any man to view so fine a country<sup>25</sup>*

In 1820 Governor Macquarie referred to the Sutton Forest area with the view that

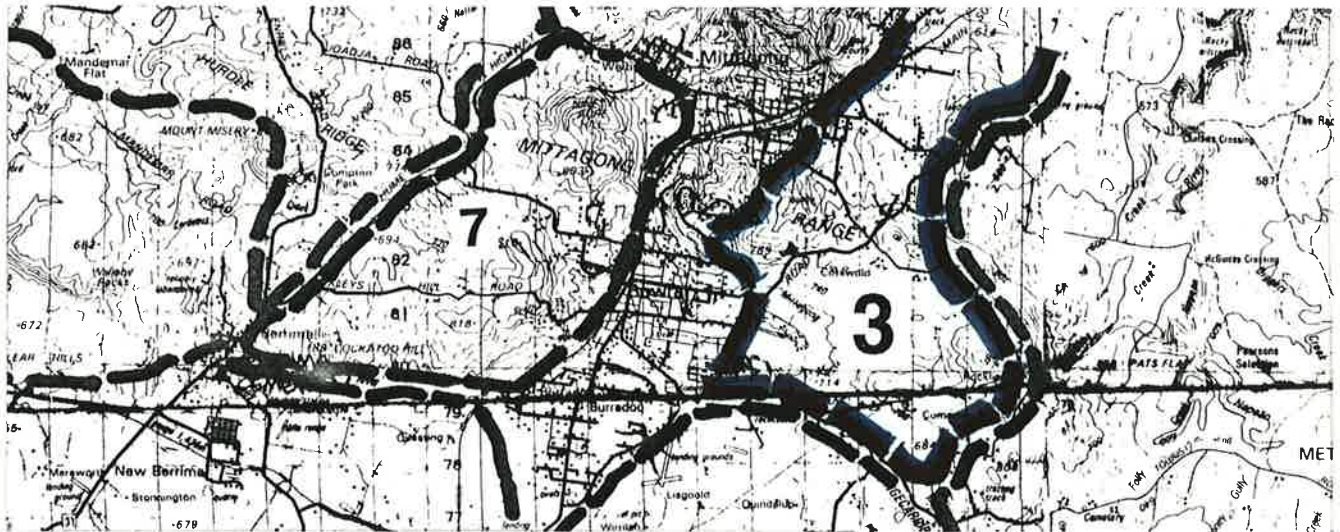
*The situation of the new settlers four miles south west of Throsby Park is particularly beautiful and rich, resembling a fine extensive pleasure ground in England.*

Shortly after this description, Macquarie named the area Sutton Forest.

REMAINING HISTORIC UNITS

UNIT 3

EAST BOWRAL



Landscape Pattern & Building Clusters \_\_\_\_\_ Unit 3

PLATE 30: View from The Old South Road over Mittagong



Photograph:

C Tallents

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE UNIT 2

PATTERN CREATED BY MIXED  
NATURAL AND CULTURAL VEGETATION

HEDGEROWS IN CHARACTER UNIT 6

MT GINGENBULLEN



PLATE 31: VIEW FROM  
MT GILBRALTAR  
TOWARDS BOWRAL

WELBY

RIDGES ENCLOSING MITTAGONG

MITTAGONG

COLO VALE



32: VIEW FROM  
MT GIBRALTAR  
TO MITTAGONG

**PLATE 33: The Old South Road through Burradoo****Photograph:****C Tallents**

Of historical significance is the line of the Old South Road, the original line of road through the area. This was constructed in 1819 after initial exploration by Hume, Throsby and Wild, who crossed the Mittagong Range investigating a route from Sydney to Jervis Bay in March 1818 (Jervis

pp60 and 61). This road now skirts to the east of Bowral and provides a very scenic crossing of the Mittagong range with long views to the north beyond Mittagong. The line of Hoddle's 1830 track from Bong Bong to Illawarra traverses the southern edge of this unit.

## PLATE 34: Chalkers Flat



Photograph:

C Tallents

From 1820 to about 1835 when the line of road was shifted to the west considerable traffic used the Old South Road. Stock were grazed on the Mittagong Range as early as 1821 and settlement at Lower Mittagong was the pioneer of the area (Jervis p78). At one stage Charles Sturt lived on a property on the Old South Road and the Australian of 17 March 1827 reported the building of an inn by George Cutler (Jervis p78).

William Chalker was the first settler, 10 May 1821, on the site known formally as Chalker's Flat. This is the area below the Great Southern Road on either side of Bong Bong Road. Chalker was principle overseer of Government stock, chief constable and pound keeper in the Cowpasture.

Retford Park built 1887, and Milton Park built in 1910, both have significant gardens which were developed in the Federation period. Milton Park was substantially redesigned in the 1930's.

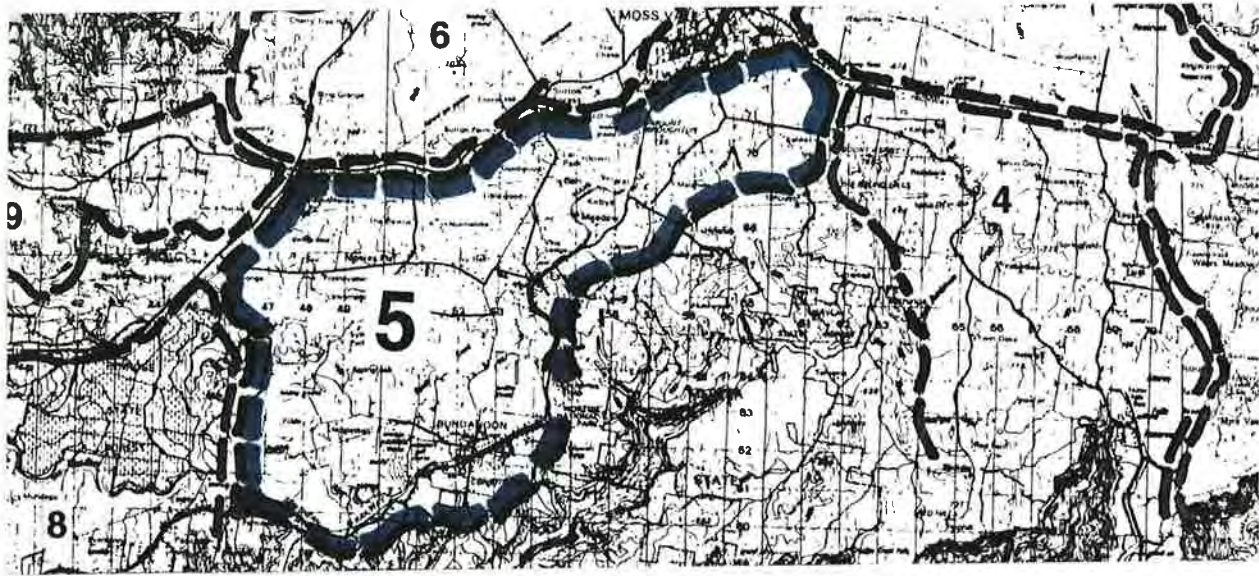
**PLATE 35:** Retford Park showing the pine plantings defining the paddocks and scattered associated buildings. The homestead is visible through the trees.



**Photograph:**

**C Tallents**





LANDSCAPE PATTERN

Unit 5

PLATE 36: Views over undulating countryside extensively cleared particularly on ridges



Photograph:

C Tallents

This moderately undulating hill and vale landscape has been extensively cleared and with the exception of the surrounds to the townships of Exeter and Bundanoon, does not carry extensive introduced planting. The resultant character is

open dairy country. Subdivision for hobby farms has taken place.

In the area north east of Exeter the landscape has been extensively cleared with the resultant pattern

of wide open valleys punctuated by extensively cleared ridges and hills such as Mt Broughton. The landuse is mixed dairy, beef and sheep. Subdivision for hobby farms is taking place.

undulating landscape still carries extensive areas of Eucalypts on hills and ridge. A distinctive element of this part of the unit is the pine shelter belts. The landscape pattern is rich and varied and creates an apt setting for Exeter and Bundanoon.

In the west and south of Exeter the more steeply

**Building Clusters, Structures & Other Special Features** \_\_\_\_\_ **Unit 5**

**PLATE 37: Modern Farmhouse structures**



**Photograph:**

**C Tallents**

The predominant rural character is that of modern buildings. The townships of Exeter and Bundanoon are notable as later nineteenth century developments; with Bundanoon attracting tourists in the late 1890's (Jervis p 140). The low railway viaduct at Exeter, built of brick, is a splendid piece of railway architecture. The area contains a number of interesting gardens including that of Invergowrie at Exeter, formerly belonging to the Yates family. The grounds at Invergowrie were laid out by Sorensen 1937/1938 and again in 1960 (Cavanough et al p68). The present house was designed by Geoffrey Loveridge in the 1930's.

small modest houses set on medium lots with many vacant lots between. The character is open and informal with varied setbacks. The town sits on a low rise with views to the valleys beyond in the east and west.

Most buildings are late 19th century and early 20th century structures of predominantly timber and some stone. Modern infilling with brick housing has occurred, much of which is out of character with the remaining Exeter. The modern tendency of building long low elevations parallel to the street is contrary to the traditional houses of Exeter with steeper pitched roofs of corrugated iron, generous timber fascias, hipped extensions and verandahs. Predominant colour is cream and white.

**Exeter**

**Key Village**

Set in a modified radial street layout from the railway station, Exeter is a scattered village of

**PLATE 38:** Exeter Post Office showing steep pitched roof and predominant white and cream colours



**PLATE 39:** Exeter Church St Aldans



**PLATE 40:** Modern Housing out of Character in Exeter



### Bundanoon

Bundanoon is a linear village developed along the railway line with modern grid subdivision to the south west and east around the railway station.

some stone. Trees of introduced species (pines, elms, deciduous) are present with Eucalypt forests surrounding to the east.

Housing consists of brick modern houses with the older buildings of white and cream timber and

**PLATE 41: Bundanoon Development parallels the Railway Line**



**PLATE 42: Scattered housing set on the hillslopes of Bundanoon**



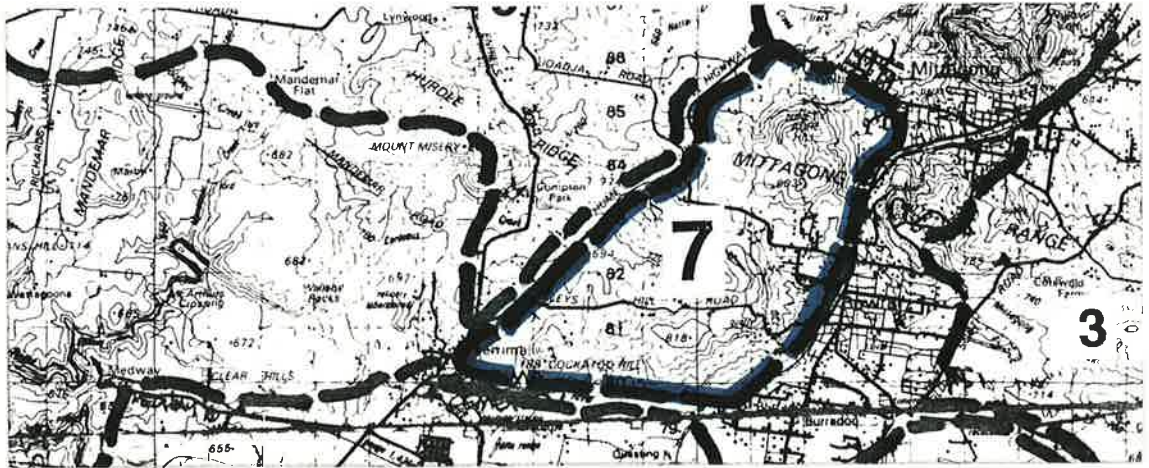
Photographs:

C Tallents

**PLATE 43: View towards Mt Gingenbullen over Unit 5****Photograph:****C Tallents**

The area was first explored by Europeans in 1818 with the party including Throsby, Wild, Meehan and Hume. Throsby refers to 'Bantanoon' in his journal of 29 March 1818 (Jervis p 10).

Early land grants were taken up by James Badgery in 1821 to be followed by his sons. Major rural settlement proceeded in the 1860's after the Robertson Land Act of 1861.



Landscape Pattern

Unit 7

PLATE 44: Eastern Section overlooking Bowral with Mt Gibraltar in the background

PLATE 45: Western Section showing large scale grazing properties



Photographs:

C Tallents

Topographically this is steeply sloping hill land in the east and undulating valley and plateau land in the west. It is part of the Mittagong Range overlooking Bowral and Mittagong to the east, the Wingecarribee River to the south and the Hume Highway on the western side of the unit. South of Centennial Road the land has been extensively cleared of native vegetation for grazing, mainly for beef cattle, with a resultant open landscape

pattern. Grazing properties are large scale. North of Centennial Road, on the steep land flanking Ninety Acre Hill, the native forest remains in contrast to the open land. The eastern edge of this unit adjoining Bowral and Mittagong is developed as rural residential, suburban subdivision, industry and various open space uses including the golf course at Craigieburn.

PLATE 46: Wingecarribee property set on the slopes overlooking Bowral



Photograph:

C Tallents

This landscape unit includes a number of historic houses and gardens including Wingecarribee and Bendooley. Craigieburn at the golf course is also an important historic building.

Wingecarribee property, with the first homestead built in 1816, was settled by John Oxley. The present house was built in 1854 by H M Oxley, John Oxley's son, to replace the first timber and slab cottage. The new house came in kit form from England including pine and cedar for floors and ceiling, oak for the sills and corrugated iron for roof and walls, which were clad metal plates

(Cavanough et al, p31). Remnants of an old garden survive, mainly as exotic trees, the driveway rose garden and remnants of an old vegetable garden (Cavanough et al, p33).

Bendooley property has links with early settlement of the 1820's. The three English oaks and several *Pinus* species in the front garden were planted by the Cordeaux family, who grazed the land owned by W. M. Moore. The oaks are reported to be amongst the oldest in the district (Cavanough et al, p34).

**PLATE 47: Oxley's Hill Road****Photograph:****C Tallents**

The Hume Highway marks the route of the realigned South Road of the 1830's, when the line east of Mittagong, as the main route, was abandoned in favour of the new line.

Oxley's Hill Road and Centennial Road cross this unit in an east west direction.



**PLATE 48:** Views from Unit 7 to Bowral showing the dense vegetation surrounding the town



**Photograph:**

**C Tallents**

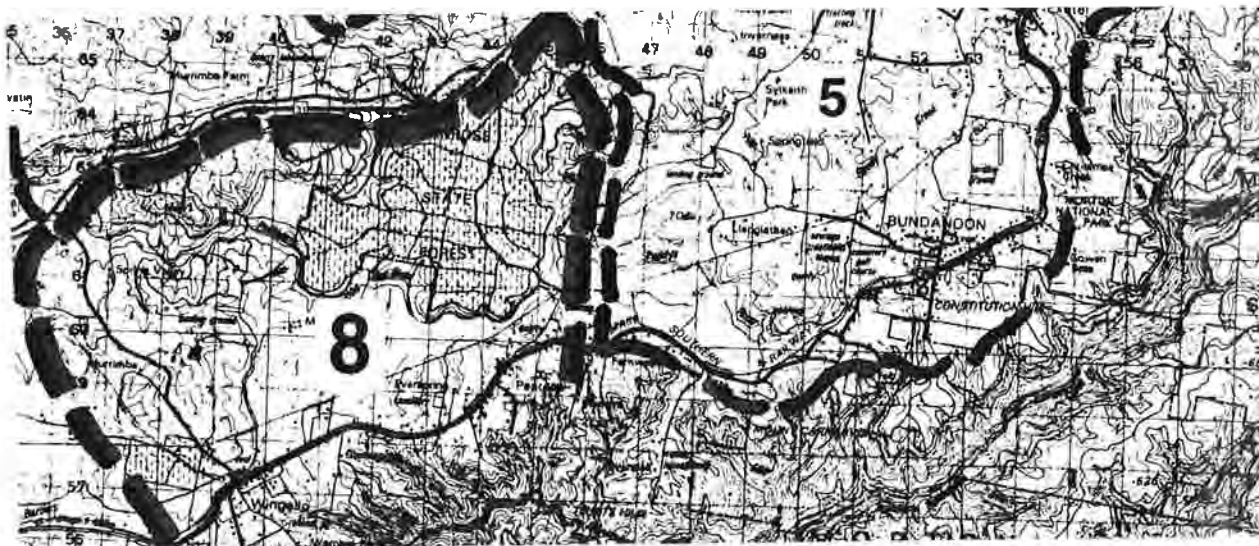
This cultural landscape has associations with the earliest European settlement of the region. It is connected with significant figures in history, including John Oxley and H M Moore. It was John Oxley who established the station he called Wingecarribee in 1816. The landscape and its history therefore possess strong associative values. The interpretative value in the eastern section is particularly strong demonstrating clear links to

early settlement, particularly John Oxley. Changes to the landscape, particularly through extensive clearing with little additional planting have occurred. Such an historical pattern is in contrast to that of Unit 6, for example.

In the western section the interpretive value is of a modern grazing landscape of a highly modified and structured landscape.

## UNIT 8

## PENROSE



## Landscape Pattern

## Unit 8

This undulating landscape of rolling hills has been extensively cleared of the original vegetation and is now predominantly pasture and introduced pine forests. This creates a strong contrasting pattern within the landscape with some remnant stands of low Eucalypts. Additional pine planting is taking place at present and will increase the impact of this contrasting foliage colour.

Paddock and fencing layout consists of small land holdings creating a small scale subdivision pattern.

The large vegetated area of Morton National Park borders the south eastern portion of this unit.

## Building Clusters, Structures &amp; Other Special Features

## Unit 8

Structures within the landscape are predominantly modern farmhouses and associated farm buildings present in clusters. The townships of Wingello and Penrose are located on the railway line and

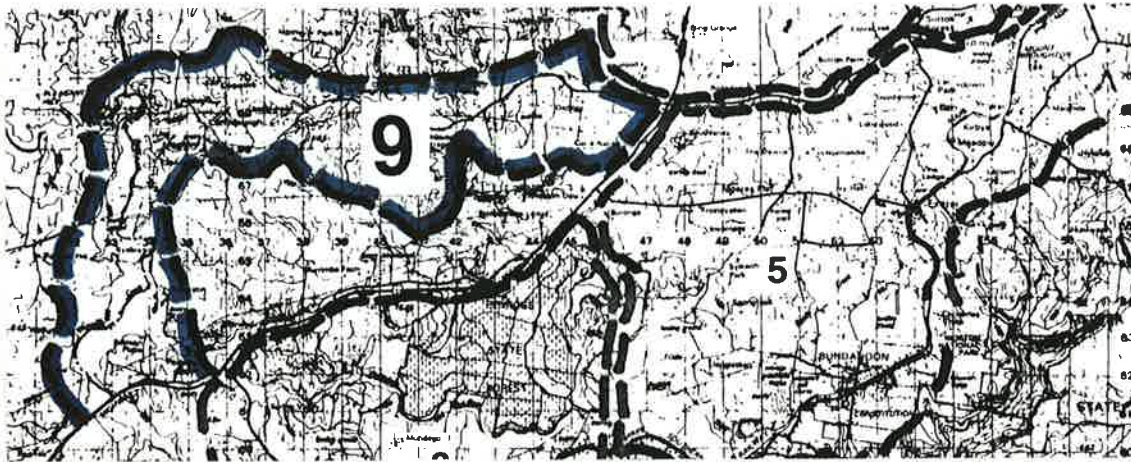
are small settlements serving the surrounding farmland. Buildings and structures are generally more prevalent along the railway line as scattered ribbon development.

## Historical Associations

## Unit 8

This area experienced most of its population following World War 1 when soldier settlement occurred. This would be responsible for the

settlement patterns and the small land holdings. The army connection is further emphasised by some of the place names.



Landscape Pattern

Unit 9

PLATE 49: Cleared pasture contrasts with Eucalypt forests on ridges and sideslopes



Photograph:

C Tallents

This unit is a moderately undulating landscape with cleared valley floors and slopes. Extensive remnant Eucalypt forests occur on the ridges and steeper slopes. Windrow trees of predominantly pines appear as linear elements in the landscape with few deciduous trees. The valley area

adjacent to Paddy's River has been cleared, along with the Long Swamp Creek valley.

The landscape pattern appears as one of pasture strongly contrasting with the vegetation groups.

**PLATE 50: Abandoned Timber Farmhouse along Paddys River****Photograph:****C Tallents**

Most of the structures within this unit are modern farm buildings. Some early settlement is evident along Paddys River where an 1890 (approximately) farmhouse of vertical slab timber can be found.

Farmhouses are generally dotted within the landscape adjacent to the circulation routes.

**PLATE 51: Inverary Road flanked by Eucalyptus avenue****Photograph:****C Tallents**

Inverary Road and Canyonleigh Road form the major circulation routes within this unit, with both roads becoming unsealed further into the

unit. Inverary Road has a charming character with Eucalyptus flanking it on both sides in parts. These should be protected.

**PLATE 52: Evidence of early mining illustrated by remnant mullock heaps and races**

**Photograph:**

**C Tallents**

This cultural landscape has early associations with mining. The alluvial flats contain the remnants of races and mullock heaps, indicative of mining.

### 3.3 TOWNS AND VILLAGES

#### Introduction

Urban settlement in Wingecarribee is characterised by numerous small scale towns and villages which are dominated by the main urban centres of Moss Vale, Bowral, Mittagong, Bundanoon and Berrima. The urban centres have developed due to the complex interrelationship between natural and cultural influences ranging from the barrier of dense vegetation of the Yarrarra Brush to government policies of selection and soldier settlement which encouraged the establishment of small service centres. The development of the Great South Road and the Great Southern railway were dominant influences. Social fashion also played a part in the development of the area as a favoured location for country retreats.

Major cultural influences which have played an important role in shaping the characteristic features of urban settlements in Wingecarribee, are referred to in the discussion of historic context in Part Two of this report. In terms of the thematic structure outlined in the historic context, main influences can be described in relation to the following themes:

- *North-south road linkages*, particularly the building and subsequent re-alignments of the Great South Road, which encouraged the development of settlements at major crossroads (for example, Sutton Forest) and at places along coaching routes (for example, Mittagong, Berrima).
- *East-west road linkages*, particularly the links to the Illawarra.
- *The Great Southern Railway*, providing the impetus for further growth of existing centres such as Moss Vale and Mittagong and encouraging the development of settlement at numerous railway sidings and depots (for example, Penrose, Wingello, Yerrinbool).
- *Growth of towns and villages to service rural settlement*, both the formally created government towns (for example, Berrima and Sutton Forest); the villages which often began as private sub-divisions initiated by major industries (for example, Fitzroy (Welby), Nattai and New Sheffield at Mittagong and

Joadja); and the 1860's development of Robertson, Kangaloon and Burrawang.

- *Tourist destinations*, particularly during Victorian times, and several periods of the 20th century which developed to the west at Wombeyan in the east at Fitzroy Falls, in key locations such as Bundanoon and at country hotels and residences scattered throughout the area.

- *Town and Country estates and retreats*, a dominant influence in shaping the rural and town landscapes, the built environment and the social character of the core area of the Southern Highlands.

- *Utilisation of mineral and water resources* which has resulted in the development of special purpose towns (for example, the Joadja settlement) and the further development of new or existing centres to serve the residential needs of the workforce for the extractive industry throughout Wingecarribee in the 20th century (for example, New Berrima).

#### Approach to Assessment

The main focus of the heritage study survey and assessment was on rural cultural landscapes. Urban areas were included according to their relationship to the rural landscape as a whole. In the previous section (3.2 Historic Rural Landscape), some of the villages and small towns of Wingecarribee are referred to in the overall landscape context. Some of these settlements, because of their setting and integrity of their overall form as evidence of their history of development, are highlighted in the assessment of the rural landscape in which they are located. Of these urban centres, other aspects of their built form such as subdivision boundaries, key buildings and groups of buildings, circulation patterns and tree planting have also survived to tell the story of the principal themes in the history of development of the town or village.

Other towns and villages in Wingecarribee also have evidence of the history of their development. In the main, however, this is exhibited mainly through individual items such as churches, school buildings, hotels, shops and individual houses which are located among more recent buildings and structures.

The coverage in this section is limited due to the resources available for the study. Further survey and assessment is necessary to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the heritage attributes of the towns and villages of Wingecarribee, particularly the small service centres and hamlets in the southern and northern parts.

### **Key Towns and Villages**

Settlements where the history of their development is still evident, are highlighted in a previous section of the report (Section 3.2).

A description of the main physical features, the history and an assessment of the heritage attributes follows for the selected urban entities or townscape precincts and streetscapes which were included in the study. They are:

- BERRIMA
- BOWRAL
- MITTAGONG
- MOSS VALE



## BERRIMA Historic Village

For nearly two decades Berrima has been formally acknowledged as a historic village following its listing by the National Trust in the mid-1970's and recognition by the Australian Heritage Commission. A subsequent Heritage Study was commissioned<sup>26</sup> and this provided a framework for conservation activities initiated by local community groups, private owners and the Wingecarribee Council.

Berrima's history of development reflects some of the key themes in Wingecarribee's history and the history of south-eastern Australia.

*"Mitchell's Great South Road, convict built, sweeps on past (Sutton Forest) to reach Berrima, which he planned to be the capital city of the south-west in 1830. There was a good water supply, and a large gaol was built in 1839 and a court house in 1841. The town made little progress: there was little good land about it, and the settlers on the plains preferred Goulburn as a district centre. Government gave way in 1855, and while Goulburn flourished, Berrima became a road town with many inns. It was revitalised in the twentieth century by a coal mine and cement works, and the renewal of road traffic with the motor car, and, now bypassed by the main highway, serves a heritage pilgrimage town, its old landscape preserved because it was also bypassed by the railway."<sup>27</sup>*

(State Historical Guidelines)

The existing conservation area includes the complete township and its attendant visual catchment area as defined on the sketch map (See Figure 3.5). This includes all the land up to the ridgeline as seen from the bridge over the Wingecarribee River.

The village is sited in the Wingecarribee River Valley. Surveyor Hoddle's original layout of allotments and reserves is still evident with its standardised grid pattern and open market place. Typically, allotments are long and narrow with buildings close to the road. Its built form consists of modest Georgian style cottages in stone, brick and timber interspersed with larger 19th and 20th century residences, commercial and administrative buildings as well as churches and special features such as the Berrima Gaol (now the Berrima Training Centre). While the predominant architectural style is Georgian from both the colonial and Victorian periods, there is also a substantial representation of the Federation period reflecting development which occurred in response to the gaol functions.

The appearance of the village and its setting is enhanced by a diversity of mature tree plantings which vary in colour and texture providing a contrast with the rural surroundings. The Market Place park has mature specimens of *Pinus radiata*, *Cedrus* and *Cupressus* species that provide a strong focal point for the village. Stands of mature *Cupressus* behind the Surveyor General Inn and edging the river, help to define the edge of the village. The entry to the town from the north is marked by the transition from indigenous vegetation to introduced tree plantings. Many gardens have mature tree and shrub specimens which provide attractive settings for the buildings, but which are often post WWII planting.

The earlier pattern of the historic fabric of Berrima which remained in the 1970's is now being overlain by a new phase of development which is characterised by:

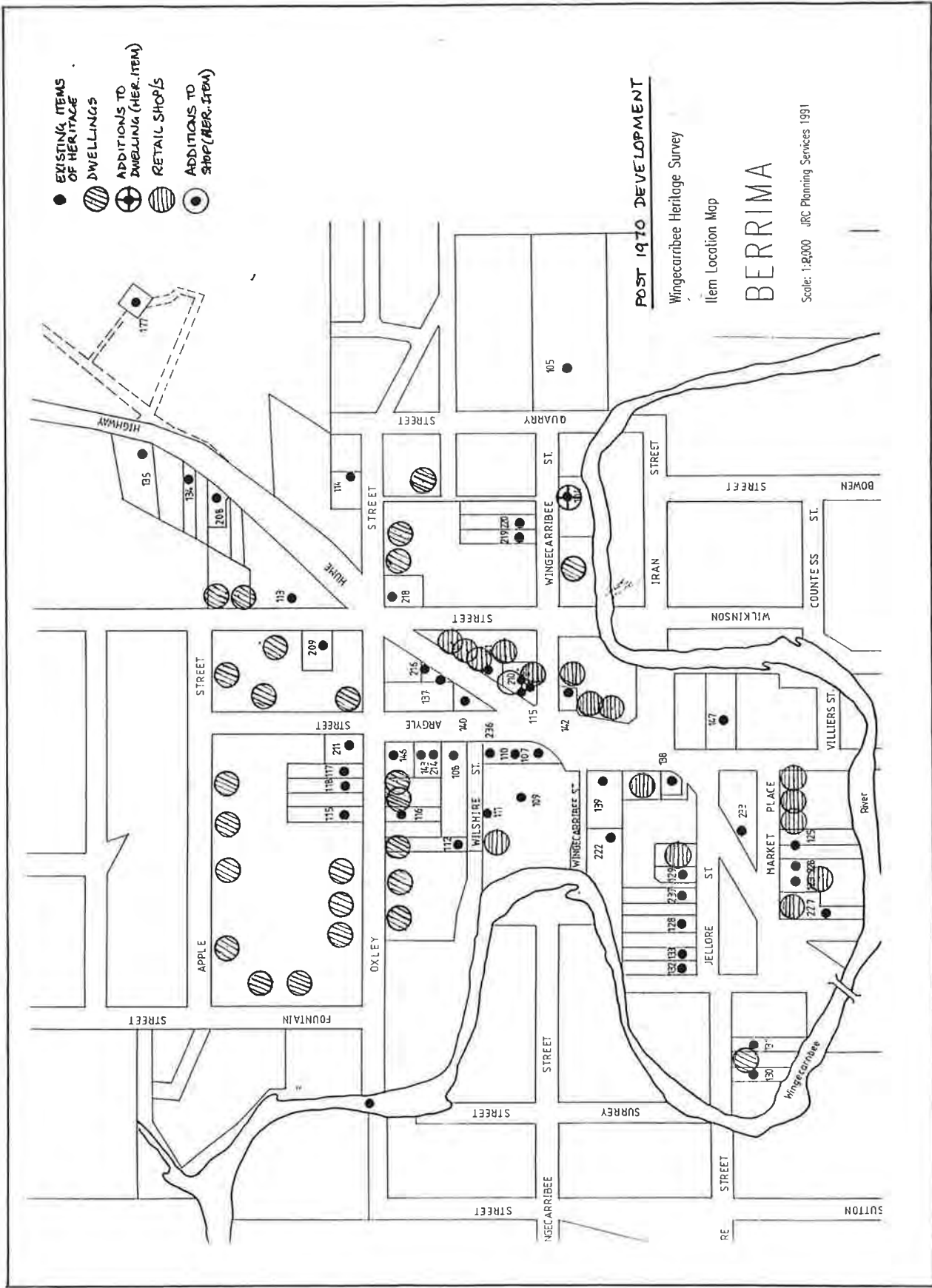
- buildings which have been restored and adapted for new tourist/arts and crafts/antiques related uses;
- new commercial buildings of a larger scale than the premises/houses which have previously occupied the sites; and,
- infill development of commercial and residential buildings on previously vacant sites or to the rear of existing buildings on allotments.

The extent of additions and alterations to the building stock in Berrima is shown in Figure 3.6 which follows.

The effects of these changes are eroding what has been the perceived heritage significance of Berrima in the 1970's and 1980's which was seen as one of the few intact villages in the State which demonstrate the characteristics of 19th century town development from the period of convict settlement to the end of the Victorian era. Its original layout and town limits were largely intact and the surviving stock of residential, commercial and administrative buildings along which churches and major buildings associated with the Gaol, provide evidence of the role of Berrima as an early colonial administrative centre and a town which served generations of travellers on the South Road. The town is also considered significant as a collection of largely intact early buildings which are predominantly Georgian in style, the value of which is reinforced by the high



FIGURE 3.5: BERRIMA CONSERVATION AREA  
Source: Wingecarribee LEP 1989



**FIGURE 3.6: HERITAGE ITEMS AND NEW BUILDINGS (POST 1970)**

quality of the surrounding natural environment and plantings within the town. These heritage attributes of Berrima are recognised by visitors from all parts of Australia who enjoy the character and history of the town which has become a cultural tourism attraction.

Cultural tourism has created its own momentum and serious issues now need to be clearly addressed. Matters which should be considered include:

- whether the spaces created by vacant parcels of land and the siting of buildings and long narrow dimensions of existing allotment are retained. The pattern created by these spaces is important as evidence of the optimistic attitude which prevailed when the early colonial towns were surveyed and the period of stagnation which meant that Hoddle's grand visions were not realised;
- whether new development incrementally overwhelms the existing scale and form of Berrima's historic buildings; and,

- whether new buildings "mimic" the old, thus creating a false sense of what Berrima was as a historic town while creating a new character based on an historic "look".

- whether the streetscape has been compromised as a result of recent architectural trends to minimise building setback and maximise building frontage. Such trends have developed in response to the changing nature of retail practice.

The dilemma lies in the fact that the significant heritage qualities which generated interest in the village, have resulted in a revitalised town economy and a change in the demographic and social structure of Berrima which is reshaping those very qualities.

**PLATE 53: Harpers Mansion, Berrima**



Photograph:

J Colleran

## BOWRAL \_\_\_\_\_ Historic Town

Situated approximately 10km east of Berrima, the town of Bowral was established on part of H.M. Oxley's 5,000 acre run, "Wingecarribee", when the property was subdivided in the 1860's following the arrival of the Southern Railway. The subdivisions were in the vicinity of the present Bong Bong and Bowral Streets, in a layout in accordance with Darling's Grid. Block sizes were all around 330 x 66 feet. More town expansion occurred to the north of this area on the completion of the railway line. Many early Bowral houses were built of wood slates and stringy bark and of modest size. Hotels were built in Bong Bong Street to cater for employees on the railway line.

*"The town, like Moss Vale, benefited from farming developments to the east, but also became a resort town for Sydneysiders seeking a more temperate climate. Large country houses were built on large areas of land planted with English trees, and such prominent Sydney businessmen as S Hordern, W Angas and L J Campbell had their country residences here. The town became a municipality in 1886 with 1,200 people, a gasworks was built in 1889, and a reticulated water supply in 1908"<sup>28</sup>*

The gardens, street trees and buildings of the town of Bowral have a quality and character which has been long recognised by visitors to the area and by the many people who choose the town as a desirable place to live whether in retirement or as a country retreat. The town contains a number of discrete precincts which contain particular combinations of plantings and built form which reflect the history of development of the town.

Some of these precincts form part of the Bowral Conservation Area, the boundaries of which are shown on Figure 3.7 which follows. Three distinct precincts reflect the different periods of growth that Bowral experienced from the mid-1800's through to the early twentieth century. Each precinct has a distinctive character and when combined they produce a cohesive townscape particularly to the north of Bowral Street.

### 1. *The Northern Residential Precinct:*

contains an harmonious collection of residential dwellings, principally single storey, from the late Victorian period and early twentieth century. It contains both small timber and brick cottages in Victoria and Woodbine Streets and more substantial

dwellings in Merrigang Street. The breakup of larger properties and the slow development of the area has led to a mixture of architectural styles and scale. The wide streets dotted with street plantings and the Mittagong Creek reservation combine to produce a village atmosphere. This precinct was developed before the majority of the southern precinct.

### 2. *The Central Civic Precinct:*

situated along the north-south axis of Bendooley Street, this precinct contains several fine civic buildings (Courthouse, Town Hall, Children's Library, Municipal Library), churches and a primary school. These civic and community uses are a focus for the civic life of Bowral separate from the commercial area. There is a fine mixture of styles from the high Victorian and Federation periods.

### 3. *The Southern Residential Precinct:*

contains a number of residential dwellings of the Federation period with large allotments that have been developed during the twentieth century. The southern end of Bendooley Street provides a mixture of styles in a mature landscape setting essential to the character of Bowral as a rural retreat. In Edward and Church Streets, the houses provide interesting examples of villas from the 1920's-40's in mature garden settings. The southern precinct is important for the landscape elements provided by both public and private plantings.

The Bowral Urban Conservation Area as a whole is significant as an urban cultural landscape which provides evidence of each phase of major development of the town of Bowral. Each precinct has a different character and presents different aspects of town foundation and growth. Periods represented range from its establishment as a private town in the 1860's through to the interwar period. Functions represented include residential, civic, religious and educational. While the nature of the buildings and the gardens, public and private, illustrate the importance of Bowral as a 'rural retreat' for wealthy Sydneysiders, associations with other community groupings are also represented in more modest vernacular streetscapes which are included in the northern part of the Area.

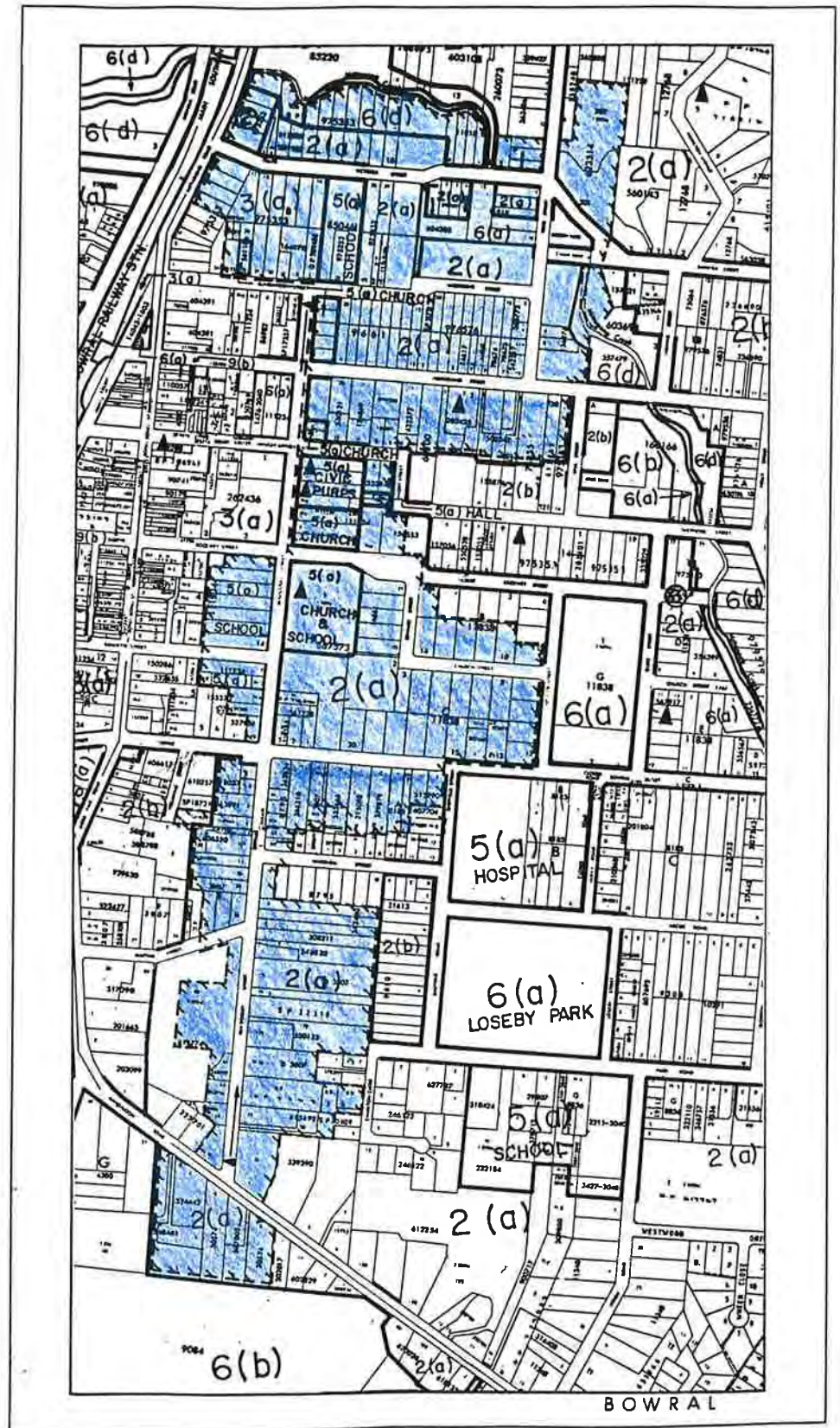


FIGURE 3.7: BOWRAL URBAN CONSERVATION AREA

Source: Wingecarribee LEP 1989

In addition to the historical attributes the precincts in the Area, possess aesthetically significant streetscapes which, considered as a whole, reveal the harmonious townscape character which is highly valued by the local community and visitors alike. Many architectural 'gems' and gardens of note are also located within this Area.

A number of important clusters of buildings are to be found within the Conservation Area. They include the St Jude's Anglican Church Group, Bendooley Street, and civic buildings opposite Corbett Gardens in Bendooley Street and a group of streetscapes in the vicinity of Victoria Street. Statements of significance were prepared for each of these groupings as a whole in addition to the completion of individual assessments. There are also many individual buildings of architectural excellence which were observed but not surveyed during the study.

Also beyond the scope of the study, were comprehensive surveys of:

- the commercial area;
- house, gardens and street trees in north-west Bowral;
- Burradoo which is characterised by substantial country retreats with a range of architectural styles and a distinctive streetscape character unlike other sections of Bowral;
- many substantial houses and gardens along Merrigang Street to the east and in associated areas to the north and south; and,
- industries associated with agricultural products.

**PLATE 54: Burradoo residential area**



Photograph:

J Colleran

## MITTAGONG \_\_\_\_\_ Historic Town

Mittagong, unlike Bowral and Berrima, has not been given the recognition it warrants as a town which has retained a diverse range of historic evidence of its past development.

Mittagong was situated on what was originally an alternative route to Mitchell's Great South Road. This route ran under the Gib mountain from Mittagong by way of Bowral and Moss Vale to Goulburn. (The railway, via the Gib tunnel, also took this route after reaching Mittagong in 1867.) Thus Mittagong grew as a road village with two inns in the late 1830's. It was a resting point for travellers particularly when early roads were nearly impassable and often subject to bushranging. Its population grew substantially when the road from Bargo came through. This role was reinforced in the 20th century with the development of the Hume Highway.

The settlement that grew in a haphazard manner acquired increased importance with the discovery of local coal and iron ore. Using limestone from Marulan, the Fitzroy blast furnace and brickworks were set up in 1849 and:

*"hopes were high for a colonial source of iron. This venture faltered, and was wound up in 1857. There were several subsequent revivals, in 1863-66, in 1869 when bar and platemaking were thriving, and from 1876-7 when cylinders were made for the bridge at Gundagai. In 1888 William Sandford took up the lease, but failed to make it work and moved on briskly to Lithgow. Perhaps it might have succeeded with an import tariff, but it never took on the scale of the Lithgow works, and the site remains are scanty."*<sup>29</sup>

Mittagong is a unusual example of a town whose growth and contours were significantly affected by an ironworks in the nineteenth century. The town consists of three disparate sections (see Figure 3.8), together with a scatter of settlements along the Great South Road. What is now known as Welby was a government town called Fitzroy, duly laid out by official surveyors in 1865. Next door to Welby, on the east, was the large land holding of Fitzroy Iron Works, where the first Australian iron-ore had been smelted in 1849 and which worked, either smelting ore or processing scrap iron, up to 1886. In 1865, just as the government town was proclaimed, the Fitzroy Iron Company developed the area to the east and north of the highway as a company town called New Sheffield. The spacious portions on this new town were available for workers' or managerial housing: a

large square was laid aside for recreation (now the bowling club) and a handsome Wesleyan church was erected in 1865 in Albert Street for the Methodist workmen. Unlike Fitzroy (Welby), New Sheffield was arranged in streets 20 metres broad alternating with lanes 10 metres broad running east-west; the north-south cross roads were all 20 metres broad. This created a townscape very different from most country towns and strikingly different from Welby or from the later much closer sub-division of Nattai between the Great South Road and the railway.

The link joining the separate colonial elements of Fitzroy, New Sheffield and Nattai was the Iron Works, with its blast furnace at the east end and the foundries and rolling mills at the west end of the large site. The foundations of the blast furnace area, which is urgently in need of interpretative signage and proper archaeological examination, remain.

Rock-cut footings for the winding-engine which, in 1873-4, hauled coal up from Nattai Gorge through a short tunnel to the crest of Mount Alexandra and then down, through the northern part of New Sheffield, to feed the blast furnace and its boilers can be seen at the tope of Mt Alexandra. At Mittagong Public School there is a Fitzroy lion, one of the fifty celebratory castings made when Governor Fitzroy visited Mittagong in 1850. The small size of the casting is a telling reminder of how small the output of native iron was in the 1850's.

New Sheffield is of considerable interest. Because the sale advertisement of 1884 shows the location of existing buildings, it is possible to distinguish between the early period of the ironworks town and the late Victorian development. But there are many aspects of orientation (why do some houses elect to look on to lanes rather than streets?), of policy (why are there so many consolidated portions?), of land-use (the Catholic church acquired two large blocks after the 1884 sale, the Presbyterians a smaller area), of land denied by the artificial Lake Alexandra, which occupies eight of the original company rectangular half-blocks. One house has cast-iron verandah columns stamped 'W BRAZENALL': these were presumably among the very last castings made in 1889-91 from local iron-ore by a Mittagong engineer called Brazenall. It would be very interesting to know if there are any other examples of Brazenall's work in the town today,