

National Trust of Australia (ACT)

CITATION

Uriarra Valley Rural Cultural Landscape¹

NOMINATED BY:

National Trust of Australia (ACT)

LOCATION OF PLACE:

Situated to the west of the Canberra. Bounded to the northeast by the Molonglo River, the northern boundaries of Blocks 21 and 47, Pig Hill crest, thence by ridges at or above 770 metres to Dowling Hill, thence by ridges 700 metres or above to Mt. McDonald crest and ridges of 500-600 metres to the north of Mt. Stromlo, crossing Uriarra Road at the junction of Coppins Crossing Road to the crossing on the Molonglo.

FEATURES INTRINSIC TO THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PLACE:

The features intrinsic to the heritage significance of the place are:

- The Valley as a whole (within the defined boundaries) as a cultural landscape in which native environmental elements are a major point.
 - The individual elements (listed below & in appendices A, B & C) having particular natural and cultural heritage values.
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Uriarra Valley is a rich cultural landscape of striking beauty set against the backdrop of the Australian Alps. It reflects several hundred million years of land formation, and is an important habitat area for flora and fauna. Individually and collectively, the cultural remains within their proper settings express the diversity and reality of the human occupation of the ACT from Aboriginal utilization of the Valley to the present times. The Valley is a key element of the unique landscape setting of the national capital.

It is a riverine landscape of strong botanical and zoological importance to the ACT and the south east of Australia. It has important geological, geomorphological and aesthetic elements, containing part of the Murrumbidgee River and Molonglo River and their corridors, Stony Creek Reserve and Swamp Creek Reserve.

The Valley has strong links with the past life and economic subsistence of the local Aboriginal groups and with the Bogong Moth hunters from the wider region of New South Wales.

It reflects the history of administrative and political changes which affected the pastoral industry from European settlement to the present day in NSW, Australia and the ACT and the physical problems affecting it. It reflects the history and science of forestry in the region.

¹ The major source of this nomination comes from Baskin, J., Hobbs, R., & Riboust, P. 1996 *Uriarra-Stromlo Heritage Study*, Report prepared for the National Trust of Australia (ACT), Canberra ACT.

The Valley is of social importance because of its sense of community and links with early settlers in the ACT region and the larger pastoral areas of New South Wales.

It is part of the National Open Space System and is valued for its unstructured and family recreational uses.

The Valley has value as a teaching site for riverine, botanical and geological features including Walker and Uriarra Volcanics and more widely for the physical, Aboriginal, pastoral industry and forestry industry.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:

In accordance with s.54(1) of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991*, the following requirements are identified as essential to the conservation of the heritage significance of the place. These requirements are prepared to implement the following conservation policy for the place:

Any action relating to these requirements is development for the purposes of the Act and will require approval prior to undertaking the activity. To undertake development without such approval may be an offence.

1. Requirements relating to the Valley and its specific elements.

- 1.1 The Uriarra Valley Cultural Landscape area shall continue as a large scale pastoral and forestry area, particularly the larger properties of Fairlight, Huntly, and Woodstock together with the currently gazetted forestry areas.
- 1.2 The forestry areas should be confined to current areas and not be further extended.
- 1.3 Small scale rural pursuits such as horticulture or viticulture which would alter the visual impact should only be allowed in the small enclosed 'valley-within-valleys' to the north.
- 1.4 The feasting rock at Uriarra shall be protected from any inappropriate intrusions such as agricultural use, new buildings or screening from visual access.
- 1.5 An archaeological survey and assessment of Aboriginal and European sites be undertaken to form the basis of a cultural management plan for these elements.
- 1.6 Construction of new landscape and built elements in the Valley shall only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the new elements do not adversely affect the character of the place in accordance with the principles laid down in the Natural Heritage Charter and the Burra Charter.
- 1.7 The Murrumbidgee and Molonglo River Corridors be managed in accordance with management plans specific to each corridor.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

In assessing this place for the interim Heritage Places Register, the Council recommends that the following actions and activities should be undertaken which will enhance the heritage values of the place. They are made as recommendations and have no legal effect.

The Uriarra Valley is to be managed as a rural & cultural landscape.

It is recommended that:

1. A conservation management plan of the Uriarra Valley be developed which:

- protects the geological, flora and fauna resources of the Valley
 - protects the Aboriginal associations with the area
 - protects the area as a large scale pastoral and forestry area without further loss of cultural or archaeological values
 - continues to enable the valley to contribute to the 'bush' setting of the Capital
 - monitors the conditions of the Murrumbidgee River Corridor Management Plan (1998) to ensure it meets heritage objectives outlined in the Burra Charter
 - reviews the condition of the Lower Molonglo River Draft Management Plan (1998) to ensure it meets heritage objectives outlined in the Burra Charter
 - ensures that the cultural and native ecological values of the area be presented to the public in a way that does not compromise those values.
1. Consultations take place with the NSW Government and the Yarralumla Shire to preserve the nature of the valley and its visual boundaries across the political boundary.
 2. Further investigation into Aboriginal sites in the Valley be undertaken, particularly into the 'feasting rock' at Uriarra homestead and at Stony Creek below the area already surveyed in the upper reaches. A specific archaeological investigation of the feasting rock will establish the precincts for it.
 3. Farm management plans be reviewed to ensure they protect the heritage fabric of each property.
 4. Under NCOSS the ACT Government shall continue to offer low capital structure recreation opportunities, confined to the current areas along the Murrumbidgee River, Uriarra Crossing, Sturt Island and Pig Hill. Recreation in the area shall be confined to recreation which uses the natural features and does not require physical infrastructure other than the type of limited facilities now at Sturt and at picnic and swimming reserves.
 5. That a detailed survey be undertaken of the church and post office sites on Uriarra.
 6. That the Uriarra Valley Rural Cultural Landscape be developed as an interpretative and educational area for the history of pastoral and forestry industries of the region, Aboriginal economic activities, riverine ecology, and the soldier settlement period in the ACT.
 7. That the Uriarra Valley Rural Cultural Landscape be protected in part from the build up of commuter traffic by the development of other crossings closer to Canberra, such as Cusack's Crossing on the Murrumbidgee River at Parkwood.

DOCUMENT HISTORY:

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| 1. | (date) | Draft citation considered by ACT Heritage Council Meeting (number) |
| 2. | (date) | Draft citation released for public comment. |
| 3. | (date) | Revised citation for ACT Heritage Council Meeting (number) |
| 4. | (date) | Gazetted in an interim Heritage Places Register |
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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

I. The Valley

The Uriarra Valley is situated to the west of the city of Canberra and forms part of the lower Cotter River catchment. The Valley is a landscape of strong physical and cultural importance to the ACT region in terms of its geological, geomorphological floral and faunal history, its connection with Aboriginal history before and after European settlement, and of the development of the pastoral and forestry industries.

Most of the valley lies within the Australian Capital Territory apart from the northern extremity which extends into the Shire of Yarralumla in New South Wales. It is a broad bowl of a valley with small valleys and enclosures within the larger open space. It is an undulating and rhythmic landscape. The repetitive low hills that form the larger part of the cleared land of the broad valley are repeated in the enveloping timbered slopes and ridges of the surrounding ranges. There are sweeping views across the valley to the skyline of the surrounding mountains and hills. Uriarra Road on the ridge running from Mt. Stromlo to the confluence of the Murrumbidgee and Molonglo Rivers provides a viewing point for the valley.

The landscape has several distinctive elements - pastoral, native forest stands, riverine environments and a mountainous background. Forest plantations, chiefly of *Pinus radiata* envelope hills to south and west. Forestry plantations began in 1915 at Mt. Stromlo and in the valley and on the ridges in 1926. These plantations make a distinctive contribution to the landscape with their sharp profiles and dark green colour. The Forestry Settlement is situated within a clearing in pine forest, which extends well into the valley. Farm buildings and homesteads, dams and connecting roads are seen throughout the valley.

There are distant views of Belconnen from some areas of the valley. Black Mountain Tower is visible from most locations in the valley. The sewerage treatment works and USA Embassy communications installation are obtrusive though their lights are attractive at night. Mt. Stromlo is a significant point of the landscape though it does not dominate the larger landscape.

Within the ACT most of the Uriarra Valley is designated as Rural Land. The properties within the precinct are 'Fairlight', 'Brookvale', 'Woodstock', 'Uriarra', 'Huntly' (see below), Sherwood (see below), and 'Springvale'. The NSW area is designated as large scale agricultural land but may be subdivided down to 80 acres. Much of the area lies within the National Capital Open Space System (NCOSS) and the rivers lie within the Murrumbidgee River Corridor and the Molonglo River Corridor. Woodstock Nature Reserve and part of Stony Creek Nature Reserve are within the precinct of the Valley.

The Valley, including the Murrumbidgee and Molonglo River Corridors, is Territory land and is administered by the ACT Government. It includes:

- land managed by the Department of Urban Services which is responsible for special purpose reserves and nature reserves
- leased land administered by the Government including special purpose leases e.g. YMCA Camp Sturt, rural leases and land used by utilities such as ACTEW e.g. Lower Molonglo Water Control Centre
- Pine plantations managed by ACT Forests
- Residential land administered by ACT Housing

The Valley contains three designated reserves. Stony Creek Nature Reserve is approximately 800 hectares in area and includes the narrow riverine environment stretching 13 kilometres between Casuarina Sands and Uriarra Crossing. Woodstock Nature Reserve is approximately 350 hectares in area and extends north from Uriarra Crossing to the ACT border. Swamp Creek Nature Reserve is

² ACT Dept. of Urban Services, *Murrumbidgee River Corridor Management Plan*, pp 72-77.1988

approximately 100 hectares in area, and extends west from Uriarra Crossing to near the ACT border. The reserve encompasses the Swamp Creek Valley and the confluence of Swamp and Uriarra Creeks.²

I. Geology, Geomorphology and Soils

The Uriarra Valley lies within the Canberra Graben on the north western edge of the Canberra Plains. The Canberra Graben is bordered by the Cotter Horst to the west and the Cullarin Horst to the east. The Uriarra Valley is confined within the west of the graben by the Murrumbidgee Fault (Bullen Range) which runs along the Murrumbidgee River except in the Uriarra area where the boundary of the graben lies to the south west of the River.

The geology of the valley is principally of the Walker Volcanics sequence formed during an intense period of volcanic activity during the Upper Middle Silurian at around 425 million years ago.³ The initial volcanic activity consisted of mixed lava flows, ignimbrite flows, air fall tuff and agglomerate. Within the Uriarra Valley it is contained by Pig Hill, the Blue Range, Mt. Stromlo and Mt. McDonald. A band of dacite lavas and tuffs with shale lenses and ashstone runs across the area. The outcrops in the Murrumbidgee valley upstream of Uriarra Crossing are the type section for the Walker Volcanics sequence and are on the Register of the National Estate as part of the Murrumbidgee River Corridor. They are composed of massive reddish-purple dacite and are named after Walker Hill nearby. The thickness of banding probably exceeds 2000 metres. The remainder of the area is covered by other acid volcanics. At Uriarra Creek the Walker Volcanics are overlain by the later Uriarra Volcanics of the Late Silurian. Uriarra Creek is the type locality for this later sequence. These two sequences, together with Tarpaulin Creek Ashstone, the basal material of Uriarra Volcanics, can be seen in the creek bed.

Granite lies close to the surface and emerges as outcrops throughout the paddocks and forms the cliffs down which Stoney Creek, Uriarra Creek, Cliffe's Creek and other drainage lines fall. Soils in the Valley are generally yellow clays but there is visible evidence of the humic dark soils of swampy meadows present in some of the lower lying areas and along the eroded creek lines.⁴

Uriarra Valley has the topographic development typical of most of the region. Weathering has produced a landscape of low rounded hills eroded to a peneplain formation and separated by valleys. These formations are the dominant features of the landscape. Opposing this process is Mt. Stromlo, one of a number of more resistant residual hills and ridges rising above the general level of the plain. Another major feature of the Uriarra Valley are the two incised valleys of the Molonglo River and Murrumbidgee River. The incision of these valleys is a geological recent event following the broad regional uplift of south-eastern Australia over the Cainzoic (since 65 million years). Rapid incision into resistant rocks has produced a 'valley-in-valley' profile with a rock-floored channel forming a steep inner valley countersunk into a broad gently-sloping out valley. Episodes of earlier river incision are preserved as high-level gravels, potholes, and rock terraces. The river valleys are places of considerable geological and geomorphological interest where rock structures are exposed, and past and present erosional and depositional events are visible. A large number of permanent and intermittent streams flow into the two main rivers from Huntly Ridge and Blue Range.

In summary the geomorphological processes of degradation and fluvial dissection are actively shaping the valley to a landscape of rounded and gently rolling hills and broad secondary valleys with gentle slopes within the main Canberra Graben.

II. Vegetation

The native vegetation of the valley has been assessed as timbered on the hills with 30-70% coverage by eucalypts of the tallest stratum of foliage cover with lower vegetation trees up to 10 metres at the time of European settlement. In the lower areas of the valley the tallest stratum of eucalypts gave 10-30% coverage and the understorey was tussocky or tufted grasses and graminoids. In summary the high areas have been classified as Dry Open Forest on the hills and Woodlands in the lower regions.

³ Owen, M. 1987 *Geological Monuments in the Australian Capital Territory*, pp 3-4.

⁴ Baskin, J & Lomas 1996

In the mid 1980s the hills not given over to Pine (*Pinus radiata*) plantations were still classified as before; the lower areas, however, were classified as having taller eucalypts and introduced grasses with tussocky or tufted grasses and graminoids. In summary the hills are classified as Woodland to Open Woodland but the lower areas were classified as Pasture and Cropping.⁵ In 1965 the Uriarra area was classified as dry hill forest with open timber and grassland. The area is important because it is the northern limit for some alpine plant species.

There are a number of designated Sites of Significance of botanic interest in the Valley (see below and Appendix A). The Valley contains two sites of national significance. The lower eastern slopes of Mt. MacDonald are significant because of rare or uncommon plants and plant communities e.g. *Discaria pubescens* and *Pomaderris pallida*. Stony Creek on Huntly is also of national significance for the *Casuarina cunninghamiana*/*Callitris endlicheri* communities.

The river corridors support communities of the *Casuarina cunninghamiana* which support the painted Honeyeater *Grantiella picta*. At Stony Creek a community of *C. cunninghamiana* associated with *Callitris endlicheri* and a remnant of *Eucalyptus marcorhynca* and *E. rossii* and the rare plant *Discaria pubescens* gives this place national significance. On the eastern slopes of Mt. McDonald on the Murrumbidgee are two forest communities in a revegetating area. The area contains four rare plant species giving it a national botanical significance. The species are *Muellerina bidwilli*, a parasite, *Pomaderris pallida*, *Discaria pubescens* and the grass *Amphibomus sp.*

Exotic plantings include the forestry plantations, chiefly of *Pinus radiata*. Around homesteads and other buildings there are plantings of *Ulmus spp.*, *Populus nigra*, *Pinus spp.*, *Cupressus spp.*, *Prunus spp.*, and other orchard trees. Along the creeks and rivers *Casuarina cunninghamiana* have persisted but *Salix spp.* are now common. The latter trees have mainly established in the Valley since the third decade of this century. The stands of *Casuarina spp.* on the adjoining Huntly property were the subject of a study resulting in the declaration of the Stony Creek Reserve part of which lies in the Huntly paddocks. Three extant trees, a *Morus spp.* (Mulberry) and two *Ulmus spp.* (Elm) are said to have been planted by Captain Charles Sturt at the site now known as Woodstock although this has not been confirmed.

III. Wildlife

The main river corridors are the focal wildlife habitat areas within the Valley.⁶ The Murrumbidgee River in the ACT is the largest and most diverse aquatic habitat in the Territory. Six species of native fish and seven introduced species are found in the River. The deep pool areas of the rivers are important refuges for the native species particularly at times of low river flow. The native species have declined steadily since the 1940s, probably as a result of increased fishing pressure, introduced fish species, flow regulation, and general environmental degradation.

The oriental weatherloach (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*), an escaped aquarium species, is the latest introduced fish species to become established in the river systems. The endangered trout cod (*Maccullochella macquariensis*) has not been recorded in the Murrumbidgee since the late 1970s. The two-spined blackfish (*Gadopsis bisponosus*) has not been recorded in the Murrumbidgee in the ACT since the early 1960s, and is now found in the ACT only in the Cotter River.

The Canberra Ornithologist Group has recorded 88 species of birds within the Uriarra Valley with most species using the river corridors as a major habitat area. Honeyeater (particularly yellow-faced honeyeater (*Lichenostomus chrysops*), white-eared honeyeater (*L. leucotis*), fuscous honeyeater (*L. fuscus*)) migratory routes run across and along the river corridors from the Cotter north to Uriarra, east to Stromlo, and south-east along the Murrumbidgee to Point Hut. In late March and April yellow-faced honeyeaters begin to migrate from the higher ranges to lower altitudes using the river corridors as a migration route. In some areas thousands of birds per hour pass along the corridors dispersing out into

⁵ AUSLIG 1990

⁶ ACT Department of Urban Services *Murrumbidgee River Corridor Management Plan*, pp 72-77, 1988; ACT Department of Urban Services *Lower Molonglo River Corridor Draft management Plan*, 1998, P.13.

open country where cover peters out. Birds of prey use the relatively undisturbed cliffs overlooking the rivers for nesting sites. Of particular importance are the breeding sites of the peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) and the wedge-tailed eagle (*Aquila audax*). The River Corridors provide a winter roosting area for a substantial population of the yellow-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus funereus*), which is regarded as vulnerable. The corridors also provide nesting sites of the rainbow bee-eater (*Merops ornatus*). Prior to 1971 the creek valleys and minor waterways were a breeding habitat of the painted honeyeater (*Grantiella picta*), a migratory bird which is rare across its range. The bird has not been seen in the Uriarra Valley in recent years. Other regionally uncommon avian residents are the red-capped robin (*Petroica goodenovii*), speckled warbler (*Sericornis sagittatus*), yellow thornbill (*Acanthiza nana*) and the varied sitella (*Daphoenositta chrysoptera*).

Both the Murrumbidgee Corridor and the Molonglo River Corridor support a diverse range of reptilian fauna. Twenty species have been recorded and several others may be present. Extensive areas bordering the corridors are modified native grasslands which provides suitable habitat for the pink-tailed legless lizard (*Aprasia parapulchella*) which has Special Protection Species status in the ACT. The left(south) bank of the Molonglo, downstream from Stromlo Forest, provides some of the most extensive and best populated legless-lizard habitat yet recorded.

The Valley provides habitat for a large population of the regionally uncommon eastern wallaroo (*Macropus robustus*). Platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*) occur in some of the larger pools of the Murrumbidgee and Molonglo Rivers. The Valley is of local significance because it provides habitat for the bush rat (*Rattus fuscipes*) and may be the closest population of this mammal to urban Canberra where populations have disappeared from Black Mountain, Mt Ainslie and Mt Majura.⁷

Other species of conservation significance include the nobbi dragon (*Amphibolurus nobbi*), the stone Gecko (*Diplodactylus vittatus*), the marbled gecko (*Phyllodactylus marmoratus*), the eastern copper-tailed striped skink (*Ctenotus ubus*), the black-headed snake (*Uroechis gouldii*); the broad-palmed frog (*Litoria latopalmata*), the brown toadlet (*Pseudophryne bibronii*), Rosenberg's monitor (*Varanus rosenbergi*), the morabine grasshopper (*Keyacris scurra*). Introduced terrestrial species occupying the Valley include the European fox, feral cat, rabbit, wild goat and wild pig.⁸

IV. Significant Places

(See also Appendix A,B,C)

Swamp and Uriarra Creeks (SU1)⁹

Swamp Creek and Uriarra Creek are the only rural creeks in the ACT with a long and regenerating community of River Oaks (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*). The stands extend from the Murrumbidgee River over 2.5 Km to the ACT border (Swamp Creek). On the steep slopes of Swamp Creek valley just inside the ACT border there is a small forest area of the Red Stringybark (*Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*) and Scribbly Gum (*E. rossii*). The trees provide a corridor of shelter in an otherwise heavily grazed landscape. Prior to 1971 the creek valleys were a breeding habitat of the painted honeyeater (*Grantiella picta*), a migratory bird which is rare across its range. The bird has not been seen in recent years.

Uriarra Creek Area (SU2)

Uriarra Creek occupies a well-defined valley parallel to, and 300 to 400 m west of the Uriarra Road. The valley is cut into volcanic rocks of the Uriarra Volcanics which overlie the Walker Volcanics. This location is the type locality of the Uriarra Volcanics formation. Both formations are exposed on prominent hill crests nearby and along the channel floor. A distinctive unit, the Tarpaulin Creek Ashstone Member forms the basal material of the Uriarra Volcanics.

Stone hut ruins on the eastern side of Uriarra Creek comprise a stone wall, flue, hearth, and oven built by William Webb in the 1870s. Remains of Webb's woolshed and sheep yards are 200m away on the hilltop, and a larger homestead is represented by a collapsed double hearth and vestigial remains of a house platform.

⁷ *ibid*

⁸ *ibid*

⁹ Site Number, National Capital Development Commission *Sites of Significance in the ACT*.

River Terraces - Uriarra Crossing (SU4)

Part of Blocks 28, Coree (rural lease) and Uriarra Reserve (recreational) extending into Blocks 32, 333, Belconnen.

The outcrops of the river channel and river bluffs comprise the type section of the Walker Volcanics. The characteristic material is a massive reddish-purple dacite but tuff beds are also present - for example on the west bank of the river about 100 m upstream from the crossing. The Walker are extensive in the northern ACT forming a wedge-shaped outcrop pattern from the Cotter Dam in the south to Cusacks Crossing in NSW.

A route used by migrating honeyeaters, particularly yellow-faced honeyeater (*Lichenostomus chrysops*), white-eared honeyeater (*L. leucotis*), and the fuscous honeyeater (*L. fuscus*) has been identified in this area by the Canberra Ornithologist Group. Birds follow the river before turning in an easterly direction up the valley of the creek that rises near Pine Ridge.

Sturt Island (SU5)

Junction of Murrumbidgee and Molonglo Rivers. The site includes the largest sand gravel and boulder island in the Murrumbidgee River within the ACT. The lens-shaped accumulation of sediment is 800m long and has a complex topography resulting from channel shifting, flood deposition and residual rock outcrop. The island has been built several metres higher than normal river level which indicates a river flow of much greater competence and a greater frequency of high level flows than that now experienced.

A River Oak community on the island shows a preference for rocky habitats and are likely breeding sites for the painted honeyeater.

Murrumbidgee River Bluffs (SU6)

East of the Murrumbidgee and Molonglo Rivers junction. The bluffs rise over 100 metres above the river. They comprise an undercut slope of an incised and partly ingrown meander and provide a superb vantage point to view the lowermost reaches of the Murrumbidgee River as it leaves the ACT. On the face of the bluff are outcrops of bedded tuffs of the Walker Volcanics. The slopes support a diverse range of flora including Black Cypress Pines (*Callitris endlicheri*), Red Stringybark (*E. macrorhyncha*) and Scribbly Gum (*E. rossii*) and less common shrubs such as Australian Senna (*Cassia aciphylla*), *Crowea exalata*, *Indigofera australia* var. *signata* and the Bush Pea (*Pultenaea cunninghamii*). The shrub species appear to be restricted in the ACT to locations downstream of the Molonglo confluence.

At the northern end of the site, a tributary creek from the east has created an unusual asymmetrical hanging valley where the creek has planed down the dip of a fracture in the volcanics.

Limestone outcrops - near Sturt Island (SU7)

Part of Block 21, Coree. A limestone lens within the Walker Volcanics which crops out from the river level to a height of approximately 15 metres in the river bluff on the west of the Murrumbidgee. The limestone, of Late Middle Silurian age, is a poorly bedded grey micrite, in places with a shale matrix but the fossil content is poorer than the other main limestone lens south of Coppings Crossing. The limestone is one of only two known palaeontological locations in the Walker Volcanics. It may have important fossils for correlation and provides important evidence of a marine phase of sedimentation in and otherwise generally volcanic environment of rock formation.

Aboriginal Quarry, Woodstock (SU9)

Part of Blocks 20 & 21, Coree (rural lease). The site includes a possible quarry site and several extensive open artefact scatters. They consist of an outcrop of dark red jasper that has been quarried by Aborigines. Much of the quarrying debris has been washed down a gully and there are a number of artefacts in the area consisting of flaked pieces, cores and flakes. Artefacts made of other raw material are also present. Although this site has not been archaeologically assessed it would have been part of the Uriarra complex of Aboriginal occupation sites. It may be the only worked jasper quarry in ACT and may be used as a reference point to check on the origin and movement of red jasper artefacts found in other places.

Aboriginal Rock Paintings near 'Woodstock' (SU10)

On Block 21, Coree. The holder of the Woodstock lease in 1981 (Mr P. Rettallack) was reported as having knowledge of Aboriginal paintings in the cliffs above the river. No detailed search has been made for the paintings and the exact location remains unknown.

Lower Molonglo River Corridor and Gorge (SU14)

The Corridor is located along the last twelve kilometres of the Molonglo River extending from Coppins Crossing downstream to the area defined by the Murrumbidgee River Corridor, approximately one kilometre above the confluence with the Murrumbidgee River. The Molonglo River Gorge is 1 km to 2 km upstream from the Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre. This place includes a sector of the inner valley of the Molonglo River approximately 2 kilometres in length. The valley is incised up to 80 metres below the level of the Canberra Plain and the deeply-cut profile provide a striking topographical contrast with the gentle bordering slopes. The valley is cut into dacitic tuffs of the Walker Volcanics and the abundant exposures in the channel and valley side display the structural characteristics of the formation.

Of particular interest are the terraces that border the channel. These lie 2 to 5 metres above the normal flow level and are of three types:

- a) rock terraces with irregular surfaces and small River Oak (*C. cunninghamiana*) in crevices;
- b) boulder surface terraces with narrow flood chutes, often covered with Burgan (*Kunzea cricoides*) and occasional River Oak;
- c) higher level sand surface terraces, usually narrow and with open grassy areas between large Casuarinas, and sparse Black Cypress Pine (*Callitris endlicheri*).

The terraces represent a stage in valley development that is a response to flood discharge in the Molonglo, when the capacity of stream to scour rock surfaces and move substantial loads of gravel and boulders is greatly increased.

As the incidence of high discharge floods is now reduced following the control imposed by Scrivener Dam, these terraces are becoming relict features and vegetation (notably Burgan) is thickening on the gravel and sandy surfaces.

The Gorge along with the majority of the River corridor provides an important habitat for rare and threatened species. For example, it contains the nationally vulnerable shrub *Pomaderris pallida* and is an important habitat for the legless lizard (*Aprasia parapulchella*) which has special protection status in the ACT. Peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) breed along cliff sites and the river contains native fish species, platypus and long-necked tortises.

Sherwood Homestead (SU15)

Block 23, Coree. A homestead ruin surrounded by Elms, Walnuts, Ash and orchard trees, and a graveyard. Sherwood homestead was built and occupied by Henry Phillips. No date has been obtained but it is presumably 1860s or 1870s. Phillips, his wife, and one of their sons are buried under an oak tree 100 metres west of the homestead site. The site has not been assessed.

Stony Creek/Murrumbidgee Gorges (SU16)

Parts of Block 7, 30, Stromlo and Block 18, Coree within Stony Creek Nature Reserve.. A River Oak (*C. cunninghamiana*) community extends for almost one kilometre along the valley of Stony Creek. On the lower slopes of the valley are stands of Black Cypress Pine (*C. endlicheri*) and a sparse forest remnant of Red Stringybark (*E. macrochyncha*) and Scribbly Gum (*E. rossii*). The River Oaks are well represented on broad sandy terraces on the western side of the river and form a continuous stand linked to Casuriana Sands. The area is significant for the Black River Oak and Black Cypress Pine communities that extend away from the Murrumbidgee along Stony Creek. The creek slopes are unusual for the persistence of a dry sclerophyll forest and the absence of *Leptospermum* scrub. The sandy terraces are the most continuous of any sector of the river in the ACT.

The rare plant *Discaria pubescens* has been located in this site along with a number of other places further upstream (including near Mt. McDonald). Consequently the site is of national significance. Eighty-eight species of birds have been recorded in this portion of the river along with other sections upstream and downstream.

Murrumbidgee River near Mt. McDonald (SU17)

Block 9, Stromlo (rural lease). This area has similar flora communities to the Stony Creek/Murrumbidgee Gorges area. Three other uncommon or rare plants are recorded here. A species of the grass *Amphibromus* is regarded as being uncommon within the ACT. At four localities on the river

bluffs on the east of the river, the rare species *Pomaderris pallida* is found. Another rare species, *Discaria pubescens*, is also found in this area.

Lower Molonglo Geological Site (SU18)

Blocks 1020 and 178 Belconnen. On the eastern valley slope of the Molonglo River are exposures of a fossiliferous limestone and shale extending over a distance of 800 metres. These sedimentary rocks once formed a continuous lens contained in the Walker Volcanics, but disruption by faulting has divided the exposure into several different outcrops. Three new genera and 14 new species of trilobites, and 2 new genera and several new species of brachiopods have these exposures as their type locality. The site thus contains one of the best records of fossil fauna assemblages from the Middle Silurian of Eastern Australia. It is of extremely high palaeontological value and information derived from this site is of great assistance in dating rocks of similar age from elsewhere in the ACT.

Bluffs and Terraces - Molonglo River (SU19)

Part of Block 45, Stromlo extending into Block 69, Belconnen. A bluff on the south of the Molonglo River rises to 20 metres. A 5 metre section of rock face is distinctly banded tuff, one of the few examples of this material exposed in the Mt. Painter Volcanics. The opposite river bank is low and consist of narrow sandy terraces with many large River Oaks (*C. cunninghamina*). This is one of the few areas on the Molonglo River where Casuarinas grow on a predominantly sandy rather than rocky substrate and as such is of botanical significance in studies of the regeneration of this species.

Huntly

Blocks 412, 413, 426, 429, 432, Stromlo (Classified by National Trust of Australia (ACT), entered on to the Heritage Places Register, ACT). Huntly

The significant elements of Huntly are:

- a) the main house
- b) the Lee soldier-settler House
- c) carports, garages, farm buildings and garden sheds associated with these houses
- d) the manager's cottage
- e) soldier settler cottage beside manager's cottage
- f) silos and stable associated with the manager's cottage
- g) the c1948 shearing shed
- h) a cottage, formerly shearers' accommodation, outhouses and a meat house associated with the shearing shed
- i) stone remains of a shepherd's hut standing on the arms of Cliffe Creek
- j) plantings around the buildings of indigenous plants and exotics, including windbreaks of *Cupressus arizonica*.

Huntly as evidenced by these elements has historic association with the development of the Limestone Plains and has associational significance with local figures of the pastoral era, eg. Mowatt, Murray and Campbell. It is the largest surviving part of Yarralumla property and is associated with the establishment of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and the last phase of soldier settlement in the FCT. Huntly is a representative element of the rural setting of the National Capital. The property is an example of a 20th Century grazing property, a characteristic land use of the ACT before the expansion of the National Capital in the second half of the century. The homestead garden merges the European gardenesque design with the Australian landscape. The aesthetics are consistent with late 20th Century standards appropriate for staging cultural, political and social events.¹⁰

Forestry Settlement

The first step towards developing a commercial forestry industry in the Valley was in 1882 when the Uriarra Forest Reserve was declared. Little was done until after Federation when Weston as first Superintendent of Parks and Gardens, began trial plantings in 1915 primarily of *Pinus radiata* at Mt. Stromlo. By 1926 large areas of commercial pine forests had been established in southeast New South Wales including the Uriarra Valley. Today a large portion of the southern limits of the Valley extending from, and including, Mt. Stromlo to the Molonglo River is under commercial forestry cultivation.

¹⁰ ACT Planning and Land management Group 1997 'Huntly' Heritage Places Register.

Associated with the development of the forestry industry has been a continuing history of forestry settlements, at first tents and later substantial buildings. A 1928 census shows 30 people in Uriarra including two forest workers and a forest overseer. The current Uriarra Forestry Settlement is chiefly Fibro in 1950s style buildings. From an earlier temporary Forestry Settlement only a 1937 weatherboard school house remains. The simple rectangular shaped building erected on timber piers with gabled roof is still used for school purposes. The building appears in good condition despite a noticeable slight movement of the whole structure. The building is set on a slope and dominates the settlement. It is surrounded by European landscaping. A brick veneer schoolhouse was built in the 1970s to the south-east of the original. The two buildings are linked by a covered way. A modest 1950s residence is set in front of the newer school building.

By 1952 Uriarra Forestry Settlement consisted of 8 temporary houses for married staff, a tennis court and children's swings associated with the school in addition to garages, sheds and a plant nursery. It was proposed to erect 20 houses, demolish the 8 temporary dwellings, move the school to a more central location, provide sites for a small hall and future shop and provide outdoor recreation facilities. Future accommodation was expected to increase to 40 houses. Construction began in 1953. To upgrade the existing facilities a weather shed was erected at the school similar to the standard NSW design and in 1953 electricity connected to the school and school residence.

Other buildings within the settlement from the 1950s include a 1953 weatherboard depot and two 1950s brick houses. The west and south-west boundaries of the School Block are occupied by the 1953 development. To the west, a row of ten cottages facing east attest to an attempt to create an urban planning layout in a pastoral and forestry context. The cottages are weatherboard with green corrugated metal roofs. The standardised plans are mirror reversed, with verandahs and double bays on the front facade. There is a tennis court and a playground, though these appear to be unused at present.

A group of three houses situated along the south-west boundary of the School block and a pair of identical weatherboard houses located south-east of a NCDC development exhibit a more sophisticated design for upper level staff occupancy. In 1955 two new residences were erected and provision was to be made for a further two, later increased to four. In 1957 permission was given for the erection of a shop and residence at the Settlement on Block 1 Section 1, near the junction of the settlement with the main road. In 1964/65 the Forestry Settlement was extended with the construction of 8 new houses. Subsequently 3 houses and a laboratory and office unit were built. In 1965 some huts from the closed Blue Range settlement were relocated to Uriarra.

Today the general layout of the Settlement is typical of the 1940/50s style of town planning with a curved street setting of residences fronting on to a tree-lined median strip. The site reflects the original planning and use. The future management of the Settlement is uncertain.

The Uriarra Valley is a unique landscape. Taken as a whole, a multi-element artefact in itself, it is a clear glass window extending from today back into the European nineteenth century and beyond into several thousands of years of Aboriginal use.

Travelling Stock Route

Block 59 Stromlo.

A remnant stock route set aside to cater for the droving of stock in and through the ACT in times when transport by other means was not available. The area is approximately 9.3 ha, on a SSW aspect. A minor water course runs through the stock route and is dammed. The vegetation on the route includes *Eucalyptus rossi*, *E. macrorhynca*, and *E. melliodora* with patches of *Themeda triandra*, *Aristida* sp., and *Danthonia* sp. The area has been subjected to heavy grazing by sheep and cattle for the past 30 to 40 years. Some of the original stock routes were destroyed during the development of Canberra before 1990. The passing of the Stock Act 1990, repealing the old pre-self government Stock Act of 1927, saw the de-gazettal of the remaining travelling stock routes in the ACT. As has been found in other parts of Australia, travelling stock routes often include areas of remnant vegetation and native habitat. This largely due to their being excluded from agricultural development, notably pasture improvement.¹¹

¹¹ Carrigan, A. 1994.

2. STATUS OF PLACE AT NOMINATION DATE:

- River corridors defined in the National Capital Plan and Territory Plan as River Corridor and Public Land.
 - Murrumbidgee River Corridor listed on the Register of the National Estate March 1986; classified by the National Trust of Australia (ACT).
 - The Murrumbidgee River Corridor, Stony Creek Nature Reserve, and Uriarra Creek Reserve contain sites of significance as determined by the National Capital Development Commission.
 - Huntly classified by the National Trust of Australia (ACT), listed on the Register of the National Estate, listed on ACT Heritage Places Register. .
 - The National Capital Development Commission described the ridge between the Murrumbidgee and Molonglo Rivers as a Special Rural Landscape
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3. BACKGROUND:

Aboriginal

Although the Aboriginal use of the Uriarra Valley has not been fully assessed archaeologically, historical accounts together with the archaeological sites previously located in several surveys, reveal that the area had been a focal point for Aboriginal groups for a considerable period.

The archaeological evidence for Aboriginal use of the Valley comes from the surface scatters of stone artefacts. Five types of stone were used for the majority of the artefacts in the Stromlo region: chert, quartzite, quartz, silcrete, and volcanics. The highest densities of artefacts were near the water courses of the Valley - on the low slopes leading to and from watercourse the density was recorded at 20-25 artefacts per hectare, on low spurs overlooking the water courses the density was highest at 50 per hectare. The lowest densities were on steeply sloping land (5-7) and the hills away from the water course (12). Near the water courses there was a high use of local river pebbles.¹² These densities indicate that while there was use of the whole Valley the most favoured regions by the Aboriginal groups were along the river corridors and the slopes leading to and from the river courses.

Uriarra (Ura-Yarra) is most likely a Ngunnawal word meaning either 'a flat rock' or 'running to the feast'¹³ This name reflects an aspect of Aboriginal life of major significance not only to the local Ngunnawal people but to Aboriginal groups from a much wider area of the Southern Tablelands, Western Slopes and the coast. The valley was on a path to the Bogong moth aestivation areas, both in the Kosciuszko region and at Coree in the Bridabellas. Aboriginal groups made annual summer visits to the mountains to collect the moths and feast on them. Early historical evidence for this practice comes from Eyre's autobiographical journal 1832-39. Whilst looking at a property on the 'Molonglo Plains' he records that 'at the Tinderry Mountains a kind of moth ... congregates ... in such great numbers that the blacks flock from all quarters to catch and eat them. In 1841 an estimated number of 500 Aboriginal people were recorded at Uriarra. When George Robinson visited the Monaro region in July 1844 he commented that 'The natives of the low country and of the mountains assemble in large numbers in the fine season to collect the Boogong fly...They are extremely nutritious and the natives subsist during the season entirely upon them, they are called Cori by the Omeo, and Boogong by the Yass blacks.'¹⁴

Early evidence for moth collection and feasting in the Uriarra Valley comes from Mrs McDonald of 'Uriarra'. She recounted how the Aboriginal groups would gather at Uriarra during the early summer. The males would go into the hills bordering the Valley, collect the moths and bring them down to the waiting females and children where they were cooked on a large rock:

The big flat rock, which was some yards in length, and scarcely less in width, was heaped up with dry wood and bark. This was set fire to, and the fuel replenished till the rock became sufficiently heated for the purpose required. By this time the grub-hunters had returned with their catches. These were shaken out from the dilly-bags on to the

¹² Bulbek, D. & Boot, P. 1990 pp. 14-15.

¹³ Flood, J. 1980 p. 70.

¹⁴ Mackaness, ed. 1941:328

heated rock and were soon hissing and spluttering, the sign of their being sufficiently cooked. While the cooking process was going on, around the heated rock stood or lounged the foregathered tribes - it had indeed been a gathering to a feast - truly a Urayarra. So abundant were these grubs or caterpillars that in the best of seasons it took weeks to devour them all. It was a season of luscious feeding, something so far better than 'possum and yams, that the ebony skins of the eaters literally contrast with the leanness of normal times¹⁵

Historical use of the Valley by Aboriginal individuals has been recorded. Hong Yong was a well-known (and often feared) Aboriginal male who often used the Valley. He avoided death on one occasion in February 1841 when he, Bondaroon and a number of others were on their way to visit T.A. Murray. They reached Uriarra at nightfall and made camp but Hong Yong left them to sleep in a shepherd's hut on one of Murray's stations a few miles away, said to be a common practice of his. Another group of Aboriginal males, possibly from the Goulburn area attacked the sleeping group during the night killing Bondaroon and capturing two women.¹⁶

Another well-known Ngunnawal, 'Jemmy (Jimmy) the Rover' was fleeing from the Yass police when he entered the Valley and called in for rations at Uriarra Station. He was befriended there and after a short stay made his way on to Booromba and then to Naas where he died some months later.¹⁷

European

The European exploitation of the Valley was in a number of phases - squatting, land tenure, primary industry, Federation in 1901, Burley Griffin's plan, Forestry, Soldier Settlement, the gazetted plan of 1925 and subsequent planning exercises which have led to the National Capital Development Plan, the Australian Capital Territory Plan and the Draft ACT & Sub-region Planning Strategy.

The European history of the Valley can be seen to begin from the 1820s when European explorers reached the Limestone Plains and sighted the Murrumbidgee and Molonglo Rivers. One of these early explorers was the botanist Alan Cunningham who saw the potential of the area for sheep and cattle grazing. His favourable report on the area led to the subsequent pastoral activity of the Canberra region including the Uriarra Valley. By the 1830s most of the land in what is now the Canberra area was occupied by land grants. In 1837 two areas of the Uriarra Valley were designated as Village Reserves but no land had been granted.¹⁸ The Police map of 1844 showing landholders in the Police District of Queanbeyan shows the holdings of the first grantees in Yarrawlumla parish south of the Molonglo, but showed no holdings west of the Murrumbidgee.

In 1829 the Limits to Location line defining the Nineteen counties of New South Wales was implemented to control unlicensed settlement. The Murrumbidgee River became the western boundary of the County of Murray, and the Limits to Location until 1836, for the purpose of settlement. Uriarra Valley was settled as free immigration began to escalate and the dominance of convict arrivals began to decline. Stromlo (Yarrawlumla) Parish was within the Settled area. Uriarra valley was beyond the Nineteen Counties, and thus at first was in the Unsettled areas. The ridge where 'Huntly' is today was at the limit of the County of Murray within the Nineteen Counties.

The land west of the Murrumbidgee was more remote from the initial settlements and had a potentially lower stocking rate only being officially settled after 1836 as squattages such as the Uriarra Run. Large holdings were required which, even after clearing and improvement in the 1880s, could only achieve stocking rates as low as 2 sheep to 3 acres or 1 beast to 2 acres in the valleys and 1 beast to 20 acres in the hills. The land east of the Murrumbidgee River in contrast could carry up to 2 sheep to an acre after improvement in the 1880s although 1 sheep per acre was practical throughout in most parts. This area was settled first by grant on the best land. Grants formed the basis of Duntroon and Yarralumla estates where money and the latest technology were soon used to improve the productivity of already first class grazing land.

¹⁵ Gale, J. 1927, p.57-58.

¹⁶ Gillespie 1984

¹⁷ Schumack 1967 p.149.

¹⁸ Dixon 1837 *Extent of Settlement in the Limestone Plains*

Stromlo Parish (formerly Yarrowlumla Parish) was largely part of Yarralumla Property until resumption in 1912. By 1827 wheat was reported to have been planted 'near Yarralumla'. It is possible that the land in Uriarra Valley was used for grazing by Mowatt and/or H. Donnison prior to that. The first known occupant of Yarralumla was James Taylor who had set up a temporary stock camp in the area by 1828. But squatters in the area were replaced by legal owners after the County of Murray was declared in 1829. John Stephen, son of a member of the colonial judiciary, was granted title to land at Yarralumla in 1832. The land came into the ownership of the merchant William Dawes in 1832 who sold it to Francis Mowatt in 1833. Mowatt and his brother gained extensive holdings in the area, including the land at the confluence of the Murrumbidgee and the Molonglo. In 1837 the Mowatts returned to England and Yarralumla was sold to T.A. Murray and T. Walker. Blocks 3,4,5 and 6 in Stromlo (then Yarrowlumla) became part of the extensive holdings of Yarralumla property. Murray eventually acquired ownership and lived on the property for 20 years, running up to 25,000 sheep.

The land in which the current Blocks 402-4, 413 (part), 426, part of 429, 128 was granted by Governor Bourke to Captain E.H. Cliffe in 1836. This was an area of 4,200 acres which extended across the area now known as Coppins Crossing road. The property was known as 'Craven'. After his death the land was first held by his executors and later formally acquired into the Yarralumla holdings. After the death of Murray's wife Yarralumla was acquired in 1864 by her brother A. Gibbes who had previously been the manager.

In 1837, as a reward for his explorations of the Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers, Captain Charles Sturt selected 5,000 acres at the junction of the Murrumbidgee and Molonglo opposite 'Huntly'. Sturt had no intention to settle on the holding and sold the land the next year to Robert Campbell of Duntroon. In 1882 Frederick Campbell acquired Yarralumla.

The lands in Stromlo Parish were resumed, together with the other parts of Yarralumla, by the Commonwealth in July 1912 and early in 1913 Campbell was given notice to quit the property. The resumption ended an era. Yarralumla had been a centre of social events in the Queanbeyan rural districts. With a record of European occupation dating back to the settlement of the Limestone Plains in the 1820s, it served as the centre of a sprawling empire successively owned by the Murray, Gibbes and Campbell pastoral families. The land was divided into more than 37 allotments for annual lease.

After the initial change of holdings ownership of the Stromlo area was relatively stable. Most of the land was part of Yarralumla from the beginning, the remainder had become part of it by 1882. Thus there is a further distinction between Stromlo Parish and Uriarra. For much of its history till resumption the land in Stromlo was in one or two people's hands. It was run for much of its time as part of a larger property. It was stable in administrative terms.

The Uriarra area on the other hand, was held by many hands under constantly changing administrative conditions.

In 1836 a pastoral syndicate which included A.F. Mollison was formed in Sydney. The syndicate bought a run, 'Uriara' west of the Murrumbidgee and an overseer was engaged to manage the land. The purchase of Uriarra served two purposes. It provided an assembly point for men, drays and stores while collecting cattle to drive them overland to Port Phillip colony. This was a period in Australia's history when high profits could be made by overlanding cattle from NSW to the new settlements at Port Phillip and Adelaide. Purchase of the land also entitled the partnership to apply for assigned convict workmen. The partnership had no intention of retaining Uriarra and left for Port Phillip after about 12 months in the area. In 1839 both Robert and Charles Campbell were listed as leaseholders in the Murrumbidgee district and Charles had occupied the Uriarra run since the departure of Mollison. By 1850 the Uriarra run was 23,000 acres. The land was of indifferent quality with a carrying capacity of 1,000 sheep. The land had been largely forested but was cleared for grazing by the squatters, possibly using Chinese labour for some time.

The next owner of Uriarra was Archibald McDonald of Inverness who had come to Australia in c1838 and was first employed by Charles Campbell at Duntroon. He was later employed at Uriarra. McDonald became the lessee at Uriarra in 1852 after purchasing the run from Campbell. In 1853 it was

transferred to Kenneth McDonald (Archibald's son-in-law) and owned by various McDonalds through the 1850s. George Webb had also purchased land at Uriarra in the 1840s and he and his sons lived there with his daughter Eliza McDonald. Eliza was the first European child to settle west of the Murrumbidgee. In the ensuing years they were to select the majority of land, some 10,000 acres in the Parish of 'Urayarra'.

Following the McDonalds' purchase of the run the population of the district began to increase as immigrant families were employed to manage and run the pastoral lands. During the 1850s cattle and sheep were run in the open country controlled by stockmen and shepherds who often lived with their families in rough and isolated conditions.

Land tenure in this area was restricted to leasehold until the Land Act of 1861, allowing free selection, was effectively implemented by Robertson. Under the conditions of leasing, improvements were limited to cultivation for the purpose of providing food and the erection of yards, huts and dwellings. The land act was conditional on occupation of the land. In 1864 under the Land Act Uriarra Run was converted to Occupation Lease. The act also had the effect of opening up the land for selection bringing new settlers to the area. In 1864 portion 5 was selected by Henry Phillips and became the basis of 'Sherwood'. In 1866 Phillip Hardy selected portion 9 to the north of Uriarra Station possibly as a 'dummy' for McDonald and later refused to give the land up. Throughout the 1870s small areas of land continued to be sold as conditional purchases. In consolidating their holdings the McDonalds made selections which were progressively cleared and fenced to maintain the integrity of their run. Improvements on holdings were made. A survey of Portion 45 in 1878 recorded improvements to the west of Uriarra Station, a brick kiln, slab hut, a fowl house, a water race and a well in addition to buildings on the site. Dams were constructed in association with homestead buildings or in the fields as water reservoirs for stock. The 1870s brought social changes to the Valley. In 1874 a Post Office was established at Uriarra. Donald McDonald operated a mail service from 1878; and in 1875 Church services were being held at Uriarra homestead. Some twenty years after the Robertson Land Act the electoral roll for 1882/83 showed that the district was referred to as 'Uriara' with the large holdings of 'Woodstock', 'Brookvale', 'Sherwood' as well as 'Uriarra'.

Due to the failure of the 1861 Land Act to break up large holdings and create conditions for closer settlement the NSW government effected a further Land Act. The new ACT dictated that 50% of leasehold land under license be made available for selection and allowed the selection of resumed land by lease for the purpose of building a homestead. The Act was to impact predominantly on Urayarra Run. In 1885 the leasehold area of the run was divided into two. Areas west and south of the dividing line were available for selection. The run now comprised freehold purchases, condition purchases and 8,657 acres of leasehold land. Resumed land amounting to 8,334 acres was free for selection. Uriarra Road was officially surveyed in 1886 setting the pattern of future land use. It provided a link between Queanbeyan, Yarralumla and Uriarra though it followed a track which had been in existence for many years. A punt was used to cross the Murrumbidgee from about 1860 to the 1870s at the junction of the Molonglo. It was not entirely successful being prone to capsizing. In 1885 a low level bridge replaced the punt. The pastoral process and development of stock routes and roads led to properties being fenced. Fences were constructed with a combination of log, post and rail and wire.

The financial crisis of 1892 to 1893 the drought from 1894 to 1902 brought ruin to many landholders at the turn of the century. Inappropriate land use practices and the arrival of rabbits (first seen at Uriarra in 1892) exacerbated the financial predicaments of the properties.

Federation in 1901 had an impact on the Valley. The Lands Acquisition Act of 1906 ceded the Canberra-Yass area as the site of the new Federal capital. The Act introduced the compulsory acquisition of land for Commonwealth use and development. Some graziers were able to sell their holdings profitably while others did not have sufficient advantage to do so due to the continuing drought and rabbit plague. The establishment of the Federal Capital Territory impacted most immediately on Yarralumla Property. The lands were resumed by the Commonwealth in July 1912 and early in 1913 Campbell was given notice to quit the property. With a record of European occupation dating back to the settlement of the Limestone Plains in the 1820s, it served as the centre of a sprawling empire successively owned by the Murray, Gibbes and Campbell families. The homestead and surrounding land was held for Commonwealth use. The remaining land was divided into more than 37

allotments. The paddocks in Stromlo were put up for tender for lease as part of former Yarralumla Estate for 2 or 10 years in 1914.

Uriarra was for some time to remain freehold, firstly in the hands of Eliza McDonald until her death in 1917 when it was passed to her sons. Stock returns for 1919 show that Uriarra Station was now 9,753 acres running sheep (3,200), cattle (200), horses (30) and with 5 acres of wheat and 5 acres of oats. As well as the homestead and ancillary buildings the property had blacksmith's shop, large shearing sheds and yards, a post office and a slab timber church which had been converted into a school. In 1920 the station was sold by the McDonalds to L.J. Milson. Later partial acquisitions for road use and forestry brought the operating station down to 4,293 acres.

Following World War I Soldier Settlement leases of 2 and 10 years were granted over the Stromlo Parish in the Huntly area. Uriarra was still in private ownership and was not affected. There has been no complete study of the Soldier Settlement Scheme in the ACT but, as in other areas, the scheme amassed considerable debts and appears to have been unsuccessful.

Following the depression years 1930s were a period of renewed activity in the Valley guided by Commonwealth Government Administration. Work began on a new low level crossing on Uriarra Road; by 1940 a picnic ground had been constructed at the low level bridge; in 1937 a school was erected at Uriarra on Block 5. This pattern was interrupted by two events. In 1938 a disastrous fire destroyed most of the forestry plantings of 1926-1929 and most of Uriarra Station with the exception of the milking stalls, the homestead and an associated belt of pine trees. Garden plantings at Huntly were destroyed. Following close upon the fire, the declaration of war in 1939 slowed all activity in the region for its duration.

Following the war in 1948, blocks 5 and 8 in the Corree District became the basis of the Uriarra Forestry Settlement under registered lease from J.R.E. Hyles for 25 years and. Uriarra Station was extended by acquiring freehold leases. Changes to the existing pastoral leases within the Valley were internal to properties, influenced by the underlying nineteenth century patterns and made in response to respective economics. Huntly began to emerge as a major property holding during this period to become the third largest surviving property in the ACT.

The acquisition, or threat of acquisition, by the Federal Government effectively halted an rural development in the ACT and then the outbreak of World War I, the Great Depression followed by the Second World War all meant that, although the ACT region maintained a rural industry and economy, it preserved much of the native environmental elements and early cultural heritage of the Valley. The stagnation and indecision of the early period of urban Canberra's history, combined with the strict administration of the rural areas of the ACT meant that no significant addition or alteration to the rural landscapes of the area occurred.¹⁹

In 1958 the administration of the Valley came under the National Capital Development Commission. Under the NCDC the majority of the land remained freehold until 1972. Resumption, in common with areas east of the Murrumbidgee in 1913, had the potential to reduce investment in the land and was to result in consolidation of the holdings. Other NCDC initiatives were to affect the Corree District:

- the forestry areas were extended
- Uriarra Forestry Settlement was extended
- the Murrumbidgee River Corridor was established
- Swamp Creek Nature Reserve was established
- recreation, tourism and increasing use of the area for access to the Brindabellas increased use and traffic in the Valley
- the development of satellite towns e.g. Belconnen had an impact because of their visual and physical proximity

Self government in 1989 was to place additional pressures on the viability of these properties. The growth of agistment/rural subdivisions has taken over some former pastoral properties. This is reflected in Uriarra by the increased through traffic particularly work bound to and from Canberra.

¹⁹ Butt 1985, p.30.

There are now only three viable properties remaining. Huntly has become the largest property in the ACT. It runs 3-5000 sheep and 600 head of cattle. Woodstock has 1,200 acres in ACT and 3,000 acres in NSW; stock includes 3,000 sheep and cattle (some of the latter are on agistment). Uriarra, the second largest property in the Valley runs 800 cattle and 30 sheep. The remaining small blocks are grazing leases occupying marginal land to the north and west of Uriarra Station.

The distinction between Stromlo and Uriarra in social terms were clear as early as the nineteenth century. As Stromlo was in the ownership at first of absentee landowners and later was part of Yarralumla property it was largely untenanted. It was settled from 1912 by leasees and workers. Uriarra by contrast became a close community. It was a separate and established community when Canberra, Ginninderra and Hall were also separate districts. It was remote from those other settlements. There was intermarriage between the leading families e.g McDonalds and Webbs. It had a long tradition of work and social contacts between the graziers and had its own school. It had a sense of isolation from the developing areas around it which lasted up until the 1950s when ownerships of cars became common and telephones linked the Valley to Canberra and beyond. Most of the people in the Valley were employed in agriculture and they went to church together either in the only purpose built church or to a house service. The Forestry Settlement stood somewhat apart as it still does. It is a separate community from the graziers by way of its industrial background and workplace. It has its own school and style of living and this sense of community still persists in the Settlement.

4. RELEVANT PRINCIPAL NATIONAL HISTORIC THEMES:

1. Tracing the evolution of a continent's special environments.

The formation of the Uriarra Valley was principally during the period of the Walker Volcanics in the Middle Silurian. Prior to this period the ACT region had been part of a deep basin which was subjected to repeated folding and marine incursions. By the upper part of the Middle Silurian, at around 425 million years, silicic volcanic activity began in the Canberra area. Initially it probably began west of Canberra in the Brindabella ranges. Intense volcanic activity spread to Canberra, rapidly filling the shallow sea and causing all of the area to become land. The initial volcanic activity, forming Walker Volcanics, consisted of mixed lava flows, ignimbrite flows, air tuff falls and agglomerate.

For a brief period after the formation of the Walker Volcanics phase there was a sufficiently long pause in the volcanic activity to allow the return of the sea and the formation of sedimentary siltstones and limestones. The sea was widespread but shallow throughout the Canberra basin. This was the final marine incursion in the Canberra region and it was at this time that the fossiliferous limestone and shale sediments now exposed along the Molonglo were laid down.

The marine incursion was short-lived and volcanic activity soon resumed finishing around 421 million years ago. The final events of land formation were largely of granitic magma intrusions and gentle crustal folding causing surface uplifts. Prolonged surface denudation (weathering, erosion, deposition) has then reduced the hills within the valley to low rounded surfaces typical of ancient peneplain landscapes. The river system of the Molonglo and Murrumbidgee have entrenched into their present corridors being fed by short local tributaries running from the higher grounds.

1.4 Appreciating the natural wonders of Australia.

The Murrumbidgee and Molonglo River Corridors provide vital migration routes for birds. Each year whole populations of honeyeaters, particularly the yellow-faced honeyeaters, use the corridors as guides for well-established migratory behaviour patterns throughout eastern New South Wales and to the north of the continent. Little was known of bird migration in Australia before the Australian Bird Banding Scheme was set up by the CSIRO in 1953. Although much data on migration has been collected there are still large gaps in our knowledge of this behaviour. It is not possible to say how many species migrate but what is clear is that migration is an important phenomenon and behaviour pattern in the lives and survival of many of Australia's birds. At least 44 per cent of the 260 bird species found near Canberra undertake some kind of movement, if only on a small-scale between high and low altitudes.

2. Peopling the continent

2.1 Recovering the experience of Australia's earliest inhabitants

2.2 Appreciating how Aboriginal people adapted themselves to diverse regions before regular contact with other parts of the world.

The Uriarra Valley provided an important area for the annual gathering of Aboriginal groups when the Bogong moths were harvested. Bogong moths were highly nutritious, easy to collect and roast, and generally abundant during the summer months. This traditional food for highland Aboriginal people enabled large gatherings of as many as 500 from different friendly groups for initiation ceremonies, arrangement of marriages, dance rituals and exchange of goods. Aboriginal people are reported to have traveled as far as 300 kilometres to centres within the ACT. Couriers carrying message sticks were sent out to summon the affiliated groups. The groups would gather in a mountain valley such as Uriarra. An advance party would climb up to the summits to check if the moths had arrived, and if so, would signal others with smoke and bull-roarers (wooden instruments that emit a high-pitched noise when whirled). The collecting party was usually made up of males but in the Uriarra region women would also go. The moths were then collected in the high caves and shelters, brought down to those waiting in the valleys, and then roasted and eaten. The 'feasting rock' at Uriarra was one such place where this occurred.²⁰

As well as a gathering point during the moth collections the Valley was almost certainly used as a year-round focal point for food collection and as a well-frequented route to other areas within the ACT and NSW. The surface distribution pattern of surviving stone artefacts indicate that the river corridors were favoured places within the valley and would have provided access routes while transiting the Valley.

3. Developing local, regional and national economies.

3. Developing primary production

4. Building settlements, towns, and cities

4.2 Remembering significant phases in the development of towns and suburbs.

7. Governing

7.5 Developing administrative structures and authorities

The period of European initial settlement and rural establishment places the Valley and surrounding district in the context with squatting, land tenure, primary industry, Federation in 1901, Forestry, Soldier Settlement, a series of planning exercises which have led to the National Capital Development Plan and the Australian Capital Territory Plan and the ACT.

The Valley was an important place in the development of local agricultural based economic activities. Much of the Valley was for a period in the 1800s part of the large pastoral property of Duntroon and the ridge was part of Yarralumla for almost all of the time from settlement till resumption. Uriarra Valley was being occupied by pastoral interests at the beginning of the great age of pastoral occupation of the continent.

Although the term squatter was used as a term of contempt in England and America it had a very different socio-economic connotations within the framework of Australia's land tenure history. From the 1830s in Australia the term signified a person who had gone out into the 'unoccupied' territories and had, with or without official government sanction, claimed an area of land by building a hut or depasturing sheep or cattle. The drive behind Australia's squatting period was economic made so by the high demand for raw wool in England and later in India. Australia had the land, the labour and the type of wool for creating a valuable export trade. To take advantage of this demand squatting became the practice for many of the existing land holders in New South Wales as the frontiers of the colony spread west. The Colonial Government had an official attitude against dispersion but later saw the impossibility of preventing squatting but stressed that the Crown should maintain its rights of ownership of land beyond the boundaries of settlement. A series of land acts were put in place some with little or no success - e.g. the 1836 Act in NSW making occupation beyond the settled limits illegal and punishable by fine - to the later selection legislation laid down in Robertson's Land Act in the 1850s. These Acts showed little consideration for the suitability of the land for agriculture and largely failed to control squatting. *Inter alia* they resulted in 'dummying' by squatters who put up nominees to buy land

²⁰ Flood 1996 *Moth Hunters of the Australian Capital Territory* pp. 12-17.

for them and in 'peacocking', placing hired individuals on selected land to keep an eye on the property and manage the herd.

The Land Acts did try to create a group of yeoman farmers on small runs but instead intensified a bitter class war between the selectors and squatters. Some land holders were able to hold on to their large runs, particularly those with suitable high yielding lands. Other properties were broken up for selection. No socially acceptable system of land settlement was worked out until towards the middle of this century.

Since World War I and particularly after World War II the use of legislative power to acquire land compulsively - e.g. soldier settlement, forestry - has provided a surer means of forcing the division large estates. Exercise of this power has, however, often resulted in dissatisfaction among the victims of resumption leading to protracted litigation.

The Australian Capital Territory Plan is the latest in a series of land legislation Acts to manage the rural land in the ACT. Its policy recognizes that the rural lands of the ACT provide a distinctive landscape setting for the City of Canberra. Its policies for rural land are directed at sustainable agricultural use recognizing the economic benefits and servicing local produce and lifestyle needs of the people. The Act recognizes the retention of distinctive rural landscape types and the protection of ecosystems are sought. The Uriarra Valley is one of these distinctive landscape types.

5. ANALYSIS AGAINST THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN SCHEDULE 2 OF THE LAND (PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT) ACT 1991

Criterion (iii): **A place which demonstrates a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function which is no longer practised, is in danger of being lost, or is of exceptional interest.**

Uriarra is a wide valley whose visual boundary is the surrounding hills and ridges.

The Aboriginal archaeological sites within the Valley demonstrate a distinctive pattern of land use and preference for river and creek corridors and low land forms. The raw material of the stone artefacts in the valley reveal a strong preference for certain stone types. Uriarra Valley was an important place for several Aboriginal groups particularly during the summer months when bogong moths were collected from the bordering ranges and consumed within the Valley.

The Uriarra Valley Cultural Landscape demonstrates a distinctive way of life in its agricultural setting, reflecting the changing administrative and political framework in which the pastoral industry has operated since European settlement. This includes the agricultural history of the colony of New South Wales, the creation of the Australian Capital Territory, and the divided nature, politically and in terms of management practices between NSW and the ACT. The farming activity is large scale pastoral agricultural and the landscape reflects this in the size of the paddocks and the structures associated with sheep and cattle grazing. It is of exceptional interest because it reflects the different agricultural history of the Settled and Unsettled areas. It is representative of Australia's rural landscape. It is in danger of disappearing under the urban spread of Canberra and to hobby farms and other small scale rural activities.

The impact of the pastoral industry on the landscape is well recognized. Less recognized is the impact of forestry on the experience of Canberra, the Capital Territory and the Southern Tablelands. The plantations make a distinctive contribution to the landscape with their sharp profiles and dark green colour. They were developed early in the period of the establishment of softwood plantations in NSW and Australia. They are of special significance as they are associated with teaching and research in forestry.

The area includes the Forestry Settlement, a special village for forestry workers, with a distinctive 1950s appearance. It reflects a way of life which is changing because improved transport means workers no longer have to be settled in the forests.

It is part of the unique 'bush setting' for the Capital, Canberra, which is in danger of disappearing as Canberra Grows and its population and services spread.

Taken in its entirety the Uriarra Valley Cultural Landscape is a unique landscape providing a clear glass window extending from today, back into the European nineteenth century and beyond into thousands of years of Aboriginal use.

Criterion (iv): **A place which is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations.**

There is a strong community attachment to the traditional farming and pastoral practices of the land represented by this valley. It contains the last viable elements of Duntroon and Yarralumla, the largest properties in the area prior to the establishment of Canberra.

Uriarra Valley Cultural Landscape is highly valued as a significant site for unstructured and family recreational opportunities, particularly in the Uriarra Crossing/Sturt Island area and the forests of Mount Stromlo. Sturt Island is valued for its educational and recreational opportunities. The place has been identified by the ACT Administration as part of the National Capital Open Space System.

Criterion (vi): **A place which is a notable example of a class of natural or cultural places or landscapes and which demonstrates the principal characteristics of that class.**

This is a notable and dramatic landscape with a background of the southern Alps. It is a notable example of the development of a cultural landscape with rich associations with Aboriginal traditional culture and European settlement. The Murrumbidgee River Corridor is significant for its hydrological, scientific, habitat, Aboriginal culture, folklore associations. The Murrumbidgee Fault here leaves the river and bounds the valley to the west, the only place where this occurs.

Criterion (vii) **A place which has strong or special associations with a person, group, event, development or cultural phase which played a significant part in local or national history.**

Uriarra Valley has a strong association with Aboriginal life in the region. There are strong links with the Aboriginal people of the area and for those to the north west and west of the region prior to European settlement and during the 19th century. It was a route to the Bogong moth aestivation areas for Aboriginal groups from north western and western areas of NSW. A site used for Bogong moth feasts gives Uriarra its name. The area is insufficiently researched in relation to its Aboriginal archaeological sites.

Uriarra Valley also represents a community and cultural landscape established by people who came to Australia as free settlers (e.g. the McDonald, Webb and Campbell families) and reflects the different administrative effects on the agricultural land use patterns of Eastern Australia within this valley; the soldier settler movement, forestry, and the vicissitudes of rural life, drought, flood, fire and rabbits.

It represents Duntroon and Yarralumla, the largest properties in the area prior to the establishment of Canberra.

Criterion (ix): **A place which is a significant habitat or locality for the life cycle of native species; for rare, endangered or uncommon species, for species at the limits of their natural range; or for distinct occurrences of species.**

The area contains two botanical sites of national significance, the Murrumbidgee Gorge at the foot of Mount McDonald, and Stony Creek on Huntly property. Mount McDonald is significant for a regrowth community dominated by *Kunzea cricoides* and has four rare or uncommon plants. Stony Creek is significant for the *Casuarina cunninghamiana/Callitris endlicheri* communities. It contains the type section (Standard) for Walker Volcanics and Uriarra Volcanics. Communities of *Callitris endlicheri* and *Eucalyptus macrohyncha* and new species of *Pomadopsis* on the Molonglo are considered of national importance.

The Murrumbidgee and Molonglo River corridors and surrounding savannah lands are important to local and regional ecology providing freshwater aquatic ecosystems, wildlife corridors for flora and fauna, and regional habitat diversity. Of particular importance are the nesting sites of peregrine falcons and the corridors providing a vital role in the migration patterns of honeyeaters.

Criterion (xi): **A place which demonstrates a likelihood of providing information which will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of natural or cultural history, by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality or benchmark site.**

Uriarra Valley Cultural Landscape is likely to provide a type locality and a teaching site for geological history, for riverine studies, for bird migration patterns, for local Aboriginal patterns of movement, lithic technology and economic practices, for pastoral history of the area, and for the history of forestry.

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Appendix A

Designated Sites of Significance in the Uriarra Valley

(After National Capital Development Commission 1988 *Sites of Significance in the A.C.T.*, National Capital Development Commission, Canberra)

NCDC No.	Place	Significance Type	Significance
SU1	Swamp and Uriarra Creeks	Bot, Zoo, Geo, Cul, His	Regional
SU2	Uriarra Creek	Bot, Zoo, Geo, Cul, His	Regional
SU3	Uriarra and Swamp Creek	Cul (Aboriginal)	Regional
SU4	River Terraces, Uriarra Creek	Zoo, Geo	Regional
SU5	Sturt Island	Geomorph, Bot	Regional
SU6	Molonglo River Bluffs	Bot	Regional
SU7	Limestone Outcrops	Geo	Regional
SU9	Aboriginal Quarry, Woodstock	Cul (Aboriginal)	Regional
SU10	Aboriginal Rock Paintings, Woodstock	Cul (Aboriginal)	Not Found
SU14	Lower Molonglo Gorge	Geomorph, Bot, Zoo	Regional
SU15	Sherwood Homestead	Cul (European)	Not yet assessed
SU16	Stony Creek	Bot, Zoo, Nathist	Regional
SU17	Mine near Mt. McDonald	Bot, Zoo	National
SU19	Bluffs and Terrace, Molonglo	Bot, Geo	Local, Regional, National
SU27	Mt. Stromlo	Cul (European)	Regional

Appendix B
Aboriginal Archaeological Sites in Uriarra Valley
 (After Barz & Winston Gregson 1981; Bulbeck & Boot 1990)

(Grid references are based on the Australian Capital Territory 1:10,000 Planning Series
 Maps and give the centre of each site.)

Site No.	Map No.	Eastings	Westings	Type
MRC100	192-594	19607	59872	Open artefact scatter
101	192-600	19669	60042	Possible quartz quarry, minor open site
103		19655	60164	Sparse open artefact scatter
104		19594	60036	Minor open artefact scatter
105		19593	60246	Extensive open artefact scatter
106		19622	60232	Minor open artefact scatter
107		19665	60218	Possible quarry
108		19555	60275	Sparse open artefact scatter
109		19520	60284	Sparse open artefact scatter
110		19516	60377	Sparse open artefact scatter
111		19505	60383	Dense artefact scatter
112	200-588	20142	59185	Sparse open artefact scatter
113a	192-588	19767	59373	Circular soil marks [Possibly Aboriginal]
113b		19769	59364	Circular soil marks [Possibly Aboriginal]
114	200-588	20013	59312	Sparse open artefact scatter
115	192-606	19471	60709	Open artefact scatter
116	192-600	19429	60587	Sparse open artefact scatter
117		19446	60528	Sparse open artefact scatter
118	192-606	19530	60730	Extensive open artefact scatter
119	192-606	19495	60622	Scarred tree
121		19591	60792	Open artefact scatter
122		19721	60869	Open artefact scatter
123		19720	60920	Possible shelter with deposit
125		19373	60805	Extensive open artefact scatter
126		19356	60860	Extensive open artefact scatter
127		19317	60769	Open artefact scatter
128		19318	60781	Possible quarry
129		19329	60753	Open artefact scatter
130		19368	60782	Open artefact scatter
131		19386	60750	Open artefact scatter
132a		19330	60742	Possible quartz quarry
132b		19296	60712	Possible quartz quarry
133		19342	60739	Small sparse artefact scatter
135		19403	60730	Sparse artefact scatter
136		19356	60700	Sparse artefact scatter
139	192-600	19343	60515	Extensive open artefact scatter
140		19381	60425	Extensive open artefact scatter
141		19382	60456	Extensive open artefact scatter
142		19373	60376	Extensive open artefact scatter
143		19449	60335	Extensive open artefact scatter
144		19410	60254	Sparse open artefact scatter
145		19420	60216	Minor open artefact scatter
146		19457	60230	Minor open artefact scatter
147		19430	60295	Sparse open artefact scatter
148		19445	60276	Sparse open artefact scatter
149		19468	60235	Sparse open artefact scatter
150		19468	60206	Open artefact scatter
151	192-606	19495	60984	Open artefact scatter
152		19595	60987	Sparse open artefact scatter
153		19566	60984	Sparse open artefact scatter

154		19576	60967	Sparse open artefact scatter
155		19582	60952	Extensive open artefact scatter
156		19576	60935	Sparse open artefact scatter, quarry
157		19582	60907	Small open artefact scatter
158		19603	60915	Minor artefact scatter
159		19608	60899	Very minor artefact scatter
160		19614	60883	Sparse open artefact scatter
161		19595	60883	Very minor open artefact scatter
163	192-600	19502	60194	Minor open artefact scatter
164	192-588	19846	59305	Minor open artefact scatter
165		19844	59282	Minor open artefact scatter
166		19877	59238	Minor open artefact scatter
167		19909	59202	Minor open artefact scatter
168		19945	59287	Minor open artefact scatter
14F1	200-600	20114	60269	Open artefact scatter
14E1		20181	60253	Open artefact scatter
14N2		20201	60266	Extensive open artefact scatter
11H2		20589	60327	Open artefact scatter
11N1		20575	60237	Open artefact scatter
98I3	192-600	19824	60165	Open artefact scatter
98I5		19853	60173	Open artefact scatter
98I1		19861	60155	Open artefact scatter
98I2		19850	60169	Open artefact scatter
1/9 9F3		19944	60200	Open artefact scatter
1/9 9F1	200-600	20018	60136	Open artefact scatter
1/9 9J1	192-600	19990	60102	Open artefact scatter
14F2	200-600	20128	60194	Open artefact scatter
14F3		20135	60195	Extensive open artefact scatter
19H1		20161	60201	Open artefact scatter
19H2		20152	60146	Open artefact scatter
1/6 4/6N1		20131	60046	Open artefact scatter
12B1		20331	60064	Open artefact scatter
98F1	192-600	19812	60042	Open artefact scatter

Appendix C

Historical Archaeological Sites Murrumbidgee Corridor, Stromlo

(After Barz & Winston Gregson 1981; Bulbeck & Boot 1990)

(Grid references are based on the Australian Capital Territory 1:10,000 Planning Series Maps and give the centre of each site.)

Site No. (MRC)	Map No.	Eastings	Westings	Type
97	192-594	19658	59677	Homestead. Philip Hardy's. Vestigial structural timbers of woolshed, Elm trees, original driveway and dray route to woolshed. Vestigial hut stone fireplaces postholes. Hut timbers, post and rail yards.
102	192-600	19679	60076	Homestead. Comprises three hearths and a pear tree.
120	192-606	19537	60777	Historical route. Comprises incised track leading from present Uriarra Road to the 1837 Molonglo Crossing point
124		19715	60852	Historical route. Steep winding track possibly to serve mine in cliffs overlooking Murrumbidgee Woolshed and yard. Vestigial remains Within William Webb's original clearing yard overlooking Uriarra Creek
134		19293	60685	Shearer's quarters and selector's house. Vestiges of Webb's vertical slab house with one stone end wall, hearth and oven.
137		19265	60694	Homestead. Comprises large soil platform with a collapsed double hearth (with oven) and remains of garden. Built by William Webb.
138		19312	60656	Historic route. Dray route from Murrumbidgee past Woodstock homestead.
162		19561	60912	Mines. Four tunnels and seven quarries documented but not all located. c1890.
169	192-594	19370 19371 19445	59827 59791 59706	
170		19537	59825	Homestead. 'Greenhills'. Vestigial rectilinear rubble with only an internal arch standing
171		19598	59729	Hut site. Vestigial site on Richard Moore's selection. Very faint with no potsherds.
172	192-612	19683	61205	Homestead. 'Belconnen'. Homestead and outbuildings on land granted to Charles Sturt. Intact stockyards. vertical slab hut stable with open skillion on each side and west end.
173	192-594	19843	59416	Historic. Comprises a small scatter of <i>Canberra</i> bricks. Majority are set into the ground in a rough square. Possibly bee-keeping site. c1920s.
	200-594	20229	59976	Historic. James Rolfe's Hut and yard. Vestigial semi-circular arrangement of field stones and brick fragments around a planted pine. Bottle and porcelain fragments. c1870s.
	200-600	20152	60085	Historic. Thomas Flynn's Hut and Yard. Low mound surrounded by brick fragments and roughly squared granite. Bottle and porcelain fragments. c1890s.
	200-594	20163	59967	Historic. John Lawler's Hut. Vestigial mounds and brick and glass fragments.
		20033	59821	Bulgar Creek Public School. Site consists of low mound 10x2 metres with building stones at edge.

192-594	19899	59983	Toilet pits. Grosvernor Francis' Homestead, Paddock and Sheeppark. Late 19th early 20th century. Unmortared stone fireplaces, L-shaped concrete foundations, rectangular mound with coursed dressed stone, standing and fallen remains of post and rail sheepparks.
200-600	20150	60053	Aubrey Bluett's Homestead. Remnant fence line, mounds, hedgelines, pines and elms, postholes, possible rammed earth L-shape floor, concrete foundation
	20012	60190	Aubrey Bluett's Sheep Yard. Remnant fence line, concrete sheep dip, standing post and rail enclosure.
	20450	60128	Don Tully's Stockyard. Standing structure of three internal compartments. c1960s.
192-594	19808	59868	Old Telephone Pole, Brown Hill. Isolated standing pole 2.5m . Presumably survivor of old telephone line to homesteads along Bulgar Creek.

Appendix D

Important Native Fauna species in the Uriarra Valley

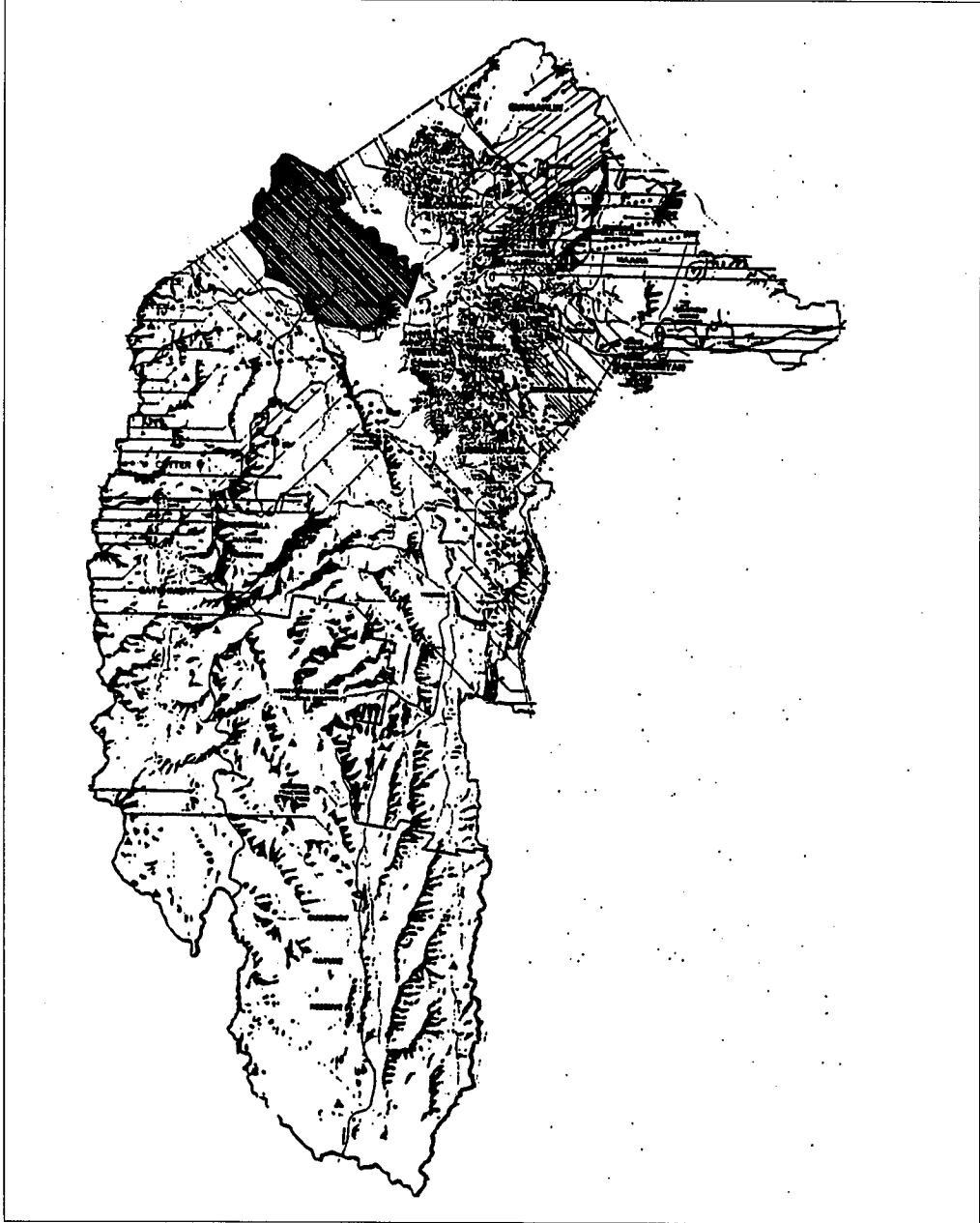
Common Name	Scientific Name
Broad-palm frog	<i>Litoria latopalmata</i>
Brown toadlet	<i>Pseudophryne bironii</i>
Morabine grasshopper	<i>Keyacris scurra</i>
Murray Cray	<i>Euastacus armatus</i>
Nobbi dragon	<i>Amphibolurus nobbi</i>
Pink-tailed legless lizard	<i>Aprasia parapulchella</i>
Stone gecko	<i>Diplodactylus vittatus</i>
Marbled gecko	<i>Phyllodactylus marmoratus</i>
Eastern copper-tailed skink	<i>Ctenotus ubus</i>
Black-headed snake	<i>Unechis gouldii</i>
Rosenberg's monitor	<i>Varanus rosenbergi</i>
Trout cod	<i>Maccullochella macquariensis</i>
Two-spined blackfish	<i>Adopsis bisponosus</i>
Yellow-tailed black cockatoo	<i>Calyptorhynchus funereous</i>
Mistletoe bird	<i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i>
Brown tree creeper	<i>Climacteris picunna</i>
Hooded robin	<i>Melanodryas cucullata</i>
Painted Honeyeater	<i>Grantiella picta</i>
Yellow-faced honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus chrysops</i>
White-eared honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus leucotis</i>
Fuscous honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus fuscus</i>
Rainbow bee-eater	<i>Merops orantus</i>
Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinu</i>
Wedge-tailed eagle	<i>Aquila audax</i>
Red-capped robin	<i>Petroica goodenovii</i>
Speckled warbler	<i>Sericornis sagittatus</i>
Yellow thornbill	<i>Acanthiza nana</i>
Varied sitella	<i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>
Eastern wallaroo	<i>Macropus robustus</i>
Platypus	<i>Ornithorhynchus anatinus</i>
Bush rat	<i>Rattus fuscipes</i>

Appendix D (cont.)

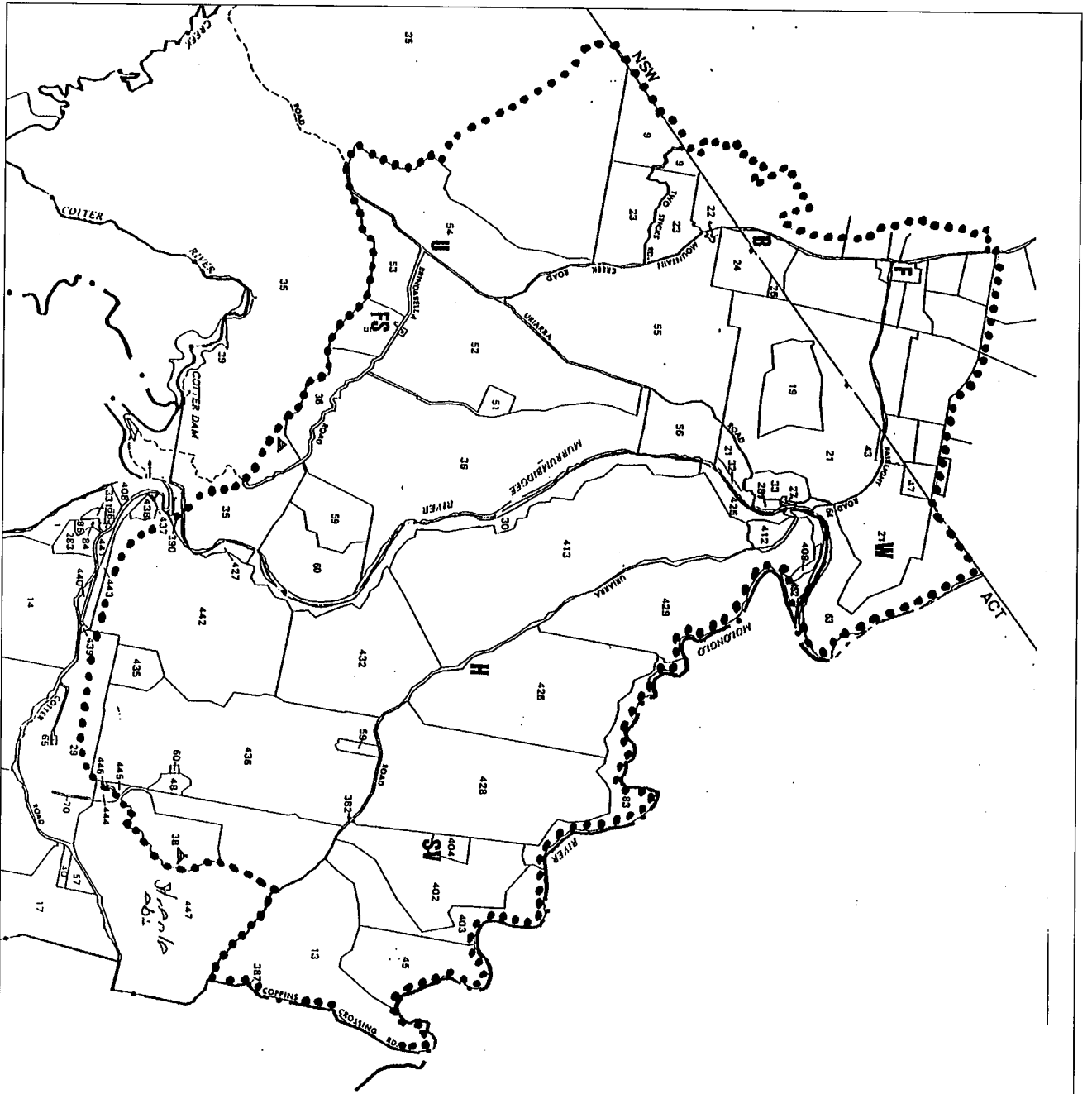
Important Native Flora Species in the Uriarra Valley


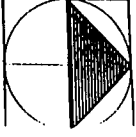
Common Name	Scientific Name
Black cypress	<i>Callitris endlicheri</i>
Apple box	<i>Eucalyptus bridgesiana</i>
Manna gum	<i>E. viminalis</i>
Mealy bundy	<i>E. nortonii</i>
Red box	<i>E. polyanthemos</i>
Red stringy bark	<i>E. macrorhyncha</i>
Scribbly gum	<i>E. rossi</i>
River oak	<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>
Tea tree	<i>Kunzea ericoides</i> and <i>Leptospermum</i> species
Discaria (Australian anchor plant)	<i>Discaria pubescens</i>
Pomaderris	<i>Pomaderris pallida</i>
Australian senna	<i>Cassia aciphylla</i>
Crowea	<i>Crowea exalata</i>
Indigofera	<i>Indigofera australia</i>
Bush pea	<i>Pultenaea cunninghamii</i>
	<i>Amphibromus</i>

Area of Uriarra-Stromlo Valley
(Basking, Hobbs, Riboust 1996)



Uriarra-Stromlo Valley Location Boundary (Baskin, Hobbs, Riboust 1996)



	
BLOCKS STATUS	
1	
LEGEND	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ••• STUDY AREA BOUNDARY AND MAJOR VISUAL CATCHMENT BOUNDARY 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> F FAIRLIGHT B BROOKVALE W WOODSTOCK U URIARRA FS FORESTRY SETTLEMENT H HONTLY SV SPRING VALLEY 	
URIARRA STROMLO STUDY	
NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (ACT)	
1995 ACT HERITAGE GRANTS PROGRAM	
BASKIN - HOBBS - RIBOUST CONSULTANTS	