

Forestry Corporation of NSW Heritage and Conservation Register

A summary and register of heritage and conservation on land managed by Forestry Corporation of NSW



Acknowledgement of Country

Forestry Corporation of NSW acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

We recognise the connection to their land, their waters and surrounding communities and acknowledge their history here on this land.

We also acknowledge our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees who are an integral part of our diverse workforce and recognise the knowledge embedded forever in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander custodianship of Country and culture.

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However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of Forestry Corporation of NSW or the user's independent adviser.

About this heritage and conservation register

Forestry Corporation of NSW has a history dating back more than 100 years. We manage forests throughout NSW that have been used by First Nations people for many centuries and by regional communities for generations.

This heritage and conservation register has been prepared to fulfil the requirements of section 170 of the *Heritage Act 1977*. It was informed by a review of published histories and compilation of historical data held in spatial datasets and physical files.

The land managed by Forestry Corporation includes the public State forests as well as areas of freehold land. The estate spans approximately 2 million hectares and includes areas of high public use and visitation as well as many remote and rarely accessed areas. The area under Forestry Corporation's management is continually changing. Changes may include new purchases of freehold land, revocation of State forest for example to transfer to a conservation tenure, and changes to the appointed land manager. Smaller revocations are continually made as land is acquired for public infrastructure projects.

This document summarises the documented history of the land managed by Forestry Corporation and includes a register of significant heritage items known and recorded at the time of publication, including those listed as heritage items under local environment plans, on the State heritage register or otherwise identified as having State heritage significance.

The register contains 76 items with 3 of state significance and 73 of local significance, see [Table 1](#), for further detail.

It would be impractical to carry out a heritage assessment of all areas and accordingly, this document is not intended to be a complete register of all heritage items in the Forestry Corporation estate. Importantly, cultural heritage assessments are routinely conducted wherever forestry activities are planned, particularly forestry activities such as timber harvesting and road and bridge construction. This ensures items and artefacts documenting the historical use of forests are continually searched for, identified and preserved in the areas managed by Forestry Corporation.

Our ongoing due diligence approach means that we continue to identify historic sites on land managed by Forestry Corporation. While these contribute to the extensive evidence of past use of forests, most historic sites identified do not have State significance. Any sites or items identified as having State significance will be added to the heritage and conservation register that is publicly available on the Forestry Corporation website at www.forestrycorporation.com.au



About Forestry Corporation of NSW

Forestry Corporation of NSW is appointed to sustainably grow and manage State forests, delivering a range of benefits to communities, from access for tourism and recreation to protection of cultural heritage, fire management and renewable timber production.

We are a major public land manager, responsible for around nine per cent of the forested land in NSW. We manage public Crown lands as well as areas of freehold land. We manage large areas for conservation, deliver community services and facilities including picnic and camping areas, walking tracks and an expansive network of public roads and fire trails. We are one of four statutory fire authorities in NSW and deliver pest and weed management in partnership with other agencies and land managers. We harvest, sell and regrow hardwood and softwood timber products from the public forest estate and also facilitate access for primary production including grazing, apiary and quarrying in line with the objectives and functions set out the *Forestry Act 2012*.

We have been managing forests responsibly for more than a century and our forest management is independently certified to the Australian Standard for Sustainable Forest Management, Responsible Wood.

Areas we manage

Forestry Corporation is the appointed land manager for State forests in NSW. The State forest estate includes around two million hectares of multiple-use public forests, spread across large areas of the NSW. Forestry Corporation also manages areas of freehold land.

The State forest estate includes coastal native forests, cypress forests and red gum forests, approximately 230,000 hectares of softwood timber plantations in the central west, south and north of NSW and just under 35,000 hectares of hardwood timber plantations in north east NSW. It includes areas close to towns and regional centres, as well as remote and isolated forest.

Detailed maps of the State forest estate are available on the Forestry Corporation website.

Thematic History – Over a century of State forest management

The NSW Forestry Commission was established under the *Forestry Act 1916* and became the statutory State-owned corporation Forestry Corporation of NSW under the *Forestry Act 2012*.

While most of the land we manage today has been continually managed as State forest for the past century, prior to 1916, these forests have a long and varied history, having been managed by Aboriginal people for thousands of years and cleared and harvested by new settlers since 1788.

Since 1916, State forests have been managed for multiple uses including ongoing production of timber and forest products from native forests. The plantation areas of the estate expanded from the 1950s. With this expansion, some areas were added to the estate, particularly plantations established on former farming country. Small additions have continued to be made to the plantation estate over the subsequent decades.





In the second half of the 20th century, policies and practices increasingly focused on environmental conservation and large areas of the estate were revoked and transferred to conservation tenures and land managers. In the late 1990s, Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) were established between the Commonwealth and State Governments in coastal regions of NSW. Each RFA was informed by a Comprehensive Regional Assessment process (CRA) that transferred substantial areas of higher conservation value forest to national parks and reserves and included cultural and heritage assessments across the RFA areas.

RFAs were not established in western NSW but during the same period, several books focussed on the history of western State forests were produced as part the Forest History Projects for State Forests of NSW series published 1997 in 1998, including:

- Case studies of three cypress pine forests in the Lachlan and Bogan River catchments, Forbes Forestry District
- Narrandera Study on Buckingbong, Gillenbah and Matong State Forests
- A history of the Millewa group of River red gum forests
- A history of the Pilliga cypress pine forests

Large areas of State forests in the Pilliga and River red gum regions were transferred to national park in the first decade of the 2000s, and State forest areas have continued to be transferred to conservation tenures across the State.

While some items and areas referenced are no longer under the management of Forestry Corporation and not listed in this register, the publications referenced above continue to provide relevant contextual history of State forest management.

In 2016 we published [*Growing a lasting legacy*](#) and released a collection of historic photos to celebrate a century managing public forests for and on behalf of the people and communities of NSW. This document is available on our website and provides a thematic overview of State forest management over the preceding century.

There is also a great deal of local knowledge held by communities, particularly Aboriginal communities, about the history and heritage of forests throughout NSW. With State forests providing timber and forest products to sustain local industries and vast forested areas for recreation and other uses, forests are often closely entwined with the history of many communities. Local histories that include information and about State forests may also have been compiled and held by communities throughout NSW.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

Aboriginal cultural heritage includes places of physical and spiritual sites, places, objects, stories, oral histories, flora and fauna that are of significance to First Nations people because of their connection to country through traditions, Lore, customs beliefs and historically. It provides evidence of the lives and assistance of First Nations peoples before and after European contact. Evidence of the longest surviving culture and connection to country through the occupation by First Nations people, and their use of naturally occurring resources, can be seen in items in the landscape.

State forests contain pathways, song lines, ceremonial sites, plants used as food and medicine and animals that are identified as Kinship animals and hunted for food. The habitats that support this flora and fauna are important to First Nations people.

The NSW Government's Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) holds records and information about Aboriginal Places, objects and other significant sites, including those within State forest. While Forestry Corporation accesses and gathers information about Aboriginal cultural heritage on the lands it manages, Forestry Corporation will never disclose this information without the express permission of the traditional custodians.

Forestry Corporation's [Operational Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Management – a Due Diligence Code of Practice](#) set out how we work in consultation with local communities to identify and protect Aboriginal sites and places on an ongoing basis.





Non-Aboriginal cultural heritage

The land managed by Forestry Corporation spans approximately two million hectares and includes areas close to towns, remote forested areas, forests managed for conservation, recreation sites, areas managed for agriculture or primary production such as grazing, as well as areas that are continually harvested for timber and regrown. A wide range of historical sites and features of heritage significance have been recorded within State forests. Structures of historical interest and heritage significance may be standing, ruined, buried, abandoned or still in use.

Non-Aboriginal heritage sites and features that have been recorded in State forests include:

- Infrastructure or remains of infrastructure associated with historical timber production, such as:
 - » former timber mills
 - » timber pole structures
 - » remains of machinery
 - » rail and tram tracks
 - » remnant tree stumps with springboard notches
- Traces of historic agricultural and industrial processing or extractive sites, such as:
 - » former mines and mine shafts
 - » former quarries
 - » old fence lines
- Archaeological sites, such as the occupation remains of former structures, including schools, workers cottages, and huts.
- Transport and access routes, such as bridle paths, travelling stock routes, and roads of varying forms and ages.

Due diligence assessments are completed before carrying out forestry, roading or other activities that could cause disturbance to identify any previously unmapped heritage items.

Heritage and Conservation Register

This register has been compiled pursuant to section 170 of the *Heritage Act 1977* and includes significant heritage items or assets on land managed by Forestry Corporation of NSW.

The details of the individual items listed on the register are available on [Heritage NSW State Heritage Inventory](#) through the Heritage Management System. Given the multi-layered approach to heritage listing within NSW, some items may be listed under one or more heritage register. Reference numbers for the NSW State Heritage Register or the relevant Local Environment Plan are included where applicable.

Although every effort has been taken to ensure information provided in this register is as accurate as possible, the State forest estate is large and geographically dispersed, with many remote areas that are difficult to access. While this register has been compiled drawing on the best available records of information at the time of publication, some records or information may be incomplete. All of the information within this register is for information purposes only. Detailed heritage or archaeological assessments by suitably qualified and experienced specialists may be required to support an understanding of heritage significance prior to work to a heritage item.

This heritage register does not include any specific information about Aboriginal cultural heritage items. Forestry Corporation acknowledges that First Nations people should determine the significance of their heritage and how to maintain and protect it. Forestry Corporation also acknowledges that information about Aboriginal cultural heritage belongs to Aboriginal communities and those communities are the custodians of this information.

Forestry Corporation maintains due diligence and continues to assess heritage values ahead of management activities.



Table 1. Forestry Corporation Heritage Conservation Register

Item Name	Significance Level	State Forest	Suburb	Local Government Area	State Heritage Inventory reference	State Heritage register reference	Local Environment Plan reference
Bassetti grave	Local	Ewingar	Lionsville	Clarence Valley	6000902		I180
Bendethera Bridle Tracks	Local	Dampier	Belowra	Eurobodalla	4423224		I13
Black Diamond Gold Mine (former)	Local	Currowan	Currowan	Shoalhaven	6000901		191
Bob-tail, Ewingar State Forest	Local	Ewingar	Ewingar	Clarence valley	6000904		I80
Bodalla to Wagonga Tramway	Local	Bodalla	Bodalla	Eurobodalla	4421335		A25
Briggsvale Timber Mill Group -Bellis and Morcam Steam Engine	Local	Wild Cattle Creek	Cascade	Bellingen	6000905		A14
Briggsvale Timber Mill Group -Briggsvale Timber Mill	Local	Wild Cattle Creek	Cascade	Bellingen	4421936		A16
Briggsvale Tramway Group -Briggsvale Tramway	Local	Wild Cattle Creek	Cascade	Bellingen	6000906		A21
Briggsvale Tramway Group -tram line at trestle bridge	Local	Wild Cattle Creek	Cascade	Bellingen	6000909		A17
Briggsvale Tramway Group -Tramline Road	Local	Wild Cattle Creek	Cascade	Bellingen	6000907		A20
Briggsvale Workers Cottages	Local	Wild Cattle Creek	Cascade	Bellingen	6000908		A13
Bulahdelah Mountain Conservation Area	Local	Bulahdelah	Bulahdelah	Mid-Coast	6000910		C2
Bundian Way	State	Nullica	Eden	Bega Valley	6000942	01906	
Bungabee State Forest	Local	Bungabbee	Bentley	Lismore	4422000		I3
Byrnes, Bate and Tarlington Stock Routes	Local	Bodalla	Nerrigundah	Eurobodalla	6000912		I11
Chinese Oven	Local	Dampier	Nerrigundah	Eurobodalla	4421340		I209
Colonial Road-Remnants (Former Wool Rd)	Local	Yerriyong	Jerrawangala	Shoalhaven	4421690		218
Coman's Mine	Local	Dampier	Nerrigundah	Eurobodalla	4421342		I214
Concrete dam	Local	Dampier	Wamban	Eurobodalla	6000913		I215

Item Name	Significance Level	State Forest	Suburb	Local Government Area	State Heritage Inventory reference	State Heritage register reference	Local Environment Plan reference
Convict road, Bolaro SF	Local	Bolaro	Nelligen	Eurobodalla	4421343		A18
Corunna Diggings and Mine	Local	Corunna	Corunna	Eurobodalla	4421344		I48
Cumberland State Forest, Bellamy Quarry and Sawpit	Local	Cumberland	West Pennant Hills	The Hills	6000914		A26
Cypress Road Stone Lined Well	Local	Doubleduke	Tabbimoble	Richmond Valley	6000915		I145
Deep Creek Quarry site	Local	Boyben	Gilgandra	Coffs Harbour	6000916		A98
Deraquin House site	Local	Bodalla	Bodalla	Eurobodalla	4421347		A2
Dorrigo-Glenreagh Railway Group - Cascade Railway Station	Local	Wild Cattle Creek	Cascade	Bellingen	4421949		A19
Dorrigo-Glenreagh Railway Station Group - Briggsdale Railway Station	Local	Wild Cattle Creek	Cascade	Bellingen	6001108		A15
East Lynne Tram Line	Local	Benandarah	Benandarah	Eurobodalla	6000917		I21
Edrom Lodge	Local	East Boyd	Edrom	Bega Valley	4421019		I037
Finger Board building	Local	Sugarloaf	Deep Creek	Kyogle	6000918		I378
Forestry camp, Ewingar State Forest	Local	Ewingar	Ewingar	Clarence Valley	4421111		I82
Former Alum Mine	Local	Bulahdelah	Bulahdelah	Mid-Coast	4422755		I10
Former Oxley Highway	Local	Doyles River	Debenham	Port Macquarie-Hastings	4421208		A027
High Conservation Value Old Growth	State	Marengo	Coffs Harbour	Various	4422234	01487	I101 (Tweed)
Kellys Gold Mine	Local	Mogo	Mogo	Eurobodalla	4421359		I102
Kiley's Run (Red Hill Station)	Local	Buccleuch	Adjungbilly	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional	4421361		
Kings Battery and Little Belimbla Creek Mine Site	Local	Dampier	Wamban	Eurobodalla	4421330		I213
Kirkconnell House	Local	Sunny Corner	Sunny Corner	Bathurst Regional	6000924		I169

Item Name	Significance Level	State Forest	Suburb	Local Government Area	State Heritage Inventory reference	State Heritage register reference	Local Environment Plan reference
Langley Vale Tramway	Local	Lansdowne	Lansdowne Forest	Mid-Coast	4421167		A84
Little Snowball Creek Alluvials, Reefs and Huts	Local	Tallaganda	Snowball	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional	4420282		I352
Log ramps (skids), Wagonga Inlet	Local	Bodalla	Narooma	Eurobodalla	4421348		I191
Lone Knight Grave	Local	Essington	Black Springs	Oberon	4421354		I4
Longworth Tramway Earthworks (Former)	Local	North Branch	Swans Crossing	Port Macquarie-Hastings	4421176		A032
Lowden Forest Park	Local	Tallaganda	Farringdon	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional	4421363		I281
Lucky Old Chief and Royal Oak Mines	Local	Bodalla	North Narooma	Eurobodalla	6000926		I217
Macquarie Woods	Local	Vittoria	Vittoria	Bathurst Regional	6000927		I340
Macquarie Woods Cottage	Local	Vittoria	Vittoria	Bathurst Regional	6000928		I274
Mount Remarkable Mine	Local	Dalmorton	Dalmorton	Clarence Valley	4421566		I75
Mr Bulmer Memorial, Mt Pikapene Forest Rest Area	Local	Mount Pikapene	Busbys Flat	Richmond Valley	6000929		I11
Mumbulla Mountain	Local	Murrah	Greendale	Bega Valley	6000930		AH671
Old Argyle Rd	Local	Penrose	Penrose	Wingecarribee	6001107		I436
Old Black Springs Cemetery	Local	Vulcan	Black Springs	Oberon	6000931		I5
Old Bolaro Road	Local	Buckenbowra	Buckenbowra	Eurobodalla	6001411		A3
Old Tenterfield Road	Local	Banyabba	Banyabba	Clarence valley	4421875		I14
Olivers Store	Local	Tallaganda	Snowball	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional	6000932		I351
Paddy's River Ford (Site 1)	Local	Penrose	Penrose	Wingecarribee	6000933		I434
Pambula Gold Field	Local	Nullica	Greigs Flat	Bega Valley	4421023		I228
Pilot Hill Arboretum	Local	Bago	Batlow	Snowy Valleys	4423256		I42
Reedy Creek Road Supports	Local	Bodalla	Narooma	Eurobodalla	6000934		I292
Solferino village archaeological site	Local	Ewingar	Lionsville	Clarence Valley	4421902		I351

Item Name	Significance Level	State Forest	Suburb	Local Government Area	State Heritage Inventory reference	State Heritage register reference	Local Environment Plan reference
State Pine Forest (Mount Macquarie)	Local	Mount Macquarie	Neville	Blayney	6000936		I331
Sugar Pine Walk (former)	Local	Bago	Laurel Hill	Snowy Valleys	4423257		I43
Survey Tree 47	Local	Girard	Timbarra	Tenterfield	6000937		I146
The Six Foot Track	Local	Jenolan	Jenolan	Oberon	6001109		I18
Tin Mine (Former)	Local	Bellangry	Bellangry	Port Macquarie-Hastings	4422568		A149
Tooloom Goldfields and Township	Local	Yabbra	Tooloom	Kyogle	4420288		A164
Tramline Trestle Bridge	Local	Wang Wauk	Bunyah	Mid-Coast	4422746		I8
Village Precinct (Briggsvale)	Local	Wild Cattle Creek	Cascade	Bellingen	4424057		I118
Village Precinct (Cascade)	Local	Wild Cattle Creek	Cascade	Bellingen	4421935		I120
Wallace Herbarium	Local	Mogo	Mogo	Eurobodalla	6000939		I318
Water race	Local	Dampier	Coffs Harbour	Eurobodalla	6000940		A30
Wells Solferino	Local	Ewingar	Lionsville	Clarence Valley	6000941		I352
Whipstick Molybdenum Mine	Local	Nullica	Wyndham	Bega Valley	4421022		I668
Wooleybah Sawmill and settlement	State	Pilliga West	Kenebri	Warrumbungle	4421254	01846	I27
Wyan Creek Bennett's Sawmill site	Local	Mount Belmore	Kippenduff	Richmond Valley	4420287		A10
Wyan Creek School Site	Local	Mount Belmore	Kippenduff	Richmond Valley	4421256		A9

Related documents and references

Forestry Corporation publications

- [*Growing a lasting legacy: a century of Forestry Corporation of NSW*](#)
- [*Annual Reports*](#)
- [*Sustainability Reports*](#)
- [*Operational Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Management – a Due Diligence Code of Practice*](#)

Assessments and reports

- [*Comprehensive Regional Assessments and cultural heritage reports for Eden Regional Forest Agreement*](#)
- [*Comprehensive Regional Assessments and cultural heritage reports for North East Regional Forest Agreement*](#)
- [*Comprehensive Regional Assessments and cultural heritage reports for Southern Regional Forest Agreement*](#)

Books

There are several books focussed on the western areas of State forest produced as part the Forest History Projects for State Forests of NSW series (published 1997 & 1998):

- *Case studies of three cypress pine forests in the Lachlan and Bogan River catchments, Forbes Forestry District*
- *Narrandera Study on Buckingbong, Gillenbah and Matong State Forests*
- *A history of the Millewa group of River red gum forests*
- *A history of the Pilliga cypress pine forests*



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