



NOMINATION FORM

97/03950
ACT Heritage Unit
Chief Minister's Department
GPO Box 158

16/11/89

AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COMMISSION LISTING FOR CANBERRA & IMMEDIATE SURROUNDS

PAGE: 148

NAME OF PLACE MAJURA HOUSE

013406 8/01/000/0111/01
REGISTERED

LOCATION/BOUNDARIES:

MAJURA HOUSE AND OUTBUILDINGS; MAJURA LANE, PIALLIGO.

PROPERTY INFORMATION:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Description and photograph:

A STONE AND SLAB FARM WORKERS COTTAGE. THE AREA SURROUNDING THE HOUSE
CONTAINS AN OPEN SLAB BARN AND A SHEARING SHED.

References:

PAPER BY E.J. MARTIN HELD BY THE COMMISSION.
MEASURED DRAWINGS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED IN THE MARION MAHONY GRIFFIN
MEASURED DRAWING COMPETITION AND ARE HELD BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
TERRITORIES.

DETAILS OF NOMINATOR

Name:
Address:

Phone:
Date:

DETAILS OF LESSEE/OWNER

Name:
Address:

Phone:
Date:



NOMINATION FORM

for the
ACT HERITAGE REGISTER

97103950.

ACT Heritage Unit
Chief Minister's Department
GPO Box 158
CANBERRA ACT 2601

(062)462409 or 462714

Place name:

Location:

Boundaries:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Site Number:

Site type:

References:

History:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION:

1850

Description and photograph:

A STONE AND SLAB FARM WORKERS COTTAGE. THE AREA SURROUNDING THE HOUSE CONTAINS AN OPEN SLAB BARN AND A SHEARING SHED.

References:

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TERRITORIES.

DETAILS OF NOMINATOR

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Date:

DETAILS OF LESSEE/OWNER

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Date:

Cultural significance relates to an object's aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for past, present and future generations. The process of establishing the cultural significance of a place requires the assessment of cultural significance and the preparation of a statement of significance.

ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

When assessing these places for cultural significance, attributes concerning their quality, rarity or representativeness should be taken into account. The places may exemplify a way of life, technology or function no longer practised or becoming rare; possess strong associations with important persons or symbolism an event or a social era; represent major creative and/or technical achievements; exhibit significant townscape values, or preserve humanly modified landscapes. Integrity of a place will be assessed by the application of the following criteria.

Criterion A: the degree to which it displays technical and/or creative excellence.

Criterion B: the degree to which it symbolizes a way of life, taste, custom process or function.

Criterion C: its role as an important prototype which influenced later developments.

Criterion D: its role as the only known, or only reasonably intact example in the ACT area, or as a representative example of its type.

Criterion E: its association with an important figure or figures, event or events, development or cultural phase.

Criterion F: its role as a component of a natural or cultural landscape (including rural, townscape and streetscape), displaying consistency in materials, form and scale and/or enhancing its setting and contributing to its setting.

Criterion G: its role as a spiritual place.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This statement is a summary of why the place is of value and will indicate the results of the application of the above criteria.

ITS DEMONSTRATES A WAY OF LIFE, TASTE, CUSTOM, PROCESS AND FUNCTION OF PARTICULAR INTEREST. FURTHER IT IS PART OF THE DUNTRON PROPERTY COMPLEX OF ROBERT CAMPBELLS ESTATE IN CANBERRA. THE COTTAGE IS ONE OF THE FEW STONE BUILDINGS OF ITS TYPE, SERVANTS QUARTERS OF A LARGE AGRICULTURAL ESTATE, THAT HAS SURVIVED THE CONSOLIDATION OF SQUATTOCRACY WHICH WAS A VITAL PART OF MID 19TH CENT. AUSTRALIA. IT REPRESENTS A CONTINUAL WORKING FARM (ALTHOUGH ORIGINALLY NOT INDEPENDANT AS IT IS TODAY) FOR APPROXIMATELY 130 YEARS AND AS SUCH IS THE OLDEST IN THE ACT AND ONE OF THE FEW THAT MAINTAINED SUCH A ROLE.

ACT HERITAGE TASK FORCE

RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE PLACES IN AN ACT
HERITAGE REGISTER

ACT Heritage Committee
Interim Territory Planning Authority

The Heritage Task Force has examined the following places against the *ACT Heritage Committee - Criteria for Assessment of Places in Heritage Sensitive Areas (14 April 1989)* and recommends that you consider them for inclusion in the ACT Heritage Register.

The Task Force recommends to the Interim Territory Planning Authority that, where a place listed below is endorsed by the ACT Heritage Committee for inclusion in an ACT Heritage Register, that the Territory Plan include that place as a heritage place and that it be subject to such conditions as are required by the ACT Heritage Committee.

The letters A-G against each place correspond to the criteria considered applicable to its registration:

Place	Criteria
"Majura House and outbuildings";	B.F.

(Block 135 Majura).

List No. 57

Chairman,
ACT Heritage Task Force

**CITATION FOR ASSESSMENT FOR THE
NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (ACT)**

PRELIMINARY DRAFT CITATION

MAJURA VALLEY

ASSESSED BY: Classification Committee of the National Trust of Australia (ACT)

STATUS OF PLACE AT NOMINATION: Nil, though several sites within the Valley have heritage status.

Duntroon Woolshed:	Classified by the National Trust of Australia (ACT) Interim Heritage Places Register (ACT Government) Register of the National Estate
Woolshed Creek Fossil Site:	Classified by the National Trust of Australia (ACT) Interim Heritage Places Register (ACT Government) Register of the National Estate
Redwood Grove Park:	Classified by the National Trust of Australia (ACT) Register of the National Estate
Majura House:	Classified by the National Trust of Australia (ACT) Register of the National Estate
Air Disaster Memorial	Classified by the National Trust of Australia (ACT)
A.C.T. Leasehold Land	

LOCATION OF PLACE:

The area is bounded by:

- on the east, the catchment of Woolshed Creek
 - on the north by the Federal Highway
 - on the west by the catchment of Woolshed Creek
 - on the south by Fairbairn and Pialligo Roads
-

DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

For this citation the Valley begins where Majura Road intersects the Federal Highway. Here the valley is narrow, confined by Mt Majura (W) and Greenwood Hill (E). Southward the Valley widens until it attains 8.5kms width at the point where Majura Road crosses Woolshed Creek. The vista there takes Mt Ainslie to the west, the Tinderry ranges and Pialligo to the south and gently undulating cleared land to the east. The width of the Valley is maintained to Fairbairn and Pialligo Avenues which serve as the southern boundary of the area of this study. At Fairbairn Avenue the RMC Complex is hidden behind a grove of well developed trees.

Most of the Valley is cleared rural land. There is a substantial native forest area on Greenwood Hill which straddles the ACT/NSW border, though the vegetation and landscape patterns of Mts Majura and Ainslie are partly the result of plantings made early this century.

Exotic trees are scattered around the Valley and small plantings are located around homestead or ruin

sites. There are commercial plantings of *Pinus radiata* in the SE and NW. The Air Disaster Memorial (Block 602; 5 on map) is located within the SE plantation with access from Pialligo Avenue. The Redwood Grove (Blocks 108 & 245 Majura; 4 on map) also address Pialligo Avenue. These plantings give the appearance of native forest.

The greater part of the eastern side of the Valley is occupied by the Commonwealth. The sites which severely compromise the integrity of the Valley include RAAF Gunnery Range, Federal Police Training Area, RMC Firing Range and Canberra Airport (as can be seen on map). However, The Willows, Avonley and Gladfield holdings remain in the north and between the airport and the S.E. pine plantation, two grazing properties remain, Dundee and Malcolm Vale. A section of S.W. corner is also under Commonwealth usage as RMC Manoeuvre Area and part of this area lies within the city boundaries.

On the western side the land is mainly utilised for grazing and hobby farms and there are structures (houses, farm buildings, fences and dams) linked to these land uses, including Dove Cottage, Majura House and Cherryburn.

The valley is bisected North-South by Majura Road, which is soon to be upgraded to a dual carriageway, a co-axial cable runs across the north west section of the Valley, and a major gas link is on the western side, linking Fyshwick and Dickson. These intrusions detract markedly on the visual integrity of the Valley.

There are sites of acknowledged heritage significance within the valley, being:

Woolshed Creek Fossil Site	1	on map
Duntroon Woolshed	2	
Majura House	3	
Redwood Grove Park	4	
Air Disaster Memorial	5	

In addition to these sites several other sites of significance have been identified within the Valley.

Fossil Soil Sequence, Northcott Drive (Road corridor adjacent to Block 22, Majura)	6
Woolshed Geomorphological Site (Block 151, Majura AFP Training Centre)	7
Remains of Stone Cottage & Associated Ruins, Woolshed Creek (Block 151, Majura)	8
Stone Ruins (Block 151, Majura)	9
Native Grasslands	10
Avonley Woolshed (Block 48)	11
Gladfield Huts (Block 51, Majura)	12
Aboriginal Artefact Scatters Round Gladfield (Block 57, Majura)	13
Majura Church/Community Hall	14
Malcolm Vale	15
Remembrance Avenue & Air Force Memorial (Block 217, Majura)	16

BACKGROUND:

Majura Valley was occupied by employees of Robert Campbell of Duntroon in 1825. Campbell was granted 4,000 acres (then described as Section 58) as compensation for the loss of his ship "Sydney" whilst it was on charter to colonial authorities. Later a further 1,000 acres (previously Section 181) was added to this grant. On the second grant of land, a farm worker's cottage and outbuildings now known as Majura House was built in 1850. Additional land was purchased, mainly along the Molonglo River and the southern end of the Valley. Duntroon Woolshed was built on Section 98, a purchase adjacent to

Section 181. The bulk of the Valley was in the ownership of the Campbell family, officially or unofficially, and these holdings together with leases and other considerable runs, made Duntroon the largest pastoral enterprise of the region.

The empire was run from Duntroon Homestead. The Campbell family who pursued a policy of assisted passage for Scots immigrants with farming knowledge, gradually settled station employees within the Valley on small holdings (Majura House is an example, as is Mugga Mugga, Blundell's Cottage and Woden Homestead south of the Valley). Employees housed on Duntroon Estate were given 2 acres of land which they were encouraged to cultivate for their own benefit or keep a few animals. By the mid 1850s there were 22 men employed and the total population of the Valley was approximately 50 people (Darmody, p.7). They formed a complete and self-sufficient community presided over by a kindly patriarch. It is claimed that Gaelic was still spoken in the Valley c1900.

When the Robertson Land Acts were introduced in 1861, many of the Duntroon employees selected land including Darmody, McIntosh, Sheedy, O'Keefe's, O'Rourke families and for the most part ceased to be employees of the Campbells.

As more and more land was alienated during the last decades of the nineteenth century an independent community began to develop in the valley and the focus moved away from Duntroon Homestead. The census of 1891 revealed a population of 393 with 83 dwellings (National Trust files) being the sixth largest population in the Queanbeyan district. By then farming was not the sole preoccupation of the valley. Darmody, ran a butchery from his section at 'The Pines' (Darmody p23) and Walter McIntosh ran a successful blacksmithing and wheelwright business from Gladesfield from 1890's - 1920's.

The free selection era in the valley ended with the declaration of the area as the seat of Federal Government and the subsequent selection of Duntroon as the site of the Royal Military College. The Duntroon Estate (30457 acres) was officially rezoned by the Commonwealth in 1912, and the fate of the selections around Duntroon varied. Some families leased the land back and for example the O'Rourke family who held "The Willows" from 1861 - 1985 and the Mayo family who occupied Majura House for 140 years till 1981 (Trust files).

Vegetational changes had occurred also within the Valley, particularly due to grazing, clearing, rabbits and the inevitable periods of drought. Under Thomas Weston the National Capital's Officer in Charge of Afforestation 20,500 plants were introduced onto the nearly bare Mt Ainslie and Mt Majura. These plantings, plus the natural regeneration of grazing and disturbed lands, have led to the present vegetation patterns.

A second conscious attempt to change the landscape of the valley was felt when in 1918 at the insistence of Walter Burley Griffin, Thomas Weston planted 120,000 redwoods at the southern end of the Valley. Weston knew the Canberra climate was unsuitable to the *Sequoia sempervirens* and *sequoliadenron gigabteiun* and of the original planting only 500 of the trees remain. The plantation is now used as a public recreation area.

European settlement markedly changed the vegetation patterns along the valley floor. Before the 1820's the Majura Valley was predominantly grassland, merging with open grassy woodland and forest on the steeper slopes. Today only approximately 200 ha of this grassland survives (marked 10 on map). 200 ha approximately located along the northern, southern and eastern boundaries of the airport and 2.9ha approximately located on the western sides below Campbell Park offices.

Within these native grassland several threatened species and some regionally uncommon species have been identified.

Tympanocryptis Lineata Pinguicolla (eastern lined earless dragon) - listed as endangered

within the ACT, and nationally as vulnerable. Available information suggests that this species is restricted to 10 sites in Australia (A Langston, thesis in preparation, University of Canberra April 1996)

Delam impar (striped legless lizard). This is listed nationally vulnerable and as a vulnerable species in the ACT.

Rutidosia leptorrhynchoides (button wrinklewort). This species is listed as nationally endangered and endangered in the ACT.

Cooraboorama Canberrae (Canberra wood cricket). Little is known about this species but it is considered to be threatened.

Uncommon species found in the Valley include *Swainsona sericea*, *Brachycome heterodonta* and several orchids. Research work on all of these species is proceeding, with particular emphasis on distribution, population and habitat.

"On the basis of the threatened and uncommon species at the site, the diversity of vegetation at the site and the extent of grassland, the area of natural temperate grassland in the western Majura Valley is considered to be one of the best remaining temperate grasslands of its kind in Australia. Natural temperate grasslands have been listed as an endangered community in the ACT, and will be nominated nationally once the process of listing communities is underway. They are considered the most threatened community in Australia." (from a paper supplied by Sarah Sharpe, Grasslands Project Officer, Department of Parks and Conservation, ACT Government in April 1996).

Geological sites within the valley demonstrate different aspects of the history of the area and the ways in which natural features develop in the long and short term.

The fossil soil sequence on Northcott Drive (Sites of Significance p12ff.) is located in the erosion gully of "an ephemeral stream draining eastwards from Mt Ainslie". At least five fossil soils (palaeosols) are exposed along the stream bed. The site demonstrates "...complex weathering stages that have accompanied long-term landscape evolution in the region...It may represent the most complex soil sequence in the Canberra area." (Sites of significance p.12). The site is important for students of earth science studying landform development.

The Woolshed Creek geomorphological site (Heritage of the ACT p32) illustrates how watercourses have changed as a result of European settlement and poor land use policies. Before European settlement of the Creek was a swampy valley with a "chain of ponds" form, a series of deep pools connected by marshy seepage channels. Other equivalent alluvial valleys close to Canberra have been modified by engineering works and "... this site provides a clear illustration of longer and shorter term hydraulic changes". (Site of Significance p.11).

The Woolshed Creek Fossil Site has both historical and geological significance. In the 1870's the Reverend W.B. Clarke collected fossils from this site, the first recorded Silurian fossils found in Australia. The fossils are brachiopods, mainly *Atrypa dunroonensis*, and the site has become " the type locality for this species" (Heritage of the ACT p.32).

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

Criterion (i): A place which demonstrates a high degree of technical and/or creative achievement, by showing qualities of innovation or departure or representing a new achievement of its time.

Criterion (ii): A place which exhibits outstanding design or aesthetic qualities valued by the

community or a cultural group.

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.

Although the Majura Valley contains significant elements of a built heritage from convict, pastoral, free selection and Commonwealth era and admirably demonstrates changes over the passage of time it is not considered to sufficiently satisfy this criterion.

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.

Criterion (v): A place which is the only known or only comparatively intact example of its type.

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

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.

The Valley has association with early landholding Campbell family, the early selectors, and slight association with the work of Burley Griffin and Weston in landscape terms, but these associations are not considered sufficient to meet the threshold.

Criterion (viii): A place which represents the evolution of a natural landscape, including significant geological features, landforms, biota or natural processes.

Within the Valley there are several sites of heritage significance, Woolshed Creek Site, Fossil soil sequence and the remnant grasslands which illustrate evolution of natural landscape. However, it is not considered that the Valley fulfils this criterion sufficiently.

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 Grasslands within the Valley does serve as habitat to a number of endangered and threatened species. However, this does not warrant the classification of the entire valley.

Criterion (x): A place which exhibits unusual richness, diversity or significant transition of flora, fauna or natural landscapes and their elements.

Whilst the 209 ha of Majura Grasslands contain a rich and diverse mixture of flora and fauna, making it one of the best remaining grasslands in Australia it

does not justify classification of the entire valley.

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.

Although the geological sites, and the Majura grasslands constitute important teaching and type locality sites there is not sufficient justification to classify the whole valley.

CONCLUSION:

Despite the undoubted heritage significance of several of the sites within the Valley, the Valley itself lacks sufficient integrity to adequately meet the criteria set for classification. In addition its overall aesthetic value has been severely compromised by intrusion of roads, gas lines, noise, and by government acquisition and use of the former small landholdings.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

CONSERVATION POLICY:

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The Majura Valley not be classified and that it should be removed from the ACT Government's indicative list. In preference, individual sites of heritage significance should be identified and classified.
2. The following sites remain classified by the Trust and on the ACT Government's indicative list

WOOLSHED CREEK FOSSIL SITE AND ADJACENT CUTTING

1

Location - Bed of Woolshed Creek north of Fairbairn Avenue Bridge and an adjacent road cutting.

History - A small area of fossiliferous mudstone within the Canberra Formation crops out in the bed of Woolshed Creek. The fossils are preserved on steeply dipping bedding surfaces on a cleaved olive-grey mudstone. The dominant fossils are brachiopods, principally the species *Atrypa duntroonensis*. Original shell of fossils is preserved rather than the more normal moulds of fossils.

In the adjacent cutting was exposed a dipping sequence of ashstone and tuffaceous sandstone. These rock units overlie fossiliferous mudstone.

Significance - Woolshed Creek site is of considerable scientific and historical value. The locality discovered in 1878 by the Rev. W.B. Clarke was the first Silurian fossil site discovered in Australia. It is the type locality of several species of fossils.

DUNTROON WOOLSHED

2

Location - Woolshed Creek, Pialligo

History - Originally on Robert Campbell's estate. Completed circa 1870. The barn and woolshed was constructed in three stages, a stone block circa 1840, then a stone addition and finally a large a large two-storey brick structure incorporating as loft. Features include heavy, hand worked timber beams and trusses and a central cast iron column.

Significance - A major complex of the Duntroon Estate, dating from the early Victorian era, the woolshed demonstrated the sequence of construction methods used in the mid 19th century.

MAJURA HOUSE AND OUTBUILDINGS

3

Location - Majura Lane Pialligo

History - Originally on Robert Campbell's Estate. Erected c 1850. The farm worker's cottage, of the stone and slabs with an iron roof (originally shingled), has as outbuildings an open slab barn and a one-stand shearing shed.

Significance - The cottage is one of the few stone buildings of its type which has survived the consolidation of the squattocracy during the 19th century. It is probably the oldest farm complex in the Territory still in its original use.

REDWOOD GROVE PARK

4

Location - At the eastern end of the Canberra Airport with access from the Canberra-Queanbeyan Road.

History - The plantation of Californian Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) and Californian big tree (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*). was established by Charles Weston at the direction of Walter Burley Griffin between 1919 - 20. More than 120,000 trees were planted. Canberra's dry conditions without the cool fogs of the natural habitat of these species resulted in many deaths. However the remainder are now carefully tendered in Redwook Park Grove. The maturing remnant grove has created an environment

Significance - The plantation is a fascinating attempt to establish a plantation of North American Redwoods in Australia.

AIR DISASTER MEMORIAL

5

Location - Fairbairn Pine Plantation, off Pialligo Avenue

History - The large granite monolith is supported by two smaller stones to form a cairn. A plaque, centrally placed in the cairn, bears the names of those who died in the aircraft disaster.

Significance - The Memorial has historic significance, marking the spot of one of Australia's national war-time disasters. It also commemorates the untimely deaths of the Chief Administrators of Australia's war effort.

3. It is also recommended that the following sites be investigated.

FOSSIL SITE SEQUENCE, NORTHCOTT DRIVE

(6)

Geomorphological site, displaying soil profiles in cross section - five fossil soils are exposed at intervals along the gully. NCDC Sites of Significance p.13

WOOLSHED CREEK GEOMORPHOLOGIAL SITE

(7)

The site demonstrates clear illustration of long and short term hydrologic changes. NCDC Sites of Significance p.11

WOOLSHED CREEK RUINS

(8)

The run up a small stone cottage and lime stone wells footbridge and fruit trees. Currently under investigation by Marianne Moss for National Trust of Australia (ACT.) NCDC Sites of

Significance p.5

STONE RUIN SITE

(9)

Listed as Block 42 on ACT Government's Indicative Heritage Places List. House site marked by 2 earth mounds and trees and possibly child's grave. Rated high significance Preliminary Cultural Resource Survey p.14. Currently under investigation by Marianne Moss for the National Trust of Australia (ACT)

NATURAL TEMPERATE GRASSLANDS

(10)

These grasslands are a significant habitat for a number of endangered and threatened species. These include

Typanocryptis Lineata *Pigivicolla*

Delmar Impar

Symemon Plana

Cooraboorama Canberrae

Rutidosis Leptorrhynchoides

Several uncommon species also occur on site (Sharpe)

AVONLEY WOOLSHED

(11)

Located 150m south of present Avonley homestead, it served as a local shearing shed in the Majura Valley since late 19 century. Rated moderate to high significance. Preliminary Cultural Resource Survey p.23

GLADESFIELD HUTS

(12)

The homestead complex consists of four dwellings - the oldest of which appear to be two slab huts adjacent to each other on L shaped formation rated high significance preliminary Cultural Resource Survey p.25

ABORIGINAL ARTIFACT SCATTER

(13)

3 small artifact scatters located within vicinity of 400m along the west bank of the creek thought possibly to be representative portions of one large site area.

MAJURA CHURCH/COMMUNITY HALL

(14)

Located eastern side of Avonley Road the pise structure with a corrugated iron roof and small fibro extension rated moderate to high significance preliminary Cultural Resource Survey p.24

MALCOLM VALE

(15)

Listed as Block 102 on ACT Government's Indicative Heritage Places List.

TREES OF REMEMBRANCE PLANTING AND RAAF MEMORIAL

(16)

Junction of Majura and Federal Highway

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT MAJURA VALLEY NOT BE CLASSIFIED AS OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE IN ITS ENTIRETY - ONLY INDIVIDUAL SITES WITHIN THE VALLEY SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED
 2. THAT THE FIVE SITES ALREADY CLASSIFIED BY THE TRUST REMAIN CLASSIFIED.
 3. THAT A FURTHER ELEVEN INDIVIDUAL SITES BE INVESTIGATED BY THE TRUST BY PLACING THEM ON THE WORK PROGRAMME
 4. THAT ADVICE BE SENT IMMEDIATELY TO ACT HERITAGE THAT THE TRUST WISHES TO NOMINATE THE NATURAL TEMPERATE GRASSLAND AREA TO THE INDICATIVE LIST OF THE HERITAGE PLACES REGISTER
-

REFERENCES:

Files:

Canberra and District Historical Society Files
National Trust Files
ACT Government files
A Report to ACT Planning Authority DELP
Preliminary Cultural Resources Surveys (Kowen & Majura) 1995

Unpublished work

Langston, A. Thesis in preparation. University of Canberra 1996
Sharpe, S. Natural Temperate Grasslands in the Majura Valley. Unpublished paper April 1996 held by the National Trust.

Journals

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Published Works

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Darmody, P W From the Banagher to Majura. The Family of John and Mary Darmody. P W Darmody ACT 1984.

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1990

Maps

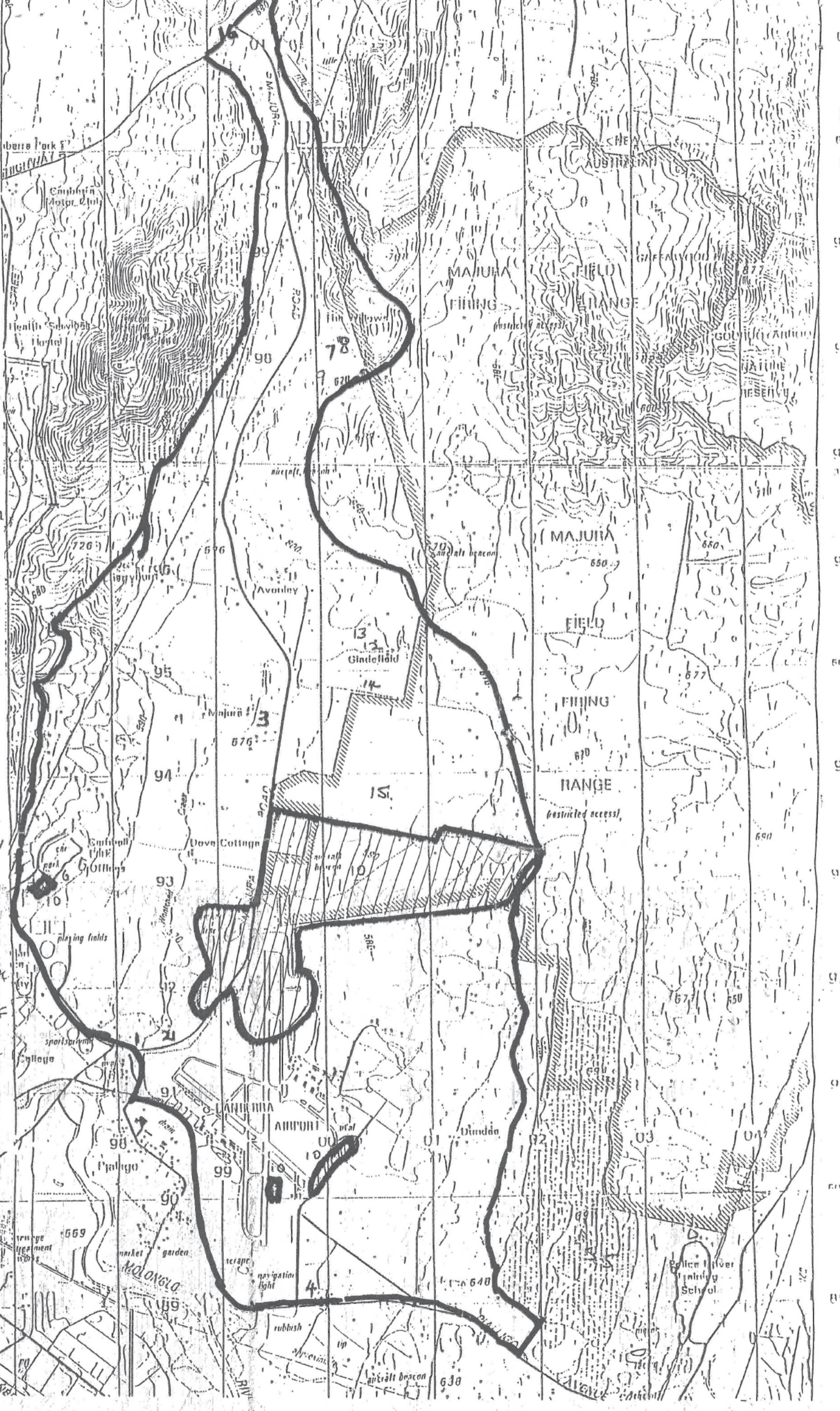
Survey of Limestone Plains District 1832. Robert Hoddle National Library of Australia. G8981 G461832
Hod.

Federal Capital Territory Feature Map - Cadastral - Topographic. Poss date 1915 National Library of
Australia G8981 G46

Tenure Map. Australian Capital Territory. April 1981. Trust map Collection

June 1996

- 1 WOOLSHED CREEK FUGGIL SITE
 - 2 DUNGREEN WOOLSHED
 - 3 NATURAL HOUSE
 - 4 PIALIGO REDWOOD GROVE
 - 5 AIR DISASTER MEMORIAL
 - 6 FUGGIL SOIL SEQUENCE
 - 7 NOOKSHER CK. GEOMORPHOLOGICAL SITE
 - 8 NOOKSHER CK. STONE COTTAGE
 - 9 STONE RUIN SITE
 - 10 NATIVE GRASSLANDS
 - 11 AVONLEY SHED
 - 12 GRADEFIELD HUTS
 - 13 ABORIGINAL SITES
 - 14 MAJURA CHURCH COMMUNITY HALL
 - 15 PIALICOLUVALE
 - 16 REMEMBRANCE PLANTING + RAAF MEMORIAL
- DELIMITATION OF SURVEY AREA
620 CONTOUR LINE
- ATTACHMENT



RECEIVED
29/10/91

Majusa
File No 97/3950

DALE
MIDDLEBY

Author: Lyn Jones at CC-ACTPA
Date: 17/09/97 14:04
Priority: Normal
TO: Dale Middleby at ENVIRONMENT_HO
Subject: Re: ACT Heritage Places List



Majura at: file
File No
97/3150

I hope you're sitting down!

District of Majura, Division of Pialligo, Sections 8-16
District of Majura, Blocks 36, 48, 51-53, 59, 63, 64, 65(part), 92,
102, 135, 139, 146, 148, 150, 151, 153, 165, 171, 189, 191(part),
217-219, 260, 275, 406, 460, 468, 473, 492, 497, 502, 504, 506,
514(part), 528-530, 540, 550, 554-556, 559-564, 570, 571, 572(part),
573, 574, 584(part), 585(part), 586, 587, 590, 594, 595, 611, 612,
614, 619(part), 620-623, 624(part), 629-635, 654, 655(part), and
Majura Road.

Lyn

Reply Separator

Subject: ACT Heritage Places List
Author: Dale Middleby at ENVIRONMENT_HO
Date: 17/9/97 10:22 AM

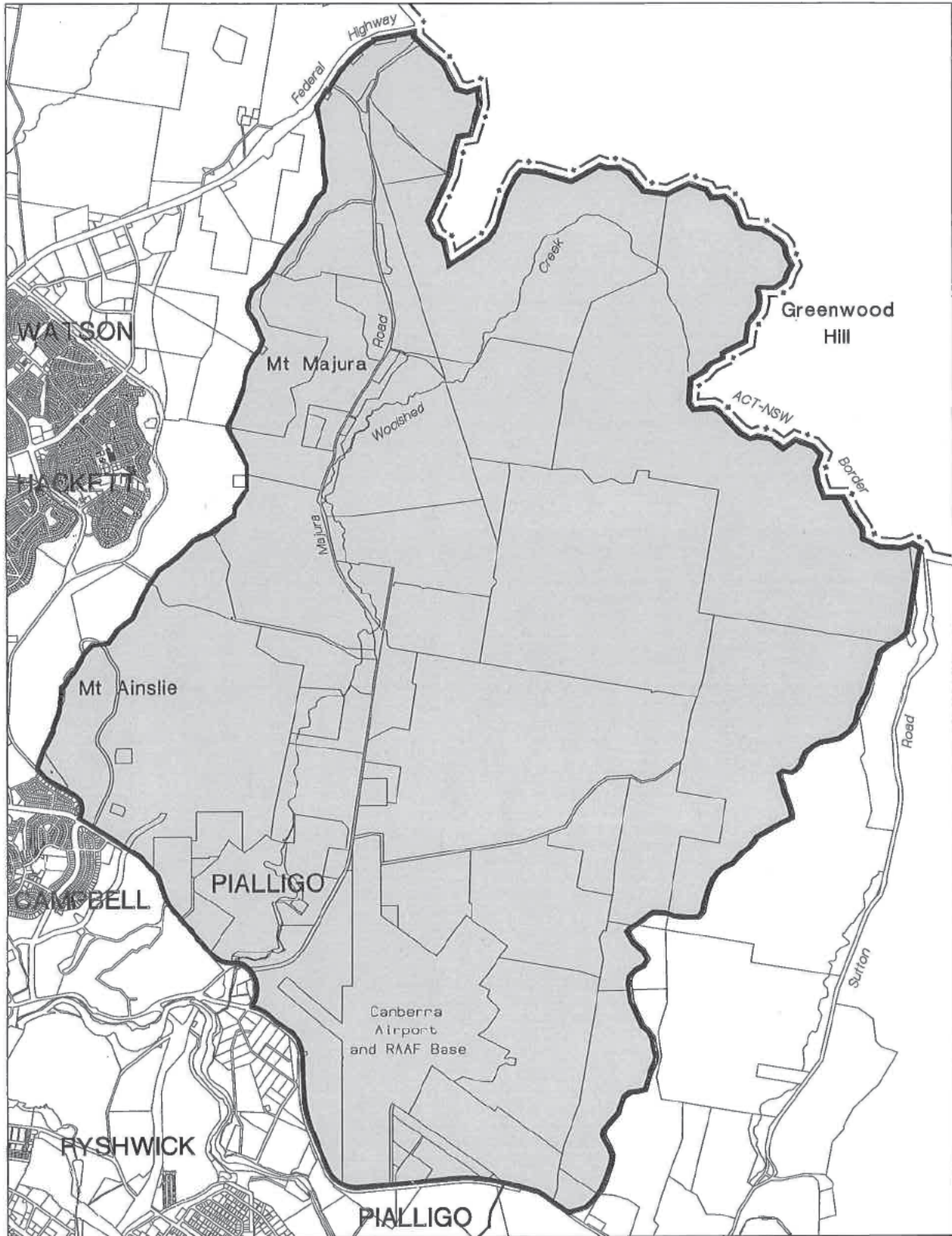
Lyn

Me again! The National Trust have nominated the Majura Valley. They describe it thus:


The area bounded by:
on the east, the catchment of Woolshed Creek
on the north by the federal hwy
on the west by the catchment of Woolshed Creek
on the south by Fairbairn and Pialligo Roads.

They describe the place as: The valley begins where the Majura Road intersects the Federal Highway. Here the valley is narrow, confined by Mt Majura and Greenwood Hill. Southward the valley widens until it attains 8.5kms width at the point where Majura Road crosses Woolshed Creek.

Can you translate this into block/districts/divisions for my list?



MAJURA VALLEY

 Area proposed for inclusion on an interim Heritage Places Register





ACT Government

F A C S I M I L E

 RECEIVED
 16/10/97

2153

SUBJECT: Heritage Citation Maps	
TO	FROM
Name: Dale Middleby	Name: Lyn Jones.
Organisation: ACT Heritage	Section: Territory Plan Coordination PALM
Phone: 2072166	Phone: 2071773
Fax No: 2072200	FaxNo: 2071710
Date: 16.10.97	No of Pages:

COMMENTS:

This could be an alternative for Majura Valley with contours instead of rural lease boundaries. If you prefer this one I may need more time.

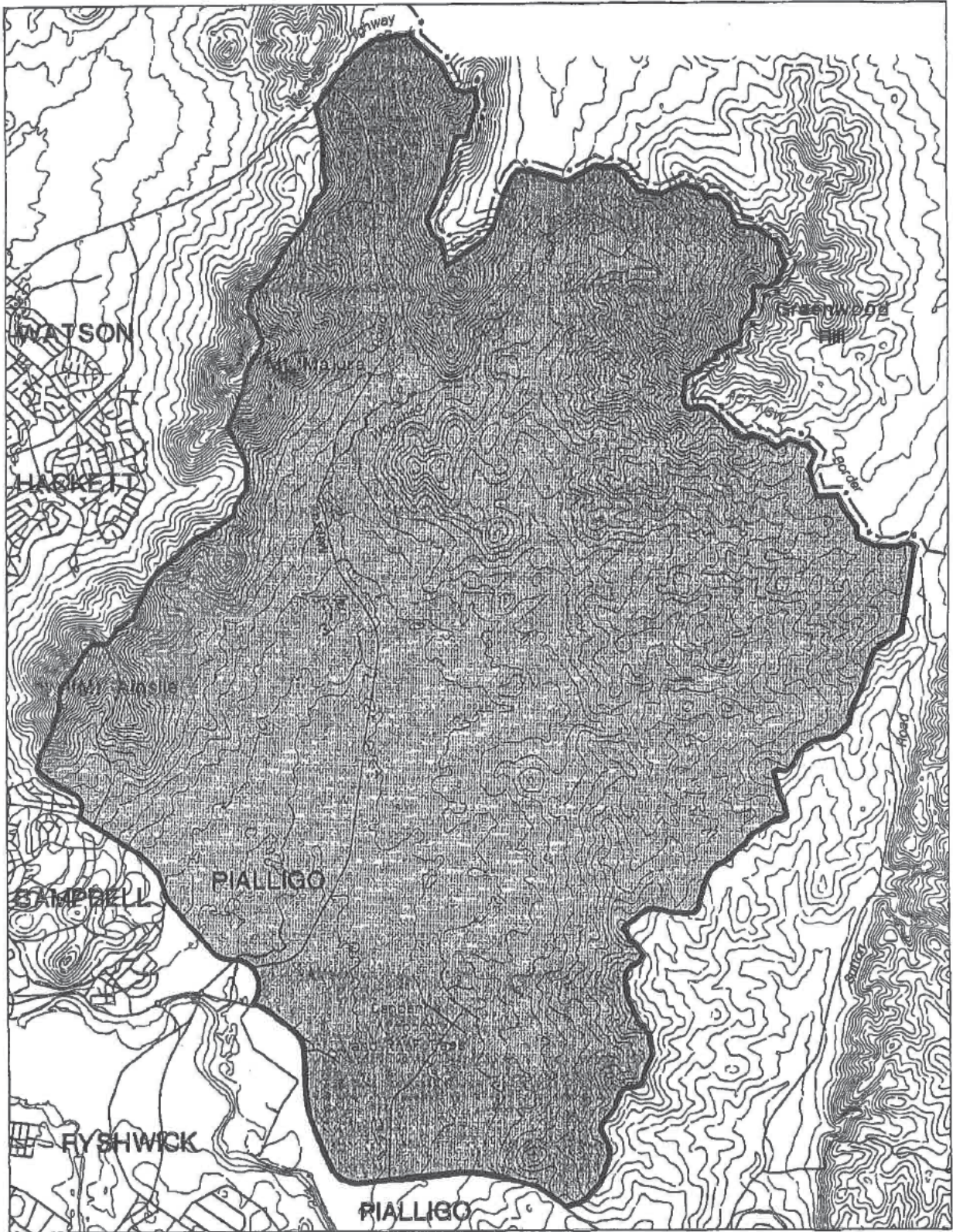
Lyn.

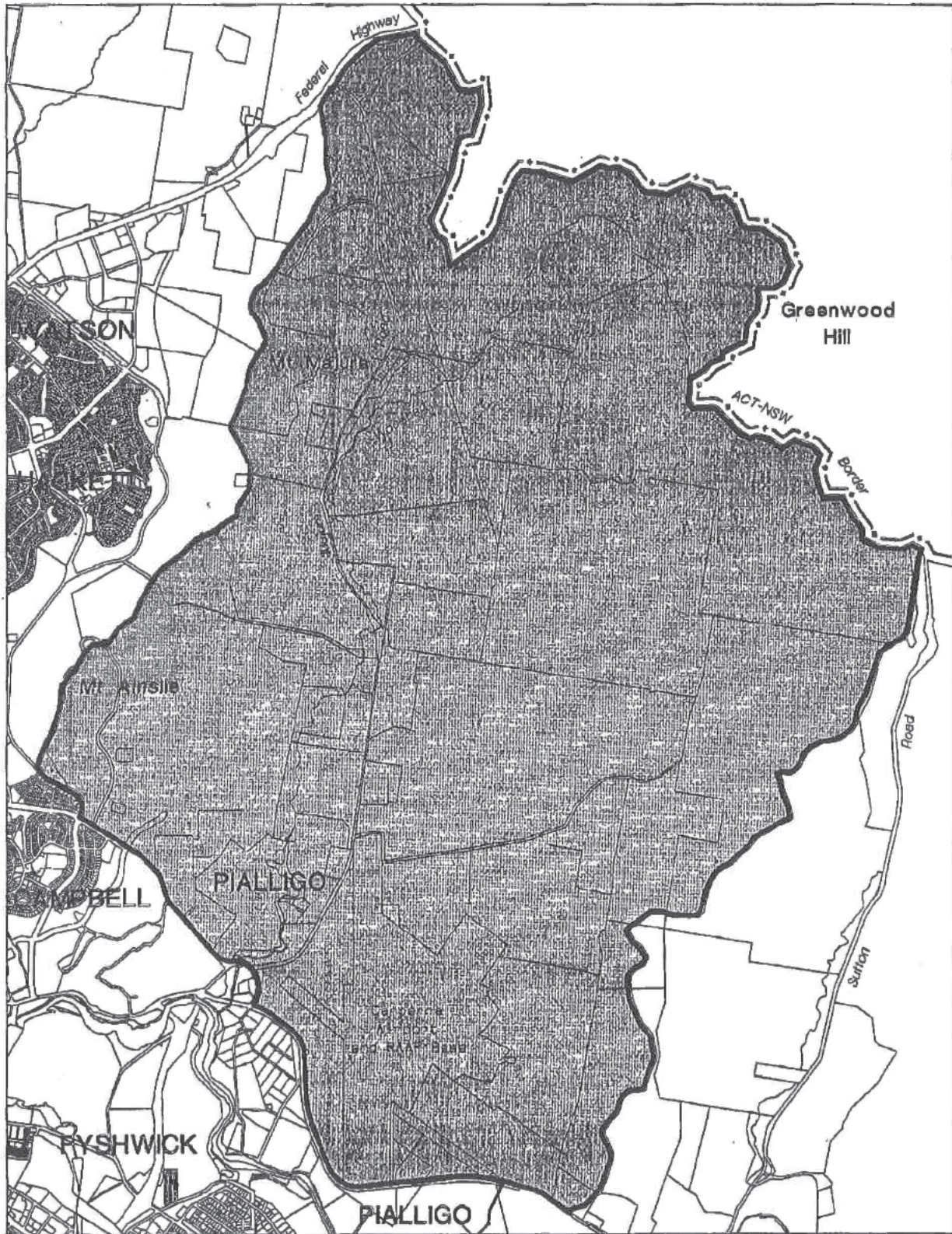


16 Challis Street, Dickson

GPO Box 1908, Canberra, ACT 2601 • Telephone: (06) 207 1926 • Facsimile: (06) 207 1925

FAX_HER.DOC





MAJURA VALLEY

 Area proposed for inclusion on an interim Heritage Places Register



Plan of 160 acres of land near Mt Ainsley
Limestone Plain, County of Murray
Parish of Piattigo

Applied for by Geo. Campbell

Scale 20 chains to an Inch

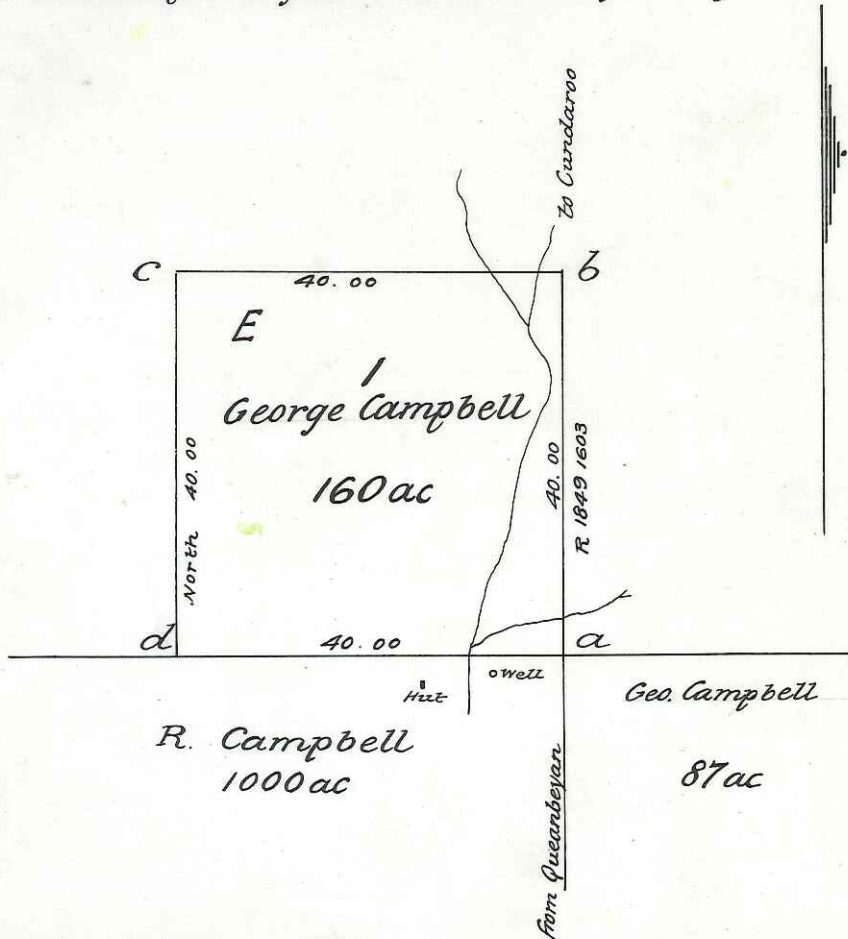
The circumferenter was used in the survey

Sale at Queanbeyan on the 17th May 1862

Country lot, E

Portion I

Vide 62. 9590 reporting above lot sold to George Campbell



Corner	Bearing	From	Links	No on tree
a	w 35° S	Apple	.86	1.
b	180°	"	.22	1.
c	w 30° N	Gum	.40	1.
d	N 22° W	Apple	.12	1.

The unit N° of the year (1) is marked on the trees

Report. This portion is level open forerest.
There is no surface water.



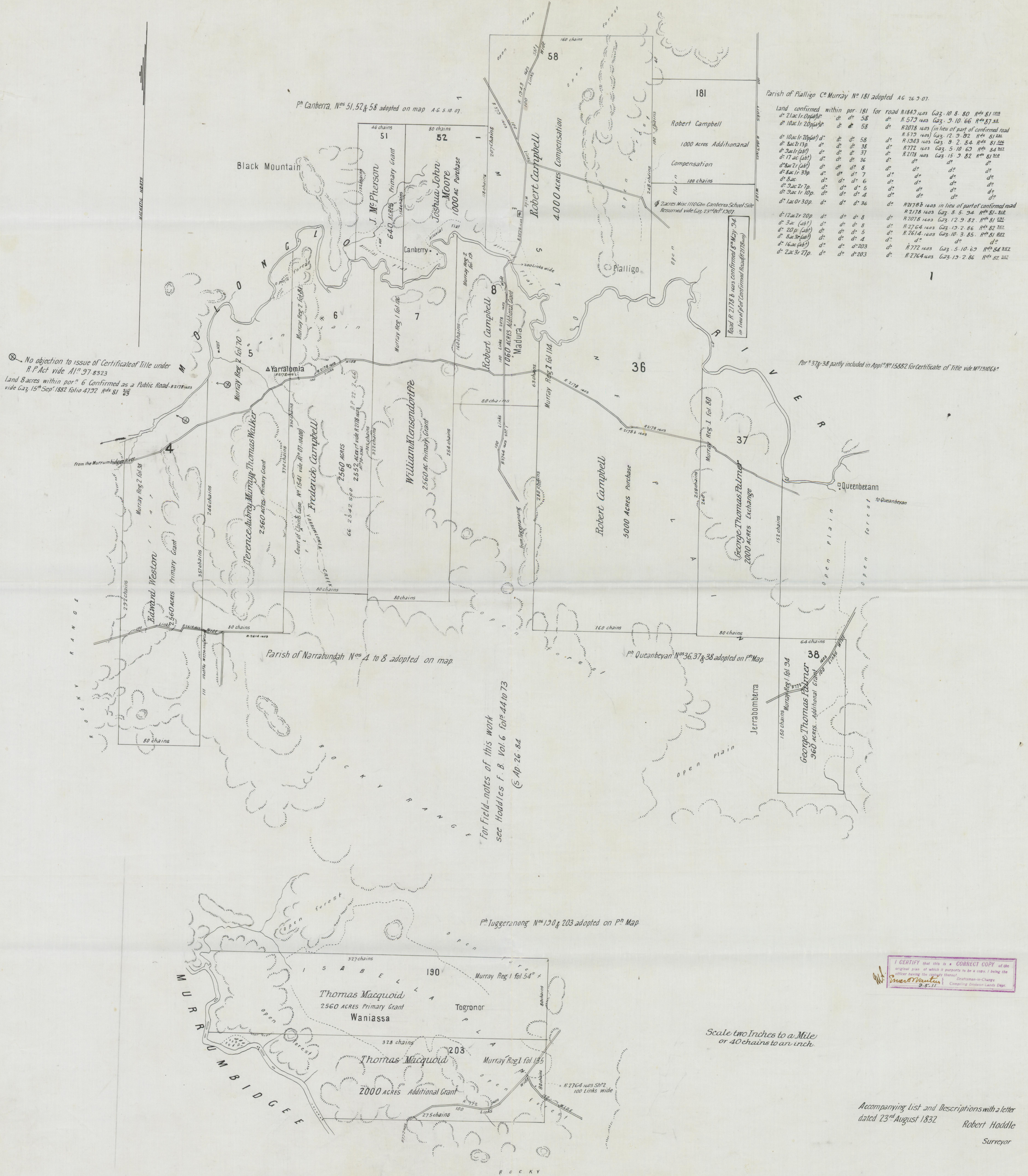
CERTIFY that this is a CORRECT COPY of the original plan of which it purports to be a copy. I being the officer having the custody thereof.
J. B. Thompson
27. 4. 11.
Draftsman-in-Charge
Compting Division-Lands Dept.

Transmitted to the Surveyor General with my letter of the 20th February 1862 No 62/3.

J. B. Thompson
Lic^d Surveyor.

M. 628 743

Ed. Ex. 11/11.



Parish of Palligo Co. Murray N° 181 adopted A.C. 26.3.07.

Land confirmed within par. 181 for road R1842 1603	Co. 23. 10. 8. 80	R° 81 122
d° 21ac 1r 0p 44st	d° 58	R° 579 1603 Co. 23. 10. 66 R° 87 25
d° 10ac 1r 20p 44st	d° 58	R° 2018 1603 (in lieu of part of confirmed road
d° 10ac 1r 20p 44st	d° 58	R° 579 1603 Co. 23. 12. 2. 82 R° 81 122
d° 8ac 2r 13p	d° 58	R° 1243 1603 Co. 23. 9. 2. 84 R° 81 226
d° 2ac 1r 6st	d° 57	R° 772 1603 Co. 23. 5. 10. 67 R° 84 352
d° 17ac 1st	d° 36	R° 2178 1603 Co. 23. 15. 2. 82 R° 81 226
d° 2ac 2r 1st	d° 8	d°
d° 8ac 1r 33p	d° 7	d°
d° 8ac	d° 6	d°
d° 2ac 2r 7p	d° 5	d°
d° 2ac 1r 10p	d° 4	d°
d° 1ac 0r 30p	d° 4	d°
d° 12ac 2r 20p	d° 8	R° 2178 1603 in lieu of part of confirmed road
d° 2ac 1st	d° 8	R° 2178 1603 Co. 23. 5. 24. R° 81 122
d° 20p 1st	d° 8	R° 2078 1603 Co. 23. 12. 9. 82 R° 81 221
d° 8ac 2r 44st	d° 5	R° 2764 1603 Co. 23. 10. 3. 85 R° 82 352
d° 16ac 6st	d° 4	R° 2614 1603 Co. 23. 10. 3. 85 R° 81 802
d° 2ac 5r 27p	d° 203	R° 772 1603 Co. 23. 5. 10. 67 R° 84 352
	d° 203	R° 2764 1603 Co. 23. 10. 3. 85 R° 82 352

I CERTIFY that this is a CORRECT COPY of the original plan of which it purports to be a copy, I being the Surveyor in Charge.

9.5.17

Scale two Inches to a Mile
or 40 chains to an inch.

Accompanying list and Descriptions with a letter dated 23rd August 1832

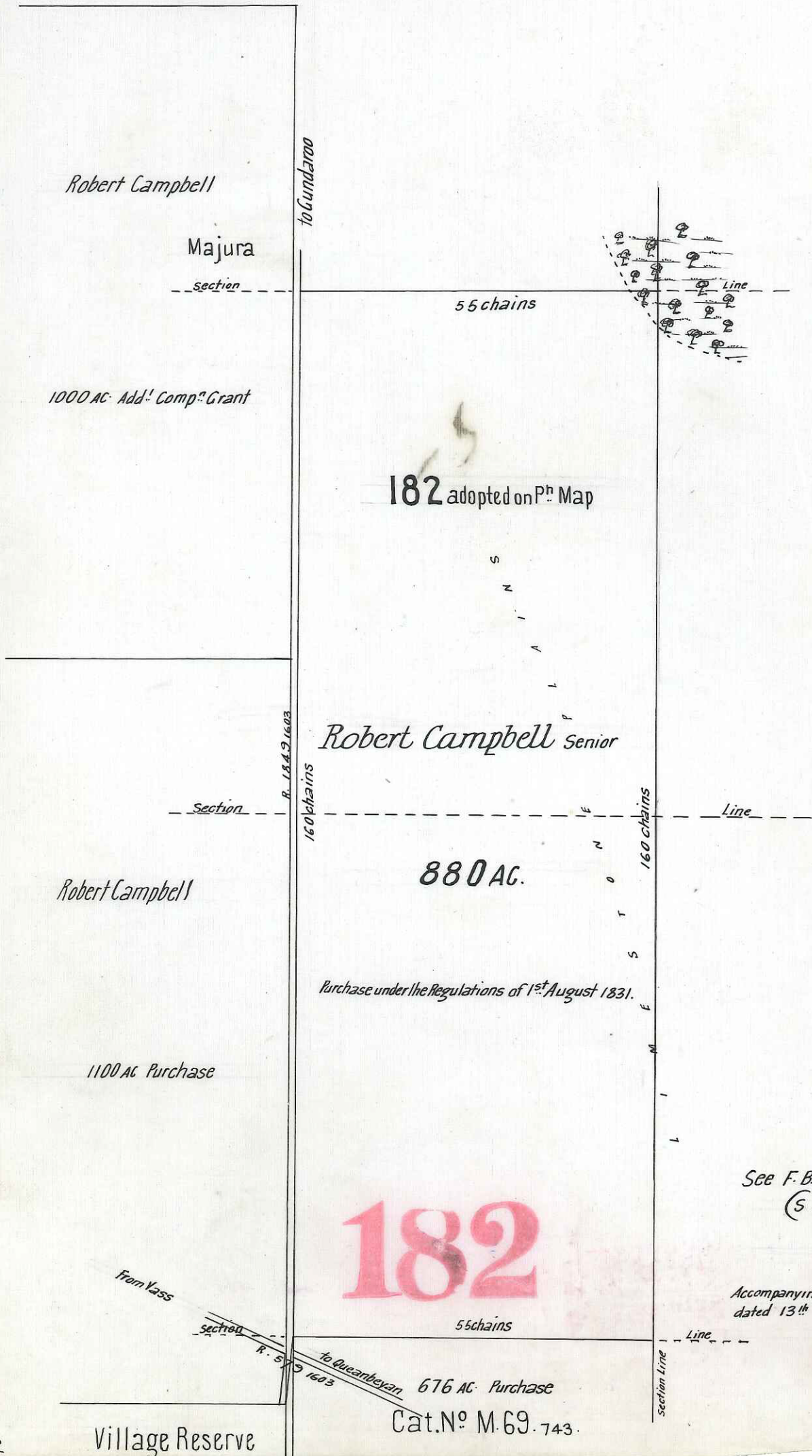
Robert Huddle
Surveyor

Parish Tuggeranong Cty. Murray 190 & 203, Parish Narrabundah 4 to 8, Parish Queanbeyan 36, 37 & 38, Parish Canberra 51, 52 & 58, Parish Palligo 181, G.118.

PLAN
of portion 182 (adopted)
Parish of Pialligo
County of Murray

Scale 20 chains to an inch.

See Pur. Abst^t 35/489
Lot 15 9th March 1836
sold to Robert Campbell sen^r.



I CERTIFY that this is a CORRECT COPY of the original plan of which it purports to be a copy, I being the officer having the custody thereof.
James Martin
4-5-11.
Draftsman-in-Charge
Compiling Division-Lands Dept.

See F. B. Vol. 2 fol. 112
(5 Feb^r 23-84)

Robert Huddle
Surveyor
Accompanying Discription and letter
dated 13th Feb^r 1836.

Ea
ER 761.

Cat. N^o M. 69. 743.

PLAN

of a portion of land containing 160ac^s N^o 42 in the
Parish of Pialligo in the County of Murray
applied for as a Conditional Purchase by George Campbell under the 22nd section of
the Crown Lands Alienation Act.

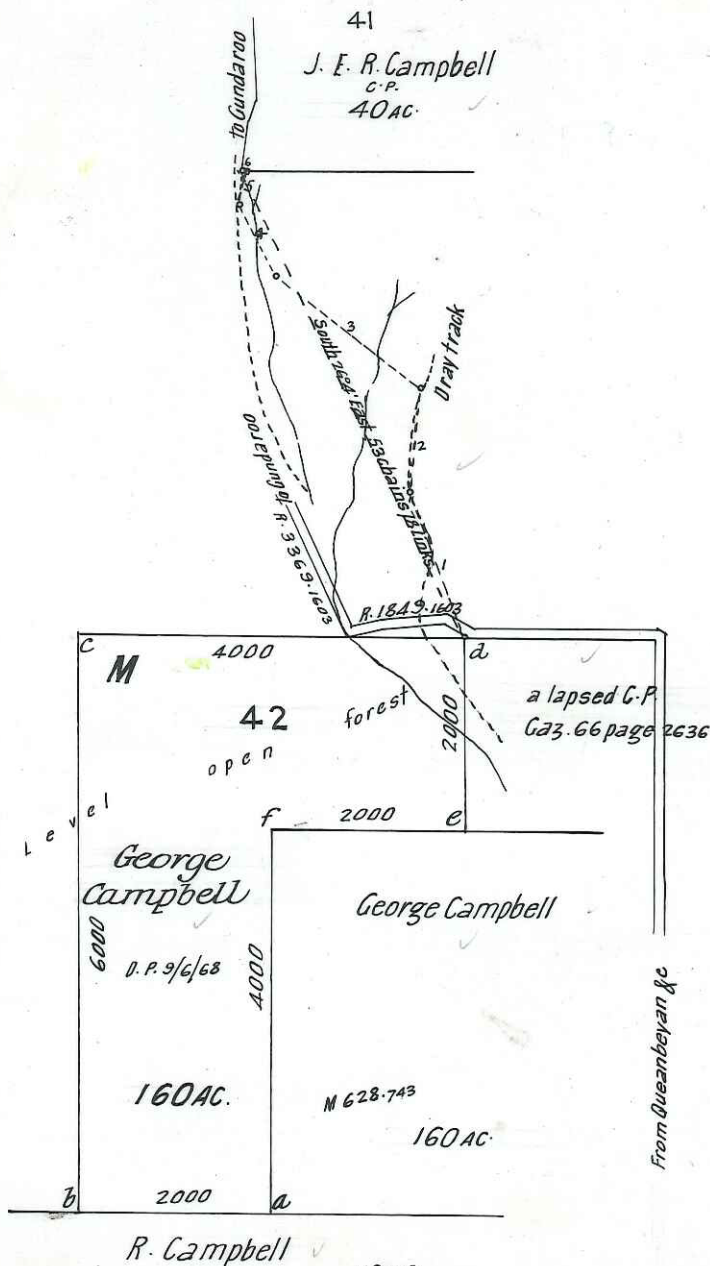
Sale at Queanbeyan on 6th May 1867

Country lot M Portion $\frac{4}{42}$

vide A1^o 67/5374 above lot not bid for

vide A1^o 67/3396 above lot selected by George Campbell

MAGNETIC NORTH



Reference to Traverse.

N ^o of line	Bearing	Length.
N ^o 1	338° 40'	1600
" 2	6° 00'	11-00
" 3	307° 40'	19-00
" 4	332° 00'	8-50
" 5	5° 00'	3-40
" 6	270° 00'	0-25

Reference to Corners

Corner	Bearing	From	Links	N ^o on tree
a	341° 0'	Apple	012	42
b	180° 0'	Apple	023	42
c	139° 30'	Box	019	42
d	270° 00'	Apple	036	42
e	148° 00'	Apple	048	42
f				

Corner trees marked thus $\begin{matrix} \blacktriangle \\ \blacktriangle \\ \blacktriangle \end{matrix}$ 42

42

I CERTIFY that this is a CORRECT COPY of the original plan of which it purports to be a copy, I being the officer having the custody thereof.
J. B. Thompson
Draftsman-in-Charge
Compiling Division-Lands Dept.
27-5-17

NOTES.- Surveyed by Circumferentor
Scale 20 chains to an inch.
Formation; Schist.
Aspect; open forest.
Timber; Apple and Box.
Water supply none.
Marked in accordance with Regulations.

Transmitted to the Surveyor-General with my letter N^o 64/95 dated 30th Nov: 1864

Cat. N^o M. 813.743.

J. B. Thompson
Lic^d Surveyor 64/3461

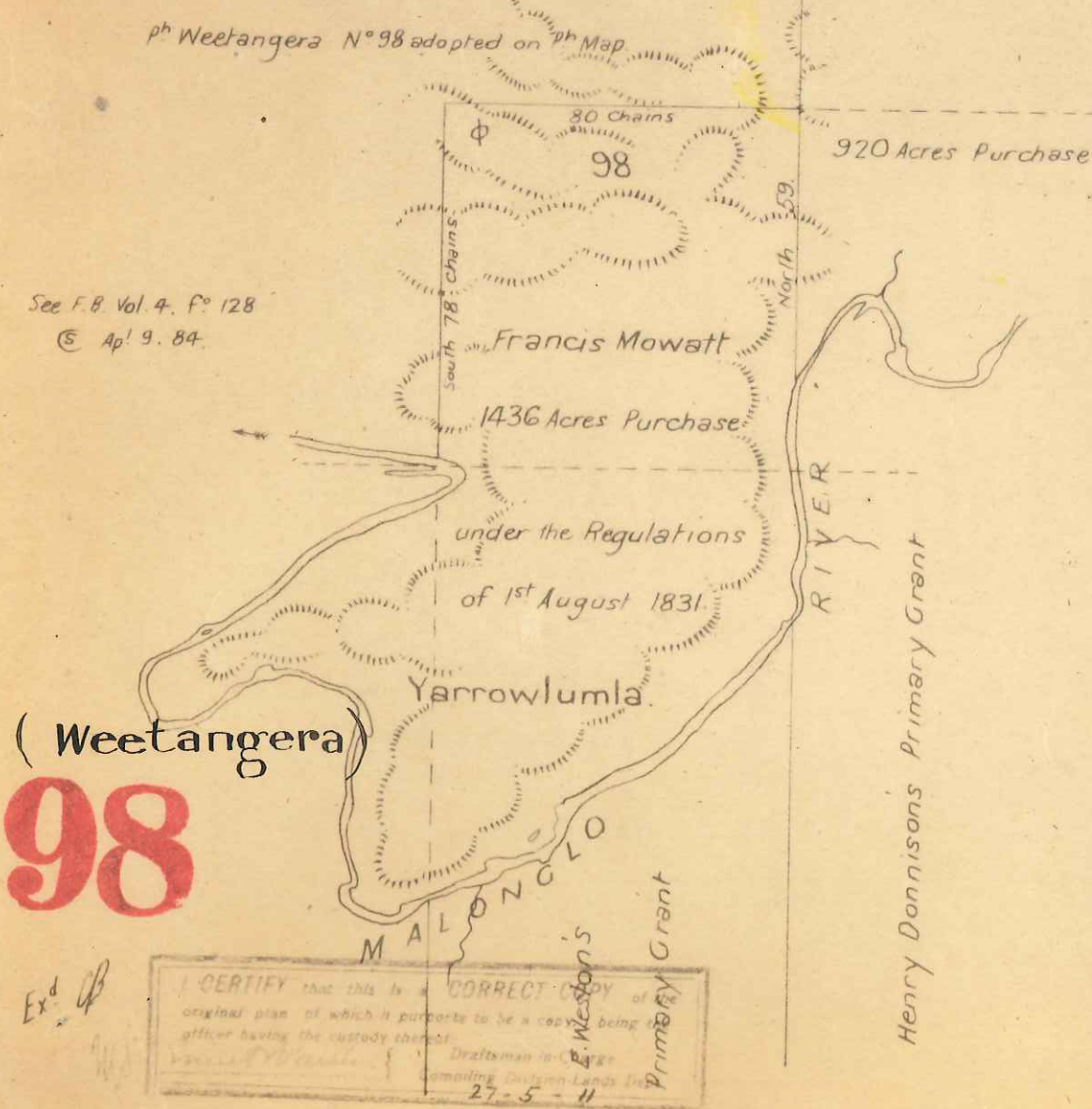
Survey of lands applied for to Purchase
 by Robert Fuller, and Robert Campbell
 at Limestone Plains and sold to Mowatt
 and Campbell

See pur. Abst 34/126.

Φ No objection to issue of Cert of Title under R.P Act for this
 portion vide Aln 97-8323

ph Weetangera N° 98 adopted on ph Map

See F.B. Vol. 4. F° 128
 (S) Ap. 9. 84.



I CERTIFY that this is a CORRECT COPY of
 original plan of which it purports to be a copy being
 officer having the custody thereof.
 Draftsman in Charge
 Surveying General's Office
 27-5-11

Land 13a 2r (ab) confirmed within por. 98. ph Pialligo for road R 579 1603
 Gaz. 5.10.86 Rd 87
 Land 2/17a (ab) confirmed within por. 98. ph Pialligo for road R 1849 1603 Gaz. 10.8.80
 Rd 81 101C



See Pur. Abst. 34/23
 Robert Huddle
 Surveyor
 Accompanying Descriptions and
 Letter Dated 1st August 1834

M 17.743.



MAJURA VALLEY LANDCARE GROUP

Majura House

Robert Campbell settled this area in 1825 as a compensation grant of 4,000 acres (16 km²) of land and 710 sheep, after Campbell's ship the "Sydney" was lost off the coast of India while chartered to the New South Wales government. Campbell named his property Majura probably after "Majura in India", according to the ACT National Trust. In 1825 James Ainslie by assignment of Campbell started a sheep station in the area which today is Canberra.

Campbell was assigned convict labourers, but also brought free settlers as farm workers. These people were settled on small holdings of around 2 acres. Such a holding is "Majura House" which was built for Alfred Mayo and his family between 1846 and 1860, the house remaining in family ownership until 1981. The original house is a sandstone structure with a slab annex and shingle roof, very similar to Blundell's Cottage. It then was acquired by Tony and Pam Sullivan and was extended and renovated. Anne McGrath and Nick Weber bought the property in 1999 and have subsequently established a pastured free range egg business along with mixed farming focussing on "Majura Valley" branded products from the farm – This is the oldest continuously working farm in the territory.



Cracking Good Time



Preserving farming in the Majura Valley