

Contents

page

Executive Summary.....	I-iv
page.....	1
2.0 Historical Background.....	11
2.1 Aboriginal Occupation.....	12
2.1.1 Archaeological Evidence of Aboriginal Occupation within the Region.....	12
2.1.2 Moth Hunter Hypothesis.....	12
2.1.3 Other Views on the importance of the Bogong Moths.....	13
2.1.4 Synthesis of Regional Occupation Evidence	15
2.2 Aboriginal Occupation of the Yarrangobilly Caves Area	16
2.2.1 Introduction.....	16
2.2.2 Aboriginal Pre-History	16
2.2.3 Aboriginal Archaeological Context of the Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct.....	17
2.3 European Contact with Local Aborigines and Finding the Caves.....	17
2.3.1 The Caves	18
2.3.2 John Bowman.....	18
2.3.3 Murray and Mowle	19
2.3.4 Local Knowledge of the Caves.....	23
2.4 Nineteenth Century Visual Perceptions of Caves.....	23
2.4.1 Australian Perceptions	23
2.4.2 Why an Interest in Caves?	24
2.4.3 Earliest Photographs of Yarrangobilly Caves	25
2.5 Show Caves in the Australian Context	26
2.6 Early Settlement and Cave Discoveries in the Yarrangobilly Area.....	28
2.6.1 The Glory Hole Property	28
2.6.2 Little Plain Buildings.....	29
2.6.3 The Marshall Brothers Find the Entrance to the Jersey Cave	29
2.6.4 James Murray.....	30
2.6.5 Guided Tours in the 1870s.....	30
2.7 Control of the Caves Area during the Nineteenth Century.....	31
2.8 James Murray, Caretaker 1887-1895.....	32
2.8.1 Setting Up the Establishment: 1887	32
2.8.2 Two Cottages: 1888.....	34
2.8.3 Third Cottage: 1890	34
2.8.4 Changes in 1890.....	35
2.8.5 Lime Kilns at Yarrangobilly.....	35
2.8.6 The Jersey Cave.....	36
2.8.7 Bradley's Role in Setting Up the Jersey Cave	36
2.8.8 The Discovery of Additional Caves.....	37
2.9 A Vice regal Visit 1892.....	38
2.9.1 Road Access.....	40
2.10 Early Potential, Promotion and Protection of the Caves	41
2.10.1 The Observations of a Travel Writer.....	41
2.10.2 Potential as a Resort and Health Spa.....	43
2.10.3 Where the Visitors Came From	44
2.10.4 Rail Based Tourism.....	44
2.10.5 Fishing.....	46
2.10.5 Mutilation of the Copper Mine Cave	46
2.10.6 Cave Protection	48
2.11 Henry Bradley, Keeper 1896-1904.....	48
2.11.1 A New Keeper: 1896.....	48
2.11.2 Constructing Pathways and Walls.....	50
2.11.3 Plans for an Accommodation House: 1901.....	51
2.11.4 Infrastructure Review	51
2.11.5 The Period 1901-1903	53
2.11.6 Relocation of Jersey Cottage: 1903	53
2.11.7 Relocation of the Original Caretaker's Cottage.....	54
2.12 Walter Hoad, Caretaker and Lessee 1904 - 1925	54

2.12.1 New Caretaker/Lessee of Caves House: 1904.....	54
2.12.2 The Car Comes to Yarrangobilly Caves	55
2.12.3 Discovery of the Jillabenan Cave: 1910	56
2.12.4 New Two Storey Wing, 1913-1917	57
2.12.5 Subsequent Alterations to the Caves House Complex	59
2.12.6 Caretaker/Guide Cottage: 1913	60
2.12.7 Tennis Courts: c.1913.....	60
2.12.8 Garage: 1913.....	62
2.12.9 Caretaker's Cottage: 1919	62
2.13 The Thermal Pool	63
2.13.1 Thermal Pool: 1894.....	63
2.13.2 Thermal Pool: 1916 – c.1942	64
2.14 Government Tourist Bureau Managers c.1920-22.....	64
2.15 Gertrude Day, Lessee of Caves House 1920s-1956 and Leo Hoad Caretaker Of Caves c.1922-1947	64
2.15.1 Changes in Management.....	65
2.15.2 How Yarrangobilly Used To Be	66
2.15.3 The Yarrangobilly Caves Ticket Office: 1926.....	67
2.15.4 Bruce Hoad Remembers the 1950s	67
2.15.5 Jim and Alice Butler: 1954-1964	68
2.15.5 Lease Relinquished: 1956.....	69
2.16 The Johnsons: Lessees of Caves House 1956-60	69
2.17 1960s-1990s.....	70
2.17.1 The Palfreys 1960 - 1966.....	70
2.17.2 Administration of the Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct into the Twentieth Century	70
2.17.3 Yarrangobilly Place of Detention	71
2.17.4 The Glory Hole Cave - Planning Australia's First Self-Guided Cave	72
2.17.5 Reopening the Caves:	72
2.17.6 Demolition of Buildings	73
2.17.7 Developments in Interpretation at Yarrangobilly Caves: 1970	73
2.17.8 Future Use for the Caves House	74
2.17.9 Current Use	75
2.18 Infrastructure Development.....	76
2.18.1 Lighting in the Caves before Electricity	76
2.18.2 Hydro-Electric System	77
2.18.3 Wiring the Caves: 1926.....	77
2.18.4 More Power	78
2.18.5 The Sewerage System.....	79
2.19 Promoting the Yarrangobilly Caves in the Twentieth Century.....	79
2.19.1 Promoting the Yarrangobilly Caves in 1911	79
2.19.2 Promoting the Caves in 1917	79
2.19.3 Trickett's Opinion of the Castle Cave: c.1919.....	80
2.19.4 Oliver Trickett, Photographer	80
2.19.5 The Role of Charles Kerry, Photographer	81
2.19.6 Touring in 1920.....	81
2.19.7 Recognising Recreational Opportunities	84
2.19.8 Jenolan Caves - A Handbook for Caves Guiding Staff	86
2.19.9 Comparison of Visitor Attraction.....	87
2.19.10 Cave Management Style.....	87
3.0 Cultural Features Overview & Description.....	89
3.1 The Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct.....	89
3.1.1. Study Area.....	89
3.1.2 Section Layout.....	90
3.2 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage	90
3.2.1 Local Archaeological Context.....	90
3.2.2 NPWS Recorded Sites.....	91
3.3 Natural Heritage	97
3.3.1 Bioregion Location	97
3.3.2 Regional Context	98
3.3.3 Climate	99
3.3.4 Geology	99

3.3.5 Soils.....	100
3.3.6 Vegetation	100
3.3.7 Vegetation History and Impacts of Development.....	102
3.3.8 Fauna	104
3.3.9 Cultural Plantings.....	107
3.3.10 Scenic Grandeur	107
3.4 European Cultural Features	108
3.4.1 Introduction.....	108
3.4.2 The Show Caves.....	109
3.4.3 The Hydro Electric Scheme and Water Supply.....	112
3.4.4 The Picnic Grounds	113
3.4.5 Built Heritage [Accommodation]	114
3.4.6 The Thermal Pool and Change Rooms	116
3.4.7 The Glory Hole Farm Site	117
3.4.8 Infrastructure.....	120
The Telegraph and Telephone Lines	126
3.2.9 Other Items	126
3.2.10 Works Since 1992.....	126
3.5 The Chronological Development of the Caves House Complex	127
3.5.1 The Thermal Pool – Chronological Development	149
4.0 Contextual Synthesis	155
4.1 Preamble.....	155
4.2 Synthesis.....	155
4.2.1 Understanding of the significance of the development of Yarrangobilly as a tourist experience in the context of the development of the tourism industry and nature based and cave related tourism in Australia in general and in the Kosciuszko region in New South Wales in particular	156
4.2.2 Analysis of the architectural character of the Yarrangobilly Caves House complex within the context of comparative period tourist accommodation houses.....	164
4.2.3 The importance and rarity of the karst system and the associated vegetation and topography in the context of other karst systems.....	168
4.2.4 The Significance of the Yarrangobilly Precincts' Association with the Local Aboriginal People and with Historical Aboriginal Occupation and Culture	171
5.0 Significance Assessment.....	175
5.1 Basis of Assessment	175
5.2 Significance Assessment	176
5.2.1 Historical Significance (Evolution and Association)	176
5.2.2 Aesthetic/ Creative Significance	178
5.2.3 Technical Research Significance	179
5.2.4 Social Significance.....	181
5.3 Summary Statement of Significance	182
5.4 Relative Significance	184
6.0 Constraints, Issues and Opportunities	187
6.1 Constraints and Opportunities Arising from Significance	187
6.2 Obligations Arising from the Burra Charter of Australia ([Final Draft] Revised 1999)	188
6.3 Issues and Opportunities Associated with Existing Form and Physical Condition.....	188
6.4 Constraints and Issues Arising from the Condition of Infrastructure	189
6.5 Other Management Issues.....	191
6.6 Federal Statutory Requirements	191
6.6.1 The Australian Heritage Commission	191
6.7 State Heritage Controls.....	192
6.7.1 The Heritage Act 1977 as amended in 1998	192
6.7.2 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974	193
6.7.3 NPWS Policy Requirements.....	193
6.8 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	194
6.9 Kosciuszko National Park Plan of Management (POM).....	194
6.10 The Yarrangobilly Management Unit [YMU] Draft Karst Area Management Plan [KAMP].....	196
6.11 NSW NPWS Corporate Plan 2000/2003	197
6.12 Issues arising from Aboriginal Significance	198
6.12.1 Legislative Requirements	198

6.12.2 Issues associated with Interpretation of Aboriginal Occupation	198
6.12.3 Issues and Opportunities Related to Conservation of Aboriginal Sites	199
6.13 Stakeholder Workshop	199
6.14 Constraints and Opportunities Imposed by Key Views	204
6.15 Future Use Opportunities	204
6.16 Opportunities Associated with the Introduction of New Technology	205
6.17 NPWS Leasing Options	206
6.18 Interpretation	206
6.18.1 Interpretive Opportunities	211
6.18.2 Universal Ideas and Values	212
6.18.3 Interpretation Infrastructure	214
6.18.4 Special Events	214
7.0 Conservation Policy	219
7.1 Statement of Conservation Policy Aims	219
7.2 Precinct Philosophy Statement	219
7.3 General Conservation Policy Statement Yarrangobilly Caves House Precinct	219
7.4 Specific Policy Statements for European Cultural Heritage	221
7.4.1 Fabric	221
7.4.2 Intervention	223
7.4.3 New Fabric/ Adaptive Re-use	223
7.5 NPWS Corporate Values	224
7.6 New Development Opportunities	225
7.7 Historical Archaeology	225
7.8 Aboriginal Cultural Resources	225
7.8.1 Preamble	225
7.8.2 General Conservation Policy for Aboriginal Cultural Resources	226
7.9 Specific Policies for Aboriginal Cultural Resources	226
7.9.1 Community and LALC Liaison	227
7.9.2 Little Plains	227
7.10 Natural Resources	227
7.10.1 Preamble	227
7.10.2 General Conservation Policy for Natural Resources	227
7.11 Specific Policies for Natural Resources	228
7.11.1 Historic Setting and Existing Plantings	228
7.11.2 Pest Species Management [Flora and Fauna]	229
7.11.3 Fire Management	230
7.11.4 Scientific Research	230
7.12 Interpretation	230
7.13 Moveable Heritage	230
7.14 Collections	231
7.14.1 Acquisitions Policy	232
7.15 Specific Policies for Individual Elements	232
7.15.1 c.1980s Toilet Block at the rear of the Dining Room	232
7.15.2 1926 Ticket Office and Bell	232
7.15.3 1919 Caretakers Residence/Visitor Centre	232
7.15.4 Thermal Pool & Surrounds	233
7.15.5 Picnic Grounds	233
7.15.6 BBQ Shelter & Toilet Block	233
7.15.7 Ranger's Cottage 1968 [Cottage 2]	234
7.15.8 Ranger's Cottage c.1964 [Cottage 1]	234
7.15.9 Hoad Entrance Gate	234
7.15.10 Vehicle Workshop	234
7.15.11 Glory Hole Farm	234
7.15.12 Show Caves and associated infra-structure	235
7.15.13 Roads and Tracks	235
7.15.14 Hydro Electric System	235
7.15.15 Sewerage System	235
7.15.16 Water Reticulation System	236
7.16 Review	236

8.0 Implementation Recommendations.....	237
8.1 Preamble.....	237
8.1.1 Precinct Purpose Statement.....	237
8.1.2 Management Challenges	237
8.2 Strategic Approach	238
8.2.1 Three Stage Process	238
8.2.2 Precinct Philosophy Statement	238
8.3 Stage 1: Adopt the Findings.....	238
8.4 Stage 2: Research and Planning Phase.....	239
8.4.1 Preamble	239
8.4.2 Research and Planning (1-5 years).....	239
8.4.3. Identify New Technologies	239
8.4.4 Prepare Environmental Assessment, Business & Marketing Plans and Social & Economic Evaluations	240
8.4.5 Introduce Community Liaison Mechanisms and Structures	240
8.5 Future Use Options/ Directions for Caves House	241
8.5.1 Preamble	241
8.5.2 Adaptive Re-use Options for the Caves House Complex	242
8.5.3 Archaeology Associated with Development in the Vicinity of Caves House	246
8.6 Development Control Guidelines.....	247
8.6.1 New Buildings/ Structures on the Site	247
8.6.2 Guidelines for New Buildings or Additions to the Caves House Complex	247
8.6.3 Guidelines for a New Visitors Centre.....	247
8.6.4 Guidelines for Other Potential New Building Developments	248
8.6.5 Guidelines for Caravan and Camping Grounds	248
8.7 Cave Tours.....	249
8.8 Access and Site Circulation	249
8.8.1 Light, Low Polluting Vehicle Option	250
8.8.2 Small Buses.....	252
8.9 Future Use of the Thermal Pool	252
8.10 Precinct Management Planning and Interpretation.....	252
8.11 Stage 3: Staged Implementation.....	253
8.11.1 Infrastructure Development Works [1-10 years].....	253
8.11.2 Caves House Complex	254
8.11.3 Visitor Centre	254
8.11.4 Access and Site Circulation Works.....	255
8.11.5 Thermal Pool	255
8.11.6 Glory Hole Farm.....	255
8.12 Ongoing Site Management and Maintenance	256
8.12.1 Existing Site and Building Fabric Management	256
8.12.2 Cyclical Maintenance for Buildings.....	256
8.12.3 Maintenance of Key View Lines	257
8.12.4 Cyclical Maintenance for Actively Managed Grounds and Tracks.....	257
8.12.5 Cyclical Maintenance for Show Caves	258
8.13 Management of Aboriginal Heritage.....	258
8.13.1 General Requirements	258
8.13.2 Burial Repatriation	258
8.13.3 Interpretation of Aboriginal Heritage.....	258
8.14 European Archaeology	259
8.15 Review.....	263

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Invitation list for the Yarrangobilly Caves House Precinct Workshop

Appendix B: Process and Outcomes of the Workshop held to provide community participation in contributing to future planning of the Precinct

Appendix C: Complimentary remarks about the Murray Family

Appendix D: 1920s NSW Government Tourist Bureau Brochure
"The Wonder Caves of the Southern Alps"

Appendix E: Details of a Visit to the Yarrangobilly Caves in 1903

Appendix F: The Extent and Boundaries of the Yarrangobilly Province;

Appendix G: Details of early hydro based electricity schemes in Australia from an Australian Electricity Supply Research Study Board Study *Framework for Heritage Management, Industrial Heritage of Power Generation: Development of a Typology and Significance Assessment Approach*, prepared by Godden Mackay Pty Ltd. 1994.

Appendix H: Background to minor historical items located within the Yarrangobilly Caves House Precinct, extract from the 1989 arch design group Conservation Plan

Appendix I: Relevant articles of the Final Draft Revised Burra Charter of Australia 1999.

Appendix J: Legislation which affords protection to Aboriginal sites;

Appendix K: Interim Landscape Management Approach.

Appendix L: Yarrangobilly Flora List

Appendix M: Yarrangobilly Fauna List

Appendix N: IUCN Guidelines for Cave and Karst Protection