

Former Huskisson Anglican Church

Statement of Heritage Significance

Prepared for Shoalhaven City Council

May 2023 - FINAL



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| | | | |

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Executive summary

Extent Heritage Pty Ltd (Extent Heritage) has been engaged by Shoalhaven City Council to undertake an assessment of significance and prepare a Statement of Heritage Significance for the former Huskisson Anglican Church and site at 17 Hawke Street and 22 Currumbene Street, Huskisson. The report is prepared in response to a resolution of Council requesting the preparation of a contemporary Statement of Heritage Significance for the Church site.

On 20 September 2022, Council resolved (in part) at its Ordinary Meeting (MIN22.618) to:

2. Commence the process to immediately list the Former Anglican Church, Huskisson and any associated items on the site (including Lots 7 and 8 Section 3 DP 758530) as a 'Heritage Item' of local significance in Schedule 5 of the Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014, including the preparation of an updated statement of heritage significance and any other required supporting information.

The site is not currently listed on any statutory heritage register nor is it located within a heritage conservation area (HCA). The site, as 'Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group, including Church Hall, Burial Site' was previously assessed as having local heritage significance during the Shoalhaven Heritage Study 1995–1998. The Study informed a Citywide amendment (Amendment No. 212) to the *Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 1985* (Shoalhaven LEP 1985) to include items of environmental heritage within Schedule 7 of the Shoalhaven LEP 1985. The item was nominated for heritage listing and was included in the exhibited draft amendment; however, was ultimately excluded from the final gazettal on 13 April 2007. Consequently, the site was not recognised as a heritage item within Schedule 7 of the *Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 1985* (Shoalhaven LEP 1985), nor Schedule 5 of the subsequent (and current) *Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014* (Shoalhaven LEP 2014).

This heritage assessment and Statement of Heritage Significance will be used to inform a Planning Proposal (PP) to be submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) to list the site/item in Schedule 5 of the Shoalhaven LEP 2014. This report contains:

- A desktop assessment of the site, including:
 - review of previous heritage and archaeological assessments, and
 - historical research.
- A physical description and analysis of the site and associated structures, based on internal and external inspections.
- An assessment of the potential archaeological resources on the site.
- An assessment of the heritage significance of the site based on the NSW heritage criteria.
- Two Statements of Significance for the site as required in the Consultant's Brief for this report:
 - with the former Huskisson Anglican Church building in its existing location,

- with the former Huskisson Anglican Church building relocated on the site in accordance with the (now surrendered) Development Consent issued under DA18/2102

Engagement for the preparation of this report was commenced prior to the surrender of DA18/2102. This report has still considered the impact of the relocation of the church building on its significance to inform future management of, and development at, the site.

This report has determined that the former Huskisson Anglican Church meets the threshold for heritage listing at the local level under the NSW heritage criteria. It has found that the church site has cultural significance at the local level for its historical, associative, aesthetic, research, rarity, and representative values. It has considered the impact of the potential relocation of the church on its heritage significance. It has found that the relocation of the church within the site would diminish, but not remove, its aesthetic and representative values. In addition, this report has found that the adjacent Lot 9 is contributory to the historical, aesthetic and social value of the former Huskisson Anglican Church.

The following Statement of Heritage Significance has been prepared for the site with the former Huskisson Anglican Church building in its current position:

The former Huskisson Anglican Church site has cultural significance at a local level for its historical, associative, aesthetic, rarity, social, representative and research values. Archaeological evidence from Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) associated with evidence for burials at the site during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries would be significant at a local level for cultural, social, research and representative values. Archaeological evidence of the burials would enhance our understanding of the historical use of the site, the social fabric of Huskisson in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and supplement historical references to burials at the site.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church was built in 1931, replacing an earlier church building dating from 1905. The church and grounds demonstrate the development of the town of Huskisson throughout its history, as it grew from a small timber town in the late nineteenth century, to a thriving resort and tourist town through the early twentieth century. The church is associated with prominent local architect Cyril Blacket. Blacket designed numerous churches, as well as residential, civic, and commercial buildings, throughout his career from the 1880s to the 1930s.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is of aesthetic significance as a good representative example of a Carpenter Gothic church, demonstrating key characteristics of the type through its weatherboard construction, layout, buttresses, window form, and detailing. The western porch is a later addition but does not detract from the overall integrity of the church building. The aesthetic value of the church building is enhanced by its setting and location, which affords it landmark quality. It is situated on a prominent corner, fronting public open space along Jervis Bay. This prominent corner location allows it to be viewed in the round, a typical characteristic of Carpenter Gothic churches. Views east from the church building are currently obscured by vegetation within White Sands Park; however, at the time of its construction, it enjoyed significant views of Jervis Bay. Its setting is enhanced by the remaining mature vegetation at the rear of the church site, within Lot 8, and on the adjacent property, Lot 9. The remnant bushland contributes to the landmark quality of the church building, and affords it a bushland setting, despite the recent development surrounding the site.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a good representative example of both the Carpenter Gothic style and of the work of prominent local architect Cyril Blacket. It is rare in the locality as a comparatively late example of a Carpenter Gothic church in the Shoalhaven LGA, and a late example of the work of Cyril Blacket. The later date of the former Anglican Church is related to the development history of the town.

Archaeological evidence from Phase 3 (1905–1979) has the potential to supplement our understanding of the site history, enhancing our understanding of the people who attended the site, including such information as the class, age, and gender of attendees. This information could contribute to historical accounts of Huskisson in the twentieth century. Archaeological evidence associated with development of the site during Phase 3 (1905–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for social and research value.

The following Statement of Heritage Significance has been prepared for the site with the former Huskisson Anglican Church building relocated on the site in accordance with the (now surrendered) Development Consent issued under DA18/2102:

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level for its historical, associative, aesthetic, rarity, social, and representative and research values. Archaeological evidence from Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) associated with evidence for burials at the site during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries would be significant at a local level for cultural, social, research and representative values. Archaeological evidence of the burials would enhance our understanding of the historical use of the site, the social fabric of Huskisson in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and supplement historical references to burials at the site.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church was built in 1931, replacing an earlier church building dating from 1905. The church and grounds demonstrate the development of the town of Huskisson throughout its history, as it grew from a small timber town in the late nineteenth century, to a thriving resort and tourist town through the early twentieth century. The church is associated with prominent local architect Cyril Blacket. Blacket designed numerous churches, as well as residential, civic and commercial buildings, throughout his career from the 1880s to the 1930s.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is of aesthetic significance as a good representative example of a Carpenter Gothic church, demonstrating key characteristics of the type in its weatherboard construction, layout, buttresses, window form and detailing. The western porch is a later addition but does not detract from the overall integrity of the church building. The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a good representative example of both the Carpenter Gothic style and of the work of Cyril Blacket. It is rare in the locality, being a comparatively late example of a Carpenter Gothic church in the Shoalhaven LGA, and a late example of the work of Cyril Blacket. The later date of the former Anglican Church is related to the development history of the town.

Archaeological evidence from Phase 3 (1905–1979) has the potential to supplement our understanding of the site history, enhancing our understanding of the people who attended the site, including such information as the class, age, and gender of attendees. This information could contribute to historical accounts of Huskisson in the twentieth century. Archaeological evidence associated with development of the site during Phase 3 (1905–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for social and research value.

Significant views to the church from the public domain would be limited due to its re-location to the eastern boundary of Lot 8. In this location, the church building would be obscured by the rectory building and the remaining mature vegetation within the site. The relocation of the church building to this location would diminish the aesthetic and representative significance of the church. Its current location on a prominent corner affords it public views that allow an appreciation of the church building in the round, as well as its landmark quality, and is a typical characteristic of Carpenter Gothic churches. The relocation of the church would isolate it from this well-considered historic landmark location at the corner of the site, significantly limiting its visibility from the public domain and removing its historical association with views to Jervis Bay. Its relocation would also alter its east-west orientation, which is a typical characteristic of church buildings in general. Although the relocation of the church would diminish its level of aesthetic significance, it would continue to meet the threshold for listing as a heritage item of local significance if ever relocated.

Accordingly, it is recommended that Council proceed in preparing a Planning Proposal to amend Schedule 5 and the Heritage Maps of the Shoalhaven LEP 2014 to include the former Huskisson Anglican Church and site as an item of local significance. Lot 9 could be considered for inclusion in the curtilage of the item following discussion with Jerrinja Local Aboriginal Land Council.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Project description

Extent Heritage Pty Ltd (Extent Heritage) has been engaged by Shoalhaven City Council to undertake an assessment of significance and prepare a Statement of Heritage Significance for the former Huskisson Anglican Church and site at 17 Hawke Street and 22 Currambene Street, Huskisson. The report is prepared in response to a resolution of Council requesting the preparation of a contemporary Statement of Heritage Significance for the Church site.

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This heritage assessment and Statement of Heritage Significance will be used to inform a Planning Proposal (PP) to be submitted to the DPE to list the site/item in Schedule 5 of the Shoalhaven LEP 2014.

This report contains:

- A desktop assessment of the site, including:
 - review of previous heritage and archaeological assessments,
 - historical research
- A physical description and analysis of the site and associated structures, based on internal and external inspections.
- An assessment of the potential archaeological resources on the site.
- An assessment of the heritage significance of the site based on the NSW heritage criteria.

- Two Statements of Significance for the site as required in the Consultant's Brief for this report:
 - with the Former Huskisson Anglican Church building in its existing location,
 - with the Former Huskisson Anglican Church building relocated on the site in accordance with the (now surrendered) Development Consent issued under DA18/2102.

1.2 Site identification

The site is located at Jervis Bay, in the town of Huskisson in the Shoalhaven Local Government Area (Shoalhaven LGA). The site has a street address of 17 Hawke Street and 22 Currambene Street, Huskisson. The site is legally defined as Lots 7 and 8, Section 3, DP 758530.

The site is located at the southern edge of the Huskisson town centre, south of the main commercial strip along Owen Street. Its eastern boundary fronts onto White Sands Park, adjacent to Shark Net Beach and Jervis Bay. To the south, west and north the site is surrounded by residential and commercial development.

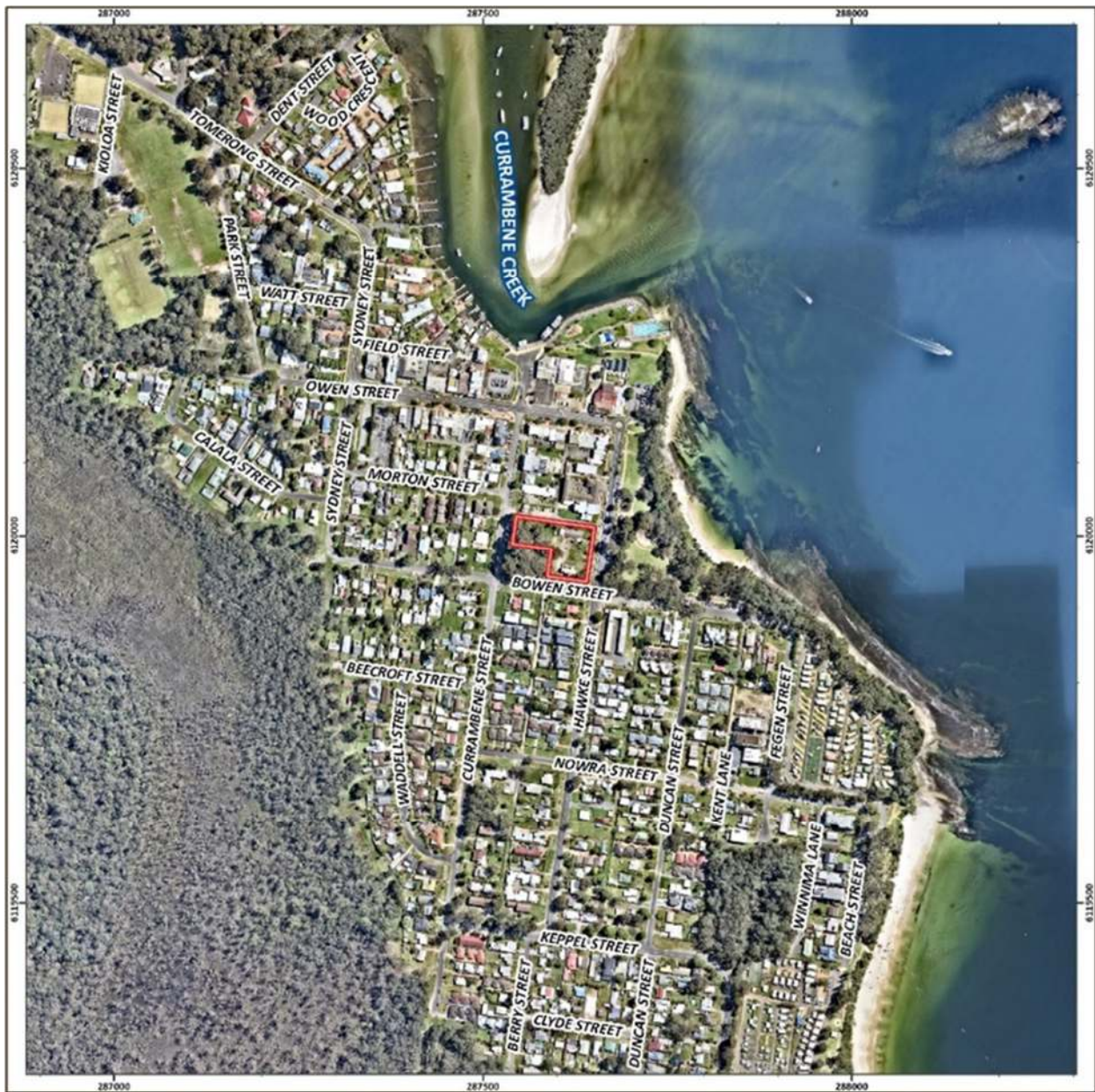


Figure 1. The site in relation to the greater town of Huskisson, 2023 aerial image.



Figure 2. Detail of the site, 2023 aerial image.

1.3 Previous applications and approvals

Development Application DA18/2102

A Development Application (DA) proposing the relocation of church building within the site, and demolition of existing associated church hall and shed was lodged in September 2018. The DA was approved at Council's Development & Environment Committee on 4 June 2019. The church hall and shed were demolished in September 2019.

A section 4.55 application to modify DA18/2102 was submitted in March 2020. The modification sought to alter the proposed relocation of the church building. The modification was withdrawn in May 2020.

The relocation of the church building has not occurred. DA18/2102 was surrendered in January 2023.

Interim Heritage Order

An Interim Heritage Order (IHO) request for 17 Hawke Street, Huskisson was considered by the Heritage Council's State Heritage Register Committee in November 2018. The Committee resolved to recommend that the Minister place an IHO over the site for a period of 12 months. The matter returned to the Committee for consideration in February 2019 so that additional information could be considered. On 6 February 2019 the Committee decided not to recommend an IHO to the Minister for Heritage. It was found that the site was not likely to be of State heritage significance but was 'highly likely to be of local heritage significance.'

Planning Proposal PP050

A proponent Planning Proposal (PP) was submitted to Council in October 2019. It sought to rezone both lots from SP2 Infrastructure (Places of Public Worship) to B4 Mixed Use and to increase height controls over Lot 7 from 10 m to 13 m and the 'incentive building height' from 13 m to 16 m.

In January 2020 Council resolved to support the PP 'in principle' subject to the completion of additional studies, including an assessment of the heritage significance of known graves on the site. The PP was submitted to the NSW DPE and a Gateway Determination was issued on 30 April 2020 requiring additional studies in relation to Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Heritage. The PP was formally withdrawn by the proponent on 11 July 2022, and was terminated by the NSW DPE on 15 July 2022.

GPR surveys

Several GPR surveys of the site were undertaken from 2015 to 2021. An outline of the findings of these surveys is provided at Section 2.3.

- GBG Australia. (April 2015). *Huskisson Anglican Church Ground Penetrating Radar Survey*. Commissioned by Shoalhaven City Council.
- Peter Ellsmore & Associates. (November 2018). *Huskisson Anglican Church – GPR Non-Destructive Testing*. Commissioned by Stephen Bartlett.
- GBG Australia. (April 2019). *Huskisson Anglican Church – GPR Investigation*. Commissioned by Bartlett & Associates Pty Ltd.
- GBG Australia. (October 2019). *Huskisson Anglican Church – GPR Investigation*. Commissioned by Bartlett & Associates Pty Ltd.
- Hunter Geophysics. (March 2021). *Geophysical Survey Report Former Anglican Church Site in Huskisson*. Commissioned by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants for Shoalhaven City Council.

- Archaeometry Pty Ltd. (November 2021). *Independent peer review of Geophysical Survey Report 'Former Anglican Church Site in Huskisson' by Hunter Geophysics*. Commissioned by Shoalhaven City Council.

Section 140 Applications

Excavation Permit applications were made to Heritage NSW under section 140 of the *Heritage Act 1977* (NSW) both by Council and by the proponent. The applications sought to undertake surface scraping to verify the number and location of unmarked graves on the site.

Council's application was approved by Heritage NSW on 14 March 2022. However, the investigations were not commenced due to objections being raised concerning the investigation and a lack of consultation with various stakeholders prior to permit approval. In April 2022 the Council resolved that the archaeological investigations would not proceed. Council resolved in November 2022 to consider writing to the NSW Heritage Council requesting that it revoke the Excavation Permits that had been issued. Council wrote to the Heritage Council on 6 December 2022 in accordance with this resolution.

Council received advice on 12 January 2023 that the permit (ID 713) previously issued to Council had been revoked. Separate advice was received that the permit (ID 1253) issued to the proponent had been revoked at their request.

Emergency Declaration

A Commonwealth Government emergency declaration under section 9 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984* (Cwlth) was issued for the site in November 2022. This order was extended in December 2022. The order stated that during the period of effect no works should be carried out within the specified area, including ground scraping, clearing of trees in the area, removal of any objects or structures, or excavation or construction work in the area.

1.4 Approach and methodology

The methodology used in the preparation of this Heritage Assessment is in accordance with the principles and definitions as set out in the guidelines to *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (the Burra Charter)* (Australia ICOMOS 2013) and the latest version of *Assessing Heritage Significance* (Heritage Office and Department of Urban Affairs and Planning 2002), produced by the former NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (now the NSW Department of Planning and Environment).

1.5 Limitations

The historical overview provides sufficient historical background to provide an understanding of the place in order to assess the significance and provide relevant recommendations; however, it is not intended as an exhaustive history of the site.

Two site inspections have been undertaken. These inspections were undertaken as a visual study only. In addition, the ground surface was heavily covered with grass and other vegetation, restricting visibility.

This assessment does not include an assessment of Aboriginal archaeology or cultural heritage.

1.6 Authorship

The following staff Extent Heritage have prepared this report:

- Hayley Edmonds, Heritage Advisor,
- Francesca McMaster, Senior Heritage Advisor,
- Hannah Morris, Senior Heritage Advisor,
- Lisa Trueman, Principal Heritage Advisor,
- Brian Shanahan, Senior Associate, and
- Graham Wilson, Principal Heritage Advisor.

1.7 Terminology

The terminology in this report follows definitions presented in the Burra Charter (*Australia ICOMOS 2013*). Article 1 provides the following definitions:

Place means a geographically defined area. It may include elements, objects, spaces and views. Place may have tangible and intangible dimensions.

Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the *place* itself, its *fabric*, *setting*, *use*, *associations*, *meanings*, records, *related places* and *related objects*. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.

Fabric means all the physical material of the *place* including elements, fixtures, contents and objects.

Conservation means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural significance*.

Use means the functions of a *place*, including the activities and traditional and customary practices that may occur at the place or are dependent on the place.

Setting means the immediate and extended environment of a *place* that is part of or contributes to its *cultural significance* and distinctive character.

Related place means a *place* that contributes to the *cultural significance* of another place.

Related object means an object that contributes to the cultural significance of a place but is not at the place.

Associations mean the connections that exist between people and a place.

Meanings denote what a place signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses to people.

2. Heritage context

2.1 Statutory heritage context

The site is subject to the following statutory instruments relevant to heritage:

- Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)
- Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014 (Shoalhaven LEP 2014)

2.1.1 Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)

The Heritage Act is designed to conserve the environmental heritage of New South Wales and regulate development impacts on the state's heritage assets. It provides protection for items of State heritage significance that are listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR), as well as for unlisted archaeological relics.

2.1.1.1 State Heritage Register

The site is not listed as an item of State heritage significance on the SHR.

2.1.1.2 Archaeological relics

Significant historical archaeological features are afforded automatic statutory protection by the 'relics' provisions of the Act. In the act, a 'relic' is defined as:

any deposit, artefact, object, or material evidence that:

- a. relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and
- b. is of State or local heritage significance.

In accordance with section 139(1) of the Heritage Act, it is an offence to disturb or excavate land, where this may affect a relic, without an approval or excavation permit issued by the Heritage Council of NSW, or an endorsed 'exemption' or 'exception' to disturb or expose and destroy a relic. Sites which may contain archaeological relics are usually managed under sections 140 and 141 of the Heritage Act. Sites with potential archaeology, listed on SHR, are managed under sections 60 and 63 of the Heritage Act.

2.1.2 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Environmental planning instruments made under the EPA Act include State Environment Planning Policies, that deal with matters of State or regional environmental planning significance, and Local Environmental Plans (LEPs), that guide planning decisions for local government areas. The site falls within the Shoalhaven City Council LGA. The relevant local planning instrument is the Shoalhaven LEP 2014.

2.1.2.1 Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014

The objectives of Shoalhaven LEP 2014 with respect to heritage conservation and archaeological sites are provided in clause 5.10, which (amongst other objectives) aims to conserve archaeological sites and requires consent to demolish, move, or alter known or potential archaeology. Additionally, it requires that consent authority must notify Heritage Council of this development and take into consideration their response.

The site is not currently listed as a heritage item on Schedule 5 of the Shoalhaven LEP 2014.

There are several existing local heritage items listed on Schedule 5 of the Shoalhaven LEP 2014 located in the vicinity of the site.

| Item no. | Item name | Address | Significance |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 200 | Lone grave of Robert Johnson | 2 Beach Street | Local |
| 201 | Tapalla Point geological rock platform | Beach Street and Hawke Street | Local |
| 204 | Inter-war holiday cottage and trees | 7 Fegan Street and Kent Lane | Local |
| 205 | Weatherboard and fibro boat builder's cottage | 13 Field Street | Local |
| 206 | Victorian Georgian weatherboard cottage | 40 Hawke Street | Local |
| 207 | Jervis Bay hotel | 45 Owen Street | Local |
| 209 | Huskisson Literary Institute (former) | 19 Sydney Street | Local |

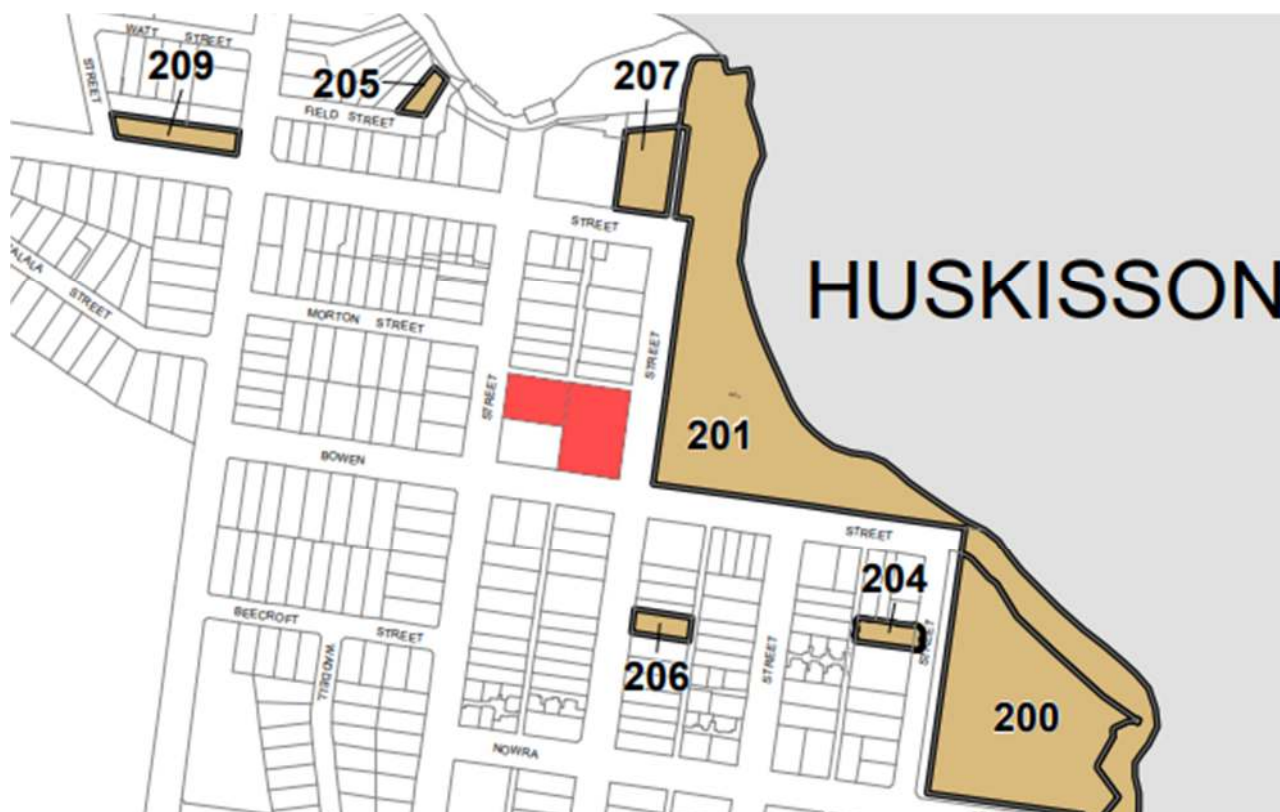


Figure 3. Heritage items listed on the Shoalhaven LEP 2014 in the vicinity of the site. former Huskisson Anglican Church site indicated in red. *Source:* Heritage Map Sheet 020C.

2.2 Non-statutory registers

2.2.1 Shoalhaven Heritage Study 1995-1998

The former Huskisson Anglican Church site was previously assessed as having local heritage significance during the preparation of the Shoalhaven Heritage Study 1995-1998. The Study informed a Citywide amendment (Amendment No. 212) to the Shoalhaven LEP 1985 to include items of environmental heritage within Schedule 7 of the Shoalhaven LEP 1985. The Study included the item 'Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group, including Church Hall, Burial Site'.

An Inventory Sheet for the item 'Huskisson Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group' was prepared, including the following statement of significance:

Representative Federation Carpenter Gothic Church important to Huskisson for its historical, social and streetscape values. Local significance (Shoalhaven).

The item was nominated for heritage listing and was included in the exhibited draft amendment; however, was ultimately excluded from the final gazettal on 13 April 2007. Consequently, the site was not listed as a heritage item within Schedule 7 of the Shoalhaven LEP 1985, nor Schedule 5 of the subsequent (and current) Shoalhaven LEP 2014.

2.2.2 National Trust Register

The church site was included on the National Trust Register in August 2021. The National Trust Listing Report for the item ‘Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Church Hall & Cemetery’ provides the following Statement of Significance:

The Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Church Hall & Cemetery at 17 Hawke Street, Huskisson is historically significant as a building designed by the prominent architect Cyril Blackett and as a known burial site likely to contain additional unmarked graves, containing the remains of European and Aboriginal people. The church is a good example of its type and one of an increasingly small number of historic buildings still located in Huskisson.

2.3 Previous reports

A summary table of the heritage and archaeological assessments and reports reviewed as part of this report is provided below.

| Date | Report | Summary of findings |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 2015 | GBG Australia. Huskisson Anglican Church Ground Penetrating Radar Survey. Commissioned by Shoalhaven City Council. | Identified seven possible grave locations. |
| August 2018 | GBA Heritage. <i>Heritage Management Strategy 17 Hawke Street Huskisson</i> . Commissioned by Huskisson Anglican Church Property Committee. | Found the site to not meet the threshold for listing on the Shoalhaven LEP 2014 or the SHR. |
| November 2018 | Peter Ellsmore & Associates. Huskisson Anglican Church – GPR Non-Destructive Testing. Commissioned by Stephen Bartlett. | Found the presence of grave sites within the nominated areas to be unlikely. |
| December 2018 | GBA Heritage. <i>Heritage Assessment 17 Hawke Street Huskisson</i> . Commissioned by Bartlett & Associates Pty Ltd. | Found the site to not meet the threshold for listing on the Shoalhaven LEP or the SHR. |
| April 2019 | GBG Australia. <i>Huskisson Anglican Church – GPR Investigation</i> . Commissioned by Bartlett & Associates Pty Ltd. | Found some evidence of one grave being present in the area surrounding the church, and the possibility of another two. |
| October 2019 | GBG Australia. <i>Huskisson Anglican Church – GPR Investigation</i> . Commissioned by Bartlett & Associates Pty Ltd. | Found two anomalies of note, recommended for further investigation. |
| October 2019 | Heritage NSW. Assessment of Scarred Tree. | Concluded that it was not a scarred tree. |
| March 2021 | Hunter Geophysics. <i>Geophysical Survey Report Former Anglican Church Site in Huskisson</i> . Commissioned by Navin Officer Heritage Consultants for Shoalhaven City Council. | Identified seventy-three subsurface anomalies, interpreted to potentially be associated with unmarked grave shafts and/or funerary urns. |
| November 2021 | Archaeometry Pty Ltd. Independent peer review of Geophysical Survey Report ‘Former Anglican | Stated that it was unlikely that many of the seventy-three areas of disturbed soil were graves. |

| Date | Report | Summary of findings |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Church Site in Huskisson' by Hunter Geophysics. Commissioned by Shoalhaven City Council. | Recommended reinterpreting the geophysical data in combination with historic information. |
| November 2021 | Navin Officer Heritage Consultants. <i>Heritage Assessment and Historical Archaeological Research Design</i> . Commissioned by Shoalhaven City Council. Prepared to support a Permit Application under section 140 of the Heritage Act. | Historical research found one grave likely to be on the property, potential for three others. |
| February 2022 | Navin Officer Heritage Consultants. Additional information letter – Huskisson test excavation. Preliminary Archaeological Significance Assessment. | Potential for social and rarity value if Jimmy Golding's grave were on the site. |

2.3.1 Significance assessments

Of the reviewed previous reports, two provide an assessment of the heritage significance of the site. An analysis of the content and conclusions of the significance assessments is provided below.

GBA Heritage, Heritage Management Strategy, Holy Trinity Anglican Church Site, Huskisson, August 2018

The Heritage Management Strategy provides an historical overview, description of the place, heritage significance, formulation of heritage strategy, and heritage management strategy. The assessment of heritage significance found that:

the Holy Trinity church at Huskisson does not meet the threshold for inclusion on Schedule 5 of the Shoalhaven LEP 2014 for any of the statutory Heritage Assessment criteria.

The report provides an overview of the historical development of the site. The historical overview relies heavily on 'research into Parish Archives and discussion with Parish representatives'. No further reference or citations about this information is given.

The report does not provide an assessment against the NSW heritage criteria. Statements in the significance assessment are not supported by sufficient information, or otherwise make potentially misleading characterisations about the age and use of the church building.

- The report states that the church building demonstrates a 'lack of architectural distinction' due to 'a very tight budget'. No further justification for the 'lack of architectural distinction' is given. No reference to the context of the Great Depression as the reason for the tight budget is provided.
- The report states that the church building is 'one of the most recent of the small churches in the coastal communities of the Shoalhaven and Jervis Bay area'. While comparatively recent, this misrepresents the age of the church, which was eighty-seven at the time of the report's preparation.

- The report states that other churches were previously considered by Council to be ‘more important and representative’. This statement does not consider that the church was previously recognised by Council as being of local heritage significance. The fact that the item was not included in the final gazettal of the heritage schedule does not revoke its previously assessed significance.

GBA Heritage, Heritage Assessment, 17 Hawke Street, Huskisson, December 2018

The Heritage Assessment expanded on the content and conclusions of the Heritage Management Strategy, to include the potential graves on the site. The Heritage Assessment found that:

The Anglican Church property in Huskisson, including the 1930’s church and the churchyard does not meet the threshold for listing in the Shoalhaven LEP or in the State Heritage Register.

The report provides an overview of the historical development of the site. The historical overview of the site prior to the construction of the 1931 church is well-referenced, utilising historical newspaper accounts to support the information. The historical outline subsequent to the construction of the church relies heavily on ‘research into Parish Archives and discussion with Parish representatives’. No further reference or citations about this information is given. Similarly, historical images and plans are referenced only as ‘Parish Archives’.

The report does not provide an assessment against the NSW heritage criteria. Statements in the significance assessment are not supported by sufficient information, or otherwise make potentially misleading characterisations about the age and use of the church building.

- The report states that the ‘site is not a significant church in the region’ due to the ‘small number of births, christenings and funerals undertaken there’. No data about the number of births, christenings and funerals at Huskisson or elsewhere is provided to justify this statement.
- The report states that ‘the churchyard has no aesthetic significance as there is no evidence of the burials here’. Evidence of burials is not the sole determining factor of aesthetic significance.
- The report states that ‘Carl Niclasson is known for certain to have been buried here and Jimmy Golding is a possible but unconfirmed burial’. The location of Niclasson’s burial has not been confirmed by official records.

3. Historical context

Jervis Bay is located within the traditional lands of the Dhurga language group, who have occupied this place for millennia. Dhurga Country extends from northern Victoria through Shoalhaven to the Wollongong escarpment, and west to the foothills of the Snowy Mountains and to Goulburn (Donaldson 2015, 2). The discussion below draws on accounts of Aboriginal people in the area written by early colonial observers. These accounts are intended to supplement, but not supplant, the traditional knowledge and stories of Jervis Bay's traditional owners.

3.1 Cooronbun

Jervis Bay was sighted and recorded by Captain James Cook aboard the *Endeavour* in 1770. The ship did not enter the bay, though Cook noted that it appeared to be sheltered from the winds. Twenty years later, in August 1791, Lieutenant Richard Bowen aboard the *Atlantic* made the first recorded entry into the bay by European ships. Governor Arthur Phillip wrote to Lord Granville of Bowen's account, informing him that 'it appears from Lieutenant Bowen's journal... that there is a good harbour on the coast, and which he named Jervis Bay' (Bladen 1892 Vol. 1 Part 2, 548). The *Matilda* entered the bay to repair leaks later that year. Its captain, Matthew Weatherhead, reported 'exceeding good anchorage, and room for the largest ships to work in or out with great safety' (Bladen 1892 Vol. 1 Part 2, 556). Weatherhead's eye draught of the bay was redrawn by hydrographer Alexander Dalrymple, and noted that:

This Bay was first discovered by Lieut Richard Bowen, Naval Agent, on 19th August 1791, and since explored by Mr Matthew Weatherhead in the Ship Matilda, employed in the South Whale Fishery. In the Matilda many Natives were seen and Canoes on the Beach; the Natives were armed with Spears, but they could have no communication with them (Figure 4).

Over the following decade, both the bay and the Shoalhaven region were visited by multiple parties of European explorers and officials, as well as several groups of shipwreck survivors. Accounts of the landscape of Jervis Bay varied. George Bass visited the bay in December 1797, reporting that:

the country round the bay is in general barren. The north side is rocky, brushy, and heathy. The west is low and swampy, but sandy. In patches of a few score acres the ground runs tolerably good, but these are distant from each other, and too much intersected by lagoons and salt swamps to promise any advantage by cultivation. The south is grassy and brushy, and might serve for the pasturage of cattle (Bladen 1895, 315-316).

Bass's accounts of the Shoalhaven region were more favourable, and in December 1804, Governor King wrote of his intention to 'examine Shoalhaven, of which Bass gives so good an account' (Bladen 1892 Vol. 5, 528). Official grants in the Shoalhaven were not issued until 1825; however, the area was unofficially inhabited by cedar-cutters from the early 1800s, employed by Sydney timber merchants (Crabb 2007, 16).



Figure 4. Plan of Jervis Bay on the East Coast of New Holland. Source: SLNSW, FL3749869.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie visited the bay in November 1811 while travelling to Van Diemen's Land. A report of Macquarie's journey, published in January 1812, stated that 'he had the satisfaction to find a safe and very extensive Harbour, not less than twenty miles in Circumference which promises fairly at some future period to be of some importance to the Colony' (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 1812, 1). Macquarie advocated for a settlement at Jervis Bay for several years. In December 1817 he wrote to Lord Bathurst of his intentions:

Port Jarvis is by far the finest and Safest Harbour on the Coast between this and Bass's Straits to the Southward. The Navigation from hence and into it is perfectly Safe, and it would be a Most Convenient Port for all Coasting Vessels to touch at, either for Refreshments or Shelter from boisterous Weather... I am of Opinion it would be good Policy and add greatly to the Improvement and Resources of the Colony, if a Settlement were formed at Port Jarvis, and the Country in its Vicinity Occupied by Industrious New Settlers (Watson & Chapman 1914, 713-714).

Bathurst saw no objection to the settlement, other than the requirement for adequate military supervision of the convicts, given the distance from Sydney. In the meantime, Governor Macquarie had commissioned Surveyor James Meehan to attempt to establish a land route from Sydney to Jervis Bay by land. Meehan was accompanied by Charles Throsby and several other men, including Bundle and Broughton, two Aboriginal men. The party set out from the Liverpool district on 3 March 1818 (Crabb 2007, 9). Three weeks into the journey, it was decided to split the party into two groups. Throsby's group travelled through Kangaroo Valley, across Shoalhaven River, and down Currumbene Creek to present day Huskisson. The group met with several groups of Aboriginal people on their route, initially joined by two men Timelong and Munnaana, with whom Thorsby was previously acquainted. They encountered several family and community groups, who evidently had different experience and knowledge of Europeans. Before reaching the head of Currumbene Creek, Thorsby recorded that:

This evening we fell in with several families of natives in all about thirty men women and children who would all have run away, but for one of the natives, who assured them we should not hurt them, by whom they were prevailed on to shake hands with me, when I made each of them a trifling present which induced them to give us what fish they had for which I paid them with a fish hook etc. (Quoted in Waters Consultancy 2013, 35).

Throsby's party reached present-day Huskisson on 3 April 1818. Throsby described the country as 'very barren poor land' and noted that the creek 'entrance is nearly shut by a very long narrow point or hook of land', as it is today (Quoted in Cambage 1921, 226). The party evidently met with a significant number of Aboriginal people, as Throsby noted that he 'would much rather be without such numerous visitors considering our small party and having heard the disposition of Jarvis Bay natives' (Quoted in Waters Consultancy 2013, 35). The party explored the bay for several days, departing on April 7. Throsby brought back with him favourable accounts of the Jervis Bay and Shoalhaven region and gave his support to Macquarie's intended settlement of the bay (Crabb 2007, 11). Macquarie however soon had to forego this plan, as the colony did not possess enough military guards to adequately supervise the settlement (Crabb 2007, 16). No colonial activity is known to have taken place in the area of present-day Huskisson for a further twenty years.

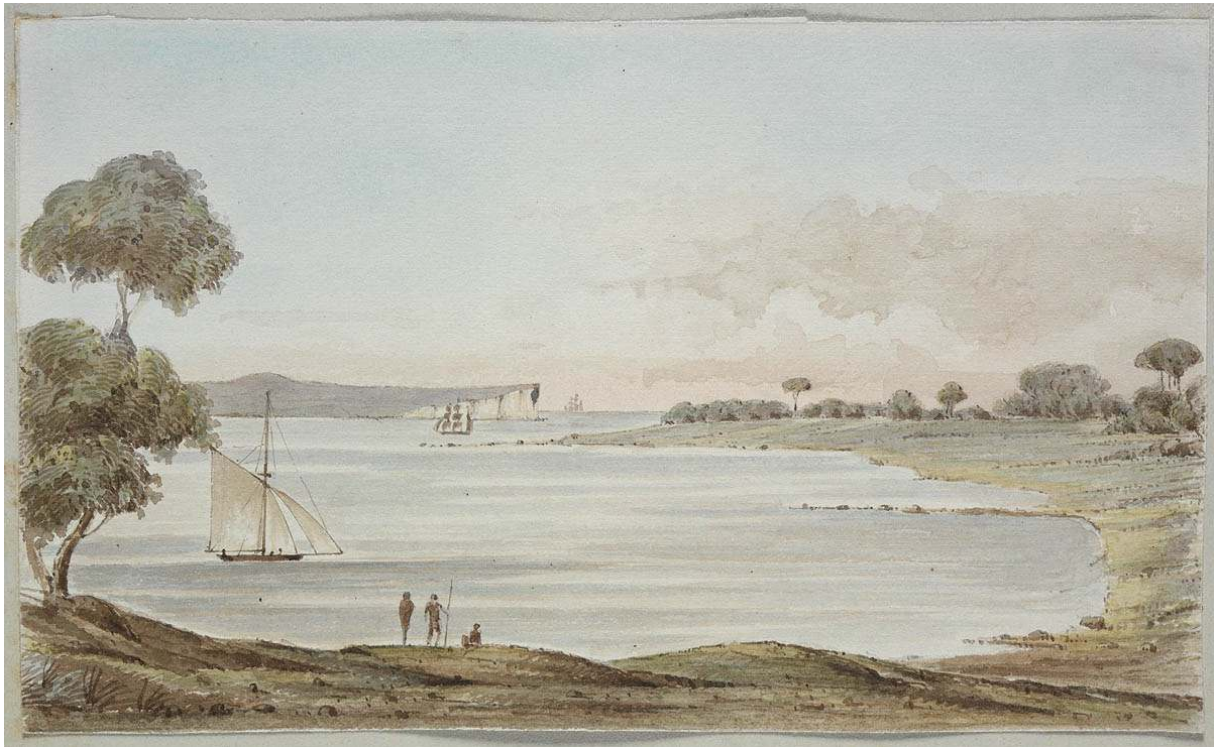


Figure 5. Jervis Bay, a Fine Harbour, 1835. Source: State Library NSW, FL3312551.

3.2 Alienation

Over the first decades of the nineteenth century, the Shoalhaven region had been occupied by cedar-cutters, employed by Sydney timber merchants. In 1825, much of the region was alienated and granted to Alexander Berry and his business partner Edward Wollstonecraft. The men were issued a total area of 13,500 acres of land on either side of the Shoalhaven River (Grant Register, Serial 18 Page 179). The land was used for agricultural and pastoral activities, as well as horse and cattle breeding. At the same time, pastoral settlements southwest along the Shoalhaven River were increasing production. Their primary export was wool, which was transported to Sydney along the Great South Road. The route was extremely slow for the laden bullock wagons, and an overland route to the coast was sought (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2003, 21).

In 1839 a group of settlers from the southern districts presented a memorial to the Governor, 'praying that a road might be formed between these districts and the harbour of Jervis Bay' (*The Colonist* 1839, 2). In September 1840, Governor Gipps informed Russell that a route from Narriga to Jervis Bay had been found (Watson 1914, Vol. 20, 841). That month, notices were published in the *Australasian Chronicle* that 'the Government has deemed it expedient to open and make a certain parish road from the pass of Byuli, near Narriga, to Jervis Bay' (*Australasian Chronicle* 1840, 3). Construction of the road commenced by February 1841, and by October the road was reported to be serviceable for a dray laden with wool (Jervis 1936). Several land grants in the vicinity of present-day Huskisson were issued from 1839, likely in anticipation of the road's

completion. These included James Farmer's Woollamia estate, and two adjacent parcels of land issued to John Terry Hughes (Figure 6).

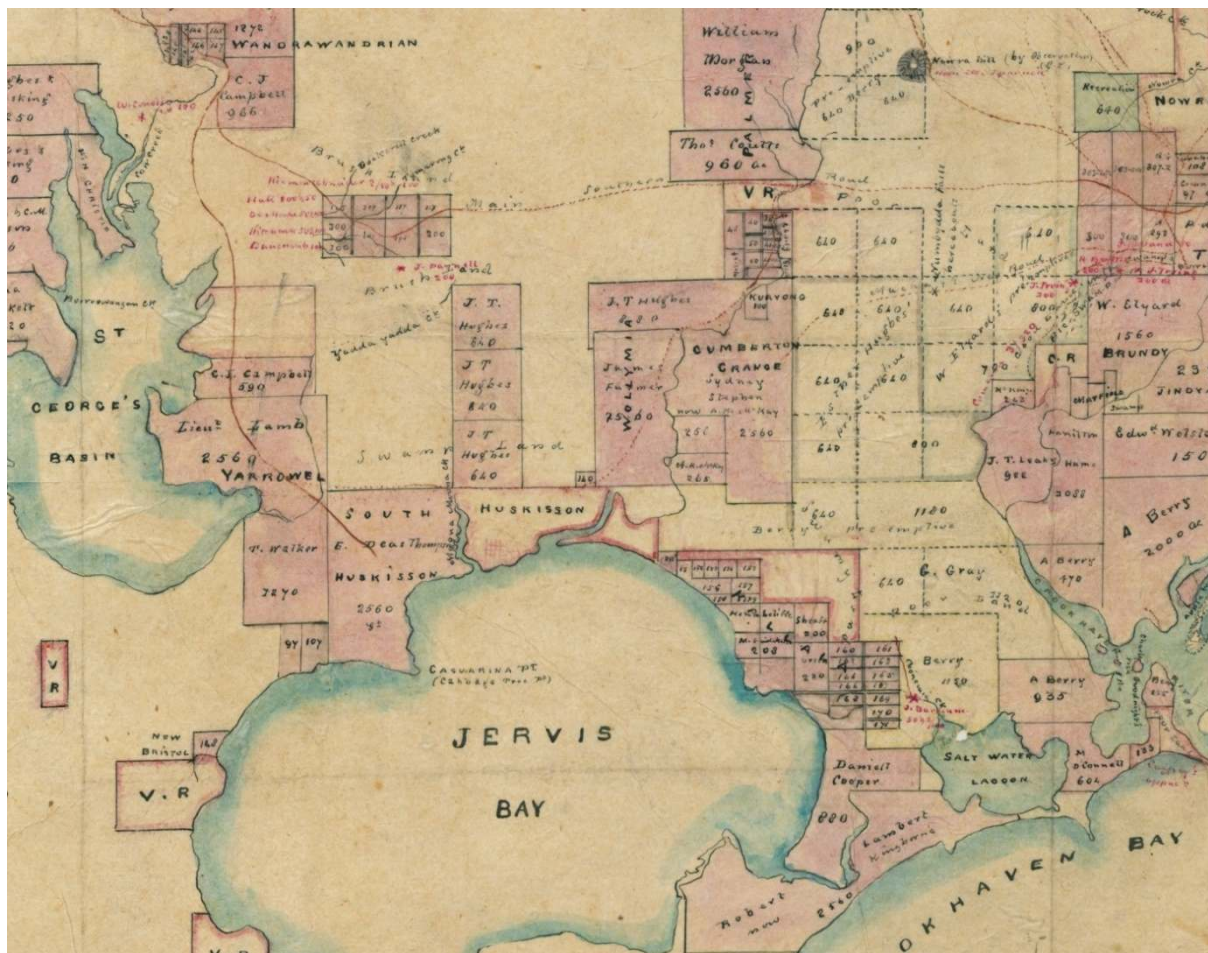


Figure 6. Sketch showing the position of sundry portions of land applied for to purchase in the County of St Vincent, c. 1854–1857. Source: Museums of History NSW, Surveyor General Sketch Books, Vol. 7, Fol. 59.

3.3 Townships

The Wool Road, as it became known, terminated south of Moona Moona Creek. This land, present-day Vincentia, was at that time in the ownership of Edward Deas Thomson, the then Colonial Secretary. Thomson had been promised the land, an area of 2,560 acres, by Governor Darling in 1830, with possession given in 1831, and a deed issued 1835. In July 1839, Thomson offered the estate for public auction (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 1839, 3). However, no sale eventuated; perhaps Thomson anticipated an increase in the value of his land.

In anticipation of the road's construction, Acting Surveyor General Perry was sent to Jervis Bay in 1840 to select a site for the establishment of a government township. Perry's preference was the land south of Moona Moona Creek; as this was already owned by Thomson, he selected the land north of the creek. A town plan for the town of Huskisson was submitted in November 1840 by Surveyor Burnett and was approved in December (Figure 7).

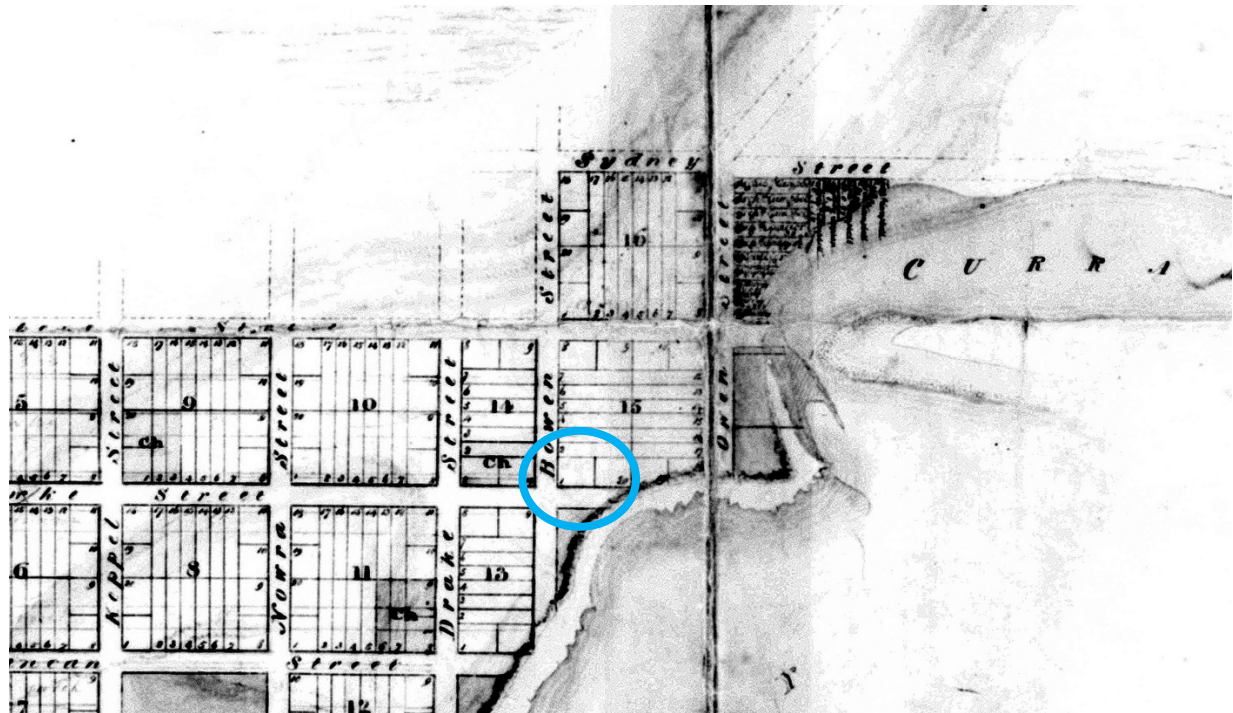


Figure 7. Detail of a plan for the Town of Huskisson at Jervis Bay, 1840, showing the approximate location of the site in relation to allotments and streets, marked with a blue circle. *Source:* State Records, Crown Plan 3110.

The first sale of allotments in Huskisson were advertised in October 1841 (*New South Wales Government Gazette* 1841, 1470). Only allotments in Section 17 were advertised. Evidently the sale was not successful, as they were advertised again in December 1842 with an upset price of £10 per acre (*New South Wales Government Gazette* 1842, 1884). The allotments were sold at auction on 9 February 1843 – eight were purchased by Archibald Campbell, three were purchased by Richard Sadlier, three by Henry Murray, and one by Sydney Stephen (*New South Wales Government Gazette* 1843, 470).

By May 1841, Thomson had subdivided his estate, forming the private town of South Huskisson. Advertisements for the auction of 100 building allotments at South Huskisson were advertised in May 1841 (*The Sydney Monitor and Commercial Advertiser* 1841, 3). By June, it was reported that the accounts 'of the facilities of that port are of truly an encouraging nature' (*Free Press and Commercial Journal* 1841, 2).



Figure 8. Sketch of the Township of South Huskisson, 1843. The site is within the area marked 'Government Township' in the top right-hand corner. Source: National Library of Australia, nla.obj-229901982.

Despite this initial period of activity in South Huskisson, by the middle of the following decade it was abandoned, as was Huskisson itself. No development is known to have occurred in Huskisson following the 1843 sale of allotments. The establishment of Huskisson and South Huskisson coincided with the onset of the 1840s depression, and the neighbouring towns suffered the same fate as numerous developments and estates throughout NSW in this period. The apparent failure of the settlement of Jervis Bay is captured in this letter from 1856.

About thirteen years ago, I was tempted by reading the advertisements in the official *Gazette*, announcing the sale of allotments in the town of Huskisson, Jervis Bay, to invest some of my hard savings in the purchase of some of the properties therein submitted for sale, in the hope its value would keep pace with the gradual expansion of the wealth and commerce of the colony; and in this assurance I felt happy in having, as I thought, made a provision for my younger children. It has, however, recently been communicated to me, by one professing to have derived his knowledge from actual observation, that the hopes I then indulged in, were founded on a visionary basis. An extensive acquaintance with that section of the country, fully justifies, he avers, the assumption that no part of Jervis Bay – Huskisson in particular – can by any probable event become, within the next half dozen generations, a place of any importance either in commerce or agriculture; the very limited available space along the coast being shut in from the interior of the country by an impassable barrier of mountains, while the soil in the

neighbourhood of the Bay, and indeed generally, is sterile and utterly worthless; that the entire face of that section of country does not present one cheering feature to redeem it from hopeless abandonment, for centuries yet to come.

Such is the nature of the information my enquiries have elicited from a private source, and in illustration of its correctness I am challenged to produce a single newspaper, or other document, public or private, in which, within the last seven years, the very existence of Jervis Bay or Huskisson, is even alluded to. Not an individual, it is said, has as yet even ventured to settle there; nor has the Government made any effort at establishing the town of Huskisson, beyond taking the money of the deluded purchasers. In short, it is broadly stated, that the act of the Government, in thus prematurely seducing, as it were, the public to purchase land in this unfavourable locality, was merely preliminary to enabling Mr, Colonial Secretary Thomson to sell allotments in the equally worthless town of South Huskisson at an enormous sum per acre!...

The object of this communication, therefore, is to elicit, through the medium of your journal, such public information as may stamp a just value on property in Huskisson, if it be worth anything, present or prospective, thereby removing erroneous impressions relative thereto and doing justice to all parties. As this is my first humble attempt at writing for the public eye, I trust I shall be pardoned for the errors I style and grammar which it presents, assuring you that I am but what I profess myself to.

A LABOURING MAN, And one of the oldest Subscribers to the *Herald* (*Sydney Morning Herald* 1856, 8).

3.4 Huskisson

Despite the Labouring Man's predictions, a new settlement at Huskisson was initiated only five years later. In May 1861, a Mr Dent travelled to Currumbene Creek, to search 'for timber for the Sydney market' (*Illawarra Mercury* 1861, 2). Dent was evidently successful; in November that year, 6,000 feet of timber was sent from Jervis Bay to Sydney aboard the *Sarah Dent* (*Sydney Morning Herald* 1861, 5). The Dents and other shipwrights established shipyards, sawmills, and slipways at Currumbene Creek in the 1860s. By 1868 a small community had evidently developed, as Mr Parnell of Tomerong applied to have a booth for the sale of spiritous liquor at Currumbene Creek (*The News, Shoalhaven and Southern Coast Districts Advertiser* 1868, 2).

In 1868 Huskisson was resurveyed, and a new town plan prepared. The town plan designated several reserves and church reserves in the town. The site is located within Section 3 of this town plan (Figure 9). No development is known to have occurred in the site immediately following the preparation of the 1868 town plan (see Section 3.4.1).

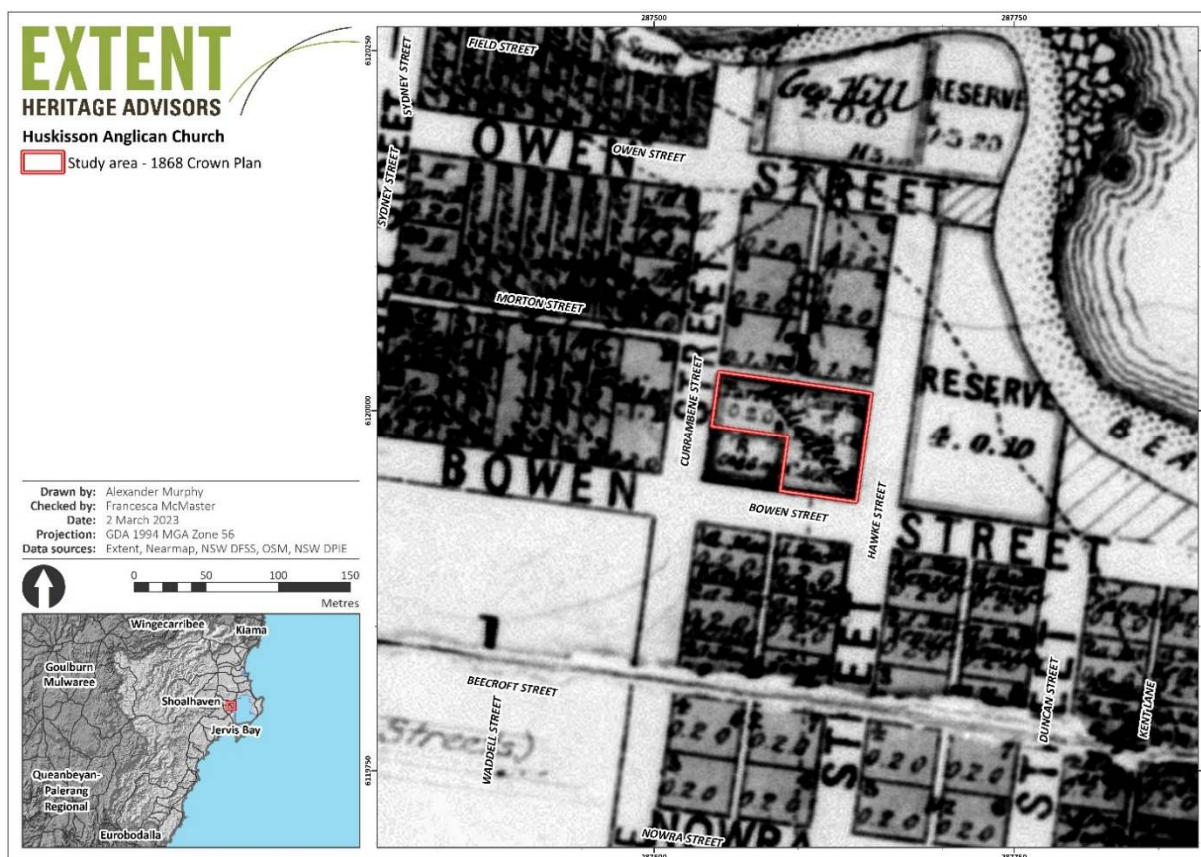


Figure 9. Detail of the plan of the Town of Huskisson, 1868. Source: MHNSW, Crown Plan 3112.

By the late 1870s the community was serviced by a postmistress and a provisional school. A vignette of the township is given in an account of Jervis Bay published in *The Telegraph and Shoalhaven Advertiser* in 1879:

The population at present comprises about 100 persons, who are scattered around the bay from Calalla Creek on the north to Moona Moona, or Plantation Point on the south-western side. The principal industry is ship building, and timber-cutting, the centre of operations being situated on the western bank of Jervis' or Currumbene Creek, and on the outskirts of the village of North Huskisson. It may be well here to disabuse your mind of any chimerical fancy regarding the dimensions of the village aforesaid by telling you it merely consists of the somewhat cosy-looking residences of Messrs. James, William, and George Dent, who are also the principal ship builders and proprietors there. Then there is the residence of a Mr. Macaulay, a sturdy Canadian, who spent much of his time at sea as a shipwright, and is still engaged in that trade. And there is the domicile of the worthy and hospitable postmistress, and the school building, in which is kept the half-time Provisional school by Mr. G. G. C. Jeston, all forming units of this rustic and picturesquely situated little village...

The first ship-building yard arrived at by the visitor as he commences his tour of inspection at the mouth of the Currumbene Creek, is that of the Messrs. Dent, like the rest situated on the western bank of the creek, which is navigable there with upwards of a fathom of water at high tide. The older Dent – the progenitor of (so far as least as Jervis Bay is concerned) four stalwart sons, James, George, William, and Harry – hails from the New World of the Atlantic (*The Telegraph and Shoalhaven Advertiser* 1879, 2).

The author records that in order to travel to yards further up the creek they were advised to seek the services of a group of Aboriginal men in charge of a surf boat. They were rowed by 'Captain Edward Watson Tadamagal', a man of about 60, who was 'quite an expert with a pair of oars' (*The Telegraph and Shoalhaven Advertiser* 1879, 2). This Captain may have been a member of the Aboriginal community then living at Currumbene Creek. Through the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Aboriginal community remained well-established in Huskisson. In 1881 the Aborigines Protection Board tried to remove the Aboriginal community to a reserve of 700 acres at Long Beach; however, by 1890 the reserve remained unoccupied (Waters 2013, 230). Aboriginal children attended the provisional school at Huskisson; when a new school was built in 1883, the site was cleared by the father of one of the Aboriginal children attending the school (Waters 2013, 205). In 1884, the Aborigines Protection Board recorded twenty-two Aboriginal children attending the school (Waters 2013, 235).

By the turn of the century, Huskisson had grown into a thriving village, supported primarily by the timber and shipbuilding industries. The Sydney Sands Directory of 1901 lists the following occupations – shipbuilder, shipwright, boat builder, contractor, sawmilling, and general store and hotel proprietors. The 1901 Census records 114 residents of North Huskisson, including twenty Aboriginal residents (New South Wales, 1901 Census). In 1905, an application to reserve the area of Currumbene Creek where several families lived was submitted; however, this was unsuccessful (Waters 2013, 230). The right for the Aboriginal community to reside on the creek remained through the early twentieth century, as it was noted in 1927 that they had the right to camp at the reserve 'between the hotel and the beach' (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1927, 1). A prominent member of Huskisson's Aboriginal community at the turn of the century was Jimmy Golding, also known as King Budd Billy, or the King of Jervis Bay. Budd Billy was a prominent figure in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven region. Accounts of Kiama's centenary in 1896 noted his attendance at the celebrations.

"Budd Billy II King of Jervis Bay" and "Micky Johnson" came into town with a retinue of native followers. Both were dressed in state regalia. King billy had his half-moon brass plate, bearing his name and title, a brass star on which was embossed a crown, and a nickel medal awarded to somebody by the Agricultural Society for the best Durham bull... (*Australian Town and Country Journal* 1896, 10).

Budd Billy died in May 1905 (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1905, 6). A newspaper account from July that year reports his wife Mary as stating that Billy 'had a Christian burial, with a minister, in the churchyard' (*Evening News*, 1905 8). Mary continued to reside at Huskisson following her husband's death (*The Nowra Leader* 1927, 3).



Figure 10. The main street of Huskisson, Jervis Bay, 1912. *Source:* State Library South Australia, PRG 280/1/11/158.



Figure 11. Boat building yard at Huskisson, c. 1913. *Source:* State Library of South Australia, PRG 280/1/11/153.

3.4.1 Church reserve

The redrawn town plan of 1868 designated two church reserves. One was located in Section 3, bounded by Hawke Street, Bowen Street, and Currambene Street (the subject site), and the other in Section 8, bounded by Nowra Street, Hawke Street, and Duncan Street.

In 1875, Surveyor Dale went to Huskisson to survey the Section 3 church reserve, ‘for report and measurement if unobjectionable 1 acre for Church of England Church site, ½ acre for Parsonage site’. Dale’s Crown Plan survey split the two-acre site into three allotments, with Lot 7 for the erection of a church, Lot 8 for the site of a parsonage, and Lot 9 as a burial ground. Dale’s accompanying letter advised that ‘as there is already a grave in the remaining portion [Lot 9], I considered that I ought to reserve that as a burial ground’. Dale’s suggestion however was rejected, as the current legislation established that burial grounds should be located at least one mile outside of town. The Crown Plan was amended, striking out the ‘burial ground’ notation (Figure 12).

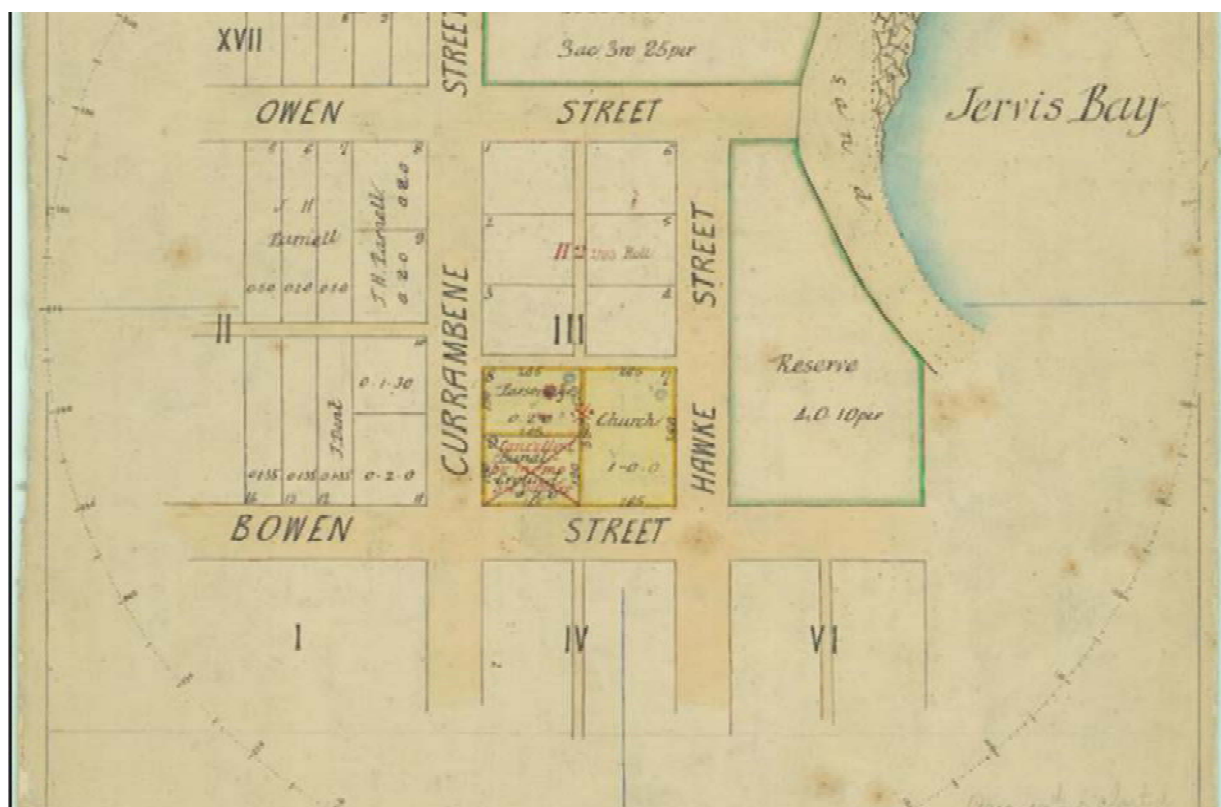


Figure 12. Detail of Plan of Allotments 7 and 8 in Section III in Town of Huskisson. Source: CP 486-1984, in Navin Officer 2021, 31.

Lots 7 and 8 were formally dedicated for the purposes of a ‘Church of England Church and Parsonage’ in February 1876 (*New South Wales Government Gazette* 1876, 510). John Watson, George Dent jun., James Dent, Thomas Ganderton and William Barham were appointed as trustees for the site in September 1877 (*New South Wales Government Gazette* 1877, 3401). The trustees were issued a deed for the parsonage site in 1878, and a deed for the church site in 1880 (Old Form Torrens Register, Vol. 461 Fol. 84; Vol. 486 Fol. 137).

Lot 9 remained Crown Land. By 1915 it was shown as being a Reserve for Public Buildings (Figure 13).



Figure 13. Detail of Town Map of Huskisson. Lots 7-9 circled in red. Source: Shoalhaven Map Collection, MAP/270.

Church services at Huskisson were advertised from at least 1885 (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1885, 2). It is not known where the services were held, nor whether any structure was built on the church and parsonage site in the nineteenth century. It appears that no church building had been built at the site by 1903, as it was reported that:

At the Church of England Parochial Council meeting, on Friday evening last, Rev. W. Newby-Fraser reported that Miss Wood, of Jervis Bay, desired permission to raise funds for the erection of a place of worship at Huskisson. It was stated that a site was available that was vested in trustees for Church of England purposes, but it was desired that the building should be placed at the disposal of the Presbyterian Church people when required. The Council expressed entire approval of the proposal (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1903, 6).

The church building was evidently constructed and in use on the site by September 1905:

A very pretty wedding was celebrated at the Church of England, Huskisson Bay, on Monday last, when Miss Edith Johns and Mr. Dudley Barnett Wiltshire were united in the bonds of matrimony (*The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser* 1905, 8).

The church building was altered at least once, as it was reported in 1917 that the departing reverend Perkins had ‘carried out much good work on the material side... also extensive

additions and repairs to the church at Huskisson' (*The Nowra Leader* 1917, 5). By 1924, the church building on the site was considered to be inadequate for the growing township. A report of the Reverend T Terry's comments at the annual meeting of the parish of St John's published on 14 May 1924 noted:

The church at Huskisson should also receive some attention in the near future. The place was steadily growing in importance, and the church building was altogether too small, and required other improvements (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1924, 7).

3.5 Holy Trinity Church

By the 1920s, Huskisson had developed into a resort town, its population and amenities bolstered by the overall rise of the leisure and tourist industry in the Shoalhaven region (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2003, 45). Buildings such as the School of Arts, built in 1917, and the rebuilding of the Jervis Bay Hotel in 1929 demonstrate the growth of the town in this period. An indication of the role of the tourist industry in the town's livelihood is given in the Sydney Sands Directory of 1925, which lists four accommodation houses, two refreshment rooms, motor car proprietors and launch proprietors in the town (Sands 1925).

Fundraising through the late 1920s contributed to the construction of the new church building. In November 1926 it was reported that 'Huskisson C.E. ladies are out to raise £200 for the erection of a new church in that centre' (*The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser* 1926, 2). In January 1927 it was reported that a Church of England concert at Huskisson had raised £28 for the building fund (*The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser* 1927, 2). In April 1928, 'the ladies of the Huskisson Church of England building fund committee organised a very successful dance at the Literary Institute' (*The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser* 1928, 3).

On 22 October 1930 it was reported that 'Preliminary steps are being taken for the erection of a new Church of England at Huskisson' (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1930a, 7). Tenders for the erection of a timber church at Huskisson were invited in November 1930 (*The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser* 1930, 2). Ten tenders were received, and that of A.E. Green was accepted in December. It was stated that the work was to be completed by the following Easter (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1930b, 3).

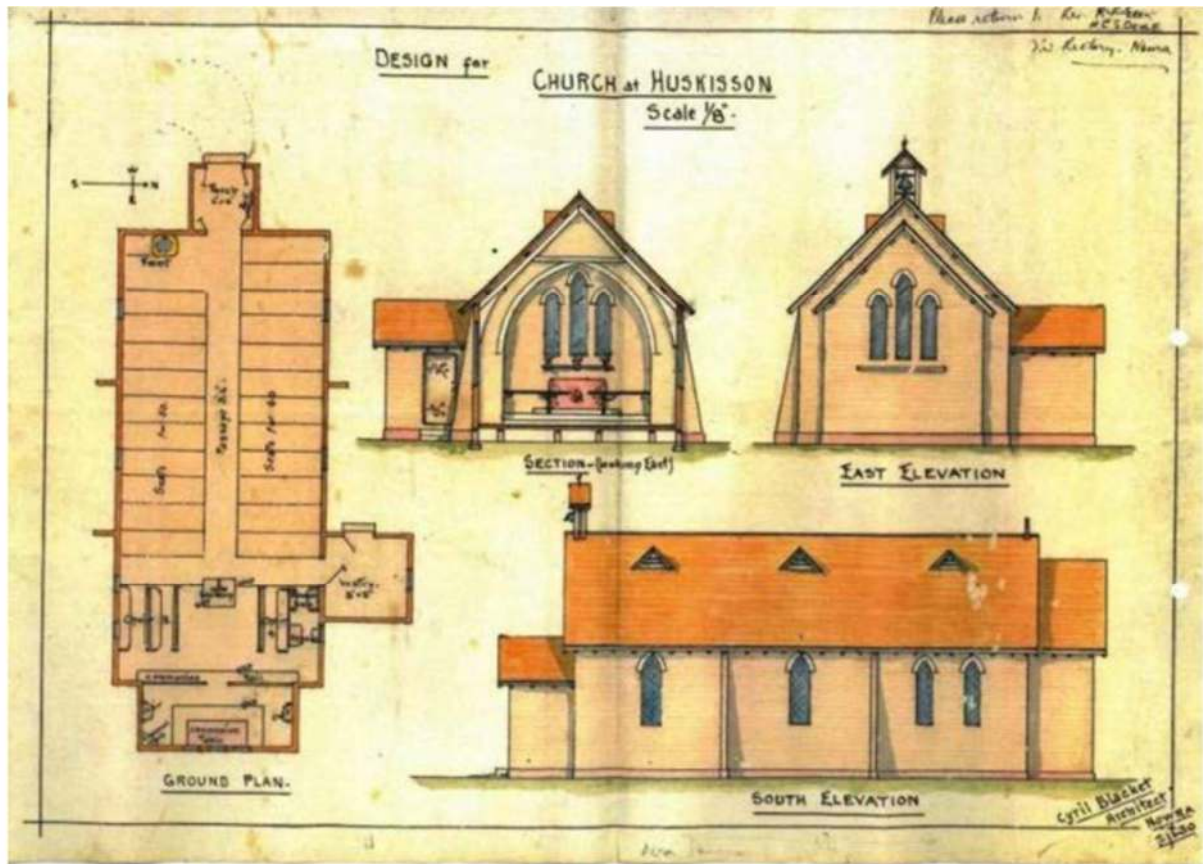


Figure 14. Design for church at Huskisson, Cyril Blacket, 1930. *Source:* National Trust

The foundation stone of the church was laid by the Archbishop of Sydney, Dr Wright, in the afternoon of 24 January 1931. An account of the occasion was published in the *Shoalhaven Telegraph*:

The popular tourist resort, Huskisson, was en fete on Saturday afternoon, the occasion being the laying of the new foundation stone of a new Church of England at that centre. His Grace the Archbishop of Sydney, Right Rev. Dr Wright, performed the ceremony. There was a large attendance, not only of local residents, but of church people from all parts of the district. The site of the new buildings is on the fine block of land belonging to the C.E. authorities, facing Hawke-street, and commanding a magnificent view of Jervis Bay, and a short distance west of the old structure that has done duty for many years. The building is of wood, with brick foundation, inside measurements being 42ft by 20ft. The contract price for its erection, without windows, lining, etc., was £372, and the necessary work to complete the building will probably cost another £100... The original intention was to erect a brick building; but the cost of that was considered excessive and beyond the financial capability of the people in that end of the parish of Shoalhaven. The contractor is Mr. A. E. Green, builder, of Nowra (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1931a, 1).



Figure 15. Laying of foundation stone at Holy Trinity Church, 1931. The old church is visible to the right in the background. *Source:* National Trust.

The Church of England was greatly assisted in the construction and furnishing of the new church by the community. On 28 March 1931 it was reported that the furnishings of the new Church of Holy Trinity at Huskisson were gradually nearing completion:

Miss Grace Dent has donated a 4 light “Victor” lighting system complete. Mr Harold Raunch is presenting a Lectern in memory of his brother Bert. An Altar cloth is the gift of friends at Sans Souci, per a Mrs. Bird and Mr. C. Shambler.

The Nowra Church is giving the hymn board and matting runners.

The pews will be donated singly, and will be made to a special design.

Mrs. Pittany has given a pew, and others are under consideration (*The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser* 1931, 3).

Several days later, a pastoral letter from the Reverend R.P. Gee was published in the *Shoalhaven Telegraph*, appealing for further contributions:

To The Parishioners of St. John’s, Shoalhaven, - I wish to bring under your notice the fact that the new church of the Holy Trinity, Huskisson, will be opened for Divine service on Saturday, April 4th, at 3pm, by the Rural Dean of Wollongong, Rev. E. Walker. I urge that you make an effort to attend the opening and dedicating ceremony.

I also appeal to those who are in a position to help and have not already done so, to consider what they can do to help open this church free of debt. We estimate that the debt will be about £40, which, when considering the wealth of this district, is so small as to challenge our faith to

liquidate it by a grand effort of free will giving – not from our present resource, but from your savings of the past prosperous seasons.

Further, certain items of the furnishing may be given as memorials. The lectern has been given as a memorial. The pews are to be given singly, whilst choir stall, prayer desks, carpet for sanctuary, and chancel chairs are still required.

I commend these matters to your prayerful consideration, and if you decide to move in any matter you could let me know (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1931b, 4).

The Holy Trinity Church was consecrated on 4 April 1931:

The consecration of Holy Trinity Church, a fine new edifice recently erected at Huskisson, to take the place of the building in use there for over thirty years, was performed with due ceremony on Saturday last by the Rev. E. Walker, Rural Dean, of Wollongong... He also congratulated the people of Huskisson on their enterprise and devotion in erecting so fine a building in a time of depression, and particularly so on having the structure practically free of debt... He paid a tribute to the faithful manner in which Mr. Cyril Blacket, the architect, and Mr. A. E. Green, the contractor, had carried out their work... He mentioned that some church appointments had been donated as memorials, but there were other necessities required, and gifts would be gratefully received and highly appreciated from the generously-disposed who could see their way clear to donate pews, hymn-books, or other articles used in the Church services (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1931c, 4).

Fundraising efforts for the church continued after its consecration. On Eight-Hour-Day, 5 October 1931, 'a picnic and sports was held on the Huskisson recreation ground... Those having the function in hand are hopeful of the indebtedness on the new church being substantially reduced as a result of the effort' (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1931d, 1).

The church formed the basis of an advertisement for Celotex, published in *Building* in May 1931:

...An attractive little church has lately been built at Huskisson. The walls are of local hardwood with weatherboard external covering, wooden buttresses, open timber roof covered with shingles, chancel, porch, vestry, choir, and everything complete, on a brick foundation.

The designer was Cyril Blacket, architect, and the contractor, A. E. Green. On receipt of the final certificate the energetic building committee paid compliments to both architect and builder, and said the nice things about the inside Celotex lining, which as one lady of the committee remarked "must make the Celotex people's ears tingle."

The studs and diagonal stays although necessary were certainly not beautiful, but when the Celotex sheets, a novelty in Huskisson, arrived and were watered and cut to shape, and put in position, a new era was begun.

As to the acoustic qualities, one speaking at the Communion Table, in a very low voice, could easily be heard at the extreme end of the building, in a perfectly empty church (*Building*, 12 May 1931, 80).

In October 1932 it was reported that a memorial tablet was to be erected in the Huskisson Church of England, in honour of the good work done in that centre by the late Madge Dent (*South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus* 1932, 22). A new organ at Huskisson church was

dedicated by the Rural Dean Rev. E. Walker, Rector of Wollongong, on 5 August 1934 (*The Nowra Leader* 1934b, 4).

The original church building was retained following the opening of the new church, and it was converted to use as the church hall. The original church building was located in the north-east corner of the site and was altered and enlarged several times. Tenders were invited for minor alterations to the 'Old Church' at Huskisson in May 1934 (*The Nowra Leader* 1934a, 5). Tenders were again invited for alteration and minor additions to the Huskisson Church Hall in June 1935 (*The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser* 1935, 2).

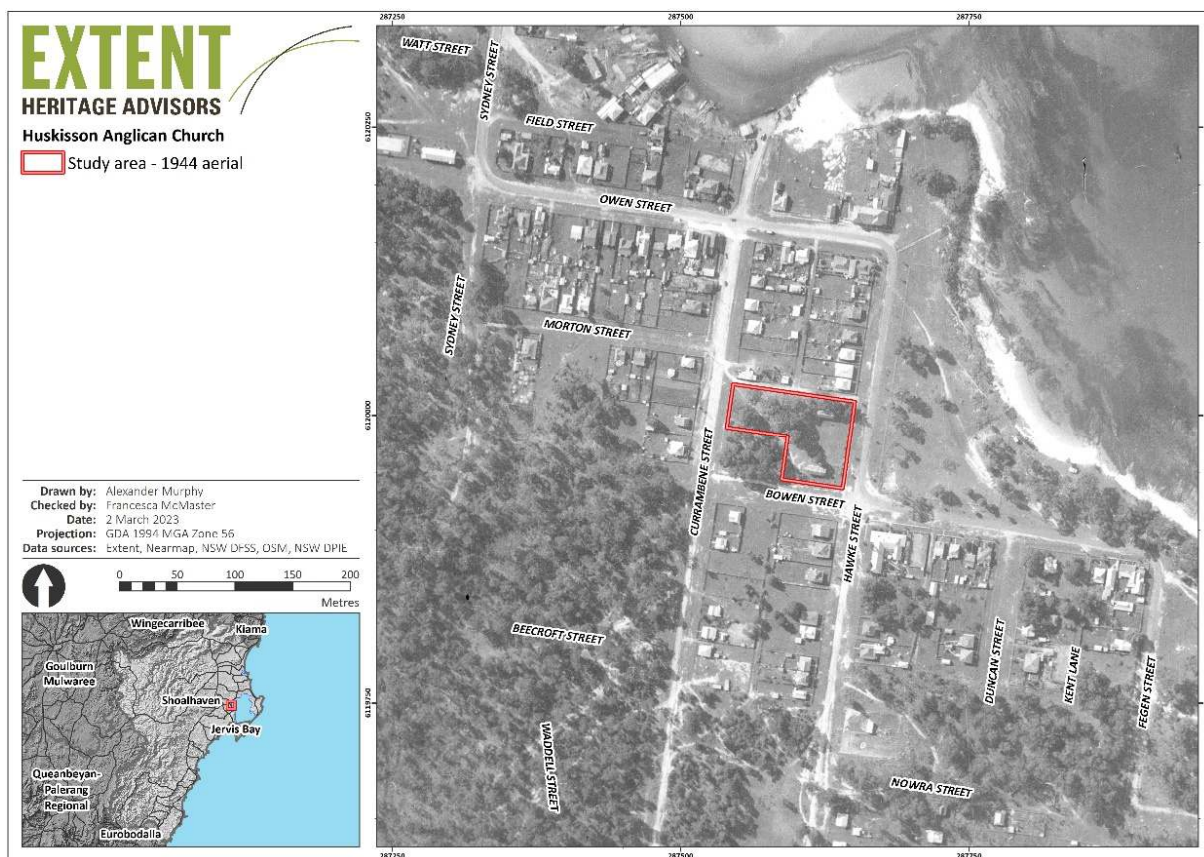


Figure 16. Aerial image of Huskisson, 1944. 1931 church at south-east corner of the site, original church building visible at north-east corner of the site.

In October 1979, an Ordinance was passed by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney 'to vary the trusts of certain land at Huskisson and at Vincentia and to permit the sale of the Vincentia land' (Sydney Diocesan Services 1979). Lot 7 at Huskisson was held in trust for the erection of a Church. The Ordinance amended the trust, to enable the land to be used as a church, a residence for a minister, assistant to the minister or a person employed by the church wardens, a hall or halls, and a school or other place of assembly. The Ordinance additionally enabled the sale of land at Vincentia, allowing the proceeds of the sale to be used, in part, towards meetings the costs of building a residence for a minister on Lot 7. The old church was moved in 1979 to make way for the construction of a brick rectory building, which was completed in 1980. The old church was moved directly south of the rectory building.

Between the 1980s and 2019, a shed and various landscaping features were developed on the site. The shed was located to the west of the old church building and a concrete path linked the old church to the new one. A playground was also located between the old and new church with fencing installed around the playground.

In February 2017 the *Huskisson Land Sale Ordinance 2017* was passed by the Standing Committee of the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney. The ordinance permitted ‘the sale certain land at 17 Hawke Street, Huskisson and 48-52 Paradise Beach Road, Sanctuary Point.’ On 17 February 2020 the Standing Committee approved an extension of the land sale date to 13 February 2023.

In 2019 the old church building and the shed on the western side of the site were demolished. Aerial photographs show that the concrete path, playground, and fencing were also removed at this time. The Anglican Church Property Trust completed the sale of the ‘Huskisson church building, cemetery and rectory’ in 2021 (Standing Committee of the Synod Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney 2022, 451).

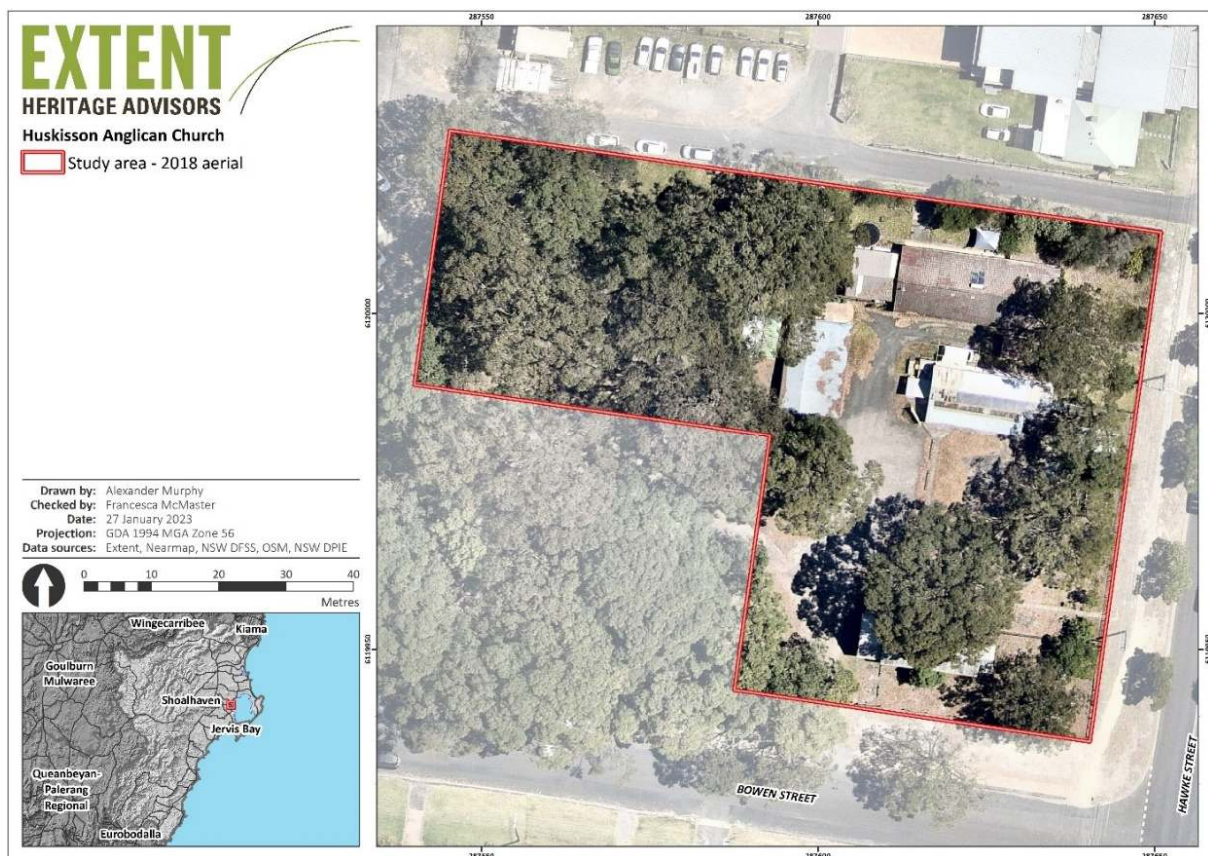


Figure 17. The study area as it appeared in 2018. The rectory is located in the north-east corner, the old church to the south of the rectory and the new church to the south. *Source:* Nearmaps.

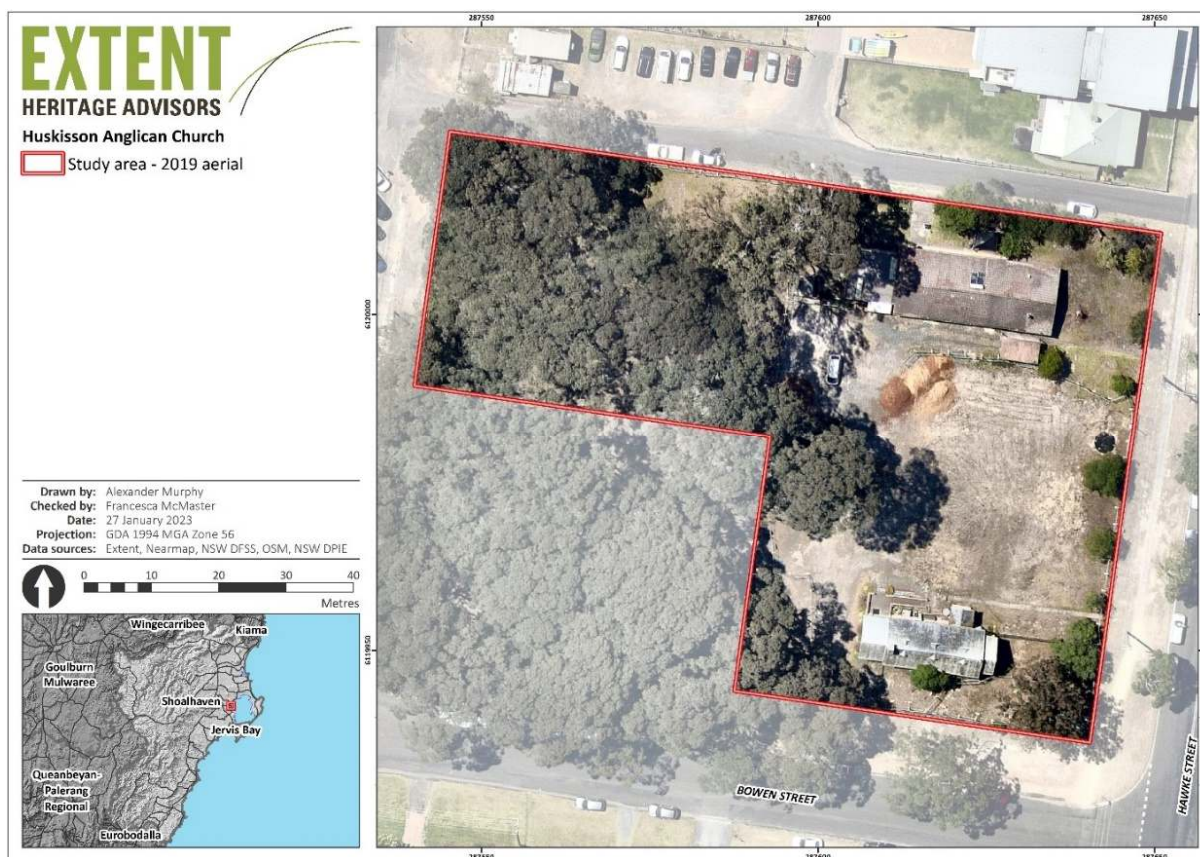


Figure 18. The site as it appeared in 2019 following demolition of the old church building and shed building and removal of several trees. *Source:* Nearmaps.

3.6 Lot 9

Lot 9 remained Crown Land following the dedication of Lots 7 and 8 for the purposes of a Church of England Church and Parsonage. By 1915, Lot 9 was noted on the Town Map of Huskisson as a ‘Reserve for Public Buildings’. It remained Crown Land until its transfer to the Jerrinja Local Aboriginal Land Council under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*.

3.7 Cyril Blacket

The Holy Trinity Church at Huskisson was designed by architect Cyril Blacket in 1930. By this time, Blacket was a well-renowned architect throughout NSW, and a prominent public figure in the Shoalhaven region.

Blacket began his career working alongside his father, Edmund T Blacket. The elder Blacket is renowned as one of New South Wales’ most prominent and successful nineteenth century architects, designing four cathedrals, over fifty churches and numerous domestic and commercial buildings over the course of his forty-year career.

The firm Blacket and Son began practicing in 1880, and produced plans for several significant churches, including St Thomas’ in North Sydney, All Souls Leichhardt, and St Andrew’s in Braidwood. The elder Blacket died in 1883, and Cyril’s brother Arthur joined the firm, which

began practicing as Blacket Brothers. The brothers oversaw the construction of several projects initiated by their father; however, were soon beset by professional and legal challenges. In 1886, Cyril left both Sydney and the architectural profession, moving to St George's Basin

However, by 1889, Cyril was again practicing architecture, and was based in Nowra. He soon reasserted himself in the profession. In 1894 he was appointed Lecturer in Architecture to the Sydney Technical College, and in 1903 he was appointed president of the Institute of Architects (Herman 1963, 206). By 1896 Cyril had assumed his father's previous position as Diocesan Building Surveyor and Architect, which he held until 1917. As Diocesan Architect, Cyril was responsible for the design of many new churches throughout NSW, as well as extensions and alterations to existing churches designed by his father (Herman 1963, 206).

In the Shoalhaven region, Blacket designed numerous public and private buildings, including the Friendly Inn Hotel at Kangaroo Valley, and multiple residences and commercial buildings in Nowra. Notable public buildings designed by Blacket in Nowra include the Nowra School of Arts (1890) and the Nowra War Memorial Gates (1929). He was a Councillor on the Clyde Shire Council from its inception in 1906, and twice held the position of council president (*Illawarra Mercury* 1914, 2).

The Huskisson church was likely one of Cyril's later designs in the Shoalhaven. In the 1930s he moved to Manly, where he died in 1937.

3.8 Burials

Below is provided a summary of independent historical research undertaken in regard to potential burials at Huskisson in relation to the church site. It is not intended to be an exhaustive investigation, but to provide context for the archaeological potential of the church and grounds. There is no official record of any burial taking place on Lots 7 and 8, which were never a consecrated burial ground.

3.8.1 Unknown burial c. 1870

Surveyor Dale noted the presence of a grave on Lot 9 in 1875. The identity or date of this grave is not known. Given the development history of Huskisson, and the fact that the grave was evident in 1875, it is assumed that the grave would likely date from the period 1860–1875. Newspaper accounts from 1912 refer to the grave of an unknown sailor buried at Huskisson 'some 42 years ago', inferring a burial date of approximately 1870.

The Nowra All Saints Parish Register and digitised newspapers on Trove were reviewed for reference to deaths occurring at Huskisson, Currumbene, and Jervis Bay in this period.

3.8.1.1 William Woods

The Nowra All Saints Parish Register records one death occurring at Currumbene prior to 1875, that of William Woods, who died aged two, on 30 October 1867. He is noted as being the son of a shipbuilder, living at Currumbene. The date of burial is recorded as 1 November 1867, with the ceremony performed by R.S. Willis. The death was reported in at least three newspapers at the time.

On 5 November 1867, the *Sydney Morning Herald* reported that:

On the 31st October, at Currumbene Creek, Jervis Bay, of scarlet fever, William George, only and beloved son of William and Susanna Wood, aged 2 years and 3 months (*Sydney Morning Herald* 1867a, 1).

On 9 November 1867, the *Sydney Mail* reported:

Wood – October 31st, at Currumbene Creek, Jervis Bay, of scarlet fever, William George, only and beloved son of William and Susanna Wood, aged 2 years and 3 months (*Sydney Mail* 1867, 11).

The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported the death again on 23 November:

Wood – October 31st, at Currumbene Creek, Jervis Bay, of scarlet fever, William George, only and beloved son of William and Susanna Wood, aged 2 years and 3 months (*Sydney Morning Herald* 1867b, 7).

3.8.1.2 J. Courtany

In April 1869, several newspapers reported the death of J. Courtany, master of the schooner Clio, who drowned at sea off Jervis Bay on 11 February (*Sydney Morning Herald* 1869a, 1; *Sydney Morning Herald* 1869b, 8; *Empire* 1869, 6; *Sydney Mail* 1869, 12). This date aligns with the time period; however, no details about burial or interment have been found.

3.8.2 Robert Johnson

Robert Johnson was reported to have drowned at Jervis Bay on 15 April 1892 (*New South Wales Police Gazette and Weekly Record of Crime* 1892, 142). His body was reported to have been found near Callala Creek, approximately 5 km north-east of the site, on 24 April (*New South Wales Police Gazette and Weekly Record of Crime* 1892, 161). It was reported that:

The body was found by a fisherman named up Penniston on Sunday last, washed up on the beach near Callala Creek, about four miles from where the accident happened... Lieutenant Lucas and eight men from H.M.S. Orlando arrived yesterday morning for the purpose of burying the body, but on arrival at the spot where the body lay they found it impossible to remove it. A grave was then dug and the burial service read by Lieutenant Lucas (*The Daily Telegraph* 1892, 6).

From this news report, it is believed that Robert Johnson was initially buried in proximity to Callala Creek, located several kilometres to the north-east of the subject area. In 1900, the crew of the *Royal Arthur* removed the body to 'a picturesque spot on Tapalla Point at Huskisson, and a beautifully designed monument has been erected over the grave' (*Sydney Morning Herald* 1900, 5).

The grave of Robert Johnson is still located at Tapalla Point, adjacent to White Sands Park. It is listed as a local heritage item on Schedule 5 of the Shoalhaven LEP 2014, as 'Lone Grave of Robert Johnson'. There is no suggestion in the historical record that Johnson was ever buried at the Huskisson Anglican Church site.



Figure 19. Monument to Robert Johnson at Tapalla Point.

3.8.3 King Budd Billy

In 1905, a newspaper article in the *Evening News* about the town of Huskisson provided details about King Budd Billy and Mary Golding. The article was published soon after Budd Billy's death, and it reported that Mary Golding had stated that he had been buried in a churchyard by a minister.

The poor old widow was very proud that her man “had a Christian burial, with a minister, in the churchyard; whilst (and her satisfaction was accentuated thereby) Jacky, another black-fellow, only got buried like a dog out in the bush yonder.” (*Evening News* 1905, 8).

No official record of King Budd Billy's burial is known.

3.8.4 Carl Niclasson

On 27 November 1912 it was reported that:

...a seaman named Carl Niclasson, aged 32 years, employed on the whaling factory ship Loch Tay at Jervis Bay, died suddenly... The body was buried at the rear of the union church at Huskisson, alongside the grave of a sailor interred there some 42 years ago (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1912, 5).

The *Nowra Leader* on 29 November also reported that the body of the deceased ‘was interred at a quiet spot close to the little church at Huskisson, and alongside the grave of a seaman who

was drowned 42 years ago' (*The Nowra Leader* 1912, 8). No official record of the burial is known.

3.8.5 Queen Mary

Queen Mary died in 1928. Several newspapers reported her death and her burial, including the Shoalhaven Telegraph:

On Sunday afternoon, February 26th, the mortal remains of Mary Goulding, known locally as "Queen Mary" were laid to rest in the quiet little burying ground far up Currambene Creek... A great number of people gathered in that lonely bush burying ground to pay a last tribute of respect to such an aged Australian, and the service at the graveside was particularly solemn and impressive, with the shadows of the densely growing trees falling sombrely across the grave. So passed Mary Goulding. May the earth rest lightly on her ashes (Shoalhaven Telegraph 1928, 8).

Queen Mary is recorded as being buried along Currambene Creek.

3.8.6 Grave markers

In the late twentieth century, two grave markers were present on Lot 9 (Figure 20). It is not known when, or by whom, the crosses were installed and later removed. Details about the identity and date of potential burials at the site have been investigated in detail in previous assessments.



Figure 20. Grave markers on Lot 9. *Source:* Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory, Huskisson Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group, SHI Number 2390385.

3.8.7 Summary

While the historical record alludes to various burials in or near the Huskisson church, only that of the c. 1875 burial recorded by Dale is recorded in official sources. The exact location of the burial is unknown but is assumed to be within Lot 9.

3.9 Chronology

| Chronology | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1840 | Town plan of Huskisson prepared. |
| 1843 | First town allotments sold, no development known to have resulted within the site at this time. |
| 1861 | Timber industry established at Currambene Creek. |
| 1868 | New town plan of Huskisson prepared, designating part of Section 3 for a Church Reserve, forming the site. |
| 1875 | Section 3 Church Reserve site surveyed. Surveyor Dale noted the presence of a grave in the south-west portion of the Church Reserve site (Lot 9, to the west of the site), and proposed that the area be designated as a burial ground. |
| 1876 | Lot 7 and Lot 8 Section 3 formally dedicated for the purposes of a Church of England Church and Parsonage. Dale's proposed burial ground is denied. |
| 1877 | Trustees appointed for the church site. |
| 1878 | Deed issued to the trustees for the parsonage site. |
| 1880 | Deed issued to the trustees for the church site. |
| 1885– | Church services held at unknown location in Huskisson. |
| 1892 | Robert Johnson buried at Callala Creek |
| 1900 | Robert Johnson's remains reinterred at Tapalla Point |
| 1903 | Calls for the construction of a church building at Huskisson. |
| 1905 | King Budd Billy buried 'in the chuchyard' |
| 1905 | Church building at Huskisson in use. |
| 1912 | Carl Niclasson buried 'at the rear of the union church' or 'close to the union church' |
| 1920s | Fundraising efforts for the construction of a new church building. |
| 1928 | Queen Mary buried at Currambene Creek |
| 1930 | Plans prepared and tenders called for the erection of a new church building at Huskisson. |
| January 1931 | Foundation stone of the Holy Trinity Church at Huskisson laid. |
| April 1931 | Holy Trinity Church consecrated and opened. |
| 1934–1935 | Alterations and additions to the original church building. |
| 1979 | Original church building moved to make way for a brick rectory building. |

Chronology

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1980 | Brick rectory building completed. |
| 2019 | Original church building demolished. |

4. Physical description

Extent Heritage carried out an external inspection of Lot 7 and Lot 8, including the former Huskisson Anglican Church, from the public domain on 11 January 2023. A site visit of Lots 7 and 8 was undertaken on Friday 3 March 2023 by Hannah Morris and Hayley Edmonds. During this site visit, the interior of the church was accessed. The site visit involved an investigation into the built form and landscape setting. This section provides an detailed investigation of the form and condition of the elements of the place to assist in determining significance.

The rectory building is currently leased to a private tenant, and as such no access to this portion of Lot 7 was gained. External observations are considered sufficient to inform descriptions of its physical form and condition.

4.1 Lot 7, Holy Trinity Church

4.1.1 Exterior

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a weatherboard church on brick piers. The church was built in 1931 and demonstrates the Carpenter Gothic style.

The church is box-like in form, with a small vestry extending from the northern elevation. A porch extends from the western elevation; this is a later addition, likely dating from the late-twentieth century, due to the nature of the timber which appears to be machine cut. The porch is accessed via a concrete access ramp and stairs.

The gabled roof is steeply pitched and clad in corrugated iron. The roof was originally clad in timber shingles. Previous signage on the site identified that the roofing was replaced in 1956. Each side of the main roof is lined with three triangular roof vents. A wooden cross is located at the eastern end of the roof pitch, and a timber belfry tops the western end.

The northern elevation has one timber buttress, and the southern elevation has two timber buttresses. The church has lanceolate windows along the northern, eastern, and southern elevations. The porch has similar lanceolate windows, though these are more squat in form. The vestry has a rectangular window. Most windows are currently boarded over, with the exception of one window on the southern elevation, which is protected by wire.



Figure 21. Northern elevation.



Figure 22. Eastern and northern elevations.



Figure 23. Eastern elevation.



Figure 24. Southern elevation.



Figure 25. Western and northern elevations.



Figure 26. Foundation stone.

4.1.2 Interior

The interior of the church is of open, rectilinear form, with high open gabled ceiling to the nave and vestry, and flat ceiling to the entry porch.

The church is entered through the porch, which is a later addition. The porch is rectangular in form, separated into two internal spaces by a partition wall. Windows to the southern and western elevation are Gothic arch in form, with diagonal leadlight glazing. Glazing to both porch windows is broken in places.

The main church space, comprising the nave and apse, are entered by a central doorway from the porch. The nave has a high, open ceiling reflecting the gabled roof form, with exposed timber rafters. Timber brackets correspond with the external buttresses on the northern and southern elevations. The timber flooring is predominantly carpeted. The walls are of white fibro sheeting, with dark blue fibro sheeting at the eastern end of the nave, and maroon fibro sheeting below the dado line throughout. Lancet windows along the northern and southern walls are of diagonal leadlight glazing. One window on the southern walls is of stained glass, and features a depiction of a religious scene and reads – ‘In loving memory of Etna Settree Died 31st December 1947 Donated by her Family’ (Figure 35). Modern additions comprise ceiling fans and fluorescent lighting.

The apse features three lancet windows, with timber panelling on the lower wall. The apse is slightly raised, approached by shallow carpeted steps. The ceiling of the apse features exposed timber rafters.

The vestry is accessed at the north-east of the nave. It features an open ceiling, reflecting the gabled roof form, with exposed timber rafters. It has timber cabinets and a timber bench with a small sink.

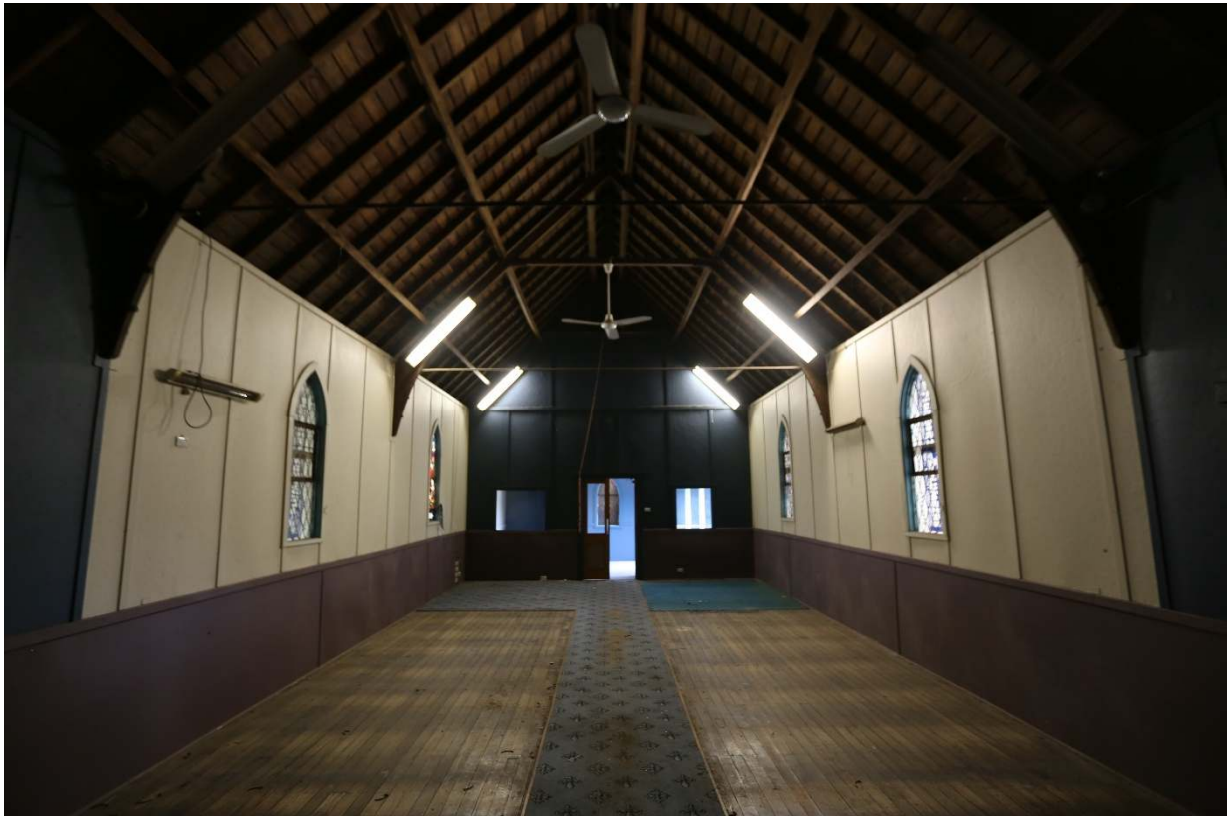


Figure 27. View to porch.



Figure 28. View to apse.



Figure 29. View to apse windows.

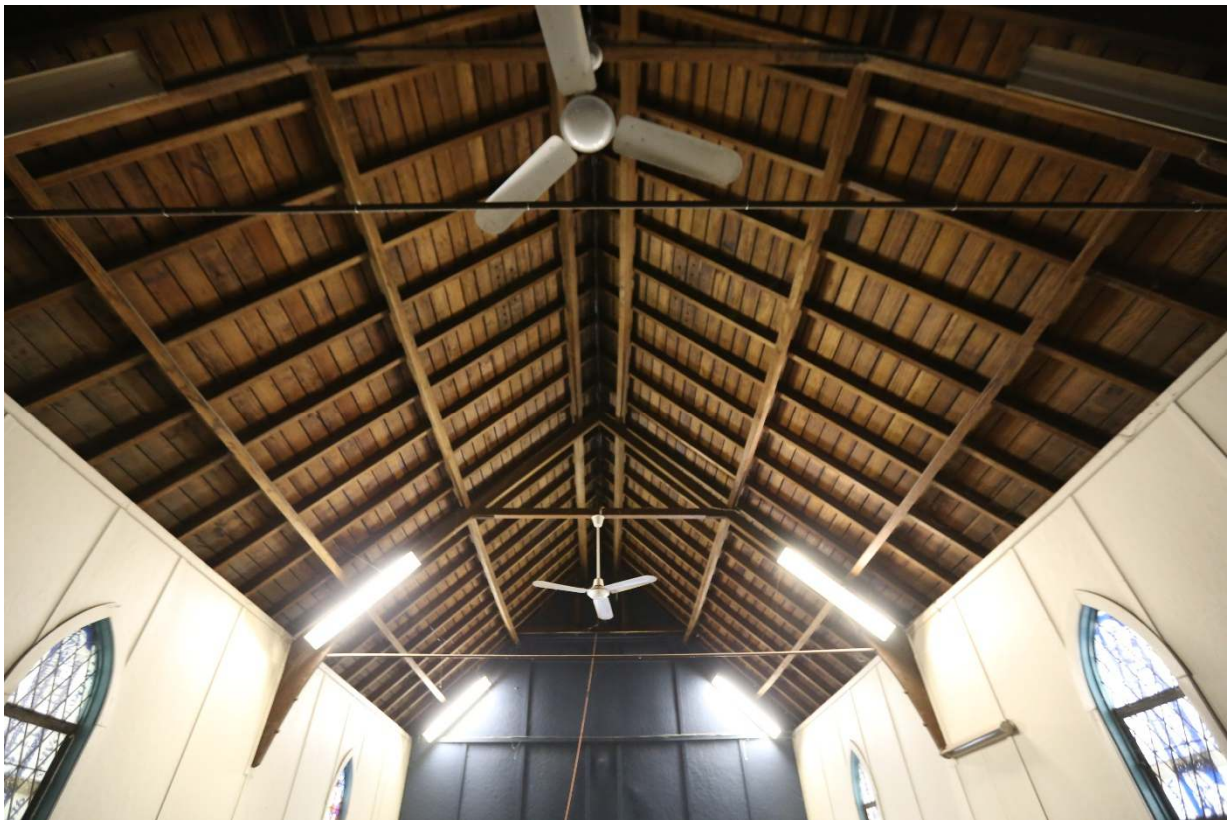


Figure 30. View of ceiling.



Figure 31. Southern wall.



Figure 32. Southern wall.



Figure 33. Northern wall.



Figure 34. Northern wall, door to vestry.

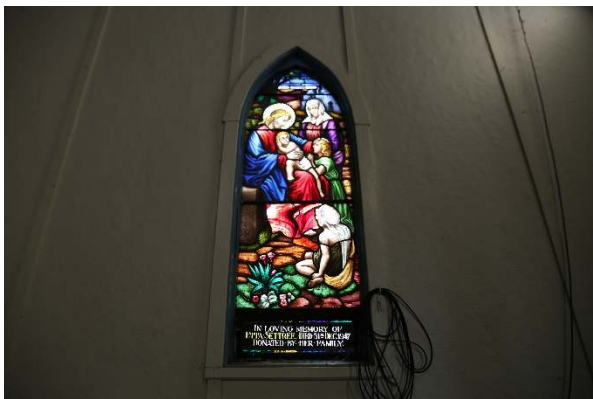


Figure 35. Stained glass window on southern wall.



Figure 36. Window on northern wall.



Figure 37. Vestry.



Figure 38. Vestry. Door to church on left, external door in centre.



Figure 39. Vestry.



Figure 40. Ceiling.



Figure 41. Porch.



Figure 42. Porch.



Figure 43. Porch.

4.1.3 Condition

Overall, the 1930 church building is in fair condition and is of high integrity. The building retains much of its original fabric. Later additions include the western porch and replacement corrugated roof cladding. These additions are sympathetic to the building, and do not detract from the Carpenter Gothic design of the church building.

External paintwork was observed to be flaking across several areas, particularly to the eastern and southern elevations. External cladding is damaged or missing in several areas, including to the eastern elevation, the south-eastern corner, and the southern elevation (Figure 44-Figure 46). Internal walls, ceiling and flooring are in good condition. Windows to the western porch have broken glazing (Figure 47).



Figure 44. Damaged cladding to eastern elevation.



Figure 45. Damage to cladding at south-eastern corner.



Figure 46. Flaking paint and damaged cladding to southern elevation.

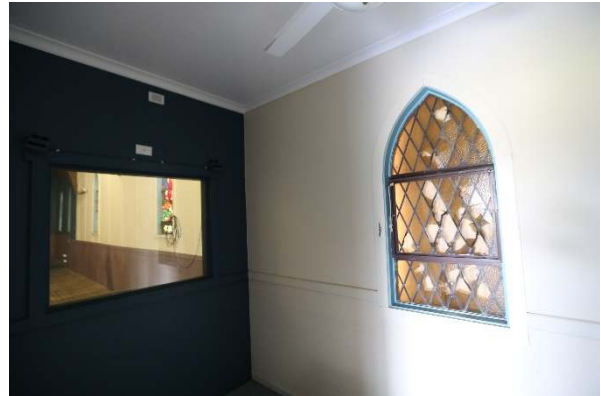


Figure 47. Porch. Broken glazing visible in window.

4.2 Lot 7, rectory building

The rectory building at the north-east of the site is a single storey brick structure. It is located on the site of the original church, which was relocated in 1979. The rectory building was completed in 1980.. It is rectangular in layout, with a recessed entry to the south-east of the building. The roof overhangs the recessed entry way.



Figure 48. Rectory building.



Figure 49. View to rectory from church.

4.3 Lot 7, church grounds

The following observations were made during a walk-over site visit of Lot 7:

- No archaeological features were identified above the ground surface.
- The church is located on the southern portion of Lot 7 (Figure 52).
- Lot 7 sloped was relatively level with a gentle slope down to the south (Figure 51).
- The majority of the ground surface in Lot 7 was covered with low, mown grass and leaf cover. As a result, the visibility was 0–30 per cent (Figure 51 and Figure 52).
- A gravel roadway, running north to south, was located on the western portion of Lot 7 (Figure 53 and Figure 54). The road was cut down from the current ground level.
- Modern brick, gravel, and larger stones were found across the length of the road, and at the termination of the road (Figure 55). The visibility of the gravel road surface was 100 per cent.
- The clearance of the ground for the gravel road installation was considered an area of disturbance.
- Ground disturbance for the construction of the church was also apparent in the form of foundations/footings.

- Raised earth (likely caused by humic deposits and bioturbation) was identified around the base of larger trees (Figure 57).
- Ten micro rises of the ground surface across the northern portion of the site were identified. The extent of the rises were circular or oval in shape and measured approximately 4 m by 2–4 m. The spacing between the features varied.
- Undulating micro rises were identified across the northern portion of the site, from the northern and eastern boundary of Lot 7, and to the gravel road on the western boundary of Lot 7. These features were not identified on the southern side of the church structure. The micro rises were relatively uniform in size and alignment. Due to their small height and the grass cover, other micro rises may be located across the lot that were not immediately visible during the site visit.



Figure 50. View through Lot 7, facing north-east.



Figure 51. View through Lot 7, facing south.



Figure 52. View through Lot 7, facing north-west.



Figure 53 Ground disturbance from gravel road running north to south through Lot 7, facing south.



Figure 54. Gravel road running north to south through Lot 7, cut down from ground level on either side, facing east.



Figure 55. Example of modern brick, asphalt, and large stones deposited on and around the gravel road running north to south through Lot 7.



Figure 56. Ground disturbance (shallow pit with soil piled around edge) in north-eastern portion of Lot 7, facing north-west.



Figure 57. Example of humic deposits and roots creating a rise around large trees (white dashed line), facing west.

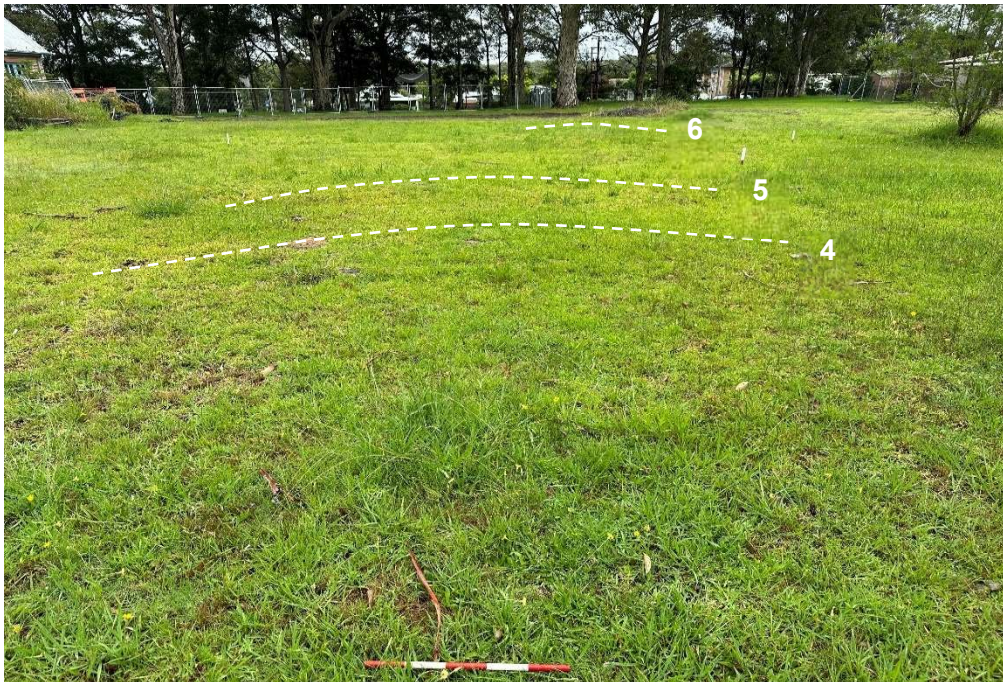


Figure 58. Examples of micro-rises of the ground surface (white dashed line) (length shown) in the northern portion of Lot 7, facing west.



Figure 59. Examples of micro-rises of the ground surface (white dashed line) (width shown) in the northern portion of Lot 7, facing south.



Figure 60. Examples of micro-rises of the ground surface (white dashed line) (width shown) in the northern portion of Lot 7, facing north.



Figure 61. Examples of micro-rises of the ground surface (white dashed line) (width shown) in the northern portion of Lot 7, facing north.

4.4 Lot 8

Lot 8 is currently empty of built structures and comprises relatively flat turfed ground with several mature trees. A former worn track is identifiable leading from the north-west corner at the site through to the church building.

The following observations were made during a walk-over site visit of Lot 8:

- No archaeological features were identified above the ground surface.
- No historical archaeological features or natural landscape features identified during the site visit indicated the presence of graves within Lot 8.
- Lot 8 was covered with thin tree cover (Figure 62).
- Lot 8 sloped gently down to the south (Figure 63).
- The ground surface in the northern portion of Lot 8 was heavily vegetated with long grass and leaf cover. As a result, the visibility (with the exception of a very small part of the path, as below) was 0–5 per cent (Figure 64 to Figure 66).
- A path ran diagonally through the centre of Lot 8, from the north-west corner to the south-east corner of the lot. The path had parts of exposed ground surface which showed the surface to comprise a clayey topsoil (Figure 64 to Figure 66).
- One small piece of white ceramic (not collected) was identified on an exposed piece of ground surface on the path (Figure 67). Raised earth (likely caused by humic deposits and bioturbation) was identified around the base of larger trees (70).
- A shallow divot, appearing to be a drainage channel, was located on the eastern part of Lots 8 and 9. The channel ran north to south (Figure 68 to Figure 69).
- The ground in the area at the southern boundary of Lot 8 was slightly undulating under foot (Figure 70).

A thin tree located in the south-west corner of Lot 8 contained a small oval shaped scar with a pointed apex on the top and bottom end (Figure 71 and Figure 72). The scar measured 290 mm tall and 70 mm at its widest point. The depth of the scar was approximately 25 mm deep and the base of the scar was 770 mm from the ground surface. The scar curved around the tree trunk. Based on the size of the tree and associated approximate age of the tree, and the curved nature of the feature, it is unlikely to be culturally modified by Aboriginal people.

Due to the high grasses and other vegetation, a comprehensive assessment of the ground surface could not be completed. Some areas of undulating ground were identified within Lot 8. These were more likely to have been produced by bioturbation and roots, rather than associated with graves, as they were located close to large trees or clusters of trees.

No historical archaeological features or natural landscape features identified during the site visit indicated the presence of graves or other historical archaeology within Lot 8.



Figure 62. View through Lot 8, facing south-east.



Figure 63. View through Lot 8, facing south-west.



Figure 64. Path through Lot 8, facing south-east.



Figure 65. Path through Lot 8, facing south-west.



Figure 66. Detail the path in Lot 8, facing south-east.



Figure 67. Piece of white ceramic on the path through Lot 8.



Figure 68. Strip of discoloured grass running north to south (white dashed line), likely associated with drainage (natural or manufactured) in the northern portion of Lot 8, facing north-west.



Figure 69. Strip of discoloured grass running north to south, likely associated with drainage (natural or manufactured) in the southern portion of Lot 8, facing north.



Figure 70. Area of undulating ground between trees in the south-western corner of Lot 8, likely due to bioturbation and roots, facing north.



Figure 71. Tree in Lot 8 with a scar, facing south.



Figure 72. Detail of tree in Lot 8 with a scar, facing south.

4.4.1 Lot 9

Lot 9 is a roughly square shaped allotment belonging to the Jerrinja Local Aboriginal Land Council. The allotment comprises relatively flat turfed ground with numerous mature trees. In the late twentieth century, several white wooden crosses were located on the site (refer Figure 20).

The following observations were made during a walk-over site visit of Lot 9:

- Lot 9 sloped gently down to the south (Figure 75).
- Lot 9 was covered with thin tree cover (Figure 73 and Figure 76).
- The ground surface in the northern portion of Lot 9 was covered with grasses (predominantly eastern half) and leaf cover (predominantly western half). As a result, the visibility averaged 0–5 per cent across the Lot (Figure 73 to Figure 76).
- No archaeological relics were identified above the ground surface.
- No historical archaeological features or natural landscape features identified during the site visit indicated the presence of graves or other historical archaeology within Lot 9.



Figure 73. View east through Lot 9, former Huskisson Anglican Church visible at left, facing south.



Figure 74. View north through Lot 9, facing west.



Figure 75. Boundary between Lot 9 (left) and Lot 8 (right), facing west.



Figure 76. View through Lot 9, facing east.

4.5 Summary of site disturbance

Historical research, analysis of historical maps and aerials, and an inspection of site conditions has provided an indication of the history of site disturbance at the site. The movement of the old church to the south followed by the construction of the brick rectory in its former location would have caused a level of site disturbance in the northern side of the site. The footings and any service installation for both the brick rectory and the location of the old church would have required ground disturbance.

Similarly, construction of the shed to the west during this period is also likely to have caused ground disturbance, particularly for the laying of the slab and any postholes required.

The 2019 demolition of the old church and the shed has caused significant disturbance to the upper soil profiles. The ground scouring is clear on the 2019 aerial (Figure 18). The micro rises identified during the site inspection on 5 March 2023 (Figure 58 to Figure 61) would have been created by or after the demolition event. It is highly likely that machine movement of soil the likely cause for the small gradual rises visible under the grass.

In summary, the northern portion of the site has a history of site disturbance that is likely to have impacted the upper soil profile. The southern side of the site does not have the same history of disturbance.

4.6 Streetscape and surrounding area

The site is located to the south of Huskisson's town centre and main commercial and tourist area along Owen Street. The surrounding streetscapes predominantly comprise single storey detached dwellings, with commercial development occurring north along Hawke Street, and east along Bowen Street.

The eastern elevation of the church faces onto White Sands Park and Shark Net Beach. Views to the bay are obscured by mature vegetation; however, at the time of its construction the church was recorded as 'commanding a magnificent view of Jervis Bay' (*Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1931a, 1). This is supported by historic aerial imagery which shows the vegetation in the adjacent reserve as being much sparser than today.



Figure 77. View east along Bowen Street. Vegetation of White Sands Park at left, hotel at right.



Figure 79. View north along laneway to Owen Street.



Figure 81. View south-west to intersection of Bowen Street and Currambene Street.

Figure 78. View north along Hawke Street. White Sands Park at right.



Figure 80. View south to residential dwellings along Bowen Street.



Figure 82. View north along Currambene Street.

5. Archaeological resources and significance

5.1 Historical archaeological potential

Archaeological potential refers to the likelihood of a site to contain evidence of previous phases of historical occupation. Archaeological features and deposits in the form of structural remains and artefact bearing deposits are tangible evidence of previous occupation and human activities. The site's archaeological potential is usually presented in accordance with the types of potential archaeological remains associated with features or activities that may survive at the site, a date indicating the year by which the resource is known to have been constructed, and the likely extent and integrity of relics, i.e. the predicted level of survival. The potential is expressed in accordance with the following rankings:

- *Extant*: archaeological remains associated with a particular historical phase or features that survive intact and have been retained in situ.
- *High*: it is likely that archaeological relics associated with a particular historical phase or features survive intact.
- *Moderate*: it is possible that some archaeological relics associated with a particular historical phase or features survive, but they may have been subject to some disturbance.
- *Low*: it is unlikely that archaeological relics associated with a particular historical phase or features survive.
- *Nil*: the degree of ground disturbance indicates that there is no potential for any significant archaeological relics to be preserved.
- This section identifies where archaeological evidence is likely to be found at the site, and to what extent it may be preserved. This assessment will inform the assessment of historical archaeological significance.

5.1.1 Archaeology of the neighbourhood

Previous reporting for the site has been summarised in Section 2 of this report. One other archaeological investigation is known to have taken place in the direct vicinity of the site:

1999 Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology 'Archaeological Monitoring: Lot 20 Tomerong Street, Huskisson, New South Wales'

In 1999 Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology conducted a program of archaeological monitoring at Lot 20 Tomerong Street, approximately 500 m to the north-west of the site. The monitoring program was undertaken to ascertain the presence or absence of archaeological remains associated with ownership of the property by Frederick Dent in the early twentieth century. No archaeological deposits or features were uncovered during the program. The natural soil profile was observed, comprising between 300–1200 mm of dark brown humic topsoil overlying a basal C horizon comprising yellow-orange clay and sandstone bedrock.

5.1.2 Ground Penetrating Radar studies

Several Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) studies have been undertaken at the site. This part will provide a brief overview of the data that is presently available and the current interpretation of the data ahead of considering the historical archaeological potential at the site.

5.1.2.1 Previous studies and reports

2015 GBG Australia ‘Non-destructive subsurface investigation using ground penetrating radar to locate unmarked grave sites at the Huskisson Anglican Church Ground’

The 2015 GPR survey was undertaken in Lot 9, outside of the site (Figure 83). A total of seven possible unmarked graves were identified within the survey area. The report noted that the data collected was of moderate quality with a low signal to noise ratio, likely due to damp conditions and clay content in the subsurface. The report also noted that several anomalies identified as possible grave sites were located close to large trees and as such could be the result of root systems.



Figure 83. 2015 area of GPR survey shown outlined in red, outside of the present-day site. *Source:* GBG Australia 2015, 'Non-destructive subsurface investigation using ground penetrating radar to locate unmarked grave sites at the former Huskisson Anglican Church Ground, Huskisson, New South Wales

2019a GBG Australia 'Huskisson Anglican Church GPR Investigation'

The 2019 survey was undertaken around a metal shed with a concrete slab, at the rear and to the south of the rectory building and the new church building on the south side of the site. The area around the church (new church building) revealed two anomalies that were interpreted as possible graves; one with high confidence and the other with lower confidence. These anomalies were located to the south of the new church building, in close proximity to Bowen Street.

The report concluded that there was evidence for one grave near the church building, with another possible two graves in proximity. No evidence for graves were found to the west of the rectory building or in the area between the rectory and church hall (old church building) or beneath where the metal shed had been located.



Figure 84. Drawing of the area surveyed in April 2019, shown with green lines. *Source:* GBG Australia, 2019a, 'Huskisson Anglican Church-Unmarked Graves GPR Survey'.

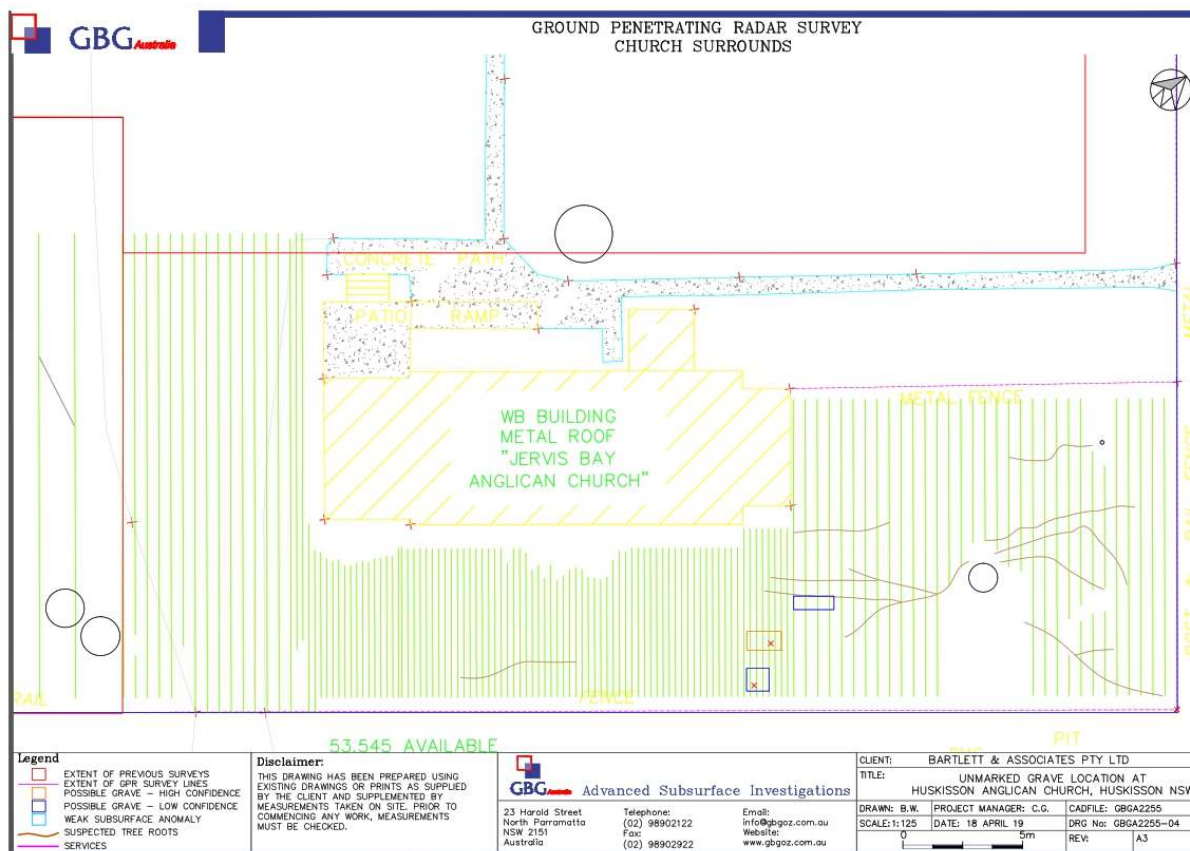


Figure 85. Southern portion of site with survey area shown with green lines and the identified anomalies indicated with blue and an orange rectangle in the bottom right-hand quarter. *Source:* GBG Australia, 2019a, ‘Huskisson Anglican Church-Unmarked Graves GPR Survey’.

2019b GBG Australia ‘Huskisson Anglican Church – Unmarked Graves GPR Investigation’

In October 2019 additional areas to what had been surveyed in April 2019 were surveyed (Figure 86) including the rectory front yard, the area where the old church building had been moved to and an area on the western side of the site. The area where the metal shed with a concrete slab stood old church building was moved to in 1979, both now demolished, was surveyed. Two anomalies in the former location of the shed were identified, both were relatively shallow and not very long (not exceeding 1 m) so are unlikely to be graves. The report recommended that the anomalies be ground-truthed.

Two large anomalies were detected in the former location of the old church building. The report noted that the character of these anomalies is not what would be expected for a grave, and they were much larger than a grave. It is likely that these anomalies are associated with two holes that were reportedly filled with rubbish in the area following demolition of the building.

The front yard of the rectory revealed some minor anomalies that were interpreted as likely being from tree roots. An additional area to the west of the rectory building was surveyed. A high number of tree roots were present, but no other anomalies of note reported.

The report concluded that two anomalies of note, under the site of the metal shed and in proximity to the Hawke Street boundary where the old church building had stood, were uncovered. It was recommended that these anomalies be investigated further.

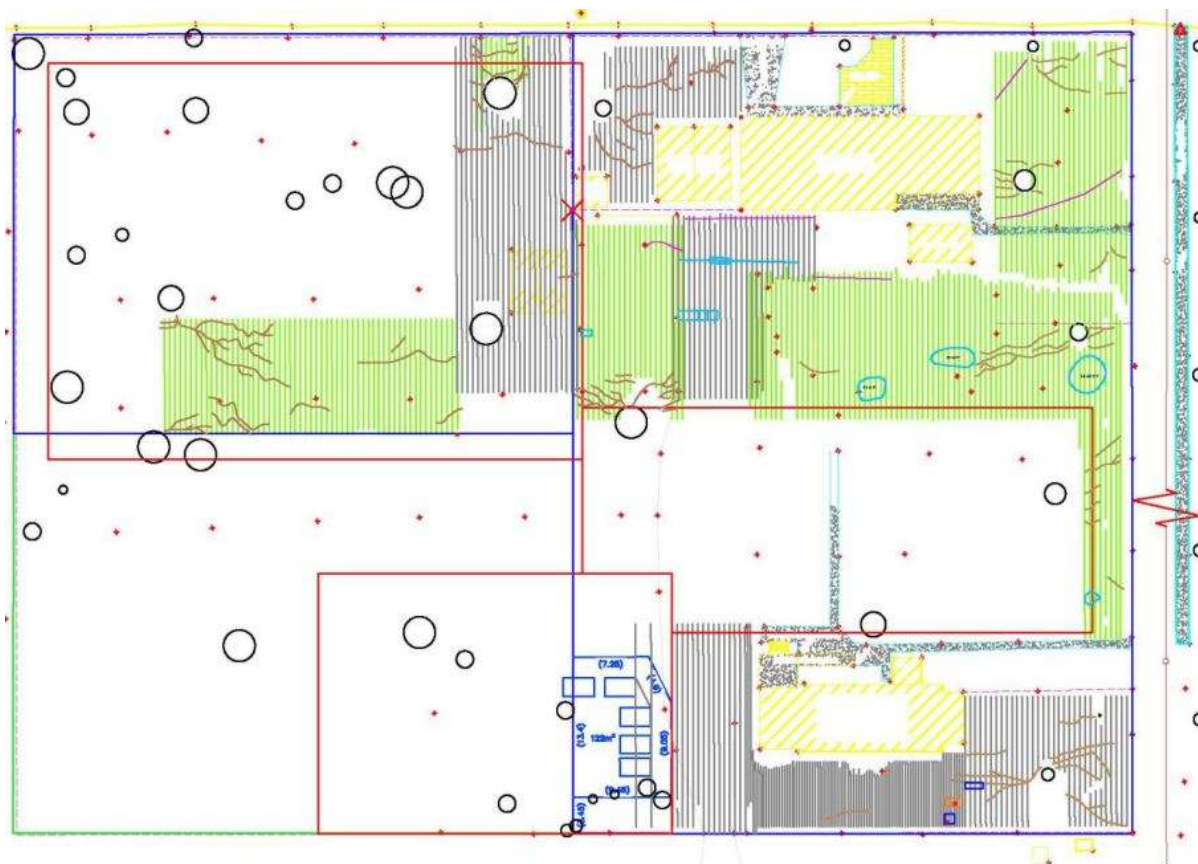


Figure 86. Map of areas surveyed in October 2019; areas are marked with green lines. The April survey is marked with grey lines. The anomalies identified in the south-eastern corner in April 2019 are shown. *Source:* GBG Australia, 2019b, ‘Huskisson Anglican Church – Unmarked Graves GPR Survey’.

2021 Hunter Geophysics ‘Geophysical Survey Report Former Anglican Church Site in Huskisson’

In March 2021 Hunter Geophysics undertook a survey of the site and Lot 9, to the south-west of the present site (Figure 87).

The survey located a total of seventy-three anomalies across the site that were interpreted as likely being associated with unmarked grave shafts and/or funerary urn burials (Figure 88). The anomalies were of varying size, depth, and orientation. The report recommended expanding the survey to Bowen Street nature strip but otherwise made no further recommendations.



Figure 87. Map showing the area covered by the 2021 survey. *Source:* Hunter Geophysics, 2021, 'Geophysical Survey Report Former Anglican Church Site in Huskisson'.

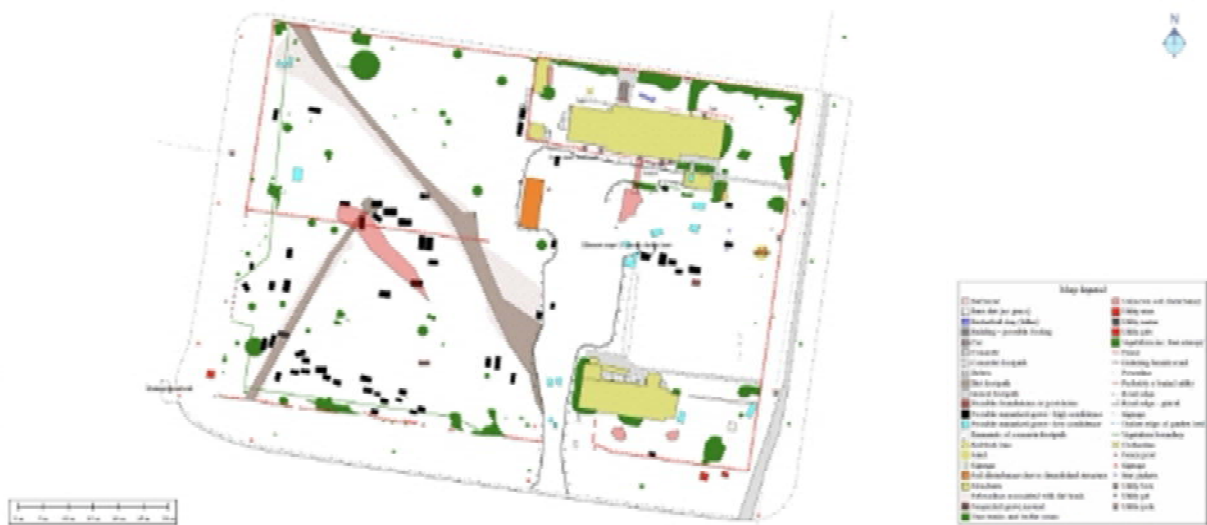


Figure 88. Map showing anomalies identified during the 2021 survey across the site. *Source:* Hunter Geophysics, 2021, 'Geophysical Survey Report Former Anglican Church Site in Huskisson'.

2021 Archaeometry Pty Ltd 'Independent Peer Review of Geophysical Survey Report "Former Anglican Church site in Huskisson" by Hunter Geophysics'

In November 2021, Dr Ian Moffat of Archaeometry Pty Ltd was asked to undertake an independent peer review of the Hunter Geophysics 2021 'Geophysical Survey Report Former Anglican Church Site in Huskisson'.

Moffat noted that the 2021 report was based on a robust survey but did not provide any information on the criteria used to identify the location of the 'graves and/or funerary urns'. Moffat also noted the variety of dimensions and locations which is unusual for a Christian

cemetery context. Moffat stated: 'In my opinion, many of the seventy-three areas of disturbed soil located with GPR are unlikely to be unmarked graves shafts and/or funerary urn burials.'

He recommended reinterpreting the geophysical survey data in combination with historical information on the site to present a more rigorous criteria for identifying the potential for graves followed by ground truthing activities, such as shallow scrapes of the soil profile.

5.1.2.2 Summary of geophysical survey results

Geophysical surveys undertaken within the site have indicated anomalies across the site indicative of potential subsurface features. Of these anomalies, the three surveys identified the possibility across Lot 9, outside of the site, in the south-east corner of the site and on the eastern side of the site, between the rectory and new church building, of subsurface features. The geophysical surveys interpreted some of these anomalies as burials. Recommendations were made in the reports to ground-truth these anomalies in order to confirm the absence or presence of a burial. While geophysical survey had indicated the possibility of up to seventy-three subsurface anomalies on the site, their provenance remains uncertain in the absence of archaeological investigation or test excavation. At the time of writing this report, no investigations had been undertaken to ground truth these anomalies. The below assessment of archaeological potential considers the four historically recorded burials that may have taken place within the subject site.

5.1.3 Phases of historical development

Based on the historical research undertaken to date the following broad post-1788 historical phases of site development could be identified:

- Phase 1: Colonisation and land alienation (1788–1840)
- Phase 2: Establishing Huskisson (1840–1905)
- Phase 3: The two churches (1905–1979)
- Phase 4: Movement and change (1979–present)

5.1.3.1 Phase 1: Colonisation and land alienation (1788–1840)

The Shoalhaven region was visited by various British parties in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries; however, it wasn't until 1825 that the first official land grants were made. During this time the site remained undeveloped. Most colonial activity took place further inland and included logging and wool farming, with the coast primarily accessed to board ships for transportation.

As there was no specific development within the site at this time, archaeological evidence associated with this phase would be ephemeral and unlikely to survive within the archaeological record.

5.1.3.2 Phase 2: Establishing Huskisson (1840–1905)

Huskisson was established from 1840 with the township drawn up and allotments for sale by October 1841. The site falls within allotment 15 of the town layout; no sale of the allotments

covered by the site was made at this time. In 1868 the township was resurveyed, and a Church Reserve was allocated. The site covers most of this reserve. There was no known structural development at the site during this period.

There are several reports of burials in the Huskisson area at this time that may or may not have been located within the site. In 1875 Surveyor Dale noted the presence of a grave on Lot 9, directly to the south-west of the site. The name of the person the grave belonged to was not recorded by Dale. In 1905, it was reported that Mary Golding stated that King Budd Billy had been buried in a Churchyard by a minister (*Evening News* 1905, 8); there is no formal record, however, of this burial taking place.

Archaeological evidence from this phase, if it were to survive, may consist of evidence of ephemeral activities, such as an informal track to and from the beach and clearing of any burnable timber on the site. These activities are unlikely to have left a distinct signature in the archaeological record.

Historical records describe several burials as potentially taking place within, or in the vicinity of, the site. On the balance of historical evidence, it is likely that these burials were either located at the rear of the old church, at the southern end of the present-day rectory building location, or located on Lot 9, outside of the site. Two wooden crosses were previously noted in Lot 9, outside of the site. Should the burials be present within the site, archaeological evidence might include grave cuts and grave furniture.

5.1.3.3 Phase 3: The two churches (1905–1979)

Following formal dedication of Lots 7 and 8 for the purpose of a Church of England church and parsonage in 1876, plans commenced to construct the church. Progress, however, was slow. It is unclear where services were held during this time, but it is unlikely to have been at the site which remained structure-free at this time. It wasn't until c. 1905 that the old church was built on the site, located on the northern side of the present-day Lot 7. The church was reportedly of weatherboard construction with brick or concrete piers. In 1912 Carl Niclasson was reportedly buried at the 'rear of the union church in Huskisson, alongside the grave of a sailor interred there some 42 years ago' (*The Shoalhaven Telegraph* 1912, 5). It is unclear if this is within Lot 9, to the south-west of the site or within the site.

In 1931 the foundation stone was laid for the construction of a new, second, church to the south of the old church. The new church was also weatherboard with brick footings. The structure remains extant today. In the mid-1930s alterations and additions were made to the old church building.

Anticipated archaeological remains from this phase may include evidence for the old church in its first location (until it was moved during Phase 4). If they were to survive, archaeological remains may consist of brick and/or concrete footings and artefact scatters associated with use of the site during this phase. Subsurface features, such as rubbish pits, may be present. These could be less disturbed than upper features, such as footings, and may contain artefactual evidence.

Evidence for a grave may be located at the rear of the old church, at the southern end of the present-day rectory building location, or located on Lot 9, outside of the site. If present, evidence would likely consist of a grave cut and potential grave furniture.

5.1.3.4 Phase 4: Movement and change (1979–present)

In 1979 the old church building was moved from the north-eastern corner of the site to slightly south, making way for the construction of the brick rectory building in 1980. It is possible that construction of the brick rectory in the former location of the old church may have removed any archaeological evidence of the brick and/or concrete footings and potentially impacted any artefactual evidence in the area also. Following moving the old church building various landscape features, such as a concrete path and a playground, were constructed between the old and new churches. A shed was built to the west. In 2019 the old church building and the shed were demolished. Several trees were also removed at this time. Site inspections in early 2023 identified a series of mounds in the area where the old church building stood; these are likely associated with demolition of the building in 2019.

Archaeological remains from this phase may include evidence from the movement of the old church, in the form of new concrete and brick footings to support the structure in its second location. Evidence of landscaping, in the form of concrete paths and fencing, may also be present from this phase. Lastly, evidence of the demolition of the old church building is likely present at the site in the form of deposits of demolition material.

5.1.4 Summary of historical archaeological potential

During Phases 1 and 2 (1788–1905) no development took place on the site. It is possible the site was cleared of any burnable timber and may have been used as an informal access point for the coast, to the east of the site. However, both these activities are unlikely to have resulted in an archaeological signature that would have survived consequent phases of development. As such, there is low archaeological potential for the site to contain archaeological remains associated with these ephemeral activities during Phases 1 and 2 (1788–1905).

Several burials are reported to have taken place in the vicinity of the site during Phase 2 (1840–1905). A grave was noted on Lot 9 by Surveyor Dale in 1875, though the date and identity of this burial is not known. In 1905, King Budd Billy, who lived at Currambene Creek, was reported to have been buried at a churchyard by a minister (*Evening News* 1905, 8).

There is moderate potential for evidence associated with burials from Phase 2 (1840–1905) to be identified within the site. If present, archaeological evidence would be in the form of a grave cuts and fills. These features may be truncated by later phases of landscaping, demolition, and construction. Associated grave furniture and remnant human remains might also be identified.

The site has low-moderate potential for historical archaeological remains resulting from land use in Phase 3 through to 4 (1905–present). Due to the movement of the old church in 1979 and the consequent construction of the brick rectory building in its place, there is low potential for archaeological remains associated with the old church structure to survive and moderate potential for subsurface, unmapped features such as rubbish pits. Such features may contain artefactual evidence. Should archaeological remains from Phase 3 (1905–1979) survive, they

would likely be in the form of truncated structural remains, such as brick and/or concrete footings, and isolated or low density scattered artefacts associated with occupation of the site.

During Phase 3 (1905–1979) Carl Niclasson was reportedly buried at Huskisson in 1912 alongside the grave of a sailor buried there ‘some 42 years ago’. Niclasson’s burial was reported alternately as ‘at the rear of the union church’ and ‘at a quiet spot close to the little union church.’ There is moderate potential for archaeological remains associated with the burial to survive due to later development of the site. If present, archaeological evidence would be in the form of a grave cut and fill, potentially truncated by consequent phases of landscaping, demolition, and construction. Associated grave furniture and human remains might also be identified.

Demolition of the old church building in 2019 (Phase 4) is likely to have removed or significantly disturbed any evidence of this structure. Should remains survive, they would likely be in the form of truncated brick and concrete footings of the building and associated landscaping (concrete path, fencing, and playgrounds). The new church building and brick rectory building remain extant and should be considered built heritage. As such, the church does not have associated archaeological potential.

Table 1 below lists the potential archaeological remains from all phases of archaeological development with summarised formation process which may have affected the survival of those relics. Their likelihood of survival is graded in accordance with the following classification: nil, low, moderate, high, and extant.

Table 1: Summary of historical archaeological potential

| Phase | Site feature | Potential remains | Level [or likelihood] of survival |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1: Colonisation and land alienation (1788–1840) | Evidence of land clearing | Tree boles and evidence of burning—it is unlikely that these remains survive at the site owing to the ephemeral nature of such evidence, low level of activity, and consequent disturbance of later phases. | Low |
| 2: Establishing Huskisson (1840–1905) | Evidence of land clearing, ephemeral site use as a path to the coast | Tree boles and evidence of burning, informal pathways—it is unlikely that these remains survive at the site owing to the ephemeral nature of such evidence, low level of activity, and consequent disturbance of later phases. | Low |
| | Two historically documented burials | Grave cuts and fills Grave furniture Human remains | Moderate |

| Phase | Site feature | Potential remains | Level [or likelihood] of survival |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3: The two churches (1905–1979) | Old church building, built on the northern side of the site | Brick and/or concrete footings, service pipes, and drainage associated with structures. | Low |
| | | Isolated and low-density artefact scatters associated with occupation of the site. | |
| | New church building, built on the southern side of the site | Subsurface features such as rubbish pits in the form of cut and fill events, and artefactual deposits. | Moderate |
| | | | Extant |
| | | Alterations to the old church building | Evidence for construction cuts, additional foots and/or concrete slabs as part of alterations. |
| One historically documented burial | Grave cut and fill Grave furniture Human remains | Moderate | |
| 4: Movement and change (1979-present) | Movement of the old church building from the original location to the south, construction of shed structure to the west, and associated landscaping and fencing | Concrete and brick footings for the new location of the old church. | Low |
| | | Concrete and/or brick footings for the shed structure. | |
| | Concrete pathways, fencing, and playground area on the eastern side of the site. Artefact scatters associated with use of the structures during this phase of site occupation. | | |
| Demolition of the old church building, shed, concrete paths and fencing | Demolition rubble, machine-made mounds in the ground surface. | Moderate | |
| Construction of rectory building | | Extant | |

5.2 Historical archaeological significance

Archaeological significance refers to the heritage significance of known or potential archaeological remains. While they remain an integral component of the overall significance of a place, it is necessary to assess the archaeological resources of a site independently from

above-ground heritage elements. Assessment of archaeological significance is more challenging, as the extent and nature of the archaeological features is often unknown, and judgment is usually formulated on the basis of expected or potential attributes.

Table 2 below outlines the assessment of potential historical archaeological remains with regard to the NSW Heritage Criteria.

Table 2: Assessment of potential archaeological remains against the NSW Heritage Criteria

| Criterion | Assessment |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Criterion (a)</p> <p>An item is important to the course, or pattern, of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the local area).</p> | <p>Set aside in the nineteenth century before being built on in the early twentieth century, the site reflects the importance of development of a church in the town of Huskisson, and broader ties to the place of the Anglican Church in nineteenth and twentieth centuries New South Wales.</p> <p>Following subsequent phases of development and demolition, archaeological remains associated with the old church (Phase 3, 1905–1979) are expected to have been disturbed and truncated. As such, they are unlikely to be intact enough to demonstrate local cultural history. Archaeological remains associated with the development and use of the old church from Phase 3 (1905–1979) are unlikely to meet the threshold for significance under this criterion.</p> <p>Archaeological evidence associated with burials made at the site during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) would reflect the site’s association with the local community, development of the township, and development of cultural practice in the area regarding burials. As such, evidence for burials at the site during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) would be of local significance under this criterion.</p> |
| <p>Criterion (b)</p> <p>An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance to NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the local area).</p> | <p>The extant church building, the new church, was designed by architect Cyril Blacket. Blacket is a renowned architect in NSW and a prominent local figure in Shoalhaven. However, it is unlikely that any surviving archaeological record at the site would directly relate to Cyril Blacket as an individual. Archaeological remains from the site are unlikely to meet the threshold for significance under this criterion.</p> <p>Should the burial of community leader King Budd Billy (Phase 2 1840–1905) be uncovered at the site, then it would be of local significance under this criterion.</p> |
| <p>Criterion (c)</p> <p>An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of technical achievement in NSW (or the local area).</p> | <p>Prior to subsurface excavations, it is impossible to determine if archaeological remains would meet this criterion, as the level of preservation is unknown. No significant technical advances were identified as having occurred within the site. The anticipated archaeological resource is unlikely to meet the threshold for significance under this criterion. However, this criterion should be re-assessed following archaeological investigations.</p> |
| <p>Criterion (d)</p> <p>An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW for social, cultural or</p> | <p>As the site is the location of the Anglican Church in Huskisson, it has strong associations with the local church community. Archaeological evidence associated with Phase 3 (1905–1979) of the old church may inform our understanding of the development of the site and those who used the site, through artefactual</p> |

| Criterion | Assessment |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>spiritual reasons (or the local area).</p> | <p>evidence. This information would enhance our knowledge of the social fabric of the church community and more broadly, the Huskisson community, at this time. Such archaeological evidence would be of local significance under this criterion.</p> <p>Historical accounts indicate that several burials were made in the vicinity of the church buildings, during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1975). The burials are of local significance under this criterion for social association with the region’s maritime and settlement history, as well as spiritual association.</p> <p>One of the burials potentially located at the site is King Budd Billy, who was reportedly buried in a churchyard during Phase 2 (1840–1905). Should the burial of King Budd Billy be present within the site, the site would have association with the local Aboriginal people and the Huskisson community more broadly and would be of local significance under this criterion.</p> |
| <p>Criterion (e)</p> <p>An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the local area).</p> | <p>Archaeological evidence of the Phase 2 and 3 (1840–1979) burials would enhance and supplement historical references to burials at the site. Such evidence would also provide further information about the number of burials and the nature of burial and cultural practices within a non-legally gazetted graveyard. Archaeological evidence of burials associated with Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) would be of local significance under this criterion for research value.</p> <p>Archaeological evidence associated with the construction and use of the church structures at the site could provide insight into those who attended and used the site. Little historical data is available about those who attended the churches, and archaeological evidence, particularly artefactual evidence, may provide insight into the attendees. Should archaeological evidence associated with the construction of the church buildings and artefactual evidence from occupation of the structures during Phase 3 (1905–1979) be uncovered, they would be of local significance under this criterion for research value.</p> |
| <p>Criterion (f)</p> <p>An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the local area).</p> | <p>Intact archaeological evidence associated with the construction and use of a twentieth century church is a rare resource within the local area, but not rare in greater NSW.</p> <p>As archaeological evidence associated with the old church construction and occupation during Phase 3 (1905–1979) is likely to have been disturbed by consequent phases of development and demolition, the remains are unlikely to meet the threshold for significance under this criterion.</p> <p>While there is the possibility of late nineteenth century and early twentieth century graves to be located on the site, they would not be considered rare in a local or state context. Archaeological evidence associated with use of the site during Phases 1 and 2 (1788–1905) and Phase 4 (1979–present) is unlikely to meet the threshold for significance under this criterion.</p> |
| <p>Criterion (g)</p> <p>An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of</p> | <p>Archaeological evidence associated with burials made at the site during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) have the potential to enhance our understanding of use of the site as a potential ungazetted burial ground. As such, evidence of the burials may demonstrate principal characteristics of burials during this period</p> |

| Criterion | Assessment |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| NSW's cultural or natural places or cultural or natural environments (or the local area). | and would therefore be of local significance for representative value. While remains of the old church and evidence for site use during Phase 3 (1905–1979) are anticipated within the site, disturbances associated with construction and demolition at the site are likely to have truncated the remains. As such, it is unlikely that the archaeological remains at the site will demonstrate principal characteristics of a twentieth century church well. Archaeological evidence associated with the old church or its associated structures and landscaping are unlikely to meet the threshold for significance under this criterion. |

5.2.1 Bickford and Sullivan's questions

The above assessment criteria are supplemented by the established assessment framework that has been developed by Anne Bickford and Sharon Sullivan (1984), who set three fundamental questions to assist in determining the research potential of an archaeological site. These questions are as follows:

5.2.1.1 *Can the site contribute knowledge that no other resource can?*

Should intact archaeological remains and/or artefactual deposits be present at the study, they may have the ability to contribute to a better understanding of development and occupation of the site, especially during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979). An investigation of the site could yield tangible information about the development of the site, provide further material for comparative analysis of historical archaeological evidence relevant to development in Huskisson, and contribute to our understanding of burials in vicinity of the church buildings.

5.2.1.2 *Can the site contribute knowledge that no other site can?*

As the Anglican Church site in Huskisson, the site has potential to provide physical evidence that could be used to supplement what is already known about the development of the church in Huskisson in the twentieth century and to provide answers concerning the possible location of several late nineteenth and early twentieth century graves in the area.

5.2.1.3 *Is this knowledge relevant to general questions about human history or other substantive questions relating to Australian history, or does it contribute to other major research questions?*

Archaeological investigations of the site have the potential to contribute to knowledge of the development and use of the church buildings and reserve in the twentieth century. This information may contribute to research questions around local development and religious institutions. The site is unlikely to contribute to substantive histories relating to broader NSW or Australian history.

5.2.2 Summary statement of archaeological significance

The site has potential to contain archaeological evidence associated with burials during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) and the development and use of church buildings during Phases 3 and 4 (1905–present). Archaeological evidence associated with burials at the site during Phases 2

and 3 (1840–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for cultural, social, research and representative values. Archaeological evidence associated with development of the site during Phase 3 (1905–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for social and research value. A summary of the above assessment is made below.

Archaeological evidence associated with burials at the site during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) would reflect the site’s association with the township and wider region and enhance our understanding of cultural development in the area, particularly around burial practices and questions around why the burials were made at the site. The burials would also have social association with community groups and the region’s maritime and settlement history, as well as spiritual association as the resting place of members of the community. As an ungazetted burial ground, evidence of the burials would enhance and supplement historical references to burials at the site and inform our understanding of burial practices in late nineteenth and early twentieth century Huskisson. Archaeological evidence may also demonstrate principal characteristics of burials during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Archaeological evidence associated with burials at the site during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for cultural, social, research and representative values.

Archaeological remains associated with the development of the old church and associated buildings during Phase 3 (1905–1979) have been assessed to potentially be of a disturbed or truncated nature due to consequent phases of development and demolition at the site. Should archaeological evidence, particularly artefactual evidence, associated with the development and use of the old church be uncovered, it could enhance our understanding of the people who attended the site, including such information as the class and gender of these people. Archaeological evidence associated with development of the site during Phase 3 (1905–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for social and research value.

Phase 4 (1979–present) saw the construction of the brick rectory and demolition of the old church building in its second location. While archaeological evidence of these site developments may survive, they would not be of significance.

6. Comparative analysis

6.1 Introduction

A comparative analysis has been undertaken to assist in determining the relative values of the property in relation to similar sites. This is increasingly important in the overall assessment of significance, as types or elements of places become increasingly rare.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church was constructed in 1931 and designed by Cyril Blacket. Though the building was constructed in the Inter-War period, it is demonstrative of the Federation Carpenter Gothic style. This style is well-represented in the Shoalhaven LGA; however, the majority of the examples date from the late-Victorian and Federation periods. The Shoalhaven Heritage Study notes that:

The surviving churches were constructed in the mid-late Victorian and Federation periods with a small number erected in the Inter-War period. Church halls were in many cases purpose built in association with rectories and manses. During the nineteenth century each community expressed its religious preferences in a range of masonry, generally sandstone ashlar, sectarian churches built in the prevailing Gothic Revival style. Late Victorian and Federation period churches erected in rural communities and townships were normally of weatherboard construction (Shoalhaven Heritage Study 2003, 105).

As discussed previously, Cyril Blacket was a prominent architect, designing numerous residential, commercial, civic, and religious buildings in the Shoalhaven area, Sydney, and throughout NSW. Blacket resided in the Shoalhaven area from the mid-1880s until the early 1930s and was active in public life in the community. The former Huskisson Anglican Church appears to be one of the later buildings designed by Blacket. Blacket moved out of the Shoalhaven region in the mid-1930s and died at Manly in 1937.

This section looks at comparable examples of weatherboard church buildings in the Shoalhaven LGA, as well as comparable examples of the work of Cyril Blacket, to determine the relative significance of the subject site.

6.2 Comparable churches in Shoalhaven

| Bomaderry Presbyterian Church | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Address | 7 Meroo Street, Bomaderry NSW |
| Date | c. 1900 |
| Listing | <i>Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014</i> Bomaderry Presbyterian Church – Item no. 131 |
| Significance | <i>Representative example of a Federation period Carpenter Gothic weatherboard church. The building's close relationship to the Birriley Street school and the commercial and residential areas of Bomaderry is typical of late nineteenth century urban growth. Historic, aesthetic and social value. Local significance (Shoalhaven).</i> (Quoted from Inventory Sheet.) |

Bomaderry Presbyterian Church

Description

Representative Federation period Carpenter Gothic weatherboard church contemporary with others built in the area in the 1890s and early 1900s. Weatherboard construction on sandstone stumps with galvanised iron roof. Rectangular gable ventilator. The building appears to have been extended at the rear with the addition of a lower section. The entrance is shaded by a single Pinus radiata which contributed to the streetscape. (Quoted from Inventory Sheet.)

Images



Figure 89. Bomaderry Presbyterian Church. *Source:* Google Streetview 2021.



Figure 90. Bomaderry Presbyterian Church. *Source:* Google Streetview 2021.

| Cambewarra Union Church | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Address | 80 Main Road, Cambewarra Village NSW |
| Date | 1899–1900 |
| Listing | <i>Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014</i> Weatherboard Gothic Carpenter style Union Church – Item no. 157 |
| Significance | <i>Good example of a modest Federation period Carpenter Gothic style church. Typical of country churches built in the Victorian and Federation periods. Essentially unaltered. Social and historical importance for the local community. Local significance (Shoalhaven). (Quoted from Inventory Sheet.)</i> |
| Description | <i>Simple Federation Carpenter Gothic style church. Constructed of weatherboard with gabled roof. Gabled entrance porch to front and gabled vestry to rear. Set on low brick piers. Plain timber bargeboards and carved timber finials to all gabled ends. Pointed arched windows with timber tracery frames to sides. Rectangular double hung window to rear vestry. Timber lattice panels to sides of porch. (Quoted from Inventory Sheet.)</i> |
| Images |  <p>Figure 91. Cambewarra Union Church. <i>Source:</i> South Coast Register, https://www.southcoastregister.com.au/story/3925471/union-church-celebrates-anniversary/.</p> |

| Milton Anglican Church Hall | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Address | 109 Princes Highway, Milton NSW |
| Date | 1918 |
| Listing | <i>Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014</i> Milton Anglican Church group including St Peter and St Paul Victorian Gothic Revival style Anglican Church, Inter-War Carpenter Gothic style Anglican hall and <i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> (Chinese Elm) - Item no. 283 |

Milton Anglican Church Hall

| | |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Significance | <i>Simple Inter war representative Federation Carpenter Gothic style church hall. Historic and social value to Milton's Anglican community with a strong streetscape contribution. Local significance (Shoalhaven). (Quoted from Inventory Sheet.)</i> |
| Description | <i>Rectangular Inter-War period hall in the Federation Carpenter Gothic style with axially located entrance porch. Galvanised iron clad roof with open eaves above weatherboard walls supported on concrete footings. The entrance porch is flanked by two timber sash windows below a rectangular gable ventilator. Lighting is by six sash windows along each side. (Quoted from Inventory Sheet.)</i> |



Figure 92. Milton Church Hall. Source: Google Streetview 2021.

6.3 Blacket churches

Corrimal Anglican Church

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Address | 121 Princes Highway, Corrimal NSW |
| Date | 1896 |
| Listing | None |
| Significance | — |
| Description | Brick chapel in the Gothic Revival style of face brick, with buttressed walls and lancet windows. Several windows are boarded up, the others demonstrate stained glass. Shingled roof with triangular vents and brick belfry. Twentieth century addition to entry way. |

Corrimal Anglican Church



Figure 93. Corrimal Anglican Church. *Source:* Google Streetview 2021.

Images



Figure 94. Corrimal Anglican Church. *Source:* Google Streetview 2021.

St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Forster (former St Alban’s Anglican Church)

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| Address | 16 Bruce Street, Forster NSW |
| Date | 1911 |
| Listing | None |
| Significance | — |

St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Forster (former St Alban's Anglican Church)

Description

Weatherboard church with steeply pitched roof of corrugated iron. It is of a linear plan, with projecting chancel to the eastern elevation and projecting entry way to the western elevation. It has lancet windows with coloured panes, and decorative detailing to the gables above the entry way.




Figure 95. Former St Albans Anglican Church. *Source:* Google Streetview 2010.

Images



Figure 96. Former St Albans Anglican Church. *Source:* Google Streetview 2010.

| Glen Innes Anglican Church | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Address | 138 West Avenue, Glen Innes NSW |
| Date | 1913–1914 |
| Listing | <i>Glen Innes Local Environmental Plan 2012</i> Church – Item no. 176 |
| Significance | <i>The Holy Trinity Anglican Church as landmark, historic, aesthetic, architectural, social, cultural, research and representative significance. The construction of the church is historically related to the Anglican community of Glen Innes and district as well as the development and spread of the religion throughout the New England region. Construction of the church is historically associated with the Glen Innes Anglican community as well as Blacket and Son Sydney architects; F.J. Madigan the Glen Innes architect, James Lonsdale the Glen Innes builder and Armidale's Bishop Cooper. Aesthetic significance arises from the architectural detail and the use of locally quarried blue stone which is representative of cultural heritage. Social and cultural arises from its use as a place of worship and a place where various memorials have been dedicated to those who have served the church or their country. Construction of the church provides the opportunity to research the varied Anglican churches that have been constructed throughout the New England Region. The church is representative of an English designed church set with an Australian setting. (Quoted from Inventory Sheet.)</i> |
| Description | <i>The substantial Gothic styled parish church is of a cruciform plan with a castellated tower. It is built of coursed bluestone rubble with dressed granite quoining, string courses and expansive grounds. Four entrances were provided with a flight of brick and cement steps leading to the vestry and choir. The church is sealed with Richmond River Pine with large mouldings. There are three large windows in each transept and in the eastern portion there is a tracery window of upright Gothic design. Apart from the war memorial windows there is a pipe organ which is a memorial to those who fought in the Great War. On 22 May 1932 an Honour Roll was unveiled and dedicated with the names of 270 men who served in World War One. (Quoted from Inventory Sheet.)</i> |
| Images |  |

Glen Innes Anglican Church

Figure 97. Glen Innes Anglican Church. *Source:* Google Streetview 2022.



Figure 98. Glen Innes Anglican Church. *Source:* Google Streetview 2022.

6.4 Blacket buildings in Shoalhaven

Nowra Mechanics Institute and School of Arts

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Address | 25 Berry Street, Nowra NSW |
| Date | 1892, extended 1910, 1931 |
| Listing | <i>Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014</i> Mechanics Institute and School of Arts – Item no. 330 |
| Significance | <i>A good example of a late Victorian Classical style community building designed by local architect Cyril Blacket. One of the best surviving examples of its style and type in the region. Considerable social and historical importance to the local community which benefits from its streetscape contribution. Long history of community use, and association with the School of Arts movement. Local significance (Shoalhaven). (Quoted from Inventory Sheet.)</i> |
| Description | Large, two-storey Victorian Classical community building constructed in 1892. It is of brick construction and has a richly modelled stucco façade with heavily grooved stucco to the ground floor and highly decorative mouldings to openings on the second floor. A weatherboard hall at the rear of the School of Arts was designed by Blacket in 1909 and opened in 1910. In 1931 Blacket designed an addition to the School of Arts for a supper room, which was constructed in 1934. |

Nowra Mechanics Institute and School of Arts




Figure 99. Nowra School of Arts. *Source:* Shoalhaven Council, <https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/For-Residents/Community-Facilities/Nowra-School-of-Arts>.

Images



Figure 100. Nowra School of Arts Annex. *Source:* Shoalhaven Council, <https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/For-Residents/Community-Facilities/Nowra-School-of-Arts-Annex>.

| Huskisson Literary Institute (former) | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Address | 19 Sydney Street, Huskisson NSW 2540 |
| Date | 1917 |
| Listing | <i>Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014</i> Huskisson Literary Institute (former) – Item no. 209 |
| Significance | <i>Important Interwar building with historic and social value to the local community at Huskisson. Major contribution to the streetscape. Local significance (Shoalhaven).</i> (Quoted from Inventory Sheet). |
| Description | <i>Attractive Interwar weatherboard hall used as cinema. Symmetrical gabled form with minor lateral gables flanking the entrance. Gables infilled with battened fibre cement sheets. The building appears to have been erected circa 1930. Excellent streetscape contribution.</i> (Quoted from Inventory Sheet.) |
| Notes | Archival research suggests that Cyril Blacket designed the former Literary Institute at Huskisson. In June 1915, the <i>Construction and Local Government Journal</i> reported that Cyril Blacket was ‘preparing plans for a literary institute at Huskisson’ (<i>Construction and Local Government Journal</i> 1915, 1). It has not been ascertained whether these plans were used in the construction of the building. The building was completed and in use by June 1917. |
| Images |  <p>Figure 101. Huskisson Literary Institute, now Huskisson Pictures.</p> |

6.5 Conclusion

This section has looked at examples of churches in the Shoalhaven LGA as well as examples of the work of Cyril Blacket to assist in determining the relative significance of the subject site.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is an Inter-War church building in the Carpenter Gothic style, built to service the local Anglican community of Huskisson. The building shares architectural similarities with several church buildings in the Shoalhaven LGA, as well as churches throughout NSW designed by Cyril Blacket. The Carpenter Gothic and Gothic Revival

styles are characteristic features both of Shoalhaven and Blacket churches. Both groups tend to be constructed in the late Victorian to Federation periods; however, comparable examples of Inter-War church buildings exist, such as at Milton. The later date of the former Huskisson Anglican Church demonstrates the continuation in favour of the style, both by Blacket and by local communities in the Shoalhaven region. The later date is due to the delayed development of the town of Huskisson, which remained a small timber town until the early twentieth century, developing as a tourist and resort town from the Inter-War period. The use of the style unites the former Huskisson Anglican Church with much of the existing religious architecture in Shoalhaven and those designed by Blacket. It shares its scale, materiality, and layout with church buildings such as those at Bomaderry, Cambewarra, Milton, and Forster, and shares detailing such as buttresses window form and belfry with more substantial church buildings at Corrimal and Glen Innes.

The existing heritage listings of churches and other buildings designed by Cyril Blacket cite the association with Blacket as contributing to their overall significance. The former Huskisson Anglican Church is one of Blacket's later known works, the plans being drawn seven years before his death in 1937. The similarities between the former Huskisson Anglican Church and earlier works such as the 1896 Corrimal Anglican Church and the 1913–1914 Holy Trinity Anglican Church at Glen Innes demonstrate the consistency of Blacket's architectural styles and proficiency over the course of his fifty-year career.

7. Assessment of heritage significance

7.1 Introduction

This section provides an assessment of the heritage significance of the former Huskisson Anglican Church site in accordance with the criteria established by the NSW Heritage Office. The assessment follows the methodology and terminology of *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (Australia ICOMOS 2013) (the Burra Charter) and the *NSW Heritage Manual*.

Cultural significance is defined in the Burra Charter, published by Australia ICOMOS (2013), as:

Aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.

The concept of ‘cultural significance’ embraces the values of places or items to the community, which cannot be expressed in financial terms alone. An assessment of cultural significance strives to establish why a place or item is considered important and valued by the community. Significance, therefore, is embodied in the fabric of the place, including the setting, the records associated with the place, and the response that the place evokes in the community.

The NSW Heritage Manual was developed by the (predecessors of) Heritage Office to provide the basis for an assessment of heritage significance of an item or place. This is achieved by evaluating the place or item’s significance in reference to specific criteria, which can be applied at a national, state, or local level (Heritage Office 2001). *NSW Assessing Heritage Significance* details these specific criteria which are quoted below (Heritage Office 2001, 9). The significance of the site is assessed against these criteria below and a Statement of Heritage Significance has been developed from an understanding of its historical development and an analysis of the physical fabric of the site.

7.1.1 Assessment against criteria

The NSW heritage assessment criteria was developed by the (predecessors of) Heritage NSW to provide the basis for an assessment of heritage significance of an item or place. This is achieved by evaluating the significance of the place or item in reference to eight criteria, which can be applied at a state or local level. They are outlined below.

Criterion (a) An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (b) An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (c) An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area);

Criterion (d) An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;

Criterion (e) An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (f) An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

Criterion (g) An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments (or a class of the local area's cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments.)

7.2 Assessment of significance – former Huskisson Anglican Church

7.2.1 Assessment of significance

Criterion (a) An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level as an Inter-War church that is demonstrative of the development of the town of Huskisson. The church is located on land that was first set aside for church use in the Huskisson Town Plan of 1868. The old church on the site was constructed in c. 1905; and the current church was constructed in 1931. The old church was used as a hall following the construction of the 1931 church, was moved on the site in c. 1979 for the construction of the rectory, and was demolished in 2019.

The development of the church site demonstrates the development of the Anglican community in Huskisson, and the Shoalhaven region more broadly, as the congregation grew in size and importance throughout the early twentieth century. The church site is reflective of the development of the town of Huskisson through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as the town developed from a small timber town to a thriving resort and tourist town. The rectory is demonstrative of the continued development of the church through the late twentieth century.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.

Criterion (b) An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level due to its association with prominent local architect Cyril Blacket. Blacket designed numerous religious, residential, civic, and commercial buildings throughout the Shoalhaven LGA and NSW, several of which have been recognised as having local heritage significance. The former Huskisson Anglican Church is likely to be one of the latest buildings designed by Blacket in the Shoalhaven region, as he moved to Manly in the mid-1930s, and died there in 1937. In addition, Blacket was an active member of public and civic life in Shoalhaven from the 1880s to the 1930s.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.

Criterion (c) An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area);

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a good representative example of an Inter-War Carpenter Gothic church with landmark qualities. It demonstrates typical features of the Carpenter Gothic style,

such as its lancet windows, belfry, and buttresses. It has landmark qualities as it is situated on a prominent corner, close to the town centre and fronting onto public open space behind the beach. While views to the water are presently obscured by the mature vegetation, when it was built it would have had significant views of the bay. The remaining mature vegetation within the site, as well as on the adjacent Lot 9, contributes to the landmark quality and aesthetic value of the church building. The rectory building does not demonstrate notable aesthetic qualities in itself, but does not detract from the overall value of the site.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.

Criterion (d) An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;

A detailed assessment of the social values of the former Huskisson Anglican Church was not undertaken as a part of this report. However, the site is likely to be of social significance to the Anglican and wider community of Huskisson. The local community is recorded as having contributed to the construction of the church in the 1930s, both through financial contributions and the donation of furniture and furnishings. Prior to its decommissioning, the church building had been in constant use for almost ninety years, and is associated with the development of the town and its population through the twentieth century.

In addition, the social value of the church is evidenced through the recent community action and support for the site.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.

Criterion (e) An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is likely to have limited research or technical value. As a later example of the work of Cyril Blacket, the church building has the potential to contribute to understandings of the development of Blacket's architectural styles. It is unlikely to yield any new information around construction materials or technologies.

The site has potential to contain archaeological evidence associated with burials during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) and the development and use of church buildings during Phases 3 and 4 (1905–present). Archaeological evidence associated with burials at the site during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for cultural, social, research and representative values. Archaeological evidence associated with development of the site during Phases 3 (1905–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for social and research value. Phase 4 (1979–present) saw the construction of the brick rectory and demolition of the old church building in its second location. While archaeological evidence of these site developments may survive, they would not be of significance.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.

Criterion (f) An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has some rarity value as a comparatively late example of the work of Cyril Blacket, and of a Carpenter Gothic style church in the Shoalhaven LGA.

Blacket was most prolific in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, coinciding with his career as Diocesan architect. The former Huskisson Anglican Church is demonstrative of his continued practice in the later years of his life. The majority of Gothic Revival churches in the Shoalhaven region were constructed in the Victorian and Federation periods. The later date of the former Huskisson Anglican Church is demonstrative of the later development of the town of Huskisson.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.

Criterion (g) An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW’s cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments (or a class of the local area’s cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments.)

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a good representative example of a Carpenter Gothic church building. The church building demonstrates typical characteristics of the style such as lancet windows, belfry, buttresses, and general layout. The church building retains much of its original fabric and detailing. The location of the church building on a prominent corner is also a typical feature of Carpenter Gothic churches. Its east-west orientation is typical of church buildings more generally.

The former Anglican Church building is a good representative example of the work of architect Cyril Blacket, sharing similarities with examples of Blacket’s work throughout NSW. Blacket was most prolific in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Being built in the Inter-War period, the Huskisson church is demonstrative of Blacket’s continued use of the Gothic Revival style throughout his career. Together with other extant examples of his work, the Huskisson church is demonstrative of Blacket’s career over half a century.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.

7.2.2 Gradings of significance

Graded levels of significance are a management tool used to assess the relative significance of elements within an item, place or site and to assist in decision-making regarding elements of a place. The gradings of significance that have been used for elements within the study area are based on guidelines established in the NSW Heritage Division publication, Assessing Heritage Significance (2001).

Table 3. Gradings of significance definitions (Source: NSW Heritage Office 2001, 11).

| Grading | Justification | Status |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Exceptional | Rare or outstanding element directly contributing to an item’s local and State significance. | Fulfils criteria for local or State listing. |
| High | High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of the item’s significance. Alterations do not detract from significance. | Fulfils criteria for local or State listing. |
| Moderate | Altered or modified elements. Elements with little heritage value, but which contribute to the overall significance of the item. | Fulfils criteria for local or State listing. |
| Little | Alterations detract from significance. Difficult to interpret. | Does not fulfil criteria for local or State listing. |
| Intrusive | Damaging to the item’s heritage significance | Does not fulfil criteria for local or State listing. |

Table 4. Grading of elements of former Huskisson Anglican Church site.

| Element | Justification | Grading |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1931 church building | The 1931 church building is of historical, associative, aesthetic, social, rarity and representative value. It is demonstrative of the development of the town of Huskisson and its Anglican community. It is a good representative example of a Carpenter | High |

| Element | Justification | Grading |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| | Gothic church and the work of Cyril Blacket, and has landmark quality due to its prominent corner location. | |
| Rectory building | The rectory building is of some historical value as demonstrating the development of the church site, and of the Anglican community. It was constructed in 1979-1980, and is of a common architectural style, and does not demonstrate any notable aesthetic value. | Moderate |
| Grounds – Lots 7 and 8 | Lots 7 and 8 have historical and aesthetic value. The lots comprise the original land portions dedicated for use by the Church of England in 1876, and have remained intact since this time. The remaining mature vegetation on the lots provides a bushland setting for the church building. They have value as remnant bushland. | High |
| Lot 9 | <p>Lot 9 contributes to the historical, aesthetic and social value of the former Huskisson Anglican Church.</p> <p>Lot 9 has historical value as forming part of the original church reserve identified in the 1868 town plan of Huskisson, and it remained Crown Land until its transfer to the Jerrinja Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC). It has aesthetic value as containing mature remnant bushland, contributing both to the setting of the former Huskisson Anglican Church, and to the wider streetscape. Lot 9 has social value due to its association with the former Huskisson Anglican Church, and its continued use by the local community. Several grave markers were present on the site in the late twentieth century. In addition, the social value of Lot 9 is evidenced through community action undertaken in response to proposed development on the site.</p> | High |

7.3 Proposed relocation

DA18/2102 proposed to relocate the 1931 church building within the site. Site plans prepared by Set Consultants demonstrated that the church was to be relocated to the approximate location of the former metal shed (since demolished). Historical imagery from prior to the demolition of the metal shed demonstrates that the shed was visible from some locations along Bowen and Hawke Streets, though views were limited and obscured by trees and vegetation.

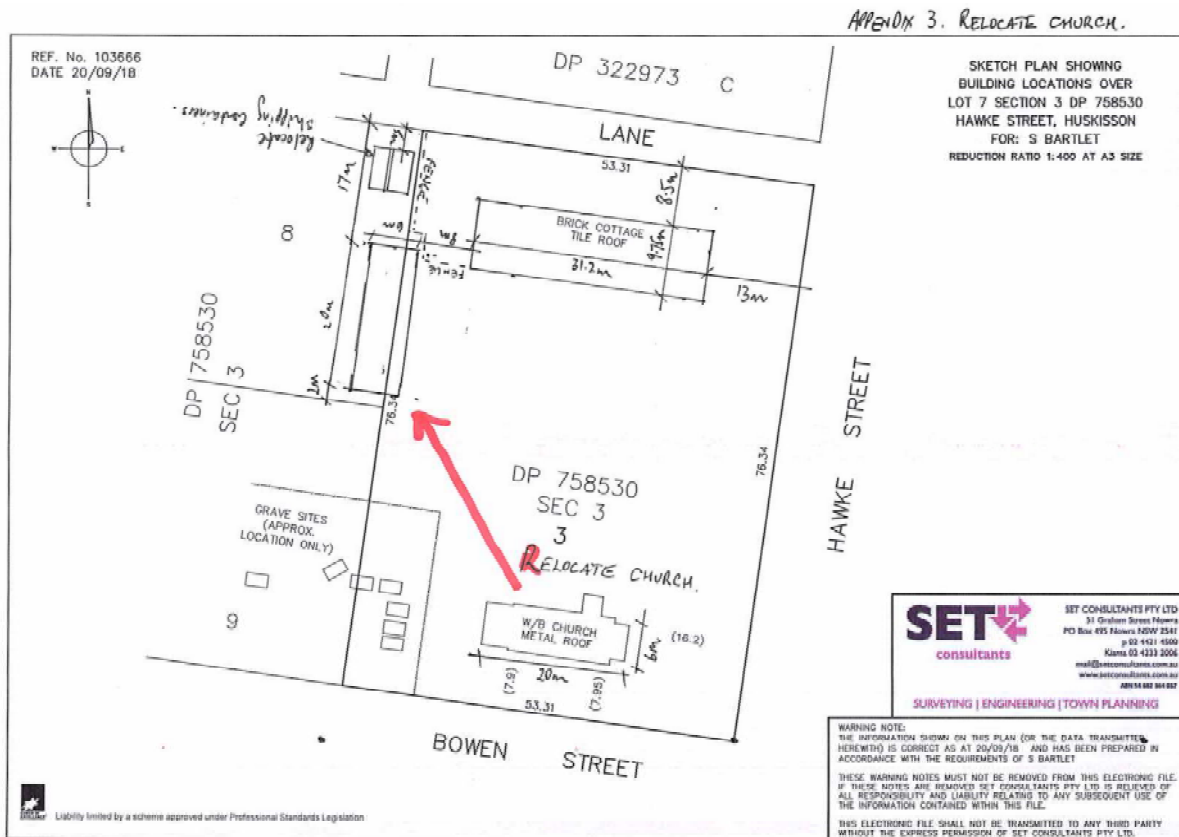


Figure 102. Site plan showing proposed church relocation (Source: Set Consultants 2018).



Figure 103. View to metal shed from Hawke Street. Metal shed indicated red (Source: Google Streetview 2018).



Figure 104. View to metal shed (since demolished) from Bowen Street (Source: Google Streetview 2018).

8. Statements of Heritage Significance

8.1 Introduction

At the time of engagement, Council requested that Extent Heritage prepare two distinct Statements of Heritage Significance for the site. The first Statement of Heritage Significance describes the significance of the site in its current condition. The second responds to the proposal for the relocation of the church within the site, as approved in DA18/2102 (now surrendered).

8.2 Statement of Heritage Significance with the Former Anglican Church building in its existing location

The former Huskisson Anglican Church site has cultural significance at a local level for its historical, associative, aesthetic, rarity, social, representative and research values. Archaeological evidence from Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) associated with evidence for burials at the site during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries would be significant at a local level for cultural, social, research and representative values. Archaeological evidence of the burials would enhance our understanding of the historical use of the site, the social fabric of Huskisson in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and supplement historical references to burials at the site.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church was built in 1931, replacing an earlier church building dating from 1905. The church and grounds demonstrate the development of the town of Huskisson throughout its history, as it grew from a small timber town in the late nineteenth century, to a thriving resort and tourist town through the early twentieth century. The church is associated with prominent local architect Cyril Blacket. Blacket designed numerous churches, as well as residential, civic, and commercial buildings, throughout his career from the 1880s to the 1930s.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is of aesthetic significance as a good representative example of a Carpenter Gothic church, demonstrating key characteristics of the type through its weatherboard construction, layout, buttresses, window form, and detailing. The western porch is a later addition but does not detract from the overall integrity of the church building. The aesthetic value of the church building is enhanced by its setting and location, which affords it landmark quality. It is situated on a prominent corner, fronting public open space along Jervis Bay. This prominent corner location allows it to be viewed in the round, a typical characteristic of Carpenter Gothic churches. Views east from the church building are currently obscured by vegetation within White Sands Park; however, at the time of its construction, it enjoyed significant views of Jervis Bay. Its setting is enhanced by the remaining mature vegetation at the rear of the church site, within Lot 8, and on the adjacent property, Lot 9. The remnant bushland contributes to the landmark quality of the church building, and affords it a bushland setting, despite the recent development surrounding the site.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a good representative example of both the Carpenter Gothic style and of the work of prominent local architect Cyril Blacket. It is rare in the locality as

a comparatively late example of a Carpenter Gothic church in the Shoalhaven LGA, and a late example of the work of Cyril Blacket. The later date of the former Anglican Church is related to the development history of the town.

Archaeological evidence from Phase 3 (1905–1979) has the potential to supplement our understanding of the site history, enhancing our understanding of the people who attended the site, including such information as the class, age, and gender of attendees. This information could contribute to historical accounts of Huskisson in the twentieth century. Archaeological evidence associated with development of the site during Phase 3 (1905–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for social and research value.

8.3 Statement of Heritage Significance with the Former Anglican Church building relocated on the site

The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level for its historical, associative, aesthetic, rarity, social, and representative and research values. Archaeological evidence from Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) associated with evidence for burials at the site during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries would be significant at a local level for cultural, social, research and representative values. Archaeological evidence of the burials would enhance our understanding of the historical use of the site, the social fabric of Huskisson in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and supplement historical references to burials at the site.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church was built in 1931, replacing an earlier church building dating from 1905. The church and grounds demonstrate the development of the town of Huskisson throughout its history, as it grew from a small timber town in the late nineteenth century, to a thriving resort and tourist town through the early twentieth century. The church is associated with prominent local architect Cyril Blacket. Blacket designed numerous churches, as well as residential, civic and commercial buildings, throughout his career from the 1880s to the 1930s.

The former Huskisson Anglican Church is of aesthetic significance as a good representative example of a Carpenter Gothic church, demonstrating key characteristics of the type in its weatherboard construction, layout, buttresses, window form and detailing. The western porch is a later addition but does not detract from the overall integrity of the church building. The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a good representative example of both the Carpenter Gothic style and of the work of Cyril Blacket. It is rare in the locality, being a comparatively late example of a Carpenter Gothic church in the Shoalhaven LGA, and a late example of the work of Cyril Blacket. The later date of the former Anglican Church is related to the development history of the town.

Archaeological evidence from Phase 3 (1905–1979) has the potential to supplement our understanding of the site history, enhancing our understanding of the people who attended the site, including such information as the class, age, and gender of attendees. This information could contribute to historical accounts of Huskisson in the twentieth century. Archaeological evidence associated with development of the site during Phase 3 (1905–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for social and research value.

Significant views to the church from the public domain would be limited due to its re-location to the eastern boundary of Lot 8. In this location, the church building would be obscured by the rectory building and the remaining mature vegetation within the site. The relocation of the church building to this location would diminish the aesthetic and representative significance of the church. Its current location on a prominent corner affords it public views that allow an appreciation of the church building in the round, as well as its landmark quality, and is a typical characteristic of Carpenter Gothic churches. The relocation of the church would isolate it from this well-considered historic landmark location at the corner of the site, significantly limiting its visibility from the public domain and removing its historical association with views to Jervis Bay. Its relocation would also alter its east-west orientation, which is a typical characteristic of church buildings in general. Although the relocation of the church would diminish its level of aesthetic significance, it would continue to meet the threshold for listing as a heritage item of local significance if ever relocated.

9. Conclusion and recommendations

9.1 Conclusion

This report has found that the former Huskisson Anglican Church site has cultural significance at a local level. The site is of significance for its historical, associative, aesthetic, rarity, and representative significance. A comprehensive assessment of significance of the church site against the NSW heritage criteria for assessing the significance of heritage places, in accordance with the relevant guidelines, has been undertaken, informed by detailed historical research, an analysis of its physical condition and archaeological potential, and comparative analysis. The assessment has determined the church and site meets the threshold for heritage listing at the local level under the NSW heritage criteria.

The assessment has found that the 1931 church building and the grounds of Lots 7 and 8 are of high significance, while the rectory building is of moderate significance. In addition, this report has found that the adjacent Lot 9 is contributory to the historical, aesthetic and social value of the former Huskisson Anglican Church.

Two Statements of Heritage Significance have been provided, the first describing the significance of the church site with the church building in its current location; the second describing its significance if the church building were to be relocated on the site to the location previously approved under DA18/2102 (now surrendered). It concludes that although the relocation of the church building would diminish its aesthetic value, through removing its landmark quality and greatly reducing its visibility from the public domain, it would still reach the threshold for local heritage listing.

9.2 Recommendations

This assessment has found that the former Huskisson Anglican Church and site meets the threshold for listing as a local heritage item. The former Huskisson Anglican Church and site has been assessed as having cultural significance at a local level under criterion (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (g).

Based on the assessment in this report, it is recommended that:

- Council progress with listing the Church and its site as a heritage item of local significance within Schedule 5 of the Shoalhaven LEP 2014.
- The curtilage of the listing should include all elements that have been identified as contributing to the significance of the site.
- The church building should be retained in its existing location.
- Lot 9 should be considered for inclusion in the curtilage of the item, following discussions with Jerrinja LALC.

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Appendix A. Shoalhaven Inventory Sheet prepared for Shoalhaven Heritage Study 1995-1998

Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Register

SHI Number

2390385

Study Number

JB016

Item Name: **Huskisson Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group**

Location: **17 Hawke Street, Huskisson [Shoalhaven]**

Address: 17 Hawke Street

Suburb / Nearest Town: Huskisson 2540

Local Govt Area: Shoalhaven

State: NSW

DUAP Region: Illawarra & Macarthur

Historic region: Illawarra

Parish: CURRAMBENE

County: ST. VINCENT

Address: Hawke Street

Suburb / Nearest Town: Huskisson 2540

Local Govt Area: Shoalhaven

State: NSW

DUAP Region: Illawarra & Macarthur

Historic region: Illawarra

Parish:

County:

Other/Former Names:

Area/Group/Complex:

Group ID:

Aboriginal Area:

Curtilage/Boundary: 7-9 DP 758530

Item Type: Built

Group: Religion

Category: Church

Owner: Religious Organisation

HerStudy ID No: JB016

UTE No: 31648, 31649

LEP - Item No:

Current Use: Religious Purposes

Former Uses: Religious Purposes

Assessed Significance: **Local**

Endorsed Significance:

Statement of Significance: Representative Federation Carpenter Gothic Church important to Huskisson for its historical, social and streetscape values. Local significance (Shoalhaven).

Historical Notes or Provenance: The site of Huskisson was surveyed in 1840 as a government town located in a strategic position on Currumbene Creek. Land at Huskisson was subdivided in 1870 with many blocks purchased by local families.

In 1871 a half-time school opened followed in 1881 by a full-time school. The arrival of the railway at Nowra in 1893 opened the area still further to tourists. In 1893 George Dent opened a hotel on the site of the present Jervis Bay Hotel.

Land for the Anglican Church was set aside in 1876 and a Union Church was erected to serve the community c.1900 at the junction of Hawke and Bowen Streets. This Church was relocated to its present position to allow for the erection of the rectors house at the northern side of the block and is now the Anglican Church Hall.

The existing Anglican Church was designed by Architect - Cyril Blacket who completed his drawings on the 7th November, 1930. The foundation stone was laid by Archbishop of

State Heritage Register

Date: 19/09/2018

Full Report with Images

Page 1

This report was produced using the Heritage Database Software provided by the Heritage Branch, NSW Department of Planning.

Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Register

SHI Number

2390385

Study Number

JB016

Item Name: **Huskisson Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group**

Location: **17 Hawke Street, Huskisson [Shoalhaven]**

Sydney, Most Rev E Walker, Rural Dean of Wollongong on 24th January, 1931. The building was erected by A E Green of Nowra and completed on 9th June, 1931 taking nearly three months to complete at a cost of £482/5/-. The church has eleven windows with arched heads made of cedar costing £72/6/-. The roof had a stringy bark shingle roof (split shingles).

Tree Planting

The Church was opened on 4th April, 1931 and at that time trees were planted in the church grounds. Trees were planted by Mrs F Dent, Mrs J Dent, Mr B Loutitt, Mrs Wilcox, Mrs Lackersteen, Mr Lawson, Dr Hansard and others.

Graves in Churchyard

From several sources it appears that there were at least six headstones visible at one time in the graveyard. There were two graves with a picket fence surround. One grave was a whaler from across the bay and the other was a man who was crushed by a log. Evidence of two burials has been found. Swedish seaman Carl Niclasson, aged 32 years a native of Gothberg Sweden, employed on the whaling factory ship the "Lock Tay" at Jervis Bay died suddenly in November 1912. The seaman was buried at the rear of the Union Church alongside the grave of a sailor interred there some 42 years before.

| Themes: | National Theme | State Theme | Local Theme |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 8. Culture | | Religion | (none) |
| 9. Phases of Life | | Birth and Death | (none) |

Designer: Cyril Blacket

Maker / Builder: A E Green

Year Started: 1931 Year Completed: 1931 Circa: No

Physical Description: Representative weatherboard and galvanised iron Federation Carpenter Gothic Church constructed of local hardwood. Gabled form with 3 roof ventilator dormers in each side of the main roof. Altar enclosed by a lower rectangular 'apse'. Windows of lanceolate form with timber drip mouldings. Open eaves to gables and gutters. The north side is 'propped' by a timber buttress which appears to be original. Supported on brick piers.

The building forms a group with the later church hall. Two graves set amongst a mature stand of Eucalyptus sp. (spotted gums) are also located in the grounds of the church marked by plain white crosses. The group as a whole makes a major contribution to the streetscape. Its 'central' location defines its historical role in the growth of the town.

Physical Condition: In good condition

Modification Dates: The church building has been modified by the addition of a porch or sacristy on the north

State Heritage Register

Full Report with Images

Date: 19/09/2018

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Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Register

SHI Number

2390385

Study Number

JB016

Item Name: **Huskisson Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group**

Location: **17 Hawke Street, Huskisson [Shoalhaven]**

side at a relatively early date and by the addition of a new entrance at the western end in compatible materials when relocated to its present position.

Recommended Management:

Management: Statutory Instrument List on a Local Environmental Plan (LEP)
Recommended Management Prepare or include in a Conservation Policy

Further Comments: Date: 1909 or c.1930 Historical Period: 1901-1925 1926-1950

Criteria a)

Criteria b)

Criteria c)

Criteria d)

Criteria e)

Criteria f)

Criteria g) This item is assessed as aesthetically representative locally. This item is assessed as historically representative locally. This item is assessed as socially representative locally.

Integrity / Intactness:

| References: | Author | Title | Year |
|-------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| | Helen Ruttley | Shoalhaven Telegraph 27 November, 1912 Research of Holy Trinity Church | |

| Studies: | Author | Title | Number | Year |
|----------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------|------|
| | Peter Freeman Pty Ltd | Shoalhaven City Council Heritage Study 1995-1998 | JB016 | 1998 |

| Parcels: | Parcel Code | LotNumber | Section | Plan Code | Plan Number |
|----------|-------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| | LOT | 8 | 3 | DP | 758530 |
| | LOT | 7 | 3 | DP | 758530 |

Latitude:

Longitude:

Location validity:

Spatial Accuracy:

Map Name: Huskisson 9027-4-N

Map Scale:

AMG Zone: Huskisson 9027-4-N

Easting:

Northing:

| Listings: | Name: | Title: | Number: | Date: |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|-------|
| | Heritage study | Huskisson Holy Trinity An | JB016 | |
| | Within a National Trust conservation area | | | |

State Heritage Register

Date: 19/09/2018

Full Report with Images

Page 3

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Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Register

SHI Number

2390385

Study Number

JB016

Item Name: **Huskisson Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group**

Location: **17 Hawke Street, Huskisson [Shoalhaven]**

Related Items: Jervis Bay Landscape Conservation Area SHI 2390354

Other buildings identified in the Shoalhaven Heritage Study designed or thought to have been designed by Cyril Blacket.

Mechanics Institute School of Arts Berry St Nowra SHI 2390656

Castellated Anzac Memorial Gateway & Sculpture West St Nowra SHI 2390787

Victorian Italianate Residence Jervis St Nowra SHI 2390722

Sandstone Memorial Drinking Trough Tasman Road St Georges Basin SHI 2390410

"Roseville" Fed. Weatherboard Residence & Fig Tree Journal St Nowra SHI 2390725

"Red Rose Café" Two Storey Victorian Commercial Building Junction St Nowra SHI 2390662

"P. Walsh & Sons" Vict. Commercial Building Junction Street Nowra SHI 2390664

Bank Building (former Government Savings Bank) Kinghorne Street Nowra SHI 2390663

Nowra Fruit Market Kinghorne Street Nowra SHI 2390667

"Commercial" Two storey masonry Hotel Moss Vale road Kangaroo valley SHI 2390478

Other Carpenter Gothic style buildings identified in the Shoalhaven Heritage Study

Sussex Inlet Uniting Church (relocated) & Church Hall SHI 2390245

Cambewarra Carpenter Gothic style Union Church SHI 2390184

Berry Carpenter Gothic style Hall (Fmr. Wesleyan Church) SHI 2390074

Milton Inter war Carpenter Gothic style Hall SHI 2390581

Tomerong Victorian Carpenter Gothic style Union Church & Hall SHI 2390420

Bolong Victorian, Carpenter Gothic style Church (superceded) SHI 2390163

Bomaderry Carpenter Gothic style Presbyterian Church SHI 2390821

Listing Comments:

Custom Field Three:

Custom Field Four:

Custom Field Five:

Custom Field Six:

Data Entry: Date First Entered: 16/06/1999 Date Updated: 15/05/2017 Status: Partial

State Heritage Register

Date: 19/09/2018

Full Report with Images

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Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Register

SHI Number

2390385

Study Number

JB016

Item Name: **Huskisson Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group**

Location: **17 Hawke Street, Huskisson [Shoalhaven]**

Image:



Caption: Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group

Copyright:

Image by:

Image Date:

Image Number: Roll: 34 Negative Number: 12-14

Image Path:

Image File: 2390385a.jpg

Thumb Nail Path:

Thumb Nail File: t_2390385a.jpg

State Heritage Register

Full Report with Images

Date: 19/09/2018

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Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Register

SHI Number

2390385

Study Number

JB016

Item Name: **Huskisson Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group**

Location: **17 Hawke Street, Huskisson [Shoalhaven]**

Image:



Caption: Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group

Copyright:

Image by:

Image Date:

Image Number:

Image Path:

Image File: 2390385b.jpg

Thumb Nail Path:

Thumb Nail File: t_2390385b.jpg

Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Register

SHI Number

2390385

Study Number

JB016

Item Name: **Huskisson Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group**

Location: **17 Hawke Street, Huskisson [Shoalhaven]**

Image:



Caption: Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group

Copyright:

Image by:

Image Date:

Image Number:

Image Path:

Image File: 2390385c.jpg

Thumb Nail Path:

Thumb Nail File: t_2390385c.jpg

Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Register

SHI Number

2390385

Study Number

JB016

Item Name: **Huskisson Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group**

Location: **17 Hawke Street, Huskisson [Shoalhaven]**

Image:



Caption: Holy Trinity Anglican Church Group

Copyright:

Image by:

Image Date:

Image Number:

Image Path:

Image File: 2390385d.jpg

Thumb Nail Path:

Thumb Nail File:

Appendix B. National Trust Register Listing Report

**NATIONAL TRUST REGISTER
LISTING REPORT**

| CITY/SUBURB/TOWN | NAME OF IDENTIFICATION | ADDRESS OR LOCATION |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| HUSKISSON | Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Church Hall & Cemetery | Hawke, Bowen & Currambene Streets |

| | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| LGA: | Shoalhaven | ABORIGINAL NATION: | The Wandandian |
| POSTCODE: | 2540 | LOT/DP: | Lots 7, 8 & 9 Section 3 DP 758530 |
| COMMITTEE: | Built Heritage Conservation | GRID: | Lat: -35.04083 Long: 150.67162 |
| AUTHOR: | Heath Quint | LISTING DATE: | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Church Hall & Cemetery at 17 Hawke Street, Huskisson is historically significant as a building designed by the prominent architect Cyril Blacket and as a known burial site likely to contain additional unmarked graves, containing the remains of European and Aboriginal people. The church is a good example of its type and one of an increasingly small number of historic buildings still located in Huskisson.

DESCRIPTION

The site contains a number of structures. The original church building (now the hall) was originally a small structure dating from the 1880s, but which was extended (using the same simple form and materials) in the late 20th century.

The 1931 church, designed by Cyril Blacket, is a simple yet refined building framed in local hardwood and sheeted externally with weatherboard and galvanized iron. The roof ventilators, lancet windows, lower "apse" containing the altar, vestry, bell tower, and timber buttresses all combine to make a distinctive church building set amongst mature trees. A large entry porch has been added to the western end of the building, enlarging the original. The interior is of very plain appearance and has been lined with compressed fibre board, and has undergone some minor modifications and painted in rather unsympathetic colours. Nonetheless it retains its original form and could readily be restored.

The modern rectory and meeting rooms are not included in this listing.

The church grounds did contain several wooden crosses and gravestones and a white picket fence around two graves, but the monuments have been moved to an unknown location.

The Church grounds are likely to contain additional unmarked graves, containing the remains of European and Aboriginal people. The identity of many of those buried in the graveyard is yet to be investigated, but the graves of three are known. The church grounds did contain several wooden crosses and gravestones and a white picket fence around two graves, but the monuments have been moved to an unknown location.

A survey on 18 March, 2015, using ground penetrating radar, close to the rear of the church identified seven grave sites. The Church grounds are likely to contain additional unmarked graves, containing the remains of European and Aboriginal people. The identity of many of those buried in the graveyard is yet to be investigated.

The Trust also understands that King Budd Billy II (c1815 – 31May, 1905) known as the “King of Jervis Bay” was given a full Christian burial in the graveyard adjoining the church on this site, now the church hall. This was confirmed in the July 22, 1905 edition of the Evening News and indicates that this is an important Aboriginal “contact” site.

HISTORY

On 1 January 1878, one half acre of land (Lot 8 Section 3 DP 758539) was granted by the NSW Government to the church trustees, who were local identities John Watson, George Dent Snr, James Dent, Thomas Granderson and William Barham. On 10 January, 1880 there was a second grant to the church trustees of one acre (Lot 7 Section 3 DP 758530).

The first building on the site in the 1880s was used as a Union Church and later became used as the church hall. In November, 1930 Cyril Blacket completed plans for a new Anglican Church on Lot 7. Cyril Blacket, (1857–1937) was the son of the famous 19th century architect Edmund Blacket (1817–1883). By 1930, Cyril was in his 70s and living in Osborne Street, Nowra, he died at Manly in 1937.

Funds for the church were raised locally and administered by a local building committee. On 24 January, 1931 the foundation stone was laid by Archbishop of Sydney, Rev J C Wright. The church was built by A. E. Green and completed on 9 June, 1931 at a cost of £482/10/-. Possibly as part of the original construction, iron rod tie bars were installed to stabilise the thrust of the main roof trusses. No such tie bar was installed in the Chancel arch.

On 4 April, 1931 the church opened and was serviced from Nowra. Also in 1931 trees were planted by Mrs F. Dent, Mrs J. Dent, Mr B Loutitt, Mrs Wilcox, Mrs Lackersteen, Mr Lawson, Dr Hansard and others. On Saturday 21 March, 1936 Holy Trinity Church, Huskisson was consecrated by Archbishop of Sydney, Dr Mowll. Huskisson was made a provisional parish and a Curate appointed on 1 October, 1937 and the first Huskisson Rector was inducted on 23 October, 1937.

In 1947 parishioner Henrietta Setttee died and Alfred Setttee, local boat builder had a stained glass window made in memory of his wife. In 1953 the stringy bark split shingled roof was replaced with a galvanised iron roof by local builder Bob Martin. In the 1970s the original structure (the hall) was relocated southwards to make way for a new rectory. At this time the building was modified with a large addition to the west, doubling its length. A further addition to the west provided a large kitchen area, an addition to the east provided additional hall space and an external toilet block was added to the west. After 2000 a large southern verandah was added to the hall building.

On 29 November, 1979 land title for these two lots was transferred to the Church of England Property Trust, Diocese of Sydney. In 1994 the church was refurbished including a foyer extension.

The adjacent bushland lot (Lot 9 Section 3 DP 758530) was crown land which has been successfully claimed by the Jerrinja Local Aboriginal Land Council. Lot 9 is currently zoned SP2 – Car Park. Lot 9 is currently fenced with no car parking.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Heritage Management Strategy, Holy trinity Anglican Church Site, Huskisson, GBA Heritage, August 2018

Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory for Holy Trinity Church Group Huskisson, 2011

BOUNDARY OF LISTING

The boundary of the listing is the boundary of Lots 7, 8 & 9 Section 3 DP 758530 as indicated on the following site plan.

SITE PLAN



PHOTOGRAPHS



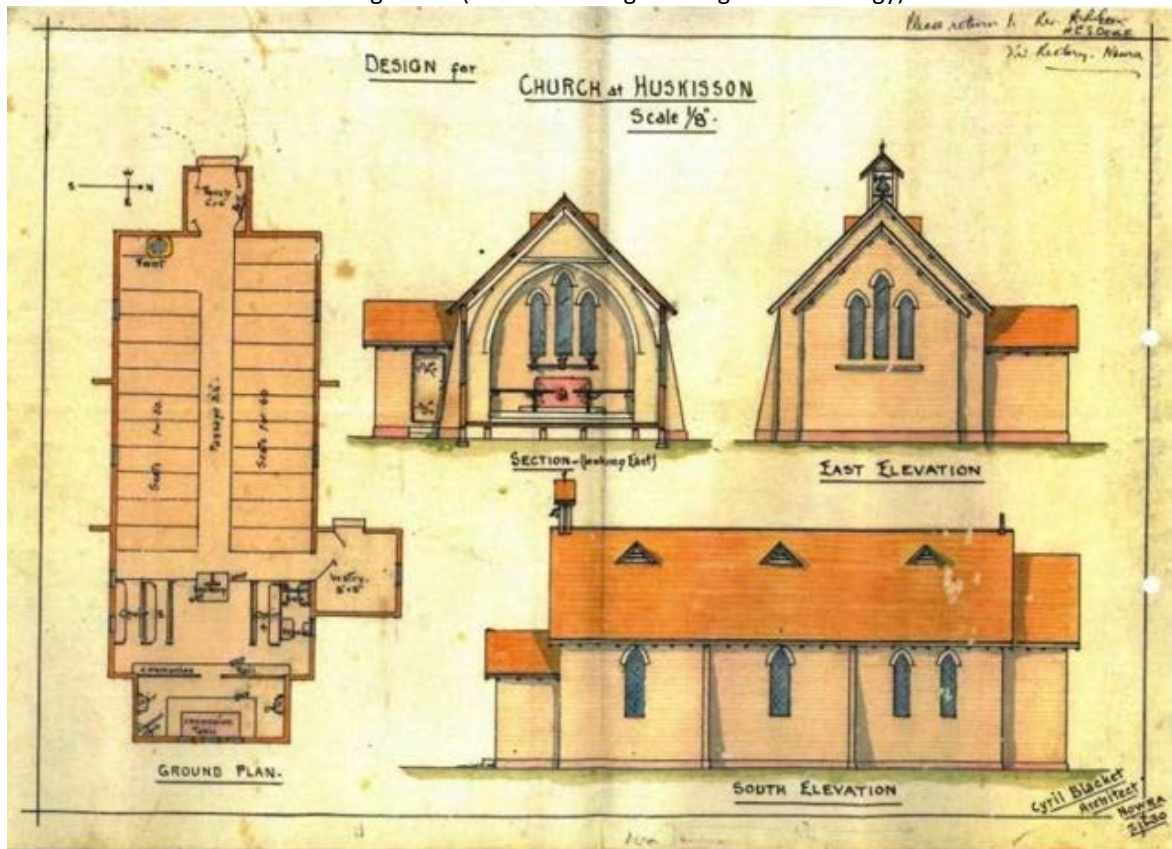
Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Huskisson, South Elevation (Source: Google Streetview April 2018)



The church site seen from the intersection of Hawke and Bowen Streets (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



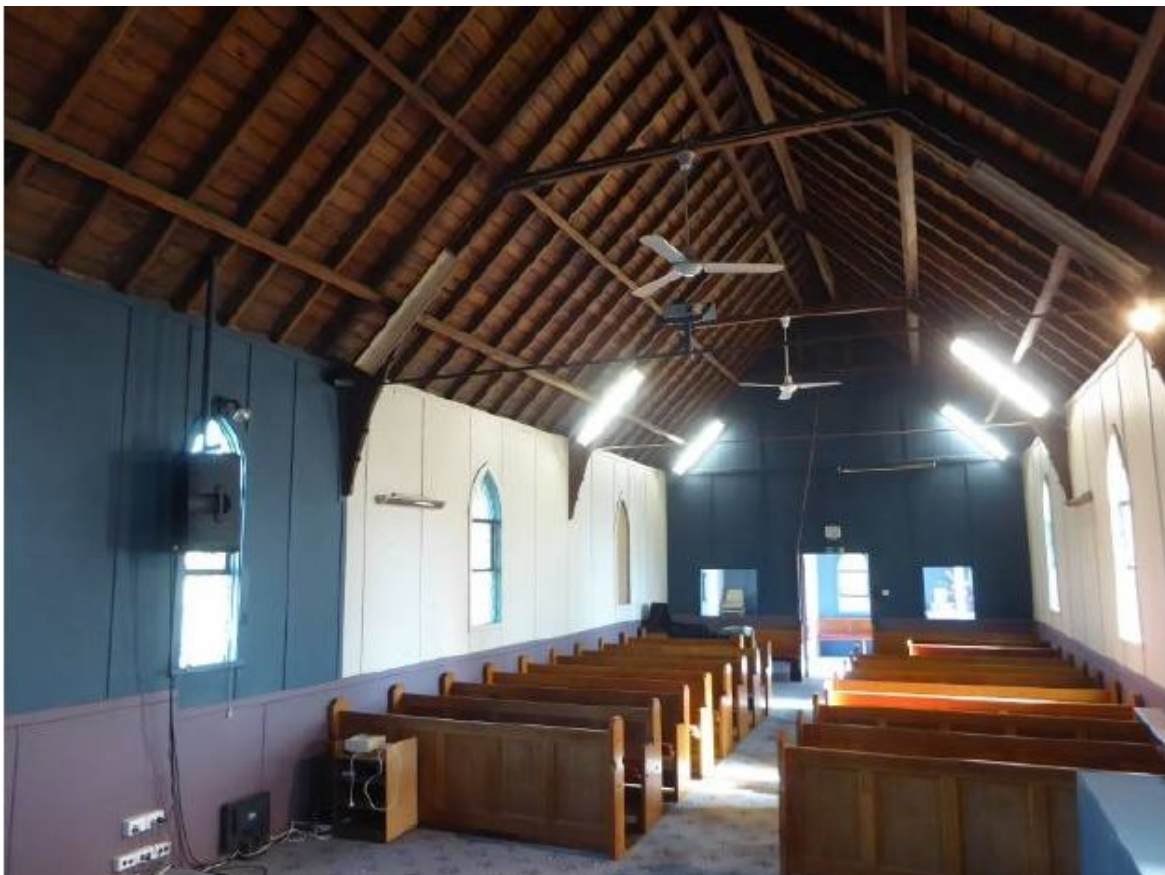
Laying of the foundation stone (1931) Cyril Blacket leaning forward. The original building (now the hall) is in the background. (Source: Heritage Management Strategy)



The original architect plans drawn by Cyril Blacket for the Church (Source: Heritage Management Strategy)



Interior, looking towards the altar (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



Interior, looking towards the new porch addition (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



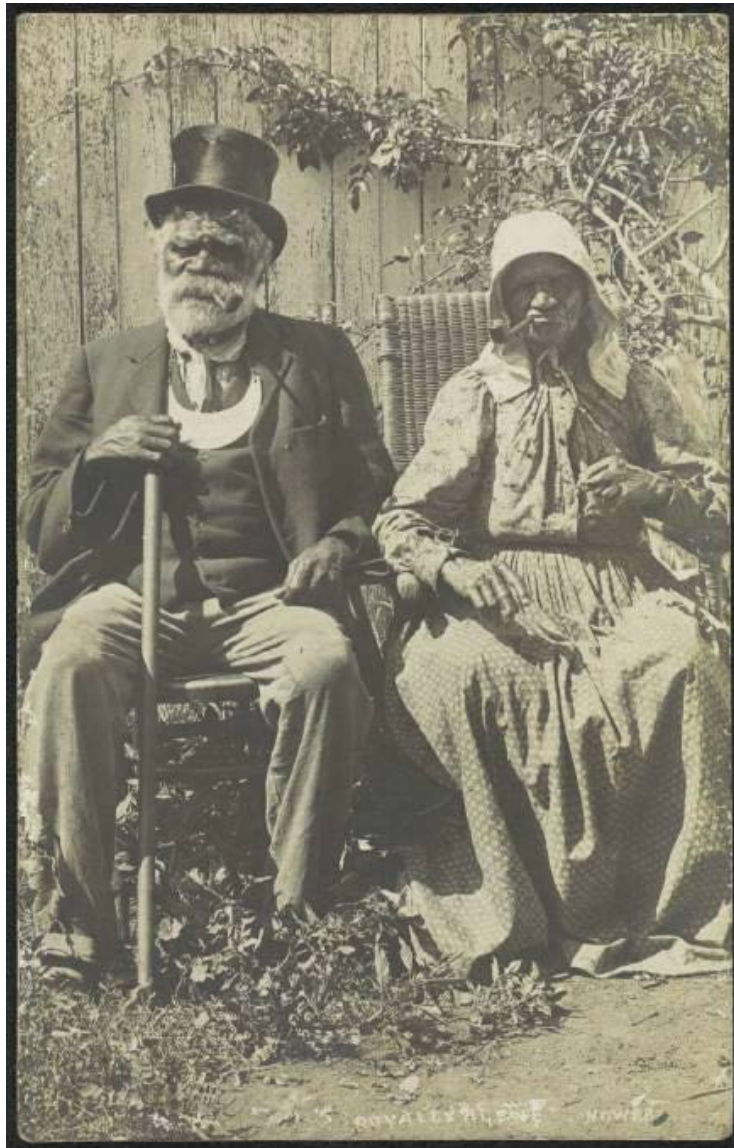
Modern doors and viewing windows from the new porch. (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



Memorial window (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



Earlier wooden grave markings, now removed (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



"Jimmy," King of Jervis Bay and his Queen
(The Evening News Saturday, July 22 1905)

Planning Proposal PP068 – Shoalhaven LEP 2014 – Heritage Listing: Former Huskisson Anglican Church and Site (comprising the land identified as Lots 7-9 Section 3 DP 758530)

Attachment B – Supplementary Statement: Former Huskisson Anglican Church – Inclusion of Lot 9

19 July 2023

Attention: Kristy O'Sullivan
Shoalhaven City Council
Bridge Road
Nowra NSW 2541

Former Huskisson Anglican Church – Inclusion of Lot 9

This statement has been prepared to clarify the recommendation provided by Extent Heritage Pty Ltd (Extent Heritage) around the inclusion of Lot 9 in the curtilage of the heritage item Former Huskisson Anglican Church and site.

Extent Heritage was engaged by Shoalhaven City Council to undertake an assessment of significance and prepare a Statement of Heritage Significance for the former Huskisson Anglican Church and site. The assessment found that the former Huskisson Anglican Church and site meets the threshold for cultural significance at a local level. It was recommended that the church and site be progressed for listing as a heritage item of local significance on Schedule 5 of the *Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014* (SLEP 2014).

In addition, the assessment found that the adjacent Lot 9 contributes to the historical, aesthetic and social value of the former Huskisson Anglican Church and site. The assessment included the following recommendation:

- Lot 9 should be considered for inclusion in the curtilage of the item, following discussions with Jerrinja LALC (Extent Heritage 2023, 104).

The use of 'curtilage' above refers to the statutory curtilage of the heritage item. Therefore, the recommendation was that Lot 9 should be considered as part of the statutory curtilage of the heritage item, and accordingly mapped and included in Schedule 5 of SLEP 2014.

The above recommendation has been clarified below:

- Lot 9 should be included in the heritage listing and the statutory curtilage of the heritage item, and mapped and included in Schedule 5 of the SLEP 2014, following discussions with Jerrinja LALC.

Kind regards,

Hayley Edmonds
Heritage Advisor | Extent Heritage

Planning Proposal PP068 – Shoalhaven LEP 2014 – Heritage Listing: Former Huskisson Anglican Church and Site (comprising the land identified as Lots 7-9 Section 3 DP 758530)

Attachment C – NSW State Heritage Inventory Form: Former Huskisson Anglican Church

NSW State Heritage Inventory form

| ITEM DETAILS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------------|------------|------------------|------|--|
| Name of Item | Former Huskisson Anglican Church | | | | | | |
| Other Name/s Former Name/s | Holy Trinity Anglican Church | | | | | | |
| Item type (if known) | Built | | | | | | |
| Item group (if known) | Religion | | | | | | |
| Item category (if known) | Church, Churchyard | | | | | | |
| Area, Group, or Collection Name | | | | | | | |
| Street number | 17 | | | 22 | | | |
| Street name | Hawke Street | | | Currambene | | | |
| Suburb/town | Huskisson | | | | Postcode | 2540 | |
| Local Government Area/s | Shoalhaven | | | | | | |
| Property description | Lots 7-8 Section 3 DP 758530 | | | | | | |
| Location - Lat/long | Latitude | | | | Longitude | | |
| Location - AMG (if no street address) | Zone | | Easting | | Northing | | |
| Owner | - | | | | | | |
| Current use | Vacant | | | | | | |
| Former Use | Anglican Church | | | | | | |
| Statement of significance | <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church site has cultural significance at a local level for its historical, associative, aesthetic, rarity, social, representative and research values. Archaeological evidence from Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) associated with evidence for burials at the site during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries would be significant at a local level for cultural, social, research and representative values. Archaeological evidence of the burials would enhance our understanding of the historical use of the site, the social fabric of Huskisson in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and supplement historical references to burials at the site.</p> <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church was built in 1931, replacing an earlier church building dating from 1905. The church and grounds demonstrate the development of the town of Huskisson throughout its history, as it grew from a small timber town in the late nineteenth century, to a thriving resort and tourist town through the early twentieth century. The church is associated with prominent local architect Cyril Blacket. Blacket designed numerous churches, as well as residential, civic, and commercial buildings, throughout his career from the 1880s to the 1930s.</p> <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church is of aesthetic significance as a good representative example of a Carpenter Gothic church, demonstrating key characteristics of the type through its weatherboard construction, layout, buttresses, window form, and detailing. The western porch is a later addition but does not detract from the overall integrity of the church building. The aesthetic value of the church building is enhanced by its setting and location, which affords it landmark quality. It is situated on a</p> | | | | | | |

NSW State Heritage Inventory form

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| | <p>prominent corner, fronting public open space along Jervis Bay. This prominent corner location allows it to be viewed in the round, a typical characteristic of Carpenter Gothic churches. Views east from the church building are currently obscured by vegetation within White Sands Park; however, at the time of its construction, it enjoyed significant views of Jervis Bay. Its setting is enhanced by the remaining mature vegetation at the rear of the church site, within Lot 8, and on the adjacent property, Lot 9. The remnant bushland contributes to the landmark quality of the church building, and affords it a bushland setting, despite the recent development surrounding the site.</p> <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a good representative example of both the Carpenter Gothic style and of the work of prominent local architect Cyril Blacket. It is rare in the locality as a comparatively late example of a Carpenter Gothic church in the Shoalhaven LGA, and a late example of the work of Cyril Blacket. The later date of the former Anglican Church is related to the development history of the town.</p> <p>Archaeological evidence from Phase 3 (1905–1979) has the potential to supplement our understanding of the site history, enhancing our understanding of the people who attended the site, including such information as the class, age, and gender of attendees. This information could contribute to historical accounts of Huskisson in the twentieth century. Archaeological evidence associated with development of the site during Phase 3 (1905–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for social and research value.</p> | |
| Level of Significance | State <input type="checkbox"/> | Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

NSW State Heritage Inventory form

| DESCRIPTION | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Designer | Cyril Blacket |
| Builder/ maker | A.E. Green |
| Physical Description | <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a weatherboard church on brick piers. The church was built in 1931 and demonstrates the Carpenter Gothic style. The church is box-like in form, with a small vestry extending from the northern elevation. A porch extends from the western elevation; this is a later addition, likely dating from the late-twentieth century, due to the nature of the timber which appears to be machine cut. The porch is accessed via a concrete access ramp and stairs.</p> <p>The gabled roof is steeply pitched and clad in corrugated iron. The roof was originally clad in timber shingles. Previous signage on the site identified that the roofing was replaced in 1956. Each side of the main roof is lined with three triangular roof vents. A wooden cross is located at the eastern end of the roof pitch, and a timber belfry tops the western end.</p> <p>The northern elevation has one timber buttress, and the southern elevation has two timber buttresses. The church has lanceolate windows along the northern, eastern, and southern elevations. The porch has similar lanceolate windows, though these are more squat in form. The vestry has a rectangular window. Most windows are currently boarded over, with the exception of one window on the southern elevation, which is protected by wire.</p> <p>The interior of the church is of open, rectilinear form, with high open gabled ceiling to the nave and vestry, and flat ceiling to the entry porch. The church is entered through the porch, which is a later addition. The porch is rectangular in form, separated into two internal spaces by a partition wall. Windows to the southern and western elevation are Gothic arch in form, with diagonal leadlight glazing. Glazing to both windows is broken in places.</p> <p>The main church space, comprising the nave and apse, are entered by a central doorway from the porch. The nave has a high, open ceiling reflecting the gabled roof form, with exposed timber rafters. Timber brackets correspond with the external buttresses on the northern and southern elevations. The timber flooring is predominantly carpeted. The walls are of white fibro sheeting, with dark blue fibro sheeting at the eastern end of the nave, and maroon fibro sheeting below the dado line throughout. Lancet windows along the northern and southern walls are of diagonal leadlight glazing. One window on the southern walls is of stained glass, and features a depiction of a religious scene and reads – ‘In loving memory of Etna Settlee Died 31st December 1947 Donated by her Family’. Modern additions comprise ceiling fans and fluorescent lighting.</p> <p>The apse features three lancet windows, with timber panelling on the lower wall. The apse is slightly raised, approached by shallow carpeted steps. The ceiling of the apse features exposed timber rafters. The vestry is accessed at the north-east of the nave. It features an open ceiling, reflecting the gabled roof form, with exposed timber rafters. It has timber cabinets and a timber bench with a small sink.</p> |
| Physical condition and Archaeological potential | <p>Physical condition Overall, the 1931 church building is in fair condition. The building retains much of its original fabric. Later additions include the western porch and replacement corrugated roof cladding. These additions are sympathetic to the building, and do not detract from the Carpenter Gothic design of the church building.</p> <p>External paintwork was observed to be flaking across several areas, particularly to the eastern and southern elevations. External cladding is damaged or missing in several areas, including to the eastern elevation, the south-eastern corner, and the southern elevation. Internal walls, ceiling and flooring are in good condition. Windows to the western porch have broken glazing.</p> |

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| | <p>Archaeological potential</p> <p>Based on the historical research undertaken to date the following broad post-1788 historical phases of site development could be identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1: Colonisation and land alienation (1788–1840) • Phase 2: Establishing Huskisson (1840–1905) • Phase 3: The two churches (1905–1979) • Phase 4: Movement and change (1979–present) <p>During Phases 1 and 2 (1788–1905) no development took place on the site. It is possible the site was cleared of any burnable timber and may have been used as an informal access point for the coast, to the east of the site. However, both these activities are unlikely to have resulted in an archaeological signature that would have survived consequent phases of development. As such, there is low archaeological potential for the site to contain archaeological remains associated with these ephemeral activities during Phases 1 and 2 (1788–1905).</p> <p>Several burials are reported to have taken place in the vicinity of the site during Phase 2 (1840–1905). A grave was noted on Lot 9 by Surveyor Dale in 1875, though the date and identity of this burial is not known. In 1905, King Budd Billy, who lived at Currambene Creek, was reported to have been buried at a churchyard by a minister (Evening News 1905, 8). However, there is no formal record of this burial taking place. There is moderate potential for evidence associated with burials from Phase 2 (1840–1905) to be identified within the site. If present, archaeological evidence would be in the form of a grave cuts and fills. These features may be truncated by later phases of landscaping, demolition, and construction. Associated grave furniture and remnant human remains might also be identified.</p> <p>The site has low-moderate potential for historical archaeological remains resulting from land use in Phase 3 through to 4 (1905–present). Due to the movement of the old church in 1979 and the consequent construction of the brick rectory building in its place, there is low potential for archaeological remains associated with the old church structure to survive and moderate potential for subsurface, unmapped features such as rubbish pits. Such features may contain artefactual evidence. Should archaeological remains from Phase 3 (1905–1979) survive, they would likely be in the form of truncated structural remains, such as brick and/or concrete footings, and isolated or low density scattered artefacts associated with occupation of the site.</p> <p>During Phase 3 (1905–1979) Carl Niclasson was reportedly buried at Huskisson in 1912 alongside the grave of a sailor buried there ‘some 42 years ago’. Niclasson’s burial was reported alternately as ‘at the rear of the union church’ and ‘at a quiet spot close to the little union church.’ There is moderate potential for archaeological remains associated with the burial to survive due to later development of the site. If present, archaeological evidence would be in the form of a grave cut and fill, potentially truncated by consequent phases of landscaping, demolition, and construction. Associated grave furniture and human remains might also be identified.</p> <p>Demolition of the old church building in 2019 (Phase 4) is likely to have removed or significantly disturbed any evidence of this structure. Should remains survive, they would likely be in the form of truncated brick and concrete footings of the building and associated landscaping (concrete path, fencing, and playgrounds). The new church building and brick rectory building remain extant and should be considered built heritage. As such, the church does not have associated archaeological potential.</p> | | | | |
| Construction years | Start year | 1931 | Finish year | | Circa <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Modifications and dates | 1868 – Church Reserve identified on Huskisson Town Plan 1876 – Lot 7 and Lot 8 Section 3 formally dedicated for the purposes of a Church of England Church and Parsonage c.1905 – Original church built on the site 1931 – Current church built on the site 1934-1935 – Alterations and additions to original church building | | | | |

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| | 1956 – Timber shingle roof to current church replaced with corrugated sheeting 1979 – Original church relocated south for construction of rectory building c.1980-2000 – Western porch added to current church 2019 – Original church building and later metal shed demolished |
| Further comments | |

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| HISTORY | |
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| Historical notes | <p>The following historical notes are a summary of the Historical Context in the Former Huskisson Anglican Church Statement of Heritage Significance prepared by Extent Heritage Pty Ltd in 2023.</p> <p>Huskisson Over the first decades of the nineteenth century, the Shoalhaven region had been occupied by cedar-cutters, employed by Sydney timber merchants. In 1825, much of the region was alienated and granted to Alexander Berry and his business partner Edward Wollstonecraft. The men were issued a total area of 13,500 acres of land on either side of the Shoalhaven River (Grant Register, Serial 18 Page 179). The land was used for agricultural and pastoral activities, as well as horse and cattle breeding. At the same time, pastoral settlements southwest along the Shoalhaven River were increasing production. Their primary export was wool, which was transported to Sydney along the Great South Road. The route was extremely slow for the laden bullock wagons, and an overland route to the coast was sought (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2003, 21).</p> <p>In 1839 a group of settlers from the southern districts presented a memorial to the Governor, 'praying that a road might be formed between these districts and the harbour of Jervis Bay' (The Colonist 1839, 2). In September 1840, Governor Gipps informed Russell that a route from Narriga to Jervis Bay had been found (Watson 1914, Vol. 20, 841). That month, notices were published in the Australasian Chronicle that 'the Government has deemed it expedient to open and make a certain parish road from the pass of Byuli, near Narriga, to Jervis Bay' (Australasian Chronicle 1840, 3). Construction of the road commenced by February 1841, and by October the road was reported to be serviceable for a dray laden with wool (Jervis 1936). Several land grants in the vicinity of present-day Huskisson were issued from 1839, likely in anticipation of the road's completion. These included James Farmer's Woollamia estate, and two adjacent parcels of land issued to John Terry Hughes.</p> <p>The Wool Road, as it became known, terminated south of Moona Moona Creek. This land, present-day Vincentia, was at that time in the ownership of Edward Deas Thomson, the then Colonial Secretary. In anticipation of the road's construction, Acting Surveyor General Perry was sent to Jervis Bay in 1840 to select a site for the establishment of a government township. Perry's preference was the land south of Moona Moona Creek; as this was already owned by Thomson, he selected the land north of the creek. A town plan for the town of Huskisson was submitted in November 1840 by Surveyor Burnett and was approved in December. The first sale of allotments in Huskisson were advertised in October 1841 (New South Wales Government Gazette 1841, 1470). Only allotments in Section 17 were advertised. Evidently the sale was not successful, as they were advertised again in December 1842 with an upset price of £10 per acre (New South Wales Government Gazette 1842, 1884). The allotments were sold at auction on 9 February 1843 – eight were purchased by Archibald Campbell, three were purchased by Richard Sadlier, three by Henry Murray, and one by Sydney Stephen (New South Wales Government Gazette 1843, 470). No development is known to have occurred in Huskisson following the 1843 sale of allotments. Both South Huskisson and Huskisson were abandoned by the middle of the following decade.</p> <p>In May 1861, a Mr Dent travelled to Currumbene Creek, to search 'for timber for the Sydney market' (Illawarra Mercury 1861, 2). The Dents and other shipwrights established shipyards, sawmills, and slipways at Currumbene Creek in the 1860s. In 1868 Huskisson was resurveyed, and a new town plan prepared. The town plan designated several reserves and church reserves in the town. The site is located within Section 3 of this town plan. No development is known to have occurred in the site immediately following the preparation of the 1868 town plan. By the late 1870s the community was serviced by a postmistress and a provisional school. An account of Jervis Bay published in The Telegraph and Shoalhaven Advertiser in 1879 notes that the population comprised about '100 persons, who are scattered around the bay from Calalla Creek on the north to Moona Moona, or Plantation Point on the south-western side. The principal industry is ship building, and timber-cutting, the centre of operations being situated on the western bank of Jervis' or Currumbene Creek, and on the outskirts of the village of North Huskisson' (The Telegraph and Shoalhaven Advertiser 1879, 2).</p> |

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Former Huskisson Anglican Church

The redrawn town plan of 1868 designated two church reserves. One was located in Section 3, bounded by Hawke Street, Bowen Street, and Currumbene Street (the subject site), and the other in Section 8, bounded by Nowra Street, Hawke Street, and Duncan Street. In 1875, Surveyor Dale went to Huskisson to survey the Section 3 church reserve, 'for report and measurement if unobjectionable 1 acre for Church of England Church site, ½ acre for Parsonage site'. Dale's Crown Plan survey split the two-acre site into three allotments, with Lot 7 for the erection of a church, Lot 8 for the site of a parsonage, and Lot 9 as a burial ground. Dale's accompanying letter advised that 'as there is already a grave in the remaining portion [Lot 9], I considered that I ought to reserve that as a burial ground'. Dale's suggestion however was rejected, as the current legislation established that burial grounds should be located at least one mile outside of town. The Crown Plan was amended, striking out the 'burial ground' notation.

Lots 7 and 8 were formally dedicated for the purposes of a 'Church of England Church and Parsonage' in February 1876. John Watson, George Dent jun., James Dent, Thomas Ganderton and William Barham were appointed as trustees for the site in September 1877. The trustees were issued a deed for the parsonage site in 1878, and a deed for the church site in 1880 (Old Form Torrens Register, Vol. 461 Fol. 84; Vol. 486 Fol. 137). Lot 9 remained Crown Land. By 1915 it was shown as being a Reserve for Public Buildings.

Church services at Huskisson were advertised from at least 1885. It is not known where the services were held, nor whether any structure was built on the church and parsonage site in the nineteenth century. It appears that no church building had been built at the site by 1903, as it was reported that 'Miss Wood, of Jervis Bay, desired permission to raise funds for the erection of a place of worship at Huskisson' (The Shoalhaven Telegraph 1903, 6). The church building was constructed and in use on the site by September 1905 (The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser 1905, 8).

By the 1920s, Huskisson had developed into a resort town, its population and amenities bolstered by the overall rise of the leisure and tourist industry in the Shoalhaven region. By 1924, the church building on the site was considered to be inadequate for the growing township. A report of the Reverend T Terry's comments at the annual meeting of the parish of St John's published on 14 May 1924 noted that 'The church at Huskisson should also receive some attention in the near future. The place was steadily growing in importance, and the church building was altogether too small, and required other improvements' (The Shoalhaven Telegraph 1924, 7).

Fundraising through the late 1920s contributed to the construction of the new church building. In November 1926 it was reported that 'Huskisson C.E. ladies are out to raise £200 for the erection of a new church in that centre' (The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser 1926, 2). In January 1927 it was reported that a Church of England concert at Huskisson had raised £28 for the building fund (The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser 1927, 2). In April 1928, 'the ladies of the Huskisson Church of England building fund committee organised a very successful dance at the Literary Institute' (The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser 1928, 3). Tenders for the erection of a timber church at Huskisson were invited in November 1930 (The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser 1930, 2). Ten tenders were received, and that of A.E. Green was accepted in December. It was stated that the work was to be completed by the following Easter (The Shoalhaven Telegraph 1930, 3).

The foundation stone of the church was laid by the Archbishop of Sydney, Dr Wright, in the afternoon of 24 January 1931. The Church of England was greatly assisted in the construction and furnishing of the new church by the community. On 28 March 1931 it was reported that the furnishings of the new Church of Holy Trinity at Huskisson were gradually nearing completion, with several members of the community having donated individual items (The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser 1931, 3). Several days later, a pastoral letter from the Reverend R.P. Gee was published in the Shoalhaven Telegraph, appealing for further contributions (The Shoalhaven Telegraph 1931b, 4).

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The Holy Trinity Church was consecrated on 4 April 1931, with the ceremony performed by the Reverend E. Walker, Rural Dean of Wollongong.

The original church building was retained following the opening of the new church, and it was converted to use as the church hall. The original church building was located in the north-east corner of the site and was altered and enlarged several times.

In October 1979, an Ordinance was passed by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney 'to vary the trusts of certain land at Huskisson and at Vincentia and to permit the sale of the Vincentia land' (Sydney Diocesan Services 1979). Lot 7 at Huskisson was held in trust for the erection of a Church. The Ordinance amended the trust, to enable the land to be used as a church, a residence for a minister, assistant to the minister or a person employed by the church wardens, a hall or halls, and a school or other place of assembly. The Ordinance additionally enabled the sale of land at Vincentia, allowing the proceeds of the sale to be used, in part, towards meetings the costs of building a residence for a minister on Lot 7. The old church was moved in 1979 to make way for the construction of a brick rectory building, which was completed in 1980. The old church was moved directly south of the rectory building.

Between the 1980s and 2019, a shed and various landscaping features were developed on the site. The shed was located to the west of the old church building and a concrete path linked the old church to the new one. A playground was also located between the old and new church with fencing installed around the playground.

In February 2017 the Huskisson Land Sale Ordinance 2017 was passed by the Standing Committee of the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney. The ordinance permitted 'the sale certain land at 17 Hawke Street, Huskisson and 48-52 Paradise Beach Road, Sanctuary Point.' On 17 February 2020 the Standing Committee approved an extension of the land sale date to 13 February 2023. In 2019 the old church building and the shed on the western side of the site were demolished. Aerial photographs show that the concrete path, playground, and fencing were also removed at this time. The sale of the church site was completed in 2021.

Cyril Blacket

The Holy Trinity Church at Huskisson was designed by architect Cyril Blacket in 1930. By this time, Blacket was a well-renowned architect throughout NSW, and a prominent public figure in the Shoalhaven region. Blacket began his career working alongside his father, Edmund T Blacket. The elder Blacket is renowned as one of New South Wales' most prominent and successful nineteenth century architects, designing four cathedrals, over fifty churches and numerous domestic and commercial buildings over the course of his forty-year career.

The firm Blacket and Son began practicing in 1880, and produced plans for several significant churches, including St Thomas' in North Sydney, All Souls Leichhardt, and St Andrew's in Braidwood. The elder Blacket died in 1883, and Cyril's brother Arthur joined the firm, which began practicing as Blacket Brothers. The brothers oversaw the construction of several projects initiated by their father; however, were soon beset by professional and legal challenges. In 1886, Cyril left both Sydney and the architectural profession, moving to St George's Basin.

However, by 1889, Cyril was again practicing architecture, and was based in Nowra. He soon reasserted himself in the profession. In 1894 he was appointed Lecturer in Architecture to the Sydney Technical College, and in 1903 he was appointed president of the Institute of Architects. By 1896 Cyril had assumed his father's previous position as Diocesan Building Surveyor and Architect, which he held until 1917. As Diocesan Architect, Cyril was responsible for the design of many new churches throughout NSW, as well as extensions and alterations to existing churches designed by his father.

In the Shoalhaven region, Blacket designed numerous public and private buildings, including the Friendly Inn Hotel at Kangaroo Valley, and multiple residences and commercial buildings in Nowra.

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Notable public buildings designed by Blacket in Nowra include the Nowra School of Arts (1890) and the Nowra War Memorial Gates (1929). He was a Councillor on the Clyde Shire Council from its inception in 1906, and twice held the position of council president (Illawarra Mercury 1914, 2).

The Huskisson church was likely one of Cyril's later designs in the Shoalhaven. In the 1930s he moved to Manly, where he died in 1937.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Shoalhaven Telegraph. 1931a. 'New Church at Huskisson.' 28 January 1931, 1. http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article135239353. • The Shoalhaven Telegraph. 1931b. 'Holy Trinity, Huskisson.' 1 April 1931, 4. http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article135241278. • The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser. 1839. 'Classified Advertising.' 27 July 1839, 3. http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2544466. • Sydney Morning Herald. 1861. 'Coasters Inward.' 29 November 1861, 5. http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article13055009. • The Telegraph and Shoalhaven Advertiser. 1879. 'Original Contribution.' 16 October 1879, 2. http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article132981812. |
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| THEMES | |
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| National historical theme | 4 Building settlements, towns and cities 8 Developing Australia's cultural life 9 Marking the phases of life |
| State historical theme | Towns, suburbs and villages Religion Birth and Death |

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| APPLICATION OF CRITERIA | |
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| Historical significance SHR criteria (a) | <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level as an Inter-War church that is demonstrative of the development of the town of Huskisson. The church is located on land that was first set aside for church use in the Huskisson Town Plan of 1868. The old church on the site was constructed in c. 1905; and the current church was constructed in 1931. The old church was used as a hall following the construction of the 1931 church, was moved on the site in c. 1979 for the construction of the rectory, and was demolished in 2019.</p> <p>The development of the church site demonstrates the development of the Anglican community in Huskisson, and the Shoalhaven region more broadly, as the congregation grew in size and importance throughout the early twentieth century. The church site is reflective of the development of the town of Huskisson through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as the town developed from a small timber town to a thriving resort and tourist town. The rectory is demonstrative of the continued development of the church through the late twentieth century.</p> <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.</p> |
| Historical association significance SHR criteria (b) | <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level due to its association with prominent local architect Cyril Blacket. Blacket designed numerous religious, residential, civic, and commercial buildings throughout the Shoalhaven LGA and NSW, several of which have been recognised as having local heritage significance. The former Huskisson Anglican Church is likely to be one of the latest buildings designed by Blacket in the Shoalhaven region, as he moved to Manly in the mid-1930s, and died there in 1937. In addition, Blacket was an active member of public and civic life in Shoalhaven from the 1880s to the 1930s.</p> <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.</p> |
| Aesthetic significance SHR criteria (c) | <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a good representative example of an Inter-War Carpenter Gothic church with landmark qualities. It demonstrates typical features of the Carpenter Gothic style, such as its lancet windows, belfry, and buttresses. It has landmark qualities as it is situated on a prominent corner, close to the town centre and fronting onto public open space behind the beach. While views to the water are presently obscured by the mature vegetation, when it was built it would have had significant views of the bay. The remaining mature vegetation within the site, as well as on the adjacent Lot 9, contributes to the landmark quality and aesthetic value of the church building. The rectory building does not demonstrate notable aesthetic qualities in itself, but does not detract from the overall value of the site.</p> <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.</p> |
| Social significance SHR criteria (d) | <p>A detailed assessment of the social values of the former Huskisson Anglican Church was not undertaken as a part of this report. However, the site is likely to be of social significance to the Anglican and wider community of Huskisson. The local community is recorded as having contributed to the construction of the church in the 1930s, both through financial contributions and the donation of furniture and furnishings. Prior to its decommissioning, the church building had been in constant use for almost ninety years, and is associated with the development of the town and its population through the twentieth century.</p> <p>In addition, the social value of the church is evidenced through the recent community action and support for the site.</p> <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.</p> |
| Technical/Research significance SHR criteria (e) | <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church is likely to have limited research or technical value. As a later example of the work of Cyril Blacket, the church building has the potential to contribute to understandings of the development of Blacket's architectural styles. It is unlikely to yield any new information around construction materials or technologies.</p> |

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| | <p>The site has potential to contain archaeological evidence associated with burials during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) and the development and use of church buildings during Phases 3 and 4 (1905–present). Archaeological evidence associated with burials at the site during Phases 2 and 3 (1840–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for cultural, social, research and representative values. Archaeological evidence associated with development of the site during Phases 3 (1905–1979) would meet the criteria for local significance for social and research value. Phase 4 (1979–present) saw the construction of the brick rectory and demolition of the old church building in its second location. While archaeological evidence of these site developments may survive, they would not be of significance.</p> <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.</p> |
| <p>Rarity SHR criteria (f)</p> | <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church has some rarity value as a comparatively late example of the work of Cyril Blacket, and of a Carpenter Gothic style church in the Shoalhaven LGA. Blacket was most prolific in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, coinciding with his career as Diocesan architect. The former Huskisson Anglican Church is demonstrative of his continued practice in the later years of his life. The majority of Gothic Revival churches in the Shoalhaven region were constructed in the Victorian and Federation periods. The later date of the former Huskisson Anglican Church is demonstrative of the later development of the town of Huskisson.</p> <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.</p> |
| <p>Representativeness SHR criteria (g)</p> | <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church is a good representative example of a Carpenter Gothic church building. The church building demonstrates typical characteristics of the style such as lancet windows, belfry, buttresses, and general layout. The church building retains much of its original fabric and detailing. The location of the church building on a prominent corner is also a typical feature of Carpenter Gothic churches. Its east-west orientation is typical of church buildings more generally. The former Anglican Church building is a good representative example of the work of architect Cyril Blacket, sharing similarities with examples of Blacket’s work throughout NSW. Blacket was most prolific in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Being built in the Inter-War period, the Huskisson church is demonstrative of Blacket’s continued use of the Gothic Revival style throughout his career. Together with other extant examples of his work, the Huskisson church is demonstrative of Blacket’s career over half a century.</p> <p>The former Huskisson Anglican Church has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.</p> |
| <p>Integrity</p> | <p>The 1931 church is of high integrity. The building retains much of its original fabric. Later additions include the western porch and replacement corrugated roof cladding. These additions are sympathetic to the building, and do not detract from the Carpenter Gothic design of the church building.</p> |

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| HERITAGE LISTINGS | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Heritage listing/s | No current statutory listings |
| | National Trust Register, 'Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Church Hall & Cemetery' |
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| INFORMATION SOURCES | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Include conservation and/or management plans and other heritage studies. | | | | |
| Type | Author/Client | Title | Year | Repository |
| Written | Australasian Chronicle | 'Government Gazette', 24 September 1840, 3. | 1840 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article31729314 . |
| Written | The Colonist | The Colonist.' 18 December 1839, 2 | 1839 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article31724219 . |
| Website | Historic Lands Record Viewer | Grant Register | | HLRV, https://hlrv.nswlrs.com.au/ |
| Website | Historic Lands Record Viewer | Old Form Torrens Register | | HLRV, https://hlrv.nswlrs.com.au/ |
| Written | Illawarra Mercury | 'Tamarang.' 17 May 1861, 2 | 1861 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article132222404 . |
| Written | Jervis, J | Jervis Bay: Its Discovery and Settlement. | 1936 | Royal Australian Historical Society Journal and proceedings, Vol. 22, Part 2 |
| Written | National Trust | National Trust Listing Report, 'Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Church Hall & Cemetery' | 2021 | |
| Written | New South Wales Government Gazette | 'Sale of Town Allotments.' 20 December 1842, 1884 | 1841 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article230395806 . |
| Written | New South Wales Government Gazette | 'Town Allotments.' 26 October 1841, 1470 | 1842 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article230360671 |
| Written | New South Wales Government Gazette | 'Government Gazette Notices.' 28 March 1843, 470. | 1843 | Trove http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article230103937 |
| Written | Peter Freeman Pty Ltd | Heritage Study 1995–1998. | 2003 | |
| Written | Shoalhaven City Council | Shoalhaven Heritage Study 1995-1998 | 1999 | |
| Written | The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser | 'Local and General.' 13 November 1926, 2 | 1926 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article111929459 . |
| Written | The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser | Local and General.' 8 January 1927, 2 | 1927 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article111936898 |
| Written | The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser | 'Huskisson.' 21 April 1928, 3. | 1928 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article111927964 . |
| Written | The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts Advertiser | 'Advertising.' 22 November 1930, 2. | 1930 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article112230866 . |
| Written | The Shoalhaven News and South Coast Districts | 'New Church at Huskisson.' 28 March 1931, 3. | 1931 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article112219970 . |

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| | | | | |
|---------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Advertiser | | | |
| Written | The Shoalhaven Telegraph. | 'Church Services.' 5 February 1885, 2. | 1885 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article127947155 . |
| Written | The Shoalhaven Telegraph. | 'District Notes.' 25 March 1903, 6. | 1903 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article127185256 . |
| Written | The Shoalhaven Telegraph. | 'Church of England.' 14 May 1924, 7. | 1924 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article128633446 . |
| Written | The Shoalhaven Telegraph. | 'News and Notes.' 17 December 1930, 3. | 1930 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article122240132 . |
| Written | The Shoalhaven Telegraph. | 'Holy Trinity, Huskisson.' 1 April 1931, 4. | 1931 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article135241278 . |
| Written | Sydney Diocesan Services | Nowra (Vincentia and Huskisson Lands) Variation of Trusts and Land Sale Ordinance 1979. | 1979 | Sydney Diocesan Services, https://www.sds.asn.au/sites/default/files/Huskisson%20Land%20Sale%20Ord%202017_consolidated.pdf?doc_id=NDUzMDM= |
| Written | Sydney Diocesan Services | Huskisson Land Sale Ordinance 2017. | 2017 | Sydney Diocesan Services, https://www.sds.asn.au/sites/default/files/Huskisson%20Land%20Sale%20Ord%202017_consolidated.pdf?doc_id=NDUzMDM= |
| Written | Sydney Diocesan Services | Huskisson Trust Ordinance 2017 | 2017 | Sydney Diocesan Services https://www.sds.asn.au/sites/default/files/02.HuskissonTrust.Ord.2017.pdf?doc_id=MzY5NTc= |
| Written | The Telegraph and Shoalhaven Advertiser. | 'Original Contribution.' 16 October 1879, 2. | 1879 | Trove, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article132981812 . |
| Written | Watson, F., and P. Chapman | Historical records of Australia. | 1914 | |

RECOMMENDATIONS

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Recommendations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Former Huskisson Anglican Church should be listed as an item of local heritage significance on Schedule 5 of the <i>Shoalhaven Local Environmental Plan 2014</i>. The curtilage of the listing should include all elements that have been identified as contributing to the significance of the site. The church building should be retained in its existing location. Lot 9 should be considered for inclusion in the curtilage of the item, following discussions with Jerrinja Local Aboriginal Land Council. |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Name of study or report | Former Huskisson Anglican Church Statement of Heritage Significance | Year of study or report | 2023 |
| Item number in study or report | | | |
| Author of study or report | Extent Heritage Pty Ltd | | |
| Inspected by | | | |
| NSW Heritage Manual guidelines used? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| This form completed by | Hayley Edmonds | Date | 08/05/2023 |

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IMAGES - 1 per page

Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Northern elevation | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Eastern elevation | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Southern elevation | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Western elevation | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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| Image caption | Interior | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |

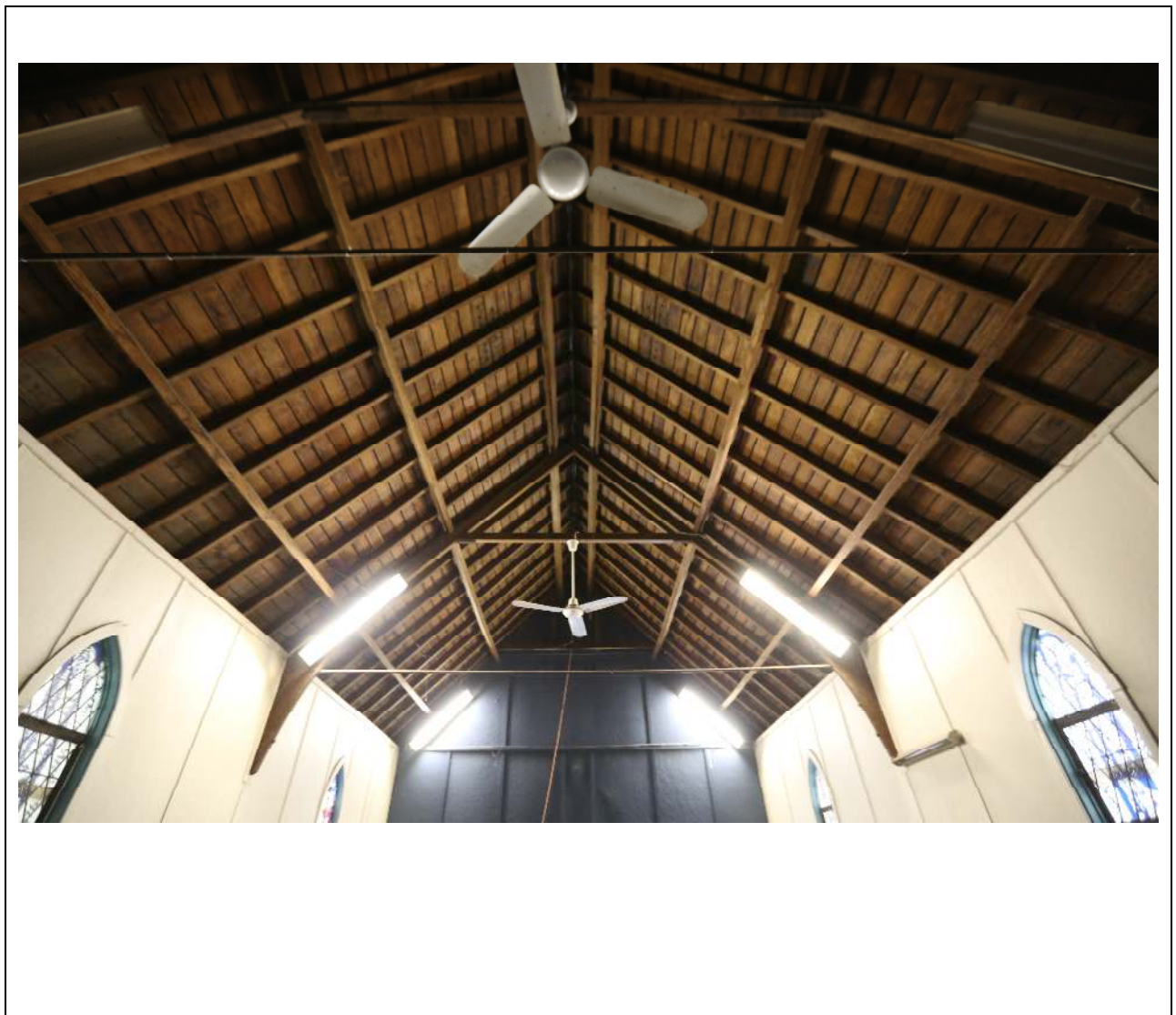


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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Interior – ceiling | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Interior – stained glass window | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Interior - apse | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Interior - apse | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Interior - porch | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Interior – vestry | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | Grounds | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | View north to rectory building | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | View to Lot 8 | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | View to Lot 9 | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | View to Lot 8 | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Image caption | View to former Huskisson Anglican Church from Lot 9. | | | | |
| Image year | 2023 | Image by | Extent Heritage | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage |

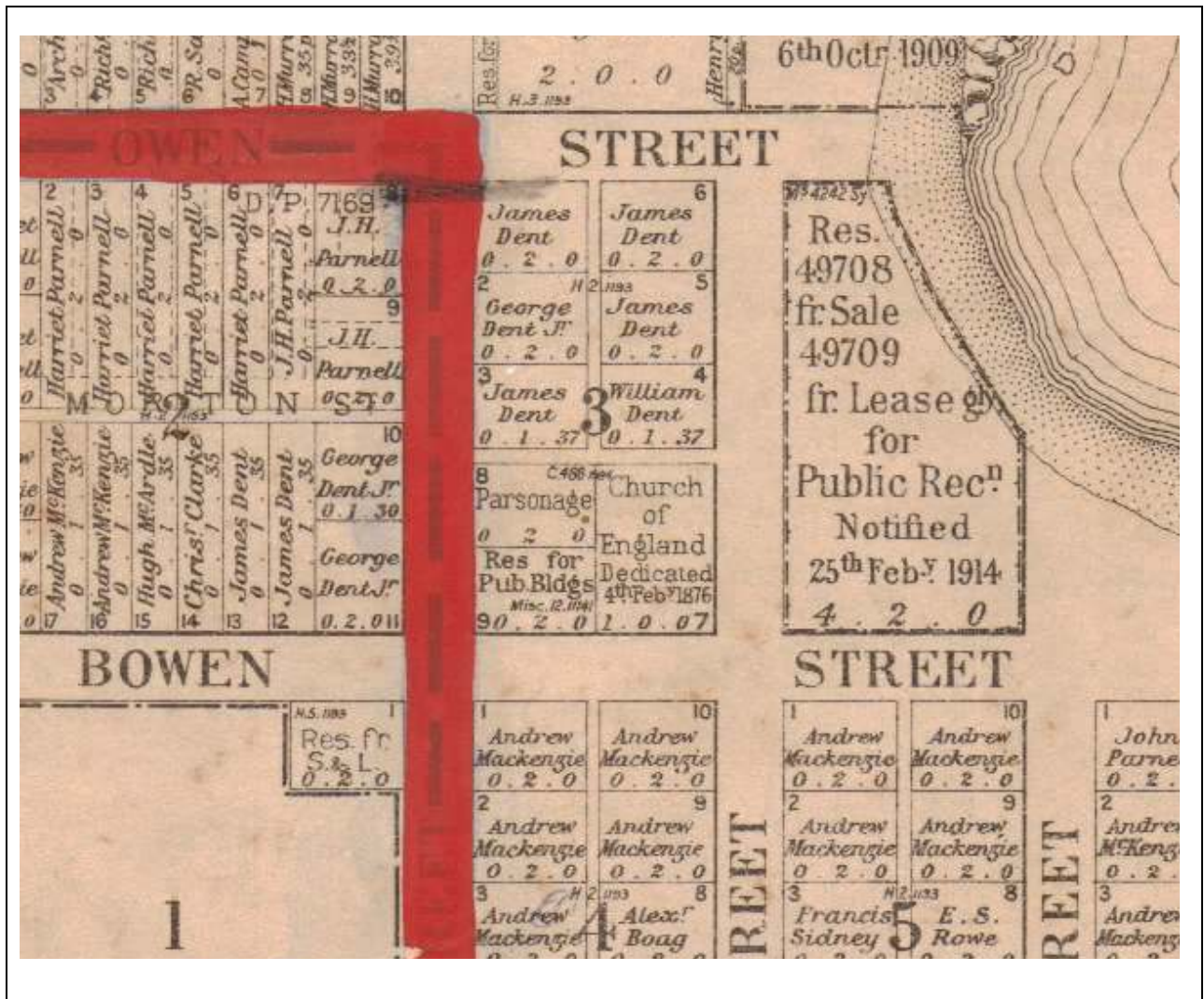


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IMAGES - 1 per page

Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Image caption | Detail of Town Plan of Huskisson, 1915, showing Lots 7-9 Section 3. | | | | |
| Image year | 1915 | Image by | | Image copyright holder | Shoalhaven Map Collection, MAP/270. |



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Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Image caption | Laying of foundation stone at Holy Trinity Church, 1931. The old church is visible to the right in the background. | | | | |
| Image year | | Image by | National Trust Listing Report, "Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Church Hall & Cemetery" | Image copyright holder | |

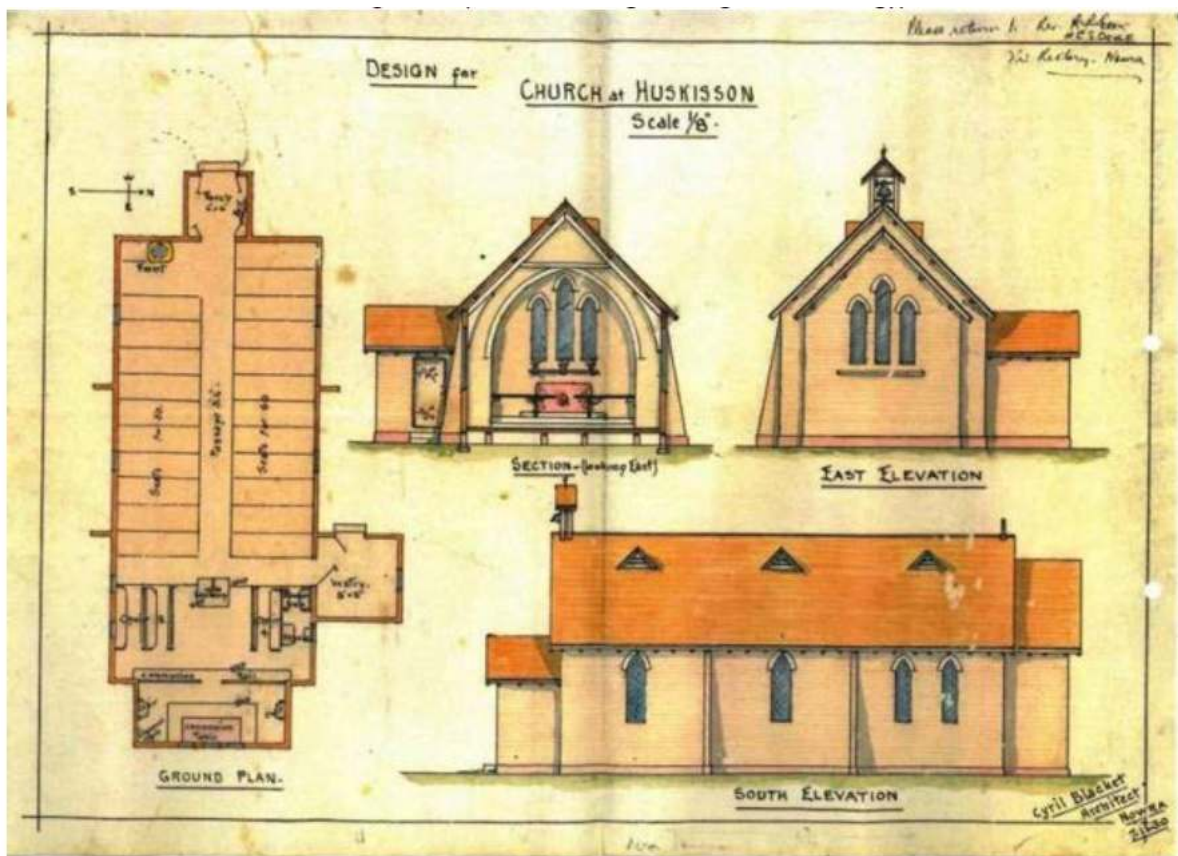


NSW State Heritage Inventory form

IMAGES - 1 per page

Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

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|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Image caption | Design for Church at Huskisson, Cyril Blacket | | | | |
| Image year | | Image by | National Trust Listing Report, "Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Church Hall & Cemetery" | Image copyright holder | |



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IMAGES - 1 per page

Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Image caption | 1944 aerial image showing the 1931 church building in its current position and the c. 1905 church in the north-eastern corner of the site. | | | | |
| Image year | 1944 | Image by | Extent Heritage Pty Ltd | Image copyright holder | Extent Heritage Pty Ltd |

