



YANGA

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

PART 1



Office of
Environment & Heritage
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service



tonkin
zu'ainkha
greer

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This Yanga Conservation Management Plan is bound in two parts:

Part 1

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Historical Analysis
- 3 Physical Analysis
- 4 Comparative Analysis
- 5 Analysis and Statement of Significance

Part 2

- 6 Policy Background
- 7 Conservation Policies
- 8 Implementation Strategy
- 9 Bibliography
- 10 Appendix

The CMP is accompanied by three volumes of Appendices:

HHIMS Inventory Forms

Historical Maps

Architectural Drawings - Homestead and Woolshed Groups

Issued: February 2013

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Separate Volumes

- HHIMS Inventory Forms
- Historical Maps
- Architectural Drawings - Homestead and Woolshed Groups

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1 Introduction

1.1 Executive Summary

This Conservation Management Plan (CMP) has been prepared to guide the future conservation of Yanga. The plan was commissioned by the Hay Office of the NSW Parks and Wildlife Group (PWG) of the former Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) now part of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH). The Yanga (now Murrumbidgee Valley) Reserves comprise Yanga National Park, Yanga Nature Reserve and Yanga State Conservation Area. The place is generally referred to in this report as the Yanga Reserves.

The CMP will inform the Plan of Management for the Yanga Reserves, which will be prepared by the Department following completion of this report. The preparation of this CMP further indicates the long-term commitment of the PWG to the conservation of the cultural sites within the state's National Parks.

This report analyses the history and surviving physical fabric and landscape elements of the Yanga Reserves. GIS maps have been produced that locate specific items on the site. Maps, photographs and diagrams inform the historical and physical description of the site when it was a pastoral station.

Community consultation and oral histories undertaken previously in the preparation of the "Flooded Country" highlighted the strong social values for the site. From this and from the historical and physical analysis a Statement of Cultural Significance has been written and is used as the basis for developing policies. The management environment is discussed including the processes for conservation planning and seeking approvals for building works. Conservation policies aim to protect the significant fabric by doing as much as is necessary to prevent deterioration with as little intervention into the original fabric as possible. Maintenance plan and interpretation guidelines are also included.

The conservation policies outlined in this plan seek to reach a balance between defining a vision for the future use and interpretation of the Yanga Reserves for visitors and the long-term conservation of the surviving significant fabric and landscape. The site has been assessed as having state significance as a cultural landscape. It is of particular importance for a large range of Aboriginal sites, for the riparian, sandplain and wetland ecosystems, and for its historical and ongoing social significance as a pastoral station. The ongoing use of the site by visitors and local people will be part of the long-term conservation goals. However, practical and safety concerns also need to be considered in any future use of the site.

The site is extensive, with significant Aboriginal and pastoral sites throughout the property. Much of the site is too inaccessible for practical visitor use. However, some easily accessible portions of the site have been developed for recreation including the Homestead, the Woolshed and the Willows.

Social significance is an important aspect of the site. There is an opportunity to maintain social values through activities and events and oral history recording. The Woolshed provides an opportunity to demonstrate the operation of shearing sheds and the Homestead to demonstrate pastoral life.

There is some potential to develop residences at both sites for accommodation for education, tourism and management and the shearers' quarters could be adapted for basic accommodation. The Homestead could be a venue for events such as Homestead dinners or tennis parties, and possibly for short stays subject to the addition of especially bathroom facilities. Additions can be considered following the traditional pattern of development. At tourist hubs compatible activities include dances, music festivals etc. and walks. The large expanse of natural area is suitable for self-reliant nature based recreation and some drives.

There are also opportunities for links to other sites in the Riverina and Western Division with tourist drives. There is an opportunity to use the former pastoral routes as part of this combining conservation of the route and interpretation.

1.2 Report Objectives and Outcomes

This Conservation Management Plan has been prepared by Tonkin Zulaikha Greer for the Hay Office of the NSW Parks and Wildlife Group (PWG) of the Department of Environment and Climate Change and Water (DECCW). The CMP aims to be a practical document to guide decisions that may affect the heritage value of the place. It will comprise one of the bases for future planning and provide a standard against which to assess the heritage impact of proposed developments. The objectives of the CMP as stated in the brief are:

- (a) *To integrate the historical and thematic overview of Yanga from the Yanga Contextual History report (2007/2008) into the CMP;*
- (b) *To identify and record cultural features and to update DECC's HHIMS and AHIMS databases using inventory sheets. This includes built and associated movable heritage and archaeological and landscape features;*
- (c) *To prepare a list and descriptions of cultural features identified in the oral histories and contextual history research. This includes built and associated movable heritage and archaeological features and landscape features;*
- (d) *To define the precincts (including curtilages) and landscapes and assess the historical significance of Yanga as an entity, as well as each feature;*
- (e) *To develop and identify the interpretative themes that encapsulate Yanga's history and cultural values and align these against features;*
- (f) *To develop a research strategy for Yanga that identifies areas of required oral history, historical, archaeological and other research beyond the scope of this brief;*
- (g) *To identify and provide guidance for achieving sustainable long-term conservation and management of the historic, archaeological and landscape heritage of Yanga National Park. This includes identifying conservation priorities and practices for built heritage and developing a cyclical maintenance program;*
- (h) *To ensure the balanced and compatible management of cultural heritage (Aboriginal and European) with the natural heritage values of the Park;*
- (i) *To assist DECC in meeting its corporate and statutory requirements;*
- (j) *To develop forward looking management policies within the context of legislative requirements, DECC management framework, and stakeholder issues;*
- (k) *To undertake wetland cultural assessment and align values with the RERP program in order to develop strategies and recommendations for the conservation and management of wetlands as a cultural resource and a palaeoenvironmental archive;*
- (l) *To identify cultural tourism and education opportunities within the Hay and Balranald regional tourism context. Opportunities that may generate revenue or may be readily sustainable should be identified, with issues or constraints highlighted. Opportunities for engaging with the local community should be identified.*

The outcomes of the CMP as a whole, as stated in the brief, are:

1. *To support the long-term conservation of the study area within Yanga National Park;*
2. *To support the long-term management focus of Yanga as a potential cultural, educational and tourism destination;*
3. *To support and enhance the long-term association between former owners, occupants and workers;*
4. *To establish management policies that result in a sustainable landscape in terms of the conservation of both cultural heritage and bio-diversity and that takes into account the ongoing impacts of climate change;*
5. *To inform the preparation of the Plan of Management for Yanga National Park; and*
6. *To ensure best practice management of cultural heritage values, integrating both Aboriginal and European cultural heritage.*

1.3 Site and Ownership

Yanga is located 7km east of Balranald, as shown on the maps below and opposite. The Yanga Reserves comprise Yanga National Park, Yanga Nature Reserve and Yanga State Conservation all of which are now owned and managed by the NSW Government. The Yanga Reserves were formerly part of the Yanga Pastoral Station. The name has been changed during the preparation of this report and the Yanga Reserves are now part of the Murrumbidgee Reserves and are the Murrumbidgee National Park, State Conservation Area and Nature Reserve - Yanga Precinct. In this report the terms Yanga National Park or Yanga Reserves are used for clarity and these terms refer to all three reservation categories.

The reserves total 72,336 hectares and this includes Yanga NP: 35,084 hectares, Yanga SCA: 34,557 hectares, Yanga NR: 1,940 hectares and some lands not yet gazetted: 755 hectares.

The *Draft Statement of Interim Management Intent* prepared by DECC in 2008 contains an overview of the site. It states, (p.1):

- *Yanga is located in the Western Riverina of NSW, 5 kilometres east of Balranald. It contains approximately 76,000 hectares of River Red Gum forest, Black Box – Nitre Goosefoot swamp, Belah-Rosewood woodlands, native grassland and saltbush plains.*
- *Yanga forms part of the Lowbidgee Floodplain, the largest and most important floodplain in the Murrumbidgee catchment. It includes 160 kilometres of Murrumbidgee River frontage, wetlands, lakes and breeding grounds for waterbirds*
- *Yanga includes approximately 17,000 hectares of River Red Gum forest.*
- *The Department of Environment and Conservation, Parks and Wildlife Division (the Service) purchased Yanga in November 2005.*
- *Yanga has important Aboriginal and historic heritage values.*
- *Past site surveys indicate there are many areas within Yanga of significance to the Aboriginal community, such as scar trees, ovens, middens and other artefacts.*
- *Yanga has been a working pastoral, cropping and irrigation property for over 160 years. There is much evidence of this activity throughout the property, including an 1870's built homestead and gardens, at least twelve other residences, sheds, fences, windmills and dams, tracks, a 130 metre long woolshed built in the nineteenth century, a workshop, bridges, regulators, levees and numerous other moveable heritage items. A number of these items have considerable historic significance.*
- *Various water licences exist and further licences may be purchased under the Riverbank program. All allocations will be used for either domestic or environmental purposes.*
- *There is considerable community interest and expectation in providing recreational opportunities and tourism within Yanga. Its location provides an opportunity to promote it as an integral part of a tourism package also including Mungo National Park and the Murray River.*

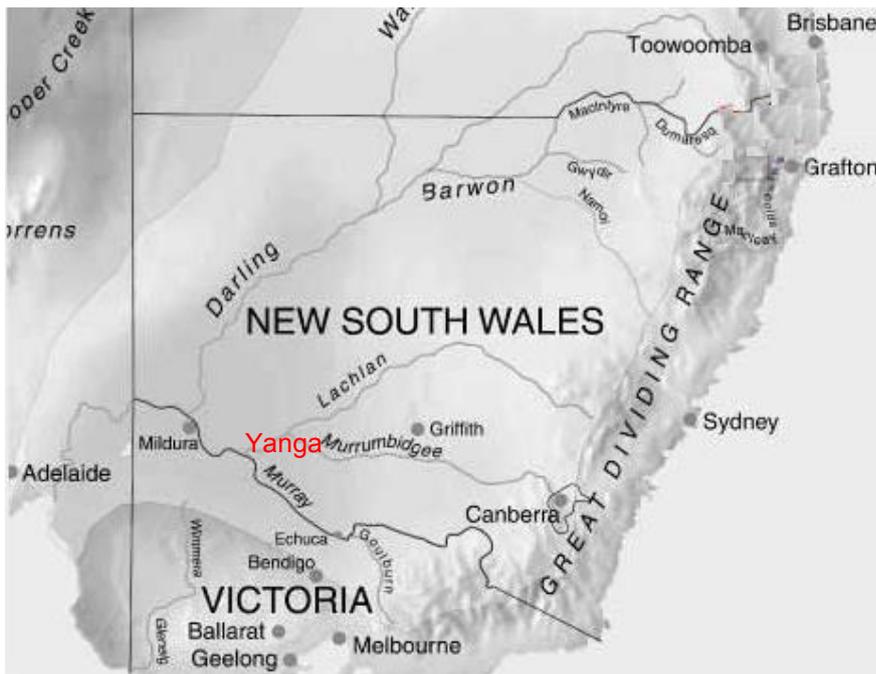


Figure 1.1 Location Plan. The location of Yanga is shown on a map of NSW.

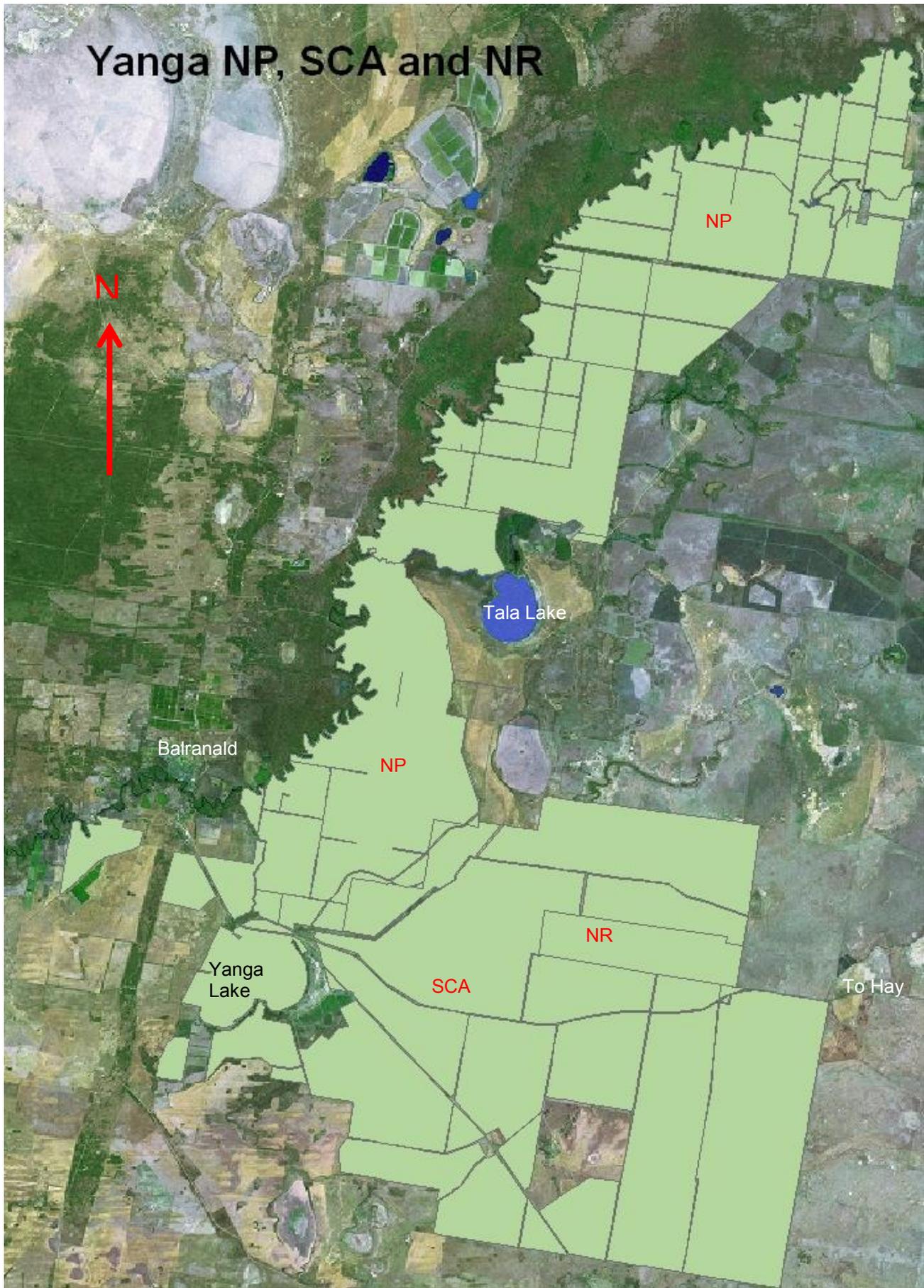


Figure 1.2 Plan of the Yanga Reserves. The Yanga Reserves are shaded green on the aerial photo which shows the surrounding areas. The Murrumbidgee River forms the west boundary of the National Park. Source: OEH.

Yanga Reserves 2012

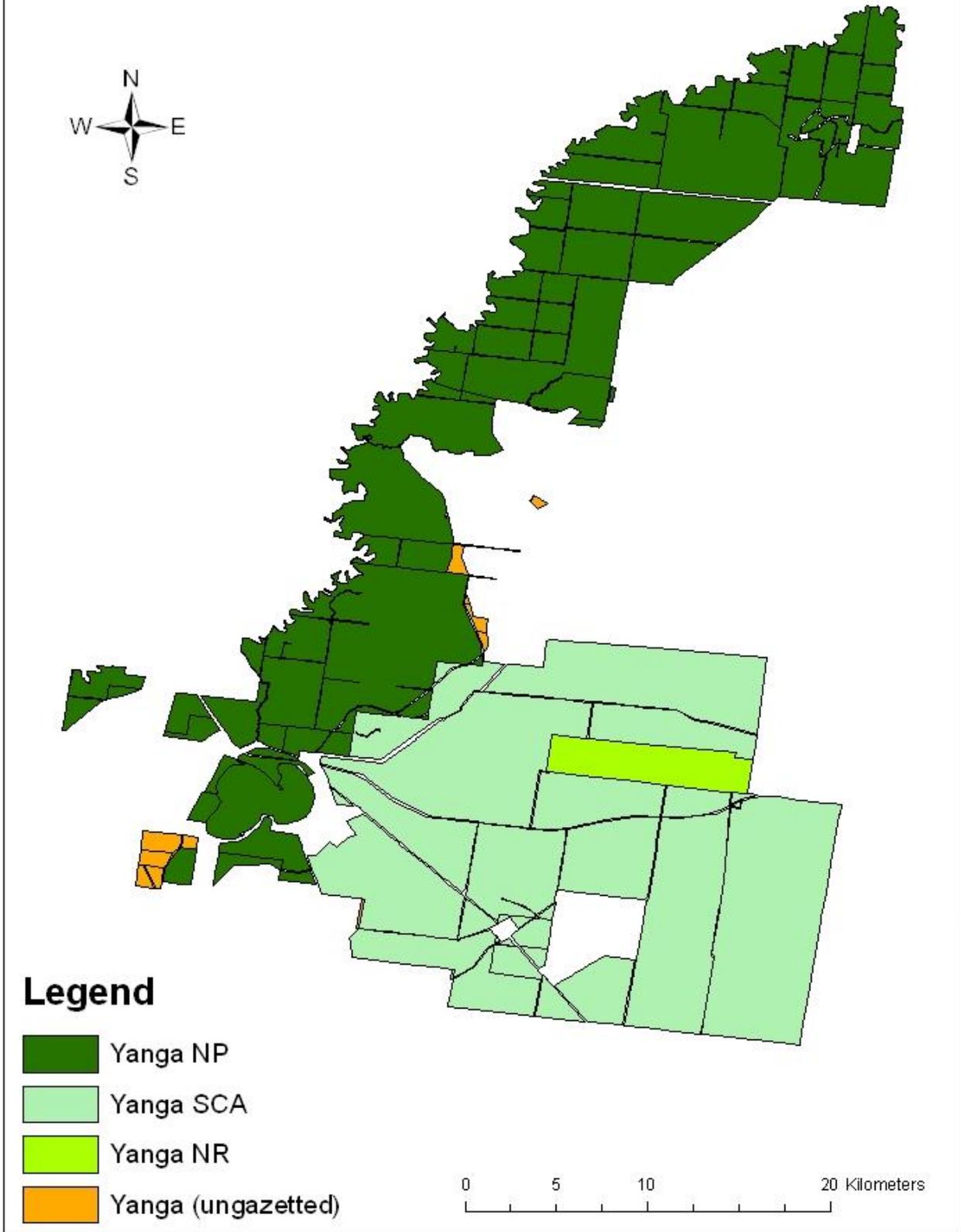


Figure 1.3 Plan of the Yanga Reserves showing the Nature Reserve (NR), the State Conservation Area (SCA), the National Park (NP) and currently ungazetted lands. Source: OEH.

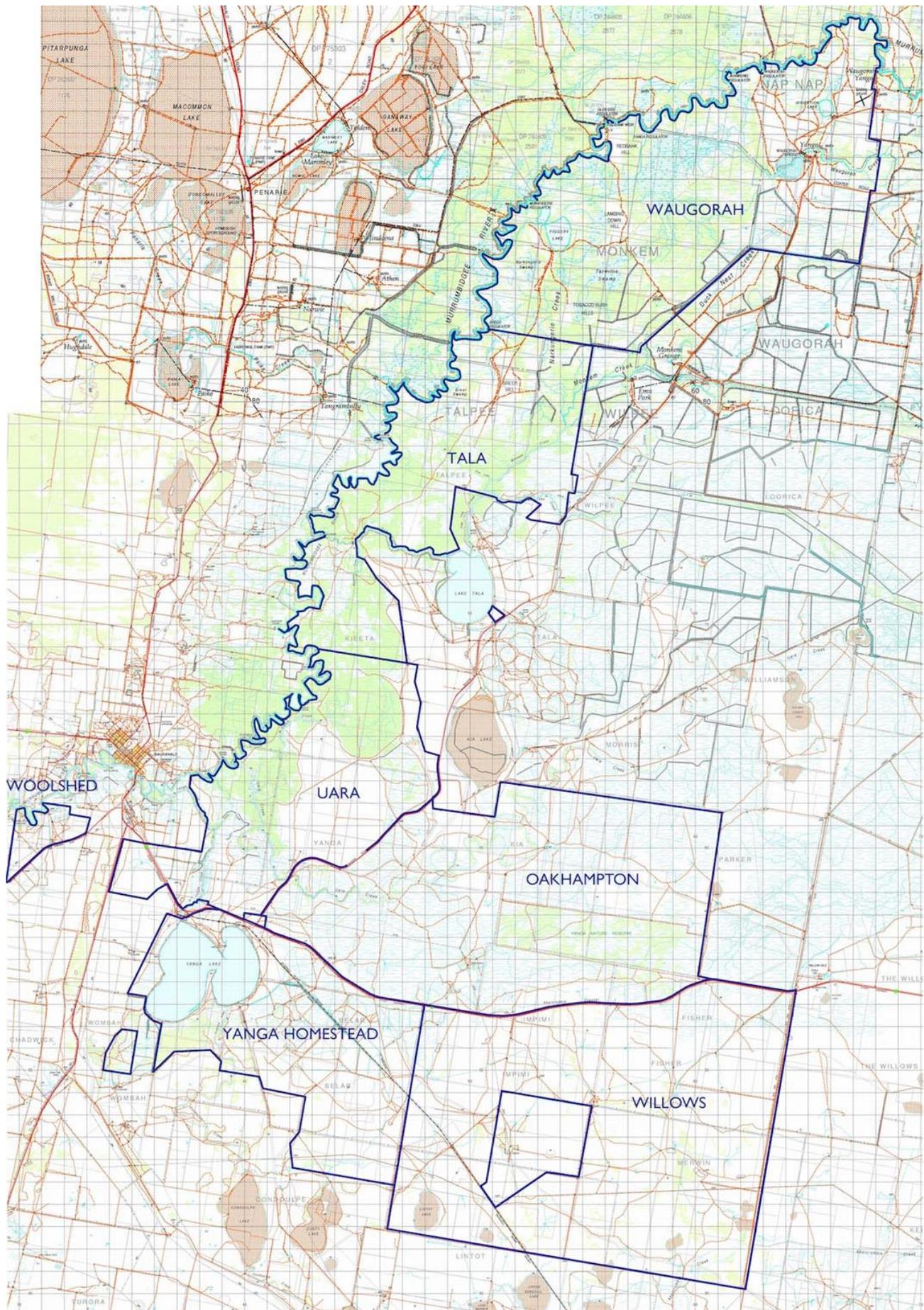


Figure 1.4 Current topographic map showing the Yanga Reserves and precincts. Source: Department of Lands 1997 & 2002 and CMP authors, 2012.

1.3.1 Precincts

For this report the site has been divided into precincts based on natural divisions in the landscape and historic patterns of use. The precincts are Yanga, Woolshed, Willows, Oakhampton, Uara, Tala and Waugorah shown on the following maps.

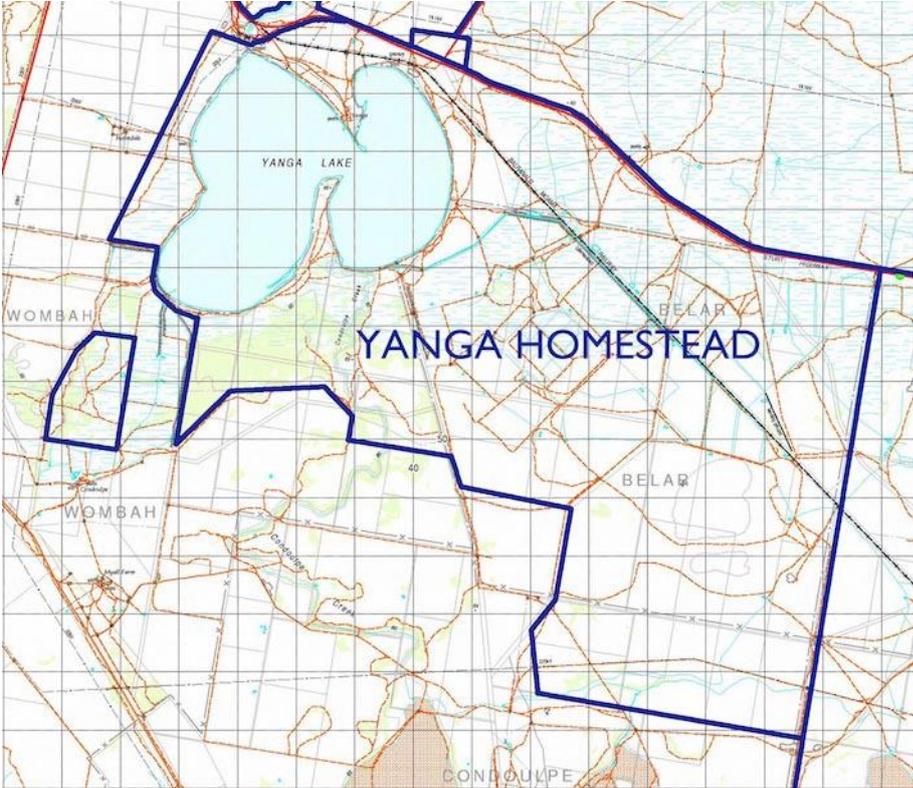


Figure 1.5 Current topographic map showing Yanga precinct. Source: Department of Lands 1997 & 2002 and CMP authors, 2012.

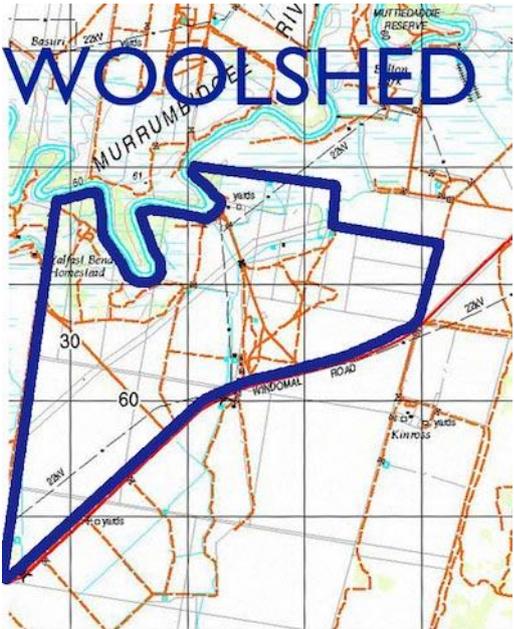


Figure 1.6 Current topographic map showing Woolshed precinct. Note that this map is at double the scale of the other maps. Source: Department of Lands 1997 & 2002 and CMP authors, 2012.

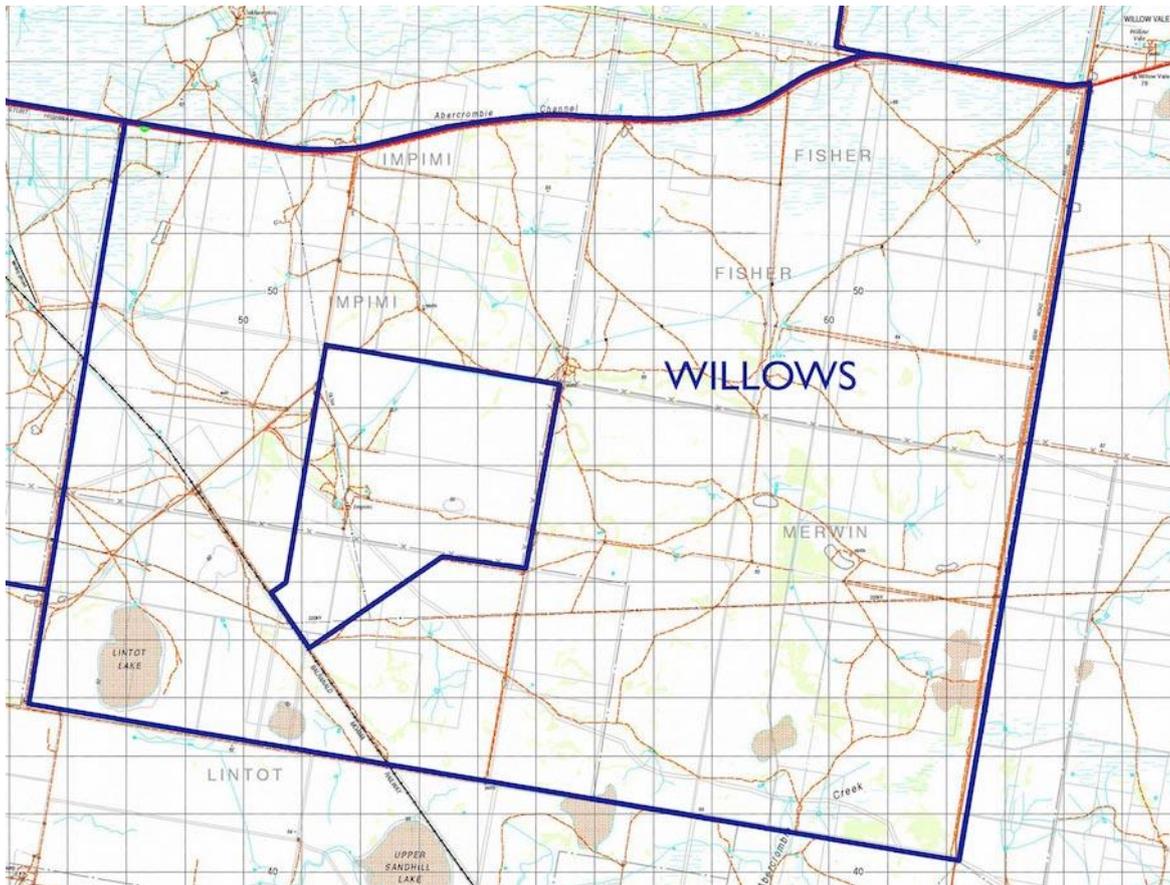


Figure 1.7 Current topographic map showing Willows precinct. Source: Department of Lands 1997 & 2002 and CMP authors, 2012.

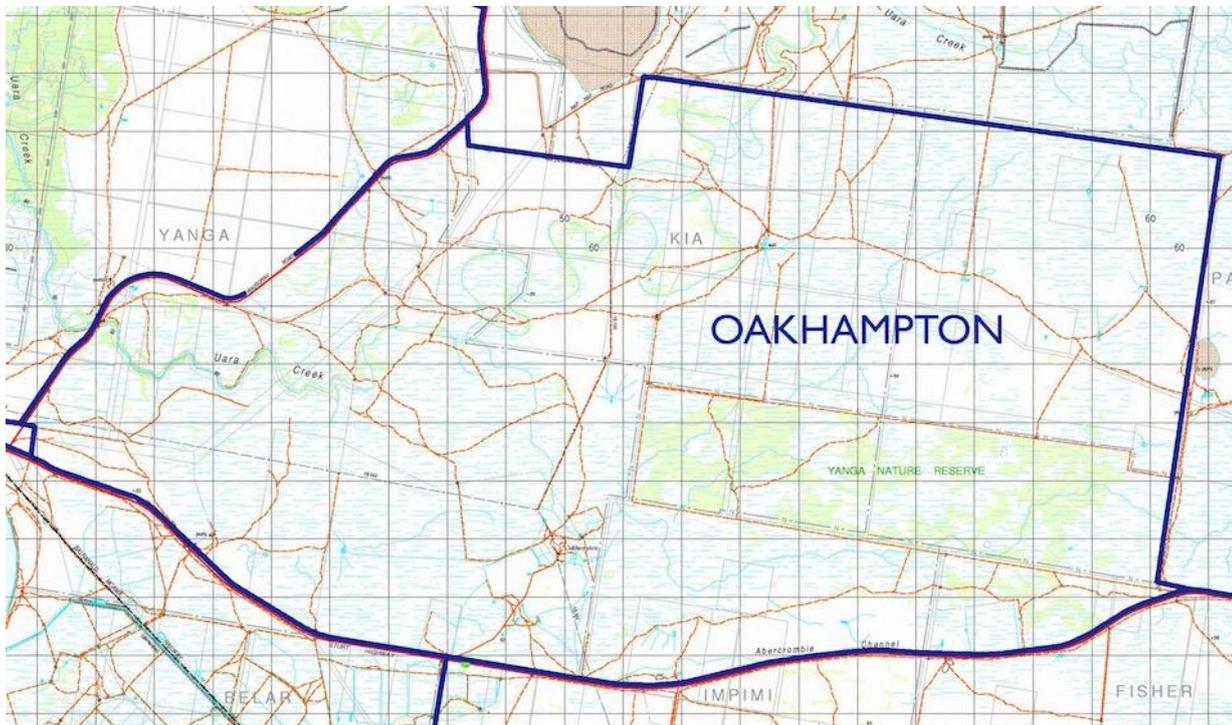


Figure 1.8 Current topographic map showing Oakhampton precinct. Source: Department of Lands 1997 & 2002 and CMP authors, 2012.

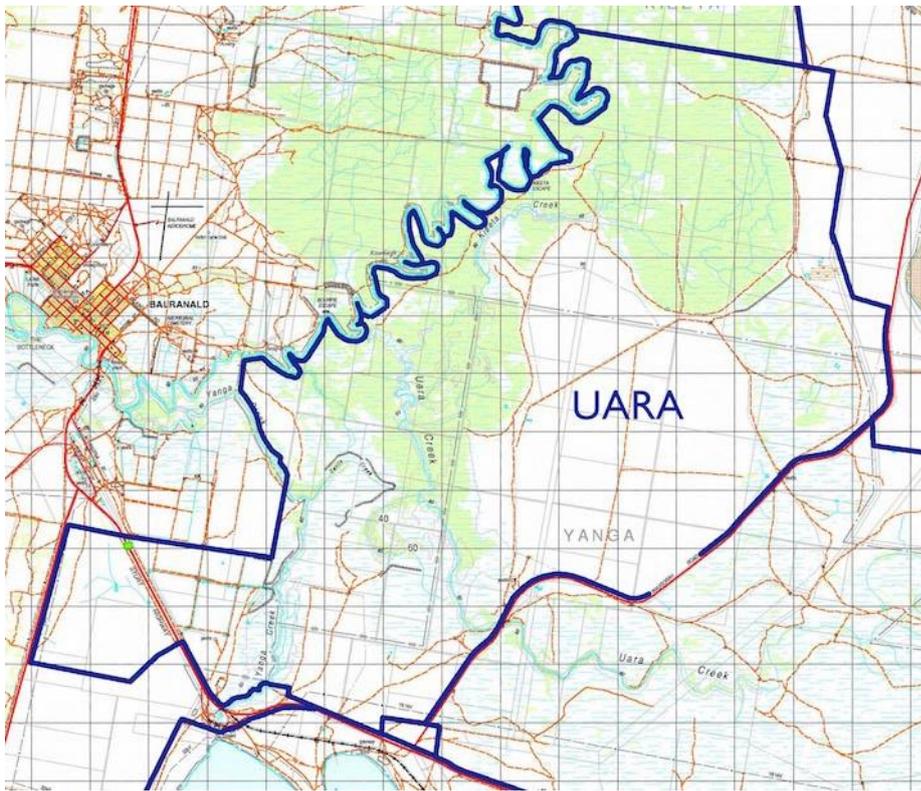


Figure 1.9 Current topographic map showing Uara precinct. Source: Department of Lands 1997 & 2002 and CMP authors, 2012.

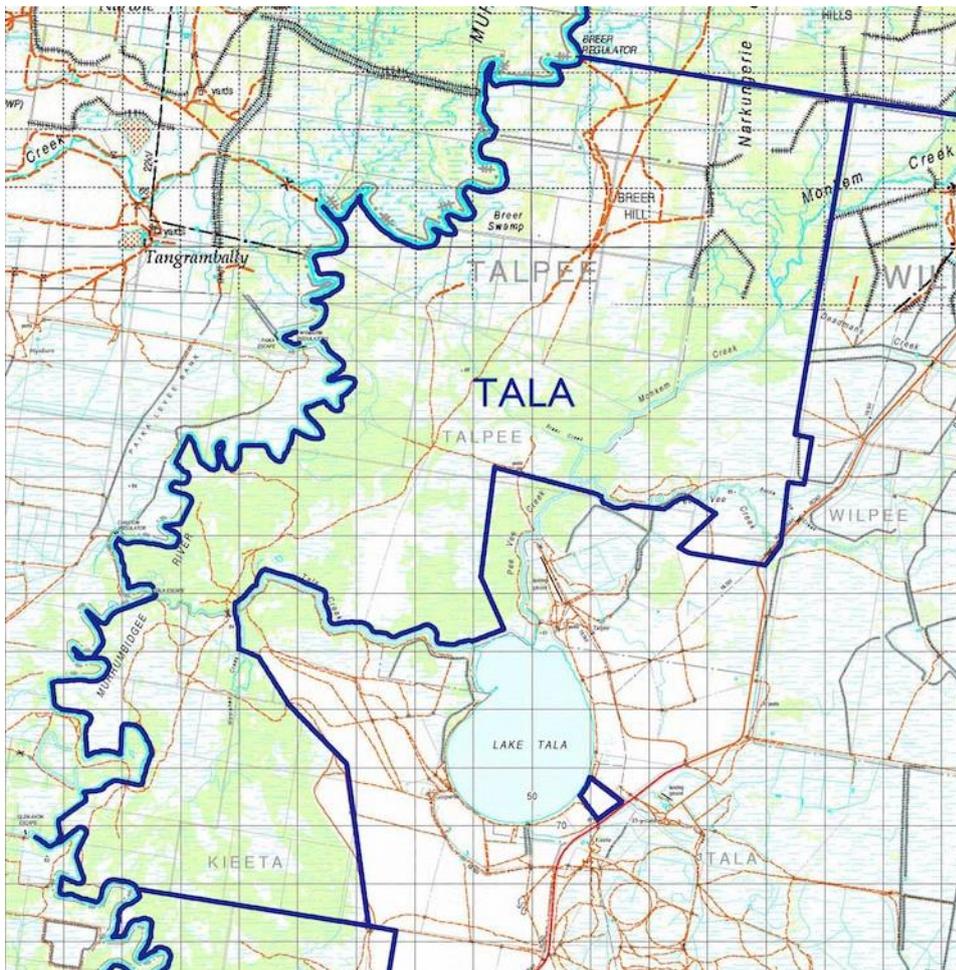


Figure 1.10 Current topographic map showing Tala precinct. Source: Department of Lands 1997 & 2002 and CMP authors, 2012.

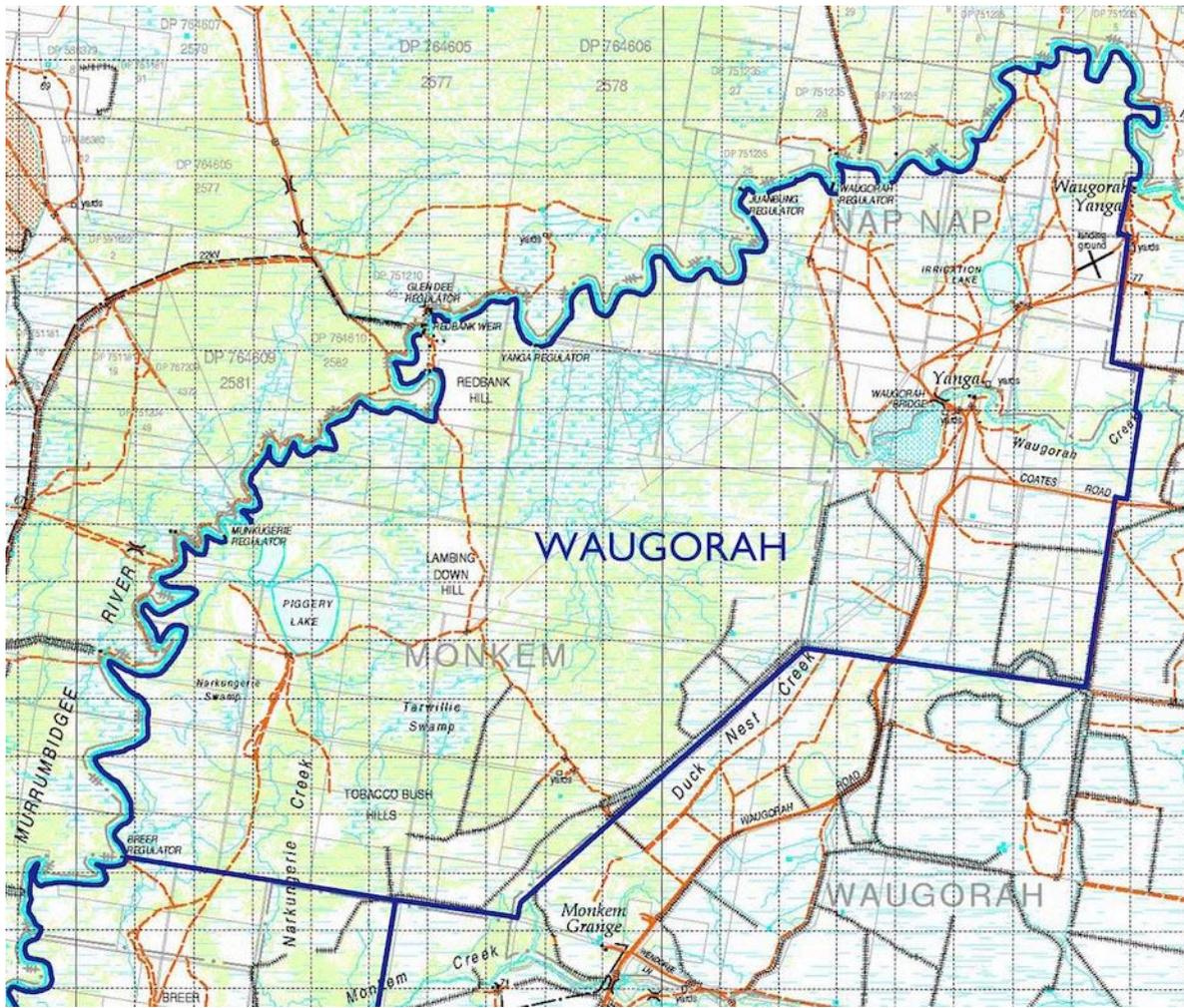


Figure 1.11 Current topographic map showing Waugorah precinct. Source: Department of Lands 1997 & 2002 and CMP authors, 2012.

1.4 Approach and Scope

As required in the brief and in line with current cultural heritage management planning, the following approach was adopted in the preparation of the CMP:

- *An integrated, or whole-of-landscape approach with regard to the identification and assessment of all Aboriginal and European cultural and natural values;*
- *A cultural landscape approach to understanding the values of the place within its wider environmental / bio-geographic, historic and social setting;*
- *An emphasis on identifying the social/community values of the place and framing policies to manage and maintain them;*
- *Development and clear articulation of a vision statement/head policy for Yanga (in line with the appropriate management of Yanga National Park) as a potential education and tourism destination.*

As required in the brief the scope includes:

- *Cultural landscape description, physical analysis and condition assessment of Yanga (including built, landscape, movable heritage, archaeological and potential archaeological elements);*
- *Assessment of cultural significance;*
- *Policy formulation;*
- *Conservation policies and guidelines;*
- *Regional tourism assessment;*
- *Maintenance schedules;*
- *Works schedule / scope of works for urgent / medium and long-term conservation repairs;*
- *Implementation strategies and actions;*
- *Inventory sheets for built, landscape and archaeological elements/features detailing history, physical description, significance, urgent conservation & maintenance requirements, risks, levels of permissible change and conservation guidance.*

Research from the Contextual History and other documents from Stage 1 has been incorporated into the CMP so that the final CMP can be read as one document. Additional research has been undertaken to provide key information not in the Contextual History.

1.5 Methodology and Structure

The CMP is part of a two stage process to investigate the historical and physical development of Yanga and to determine its cultural significance. Stage 1 of this process included preparation of several studies on Yanga's history and its heritage assets and was completed prior to writing this CMP.

This Conservation Management Plan forms Stage 2 of the process and follows the guidelines set out in the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter 1999). The Burra Charter provides the Australia-wide accepted guidelines for heritage conservation. Section 2 (Conservation and Management) of the charter states:

- 2.1 *Places of cultural significance should be conserved;*
- 2.2 *The aim of conservation is to retain the cultural significance of a place;*
- 2.3 *Conservation is an integral part of good management of places of cultural significance;*
- 2.4 *Places of cultural significance should be safeguarded and not put at risk or left in a vulnerable state.*

The report is also consistent with the guidelines of the International Cultural Tourism Charter (as adopted by ICOMOS 1999), Australian Heritage Commission Australian Natural Heritage Charter, the NSW Heritage Manual, Heritage Branch CMP guidelines, DECC Cultural Heritage Policies and NPWS Field Management Guidelines.

This CMP generally follows the methodology set out in J.S. Kerr's *The Conservation Plan*, in particular:

- Section 1.0 Introduction is followed by Section 2.0 Historical Analysis, which provides a summary of the research previously undertaken with additional research that focuses on building specific information and the history of changes to the site over time. There is a timeline followed by the history according to the historical phases of development.
- Section 3.0 Physical Analysis is an overview of the physical fabric and landscape elements that constitute the Yanga Reserves, and includes comments on condition and integrity.

- The Comparative Analysis follows in Section 4.0 and analyses Yanga in comparison with other pastoral properties, building types and assemblages.
- Section 5.0 discusses the cultural significance of the Yanga Reserves and concludes in a succinct Statement of Significance for the place.
- Section 6.0 discusses the constraints and opportunities providing a basis for the development of a strategy for implementation of the conservation policies, which are in Section 7.0
- Section 8.0 contains the Implementation Strategy which sets out how the conservation policies might be achieved and considers future patterns of use of the place, management of visitor access and interpretation.
- The Bibliography and Appendices conclude the report. The Appendices include sub-consultant reports and the Historic Heritage Information Management forms for key sites.

1.6 Documentary Sources

The following key reports and resources have been used in the preparation of this CMP:

- Dr Stephen Gapps, *Yanga Oral History Report*, June 2008.
- Dr Stephen Gapps, *Flooded Country, A Contextual History of Yanga National Park*, 2008.
- High Ground Consulting - *Conservation Management Strategies (CMS)* for key buildings and other structures - namely bridges and regulators, 2005.
- OHM Consultants, *Moveable Heritage Management Plan & Inventory*, 2008.
- Michael Westaway, *An archaeological assessment focussing on the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage at Yanga National Park*, 2009
- CHD, *Draft Peacock's Hut Inspection Report*, May 2008.
- DECC, Draft Visitor Plan.
- DECC, *Statement of Interim Management Intent, Yanga National Park and Yanga State Conservation Area*, 2007.
- David Eastburn, *Flooded Country Below Hay and Exhibition Themes*, 2002 and *Yanga Notes – Geography and History*, 2008.

The agency has embarked on a state-wide Rivers and Environmental Restoration Program (RERP). Part of this program is focused on researching Yanga's wetlands with the aim of rehabilitating them. Only some of this research has been made available to the consultant team.

A full bibliography is included at the rear of this report. Some research has been undertaken from primary sources including historic newspaper articles and maps.

1.7 Report Limitations

The site is vast, covering approximately 65,000 hectares, with many inaccessible areas. The initial site inspection was in winter and there had been little rain and roads were generally passable. This meant most identified key sites were able to be accessed briefly. During some later visits, rain resulted in some areas being inaccessible. Some sites were not visited and the CMP relies on information from agency staff and previous reports. Detailed inspections and condition assessments could not be made and, for example, drawings have not been prepared of these structures.

On each visit additional areas were accessed and additional structures identified. It is highly likely that there are other unidentified structures and areas of Aboriginal significance on parts of the site that could not be accessed.

The report relies generally on the Contextual and Oral histories prepared for Stage 1 by others. These however did not include detailed research of historical written records such as land titles and archives generally. This information is required for a CMP and some additional research was undertaken to provide key information. Parish maps were obtained and some portion plans were provided by the agency head office and research at State Archives yielded gazette notices and surveyors field books and plans but other information had been returned to the originating agency and was not accessible. Additional historical research was not required in the brief and the amount of additional research undertaken was limited. Some key information has not been found, including the date of construction of Yanga Homestead.

1.8 Further Research

Further research and assessment on site needs to be carried out in the long term including in areas not assessed in detail in this CMP. This should include locating and recording structures, historical routes and moveable items. Measured drawings of the other built structures should be prepared.

Detailed archival documentary research should be undertaken including land titles and other land records, public archives such as state libraries and archives and the Black family records, etc. There are likely to be additional documentary records including maps, surveys and written records about the site. Additional photos or drawings are also likely to exist.

Historical documentary research needs to be undertaken on a continuing basis as over time additional records become available from records repositories and originating agencies.

The conservation policies identify further research in more detail. For example, extensive oral history has been recorded by Dr Stephen Gapps. Further oral history should be gathered while people who worked at Yanga are still living. A Visitors Book has been recently located in the site office for visitors to record past experiences of the place and leave contact details. A filing cabinet could be dedicated to photographs and other memorabilia donated to Yanga.

See also the policy section on research, Section 7, Policies 11.4.

1.9 Stakeholders, Contributors and Acknowledgments

Consultation was undertaken with the following key stakeholders and local communities as part of the preparation of this plan:

- Parks and Wildlife agency – Daniel Basham, Ross McDonnell, Silvana Keating, Jennifer Hewitson, Paul McInnes, Sreekumar Sreedharan, Narelle Jones, Simone Carmichael, Matt McClelland, Russell Hampton, Paul Childs, Daryl Reyland, Steve Grisdale and Tony Mitchell
- C&HD – Caroline Lawrance
- Former owners of Yanga Station
- Representatives of local indigenous groups
- Yanga Working Group – Ian Lockhart, Louis Lockhart, Bes Murray, John Jackson, Terry Gorman, Edward Smokey Murray, Tom Davey, Michael Spinks, Bill Mollar and PWG staff including Daniel Basham, Narelle Jones, Ross McDonnell and Simone Carmichael;
- Balranald and Wakool Shire Councils
- Community of Balranald, historical society/museum
- Besley Murray
- Stephen Gapps
- David Eastburn

The report has been prepared with the contribution of the following people:

- Peter Tonkin, Architect, Tonkin Zulaikha Greer
- Julie Mackenzie, Architect and Heritage Consultant, Tonkin Zulaikha Greer
- Jeannette Hope, Archaeologist and Historian, River Junction Consulting
- Jean Rice, Senior Conservation Architect, Jean Rice Architects
- Roger Lembit, Ecological and Landscape Consultant, Gingra Ecological Surveys
- David MacBeath, Industrial Archaeologist, OHM Consultants
- Ray Christison, Conservation Architect, High Ground Consulting

1.10 Terminology and Abbreviations

The terms *place*, *cultural significance*, *fabric*, *maintenance*, *compatible use*, *preservation*, *reconstruction*, *restoration*, *adaptation* and *conservation* used throughout this report are as defined in the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter) 1999, Article 1.1 to 1.17.

- 1.1 *Place* means site, area, land, landscape, building or other works, group of buildings or other works, and may include components, contents, spaces and views.
- 1.2 *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.

- 1.3 *Fabric* means all the physical material of the place including components, fixtures, contents and objects.
- 1.4 *Conservation* means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance.
- 1.5 *Maintenance* means the continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or reconstruction.
- 1.6 *Preservation* means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.
- 1.7 *Restoration* means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.
- 1.8 *Reconstruction* means returning a place to a known earlier state and is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of new materials into the fabric.
- 1.9 *Adaptation* means modifying a place to suit the existing use or a proposed use.
- 1.10 *Use* means the functions of a place, as well as the activities and practices that may occur at the place.
- 1.11 *Compatible use* means a use that respects the cultural significance of a place. Such use involves no, or minimal impact, on cultural significance.
- 1.12 *Setting* means the area around a place, which may include the visual catchment.
- 1.13 *Related place* means a place that contributes to the cultural significance of another place.
- 1.14 *Related object* means an object that contributes to the cultural significance of a place, but is not that place.
- 1.15 *Associations* mean the special connections that exist between people and a place.
- 1.16 *Meanings* denote what a place signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses.
- 1.17 *Interpretation* means all the ways of presenting the cultural significance of a place.

Abbreviations

Abbreviations used throughout the text are as follows:

ADB	Australian Dictionary of Biography
APB	Aboriginal Protection Board
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
CMP	Conservation Management Plan
CC&HD	Country Culture and Heritage Division, previously Culture and Heritage Division (C&HD), previously Cultural Heritage Division (CHD)
DECC	Department of Environment and Climate Change, formerly the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC)
DECCW	Department of Environment and Climate Change and Water – formerly the Department of Environment and Climate Change. Note this name changed during the preparation of this CMP.
DCOM	Department of Commerce, formerly the Department of Public Works & Services, Formerly the Public Works Department (PWD). Note this name changed during the preparation of this CMP and is now NSW Public Works part of the Finance and Services
DCP	Development Control Plan
DPI	Department of Primary Industries
DPWS	Department of Public Works and Services
EPRD	Environment Protection and Regulation Division
HHIMS	Historic Heritage Information Management System
HB	NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning
HL	Homestead lease
ICOMOS	International Council on Monument and Sites
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LMLM	Lower Murrumbidgee Locking League
MD	Murray Darling
MIA	Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area
MHMP	Moveable Heritage Management Plan
ML	Mitchell Library
MP	Master Plan
MRW	Murray River Waters Agreement
NP	National Park
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
NR	Nature Reserve
NSWSR	NSW State Records, formerly the Archives Office (AO)

OEH	Office of Environment and Heritage, an office within the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet. It includes the former DECC, DECCW and the PWG.
POL	Permissive Occupancy Lease
PWD	Public Works Department
PWG	NSW Parks and Wildlife Group, formerly the NSW Parks and Wildlife Division (PWD) and the National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS)
REF	Review of Environmental Factors
REP	Regional Environmental Plan
RMC	River Murray Commission
RNE	Register of the National Estate
SCA	State Conservation Area
SIMI	Statement of Management Intent
SHR	State Heritage Register
SMH	Sydney Morning Herald
SoHI	Statement of Heritage Impact
SR	NSW State Records, formerly the Archives Office (AO) [same as NSWSR]
TSR	Traveling Stock Route
VMP	Visitor Management Plan
WoNS	Weed of National National Significance
YCWG	Yanga Community Working Group
YNP	Yanga National Park
YSCA	Yanga State Conservation Area
YR	Yanga Reserves including both the SCA, NP and NR

Spelling of Place Names

Spellings of place names are generally the current name as shown on topographic maps. In the history the historic names or spellings are as they are in the original quote or on the original plan.

For example for on the current topographic map the parish, creek and escape are referred to as Kieeta and none of the other spellings, Kieta or Kietu, are used so the locality is referred to as Kieeta. The old Wentworth homestead site is referred to as Kietu because this is the spelling used in historic documents.

Yanga is the current correct spelling for the Lake etc. but historical records also use Yonga, Yong_a, Yangar.

The spelling of Aboriginal place names varies in different historic documents, in modern documents and in Aboriginal usage eg as for Yanga mentioned above. The differences are sometimes due to different transcriptions of the spoken word by surveyors and explorers and sometimes to different Aboriginal languages. Several of the different spellings may be “correct”. Generally this report uses the current spelling as shown on topographic maps but uses alternate spellings when referring to historic documents.

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2 Historical Analysis

The following Historical Analysis commences with a historical timeline. The history is then analysed in developmental phases, which are also themes that continue through later development phases. These phases are:

- 2.2.1 Landscape History of the Lowbidgee
- 2.2.2 Aboriginal People at Yanga – The Archaeological Record
- 2.2.3 Aboriginal People at Yanga – The Historical Record
- 2.2.4 Exploration and Early Mapping
- 2.2.5 Pastoral History: The Squatting Phase 1840-1853
- 2.2.6 Pastoral History: The Pastoral Years 1853-1919
- 2.2.7 Pastoral History: Sims-Cooper and the Black Family 1919-2005
- 2.2.8 Transport and Communications
- 2.2.9 Water
- 2.2.10 Environment Conservation and Forestry
- 2.2.11 People at Yanga

The history and development of each precinct is then described generally followed by a historical analysis of individual site elements by precinct. This is in the form of a table that is subsequently used in the physical analysis and later sections of the report.

At the end of the historical analysis is a brief analysis of Associations and Oral History and of the historical operation of Yanga Pastoral Station.

The related National and NSW Historic Themes¹ (Table 2.1) are shown below and the relevant theme is noted in each development phase. It is based on a number of key sources listed in Table 2.2. The history focuses on key points, rather than being a complete history.

Table 2.1 - NSW Historic Themes Relevant To Yanga

National Theme	NSW State Theme
1 Tracing The Natural Evolution Of Australia	1.1 Environment – naturally evolved
2 Peopling Australia	2.1 Aboriginal Cultures and Interaction with other cultures
3 Developing Local, Regional And National Economies	3.1 Agriculture 3.3 Communication 3.4 Environment – cultural landscape 3.6 Exploration 3.7 Fishing 3.8 Forestry 3.12 Pastoralism 3.15 Transport
5 Working	5.1 Labour
8 Developing Australia’s Cultural Life	8.1 Domestic life 8.3 Leisure 8.6 Sport
9 Marking The Phases Of Life	9.2 Persons

¹ Heritage Office 2001

The following references (Table 2.2) are the key secondary sources used and include the documents referred to in the brief and commissioned as Stage 1 of the CMP.

These sources have been used to compile the following timeline. Some additional research has been carried out and information has included from Parish maps, portion plans, newspaper articles and similar. Some of the information is contradictory and further research is needed to clarify discrepancies.

Table 2.2 - Key Historic Sources for Yanga

Source	Comment
Murrumbidgee-Riverina	
David Eastburn 2003 Flooded Country below Hay. Report to the Lowbidgee League.	An important account of the water history of the Lower Murrumbidgee.
Arthur Feldtmann 1976 The Balranald Story.	A useful local history of Balranald, limited by the lack of documentation of sources.
Ernest Grant 1970 Walking with Time. The story of the Wakool Country	A local history of the Wakool area
J.L. Tracey & M.M.Tracey 2007-2008 Wakool Shire Community Heritage Study. Balranald Shire Community Heritage Study.	Although these studies mention Yanga, the information is mainly based on one unreliable source.
Colin Pardoe and Sarah Martin 2001 Murrumbidgee Province Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study.	The basic work on the Aboriginal archaeology of the area, with excellent coverage of early sources.
Robert B. Ronald 1960 The Riverina People and Properties	An important source on western Riverina pastoral station history based on personal knowledge and archival research. Ronald's father (R.W.Ronald) acquired Nap Nap Station in 1879, and Ronald lived there until his death in the late 1950s.
Yanga	
David Eastburn 2008 Exhibition Themes Yanga Notes Geography and History.	Similar material to Eastburn 2003, but with focus on Yanga Station, including extensive historic quotations
High Ground Consulting 2007-8 Conservation Management Strategies for various built items in Yanga.	Used as the basis for CMP analysis of built items
Stephen Gapps 2007 Yanga Oral History Report.	Transcriptions of interviews with associated people; mainly relating to last 50 or so years.
Stephen Gapps 2008 Flooded Country - A contextual History of Yanga National Park.	This is based mainly on the oral history and Eastburn's Flooded Country
Walter Kilroy Harris 1913 Outback in Australia.	An account of travels along the rivers; excellent observations of Yanga and other stations.

2.1 Summary Timeline

This section provides a summary timeline developed from *Flooded Country* and with additional information that is based on research into historical records. Additional information is primarily from newspaper reports and historic maps. In some cases the text of the newspaper articles has been included in the timeline where this information has not been reproduced elsewhere. It focuses on the history of changes to the site over time and more building and site specific information. For additional Historical Analysis of the site refer to the Stephen Gapps contextual and oral histories, *Flooded Country*, prepared for DECC PWG, June 2008. Some information is conflicting and more research is required to establish what is correct.

Date	Description
40,000 BP	Before present. Aboriginal people living at the Willandra Lakes.
20,000 BP	Earliest records of Aboriginal people on the Murray River.
Holocene	Lowbidgee Flood plains develop, meanders, lakes and billabongs formed by the changing path of the Murrumbidgee River.
5000 BP	Oldest dated burial on Hay Plain.
4000 BP	Oldest dated Aboriginal mounds on Hay Plain.
1820	Birth of Augustus Morris
1820s	European settlement reaches Gundagai at eastern edge of Riverine plain
1826	George Hobler [Hobblers] and family arrive in Hobart. Brings stud merinos with him, most die on way.
1829-30	Charles Sturt's second expedition, builds boat at the junction of the Murrumbidgee and Lachlan and follows Murrumbidgee River to Murray River and on to the sea. Aboriginal people accompany Sturt for part of journey.
1832	Major flood
1835	Thomas Mitchell explores Darling to Menindee
1835	George Hobler leases Aberglasslyn, purchases property the following year (Hunter River, NSW).
1836	Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell follows the Lachlan River to the Murrumbidgee and continues along the west / north bank of the Murrumbidgee to the Murray River, and then on to the Darling River.
1836-1839	The District of Port Phillip (now part of Victoria) is proclaimed by Governor of NSW, encouraging settlement in NE Victoria up to and including Yanga.
1837	Charles Brown Fisher takes up his first run, Little Para, 40 miles from Adelaide.
1838	Thomas Mitchell's publishes his account <i>Three Expeditions Into the Interior of Eastern Australia</i> .
Late 1830s	Sydney and Melbourne investors including William Charles Wentworth finance squatting 'agents' to stake out sheep and cattle 'runs'. Independent squatters also established runs.
1840-42	Aberglasslyn House near Maitland designed by John Verge. Unfinished. Hobler bankrupt.
1840	Squatters settle with little disruption on Aboriginal land at Lowbidgee. Due to poorly marked boundaries land disputes between pastoralists begin.
1840	Samuel Lyons auctioneer advertises stock and an established station, with hut and stockyard and fencing located on the Murrumbidgee, 370 miles from Sydney on the route to South Australia. Proprietor not listed. Sydney Herald 17 August 1840 [probably east of Hay]
1840s	Former Scottish Cavalry officer J A Cameron establishes the Decameron Run.
1842	Augustus Morris, an agent for Benjamin Boyd is sent to explore country north of Murray River. Names the Wakool River. Source ADB. Other sources indicate that the run hunting party included Gwynne and Walker and that on this expedition they discovered Yanga Lake. Source: Jervis 1952
1843	Colonial authorities only allow leases rather than freehold title in areas considered 'beyond the bounds of settlement' in order to regulate 'land grabs'.

Date	Description
1843	Depasturing License for Mr Gwynne on the Murray River, Murrumbidgee, March 1843. Source: SRNSW Depasturing Licenses. [near Moulamein]
c. 1844	Aberglasslyn sold.
1845	Yanga Lake is later reported to have been discovered by Mr F A Gwynne (from 1872 article in <i>The Town and Country Journal</i>). [it is likely to have been 1842, prior to his 1843 license]
c.1845	Morris takes out license to occupy Tala for Wentworth Source: Ronald
1845	W C Wentworth obtains two depasturing licenses in the Murrumbidgee area in February for Edwards River and Lower Murray.
1845	On 11 March 1845, George Hobler was authorised by Henry Bingham, Commissioner for Crown Lands of the Murrumbidgee Squatting District at Tumut, to occupy 30 miles of river frontage. In the same month, he left Goulburn with 9,000 sheep and lambs, and 15 men in search of healthy grazing country. After inspecting and rejecting land on the lower Edward River, he selected a spot, which he initially named 'The Lake', near Waugorah Creek opposite and below the junction of the Lachlan River with the Murrumbidgee and near a beautiful sheet of water [Hobler's Diary 19 March]. He later renamed the run 'Nap Nap', the Nari Nari name for 'wetland'. A pisé (rammed earth) house thatched with reeds was constructed while Hobler returned for his family. [from Hoblers diary]
1845	Depasturing licenses to George Hobler [and Hobbler] in the Murrumbidgee, in August and September. SRNSW Depasturing Licenses [property names not given] Depasturing licences to W C Wentworth in August: Lake Yanga and land ' <i>bounded by the Murrumbidgee River on one side and extending down that river to a small oval lagoon called Cundora to the junction of a small back water creek called Ulla Callen</i> '. SRNSW Depasturing Licenses
1846	Hobler brought his wife, four daughters and two sons from Goulburn to 'Nap Nap', arriving in May 1846 after a six-week trip. Later in May he finds and squats at Paika, on west of the Murrumbidgee, fronting the river from its junction with the Lachlan downstream to the later site of Balranald. Paika was unlicensed as it was outside the proclaimed squatting districts and over the next 18 months he constructed buildings and yards etc. In August and September 2.5 acres of ground at Nap Nap was prepared for a garden and French beans, watermelons, pumpkins and millet was planted. [More detail in Hobler's diary]
1846	Newspaper report re Hobler's workers absconding from Nap Nap. <i>The parties named below having absconded from the service of the undersigned, in breach of their written agreements, all persons are cautioned against hiring them: Joseph Knight, Owen Welsh fencers, William Norton, ticket of leave holder, hut keeper, William Hutchinson, shepherd, James Johnson, shepherd Robert Nowlands, ticket of leave holder, hut keeper, Edward Smith, stockman, Thomas Hogan, ticket of leave holder, hut keeper, Patrick Wood, shepherd, Hugh Brady, shepherd.</i> GEORGE HOBLER <i>Nap Nap, Murrumbidgee, July 4 1846</i> , published SMH 24 July 1846
1846	The Australian Lands Act is passed allowing longer term leases rather than 12 months. Term of lease varies depending on location of selection. William Charles Wentworth led the push for the change in policy to allow squatters to have secure tenure and make improvements.
1846	Victorian Protector of Aborigines, George Augustus Robinson meets Watta Watta people at Yanga and Tala Lakes (Muttee Muttee people are lower down at Junction of Murray and Murrumbidgee). Stayed with Mr Walker & Mr Goodfellow at Mr Wentworth's establishment near Lake Tala. The position of protector was abolished in 1849.
1847	Lower Darling Squatting District proclaimed allowing claims on the west of the Murrumbidgee.
1847	Thomas Scott Townsend leaves Sydney to survey the Monaro and the Murrumbidgee. Prepares layout for town of Wagga Wagga.
1847	Newspaper report of Aborigines stealing provisions from a stockman's hut at Paika, Mr Hobler's station. The report includes the following: <i>...Mr. Hobler's station is on the Murrumbidgee, about three miles below the junction with the Lachlan, and Paika is about eighteen miles from the head station.</i> (Maitland Mercury 9 Jan 1847) [this infers Paika is not the head station]
1847	Report of Bunyips (Kine Pratie) at Lakes Tarla [sic] and Paika. SMH 21 Jan 1847
1847	Hobler invites Hovell to come to Nap Nap to look for the Bunyip (Kinepratis) Letter published in the SMH. Gives his address as Nap Nap, Murrumbidgee. SMH 16 June 1847

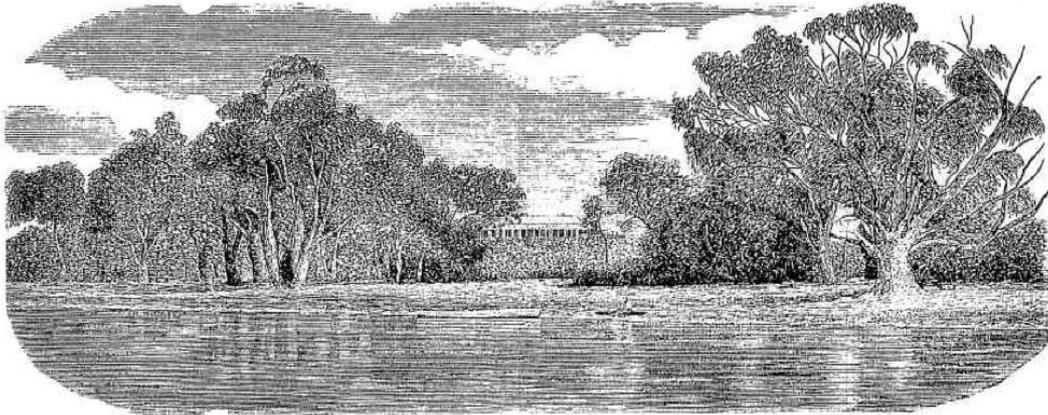
Date	Description
1847	John Reeve of Tara Villa, Gippsland, marries Fanny Catherine Wentworth, second daughter of W C Wentworth Esq MC of Vaucluse. SMH 25 Feb 1847
1848	Hobler tenders for his Paika run but in March Wentworth puts in a higher tender for the whole of Hoblers run at Paika. Hobler appealed but lost his run. Source: Eastburn
1848	<p>Claims to Leases of Crown Lands Beyond the Settled Districts published, SMH 13 & 16 October 1848 from the Government Gazette. Note that these run numbers, names and descriptions do not match later maps of runs.</p> <p>85. Hobler, George. Name of run, Nap Nap. Estimated area, one hundred and thirty thousand acres. Estimated grazing capabilities, twelve thousand sheep. Bounded-on the north-west by the river Murrumbidgee ; on the south by the Wagorah Creek from its junction with the river to a marked tree on the creek, half a mile above Mr. Wentworth's sheep station but on that creek, thence by a south line dividing Nap Nap from the run occupied by Mr. Wentworth, called Tarla; this line has been settled by a written agreement filed in the office of the Crown Land Commissioner; on the south-east by crown land, by a line running parallel, with the river, distant ten miles until it meets the dividing line between Nap Nap and Mr. McKinlay's run, thence to the river at a point opposite Mr Darchy's house on the opposite bank of the river.</p> <p>187. Wentworth W. C. (now John Black). Name of run, Tala. Estimated area, two hundred thousand acres. Estimated grazing capabilities, one thousand five hundred cattle and thirty thousand sheep. Bounded upon the east by a line running south from the river Murrumbidgee, and commencing from a lagoon called Condoora, about five miles above the junction of the Lachlan with the Murrumbidgee, and adjoining a run held by Mr. George Hobler; bounded on the west by a line running south and commencing at the river Murrumbidgee, from a marked tree about thirteen miles from the junction of the Murrumbidgee and Murray, and forming a boundary with Mr. John Scott's run ; the river frontage is about forty miles in length, its general direction being north-east and south-west, and the side lines extend back about eight miles. N.B.-This run has been transferred, with the sanction of the government, to Mr. John Black, in whose name the lease will accordingly be prepared. [Black was secretary of the Bank of NSW and acting as Wentworth's agent]</p> <p>There is a bitter boundary dispute between Hobler and Wentworth over these areas. (See 1860 discussion by Parkes et al reported in SMH 4 April 1860).</p>
1848	<p>George Hobler leaves Paika in hands of his eldest son and moves to another run at Bacchus Marsh. Source: ADB</p> <p>Hobler may have sold Nap Nap to Barker in this year. See below 1849 re formal transfer of run. Source: Eastburn</p>
1848-52	<p>Townsend and McCabe undertake detailed surveys of the Murrumbidgee and Lake Yanga, including the route to the Edward River, Kieta and Mamanga. Maps of Murrumbidgee river prepared. (Caiera) Balranald laid out by Surveyor Francis McCabe. Townsend surveys country east of the Murrumbidgee. Surveys show names of stations and owners.</p> <p>Townsend's Survey Map shows W C Wentworth's Cattle Station on Lake Yonga [sic] at the junction of Yonga Creek and a hut on peninsular (near present homestead). A fenced paddock and location of an old station are to the south of the lake. Mamanga, Tala, Monkem, Waugora and head station at 'Kietu' are also shown as W C Wentworth's. Nap Nap head station and sheep stations further east are shown as Barker's, not Hobler's.</p>
1849	Augustus Morris obtains Callandoon Station, Queensland. Sourced from the ADB
1849	Transfer of Runs (From the Government Gazette). George Hobler Nap Nap to Thomas Barker. SMH 10 August 1849
1850	Sketches by Edward Stock of huts on Lakes Yanga and Tala and a bridge over the Lower Lachlan. Edward Stock may have been part of the survey party. Vertical slabs with bark roofs. Also shows lifting device [for bales or water?]
1850	List of runs in Crown Lands beyond the settled districts published. W C Wentworth has four holdings in Lower Darling on the west of the Murrumbidgee including Paika (31,360 acres estimated capacity 4000 sheep). Charles Nicholson has one, Kungai. None listed for Hobler. SMH 27 June 1850.
1851	Town of Balranald gazetted.

Date	Description
1851	<p>Sale of Tala and Nap Nap and Paika advertised <i>STUBBS AND SON GENERAL AUCTIONEERS: AND BROKERS, COLLINS-STREET, MELBOURNE,</i> <i>Are favoured with instructions to announce to Capitalists throughout the Australian Colonies they have for sale, 4200 fine woolled sheep and 2700 head well-bred cattle, with the Tala and Nap Nap Stations, the former having forty miles, and the latter 25 miles frontage to the Murrumbidgee River; also, the Paika Station opposite, with 33 miles frontage, and 11,000 Fine Woollen Sheep, the distinguished FLOCKS and HERDS of W. C. Wentworth, Esq. M.L.C. near those of the Royal Bank.</i> <i>The Auctioneers respectfully submit for the consideration of intending purchasers, that such a series of valuable Stations have never been in the Market at one time. They are capable of depasturing a far larger amount of STOCK, being situated amongst thickly grassed plains, through which flows the magnificent Murrumbidgee and various tributary streams, forming some of the most noble SHEEP WALKS throughout the explored parts of Australia.</i> Argus 21 Jan 1851.</p>
1851	Hobler leaves NSW for California. Remains in America till his death.
1851	Thomas Barker transfers Nap Nap to John Reeve [Wentworth's son-in-law?]. SMH 15 July 1851
1851	John Reeve builds Greycliffe in Sydney however the Reeve's lease the house out.
1851	Augustus Morris member of the first legislative council of NSW for pastoral districts of Liverpool Plains and Gwydir (till 1856).
1851-1856	Moravian Aboriginal Mission established at Lake Boga, near Swan Hill, within Wati Wati country.
1852	Act to facilitate the surveying of pastoral runs upon crown lands.
1852	American born Townsend Duryea arrives in Melbourne. Mining Engineer and Photographer.
1852	Major flood
1852	Augustus Morris marries Elizabeth Weedon of Sydney (17 th May SMH)
1853	The first Steamer navigates Murrumbidgee River. Two companies established and purpose built 'wool barges' are built.
1853	Major flood
1853	Sale of 1 million acres fronting the Murrumbidgee including Lakes Yanga, Tala and Paika formely leased by Wentworth and Reeve [Wentworth's son-in-law?]. Sale arranged by Mr A Morris. Newspaper advertisement follwos:
1853	<p><i>For Sale By Private Contract</i> <i>The Stations and Stocks, on the Lower Murrumbidgee belonging to Messers Wentworth and Reeve known as Tala, or the Kieta Nass Nass [sic] and Paika. These stations contain about 30 miles of frontage on the Murrumbidgee, besides several creeks and the extensive lakes of Yanga Tala and Paika and their entire area comprises about one million acres of first rate fattening pasture, and salt bush country, capable in ordinary seasons, of turning out (to a store sheep grazier) 60,000 fat wethers. The stock consists in round numbers, of about 45,290 sheep, and about 4000 horned cattle of a superior quality with a small lot of excellent brood mares.</i> <i>The stores to be taken at cost price, with carriage added, and the mares, stock horses, teams of working horses, bullocks, carts, drays, and other property, at a valuation. The stations are in the colony of New South Wales, though only 260 miles from Melbourne, and as the steamers are now commenced to run on the Murray the wool can be shipped, and all supplies necessary for the station procured at a moderate rate.</i> Source: Adelaide Argus (7 Feb 1853 and repeated 28 March 1853, 25 April 1853).</p>
1853	Syndicate of T S Mort, Thomas Hold, A Morris and T W Smart buy Wentworth's property. Morris buys the others out 3 months later. Purchase includes Tala, Yanga, Nap Nap and Paika stations. Source: ADB
1854	<p>Augustus and James Morris both involved with the run [unclear if James is brother or son]. Holding still includes the four runs. The following advertisements were published: <i>'James Norris' [Morris?] of Tala, Balranald warns against trespassing at the stations of Yanga, Tala, Nap Nap and Paika at Balranald. December 1854 but published SMH 1 Jan and again 8 Jan 1855</i></p>

Date	Description
1854	William Charles Wentworth and Edward Deas Thomson travel to England to campaign for responsible government for NSW. John Reeve also left the colony for England. See SMH 21 Jan 1854.
1854	Charles Williamson and Matthew Hervey [Williamson's son-in-law] purchase Moorabbin at Brighton. Later court case as the pair were unable to finalise purchase. Argus 1854
1855	Townsend Duryea moves to Adelaide and sets up photographic studio with his younger brother Sanford. [see also 1864]
1855	<p>Newspaper advertises land sale on the west of the Murrumbidgee with descriptions, under instructions from Augustus Morris:</p> <p><i>Magnificent Cattle Properties, Lower Murrumbidgee</i> <i>About 30 miles from the principal depot of the Murray River Steamers</i> <i>Lot 1 Paika, Yarrowal and Yarrowal Back Run...</i> <i>Lot 2 Juanbang, Koomcombers and Juanbang Back run...</i></p> <p>.....</p> <p><i>The improvements comprise -</i> <i>A superintendent's establishment at Lake Paika, with a small stockyard and paddock. Several good huts on different positions on the runs. Also a large tailing paddock on the river.</i></p> <p>.....</p> <p><i>These cattle are chiefly from the celebrated Yangar Herd. The improvements on these runs comprise stockmen's hut and large substantial stockyard.</i></p> <p><i>These runs are situate in the Lower Darling District, commencing at the junction of the Lachlan, and extending down the River Murrumbidgee thirty-two miles, and back about twenty miles; and well known as being the best portion of the stations lately the property of W C Wentworth Esq. These magnificent stations, solely adapted for pastoral purposes, and held under the longest term of lease, are watered by 5 miles of the Lachlan, thirty two miles of the Murrumbidgee and by Lake Paika as well as several other lakes which are situate some five to seven miles back from the river. The river frontage consists of most extensive flats and reed beds, which being periodically flooded during the spring and early part of the summer, afford the most luxurious pasturage, when nearly the whole of the other parts of the country is burnt up by the midsummer drought. The back run consists almost entirely of vast open plains (with small belts of timbered land) covered with abundance of grasses, rich herbage and salsolaceous plants. The whole of the runs are well capable of feeding in all seasons.</i> Argus 16 July 1855</p>
1855-56	Major drought.
1857	James Henry Nairn drowns at Tala Station, the station of Augustus & James Morris. SMH 19 Jan 1856.
1857	<p>Newspaper advertisement indicates Morris was previously living at Greycliffe, Sydney.</p> <p><i>Desirable Family Residence, to be let with immediate possession, the House now in occupation of Augustus Morris, Esq, known as Greycliffe, containing dining-room, drawing-room, library, and six bedrooms, and dressing-room, store-room, pantry, &c.; commodious detached kitchen, scullery, laundry, and other servants' apartments, large double coach house, five-stalled stable, and every convenience for a family residence. Also a gardener's house, with four rooms, with attached to it an. excellent vegetable garden. This house beautifully situated on the shores of Port Jackson-was built by John Reeve, Esq, at great expense, for his own residence, prior to his departure to England, and commands, without exception, one of the finest views on the harbour. There are about 14 acres of ground about the house, and altogether, it is one of the most delightful residences in the neighbourhood of Sydney.</i> SMH 6 Feb 1857.</p>
1857	<p><i>Sheep. Lambing has already commenced at Tala one of Mr. Augustus Morris' stations. The weather is very favourable, and the feed tolerably good. None of the purchased sheep have yet arrived, but there are some 12,000 close at hand, which are expected daily at the main crossing place of the Murrumbidgee.</i> SMH 16 June 1857.</p>
1857	<p><i>A fire very recently took place at Kieta, the residence of Mr. Augustus Morris. It appears to have to have arisen from a stove pipe; which passed through the roof, becoming overheated. Fortunately, the crackling of the flames quickly aroused the family, and assistance being at hand, the fire was extinguished before it had burnt long enough to do very material injury.</i> SMH 4 August 1857. [This implies Morris lives at Kieta and the fire may have contributed to the decision to relocate the head station.]</p>
1859	Bullock teams wanted for Yangar Lake Station, Argus 16 May 1859

Date	Description
1859	Death of Elizabeth Morris at Hobart town, wife of Augustus Morris Esq of Balranald, Murrumbidgee. Argus 25 May 1859
1859–64	Augustus Morris member of the Legislative Assembly for Balranald
1859	<i>Mr. Augustus Morris, the member for Balranald, passed through Deniliquin last week, on his way to Kieta his station on the Murrumbidgee. He is expected to return in ten days or so. Mr. Morris has purchased Mr. Flood's station. We believe the purchase money amounts to £80,000 or £90,000. Pastoral Times reprinted in the SMH 21 November 1859. NB By 1866 Flood had sold most of his runs in the Riverina. See ADB entry.</i>
1859	Morris has dealings [possibly a mortgage] with Moorehead and Young [Scottish Australian Investment Company] whose office was in Sydney. The company initially lent money but in the 1860s began to purchase properties in Queensland.
1860	Royal Society notes the expedition led by Captain Burke includes German-born Professor B. George Neumayer of the Melbourne Observatory. Neumayer visits Balranald and Lake Yanga. Account published in 1869. Argus 14 September 1860
1860	Discussion in the Legislative Assembly with Parkes, Robertson and Morris about the various claims for the Tala Run since 1850. SMH 4 April 1860
1860	Burke and Wills describe Yanga Lake and Murrumbidgee as bank high, ie water level was high
1860	<i>MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - I must regret to have to report that Mr. Alfred Parker, a nephew of Mr. Augustus Morris M.L.A., was accidentally drowned at Yangar Station, on the 19th instant. It appears that Mr. Parker was occupied in driving some horses into Yangar Creek, when the animal he rode became unmanageable, and, rushing into the water, the deceased was by some means thrown off into the creek. Mr. F. N. Burne, the superintendent of Yangar Station, Mr. Bowley, the store-keeper, and some others, immediately plunged into the water, and at imminent danger to their own lives, attempted to rescue the drowning man. Mr. Parker, although unable to swim, preserved his presence of mind, and called out to be quick. On sinking, and again coming to the surface, his friends succeeded in catching hold of him, but he quickly slipped from their grasp and sank out of sight. The body was not recovered for several hours. The deceased (a very promising young man of about nineteen years of age) had been in this part of the country during the last two years, and his untimely death is sincerely deplored by all the residents on the Lower Murrumbidgee. SMH 6 November 1860. [Near today's Yanga Lake regulator] Alfred's grave is adjacent the road to the homestead.</i>
1860	<i>It is said that the larger portion of the Paika Run, on the Lower Murrumbidgee, northern bank, has been sold by Mr Augustus Morris MLA to Mr James Tyson of Deniliquin. If the report speaks truly, the sale is somewhat peculiar in the method of delivery. Eight thousand bullocks and four thousand cows at the price of 8 pounds per head. The pick of Paika and Yangar Runs have to be delivered to the purchaser in numbers and at periods suitable to himself, during the space of eighteen months; at the end of which time he takes the balance of the cattle, if there is any, and enters into the possession of the run. SMH 5 Nov 1860.</i>
1861	[Part of] The Paika run reported to be sold by Augustus Morris to Matthew Hervey. SMH 5 Oct & The Star 25 Nov
1861	The Robertson Land Act allowed free selection, Crown Lands Alienation Act includes water reserves, the Crown Lands Occupation Act controlled leasing.
1861	Augustus Morris of Tala, Balranald, married Sarah Merciana Charlotte Bailer at St Leonards in May 1861. First wife had died in 1859. Later reports note that Eliza Constantina Morris [sister?] laid out the garden on the slopes below the house in 1861 (see Australasian 12 July 1924). [It is not clear which house this refers to].
1861	Augustus Morris obtains Mulgutherie Run on the Lachlan. Focus on this run shifts from cattle to sheep.
1862	<i>Latelty both Paika and Yanga runs, belonging to Mr. Augustus Morris have been considerably damaged by fires destroying the feed along the frontage, and although there were some suspicions as to how the fires originated, yet it was impossible to take any steps in the matter, as there is no law in existence for punishing persons who leave fires burning in the bush in NSW. SMH 22 March 1862.</i>

Date	Description
1862	<p><i>The delivery of one portion of Mr Augustus Morris' Paika station, with 8,000 bullocks and 4,000 cows, to Messers Peter and William Tyson, has just been concluded; and the delivery of the remaining portion, with 6000 cattle, to Matthew Hervey, is now in progress. Brisbane Courier 4 April 1862 [Hervey was Williamson's son-in-law according to 1866 article]</i></p>
1862	<p>Extract from Inoculation and Pleuro-Pneumonia (written in 1877 about the previous decade) <i>..... Yangar Lake, a station on the Murrumbidgee, and then in the possession of Mr Augustus Morris. The ordinary herd kept upon this station was 12,000 to 15,000 head of cattle. Of course, many large yearly consignments of store cattle had to be place on the run, to replace those sent to market. In the first place the station herd was badly attacked by the disease, but it was thoroughly inoculated; and though great losses were occasioned, through many cattle being missed in so large a herd, a good general standard of health was established. During the years above mentioned [1862-64], the importation of store stock came principally from the Clarence and Richmond Rivers, from the celebrated "Shield", "Diamond D." "CXS" and "EO" and other herds. These being very well bred cattle were particularly liable to be attacked in almost if not in every case while on the road in the season in question. But they were invariably inoculated prior to being mixed with the station herd, and in all cases they returned within a very few weeks of inoculation to the sound standard of health enjoyed by that herd. During one of the years mentioned above Mr. Morris purchased a station named Mulgutherie on the Upper Lachlan from which 4000 or 5000 head of cattle were removed to Yangar Lake. The Lachlan was diseased from end to end, Mulgutherie was no exception.</i> <i>I was at the latter station when two lots of 1500 each were started for Yangar - the last lot going down in my charge. When the cattle were mustered for the journey they were suffering severely from pleuro. They were inoculated and starting by easy stages were delivered in sound health at their journey's end.</i> <i>The Messers Parker (Mr Augustus Morris' nephews) and myself were amongst the earliest inoculators in New South Wales, apart from veterinary surgeons, and we never had any pleuro so long as we had the traveling and inoculating of cattle to ourselves. All I have stated as to the management of the cattle at Yangar Lake, and the benefits which were uniformly found to result from inoculation, I have no doubt will be corroborated by the following gentlemen, whose addresses I give : Mr Augustus Morris, of Sydney, late NSW Commissioner at the American Exhibition ; Mr Frederic[sic] L Parker, Quiamong, NSW and Mr Langloh, of the Union Club, Sydney. The Queenslander 7 July 1877. Written by Sylvester Browne</i></p>
1863	<p>The article <i>A Route through the Back Country</i> published in the Brisbane Courier 13 July 1863 includes a description of a visit to Yanga Station [traveling from Moulamein to Balranald]. Station buildings are noted as being a mile from creek and hut. <i>... Open downs, saltbush, box, pine, and mallee diversify the character of the country from the lagoon until at twelve miles we emerge on the shore of Lake Yanga. Skirting the lake on our left, we pass through a bar-way [gate], and, inclining still to the left we reach Yangah, the station of Mr. Augustus Morris, M.L.A., at about three miles from our point of contact with the lake. Both sheep and cattle are depastured here, but fair feed and good camps may be found by diverging to the right when in sight of the station buildings, and striking a creek about a mile or so from these. The creek close to the hut is spanned by a substantial bridge. The road now trends to the right, and passing for a couple of miles across a piece of picturesque country enters the gum swamps which fringe the banks of the River Murrumbidgee.</i> The reporter had traveled from Barratta on the Edward River to Menindee. He also visited Murgah, the head station of Mr Gynne [Gwynne] This article implies that Morris station is on the peninsular in the lake ie the current location as it also refers to the hut on the creek at the bridge as a separate place.</p>
1864	<p>Townsend Duryea sets up his own photographic studio. Becomes most popular photographer in Adelaide. [see also 1855]</p>
1864	<p>Sale of prime fat cattle from Yanga Lake. Argus 16 August 1864</p>
1865	<p>Matthew Hervey, MLC and late Commissioner of Public Works in Victoria insolvent and resigned his position in the government. Had been speculating in station property and mining shares. Brisbane Courier 28 October 1865 and other articles. He dies in 1874. Argus 2 Dec 1874</p>
1865	<p>Morris disposed of Mulgutherie and Grudgery Stations & Stock to Messers Parker brothers [his nephews]. SMH 25 May 1865</p>

Date	Description
1866	Charles Williamson of Decameron Station brings case against Stock and Station Agents. Decameron Station at Ararat was the Williamson's main station. Case also involved his son in law Matthew Hervey who was bringing sheep from Queensland to Victoria. Argus 4 June 1866
1866	Morris bankrupt. Released 1867 (Sourced from the ADB)
1866	<p>Tala, Woogora, Lurica advertised for sale and also South Yanga and Burrawong [sic] on instructions from Augustus Morris. This sale is probably part of the forced bankruptcy sale of Morris' holdings.</p> <p><i>TALA, WOOGORA, And LURICA were offered Together with 4,000 bullocks, mixed ages. 2,000 cows, chiefly speyed, mixed ages. Total, 6,000, more or less And 25 horses, broken to saddle and harness.</i></p> <p><i>The above stations form one compact block of country, the estimated area of which is 134,180 acres, and hating a frontage of over 40 miles to the Murrumbidgee River. There are also numerous permanent creeks and lakes, which afford an ample supply of water at all seasons. The cattle are all sound and healthy, none being too old for fattening, The Improvements consist of four-roomed Cottage, with stock-yard; also, Horse Paddock, containing about 850 acres and large collecting yards.</i></p> <p><i>The boundaries are strictly defined, the back portion being fenced with a substantial cattle-proof fence, nearly new. About 10 miles would completely fence in the whole property, which will carry 10,000 head of cattle In ordinary seasons.</i></p> <p><i>Also SOUTH YANGA and BURRAWANG in the same district, together with 2,000 bullocks, mixed ages. 2,000 cows, chiefly speyed, ditto. Total, 4,000 more or less and 20 horses, broken to saddle.</i></p> <p><i>Those runs adjoin each other, South Yanga having a water frontage to Yanga Lake and Burrawong a frontage of ten miles to the Edwards River, besides other creeks and lakes. The estimated area is 111,700 acres. There are twenty-eight miles of fencing, a considerable portion of which is sheep proof, and the whole [station is in] a good order, having been only recently erected. With this run will also be sold the Canally Station, with eighteen miles river frontage.</i></p> <p>Argus Friday 20 April 1866.</p>
1866	Overland Telegraph line via Lake Yanga [not completed until the following year]. John Noone's Map of NSW shows telegraph route. [Adelaide to Sydney]
1867	Morris leaves for England to investigate cold storage and transportation methods. Source ADB
1867	<i>Stock matters at Deniliquin are dull from want of rain demand for store [sic store cattle] expected to be active when rain comes. 320 fat cattle from Yanga crossed here [sic here refers to Deniliquin]. Brisbane Courier 22 Feb 1867. Owner of cattle not listed.</i>
1868	Ballarat Sales – Sale of Cattle for Mr C Williamson, Yanga, Argus March 1868, 9 April 1968 [First mentioned found in historical records of Williamson at Yanga]
1870	300 fat cattle from Yanga via the Toolloybuc [sic] pontoon.
1870	Constantia Eliza Morris, Spinster of Berrima leaves her worldly goods to Augustus Morris [sister?] SMH 6 December 1870.
1870	Major flood
1872	<p>Newspaper article, <i>A Tour to the South (following)</i>, includes this illustration which matches the current Homestead.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><small>YANGA HOUSE, LAKE WALDTRIA, NEAR BALBRANALD.</small></p>

Date	Description
1872	<p><i>A Tour to the South</i> describes Yanga station in some detail by ‘our travelling reporter’. Town and Country Journal, including illustrations.</p> <p><i>From Wentworth I retraced my steps up the Murray to its junction with the Murrumbidgee, and again followed up the latter river to Balranald. Crossing the punt at Balranald in company with Mr. Mitchell, the police magistrate of the district, we had a pleasant ride to Yanga. About three quarters of a mile from the punt we passed a well-built roadside inn, called “The Punt Hotel,” carried on by Mr. C. J. Silvester. For three miles further the road wound through graceful pine plantations, and short plains; and Yanga Lake then burst on the view.</i></p> <p><i>This magnificent sheet of water, fed by the Murrumbidgee in flood time, was discovered by Mr. F. A. Gwynne, in 1845. It is fully fifteen miles in circumference. In shape it resembles the figure 8, and at the northern end of the 8 the residence is erected. Yanga station is the property of Dr. Williamson. The residence is a fine spacious building constructed chiefly of Murray pine. A good garden is before the house.</i></p> <p><i>About half a mile from the residence is the overseer’s, men’s quarters, and stables. At the latter I had an opportunity of seeing some excellent stock. Amongst these was Pluto, a bay colt by Ferryman, by Fisherman, dam Rose de Florence; Leonidas, by Kelpie, dam Bessie Bell; Mario, a handsome horse by Premier, dam Jenny Lind; and Styx, Sybil, and Castor, descendants of Ferryman, Warhawk, and Pluto, and the great “Talk o’ the Hills.”</i></p> <p><i>These horses show considerable promise, and will no doubt be in the front rank at the local race meets, where I understand they are to show their paces. The three last named belong to Mr. Stevenson, the overseer. Yanga is a splendid station, and is much improved. It extends from the junction of the Lachlan and Murrumbidgee on the northern side, south to the Edward River, as far west as within fifteen miles of the junction of the Murrumbidgee, embracing an area of 600 square miles. The run is all fenced in, and has over 125 miles of fencing, post and rail, wire, &c., erected on it. It is subdivided into summer and winter fattening paddocks, breeding, heifer, bull, and horse paddocks. Besides the Murrumbidgee River and Yanga Lake, Yanga station is watered by a number of other lakes – Condoopie [sic] eight miles round, Talbots three, small but deep; Tala seven miles round, Lurika seven miles round, and a few smaller ones. The run chiefly consists of plains, and pine ridges on the lower part of the run; towards the mouth of the Edward the country is principally mallee scrub.</i></p> <p><i>Yanga is a cattle station. The breed is all shorthorn, of excellent family, chiefly the descendants of imported bulls from the herds of McDougall, of Victoria, and also a few from Mr. Devlin’s. About 10,000 head of cattle are now on the run.</i></p> <p><i>The morning following my arrival, the superintendent, Mr. Pearson, had a capital pair of horses put to his buggy, and gave me a drive through the run, and to a neighbouring station, Canally, eleven miles distant. The road was a pleasant one, and the journey was accomplished in about one hour. We returned in the evening, and on the following day I resumed my travels. My journey was from Balranald to Deniliquin, via the Edward. From Yanga, across country, it is about twenty-five miles to the next station, Moolpar. I had some difficulty in finding my way, for the track was very indistinct in many places. The country, however, looked magnificent. It was beautifully undulating, and dotted over it were many fine lakes. Having had a late start from Yanga, it was long after night-fall when I came on to Salisbury plains, at the opposite side of which was the Moolpar woolshed, and half a mile further on, the residence of the proprietors, Messrs. G. A. and P. Mein, on the back of the Edward River.</i></p>
1872	<p>Greville 1872 Postal Directory List for Balranald: Williamson Charles, squatter, Yangra [sic] Station, Williamson Walter, J.P., squatter, Yangra [sic], Pearnon (sic) Charles, manager, Yangra [sic] Station; And for Wakool: Carter James, stockman, Yanga, Carter John, stockman, Yanga, Carter Richard, stockman, Yanga, Jones John, servant, Yanga, Pearson Charles E., storekeeper, Yanga, Stevenson William J., overseer, Yanga, Williamson Walter, MD. squatter, Yanga Station.</p>
1872	<p>Townsend Duryea marries third wife Catherine Elizabeth Friggins.</p>
1873	<p>Charles Williamson of Yanga purchases 3,500 shorthorn cattle. Argus Jan 1873.</p>

Date	Description
1873	262 head of fat cattle from Dr Williamson's station Yanga at Swan Hill en route to Melbourne. Argus May 1873.
1873	Advertisement for the private sale. <i>Yanga, one of the most magnificent stations on the Riverina. comprising 415,000 acres of splendid grazing country, well watered and subdivided into sheep-proof paddocks. The stock at present consists only of about 10,000 head of cattle, being as fine a herd as any in New South Wales, a large number being pure Durhams, also, about 10 000 superior Sheep. But as the Station is very much understocked, a capitalist could make this one of the finest properties in the colonies.</i> Argus 14 August 1873 This would appear to include Yanga and Burrawang (285,000 acres) and Tala (131,400 acres).
1873	Dr [Walter] Williamson's Kangaroo Hunt. Aboriginal man part of the party. Brisbane Courier 1 Dec 1873
1874	BARANALD - The correspondent of the Riverine Grazier, writing under date of August 19th, says - <i>Balranald has just woke up from sleep, and come to life again. Teams are coming in and out. Steamers are getting in full swing. Men from Victoria passing on to the shearing sheds in the back blocks. Sheep coming into town to cross by the steamers are at present formidable. The river traffic has completely altered the appearance of the place, and pleasure has not been forgotten, what with kangaroo hunting at Yanga, and concerts in town, we are wide awake again.</i> Maitland Mercury 5 September 1874
1874	Maloga Mission established at Moama in NSW, opposite Echuca.
1875	For Sale ... <i>The whole of the breeding cows at Yanga Station near Balranald comprising about 4000 head, three years on but none old, many with calves at foot, including all the celebrated Durham ox breeders, so well known in the Victorian markets together with 100 selected Durham bulls.</i> Argus 9 October 1875.
1875	Fire destroys Townsend Duryea's studio and negative collection (50,000 negatives). Leaves Adelaide and moves to a selection near Yanga Lake, CP 75/38. Two of his sons take up adjacent lots (near creek), Edwin Duryea and Richard Duryea. Duryea or one of his sons may have taken the early photographs of the homestead.
1875	In May 1875, about six month before his death, Mr. [Charles] Williamson owned a station in New South Wales called the Yanga Station, consisting of land held under licence from the Government of New South Wales There were, in addition to this, 3,397 acres of freehold land. On the station there were 1,100 head of cattle and 23,000 sheep. The property was sold to Mr. C B Fisher for £98,000 to be paid £8,000 cash, the balance by bills at one, two, three, and four years. The unpaid purchase money was to be secured by a mortgage over the freehold and a lien on the stock. The securities were registered in Sydney. The bills were made payable at the English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered Bank, Melbourne. [see also court case re duty later in 1881] Argus 12 May 1881
1875	Charles Brown Fisher converts the property from running cattle to sheep.
1875	Sale on behalf of C B Fisher included...250 heifers, three years old, most carefully selected from the Yanga herd, and comprising largely the blood of Messers. Booth and Holloway's Durham Ox cattle imported from England during the past 25 years, and well known formerly as the choicest[?] shorthorns in the colony. Argus November 1875.
By 1876	<i>After leaving Canally the next station we reached was Yanga, the property of Mr. C. B. Fisher, having recently been bought by him. The run is a very extensive one, and includes a good deal of purchased land. The station was formerly a cattle station, but is now being converted into a sheep station. There are over 11,000 head of cattle still on the run, but these will be, disposed of, and by next season it is anticipated that the station will carry over 160,000 sheep. The run is now being fenced in, and about 25 tons of wire were landed from the Hero. There were many tons of wire on the bank discharged from other steamers. The woolshed only is on the river bank, the home station being situated by the Yanga Lake, about 10 miles back. Just above the woolshed is a submerged barge, the Minnie Watt, which was sunk 12 months ago, when laden with wool. The wool was recovered by divers, but the barge still remains at the bottom of the river, all attempts to raise her having failed. Balranald is distant only a few miles from Yanga woolshed, by land three miles, by water about nine or ten... Down the Murray from our Special Correspondent, Argus 29 Jan 1876.</i>
1878	Major flood

Date	Description
1878	The Kerang Land Inquiry...Mr Cormack, station manager at Yanga and also a general speculator and moneylender was cross examined...when I left Fisher's employ I went to Yanga to select. Took up seven blocks. Yanga was put up for sale. Advised Fisher to buy it... Argus 23 Dec 1878
1878	Rabbits at Yanga in 1878 and at Nap Nap in 1880.
1879	Reserve made on Yanga Creek, R2121 10 March 1879, extended in 1881 and reserve on Lake Yanga R467 12 December 1879.
1879	Major flood
1881	Case brought by the Crown against the estate of Charles Williamson, to recover duty from sale of Yanga in 1875 Argus 7 July 1881.
1881	Improvement Purchases to Charles Brown Fisher.
1882	Lake Yanga Water Reserve WR 3020 and Lake Tala Water Reserve WR 3021 gazetted 22 November 1882.
1883	Cummeragunja Mission established closer to Echuca and people from Maloga were moved there.
1884	Crown Lands Act set up the three divisions of the state and conditional and pastoral leases. Squatters runs divided into two halves, one half retained by the lessee and the other half, the 'resumed area', was available for selection by small sheep farmers, etc. The Conditional Purchase system had proved too restrictive and squatting too expensive. Run Maps were prepared as part of the process including for Yanga Run 76, Tala Run 167, Nap Nap Run 68.
1884	Yanga (Run 76) northern portion had 143, 800 acres of leasehold, less 53,530 acres of alienations leaving 90,270 acres of crown lands. This area was originally intended to be the resumed half (available for selection) but was swapped. The south portion had 141,200 acres resumed area, less 40,620 acres, leaving 100,580 acres crown lands.
1884	Travelling Stock Route running North to South through parish of Belar. [SE of Yanga Lake]
c. 1885	Map of the Yanga Run shows old station near the bridge over Yanga Creek.
1885	C B Fisher later estimates that Darling Downs and Yanga worth £835,000 in 1885.
1888	Death of Townsend Duryea in a buggy accident (already crippled by a stroke). Buried at Parkside near Balranald.
1888	Aborigines Yanga Louise and Yanga Charlie listed in records of Balranald Hospital.
1888	E S & A Bank obtains portion adjacent (west of) the bridge over Yanga Creek. House etc. shown on portion plan may have been Duryea's homestead.
1888-89	Start of the six bad seasons that bankrupted Charles Brown Fisher.
1889	River Defence Association formed by citizens concerned about upstream river diversion. Source: Eastburn. Supporting letter from Mr Lindsay of Yanga published in the Riverine Grazier, 1 Aug 1889
1889	Fisher sends 500 rams from Yanga to Queensland via Hay. Robert Dagg in charge. SMH 20 Sept 1889.
1889	Typhoid outbreak at Balranald. C B Fisher donates money to hospital, on condition that the other pastoralists do likewise.
1889	Hanson's Pastoral Possessions of NSW lists Yanga Pastoral Holding No.76, comprising Yangar and Burrawang Runs, Name of Holders: English, Scottish and Australian Chartered Bank; and Tala Pastoral Holding No 167, comprising Loorica, Wargoora and Talla Runs, Name of Holders: English Scottish and Australian Chartered Bank. [misspellings from source]
By 1890	Frederick Wootton Danby and Edward Shackell are the trustees of C B Fisher's Estate at Yanga and Tala.
1891	Aboriginal people recorded as working on Yanga Station in Aboriginal Protection Board report.
1891	Two major floods.
1891	2,000 rabbits die from eating poisoned barley at Yanga Station (SMH 3 December 1891)
1892	'The Island', 140 acres between the Murrumbidgee and Yanga Creek reserved for Aboriginal use after a visit to the area by the Sir Victor Albert Charles George Child-Villiers Jersey, Governor of NSW.

Date	Description
1893	Balranald Irrigation Trust established. Source: Eastburn
1893-94	The following is a list of insolvent's [C B Fisher] real property at end two years prior to sequestration, 111,101 acres of freehold land on Darling Downs, Queensland, value £138,051, mortgaged to E S & A C Bank, 3rd April, 1890, for bank overdraft and guarantees, £823,023 ; 37,108 area of land on Darling Downs, Queensland, value £83, 493, mortgaged to British and Australian Trust and Loan Company, 30th June, 1892, for three years, for £67 321, and second mortgage to E S & A C Bank, for bank overdraft and guarantees. 157,00 acres freehold land, situate on Yanga and Tala runs, NSW, value £314,070, mortgaged to Sir Thomas Elder and R Barr Smith 3rd April, 1890, and renewed in 1893, for £160,000, and second mortgage to E S & A C Bank on 101,510 acres, and on 5,510 acres to Gibbs, Bright, and Co Leasehold, 132,425 acres, and resumed 127,040 acres, on Yanga and Tala Runs value £13,000, mortgaged to E S & A Bank for bank overdraft and guarantees. Mr. F. W. Danby and Mr. E. H. Shackell are trustees of the estate. Argus 9 May 1895
1894	1894 flood (extent of inundation mapped on paddock plan).
1894	<i>Further particulars are to hand regarding the attempt made to burn Kallara woolshed on the night of the 17th instant. The woolshed is situated about three miles from Kallara homestead inland, and is surrounded by an enclosure. A short distance from the shed is a small weatherboard hut in which three constables were located for the purpose of guarding the shed...</i> BALRANALD, TUESDAY. Shearing is almost at a standstill, as the men still refuse to sign the Pastoralists' Union agreement. The roll was called at Paika Station, 20 men only going to work under the new rules. The roll will be called at Canally and Yanga stations to-morrow, but few men are expected to sign. The Shearers' Union headquarters are distributing circulars throughout the district advising the men to hold out against the Pastoralists' agreement. SMH 22 August 1894
1894	Yanga station has made a start [to shearing] under the pastoralists' agreement of 1894. It is the last shed in the Swan Hill end of this district to start. SMH 20 September 1894.
1895	Charles Brown Fisher bankrupt. Darling Downs and Yanga now only worth £551,000, some 2/3 ^{rds} of their 1885 value. Fisher appears at insolvency court in Melbourne. Estate compulsorily sequestered and schedules filed with the court. SMH 24 August 1895 His liabilities were nearly £1,500,000 against assets of £786,000.
1895-1903	Severe drought.
1896	C B Fisher destitute and living in Melbourne. Friends take up subscription. Later moves Glenelg.
1896	Yanga woolshed burnt. Two men arrested who had camped in the Woolshed the previous night. Argus 29 Jan and 1 Feb 1896 <i>The Yanga Woolshed was burnt to the ground this morning It was built 20 years, and was capable of holding 30 shearers. The origin of the fire is unknown. The caretakers visited the shed an hour previously, and everything was right. It is said that a traveller slept there last night, but some time before the fire occurred. The police have been out all day making inquiries. Two months ago the hayshed, chaff cutter, and other machinery was burnt at Yanga farm. It was thought then that the fire was caused by lightning. It is likely that an inquiry will be held. Yanga station shears with non-union men. The shed was insured, but particulars are not to hand. It is estimated that its value was over £300. Later in connection with the fire in the shed at Yanga station two men named West and Graham, have been arrested on suspicion. SMH 27 Jan 1896 [assumed to have been associated with the Shearers strike].</i>
1896	<i>Inquest into the fire at the Yanga Woolshed... Seven witnesses were examined, including the manager, who stated that the shed was insured with the Norwich Union Insurance Company for £650, the woolpress for £100, and the dumping machine for £200. The wool of 200 sheep, two large tarpaulins, and a weighing machine which were completely destroyed, were uninsured. The jury returned on open verdict, and West and Graham were discharged. The case lasted all day. SMH 30 January 1896</i>
1896	Road shown from Lake Yanga towards the south east to a Travelling Stock Reserve dated 1896. On line of earlier survey route to Edwards River.

Date	Description
1897	Proposed Land Swap Glen Innes and Balranald. Queenslander 20 Feb 1897. <i>The tract of country near Balranald comprises about 36,125 acres of the Yanga pastoral holding, adapted for grazing. The altitude is about 300 ft., and the average rainfall 12in. To a large extent area is broken up by alienated lands, and is thus not favourable in form for settlement in moderate holdings. It is stated that this pastoral country might provide about ten holdings for settlement lease. The exchange is regarded as favourable to the public interest, and the Minister has been urged to entertain the proposal.</i>
1897	Major flood
1898	Public road notified to north of Belar parish, east of Yanga Lake. Later becomes Sturt Highway.
1900	Major flood
1900	Samuel Lindsay, Yanga manager, evidence at inquiry re water diversion. Riverine Grazier 17 April 1900
1902	Death of Dr Williamson at Decameron, Elmhurst, Victoria
1904	Closer Settlement Act
1904	Monash inspected Lower Murrumbidgee and recommended weirs in the area. Source: Eastburn
1905	Outside complaints as to method of rabbit control. Pastures Protection board satisfied with manager's method of control. SMH 11 Feb 1905.
1906	<i>Mr and Mrs A B Briggs and family, Cooreen, will leave shortly for Yanga Station, NSW where in future they will reside.</i> The Queenslander 14 April 1906
1906-19	Anthony Burgh Briggs was Manager. Woolshed had been re-built after fire. £30,000 spent on rabbit eradication. George Carter was stock and sheep manager in the early 20 th Century.
1907	Wilcannia mail coach destroyed by fire at Yanga, mails burnt (Hobart Mercury 18 July 1907). <i>The Wilcannia mail coach, which left Bourke last night, was, with the mails, destroyed by fire at Yanga Station, about 25 miles out. The mails included those for Louth, Tilpa, Wilcannia, and all the intermediate stations between Yanga and Wilcannia. It seems that the coach was held up at Yanga during a heavy storm of rain and lightning The horses were taken out, and the occupants took shelter. When Driver Morrison returned with the horses he was horrified to find nothing but the wheels of the coach remaining.</i>
1909	Lake Tala declared a reserve for the preservation of game R14162.
1909	FR [Forest Reserve] 43974 notified. [now Yanga Nature Reserve]
1909	A second fire was discovered in the 10-mile paddock at Yanga station yesterday, but was promptly extinguished before much damage had been done. SMH 11 Nov 1909.
1912	At least 7 slabbed wells, water tanks and windmills are built in the sandplain country.
1912	Water Act and establishment of the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission. The right to the use and flow, and the control of water in all rivers and lakes that flow through, or past, or are situated within, the land of two or more occupiers, is vested in the Commission for the benefit of the Crown. The first water from the Burrinjuck Dam is diverted to the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area (MIA).
1913	Olga Mitchell born on Pelican Point, Yanga Lake to Aboriginal mother and English boundary rider father. Olga later married a fisherman and lived in fishing camps at Lake Yanga.
1913-20	Regulator construction commenced on Yanga Creek at the entrance to the Lake.
1913	Crown Lands Consolidation Act.
1914	Investigation by English Scottish and Australian Bank into subdivision of Yanga.
1914-5	Severe drought.
1915	Reserves Revision Board reviews reserve at Lake Tala, cancels water reserve.
1915	River Murray Waters Act provides for regulation of Murray and Murrumbidgee River.
1915	Forest Reserve dedicated as Yanga State Forest No. 187. Lease to E S & A Bank disposed.
1919	Arthur Sims and Arthur Cooper take over mortgage of Yanga establishing, Sims Cooper P L, later 'Yanga P L'. E J Smith, formerly overseer, is Yanga manager. Company affairs managed by Mr Besley.

Date	Description
1920s	Electric lighting plant and freezing chamber installed. Garden extended and telephone installed. Yanga is reduced to 197,500 acres with 120,000 earmarked for Soldier Settlement Scheme.
1922	Gazettal of Lake Yanga as a Sanctuary for Birds and Animals.
By 1922	Yanga Permissive Occupancy Lease.
1922	Major flood
1922	<p>BALRANALD NEEDS WATER AND RAILWAY. (BY OUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.)</p> <p><i>While it was not so directly associated with the objects of the tour as the development of the lands further west, the possibilities of increased settlement in the Balranald district were effectively brought under the notice of the Parliamentary party. The presence of so many members was unique in the history of the town, and there was an enthusiastic effort to make the most of the opportunity. Some of the party were entertained at the historic Yanga homestead, located on the shores of Yanga Lake, a fine sheet of water. The holding of is 137,500 acres is believed to be the largest freehold in New South Wales, but the present control would prefer to have facilities which would enable it to be used for closer settlement. Mr Besley, the manager, has experimented with wheat on an extensive scale, and has 1,700 acres under crop this season. Last year his yield was 18 bushels, while during the previous season, it amounted to 21 bushels. But the uncertainty of river transport and the long haul to the Victorian border make the industry too precarious under existing conditions.</i></p> <p><i>If the consent of the Government can be obtained, and the railway connection provided, the 100,000 sheep on Yanga will give place to hundreds of orchards and mixed farms. Much of the land is far too valuable to be confined to pastoral production. The opinion of the Victorian authority has been obtained after a close survey of the whole area was made. He says "I know of no large area which offers greater possibilities from an irrigation point of view than Yanga, or one which, given railway and water, could be settled with greater advantage to vendor and settler. The crux of the whole question is water and railway. The water is available if the New South Wales Government does not object.</i></p> <p><i>It is impossible to realise the extent of such property at Yanga without some knowledge of western conditions It extends on the south of the Murrumbidgee about four miles west of Balranald to 30 miles east of that town, with a river frontage Including all its windings of about 80 miles. The nearest railway in New South Wales is at Hay, 80 miles distant, while Tooleybuc, 35 miles away is the nearest Victorian terminus. One-third of the estate consists of a rich dark swampy soil, subject to annual inundation, but capable of being protected by levee banks at a moderate cost. This is considered suitable, in areas of 100 acres, for dairying and mixed farming. Another third consists of light red soil typical of much of the are seen throughout the Journey from Wentworth, a good deal of which is ideal for fruit, with a smaller area for wheat. A conservative estimate of the total capacity of the estate is 1,000 families.</i></p> <p><i>A fifty-mile trip through the environs of Balranald revealed the scope of country which could be put under the plough once access to market was given. Some thirty years ago what is known as the Burrawang resumed area, part of the Yanga station, was cut up into blocks of 2,560 acres for grazing purposes. But some of these were found too small, and as individual settlers sold out, their holdings were acquired by their neighbours even with an average rainfall of 12 inches successful crops of wheat have been grown, up to six bags per acre being taken from fallowed land. Here, again, as at Yanga, river transport cannot be depended upon, and crops await markets for months. 13 June 1922</i></p>
1922-1935	Lower Murray Locks 1-11, Blanchetown, SA, to Mildura, VIC, completed.
1923	Tour by the Victorian Minister for Railways (Mr Barnes), Mr Lynch (secretary to the Minsiter) and Mr Perrin (Assistant Chief Engineer for Railway Construction. Describes their visit to the area, including Yanga territory. Lake currently 12 ft deep. Stopped for lunch at a boundary riders hut on the Moulamein-Maude stock route. Argus 31 January 1923
1923	50,000 acres of Yanga resumed for subdivision and closer settlement by Minister of Lands SMH 12 Dec 1923.

Date	Description
1923	<p><i>Historic Riverina, Old Homesteads Described, Memories of Pioneers</i></p> <p><i>When the rising tide of immigration sweeps across the plains of the Riverina, the cutting-up of large holdings for closer settlement will involve the disappearance of many historic homesteads along the banks of the Murrumbidgee and its tributaries. Progress and sentiments, like youth and crabbled age, cannot dwell together; and even now modern appliances have robbed the old homesteads of much of their picturesqueness. A Melbourne visitor at Yanga near Balranald (NSW) on Sunday September 30, watched from the low verandah a long line of motor cars speeding across the horizon and said with a tinge of regret, poor old Yanga. Once the largest freehold property in NSW; soon to be cut up for the farmers who will come to Riverina now that the border railways are to be constructed. Through the Victorian and NSW Parliamentary party, which toured the Riverina upon of the turning of the sod of the first border railway, had little leisure in which to converse with the many interesting personalities who participated in the warm welcome, its members were able to appreciate the grit and integrity of the settlers...</i></p> <p><i>Wonders of Yanga Station</i></p> <p><i>There is a wonderful spirit of fellowship among the Riverina pastoralists. One of the most popular figures in the district is Mr C H Besley, general manager of the Sims, Cooper Pty Ltd pastoral properties. He is of an old Scottish family, an in addition to being a shrewd man of affairs and an expert judge of fat sheep, he is a charming and courteous host. Yanga has a varied history. Originally it consisted on 360,000 acres, but its present area is approximately 198,000 acres. The company will shortly subdivide 100,00 acres. The homestead is built upon a high peninsula formed by the kidney-shaped Lake Yanga, a beautiful sheet 4,000 acres in area. The property was controlled at one time by the late Mr C B Fisher, and, though its earlier history is not clear, it once belonged to the Wentworth Family. It was owned by Dr Williamson until 1875 at which time it was a cattle run. The celebrated Yanga flock was introduced, according to the particulars available, shortly after the run was acquired by Mr Fisher.</i></p> <p><i>Yanga is a little community to itself. The homestead has been made thoroughly modern and luxurious. These homestead has an efficient electric light plant, and a recent addition is a freezing chamber. An attraction is the flower and vegetable garden, which has been artistically planned on ground sloping gently to the edge of the water. The effect of the sunshine and an abundance of water is revealed in the rows of vegetables. On the left the flower garden provides a splash of red, yellow and purple against a background of lemon trees with branches sagging under the weight of fruit...</i></p> <p>Also described scarred trees Argus 9 October 1923</p>
1924	105,000 acres of Yanga is surveyed into 14 smaller farms (for Soldier Settlement Scheme)
1924-1937	Upper Murray weirs completed: Torrumbarry Weir (1924), Euston Weir (1937), Yarrawonga Weir (1939).
1925	Tornado at Balranald. Pumping equipment from Yanga woolshed offered for use for the township by the manager Mr J. E. Smith. Argus 15 Jan 1925.
1925	Major flood
1926	Railway line (Victorian Railway System) to Balranald is completed. Regular riverboats cease to Balranald. Balranald Railway Station located on east side of Murrumbidgee, two sidings on Yanga at Yanga Lake and Impimi.
1927	Major drought.
1927	Burrinjuck Dam on upper Murrumbidgee completed. Built by the NSW Public Works Department.
1927	<p>Newspaper report that the ...<i>Yanga homestead is delightfully situated, being built on a neck of land that juts out into the waters of the Yanga Lake a sheet of fresh water that is 4,000 acres in extent, with a depth of 18 ft at the deepest part. The homestead is surrounded by a large number of outbuildings and the whole has the appearance of a small township. A pumping plant supplies all the water that is needed and a large dynamo provides electric light for the building and grounds. The heat of the summer has little effect on those in residence at Yanga for a refrigeration machine is installed for the making of ice, and food is kept in cold storage. There is a fine vegetable garden and orchard, which provides sufficient for those at the homestead as well as supplying outside stations owned by the company. A few years ago 100 000 sheep would be put through the hands of shearers at Yanga but with the cutting up of the property that number will never be reached again and the time is not far distant when the best part of this fine country will be growing wheat instead of raising sheep.</i> Argus 11 Feb 1927</p>

Date	Description
1928	Yanco Weir completed.
1931	Major flood. Nimming Pollen Creeks Water Trust District proclaimed.
1933	9 fires in the Balranald area. SMH 20 January 1932.
1933	Sturt Highway gazetted.
1938-1962	'The Island' leased to Murray Family. Bes (Besley) Murray and father work on Yanga Station. Establish and run charcoal kilns.
1938-39	Major drought.
1939	Yanga Lake dries completely.
1937	Land reserved for Balranald/Moama Road alongside the railway line.
1939-45	Many Yanga staff leave for war. Women shear in the Woolshed (recorded in cartoon). Fred Carter, son of George Carter, becomes manager.
1940	Maude and Redbank Weirs, on the Murrumbidgee and adjoining Yanga, completed.
1943	Survey flight of Supermarine Walrus amphibian aircraft lands on Yanga Lake seeking a location for an aircraft base. The corrugated iron canoe is used to paddle to the aircraft. [Source: NLA photos]
1945	Lowbidgee Flood Control and Irrigation District, the first of its kind, established. To provide flood irrigation for pasture lands on the Lower Murrumbidgee by water diverted from the Maude and Redbank Weirs.
1945	Wool boom until early 1950
c1950	Yanga Homestead undergoes significant interior renovations.
1951	9 commercial fishermen operate on Yanga Lake.
1956	Major flooding of the Lowbidgee area. Yacht Club building destroyed.
1967	Yanga Lake almost completely dry.
1975	Alastair Cox, previously a stock worker, takes over from Fred Carter as Manager (until 2000).
1975	Major flood.
1970s	Motorbikes and 'walkie talkies' replace old farm methods. Staff levels drop even further. More emphasis on cropping, increased water regulation and irrigation.
1976	Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission reconstituted as the Water Resources Commission.
1980s	Hereford cattle are introduced. Student exchange programme introduced.
1985	A sawmill, across the Murrumbidgee River from Tala, is operated by Yanga Station and Alex Rowe as 'Riverina Redgum'.
1990s	Yanga running approx 25,000 sheep over 88,000 acres, a drop from 90% to 20% of station economy. Further irrigation works in the red/black soil country introduced.
1998	Bes (Besley) Murray retires after 40 years of working on Yanga.
2000	Yanga Lake dries up – no major water to 2010. Alastair Cox retires as Manager.
2005-7	Yanga purchased by NSW State Govt. and gazetted as a National Park and State Conservation Area.
Nov 2005	The last muster at Yanga.
Aug 2010	Water returns to Yanga Lake. By October/November 2010 lake is full again.

2.2 Historical Development of Yanga

2.2.1 Landscape History of the Lowbidgee

*Tracing the natural evolution of Australia
Environment – naturally evolved*

Yanga Station, now National Park, lies at the western edge of the Riverine Plain, in the Murray-Darling Basin². Extending along the eastern bank of the lower reaches of the Murrumbidgee River, the Lowbidgee³, it is situated at an ancient landscape boundary. Today this boundary is the zone where windblown (aeolian) sediments meet the water-carried (fluvial) sediments from the east. To the east lies the alluvial floodplain of the Riverina, the accumulation of sediments carried from the Great Dividing Range by the west flowing rivers. To the west extend the semi-arid plains the accumulation of sands blown eastward by the prevailing westerly winds.

This is also a more ancient edge. Twenty million years ago the west coast of eastern Australia met the Miocene ocean somewhere to the west of Yanga. The coast ran roughly parallel to the present north-south line of the lower Murrumbidgee, and the ancient Murray and Murrumbidgee draining the highlands then flowed across coastal lowlands to the sea. Around 5 million years ago, the sea began to retreat westwards, leaving a series of coastal ridges arcing from NW to SE across western NSW and Victoria, and the rivers gradually extended their courses. Around one million years ago the land to the west was inundated by a vast freshwater lake, and when this drained about 500,000 years ago, the lake clays were covered by desert sands blown from the west.

Yanga lies in at the edge of the fluvial zone: between the ancient sea and land, then lake-edge and land, and now between the more recent fluvial clays and aeolian sands. The landscape today reflects this: a number of small lunette-lakes (Yanga, Tala) nestled between floodplain and sandplain. The country is dissected by modern rivers (the Murrumbidgee) and palaeochannels of older rivers, many of which are now creeks and tributaries of the modern Murrumbidgee (eg Uara Creek).

The only direct information from Yanga itself regarding the landscape history is the recent dating of the dune and lacustrine sediments at Yanga Lake⁴. Silty sands beneath the present lakebed are greater than 128,000 years old, giving a minimum age for the start of sedimentation in the lake basin. At about 66,000 ± 5000 years ago, sediments began blowing up from the lakeshore, initiating the lunette forming the high ridge between the two basins, where Yanga Homestead is sited. A stable period followed, with a soil forming on the lunette (indicating vegetation cover), but between around 53,000 to 50,000 years ago over four metres of silts and sands built up on the lunette. The lake would have alternately filled and dried through this period. Another stable period of soil formation followed between c 50,000 and c 28,000 years ago. The last major phase of instability with wind-blown deposition on the lunette was 18-19,000 years ago, but this may have continued to a lesser degree until at least 7000 years ago, after which vegetation was stable and soil formed.

This matches the sequence of lake filling and drying and lunette formation at the Willandra Lakes, culminating in a major phase of lunette building at the height of the last glacial maximum, around 18-19,000 years. The Willandra Lakes have been dry since then, but Yanga Lake continued to fill, with related dune building.

Understanding how these lake and lunette cycles at Yanga Lake relate to changes in the river channels across the Riverine Plain, the Murrumbidgee itself and palaeochannels such as Uara Creek, is a matter for future research.

2 Brown and Stephenson, 1991.

3 Eastburn, 2003.

4 Cupper, 2008.

2.2.2 Aboriginal People at Yanga – The Archaeological Record

In spite of the closeness to the ancient landscape with its rich Aboriginal cultural sites at the Willandra, the oldest Aboriginal sites in the Riverina are less than 5000 years old. This is a reflection of the difference in the nature of the landscapes. Over the last 50,000 years, the palaeo-channels of the Murrumbidgee, Edwards and Wakool Rivers have dumped huge amounts of alluvial clays and silts eroded from the eastern highlands, building up the Riverine Plain, and in the process covered all evidence of earlier Aboriginal presence.

On Yanga, all aspects of past Aboriginal life are preserved in the archaeological record: burials, stone artefacts, modified trees, where bark was removed for canoes and coolamons, and the remains of camping areas marked by fireplaces and food remnants such as shell midden. Some of these are earth mounds, the most distinctive type of Aboriginal sites on the Riverine Plain.

Peter Beveridge, one of the first squatters in the Swan Hill district, gave the following description of the Aboriginal landscape, during flooding:

On these wide-spreading reed-beds the blackfellows' ovens are of a larger size, and more numerous, than they are in any other portion of Australia, thus plainly denoting the at one time denseness of the population in that locality, as well as the abundance of food pertaining thereto ... All over the submerged country, cooking mounds stand up out of the flood, perfect little islands, looking bright and green, and refreshing to the eye, by reason of the great growth of succulent saltbush, dillines [prickly bushes about a metre tall with edible red and yellow berries], and giant mallow with which they are prettily dressed. These oven islands the natives utilise in the flood season for their village sites, conveying their firewood and other requirements over miles of water from the main land in their canoes. A village, or native encampment, will often times remain on one of these tiny islands for a whole month, feasting upon the oleaginous codfish and his congeners, taking ample toll from the great Murray lobster ... Aquatic birds, too, of many species, together with their eggs, have to contribute pretty heavily to the aboriginal cuisine, and by way of salad they have the watery ionty, and the bitter sow thistle⁵ ...

As archaeological sites, these mounds built up from the sediment and detritus of earth ovens, including burnt clay heat retainers, fused silica, fragments of charcoal and ash lenses, and the actual material of the hearth or oven. Carbonised, calcined and fragmented bone demonstrates repeated use of hot ovens in the mounds, and thin baked clay casts suggest that parcels of food were coated in mud for baking⁶. Mounds can also contain shell midden lenses, and occasionally human burials.

Sarah Martin's recent major study of Riverina earth mounds concluded that

there was rapid change in the behaviour of people living in some areas of the Hay Plain during the mid to late Holocene. Changes included increased focus on permanent wetlands and particularly wetland plants, maximisation of energy obtained from carbohydrate rich plant foods through cooking in heat retainer ovens, focus on smaller ranges or smaller sections of ranges, and reduced mobility.

The chronology indicates that the idea of mound building appeared much later than the wetlands, and mounds are therefore not a direct response to evolving wetland habitats but reflect complex social strategies constrained by habitat potential.

The distribution of ovens, mounds, and ashy deposits suggests different activities and scales of activities related to heat retainer cooking occurred and evolved differentially across the plain⁷

Earth mounds have been recorded at Yanga, but there appear to be relatively fewer than further east. On the other hand, there appears to be a higher proportion of shell middens at Yanga than elsewhere on the Riverine Plain. There may be a variety of reasons for this (apart from just inadequate records overall): the lack of carbonate soils (which preserve shell) further east, or the presence of more lakes at this western end of the Plain. For most other types of sites, the number recorded at Yanga is too low to determine whether there are any similar patterns.

Given Yanga's position at or close to the boundary between the Riverine Plain and the western sand plain country, these kinds of patterns are exactly what might be expected – a diminution in numbers of what are

⁵ Beveridge 1889 pp 34-35

⁶ Martin 2006 p. 130

⁷ Martin 1996 p. 197

regarded as the characteristic sites of the Riverine Plain (mounds) and an increase in sites, such as shell middens, typically associated with lakes further west.

2.2.3 Aboriginal People at Yanga – The Historical Record

The explorers Sturt⁸ (1829-30) and Mitchell⁹ (1835) travelled along the Murrumbidgee, Sturt by boat, and Mitchell on land, on the western bank. Both provide important accounts of the Aboriginal people they met along the way, but neither records visiting the eastern bank. Mitchell's account is the more valuable, because it describes in detail the collection, processing and cooking of the staple food crop, bulrush root.

The most important early account we have of Aboriginal people at Yanga is that of George Augustus Robinson in 1846. Robinson had been Protector of Aborigines in Tasmania in the 1830s, and was Chief Protector of Aborigines in Victoria from 1839-1849. In 1846 he made a trip through NSW and SA, crossing the Murray at Swan Hill and proceeding past Yanga Lake to Lake Tala¹⁰. Here he stayed with Mr Walker and Mr Goodfellow, 'the gentlemen of Mr Wentworth's establishment'.

Robinson's journal entry for 2nd May 1846 describes visits to native graves and camps:

*Visited interesting grave of a black, five yards, north end of the lake thus [figure] ancient grave, raised ridges, bark hut five feet high, four feet wide made of bark and timber, hollow inside, wooden shield. Visited second grave with two bodies, made in same manner but no bark hut only old wood laid on grave [figure]. Counted 40 native camps. Upwards of 100 or 200 pellicans, crane, white, large number ducks, plovers, miles of swans, white spoonbills. No stone in country. High bank sand precipitous on east side 100 feet high eucalyptus gum at foot and another species of tree long leaf. Visited small camp [of] natives and then climbed the steep [bank]. Visited the first hut built by Clark, slab ditto, commanding position take all ditto, descended to a large camp on beach, went through the camp about 300 natives altogether, men women and children, very civil. Walgerre, Tala, Yanga, and other blacks present. Said women fishing for shells. One lake cod caught in [blank].*¹¹

The figures in the journal, referred to in the quotation are reproduced in Section 3.2.9 of this CMP. Explorers Oxley¹² and Mitchell recorded similar graves along the Lachlan and Murrumbidgee Rivers.

Robinson is the first to record the names of the tribes in this area (1st May 1846).

The natives of these lakes are called the Watte Watte, the Mutte Mutte are lower down at the junction of the Murrumbidgee. Watty Watty and Mutte Muttee same language, difference in name. Muttee Muttee and Watte Watte is the negative of the language i.e. no. Waradjure is spoken to the junction of the Lachlan. The Tar.te Tar.te tribe at Lake Benane below junction of Murrumbidgee. Tin.ne Tin.ne tribe [at] junction Edward. Kine.ne Kine.ne [at] junction of Murrumbidgee with Murray. Tribe at Gunbower are Baraber Baraber. Chy Chy at Hog's speaks Kine.ne Kine.ne, Moroobilic and Moyerer billik at wool shed. Chy Chy [at] Hog's language Kini Kini, extend up the Wakool. Unangun blacks means reed blacks. Myal means the boomerang blacks, no reeds^{13 14}

[Note: Hog may be E. J.Hogg, who squatted near Deniliquin; it is unclear which 'woolshed' is meant.]

Specifically for what is now Yanga, Robinson wrote in his report for 1st May 1846:

*The natives at Tala were an assemblage of tribes, the males of the locality were forty, those of Garngher [Yanga Lake] one hundred and twenty; the lake natives are designated Watte Watte, the junction of the Murrumbidgee Muttee Muttee and Kinene Kinene...*¹⁵

The next source of information about Aboriginal people in the Yanga area is from the survey records of Francis P. McCabe and Thomas Townsend. McCabe surveyed the Murrumbidgee River from the Lachlan to

8 Sturt 1833

9 Mitchell 1839

10 Clark 2000

11 Clark 2000

12 Oxley, 1820.

13 Clark, 2000.

14 Note: Hog may be E. J.Hogg, who squatted near Deniliquin; it is unclear which 'woolshed' is meant.

15 Clark, 2000.

the Murray in 1848¹⁶. He was particularly assiduous in following Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell's instructions to record Aboriginal place names. For this stretch of the Murray he recorded, and more importantly, mapped 142 place names on the west bank and 15 on the east bank. The latter include Tala and Yangar Creeks and Kyretowe, also given as Kietu, latter the location of Kietu Homestead. There is great potential for research into the landscape pattern of the languages of these placenames.

McCabe also mapped the locations of the first squatters along the river frontage, but Townsend's 1851 and 1852 surveys provide more detail of the country away from the river to the east. He maps placenames on Yanga such as 'Yonga' Creek and Lake, Poonyea (later The Island Aboriginal Reserve), Kietu, Talpee and Monkem. On the bank of the Murrumbidgee near Kietu he also marks an area and labels it 'Blacks Burial Ground'.

There are no direct records about Aboriginal people from the Yanga Area for the next 40 years. In 1851 Moravian missionaries set up a Mission at Lake Boga, just south of Swan Hill, but it was abandoned by 1856. Maloga Mission east of Moama on the Murray was established in 1874, and in 1883 Aboriginal people there were moved to Cummeragunja, closer to Echuca¹⁷. These refuges would have attracted Aboriginal people from the Yanga area, especially Lake Boga, which lies within Wati Wati country.

In 1883 The NSW Aboriginal Protection Board (APB) was established, taking over the administration of the reserves set up for Aboriginal people. Annual reports of the APB give details of the numbers of Aboriginal people in centres, including Balranald, until the early 1900s. In 1883 106 Aboriginal people are listed as living in Balranald and in 1891 Aboriginal people are recorded as employed on Yanga and Canally Stations¹⁸. The annual reports also note that the numbers of people vary along the Murray River, because of the movement of people between the colonies – not surprising, since the tribal lands are on both sides.

In June 1892 the NSW Governor, Earl Jersey, visited Balranald. He listened to Aboriginal pleas for land, which were facilitated by Ewen Cameron, of Inverloch, on the west of the Murrumbidgee near Balranald, and 'doing away with red-tapeism',¹⁹ he expedited the reservation of 140 acres for the use of Aborigines. 'The Island', 140 acres between the Murrumbidgee and Yanga Creek, bounded by Yanga Station on the east, was reserved on 1st October 1892.²⁰ Ewen Cameron was an uncle of brothers Angus and Ewen Cameron who took up Mungo Station as a Soldier Settlement block in the 1920s.²¹

Even after the establishment of the Muttie Daddie Reserve west of Balranald in 1937, the Island remained in Aboriginal use until 1962, leased to members of the Murray family. The remnants of the Murray house and garden are still visible, as is one of the charcoal kilns they ran (located on Yanga NP.) The Island was transferred to the Balranald Aboriginal Land Council in 1995.

It is likely that many Aboriginal people living in Balranald area and on the Island through the late 19th and early 20th century had traditional ties to Yanga. An outpatient list from Balranald Hospital provided to Bes (Besley) Murray by Matron Beth Harrison (c.1980s) includes the names Yanga Louisa and Yanga Charlie for the year 1888.²²

Aboriginal people lived and worked on Yanga Station through the 20th century. Tony (Poona) Mitchell's mother, Olga, was born at Pelican Point Lake Yanga in 1913, her father an English boundary rider, Harry Devereux. Bes (Besley) Murray's family leased the Island but also camped at Yanga Lake until the 1956 flood. Both men have worked on or for Yanga Station throughout the late 20th century and Poona Mitchell is now employed at Yanga NP. Their family and work reminiscences have been recorded in the Yanga Oral History Study.²³

16 Hope and Hercus, 2009.

17 Massola, 1970.

18 Aboriginal Protection Board Annual Reports 1883, 1891

19 Harris, 1913.

20 Gahan, 2002.

21 Jeannette Hope research

22 Information from Bes Murray

23 Gapps, 2008.

2.2.4 Exploration and Early Mapping

Developing local, regional and national economies: Exploration

Charles Sturt led first exploration party along the Murrumbidgee River in 1829-30²⁴. More than a decade earlier, in 1817, John Oxley had travelled along the Lachlan River, but turned back before its junction with the Murrumbidgee, defeated by the Great Cumbungi Swamp²⁵. Sturt's party travelled by land along the northern bank of the Murrumbidgee to just east of the Lachlan junction, where they assembled and launched a whale boat, and on 7th January 1830 set off on a voyage down the Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers to Lake Alexandrina near the Murray mouth. Unable to find a passage through to the ocean, they rowed back upstream, reaching the approximate position of Narrandera on the Murrumbidgee on 10th April 1830, where they burnt the whaleboat and set out for Sydney.

In 1836 Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell set out along the Lachlan, with the intent of proceeding due west in search of the Darling River, which he had previously followed as far as the Menindee Lakes.²⁶ On reaching Booraran, on Willandra Creek just beyond the Lachlan, he was dissuaded from continuing west by some elderly Aboriginal men who warned that there was no water along the route.

He travelled south along the Lachlan, bypassing the swamps, and then followed the Murrumbidgee to the Murray. From here he led a section of his party to the Murray Darling Junction, then retraced his steps to the Depot he had established near the Murray-Murrumbidgee Junction. Mitchell crossed the Murray, and continued upstream to Swan Hill (which he named) before setting off across the country he called 'Australia Felix', later Victoria, to the south coast.

Both Mitchell and Sturt provide extensive descriptions of the country they pass through, as well as accounts of their encounters with Aboriginal people, but the Murrumbidgee was not their prime destination, and they pass through quickly.

In 1860, the Burke and Wills expedition actually crossed Yanga en route from Swan Hill to Balranald, but journal references to the area are marginal. Ludwig Becker described the country between the Talbet's Punt on the Wakool (now Kyalite) and Balranald, traversed on the 15th September 1860:

At 8¼ a.m. we marched away and soon found ourselves in a fine forest of tall Gumtrees....Ten and a quarter miles from our last camp and in a N.E. direction from it a freshwater lake was seen which turned out to be Lake Yanke. It is in the form of the number 8 and is 8 x 4 miles long. Between the lake and the Murrumbidgee, which is 4 miles from the Yanke lake, several indentations in the country are visible, and the Murrumbidgee, then bank high had filled the same, creating creeks and lakes, which we crossed with some difficulty, the water being on some places four feet deep.²⁷

George Neumayer's brief account (1869) also describes the flooding:

On the 15th [September 1860] we passed Yanga near a good-sized lake and reached Balranald in the evening, our progress having been rather impeded by sheets of water through which we had to make our way and which were caused by inundations of the Murrumbidgee.²⁸

Neumayer accompanied the expedition to Bilbarka on the Darling, then returned to Melbourne. When he crossed Yanga again on 7th October 1860, the country was even wetter:

The aspect of the country was now quite different from what it was on our first visit. The water of the Murrumbidgee being exceedingly high caused the country to be flooded...The country between the Murrumbidgee and the Wakool was covered with sheets of water through which we often had to wade, the water reaching to our horses' bellies.

In the 15 years between the exploring expeditions of Mitchell and Burke and Wills, the lower Murrumbidgee country had been traversed by overlanders, moving stock from the eastern colonies to South Australia. They had been followed by squatters, who snapped up locations on the river frontages. Also in that 15 years were the two important surveys by F P McCabe and Thomas Townsend. These provide information about Aboriginal place names, mark the location of the early squatters locations, and in the case of Townsend's maps, also several fences and buildings, including a hut at Lake Yanga and a woolshed at Lake Tala.

24 Sturt, 1833.

25 Oxley, 1820.

26 Mitchell, 1839.

27 Tipping, 1979.

28 Neumayer, 1869.

2.2.5 Pastoral History: The Squatting Phase 1840-1853

*Developing local, regional and national economies
Pastoralism*

The ownership sequence of what is now known as Yanga, comprising country that was originally the Nap Nap and Tala Run, is summarised in Table 2.3.²⁹ Note this table uses secondary sources and there are inconsistencies in the information also, in part, due to the fact that the areas were not mapped and the same names are used historically for different areas.

Table 2.3 - Yanga Tenure History 1840-1853

Date	Event	Source
1845	Augustus Morris took out a licence to occupy the Tala run on behalf of Wentworth in August. [Not confirmed]	Ronald 1960
1845	George Hobler occupied Nap Nap originally under the name 'The Lake'.	Ronald 1960
1846	Hobler took up Paika	Ronald 1960
1848	Hobler claims Nap Nap and Wentworth claims Tala	Ronald 1960
1848	Hobler sold his interest in Nap Nap to Thomas Barker. [May have been 1849]	Ronald 1960
1848	Hobler lost Paika to William Charles Wentworth.	Freeman 1982
1851	Nap Nap transferred from Barker to John Reeve.	Ronald 1960
1852	Nap Nap Run Blocks A, B, C in Wentworth's name. [Not confirmed]	Ronald 1960

It did not take long after the explorers and overlanders for squatters to occupy all the frontage country along the Murrumbidgee, Lachlan and the Edwards and Wakool Rivers. Evelyn P S Sturt claimed that his were the first sheep to and cattle to cross the Lachlan near its junction with the Murrumbidgee in 1838-39³⁰. All the frontage of the Murrumbidgee and Lachlan was taken up by 1847. Possibly in reaction to this squatting movement west, in 1848 Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell sent Francis McCabe to survey the western rivers³¹. He commenced at the Lachlan-Murrumbidgee Junction and by 1850 had surveyed the Murrumbidgee, Murray to the South Australian border, and the Darling River to Bourke. He mapped the locations of the squatting establishments along the rivers. When surveyor Thomas Townsend continued in the Riverina in 1851-52, the squatters were firmly in place. In fact, the earliest specific record of Europeans at Yanga is that of Protector of Aborigines G A Robinson's in 1846³².

Robinson travelled north from Swan Hill to Yanga, then west along the Murrumbidgee and Murray to the Darling. His journal entries mention Wentworth's establishment and staff:

30.4.1846 Proceeded round lake, saw hut newly commenced there, by lake to mouth of Yanger River [sic], and then through forest and across plains undulating to Lake Tala. Arrived at Wentworth's station, Tala, about 2pm.

Robinson had come north from the Wakool and Edwards Rivers, and had reached Lake Yanga on 29th April, camping for the night probably at the southern end. On 30th April he proceeded around the lake and the hut would have either been the hut on the peninsula in the Lake, site of the current Homestead complex, or at the junction of the Lake and Yanga Creek, both mapped by Townsend in 1851.

1.5.1846 Mr Walker at Tala discovered the country, will have a station at Yanga Creek. Mr Goodfellow is at Tala station. The home station will be formed on Murrumbidgee, five miles from Tala.

The station on Yanga Creek was probably that mapped as W C Wentworth Cattle Station and shown as the 'Old Station' on later maps. The home station planned for the Murrumbidgee would have been Kietu at the locality now called Kieeta. Robinson's comment implies that the Kietu home station was established between 1846 and 1848, when it is mapped by McCabe and Townsend.

2.5.1846 Visited small camp [of] natives and then climbed the steep [bank]. Visited the first hut built by Clark, slab ditto, commanding position take all ditto, descended to a large camp on beach.

²⁹ High Ground Consulting, Conservation Management Strategy - Yanga Homestead Group Homestead + Residences, Jan 2006.

³⁰ European history is based on Eastburn 2003, Ronald 1960, www.yanga.com (2005. October 10)

³¹ Hope and Hercus, 2009.

³² Clarke, 2000.

The references to the steep bank suggest that the ‘first hut’ was on the lunette, on the east side of Lake Tala. It may have been at the location mapped as ‘WC Wentworth Sh Sn’ by Townsend in 1852 and shown on the more formal map as ‘Old hut’.

In 1848, Francis McCabe surveyed the west bank of the Murrumbidgee from its junction with the Lachlan to the Murray. His maps and field book provide information about the squatters’ locations at the time. The text on the maps and in the field books is listed in the table below. (Table 2.4, Figure 2.1)

Table 2.4 European presence in the landscape as shown in McCabe’s 1848 survey. The table compares information shown on the maps and information in the field book. The abbreviations E and W refer to East or West of the Murrumbidgee River and indicate which side of the river the item was shown on the map.

Maps	Field book
Gundi – Sheep Hut (W)	Gundi – hut symbol
	Pinapah – ‘shed other side’
Paule – Barker’s Cattle Station (W) Paule – Hobler Cattle (W) (Different maps, both dated 1848)	Paule – hut symbol, ‘yard’, ‘corner post Hobblers stockyard’
Nap Nap – Barker’s Sheep Station (E)	
Wille – Wentworth Cattle Station (E)	Wille – two hut symbols
	Cunyerangah – ‘hut’
	Concombrie – ‘The Bridge’
	Moquondie – ‘name on tree beside run ... thought it was 1841 H. Bremner’
	Preyey - ‘old gunyah’
	Throinye – ‘Bark hut’ , hut symbol
	Narrangy – ‘hut’ , hut symbol
Lake Paika – Hobler Sheep	
Numongy – Wentworth’s Sheep Station (W)	
Kyretowe (Kietu) – Wentworth’s Head Station (E)	
	Theningorowy –‘Yd’ , yard symbol
	Annonomy – hut symbol
	Murray – ‘sheep gunnys’
Lallia – Wentworth Sheep Station (W) (Balranald)	Lallia – hut symbol
Penal – Scotts Sheep	Penal – hut symbol. ‘American ---’
Bonongy – Scotts Sheep Station (E)	

On McCabe’s map the place Concombrie is marked on the Murrumbidgee at about the location of Redbank Weir. The weir may have been built on the site of an early bridge. One is sketched by Edward Stock in 1850 and titled ‘Sheep Station on the Lower Lachlan River, Mssr^s Philp & Chadwick’, but the location is uncertain.

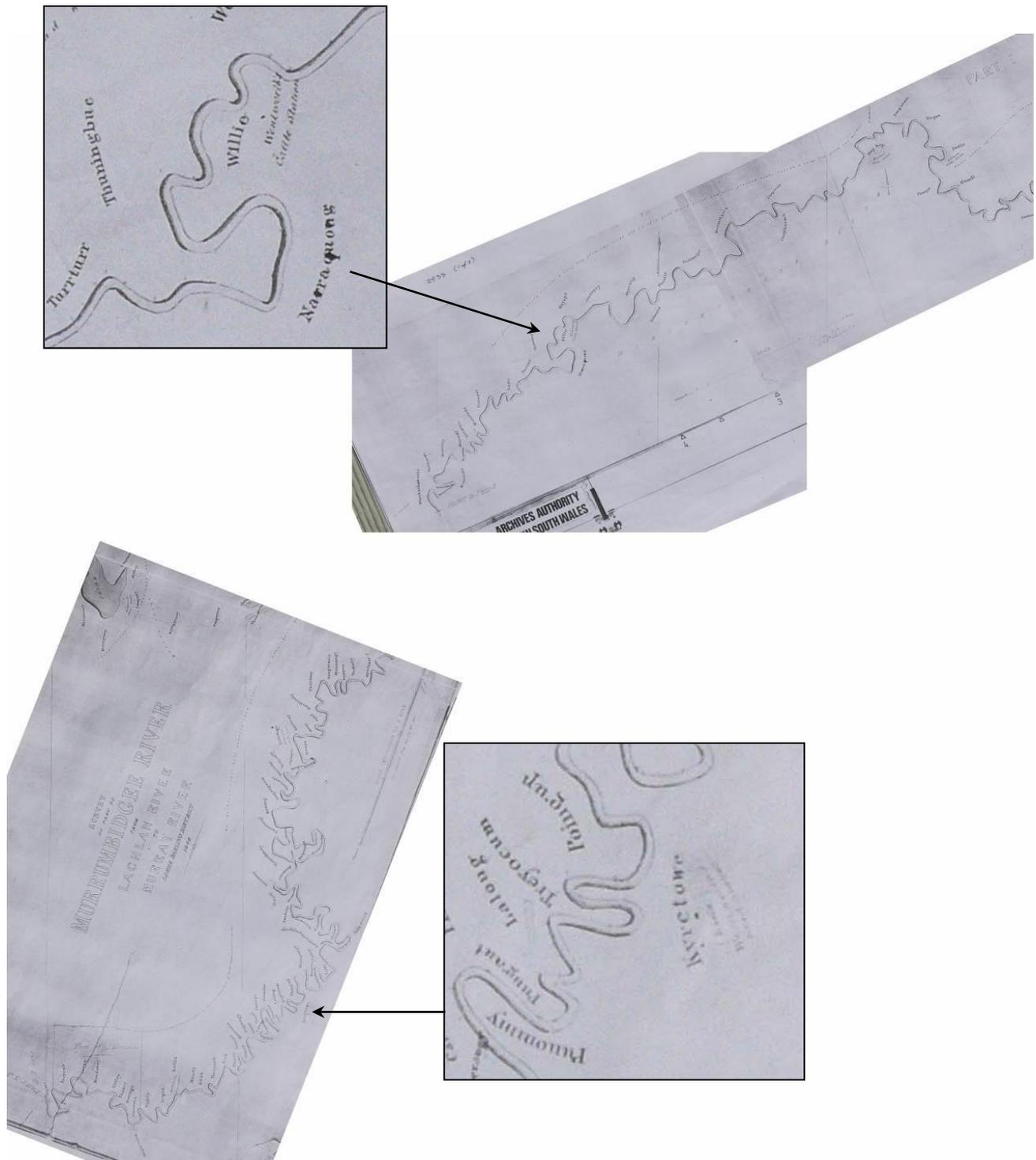


Figure 2.1 Maps of McCabe's 1848 survey of the Murrumbidgee. The survey is a series of maps not all of which have been found. The three here are arranged in approximate relationship to each other. The insets show enlargements of parts of the maps. Source: . Source: Photographed at NPWS Yanga, originals at SR NSW

Townsend's surveys in 1848 to 1849 are recorded in field books and covered country away from the river frontages. He created a number of different maps in 1851-52 (Table 2.5), which show several squatters' locations (Table 2.6). The locations shown have been mapped on a modern aerial photo (Figure 2.2) and this is followed by compilations and extracts of some maps.

Table 2.5 - Townsend's Maps of the Western Riverina.

Map	Reference	Date	Contents
3960	M 1427	1 Oct 1850	Plan of Murrumbidgee District showing Reserves
3967	M.1.1427	May 1851	Plan of the Murrumbidgee Squatting District showing the proposed reserves. Copy of M.1427 (SR Map No. 3960) (Simpson)
5260	M.1468	11 Aug 1851	Runs adjusted south Murrumbidgee River; Nap Nap, Toogoomby, Manadingal, Elrewah, Burrabogee, Mulberigang & McLeays Runs
3972 3973	M.6.1427, M.7.1427	10 Dec 1851	Map of part of north western part of Murrumbidgee Squatting District, down Murrumbidgee River from Chapman's Burrumbogia Station to Murray River showing stations, lakes, roads and runs
4010-4114	M.44-48.1427	Dec 1852	Murrumbidgee River from junction of Murray to Tallee Lake, Creek and Kieutu
4015-4017	M.49-51.1427	Dec 1852	Plans Lake Yanga and road to Edward River, County Wakool
4085-4098	M.120-133.1427	1852	Murrumbidgee River below Tarcutta Creek to Nap Nap and Talpee - Counties Caira, Warradgery

Table 2.6 - Yanga Squatters' Location as shown on Townsend's Maps

Area	Location
Murrumbidgee River	Benungal – Scotts Sheep Station Mamanga – W C Wentworth Kietu – W C Wentworth Head Station Nap Nap – Barker Head Station Currangungee – Wool Shed Paule – Hobler Station Cunmalungee – Barkers Sheep Station
Yanga Lake	W C Wentworth Cattle Station Hut Old Station [south of Yanga Lake]
Lake Tala	W C Wentworth Sheep Station Woolshed Old Hut
Other	Talpee Monkem – W C Wentworth

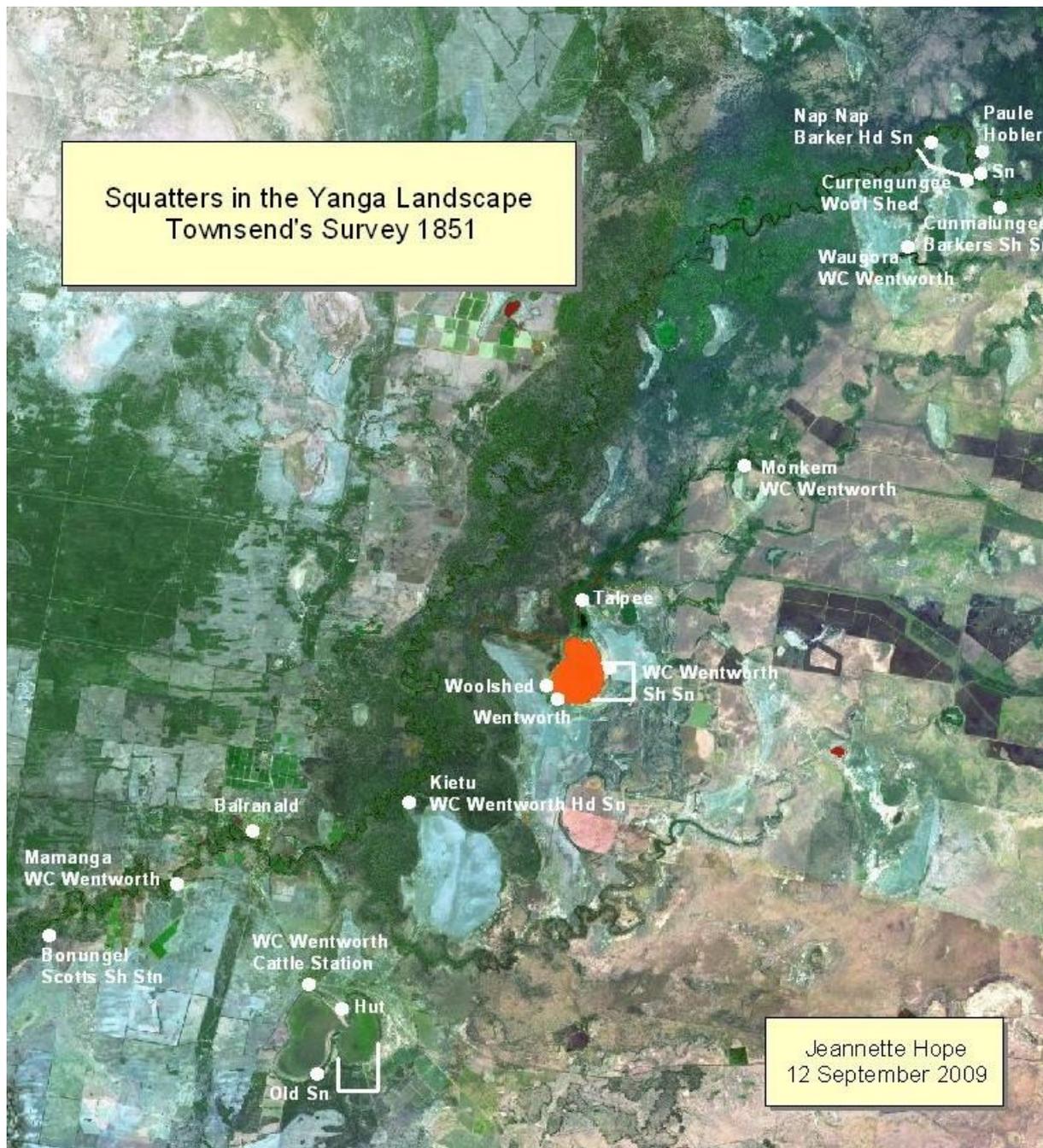


Figure 2.2 Squatters in the Yanga Landscape based on Townsend's surveys of 1851 and 1852 maps. The sites shown on the maps have been located on an aerial photo. The white lines indicate fencelines shown on the maps. Source: Photo DECC, sites mapped by Jeannette Hope 2009.

Some of the first squatters, such as George Hobler, went out on their own account, others as agents for wealthy men. William Charles Wentworth, whose name is repeated across the early landscape, seems to have never visited the area.³³

George Hobler occupied Nap Nap in 1845 originally under the name 'The Lake'. He took up Paika, west of the Murrumbidgee in 1846, and sold his lease of Nap Nap to Thomas Barker in 1848. Hobler lost Paika to Wentworth after the 1847 Order-in Council required squatters to tender for their runs; the process was poorly managed and some people, including Hobler lost out to higher tenderers.

³³ A new biography of Wentworth, Tink 2009, does not mention his Murrumbidgee properties at all, and refers to Hobler in one sentence, in the context of the Hunter River.

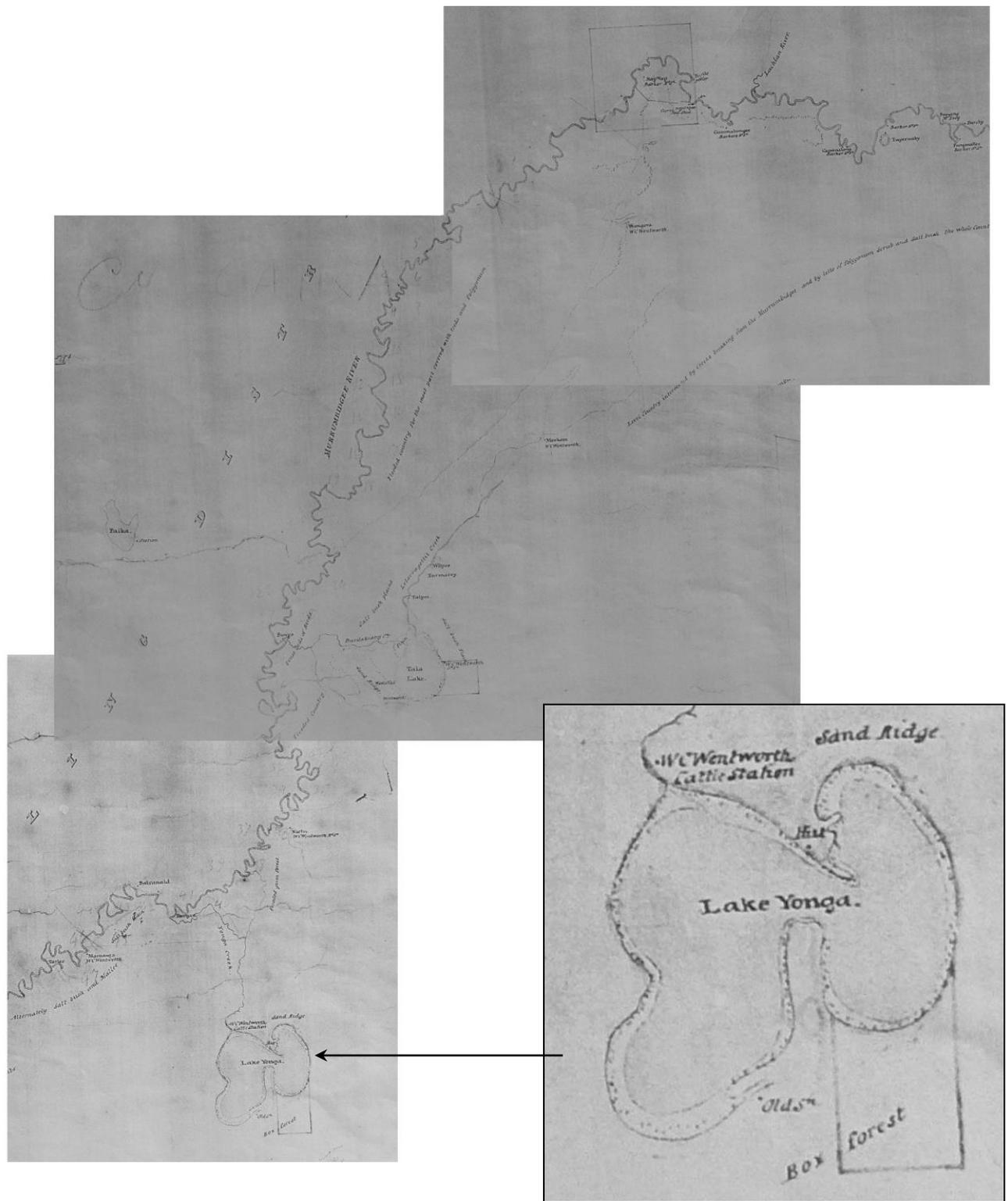


Figure 2.3 Compilation of images of one of Townsends maps showing Yanga, Tala and Waugorah. He carried out the surveys in 1848 and 1849 and mapped them subsequently. The inset shows "Lake Yanga" with WC Wentworth Cattle Station at Yanga Creek and a hut on the peninsula. Source: Photographed at NPWS Yanga, originals at SR NSW

Figure 2.4 over shows two maps of pastoral runs: the top in 1879,³⁴ and the bottom from Buxton believed to have been compiled by him from Lands records³⁵. There are slight differences. The most distinctive aspect of these maps is that Yanga and Tala, along with Burrawang and Moolpa to the south, were never broken up into smaller runs. There were much bigger pastoral holdings further west but they were made up of a number of smaller runs.

34 McDonald 1879
35 Buxton 1967

2.2.6 Pastoral History: The Pastoral Years 1853-1919

Developing local, regional and national economies Pastoralism

In 1853 Wentworth sold his Tala, Nap Nap and Paika leases after having then on the market since 1851, immediately after he acquired Paika. He was an investor rather than a pastoralist and probably wanted to realise some assets. His wife and six younger children had sailed for England in January 1853 and he moved out of his Sydney mansion, Vaucluse House, and put it up for lease. Although he could claim success in his life's work with the announcement of self-government for the colony on 10th May 1853, in fact he sailed for England in early 1854 and did not return till 1861.³⁶

Over the next 70 years the property had about ten different owners, in various combinations. While the sequence of owners and mortgages is available, they are not fully researched. We know very little else about the history of the property.

Table 2.7 following summarises the Yanga tenure history contained in High Ground Consulting Conservation Strategy Plan Report for the Yanga Homestead Group which was in turn based on the Eastburn report Flooded Country. A website by Lori Fletcher, quoted in the Balranald and Wakool Heritage Studies identifies an owner not listed here.³⁷ Fletcher gives Sir Charles Nicholson as owner between 1866 and about 1870, that is, between Wentworth and Williamson. This has not been found from other sources. She also states he built Yanga Homestead in 1870. There seems to be no formal record that links Nicholson with Yanga or Tala; in fact he owned the Benongal Run, west of Tala and Yanga and downstream from Mamanga, which he acquired from John Scott in 1848.³⁸

Yanga was affected by two key changes in land tenure. The Robertson Land Act of 1861 opened up all Crown Lands including the leased area to free selection before survey and reduced the tenure of the pastoral leases. Lease holders also purchased portions of their runs under the provisions of this Act.

The Crown Lands Act of 1884 required that each pastoral holding (as runs or combinations of runs were now called) be divided into a 'leasehold area' and a 'resumed area'. While maintaining the principle of free selection before survey, the Act gave fixity of tenure to the pastoral leases. The resumed area was available for selection, though it could be occupied under licence by the lessee of the pastoral holding until such time as it was selected. As part of the process runs were mapped including the division. Figure 2.5 combines the maps for the Yanga area.

The map 'Plan of Yangar & Burrawang Runs' shows the run surveyed and also marked with Leasehold and Resumed Areas. Figure 2.6 shows an extract of this map. This pastoral map shows the holding subdivided into mainly 320 acre portions, the normal selection size under the Act. Some portions, mainly in the area across the river from Balranald have names indicating alienation. Shading indicates tenure type but there is no legend. The base information on this map also shows several reserves made in the 1870s and Travelling Stock Routes. The locations and nature of improvements are shown and valuations indicate the scale of development at a place. On the parish maps many portions are marked C B Fisher, who acquired Yanga in 1875.

This map does not have a formal date but the number in the Lands Department Ministers stamp indicates 1885. The red notations are probably 1886 as the legend note of 'Leasehold Area/Resumed Area' is dated 1886. The title is crossed out in red to read 'Yanga Holding'. Dating information on these maps is difficult. Base maps were prepared at a date and information was added progressively. For this map, there are two or three different sets of data: the basic map with portions in black ink, no date later than 1882; black ink in a different style indicating fence lines and improvements such as tanks, and a red ink overlay in a different hand with valuations of the improvements in pounds. There are also penciled valuations probably preceding the red ink numbers. Improvements were valued as part of the process of leasing and resuming under the Act.

The first mention of fencing at Yanga is in an 1847 newspaper report of Hobler's workers absconding from Nap Nap. They included Joseph Knight, Owen Welsh fencers. Townsend's 1848 survey and 1851-52 maps show some apparently fenced areas. These are likely to have been made from local materials such as post and rail, logs or brush, and specifically for horses. At the time sheep were shepherded and cattle grazed

³⁶ Tink, 2009.

³⁷ Tracey & Tracey, 2006-07.

³⁸ Feldtmann, 1976.

freely. In western NSW wire fencing was introduced in the 1860s, but there is no specific date for Yanga. On Moorna Station, west of Wentworth, where there is a good record of the pattern of shepherding in the early 1860s, the paddocks fenced in the late 1860s reflect a continuation of the same management. Similarly the early fence patterns on Yanga may provide some insight into the earlier stock management.

Fencing is mentioned in Morris’s sale notice in the Argus on Friday 20th April. 1866. At Tala, Woogora, Lurica [sic] the add states:

The boundaries are strictly defined, the back portion being fenced with a substantial cattle-proof fence, nearly new. About 10 miles would completely fence in the whole property,

At South Yanga and Burrawang:

There are twenty-eight miles of fencing, a considerable portion of which is sheep proof, and the whole a good order, having been only recently erected.

In 1872 the Town and Country Journal reporter in “A Tour to the South” states:

The run is all fenced in, and has over 125 miles of fencing, post and rail, wire, etc., erected on it. It is subdivided into summer and winter fattening paddocks, breeding, heifer, bull, and horse paddocks.

In the Argus on 29 Jan 1876 fencing work associated with the conversion of the run from cattle to sheep by C B Fisher is mentioned with wire being landed as follows:

The run is now being fenced in, and about 25 tons of wire were landed from the Hero. There were many tons of wire on the bank discharged from other steamers.

An account of Yanga in 1912, by traveller and author Walter Kilroy Harris, who visited many stations along the Murray and Murrumbidgee, provides some useful information including the staffing of Yanga at the time:

Manager Briggs, whom we found hard at work in his little office, told us that even at that moment, in addition to the permanent eighty men, and the almost equally permanent one hundred rabbiters he had a small army of contractors at work completing a job of sinking twenty-one bores in various parts of his run.³⁹

Harris described the process of ploughing rabbit burrows, the rabbiters’s camps and details of the well sinking. He describes a boundary rider at Talpie [sic] ringing up the manager at Yanga with rainfall data from a rain gauge. He also described a fire-lookout on a rise overlooking Lake Tyler [sic] and that when smoke was seen one of the men ‘*is in constant telephonic communication*’ with Yanga and the other three outstations. This would have been very soon after the introduction of the telephone at Balranald in 1911 (see later).

Table 2.7 Yanga Tenure History Summary 1853-1919 summarised from the High Ground Consulting Conservation Strategy Plan Report for the Yanga Homestead Group in turn based on Eastburn’s ‘Flooded Country’. Comments made by the authors are in square brackets.

Date	Event
1853	A syndicate of business people, including Morris, Thomas Sutcliffe Mort, Thomas Holt and Thomas Ware Smith acquired the leases of Tala, Nap Nap and Paika stations from Wentworth. Within months Morris obtained ownership of the lease on Tala. (Source: ABD) Eastburn notes that later Morris went into partnership with W C Mayne, steamer captain. [Neither of these partnerships has been able to be confirmed in documentary records]
1859	Morris sold [or mortgaged?] his lease to Moorehead and Young [an Investment Company]
1862	Moorehead and Young are said to have changed Tala’s name to Yanga in about 1862. [This is inconsistent as the name Yanga was used prior to this] They are said to have constructed the present homestead. [This may have been part of the kitchen wing and built by Morris who remained owner]
1861	John Robertson’s Land Act.
1863	Moorehead and Young are said to have sold Yanga to L. J. and F. J. Parker [Morris’s nephews] [This has not been able to be confirmed though the brothers were involved in the property. Morris did sell two other stations, Mulgutherie and Grudgery to the Parker brothers in 1865]

³⁹ Harris, 1913.

Date	Event
1865	By 1865 the Waugorah run is said to have been included in the Yanga holdings [This is inconsistent as Waugorah was included in Wentworth's original selection and remained a part]
1866	Charles Williamson and Matthew Hervey are said to have purchased the Parker leases. [This has not been able to be confirmed. Hervey, Williamson's son-in-law, had bought a portion of Paika from Morris in 1861-3 but was insolvent in 1865. Williamson was selling cattle from Yanga by 1868] The main homestead and kitchen may have been constructed during Williamson's tenancy of the property. Charles Williamson does not appear to have held any freehold title on Yanga.
1875	Charles Brown (C B) Fisher purchased Yanga from Williamson six months before Williamson died in 1875. [It was a delayed settlement with the unpaid part secured by mortgages at the E S & A C Bank]
1873-9	Walter Williamson granted some portions of the property on the Murrumbidgee River to the north of the present homestead. [Walter and Charles Williamson are listed as squatters at Yanga in 1872]
1870s-80s	Most of the portions of Yanga Station included in the Parish of Yanga were not converted to freehold until well into the 1870s and 1880s. The Portions on the northern side of Lake Yanga, including Portion 19 containing the Yanga homestead, were first granted to C B Fisher on 6 March 1882.
1884	Crown Lands Act
1880-1887	From 1880 onwards Fisher borrowed heavily against his landholdings at Yanga, taking out multiple mortgages over a period of six years as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 November 1880 John Lang Currie, esquire, St Kilda, Victoria • 6 October 1882 Maria Matilda Crooke, widow, Kooley Plains, Victoria • 20 March 1882 The English Scottish and Australian Chartered Bank • 19 March 1883 The English Scottish and Australian Chartered Bank • 15 March 1886 Reginald Bright, merchant, Melbourne Mortgages provided by John Lang Currie were transferred to Sir Thomas Elder and Robert Barr Smith, merchant of Adelaide on 6 March 1885 and Maria Matilda Crooke's mortgage was transferred to The English Scottish and Australian Chartered Bank on 31 October 1887.
1890	On 3 April 1890 the mortgages held by Sir Thomas Elder and The English Scottish and Australian Chartered Bank were discharged and three new mortgages were arranged as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The English Scottish and Australian Bank • Sir Thomas Elder and Robert Barr Smith, merchant, Adelaide • Reginald Bright, merchant of Melbourne. Thomas Elder and Robert Barr Smith had been partners in the successful firm Elder Smith and Company since 1863.
1896	On 21 May 1896 the mortgage held by Reginald Bright was discharged and on 30 June 1896 Fisher is said to have sold the property to Edward Herbert Shackell and Frederick Wootton Danby, accountants of Melbourne. [Shackell and Danby may have actually been the trustees of the mortgaged estate]
1897	Sir Thomas Elder died in 1897 and his interest in the Yanga mortgages was transferred to the sons of Robert Barr Smith.
1908	Shackell and Danby discharged the mortgage held by Barr Smith on 30 March 1908.
1913	Danby died in 1913 and Shackell was declared sole proprietor [trustee?] of Yanga.

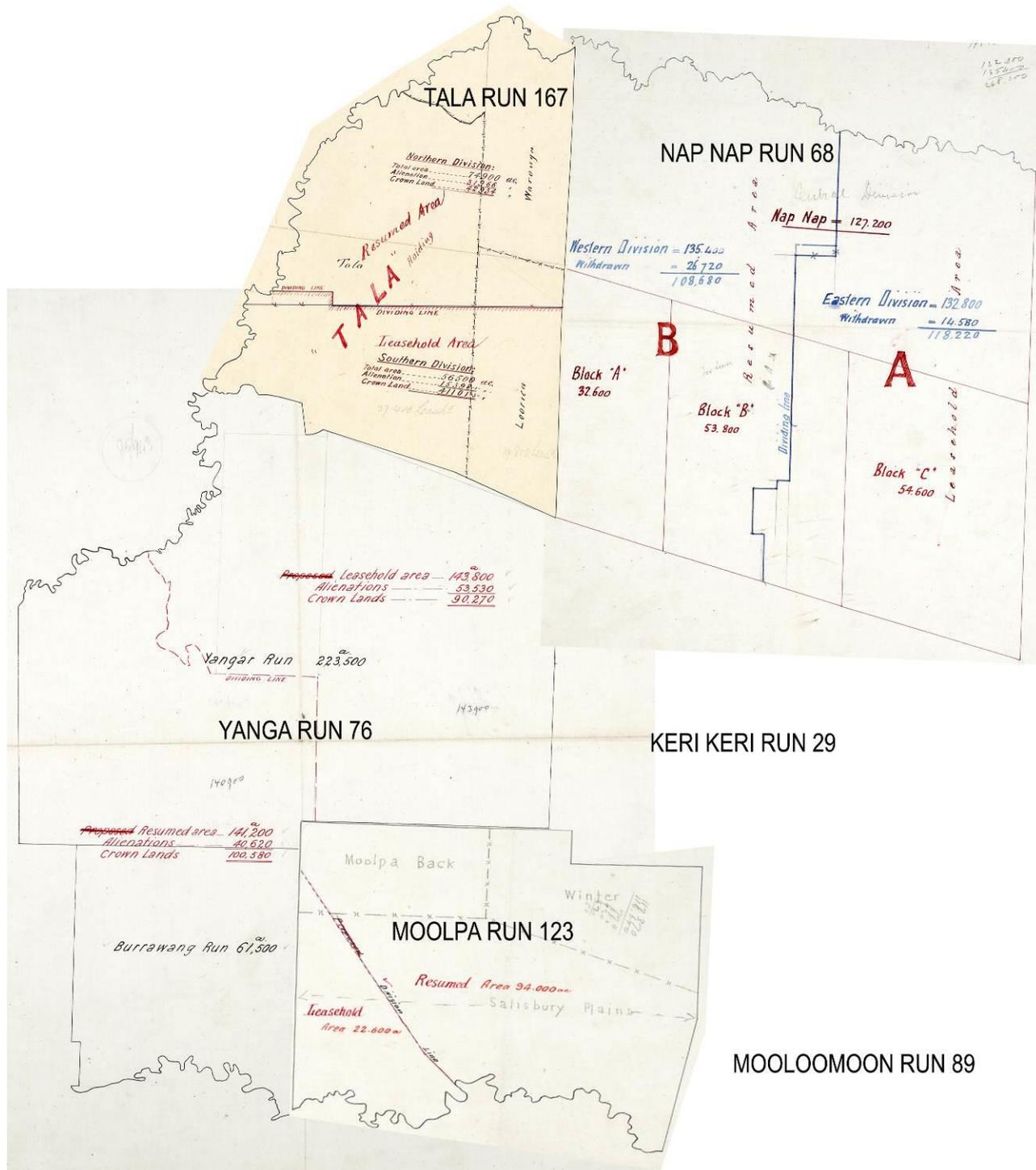


Figure 2.5 Run maps in the Yanga area showing resumed and leasehold areas in the mid 1880s. Source: Original maps from http://www.lpi.nsw.gov.au/mapping_and_imagery/parish_maps, Land & Property Information, Parish Map Preservation Project, pastoral maps, Joined by authors. 2009.

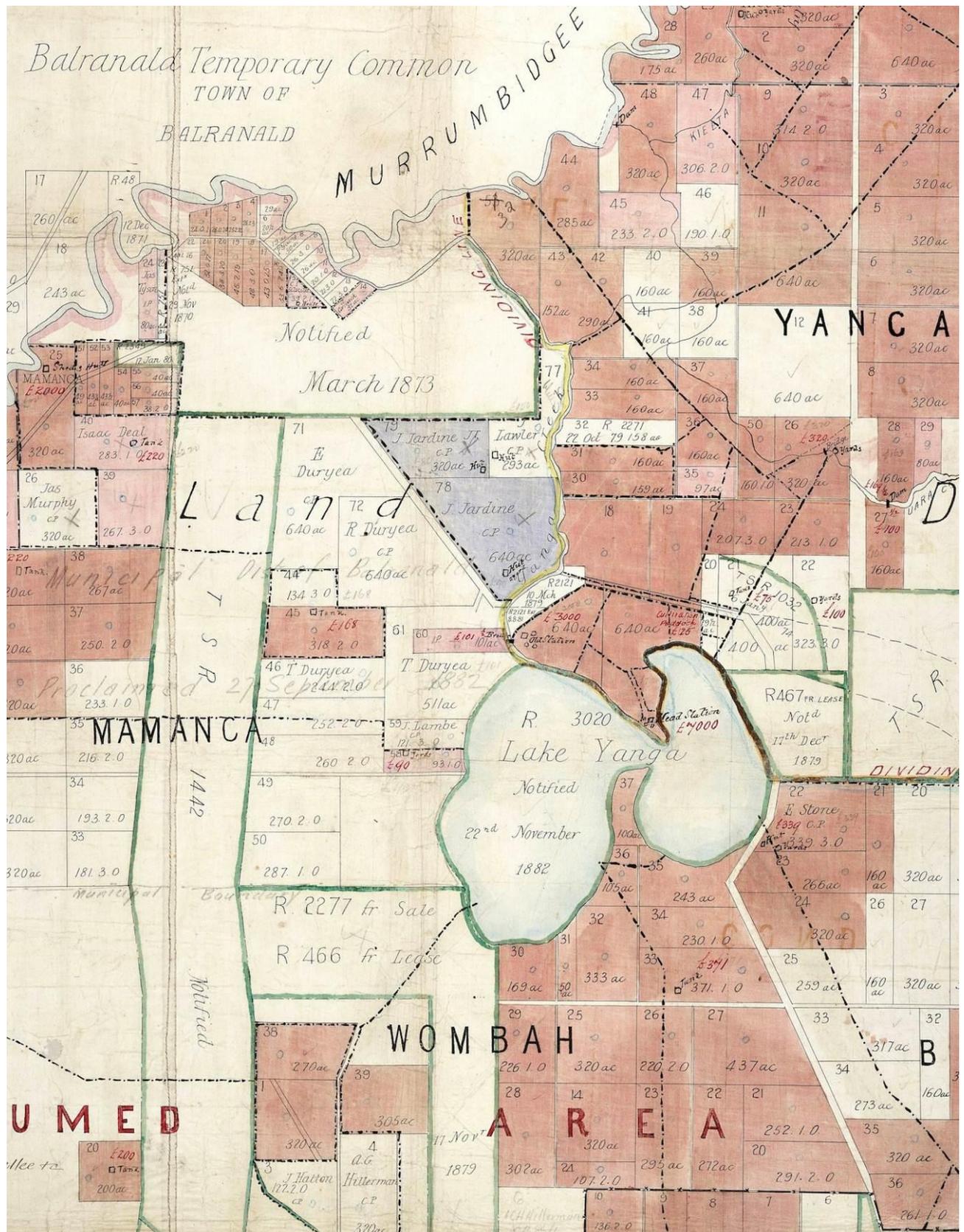


Figure 2.6 Extract from the detailed pastoral maps of Yanga prepared by 1885 with black notations of improvements and red notations of valuations in pounds in 1886. There is no key but it seems the pink shading indicates Improvement Purchase (IP), the blue grey indicates Conditional Purchase (CP) and presumably the brown indicates lease. The green edged areas are reserves. The black dot and dash lines are fences. Source: Land & Property Information, Parish Map Preservation Project, pastoral maps, http://www.lpi.nsw.gov.au/mapping_and_imagery/parish_maps.

2.2.7 Pastoral History: Sims-Cooper and the Black Family 1919-2005

*Developing local, regional and national economies
Pastoralism*

In 1919 the English, Scottish & Australian Bank exercising its mortgagee powers, sold the property to Yanga Proprietary Limited who established a new mortgage with the bank. Yanga Proprietary Limited was a company owned by Arthur Cooper and Arthur Sims. Table 2.8 summarises the tenure history of Yanga during this period.⁴⁰

Table 2.8 Yanga Tenure History Summary 1919-2009 summarised from the High Ground Consulting Conservation Strategy Plan Report for the Yanga Homestead Group in turn based on Eastburn's 'Flooded Country'.

Date	Event
1919	In June 1919 The English Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd, sold the property to Yanga Proprietary Limited who established a new mortgage with the bank. Yanga Proprietary Limited was a company owned by Arthur Cooper and Arthur Sims.
1923	The mortgage with the E S A Bank discharged January 1923 after new mortgage arranged with the Australian Mutual Provident Society. The property stayed in the ownership of descendents of Arthur Cooper and Arthur Sims from 1919.
1951	AMP mortgage was not discharged until February 1951.
1986	The remaining Cooper family interests sold out in 1986 to Sir Arthur Sims' only daughter Margaret [Black] and her family.
1915	In 1915 the area, known as Yanga Reserve, was ceded to the New South Wales Government.
1920s	Improvements made in the 1920s: refrigeration plant, irrigation pumping equipment near the woolshed, dam/weir on Lake Yanga, new sheds and water supply at homestead and telephone system.
1926	Portions resumed for Soldier Settlement along the Balranald-Moulamein Railway.
1930s-40s	Most of the smaller farms failed and were re-purchased by the owners of Yanga.
2005	The property was sold by the Black family to the New South Wales Department of Environment and Conservation in October 2005.

There is much information recorded for this last 80 years of the property in the Yanga Pty Ltd records and the oral history study, which has a wealth of reminiscences of Yanga owners, managers and employees covering the latter part of the 20th century⁴¹. Many of the documented improvements on the property date from this phase, though that may be the result of the bias in the records.

A notable event during this phase was the subdivision of Yanga as a result of the construction of the Moama to Balranald Railway in 1923-26. The Border Railway Agreement between NSW and Victoria required the resumption of large sections of Yanga and other stations along the route for Soldier Settlement and closer settlement generally. Sims-Cooper was affected not only at Yanga but also at their property Cobran just west of Deniliquin. Like many others, the western Riverina Soldiers' settlement project was not a success and most of the blocks sold on Yanga were reacquired by Yanga Pty Ltd.

Table 2.9 summarises the sale and reacquisition of Talpee in the soldier settler phase.⁴² Although Talpee was retained by the Black family in 2005 and so is not part of Yanga NP, it provides an insight into the process. There does not appear to be a complete list of the portions taken up in the scheme, and their subsequent success or failure⁴³. It is surprising that the Soldier Settlement program was not more successful at Yanga, given that equivalent sized holdings in much drier country further west, such as Lake Victoria Station, were effectively subdivided by the 1950s.

40 High Ground Consulting.

41 Gapps, 2008,

42 High Ground Consulting.

43 NSW State Records is digitizing Soldier Settlement Records, so this information may be available in the future.

An insight into the pastoral management during this phase is provided by the oral history, where the pattern of stock movement and the staffing is described. This indicates that because of its size and the range of landscape types, notably river frontage and back country, Yanga was able to maintain a 19th century style of management (and staff numbers) into the late 20th century. At the same time Yanga Pty Ltd diversified into other areas of primary production, notably timber and irrigation farming. These are covered in later sections on water, timber, and transport.

Table 2.9 Talpee Summary History 1923-2005. This is summarised from the High Ground Consulting Report on Talpee.

Date	Event
1923	A Preliminary Agreement for Sale of Talpee to Timothy Tynan of Berrillock, Vic., deposit of £1,970 for purchase of Yanga Lots 4 (Talpee) and 7 (North Loorica).
1924	Subdivision survey April 1924. Lot 4, 7,800 acres and designated Talpee, was offered for sale in mid 1924. The sales poster described the property: <i>... 7 roomed house and all requisite outbuildings. This house is on Monkem Creek supplying never failing water. Good carrying country and grows splendid wool.</i>
1924	In January 1924 Tynan entered a hire-purchase agreement with Yanga Pty Ltd re acquisition of 4,000 four year old ewes and 120 rams.
1926	Tynan settled on the property until 30 August 1926 and mortgaged it to the Bank of New South Wales in September 1926.
1947	Mortgage discharged 10 February 1947. On 20 March 1947 remortgaged to the Rural Reconstruction Board, this discharged on 5 August 1954.
1955	Most of the smaller farms created by the 1924 subdivision of Yanga failed in the 1940s and 50s. Talpee was an exception operating successfully for many decades. On 14 December 1955 ownership transferred to David Lane Tynan, son of Timothy Tynan.
1969	On 1 August 1969 Talpee was sold to Douglas Richard Baar, Grazier of Pyramid Hill, Victoria.
1977	Acquired by Albert James Carr, Grazier of Merricks North, Victoria.
1980	On 30 October 1980 Talpee was acquired by Nancy Margaret Graeme Black (married woman), Ian Stuart Mackenzie (managing director), and Ronald Murray Brown (Anglican minister).
1986	Title was transferred to Nancy Margaret Graeme Black and Lewis Bryden Black on 26 September 1986. The last two transfers allowed its re-integration with Yanga Station. When Yanga was sold to DECC Talpee was excluded and remains in the ownership of Yanga Pty Ltd.

Throughout this period the property was run by resident managers and staff, with owners based generally in Melbourne and visiting occasionally. Many of the historic images are associated with visits by the owners. Later sections of this report discuss aspects of pastoral activities and management such as paddock divisions and use, the changes due to transport methods, irrigation and water management for new activities including forestry and cropping.

2.2.8 Transport and Communications

Developing Local, Regional And National Economies

Communication

Transport

Yanga's history was influenced by three methods of transport: road, riverboat and rail. The key decade for river transport was the 1850s. Steam navigation of the rivers commenced with the voyage of the PS *Mary Anne* and PS *Lady Augusta* up the Murray. On 1st September 1857 the PS *Mosquito*, Captain William Masson, reached Balranald, and in 1858 the PS *Gemini*, Capt William Randell, reached Lang's Crossing [Hay] on 25th August and Illilliwa on 27th August; the PS *Albury* reached Gundagai on 16th Sept.

Riverboats were ideal for the transport of bulky freight like wool, and early woolsheds were built on the river banks. However Townsend's maps show an early woolshed on Tala Lake. A woolshed is also shown near the river on Nap Nap, now Waugorah. Both of these would have been built prior to the first riverboat reaching the area. The main Yanga woolshed was built about 1876 and burnt down in 1896. The current woolshed was built after this. The date of construction is unclear; the 1886 'Yangar Holding' map has 'Shed & Hut' marked at the site, with a value of £2000.

The first reference to the transport of Yanga wool in Johnson's compendium of riverboat newspaper references⁴⁴ is not till 1880 (via PS *Kelpie* to Echuca). There are other references to both Yanga and Waugorah wool in 1898-1902 (the listing only goes to 1903 so far). There is also an account of non-union shearers travelling by train from Bendigo to Echuca, thence by PS *Goldsborough* to Yanga in 1894, during the shearers' strike.

The history of the riverboat period is preserved on Yanga in the form of two shipwrecks⁴⁵. The older, probably late 19th century or early 20th century, is a small timber boat, probably used for transporting people and stores, which was stranded in Tala Creek. The younger is a metal barge sunk near Woolpress Bend at the north of Yanga. This is close to the Woolpress Bend woolshed site, and may have been used as a ferry to transport stock across the Murrumbidgee. Historic images show the riverboats tied up at the Yanga woolshed laden with bales of Yanga wool and there is a historic record of a paddle steamer sunk at Yanga woolshed. There may remain of this and possibly other boats.

The Murrumbidgee was more difficult to navigate by riverboat than the Murray, but Yanga is close to the Murray therefore more navigable than upstream. Yanga was also relatively close to the major towns of Swan Hill and Echuca, so alternate transport by road was feasible at times of low river. The Victorian railway lines reached Echuca in 1864 and Swan Hill in 1890.

Cobb and Co was established in 1854, and by 1866 coach travel was possible between Sydney and Adelaide, coincidentally with the telegraph connection – the Balranald telegraph office opened in 1866⁴⁶. At least one mail change, the Yanga Hotel, was within Yanga Pastoral Station (just south of Scotts Sandhill, and just outside the National Park boundary), on a post 1861 Conditional Purchase (AG Hillerman CP Portion 4 Parish of Wombah on 1886 map of Yanga Holding). The publicans were Hillermann 1880-90; Jobson 1891; Hillerman 1892-1896; Turner 1897-1900⁴⁷. [This does not mean there was no hotel there before 1880]. Two other hotels, the Punt Hotel and Racecourse Hotel were at 'Mamarja', possibly Mamanga, and so also on the east side of the river. Publicans were: Punt: Sylvester 1872-77, Racecourse: Ashcroft 1878, Hepburn 1879-80 [Publican data only available to 1900].

There is a local story related in the oral history⁴⁸ that the first telephone in Australia was at Yanga. It appears in Feldtmann's *The Story of Balranald*⁴⁹ but no source is given. He states:

The first telephone in the whole of Australia was erected and connected between 'Yanga' homestead, and the Yanga shearer's hut and men's quarters at Yanga Creek Bridge.

44 Johnson 2003-8

45 Coroneos 2008

46 Feldtmann 1976

47 Craig 2003

48 Gapps 2008

49 Feldtmann 1976

The locations in the quote are unlikely as the shearers' accommodation was at Mamanga not at 'Yanga Creek Bridge'. Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1876, and it was taken up world-wide with remarkable speed. The first telephone in Australia is usually credited to Melbourne 1879. This leaves a narrow gap of just three years for Yanga to claim the honour. The other element of the story is Feldtmann's statement that the telephone was installed at Yanga by a nephew of Bell's, James Cromyn, under directions forwarded from England. A search of A G Bell's family tree, available online, reveals no Cromyns. So this story is unlikely. It could have been at a later date or could have been a telegraph connection at an earlier date. The overhead telegraph linked Sydney and Adelaide via Yanga in 1866.

In the oral history this 'first' telephone is attributed to the 1920s but this is not correct. The first public telephone service in Balranald was set up in 1911, and in 1912 there was an internal telephone system in Yanga⁵⁰ described earlier in this report. Many of the big stations had internal phone link-ups in the early 20th century. In the 1920s J B Armstrong at Lake Victoria Station took a handset as he drove around the property, so that he could link up to telephone wire anywhere and send instructions to his workforce⁵¹.

The historic road network across Yanga has yet to be researched in detail. One of Townsend's maps has a dotted track leading from Yanga Lake north. The route G A Robinson and later Burke and Wills travelled is effectively the modern road from Swan Hill to Balranald. The exact date of the direct route across the Hay Plain from Balranald to Hay is unknown but it is shown on maps by 1898. The stock routes on the pre-1886 'Yangar Holding' pastoral map follow the Balranald – Swan Hill road and the current Waugorah Road, indicating that these were the original road routes; in 1913 Harris mentions an old road to Maude and Hay from Waugorah and Nap Nap.

The initial crossing of the Murrumbidgee at Balranald was by punt; a lift-span bridge was constructed in 1879 and opened 1880⁵². The 1886 'Yangar Holding' pastoral map does not show this bridge, but does have one on Yanga Creek, just above the lake. A bridge was in this position until the recent realignment of the highway and the base of the piers are evident in the creek bed. The realignment moved the highway to the position of the railway bridge constructed in 1923-26.

Under the 1922 Border Railways Act, Victoria agreed to build the railway from Moama to Balranald. NSW was committed to make available for closer settlement, within one year from the receipt of plans for the permanent route, at least 125,000 acres in the Balranald district, at least 80% within 10 miles of the proposed railway in those respective districts. The subdivision was to be simultaneous with the construction of the railway.

In 1923 there was a Victorian Parliamentary tour of the routes, during which the delegates visited Yanga. A report of this tour has not been seen by the authors of this report, but the photographs taken are online at the Museum of Victoria; they include images of Lakes Yanga and Tala. The work was commenced in 1923, and the railway opened on 4 April 1926. It continued until the 1980s. Instantly the railway provided a fast alternative to the riverboats. There were two sidings on Yanga, one at the top end of Yanga Lake, the other at Impimi. One map shows an area marked 'proposed village' at Impimi (south east of Yanga Lake).

The 20th century saw road take over as the predominant mode of transport both of people, stock and produce. In 1920 the north south stock route west of Yanga Lake became a road and the width of the various traveling stock routes was reduced. The road to Hay was leased or licensed as a roadway in 1898 and declared a public road in 1926. It was gazetted as the Sturt Highway in 1933. Roads accompanied the rail route and the Moulamein road, east of Yanga Lake, was closed in 1937 in favour of the road following the rail route. There has been continued upgrading of surfaces, width and bridges and road is now the only transport mode.

50 Harris 1913

51 Jerry Proctor oral history 2002, in Hope and Quinlan 2002

52 Feldtmann 1976

2.2.9 Water

*Developing Local, Regional and National Economies
Agriculture,
Environment – cultural landscape,
Fishing*

Water management and supply has historically been the major issues for Yanga, but of all historic themes there is less information available on this topic specifically for Yanga. Inland Australia is notorious for extremes of water – droughts or flooding rains – and the Riverina exemplifies this. The climate is semi-arid, but at times this is ‘flooded country’. The typical Aboriginal archaeological site, earth mounds, which raised campsites above floodwater, is a reflection of this. Europeans also discovered this very quickly, as Oxley was turned back by the swamps at the Murrumbidgee-Lachlan Junction, and the Burke and Wills Expedition waded through ‘water reaching to our horses’ bellies’ between the Wakool and the Murrumbidgee.

When pastoralism was fully established in the second half of the 19th century, channels, tanks, dams, wells, pipelines were constructed throughout western NSW. In the lower Murrumbidgee area the Burke and Wills Expedition noted a pre-1861 dam at Bidura, north of Lake Paika⁵³. James Tyson gave evidence at the 1885 Lyne Royal Commission on the 1860-80s channel cuttings on Tuppra and Juanbung, across the river from Nap Nap. E. L. B. Dickens recorded the sequence of drying and filling of Paika and other lakes just west of the river in the late 19th century⁵⁴. He noted that by 1896 most lakes west of Murrumbidgee including Pitapunga and Maccommon were no longer filling because of dams; only the southern lakes Paika, Penarie, Maremly still had water.

The Conservation Management Strategies for the Yanga weirs and regulators are all of 20th century structures – with one set around 1910-1913 and another in the 1960s and later⁵⁵. In line with the extent of water management works throughout western NSW in the 19th century, there would be many other associated structures at Yanga before 1910. There are water structures marked on early maps of Yanga.

The 1886 ‘Yangar Holding’ pastoral map has many tanks marked and also a number of dams: one on ‘Uara’ Creek north of Lake Yanga, and two on Kieeta Creek, close to the Murrumbidgee and upstream and also bridges over Yanga, Uara and Tala creeks. The similar map for the Tala Holding shows three dams on Monkem Creek and one on Pee Wee Creek (north of Tala Lake), four dams on creeks leading into Irrigation Lake (north of the Waugorah homestead). There are bridges over Waugorah Creek and on a creek leading into Irrigation Lake (in what is later known as Hill Paddock). There is also an embankment shown south of Irrigation Lake and one encircling the Waugorah Woolshed. There is an embankment around the Yanga Woolshed today but the date of its construction is not known. Similarly there are levees and surface channels throughout the landscape but mostly dating from the 20th Century. Many of these sites have not been inspected or assessed.

It appears that 19th century settlement relied on water from lakes, creeks and rivers on Yanga. This is borne out in the pattern of settlement with all stations, woolsheds and huts located adjacent to water sources. Water availability and flooding also influenced pastoral practices with stock being moved away from the river into the dry back country in flood times and when there was water available in the dry country. Morris’s 1855 sale advertisement emphasises that the land is periodically flooded in spring and early summer providing good pasture when other country is ‘burnt up’ demonstrating an early understanding of the importance of water and flooding. Maps survive in station records that record the extent of flooding, including in 1894.

There are records and images of various water pumping methods from simple windlass and bucket, to horse and later fuel and electric powered pumps. In the 20th century all major station settlements had on ground and elevated corrugated iron tanks on timber and later metal stands. The tanks both collected rainwater and acted as a store for pumped water.

A number of slabbed wells were constructed at Yanga in 1912, as described by Walter Kilroy Harris⁵⁶ and detailed and photographed in the records of Yanga Pty Ltd:

The manager of Yanga, seeing that some of his back paddocks would soon be inconveniently situated in regard to water, secured the services of a contractor, who put down twenty-one bores, seven of which yielded good stock water, and five fresh water. So good was the water in the latter case that it

53 Tipping, 1979.

54 Dickens, 1896.

55 High Ground Consulting, 2006-7.

56 Harris, pp.118-119, 1913.

was being used for drinking purposes by the men working in the camps. The problem had been attacked in a systematic manner by first of all putting down a two inch auger-hole, followed by a pipe of larger dimensions; then, the water having passed the test, there followed a shaft 5ft. by 2ft. 8in., properly slabbed with Murray Pine. On one well a windmill, complete with 10,000 gallon supply tank, was already at work, while mills were on the ground for others. Pending the erection of the other mills, water was being raised by windlass and horse whip. In less than three weeks 20,000 sheep would be watering at those wells. The depths of the shafts range from 25ft. to 36ft., and the supply varies from 850 to 1,500 gallons per hour. On some of the wells supply tanks of 20,000 gallon capacity were being erected. The wells were not all distributed in one paddock, but were distributed over the run where the feed was best, but the water scanty.

In those tracts of country where success or failure of the pastoral industry depends entirely upon the seasons, the flow of water from the artesian depths has, like the celebrated pen, “come as a boon and a blessing to men.” It has proven an insurance against drought, and has converted a dry-weather shambles into an area where stock can live and pull through even in the most adverse of conditions. Those who know all that artesian water has done for what is known as drought country are never tired of singing its praises.

These wells watered the drier sandplain country at the southeast of Yanga, away from the river and creeks. They were likely in part to have been intended to provide water for closer settlement but in the event may have allowed for the establishment of infrastructure such as the Willows woolshed in the sandplain country. Three wells have been physically located: Lower Fingerboard, The Willows, and Hult’s, and the slabbing is still well preserved. The latter two have (non-functioning) Southern Cross windmills installed. Hult’s Well also has prefabricated sheet metal tanks, stencilled ‘Metters Limited Patent Steel Squatters Tanks’, which were being advertised in 1911-12. An historic photo in the Yanga Collection shows such a windmill and tanks, the latter also stencilled ‘Duryea Contractor’. These wells seem to have gone out of use in the 1970s, probably due to the development of regulators on the creeks and Yanga Lake, and water channels through the area⁵⁷.

Developments up stream – Burrinjuck Dam, river weirs, and the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area had a profound effect on Yanga, by effectively starving the Lowbidgee of water. Then engineer John Monash had predicted this in 1904, in a consultant’s report to the Lower Murrumbidgee Locking League⁵⁸. Crisis point was reached during the major drought in the early 21st century, ultimately leading to the sale of Yanga to DECCW. David Eastburn’s ‘Flooded Country Below Hay’ and his notes for Yanga NP exhibitions⁵⁹ describe this in detail, and his account is summarised in Table 2.10.

Finally, water provided other opportunities on Yanga - fishing for food and as a minor industry as well as recreation, and boating. The oral history provides an insight into this otherwise poorly documented aspect⁶⁰. There was a yacht club on Yanga Lake, and fishing camps survived into the late 20th century around the lake. Fishing and the trapping of water rats for their fur probably dates back to the 19th century, with both Aboriginal and European participation.

Table 2.10 Lowbidgee – Yanga Water Events Timeline summarised from Eastburn.

Date	Event
1824	Major flood
1832	Major flood
1852	Major flood
1853	Major flood; 41ft 4in (12.4m) at Gundagai
1855-56	Severe drought
1859	Cutting to Bunooombert Lake (Juanbung), unsuccessful
1861	Dam at Bidura (North of Paika)
1861	Cutting Lignum Lake to Boocathan Lake (Tupra)
1870	Major flood
1872	First diversion structure to enhance flooding of natural pastures on Lowbidgee
1875	Major flood

57 Bes Murray pers.comm.

58 Monash, 1904.

59 Eastburn 2003, 2008.

60 Gapps, 2008.

Date	Event
1878	Major flood
1879	Major flood
1884-5	Lyne Royal Commission on Conservation of Water
1885	James Tyson completed cuttings on Tupra-Juanbung
1886	Pastoral maps of 'Yangar Holding' and 'Tala Holding' dated 1886 has many improvements marked including many tanks, dams, embankments and bridges. These may be later annotations to map.
1890	NSW Water Conservation and Irrigation Branch set up (in Dept Mines and Agriculture) under H G McKinney; transferred to PWD in 1896
1891	McKinney recommends 3 canals from Murrumbidgee, no action
1890	Major flood
1891	2 major floods
1892	Hay Irrigation Trust
1893	Balranald Irrigation Trust
1895-1902	Prolonged drought
1896	Col F J Home report on irrigation potential, recommended water storages on Murray and Murrumbidgee
1896	Most lakes west of Murrumbidgee including Pitapunga and Macommon no longer fill because of dams; only southern lakes Paika, Penarie, Maremly still have water
1897	Major flood Board of Inquiry on diversion of water from M'bidgee First navigation lock (Bourke)
1901	Lower Murrumbidgee Locking League (LMLL) formed in Balranald
1902	Corowa Water Conference Interstate Royal Commission on River Murray
1904	John Monash commissioned by LMLL to do survey of lower Murrumbidgee and provide expert advice on various proposals
1906	Large scale Government Irrigation Development approved for Murrumbidgee
1907	Burrinjuck Dam commenced
1910?	Old Swamp Regulator, Shaws Paddock
1912	MIA launched SA commissions Capt Johnston to prepare plans for locking the Murray River
1912	Paika Levee constructed Western Lowbidgee floodplain, and lakes Paika, Pitapunga and Macommon cut off from flooding.
1912	On Yanga Manager Briggs employs contractor to put down 21 bores, 7 give good stock water, 5 fresh water. These become slabbed wells, 5ft x2ft 8in. with windmills and storage tanks.
1913	Yanga Lake Regulator, and a number of other irrigation regulators constructed on Yanga from 1913. Regulator constructed on Yanga Creek to control water in Yanga Lake
1913	NSW Water Conservation & Irrigation Commission established Lock 1, Blanchetown, construction starts
1914-15	Severe drought
1915	River Murray Waters (MRW) Agreement
1917	River Murray Commission (RMC) established
1919	Severe drought
1922	Major flood
1927	Burrinjuck Dam completed Severe drought
1928	Lowbidgee delegation meet Prime Minister Bruce Lower Murrumbidgee River Defence League formed
1930	RMC meetings in Hay and Balranald re weirs

Date	Event
1930s	Kieeta Creek Outlet Regulator, possibly Hill Paddock Bridge but there appears to have been a bridge here prior to 1886 (shown on pastoral map).
1931	Major flood Nimming-Pollen Water Districts formed
1934	Major amendment to MRW Agreement – only 2 of 9 weirs planned for Murrumbidgee to be built (also reduction on Darling, upper Murray) Major flood
1937	Redbank Weir construction starts
1938-39	Severe drought Murrumbidgee ceases to flow at Balranald
1939	Yanga Lake dries completely. People come out from Balranald to spear Murray Cod trapped in the disappearing water holes.
1940	Maude and Redbank Weirs completed. Flood control and irrigation districts announced.
1944-45	Severe drought
1945	Lowbidgee Flood Control & Irrigation District proclaimed. 38,000 ha irrigated 50 farms – [not established whether any of these were subdivisions of Yanga]
1949	Snowy Mountains Scheme work starts
1950	Major flood
1951	Major flood Nine commercial Fisherman are operating on Yanga Lake. Henry Davies family has up to 300 registered nets, often catching 7 tonnes of fish over 3 days.
1953	Severe drought
1956	Major flood – largest Murrumbidgee flood in recorded history. Yanga Yacht Club building destroyed by floods
1957	Severe drought
1959	Major flood Gogeldrie Irrigation Diversion Weir completed
1960s	1AS, 1ES, Devils Ck Regulators
1962	First Snowy Mountains Scheme water diverted into Murrumbidgee Appearance of carp in Murray / Darling rivers (at Mildura)
1967-68	Severe drought Yanga Lake almost completely dry
1974	Major flood – second highest at Hay and Balranald
1976	Major flood
1982	RMW Agreement amended to include water quality, environment and recreation purposes, as well as quantity.
1987	Murray-Darling Basin Agreement signed (Queensland joined 1992)
1988	Murray Darling Basin Commission (MDBC) succeeds RMC
1989	Lowbidgee Development Plan; included a construction program of distribution channels, regulators and levee banks. [How many of the works on Yanga date to this time?]
1990-91	Major flood
1995-97	Cap on water extraction from Murray Darling. Lowbidgee has had no volumetric allocation, no water security
1998	MDB Floodplain Wetlands Management Strategy
2002	Lowbidgee is not part of the plan; all flows to Lowbidgee treated as supplemental, so lowest priority
2002-10	Most severe drought since 1890s
2010	Floods and lake refills

2.2.10 Environmental Conservation And Forestry

Developing Local, Regional And National Economies

Environment – cultural landscape

Forestry

The extensive growth of red gum, and less extensive of pine, on Yanga provided the basic building materials for the station, as indicated by the fabric and construction of the older buildings and would have originally been used in fencing. The extent and type of forest is shown in early pastoral and parish maps. There is little pine left on Yanga in part due to its more limited extent and because it is an easier timber to work.

In the 20th century timber became a substantial enterprise on the station, with the red gums effectively farmed, encouraged to grow in specific locations by the management of water. Most of the information available on this topic comes from the oral histories of Yanga owners, managers and staff⁶¹. Many of the tracks were built or upgraded to accommodate logging trucks, and an ‘illegal’ bridge was constructed across the Murrumbidgee as a short-cut to the Balranald timber mill. Charcoal burning was another smaller scale enterprise carried on by the Murray Family and others. Yanga employed a forester with the aim of sustainably managing the forest.

At the same time, areas were set aside for environmental protection, as game and fauna reserves. One area began as a Forest Reserve (1909), became a State Forest (1915) and then Yanga Nature Reserve (1972). Table 2.11 lists the forestry and timber reserves on Yanga, which date back to 1904.⁶² Eastburn points out that the Black family, the descendants of Arthur Sims, were forward thinking in the employment of expert staff to assist in the management of cultural heritage and forest on the property. In 1899 communities in Hay, Maude and Balranald established ‘river defence’ associations to lobby for continued receipt of floodwaters to sustain the wetland ecosystems and their linked livelihoods. Samuel Lindsay, then manager of Yanga, played an important role in this.⁶³

Table 2.11 - Forestry and Nature Reserves based on information from historic maps and other sources as indicated.

Date	Event
1860 on	Land clearing and timber getting for paddle steamer fuel and construction.
1904	The area known as Well S[t]and Hill was notified State Forest. [from High Ground quoting the yanga.com website, primary sources confirming this have not been found]
1909	Yanga and Tala Lakes notified as reserves for the ‘preservation of game’.
1909	FR [Forest Reserve] 43974 notified. From parish map – see later details
1915	Forest Reserve dedicated as Yanga State Forest No. 187. Lease to E S & A Bank disposed. From parish maps.
1922	Yanga and Tala Lakes notified as ‘sanctuary for birds and animals’
1972	Yanga State Forest became Yanga Nature Reserve
1988	Lower Murrumbidgee lignum wetlands nominated by Department of Water Resources (DWR) for protection under Sect 21 of Soil Conservation Act 1938; enabled management plan
2005	Nature Reserve becomes part larger reserve when Yanga acquired by DECCW but retains reservation category.

61 Gapps, 2008.

62 Information in table derived from Eastburn 2003, 2008.

63 Eastburn, 2008.

2.2.11 People at Yanga

Working: Labour

Developing Australia's Cultural Life

Domestic Life, Leisure, Sport

Marking the Phases of Life: Persons

Yanga provides an unusual window into the human side of Australia's history. Associated people range from those who have played prominent roles in Australia's history, notably William Charles Wentworth and Sir John Monash, to the numerous people who lived and worked on Yanga Station over the last 150 years.

William Charles Wentworth was a controversial newspaper proprietor and politician who was the driving force behind the establishment of democracy – representative government - in Australia and the first constitution, of the Colony of New South Wales. Most of the area that was initially the Tala and Yanga squatting runs, and is now Yanga National Park, Nature Reserve and State Conservation Area, was originally taken up in his name, though it is doubtful whether he ever visited the place.

Hobler is reputed to be the first squatter in the area and his bitter dispute with Wentworth and the eventual loss of his properties demonstrates the squatting system and the way it was abused by business men and investors. The public records and Hobler's diary provide a detailed record of early settlement and of squatting including Hobler's famous description of Wentworth and his associates as 'dirty dogs'.

John Monash certainly did visit Yanga, in his role as an engineering consultant to the Lower Murrumbidgee Locking League. He inspected both sides of the Murrumbidgee from its junction with the Murray to the Lachlan, though no specific information from this visit has yet been sighted. His 1904 report correctly predicted the negative outcome for the Lowbidgee of the early 20th century upstream damming and diversion of the Murrumbidgee waters.

Other important early connections with Yanga are George Augustus Robinson and Augustus Morris. In 1846, when he visited Yanga, Robinson was the Chief Protector of Aborigines for Victoria and his legacy is the earliest detailed record of Aboriginal people on Yanga at the time of early contact with the European squatters.

Augustus Morris explored the Riverina country in the early 1840s, and from 1845 took up land as Boyd's and later Wentworth's agent. In 1846, he became superintendent of Tala and Yanga Runs, and later also managed Paika and part of Nap Nap. In 1853 he was said to have been part of a syndicate who purchased Wentworth's properties in the area, but eventually he was the sole owner, selling it in 1866 when he was bankrupt. Morris was the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Balranald from 1859 to 1864. He later pioneered the development of chilling or freezing meat for export. In later years he was active in public affairs including conducting a major review of the colony's land laws, which led to the 1884 Crown Lands Act.

Other owners of Yanga also left their mark elsewhere including:

Langloh-Parker (one of Morris's nephews), later owner of Bangate Station on the Narran River, and husband of Katherine Langloh-Parker, author of *Australian Legendary Tales*;

C B Fisher, pastoralist, studmaster and sportsman, and

Arthur Sims and Arthur Cooper, in the 20th century, businessmen who established Sims-Cooper Pty Ltd and whose descendents were the last private owners of Yanga.

At the other extreme, Yanga has provided both home and work for very many people throughout its history. Large pastoral stations in the 19th century employed hundreds of people, and even in 1912 there were 80 permanent employees, 100 almost equally permanent rabbiters, plus 'a small army' of contractors.⁶⁴ The names of most these ordinary workers are lost, but in 1872⁶⁵ the following people were at Yanga:

Charles Williamson, squatter

Walter Williamson, J.P., squatter

James Carter, stockman

John Carter, stockman

Richard Carter, stockman

John Jones, servant

Charles E Pearson, storekeeper

William J, Stevenson overseer

⁶⁴ Harris, 1913.

⁶⁵ Grevilles, 1872, Postal Directory for NSW.

There are some records of station managers in newspapers and possibly other sources but these have not been fully researched. The station was run by the managers, with owners based in capital cities and their role is important. It is of interested that they often rose from the ranks commencing as station hands. They included:

Charles Pearson (Pearnon?)
Mr Cormack
Samuel Lindsay
Anthony Briggs
E J Smith
Mr C H Besley
Fred Carter
Alastair Cox

There are also long connections between Yanga and the nearby town of Balranald (and other towns in the region). The American-born photographer Townsend Duryea took up a selection block west of Yanga Lake in 1875, after losing his Adelaide studio in a fire. In 1912, Duryea Contractors were installing water tanks on Yanga, and family descendants still live in Balranald. Unusual visitors included Agatha Christie who was photographed eating oranges in the orchard in 1922 and the air crew of a Supermarine Walrus aircraft that landed on Yanga Lake when surveying in 1943.

For the late 20th century (with some glimpses to the earlier half of the century) there is the excellent oral history completed in 2008.⁶⁶ Owners and employees, managers, workers, fisherman and residents, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, reminisce about what life was like on Yanga. These stories tell the hidden history – about work – stockwork, shearing, timber cutting, office work, housekeeping and cooking and about play, the fishing camps, the shearers' competitions, the Bachelor and Spinster (B&S) Balls. They connect to remembered places on Yanga that might not otherwise be recognised as cultural heritage – the shear blades stuck up the gum tree, the poles and wooden bar from the last B&S Ball.

Throughout the pastoral history of Yanga and continuing today, Aboriginal people remained on the place. In the 1880s, Yanga Louisa and Yanga Charlie, and certainly many others, still camped there. The Island Aboriginal Reserve was established in 1892 on land that was part of Yanga Run, and the reserve remains in Aboriginal ownership today.

Jack Murray came from Cumeragunja to work as a boundary rider on Yanga in the 1920s, then leased The Island and built a house there. He also constructed and worked charcoal kilns on Yanga. His son Besley, named after a 1920s manager of Yanga, worked as stockman and reached the position of Yanga Station Overseer, occasionally acting as Station Manager, and recognised as responsible for Aboriginal cultural heritage on the station.



Figure 2.8 Agatha Christie in Yanga orchard 1922. From "Agatha Christie: The Grand Tour" by Mathew Prichard

66 Gapps, 2008.

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2.3.1 Yanga

Aboriginal people lived throughout the area including at Pelican Point, that projects into the south of Yanga lake. This point is also part of a Dreaming story. Yanga Lake was noted by explorers and surveyors and the early route from the Edwards River to the south traversed the precinct and arrived at the lake. Edward Stock sketched a hut at Yanga Lake, possibly at the location of the present station, in 1850. Wentworth developed a station at the south of the lake. The headstation, occupied by Morris, was moved from Kieeta to the junction of Yanga Creek and the lake in about 1860 and soon after he is thought to have established at least part of the homestead at the current location. His nephew drowned in Yanga Creek near the Old Headstation and his grave is adjacent the entry drive to the new homestead. Williamson is believed to have constructed the main homestead wing and kitchen verandahs at some time between 1866 and 1872. Pines, one of the main construction materials of the homestead, are shown on the portions west of Yanga Lake.

C B Fisher took over the property in 1875. A network of travelling stock routes was established from 1875 onwards and by 1879 the Yanga precinct was subdivided into small allotments owned mostly by C B Fisher and Shackell and Danby. A small area on Yanga Creek and north of the old homestead was reserved from sale or lease. Lake Yanga was first declared as a Water Reserve in 1882 and was reserved for the preservation of game.

By 1885 the precinct was part of Yanga Resumed Area 76 and surveys were undertaken, improvements valued and maps drawn. The map shows the E S & A Bank owned some of the allotments and Pelican Point in the ownership of C B Fisher. A track ran from Balranald along the west side of the lake and then south and a road ran along the lake to the east. The old house, store, yards and fences are shown north of Yanga Lake on Yanga Creek. Improvements including tanks, dams, yards, paddocks and fencing are shown by this time. The head station was valued at £7000 and the old station at £3000 on this 1885 'Yangar Holding' run map. The valuations are less on the portion plans drawn in 1881.

By 1895 Fisher was bankrupt and the property was managed by the E S & A Bank until sold to Simms and Cooper in 1919. Pastoral activities continued with further additions and a consolidation of activities at the Homestead.

In 1897 a large area to the south and south west of Yanga Lake was notified as a Water and Cattle Reserve. A road from Lake Yanga to the south-east, to a Travelling Stock Reserve, was built by 1896 and notified as a public road in 1898. It joined the Moulamein Road and also the road to Hay which by 1898 was established on a route similar to today. This was notified as a public road in 1926 and gazetted as the Sturt Highway in 1933. In 1906 an area named 'Lynwood' in the south of the area was reserved for Public School Purposes in the vicinity of the former Yanga Hotel.

The Yanga Homestead was an 'L' Shaped building with a wire fence and paddock to the north by 1913. The old house at Yanga Creek, bridge, sheds, yards and fencing still existed at this time. The route of the proposed railway to Moama was first shown on maps in 1913 and the land was purchased in 1922. By 1928 the proposed railway and Yanga Lake railway station, north east of Yanga Lake, were shown. A village site was dedicated at Yanga Station and a proposed road shown nearby. The railway operated until the 1980s and has been dismantled. After this a large machinery shed was built north of the Homestead reflecting the change to road transport. The Yanga precinct continued to be the centre of the pastoral station until 2005.

The following table notes information shown on parish and pastoral maps and portion plans:

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1875	TSR notified running north south along west side of parish with branch running diagonally across southwest corner of parish towards Moulamein.	Wombah	Caira	15113101
1876	Pelican Point surveyed in 1876 as portion 50 of 100 acres, applied for by C B Fisher under the Crown Lands Act but conditional improvement purchase refused. Plan drawn in 1877. Shown as salt bush country.	Wombah	Caira	Portion 37
1878	Pelican Point sold as Country Lot D Portion 37 to Charles brown Fisher.	Wombah	Caira	Portion 37
1878	TSR (number not legible 1936? 1336?) running from North to South through centre of Parish.	Belar	Caira	15111101
1878	TSR proclaimed at south part of Parish running east west. Council Public road shown in centre of TSR (added to map). Main track shown along north edge of TSR.	Condoupe	Wakool	15162301
1879	One portion at west shown as RRF (Refuge from Flood Reserve). Most of parish subdivided as small allotments, owned by C B Fisher, Shackell and Danby. Area east of Yanga Creek and north of old house shown as reserved from sale or lease.	Yanga	Caira	15113201
1881	TSR north and east of lake continuing to north-east.	Yanga	Caira	15113201
1881	Plan of Homestead portion, surveyed as portion 19, 640 acres, applied for by C B Fisher under the Crown Lands Act. Note on plan says improvement purchase 1876 (ie prior to drawing of plan) and IP to C B Fisher 1881. Shown as salt bush country and sandy soil with two lines of sandhills along the north edge of the lake. Reserve for Balranald / Deniliquin road shown. Homestead shown L shaped with separate stable in fenced paddock. Larger fence garden and separate cultivation paddock to north with top rail and 5 wire fence on each side of a track. Wire fences generally divide portion into paddocks and post rail and wire fence along road reserve. Fencing, house, outbuildings and stable valued at £2,000.	Yanga	Caira	Portion 19
1881	Plan of Old Homestead portion, surveyed as portion 18, 640 acres, applied for by C B Fisher under the Crown Lands Act. Note on plan says improvement purchase 1876 (ie prior to drawing of plan) and IP to C B Fisher 1881. Shown as high open salt bush plain and sandy soil with two lines of sandhills along the north edge of the lake. Flooded land with gum timber is shown along the creek. Reserve for Balranald / Deniliquin road shown. House shown as rectangular with a separate kitchen block, stable, stores and another hut in a fenced paddock. Adjacent paddocks and yards and a bridge over Yanga Creek from the home paddock. Separate stable shown near lake. Wire fences generally divide portion into paddocks and post rail and wire fence along road reserve. Improvements valued at £995. Track shown along sandhill near lake towards Homestead.	Yanga	Caira	Portion 18
1882	Plan of area west of Yanga Creek, surveyed as portions 60 & 61, total 610 acres (inc. later roads). Portion 61 applied for by Townsend Duryea and portion 60 applied for by C B Fisher - but later E S & A Bank. Shown as hop bush scrub with pines, open plain, mallee and and box and gum timber along the lake. Portion 60 gives access to bridge over Yanga Creek and to reserve for Balranald / Swan Hill road. Houses shown on portion 61 and division into paddocks with log fence, wire and brush fence, two rail / three wire fence and six wire fences. Improvements valued at £380 & £135.	Mamanga	Caira	Portions 60 & 61
1882	Lake Yanga reserved for preservation of game.	Belar	Caira	15111101
1882	Lake Yanga declared a Water Reserve.	Belar	Caira	15111101

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1882	Condoulpe Lake notified as Water Reserve and adjacent area as T S & C R. (travelling stock and cattle reserve) Later leased to E S & A Bank.	Condoulpe	Wakool	15162301
1884	Large TSR (traveling stock reserve) to North East of Yanga Lake.	Belar	Caira	15111101
1885	Land in many portions owned by C B Fisher and E S & A Bank. 5 portions coloured dark blue owned by Shackell and Danby. Portions mostly 320 acres. Part of Yanga Resumed Area 76.	Belar	Caira	15111101
1885	Map shows northeast portion of parish (southeast of Yanga Lake) subdivided into irregular portions about 300 acres, all owned by Charles B Fisher. Pelican Point shown in ownership of C B Fisher (IP).	Wombah	Caira	15113101
1885	Track shown from Balranald along west side of lake and then south (not on road reserve of TSR). Road shown to east of lake running south along east boundary of parish.	Wombah	Caira	15113101
1885	Map torn and Yanga Lake only partly shown. Whole parish shown as resumed area. Various wire fences shown especially just north of Yanga Lake including one running to river to northwest. Willow clump shown just north of lake.	Yanga	Caira	15113201
1885	Old house, store, yards and fences shown north of Yanga Lake on Yanga Creek. Generally parish divided into small allotments owned by C B Fisher.	Yanga	Caira	15113201
1885	Head station on peninsula into Yanga Lake valued at £7000. Old station at Yanga Creek near lake shown valued at £3000. Cultivation paddock shown north of Yanga Lake valued at £25. Bridge indicated - half of value £101.	Pastoral Map	Caira & Wakool	10058801
1885	Tank shown on Portion 45, Parish of Mamanga west of bridge valued at £168. Yards shown on Portion 58, Parish of Mamanga valued at £90. Tank shown south of Yanga Lake Portion 33, Parish of Wombah valued at £371. Hut and yards south east of Yanga Lake on Portion 22, Parish of Belair valued at £339. (Note last two figures match acreage)	Pastoral Map	Caira & Wakool	10058801
1885	East of Yanga Lake series of tanks shown generally valued at £320. Portions 41, 60, 61 and 62, Parish of Impimi, have a series of fenced paddocks, tanks, yards and a hut valued at £780.	Pastoral Map	Caira & Wakool	10058801
1885	The southern part of this area largely outside today's Yanga Reserves - adjoins the Edward River to the south. There is a stock reserve north east of Condoulpe Lake and there are yards and a hut at the north of the lake valued in total at £284. There is also a tank further east of the lake valued at £282. Land described as 'mallee, small open plains'. Further west also described as having 'hop bush, pine etc'.	Pastoral Map	Caira & Wakool	10058801
1885	Tanks, yards and dams shown east of Condoulpe Lake around unnamed dry lake valued in total at £664. (Again the value matches the area of the land).	Pastoral Map	Caira & Wakool	10058801
1892	Yanga Lake notified as Water Reserve	Wombah	Caira	15113101
1894	Main track shown along diagonal TSR and TSR to south. Road to Balranald shown running north south.	Wombah	Caira	15138201
1896	Road shown from Lake Yanga to south-east to TSR dated 1896.	Belar	Caira	15111101
1897	Large area south and south west of Yanga Lake notified as Water and Cattle Reserve. Later pencil notation says proposed for subdivision.	Wombah	Caira	15113101
1898	Public road notified to north of parish. Later becomes Sturt Highway.	Belar	Caira	15111101
1901	North part of Parish divided into small portions owned by C B Fisher and E S & A Bank.	Condoulpe	Wakool	15162301

YANGA CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1906	T S & C R at west of parish shown as Yanga Tank and area further southeast shown as "Lynwood" reserved for Public School Purposes and area to east shown as reserved for public recreation and pencil note indicates hotel. Tank shown on TSR at south of parish.	Wombah	Caira	15138201
1907	Part of former TSR running west from Yanga Lake shown as set apart for AHS (additional homestead selection) and reduced width retained as TSR. TSR notified as road in 1895.	Wombah	Caira	15138201
1909	Lake Yanga notified as reserve for preservation of game.	Wombah	Caira	15138201
1913	By this date Lake leased to E S & A Bank and later Yanga PL	Mamanga	Caira	15111701
1913	Map still shows Yanga homestead as 'L' shaped with a wire fence and a paddock to the north. At Yanga Creek the old house is shown with bridge, sheds, yards and fencing. Reserve for access along the south side of the creek. The road to Hay is shown on a road embankment and the proposed railway to Moama is shown.	Yanga	Caira	15138301
1917	By this date pencil lines on map indicate alternate route for railway, the eastmost route shown as "to Barham, Swan Hill and Moama" all towns along the Murray river.	Wombah	Caira	15138201
1917	By this date stock route south of lake shown as Homestead Selection Area and taken up.	Wombah	Caira	15138201
1917	Yanga Tank shown as such and as T S & C R. Nearby reserve shown as Lynwood Public School.	Wombah	Caira	12097301
1918	Route of proposed railway shown crossing Parish diagonally north east of Lake Condoulpe. Parts of TSR shown as leases.	Condoulpe	Wakool	15162301
1920	North/south stock route becomes road.	Belar	Caira	12140701
1921	Parts of TSRs revoked and smaller width TSR remains.	Wombah	Caira	12097301
1922	Land acquired for rail route north of Homestead.	Yanga	Caira	Portion 18 & 19
1922	Lake gazetted as Sanctuary for Birds and Animals - also shown as part of a Permissive Occupancy to Yanga Pty Ltd and lease to E S & A Bank..	Mamanga	Caira	12119501
1926	Public road declared to the north of the portion – is later Sturt Highway.	Belar	Caira	12140701
1928	Note says Yanga Estate proclamation cancelled for certain lots (gazette 31.8.28 and 9.11.28.	Wombah	Caira	12097301
1928	Proposed railway and Yanga Lake Railway Station north east of Yanga Lake shown. Village site dedicated at Yanga Railway Station. Proposed road shown near station.	Yanga	Caira	12094401
1933	Parts of TSR north east of Lake shown as Permissive Occupancy to Yanga PL (terminated in 1948.)	Yanga	Caira	12094401
1933	Sturt State Highway proclaimed.	Yanga	Caira	12094401
1933	Lease over Lake expired	Mamanga	Caira	15137001
1937	Land reserved for Balranald/Moama Road alongside the railway line. Gazette 15/10/1937. Old road to Moulamein east of Yanga Lake closed.	Belar	Caira	12140701
1937	Or prior date, strip of land around south shore of lake shown as reserve for road. Pencil notation indicates consideration for use as TSR.	Wombah	Caira	12097301
1937	Pelican Point portion 37 resumed as severed land and reserved for classification.	Wombah	Caira	12097301 Portion 37
1968	Portion 87 still shown as held under Sp. L. to J S Murray. Current map copy viewed at NP Hurstville	Wombah	Mamanga	Current

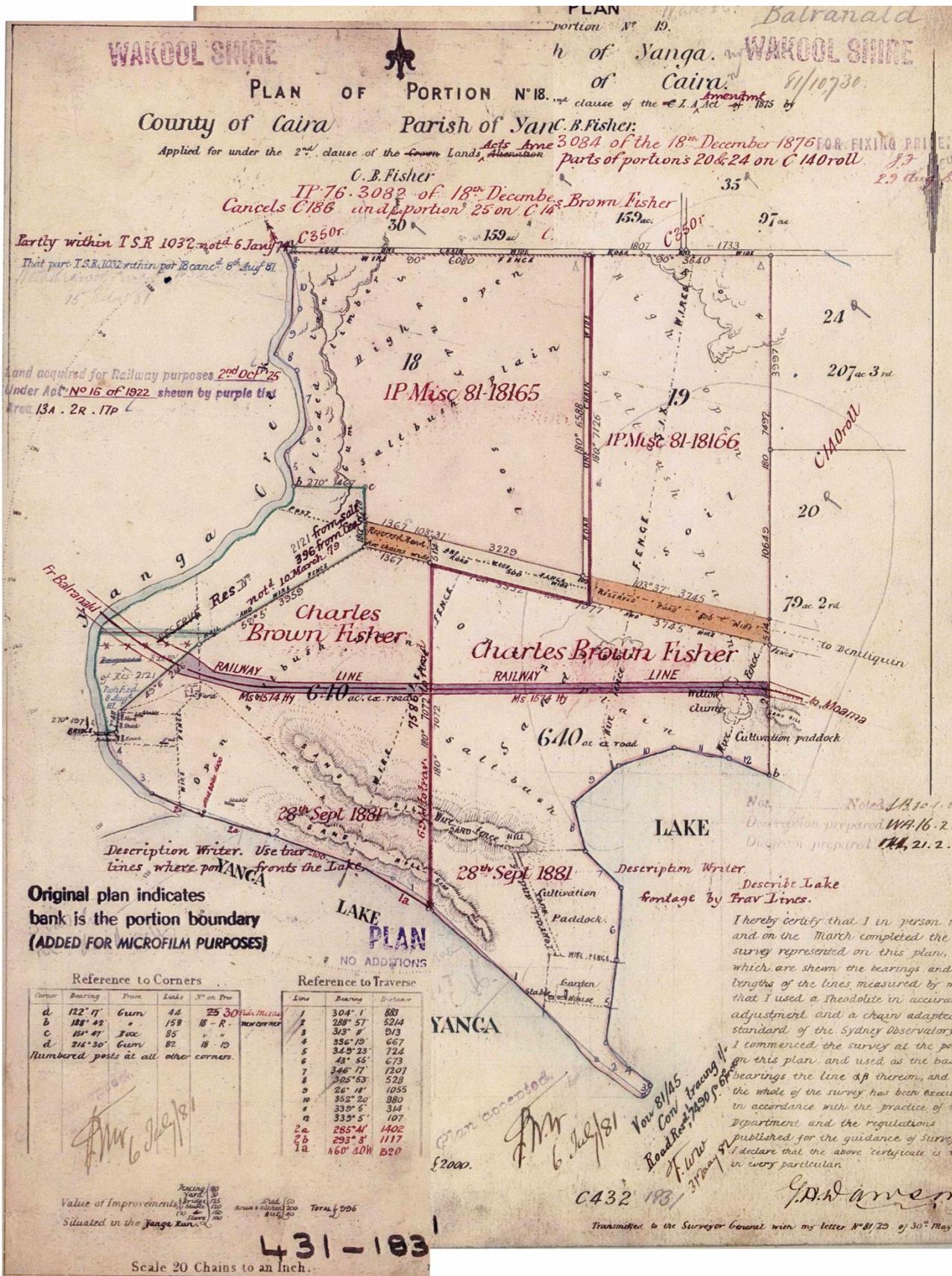


Figure 2.10 Plans of portions 18 and 19 overlaid. These surveys were done in 1881 with information added at various later dates. The original shows the current Homestead and the Old Homestead site at Yanga Creek. The red line across the centre is the railway line added later Source: NPWS Hurstville, obtained from title search when property was purchased.

2.3.2 Woolshed Precinct

The woolshed precinct was part of Wentworth's run and buildings were established here, at Mamanga, by 1852, before regular steamboat access commenced in 1857. The site remained as the Woolshed and river port for Yanga Station until 2005. Travelling stock routes are shown in the Woolshed Precinct from 1874. By 1895 a wide TSR ran north-south. Sheds and a hut are located at Mamanga on the woolshed site by 1885.

In 1886 the Woolshed precinct became part of Resumed Area 76, and the parish is divided into irregular portions with several different owners. C B Fisher owned most of the western portions of the precinct. It is odd that the 1886 parish map still shows the woolshed portion is owned by Charles Williamson. Some portions are also owned by E S & A Bank. By this time a road from Balranald to the north of Yanga Lake had been constructed in the location of the modern road. In 1896 in the midst of a dispute between shearers and pastoralists the woolshed was burnt down. National parks staff recall seeing a black layer 100 -150mm below the surface during restumping work in the woolshed which may be evidence of the fire.

The current woolshed was built following in this. Shearers' and Shedhands' quarters, washhouses and mess huts were built north and south of the woolshed early in the 20th century. The levee may also have been constructed or altered at this time. The complex continued in operation under new owners, Sims Cooper from 1919 until 2005. The date of demolition of the northern quarters and associated structures is not known. At some date in the mid 20th century the Irrigation Cottage is built and the associated channel from the pump at the river.

From 1892 until 1950 an area between the Murrumbidgee and Yanga Creek further north east of the precinct was dedicated as a Reserve for use of Aborigines and in 1948 part of it was leased to J S Murray as well as an adjoining portion to the east. Balranald Railway Station and railway line reserve was established 1913.

The following table notes information shown on parish and pastoral maps (portion plan not seen for woolshed site):

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1873	Area at junction of Yanga Creek and the Murrumbidgee River reserved as a Common.	Mamanga	Caira	15111701
1874	TSR to west of Common.	Mamanga	Caira	15111701
1885	Sheds and hut at Mamanga (Woolshed site) valued at £2000.	Pastoral Map	Caira & Wakool	10058801
1886	Part of Resumed Area 76. Parish divided into irregular portions with several different owners. C B Fisher shown as owning most of the portions in the west of the parish. The site of the Woolshed, Portion 25, is owned by Charles Williamson (woolshed not shown). Road shown from Balranald to north of Yanga Lake in location of modern road. Road from Balranald to south west also shown.	Mamanga	Caira	15111701
1892	Northmost part of Parish between River and Yanga Creek shown as Reserve for use of Aborigines.	Mamanga	Caira	15111701
1895	Wide TSR running north south through centre of Parish.	Mamanga	Caira	15111701
1903	Additional TSRs connecting earlier TSRs.	Mamanga	Caira	15111701
1905	TS&CR shown north of Yanga Lake near bridge across Yanga Creek.	Mamanga	Caira	15111701
1913	Map shows Balranald Railway Station and railway line.	Mamanga	Caira	15137001
1930	Temporary Common revoked and land subdivided.	Mamanga	Caira	12119501
1948	Area of former Aboriginal Reserve shown as leased to J S Murray (note date not clear) - revoked in 1951 (date not clear). Adjoining portion permissive occupancy to J S Murray.	Mamanga	Caira	12119501

2.3.3 Willows

The Willows precinct was part of the Yanga run and was used for seasonal grazing with little development. From 1879 until 1922 a large travelling stock route ran north-south through the Willows Precinct.

In 1885 the precinct became part of the Yanga Resumed Area 76A and was subdivided into 320 acre allotments, most shown on the map as owned by C B Fisher and the E S & A Bank. In 1901 the precinct became part of the Yanga Leasehold Area 76A and by 1914 it was part of the Yanga Estate.

In 1885 the Balranald-Moulamein Road crossed the south-east portion of the precinct diagonally. (This road was closed in 1937). The Balranald – Hay route is shown as reserved for roadway in 1898 and became the Sturt Highway in 1935. Land was resumed for railway purposes in 1913 including Impimi Station.

In the early 20th century wells and tanks were developed across the area providing water for stock and presumably allowing increased carrying capacity. The area was designated for closer settlement as part of the soldier settler scheme and a subdivision survey was undertaken in April 1924. This may have been related to potential subdivision when in the ownership of the bank. By 1964 the Willows Precinct was re-purchased as part of the Yanga Estate (Freehold). The new Wilga woolshed was built in the 1960s and the cottage.

The following table notes information shown on parish and pastoral maps:

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1879	Large TSR running along west boundary, north-south - closed by 1922.	Fisher	Caira	15136701
1885	Part of Yanga Resumed Area 76A subdivided into 320 acre allotments most owned by C.B. Fisher, some by ES&A Bank. No improvements shown.	Impimi	Caira	15136801
1885	Balranald Moulamein Road crosses diagonally south west portion of Parish.	Impimi	Caira	15136801
1885	Part of Yanga Leashold 76A. Westmost portion 6593 acres is one portion owned by ES&A Bank. 2 small portions in this area owned by C.B. Fisher - each 120 acres. 1 portion straddles main road and has tank. East part of area divided into 320 acre allotments owned by C.B. Fisher (except 5 lots).	Fisher	Caira	15136701
1885	Tanks are shown on many 320 acre portions valued at £320. One just south of the current highway and adjacent to a north-south TSR has yards. In the south west of the precinct Lintot Lake is shown as a dry lake with dams on two streams entering it and a tank north of it. Vegetation is noted as Balar [sic].	Pastoral Map. Yanga Holding	Caira & Wakool	10058902 & 10058904
1898	Balranald Hay road across north of Parish. Later becomes Sturt Highway.	Impimi	Caira	15136801
1898	North-west corner traversed by road which later becomes Sturt Highway.	Fisher	Caira	15136701
1901	Large north-west portion of Parish shown as Yanga Leasehold Area 76A. Not renewed in 1932. Later shown as part of Yanga Estate. North east of Parish is one large portion. East side divided into 320 acre lots, 12 owned by CB Fisher.	Merwin	Wakool	12118301
1914	Ownership as for 1885. Part of POL 76A not renewed 1932 - part of Yanga Estate.	Impimi	Caira	12123601
1914	Road gazetted running east west at south end of Parish. Tank shown on central portion near road.	Merwin	Wakool	12118301
1922	Ownership as per 1885 map. Yanga Permissive Occupancy Lease 76A.	Fisher	Caira	12127401
1926	Public road declared on north side of Parish.	Impimi	Caira	12123601
1935	Hay Balranald Road becomes Sturt Highway.	Impimi	Caira	12123601
1935	Sturt Highway declared.	Fisher	Caira	1212740?
1937	Balranald Moulamein Road closed.	Impimi	Caira	12123601
1937	Land resumed for railway across south-east corner of Parish. Land reserved for Impimi Railway Station.	Impimi	Caira	12123601
1937	Road resumed through centre of parish running north south.	Fisher	Caira	12127401
1964	Part of Yanga Estate (Freehold) at some time during currency of map (1921-64)	Fisher	Caira	12127401

2.3.4 Oakhampton

The area was part of the Yanga run and later pastoral station. Travelling stock routes are indicated from 1881 in the precinct.

In 1885 the Oakhampton precinct became part of Yanga Resumed Area 76A and was partly subdivided into 320 acre allotments owned by C B Fisher and the E S & A Bank, with one portion owned by Shackell and Danby. Fencing is shown running diagonally through the area dividing it into large paddocks. A hut and smaller yards are shown to the east of Oakhampton and north of and near the later highway route. The later development of Oakhampton Homestead and the Abercrombie Channel is not shown on the maps examined.

In 1909 the State Forest was declared, later and now, the Nature Reserve. By 1913 the embankment of the road to Hay and the proposed railway to Moama is shown on maps of the area.

In 1919 a large portion of land to the south-east was dedicated as 'Crown Lease Area for Return Soldiers only'.

The following table notes information shown on parish and pastoral maps:

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1885 & 1913	Parish of Morris not in National Park, includes Kia swamp. Part of former Yanga Pastoral run. Small portions owned by Fisher and Shackell and Danby. Most of Parish owned by Walter Alexander Hickey.	Morris	Caira	15111801 & 12116701
1885 & 1913	Parish of Williamson not within National Park. Ownership as for 1885. East portion shown as Crown Lease.	Williamson	Caira	12098801
1881	TSR north and east of lake continuing to northeast.	Yanga	Caira	15113201
1884	TSR entering Parish from south-west. Portion at south of Kia Swamp part of stock route.	Kia	Caira	15111401
1885	South of Kia Swamp yards and fencing shown valued at £180, adjacent to TSR. Land in vicinity described as 'polygnum, box and flooded country'. Tank shown on Portion 1, Parish of Morris valued at £600 (not in reserves). 'Drafting Yards' shown, just north of the current nature reserve, valued at £190. Tanks are shown on Portions 29, 30 and 31 Parish of Parker, just north of the current nature reserve, respectively valued at £160, £144 and £320. (Note this matches acreage). A similar tank is just south of the current nature reserve on portion 28 Parish of Fisher valued at £160. There are tanks shown on the current topographic map at these locations. In an area east of Oakhampton and south of the Nature Reserve are several fenced paddocks, a tank and a hut valued at £780 in total. Land in vicinity described as 'lignum and polygnum'. In the west of the precinct is a bridge at the location where the current Waugorah road crosses Uara Creek, a dam just upstream and another set of yards further north along the Waugorah Road.	Pastoral Map. Yanga Holding	Caira & Wakool	10058902
1885	Area immediately to the south of Kia Swamp part of Yanga Resumed Area 76A. Northern part subdivided into 320 acre portions owned by C B Fisher. Some portions E S & A Bank and one portion Shackell and Danby. Road crosses north-west corner of Parish. Track shown from Yanga to ?. (illegible). Fence shown near Kia Swamp and diagonally across Parish to east. Fence shown as run boundary.	Kia	Caira	15111401
1909	Portion 24 declared Forest Reserve - previously E S & A Bank. See plan following.	Kia	Caira	15111401
1913	The road to Hay is shown on a road embankment and the proposed railway to Moama is shown.	Yanga	Caira	15138301
1915	South portion formerly FR 43974 (Forest Reserve) dedicated as Yanga State Forest.	Parker	Caira	12111901
1917	Only the west portion of the Parker Parish is in the National Park. Generally large portions, 4 small portions owned by C B Fisher.	Parker	Caira	12111901

1919	Large portion in south-east corner Crown Lease Area for Return Soldiers only.	Yanga	Caira	15138301
1920	TSR reduced in width and added to portion to south of TSR. Note on TSR 'driftway'. TSR at north east of Yanga Lake retained.	Yanga	Caira	15138301
1924	Pencil note for the whole Parish says ' Part of Yanga covered by Proclamation under Section 5 Closer Sett. 6.'	Yanga	Caira	15138301

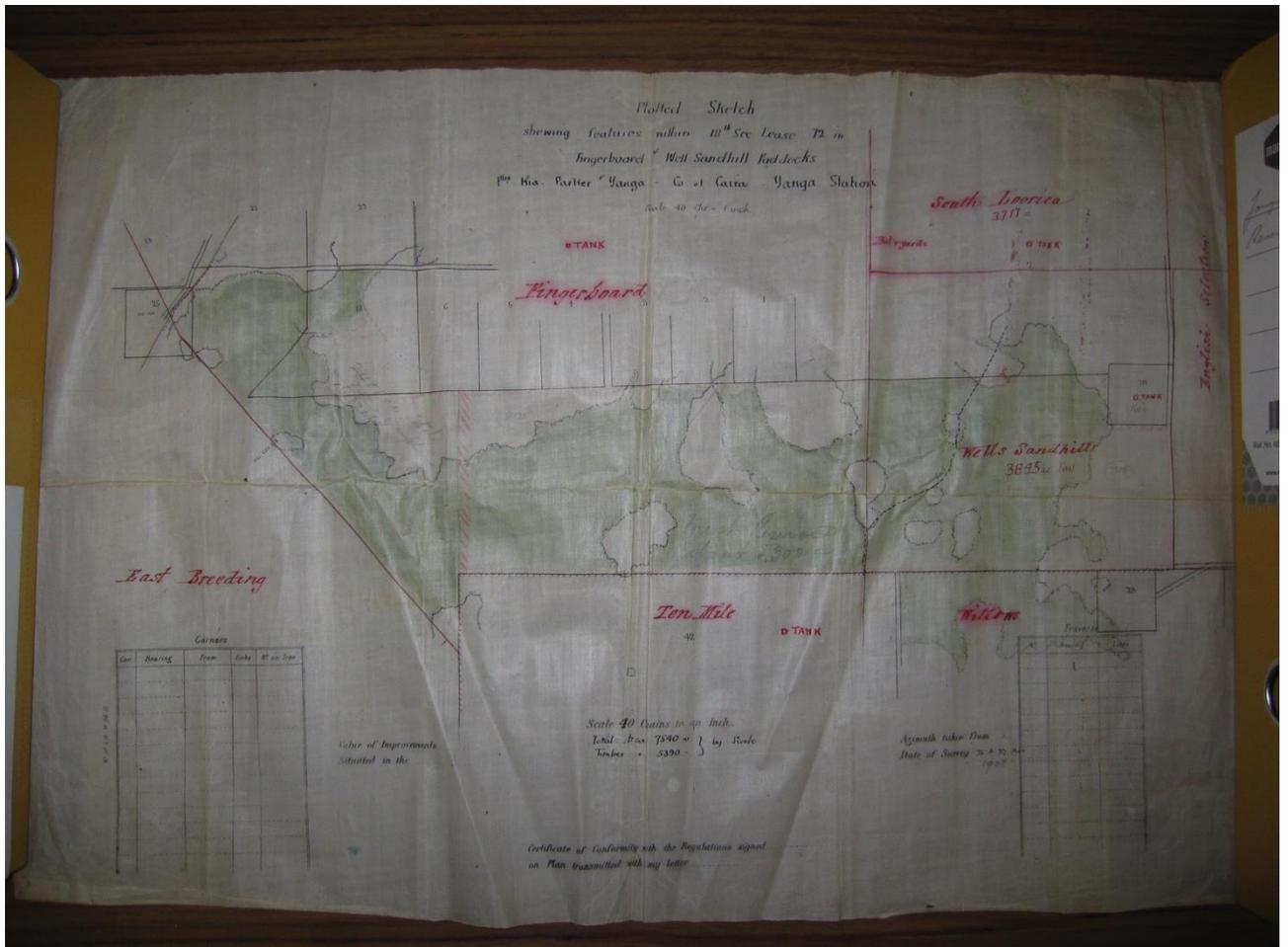


Figure 2.12. Surveyors plan dated 1908 of the area that later became the Forest Reserve (penciled in on drawing) and is now Yanga Nature Reserve. The paddock is named on the drawing as "Wells Sandhill" and in the title as "Well Sandhill". In later documents it is sometimes, probably mistakenly, called Well Stand Hill. Source: Photographed in Yanga Archives by authors.

2.3.5 Uara Precinct

The Uara Precinct has evidence of Aboriginal occupation including scar and ring trees and middens along the river and a burial ground. It was part of the original Yanga Run and the site of Wentworth's Kietu station occupied by Morris and show on maps by 1852. It was used for grazing with little other development other than bridges for access and dams. The head station was moved by c1860 but structures remained at the site and it remained part of Yanga station.

North of the precinct a Water Reserve was dedicated between the Murrumbidgee River and Kia Swamp in 1879. In 1885 the Uara Creek Precinct became part of the Yanga Resumed Area 76A. The original Wentworth Homestead is shown on these plans as a hut named 'Kieeta' owned by Walter Williamson. A dam was located on Kieeta Creek at the junction with the Murrumbidgee and the surrounding area marked 'flooded country'. Huts, tanks and yards existed north of Yanga Lake and a bridge and yards at Uara Creek. C B Fisher owned many of the small allotments in the precinct and the network of fences differed from the portion boundaries relating more closely to Yanga paddock boundaries.

In 1914 the Uara precinct became part of Yanga Permissive Occupancy Lease (POL) 76A and a Traveling Stock and Cattle Reserve (T S & C R) was dedicated to the south east of Tala Lake. In 1919 the former Water Reserve, subsequently leased to the E S & A Bank was proclaimed an area for Returned Soldiers. This area was leased to Taliesin John Spinks in 1954. A pencil note in 1924 states 'Part of Yanga covered by Proclamation under Section 5 Closer Sett. 6.', referring to the Closer Settlement Act.

In 1935 the northern part of the Yanga Parish, and in 1945 the Kieeta Parish, became part of the Lowbidgee Provisional Flood Control and Irrigation District. Some water management measures were introduced from 1913 to 1919 with the construction of major regulators on Yanga Creek to keep water in Yanga Lake. A major irrigation project was constructed in the 1960s regulating Devils Creek with regulators and levees and holding water in the area and irrigating the Jardine area in the west of the precinct. At about this time the elevated area at the centre of the precinct was cleared and cultivated (known as the Wheat Stubble and Cultivation paddocks). In 1971 the Gooparle Game Reserve was proclaimed over part of the area.

The following table notes information shown on parish and pastoral maps and portion plans:

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1879	Portion 51 is Water Reserve between River and Kia Swamp.	Kieeta	Caira	15111501
1885	Kieeta Creek shown at south west corner. Track to west of creek shown on portions 1 & 2 owned by Walter Williamson. Portion 1 has hut named Kieeta [sic] (location of original Wentworth Homestead).	Kieeta	Caira	15111501
1885	Map torn and Yanga Lake only partly shown. Whole parish shown as resumed area. Various wire fences shown.	Yanga	Caira	15113201
1885	Bridges and a dam shown on Uara Creek just north of Lake. Generally parish divided into small allotments owned by C B Fisher.	Yanga	Caira	15113201
1885	Huts shown west of Yanga Creek on Portions 77,78 and 79, Mamanga Parish on land shown as CP to Jardine and Lawler. Tank and yards shown north of Yanga Lake respectively valued at £75 and £100. (Would be on northern side of Highway today.) Bridge and yards shown on Uara Creek where current Waugorah Road crosses the creek, valued at £320. Network of fences shown throughout area differ from portion boundaries.	Pastoral Map. Yanga Holding	Caira & Wakool	10058901
1885	Dam shown on Kieeta Creek at junction with Murrumbidgee. Hut shown at Kieeta and yards on Portion 1, Yanga Parish valued at £160. Dam and yards shown further east on portion 34 valued at £135. Area shown as 'heavily flooded country'.	Pastoral Map. Yanga Holding	Caira & Wakool	10058901
1913	Unnecessary (paper) roads closed.	Kieeta	Caira	15111501
1913	Parish generally broken up into small allotments. Owned by CB Fisher except larger allotments at south east of Parish. Shows 2 bridges and a dam on Uara Creek north of Yanga Lake.	Yanga	Caira	15138301
1913	Various roads closed and granted to Yanga PL. Two bridges and a dams shown on Uara Creek.	Yanga	Caira	15138301

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1914	Shown as Yanga POL 76A - crossed out on map. Portion ownerships generally as per 1885. Portion south east of Tala Lake shown as Travelling Stock and Cattle Reserve (T S & C R). The locality of Kieeta is shown but Hut no longer indicated. Wire fences and stockyards not shown.	Kieeta	Caira	12122501
1919	Former Portion 51 - shown on this map as Portion 11- former Water Reserve now marked Returned Soldiers. Leased to E S & A Bank prior to this.	Kieeta	Caira	12122501
1924	Pencil note for the whole Parish says 'Part of Yanga covered by Proclamation under Section 5 Closer Sett. 6.'	Yanga	Caira	15138301
1934	Public road gazetted along east of Parish adjacent to Kia Swamp.	Kieeta	Caira	12122501
1936	Licence granted to Yanga PL for cutting and regulator on Portion 33 which fronts the Murrumbidgee and Kieeta Creek.	Kieeta	Caira	12122501
1945	North part of Parish proclaimed part of Lowbidgee Flood Control and Irrigation District.	Yanga	Caira	12094401
1945	Proclaimed as part of Lowbidgee Provisional Flood Control and Irrigation District.	Kieeta	Caira	12122501
1954	Former Water Reserve Portion 11 leased to Taliesin John Spinks.	Kieeta	Caira	12122501
1971	North-east corner of Parish proclaimed as part of Gooparle Game Reserve.	Kieeta	Caira	12122501

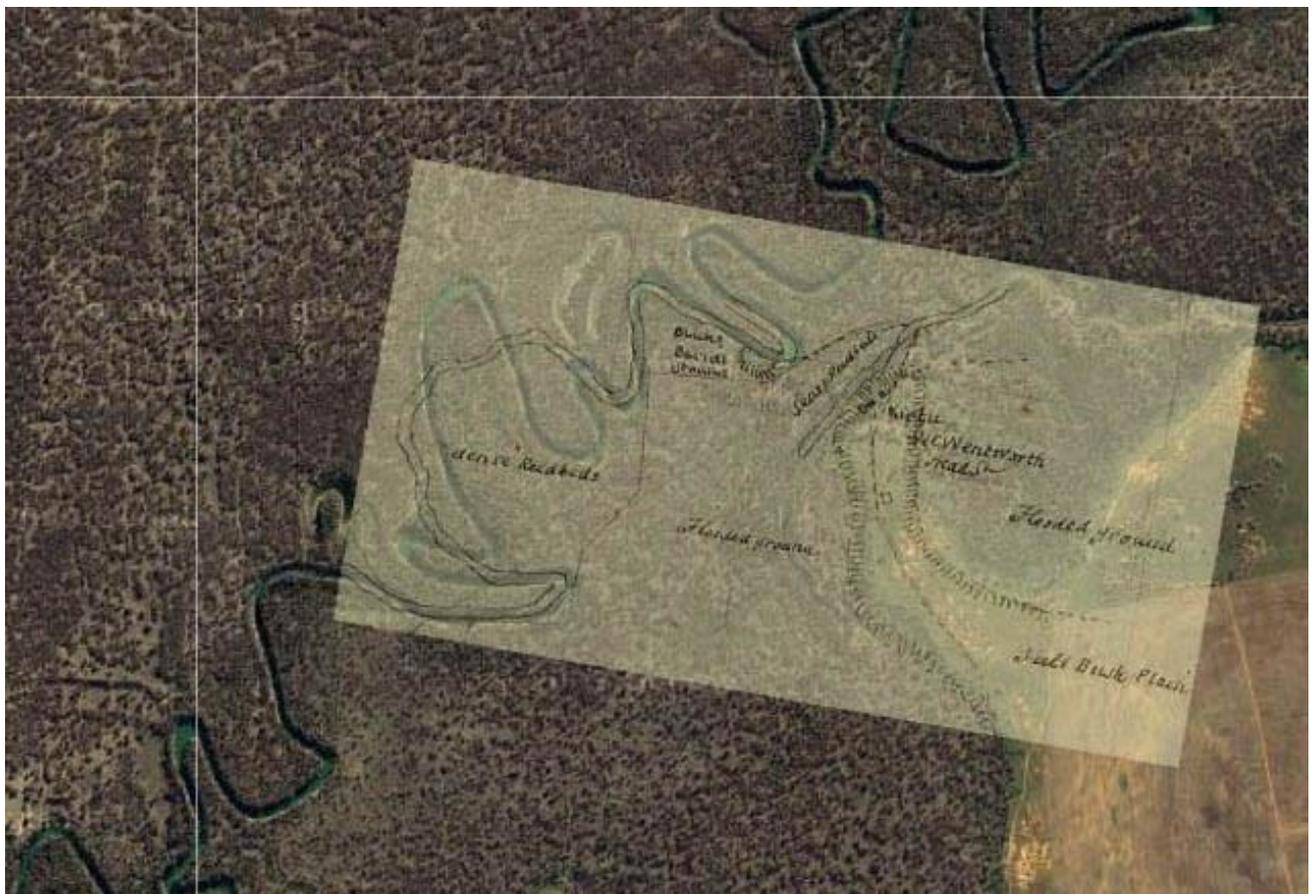


Figure 2.13 Townsend 1848 survey and 1851 map overlaid on a current aerial image showing the location of Kieeta. Note that the river bends do not match exactly in the area where his path, as indicated by a line, did not follow the river. Source: Townsend's map from SR NSW overlaid by authors.

2.3.6 Tala

Tala precinct was part of the Tala run but the early development was concentrated around Tala Lake and is not within the current park boundaries. Wentworth and Morris, his agent, had a sheep station east of Tala lake and a woolshed, hut and yards west of the lake by 1852. Edward Stock sketched the huts on Tala Lake in 1852. It continue in use for grazing as part of Yanga station.

Tala Lake was declared a Water Reserve and Reserve for Preservation of Game by 1879. In 1885 the remainder of the Tala Precinct was generally divided into 320 acre portions owned by C B Fisher, Walter Williamson and Shackell and Danby as part of Yanga Resumed Area 76A. A road ran along the western edge of Kia Swamp. West of Tala Lake a stockyard, woolsheds and track were owned by Walter Williamson. A wire fence ran between Kia Swamp and Tala Lake and between Tala Lake and the Murrumbidgee River. Travelling stock routes are shown by 1885 in the Tala precinct and a hut in the location of today's Breer Regulator.

By 1907 Talpee consisted of a house, gardens, fences and paddock (not now within the park). Large central portions of the precinct were leased to T S Spinks by 1913. Dams had been constructed including on the head-waters of Monkem Creek and on Talpee Creek north of Tala Lake at this time. 2,880 acres were leased to the E S & A Bank in 1915.

The Yanga Estate was covered by proclamation under Section 5 of the Closer Settlement Act (1907) in 1923. The south-east corner of the precinct became Crown Area for Returned Soldiers in 1929. This area was later leased to Thomas Sydney Spinks.

In 1945 the Tala precinct became part of the Lowbidgee Provisional Flood Control and Irrigation District and part was in the Emu Park Game Reserve was dedicated in 1971.

The area was used for grazing with huts for stockmen including Peacocks hut north of Tala lake and a bridge over Tala Creek near the river. Tala Creek was also called Burdakiany or Burdakiamy Creek. A regulator was built on Tala Creek at the river retaining water in the area (the date has not been established) and similarly the Breer regulator at the north of the precinct.

The following table notes information shown on parish and pastoral maps and portion plans:

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1877	Portion plans at this date, 1881 and 1902 describe vegetation. Swamp, reed beds and canegrass, flooded country and gum timber, grey clayey soil and sandhills, open gum, lignum and swamp willow and further from the river open salt bush plain and box forest and polyganum.	Kieeta	Caira and Talpee	Pt 24, 25, 26, 1-5, 3-10
1879	Water Reserve east of Tala Lake.	Kieeta	Caira	15111501
1882	Tala Lake notified as Water Reserve.	Kieeta	Caira	15111501
1882	Lake Tala shown as Reserve for Preservation of Game and Water Reserve at different dates.	Tala	Caira	15112501
1882	Tala Lake shown as for Preservation of Game 1882 and Water Reserve 1909.	Talpee	Caira	15112601
1885	'Huts etc' is shown at the river on Portion 3, Parish of Monkem at the northeast of the area valued at £80 with a fence running to the southeast to a dam on Monkem Creek. valued at £150. Dams Creeks yards and fences are also shown at Monkem Creek in an area not in the reserve.	Pastoral Map, Tala Holding	Caira	10041201
1885	A swampy area is shown north of Tala Lake where Talpee Creek flows into the lake. Talpee Homestead is shown north of this with large fenced, paddocks, yards a hut and a house all valued at £1850 and a yard further south at £30. There is a track running east of Tala Lake continuing to the north, a dam on Pee Wee Creek valued at £100 and one further east on an un-named creek.	Pastoral Map, Tala Holding	Caira	10041203

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1885	Area of this plan not in National Park. Shown as part resumed, part leasehold area of run 167A. (Nap Nap) Noted as part of settlement lease area. Owners shown as Richardson and E S & A Bank.	Loorica	Caira	15111601
1885	Parish divided into 320 acre portions except for Water Reserve. Portions owned by C B Fisher, Walter Williamson and Shackell and Danby. Part of Yanga Resumed Area 76A between Murrumbidgee on west and Tala Lake and Kia Swamp on the east. Road on east of Parish along western edge of Kia Swamp. Land between road and swamp resumed. West of Tala Lake stockyard, woolsheds and track shown on portion owned by Walter Williamson. Bounded on north by Tala Creek or Burdakiamy.	Kieeta	Caira	15111501
1885	Wire fence shown at north of Parish, between Kia Swamp and Tala Lake and between Tala Lake and the River.	Kieeta	Caira	15111501
1885	Most of Parish not in park. Tala Lake is at east of portion. There are 2 areas of land east of the lake shown as Water Reserves. A large portion in the centre of the Parish is owned by E S & A Bank. Small portions north east of the lake and in the east of the Parish are owned by C B Fisher and Shackell and Danby.	Tala	Caira	15112501
1885	Two large portions at south of Parish to Shackell and Danby with a pencil note 'to be granted in exchange'. Remainder of Parish divided into small portions - owners C B Fisher, Shackell and Danby and Williamson. Swamp shown at north of portion but not named.	Talpee	Caira	15112601
1885	Hut and yards shown south west of Lake Tala valued at £250 on Portion 39, Parish of Kieeta (not in reserve). Bridge shown on Tala Creek valued at £200 and cultivation paddock valued at £50 on Portions 21 and 12, Parish of Kieeta (paddock not in reserve).	Pastoral Map. Yanga Holding	Caira & Wakool	10058901
1907 (1885 - 1913)	Parish mostly not in reserve. Shows Water Reserve on Lake Tala crossed out. Location of Talpee shown, with house, gardens, fences and paddock on portion 19. Portions 1, 2, 6 C B Fisher. Swampy area north of lake and other areas referenced as part of to lease of 25,514 acres to the English, Scottish and Australian Bank. Lease references: Part lease No. 71(18th Sec) Ms 672 Hyr added under sec 47, Gaz 11 Sept 1907 R 10658 etc.	Wilpee	Caira	15113001 Note: not in image folder, see LPI website
1909	Tala Lake notified for preservation of game.	Kieeta	Caira	15111501
1913	Large central portions shown as leases to T S Spinks. This lease joins another in the Parish of Kieeta which has river frontage. Note along east bank of Tala Lake that says 'steep bank' (not in reserve).	Tala	Caira	15137701
1913	South western blocks of Parish owned by C B Fisher and Shackell and Danby. Road running north south through Parish from Balranald to Waugorah. Mostly not in National Park except portions in north-west corner. The location of Talpee is shown on Portion 19 north of Tala Lake. There is a dam shown on the head-waters of Monkem Creek in Portion 20. On north boundary of the Parish another dam is shown named Monkem Dam. A dam is also shown on Talpee Creek in Portion 21 north of Tala Lake, owned by C B Fisher and a second dam is shown further east. There is a Reserve shown on the north.	Wilpee	Caira	12098601
1915	2,880 acres leased to E S & A Bank.	Kieeta	Caira	15111501
1923	Within Yanga Estate covered by proclamation under Section 5 Closer Settlement Act (1907) in Gazette 29-3-23.	Tala	Caira	15137701
1929	South-east corner shown as Crown Area for Returned Soldiers. Later shown as leased to Thomas Sydney Spinks.	Wilpee	Caira	12098601
1929	T S Reserve shown noted P O Yanga Pty Ltd Gordon Smith. This adjoins a T S & C R Reserve in adjoining Waugorah Parish.	Wilpee	Caira	12098601
1945	Parish within Lowbidgee Provisional Flood Control & Irrigation District.	Wilpee	Caira	12098601
1971	Whole north-east portion shown as Emu Park Game Reserve.	Wilpee	Caira	12098601

2.3.7 Waugorah

The Waugorah precinct was part of the Nap Nap run taken up by Hobler as 'The Lake' in 1845. It was the subject of the conflict between Hobler and Wentworth. Hobler sold his interests to Barker. Settlement by 1852 was at Waugorah with Barker's sheep station noted as well as a Wentworth owned building. Barker's sheep station is shown on the river near the site of the later woolshed. Wentworth and Morris eventually assumed control. The portion plan of 1881 shows the shed running north south and on the south side of the bend with huts and yards and an embankment surrounding them.

By 1885 the Waugorah precinct was divided generally into 320 acre portions owned by C B Fisher except for 2 large portions in the centre of the Parish owned by Shackell and Danby (about 8,000 acres) and some portions owned by E S & A Bank. Fences existed in the area of the Redbank Hill and a piggery and hut at this time. A public road ran from Yanga, to the south, to Waugorah in the north. A dam had been constructed on the creek at the river south of the woolshed.

In 1904 the precinct became part of the Tala Resumed Area No 167, formerly the Tala Run. The land was divided into irregular portions owned by C B Fisher and Shackell and Danby. To the north the Woolshed is shown and a pump is added after 1912. The area continued to be used for grazing.

A Travelling Stock Route and Cattle Reserve (T S & C R) was notified in 1907 on Monkem Creek in the south and near Waugorah Creek in the north. At this time a road ran north-south through the precinct and a 'Reserve for Camping and Crossing' was dedicated adjoining the Murrumbidgee River in the north-east. In 1931 an area to the south was dedicated as the 'Nimming-Pollen Creeks Water Trust District' and by 1945 the precinct had become part of the Lowbidgee Provisional Flood Control and Irrigation District.

The swamps in the area were affected by reduced water flows by the early 20th century. The Redbank weir was constructed on the Murrumbidgee opening in 1940 allowing watering of the flooded country and swamps in the precinct. Structures were built near Redbank weir associated with its operation. Regulators upstream of the weir control water flows, their construction date is not confirmed.

The Waugorah creek area remained in residential occupation with a school and kitchen added in 1934 and the house rebuilt in 1987.

The following table notes information shown on parish and pastoral maps and portion plans:

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
1885	In north of precinct shows development on Waugorah Creek. Includes fenced paddocks and yards and bridge valued at £233 and house. House is on Portion 50, Parish of Nap Nap and is valued at £270. Immediately to the north 4 dams are shown around a lake and an embankment. A bridge is shown over a creek further north valued at £75 in Portion 9, Parish of Nap Nap. In Portion 27 on the river is the woolshed with an embankment surrounding it valued at £1250. A dam is shown on a creek south of the woolshed at the junction with the river.	Pastoral Map, Tala Holding	Caira	10041201
1885	Downstream there are a series of fences on a hairpin bend in the river. Also a series of yards, a hut and a piggery valued in total at £313. The land in this area is described as 'all flooded' and further inland as 'polygnum, lignum and box'. The land is divided into large paddocks by fences throughout the area. Further south on Monkem Creek are two dams and a hut valued at £295 total. A third dam valued at £150 is located further south.	Pastoral Map, Tala Holding	Caira	10041201
1886	Divided into 320 acre portions owned by C B Fisher except for 2 large portions in the centre of the Parish owned by Shackell and Danby (about 8,000 acres) and some portions owned by E S & A Bank. Portions 31 and 33 in north-west corner have fences (area of Piggery and Hut). Portion 31 C B Fisher, Portion 33 J H Morphett. Eastern boundary is public road from Yanga in the south to Waugorah in the north.	Monkem	Caira	12117201
1904	Part of Tala Resumed Area No 167. (Tala Run) Divided into irregular portions owned by C B Fisher and Shackell and Danby. Portion 27 at north shows the Woolshed on river and a pump has been installed at some time later (after 1912). South part of this portion shows the dam on	Nap Nap	Caira	12115001

Date	Event	Parish	County	Image
	the creek at river.			
1904	Lake shown centrally in Parish between Waugorah Creek and Woolshed. Creek south of Lake on Portion 40 has dam.	Nap Nap	Caira	12115001
1907	T S & C R notified at south of Parish on Monkem Creek. Road runs north south through Parish. In the north of Parish T S & C R shown near Waugorah Creek adjoining properties owned by C B Fisher. Portion in north-east corner adjoining Murrumbidgee River shown as Reserve for Camping and Crossing.	Waugorah	Caira	12100101
1912	Erection of rabbit proof fence from Waugorah Creek to Murrumbidgee	Nap Nap	Caira	12115001
1914	Part of Parish not in National Park. Parish divided into irregular portions. Large portions at south east not in Park.	Waugorah	Caira	12100101
1931	Area at south shown within Nimming-Pollen Creeks Water Trust District. This area was formerly reserved possibly for stock.	Monkem	Caira	12117201
1945	Whole Parish within Lowbidgee Provisional Flood Control and Irrigation District.	Monkem	Caira	12117201
1945	Part of Lowbidgee Flood Control and Irrigation District.	Nap Nap	Caira	12115001
1945	Whole Parish within the Lowbidgee Provisional Flood Control and Irrigation District.	Waugorah	Caira	12100101

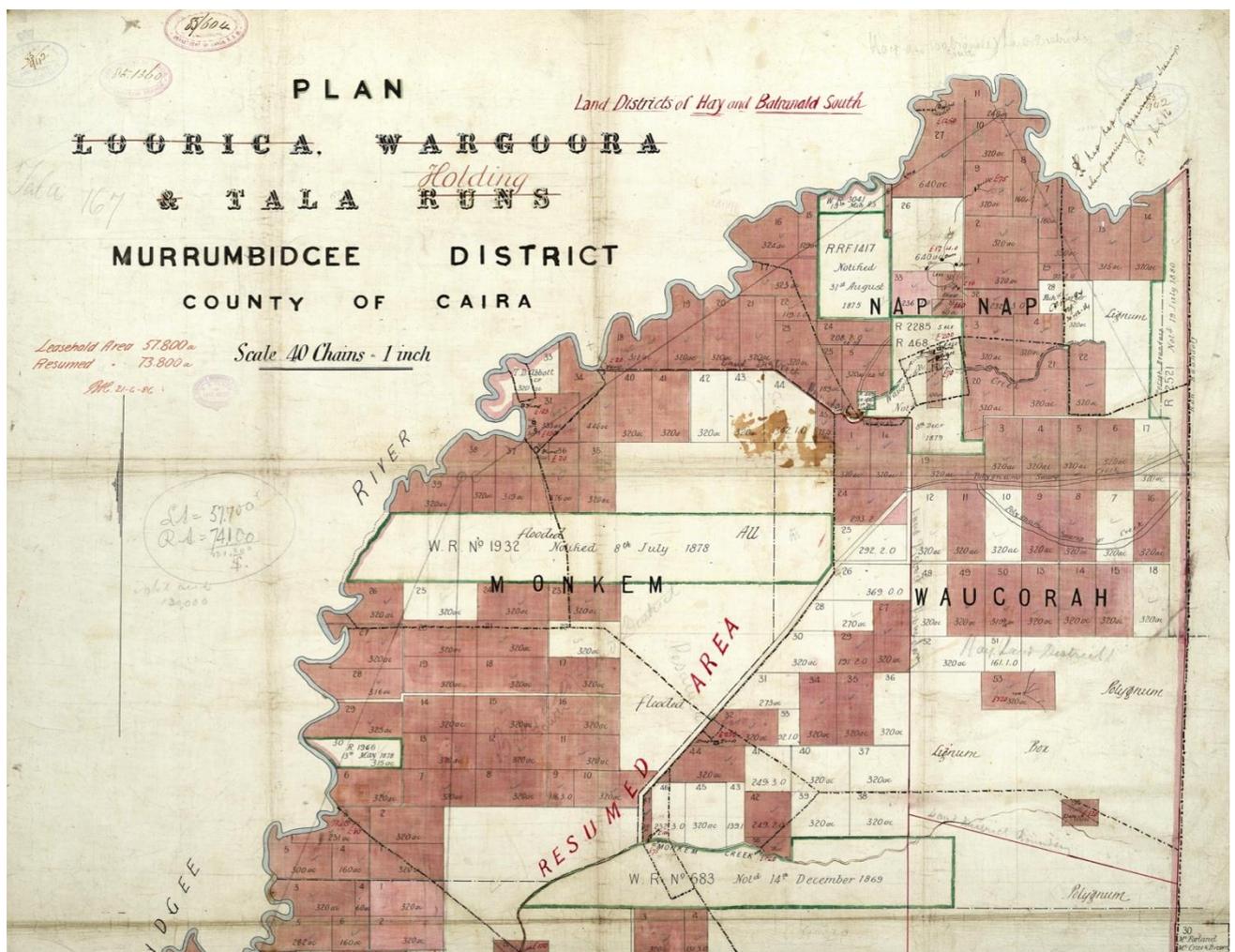


Figure 2.14 Part of a Pastoral Run Map surveyed and drawn in 1885. The settlement and paddocks at Waugorah can be seen and the type of vegetation is noted. Source: LPI Parish Map Preservation Project.

2.4 Historical Analysis of Individual Site Elements

The history of the buildings and structures that constituted the Yanga Pastoral Station are described in the following table and are shown on the plan of the site that identifies existing items (see Section 3.4). The plan has been prepared in electronic form to be added to the DECC Arcview maps of the Yanga Reserves. The plan utilises a range of historical sources that indicate the physical location of the former structures. The identified items on the plan are mostly structures dating from the most recent pastoral phase. The same table and list of items is used in the physical analysis section with current photos and descriptions .

2.4.1 Yanga Precinct

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE
<p>Yanga Homestead Group, homestead & residences</p>		 <p>Portion Plan Extract, 1881. Source: NPWS</p>
<p>Main building</p>	<p>During the period in which Augustus Morris leased Tala and Yanga he relocated the home station from Kieeta, where he lived in 1859, to Lake Yanga. This would have been to the junction of Yanga Creek not the current Homestead site. The 1860 report of a drowning at Yanga Creek of Morris's nephew and notes the superintendent and storekeeper attempted a rescue, presumably from the Old Station location at the Creek. An 1863 description indicates a hut at the creek and bridge and the station on the Lake. Morris probably built part of the house or at least part of the kitchen wing after he married in 1861. The earliest image of the Homestead found is from the October 1872 the Town and Country Journal which described Williamson's Yanga station. The lithograph of the homestead shows a low hip-roofed building with squat chimneys facing the lake but is from a distance. There appears to be a garden on the lake side of the house. Williamson must have built the main wing before this date and after he acquired the property, believed to be in 1866 and definitely by 1868.</p>	 <p>Earliest known view of the main building of the Homestead from the east set on bare ground. No date. Source: NPWS</p>  <p>A photograph taken in June 1920 (from the water tanks) shows the 'L'-shaped homestead and the well-developed gardens. To the right is the laundry (or refrigeration building). The Cook's Cottage is not built. Source: www.yanga.com</p>
<p>Kitchen wing</p>	<p>The Kitchen wing appears to have been completed in stages and was probably in part Morris's Homestead when he relocated from Kietu to the Yanga Creek and then the lake in about 1861. Early but undated photos show the completed L shaped group from the rear and the only image of a single building at this location is the earlier Edward Stock sketch which is only a two roomed dwelling. The building may have been incorporated in the later building. The log north front and verandah were probably added to the earlier wing by Williamson. The origins of the building are an issue for further research.</p>	 <p>Extract of panorama of rear of house, c1920. Source: NSW NPWS</p>

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE
Ablution block	Possibly constructed in about 1920 when Sims Cooper commenced upgrading the property generally. Altered in the 1950s (personal comment by Ary van Zanten who did the work) ¹ .	Buildings appear in several images in about this location but it is not clear if they are of this building.
Cook's cottage	The Cook's cottage was built in about 1920, possibly earlier, probably by Sims Cooper. It is shown in this image as shorter in length and with a narrower verandah and is closer to the main wing than today. It must have been moved north further north and extended after this date, possibly when the tennis court was added. The plan and construction details confirm that there have been additions. NPWS staff have been told this building was originally the 'Jackaroo's Quarters', later modified to become the Cook's Quarters.	 <p data-bbox="1013 633 1495 687">Extract of view of rear of house, c1920. Note the verandah is open. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Front garden	<p>The front garden is shown as mature in 1914 though the jacaranda is not evident as a large tree. A good garden was noted 'before' the house in 1872 and extended in the 1920s. The first photos from the east are bare but the photos are undated so it is difficult to establish the date the garden was laid out. The layout in 1920 appears to be the same as today with a central path and an arbour and lawn near the house.</p> <p>There was a large 'bush house' at the south of the garden adjacent to the house and there is an historic photo of its interior. Little is known about this structure.</p>	 <p data-bbox="1013 1025 1495 1057">Garden, 1914. Source: NSW NPWS</p>  <p data-bbox="1013 1234 1495 1261">Garden, 1920. Source: www.yanga.com</p>
Orchard and vegetable garden	The orchard to the north and vegetable garden to the east where established by 1920 as indicated by photos but may have been laid out earlier.	 <p data-bbox="1013 1473 1495 1538">No date. Vegetable Garden. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Back garden	The rear garden was established by 1920 but likely well before this. The configuration was altered from the original layout which had a double driveway gate where the pedestrian gate is shown in this photo. This was later removed to make way for the tennis court.	 <p data-bbox="1013 1794 1495 1816">No date. Source: NSW NPWS</p>

¹ Ary van Zanten is a carpenter and member of the Friends of Yanga and was interviewed at the Homestead by the authors in 2009.

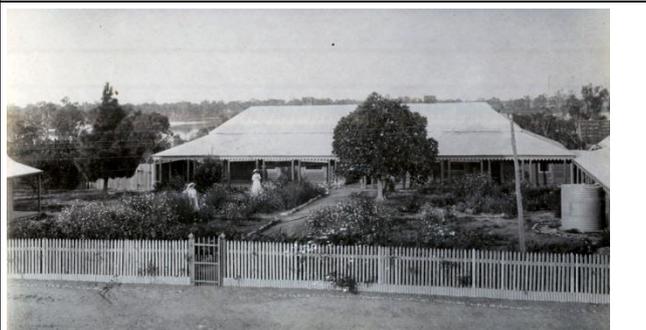
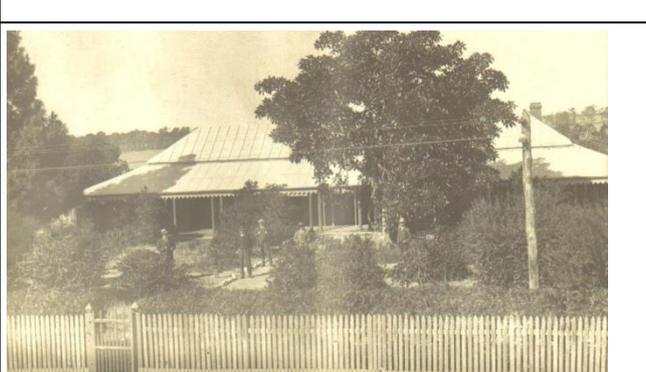
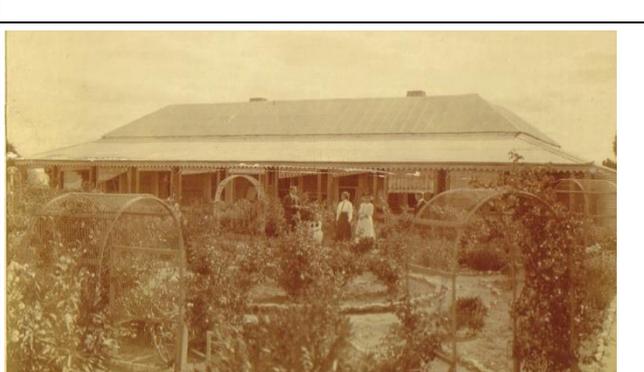
NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE
Tennis court	The tennis court is believed to have been built in c1920 presumably by Sims Cooper soon after their purchase. The photo is from a colour slide and shows the court with the pepper tree screen to the west (since removed).	 <p data-bbox="938 510 1409 533">No date. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Yanga Homestead Group, sheds and service buildings		
	<p>Each pastoral station maintained its core staff members who undertook or oversaw maintenance or domestic work on the property. The ongoing employment of these people, overseers, shepherds, cooks, gardeners, domestic staff, stable hands etc depended on the prosperity of the station. Within living memory Yanga Station has employed up to 55 people. The infrastructure of the station included provision for accommodation of these people and for the itinerant workers who undertook shearing, mustering and other duties. From the nineteenth century the homestead area included stables and a cultivation paddocks and, from at least the 1920s, breaking yards, workshops including a blacksmith's shop, chook houses, large kitchens, a slaughterhouse and butchery, laundry, pump house, refrigeration plant and merchandise store at which locals could buy provisions. All of these required staff to operate them.</p> <p>During the twentieth century various other accommodation was added to the homestead site including houses and barracks, often moved from other sites.</p>	
Laundry	A building appears in photos in about this location in the 1920s but it is not clear if it is this building of the refrigeration shed.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Meat house	A building appears in photos in about this location when the house was first built but it is not clear if it is this building.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Refrigeration shed	As above for laundry.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Workshop & machinery shed	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Former stores building	As above. A stable is shown in the location of this building on the 1881 portion plan.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Pump house	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Stores outhouse	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Water tank towers	As above. Built by 1920 when photos were taken from the tower of other buildings.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE
Long shed	As above. Built by 1920. The shed was obviously built with the central rooms being stables as a horse and yards are shown in the photo.	 <p data-bbox="1013 517 1495 566">Long shed, 1920, taken from the water tower of the long shed. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Stables	As above. The substantial sheds are well established by 1920 when this photo was taken.	 <p data-bbox="1013 826 1495 875">Carriage and Stables, 1920. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Carriage shed /smithy	As above.	See above.
Kill house & Stockyards	Both the Kill House and the adjacent extensive yards must have been built after 1920 when it is not in a photo of the Long Shed from the water tower.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Staff barracks – four buildings (Singlemens Quarters)	During the twentieth century various other accommodation was added to the homestead site including staff accommodation constructed at an outstation in the 1950s and relocated to its current site in the 1960s. This included men’s huts, a wash house, laundry and bakery. (High Ground Consulting 2006)	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Lakeside manager’s cottage	During the twentieth century various accommodation was added in the vicinity of the homestead. A row of cottages was constructed along a sand dune fronting the western side of Yanga Lake. These are: Yanga Lake Cottage that was moved from another location by bullock team, A fibro cottage constructed by overseer George Carter in the early 1920s, A small cottage that was moved from elsewhere to provide a retirement residence for George Carter. (This description from High Ground Consulting 2006, it is not clear which cottage is which)	 <p data-bbox="1013 1525 1495 1659">It is not clear whether this is one of the Lakeside cottages. The roof form differs but could have been altered. No date. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Lakeside middle cottage	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE
<p>Palmtree cottage</p>	<p>As above.</p>	 <p>Duryea & Sons moving Yanga Lake Cottage through Balranald. It is not clear which of the Lakeside cottages this is as the roof form may have been altered. No date. Source: www.yanga.com</p>
<p>Redgum cottage</p>	<p>Understood to have been constructed in 1920s and moved from South Yanga, possibly in the 1970s. This house was originally located at 'Condoulpe' paddock in the area formerly known as South Yanga. Now there are only remains of a peppercorn tree at the original site. Under Fred Carter's management in the 1950's it was moved to 'South Breeding Plain' paddock approximately 500m south of the railway line. It was lived in here by Wally Murray, then Josh Kirby and later 'The Parrs', all of whom were station hands. There are only some (brick?) foundations remaining at this site. In the 1970's under the management of Alistair Cox it was moved to its current location and clad with redgum slabs, hence its name (as told to Narelle Jones by Bes Murray 13/12/10).</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Grave of Alfred Parker</p>	<p>Alfred Morris Parker, Augustus Morris' nephew died in 1860 when crossing Yanga Creek near the present regulator and former bridge. Newspaper reports of the time (see historical timeline) describe the tragic accident. This headstone is located on the sandhill between the homestead entrance road and the Lakeside cottages. It is believed to be on the site of Parkers grave. Note that his middle name is Morris.</p>	
<p>Others</p>		
<p>Yanga House rubbish dump west 19th C</p>	<p>Initially rubbish appears to have been disposed of over the steep bank on the edge of the lake to the west of the Homestead. The period of use is uncertain and has not been studied in detail but this dump predates that below.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Yanga House rubbish dump east 20th C</p>	<p>Later rubbish appears to have been disposed of to the east of the Homestead and there is a very modern dump to the north east. There is also discarded farm machinery</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>'Old Station' site</p>	<p>Morris moved his Head Station to this site in about 1860 believed to be prior to the establishment of the current Yanga homestead site (though there may have been a hut in the vicinity of the current site). The 1881 map shows the bridge with house and kitchen adjacent and also a shed, store, stable and another hut and yards further north. This map also shows another stable further south along the lake shore (not in image at right).</p>	 <p>Portion Plan, 1881. Source: NPWS</p>

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE
<p>Yanga Lake regulator and Bridge site</p>	<p>Land management practice on Yanga Station involved efforts to manage the floodwaters of the Murrumbidgee in water storages on the station. Small coffer dams of logs and sandbags were originally constructed in watercourses each year to hold flood waters. In the period 1913 to 1920 century a program of improvement was undertaken. A number of irrigation regulators were constructed of concrete and wood on principal watercourses on the property. These appear to have been constructed around 1913 as indicated on engineering drawings held in Yanga Archives.</p> <p>The Yanga Lake Regulator was photographed under constructed and completed in June 1920. It was adjacent and on the lake side of the bridge that had been built by 1863 possibly after Morris's nephew drowned here in 1861. The base of some of the posts remain in situ. According the former Yanga overseer Besley Murray the Yanga Lake Regulator was undermined by animal activity in the 1970s. The foundations and aprons of the structure required rebuilding. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)</p>	 <p>No date, c1913. Bridge visible behind regulator footings. Source: NSW NPWS.</p> <p>Weir at the entrance to Yanga Lake 1920. The bridge is on the right. Source: www.yanga.com.</p>
<p>Rabbiters Hut & silos</p>	<p>These structures are immediately north of Yanga Lake. The rabbitier's hut is an informal structure probably dating from the mid twentieth century. The silos are modern steel structures and both these may be located here because of the vicinity of the rail line and station that opened in 1925.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Sheep dip</p>	<p>This 20th C structure is immediately northeast of Yanga Lake. The sheep dip may be located here because of the vicinity of the rail line and station that opened in 1925.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Railway and Yanga Siding</p>	<p>The Balranald-Moulamein Railway was opened around 1925 with a siding and embankment for loading stock northeast of Yanga Lake. The route is arrowed in the image at right.</p>	 <p>Aerial, 1965. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
<p>Yacht Club</p>	<p>The yacht club on the west side of Yanga Lake is understood to have operated in the mid 20th century. until it was destroyed in the 1956 flood. It has been used as a picnic area since then.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Pumping Station</p>	<p>This is on the south side of Yanga Lake and it a substantial structure which links to an irrigation channel that runs to the North and South Breeding paddocks. It is understood to have been installed in about the 1970s.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Pelican Point house site</p>	<p>Understood to have been there in the early 20th century.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>B & S Ball site</p>	<p>No information. The site is late 20th C.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Henry's Camp</p>	<p>No information. The site is mid and late 20th C.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Old Fishing Camp</p>	<p>No information. The remains indicate that site may be 19th C.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Piggery</p>	<p>No information. The site is probably 20th C as indicated by the use of star pickets in the structure.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>South Yanga homestead site</p>	<p>No information. The homestead is understood to have been moved to Yanga Homestead and reclad to be Redgum Cottage.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>

The following table shows some images of the Homestead obtained from the Yanga NPWS office assembled in assumed date order to assist analysis of change over time. The earliest images are at the top and the latest at the bottom:

Rear (West) side	Front (East) side
	
	
	
	
	

2.4.2 Woolshed Precinct

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
Woolshed Precinct		
<p>Yanga woolshed</p>	<p>The first woolshed is mentioned in a newspaper article in 1876. There were structures at the site by 1852 and by 1885 huts and sheds are shown on maps. The site provided access to river transport. The rivers were the principal arteries for the conveyance of bulk commodities from the mid 1850s until the construction of the railway from Moama to Balranald in 1926 (Bodinnar, p.45). The original woolshed was burnt to the ground in 1896 during the Shearers' Strike. The existing woolshed is a replacement but is believed to be in a similar location. Photographic evidence suggests that almost all of the Yanga woolshed excluding the modern, steel-framed wool storage area was constructed by 1911 and certainly by 1920. After taking over the property in 1919 it appears that Yanga Pty Ltd commissioned a series of photographs of infrastructure and activity. A photograph of the woolshed complex taken at this time shows the woolshed and expanded sweating pens, as well as the expert's room and engine room. The footprint of the shed is almost identical to its current configuration. The riverside store with its steeply pitched roof must have been constructed after the fire and before the 1917 photo. The store was demolished c1930 and it is possible that the material was used to extend the woolshed towards the river.</p>	 <p>Unknown shearers outside what is thought to be the original shearing shed, burnt down in 1896, Photo1890. Source: www.yanga.com</p>  <p>View of woolshed group, 1917. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
<p>Woolshed stables</p>	<p>The woolshed store and stables must have been built after the demolition of the riverside store as it is in the same location.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Yanga Shearers' Quarters</p>	<p>The shearers quarters were designed by Tunbridge and Tunbridge architects of Melbourne for the E S & A Bank and the drawings are on display in the exhibition in the Cooks Cottage at the Homestead. The drawings are undated but the buildings are completed in 1911 when this photo was taken. There was another set of buildings north of the shed, now demolished. A levee was north of these.</p>	 <p>Shearers quarters, 1911. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
<p>Cookhouse</p>	<p>As above.</p>	<p>Appear in above photo.</p>
<p>Meat house</p>	<p>As above.</p>	<p>Appear in above photo.</p>
<p>Shearers' barracks</p>	<p>Construction of modern shearers' quarters, circa 1970s. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Old Wash House & New Shower Block</p>	<p>Construction of wash house after 1911 to the same design as the quarters. They are not in the 1911 photo but are shown on the architects drawings with the quarters and cookhouse. New block built circa 1970s.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
<p>Contractor & experts quarters</p>	<p>This building is probably the oldest building in the woolshed group and may date from the 1880's, before the fire. Replace with better image.</p>	 <p>House in the background of a photo of hauling water from the river in 1920. Source: NPWS</p>
<p>Yanga Irrigation pump house</p>	<p>Not known but probably 1950's at the same time as the irrigation cottage and probably the associated water channel.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
Woolshed cottage	Photographs of the woolshed complex taken (c.1919) show the Woolshed Cottage in its present location surrounded by mature peppercorn trees. The cottage appears to be weatherboard clad. It has a higher pitched hipped roof than the current roof but an otherwise similar form, and a hipped front verandah. (High Ground Consulting, 2006 and TZG). It is not clear whether the current building is that shown in the photo, but extensively altered or whether it was replaced.	 <p data-bbox="938 510 1415 539">Detail of 1919 photo. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Irrigation cottage	Moved to a location near Lower Boundary paddock in the 1950s to provide staff accommodation. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Others		
Site of North Shedhands Quarters	This image of the north quarters looking towards the woolshed shows the mess hut/ cookhouse, part of the roof of the wash house on the left and the quarters. They were identical to the southern group and built at the same time. One group was reported to be for shedhands and the other for shearers. Apparently demolished in the late 20 th century and possibly after flood damage.	 <p data-bbox="938 918 1415 947">c1920. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Embankment	The levee or embankment shown in this colour slide is north of the north staff quarters and probably dates from their construction (before 1911). It remains insitu today. Parts of it may be earlier as there was an embankment around the Nap Nap woolshed shown on the 1881 portion plan. The Mamanga portion plan has not been seen and may show buildings and the embankment.	 <p data-bbox="938 1283 1415 1308">No date. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Sheepyards	Constructed and extended as the Woolshed was built and extended.	 <p data-bbox="938 1585 1415 1615">Woolshed, 1911. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Races and Shelters over Sheepyards	Probably built in the late 20 th century when the timber yards were replaced with steel.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.

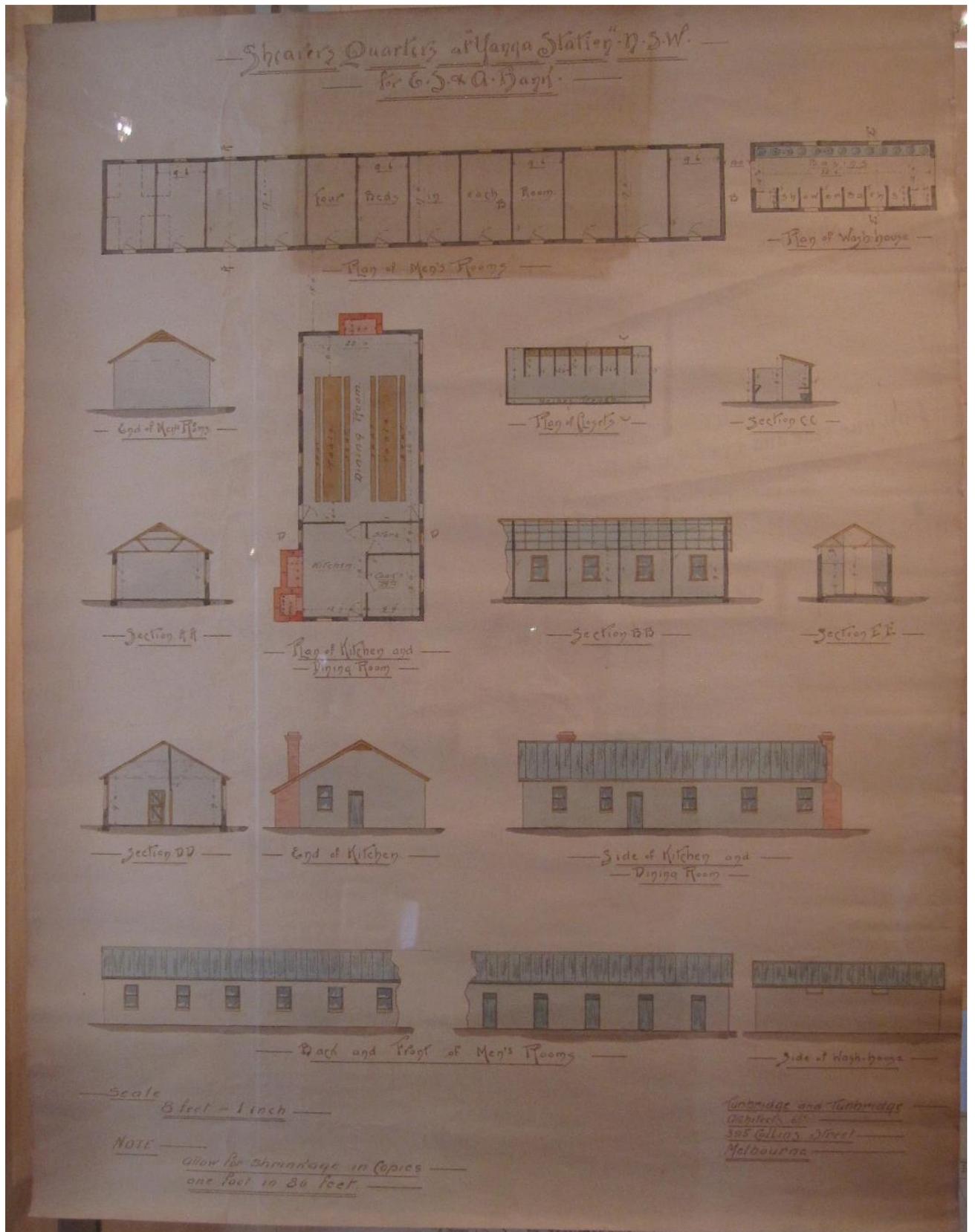


Figure 2.15 Architectural drawing prepared for the construction of the Shearers Quarters built in 1911. The architects were Tunbridge and Tunbridge of Melbourne. Source: Yanga Archives. On display in the Cook's Cottage exhibition.

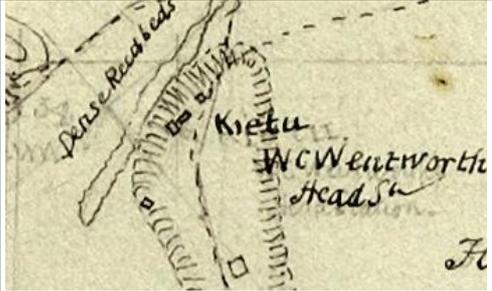
2.4.3 Willows Precinct

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
The Willows Homestead	<p>The Willows covers an area south of the Sturt Highway approximately 20km east of the Yanga Lake.</p> <p>Subdivisions are shown on the 1885 run plan and during the 1920s Yanga Station was designated for closer settlement as part of the post World War I soldier settler schemes. With the Balranald-Moulamein Railway under construction a subdivision survey was undertaken in April 1924. The Willows site was part of this subdivision (McKenzie & Co. 1924).</p> <p>Most of the smaller farms created by the 1924 subdivision of Yanga were subsequently re-purchased by the owners of Yanga (European History of Yanga online). (High Ground Consulting, 2006)</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
The Willows Woolshed	<p>The Willows Woolshed was constructed in the early 1960s after The Willows' re-absorption into Yanga Station. The colour slide appears to be taken during the construction. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)</p>	 <p>No date. Source: NSW NPWS</p>
Others		
Parkers Homestead Ruin	<p>This item is only known from an entry in the NPWS HHIMS database. The entry has no details.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.</p>
Parkers Sheep Yards	<p>This item is only known from an entry in the NPWS HHIMS database. The entry has no details.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph</p>
Railway and Impimi siding and town site	<p>Set aside in the 1920s when the rail line was constructed.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. It is shown on maps</p>
The Willows Well	<p>Understood to have been built in 1912.</p> <p>The photograph at right is of the windmill and tank at Grassy Plain which is a paddock south of Hults and Willows paddocks.</p>	 <p>Grassy Plain Windmill, tank and well photographed in 1920. Source: Yanga Archives</p>
Hult's Well	<p>Understood to have been built in 1912.</p>	<p>No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph</p>

2.4.4 Oakhampton Precinct

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
Oakhampton		
Oakhampton Homestead	<p>During the 1920s Yanga Station was designated for closer settlement as part of the post World War I soldier settler schemes. With the Balranald-Moulamein Railway under construction a subdivision survey was undertaken in April 1924. Oakhampton included Lots 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of this subdivision (McKenzie & Co. 1924).</p> <p>Most of the smaller farms created by the 1924 subdivision of Yanga were subsequently re-purchased by the owners of Yanga (European History of Yanga online). During World War II Oakhampton was owned and managed by Jim Bax. Some time around 1952 it was purchased by Ken Davey and his wife. Mrs Davey eventually lost both legs to diabetes and spent much of her later life in a wheelchair. (Besley Murray 2007) The residence at Oakhampton was modified to provide access for Mrs Davey (David Tynan 2007). Oakhampton was eventually consolidated into the Yanga holdings. The woolshed at Oakhampton was retained and used for crutching and the area south of the homestead converted for irrigation. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)</p>	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Oakhampton Cottage	Oakhampton Cottage was constructed after the property's re-acquisition by the Black family (1980s). (High Ground Consulting, 2006)	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Oakhampton Woolshed	The woolshed appears to have been constructed in the 1920s and extended in the 1950s. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Others		
Oakhampton Irrigation	Not known.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Abercrombie channels	Not known.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Lower Fingerboard Well	Understood to have been built in 1912.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph

2.4.5 Uara Precinct

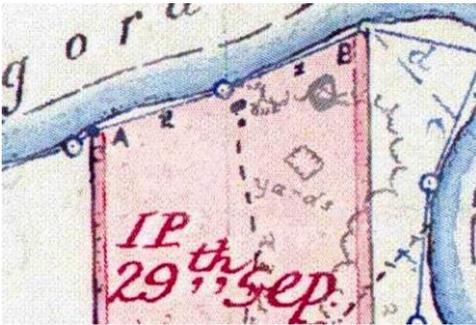
NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
The Island Charcoal Kiln	Brick lined pits built in mid twentieth century by J S Murray and run to produce charcoal.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph
Kietu Head Station site	Original Wentworth head station from c1850 to c1860, occupied by Morris.	 <p>Kietu Head Station as shown on Townsends c1850 map. SR Part of AO4013.</p>
Kieeta Creek Outlet regulator (ruin) (Kieeta Escape)	Maps show that there was a dam at this site by 1885. Land management practice on Yanga Station involved efforts to trap the floodwaters of the Murrumbidgee in water storages on the station. Small coffer dams of logs and sandbags were originally constructed in watercourses each year to hold flood waters. It appears that early in the 20 th century a programme of improvement was undertaken. Irrigation regulators were constructed of concrete and wood on principal watercourses on the property. A number of these were constructed around 1913 (date of drawings). Kieeta Creek Outlet Regulator was constructed at least 60 years ago. It may have been constructed any time between 1910 and 1950. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Yanga Creek regulator	The Yanga Creek Regulator was constructed when Alastair Cox was manager of Yanga Station, some time between the early 1960s and 1980. (High Ground Consulting, 2006) Note this is the structure near the river, not the lake.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Devil's Creek regulator	Devil's Creek Regulator appears to have been constructed when Alastair Cox was manager of Yanga Station, some time between the early 1960s and 1980. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Jardine Irrigation banks etc	Constructed as part of the late 20 th C irrigation scheme mentioned above when Alistair Cox was manager.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Railway line	1920s, detailed elsewhere.	No historical images have been found of this item. It is shown on maps.

2.4.6 Tala Precinct

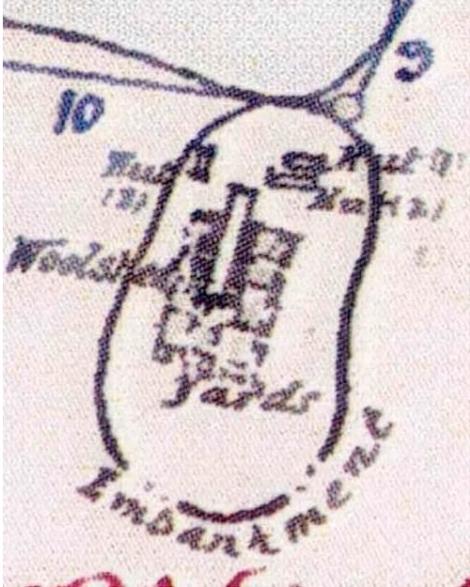
NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
Breer Hut Complex		
Breer Hut	During the 1920s Yanga Station was designated for closer settlement as part of the post World War I soldier settler schemes. The river country from River Breer to Hill Paddock (see paddock plan in Section 2.5) was retained as part of Yanga Station. The current infrastructure of Breer Hut appears to have been developed some time around 1950 and appears to have been part of a general expansion of facilities at Yanga Station. (High Ground Consulting, 2006) There was an earlier hut at the site shown in an 1885 plan of the run.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Breer Hut crutching shed	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Smyth's		
Smyth's Hut	During the 1920s Yanga Station was designated for closer settlement as part of the soldier settler schemes. With the Balranald-Moulamein Railway under construction a subdivision survey was undertaken in April 1924. The area between Talpee Creek and the Murrumbidgee River now known as River Smyths and Creek Smyths (see paddock plan in Section 2.5) was included in Lot 3 of this subdivision (McKenzie & Co. 1924). Most of the smaller farms created by the 1924 subdivision of Yanga were subsequently re-purchased by the owners of Yanga (European History of Yanga online). River Smyths and Creek Smyths were last owned by Ian Smyth who also owned Holmdale, west of Yanga Lake. According to Besley Murray the Smyths walked their sheep through Yanga and Talpee Stations to Smyths for crutching. A sawmill located on Smyths cut all of the timber used in the construction of the Holmdale Homestead and was presumably also used to cut the timber for Smyth's Crutching Shed. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Smyth's Crutching Shed	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Peacock's		
Peacock's Hut	Peacock's Hut is the only remaining hut of a number of drop slab buildings constructed on Yanga in the 1860s. These were constructed of adzed slabs set in pit-sawn battens attached to adzed uprights. Two surviving buildings at Talpee (not in the park) are from the same era, as was the former residence at Waugorah. The construction all these buildings is similar. A pit saw was located on the bank of Talpee Creek from approximately 1850. Some time around the early 1920s a number of the drop slab buildings on Yanga were upgraded with new roofs of milled timber clad in Lysaught Blue Orb corrugated iron. Thin milled weatherboards were also fixed to gable ends and the walls of extensions. These features, evident at Talpee Homestead, are also visible at Peacock's Hut. Peacock's Hut was in use well into the 20th century and according to former Talpee Station owner David Tynan Alan Gray drowned in the creek at Peacock's Hut in the 1950s. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
Sawmill site on Smyth's (near Smyth's Crutching Shed)	See Smyth's Hut above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Breer Yards	See Breer Hut above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Tala Escape R3, regulator	Not known.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Breer Regulator	See Breer Hut above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Tala boat	Not known.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.

2.4.7 Waugorah Precinct

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
Waugorah		
Waugorah Homestead & kitchen	<p>Waugorah was part of Hoblers original selection initially called the Lake and later Nap Nap. It was later added to Wentworth's Holdings. Townsend appears to indicate a hut here in 1848, a hut is clearly shown on this 1877 portion plan at right and a house, yards, paddocks and a bridge are shown here in 1885. The drop-slab homestead pictured at right is no longer extant.</p> <p>A school building and new kitchen and bathroom were constructed at Waugorah in 1934 and a new house erected in 1987. The school building operated as a subsidised school serving all of the properties around Waugorah. The school and kitchen remain intact. The 1987 house was constructed on a concrete slab floor on the site of the original drop-slab residence. Russell Hampton, boundary rider and current occupant of Waugorah has lived in the house with his family since that time.</p> <p>(High Ground Consulting, 2006)</p>	 <p>Portion Plan, 1877. Source: NPWS</p>  <p>Slab hut at Waugorah c1925 and water tank about to be lifted onto a tank stand. Source: Museum of Victoria</p>
Waugorah School House	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Sheds at Waugorah	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Waugorah Yards and Woolshed	As above. The woolshed is located north of the creek and was not inspected. National Parks staff advise that the current woolshed was built about 45 years ago (1967?) after the previous woolshed burnt down (this has not been confirmed by historical research). The previous woolshed is understood to have been located further east.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
Redbank		
Redbank Cottage	<p>McCabe's 1848 survey of the river shows development in this area closer to Redbank weir as W C Wentworth cattle Station. By 1879 the portion plan right shows substantial development including a piggery, in the vicinity, to the south of the area developed today.</p> <p>During the closer settlement schemes the river country around Redbank was retained as part of Yanga Station. Redbank had been a base for boundary riders and various huts and other accommodation have been located near Redbank Hill prior to 1879. Redbank Hut, at a site further north, appears to have been constructed during the late 19th century and other boundary riders' huts were possibly built in the 1920s. What is believed to be a pair of graves in Piggery Paddock, to the south of the cottage, represents quite early European occupation of the area. Piggery paddock and lake are located to the south of the area shown where the piggery was.</p> <p>Redbank Cottage was constructed near the government owned Redbank Weir in the early to mid 1950s as a residence for boundary riders who were also responsible for operating Yanga regulators including the large 1AS Regulator on Redbank Paddock. Fisherman Fred Pocock's hut was built south of Redbank after the Redbank Weir was constructed. (High Ground Consulting, 2006 and TZG)</p>	 <p>Portion Plan, 1879, shows huts, fences, yards and the piggery at Redbank Hill, south of the site of the current hut and cottage. Source: NPWS</p>
Redbank Hut	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Redbank Cook House and Meat House	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Pocock's Hut	Fisherman Fred Pocock built a hut south of Redbank after construction of the Redbank Weir. Fred Pocock lived here on and off for various periods. He last lived here for 25 years. He fished, trapped foxes and sold their pelts. He died at the age of 76. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Pocock's artefact scatter	As above.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Others		
Tarwillie yards	Believed to date from the mid to late 20 th century.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Bridges over Redbank Swamp	Not known.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
Hill Paddock Bridge (ruin)	Hill Paddock is the most northerly section of Yanga Station. Its northern boundary is delineated by an enormous bend of the Murrumbidgee River. Hill Paddock bridge is said to have been constructed in the 1930s but there is a bridge shown in this vicinity in 1885. The bridge is across a creek that runs through the middle of the paddock and was to provide access for wool drays and trucks to a wool press located north of the creek. The bridge has not been used since at least 1970. (High Ground Consulting, 2006) An alternate possibility is that it was built for sheep to cross to the woolshed for shearing. As a bridge is shown in maps in about this location in the 19 th century it could be earlier.	 <p data-bbox="1015 465 1493 544">Sheep on bridge at Waugorah c 1925. There is a similar bridge at Waugorah Homestead. Source: Museum of Victoria.</p>
Barge wreck Woolpress Bend	Not known, but 20 th C.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Woolshed site on Woolpress bend and Embankment	Not known but pre 1900 and possibly much earlier as the shed was in about the locality of the 1850s structures. Barkers Nap Nap head station was in about this locality in 1848 and the large bend in the river was fenced off. The 1881 portion plan shows the extensive structures including the woolshed, yards and three huts surrounded by an embankment. In the early 20 th century only the woolshed is shown and a pump on the river.	 <p data-bbox="1015 1243 1493 1272">Portion Plan, 1881. Source:, NPWS</p>
House site near woolshed site	Not known.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Regulators generally	Land management practice on Yanga Station involved efforts to trap the floodwaters of the Murrumbidgee in water storages on the station. Small coffer dams of logs and sandbags were originally constructed in watercourses each year to hold flood waters. Early in the 20 th century a programme of improvement was undertaken.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
1AS regulator (R2) (Yanga)	The 1AS Regulator was constructed when Alastair Cox was manager of Yanga Station, some time between the early 1960s and 1980. (High Ground Consulting, 2006) Further investigation is required. It is possible that this regulator was constructed in association with the Redbank weir, c1940, just downstream.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
1ES regulator (R1)	The 1ES Regulator was constructed when Alastair Cox was manager of Yanga Station, some time between the early 1960s and 1980. (High Ground Consulting, 2006) Further investigation is required. It is possible that this regulator was constructed in association with the Redbank weir, c1940, constructed just downstream.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Old Swamp regulator	The Old Swamp Regulator appears to be of quite early construction. (High Ground Consulting, 2006)	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.

NAME	HISTORIC ANALYSIS OF ITEM	IMAGE No.
Juanbung Regulator	Not known. May be on west of river and not in Yanga Reserves.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Glenn Dee regulator	Not known. May be on west of river and not in Yanga Reserves.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Munkugerie regulator	Not known. May be on west of river and not in Yanga Reserves.	No historical images have been found of this item. See the physical analysis for a current photograph.
Redbank Weir	Completed in 1940 to provide flood irrigation for pasture lands on the Lower Murrumbidgee.	 <p>North - South Piers Weir 5 - Redbank R 16 5 38</p> <p>Redbank Weir under construction in 1938. Source: SL Victoria.</p>

2.5 Operation of Yanga Pastoral Station

Human use of the land has elements that are common to both Aboriginal peoples and settlers. Rather than being concentrated on rivers and creeks Aboriginal occupation was more general. This may relate to the flood cycle with moves to highground in flood times. Similarly settlement was concentrated on high ground at sites such as Kieeta, Redbank Hill, Yanga Homestead and Old Station sites whereas other sites had to have levees to protect them where there was an imperative for a flood prone location. Early routes through the landscape include the explorers route from the Edwards River and the Waugorah Road which follows a similar route to Townsend's 1848 journey. It is not known whether this followed an Aboriginal route. Similarly there may be a continuation of use of camp sites and fishing sites etc. Many of the place names are derived from Aboriginal names including Yanga, Tala and Kieeta may be derived from Kryetowe.

The pastoral use of the Lowbidgee area has historically been based on water and the cycle of flooding of the river and similarly river transport was dependent on adequate flow. The peak river navigation season was from about July to January. Stock were moved seasonally using the river or black country in summer, after floods had receded, grazing on the new feed in the cooler riverside environment. Stock were moved to the dry or red country in winter when it was not so hot, avoiding the flood, and returned to the river before the burrs set and contaminated the wool. Throughout the property structures supported the seasonal movement and general grazing of sheep with outstations, headstations, boundary riders and shepherd's huts as well as fencing, yards and bridges. Over time there was a change from shepherds controlling flocks in the landscape to stock roaming in fenced paddocks and being mustered for shearing or sale, etc..

The flooding and watering of Yanga flooded country was maintained after the upstream damming of the Murrumbidgee by system of dams, weirs, regulators, channels, escapes and levee banks both on the river and throughout the property, though the seasonal pattern was altered to an extent. The regulators and escapes were manually operated to allow water into the land and release or retain it. Huts were established at some of these locations.

The detailed operation of the station needs further research to establish annual routes and changes over time. The following explains the operation generally.

Shearing was carried out near the river as the wool clip was transported on river boats which also delivered station stores. The railway and later roads changed this imperative but large infrastructure such as the Woolshed remained at the river with adaptations for truck access. Other infrastructure was dispersed with yards, shelters and dips for stock work such as crutching, dipping and drenching and for loading stock for transport and bridges for moving stock across waterways. There were also breaking yards for horses and in the dry country water supply infrastructure and troughs.

The Yanga Woolshed functioned with sheep moving from east to west (towards the river). The holding yards are at the east end of the long building. Sheep then moved west into the sweating pens where they dried out, then into the catching pens where they were moved into individual shearers pens. From here they moved to either the north or south shearing boards and after shearing into the adjacent counting out yards outside the building from where they returned to the paddocks. The wool was classed at the west end of the shed then baled and stored for loading onto barges. Later truck loading facilities were added to the south west end of the shed.

Shearing was seasonal - some work was done by station staff but shearers and other trades moved from station to station. Accommodation for Woolshed staff was arranged to the north and south of the woolshed. The north side was for shedhands etc. and the south for shearers. From about 1911 each group had sleeping quarters, separate kitchens, mess huts and wash houses. The introduction of such facilities was the result of campaigning by shearers unions. The facilities may also have been used by station staff when stores were being unloaded from river boats.

A station overseer or similar would have occupied the cottage permanently while the other cottage was probably seasonally occupied by more 'highly' skilled visiting workers such as wool classers, mechanics, buyers etc. A kill shed and meathouse was part of the infrastructure to provide food for the staff prepared in the cookhouse by the cook whose quarters were attached. There was a stable for horses, needed for transport until the mid 20th C.

Something similar to this Woolshed arrangement was replicated on a smaller scale at outstations such as at Woolpress bend in the north in the 19th C and in the mid to late 20th C, once road transport took over, at Willows and Oakhamptom.

The business of the station was run from the Homestead as the place where resident staff interacted with visiting owners or communicated by phone. Activities on the station were also managed from here. At the Homestead the operations were divided into private area on the east, with flower and vegetable gardens and an orchard, and the working west side with the station office and store. The Homestead main building had living and dining rooms and bedrooms for the station owner and for visiting buyers etc. The Kitchen wing had the main kitchen and staff dining room, staff bedrooms and part was a store and station office at the west end facing the roadway. Buildings servicing the Homestead itself were grouped to the south of the kitchen wing - the meathouse, a laundry and by the 1920s a refrigeration wing for perishable food storage and later still mechanical workshops. The Cook's house (formerly Jackeroo's quarters) enclosed the north side of the rear garden.

Outbuildings were grouped along the west side along the lake edge and to the north of the home paddocks. The stable was originally adjacent the kitchen wing but was later replaced and a large store built for supplying the station generally, in a location easily supervised by the station manager. Adjacent was the pumphouse for lifting water from the lake to the elevated water tank. Further away was a shed with enclosed central stables and spaces at each end, probably for coaches and later vehicles. Two large sheds on the north were larger stables and grain storage and the other housed a forge and Blacksmith and open sided undercover space believed to be for coaches, later mechanised vehicles. Later additions to the north were staff barracks with their own kitchen, mess room, and washing facilities. Also yards mostly used for horses but also for stock and an adjacent kill house. Also in the same area the Redgum Cottage and Managers Cottage were staff accommodation continuing the pattern with the three lakeside residences more distant and private.

The arrangement meant that the station business could be undertaken without interruption to the private main residence and that the residence and station operations could be serviced and managed. Similar functions were undertaken on a smaller scale at the outstations but without the formal private residence. The dispersed outstations typically had a basic hut providing simple shelter to sleep and live later with a detached toilet and shower. Some such as Breer Hut, which was occupied intermittently, were more like shearers' quarters. Substantial permanent residences away from the homestead had the full range of infrastructure and in 2000 were at Willows, Oakhampton, Redbank and Waugorah as well as the Irrigation cottage near the woolshed. There were other residences outside the area of Yanga Reserves.

The paddock plan over shows the arrangement of the paddocks when the station ceased operation in 2005. Not all of the station is in the National Park and the extent of the station differed over time. The paddock names often indicate their function and many boundary lines are on the same alignment as shown in early parish maps. Others also indicate flood patterns and geographical features. Thus Loosemall refers to loosing stock, Cultivation Bridge presumably was cultivated and adjacent the old bridge, the Breeding paddocks referred to the function, names like Lintot Lake refer to features in the paddock (in turn named after a person), names like Hult's refer to a persons name and Scotts Sandhill refers to both a name and geographic feature.

YANGA STATION

As At 24 October 2005

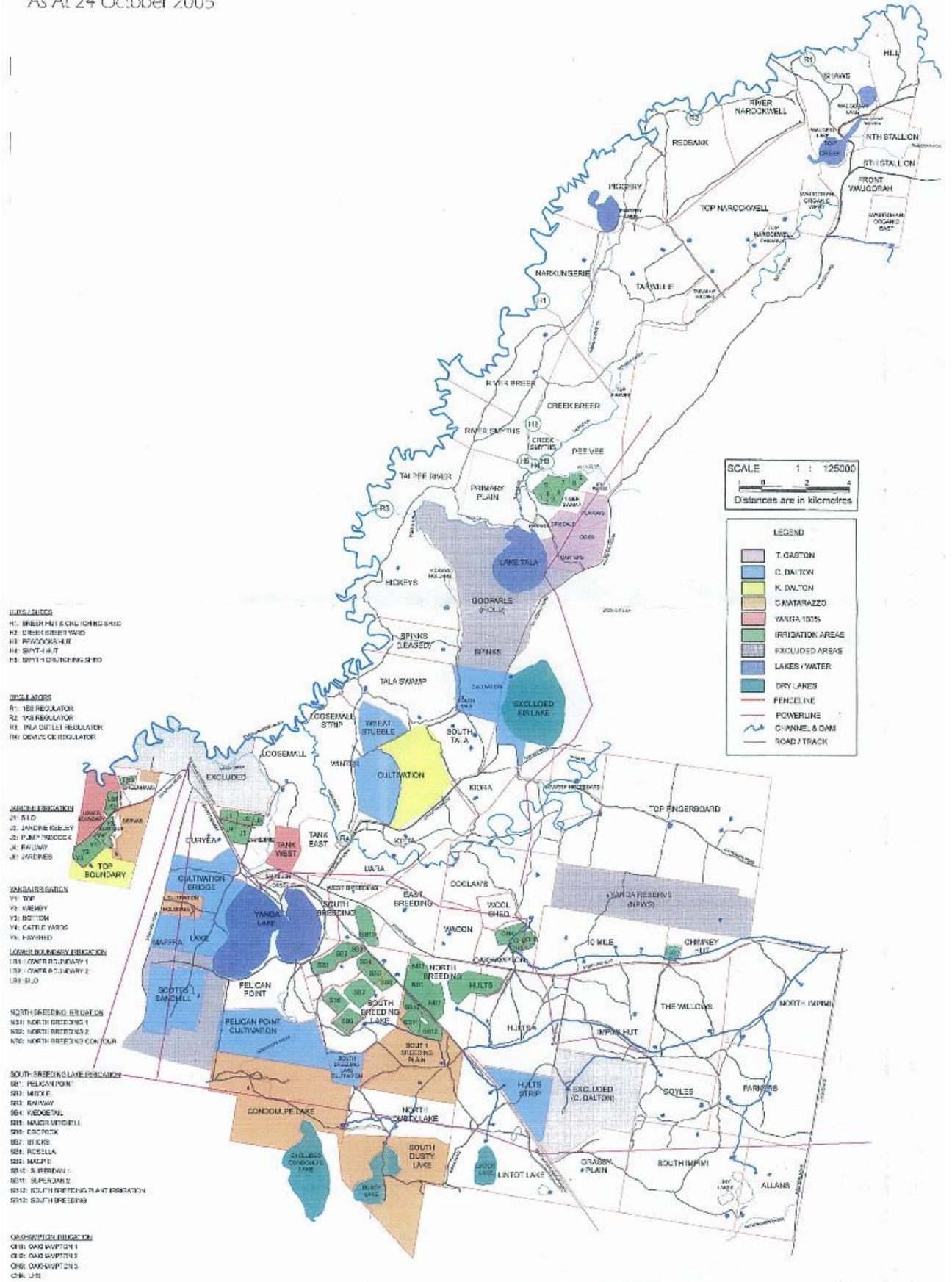


Figure 2.16 Yanga Paddock Plan. The names of the paddocks often indicate the use, the ownership, historical information or the nature of the country. Source: Yanga PL 2005

Some of the range of activities required to operate Yanga Station are indicated in the following historic images sourced from Station records and the Museum of Victoria. Domestic and office activities are missing from the photographic record but were important aspect of station operation.



Figure 2.17 Sheep crossing a waterway on a timber bridge, Waugorah, 1925. Source: Museum Victoria



Figure 2.18 Dipping sheep in yards, Waugorah, 1925. The tank on the buggy presumably holds chemicals Source: Museum Victoria

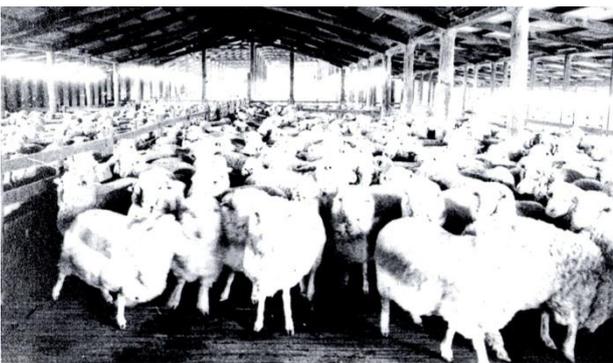


Figure 2.19 Sheep in sweating pens, Yanga Woolshed. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.20 Counting out shorn sheep from split timber yards at the Yanga Woolshed, 1911. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.21 Shearers at the old Yanga woolshed, 1890s. Source: Yanga archives



Figure 2.22 Loading wool bales onto a barge, the river level is high. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.23 Loading wool bales from wharf onto a paddle steamer with river levels low. Source: Yanga archives



Figure 2.24 Wool bale being lowered down the river bank. The river level must be low to require this. Source: NPWS Yanga



Figure 2.25 Horse team and dray leaving the Homestead for the Woolshed wharf, probably to collect stores. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.26 Bullock team and bicycle 1909. Source: Yanga Archives

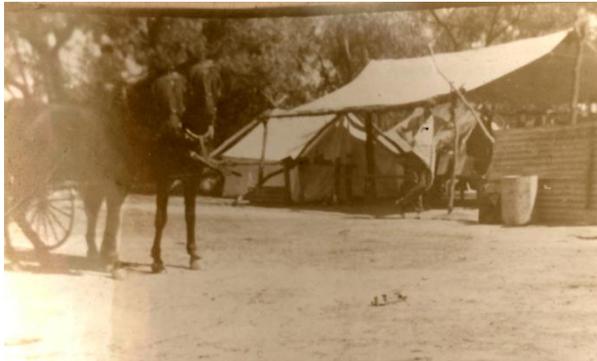


Figure 2.27 Rivetts camp, Yanga lake. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.28 Manager Briggs in a buggy. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.29 Bush smithy, his hand is on the bellows. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.30 Lifting water, this winch and trestle was also used for wool bales and probably stores. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.31 Scooping out ground tank. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.32 Making a ground tank, the horses are pulling a plough. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.33 Ploughing in rabbit burrows. The plough is pulled by bullocks. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.34 Fumigating rabbit burrows. The horses are each pulling a small cart with a tank and hoses. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.35 Cook at fumigating camp. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.36 Cooks at shedhands kitchen at Yanga Woolshed. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.37 Raising a water tank onto an elevated tankstand, Waugorah 1925. Source: Museum of Victoria



Figure 2.38 Breaking a horse in sapling yards at Waugorah, 1925. Source: Museum of Victoria

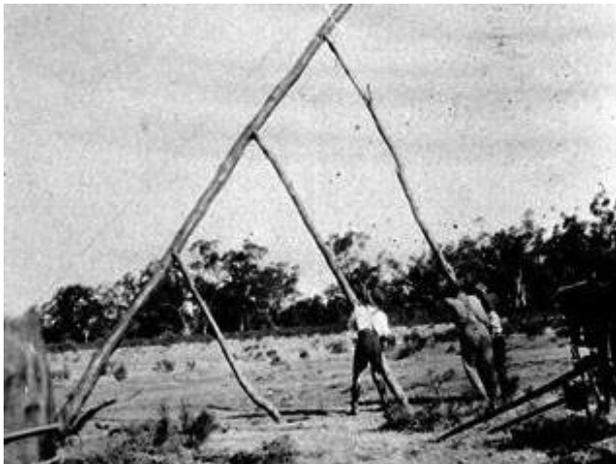


Figure 2.39 Erecting a pole, possibly for telegraph or power, Waugorah, 1925. Source: Museum of Victoria



Figure 2.40 In boats at Yanga Woolshed. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.41 Gardener in bush house at Homestead. He is holding a hose. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.42 Picnicing and swimming on river bank at Waugorah, 1925. Source: Museum of Victoria



Figure 2.43 In the front garden at the Homestead. Source: Yanga Archives



Figure 2.44 In the back garden at the Homestead. Source: Yanga Archives

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