Appendix E
Historic Heritage Assessment

Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCY

Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project, Northern Region, Tasmania

Historic Heritage Assessment Report

AUTHOR: Shay Hannah
27 Apsley St, South Hobart TAS 7004

CLIENT:
Sunspot 9 Pty Ltd

15.11.2023

CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT AUSTRALIA

Report Version Control

Report Versions	Report Distribution	Date of Distribution
Draft Report V1	Stuart Huys (CHMA for Internal Review)	9-10-2023
Draft Report V1	Proponent	10-10-2023
Final Report	Sunspot 9 Pty Ltd	15-11-2023

Table of Contents

List of Figures

Table of Contents

List of Tables

List of Plates

Executive Summary

Introduction

Sunspot 9 Pty Ltd, the proponent, is seeking development approval to establish a 288MW solar farm on private land, 5km northeast of George Town, Tasmania. The solar farm will be connected to the George Town substation to the southeast by 6km of double circuit transmission line on poles. The solar farm will be situated on approximately 420ha of rural land that is currently used for dryland agriculture, predominantly grazing. The proposed infrastructure includes:

• Photovoltaic (PV) solar panels mounted on single-axis tracker frames

• Inverters to transform the direct current (DC) from the solar panels to alternating current (AC)

• On-site substation

• Security fence around the panels and the substation.

• Internal access tracks

• Electrical cables

• Site office and parking

The transmission line will traverse approximately 5km of forest (and regenerating forest) and 1km of cleared land that is currently used for recreation and as part of the buffer area for the Bell Bay aluminium smelter. Poles will support two circuits that will operate at a voltage of up to 110kV. The easement for the transmission line will be up to 50m wide.

The proposed solar farm site is located adjacent to Soldiers Settlement Road and the transmission lines are located adjacent to Musk Vale Road and Bridport Road, Bell Bay in the Northern Region of Tasmania (see Figures 1-2). The site will be accessed via two existing access roads into the site, Musk Vale Road which leads into a junction on the northern side of unnamed access tracks that exist throughout the proposed transmission line corridors and a private access track on the northern side of Bridport Road around 1.5km to the east of the East Tamar Highway/Bridport Road junction.

CHMA Pty Ltd has been engaged by the proponent to undertake a historic heritage assessment for the proposed Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project (the study area), to identify any potential heritage constraints. This report presents the findings of the historic heritage assessment.

Survey Results and Statement of Archaeological Potential

No historic heritage sites, suspected features, or areas of elevated archaeological potential were identified during the field survey assessment of the study area. A search of the various historic heritage registers (as listed in section 1.4 of this report) shows that there are no registered historic sites or features located within or in the immediate vicinity of the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project study area. The closest heritage-listed features are located around George Town and Low Head, around 3–4km to the northwest and west of the study area (see Figure 7).

The search of the historic land title records shows that shows that the study area was part of many land grants throughout the nineteenth century. The archival evidence shows that there

were a few houses constructed within some sections of the study area during this early occupation period. However, the majority of the structures shown on maps from the era are classified as huts and barns, with stockyards also mentioned. Indeed, given the variable terrain encompassed within the study area, it is assessed as being unlikely that many other dwellings were established here. Despite this, the archaeological signature of this level of historic pastoral occupation is likely to be minimal.

The study area has more recently been utilised for industrial and agricultural purposes. Given the moderate levels of disturbances associated with the industrial and agricultural development within the study area, the majority of evidence for the earlier pastoral occupation of this area is likely to have been destroyed.

Based on the survey findings, the absence of registered historic sites and the low potential for undetected historic heritage sites to be present, the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project study area is assessed as being of low historic heritage sensitivity. It is advised that there is a very low possibility that the proposed development will have any impact on historic heritage values.

Management Recommendations

Heritage management options and recommendations provided in this report are made based on the following criteria.

- The legal and procedural requirements as specified in section 6 of this report.
- The results of the investigation as documented in this report.
- The results of the Historic heritage registers search.

Recommendation 1

No historic heritage sites, suspected features, or areas of elevated archaeological potential were identified during the field survey assessment of the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project study area. A search of the various historic heritage registers (as listed in section 1.4 of this report) shows that there are no registered historic sites located within or in the immediate vicinity of the study area. Archival research has not identified any evidence for historic structures or features being present. On this basis, it is advised that the proposed Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project will have no impacts on known historic heritage sites, and therefore there are no historic heritage constraints or legal impediments to the project proceeding.

Recommendation 2

It is assessed that there is a very low potential for undetected Historic heritage sites to occur within the study area. However, if, during the course of the proposed works, previously undetected heritage sites or objects are located, the processes outlined in the Unanticipated Discovery Plan should be followed (see section 8).

1.0 Project Outline

1.1 Project Details

Sunspot 9 Pty Ltd, the proponent, is seeking development approval to establish a 288MW solar farm on private land, 5km northeast of George Town, Tasmania. The solar farm will be connected to the George Town substation to the southeast by 6km of double circuit transmission line on poles. The solar farm will be situated on approximately 454ha of rural land that is currently used for dryland agriculture, predominantly grazing. The proposed infrastructure includes:

• Photovoltaic (PV) solar panels mounted on single-axis tracker frames

• Inverters to transform the direct current (DC) from the solar panels to alternating current (AC)

• On-site substation

• Security fence around the panels and the substation.

• Internal access tracks

• Electrical cables

• Site office and parking

The transmission line will traverse approximately 5km of forest (and regenerating forest) and 1km of cleared land that is currently used for recreation and as part of the buffer area for the Bell Bay aluminium smelter. Poles will support two circuits that will operate at a voltage of up to 110kV. The easement for the transmission line will be up to 50m wide.

The proposed solar farm site is located adjacent to Soldiers Settlement Road and the transmission lines are located adjacent to Musk Vale Road and Bridport Road, Bell Bay in the Northern Region of Tasmania (see Figures 1-2). The site will be accessed via two existing access roads into the site, Musk Vale Road which leads into a junction on the northern side of unnamed access tracks that exist throughout the proposed transmission line corridors and a private access track on the northern side of Bridport Road around 1.5km to the east of the East Tamar Highway/Bridport Road junction.

CHMA Pty Ltd has been engaged by the proponent to undertake a historic heritage assessment for the proposed Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project (the study area), to identify any potential heritage constraints. This report presents the findings of the historic heritage assessment.

1.2 Aims of the Investigation

The principal aims of this project are as follows.

- To undertake a historic heritage assessment for the study area, as shown in Figures 2 and 3. The assessment is to be compliant with both State and Commonwealth legislative regimes.
- To determine the extent of previously identified Historic heritage sites within and in the immediate vicinity of the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project study area.
- To locate and document Historic heritage sites that may be present within the identified bounds of the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project study area.

- To assess the archaeological potential of the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project study area.
- To assess the significance values of identified historic heritage sites.
- To develop a set of management recommendations aimed at minimising the impact of the proposed Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project on any identified historic heritage values.
- Prepare a report that documents the findings of the historic heritage assessment.

1.3 Project Methodology

A three-stage project methodology was implemented for this assessment.

Stage 1 (Pre-Fieldwork Background Work)

Prior to fieldwork being undertaken, the following tasks were completed by CHMA staff.

Heritage Register Searches
A search was carried out of a number of historic registers and databases in order to determine the extent of historic sites and features in the vicinity of the study area. Agency databases searched included:

- The Australian Heritage Database (AHD)
- Tasmanian Heritage Register (THR)
- The Register of the National Estate (RNE)
- Australian Heritage Places Inventory (AHPI)
- The National Trust (NT)
- The Tasmanian Planning Scheme
- George Town Interim Planning Scheme 2013

Detailed historical research was also undertaken to understand the historical context of the area, its growth and development from early pioneer settlement and previous investigations in the area. Resources were utilised from:

- National Library of Australia
- Trove online collections
- Tasmanian Archives
- LINC Tasmania

The collation of relevant documentation for the Project
The following documentation was collated for this project.

- Maps of the study areas.
- References to the land use history of the study area.
- GIS Information relating to landscape units present in the study area.
- Geotechnical information for the study area, including soil and geology data.

Stage 2 (Field Work)

Stage 2 entailed the fieldwork component of the assessment. The main field survey was undertaken by Shay Hannah (CHMA archaeologist), Vernon Graham (Senior Aboriginal Heritage Officer) and Kierrin Graham (Heritage Field Assistant), over a period of 6 days (31-8-2022 – 9-9-2022).

The field team walked a total of 44.073km of survey transects across the proposed Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm footprint, with the average width of each transect being 10m. As part of the field survey program, additional transects were walked in areas where there was improved surface visibility, to gain a better insight as to the potential presence or absence of historic sites across the study area. Section 4 provides further details as to the survey coverage achieved within the study area.

Stage 3

Stage three of the project involves the production of a Draft and Final Report that includes an analysis of the data obtained from the field survey, an assessment of heritage sensitivity and management recommendations. The report has been prepared by Shay Hannah and Stuart Huys.

A draft copy (electronic PDF version) of the report was submitted to the proponent, for review. Any comments that were received have been incorporated into the final draft report.

1.4 Project Limitations

Most archaeological investigations are subject to limitations that may affect the reliability of the results. The main constraint to the present investigation was restricted surface visibility due primarily to vegetation cover. At the time of the field survey, surface visibility across the proposed Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm footprint ranged between <10% and 80%, with the estimated average being 20%. Throughout the study area, there was a network of previously graded vehicle tracks that provided transects of improved surface visibility. There were also numerous areas where erosion scalds were present that provided locates of improved visibility. To offset constrained surface visibility, any areas of improved visibility were inspected in detail. The constraints in surface visibility limited the effectiveness of the survey assessment to some extent. The issue of surface visibility is further discussed in Section 4 of this report.

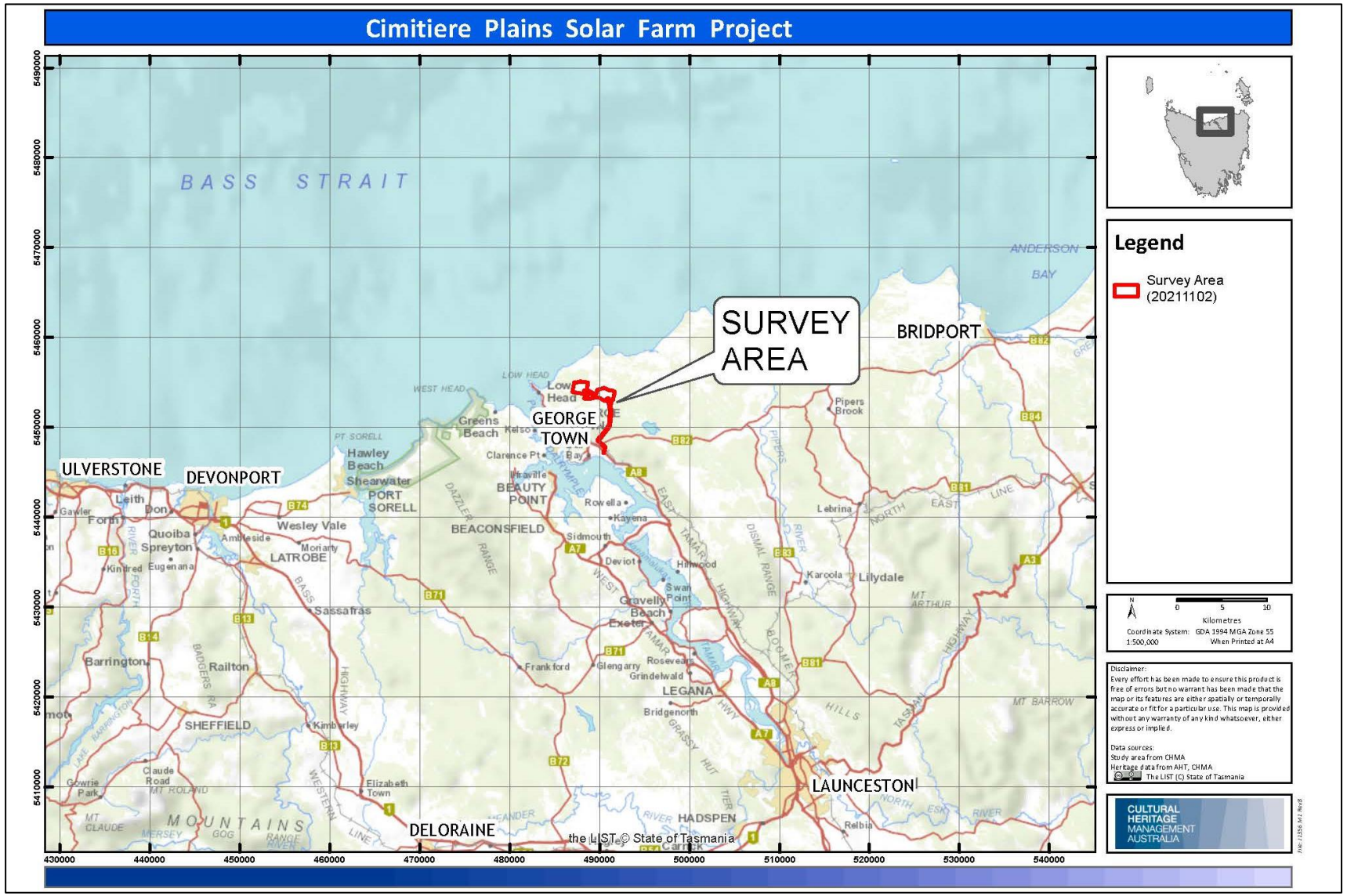

Figure 1: Topographic image showing the location of the study area at George Town in the Northern Region of Tasmania.

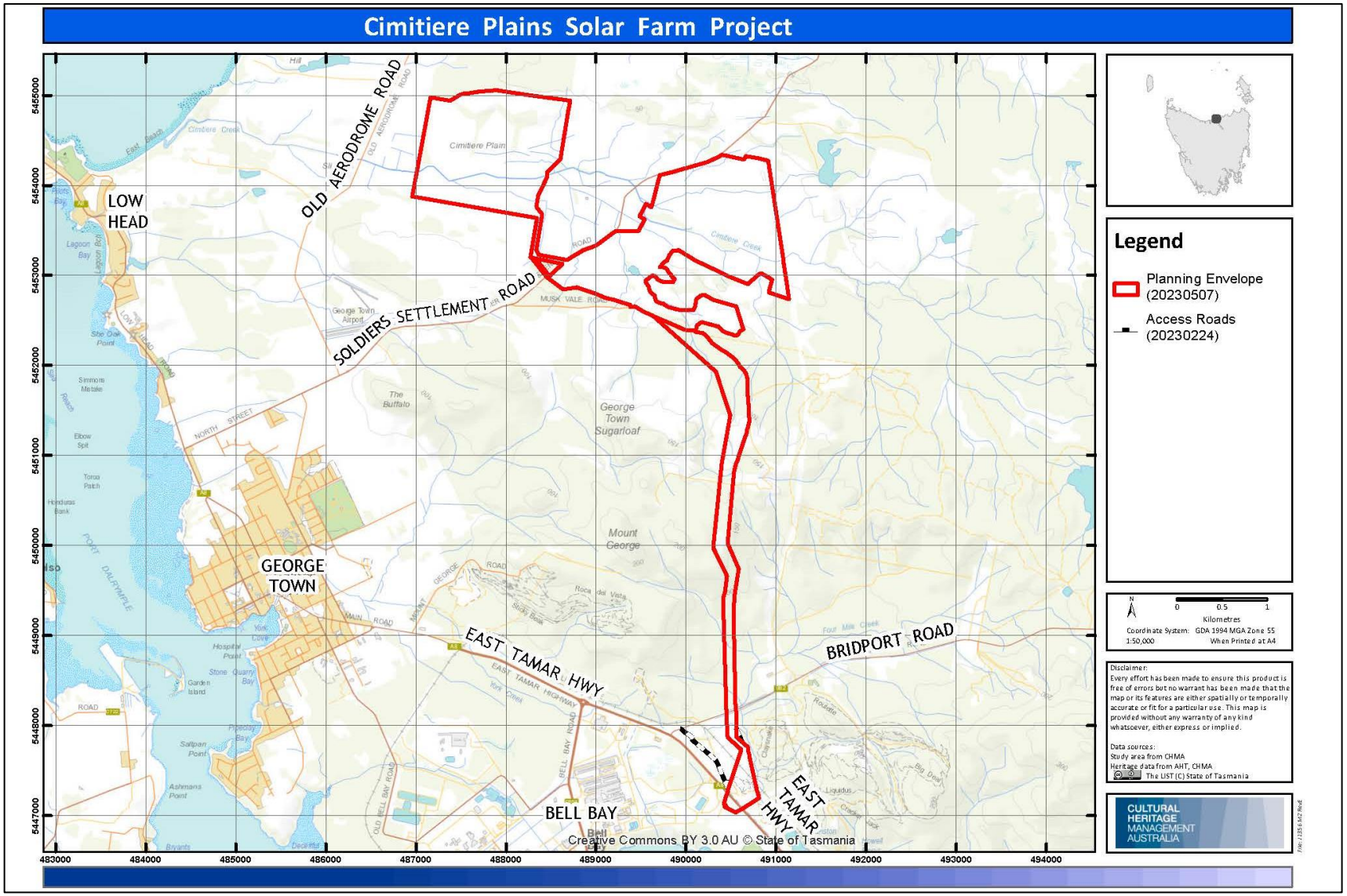

Figure 2: Topographic image showing the landscape setting of the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm study area.

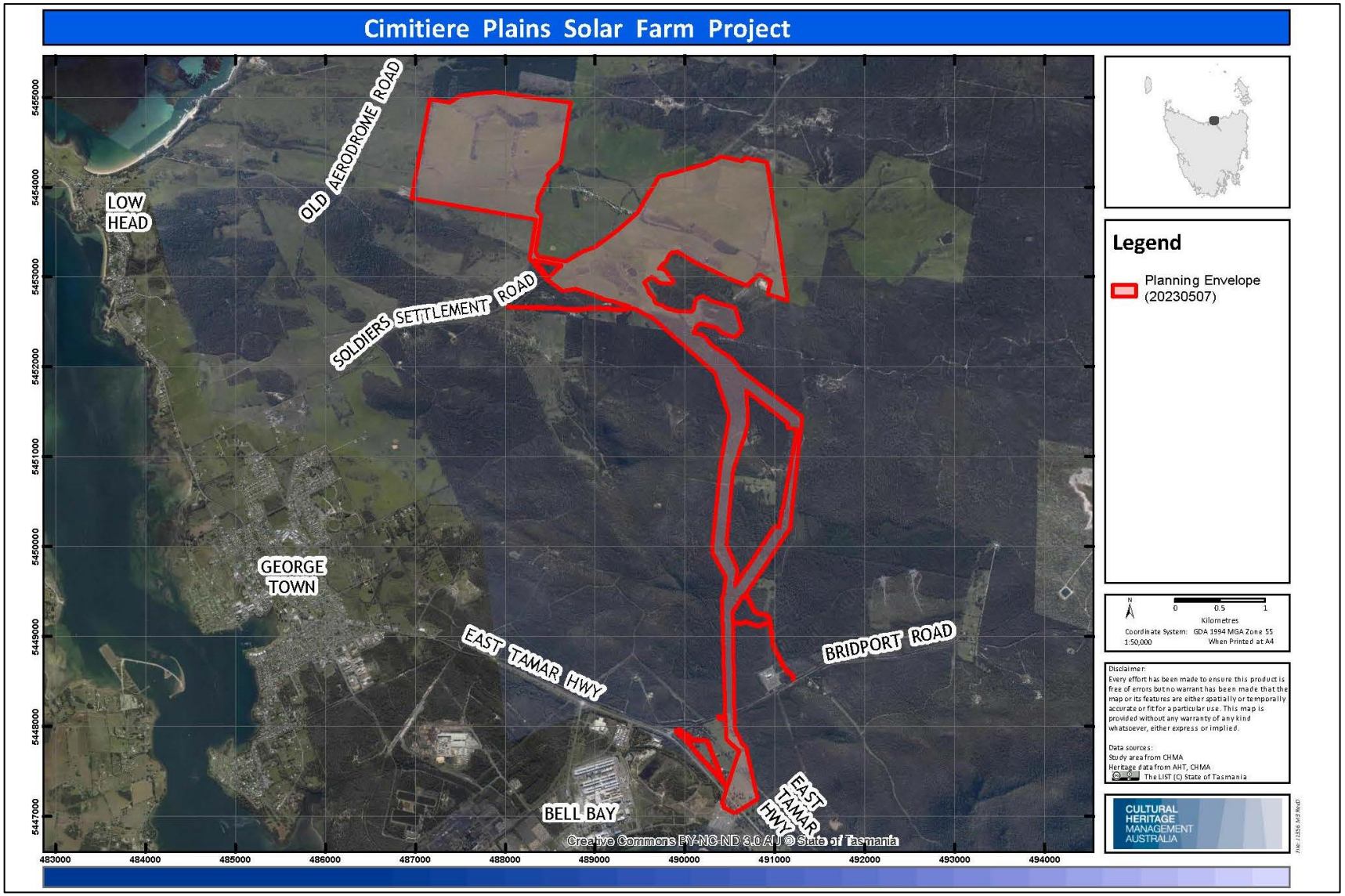

Figure 3: Aerial image showing the boundaries of the study area.

2.0 Environmental Setting of the Study Area

2.1 Landscape Setting of the Study Area

The proposed Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project area (the study area) covers approximately 454ha. The northern sections of the study area are situated 4.12km to the northeast of George Town, while the southern sections of the study area are situated 4.9km to the southeast of George Town, in the Northern Region of Tasmania. Subsequently, the landscape of the study area is divided. Within the northern sections of the study area, the terrain is characteristically flat to moderately undulating pastureland, with some sections of lowland floodplains surrounding Cimitiere Creek (see Plates 1). The more gentle slope gradients occur throughout the northeast and northwest sections of the study area, where gradients range between 5º to 10º (see Plate 1 and Plate 3). In the southeast and southwest sections of the northern sections of the study area, the slope gradients increase to between 10º to 30º, with the steepest slopes present along the southern borders facing toward the Tippogoree Hills (see Plate 2).

The southern sections of the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project study area are located to the east and at the base of the southeastern end of the Tippogoree Hills. The Tippogoree Hills are a prominent series of ranges that fringe the eastern margins of the River Tamar. The terrain across the study area is characteristically flat to moderately undulating, with some sections of lowland floodplains (see Plate 9). The more gentle slope gradients occur across the far west portion of the study area at the base of Tippogoree Hills, where gradients range between 5º to 10º (see Plate 6). On the side slopes of the ridge lines, slope gradients increase to between 10º to 40º, with the steepest slopes being the northern side slopes of the ridges, running down towards watercourses such as Four Mile Creek (see Plate 5).

The underlying geology of the study area is a variable patchwork. The northern sections of the study area are Cenozoic cover sequences which consist of windblown and locally derived sand, Cenozoic cover sequences consisting of silt with rounded clasts of granite, schist, quartzite, conglomerate, derived from Permian strata and Palaeozoic Lower Parmeener Supergroup consisting of mudstone, sandstone, minor limestone, coal measures, Tasmanite oil shale, and basal tillite, diamictites, rhythmic clay stones (List 2023; Australian Stratigraphic Units Database 2022). Soils in the northern sections of the study area consist of light to dark grey sandy loam that is shallow to skeletal in depth (see Plate 3). The underlying geology of the southern section of the study area is Cenozoic cover sequences which consist of windblown and locally derived sand, Jurassic dolerite and Upper Parmeener Supergroup consisting of cross-bedded quartz sandstone, feldspathic sandstone and shale (List 2023). Soils across the study area are regolith clays that have been derived through the decomposition of the parent bedrock. Soil depth is typically shallow to skeletal, with the underlying dolerite bedrock exposed to the surface across most parts of the southern sections of the study area (see Plate 5 and Plate 6).

The southern sections of the study area are positioned just inland (east/northeast) of Bell Bay, on the lower reaches of the River Tamar, which is the largest major water course in this part of the Northern Region. This is a ‘ria’ or drowned river valley formed by coastal submergence about 6,000 years ago. The shoreline of the estuary in the surrounds of Bell Bay is a low-energy shoreline, with mudflats and shoals exposed at low tide. The intertidal

zone hosts a range of estuarine shellfish species, dominated by mud oysters and mussels. The northern sections of the study area are positioned just inland (south) of Bass Strait. The shoreline of the Bass Strait hosts a range of saltwater shellfish species such as blue mussels, scallops and oysters and potentially seals coming from Tenth Island (now a recognised breeding colony 7km offshore) (Wildlife Services 2018).

The only named water course in the vicinity of the southern sections of the study area is Four Mile Creek. This is a semi-permanent watercourse that flows in an east-to-west direction, emptying into the Lauriston Reservoir. The creek is located around 600m to the east of the study area. A small tributary of this creek flows along the north-western border of the study area. In the northern sections, the only named watercourse in the vicinity is Cimitiere Creek. This is a semi-permanent watercourse that flows in a northwest-to-southeast direction. The creek is located in the centre of the northern sections of the study area and numerous small tributaries and drains run off the creek throughout the northern sections (see Figure 2).

The vegetation structure across most of the northern sections of the study area is dominated by agricultural pastures made up of native and introduced grass species (see Plate 1). Amongst the pasture are sparse stands of *Eucalyptus amygdalina* coastal forest and woodland that consists of Bracken Fern (*Pteridium esculentum*), eucalypts, Sagg (*Lomandra longifolia*), She-oak and Black Wattle saplings (*Acacia mearnsii*) (see Plate 4). There are also sparse stands along the edges of Cimitiere Creek of coastal scrub and heathland with Common Teatree (*Leptospermum scoparium*) and Sagg being the most prevalent species present (see Plate 3). Significant clearing, pastoral activity and construction of dam infrastructure have taken place across the majority of the northern sections of the study area and have resulted in the presence of introduced grasses.

The vegetation structure across most of the southern study area is dominated by *Eucalyptus amygdalina* forest and woodland scrub which is associated with the distribution of the dolerite bedrock (see Plate 5). Small patches of *Eucalyptus obliqua* dry forest and lowland grasses occur within the central-western portion of the study area. On the eastern boundary of the study area, there is also a small patch of Eucalyptus amygdalina - *Eucalyptus obliqua* damp sclerophyll forest. Selective logging has occurred across the majority of this native Eucalypt woodland. This logging activity has also resulted in dense undergrowth within the majority of the study area. The most prominent species present were Bracken Fern, Cutty Grass (*Gahnia grandis*), Sagg and Black Wattle saplings (see Plate 5, Plate 6 and Plate 7). Parts of the native forests, on the lower slopes of the ridges, have been more extensively cleared as part of past pastoral activities.

Parts of the study area have been more intensively disturbed. Within the southern sections of the study area, there have been access track extensions made with the main southern access road being covered in bitumen (see Plate 8). A network of previously graded and ungraded vehicle tracks occurs throughout the southern sections of the study area, particularly around the existing BassLink infrastructure, TasRail rail tracks and former plantation areas (see Plate 5 and Plate 8).

The study area has a cool, wet climate typical of northern Tasmania. Rainfall occurs throughout the year; with a mean annual rainfall of 589mm. Rainfall is highest in August and

September (64mm – 71mm) and lower from January to February (28 – 31mm). The warmest months of the year are January and February when mean temperatures range from minimums of 10°C to maximums of about 23°C. Winter tends to be cold with mean annual temperatures in the coldest months of June and July ranging from 1.5°C mean minimum to maximum temperatures of about 11°C (BOM 2020).

Plate 1: View east showing Kierrin Graham (Heritage Field Assistant) on an undulation of 5°–10° and Cimitiere Creek present in the northern sections of the study area.

Plate 2: View southwest showing Vernon Graham (SAHO) a rise of 20° and one of the sparse stands of *Eucalyptus amygdalina* coastal forest and woodland present within the northern sections of the study area.

Plate 3: View northeast showing a tributary of Cimitiere Creek with light grey soils and stands of Common Teatree (*Leptospermum scoparium*) and Sagg.

Plate 4: View east showing one of the main graded access roads Musk Vale Road, George Town in the study area.

Plate 5: View east showing one of the graded access tracks in the southern sections of the study area and undulation of 35°.

Plate 6: View northeast showing *Eucalyptus amygdalina* forest and woodland scrub present within the southern sections of the study area.

Plate 7: View southwest showing the native regrowth vegetation present within the southern sections of the study area.

Plate 8: View west showing the partial bitumen-covered main access track in the southern sections of the study area.

Plate 9: View south showing one of the graded access tracks in the southern sections of the study area.

3.0 Historic Context of the Study Area

3.1 Historic Overview for the Northern Region

The first non-Aboriginal visitors to arrive in the Northern Region of Tasmania were George Bass and Mathew Flinders, who were sent to explore the possibility that there was a strait between Australia and Van Diemen's Land in 1798. They originally landed in Port Dalrymple, sheltering from bad weather at the mouth of the Tamar River, in the immediate vicinity of present-day George Town.

Significant settlement of the area, however, did not begin until the early 1800s. On 1 June 1804, the order came from London to reduce the population on Norfolk Island and move residents to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania), and contemporaneously 'forestall French settlement' of the island (Robson 1983:43). On 15 October 1804, an expedition sailed from Port Jackson. It included HMS Buffalo, HM brig Lady Nelson and schooners Francis and Integrity. The 'invasion party' arrived in Outer Cove, subsequently the site of George Town, on 5 November 1804. Clergyman, Edward Main, was discharged from the Buffalo to 'perform divine service' (ibid). Six days later stores arrived and land clearing for settlement commenced. But the party leader, Lieutenant-Governor Paterson, grew 'dissatisfied with the site' and by 1805 most had moved to the western side of the Tamar to York town (Phillips 2005:157; Robson 1983:44). A year later (1806) the settlement was again shifted to the current position of Launceston. The settlement was initially known as Patersonia, however, was later changed by Paterson to Launceston in honour of the New South Wales Governor Captain Philip Diley King, who was born in Launceston, Cornwall. Administrative power was moved from York Town to Launceston in 1807, under the command of William Peterson. At the end of 1809, Paterson was recalled to Port Jackson, where he served as Lieutenant Governor of NSW (and Van Diemen's Land) until superseded by Governor Macquarie a year later.

In 1812 the Governor of New South Wales, Major General Lachlan Macquarie, toured Van Diemen's Land:

> *… he disapproved of the site fixed from Launceston and ordered that George Town be developed instead, on the basis that it would clearly be a superior port to Launceston because it was situated close to the open sea and not at the end of a tortuous estuary formed by the union of the two Esk Rivers* (Robson 1983:102).

In 1815 Macquarie moved the headquarters of the government to Outer Cove, renaming the site George Town (Phillips 2005:157). According to Robson, despite government intervention George Town failed to thrive—primarily because Launceston was agriculturally superior, there was 'continual personal conflict' between government personnel, and life there was generally 'precarious in the extreme' (Robson 1983:102-3).

Also opposing Macquarie's insistence that the settlement be relocated to George Town, were the settlers themselves. From 1815, the few convicts who completed their sentences settled not in and around the heavily-timbered country of George Town but instead chose the build their huts in the more open and fertile areas around Launceston and the Esk Rivers (Nyman 1996:12). The more fertile soil around Launceston also attracted the majority of free settlers, and by 1820, the entire population of the Tamar area, both convict and free men, numbered five hundred and forty three (Nyman 1996:12).

In 1820 Commissioner J.T. Bigge was sent out from London to inquire into the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. Bigge's conclusions on the settlement of George Town were scathing:

> *… he was not at all impressed with the stubbornness of Macquarie in insisting on the development of George Town. In eighteen months only one free inhabitant moved from Launceston to George Town, exclaimed the commissioner; the soil of George Town was not good, he judged…* (Robson 1983:104).

By the 1820s the perseverance of settlers in Launceston paid off, with the richer soils of the area pushing produce into high yields, turning production levels beyond the point of subsistence and into profits. In 1824, Commissioner Bigge made conclusive recommendations that Launceston be the centre for northern colonial administration, with the northern headquarters accordingly moved back to Launceston in that year.

Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land, William Sorrell, was replaced by George Arthur in May 1824. Arthur inquired about the state of religion and education in the colony—this exchange revealed that there was a chaplain (replete with a 'spacious residence') in George Town but not in Launceston. Shortly after this, St John's Church was opened for worship in Launceston in December 1825, rapidly followed by churches of other denominations with their own churches; Scots Church in Lower Charles Street and Wesleyan Chapel in Paterson Street.

By 1827, the population of Launceston had increased to 2000 and the town had become an export centre, primarily servicing the colony's northern pastoral industry. Small hotels and breweries began to emerge in the 1820s, such as the Cornwell Hotel (c.1824) and Launceston Hotels, with more substantial hotels established by the c.1830s.

From 1825 a signalling system existed which advised Launceston of the movement of ships in the river. It was begun from Low Head by semaphore. Low Head signalled to George Town, George Town to Mount George, Mount George to Mount Direction and Mount Direction to Windmill Hill in Launceston.

In 1829, when the first issue of the Launceston Advertiser went on sale (under John Pascoe Fawkner), Fawkner recorded:

> *'Excepting about three months in summer, vessels drawing twelve feet can and do lie in a fresh-water stream (at Launceston; no boats are used, but goods are landed or shipped direct from the wharf…..Vessels of 500 to 600 tons burthen can come up within five or six miles of the town and lay in perfect safety, and vessels of 300 to 400 tons may come to the very verge of the town, that is to the bar which is at the entrance to the canal or North Esk as it is called'* (Cited in Bethell 1957:38).

By the 1830s, three industries thrived in the area; Whaling and Sealing in the Bass Strait produced good returns in oil, making men such as Henry Reed very wealthy. Agriculture had produced large grain stores, with the area supplying both the NSW and later Victorian settlements. The third industry became wool, which produced massive profits, coinciding with the advent of mechanized textile production in Britain which saw small-scale cottage industries transformed into mass production and mass profit (Green 2006).

Launceston's exports were booming, exceeding that of Hobart. It became a place of enterprise for free immigrants and not just a penal settlement. The riverfront was developed to maximize the new trades, with the introduction of wharves along the North Esk River by men such as Griffiths and Reibey (Green 2006). A brewery, tannery and flour mill were successively constructed.

As the export industries expanded, so did the transport industries, with the shipbuilding industry booming along the length of the Tamar Valley. So too did carriage makers, saddlers

and harness makers who no longer relied solely on repairing British gear, but instead began their own production. Economically and socially, the town began to boom, with the prices of property and livestock beginning to soar. This period of economic confidence inspired men such as John Batman and John Fawkner to look towards Port Phillip. In 1835 both made successful trips to establish the village of Melbourne. Though initially a financial drain on Launceston, the new settlement ultimately resulted in new trade, with the town supplying the new settlement with all its goods, including foodstuffs, clothing, timber, livestock and carts (Green 2006).

Come 1840, however, the boom was over and the colony's first major depression began. The three main sources of income failed due to declining whaling supplies, decreased value for wool in England and the collapse of the mainland market for foodstuffs as the drought ended in NSW and Port Phillip became self-sufficient (Green 2006). Employers became bankrupt and employees unemployed, with bounty emigrants also arriving in 1841 and further glutting the labour market (Green 2006).

The economy gradually improved, but finally received relief with the discovery of gold in NSW and Victoria. The resulting mass exodus of the male population to the goldfields provided a return to financial stability as huge quantities of goods were exported and the agricultural industry had a new lease of life. In 1853 Launceston was declared a municipality, with William Button appointed the town's first Mayor. In 1854, Henry Stoney visited the town, recording it as

> *'a large and busy town:- hundreds of vessels crowding the wharves; steamers and ships hastening to or hurrying from the port; - all is life and bustle, with crowded streets in all the turmoil of daily toil and traffic'* (Green 2006:37).

The money flowing into the township from the goldfields enabled Launceston's leaders to embark on several projects, including the advanced underground sewerage system and the St Patrick's River water scheme, which solved the ongoing problem of fresh water to the township. For the first time, the town had a permanent water supply.

Whilst Launceston had continued to expand and prosper throughout the mid-1800s, the evolution of George Town was less dynamic. In 1852 George Town was described as a summer holiday destination for residence of Launceston:

> *'It contains a small church, a school, three inns, and has a resident magistrate and post station. The population of the town and district is 601, the number of houses 115. There is a bush road to George Town down the eastern side of the Tamar, but communication is chiefly carried on by water'* (West 1981:541).

The town's population declined into the 1950s. This turned around with the development of the Comalco and the Tasmanian Electro Metallurgical Company (TEMCO) smelters at nearby Bell Bay. In 1955 the first aluminium smelter in the southern hemisphere commenced production at Bell Bay, near George Town (Tassell 2005:83). Originally the Comalco smelter was a Commonwealth and Tasmanian Government initiative, conceived in 1944 with the purpose of securing aluminium for defence purposes. By 1959, after slow production, the Commonwealth sought to close the smelter. To avoid this the Tasmanian Government expanded the smelter's capacity.

In 1960 Consolidated Zinc Pty Ltd, which had discovered the large bauxite deposits at Weipa, Queensland, acquired the commonwealth's interests through Comalco Industries Pty Ltd. Expansion of the plant has continued with annual production increasing from 15,000 tons in 1962 to more than 160,000 tons in 2003 (Tassell 2005:83)

TEMCO opened in 1962 (TEMCO 2005:360). The smelter was built by BHP Pty Ltd and is Australia's only manganese alloy smelter. At its peak, the smelter employed nearly 500 people. Today TEMCO ships iron ore from Groote Eylandt Mining Company, in the Northern Territory, to produce ferromanganese. Alloy is then sold in Australia, Asia, North America and New Zealand. South32 (spun out of BHP Billiton in 2015) operates the site.

3.2 First Historical Landowners and Land Grants

The Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm footprint encompasses large portions of Cimitiere Plains, Tippogoree Hills and a small section of Bell Bay, specifically Lauriston Park. Throughout the nineteenth century, these areas were divided into numerous land grants that were regularly re-granted or sold.

Cimitiere Plains

The earliest land grant identified within the Cimitiere Plains section of the study area is a grant of 500 acres to Joseph James (see Figure 5). The date of this initial land grant is unknown, but it was before 1838. From 1838 the 500-acre grant belongs to John Clark (TAHO AD956/1/1 pg.20). On a map from 1838 (see Figure 4), there are depictions of a hut, stockyard and barn on John Clark's grant, however, it is unclear as to whether John Clark commissioned these structures, or it was Joseph James (TAHO AF396/1/495).

Edith Archer is also listed as a landowner with a land grant of 607 acres, 3 perches and 26 roods. The date of this land grant is unknown and there is no reliable historical or archival documentation about this landowner. This is also true for the three other landowners within the Cimitiere Plains section of the study area. The first was Alec Edward Campbell had a land grant of 523 acres, 3 perches and 27 roods. Next was T H Davies who had a land grant of 599 acres, 3 perches and 19 roods and L. D Archer with a land grant of 168.5ha.

Tippogoree Hills

The best-documented land grant within the Tippogoree Hills section of the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm footprint is that of Lawrence Quinn (see Figure 6). Quinn acquired his land grant of 100 acres in 1859 and was an active and respected member of the colonial George Town community, notably involving himself in local politics (TAHO AD956/1/1 pg.127; *The Cornwall Chronicle* Wednesday 10 September 1856:7).

R W B Turner is listed as a landowner with a 150-acre land grant. The date of this land grant is unknown and there is no reliable historical or archival documentation about this landowner. This is also true for the two other landowners within the Tippogoree Hills section of the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm footprint. The first is William Edward Davidson who purchased a land parcel of 499 acres, 1 perch and 35 roods. Next is Henry Edward Davidson who owned two properties within the current study area. The overall total of land owned by Henry Edward Davidson was 598 acres and 11 roods.

Lauriston Park

The Lauriston Park section of the current study area was once part of a series of properties owned by William Effingham Lawrence. William Effingham Lawrence played a significant role in the development of the Tamar River region from 1832–1846 (Lawrence 2021:131). After the death of his father William, James Effingham Lawrence would divide the original land grant into three smaller farms; Point Effingham, Lauriston and Williams Creek (Lawrence 2021:131). Lauriston would later become part of what is now Lauriston Park, which is within the current study area. In 1871, the farm would be at the centre of a missing

person's case, when Mr E Lawrence (of Point Effingham) found the body of a Mr John Gaunt (his brother-in-law) in a creek on the estate (*Cornwall Advertiser* Friday 20 January 1871:2).

It would be Frank Archer who would acquire Point Effingham and Lauriston which once belonged to the Lawrence family. A second son of Frank Archer would preside at Lauriston (*Daily Telegraph* Wednesday 28 May 1902:5).

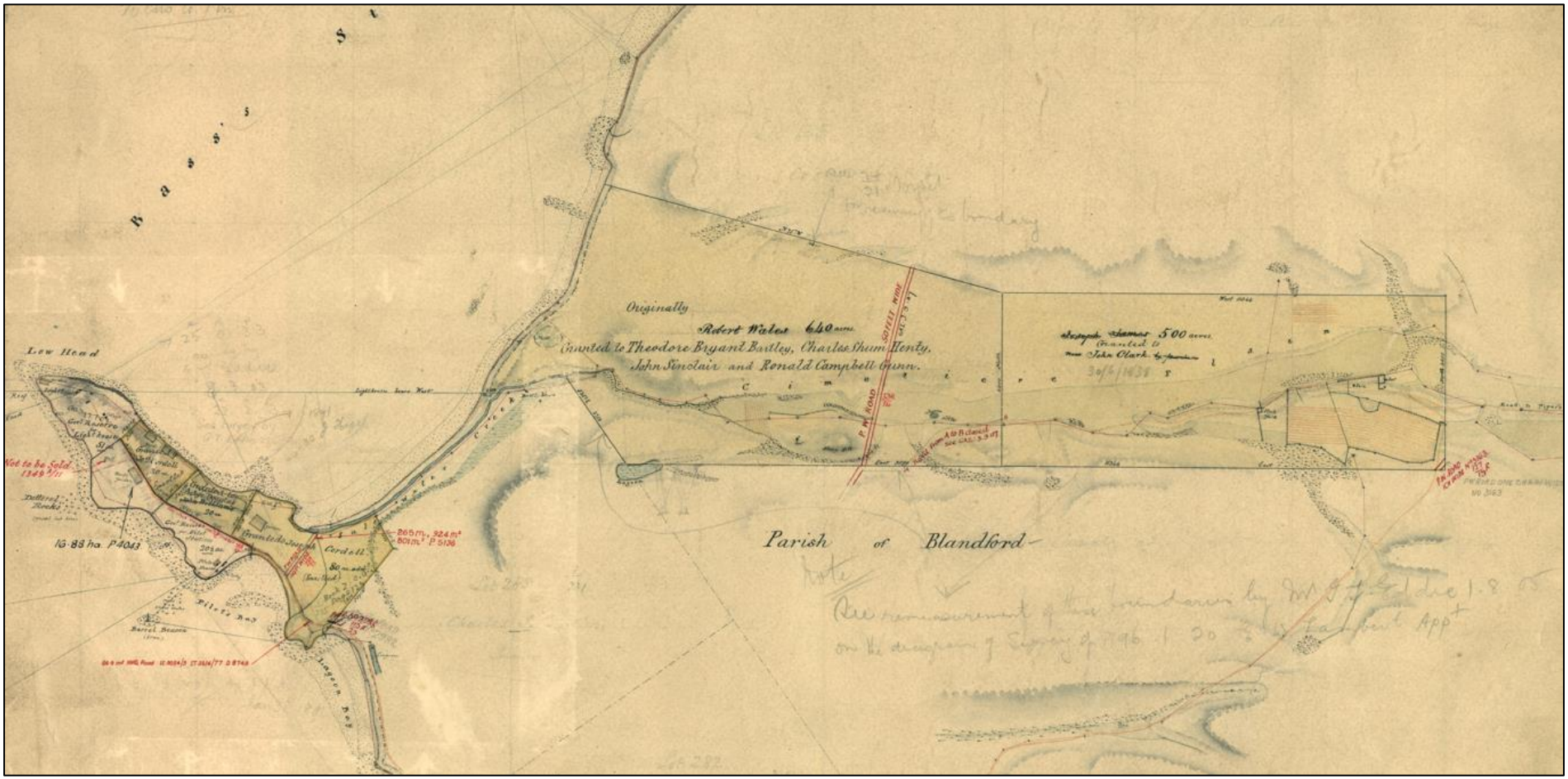

Figure 4: Map showing the historic land grants in the Cimitiere Plains section of the study area, including John Clark (centre right) (TAHO AF396/1/495).

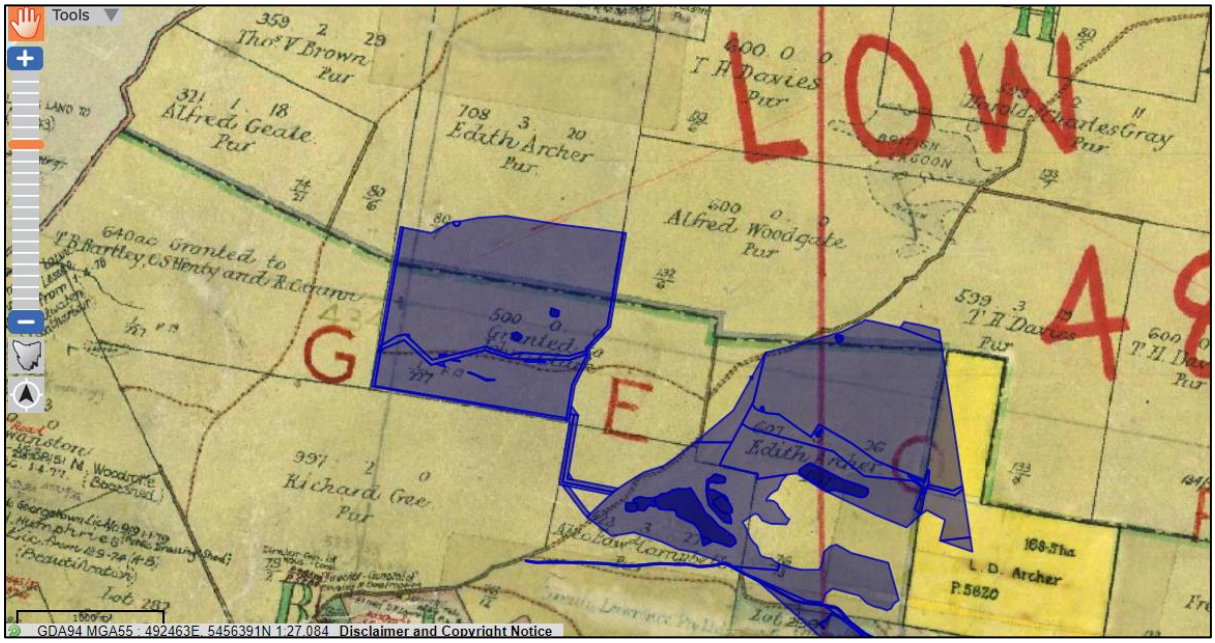

Figure 5: Historic Land Grants Chart overlayed with Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project footprint (shown in blue) for the Cimitiere Plains section (List 2023).

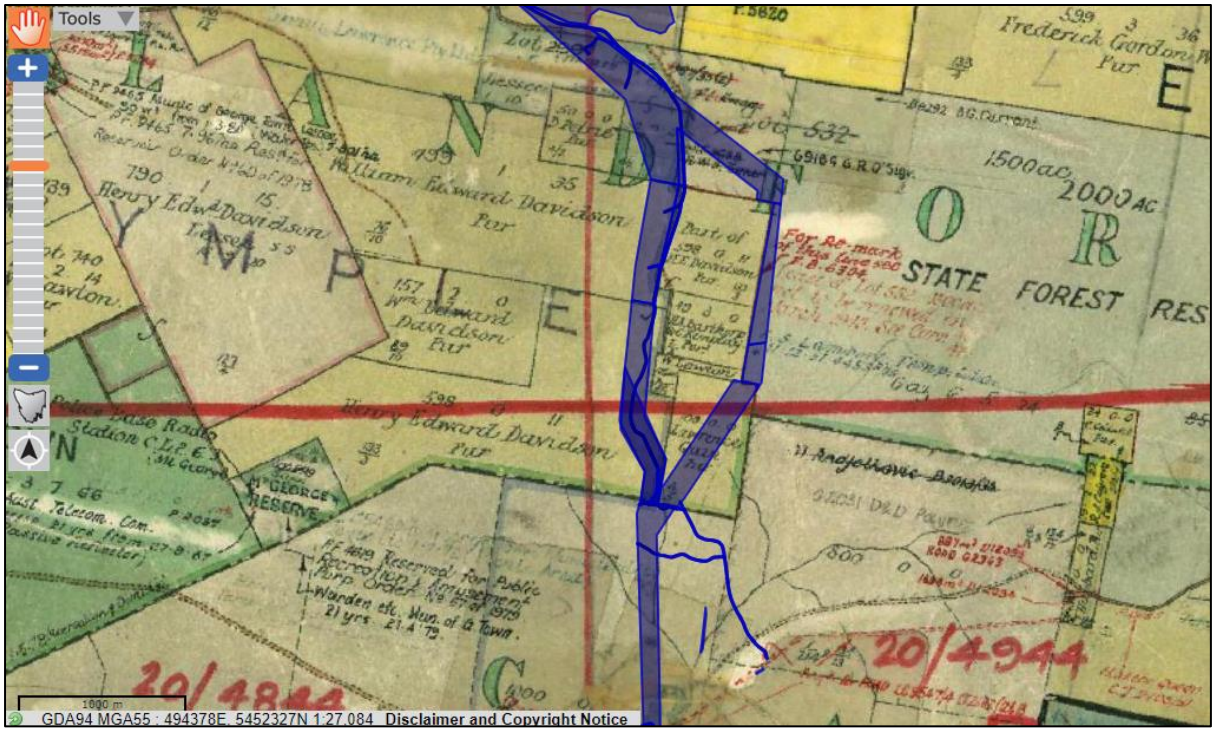

Figure 6: Historic Land Grants Chart overlayed with Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project footprint (shown in blue) for the Tippogoree Hills section (List 2023).

4.0 Survey Coverage of the Study Area

Survey Coverage and Surface Visibility

Survey coverage refers to the estimated portion of a study area that has been visually inspected during a field survey. Surface Visibility refers to the extent to which the actual soils of the ground surface are available for inspection. There are a number of factors that can affect surface visibility, including vegetation cover, surface water and the presence of introduced gravels or materials. Figure 7 provides a useful guide for estimating surface visibility.

The field survey was undertaken by Shay Hannah (CHMA archaeologist), Vernon Graham (Senior Aboriginal Heritage Officer) and Kierrin Graham (Heritage Field Assistant), over a period of 6 days (31-8-2022 – 9-9-2022). The field team walked a total of 44.073km of survey transects. In the solar farm, the average width of each transect was 10m. Within the powerline corridors and access tracks, the average width of each transect was 5m. Table 1 provides the total transects walked for each section and Figure 8 shows the alignment of the survey transects walked by the field team.

The survey transects were predominantly focused within the solar farm, power line corridors and access tracks within the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project footprint. Surface visibility within the solar farm ranged from between >10% and 80%, with the average being just 25%, which is in the low range. Surface visibility within the power line corridors ranged between >10% and 50%, with the average being 20%. Improved surface visibility was found along the access tracks which ranged from 50% and 100%, with the average being 70%. Vegetation cover was the main impediment to visibility.

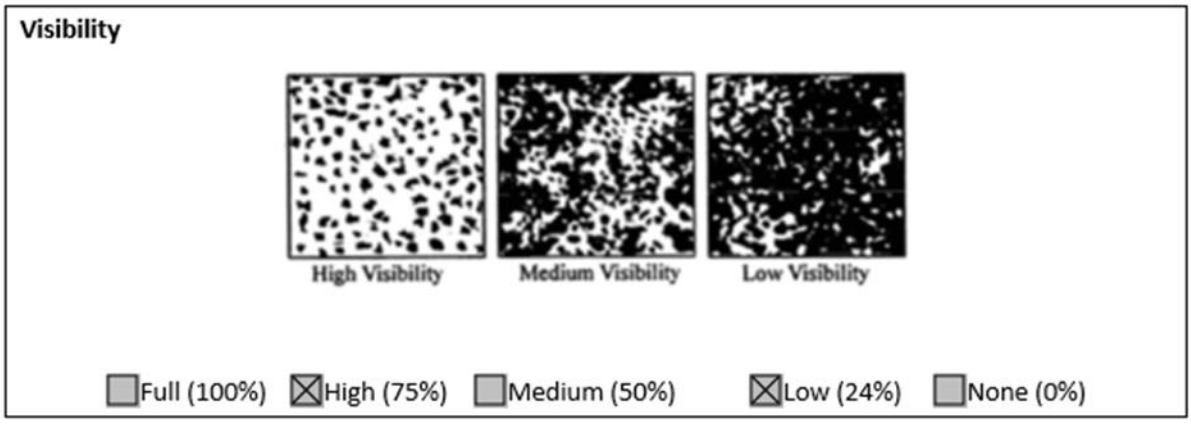

Figure 7: Guidelines for the estimation of surface visibility.

Effective Coverage

Variations in both survey coverage and surface visibility have a direct bearing on the ability of a field team to detect historic heritage sites, particularly site types such as isolated artefacts and artefact scatters (which are the site types most likely to occur in the study area). The combination of survey coverage and surface visibility is referred to as effective survey coverage. Table 1 presents the estimated effective survey coverage achieved during the course of the survey assessment. The effective coverage is estimated to have been around 119,410.5m². This level of effective coverage is assessed as being adequate for the purposes of determining the potential extent, nature and distribution of historic heritage sites in the study area.

Table 1: Effective Survey Coverage achieved across the surveyed areas.

Area Surveyed	Survey Transects	Estimated Surface Visibility	Effective Survey Coverage
Solar Farm	24,405m x 10m= 244,050m^2	25%	61,012m^2
Access Tracks	15,051m x 5m= 75,255m^2	70%	52,678.5m^2
Transmission Line Corridors	5720m x 5m= 28,600m^2	20%	5720m^2
Total	**347,905m^2**		**119,410.5m^2**

Plate 10: View east showing an erosion scald with 80% visibility surrounded by vegetation cover which reduced visibility to an average of 25%.

Plate 11: View northeast showing visibility along a tributary at 70%.

Plate 12: View southeast showing an ungraded access track within the study area where visibility was increased to 100%.

Plate 13: View northeast showing the average surface visibility of 20% within the southern sections of the study area.

Plate 14: View southwest showing surface visibility at >10% within the proposed transmission line corridors.

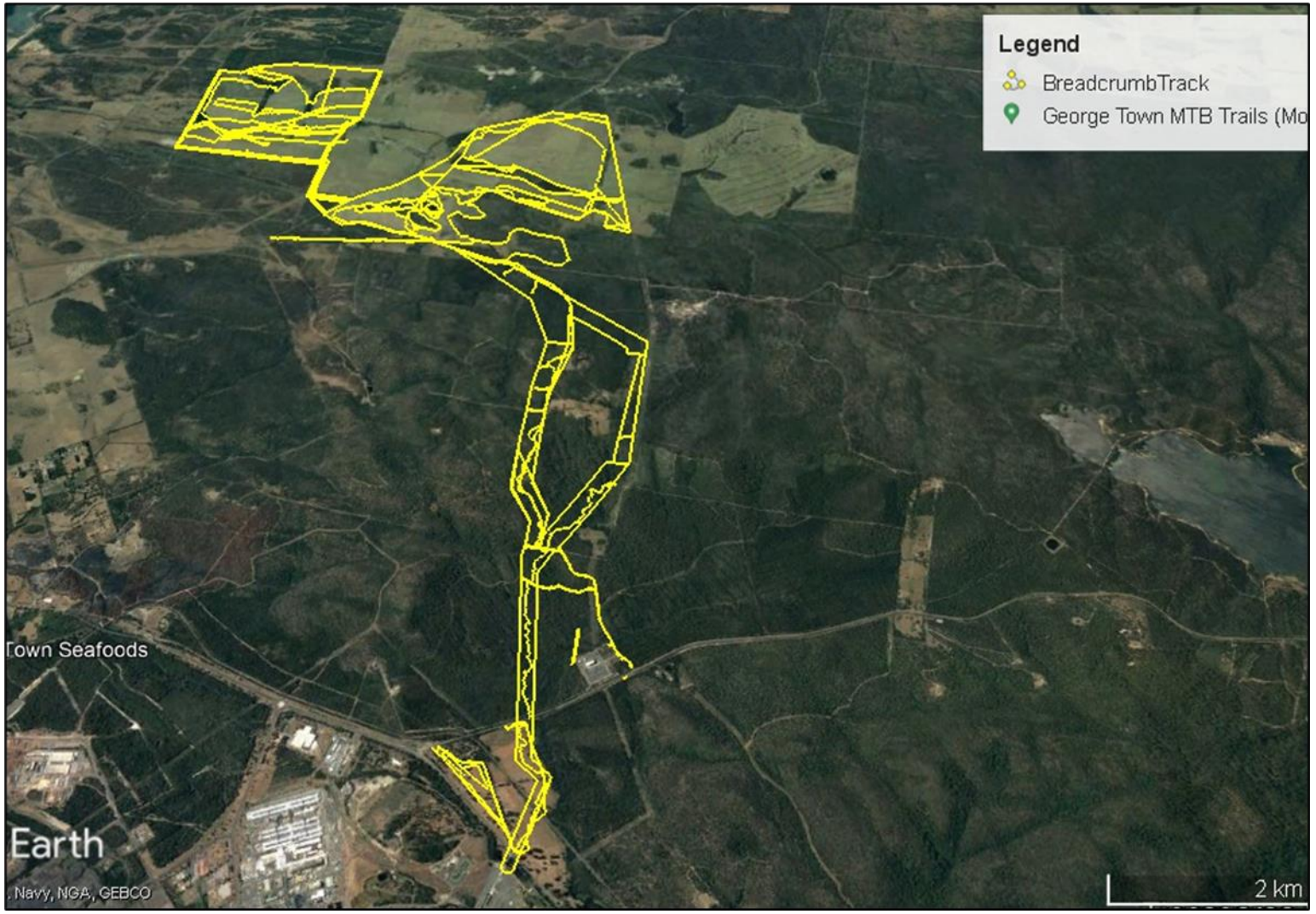

Figure 8: Aerial image showing survey transects walked by the field team across the study area.

5.0 Survey Results and Statement of Archaeological Potential

A search of the various historic heritage registers (as listed in section 1.4 of this report) shows that there are no registered historic sites or features located within or in the immediate vicinity of the study area. The closest heritage-listed features are located around George Town and Low Head, around 3–4km to the northwest and west of the study area (see Figure 9).

As discussed in section 3.2, throughout the nineteenth century, the large portions of Cimitiere Plains, Tippogoree Hills and a small section of Bell Bay, specifically Lauriston Park that make up the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project footprint were divided into numerous land grants that were regularly re-granted or sold. There is generally a lack of reliable historical and archival information about the landowners of the nineteenth century, however, some background information is available for four landowners within the study area. The information gathered about the landowners and the reviewing of nineteenth-century builds provides an insight into the importance of pastoral activities in the establishment and society of colonial-era George Town and its immediate surrounds.

The overall lack of archival evidence and physical evidence of residential or early pastoral structures (such as stock yards or barns) identified during the current field survey is not surprising, as it is likely they would have been destroyed to allow for pastoral activities, the timber industry and industrial infrastructure. This is supported in the discussions within section 2, where it is noted that parts of the study area have been more intensively disturbed. Within the southern sections of the study area, there have been access track extensions made with the main southern access road being covered in bitumen. A network of previously graded and ungraded vehicle tracks occurs throughout the southern sections of the study area, particularly around the existing BassLink infrastructure, TasRail rail tracks and former plantation areas.

As discussed in section 4, surface visibility within the solar farm ranged from between <10% and 80%, with the average being just 25%, which is in the low range. Surface visibility within the power line corridors ranged between <10% and 50%, with the average being 20%. Improved surface visibility was found along the access tracks which ranged from 50% and 100%, with the average being 70%. Vegetation cover was the main impediment to visibility. Given these constraints, it cannot be stated with certainty that there are no undetected historical heritage sites present in the proposed Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project footprint. Whilst the estimated survey coverage was 347,905m^2, effective coverage was decreased to 119,410.5m^2. Although there is a lack of standing structures, it cannot be stated with certainty that there are no undetected historic heritage sites present across the surveyed area, as there is potential, albeit very low, for subsurface remains.

Based on the field survey findings, the absence of registered historic sites and the very low potential for undetected historic heritage sites to be present, the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project study area is assessed as being of very low historic heritage sensitivity. It is advised that there is a very low possibility that the proposed development will have any impact on historic heritage values.

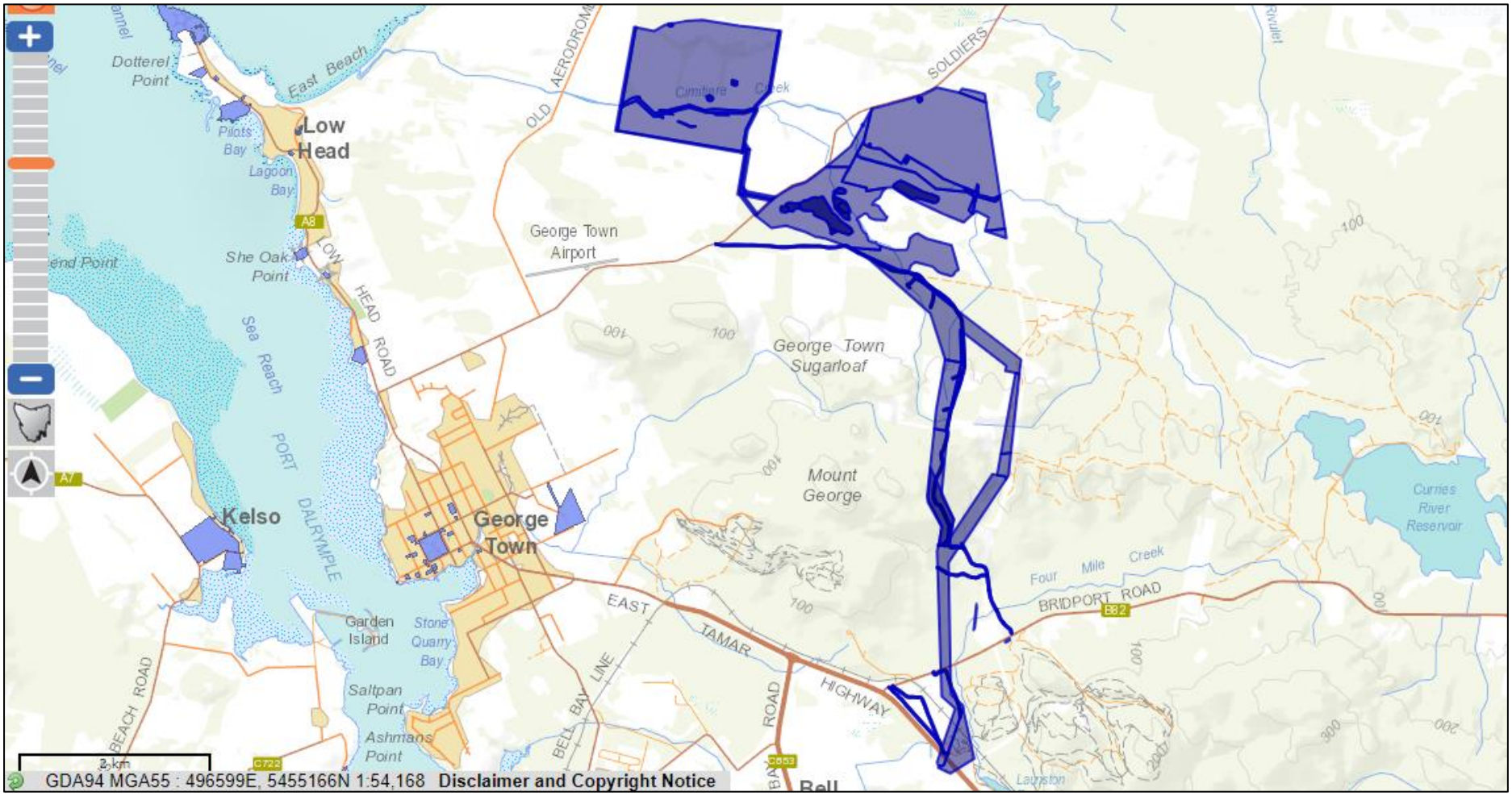

Figure 9: ***Topographic map showing the location of the study area (highlighted in dark blue) in relation to historic sites and features listed on the Tasmanian Heritage Register (depicted by light blue shading) (List 2023).***

6.0 Statutory Controls and Legislative Requirements

The following provides a summary overview of the various legislative instruments and statutory requirements relating to historic heritage in Tasmania. The review is presented in order to provide the proponent with a basic understanding of the statutory frameworks and procedures relating to heritage in Tasmania.

6.1 National Conventions

Council of Australian Governments Agreement 1997
In 1997, COAG reached an agreement on Commonwealth, State and local government roles and responsibilities for heritage management. Local government, through the Australian Local Government Association, and the Tasmanian Government were both signatories to this Agreement. The Agreement resulted in the following outcomes:

- Acceptance of a tiered model of heritage management, with the definition of places as being of either, world, national, state or of local heritage significance;
- Nominations of Australian places for the World Heritage List and management of Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention would be carried out by the Commonwealth Government;
- A new National Heritage System was created in January 2004, comprising the Australian Heritage Council (AHC), National Heritage List (NHL) and Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL);
- The Commonwealth Government, through the Australian Heritage Council, would be responsible for listing, protecting and managing heritage places of national significance;
- State and Territory Governments would be responsible for listing, protecting and managing heritage places of state significance; and
- Local government would be responsible for listing, protecting and managing heritage places of local significance.

Environment Protection and Heritage Council of the Australian and State/Territory Governments 1998
In 1998, the National Heritage Convention proposed a set of common criteria to be used to better assess, understand and manage the heritage values of places.

The Environment Protection and Heritage Council of the Australian and State/Territory Governments adopted this as a national set of desirable common criteria (known as the HERCON criteria). The adoption of these criteria by Heritage Tasmania has not yet been formalised. These criteria are also based on the Burra Charter values. The Common Criteria (HERCON Criteria) adopted in April 2008 are summarised below:

a) *Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history.*
b) *Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.*
c) *Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.*
d) *Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.*
e) *Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics*

f) Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.
g) Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.
h) Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

These criteria have been endorsed by the Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand (HCOANZ) in the Supporting Local Government Project document, "Protecting Local Heritage Places: A National Guide for Local Government and Communities" (March 2009).

Burra Charter 1999
Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) is the peak body of professionals working in heritage conservation in Australia. The Burra Charter was adopted by Australia ICOMOS in 1979 in Burra, South Australia based on other international conventions. Further revisions were adopted in 1981, 1988 and 1999 to ensure the Charter continues to reflect best practices in heritage and conservation management. The current version of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter 1999 is the only version that should be used.

The Burra Charter provides guidance for the conservation and management of places of cultural significance (cultural heritage places) and is based on the knowledge and experience of Australian ICOMOS members. The Charter sets a standard of practice for those who provide advice, make decisions about, or undertake works to places of cultural significance, including owners, managers and custodians.

The Charter recognises the need to involve people in the decision-making process, particularly those that have strong associations with a place. It also advocates a cautious approach to changing heritage places: do as much as necessary to care for the place and to make it useable, but otherwise change it as little as possible so that its cultural significance is retained.

6.2 Commonwealth Legislation

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) provides for the listing of natural, historic or indigenous places that are of outstanding national heritage value to the Australian nation as well as heritage places on Commonwealth lands and waters under Australian Government control.

Once a heritage place is listed under the EPBC Act, special requirements come into force to ensure that the values of the place will be protected and conserved for future generations. The following heritage lists are established through the EPBC Act:

- *National Heritage List* - a list of places of natural, historic and indigenous places that are of outstanding national heritage value to the Australian nation
- *Commonwealth Heritage List* - a list of natural, historic and indigenous places of significance owned or controlled by the Australian Government.

- *List of Overseas Places of Historic Significance to Australia* – this list recognises symbolically sites of outstanding historic significance to Australia but not under Australian jurisdiction.

Australian Heritage Council Act 2003
The Australian Heritage Council is a body of heritage experts that replaced the Australian Heritage Commission as the Australian Government's independent expert advisory body on heritage matters when the new Commonwealth Heritage System was introduced in 2004 under amendments to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999.

The Council plays a key role in the assessment, advice and policy formulation and support of major heritage programs. Its main responsibilities are to assess and nominate places for the National Heritage List and the Commonwealth Heritage List, promote the identification, assessment, conservation and monitoring of heritage; and advise the Minister on various heritage matters.

Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986
The PMCH Act regulates the export of cultural heritage objects from Australia. The purpose of the Act is to protect, for the benefit of the nation, objects which if exported would significantly diminish Australia's cultural heritage. Some Australian protected objects of Aboriginal, military heritage and historical significance cannot be granted a permit for export. Other Australian-protected objects may be exported provided a permit or certificate has been obtained.

6.3 State Legislation

Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993
This Act (LUPA) is the cornerstone of the State Resource Management and Planning System (RMPS). It establishes the legitimacy of local planning schemes and regulates land use planning and development across Tasmania. With regard to historic heritage, LUPAA requires that planning authorities will work to conserve those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value" [Schedule 1 Part 2(g)].

Resource Planning and Development Commission Act 1997
The Resource Planning and Development Commission (now referred to as the Tasmanian Planning Commission) is responsible for overseeing Tasmania’s planning system, approving planning schemes and amendments to schemes and assessing Projects of State Significance. In terms of heritage management, the TPC will consider the establishment of heritage overlays, precincts or areas as part of the creation of planning schemes.

Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal Act 1993
The Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal determine planning appeals and enforces the Acts within the RMPS. The Tribunal plays an important role in the management of heritage places through its determinations on proposed development on, or near to, places of heritage significance.

Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995

The *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995* (HCH Act) is the key piece of Tasmanian legislation for the identification, assessment and management of historic cultural heritage places. The stated purpose of the HCH Act is to promote the identification, assessment, protection and conservation of places having historic cultural heritage significance and to establish the Tasmanian Heritage Council". The HCH Act also includes the requirements to:

- establish and maintain the Tasmanian Heritage Register (THR);
- provide for a system for a system of approvals for work on places on the Register;
- provide for Heritage Agreements and assistance to property owners;
- provide for the protection of shipwrecks;
- provide for control mechanisms and penalties for breaches of the Act.

Under the HCH Act, "conservation" in relation to a place is defined as

- the retention of the historic cultural heritage significance of the place; and
- any maintenance, preservation, restoration, reconstruction and adaption of the place.

The definition of "place" under the HCH Act includes:

- a site, precinct or parcel of land;
- any building or part of a building;
- any shipwreck;
- any item in or on, or historically or physically associated or connected with, a site precinct or parcel of land where the primary importance of the item derives in part from its association with that site, precinct or parcel of land; and
- any equipment, furniture, fittings, and articles in or on, or historically or physically associated or connected with any building or item.

The Act created the Tasmanian Heritage Council (THC), which came into existence in 1997 and operates within the State RMPS. The THC is a statutory body, separate from government, which is responsible for the administration of the HCH Act and the establishment of the Tasmanian Heritage Register (THR), which lists all places assessed as having heritage values of state significance. The THC also assesses works that may affect the heritage significance of places and provides advice to state and local government on heritage matters. The primary task of the THC is as a resource management and planning body, which is focused on heritage conservation issues. Any development on heritage-listed places requires the approval of the THC before works can commence.

Heritage Tasmania (HT), which is part of the Department of Primary Industry, Parks, Water and the Environment, also plays a key role in fulfilling statutory responsibilities under the HCH Act.

HT has three core roles:

- coordinating historic heritage strategy and activity for the State Government;
- supporting the Tasmanian Heritage Council to implement the HCH Act; and
- facilitating the development of the historic heritage register.

In 2013, *the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995* was amended, with the primary goal of streamlining the approvals process and better aligning the Heritage Act with the Planning Act. Under the Amendment, applicants need only lodge a single Development Application

(DA) (as opposed to both a Works Application and DA), which will be referred to the Heritage Council by the local planning authority. Heritage Council then has the opportunity to advise the planning authority whether or not it has an interest in the DA and may request further information under s57 of the LUPAA. If the Heritage Council does not have an interest in the DA, it reverts to the status it has under the Scheme or Planning Act. Where Heritage Council does have an interest in the DA, the Council decision must be incorporated into the final permit (or refusal) issued by the local planning authority.

Also included in the amendments is the incorporation of the HERCON significance criteria for assessing the significance of heritage sites. The Heritage Council may enter a place in the Heritage Register if it is satisfied that the place has historic cultural heritage significance by meeting threshold values for one or more of eight individual criteria. The aesthetic characteristics of a place now form the eighth criterion against which heritage significance may be assessed.

Works to places included in the THR require approval, either through a Certificate of Exemption for works which will have no or negligible impact, or through a discretionary permit for those works which may impact on the significance of the place.

Discretionary permit applications are lodged with the relevant local planning authority. On receipt, the application is sent to the Heritage Council, which will first decide whether they have an interest in determining the application. If the Heritage Council has no interest in the matter, the local planning authority will determine the application.

If the Heritage Council has an interest in determining the application, a number of matters may be relevant to its decision. This includes the likely impact of the works on the significance of the place; any representations; and any regulations and works guidelines issued under the HCH Act. The Heritage Council may also consult with the planning authority when making a decision.
In making a decision, the Heritage Council will exercise one of three options: consent to the discretionary permit being granted; consent to the discretionary permit being granted subject to certain conditions; or advise the planning authority that the discretionary permit should be refused. The Heritage Council's decision is then forwarded to the planning authority, which will incorporate the decision into any planning permit.

Works Guidelines for Historic Heritage Places
The Tasmanian Heritage Council and Heritage Tasmania have issued Works Guidelines for Historic Heritage Places. The guidelines provide a general reference for the types of works, which may be exempt, or those where a permit will be required. They also define appropriate outcomes for a range of different works and development scenarios. Although specifically designed for places included in the THR, the guidelines provide useful advice for the management of heritage places generally.

6.4 Local Planning Schemes

The *Tasmanian Planning Scheme* came into effect on 22 July 2020 and replaced the former *George Town Interim Planning Scheme 2013*. The *Tasmanian Planning Scheme* provides a single planning scheme and a consistent set of rules and requirements in relation to the

manner in which all land in Tasmania may be used, developed, protected and conserved. It consists of two parts:

1. **State Planning Provisions** contain the mandatory common rules that are to apply in all municipal areas. For consistency in permit and compliance requirements that must be met by a proposed use or development.
2. **Local Provision Schedule** for each municipal area setting out how the State Planning Provisions are to apply.

The planning scheme supports strategic land use planning for residential, business, agriculture, utilities, environmental and recreational zones. The scheme includes considerations such as natural hazards, local heritage values, natural assets, parking requirements and the protection of road, railway and electricity infrastructure.

Section C6 of the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme* deals specifically with the Local Heritage Code. The stated purpose of the code is to recognise and protect the local historic heritage significance of local places, precincts, landscapes and areas of archaeological potential and significant trees by regulating development that may impact on their values, features and characteristics.

This code applies to:
(a)development on land within any of the following, as defined in this code:
(i) a local heritage place;
(ii) a local heritage precinct;
(iii)a local historic landscape precinct; and
(iv) for excavation only, a place or precinct of archaeological potential; and
(b) the lopping, pruning, removal or destruction of a significant tree as defined in this code.

If a site is listed as a local heritage place and also within a local heritage precinct or local historic landscape precinct, it is only necessary to demonstrate compliance with the standards for the local heritage place unless demolition, buildings and works are proposed for an area of the site outside the identified specific extent of the local heritage place.

This code does not apply to a registered place entered on the Tasmanian Heritage Register.

7.0 Historic Heritage Management Plan

Management Recommendations

Heritage management options and recommendations provided in this report are made based on the following criteria.

- The legal and procedural requirements as specified in section 6 of this report.
- The results of the investigation as documented in this report.
- The results of the Historic heritage registers search.

Recommendation 1

No historic heritage sites, suspected features, or areas of elevated archaeological potential were identified during the field survey assessment of the Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project study area. A search of the various historic heritage registers (as listed in section 1.4 of this report) shows that there are no registered historic sites located within or in the immediate vicinity of the study area. Archival research has not identified any evidence for historic structures or features being present. On this basis, it is advised that the proposed Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project will have no impacts on known Historic heritage sites, and therefore there are no historic heritage constraints or legal impediments to the project proceeding.

Recommendation 2

It is assessed that there is a very low potential for undetected Historic heritage sites to occur within the study area. However, if, during the course of the proposed works, previously undetected heritage sites or objects are located, the processes outlined in the Unanticipated Discovery Plan should be followed (see section 8).

8.0 Unanticipated Discovery Plan

The following text describes the proposed method for dealing with unanticipated discoveries of heritage features or objects during the proposed Cimitiere Plains Solar Farm Project development. The plan provides guidance to project personnel so that they may meet their obligations with respect to heritage legislation. Please Note: There are two different processes presented for the mitigation of these unanticipated discoveries. The first process applies to the discovery of all cultural heritage objects or features, with the exception of skeletal remains (burials). The second process applies exclusively to the discovery of skeletal remains (burials).

Discovery of Heritage Objects or Features

Step 1

If any person believes that they have discovered or uncovered a heritage object or feature, the individual should notify any machinery operators that are working in the general vicinity of the area that earth disturbance works should stop immediately.

Step 2

A buffer protection zone of 5m x 5m should be established around the suspected heritage find. No unauthorised entry or earth disturbance will be allowed within this 'archaeological zone' until such time as the suspected heritage find has been assessed, and appropriate mitigation measures have been carried out.

Step 3

A qualified heritage consultant should be engaged to assess the suspected heritage find. As a first step in the process, the heritage consultant should contact Heritage Tasmania, the Heritage Council and the George Town Council and notify them of the find. The heritage consultant will ensure that Heritage Tasmania, the Heritage Council and the George Town Council are consulted throughout the assessment process.

Step 4

If the heritage find is a movable object, then the find should be recorded and photographed and a decision should be made as to whether the object should be re-located to a designated Keeping Place. If the find is an unmovable heritage object or feature, then the find should be recorded and photographed and an HIA and HMP developed for the feature. This should be then submitted to Heritage Tasmania, the Heritage Council and the George Town Council for review and advice.

Possible outcomes may necessitate:

a. An amendment to the design of the development
b. Carrying out of archaeological excavations prior to the re-commencement of works
c. Archaeological monitoring and recording during works
d. Preparation (and implementation) of a strategy to ensure communication of the new information to the community.
e. A combination of the above.

Discovery of Skeletal Material

Step 1:
Call the Police immediately. Under no circumstances should the suspected skeletal material be touched or disturbed. The area should be managed as a crime scene. It is a criminal offence to interfere with a crime scene.

Step 2:
Any person who believes they have uncovered skeletal material should notify all employees or contractors working in the immediate area that all earth disturbance works cease immediately.

Step 3:
A temporary 'no-go' or buffer zone of at least 50m x 50m should be implemented to protect the suspected skeletal material, where practicable. No unauthorised entry or works will be allowed within this 'no-go' zone until the suspected skeletal remains have been assessed by the Police and/or Coroner.

Step 4:
If it is suspected that the skeletal material is Aboriginal, Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania should be notified.

Step 5:
Should the skeletal material be determined to be Aboriginal, the Coroner will contact the Aboriginal organisation approved by the Attorney-General, as per the *Coroners Act 1995*.

References Cited

BOM 2020 Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website. Accessed 12 May 2020 from <http://www.bom.gov.au/>.

Cornwall Advertiser Friday 20 January 1871, pg.2.

Daily Telegraph Wednesday 28 May 1902, pg.5.

Green, A. 2006. Progress: but with Prudence of Perseverance? Launceston's growth and development during the nineteenth century. *The Examiner: John West Memorial Lecture, Symposium: It's a Busy Place Launceston from Settlement to City.* Launceston Historical Society 2006 Papers and Proceedings. pp21-28.

List 2023. Retrieved 2 October 2023 from <https://maps.thelist.tas.gov.au/listmap/app/list/map>.

Lawrence, E. 2021. *1823 – Before and After*. Kingston: Kol Sasson Press.

Nyman, L. 1996. *The West Tamar People: the story of the early settlement and its well established families*. Regal Publications, Launceston, Tasmania.

Pearson, M. and Sullivan, S. 1995. *Looking After Heritage Places*. Melbourne University Press.

Philips, D. 2005. *The Companion to Tasmanian History*. Edited by Alexander. A. Centre for Tasmanian Historical Studies, University of Tasmania. Hobart.

Robson, L. 1983. *A History of Tasmania: Volume 1 Van Diemen's Land from the Earliest Times to 1855*. Oxford University Press. Melbourne.

Tassell, C. 2005. *The Companion to Tasmanian History*. Edited by Alexander. A. Centre for Tasmanian Historical Studies, University of Tasmania. Hobart.

Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office, Land, AD956/1/1 page 20, Name_Indexes: 1743344, Clark John, 1839 Dorset 500 acres.

Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office, Land, AD956/1/1 page 127, Name_Indexes: 1756583, Quinn Lawrence, 1859 Dorset 100 acres.

Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office, Lands and Surveys Department (TA69), County Maps (AF396), AF396/1/495, Map - Dorset 19 - parish of Blandford, showing Low Head and plan of George Town including various landholders, York Cove and Mount George landholders BARTLEY T B AND OTHERS, CORDELL J, DOUGLAS A, FRIEND M C.

The Cornwall Chronicle Wednesday 10 September 1856, pg.7.

Wildlife Services: Seal Watching Guidelines. Accessed 28 September 2022 from <https://nre.tas.gov.au/wildlife-management/caring-for-wildlife/seal-watching-guidelines>.