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Jordan Hill Site, North St Marys, NSW

Photographs: None

List: Register of the National Estate

Class: Historic

Legal Status: [Destroyed](#)

Place ID: 100577

Place File No: 1/14/029/0027

Statement of Significance: Not Available

Official Values: Not Available

Description:

The Jordan Hill site is located in the eastern side of Portion 104 in the Parish of Londonderry. The site comprises a scatter of elongated diamond frogged sandstock bricks, paving and plantings and shows evidence of a house located there. There are aluminium gate posts through a fence to the west of the site. Approximately 50m north east of the site a depression contains brick, ceramic and glass remnants and two fruit trees surrounded by wire with a tap nearby are located to the north of the site. The site has been assessed by an archaeologist as having a high level of archaeological potential and considerable cultural significance.

History:

King Family Farm sites at St Mary's: The land around South Creek, in the Parishes of Rooty Hill and Londonderry, now St Mary's, was first surveyed and land grants issued in 1803. The King family were free settlers and in 1806 Governor Philip Gidley King granted his legitimate children (King fathered two illegitimate sons earlier at Norfolk Island) Elizabeth, Maria, Mary, Philip Parker and his wife Anna Josepha, some thousands of acres in the area. All the King grants operated as the Farm, where they grazed large herds of cattle and cultivated crops. The King's St Mary's estate covered what is in 1996 approximately one quarter of the Australian Defence Industries (ADI) site. The King family were prominent pastoralists and constructed two homesteads on their grants including "Dunheved". Governor King granted Portion 116 of the Parish of Rooty Hill to Elizabeth King on 1 January 1806 as part of her 610 acres. The land was named Elizabeth Farm. The King Family Farm sites have been surveyed as having archaeological significance.

Jordan Hill site: Portion 104 in the Parish of Londonderry was granted to Captain John Houston in 1805. Between 1814 and 1822 William Faithful obtained this property and consolidated it with Portion 105 that he leased from Richard Brooks in 1818. Conveyance of the property in 1887 from William Pitt Faithful (Faithful's son) to

Henry Montague Faithful noted it as Jordan's Hill. William Faithful arrived in the New South Wales colony in 1792 as a private in Captain Foveaux's company. He was ordered by Quartermaster Laycock to shoot one of John Boston's pigs which was trespassing on Foveaux's land. Boston sued Faithful in 1795 and he and Laycock were found liable for damages. Faithful was discharged from the army in 1799 and was employed by Foveaux in the management of his farms. Faithful received a land grant of 25 acres at Petersham Hill in May 1799 and a further 1,000 acres at Liberty Plains from Foveaux in November 1808. This second grant was made in consequence of a recommendation by Lord Nelson in favour of his wife Susannah, nee Pitt, daughter of Mrs Mary Matcham and a relation of Nelson. Macquarie regranted them land at Liberty Plains in 1811, but Faithful later exchanged it for better land at Jordan Hill. He became a prominent settler in the Richmond district, gradually extending his holdings so that in 1828 he owned 2,190 acres. In November 1834 he received a grant of 100 acres near Goulburn. William Faithful married Susannah Pitt in 1804 and later had four children. Their son, William Pitt Faithful established Springfield station on the Goulburn plains, c 1827 and later became a member of the Legislative Council. William Faithful died in 1847, aged 73 and is buried in St Peter's cemetery with his three wives (Susannah died in 1820, Margaret Thompson died in 1842 and Maria, daughter of Archibald Bell died in 1859). The property remained in the Faithful family until 1909 when the Trustees of Henry Montague Faithful sold it to Mrs M E Single. Mrs Single retained the property for two years until it was sold to F W Jackson. Both Mrs Single and F W Jackson took out mortgages on the property with various members of the Faithful family. The eastern part of this property remained with the Jackson family until it was resumed by the Commonwealth Government in 1941.

This homestead and other structures were visible on a 1940s aerial photograph and are likely to be the timber frame house mentioned in the property's valuation papers. An archaeological assessment considered the site is likely to contain sub-surface remains for these structures as well as cesspits, features, deposits and relics associated with the nineteenth century occupation of this site. During World War Two, the Commonwealth Government reserved the land for the development of the munitions factory and the site became one of fifty Government factories built for wartime production. In 1996 ADI cleared most of the buildings and equipment on the St Mary's site with only the administration buildings retained and intelligible as part of a former munitions factory.

History: Not Available

Condition and Integrity:

The site had integrity when assessed in 1994 but a site visit in October 1996 indicated that a bulldozer has scraped off most above surface material. This was apparently as a result of decontamination work carried at the site prior to proposed development.

Location:

former St Mary's Munitions Factory land, Commonwealth Avenue, St Mary's. AMG reference: 9030-1-S Riverstone 924657.

Bibliography:

Brayshaw, M Pty Ltd (Oct 1994) Historical Archaeological Survey of St Marys Munitions Factory for Australian Defence Industries Limited, October 1994

DUAP (1995) Draft Regional Environmental Study, ADI St Marys, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning.

Lovell, A and Associates Pty Ltd (1994 ?) Australian Defence Industries Limited St Marys Facility Conservation Analysis

Murray, R and White, K "Dharug and Dungaree : The History of Penrith and St Marys to 1860", The Council of the City of Penrith, 1988

Spearitt, P and Gartrell, G (March 1992) Interim Report History, Heritage and Archaeology of Proposal to Redevelop Australian Defence Industries Site at St Marys NSW, Australian Heritage Projects

Penrith City Council Local Environmental Plan information on "Dunheved"

Pike, Australian Dictionary of Biography entry

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