

**A Review of the Aboriginal Heritage Aspects  
Of a Proposed Expansion of the  
Hanson Red Hill Quarry**

**By**

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## **1. Introduction**

Wanati Pty Ltd was requested to undertake a review of previous Aboriginal Heritage surveys and reports relevant to the Red Hill Quarry Site where Hanson are proposing an expansion of the operations. The purpose of the review was to assess the adequacy or otherwise of the previous heritage work in relation to the proposed expansion.

## **2. Registered Aboriginal Sites**

A search of the Register of Aboriginal Sites maintained by the Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) in relation to the Hanson land holding (i.e. Lot 11 Toodyay Road) shows that there are 5 registered sites that could be located on or close to the land (see Attachment 1).

Of these 5 potential sites one (ID3536) relates to the entire Swan River catchment. Two are related to Susannah Brook, which passes through the area and is a tributary of the Swan River. Of these, one (ID3656) is a mythological site based on a pool in the brook located just to the west of the Hanson land and the other (ID640) is a mythological site related to the entire brook.

The remaining 2 sites are a mythological site connected with a white ochre deposit on the Hanson land (ID3433) and a further mythological and quarry site referred to as Red Hill (ID3721) which is also listed as a water source. This is a closed site and it is not possible to obtain any further information. It is understood to be located outside the Hanson Land based on information in the survey reports considered below.

## **3. Previous Surveys and Reports**

There have been two previous surveys of the area reported to the DIA. These are:

1. A Report of an Ethnographic Survey for Aboriginal Sites – Proposed Pioneer Quarry Site, Herne Hill by E M McDonald, May 1990.
2. Report on a Survey for Archaeological Sites at the Proposed Pioneer Herne Hill Quarry Site by G Quartermaine, April 1990.

Both reports are available from the DIA and were reviewed. The McDonald report has a closed section involving pages 12, 14, 15 and 16 and an associated map which cannot be accessed by the public.

The report establishes that the entire Hanson land holding (i.e. Pioneer at the time) was covered by the survey. Only two ethnographic sites were identified, these being Susannah Brook mythological site (ID640) and the mythological ochre site (ID3433).

The report recommended that no disturbance take place within 50m of the banks of Susannah Brook and that no pollutants be released into the brook.

In respect of the ochre site the report recommended that Aboriginal people be allowed to access the site and remove ochre. The report specifically states that “The informants did not

identify any other sites of mythological or ceremonial significance within the development area or within the other parts of the Pioneer Quarries property”.

The Quartermain report states that the survey did not identify any archaeological sites within the Priority Area. This was the area that had been identified for the initial development. One isolated find (a stone artefact) was located in what is now one of the proposed extension areas. Isolated finds are not regarded as sites for the purpose of the Aboriginal Heritage Act. The report also describes the location of site ID3656 as being a pool just outside the western boundary of the Hanson land and suggests that the Red Hill site ID3721 is located some distance from the Hanson land.

The report is, however, quite clear that only the priority area was surveyed in any detail and recommends that further survey work would be required for any impact areas outside the priority area, which is identified on a map in the report.

#### **4. Conclusions**

The ethnographic survey report by McDonald related to the entire land holding and provided its recommendations remain acceptable there would be no need to undertake any further ethnographic survey work. Based on this report there would not be any need for the company to seek a Section 18 approval under the AHA for the expansion, provided there will be no impact on Susannah Brook and the 50m buffer zone.

The archaeological survey was limited to the initial development area and it will be necessary to undertake some additional survey work of the extension areas. The probability of archaeological sites being located in these areas would be very low based on survey work undertaken in similar environments.

The DIA has a policy (which has no statutory basis) that for the purposes of S.18 applications it will only consider material that is less than 5 years old when assessing the level of Aboriginal consultation that has occurred. In this case it is highly unlikely that a S.18 application will be required, but if an archaeological site was discovered or there was to be an impact on Susannah Brook, then further consultation with the Metropolitan Aboriginal Communities would be required.

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## **ATTACHMENT 1**

### **Results of Search of Aboriginal Sites Register**



### Search Criteria

6 sites in a search polygon. The polygon is formed by these points (in order):

MGA Zone 50	
Northing	Easting
6481198	413784
6481198	412212
6478581	412205
6478549	410685
6477109	410705
6477108	412561
6477849	413799

### Disclaimer

Aboriginal sites exist that are not recorded on the Register of Aboriginal Sites, and some registered sites may no longer exist. Consultation with Aboriginal communities is on-going to identify additional sites. The AHA protects all Aboriginal sites in Western Australia whether or not they are registered.

### Copyright

Copyright in the information contained herein is and shall remain the property of the State of Western Australia. All rights reserved. This includes, but is not limited to, information from the Register of Aboriginal Sites established and maintained under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (AHA).

### Legend

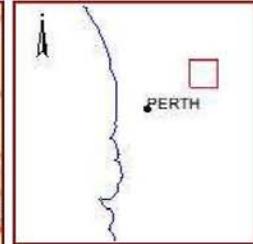
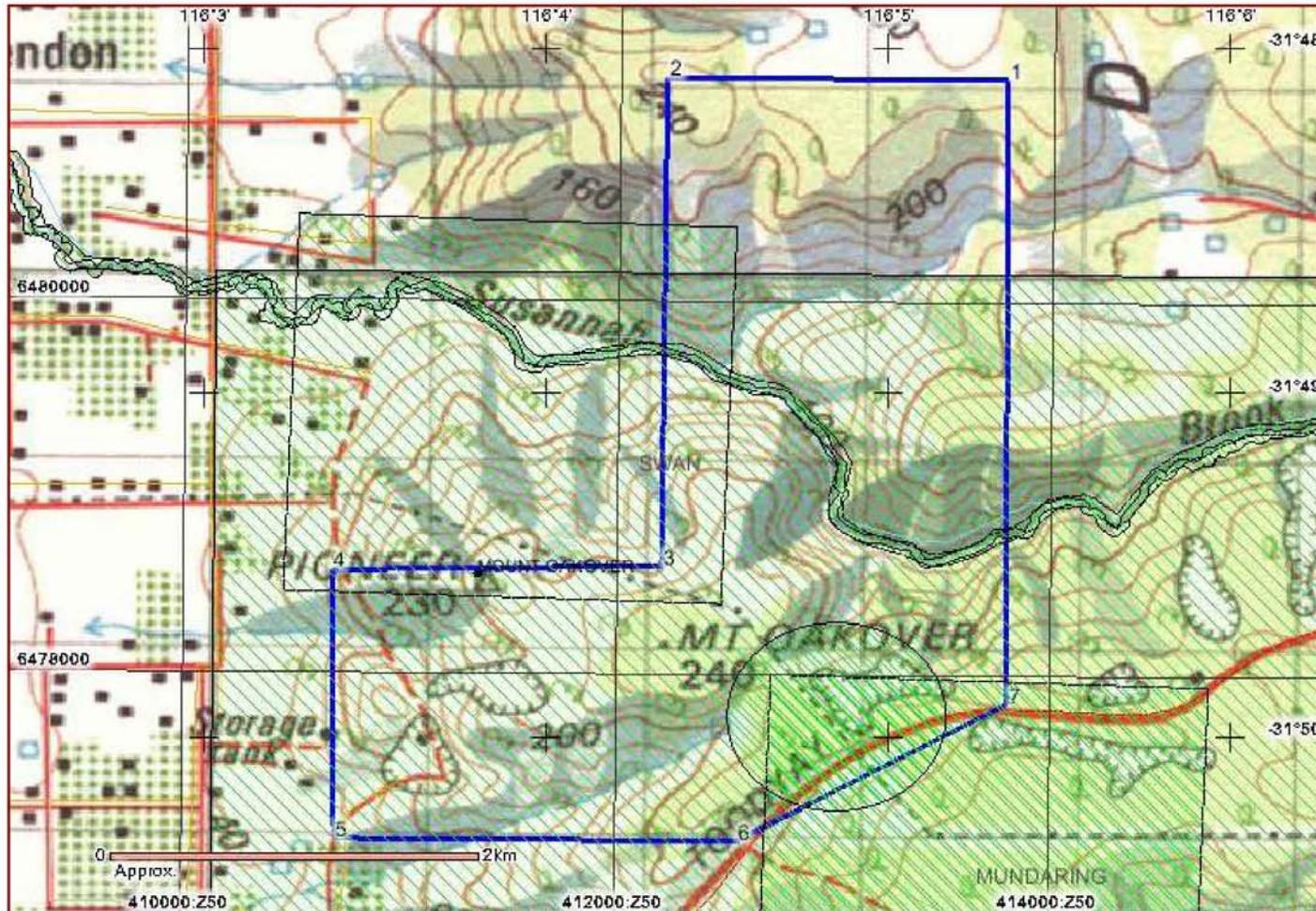
Restriction	Access	Status	Coordinate Accuracy
N No restriction	C Closed	I Interim register	Accuracy is shown as a code in brackets following the site coordinates.
M Male access only	O Open	P Permanent register	[Reliable] The spatial information recorded in the site file is deemed to be reliable, due to methods of capture.
F Female access	V Vulnerable	S Stored data	[Unreliable] The spatial information recorded in the site file is deemed to be unreliable due to errors of spatial data capture and/or quality of spatial information reported.

### Spatial Accuracy

Index coordinates are indicative locations and may not necessarily represent the centre of sites, especially for sites with an access code "closed" or "vulnerable". Map coordinates (Lat/Long) and (Easting/Northing) are based on the GDA 94 datum. The Easting / Northing map grid can be across one or more zones. The zone is indicated for each Easting on the map, i.e. '5000000.Z50' means Easting=5000000, Zone=50.



Site ID	Status	Access	Restriction	Site Name	Site Type	Additional Info	Informants	Coordinates	Site No.
3188	S	O	N	Darling Range				415137mE 6475150mN Zone 50 [Unreliable]	S00546
3433	P	O	N	Herne Hill Ochre.	Mythological	Ochre		413019mE 6477779mN Zone 50 [Unreliable]	S02735
3721	P	C	N	Red Hill.	Mythological, Quarry	Water Source	*Registered Informant names available from DIA.	Not available for closed sites	S02221
3656	P	C	N	Susannah Brook Waugal.	Mythological	Water Source, [Other: 30M BUFFER ZONE]		Not available for closed sites	S02278
640	P	O	N	Susannah Brook(Whole Extent	Mythological	Water Source, [Other: 30M BUFFER ZONE]		414334mE 6478836mN Zone 50 [Reliable]	S02890
3536	P	O	N	Swan River	Mythological		*Registered Informant names available from DIA.	472652mE 6463915mN Zone 50 [Reliable]	S02548



**Legend**

- Highlighted Area
- Town
- Map Area
- Search Area

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