

ARTC Inland Rail

Phase 2, Tottenham to Albury

Report 09/08/19 Final, Rev 0

Preliminary report on the potential impacts of three civil engineering options at Glenrowan

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1. Project Area

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Tottenham to Albury-Wodonga section of Inland Rail is part of the Inland Rail Project from Brisbane to Melbourne. This section of Inland Rail is planned along 305km of existing rail corridor from metropolitan Melbourne to the Victoria-NSW border at Albury-Wodonga. This project will see enhancements of existing structures and increased clearances along the rail corridor. The enhancement works are required to deliver the horizontal and vertical clearances required for the passing of double stacked freight trains along the existing alignment.

This report considers the requirement to provide the required clearance for double stacked freight trains to pass along the existing corridor at Glenrowan. The current road and pedestrian bridge over the rail reserve at Glenrowan do not provide the required vertical clearance and a number of design solutions have been considered at this location, including:

- Track lowering
- Bridge replacement - Beaconsfield Parade, and
- Bridge replacement - Boundary Road to Quarry Road

This brief report considers the potential impacts of each option on known or potential archaeological deposits and outlines the appropriate management (including mitigating measures) of those impacts.

2. Archaeological Significance of the Glenrowan Siege Precinct

The Glenrowan Siege Precinct incorporates the centre of the Glenrowan township north and south of the rail reserve and is bounded by Beaconsfield Parade on the west, Gladstone Street at the south, Church Street to the north and Burns Street to the east (See Figure 1 for general outline - for specific and accurate mapping of the precinct refer to the map attached to the current gazette for the site).

The precinct includes the main locations significant to the events of the Kelly Gang Siege that took place on and around the 28 June 1880. The Kelly story and the Siege specifically is seen as an important foundation story of Victoria and Australia and physical evidence, including landscapes, are protected by state and national heritage legislation (the *Heritage Act 2017*, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*).

Within the precinct are areas where significant archaeological, physical remains related to the story, survive under the ground (see Figure 4). These include:

- The site of Ann Jones' Inn and surrounds;
- The plate layers camp;
- The Kelly's Copse/ Kelly's Last Stand area;
- The creek line/ police positions, and
- The rail reserve.

Within those locations it has been previously identified that the following historically significant artefacts may be found:

- All elements specifically related to persons, locations and activities of the Siege and Kelly's Last Stand including;
 - Physical remains of the Ann Jones' Inn structure;
 - Physical elements from the Inn such as fixtures, fittings, glass, ceramics etc;
 - Physical evidence of the fire that ended the Siege;
 - Ammunition and other ordinance;
 - Personal items or effects associated with the Kelly Gang, hostages/ townspeople or police;
 - Physical remains of the platelayers campsite; and
 - Any other artefacts that can be clearly attributed to events or people of the Siege or Kelly's Last Stand.

All archaeological investigations over the last 15 years have been conducted by the author including:

- Monitoring works for Glenrowan Landscape Improvement program (throughout Siege precinct);
- Monitoring for Telstra service installation along Beaconsfield Parade and Siege Street;
- Glenrowan Siege Archaeological Program at the Ann Jones Inn site;
- Monitoring of sewer installation along Siege Street
- Monitoring of drainage works along Gladstone Street;
- Test excavation of McDonnells Railway Tavern site
- Monitoring of early works for a domestic dwelling on Siege Street

Known sites with archaeological deposits within the Siege Precinct include the Ann Jones Inn and McDonnells Tavern.

Areas of archaeological potential include:

- Location of Stationmasters house;
- Location of the platelayers camp;
- Areas immediately around the Ann Jones Inn site

Areas of some archaeological potential:

- NW corner of the rail reserve;
- Under western end of Siege Street
- Under embankment (north) of rail over bridge on Beaconsfield Parade
- Kelly's Last Stand location

3. Historical Context

The Siege of Ann Jones' Inn (the Glenrowan Inn) took place in June 1880, almost two years after Ned Kelly and his gang were declared outlaws for the killing of three policemen at Stringybark Creek, near Benalla, Victoria.

Superintendent Hare took over the manhunt for the Kelly Gang at the beginning of June 1880 after the perceived failure of Police Superintendent Nicholson, to capture the outlaws in the two years since the Stringybark incident.

Hare established three permanent search parties at Beechworth, Benalla and Wangaratta, and by mid-June had established that the Kelly Gang was still in North Eastern Victoria. Rumours as to the Kelly Gang's location, movements and plans were rife. The Gang meanwhile was preparing for a daring plan that Ned Kelly hoped would strike a decisive blow on the Victorian authorities and perhaps precipitate a broader rebellion by the disgruntled free selection community. In preparation they procured weapons and constructed armour, trying combinations of materials before settling on iron plough mould-boards.

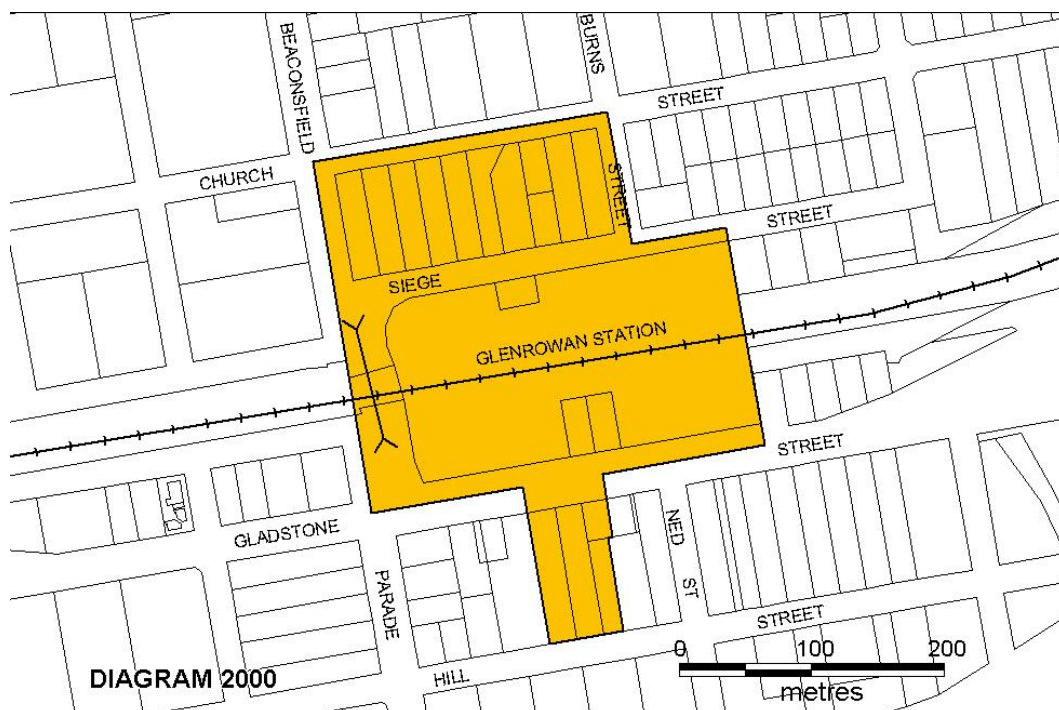


Figure 1: Heritage listed precinct

The plan was as follows: Aaron Sherritt, one time friend of Joe Byrne and acquaintance of the Gang, was to be murdered for spying for the police. This would certainly get the attention of Superintendent Hare and lure a special contingent of police to Beechworth by train. Kelly planned to derail the train at Glenrowan and kill or capture the police.

On the evening of Saturday 26 June 1880, Dan Kelly and Joe Byrne travelled to Beechworth to murder Aaron Sherritt, while Steve Hart and Ned Kelly went to Glenrowan to tear up the railway tracks at a point approximately ½ a mile east of the station.

Joe Byrne and Dan Kelly arrived at the 'Woolshed' near where Sherritt lived in protective custody and where four policemen were hiding. Aaron Sherritt was shot in the face and chest and killed by Byrne as he opened his front door. Unable to oust the police who, fearing for their lives, were hiding in the bedroom of the house, Joe and Dan left in the early hours of the morning for Glenrowan (Figure 2 contemporary illustration showing shooting of Aaron Sherritt). Meanwhile Ned Kelly and Steve Hart had

arrived late on Saturday night at McDonnell's Hotel, which was located on the south side of the rail reserve in Glenrowan.

The plan went wrong from the beginning, with Steve Hart and Ned Kelly unable to lift the rail tracks. Even with a group of Navvies, pressed into service, from the nearby platelayers encampment (Figure 3), they found it difficult to move the track. [NOTE - while many histories refer to these workers as platelayers (that is rail workers) they were actually general labourers who were hauling gravel from Glenrowan for road making] They were forced to take the Navvies captive and anyone else who might betray them to the police. Women and children were taken to the Station Masters house (site on the corner of Siege Street and Beaconsfield Parade) and the men were moved up the hill to Ann Jones' Glenrowan Inn (see Figure 4 for aerial illustration of the Siege area). The police took an unexpectedly long time to respond and when, 31 hours later the train approached Glenrowan, 62 hostages had been taken into the Inn and the Station Masters House.

Included was the schoolmaster Thomas Curnow, who, apparently gaining Ned's confidence managed to escape from the Inn and flag down the police train half a mile short of Glenrowan and inform them of the situation.

The police, under Superintendent Hare, went to the Station Masters House where they were informed that the Kelly Gang, were at Jones' Glenrowan Inn.

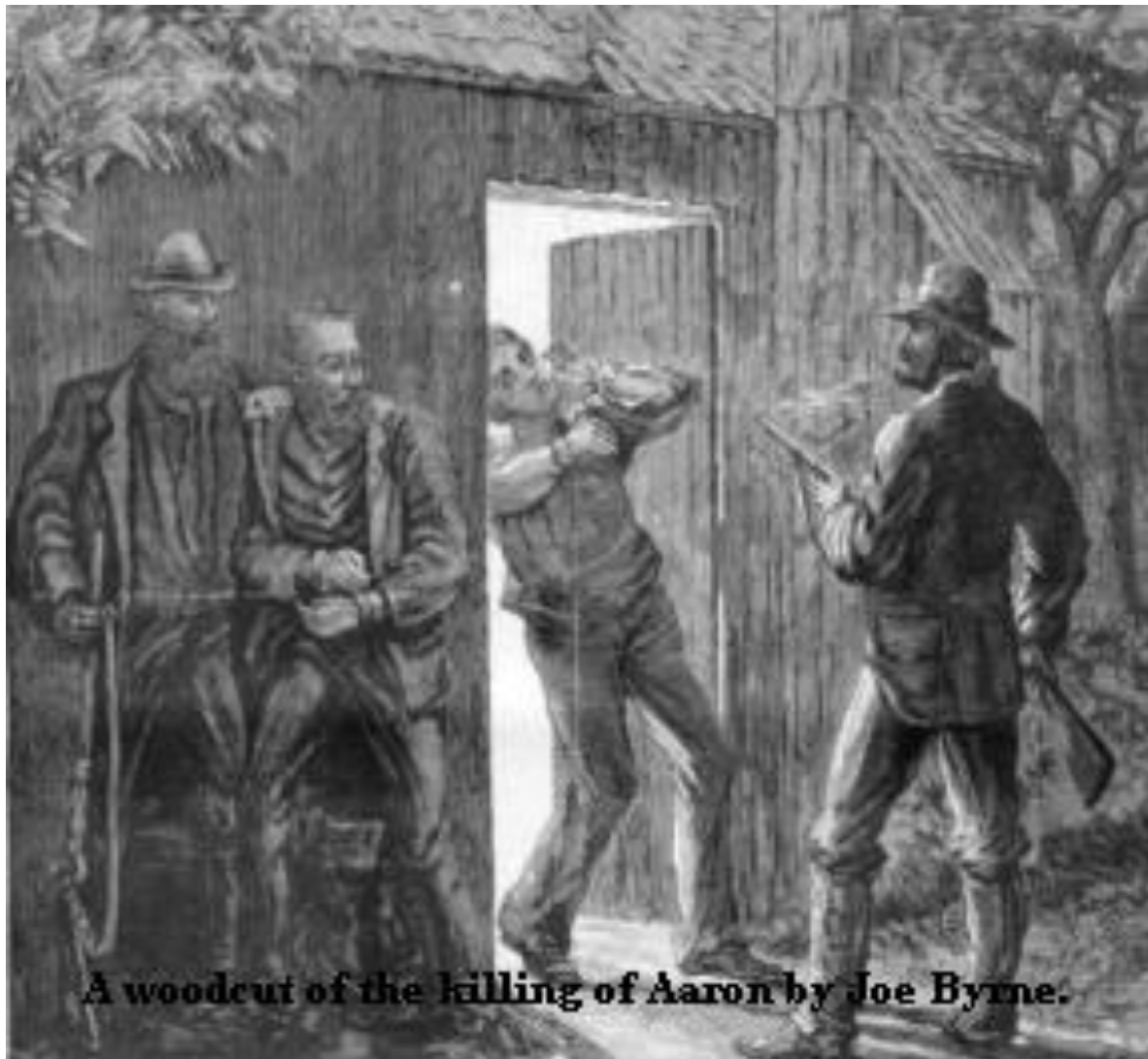


Figure 2: Murder of Aaron Sherritt by Joe Byrne and Dan Kelly which drew the police from Melbourne

Taking positions along the creek to the south east of the Inn the police joined fire with the Kelly Gang. Ned Kelly (in his armour) was hit in the first exchange of fire and, badly wounded. At some time after the initial exchange Ned retreated to a group of trees (Kelly's Copse) to the north east of the Inn. Joe Byrne was wounded in the foot during the first volley. Superintendent Hare was also injured in the first encounter. He was shot in the wrist and had to retire from the battle.

Near dawn, as the protracted siege of the Inn continued into the second day, the remaining members of the Gang were trapped with their hostages surrounded by heavily armed police. Ned returned out of the early morning fog and attacked the police line from the rear (the east). A gun battle ensued and eventually Ned Kelly succumbed to various wounds and collapsed by a fallen tree ('Kelly's Log') and was captured. Joe Byrne was killed inside the Inn, by a shot to the groin while he drank at the bar.

After the release of all but one of the hostages and after much discussion Senior Constable Johnston set fire to the Inn. While they were able, police and the local priest ran into the burning inn and discovered Dan Kelly and Steve Hart lying dead, side-by-side, after apparently taking their own lives. Martin Cherry, the remaining hostage, perished in the fire.



Figure 3: Showing Navvies (Platelayers - gravel haulers) encampment on the northern boundary of the Rail Reserve. Ann Jones' Glenrowan Hotel can be seen on fire in the background as the Siege came to a deadly end

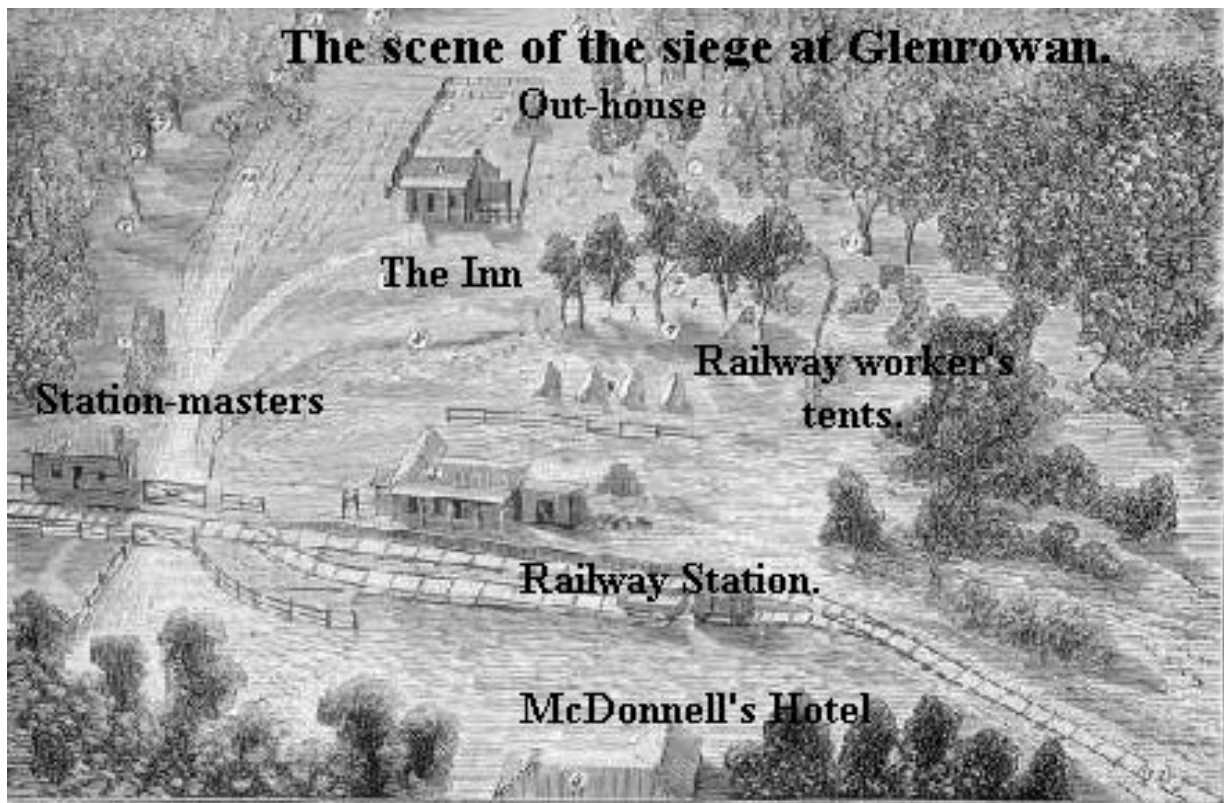


Figure 4: Aerial view of the Siege; contemporary sketch with modern labels (note locations are inaccurate – representative only)

4. Archaeology

The historical descriptions, numerous illustrations and photographs all give a detailed picture of the sites and landscape of the Siege. The main sites such as the Inn, the creek and the Station Master's House are well known. However, from an archaeological perspective there are a number of significant landscape elements not specifically recorded but that may yield archaeological deposits significant to the Siege story.

The following elements and locations have been identified as potentially significant archaeological deposits. They are grouped into main activity locations:

Ann Jones' Inn Area (Figure 5)

1. Ann Jones' Inn and Ann Jones' home. Foundation deposits of the buildings, verandah, chimneys, the fire and gun battle are known to exist.
2. Post and Rail Fence. Contemporary photos show a post and rail fence surrounding the Ann Jones property. Post holes and the remains of posts are likely to survive in the ground and there is a potential that these fence lines may be within the public land adjacent to the modern lot boundary.
3. The Lamp. Descriptions of the Inn and contemporary photos and illustrations describe a distinctive lamp located approximately 1.5 metres from the southwestern corner of the Inn. It is not recorded what it was made of but one sketch seems to show the post made of a piece of rail. If so, it is likely that the rail was removed and only a posthole will remain. However, if the post was timber there is a possibility that part of the post may survive.
4. The fire area. Pictures taken immediately after the fire seems to show a spread of building debris around the site of the Inn. Accounts suggest that souvenir hunters went over the site after the fire collecting artefacts as mementos. It is probable that the action of the fire, souveniring and the clearance of the site caused a scatter of building debris and artefacts immediately adjacent to the site. It is impossible to determine the exact extent of this spread but it is likely to be up to two metres from the foundations of the Inn.
5. Ammunition. Large numbers of bullets were fired by police and the Kelly Gang from a variety of weapons including: Colt revolvers (.31 and .36 calibre); Spencer repeating carbine; Snider Enfield (.577 calibre); Winchester rifle; Colt revolving rifle (.56 calibre); Martini Henry rifle (.45 calibre). Bullets have been found in the vicinity and it is highly likely that bullets and cartridges are present in, around and some distance from the site of the Inn.
6. Other archaeological deposits. It is possible that archaeological remains of the following exist in the vicinity of the Inn:
 - Isolated artefacts typically found anywhere in an urban or semi urban environment with a long occupation history;
 - Artefacts specifically related to the Inn such as glass, broken bottles, coins, personal items; and
 - Postholes and original ground surfaces such as earth road surfaces.

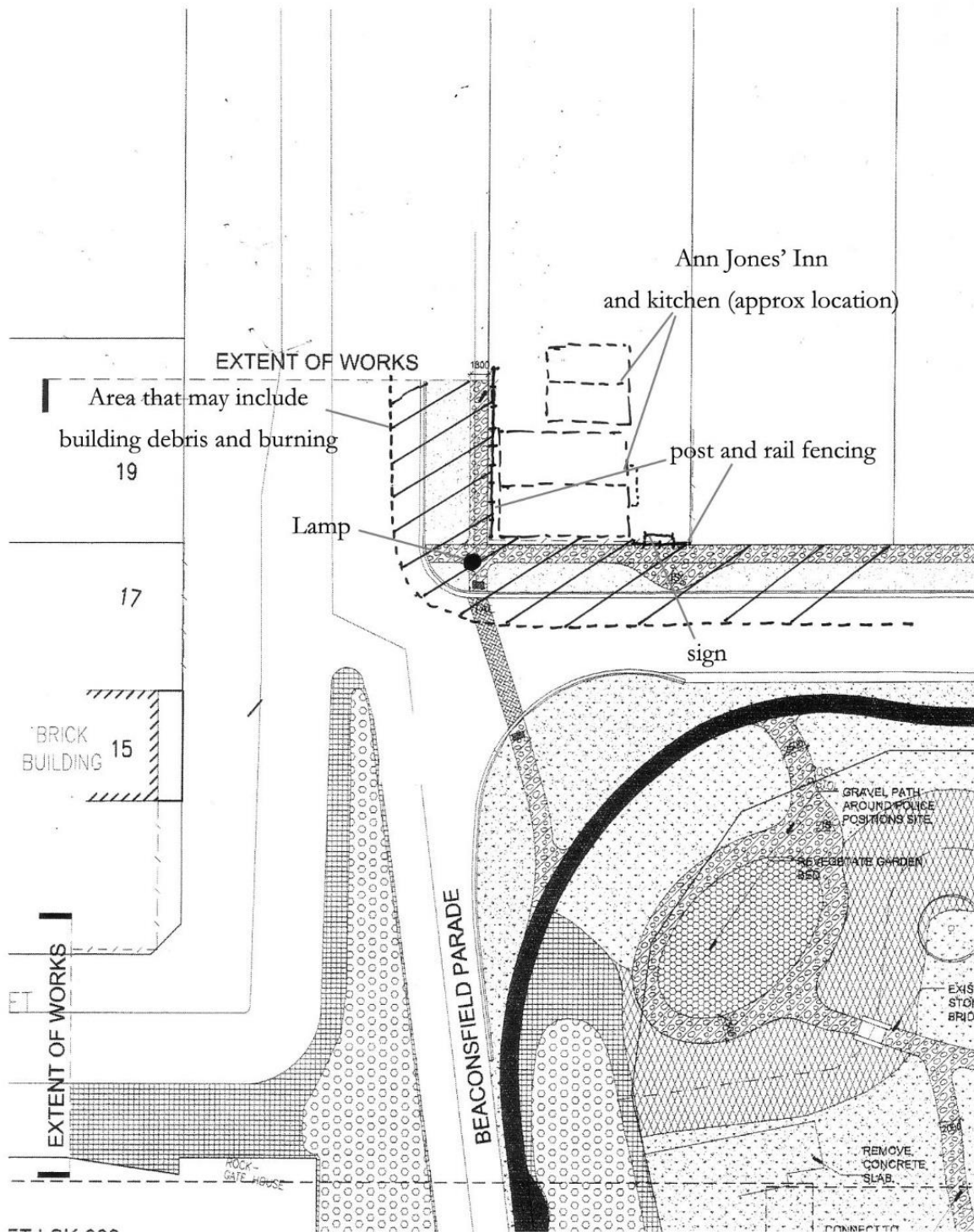


Figure 5: Locations of archaeological elements in association with Ann Jones' Inn

The Creek Area (Figure 6)

1. Post and Rail Fence. Contemporary photos show a post and rail fence surrounding the boundary of the rail reserve that ran parallel with Beaconsfield Parade, and what is now known as Siege Street. There also appeared to be a post and rail fence running north south across the reserve from the northern boundary fence to the rail line, approximately half way between the Inn and the Railway Station. It is highly likely that archaeological remains of these fence alignments

(along the roads) survive as post holes. It is unlikely that post holes of the fence that runs through the reserve survives as approximately 1m of soil was removed from the northern rail reserve and redeposited on the Lions park at the south during the 1950s.

2. Ammunition. Accounts suggest that large amounts of bullets were fired by police and the Kelly Gang from a variety of weapons including: Colt revolvers (.31 and .36 calibre), Spencer repeating carbine, Snider Enfield (.577 calibre), Winchester rifle, Colt revolving rifle (.56 calibre), Martini Henry rifle (.45 calibre). Bullets have been found and it is highly likely that bullets and cartridges are present in, around and at some distance from creek line where the police originally assembled and in other locations where they dispersed as the Siege progressed and as reinforcements arrived.
3. Other archaeological deposits. It is possible that archaeological remains of the following exist in the vicinity of the police positions:
 - Isolated artefacts typically found anywhere in an urban or semi urban environment with a long occupation history;
 - Artefacts specifically related to the action such as glass, broken bottles (the Siege lasted for almost 12 hours and it is likely that the police required food and drink), coins, and personal items.

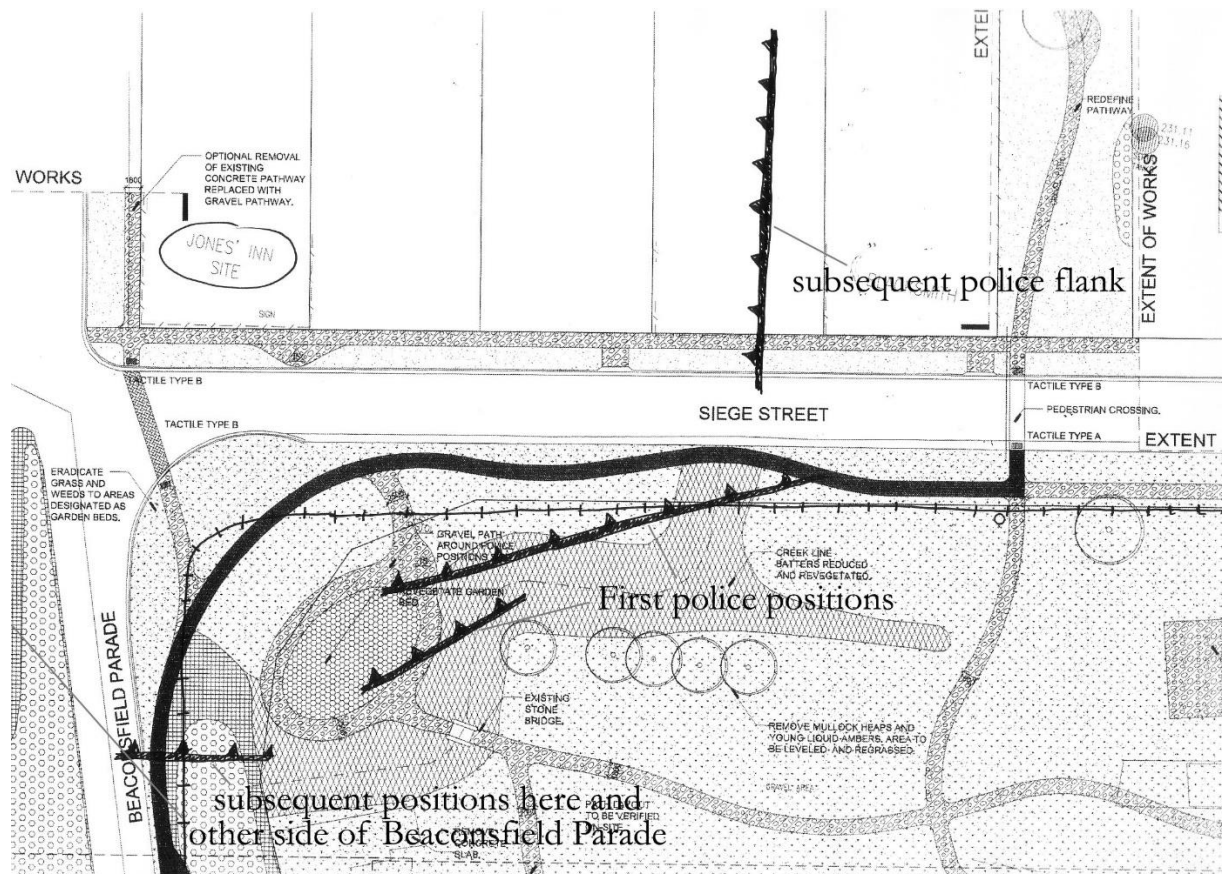


Figure 6: Creek line and various police positions during the Siege

The Platelayers (gravel haulers) Camp Area (Figure 7)

1. Occupation deposits. Photos, illustrations and descriptions place the navvies and platelayers (gravel haulers) encampment on the northern boundary of the rail reserve approximately 60 to 70 metres to the east of Ann Jones' Inn. It is likely that even a short occupation will have left artefacts and archaeological deposits. These deposits typically consist of; scatters and dumps of

refuse such as broken bottles, cans, food bones, broken or worn equipment, shoes, clay pipes, latrine pits, camp fires and eating and drinking vessels. Isolated artefacts of personal nature are also found in such situations such as combs, toothbrushes, pins, needles, buttons, and coins. While a portion of this site lies beneath the present Siege Street easement, contemporary photos also show the camp located hard up against the northern boundary of the rail reserve and heading north towards the location of Kelly's Copse. It is highly likely that archaeological remains of the encampment exists in this location to the north and south of Siege Street.

2. Post and Rail Fence. Contemporary photos show a post and rail fence surrounding the boundary of the rail reserve that ran parallel with what is now known as Siege Street and the encampment was located hard up against the fence. It is highly likely that archaeological remains of these fence alignments survive as postholes.

The Rail Reserve (Figure 8)

This includes areas not immediately associated with police positions.

1. Artefacts related to railways. There is high probability that artefacts relating to the railway exist across the reserve. These are likely to include deposits and scatters of ballast, various metal objects such as rail pegs and manipulated landscape features.
2. Ammunition. Accounts suggest that large amounts of bullets were fired by police and the Kelly Gang from the following weapons including: Colt revolvers (.31 and .36 calibre), Spencer repeating carbine, Snider Enfield (.577 calibre), Winchester rifle, Colt revolving rifle (.56 calibre), Martini Henry rifle (.45 calibre). Bullets have been found in this area and again it is likely that bullets are present in low densities across the reserve within the arc of fire from the Inn and opposing police positions.
3. Other archaeological deposits. It is possible that isolated artefacts typically found anywhere in an urban or semi urban environment with a long occupation history exist across the rail reserve:
 - Artefacts specifically related to the Siege such as glass, broken bottles, coins, and personal items. It will be more difficult to provide direct association of such items with the Siege if they are found away from Siege. However the possibility must be noted.

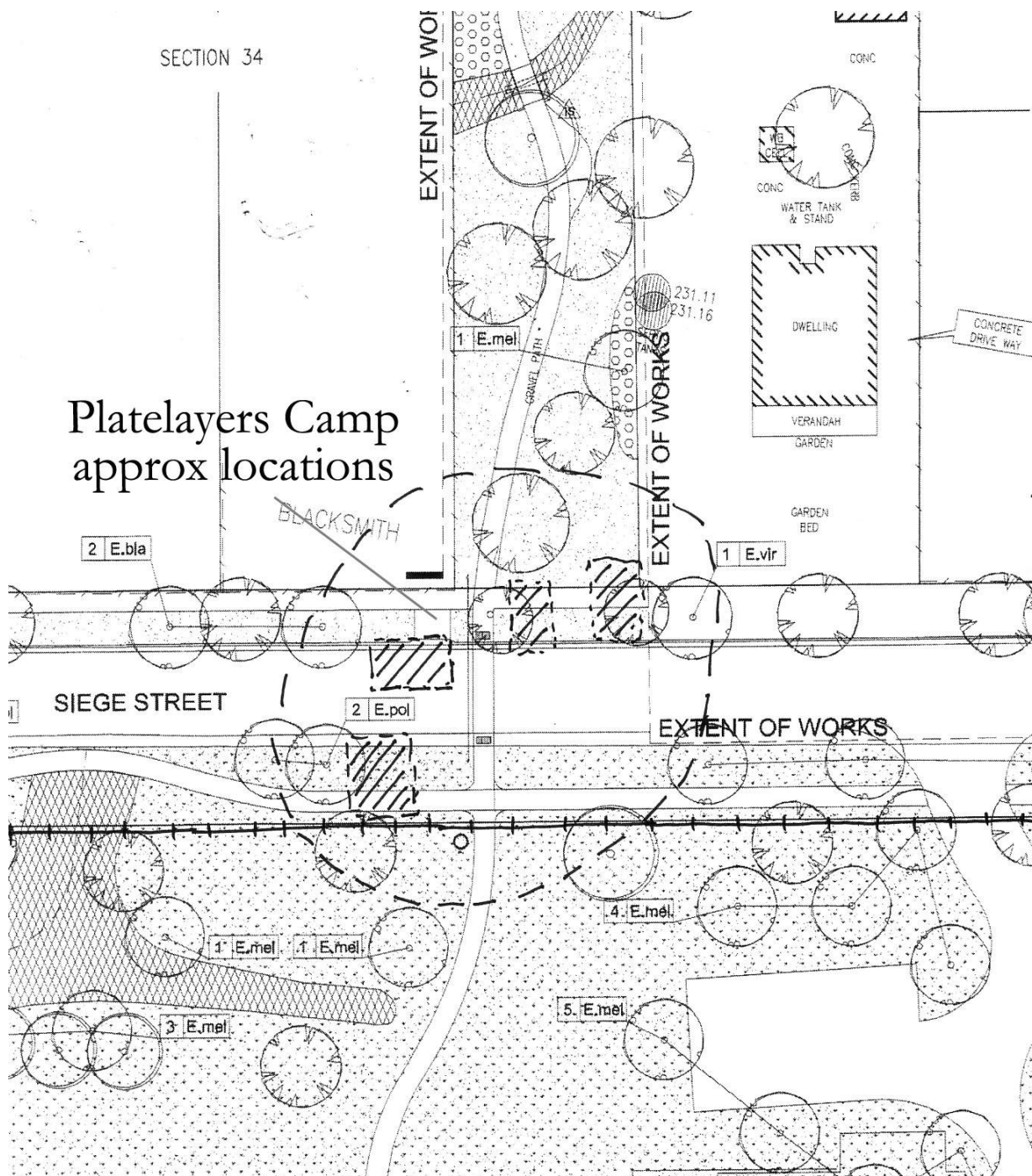


Figure 7: Location of Platelayers Camp

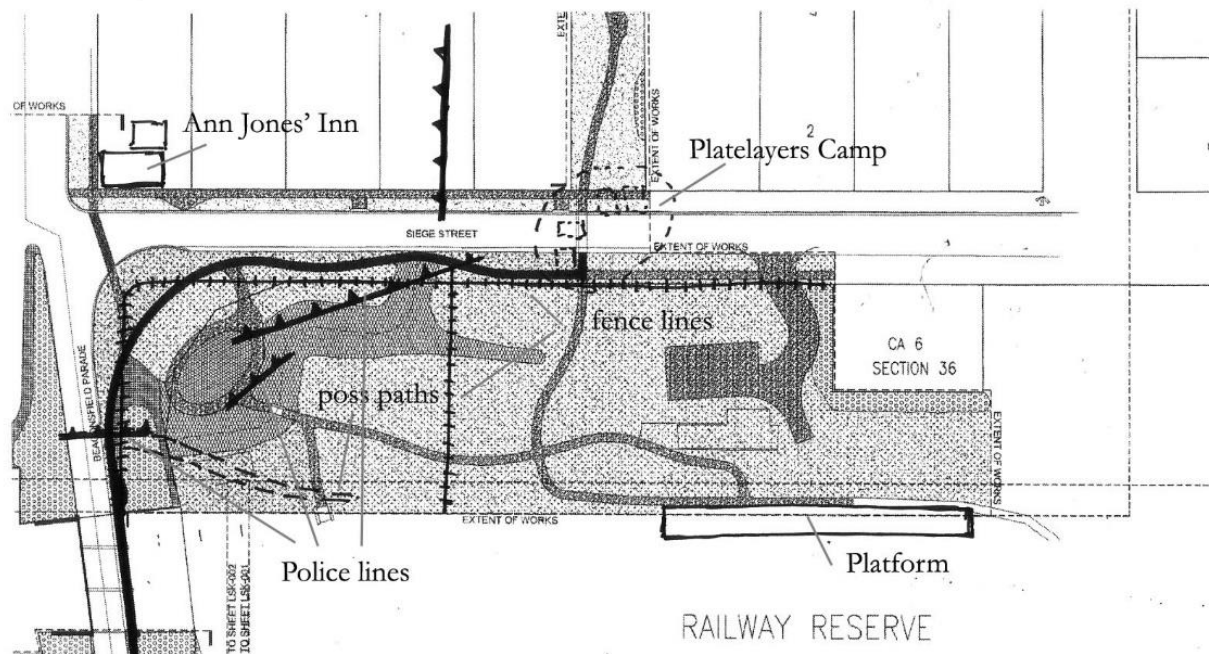


Figure 8: Archaeological elements of the rail reserve

Kelly's Copse and Kelly's Log Area (Figure 9)

The landscape has changed since 1880 and Kelly's Copse no longer exists and the original trees have either been felled or died. Kelly's Log has all but disappeared with only a small portion of the log surviving adjacent to the creek. It was in the vicinity of these two spots that the gun battle known as Kelly's Last Stand occurred. The exchange lasted half an hour with a significant number of bullets fired by Ned Kelly and the police. It is, therefore, highly likely that ammunition; spent cartridges and bullets, survive in the ground in this area.

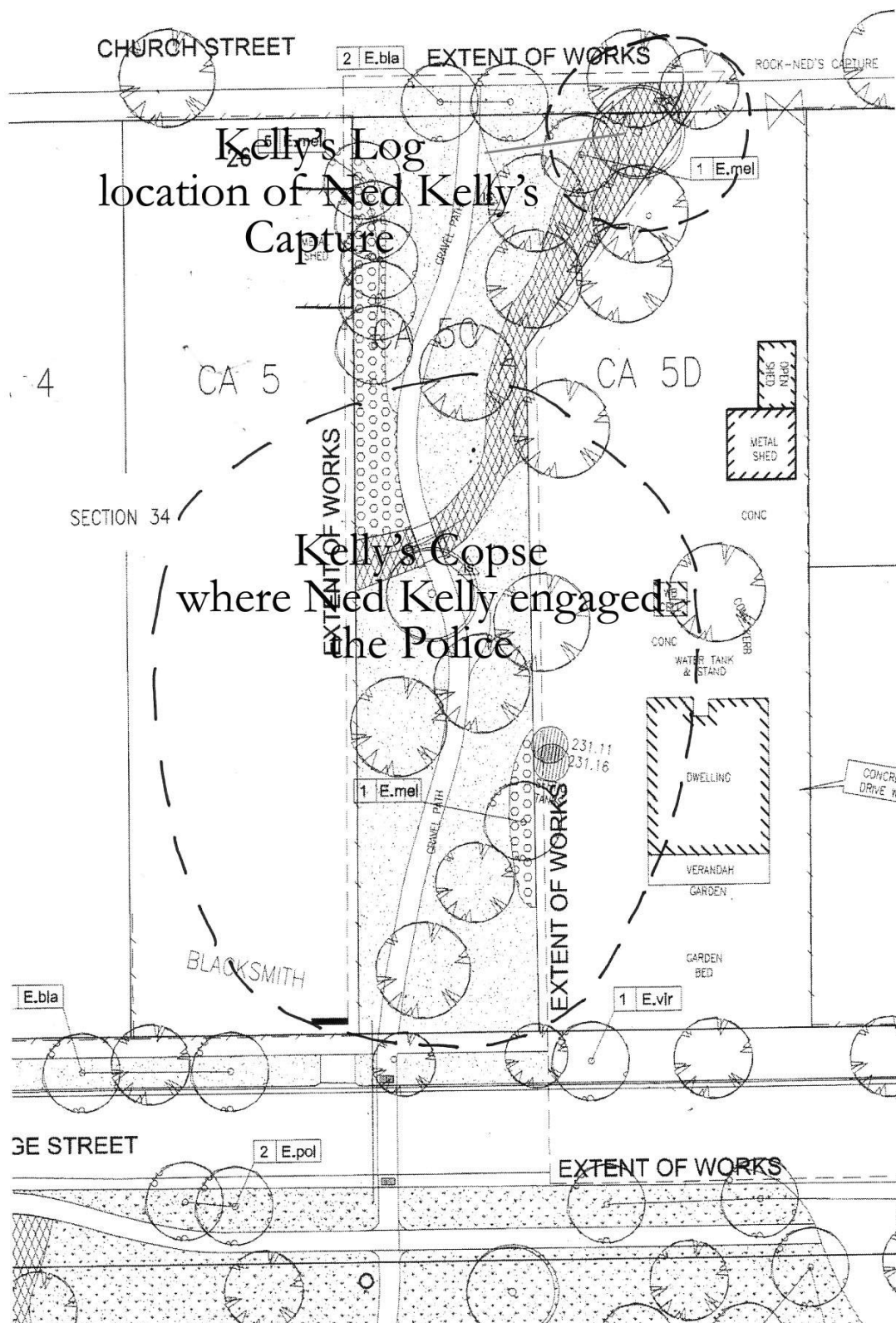


Figure 9: Location of Kelly Copse and Kelly's Log (approximate locations)

The Station Masters House and Level Crossing (Figure 4 for location)

The Station Masters House lies outside the heritage precinct but any archaeological deposits of the building (the VHR listing claims the building was relocated to 16 Siege Street - the evidence for this needs further investigation) would be of high significance at a state level. Further consultation with

Heritage Victoria will be undertaken in relation to potential archaeological deposits as part of the approvals process. Deposits may include foundations of the building and occupation deposits such as cess pits, rubbish pits and subfloor deposits generated during the occupation of the building before, during and after the siege. It is unlikely that items directly attributable to the siege would be within this assemblage.

Physical evidence of the level crossing which was located to the east of the Station Masters House may survive under present surfaces within the rail reserve to the north and south of the rail lines.

5. Archaeological Significance

It is widely acknowledged that the Siege and Kelly's Last Stand are events of exceptional cultural heritage significance. The following assessment of significance is taken from the current National Heritage List entry for the Siege Site:

National Significance

- a. the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's importance in the course, or pattern, of Australia's natural or cultural history.

The Glenrowan Heritage Precinct was the site of the Glenrowan siege in 1880. The events at Glenrowan clearly established Ned Kelly and the Kelly Gang as symbols in Australian culture. Only Ned Kelly survived the fight, with other members of the Kelly Gang killed at the site by the police. Following his capture at Glenrowan, Ned Kelly was executed, after trial, at Melbourne Gaol.

The Glenrowan siege established Ned Kelly and the Kelly Gang as cultural symbols and, fostered the notion of bushranging as an attempt to come to terms with established authority and added new stories to Australian folklore.

The association of the event with the place is well documented, as is its impact on the nation. Ned Kelly, in his armour, has become an iconic Australian image, featuring in paintings by Sidney Nolan and at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. The precinct's attributes include the following: the original railway platform and the alignment of the railway siding, the site of Platelayer's tents; the site of Anne Jone's Glenrowan Inn and its outbuildings; the remnant of the creek used for shelter by the police and various police positions; the site of Ned Kelly's fall and capture – the 'Kelly Log' site; the site of the 'Kelly Copse'; the site of McDonnell's Railway tavern where the bodies of Steve Hart and Dan Kelly were taken, and also where the gang left their horses and the blasting powder intended to be used at Benalla; as well as a suite of archaeological sites, locations and buildings, which relate to the events of 1880.

- b. the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Australia's natural or cultural history.

The legend of Ned Kelly and the Kelly Gang is an important part of Australia's national consciousness. The Glenrowan Heritage Precinct has been graphically and historically celebrated as the site of the Glenrowan Siege since 1880, and is uncommon as a site associated with a nationally important story.

The attributes are outlined at Criterion (a), above.

- c. the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

The Glenrowan Heritage Precinct has social and cultural significance to members of the wider Australian community for its defining role in the creation of the Ned Kelly 'myth' or 'legend', which has become part of the national psyche. The place is directly associated with a nationally important story, which has become part of Australia's cultural traditions.

The attributes are outlined at Criterion (a), above.

- d. the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Australia's natural or cultural history.

The Glenrowan Heritage Precinct has heritage value to the nation for its special association with the final days of Ned Kelly and the Kelly Gang, during the Glenrowan siege in 1880.

The attributes are outlined at Criterion (a), above.

Significance of Archaeological Elements

The potential archaeological elements described in the previous section are given a significance rating based on:

- Their ability to yield data not available elsewhere about people and actions of the Siege;
- Association with the Siege or people involved;
- Interpretable value;
- Perceived value to the local community, broader community and to the Nation.

Elements of High Significance

All elements specifically related to persons, locations and activities of the Siege and Kelly's Last Stand including:

- Physical remains of the Ann Jones' Inn structure;
- Physical elements from the Inn such as fixtures, fittings, glass, ceramics etc;
- Physical evidence of the fire that ended the Siege;
- Ammunition and other ordinance;
- Personal items or effects associated with the Kelly Gang, hostages/ townspeople or police;
- Physical remains of the Platelayers (gravel haulers) campsite
- Physical remains of the Station Masters house; and
- Any other artefacts that can be clearly attributed to events or people of the Siege or Kelly's Last Stand

Elements of Moderate Significance

Any artefact or archaeological deposit in existence at the time of the Siege but not an integral part of the events including:

- Remains of post and rail fencing;
- Remains of original road or path surfaces;
- Original path and road alignments;
- Topographic elements that can be dated to the period;
- Artefacts and elements relating to the railway and railway reserve at the time of the Siege (including remains of the level crossing);
- Remnant landscapes and vegetation such as trees (if any) creek/ drain alignment; and
- Any artefacts or deposits of the period.
- Any archaeological artefacts or deposits that post date the Siege but are relics identified under the *Heritage Act 2017*.

Elements of Low Significance

Any artefacts or deposits of later date (i.e. post 1900s) that have little potential to inform on the Siege or the cultural development of the Glenrowan Township.

6. Assessment of Impact

The preliminary impact assessment addresses the potential impacts on archaeological deposits. Assessment of the impacts of the options on the precinct landscape is addressed elsewhere.

6.1 Track Lowering

The option to lower the railway lines to the west and east of the road bridge at Beaconsfield Parade would directly impact on the following:

- The site of the Station Masters House (high significance but outside of the national heritage and state heritage precinct);
- Any remains of the level crossing (moderate significance and partly inside precinct);
- Any remains of the historical railway infrastructure or other elements that can be dated to the time of the siege (moderate significance and within the precinct). As previously mentioned, a large amount of soil (up to 1m depth) was removed from across the northern portion of the rail reserve in the post war period and it is thought that most of this material was redeposited to the south of the railway where Lions Park is now. There is little other than anecdotal evidence of this and visual observation of the modified landscape. Certainly, the northern reserve has been changed: the creek line has been modified, relocated and formalised. Comparing the present landscape to the photo of the gravel haulers (Platelayers) camp (Figure 3) it can be seen that significant modification of the foreground — the rail reserve between the Siege site and the railway station — has taken place with the reduction of the ground levels by a metre or more;
- Original paths or road surfaces such as the approaches to the level crossing and any other rail infrastructure or artefacts and features that post date the siege or cannot be attributed to the siege events but are covered by the *Heritage Act 2017* (moderate to low significance and within the precinct).

Preliminary Significance of Impact

Station Masters House - high (however if the house was relocated as claimed the significance would lower to moderate / high)

Other archaeological elements within the precinct - moderate to low

Management

Any disturbance of the site of the Station Masters House (as distinct from the claimed relocated building that is included in the precinct listing) immediately to the west of the extant bridge, would require consent from Heritage Victoria. The consent would be given with conditions including the excavation of the site in an archaeologically controlled manner. The method and approach of the archaeological excavation would be reviewed and approved prior to the issuance of the consent.

However, it is likely that the archaeological management of the Station Masters House site would be included in any referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and application for permit under the *Heritage Act 2017* as works in this location and elsewhere within the precinct would be considered the same action. A comprehensive archaeological impact assessment and management plan would be required as part of the approvals process. Additional consultation with the Rural City of Wangaratta in relation to the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (HO 170) is also required.

All works will require referral but only the track lowering option would be considered a significant impact as it would be considered to - notably alter, modify, obscure or diminish values of the precinct.

With the limited details to hand, the other options would not be considered to significantly impact the cultural heritage values of the Siege Precinct.

Actions required

Preparation of a detail archaeological impact assessment and archaeological management plan addressing the specific range of ground works to be submitted in support of a permit application under the Heritage Act.

Subsequent actions may include full excavation of the Station Masters House site and an archaeological watching brief for all other ground works within the precinct.

6.2 Bridge replacement - Beaconsfield Parade

This option would include the demolition of the current road and pedestrian bridge, removal of embankments and the construction of a new, higher road and pedestrian crossing off the current bridge alignment and in line with the original Beaconsfield Parade. In the absence of any construction plans the following potential impacts are outlined (these would be reviewed if and when design options are provided):

- The site of the Station Masters House (high significance but outside of the national heritage and state heritage precinct);
- Any remains of the level crossing (moderate significance and partly inside precinct).

The removal of the current bridge, embankments and pedestrian ramp may cause disturbance to original ground surfaces and original elements in the rail reserve including the original creek line, fence lines and objects related to the siege.

Preliminary Significance of Impact

Station Masters House - high (however if the house was relocated as claimed the significance would lower to moderate / high)

Natural ground surfaces and elements within the rail reserve that relate to the siege - high

Other archaeological elements within the precinct - moderate to low

Management

Any disturbance of the site of the Station Masters House (as distinct from the claimed relocated building that is included in the precinct listing) immediately to the west of the extant bridge, would require consent from Heritage Victoria. The consent would be given with conditions including the excavation of the site in an archaeologically controlled manner. The method and approach of the archaeological excavation would be reviewed and approved prior to the issuance of the consent.

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Actions required

Preparation of a detail archaeological impact assessment and archaeological management plan addressing the specific range of ground works to be submitted in support of a permit application under the Heritage Act.

Subsequent actions may include full excavation of the Station Masters House site and archaeological watching brief for all other ground works within the precinct.

6.3 Bridge replacement - Boundary Road to Quarry Road

The option for the construction of a road bridge that links Boundary and Quarry roads includes the following broad actions:

- Construction of a road bridge linking Boundary and Quarry roads;
- Demolition of the Beaconsfield Bridge and removal of embankments; and
- The likely construction of a pedestrian bridge in the approximate location of the current road bridge at Beaconsfield Parade.

In the absence of detailed construction plans the following potential impacts are outlined (these should be reviewed at detailed design if this option is progressed to the next design stage):

- The bridge construction lies to the east of the precinct and there are no known archaeological sites or areas of historical archaeological potential within or adjacent to the alignment;
- The bridge proposal may impact a small area of undeveloped land immediately to the south of the rail reserve. While not within an area identified as being of cultural heritage sensitivity based on map data on the Aboriginal Victoria web site there is a possibility that Indigenous cultural heritage maybe discovered during ground works;
- The site of the Station Masters House (high significance but outside of the national heritage and state heritage precinct);
- Any remains of the level crossing (moderate significance and partly inside precinct).

The removal of the current bridge, embankments and pedestrian ramp and the construction of a new footbridge in approximately the same locations may cause disturbance to original ground surfaces and original elements in the rail reserve including the original creek line, fence lines and objects related to the siege.

Preliminary Significance of Impact

Bridge replacement - Boundary Road to Quarry Road - low to negligible (excepting for Indigenous cultural heritage)

Construction of pedestrian bridge - Station Masters House - high (however if the house was relocated as claimed the significance would lower to moderate / high)

Removal of current bridge/ construction of pedestrian bridge - Natural ground surfaces and elements within the rail reserve that relate to the siege - high

Other archaeological elements within the precinct - moderate to low

Management

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management

One Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register place 8125-0420, Glenrowan Siege Archaeological Project – 2008 is located within the activity area. This Low Density Artefact Distribution (LDAD) consists of a single silcrete flake found during the 2008 excavations that took place at the site of the Glenrowan Inn. The artefact was located in a soil deposit overlying a post hole of the inn, and its original provenance is unknown. Based upon the outcomes of the Aboriginal heritage assessment, a mandatory CHMP under s. 46 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* is required at this location. The CHMP will allow for the management and protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage during the course of activities associated with the construction footprint that may disturb Aboriginal cultural heritage places within the defined activity area.

Historical Cultural Heritage Management

Bridge replacement - Boundary Road to Quarry Road - no specific archaeological management or permit / referral required. It would be prudent to retain a project archaeologist on call.

Removal of Beaconsfield Parade Bridge and construction of pedestrian bridge in same location - Any disturbance of the site of the Station Masters House (as distinct from the claimed relocated building that is included in the precinct listing) immediately to the west of the extant bridge, would require consent from Heritage Victoria. The consent would be given with conditions including the excavation of the site in an archaeologically controlled manner. The method and approach of the archaeological excavation would be reviewed and approved prior to the issuance of the consent.

However, it is likely that the archaeological management of the Station Masters House site would be included in any referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and application for permit under the *Heritage Act 2017* as works in this location and elsewhere within the precinct would be considered the same action. A comprehensive archaeological impact assessment and management plan would be required as part of the approvals process. Additional consultation with the Rural City of Wangaratta in relation to the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (HO 170) is also required.

Actions required

Preparation of a detail archaeological impact assessment and archaeological management plan addressing the specific range of ground works to be submitted in support of a permit application under the Heritage Act.

Subsequent actions may include full excavation of the Station Masters House site and archaeological watching brief for all other ground works within the precinct.

7. Summary

Considering the potential impacts to archaeological values alone, all three options would need to be referred under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and require a permit (the Station Masters House is outside the precinct but it is likely that any permit application would include management of this site as part of the broader action) from Heritage Victoria. Additional research will be required to identify the exact location and extent of the Station Masters House. But at this stage it is reasonable to assume that the house was not located within the historic alignment of Beaconsfield Parade so restricting civil and ground works to within the road alignment would likely avoid impact on *in situ* archaeological deposits.

Preparation of a detail archaeological impact assessment and archaeological management plan addressing the specific range of ground works would be required.

Preliminary advice based on experience of the site, land use history, observations from various excavations and watching briefs and insight into the Glenrowan community is as follows:

- Track lowering appears to present the greatest impact to potential archaeological deposits and the visual landscape values of the precinct and immediate surrounds without any benefit to the community. The precinct is diminished and the existing bridge would be removed and a footbridge constructed in its place.
- The Bridge replacement - Beaconsfield Parade option would remove the current bridge and provide an option to reinstate the original (siege era) landscape in the north west corner of the rail alignment. It would also see the expansion of the Lions Park at the south. With appropriate management and on site guidance by the project archaeologist these works present a low risk to significant archaeology and would be seen as a great benefit to the community. Construction of a new bridge to the west of the existing bridge may impact on significant archaeological material. However, additional works within the rail reserve, together with good bridge design would be persuasive mitigation measures.
- The Bridge replacement - Boundary Road to Quarry Road option would on balance have the same benefits (removal of existing bridge and reinstatement of the rail reserve and park landscape) and detriments (impacts on *in situ* significant archaeological deposits and potential community opposition). There are no archaeological considerations for the Bridge replacement - Boundary Road to Quarry Road construction itself.

With specific reference to the 'Matters of National Environmental Significance: Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1' and in consideration of the options design details currently available (July 2019), all three options at Glenrowan are actions that require referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (in addition to the permit process with Heritage Victoria). However, it is likely that only the Track Lowering would be considered a high impact activity as the activity will cause:

- one or more of the National Heritage values to be degraded or damaged; and
- one or more of the National Heritage values to be notably altered, modified, obscured or diminished.

In addition, actions associated with track lowering are likely to have significant impact on historic heritage values as there is a real chance or possibility that the actions will:

- permanently remove, destroy, damage or substantially alter the fabric of a National Heritage place in a manner which is inconsistent with relevant values;
- extend, renovate, refurbish or substantially alter a National Heritage place in a manner which is inconsistent with relevant values;

- permanently remove, destroy, damage or substantially disturb archaeological deposits or artefacts in a National Heritage place;
- involve activities in a National Heritage place with substantial and/or long-term impacts on its values;
- involve the construction of buildings or other structures within, adjacent to, or within important sight lines of, a National Heritage place which are inconsistent with relevant values; and
- make notable changes to the layout, spaces, form or species composition of a garden, landscape or setting of a National Heritage place in a manner which is inconsistent with relevant values.

Further the actions are likely to have a significant impact by:

- permanently diminish the cultural value of a National Heritage place for a community or group to which its National Heritage values relate.

It is unlikely that any mitigating measures could be employed to reduce the potential impacts below the significant threshold.