

## 16. Cultural heritage

### 16.1 Introduction

The purpose of the cultural heritage desktop assessment is to determine known or potential heritage values that relate to the area surrounding the CoastConnect — Caloundra to Maroochydore corridor. This assessment also explores potential impacts due to the implementation of the corridor and assesses how cultural heritage values should be recognised in the future development and management of the project.

### 16.2 Methodology

The cultural heritage assessment included the following tasks:

- assessing cultural heritage legislation requirements
- identifying the types of Indigenous cultural heritage sites that are likely to be found in the general region, according to previous archaeological studies
- discussing a brief contextual history relating to European settlement of the area, as relevant to the project
- searching databases and consulting with historical agencies to determine the presence of known historical or Indigenous sites within the study area. This included:
  - Department of Natural Resources and Water (DNRW)
  - Register of the National Estate
  - Commonwealth Heritage List
  - Australian Heritage Places Inventory
  - Australian Heritage Directory
  - Queensland Heritage Register
  - Caloundra City Council (amalgamated into the Sunshine Coast Regional Council in 2008).
  - Maroochy Shire Council (amalgamated into the Sunshine Coast Regional Council in 2008).
  - Caloundra Library local history collection
  - Caloundra Library heritage image collection
- conducting a site visit to determine the extent of previously disturbed areas and assessing potential impacts on any historical sites
- considering the impact of the proposed construction on any identified structures, areas or sites (including the potential for buried material to be present).

The assessment deals with archaeological expectations for the presence of sites and details previously published or reported information for the area. It also includes a database search for existing Indigenous and non-Indigenous sites in the study area. These desktop investigations are considered sufficient for the purposes of the Concept Design and Impact Management Plan (CDIMP), as the majority of the Coast Connect — Caloundra to Maroochydore bus corridor activities are proposed in previously disturbed areas. Further investigations relating to the management of potential impacts in previously disturbed (and undisturbed) areas will be undertaken closer to delivery of the project.

## 16.3 Preliminary analysis

### 16.3.1 Existing situation

#### Corridor-wide considerations

##### *Cultural heritage legislation*

Cultural heritage legislation exists at both the state and federal level and provides the basis for cultural heritage management. In addition to state and federal legislation, there are some bodies which are responsible for the protection and management of cultural heritage. The design, construction and development approval process for the CoastConnect — Caloundra to Maroochydore corridor may trigger requirements and/or needs with regard to Commonwealth, state and local legislation.

This legislation may require approvals, licences and permits to be obtained by the proponent prior to and during the development of the corridor. The relevant state and federal legislation as well as cultural heritage management bodies are listed in Appendix M.

##### **The study area**

Land use in the vicinity of the CoastConnect — Caloundra to Maroochydore corridor includes high density residential, light industrial and commercial uses, public reserves and public parks. The Kawana Waters area was developed on fill with artificially constructed waterways. Most of the land within the study area has been subject to previous disturbance from road construction, residential, commercial and industrial development. However, where road widening is proposed, the potential impacts to any cultural heritage values must be considered.

##### **Indigenous cultural heritage**

This assessment details the types of Indigenous sites previously found in the general region and the expectation for sites to occur. The findings of previous studies have been used to inform the types and locations of historical and Aboriginal cultural heritage items that may be impacted by the project.

Previous studies regarding Aboriginal cultural heritage have been conducted by McNiven (1989, 1990), ARCHAEO (2003), Davies and Salmon (1996), Arup (2001), and Crosby (1993 in Arup 2001).

Surveys of the coastal plain and the hinterland regions indicate that shell middens and stone artefact scatters are the most common Aboriginal site type in the area. Surveys also indicate that in the hinterland scarred trees do survive.

The recognised Aboriginal Party for the area is the Gubbi Gubbi People.

In 1975, the Queensland Museum National Estate publication (Queensland Museum) included the following recorded sites for the Sunshine Coast region:

- two bora rings at Bells Creek
- a bora ring at Sippy Downs
- a bora ring at Mooloolah
- an estuarine midden on Mooloolah River and middens on the coast beach dunes south of Point Cartwright
- a midden at Bells Creek
- a canoe tree and two marked trees on the Maroochy River
- a canoe tree at Bells Creek.

McNiven undertook the Mooloolah Region Archaeological Project (McNiven 1989, 1990) to investigate settlement and subsistence patterns by examining shell midden and stone artefact sites in the Maroochy River estuary. A survey of the proposed Twin River Resort on the north margin of the river was undertaken and shell and stone artefact scatters were located. Some sites are still preserved in the Maroochy River Conservation Park (McNiven 1989, p. 12). A further study was undertaken by ARCHAEO (2003b, for the planned Stage 2 Development of Twin Waters Residential.

In 1996, Davies and Salmon conducted a study of a section of the eastern Maroochy Shire (Davies & Salmon 1996). A large artefact scatter was located in a sugar-cane paddock. The identification of a large site in a previously cultivated paddock suggests that other material may still survive in similar disturbed locations. A small stone artefact scatter was found near Kunda Park, overlooking the Eudlo Creek (Arup 2001). Stone artefact scatters have also been identified to the west around Buderim and west of Mooloolaba during a survey for the proposed Nicklin Way — Sunshine Way Motorway link (ARCHAEO in Arup 2001). Sites identified included artefact scatters along Caloundra Road, middens and scarred trees at Pelican Waters, the Duck Holes fringe camp (circa 1950s) south of Caloundra Road, artefact scatters near Aroona and scarred trees and middens on Bells Creek. Artefact scatters were found at Warana, near Currimundi and middens were found on the east bank of Mooloolah River (a Mooloolah River oyster midden was first recorded in 1939). Other middens in the region were recorded by Crosby in 1993 (in Arup 2001). Shell middens occur on the floodplains, along creeks and rivers and are often associated with campsites. A survey conducted by ARCHAEO (2003a), at Plaza Parade, Maroochydhore located shell and stone scatters.

Trees were traditionally extremely important to Aboriginal people. The bark and wood were used for a wide range of purposes, including everyday items, weapons, shelter and for wrapping the dead.

The general area would have had numerous scarred trees prior to the extensive historical clearing. The lack of other types of sites relates to topography, clearing and past land use, and the narrow or limited range of surveys undertaken.

Aboriginal pecked engravings can be found at Point Cartwright and at the Caloundra Headland (Steele 1984). Culturally significant places identified on the coastal plain and in the hinterland north of the Maroochy River include Mt Ninderry, Mt Coolum, the Maroochy River and Dunethin Rock.

### **European occupation**

The background information presented below was sourced from existing literature. The information is available from the Caloundra City Library and the Maroochy Shire Council Library.

The history shows that concerted attempts to develop the area through timber getting and later grazing and agriculture did not substantially advance the development of the coastal plain. While the hinterland progressed around Nambour, Yandina and Bli Bli, the coastal plain was relatively undeveloped.

A hotel built on Shelley Beach catered to the first tourists to the area in 1885 but significant tourism development did not occur until the mid-20th century. As a result residential development accelerated during later half of the 20th century and the Sunshine Coast as it came to be known became a major holiday destination.

In 1770, Captain James Cook first saw and named the Glass House Mountains. Some 29 years later, Matthew Flinders entered the channel which lies between Caloundra and Bribe Island. He named it Pumicestone River, later it was changed to Pumicestone Passage. Documented reports indicate that the escaped convicts Pamphlett, Finnegan and Parsons (Steele 1972) travelled through the district while journeying to Wide Bay. By 1860 the timber-getters looking for red cedar were established and later, in 1862, the first European settlers arrived. Lieutenant Heath surveyed and chartered the Mooloolah River mouth and harbour in 1861.

Land became available for purchase in 1864 and the first land purchased was by William Pettigrew. He dominated the timber trade in the area for the next 30 years. He established a timber depot and wharf to ship timber. He also opened the first Mooloolah store in the district. Edmund Lander established a property known as Moolooloo Plains in 1860, covering the area around the northern Mooloolah banks and Sippy and Mountain Creeks. Later it was known as Maridan Plains and was taken up by John Westaway in 1862. In the early 1860s the Westaway family constructed a slab hut and yards in Bli Bli and drove cattle up from Eagle Farm.

Near Caloundra the first permanent settler was John Ballinger who selected land south of Lake Currimundi. Ballinger's son settled at what became known as Ballinger Hill. After 1882 the hill was fortified and was called Battery Hill. The Westaway Brothers took over Moolooloo Plains in 1862 and grew sugar cane and crushed it in a mill they built near Currimundi Lake (Trundle c1958, p. 27). A Native Police camp was established near the Cobb & Co station at Middle Camp (later called Wombyne) (Trundle c1958, p. 27).

In 1863, the 'Queen of the Colonies' ship from England anchored in Moreton Bay. A passenger had died and was to be buried on Moreton Island. After the funeral the wind drove the party north-west away from the ship and put the boat ashore at what is now Moffat Beach. The castaways waited for rescue and made several attempts to walk to civilization. They carved the name 'Queen of the Colonies' and the date on a pandanus tree on Moffat Head. The tree died in 1949 and a plaque now records the site.

Owing to the protection Point Cartwright offered, Mooloolah Heads was the preferred port for the area from 1870 to 1884. Pettigrew operated steamers along the rivers to carry produce, timber and passengers between the developing region and Brisbane. The North Coast Railway to Yandina opened in the area in 1891. This caused river transport to decrease and development of the coastal areas slowed.

Pettigrew established a sawmill in Maroochydore at this time. By 1919, industry in the area included fishing and fruit growing. On the 1 February 1893 a steamer, SS Dicky, ran aground at Dicky Beach (named for the steamer). It had a crew of 11 and carried 40 tonnes of sand at the time of grounding. There were unsuccessful attempts to relaunch her. The steamer took on a new role in the community and was used for local dances until it was burned out by a knocked over kerosene lamp. The propeller of the SS Dicky is located in a park near the Dicky Beach Caravan Park with a plaque displaying information on the vessel.

The first house in Caloundra was built by GL Beery of Nambour on the hill where the lighthouse was later erected. The second house was built in 1876 with timber brought by ship from Campbell's in Brisbane (Bulcock 1937). The Campbell Brothers were important in the development of sawmills in the district and in the development of prefabricated houses in Queensland. Wilson's Guest House was built at Dicky Beach in 1905 with a bakery following in 1909, and a general store established the following year.

In 1898, the Caloundra lighthouse was built on Canberra Terrace. It was described as a tower of galvanised iron sheeting on a massive tree trunk frame. It is the city's oldest building. In 1910, the lighthouse's wick burner was replaced with Queensland's first incandescent vapour kerosene lamp to guide ships into Moreton Bay. By 1942, the historic lighthouse became electrically powered. In 1967, a new lighthouse with a signal station was built next to the old lighthouse and 3 years later the old lighthouse was moved to Golden Beach to save it from demolition. However, following the installation of a signal station on Seapoint units at Wickham Point in 1992, the old lighthouse was finally moved back to Canberra Terrace in 1999.

The Landsborough Shire was formed on 22 February 1912 after seceding from the Caboolture Divisional Board, although it was not until 19 December 1987 that Landsborough Shire became a city and was renamed Caloundra City. In 1916 Maroochydore was established.

Thomas O'Connor (surveyor) subdivided and sold areas at Maroochydore, Alexandra Headland, and Mooloolaba between 1908 and 1920 and made possible the development of these seaside resort towns. During World War II the military authorities considered Noosa to Caloundra a logical beachhead for an enemy landing. A great number of soldiers, many returned from the Middle East, were camped in the area.

The construction of Nicklin Way behind the coastal development commenced in 1965 and Kawana Waters was developed in 1968.

### **Database searches**

Registers and historical agencies were consulted to determine the presence of known historical or Indigenous sites within the study area. The findings are detailed below.

#### ***Register of the National Estate***

The Register of the National Estate is a nationwide register of more than 12,000 natural and cultural heritage places. It is compiled by the Australian Heritage Council. The Register of the National Estate lists two places in the region.

#### ***Queensland Heritage Register***

The Queensland Heritage Register developed under the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* is a list of places or buildings of cultural heritage significance in Queensland. The list includes places, trees, natural formations and buildings of cultural heritage significance managed by the Cultural Heritage Unit within the Environmental Protection Agency. The Queensland Heritage Register lists two items in the region.

#### ***Sunshine Coast Regional Council and Caloundra City Plan 2004***

The former City Council recognised the importance of conserving the shire's cultural and architectural heritage. Places having historic cultural heritage significance contribute to an understanding of the historical development of the shire. Seven historical items and one character area, listed by the Caloundra City Council Heritage Register, occur in the Caloundra area.

#### ***The Maroochy Plan 2000***

The Maroochy Shire Council conducted a heritage validation study (2005–2007) which has yet to be finalised and endorsed by the council. Sunshine Coast Regional Council advice states (September 2009) that there are a number of structures identified in the council's heritage validation study (2005–2007) that are to be assessed for inclusion in the council's heritage register. The council propose to prepare a cultural heritage position paper and invite public consultation regarding the existing heritage registers and the heritage validation study results. This will inform the new planning scheme for the Sunshine Coast Regional Council and will be used to update the existing heritage registers. The council has not advised a start date or time frame for this proposal.

#### ***Department of Natural Resources and Water***

A request to the Department of Natural Resources and Water Cultural Heritage Unit for advice on Aboriginal cultural heritage places recorded in the study area was returned on the 8 November 2007 with four sites, midden and stone artefact scatters, indicated in the wider area. A further request was submitted for updated advice on the 16 September 2009. The results are pending.

The four sites are clustered around the new Maroochy Boulevard which is at the northern end of the Coast Connect — Caloundra to Maroochydhore corridor.

Maroochy Boulevard has already been constructed and includes a dedicated bus lane so it is highly unlikely that any road widening or pavement works will be conducted in this area as a result of the current project (PB mapping and advice November 2007).

Since 2003, with the introduction of the current legislation there is no obligation to report the location of sites to the Department of Natural Resources and Water. As a consequence of this, the Register is out of date and incomplete and should not be relied upon as a precise indicator of the frequency and location of Aboriginal sites in the study area.

For the purposes of the Department of Natural Resources and Water search, the study area is assessed as Category 4 under the Cultural Heritage Duty of Care Guidelines of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*. Category 4 notes 'where an activity is proposed in an area which has previously been subject to Significant Ground Disturbance it is generally unlikely that the activity will harm Aboriginal cultural heritage and the activity will comply with these guidelines'.

### **Site visit**

A reconnaissance of the study area was also undertaken as part of the cultural heritage investigations. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the nature and extent of disturbance from previous activities and to identify if any significant items would be impacted upon by the Coast Connect — Caloundra to Maroochydore project. The area surrounding the corridor has previously been subject to disturbance, e.g. due to previous construction activities.

As such these areas are considered to have low potential for cultural heritage material to be present. At the creek crossings there is a moderate potential for cultural heritage material to be disturbed. This potential reflects previous findings of Indigenous sites in the general region where sites tend to occur along the banks of creeks and rivers.

### **Sections 1 and 2 — Caloundra to Currimundi**

Assessment of these sections indicates that Bulcock Street is the original main street of Caloundra. The Caloundra City Plan 2004 heritage register lists the Cominos Drapery building at 26 Bulcock Street; however, other buildings on the street may retain additional historical significance as not all the buildings may have been assessed by the Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

Items listed in the Caloundra City Plan 2004 heritage register are listed below:

- Kings Beach Bathing Pavilion, The Esplanade, Kings Beach (this item is also listed on the Queensland Heritage Register)
- Cominos Drapery building, 26 Bulcock Street, Caloundra
- SS Dicky wreck, Dicky Beach, Caloundra
- Caloundra Cemetery, Queen Street, Moffat Beach
- Queen of Colonies Monument, Queen of Colonies Parade, Moffat Beach
- Norfolk Pines along Esplanade, Bulcock Beach, Kings Beach, Shelly Beach and Moffat Beach, Caloundra
- former Caloundra Lighthouse, Canberra Terrace, Kings Beach
- Character area — Ngungun Street residential area, Dicky Beach.

### Sections 3 and 4 — Nicklin Way and Kawana Town Centre

Assessment of these sections identified one place of cultural heritage significance.

- Currimundi Lake Environmental Park, Wurtulla, located on the north side of Currimundi Lake. This place is listed on the Register of the National Estate.

Sections 3 and 4 have previously been subject to disturbance, e.g. due to previous development and construction activities. The Kawana development is largely an artificial landscape with construction on the Nicklin Way beginning in 1965 and development of Kawana Waters in 1968.

The margins of creeks were used traditionally by Aboriginal groups and sites have been reported along the margins of Currimundi Lake. It is possible that cultural heritage material may be located in undisturbed locations on the creek margins in Section 3.

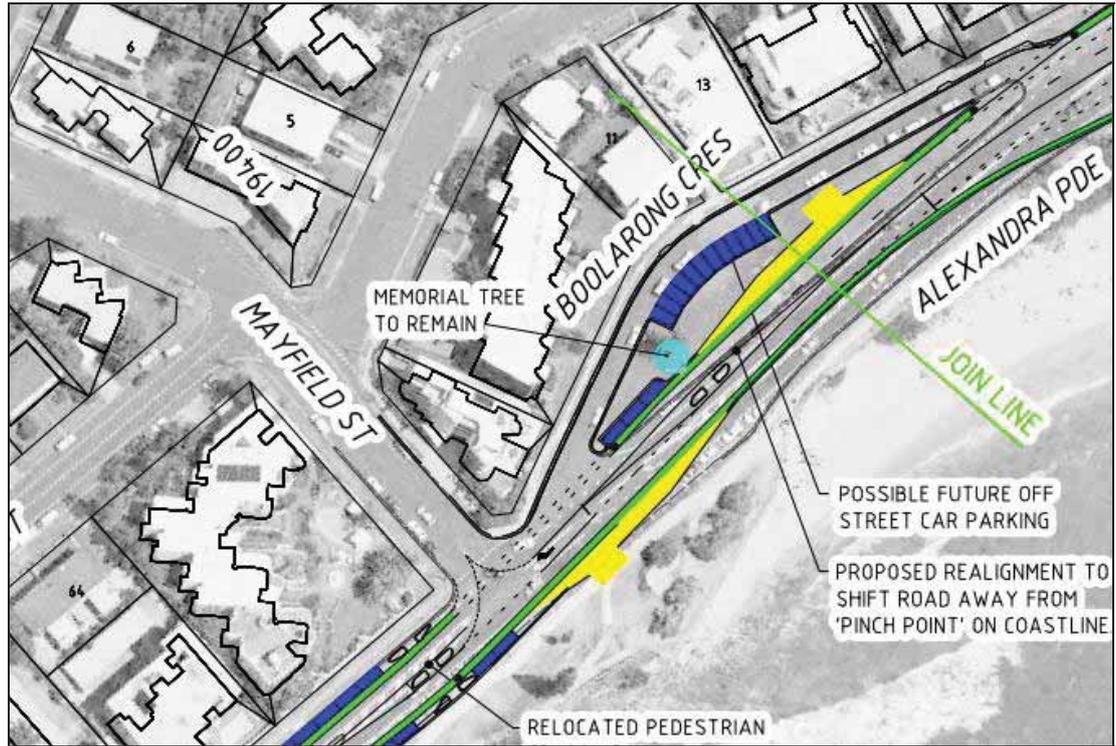
### Section 5 — Mooloolaba

Planning and delivery of this section is being lead by the Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

### Section 6 — Alexandra Parade

Assessment of this section has identified three items of local cultural heritage. None of these items are listed on any heritage register.

- Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) located in the park bordered by Boolarong Crescent and Alexandra Parade (Figure 16-1). The tree was originally planted at the home of William and Elizabeth Hooper at Woombye, in 1924. It was planted in memory of their son, Reginald Charles Hooper, who died in action during World War I in Polygon Wood, Belgium. In 1926, when William and Elizabeth Hooper moved to Alexandra Headland, they brought the tree with them and replanted it in their yard on the corner of Alice and Mary Streets. In 1972, the Maroochy City Council moved the tree to its present site and a plaque remembering Reginald Hooper was placed on the tree in 1978. In 2008, a new plaque was placed on the tree.
- The park bordered by Boolarong Crescent and Alexandra Parade (the same park which contains the Canary Island date palm). This park has been recognised by the local RSL as a World War II memorial. On the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II it was dedicated to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 5<sup>th</sup> Division who occupied the area during the years of conflict. There is a memorial sign erected in the park.
- The house of Arthur Parkyn on Mooloolaba Esplanade. Mr Parkyn was a prominent member of the surf life-saving movement in its early development and a foundation member of Mooloolaba Surf Club. He participated in training teams who took life-saving techniques to the US. Parkyn Road is named for him. Mr Parkyn no longer resides at the property and it is now used for commercial purposes. It is one of the oldest houses along the esplanade, built prior to 1945. The house is not officially listed as having heritage significance in the Maroochy Plan 2000, however, it has been anecdotally noted as the former residence of a well-known local identity and community member.



**Figure 16-1: Location of park (indicated by red arrow) containing Canary Island palm and World War II memorial (map by PB)**

### Section 7 — Maroochyore

Assessment of this section has identified one item of local cultural heritage.

- The old Fire Station, 103–105 Aerodrome Road, Maroochyore. Advice from the Maroochy Shire Council (November 2007) indicates that this building is being assessed and considered for inclusion on the Heritage Register in the Maroochy Plan 2000 as part of the council’s heritage validation study (2005–2007). The study is yet to be finalised and endorsed by the council. Advice from the Sunshine Coast Regional Council (September 2009) indicates that the council propose to prepare a cultural heritage position paper and invite public consultation regarding the existing heritage registers and the heritage validation study. The results of this study will be used to update the existing heritage registers. The council have not advised a start date or time frame for this proposal.

### 16.3.2 Potential benefits, impacts and typical mitigation measures

#### Corridor-wide considerations

From the cultural heritage investigations, it appears that impacts are unlikely. It is however important to be aware of the types of cultural heritage impacts which can result from development within an area.

They include:

- direct impact where a site will be partially or completely destroyed
- indirect impact that adversely impacts on the context, integrity or amenity of a site, including structural damage to buildings through vibration
- aesthetic or visual impact where proposed works compromise the visual or aesthetic attributes of a site.

The potential for historical cultural heritage items to be identified in previously undisturbed areas is considered to be low. A plan for the management of historical items which may inadvertently be discovered during any earth works should be implemented.

The recognised Aboriginal party for the area should be notified of the project and invited to comment on the significance of the area to them and/or raise any other issues regarding the project.

As part of the Cultural Heritage Duty of Care Guidelines of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*, prior to any future development of areas assessed as Category 4, the developer should contact the relevant Aboriginal Party regarding involvement in the project.

## **Sections 1 and 2 — Caloundra to Currimundi**

### ***Potential impacts***

Parts of Bulcock Street will be subject to impact from the project from the addition of line markings, a bus station and, later, increased traffic volume (Figure 16-2).

As Bulcock Street is the original main street of Caloundra, some buildings on the street may retain historical significance as not all the buildings may have been assessed by the Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

The Cominos Drapery building at 26 Bulcock Street is listed on the Caloundra City Council heritage register and may be indirectly impacted by the changes proposed to Bulcock Street.

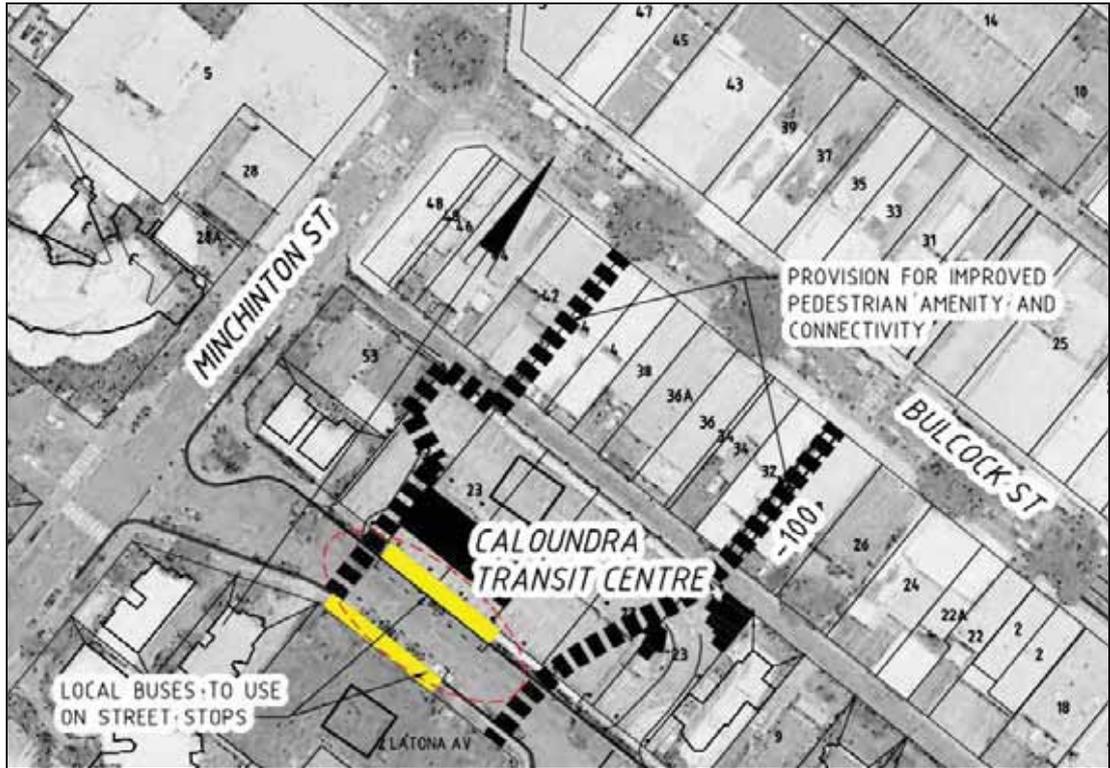


Figure 16-2: Proposed changes in vicinity of Bulcock Street, Caloundra (map by PB)

**Typical mitigation measures**

The Sunshine Coast Regional Council should be consulted regarding any impact to the Bulcock streetscape, Cominos Drapery building and other buildings which have not been assessed.

**Sections 3 and 4 — Nicklin Way and Kawana Town Centre**

**Potential impacts**

Nicklin Way will be subject to impact from the proposed development. Where Nicklin Way crosses Currimundi Creek (Figure 16-3), it is possible that Aboriginal cultural heritage material may be located in undisturbed locations along the margins of this creek. The potential for Aboriginal cultural heritage to be impacted occurs where previous sites have been found and the proposed development moves into previously undisturbed areas such as creek crossings. The potential for Aboriginal cultural heritage to be discovered at locations where road widening is required in these areas is considered to be moderate.



**Figure 16-3: Proposed changes in the vicinity of Currimundi Creek (map by PB)**

***Typical mitigation measures***

The recognised Aboriginal party for the area should be consulted regarding the development of a cultural heritage management plan (CHMP) for the proposed development. The CHMP would be designed to take all reasonable measures to protect or manage Aboriginal cultural heritage where it has been identified or where it may be inadvertently impacted.

**Section 5 — Mooloolaba**

Planning and delivery of this section is being lead by the Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

**Section 6 — Alexandra Headland**

***Potential impacts***

Alexandra Parade will be subject to impact from the proposed development. The Canary Island date palm planted in memory of Reginald Charles Hooper, and the RSL memorial in the park bordered by Boolarong Crescent and Alexandra Parade will not be impacted by the proposed development.

**Section 7 — Maroochydore**

***Potential impacts***

Aerodrome Road will be subject to impact from the proposed development. The old fire station, 103–105 Aerodrome Road, may be impacted by a land requirement for a new recessed bus stop. This impact would occur if the land requirement is included in development plans.

### **Typical mitigation measures**

The Sunshine Coast Regional Council should be consulted regarding the current heritage status of the old fire station prior to the start of construction.

## **16.4 Future investigations**

As part of the Cultural Heritage Duty of Care Guidelines of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*, prior to any future development of areas assessed as Category 4, the developer should contact the relevant Aboriginal Party regarding involvement in the project.

A review of cultural heritage legislation should be carried out in future planning phases. The mitigation strategies identified in this report should also be investigated further in future planning. Should historical items of cultural heritage significance be identified during the construction phases of the Coast Connect — Caloundra to Maroochyore project, actions will be subject to the proposed management strategy.

## **16.5 References**

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