



ARCHAEOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES



WHAT IS AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY?

An Archaeological Management Strategy (AMS) is a document designed to provide practical strategies for the management of the archaeological components of a place. An AMS should largely be used to supplement an Archaeological Management Plan (AMP).

RIGHT: Camel Station, Sandstone, Western Australia. Station building constructed from local granite (c1920)



PURPOSE OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

An Archaeological Management Plan provides a comprehensive assessment of the archaeological potential and significance of a site, as well as guidelines for appropriate management. However, the policies and management recommendations provided in an AMP may require some further practical strategies for their implementation to be outlined prior to the commencement of works that may adversely impact the archaeological potential of a place.

In addition, proposed works or unanticipated events may also reveal information/sites that have not been addressed in the AMP, or considerable time may have passed since its completion.

An AMS aims to address the specifics of a proposed or potential impact to the archaeology of a place, with reference to the policies and research design in the AMP.

OBJECTIVES OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

- To summarise the study area and its history as outlined in the AMP.
- To analyse the research strategy and management recommendations provided in the AMP with regard to the site's current context.
- To develop a practical guide to investigations which ensures adequate protection of the resource and produces maximum research benefits from the archaeological resource.
- To outline how archaeological evidence will be handled.

BELOW: Lynton Convict Hiring Depot (ruins), Yallabatharra, Western Australia. Main depot building



EXECUTION OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

An Archaeological Management Strategy should only be completed by an appropriately qualified and experienced archaeologist, guided by established archaeological processes. It should be informed by relevant statutory frameworks and appropriate sources.

An Archaeological Management Strategy Brief is provided in the following pages.



ABOVE: A T Brine's Donnybrook Sandstone Quarries (fmr), Donnybrook, Western Australia

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY BRIEF

Archaeological sites are irreplaceable resources that provide important information about Australia's past. The following Archaeological Management Strategy Brief recognises the importance of this resource and provides a guide to the completion of an AMS. It presents those who commission, prepare and use an AMS with practical strategies for the appropriate management of archaeologically significant sites.

This AMS Brief directly relates to places for which the Heritage Council of WA has input into planning decisions, ie those that are on the State Register of Heritage Places and have been recognised as being of State significance. However, this brief also represents good general practice for places with archaeological potential recognised by other heritage bodies, in other reports and in research papers. In addition, an AMS is designed for use with an established Archaeological Management Plan.

The following outlines the information that should be included in an AMS, and how this might be organised. It is not intended to be prescriptive and can be adapted according to the particular project and purpose. However, an informed assessment of the site's archaeological potential and significance (with the results presented graphically) are essential, as are the management strategies that draw on this. An AMS should include a contents page, table of figures/images cross referenced in text, and any references used should be cited appropriately.

INTRODUCTION

The introduction should include:

Aims and definitions

- What is an AMS?
- What does the AMS aim to achieve for the subject site?

Background and site location

- Location/curtilage map showing subject site
- Scope of the strategy
- Method used to compile the strategy

Legislative context and listings

- Relevant statutory heritage listings and constraints
- Relevant planning constraints
- Other relevant heritage listings (statutory and non-statutory)

Structure and format

- Explanation of the layout of the strategy
- A guide to the use of the strategy
- Terminology
- Limitations

Authorship

- Recognition of who prepared the strategy, including their qualifications, and for whom.
- Recognition of who commented on the strategy, who reviewed the strategy, who revised the strategy and who approved the strategy.

Acknowledgements

- Recognition of those who assisted with the preparation of the strategy including community, local historical society, local and state government agencies.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Site history

An AMS is designed to be used in concert with a comprehensive AMP. This section should therefore provide a synopsis of the study area and its history provided in that document to assist with the understanding of the place. This should include an update to the history of the place since the completion of the AMP, both current and former uses, and should draw on other available sources for the site where appropriate e.g. Conservation Management Plan, Heritage Council Assessment.

Other resources that may be utilised include previous archaeological management documents and excavation reports, historical maps, plans and images (including aerial imagery).

Maps

A map showing the study area boundary with a north point and general scale should be provided as a minimum requirement. If historical maps and plans that identify potential features have been located since the completion of the AMP, particularly those that show any features used in the production of revised Geographic Information System zoning plans, these should also be included in this section.

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE PLACE

Preamble

- Brief explanation of the statutory framework within which the archaeology of the place is being defined.

Types of archaeological evidence

- Provide a brief summary of archaeological features and areas of archaeological potential for the site.

Past archaeological work

- This section should provide a brief synopsis of the previous archaeological studies for the site.

Site formation processes

- This should briefly summarise the site formation processes which may have impacted the site, particularly since the completion of the AMP.
- This information should be provided graphically wherever possible.

Discussion of archaeological potential

- General discussion of the site's archaeological potential as outlined in the AMP. Ideally, the archaeological potential zoning plan/s from the AMP should be replicated in this section.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

- Briefly discuss the site's archaeological significance as outlined in the AMP. Ideally, the archaeological significance zoning plan/s from the AMP should be replicated in this section.
- Briefly discuss the research design/ research questions articulated in the AMP in the context of the AMS being prepared.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

- This section should briefly discuss contextual and site-specific conservation and management issues drawing on the archaeological management policies in the AMP.
- Practical strategies should be provided to ensure that the archaeological resources of the place are appropriately dealt with, drawing on the management recommendations in the AMP.
- This must include consideration of an appropriate repository for any material recovered from the site,

and note that a framework for the assessment of the significance of any collections should be compiled to inform decision making.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Discuss further research required and obligations of owners/developers/ local council/archaeologist.
- Other recommendations and conclusions as appropriate.
- Conclusions/recommendations may differ to those in the AMP should new information come to light during compilation of the AMS, and/or due to consideration of archaeological investigations undertaken since the completion of the AMP.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

All references should be appropriately cited in the AMS and then included in the bibliography.

APPENDICES

Should include the following:

Appendix A – Scope of work for the project.

Appendix B – Links to associated information sources or include copy of the heritage assessment or other relevant document.

Appendix C – Glossary
(if deemed necessary)



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FRONT COVER: Geraldton – Northampton Railway Precinct, stone bridge, south of Walsh Road, Bowes.

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