

HOWIE'S COTTAGE & HOSTEL SITES AND START OF TRADEMEN'S AREA

BLOCK 3, SECTION 128 STIRLING PARK, YARRALUMLA.

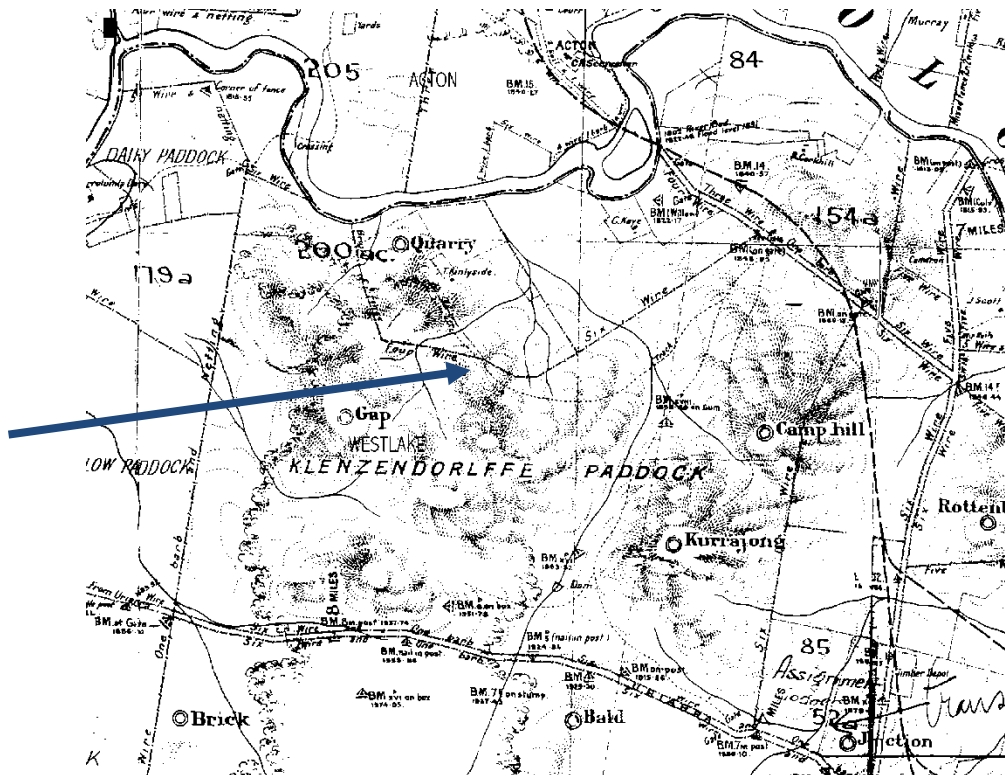
FORMER WESTLAKE

GURA BUNG DHAURA HILLS (STONY GROUND)

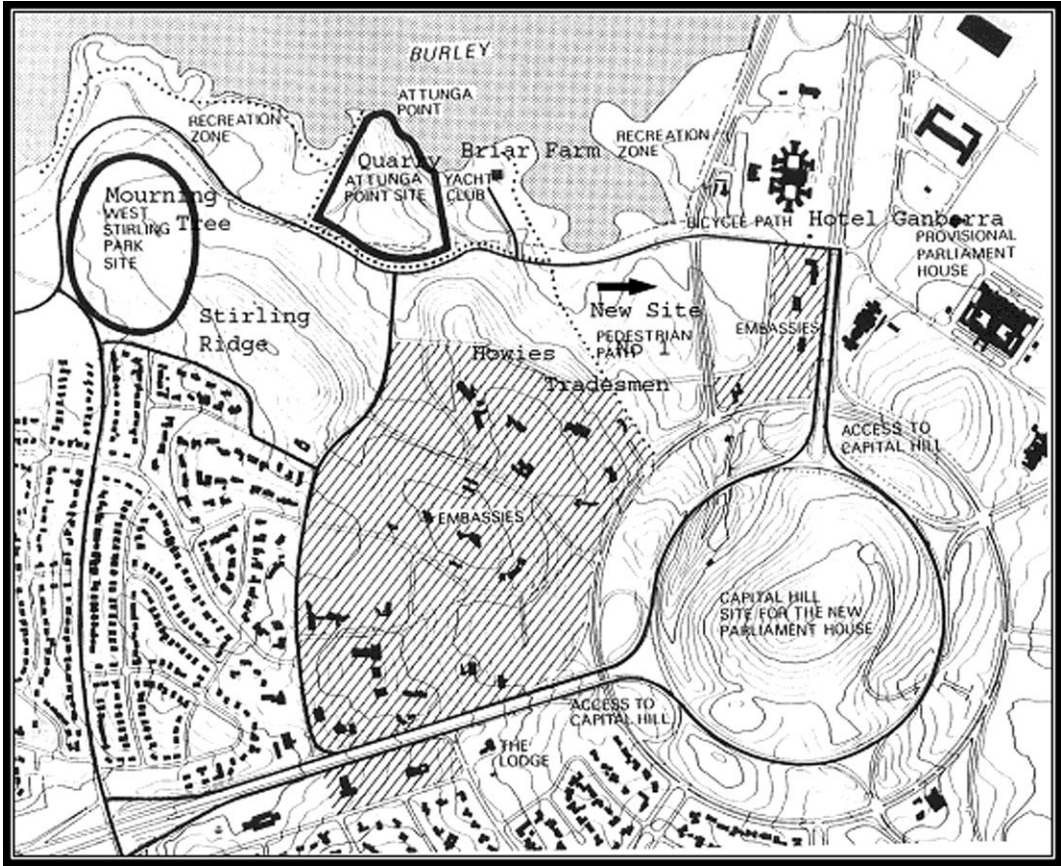
FRIDAY 11 JUNE 2010

Gps work - John Bruggeman

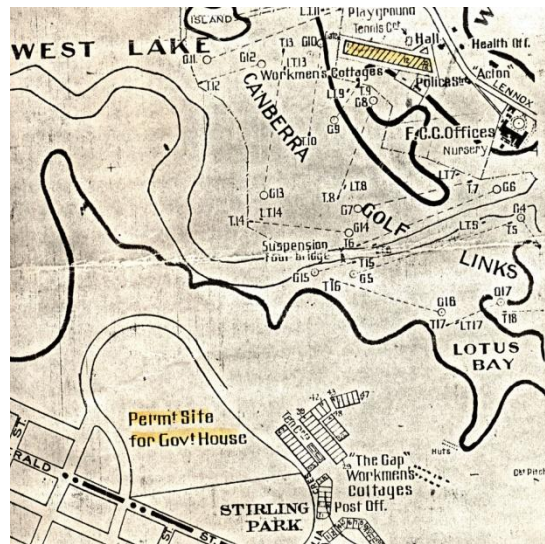
Sites: Ann Gugler

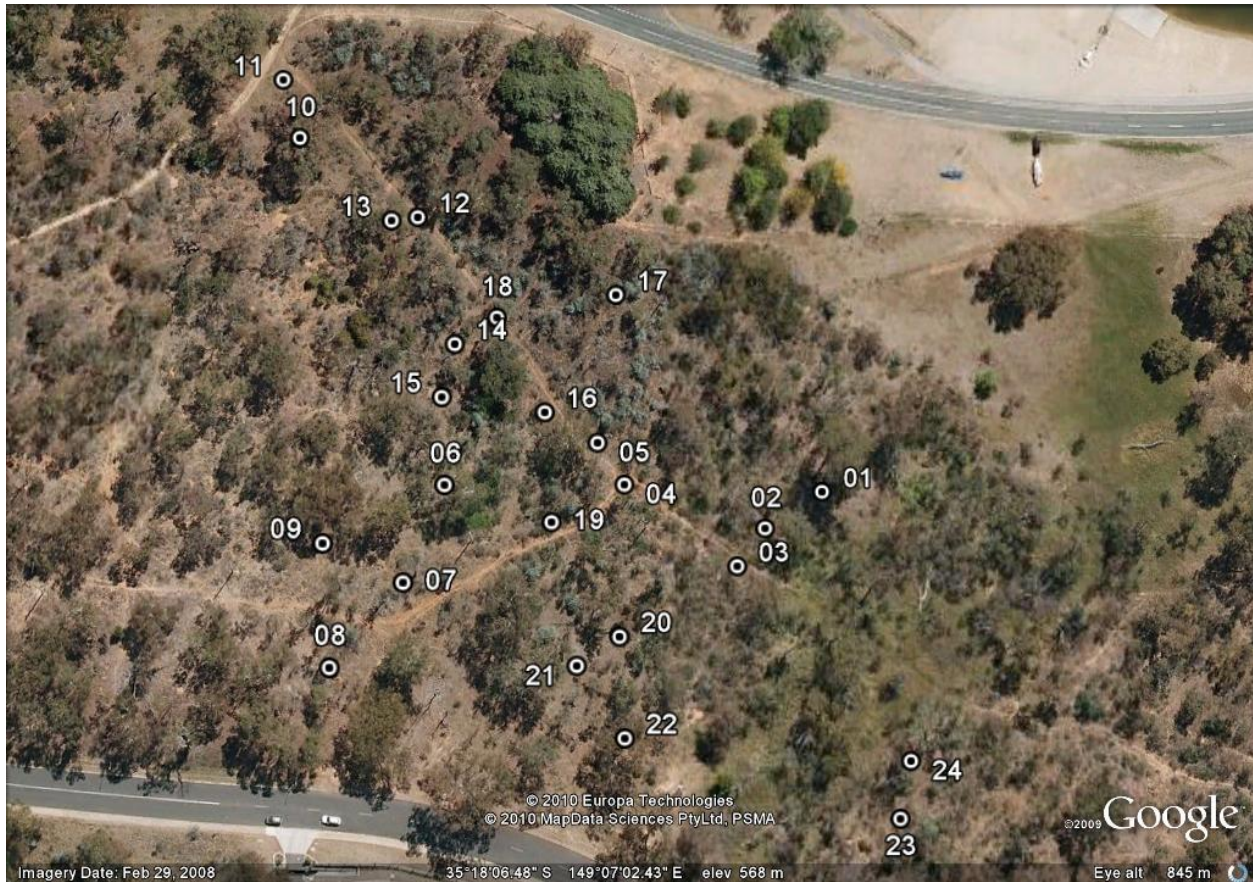


Above 1913 strip map. The GAP marker is on Stirling Ridge near the Canberra Mosque in Empire Circuit, Yarralumla. The QUARRY is Attunga Point. The arrow points to the area of Howie's Cottages on either side of the old road. The creek shown to the right of the arrow is the area of the Quagmire. The Tradesmen's Camp was to the east of the quagmire. The road cutting across the bottom of the map is the Uriarra Road. Molonglo River crosses the top of the map. Capital Hill is confined by State Circle. It contains part of Camp Hill and Kurrajong Hill.



Above: Proposed sites 1978 for Prime Minister's Lodge - West Stirling Park and Attungal Point. Below c1927 map of Canberra -detail of Westlake area. The dots near 'The Gap...' is the line of Howie's cottages with the recreation hall for married area on right. The huts marked near Lotus Bay is the Hostel Camp. The shape of Lotus Bay is different to the actual bay.





DETAIL OF BLOCK 3, SECTION 128 STIRLING PARK - EASTERN SIDE.

The old road shown in the 1913 map is the same track shown crossing the above photograph. The quagmire is the green area that is shown as creeks to the right of Howie's Cottages in the earlier map. No 4 marks the cross roads and to the right of the quagmire was the site of the Tradesmen's Camp. The road near Lotus Bay is Alexander Drive and bottom - Forster Crescent. The above marked sites are only a few - others will be added with time including the Tradesmen's sites and others in the park. On the day when this work was carried out the quagmire lived up to its name - inches of water

The track that runs up to Forster Crescent continued down the hill from the point of 4. It is not clear in this photograph but it did continue down to join the track seen just above 17 and continued across to the Hotel Canberra. The Quagmire is the green area. The area to the left of the quagmire is Contractor John Howie's Settlement - 1922- c1930/31. The Tradesmen's Camp 1923-1927 is to the right of the Quagmire.

1927 is to the right of the Quagmire.

1. Marker post, Hostel Ablutions' area.
2. Concrete slab - lavatory block Hostel Camp
3. Old road near quagmire
4. Cross-roads NW and EW intersection. Pile of river rocks on upper right side of road as going up the hill. The stones put there to stabilize the land.
5. Pile of large uneven coarse rocks, old Holden fender, rocks that may be part of garden bed of chimney stack. Large dead tree cut back - probably the tree in the street Howie's cottages CDHS photograph. The car is on the site of No 3 Howie's Cottages.
6. Wheelbarrow pile of concrete near the man hole and tree with metal hooks etc in trunk. This would be the area referred to by Walter Sheen as about 50 yards from their house (4 Howie's) - the sewer miners

used explosives at 12 midnight - so loud the children had to have cotton wool in their ears to stop them from waking.

7. Recreation Hall for married couples - Howie's Cottages
8. Dug out building platform - possibly one of the sites of shared lavatories for Howie's.
9. 2 X toilet block platforms
10. Aboriginal scar on tree stump
11. Western end of Howie's where it joins the modern walking track. This road would have joined a road closer to the that is referred in early maps as a deep water course. Near this creek in Block 4, Section 128 which is an undeveloped road, is the only known temporary septic tank of type built in the FCT (now ACT) before the sewer system was completed.
12. Roadway junction Y junction. The old road joins the surviving part of the track connecting the area with the Hotel Canberra.
13. Quarry or early mining site - one of two. Small scale limited mining - probably for gold took place on this hill and on Stirling Ridge (Section 22, Stirling Park, Yarralumla) - probably in the 1860s when John Morrison had a tenant farm in the area. John Morrison Jr of Tralee was born during the time this family lived in the area.
14. Howie's house - originally identified as No 2, but now think - 4 - Site of Sheen's cottage
15. Dump for 4 - major dump area that still has 1930s and earlier glass including purple (pre 1916). Exotic hedge shown in NCA map - to the east running NS
16. No 3 Howie's House
17. Concrete surveyor's mark - old concrete posts marking. There are others within the area- still to be marked on map.
18. Possible site for the CDHS photograph to be taken from the old road on the end near the Creek. No 3 is the light toned house third from the end top side. The cross road can be seen between the cottages and behind the trees.



19. Old car remains, dump and house site where a painter lived - Hamilton? The cottage was 3 Howie's

20. Howie's House site 1 or 2 - ice making metal container. One of two left on the site. The container was filled with water and frozen. The ice was made at the Cordial & Ice Factory at Civic, owned in the 1920s by TJ Sheeky and later by the Commonwealth Cordial Company.
21. Toilet slab - photograph of Freeman children taken c1925/26 showing the lavatory on the block. Pre-1926 concrete, pile of broken bricks - same as at Hotel Canberra - to south behind the slab.
22. Freeman's tent site - probably previously tenanted by Mrs Erikson, Mess Caterer for Tradesmen's Camp - moved into a Westlake Cottage in 1924 when they became available.
23. Marker Post - old Tradesmen's Camp 1923-1927 - ablution block - Study area. Iris plants growing.
24. Ablutions Block area of Tradesmen's Camp - running down the slope N-S direction. Near the road there are a number of stone arrangements that are probably Aboriginal in origin.