

Item name: Cader Idris

Location: 1230 Gresford Road Vacy 2421

Dungog

Address: 1230 Gresford Road

Planning: Hunter & Central Coast

Suburb/nearest town: Vacy 2421

Local govt area: Dungog

State: NSW

Parish:

County:

Other/former names:

Area/group/complex:

Group ID:

Aboriginal area:

Curtilage/boundary:

Item type: Complex / Group

Group: Residential buildings (private) **Category:** Homestead building

Owner: Private - Individual

Admin codes:

Code 2:

Code 3:

Current use: Farm complex

Former uses: Farm complex

Assessed significance: Local

Endorsed significance:

Statement of significance: Cader Idris is a record of the grant of land to William Evans in 1833 of this name. The earlier house site, dairy building and the hay shed site record the occupation of Cader Idris by the Drew family until 1948 and are likely to pre-date the Drew family. Noal and Ruth Hedges, who occupied the farm from 1974 to 1999 developed Cader Idris, and its change of use from dairy to beef limousin cattle is recorded by the new stock yards.

The aesthetic significance of Cader Idris farm complex has been diminished by the demolition of the hay shed and house and the alteration of building fabric to the dairy. There is archaeological potential that the site of the hayshed and house could be identified, assessed and recorded. The flying fox is interesting in its use for transporting goods across the Allyn River and it may be a rare remaining example of this transport type.

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Historical notes of provenance: William Evans was granted land on the Allyn River in 1833 and called this Cader Idris. The extent of William Evans' grant, Cader Idris, is shown as 327a3r10p.

The Drew family purchased 40 acres known as Cader Idris and Walter Drew and Rosa Drew (nee Veazey) moved from Hilldale to Cader Idris (date unknown). They operated the farm as a dairy, grew vegetables for their own use and also established an orchard. Walter died in 1948 and Cader Idris was sold soon after.

Photographs contained in the Drew and Veazey family history include the homestead which is shown as a timber framed building with weatherboard or lapped timber cladding and a hipped roof clad corrugated iron roof. It is surrounded by a verandah and bullnose profile roof. With a projecting wing to one elevation. It is a vernacular building with no decoration.

The hayshed is also documented and is a timber framed slab wall construction with a gable roof clad in galvanised iron. It is described as being "made of split slabs.. Some being 18 inches wide and 8-10 feet long. The shed was made of the good bush timber.."

The diary is documented and described: "The bails were all built of round timber except for the battens to nail [sic] roof onto and the partition between the cows..The bails being five double ones..The yards consisted of 3 large ones and a long rush made of largeround [sic] logs with big poles cut and mortised into posts. The yard in front of the bails was covered with rocks to keep it from bogging in wet weather; as cement yards were not available then..The dairy has been substantially rebuilt with new fabric and the mortised posts documented in the family history are not evident.

Cader Idris belonged to the Lawrence family and a Mrs Gardner and her sons Bruce and Ron before its purchase by Noel and Ruth Hedges. During the period prior to the Hedges purchase it operated as a dairy.

Noel Hedges lived in Singleton and purchased Cader Idris. The Hedges purchased the property in c1974 and sold the property in 1999. They operated initially as a beef cattle farm with limousin cattle and grew crops such as lucerne were grown as cattle feed. The farm had a three mile river frontage and a flying fox across the Allyn River. The Hedges lived in the early farm house for 2 years and then built a new brick house across the River that is still extant. (oral Ruth and Noel Hedges)

The current owners are Lester and Pamela Alexander, who purchased the property in 1999.

Themes: National theme

3. Economy

3. Economy

9. Phases of Life

State theme

Agriculture

Agriculture

Persons

Local theme**Designer:****Builder:****Year started:****Year completed:****Circa:** No

Physical description: The dairy is timber framed building of machine timbers and is clad in weatherboards with a colorbond roof and concrete slab floor. The bails are divided with galvanised steel rails. The dairy is currently used as a stable for horses.

A recent house is also existing on the property. This is timber framed and clad in colorbond.

Earlier buildings have been demolished. These include a hay shed and earlier house. There is no obvious evidence of these buildings above ground level.

Physical condition level:

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Physical condition: Dairy in good condition and well maintained.

Hay shed and earlier house are not evident above ground and there may be archaeological potential of footings though site for hay shed has been disturbed by new building work.

**Archaeological
potential level:**

**Archaeological
potential Detail:**

Modification dates:

**Recommended
management:**

Management: Management category

Management name

Further comments:

Criteria a): Cader Idris is a record of the grant of land to William Evans in 1833 of this name. The extent of William Evans' grant, Cader Idris was 327a and this has been reduced in size. . The earlier house site, dairy building and the hay shed site record the occupation of the Cader Idris by the Drew family until 1948 and are likely to pre-date the Drew family. Noel and Ruth Hedges who occupied the farm from 1974 to 1999 developed Cader Idris and its change of use from dairy to beef limousin cattle is recorded by the new stock yards.

**[Historical
significance]**

Cader Idris belonged to the Lawrence family and a Mrs Gardner and her sons Bruce and Ron before its purchase by Noel and Ruth Hedges. During the period prior to the Hedges purchase it operated as a dairy.

Noel Hedges lived in Singleton and purchased Cader Idris. The Hedges purchased the property in c1974 and sold the property in 1999. They operated initially as a beef cattle farm with limousin cattle and grew crops such as lucerne were grown as cattle feed. The farm had a three mile river frontage and a flying fox across the Allyn River. The Hedges lived in the early farm house for 2 years and then built a new brick house across the River that is still extant. (oral Ruth and Noel Hedges)

The current owners are Lester and Pamela Alexander, who purchased the property in 1999.

Criteria b): The property is associated with William Evans as part of a land Grant in 1833 known as Cader Idris. The property is also associated with the Walter and Rosa Drew who resided in the early house. Noel and Ruth Hedges are also associated with the property from 1974 to 1999 and resided for two years in the earlier house.

**[Historical
association
significance]** The evidence of the Drew family's occupation of the house is documented in the family history.

Criteria c): The aesthetic significance of Cader Idris farm complex has been diminished by the demolition of the hay shed and house. The dairy has been altered with new fabric and has low aesthetic significance.

**[Aesthetic/
Technical
significance]**

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Criteria d):
[Social/Cultural
significance]**Criteria e):** There is archaeological potential that the site of the hayshed and house could be identified, assessed and recorded. The flying fox is interesting in the use of this for transporting goods across the Allyn River.
[Research
significance]**Criteria f):** The flying fox may be a rare remaining example of this method of transporting goods.
[Rarity]**Criteria g):** The dairy which is the only remaining early building on the site, is not a representative example of its type as it has been altered with new fabric.
[Representative]**Intactness/Integrity:** Dairy has a low integrity value as it has been altered with new building fabric and original fabric has been removed. Earlier house has been demolished and no evidence above ground though archaeological potential. Hay shed has been demolished and low archaeological potential as site has been disturbed by new building.

References:	Author	Title	Year
		Drew and Veazey family history written for Drew/Veazey fami	1988
	Ruth, Noel and Graeme Hedges		2013

Studies:	Author	Title	Number	Year
	Perumal, Wrathall & Mur	Dungog Heritage Study	R51	1986
	Carste Studio	Dungog Heritage Study Review	13	2013

Parcels:	Parcel code	Lot number	Section number	Plan code	Plan number
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Latitude:**Longitude:****Location validity:****Spatial accuracy:****Map name:****Map scale:****AMG zone:****Easting:****Northing:****Listing:** Name**Title**
Heritage study**Number****ListingDate****Data entry:** Data first entered: 15/04/2013

Data updated: 18/11/2013

Status: Partial

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Caption: Cader Idris

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Image by: Carste Studio

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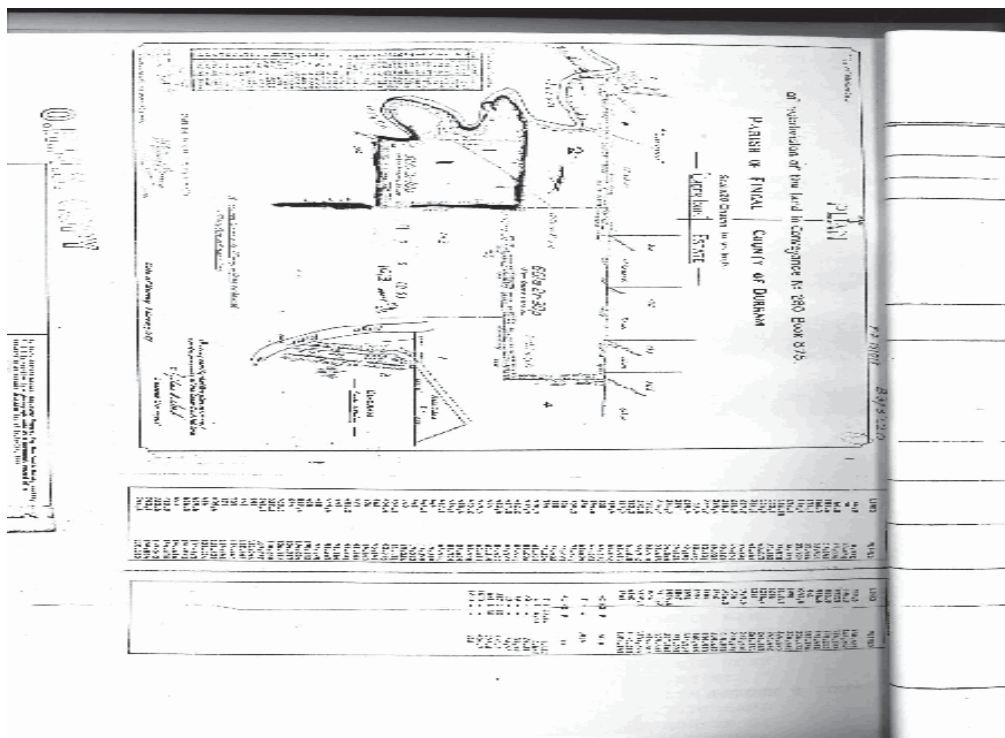
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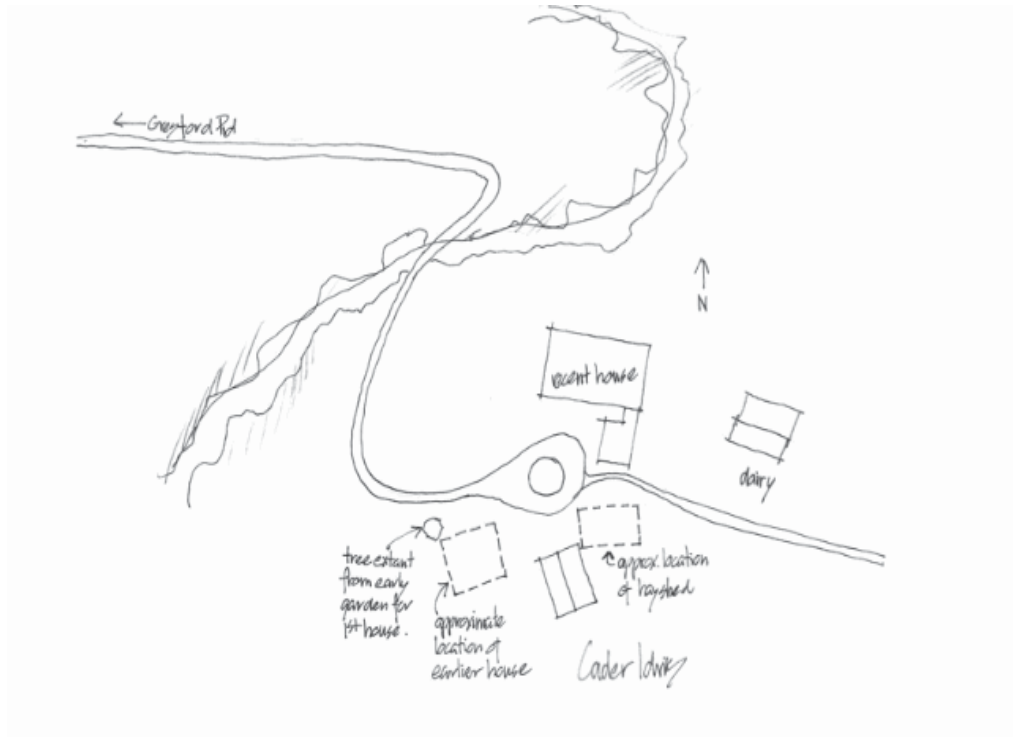
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