

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

Address: 2266 Stroud Hill Road

Planning: Hunter & Central Coast

Suburb/nearest town: Dungog 2420

Local govt area: Dungog

Parish:

State: NSW

County:

Other/former names: The Dungog Co-operative Dairy Company Limited

Area/group/complex:

Group ID:

Aboriginal area:

Curtilage/boundary:

Item type: Archaeological-Terrestrial

Group:

Category:

Owner:

Admin codes:

Code 2:

Code 3:

Current use:

Former uses:

Assessed significance: Local

Endorsed significance:

Statement of significance: The study site contains the potential for archaeological remains pertaining to an early 20th century butter factory, which is considered to be of potential local archaeological significance. The site represents the development of the dairy industry within the greater main centre of Dungog.

The second factory site of the Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited, known by 1914 as the Dungog Farmers and Dairymen's Milk Company and later the Dungog Co-operative Dairy Company Limited, was deliberately chosen for its close vicinity to the North Coast railway line which was constructed through Dungog between 1911 and 1913. The relocation and establishment of a new factory less than ten years after the establishment of the first butter factory, signifies the vast success and expansion of the Co-operative company and the involvement of the local farmers. The introduction of pasteurised milk production also demonstrates the development, growth and popularity of the dairy industry. The heavy focus on the dairy industry at the turn of the 20th century demonstrates the shift and change having been made to pastoralism based on the productivity of agriculture and certain crops at this point in time.

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

Historical notes of provenance: By the second half of the 19th century, the greater area of Dungog experienced a significant shift concerning the main sources of income production for the community. Initially focused on tobacco production, wheat growing and sheep rearing during the first half of the 19th century, these agricultural exploits had predominantly dried up or relocated to more prominent and better suited inland areas.² As the community required more agricultural enterprises in order to sufficiently survive, a heavy shift in focus towards dairying and the production of milk by-products quickly became one of the largest and valued business enterprises to the Dungog region.

By the start of the 20th century, local farmers and businesses involved within the dairy industry in the Dungog fathomed that a co-operative formation would be a positive way to produce dairy products with the most returns for all involved. Communication and discussions through meetings shortly followed and by March 1905, at a meeting held by the 'Farmers and Settlers' Association at Underbank', it was decided that a co-operative butter factory would be established in Dungog "with a nominal capital of £5000".³ The local residents of Dungog heavily supported the establishment of a co-operative agreement, as it allowed farmers to offload all of their milk and cream products to a single place for an agreed set price. In May 1905, a location was selected along Fosterton road, just outside the main town centre of Dungog, for the construction of the butter factory: "That Mrs J.K. Mackay's offer of a site of 5 acres near the old slaughter house for £300 be accepted".⁴

The Dungog Co-operative Buttery Factory officially opened on the 15th November 1905, with Mr F.A. Hooke named as chairman of the Directors.⁵ Hooke encouraged the local farmers and residents of Dungog of the economic success which would be felt from the establishment of the co-operative by stating: "Under cooperation the farmers would get the value of their cream and greatly benefit by the establishment of the factory they were officially opening that day."⁶

The factory and its co-operatives business model were deemed a quick success, as the factory originally opened holding an agreement with 95 suppliers. However these numbers increased rapidly, jumping to 141 suppliers by December 1906. The popularity and use of the co-operative butter factory most likely increased once dairy farmers realised that the co-operative could offer competitive prices for their milk and cream. Its convenient location just outside of the Dungog city centre also likely increased the number of suppliers to the factory. At this point in time, the butter was being branded and sold under the name "Durham".⁹

While the butter factory continued to enjoy growth and success, the introduction of the North Coast railway in 1911 which ran directly through Dungog caused the co-operative to decide to relocate the butter factory. In approximately 1913-1914, the second factory was constructed fronting Stroud Hill road, at its intersection with Alison road. The rear of the new factory backed directly onto the North Coast railway line, which meant that stock could be loaded onto the trains from the same location that the products were being produced, thus vastly reducing all previous transport costs. It appears that the second factory consisted of both butter and pasteurised milk production, an expansion compared to the initial factory. In 1914, the butter co-operative was renamed the 'Dungog Farmers and Dairymen's Milk Company', and later became known as the 'Dungog Co-operative Dairy Company Limited'.¹⁰ The co-operative appears to have regularly expanded their factory on Stroud Hill road, having introduced the production of powdered milk on the site in 1966.¹¹ At the time of this improvement, the butter produced at the factory was branded and sold as 'Peachblow'.¹²

Butter production at the second factory on Stroud Hill road stopped in 1979, and the factory as a whole was shut down in 1990. The site still stands today, but for the most part is unoccupied.¹³

² "Vacy Creamery", Paterson River History, online resource accessed 2nd March 2013
<http://www.patersonriver.com.au/places/vacycreamery.htm>

³ Australian Town and Country Journal (Wednesday 1st March 1905), p. 13.

⁴ "Meeting 13th May 1905" in 'Dungog Co-operative Dairy Company Limited: Annual report 1980- 75th Year (1980), p. 5.

⁵ 'Dungog Co-operative Dairy Company Limited: Annual report 1980- 75th Year (1980), p. 2.

⁶ 'Dungog Co-operative Dairy Company Limited: Annual report 1980- 75th Year (1980), p. 3.

⁷ The Sydney Morning Herald (Tuesday 30th January 1906), p. 7.

⁸ The Sydney Morning Herald (Tuesday 25th December 1906), p. 2.

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

9 "Meeting 3rd November 1905", in 'Dungog Co-operative Dairy Company Limited: Annual report 1980- 75th Year (1980), p. 5.

10 Communication with Maureen Kingston from Dungog Historical Society, 25th March 2013.

11 Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser (1st December 1966).

12 Communication with Maureen Kingston from Dungog Historical Society, 25th March 2013.

13 Communication with Maureen Kingston from Dungog Historical Society, 25th March 2013.

Themes:	National theme	State theme	Local theme
	3. Economy	Agriculture	
	3. Economy	Industry	

Designer:

Builder:

Year started: 1913

Year completed: 1914

Circa: Yes

Physical description: The study site currently contains a number of large dwellings constructed out of both brick and galvanised iron. Some of the factory sheds consist of two storeys, with outside stairs for access. A small brown brick dwelling at the edge of the site likely pertains to a manager's cottage constructed during the second half of the 20th century. Currently only a portion of the property is potentially being utilised as a bakery and storage area. The study site is noted as being owned by BSC.

Physical condition level:

Physical condition: The study site appears to contain three large interconnected factory/ warehouse buildings and two individual dwellings constructed out of brick and likely to have a later construction date. Based on documentary evidence and aerial photographs, it appears that all buildings pertain to the use of the site as a butter and milk pasteurising factory from as early as c1913-1914. Based on the original construction date of the butter and dairy factory and the site's subsequent use, it can be suggested that there exists a low to moderate potential for archaeological features and evidence pertaining to the use of the site as a butter and dairy factory. Archaeological evidence may be found in the form of footings for walls (if any of the currently standing buildings are not the original buildings), occupation deposits pertaining to the industrial use of the site as a butter and dairy factory, and rubbish pits associated with discard and waste from industrial processes. It appears likely that all original buildings from the construction of the factory in c1913-1914 are still standing.

Archaeological potential level:

Archaeological potential Detail:

Modification dates: A brown brick manager's cottage is believed to have been constructed on the study site in 1967. During that same year, a new factory which was noted as a "steel frame brick veneer building" 1 was constructed to house machinery for dried milk production which was a new business venture for the co-operative company.

1 Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser (1st December 1966).

Recommended management: Prior to the approval of any development of the study location an archaeological assessment and, if appropriate, relevant endorsements from the Heritage Branch should be sought where archaeological remains may be affected. Assessment of the site should be made prior to impact or disturbance being made to the current ground level surface.

Management: **Management category**

Management name

Further comments:

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

Criteria a): It can be suggested that the second factory site for the Dungog, then known as the Dungog Farmers and Dairymen's Milk Company, holds local historical significance within the community of Dungog. The second factory, constructed in c1913-1914, signified the expansion of the Dungog Co-operative Dairy company, as both butter and milk pasteurisation were produced in the factory. The establishment of the North Coast railway between 1911 and 1913 can be suggested to be the deciding factor in the factory's relocation to Stroud Hill road, while the factory's expansion demonstrates the congregation of local farmers and business enterprises in and around Dungog, which ultimately created a company which benefits a large number of individuals for more than 80 years.

Criteria b):
[Historical association significance]

Criteria c):
[Aesthetic/ Technical significance]

Criteria d): The site may hold local significance to the members of the Dungog community, as the factory was once an important economic factor to many farmers of the Dungog township. This may include descendants and workers of the factory.

Criteria e):
[Research significance]

Criteria f): It can be suggested that the presence of a butter factory on the study site is not considered rare or uncommon to this area. Many butter factories were operating around the Dungog region during this time as agricultural ventures were readily progressing in this direction.

Criteria g): The second butter and milk pasteurising, factory owned and occupied by the 'Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited' (known as the Dungog Farmers and Dairymen's Milk Company by 1914) is representative of the economic change to the greater area of Dungog at the turn of the 20th century. Based on the nature of the surrounding environment, along with the capability of production turn over, it appears that a shift from tobacco and wheat growing to the dairy industry was a change welcomed by many individuals. The sale and relocation of the factory to Stroud Hill road infers the importance of the railway system to Dungog and the surrounding townships. The study site can be considered to be of local significance under this criterion.

Intactness/Integrity: Extent of archaeological remains and their integrity is unknown.

References:	Author	Title	Year
	Dungog Co-operative Dairy Company	"Dungog Co-operative Dairy Company Limited: Annual report	1980
	The Sydney Morning Herald, 30th Jan		1906
	Australian Town and Country Journal,		1905
	Maitland Mercury and Hunter River G		1966
	Maureen Kingston, 25th March 2013;		2013
	Carste Studio Pty Ltd: Williams, Mich	A History of Three Rivers. Dungog Shire Heritage Study- Ther	2012
	Walsh, Brian	'Vacy Creamery' in Paterson River History, Last updated Febru	2013

Studies:	Author	Title	Number	Year
	Carste Studio	Dungog Heritage Study Review	21	2013

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

Parcels:	Parcel code	Lot number	Section number	Plan code	Plan number
	LOT	23		DP	1093765

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: 26/04/2013

Data updated: 19/11/2013

Status: Partial

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2 - Front edge of site

Copy right:

Image by: AMAC

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345ef3488a8fafa45e6900ee5538ba7e91d.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345ef3488a8fafa45e6900ee5538ba7e91d.jpg

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2 - some of the modern buildings

Copy right:

Image by: AMAC

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/34597dfa438e784498c8b99494cc2576412.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test34597dfa438e784498c8b99494cc2576412.jpg

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2 - red brick building possibly manager's cottage

Copy right:

Image by: AMAC

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/3459332097b9b6e491ab2a827dfa026a072.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test3459332097b9b6e491ab2a827dfa026a072.jpg

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2 - Distance shot of site

Copy right:

Image by: A

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345c422970d42dd464d8b6bb021aa6f1544.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345c422970d42dd464d8b6bb021aa6f1544.jpg

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2 - rear distance shot

Copy right:

Image by: AMAC

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345868d577168b6440b92c0f9e13e7b6851.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345868d577168b6440b92c0f9e13e7b6851.jpg

Item name: Dungog Co-operative Butter Factory Limited - Site 2

Location: 2266 Stroud Hill Road Dungog 2420

Dungog

