



Hawkesbury City Council

a t t a c h m e n t 3
t o
i t e m 1 2 2

History Relating to Inalls Lane

date of meeting: 30 June 2020
location: audio-visual link
time: 6:30 p.m.

The significance of Inalls Lane, Richmond supplied by Jan Barkley-Jack

New information to hand:

It seems possible that the lane now known as Inalls Lane at Richmond has its own significance as it may have been marked out by James Meehan as part of Governor Lachlan Macquarie's public works and constructed under the supervision of Hawkesbury's magistrate and successful organiser of the building of the first road over the Blue Mountains. All of these are men of importance in our history.

A letter exists from William Cox to Governor Lachlan Macquarie confirming the road by Mr. Dight's house has just been completed.¹ More research would need to be done to build a complete case but this may be warranted on the basis of the letter.

The Hon. Tony Kelly says in the Foreword of the late Ian Jack's book, *Macquarie's Towns*² that:

Amongst the legacies and achievements of Lachlan Macquarie's time as Governor of NSW, his contribution to town planning is one of the most significant and visionary.

Ian Jack continued emphasising Macquarie's importance observing that the layout of towns in NSW by Macquarie between 1810 and 1821 '**constitutes significant intangible heritage**' and as such the roads and planning involving the special layout of the townships at Mulgrave Place needs special consideration. Inalls Lane was an integral part of the landscape of the early Hawkesbury settlement and deserves further investigation.

Equally with Mountain View/Durham Bowes, Inalls Lane or Dight's Hill, as it was known, would seem to also constitute, as spoken about by Heritage NSW in the State Heritage Listing of that farmhouse, its curtilage and sight lines, one of the:

harmonious feature[s] of the landscape which provides evidence of having set the example to establish the safe accommodation on the highlands out of reach of the flood waters of the Hawkesbury River. Documentary records and physical evidence support the educational and research potential of Dights Hill...³

¹ Letter, William Cox to Lachlan Macquarie, November 1820, Colonial Secretary's Papers, Reel 6050, 4/1747, pp. 239-241.

² I. Jack in conjunction with the Heritage Council of NSW and the Land and Property Management Authority, *Macquarie's Towns*, Australia, 2010.

³ Heritage NSW, Department of Premier and Cabinet, 26 July 2006, <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails>, accessed 22 May 2020.