# CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE HERITAGE STUDY

	INVENTORY of SITES & ITEMS
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	KOTARA SOUTH

INVENTORY SUMMARY - LIST OF SITES & ITEMS	COT!	LRA S	OUTH	-	KS
ITEM No. DESCRIPTION and LOCATION	TYPE		SIGNIFICANCE		
KOTARA SOUTH - KS KOTARA SOUTH - KS			S	R	L
KS-01 SOUTH WARATAH COLLIERY, off KIRKDALE Dr, KOTARA SOUTH It is possible that various relics of the former mine and railway still exist. An historical & archaeological study could reveal some interesting traces of the former occupation. The site of South Waratah Colliery & the route of the former Gulley Line Railway could be interpreted & should be linked to Charlestown via the footpath, by means of signage and markers on a system of future industrial heritage trails.	а	EX		L	M
INVENTORY SUMMARY - LIST OF SITES & ITEMS	l		1		

## CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE HERITAGE STUDY

NAME/IDENTITY: SOUTH WARATAH COLLIERY SITE, off KIRKDALE DRIVE KOTARA SOUTH

KS - 01

PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES OR USES:

a.k.a. Raspberry Gully (see also Item RT-06)

ADDRESS: off Kirkdale Drive

Kotara South 2289

(opposite Dalpura Lane)

PARISH:

COUNTY:

Northumberland

S.H.I.P. REF. No.

DATE INSPECTED: November 1992

Doring

REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: PRESENT OWNER(S) (Name & Address):

SITE AREA:

current zoning: 5(c) & 6(a)

Archaeological/Historic Site CATEGORY:

Other mining SUBCATEGORY:

9232-3-S MAP 1:25000 No.

NAME: WALLSEND GRID: 779 528

HISTORICAL THEMES:

S.H.I.P.:

LOCAL:

Ref. Nos. for RELATED ITEMS

HISTORICAL PERIOD -BUILT: 1876-1900

USED:

1876 to 1961

BUILDER:

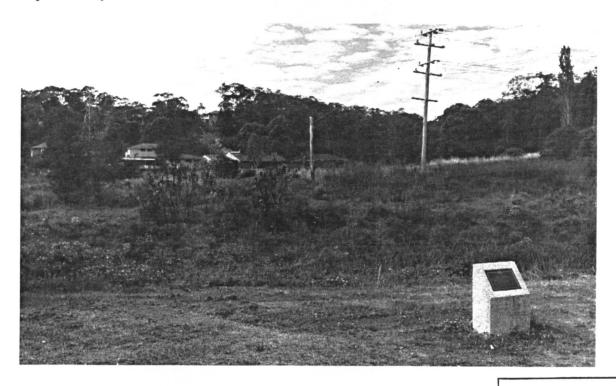
Waratah Coal Company

DATE BUILT:

1876

ARCHITECT/DESIGNER:

The South Waratah Colliery site PHOTOGRAPH &/OR SKETCH PLAN (and caption): viewed from Helen Street looking east. The site has been entirely cleared, and all that can be seen is a Bi-centennial plaque commemorating the colliery (Doring Neg. 441.30) and placed by Lake Macquarie Council.



KS - 01ITEM No.

NAME/IDENTITY SOUTH WARATAH	COLLIERY SITE, OFF KIRKDALE DRIVE KOTARA SOU	ITEM No. KS - 01						
KNOWN HERITAGE LISTINGS: Lake Macquarie Council Bi-centennial plaque.								
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS  It is thought that nothing exists above ground. Some underground workings may still exist, but would be inaccessible.								
The site once contained all the various structures needed to operate a coal mine. Some footings etc. of these may still exist. A railway ran from the mine at the head of the gulley back to the Main Line near Adamstown. Traces of this probably still exist. A tunnel (drift) was dug in the 1950s, & traces of this are said to exist.  There is a footpath (and steps) from Charlestown Rd running north to the head of the gulley. This was used by miners walking to work from Charlestown.								
Apart from the bi-centennial plaque, there is no interpretation of the site at present. It could be interpreted as part of a future heritage trail.								
CONSERVATION ACTIVITY: None. It is not known if there are any relics to conserve.								
PRESENT USE: Vacant land								
HISTORICAL NOTES: Waratah Coal Co. transferred ops. to Raspberry Gully in 1876 Charlestown subsequently developed on the hill to the south. In 1902, 520 men & boys were employed in the mine. The Gully Line Railway was built to connect the mine with the port. Sth Waratah closed 1961, and most surface features were demolished in 1969. A 1950s drift tunnel may still be visible.								
REFERENCES: Nilsen, L.(ed), "Lake Macquarie: Past & Present", pub. LMCC 1985. Bi-centennial plaque at the site								
EVALUATION CRITERIA:  HISTORIC Rare ( AESTHETIC Rare ( SOCIAL Rare ( SCIENTIFIC Rare ( OTHER Rare (	) Associative ( ) ) Associative ( ) ) Associative ( )	Representative ( )						
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: It is possible that some surface relics of the former colliery workings still exist amongst the undergrowth covering the site. It was cleared c1959 and the land has never been developed. This early colliery was historically significant in Lake Macquarie, and was the reason for the foundation of Charlestown, now Lake Macquarie's largest commercial centre. It is a steep climb down to Raspberry Gully from the Charlestown Road miner's cottages (CT-01), but the two sites are intimately connected historically. RECOMMENDATION: The site of South Waratah Colliery & the route of the former Gulley Line Railway could be interpreted & should be linked to Charlestown by means of signage and markers on a system of future industrial heritage trails.  Regional significance - low Local Significance - moderate (high if interpreted)								

