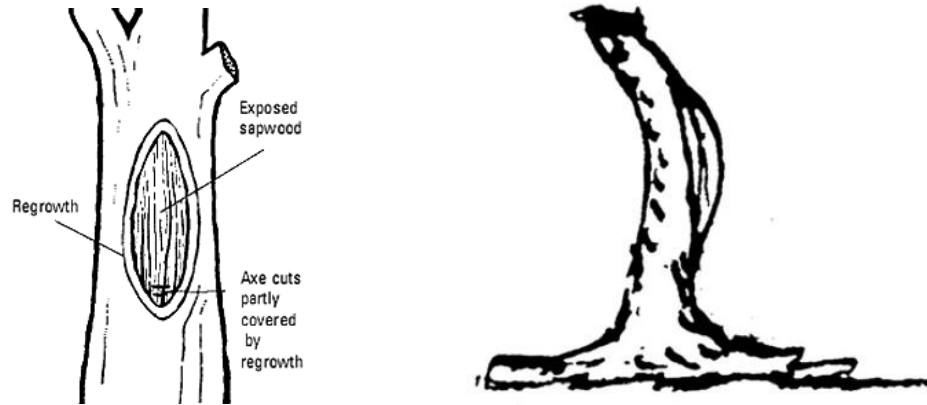


Counting Scars: Culture, Science and Consultation for Modified Trees in NSW




Left: 2003 scarred tree diagram by the Department for Victorian Communities, State of Victoria
Right: 1840s drawing by George Augustus Robinson of a curved pre-form scar









 muswellbrook
shire

 AngloAmerican

Scarred Tree from Dartbrook Mine Site.

Aboriginal people have occupied the greater Muswellbrook area for thousands of years. Evidence of their occupation can be found throughout the region, with numerous Aboriginal archaeological sites having been identified and recorded. Major site types for this area include open camp sites, rockshelters, scarred trees and grinding grooves. Together, these sites attest to the widespread use of the landscape by Aboriginal people and are of cultural significance to the local Aboriginal people who are the owners of this land.

This Scarred Tree was salvaged in 1992 as part of the Dartbrook Underground Coal Mine Project. A mature yellowbox (*Eucalyptus melliodora*), the tree exhibits two potential cultural scars and was identified on cleared grazing land approximately 250 metres south of an unnamed creek to the east of Aberdeen township. The tree was moved to its current location as a preservation and protection measure and an opportunity to share with the general community.

Aboriginal scarred trees that have scars associated with the production of cultural implements, such as coolamons, shields and canoes, the construction of temporary shelters and traditional hunting techniques (i.e., the cutting of toe holds). Trees were also sometimes carved or decorated. Bark was removed from tree trunks using stone or steel axes, exposing the sapwood, and leaving scars of various sizes.

This Scarred Tree was salvaged under approval by the

N.I.A.C.

Northern Illawarra Aboriginal Collective Inc.

representing Wulungulu, Gundungara, Wadi-Wadi and Korewal traditional owner groups

**Scarred Trees at Turner Road,
formal nomination for AHIMS listing**

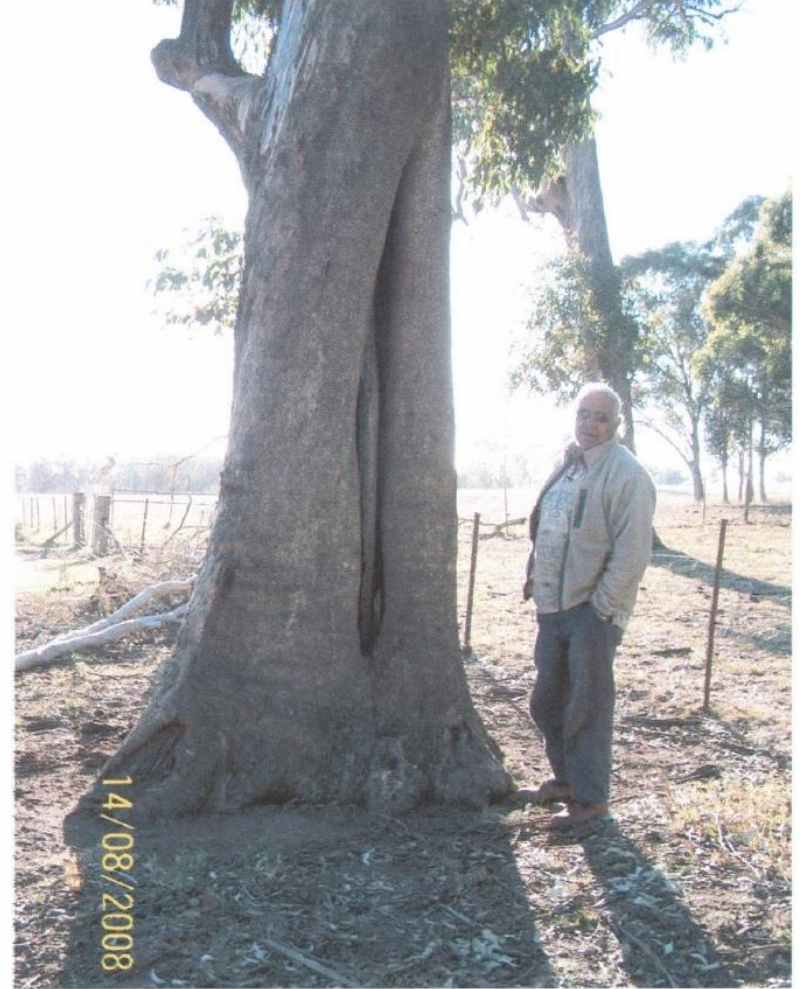
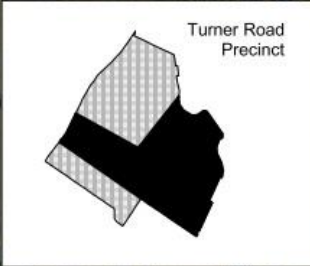


Figure 1: Aboriginal Elder, Mr Allan Carriage of NIAC's Wadi Wadi member group with scarred tree 1. Scar faces SW.



Scarred Tree TR3

Conservation
Area TR-1

Site TR5

THE EXPRESS

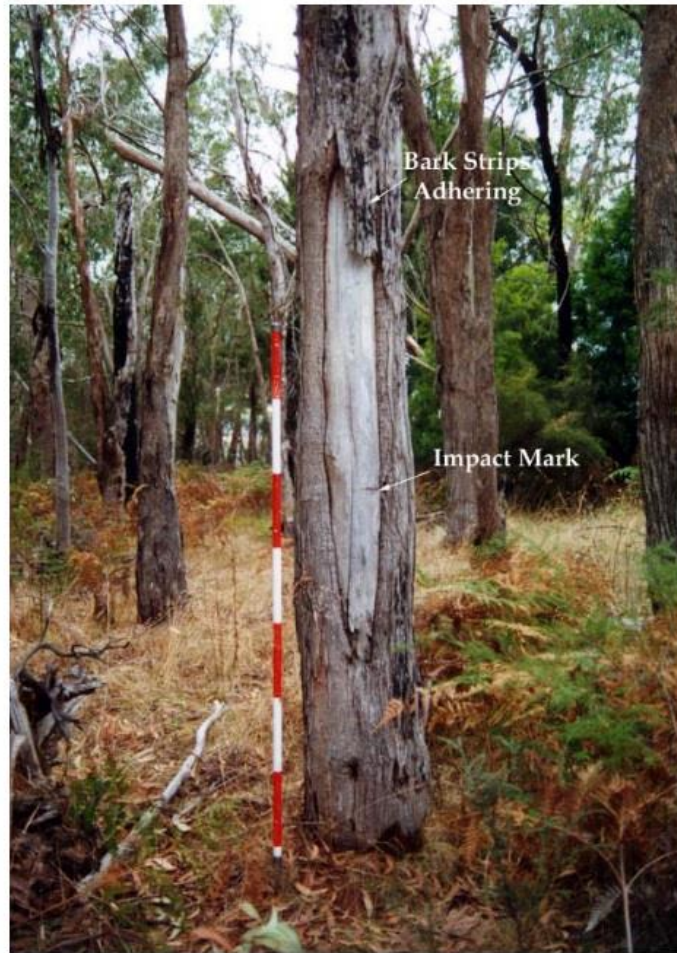
NSW Office of Environment and Heritage finds scar trees on former Riverlands Golf Course not modified by indigenous

James Taylor, Canterbury-Bankstown Express
September 6, 2016 12:00am



 Bankstown Bushland Society vice president Chris Brogan said the group wouldn't give up their effort to protect the trees.

From Andrew Long's
2003 work - *Scarred
Trees: An Identification
and Recording Manual*



Impact damage from machinery at Mt. Clay.





Dictionary

(Clause 1.4)

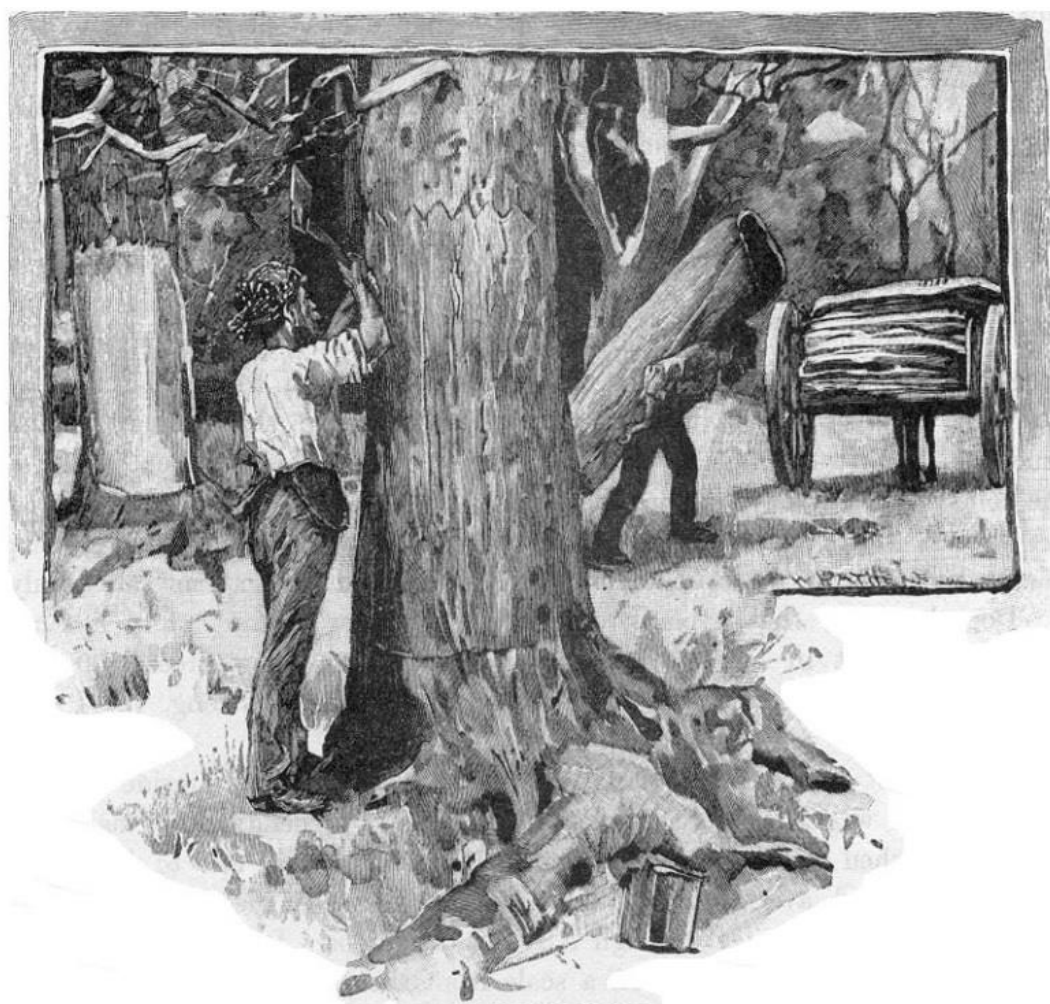
Note. The Act and the *Interpretation Act 1987* contain definitions and other provisions that affect the interpretation and application of this Plan.

Aboriginal object means any deposit, object or other material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of an area of New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.

Aboriginal place of heritage significance means an area of land, the general location of which is identified in an Aboriginal heritage study adopted by the Council after public exhibition and that may be shown on the [Heritage Map](#), that is:

- (a) the site of one or more Aboriginal objects or a place that has the physical remains of pre-European occupation by, or is of contemporary significance to, the Aboriginal people. It may (but need not) include items and remnants of the occupation of the land by Aboriginal people, such as burial places, engraving sites, rock art, midden deposits, scarred and sacred trees and sharpening grooves, or
- (b) a natural Aboriginal sacred site or other sacred feature. It includes natural features such as creeks or mountains of long-standing cultural significance, as well as initiation, ceremonial or story places or areas of more contemporary cultural significance.

Note. The term may include (but is not limited to) places that are declared under section 84 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* to be Aboriginal places for the purposes of that Act.



BARKING GUM-TREES.



 PROJECT IN MOTION: A concept of the Oak Hill Aboriginal Scarred Tree Project, which Yass Valley Council has allocated additional funding. Image: Yass Valley Council.