

SALV. LIBRARY ACQUISITION
NOT FOR LOAN



THE LIBRARY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
& LAND MANAGEMENT
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CAPE ARID NATIONAL PARK

OUTLINE

WORKING PLAN

NATIONAL PARKS AUTHORITY

1978

17/5/1978

P R E F A C E

In the preparation of working plans, every effort is made to comply with the wishes of such interested parties as local residents and organizations, where their wishes are compatible with the proper management of a National Park.

The plan provides guidelines for the day to day working of the National Parks' staff, and is subject to periodic revision and modification by the National Parks Authority.

F.G. Smith

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL PARKS

CAPE ARID NATIONAL PARK

OUTLINE WORKING PLAN

CONTENTS

1. EXISTING TENURE AND CONTROL
2. ATTRACTIONS, RESOURCES AND USE
3. OBJECTIVES OF MANAGEMENT
4. EXISTING FACILITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS
5. PRESENT STAFF AND CONTROL
6. BLOCKS AND CLASSIFICATIONS
7. APPROPRIATE PUBLIC USE
8. PROPOSED STAFF AND FACILITIES
9. FIRE MANAGEMENT
10. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

CAPE ARID NATIONAL PARK

OUTLINE WORKING PLAN

1. EXISTING TENURE AND CONTROL

1.1 Cape Arid National Park lies 120 km east of Esperance.

The park includes on its coastline Tagon Point, Cape Arid and Cape Pasley, and extends inland to well north of Mt. Ragged.

1.2 Cape Arid National Park consists of Class A Reserve No. 24047 vested in the National Parks Board for the purpose of National Park 29 August, 1969 (Government Gazette pp. 2488, 2489 and 2499). The name was gazetted 20 March 1970, p 856.

1.3 The area of the park is 259 808 ha and this excludes the following enclaves :-

Reserve 518 Camping and Recreation, Shire of Esperance	101 ha
Reserve 519 Public Purposes, not vested	40 ha
Reserve 14234 Mt. Ragged for Water, not vested	1295 ha
Neridup Location 8 Vacant Crown Land	40 ha
9 Crown Grant	64 ha
10 Vacant Crown Land	40 ha

1.4 The Environmental Protection Authority (1976) recommended that -

- (1) the National Park be extended to low water mark;
- (2) reserve 14234 and 519 be included in the National Park;

- (3) reserve 518 be vested in the Shire of Esperance for
Camping and recreation;
- (4) Neridup Locations 8, 9 and 10 be purchased when available
and included in the National Park; and
- (5) the boundary of the National Park be extended northwards to
include Pine Hill.

These Recommendations, with the exception of (3), are in
conformity with the recommendations of the Conservation Through
Reserves Committee, 1974.

- 1.5 The Esperance Shire Council in a submission to the Environmental
Protection Authority objected to the Conservation Through Reserves
Committee recommendation that the park be extended to low water
mark, and requested that Reserve 518 should be vested in the
Shire of Esperance on the grounds that its value is essentially
for recreation and camping purposes. (Vested in Shire of
Esperance Government Gazette 9 December 1977).

2. ATTRACTIONS, RESOURCES AND USE

- 2.1 The most popular attractions in Cape Arid National Park are the coastal resources of long beaches and rocky headlands, together with their scenic values. There are low granite hills inland and in the north of the park is Mt. Ragged, a ridge of Precambrian quartzite rising to 585 m. Surrounding the hills and comprising the greater part of the park are extensive sandplains.
- 2.2 According to the Report of the Conservation Through Reserves Committee, 1974, the area contains a rich flora, mostly typical of the southern sandheaths. There are also unusual species, especially on the hills, including *Rhadinothamnus euphemiae*, *Scaevola brookeana*, *Kunzea baxteri*, *Thysanotus* spp., *Boronia coriacea*, *Leucopogon* sp., *Beyeria latifolia*, *Dryandra* sp., *Kennedia becxiana*.
- 2.3 The southern sandheaths and mallee extend inland as far as Mt. Ragged, to the north of which there is a rapid transition to tall or low woodland dominated by species typical of inland areas. The ground storey here consists of saltbush (*Atriplex*), bluebush (*Kochia*), *Geijera*, etc. There are also small salt lakes, especially north west of Mt. Ragged.
- 2.4 Mt. Ragged is the largest of several high hills which together comprise the Russell Range. It is a steep-sided, rocky ridge with a summit which is almost a razorback. Around the base is a wave-cut platform which corresponds geologically to similar benches around the Barrens of the Fitzgerald River National Park. There is an interesting botanical link also, since several species occur in both localities but not in the area between, e.g. *Beyeria latifolia*, but Mt. Ragged contains several species that are endemic to it. These include *Scaevola brookeana*, *Monotoca oligarrhenoides*, an as yet undescribed species of *Dryandra*, and *Gastrolobium pycnostachyum* (Mt. Ragged Poison). Despite its relative aridity, a number of

orchids and several ferns have been recorded from the mountain and its vicinity. A population here of Sticky Tail-flower (*Anthocercis viscosa*) is unusual in being the only inland occurrence of a species which is otherwise coastal.

- 2.5 Mt. Ragged, or the area immediately to the south of it, is thought to be the locality where *Nothomyrmecia*, the most primitive of all ants, was collected in 1930. This ant is considered even more primitive than known fossil ants, and there have since been several intensive but unsuccessful expeditions in search of it.
- 2.6 North of Mt. Ragged at Pine Hill, is a small permanent waterhole adjacent to a granite outcrop. The pines after which the hill is named are *Callitris preissii*. Aquatic plants, rare in this region, include *Ottelia ovalifolia*, *Myriophyllum* sp. and *Marsilea drummondii*. Species on the granite include the fern *Cheilanthes*. The graves of three members of the Brook Family, pioneer settlers in the last century, lie here.
- 2.7 The vegetation of the area is further described by J.S. Beard in The Vegetation of the Esperance and Malcolm Areas, Western Australia, maps 1:250,000, and in Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, Nullarbor, 1:1,000,000 Vegetation Series.
- 2.8 Aerial photography of December, 1962 showed that the mouth of Thomas River was a popular picnic spot, certainly for persons living in the district. After the Cape Arid National Park was proclaimed, the first inspection by a Mobile Ranger confirmed the popularity of the mouth of Thomas River. The need to develop facilities for campers in this area, as well as the need to protect the flora and fauna, was seen to be first priority in this park.
- 2.9 The increased availability of four-wheel drive vehicles made the park generally more accessible. Amateur and licenced fishermen, including abalone divers have found it attractive to operate from Thomas River, Point Tagon and both sides of Cape Arid, as well as

from the areas of Poison Creek and Jorndée Creek which lie to the east of Cape Arid. Cape Pasley has been said to be attractive to fishermen but the existing track through the sand dunes has become hazardous.

2.10 Most other visitors appear to be merely traversing the park on their way between Balladonia, Israelite Bay, Point Malcolm or Esperance.

2.11 Observations during the summer of 1977-78 show the main areas of attraction to be -

2.11.1 Mouth of Thomas River - Picnicking, camping, fishing and playing with off road vehicles on the beach and sand dunes. From this point the beach provides vehicle access to Arid Bay and Barrier Anchorage.

2.11.2 Mouth of Jorndee Creek - Camping, fishing and launching boats from the creek mouth, other camp sites in stands of trees nearby.

2.11.3 Mouth of Poison Creek - Camping and fishing, especially along the banks of the creek and along the beach east of the creek mouth.

2.11.4 Area of Woodland - 2 km SW from Poison Creek - Camp sites for many visitors to the Poison Creek area.

2.12 During the same period bases used by commercial fishermen were as follows :-

2.12.1 Barrier Anchorage - John Cahill, a professional fisherman, has a permanent hut and small garden with water supply ;

2.12.2 Mt. Arid - Glen Fry, abalone diver, has his main base ;

2.12.3 An un-named bay north of Barrier Anchorage - Camp of Bob Lamason and another abalone diver;

2.12.4 Thomas River Mouth -

Abalone diver Payne kept a caravan there for some years -
it has been removed;

2.12.5 Tagon Harbour

An abalone diver camps near small supply of fresh water at
eastern end of the beach;

2.12.6 Un-named creek between Jorndee Creek and Poison Creek -

Payne and Kennedy, abalone divers, camp near the creek and
have made a cutting through dunes to the beach.

2.13 Ruins

2.13.1 North of Mt. Arid there are some remains of the homestead
that stood in Neridup Location 9; stone walls and parts
of a large press.

2.13.2 In a deep valley east of Mt. Arid there are the remains of
another homestead, and a grave, in Neridup Location 8 and 10.
The vegetation here is particularly lush and dense with rich soil.

2.13.3 North of Mt. Pasley, at an acute bend in the alignment of the
old telegraph line that ran across the park, there are a small
hut and a water tank, and signs of small paddocks. This hut
is visited by travellers between Point Malcolm and Esperance
who leave notes of their visit in a jar in the hut.

2.13.4 The telegraph line itself can still be found in places.
Some posts have survived bush fires and the wire is a
hazard to vehicles where the track follows close by the
original route.

2.14 At Easter 1978, camping took place as follows :-

Thomas River Mouth - 14 families (only 1 family in Reserve 518)

Between Thomas River Mouth and Cape Arid - 10 families

Tagon Bay - 10 families

Poison Creek to Jorndee Creek - 32 families

Visitors were reported to be all very happy and clean and the
fishing good.

3. OBJECTIVES OF MANAGEMENT

3.1 The basic objects of National Parks management are as follows :-

3.1.1 protect the scenery, vegetation and animal life from disfigurement, damage or destruction;

3.1.2 provide facilities for the enjoyment in appropriate ways of the natural resources of the park by the public; and

3.1.3 apply ecological management to correct the unnatural influences of Man and to permit the natural environment to be maintained by nature.

3.2 The objectives for development within the foreseeable future are :-

3.2.1 providing adequate staff and accommodation for the control management and interpretation of the park;

3.2.2 improving facilities for discreet camping in appropriate areas;

3.2.3 upgrading selected tracks to prevent further environmental damage by motor vehicles;

3.2.4 providing information to visitors to the park so that they can fully understand and enjoy the natural features in a manner appropriate to a National Park;

3.2.5 providing walking tracks in suitable areas to facilitate access to and appreciation of the coastal and mountain scenery;

3.2.6 developing an effective protection plan to prevent the passage of bush fires over park boundaries and for containing fires, however caused, within limited areas of the park;

3.2.7 obtaining more detailed information about the natural resources of the park.

4. EXISTING FACILITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS

- 4.1 As the park had been considered to be inaccessible to the public, no facilities had been provided. Some general National Park notices had been installed on tracks entering the park; some prohibited, among other things, camping.
- 4.2 Travellers and local people visiting points for recreation, those constructing and maintaining the telegraph line across the park, and early settlers have all developed a system of tracks. These tracks are, for the most part, suitable only for four wheel drive vehicles. Stretches of deep sand, steep sand dunes and swampy patches may prevent the passage of even these vehicles.
- 4.3 Main routes of access from Esperance are Fisheries Road and Merivale Road. Merivale Road has a narrow bitumen strip stopping at the junction of Dunn Rock Road, and thereafter it is gravel. This formed road extends along the northern boundary of the Thomas River and Mount Arid section of the park. Fisheries Road has a wide bitumen surface for most of the way, and provides the better access route. Tagon Road runs south from Fisheries Road to Merivale Road and provides the most convenient link for traffic going to the coastal areas of the park.
- 4.4 The most important tracks in the park at the present time are as follows :-

4.4.1 Track from Merivale Road to mouth of Thomas River,
8.6 km. (Yokinup Road)

This track is the most heavily used and has been graded from time to time unofficially. The presence of boggy patches and sandy stretches has led to the use of several alignments. This track is particularly important because it provides access to the mouth of Thomas River which is popular for picnics, fishing and camping, as well as to the beach route to fishermen's bases in the Cape Arid area, and a track to Tagon Harbour.

4.4.2 Track from Merivale Road to Poison Creek, 22 km.

(Poison Creek Road). This track is heavily used in all weathers and crosses many boggy areas which can be identified from a distance by the presence of tufts of grass. The route follows part of the old telegraph line track, and has many deviations to avoid areas of mud. This track also serves Jorndee Creek and camp sites between Poison Creek and Jorndee Creek.

4.4.3 Beach route - mouth of Thomas River to Arid Bay,
25 km.

This is a rapid and vitally important route for fishermen and others travelling to and from the Cape Arid area. Liable to have soft stretches of beach sand, as well as ridges and gulleys caused by sand blown back onto the beach from primary dunes. Suitable only for four wheel drive vehicles and tractors.

4.4.4 Fisheries Road crosses the park as an infrequently used track leading to Israelite Bay.

4.4.5 Balladonia Road extends from Fisheries Road and crosses the north western part of the park to near Mt. Ragged and then north to Pine Hill and Balladonia. This is a track which is very sandy in some parts and very rough and stony in others.

5. PRESENT STAFF AND CONTROL

- 5.1 No staff has been permanently stationed in the park.
- In the past there have been only occasional visits of Mobile Rangers to erect signs, and carry out a cleanup of areas used for camping, and to discourage the killing of wildlife.
- 5.2 With the lack of staff there has in effect been no control exercised in the park. It is however pleasing to note that with the exception of an area at the mouth of Thomas River, and the camp sites of certain abalone fishermen, visitors to the park have kept it in a reasonably clean and undamaged condition.
- 5.3 During the summer season 1977-78 a Mobile Ranger, based in the Thomas River area, was able to establish good relations with local farmers, fishermen and visitors. In addition he searched for and found potable water, and investigated a proposed realignment of the track to the mouth of Thomas River, thereby preparing the way for the installation of a Resident Ranger in the park.

6. BLOCKS AND CLASSIFICATIONS

- 6.1 The park is divided by Fisheries Road into two major parts. At this stage that area north of Fisheries Road is regarded as a single block, while south of that road four distinct blocks are identified.
- 6.1.1 Mt. Ragged Block - all that area of the park north of Fisheries Road.
- 6.1.2 Tagon Block - that area west of Telegraph Line Track and the major sand dune immediately adjacent to it.
- 6.1.3 Carnicup Block - that area between Fisheries Road and Telegraph Line Track.
- 6.1.4 Arid Block - that area east of Tagon Block and west of a north-south line to the east of Salt Creek.

- 6.1.5 Pasley Block - that area east of Arid Block
- 6.2 The suitability for part of the park to be designated as a Wilderness Area remains to be investigated. This should be done at an early stage.
- 6.3 The park will therefore be classified generally as a Natural Area, with minor Facilities Areas.
- 6.4 The remoteness and size of the park could well justify the establishment of a major Facilities Area. However, it is considered that it is too early at the present stage to give this more than mention as a future possibility.

7. APPROPRIATE PUBLIC USE

- 7.1 The large size of the park, the variety of topography and land forms and the varied coastline provide locations for the full range of activities for public recreation appropriate to National Parks.
- 7.2 Currently the activities of visitors to the park are limited to picnicking, camping, fishing and sightseeing. Recreational activities are almost entirely orientated towards the seashore with fishing as a popular sport.
- 7.3 There has been some illicit use of off-road vehicles as play things on the primary dunes, particularly to the east of the mouth of Thomas River. The evidence of erosion caused by this activity is clearly visible. It appears that those responsible have been under the impression that they are on land controlled by the Shire Council.

- 7.4 Much work needs to be done by Ranger staff to inform visitors as to the attractions and recreational possibilities of the park, and in the preparation of footpaths and other facilities for those purposes.
- 7.5 There is also a need for written information as to the attractions, appropriate recreational activities and facilities, as well as interpretive material to enable visitors to obtain the maximum benefit from their visit to the park.

8. PROPOSED STAFF AND FACILITIES

- 8.1 The first essential is to install a Resident Ranger in the park so that facilities can be provided, and the park maintained and managed, and visitors provided with the necessary information to obtain maximum enjoyment from their stay in the park.
- 8.2 The most appropriate location for the Ranger Station is in the vicinity of the Thomas River, currently the focal point of maximum use.
- 8.3 A Mobile Ranger should be stationed in the vicinity of Poison Creek during the summer season. Fresh water is available nearby. Up to thirty families at a time were camped in this area during holiday periods, summer 1977-78.
- 8.4 Dependent upon further information concerning usage of the Poison Creek - Jorndee Creek area, consideration should be given to the installation of a Resident Ranger in this area.
- 8.5 The track from Merivale Road to the mouth of Thomas River should be upgraded to the standard specified for National Park roads. Disused alignments should be ripped where

necessary, and the windrows graded back into the tracks to encourage vegetation. This should be done in autumn at the beginning of the winter rains.

- 8.6 The beach route from the mouth of Thomas River to Arid Bay is of great importance to commercial and amateur fishermen as well as to other park visitors and for park management purposes. While the condition of most of the route is dependent upon the wind and the sea, the short stretches where the route passes behind headlands can be improved and stabilised. This is work which can be carried out most appropriately by the Ranger staff, possibly with assistance from the commercial fishermen who will receive most benefit.
- 8.7 The track from Thomas River to Tagon Harbour used by the occasional fisherman needs very careful study and realignment if necessary to protect the fresh water supply. It may be found necessary to have the water supply area declared a Special Area to which unauthorised entry is prohibited.
- 8.8 The track from Merivale Road to Poison Creek presents a more difficult problem. First, the possibility of realignments should be examined, based on air photo interpretation and ground inspection. It is desirable to avoid the flat areas of seasonal boggiess. If these cannot be avoided, the track will require forming and sheeting heavily where it crosses the bad stretches. Elsewhere normal sheeting to park road standards will suffice.
- 8.9 Other tracks, to Cape Arid and the old telegraph track, carry only occasional traffic and require little doing to them.

Protruding rocks (there is a nasty one on the telegraph track) and creek crossings can be attended to as required by the Ranger staff. A concerted effort should be made to remove the telegraph wire as this can do considerable damage to vehicles. Pushing it to one side of the track is not enough. Experience elsewhere has shown that by some means or other it eventually arrives back on the track. Whenever encountered, lengths should be cut, coiled and removed.

- 8.10 Because of the presence of a substantial sand dune system with very steep ridges, it would seem appropriate to develop the route from the hut on the telegraph line to the Cape Pasley area as a hiking trail. The cost of providing vehicle access would be out of all proportion to the potential use at this stage.
- 8.11 Facilities for discreet camping should be developed in the vicinity of the mouth of Thomas River, having particular care to protect the natural vegetation which provides so much of the charm of the area. It should be noticed that many campers actually camp in the National Park; there are only a few sites in Reserve 518 which are suitable and used along the northern bank of Thomas River.
- 8.12 Fresh water should be piped down from the Thomas River Ranger Station and made available from a reserve tank and spring loaded bib-cock at the track junction at the foot of the large rock. This tank would also provide a facility for filling fire fighting units.
- 8.13 Toilet facilities of the bore hole type should be provided in each of the main camp site areas in the vicinity of the rock and at the mouth of

Thomas River. As the most suitable site for these may be in Reserve 518, the permission of the Shire would be required to erect them. The need for toilets in other popular camp site areas should be assessed.

- 8.14 The pattern of future use of the area after these facilities have been provided will indicate whether the installation of water borne toilets and showers will be justified.
- 8.15 The need for bore hole toilets at Poison Creek, Jorndee Creek and intervening camp sites should be assessed by the Mobile Ranger and installed accordingly.
- 8.16 Routes for footpaths or walking tracks should be investigated by Rangers in the Thomas River - Tagon Point - Hawes Hill area, in the Mount Arid area, in the Mount Pasley area and at Mt. Ragged and proposals submitted to the Director.
- 8.17 All existing prohibitive signs should be removed immediately and replaced by positive informative signs at all points of entry into the park and in areas of heavy use. Directional signs with distances should be installed at track junctions; the seriousness of visitors getting lost in this large and mainly waterless park should be borne in mind.
- 8.18 Urgent consideration should be given to the preparation of a leaflet on the facilities, attractions and appropriate activities for distribution to visitors.
- 8.19 Data should be collected for the production of a full brochure on the park, which should be published as soon as possible.

- 8.20 As footpaths, walking trails and nature tracks are developed, appropriate interpretation material should be provided.
- 8.21 The needs of the park for further development and facilities will be re-assessed from time to time according to the amount of use made by visitors of the facilities provided for in this plan.
- 8.22 Special consideration should be given to the need for facilities in the Mt. Ragged Block.

9. FIRE MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 In accordance with the general management policies for National Parks, the fire management plan provides for a reduced fuel boundary zone to stop fires entering or leaving the park.
- 9.2 Buffer strips have already been provided on the western boundaries adjoining agricultural land and along the south side of Merivale Road. The buffer strips consist of dual ploughed firebreaks approximately 150 metres apart with all trees and tall shrubs felled between them.
- 9.3 The buffer strips are to be burnt as required to maintain a reduced fuel boundary zone. The frequency of burning will be dependent on seasonal growth conditions; the aim being to maintain a fire safe zone without permitting the introduction of exotic grasses which themselves would provide an annual fire hazard.
- 9.4 Where necessary small protective burns will be undertaken along the sides of roads and tracks or around camping and

picnic areas for the greater safety of visitors and to reduce the risk of fires originating in areas of heavy use.

- 9.5 Internal burning is to be avoided as far as possible at present so as to permit climax communities to develop in the vegetation and to provide suitable habitats for those animals which require old vegetation. The situation will be reviewed from time to time.
- 9.6 The low fuel boundary zones and the low fuel belts along existing roads and tracks will be ^{designed} ~~designated~~ to confine natural or accidental fires to limited areas, and to provide rapid access to fire fighting units.
- 9.7 Resident Rangers normally are equipped with fire fighting units to be carried on four wheel drive vehicles as standard equipment. Additional fire fighting units will be held in readiness for use by Mobile Rangers when they are stationed in the park.
- 9.8 In accordance with normal practice, Rangers will assist, whenever practicable, in extinguishing fires which occur on neighbour's land.
- 9.9 The fire management policy is designed to provide maximum safety within the park and to adjoining landowners, while protecting the flora and fauna from excessive fire incidence. It will also enable visitors to appreciate the wildflowers associated with frequent burning as well as plant and animal associations and life forms which develop with low frequency of fires.

10. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 The most frequent visitors to the park are locally resident farmers and commercial fishermen. The former and most of the latter are at pains to maintain the areas they visit, almost entirely on the coast, in a clean and undamaged condition.

10.2 Visitors from more distant parts of the State as well as interstate visitors almost without exception use and treat the National Park in a manner which indicates their appreciation of its purpose.

10.3 As has been experienced in other parks, misuse of and damage to the park is caused by certain elements from towns in the surrounding region. So far this has been at a relatively low level, and the posting of a Resident Ranger to the park in the immediate future should do much to contain the trouble.

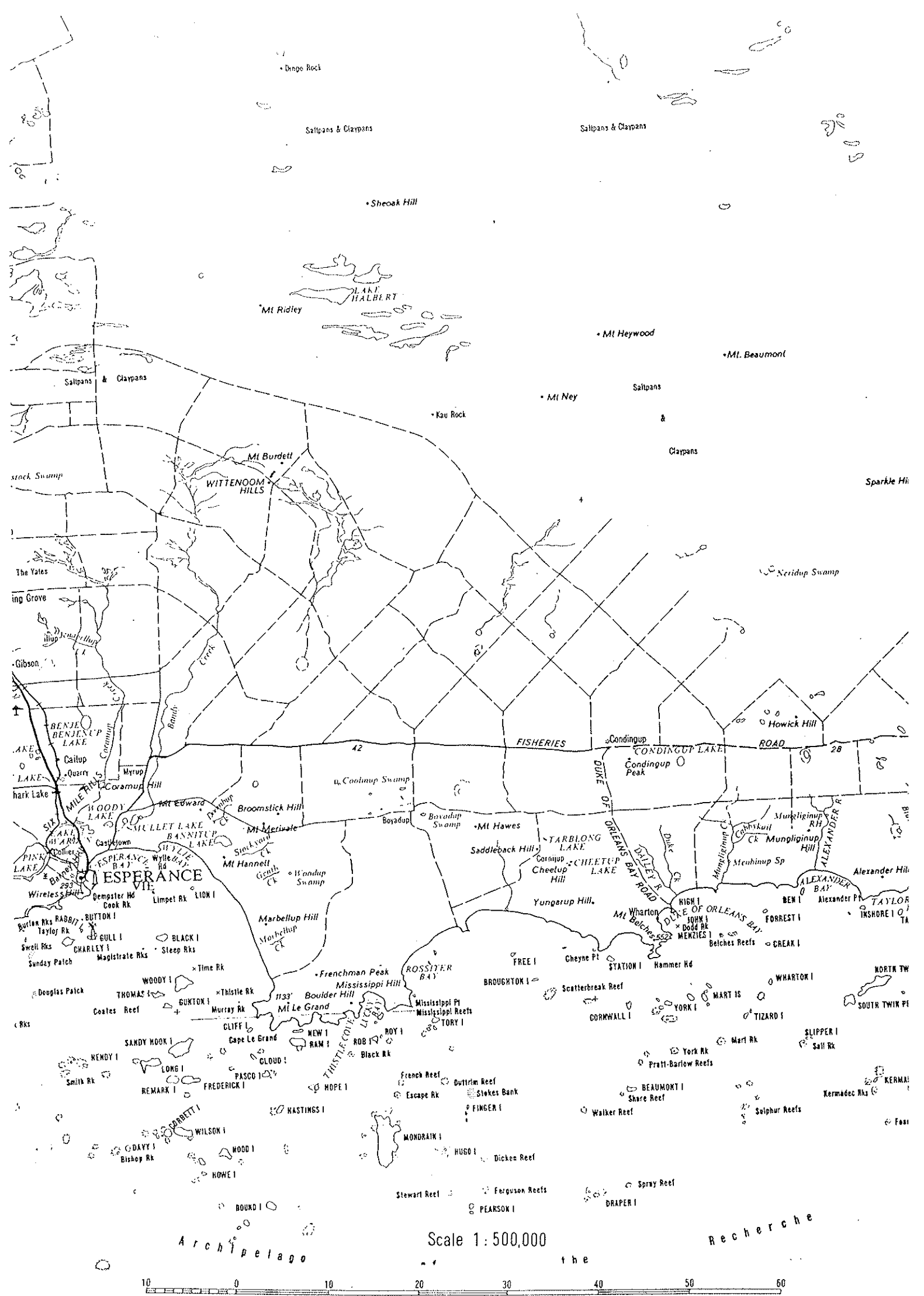
10.4 Reserve 518, Location Neridup 471 is vested in the Shire of Esperance for Camping and Recreation. This reserve contains the last 350 m, approximately, of the track from Merivale Road to the mouth of Thomas River, and three or four camp sites near the north bank of the river mouth.

In addition to the present unspoilt scenic values, there are important biological values associated with the dense scrub in the area, which have elsewhere been communicated to the Environmental Protection Authority.

10.5 The National Park is bisected by Fisheries Road, an old protected road running from Esperance to Israelite Bay.

As this road connects centres of population outside the park, (the population of Israelite Bay is unrecorded) the National Parks Authority has agreed to a suitable alignment being surveyed by the Main Roads Department. At present Fisheries Road exists in the park only as an infrequently used two-wheel-mark track.

- 10.6 . Provision should be made for the granting of a non-transferable lease to commercial fisherman John Cahill in respect of his base at Barrier Anchorage, west of Mount Arid.



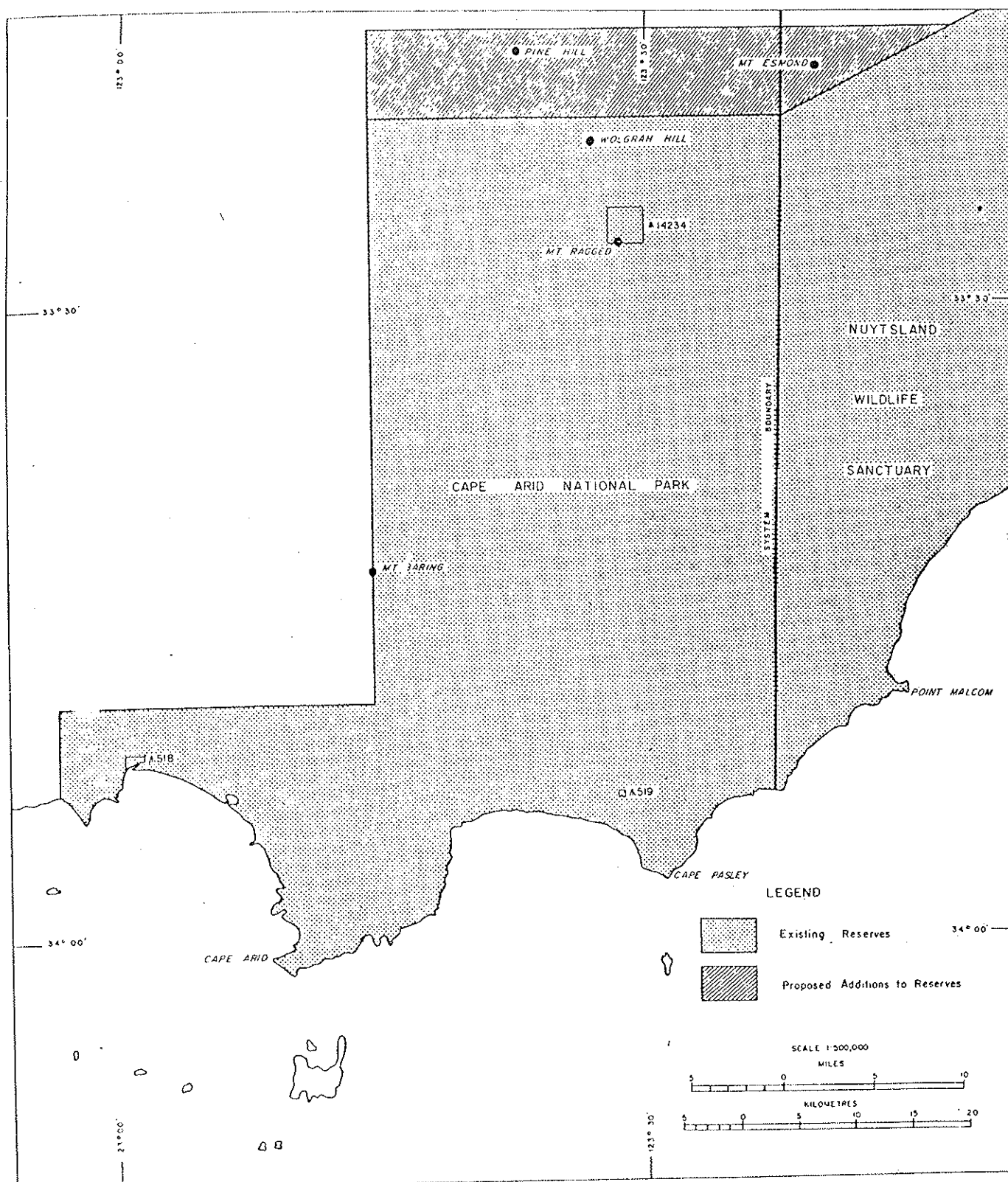
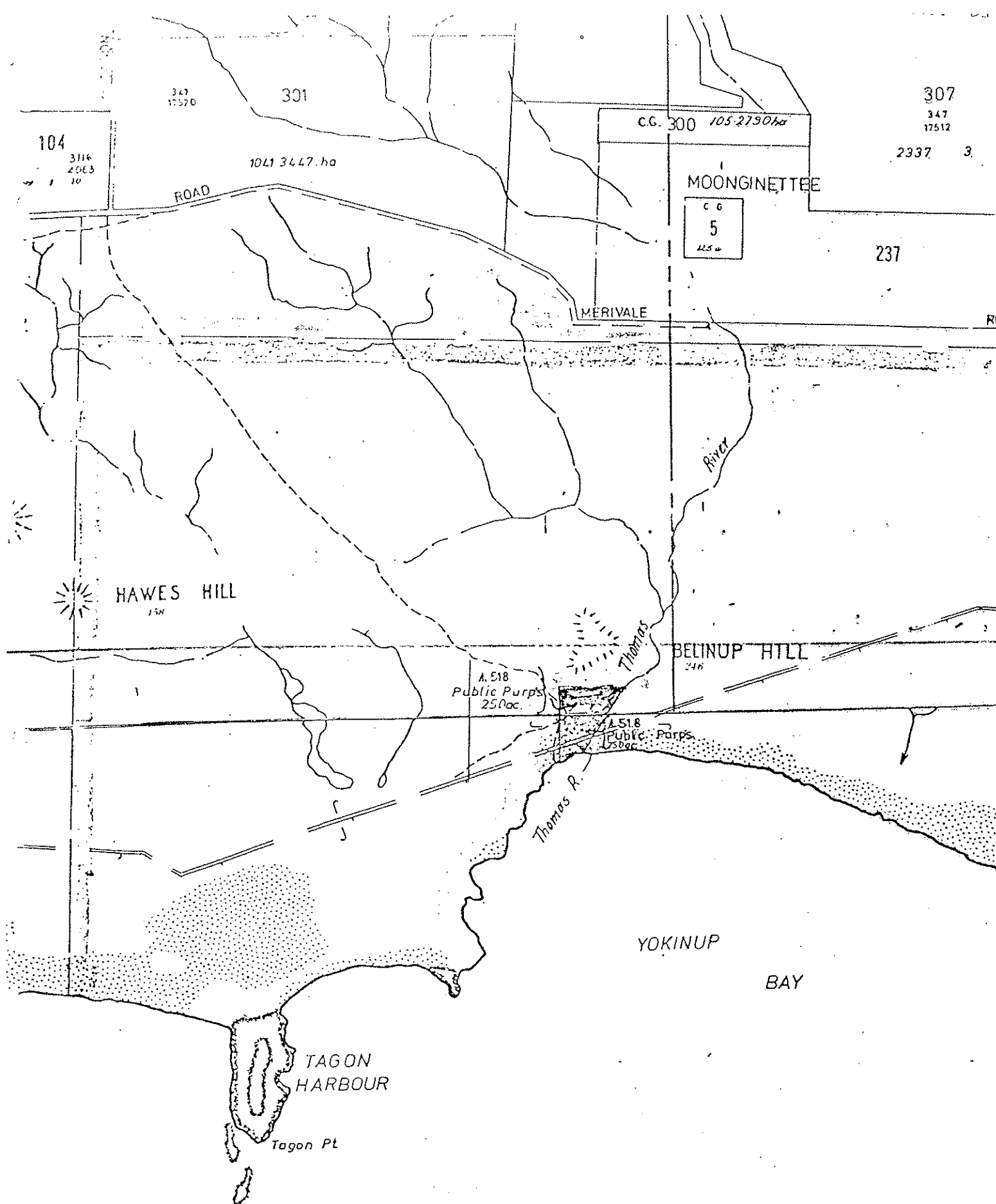


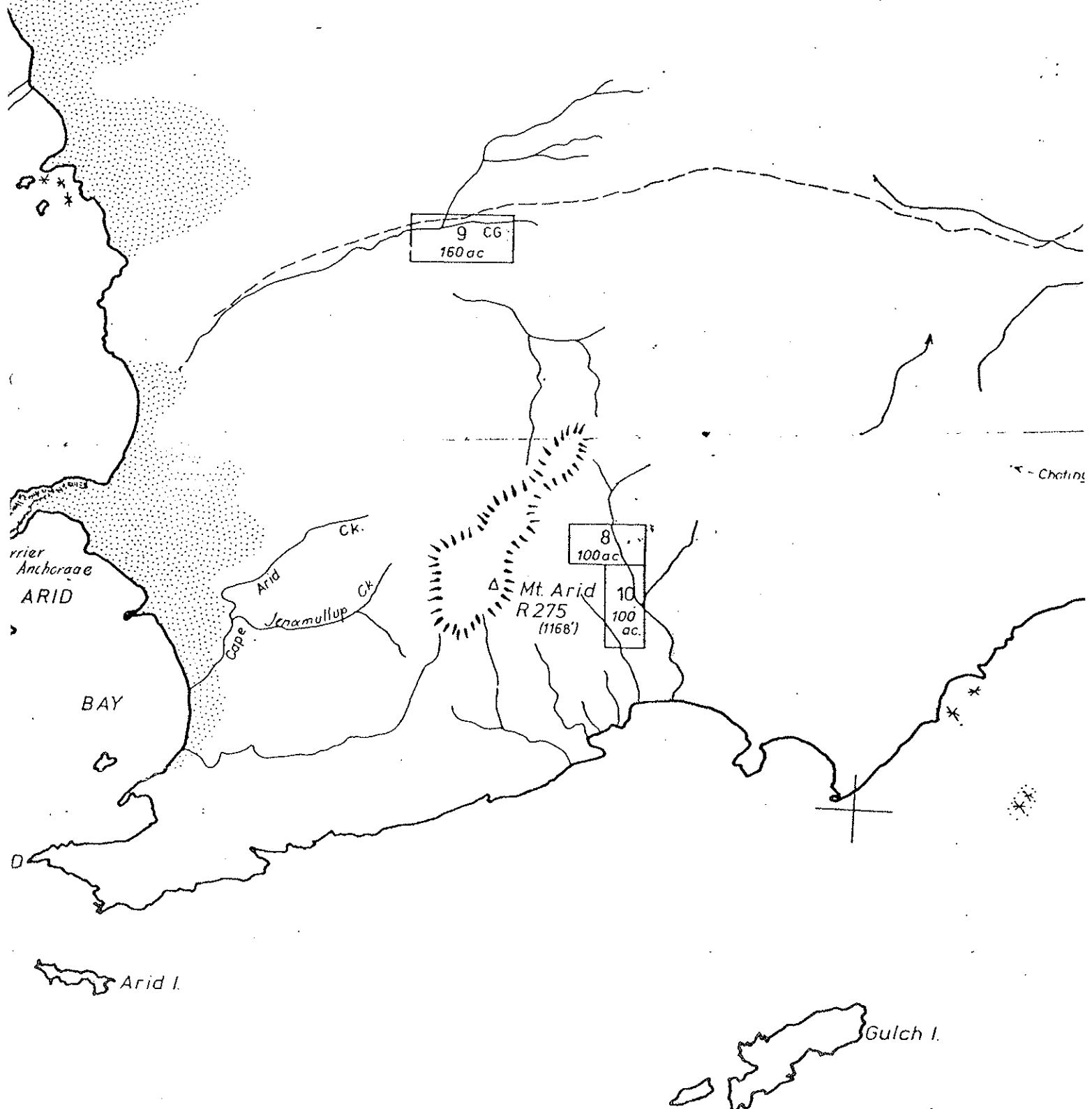
Figure 3-14 Cape Arid National Park



AA 24047
CAPE ARID NATIONAL PARK
642,000 ac. abt.

Capewelluck Sp.

NERIDUP



CAPE ARID NATIONAL PARK

OUTLINE WORKING PLAN

1. EXISTING TENURE AND CONTROL

1.1 Cape Arid National Park lies east of Esperance, 100 km to its western boundary and km to its eastern boundary.

The park includes on its coastline Tagan Point, Cape Arid and Cape Pasley, and extends inland to well north of Mt. Ragged.

1.2 Cape Arid National Park consists of Class A Reserve No. 24047 vested in the National Parks Board for the purpose of National Park 29 August, 1969 (Government Gazette pp. 2488, 2489 and 2499).

1.3 The area of the park is 259 808 ha and this excludes the following enclaves: -

Reserve 518	Camping and Recreation, Shire of Esperance	101 ha
Reserve 519	Public Purposes, not vested	40 ha
Reserve 14234	Mt. Ragged for Water, not vested	1295 ha
Neridup Location 8	Vacant Crown Land	40 ha
9	Crown Grant	64 ha
10	Vacant Crown Land	40 ha

1.4 The Environmental Protection Authority (1976) recommended that -

- (1) the National Park be extended to low water mark;
- (2) reserve 14238 and 519 be included in the National Park;
- (3) reserve 518 be vested in the Shire of Esperance for Camping and recreation;
- (4) Neridup Locations 8,9 and 10 be purchased when available and included in the National Park; and
- (5) the boundary of the National Park be extended northwards to include Pine Hill.

These Recommendations, with the exception of (3), are in conformity

with the recommendations of the Conservation Through Reserves Committee.

- 1.5 The Esperance Shire Council in a submission to the Environmental Protection Authority objected to the Conservation Through Reserves Committee recommendation that the park be extended to low water mark, and requested that Reserve 518 should be vested in the Shire of Esperance on the grounds that its value is essentially for recreation and camping purposes.

2. ATTRactions, RESOURCES AND USE

- 2.1 The most popular attractions in Cape Arid National Park are the coastal resources of bay, beaches and rocky headlands, together with their scenic values. There are low granite hills inland and in the north of the park is Mt. Ragged, a ridge of Precambrian quartzite rising to 8 585 m. Surrounding the hills and comprising the greater part of the park are extensive sandplains.
- 2.2 The area contains a rich flora, mostly typical of the southern sandheaths. There are also unusual species, especially on the hills. e.g. *Rhadinothermus euphemiae*, *Scaevola brookeana*, *Kunzea baxteri*, *Thysanotus* spp., *Boronia coriacea*, *Leucopogon* sp., *Beyeria latifolia*, *Dryandra* sp., *Kennedia beckxiana*.
- 2.3 The southern sandheaths and mallee extend inland as far as Mt. Ragged, to the north of which there is a rapid transition to tall or low woodland dominated by species typical of inland areas. The ground storey here consists of saltbush (*Atriplex*), bluebush (*Kochia*), *Geijera*, etc. There are also small salt lakes, especially north west of Mt. Ragged.
- 2.4 Mt. Ragged is the largest of several high hills which together comprise the Russell Range. It is a steep-sided, rocky ridge with a summit which is almost a razorback. Around the base is a wave-cut platform which corresponds geologically to similar benches around the Barrens of the Fitzgerald River National Park. There is an interesting botanical link also, since several species occur in both localities but not in the area between, e.g. *Beyeria latifolia*, but Mt. Ragged contains several species that are endemic to it. These include *Scaevola brookeana*, *Monotoca oligarrhenoides*, an as yet undescribed species of *Dryandra*, and *Gastrolobium pycnostachyum* (Mt. Ragged Poison). Despite its relative aridity, a number of orchids and several ferns have been recorded from the mountain and its vicinity. A population here of Sticky Tail-flower (*Anthocercis viscosa*)

is unusual in being the only inland occurrence of a species which is otherwise coastal.

- 2.5 Mt. Ragged, or the area immediately to the south of it, is thought to be the locality where *Nothomyrmecia*, the most primitive of all ants, was collected in 1930. This ant is considered even more primitive than known fossil ants, and there have since been several intensive but unsuccessful expeditions in search of it.
- 2.6 North of Mt. Ragged at Pine Hill, is a small permanent waterhole adjacent to a granite outcrop. The "pines" after which the hill is named are *Callitris preissii*. Aquatic plants, rare in this region, include *Ottelia ovalifolia*, *Myriophyllum* sp. and *Marsilea drummondii*. Species on the granite include the fern *Cheilanthes*. The graves of three members of the Brook Family, pioneer settlers in the last century, lie here.
- 2.7 The vegetation of the area is further described by J.S. Beard in The Vegetation of the Esperance and Malcolm Areas, Western Australia, maps 1:250,000 and in Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, Nullarbor, 1:1,000,000 Vegetation Series.
- 2.8 Aerial photography of December, 1962 showed that the north of the Thomas River was a popular picnic spot, certainly for persons living in the district. After the Cape Arid National Park was proclaimed, the first inspection by a Mobile Ranger confirmed the popularity of the mouth of the Thomas River. The need to develop facilities for campers in this area as well as the need to protect the flora and fauna, was seen to be first priority in this park.
- 2.9 The increased availability of four-wheel drive vehicles made the park generally more accessible, and fishermen in particular have found it attractive to operate from Thomas River, Point Tagan, Cape Arid and Cape

Paisley as well as Poison Creek and Jarndee Creek which lie on the eastern side of Cape Arid.

- 2.10 Most other visitors appear to be merely traversing the park on their way between Balladonia, Israelite Bay, Point Malcolm and Esperance.

Date 28th February 1978.

The Secretary,
National Parks Authority,
Perth.

Dear Mr. Goringe,

Subject estimates 1978-79 Cape Hind National Park.
I regret that with the sudden speed to the provision of a house etc at this Park that I am overdue with my suggestions for requirements as you requested and have at this date been unable to obtain firm costing quotes for my suggestions. Would you please consider the following as you are able and at your further request I will endeavour to obtain details as you require.

1. Tractor-loader second hand at approximately \$6,000 in the range of a Chamberlain. There will be a continuous and urgent need for road and track patching in the Park for many years and local machinery is difficult to obtain and expensive.
2. 12 signs (This is your National Park please protect it.).
3. 12 signs. (Walking Path)
4. 12 signs (Information of points of interest).
5. Radios. (Walkie Talkie) suitable for contact between Ranges and wife in the Park.
6. Six picnic tables. Thomas Inlet (3) Bowen Creek (3).
7. Six. Bone hole toilets. Thomas Inlet (3) Bowen Creek (3).

Mr Goringe

(2).

- (8). Junior C.I.G. are welding set. Nearest maintenance is 80 miles each way.
- (9). Chain Saw.
- (10). 1 x 20 foot Cyclone gate with two stainless posts. Note Mr J TREBLICOE adjoining west side of Park has offered to include this gate in his fence line on the South side of his property at the end of access road through his property so that the Range may be able to get to that area of the Park to the South and West of Mr Hoares. This will be the only possible access as deep ditches make it impossible from the Eastern side of Mr. Hoares. This gate will be kept locked (Keys Range and Mr. Treblcoe at both ends of the road. Access will be necessary for the Range for fire breaks and the supervision of SW. corner of the Park.
- (11). Firebreaks. It will be necessary to repeat the mowing of 1977 \$2,000. in 1978 so that this fire break may be burned from Mr. Hoares to Mr. Bating. Immediate fire lines should not be necessary for at least two years in the section of the Park from Western Boundary to Cape Paisley as past fire outbreaks last year and 1976 have reduced combustible material to a minimum. In the event of the Northern Mt. Ragged area being considered then an extensive survey is required as most of this area has not been subject to fire for many years.



CAPE ARID.

National Park

(3).

Date

(12) continued: There are no common boundary neighbours North or East of Mt Baring. Present Management lines would be Fisheries Rd. to Beledonia Road - Beledonia Road to Gore Hack to Iroalike Bay. Fisheries Road to Iroalike Bay - Fisheries Road to Point Malcolm Hack.

I will await your further request for details and information you may require.

Kindest regards

H. Richardson

Mobile Ranger 677

RESERVES.—Continued.

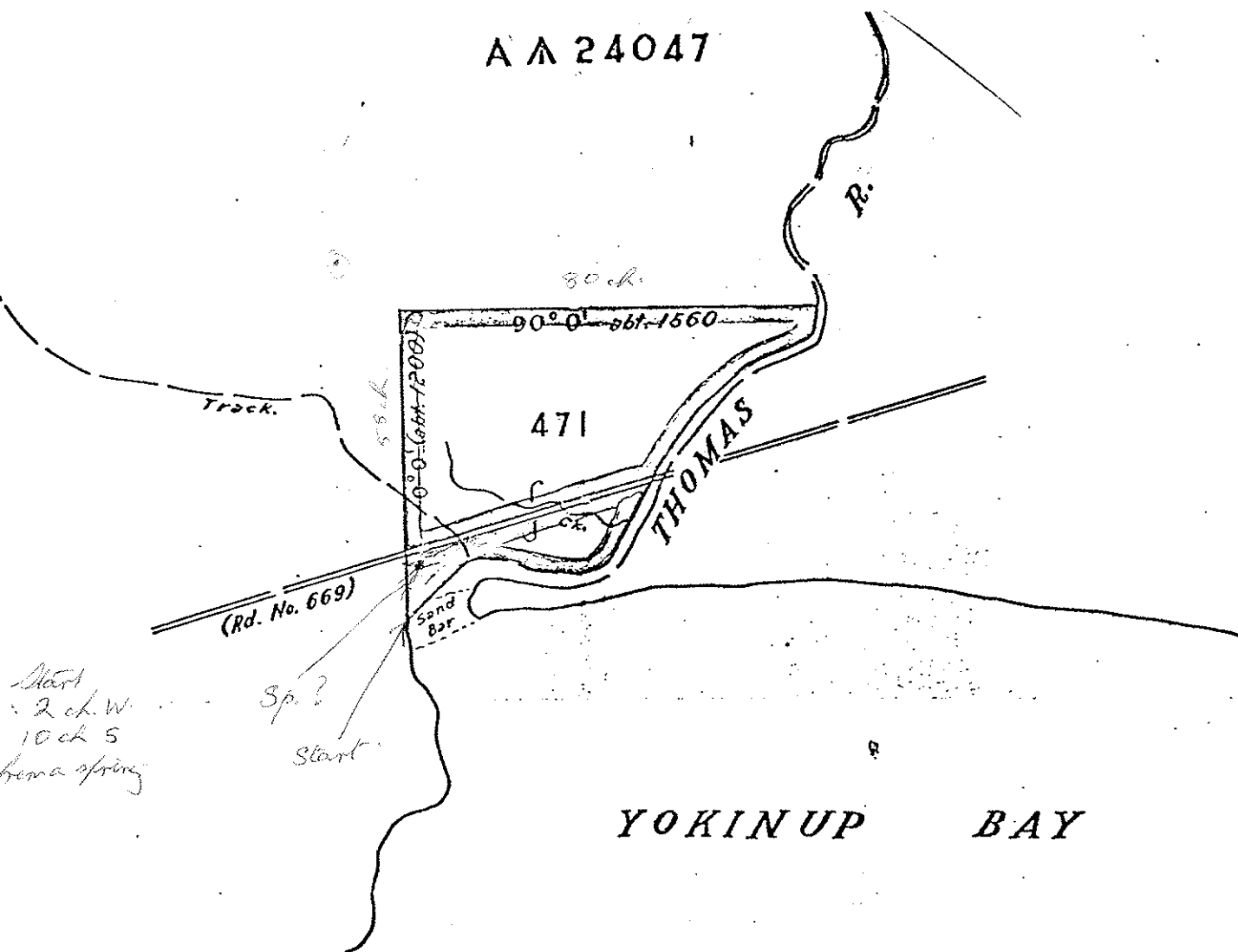
Recorded Number.	Content. A. R. P.	Description of Boundaries.	Purpose for which made.
511 A	2125 0 0	Bounded on the North by a line extending East 28 chains 95 links to a spot on the West boundary of Kent location 32, 10 chains 22 links North from its South-west corner; then by part of that location's West and the whole of its South boundaries; then by 9 chains 10 links of the West, and the whole of the South and East boundaries of Kent location 20, and by about 50 chains of the Southern shore of Bremer Bay Inlet; then North to the Northern shore of Inlet aforesaid; and thence in a West-north-westerly direction along the said Northern shore about 43 chains, then North about 20 chains; and thence East 40 chains 80 links to the shore of Bremer Bay; and thence South and East along the shores of Bremer Bay and John Cove to the East extremity of Rocky Point. On the West by a line extending South 200 chains. On the South by an East line of about 127 chains to the sea coast; and on the East by the sea coast and shore of Bremer Bay Northwards to the East extremity of Rocky Point aforesaid.	For public purposes, Kent District.
512 A	25 0 0	Bounded on the South and East by lines extending respectively West 17 chains and North 14 chains 40 links from a spot situate 7 chains East and 12 chains 80 links South from a spring near the southern shore of Dempster Inlet, Middle Mt. Warren bearing N. 54° 45' E. from the spot aforesaid. On the West by a North line of 13 chains 75 links; and on the North by the South shore of Dempster Inlet.	For public purposes, Kent District.
513 A	200 0 0	Bounded on the North and East by lines extending West about 10 chains and South about 90 chains from a spot situate about 8 chains East and 20 chains North from a spring near the left bank of the Jerdacuttup River, situate about 360 chains upwards from the westernmost of the Jerdacuttup Lakes; and on the Westward and Southward by the left bank of the said River.	For public purposes, Kent District.
514 A	200 0 0	Bounded on the North and West by lines extending respectively East 40 chains and South 50 chains from a spot about 10 chains North and 5 chains West from Cowrup, near the right bank of the Oldfield River, about 210 chains about North by East from its embouchure; the opposite boundaries being parallel and equal.	For public purposes, Kent District.
515 A	600 0 0	Bounded on the West by a North line of about 150 chains, starting from a spot on the western shore of Stokes Inlet, about one mile about North-north-east from its junction with the coast line. On the North by an East line of 60 chains to an arm of inlet aforesaid; and on the South and East by the northern and western shores of the said inlet.	For public purposes, Kent District.
516 A	50 0 0	Bounded on the South and West by lines extending respectively East 7 chains 59 links, and North 50 chains, from a spot on the North boundary of Kent Location 14, 16 chains 29 links from its North-west corner. On the North by an East line of 26 chains 40 links to the shore of Esperance Bay; and on the Eastward by the high-water mark of the said Bay Southwards to the East end of the South boundary.	For public purposes, Kent District.
517 A	300 0 0	Bounded on the South and West by lines extending respectively East about 43 chains to the shore of the Duke of Orleans Bay, and North about 62 chains, from a spot 32 chains South, and 40 chains West, from a well on the shore of Bay aforesaid. On the North by an East line of about 65 chains; and on the Eastward by the shore of the said Bay extending in a Southerly direction to the East end of the South boundary.	For public purposes, Kent District.
518 A	250 0 0	Bounded on the West by a line starting from a spot on the sea shore, situate about 2 chains West and 10 chains South from a spring near the right bank of the Thomas River, and extending North about 58 chains. On the North by an East line of about 80 chains; and on the Southward and Eastward by the said right bank of river in a Southerly direction to the starting point.	For public purposes, Kent District.

CONFIDENTIAL

Map of the Hawaiian Islands, showing the main islands and surrounding waters. The map includes a grid with latitude and longitude coordinates. Key locations marked include Pearl Harbor, Hickam Field, and various smaller islands and reefs. A scale bar at the bottom left indicates distances up to 25 miles. The word "CONFIDENTIAL" is printed in large, bold letters at the top right.

Aboriginal Artifacts ①

A A 24047



$\frac{1}{32}$ in = 1 chain

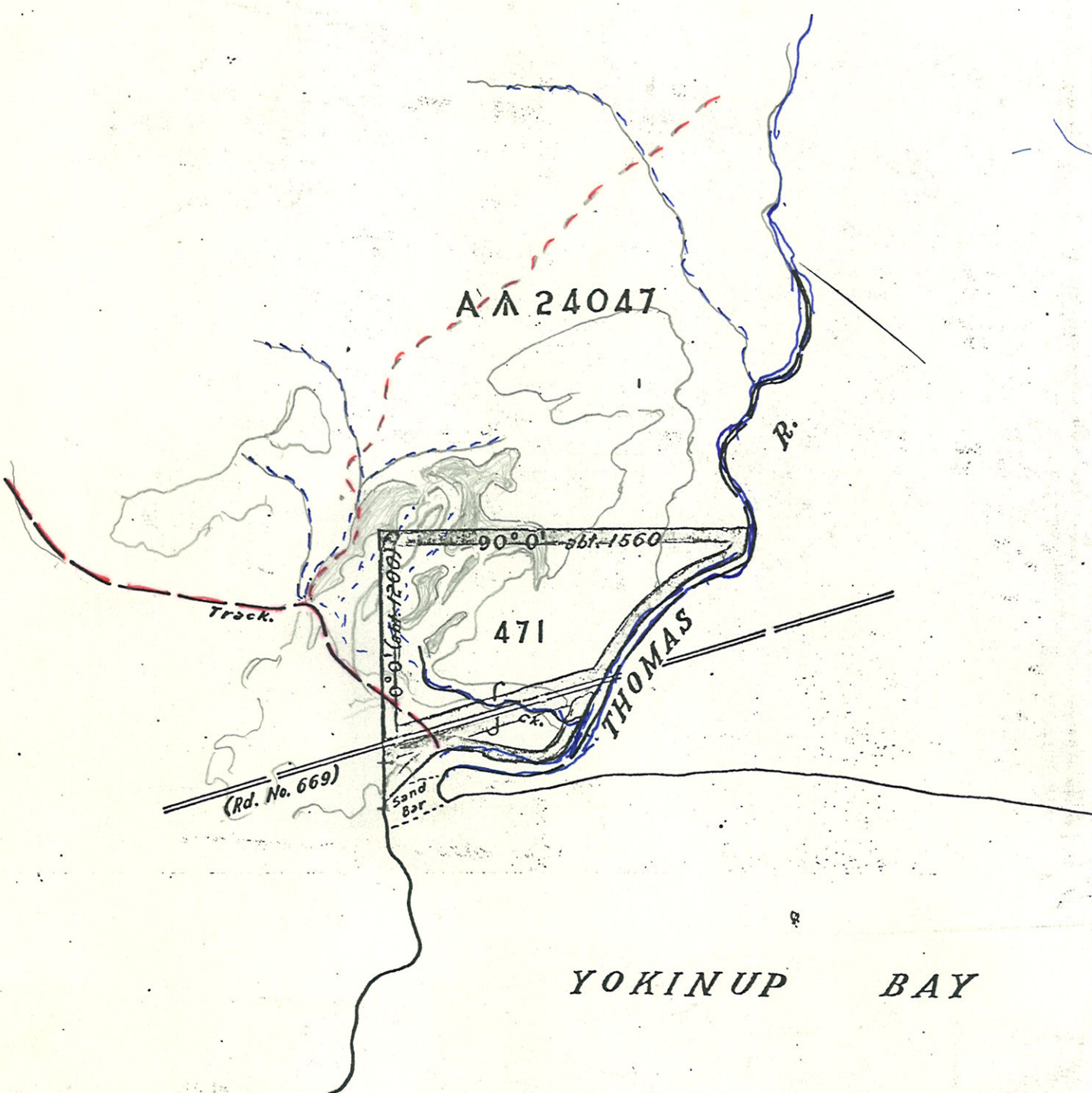
Measurements in metres

SUBJECT TO SURVEY

No. 518 Purpose *Public Purposes*

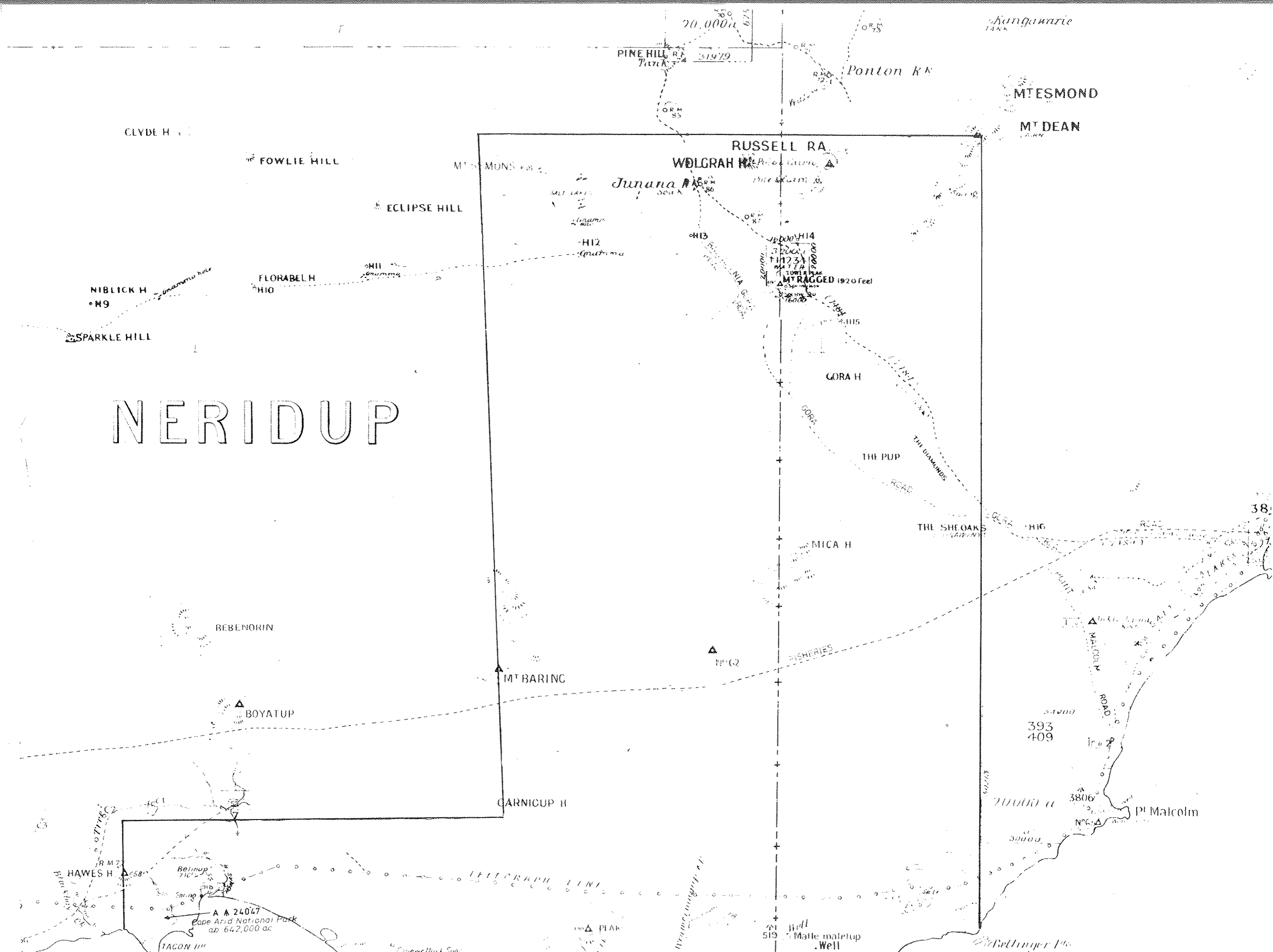
AMENDMENTS							SCALE 1:2
Gaz	Page	Intls	Gaz	Page	Intls		All measurements in n
							GAZETTED
							Recorded on Public Pl
							Registered
							On Key Plan 425/80
							RESERVE

5/76
IDUP
425/80 & 428/80
itchin Date 19.1.77
Planimeter Page

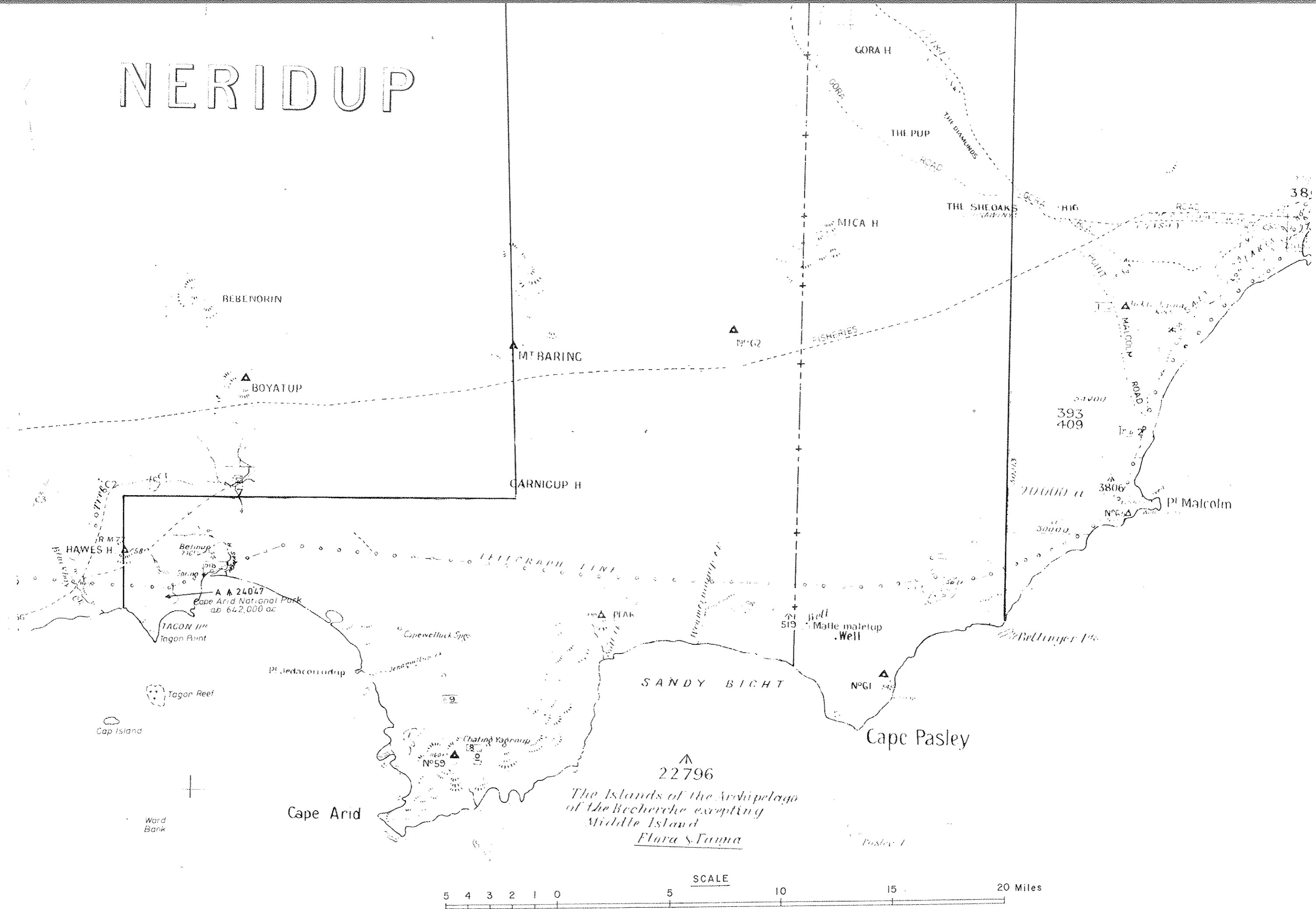


1 in = 32 chains
 4 mm = 100 m
 1 mm = 25 m

NERIDUP

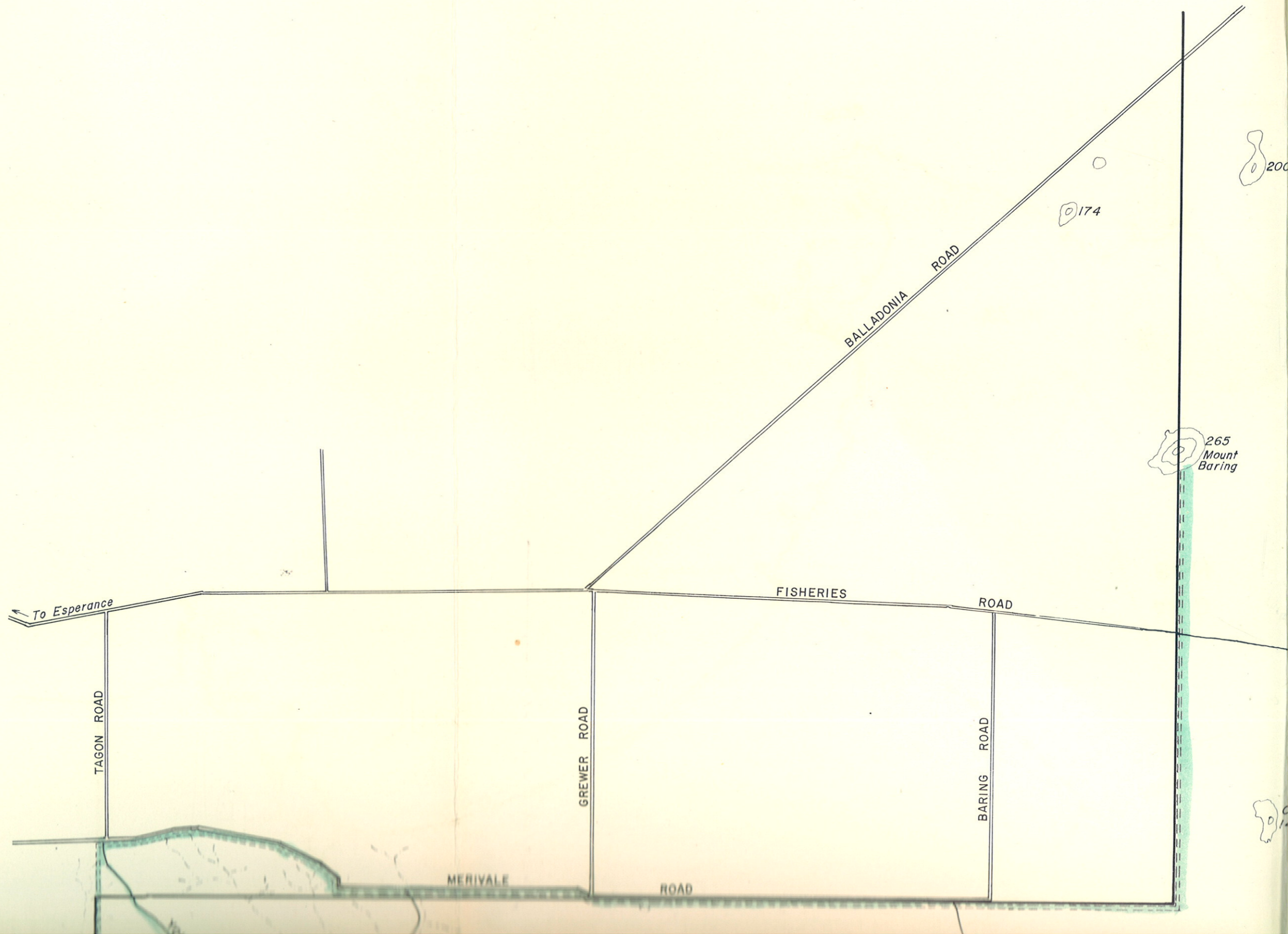


NERIDUP



Mathew Rock

Cape Arid



MT RAGGED

Block

250
Diamonds
Hill

250
238
Hill 62

ROAD

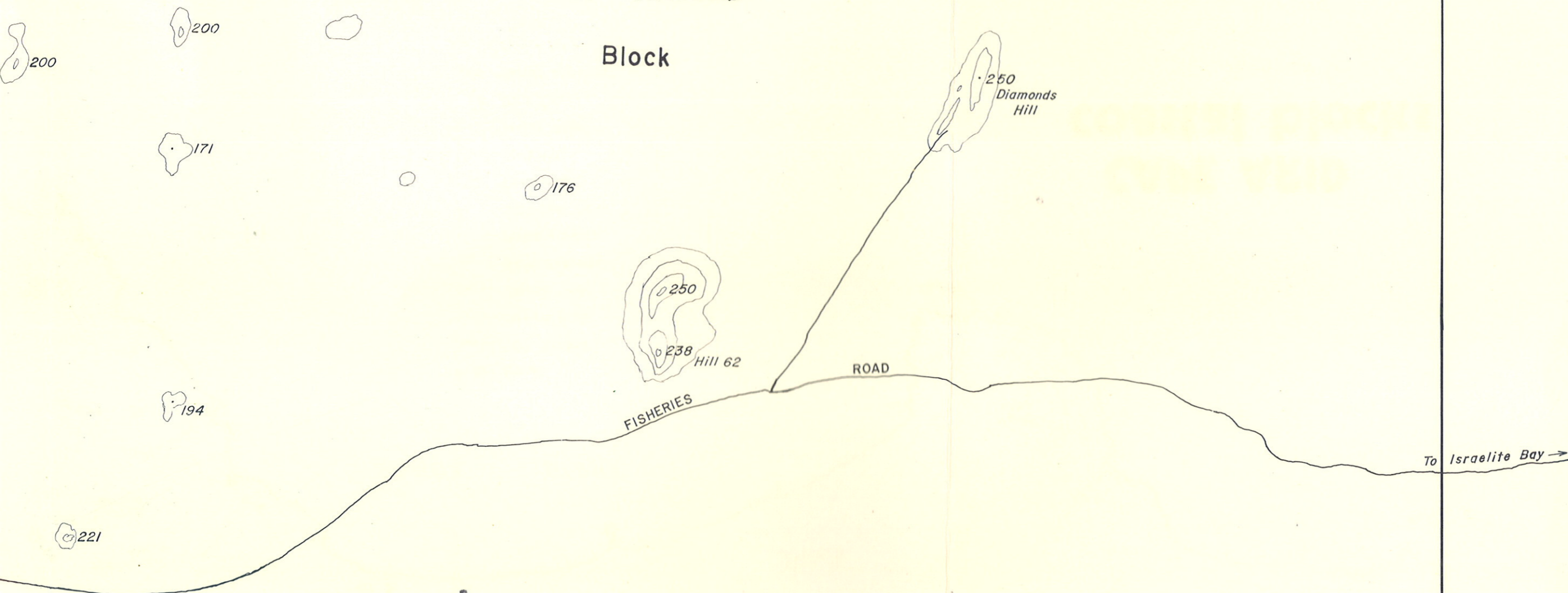
FISHERIES

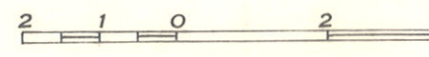
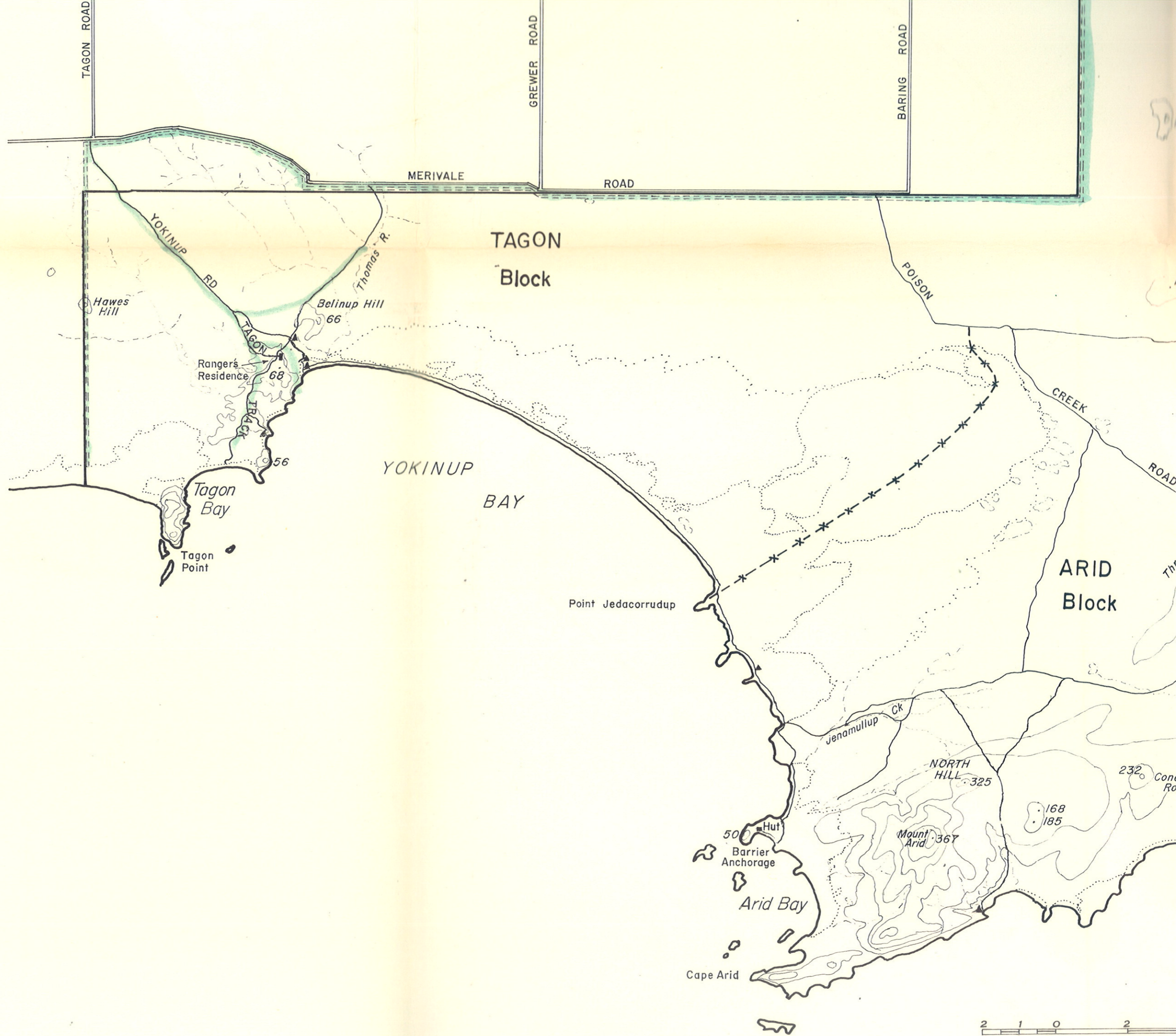
To Israelite Bay →

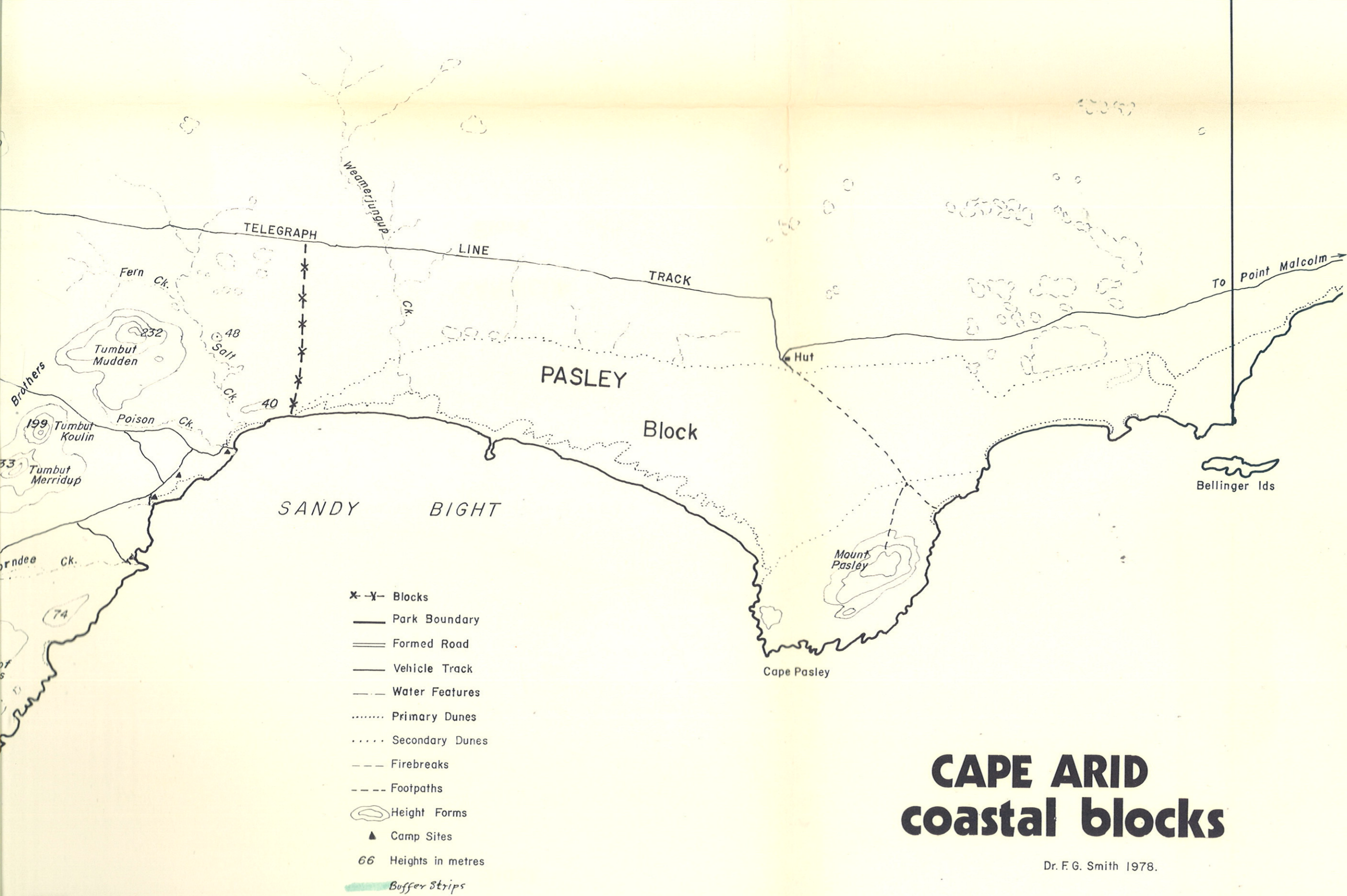
CARNICUP

Block

Carnicup Hill
140







CAPE ARID coastal blocks

Dr. F.G. Smith 1978.