

WESTMEAD CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Statement of Heritage Impact

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LGA	CITY OF PARRAMATTA
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta propose to undertake works in relation to the Westmead Catholic Community (WCC) Project 1 Stage 1.

This project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development (SSD) under Part 4, Division 4.1 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 (EPA Act). The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) (SSD 10383) issued on 22nd November 2019, require that a Statement of Heritage Impact (SOHI) be in accordance with the guidelines in the NSW Heritage Manual.

Comber Consultants was engaged by WINIM Developments, on behalf of the Westmead Catholic Community, to prepare this SOHI which addresses the impacts of the proposal on the heritage significance of the site and adjacent areas.

The Westmead Catholic Community site, its buildings and grounds do not contain heritage significance and are not listed on any local, State or Commonwealth Heritage Register.

This report makes the following recommendations:

1. There are no constraints in respect of the built environment, historical archaeology, cultural landscape, views or visual impact.
2. It will be necessary to undertake Aboriginal archaeological testing and, if necessary, salvage prior to the proposed redevelopment of the site. This should be undertaken in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties.



CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	BACKGROUND	1
1.2	THE SITE	1
1.3	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	2
1.4	EXISTING DEVELOPMENT	2
2.0	LEGISLATION	3
2.1	<i>NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE ACT 1974</i>	3
2.2	<i>HERITAGE ACT 1977</i>	3
2.3	<i>ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979 (EPA ACT) NO. 203</i>	3
3.0	HISTORY	5
3.1	ABORIGINAL HISTORY	5
3.2	WESTMEAD CATHOLIC COMMUNITY	5
3.3	SACRED HEART PARISH WESTMEAD	9
3.4	CATHERINE MCAULEY WESTMEAD	9
3.5	PARRAMATTA MARIST HIGH SCHOOL	9
3.6	MOTHER TERESA PRIMARY SCHOOL	10
4.0	SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT	11
4.1	PREAMBLE	11
4.2	ASSESSMENT	11
4.3	STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE	12
5.0	PROPOSAL	13
6.0	IMPACT & MITIGATION	16
6.1	ABORIGINAL ARCHAEOLOGY	16
6.2	HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY	16
6.3	BUILT ENVIRONMENT	16
6.5	VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT TO AND FROM PARRAMATTA PARK.	20
6.6	CULTURAL LANDSCAPE	21
7.0	SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS	22
	REFERENCES	23
	APPENDIX A: BUILDING INVENTORY RECORDING	24



1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This report supports a State Significant Development Application for the Westmead Catholic Community (WCC) at 2 Darcy Road, Westmead.

The WCC project seeks to meet the needs of the growing population within the region by providing upgraded school facilities for Mother Teresa and Sacred Heart Primary Schools, as well as a new Parish church. WCC is a collaboration between Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP), the Diocese of Parramatta (DoP), the Sisters of Mercy and the Marist Brothers Province of Australia.

As the proposal is for the purposes of alterations and additions to an existing school and has a capital investment value in excess of \$20 million, it is State Significant Development (SSD) for the purposes of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act). The Parish church is also SSD under clause 8(2)(a) of *State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011* as it forms part of the proposal which comprises a single, integrated development with significant functional links between the education and church uses.

1.2 The Site

The subject site is located at 2 Darcy Road, Westmead, approximately 2km to the north-west of the Parramatta CBD and approximately 300m to the west of Westmead Train Station. The site is located within the Parramatta Local Government Area (LGA).

The site has an area of approximately 12ha and a frontage of approximately 430m to Darcy Road. The site consists of two lots, which are legally described as Lot 1 in DP1095407, which is owned by the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church of Parramatta, and Lot 1 in DP1211982, which is under the ownership of the Trustees of the Marist Brothers.

The site is bound by Darcy Road (to the north), the T1 North Shore & Western / T5 Cumberland train lines (to the south), the Western Sydney University Westmead Campus (to the east) and residential uses (to the west).

To the north of the site, across Darcy Road is the Westmead Health and Education Precinct comprising the Westmead Hospital, Westmead Private Hospital and the Western Sydney University Medical Research Institutes. The locational context of the site is shown at Figure 1.

The Westmead Health and Education Precinct, the WCC site and the surrounding residential land collectively form part of the recently nominated Westmead Priority Precinct Area.

The Westmead Catholic Community, its buildings and grounds are not listed on any local, State or Commonwealth Heritage Register. However, the historical archaeology of the site is listed on the State Heritage Inventory as Archaeological Management Unit 2891.

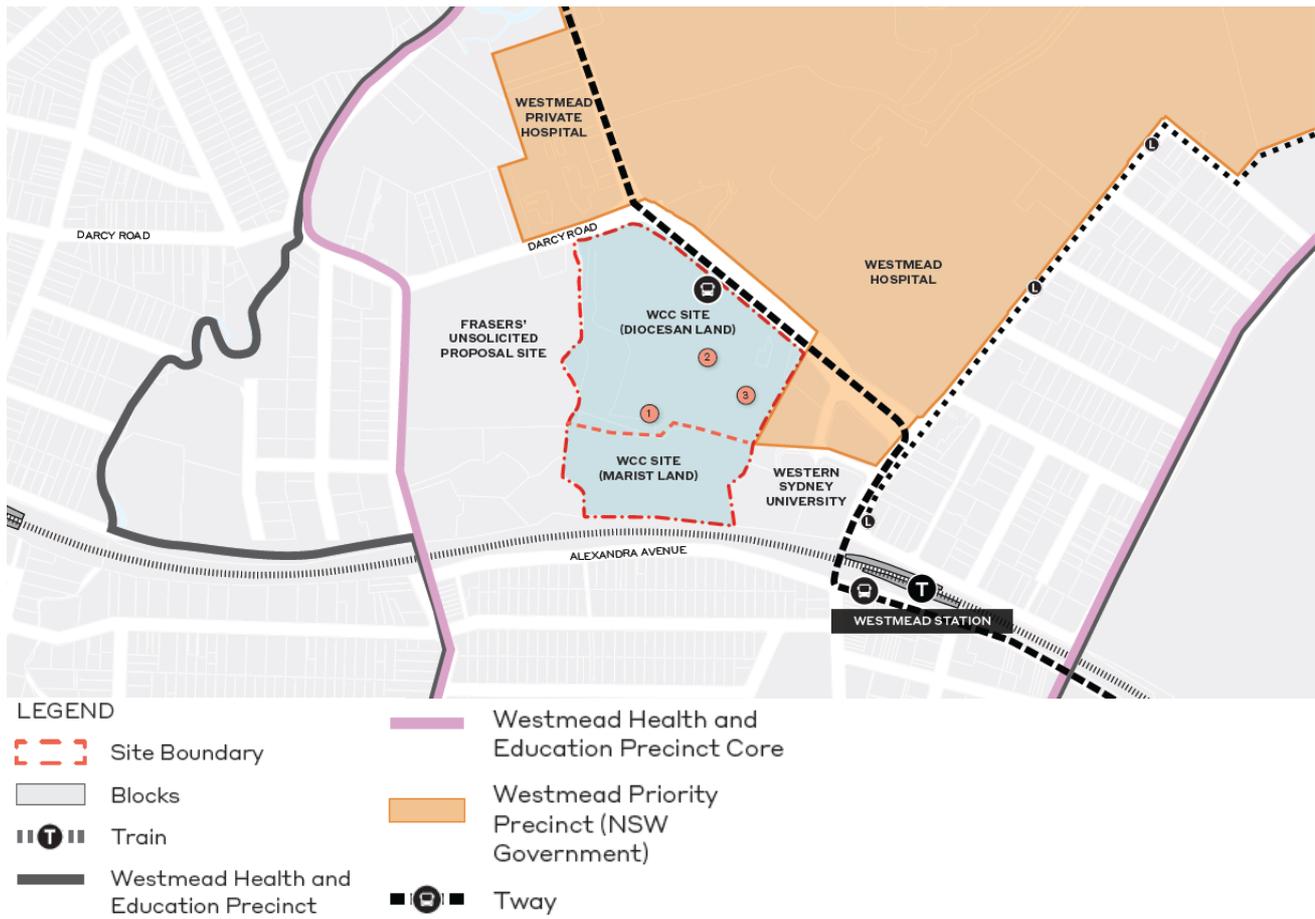


Figure 1: Location of the study area

1.3 Proposed Development

The State Significant Development application will seek approval for:

- A primary school with capacity for approximately 1,680 students, to provide expanded facilities for the existing Mother Teresa Primary School on the site and to replace the existing Sacred Heart Primary School at Ralph Street;
- A new Parish church;
- A Catholic early learning centre (fit-out within an existing building);
- New landscaping.

1.4 Existing Development

The site currently contains three separate schools being the Catherine McAuley Westmead (girls' high school) which predominantly occupies the northern part of the site, and the Parramatta Marist High School (boys' school) which occupies the eastern part of the site. The Mother Teresa Primary School occupies part of the Catherine McAuley school building in the centre of the site. The southern portion of the site contains open sports fields associated with the Parramatta Marist High School.

The existing Brother's residence is located in the north-eastern corner of the site, and an at grade car park occupies the western part of the site, to the north of the sports fields. Collectively, the three schools currently accommodate approximately 2,637 students and 190 staff.



2.0 LEGISLATION

2.1 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

The *National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act) provides statutory protection for all Aboriginal “objects”. The NPW Act is administered by the Office of Environment & Heritage. Section 90 of the NPW Act details the provisions for the issue of a written consent to impact upon an Aboriginal object. An object is defined as:

“Aboriginal object” means any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises 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.

Note: This project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development and approval is not required under the NPW Act (See details in section 3.3 below).

2.2 Heritage Act 1977

State Heritage Register

The NSW *Heritage Act 1977* provides for the establishment and maintenance of the State Heritage Register by the Heritage Council.

Under s57 of the Heritage Act a person must not “demolish, despoil, excavate, alter, move, damage or destroy” an item listed on the State Heritage Register without a permit under s60 of the Act.

Aboriginal places can be listed on the State heritage register if they are considered to be of State heritage significance. Such places can include Mission sites and cemeteries.

Protection of relics

As defined in the NSW Heritage Act 1977 a “relic”:

means any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

- (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and*
- (b) is of State or local significance”*

Note: This project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development and approval is not required under the Heritage Act (See section 3.3 below).

2.3 Environmental Protection and Assessment Act 1979 (EPA Act) No. 203

This project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development under Part 4, Division 4.1 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* (EPA Act). Section 89J of the EPA Act (see below) does not require that a State significant development seek approval under the NPW Act or the Heritage Act as follows:

Section 89J of the EPA Act states the following:

89J Approvals etc legislation that does not apply

The following authorisations are not required for State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division (and accordingly the provisions of any Act that prohibit an activity without such as authority do not apply):

- (a) the concurrence under Part 3 of the *Coastal Protection Act 1979* of the Minister administering that Part of that Act,
- (b) a permit under section 201, 205 or 219 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*
- (c) an approval under Part 4, or an excavation permit under section 139, of the *Heritage Act 1977*
- (d) an Aboriginal heritage impact permit under section 90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*
- (e) an authorisation referred to in section 12 of the *Native Vegetation Act 2003* (or under any Act repealed by that Act) to clear native vegetation or State protected land,
- (f) a bush fire safety authority under section 100B of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*,
- (g) a water use approval under section 89, a water management work approval under section 90 or an activity approval (other



than an aquifer interference approval) under section 91 of the *Water Management Act 2000*.

(2) Division 8 of Part 6 of the *Heritage Act 1977* does not apply to prevent or interfere with the carrying out of State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division.

(3) A reference in this section to State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division includes a reference to any investigative or other activities that are required to be carried out for the purpose of complying with any environmental assessment requirements under this Part in connection with a development application for any such development.

The EPA Act is administered by the Department of Planning and Environment who will provide the consent for this project and for any impact on Aboriginal objects. Section 89J(d) does not require the consent of the Department of Premier, Industry and Environment.

The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) (SSD 10383) were issued on 22nd November 2019, and require:

Section 9. Heritage

- A Statement of Heritage Impact (SOHI) prepared by a suitably qualified heritage consultant in accordance with the guidelines in the NSW Heritage Manual. The SOHI is to address the impacts of the proposal on the heritage significance of the site and adjacent areas and is to identify the following:
 - all heritage items (state and local) within the vicinity of the site including built heritage, landscapes and archaeology, detailed mapping of these items, and assessment of why the items and site(s) are of heritage significance;
 - compliance with the relevant Conservation Management Plan;
 - the impacts of the proposal on heritage item(s) including visual impacts, required Building Code of Australia and equitable access works, new fixtures, fittings and finishes, any modified services;
 - the attempts to avoid and/or mitigate the impact on the heritage significance or cultural heritage values of the site and the surrounding heritage items; and
 - justification for any changes to the heritage fabric or landscape elements including any options analysis.
- If the SOHI identifies impact on potential historical archaeology, an historical archaeological assessment should be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in accordance with the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage Guidelines 'Archaeological Assessment' 1996 and 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics' 2009. This assessment should identify what relics, if any, are likely to be present, assess their significance and consider the impacts from the proposal on this potential archaeological resource. Where harm is likely to occur, it is recommended that the significance of the relics be considered in determining an appropriate mitigation strategy. If harm cannot be avoided in whole or part, an appropriate Research Design and Excavation Methodology should also be prepared to guide any proposed excavations or salvage programme.
- Provide a visual impact assessment (where required) to address views and vistas to and from Old Government House and the Government Domain in Parramatta Park. Colours and textures should be considered as part of the assessment.



3.0 HISTORY

3.1 Aboriginal history

The Darug people are the traditional owners of the main east-west ridge of the Blue Mountains, the northern Blue Mountains and the Cumberland Plain in which the study area is located (Tindale 1974; Attenbrow 2003).

Research by R.H. Mathews, a pioneer linguist and anthropologist, in the early twentieth-century revealed that the Darug (or 'Dharruk' people as he referred to them) inhabited an area adjoining the 'Thurawal' (Dharawal) to the south and Gundungurra and Wiradjuri to the west. Their territory extended along the coast to the Hawkesbury River and inland to Windsor, Penrith and Campbelltown; then from the mouth of the Hawkesbury River to Mount Victoria (Mathews 1901a: 140; Mathews 1901b:155;). Three distinct groups have been identified – the coastal, hinterland and mountain Darug (Attenbrow 2003:23). The study area is on the border between the coastal and hinterland groups.

Aboriginal people have occupied the valley extending from Prospect to the coastline for at least twenty thousand years. One or possibly two clans occupied the land around the banks of the Parramatta River at the headwaters of Sydney Harbour (Kass, Liston & McClymont 1996:4). The surrounding area was reasonably fertile and, with the resources of the river, was able to support their living needs. Anthropological studies indicate that clan sizes varied widely, consisting of between thirty to sixty people who moved through their territory using seasonal routes to access food, shelter and other resources necessary for survival as well as ceremonial sites. Generally people camped, travelled, foraged, fished and hunted in smaller, extended family groups, coming together at times with the larger group for ceremonies and ritual combats (Attenbrow 2003:29).

The people living at the head of the Parramatta River, near Westmead and Parramatta, were a clan of the Darug, known as the *Burramatta*, *Burramattagal* (sometimes written as *Boromedegal*) or *Burramattagalleon* clan. The word *Burra* means eel whilst the word *Matta* means creek or river and described the name of the country. The suffix “-gal” (man) or “-galleon” (woman) was added to describe a man or woman from Burramatta. (Phillip 13 Feb 1790 in HRA 1(1) cited in Attenbrow 2003; Attenbrow 2003:22-24; Kass et al. 1996:6).

Initially Parramatta was named Rose Hill, with the name “Parramatta” being formally adopted in 1792. It was a derivation of the Aboriginal name for *Burramatta* the clan, recorded as originally inhabiting this location (Attenbrow 2003:24; Phillip 13 Feb 1790 in HRA I (I): 155-61; Kass 1996:6). The Parramatta district is thought to be a linguistic and economic boundary between the coastal and inland Darug people. Although opinions differ, linguists believe that a dialect of the Darug coastal language was spoken from the Sydney peninsula as far west as Parramatta, while a hinterland dialect was spoken from Parramatta to the north, west and south (Arthur Capell 1970 cited in Attenbrow 2003: 33).

Archaeological evidence from Parramatta, North Parramatta and Westmead indicates that Aboriginal people occupied the area for over 10,000 years up until about 1830. They visited Old Government House regularly and attended the Native Conferences held in Parramatta (Comber 2019a).

3.2 Westmead Catholic Community

Settlement within Parramatta occurred very soon after the settlement of Sydney was established. The study area was first cleared in 1791 by convict labourers to prepare ground to grow grain. In September 1788 Governor Phillip established a settlement at “The Crescent” which is located almost 1km to the south east of the study area in the area now known as Parramatta Park, but was then the Government Domain. Settlement soon extended beyond The Crescent with the Town of Parramatta being established, whilst the study area was contained within the Government Domain.

Originally part of the Government Farm, land in the area was granted to some settlers for small farms. Governor Macquarie resumed these grants in 1810 and declared the Government Domain, surrounding Government House but also encompassing what is now Westmead. Westmead was originally known as the West Meadow of the Government Domain (Kass et al 1996: 92). It was most likely used for growing maize.

In 1859 the Government Domain was subdivided. By 1871, three lots on the Westmead Catholic Community now stands, had been purchased by W. Fullagar (who purchased many other lots in the subdivision) and J. S. Rodd. It is unknown whether or not Fullagar and Rodd built on their lots. (SHI inventory AMU 2242891),

In 1915, the Westmead Boys Home (also known as the St. Vincent's Boys Home) was built on the corner of Hawkesbury Road



and Railway Parade, adjacent to the WCC site. It is not known whether the lots surrounding the Home were incorporated into its grounds (SHI inventory AMU 2242891), but in 1943, the WCC lands consisted of cleared land, scattered trees and open paddocks (Figure 5). No substantial structures were present within the study area although two large sheds were located just to the south of the boundary with the WCC Diocesan Land with a small shed near the western boundary. Two other small sheds were just inside the border of the Marist Land in the northern area of the playing field in the south eastern corner of the study area. These structures are most likely associated with agricultural activities.

The impetus for the establishment of Catholic schools in Parramatta arose from Colonial restrictions on instruction in the Catholic faith. Religious instruction was limited to the Church of England catechism in the orphan schools (McDonald 2000:3). The first Catholic school was opened in 1820 by accountant, George Morley/Marley. This school was located at the western end of Hunter Street, Parramatta (McDonald 2000:5-6,9). The school moved to Pennant Street (Victoria Road) in 1837, set between a presbytery and St Patrick's church, and remained there for 20 years ((McDonald 2000:70). The Marist Brothers assumed control of the school in 1875 (McDonald 2000:88-89).

By the 1960s, the St Patricks buildings had become cramped and deteriorated and in 1966 work had commenced on the construction of new facilities on the lands formerly owned by William Fullagar at Westmead and included new three-storey buildings. These were constructed on the former playing fields of the Westmead Boy's Home. To the south of these, the property had, at that time, been used for grazing dairy herds and a pig farm. Associated structures included a dairy and piggery as shown in a photograph dated 1963 (McDonald 2000:306-307) (Figures 6-7 below).



Figure 1: 1943 aerial photograph of the study area with 5 structures circled. Those features corresponding to the 1963 panorama in Figure 4 are colour coded for cross-referencing. Features circled in yellow are those that cannot be identified in the 1963 panorama. A fifth structure, a residential building is outside of the study area but circled in purple (McDonald 2000:70). The site of the old show ground, now part of Westmead hospital is to the top right. (overlay on image from SixMaps).

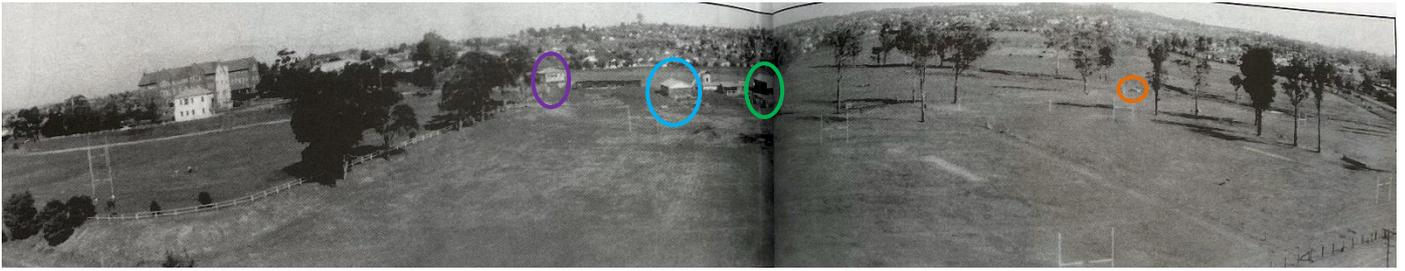


Figure 2: 1963 panorama of Westmead Boys Home. View is to the south. The main buildings are on the left. Playing fields are in the foreground. Dairy, silo and piggery structures in centre. Those corresponding to the structures in the 1943 aerial are colour coded to match.

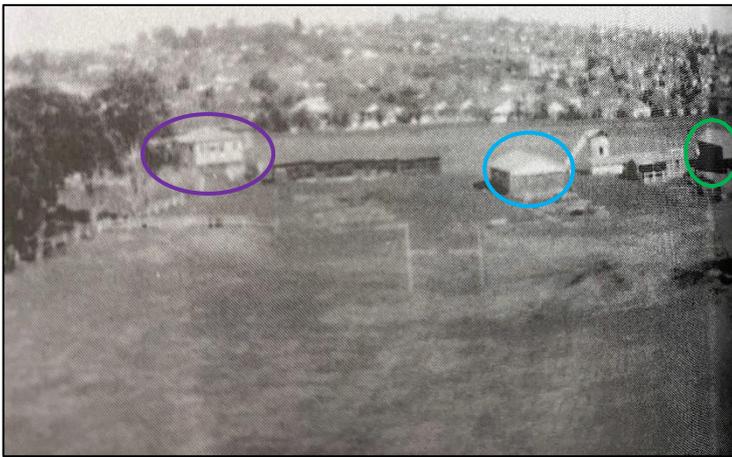


Figure 3: Detail from the 1963 panorama. The building to the left is likely to be the farm house (McDonald 2000:306-307). The 1943 aerial and 1963 photographs show a farm house which is just outside of the study area but is the likely source of the name Farmhouse Road for the roadway that now runs near that location from Hawkesbury Road.

By 1968 the new Parramatta Marist Boys High and Catherine McAuley Girls High, (Hamilton nd:8) had been completed as well as a Monastery. In addition to the main school buildings, three temporary classrooms and a swimming pool were also on the site (Figure 8). A cricket ground and football fields are shown in the 1968 aerial photograph in the grazing land of the Westmead Boys Home. The dairy itself, piggery and ancillary structures had been demolished as well as the farmhouse shown in figures 4-6. The Westmead Monastery was also completed in this year (McDonald 2000:325).

By 1977 two of the temporary classroom structures had been replaced with permanent buildings and an additional facility constructed on the eastern side of those new structures (currently ICT Support and general learning areas (Figure 9).

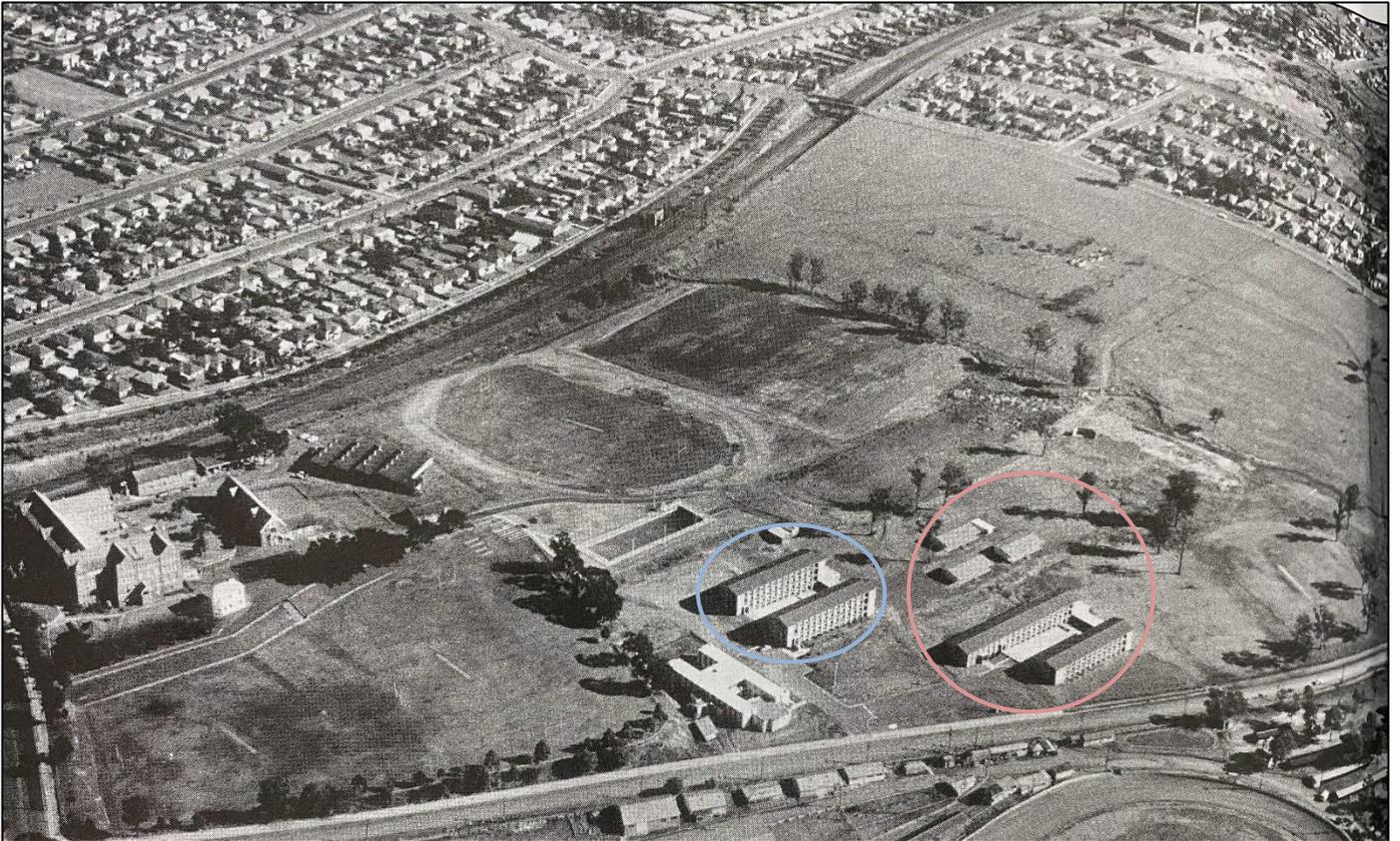


Figure 4: 1968 aerial photograph of the study area with the 4-storey Marist Boys High circled in blue and the 3-storey Catherine McAuley Girls' High School and demountables circled in apricot. The St Vincent's Boys Home is to the left and new schools complex. The new monastery is the 'H' shaped building in the foreground. View to the south-west. Monastery (McDonald 2000:308).



Figure 5: The study area in 1977 with new buildings and formalised paved areas. (McDonald 2000:343)
An administration building was added in 1984 (McDonald 2000:351).



In 1985 the St Vincent's Boys Home and some playing fields were sold by the Marist Brothers to the University of Western Sydney and in 1993 the Morley Centre was constructed as a multipurpose facility, including an assembly hall (McDonald 2000:352-353, 360). 1987 saw construction of new classrooms, a new quadrangle, a new hall (the Forum), a new tennis court and library extensions (Hamilton nd:129).

New staff and administration areas were added in 1998 and in 2000, the quadrangle was converted into Mercy Square, a place for students to sit and meet. The following year saw a raft of construction work, including:

- the Information and Technology Centre
- another Technology Centre with workshops and practical spaces
- a Food Technology Laboratory
- a Visual Arts Centre
- four new Science Laboratories
- conversion of the Forum from a hall to a tiered lecture theatre
- a Music Centre

(Hamilton nd:159)

3.3 Sacred Heart Parish Westmead

The Parish of Sacred Heart, Westmead was founded on 1st February 1951, when Rev James Collins was appointed Parish Priest. Mass was conducted in St Vincent's Boys' Home, (established 1891), on Hawkesbury Road Westmead until a church was built in the current study area and opened on March 28, 1954.

(<https://www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au/UI/Main/Default.aspx?content=parish>, and www.findandconnect.gov.au/ref/nsw/biogs/NE00137b.htm both accessed 20/1/2020).

The need for a Parish was largely due to a large Housing Project which had begun in Westmead immediately after World War II. The parish purchased a house on adjacent land in 1956. In 1975 a permanent school was built with assistance from a Government Grant.

Plans for building regional secondary boys' and girls' schools in Westmead were commenced in 1964, as well as for the building of a Marist Brothers monastery in 1966 (<https://www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au/UI/Main/Default.aspx?content=parish>). In 1985 the Marist Brothers boys care services moved out of the old institutional building on Hawkesbury Road into two houses in Darcy Road Westmead. While the buildings were under construction at the Westmead site, 3rd and 4th Forms were housed in demountables on another part of the site (A New School Called Catherine McAuley sample pages.pdf.

(<http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au/> accessed 29/01/2020 and Marist Youth Care http://www.maristyc.com.au/MYC/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4&Itemid=14 accessed 29/01/2020).

3.4 Catherine McAuley Westmead

In 1966, the Catherine McAuley Westmead was also established by the Parramatta congregation of the Sisters of Mercy (Hamilton nd:8-9). Initially it was a regional Catholic High School for girls from Years 7 to 10 but extended to Years 11 and 12 in 1983. The school was built on land owned by the St Vincent de Paul Society and staffed by Mercy Nuns who came from Parramatta each day. In 1999 the primary school was extended to accommodate over 200 students. (<http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au/our-school/dsp-default.cfm?loadref=4> accessed 29/01/2020).

Parish pastoral work included the care of patients in Westmead General Hospital and Westmead Children's Hospital. Also included was the care of patients in Westmead Private Hospital, Cabrini Nursing Home, Mayflower Nursing Home and Westmead Rehabilitation Centre. In December 2002, the care of both the Parish and the hospitals was transferred to the Camillians (Ministers of the Infirm). In 2015, the Camillians handed back the administration of Sacred Heart Parish Westmead to the Diocese (<https://www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au/UI/Main/Default.aspx?content=parish> accessed 20/1/2020).

Catherine McAuley was born in Ireland in 1778 and established the Sisters of Mercy in 1831. (A New School Called Catherine McAuley sample pages.pdf <http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au/> accessed 29/01/2020)

3.5 Parramatta Marist High School

In 1966 the first stage of the buildings on the Westmead campus was opened. Subsequent building phases have included:



- 1968 Monastery and Swimming Pool,
- 1972 Library, (built to commemorate the centenary of the arrival of the Brothers in Australia)
- 1973 Senior Block,
- 1982 Arts and Techniques Centre,
- 1984 Administration Block,
- 1993 Morley Centre multipurpose facility
- 2001 new Science Building (with 5 laboratories)
- 2003 refurbishment of the 1972 library to create the Br Ludovic Learning Centre,
- 2004 a new Canteen was built on the old uniform shop site and an eLearning Centre was created on the lower floor of the Harroway Building,
- 2007 the Science laboratories, TAS, and Creative Arts areas were updated and a 172-seat theatre was built on the site of the old canteen

3.6 Mother Teresa Primary School

The Mother Teresa Primary School located in Darcy Road shares a building with Catherine McAuley High School. It was opened in 2012 and provides education for Kindergarten classes through to Year 6.



4.0 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

4.1 Preamble

Significance assessment is the process whereby buildings, items, archaeological deposits or landscapes are assessed to determine their value or importance to the community. The NSW Heritage Office have developed a range of criteria for assessing historic sites which embody the values contained in the Burra Charter. These criteria are historic, association, aesthetic, social, research, rarity and representative.

4.2 Assessment

Historic

Criterion (a) – an item is important in the course, or pattern of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)

The study area is associated with the development of Catholic education facilities in New South Wales that began in 1820 with the opening of the first Catholic school in Parramatta at the western end of Hunter Street. It has local significance under this criterion.

Association

Criterion (b) – an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).

The study area is associated with the work of the Catholic Community in developing education facilities in Parramatta and including the work of accountant, George Morley/Marley, in establishing the first Catholic school in Parramatta in 1820. It has local significance under this criterion.

Aesthetic

Criterion (c) – an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area)

The study area does not meet this criterion.

Social

Criterion (d) – an item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons

The study area is associated with the work of the Catholic Community in developing educational facilities in Parramatta as well as with those associated with the St Vincent’s Boys Home of which the school grounds were once a part. In addition, it is associated with the work of the Marist Brothers in Parramatta and the Sisters of Mercy since 1966. It has local significance under this criterion.

Research

Criterion (e) – an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)

This area was part of the Government Domain (1810-1859). It remained largely undeveloped agricultural land associated with the Westmead Boys Home (1915-1985) until it was developed as the Parramatta Marist High School in 1965.

The physical archaeological evidence within this area may include open deposits and scatters, ecological samples and individual artefacts which have potential to yield information relating to major historic themes including Education, Environment, Industry, Agriculture, Government and Administration and Land Tenure.

Rarity

Criterion (f) – an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)

The study area does not meet this criterion.

Representative

Criterion (g) – an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW’s:

- Cultural or natural places;
- Cultural or natural environments (State Significance); OR

The study area does not meet this criterion.



An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of the area's:

- **Cultural or natural places; or**
- **Cultural or natural environments (local significance)**

The study area is representative of the evolution of Catholic educational facilities in Parramatta. The study area has local significance under this criterion.

4.3 Statement of Significance

The study area is significant for its history of the development of Catholic Schools in Parramatta and Westmead and its association with the work of the Catholic Community in developing educational facilities in Parramatta as well as with those associated with the St Vincent's Boys Home of which the school grounds were once a part. In addition, it is associated with the work of the Marist Brothers in Parramatta and the Sisters of Mercy since 1966. However, none of the buildings on the site or the landscape contain cultural heritage significance.

The study area has potential to contain archaeological evidence of Aboriginal and early colonial occupation of the site and to yield information relating to major historic themes including Education, Environment, Industry, Agriculture, Government and Administration and Land Tenure. That archaeological evidence is likely to be subject to minor disturbance in areas where building foundations have not previously been excavated.



5.0 PROPOSAL

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta propose to undertake works in relation to the Westmead Catholic Community (WCC) redevelopment. The Sacred Heart Parish of Westmead and the local Catholic schools are growing to meet the needs of the evolving Westmead community and new facilities are required. A new Mother Theresa Primary School and new Church and Parish Centre will be constructed in the north-western corner of the site. Figure 10 below shows the existing buildings on the site. Figure 11 shows the buildings to be demolished whilst Figure 12 shows the proposed redevelopment.

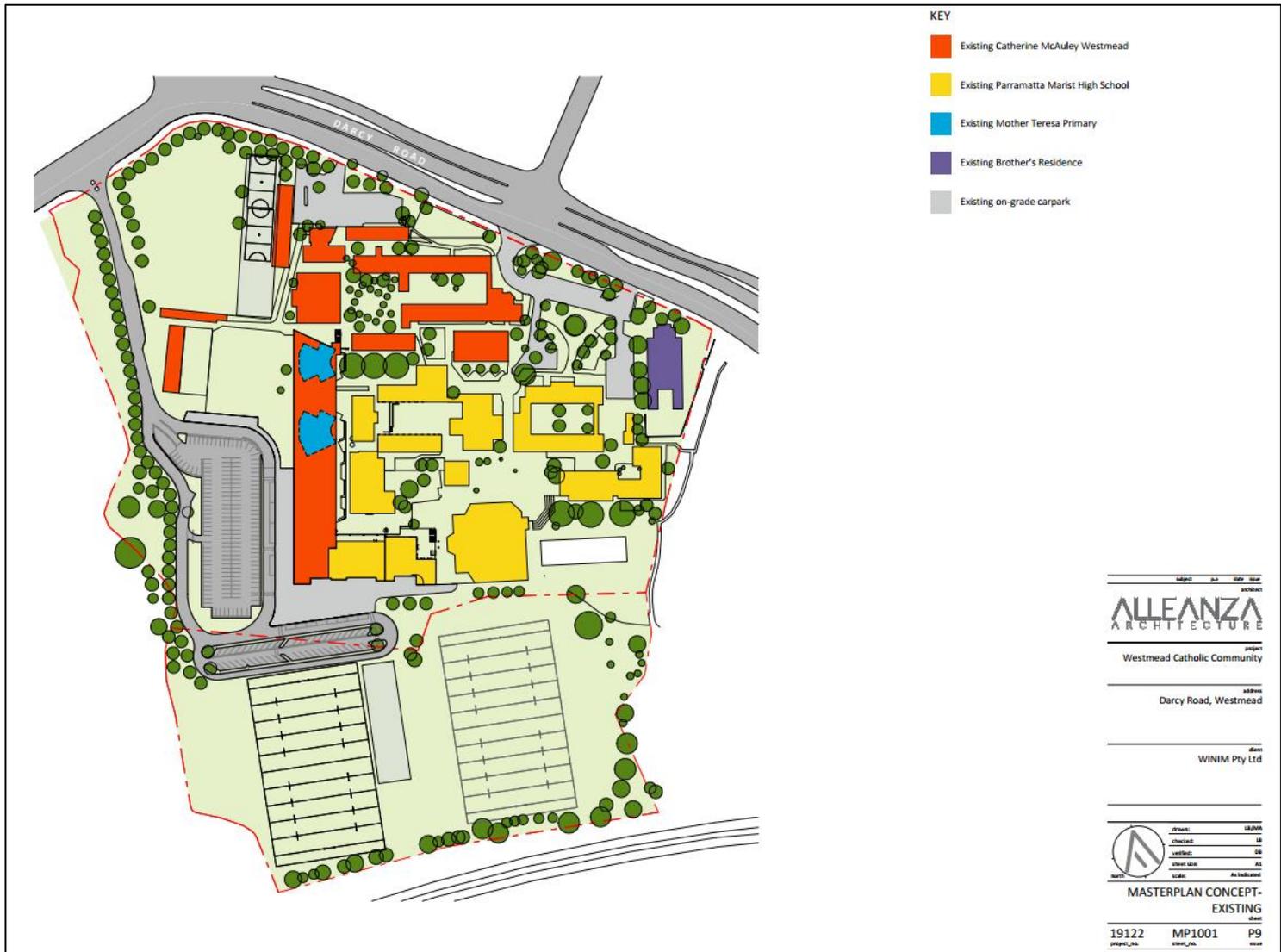


Figure 10: Existing buildings and configuration of the site

The State Significant Development application will seek approval for (Figure 11):

Demolition:

- The Specialist Dance Spaces
- The Music and Performing Arts Spaces
- Basketball /Netball courts



Figure 11: Buildings to be demolished

Construction:

- A primary school with capacity for approximately 1,680 students, to provide expanded facilities for the existing Mother Teresa Primary School on the site and to replace the existing Sacred Heart Primary School at Ralph Street;
- A new Parish church;
- A Catholic early learning centre (fit-out within an existing building);
- New landscaping.

Figure 12 shows the plans for the proposed redevelopment

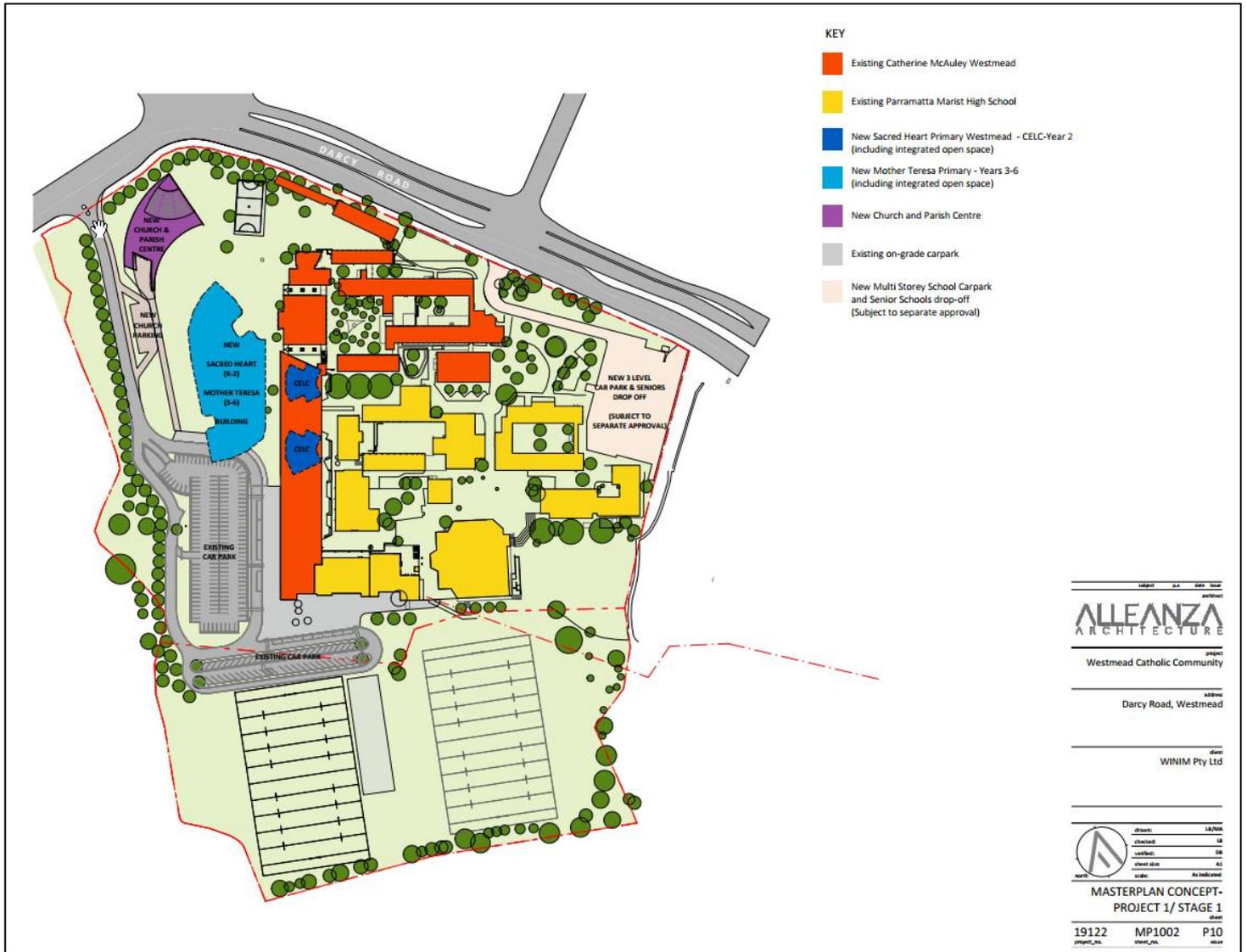


Figure 12: Concept plan



6.0 IMPACT & MITIGATION

6.1 Aboriginal Archaeology

Aboriginal consultation has been undertaken accordance with the *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation guidelines for proponents 2010* (Garbov 2020a) and an archaeological report prepared (Garbov 2020b). Both reports assess the site to contain Aboriginal archaeological potential and cultural heritage significance. As it is possible that Aboriginal objects will be disturbed by the proposed works it will be necessary to undertake Aboriginal archaeological testing and, if necessary, salvage.

6.2 Historical Archaeology

The study area is listed on the State Heritage Inventory as containing Parramatta Archaeological Management Unit 2891. It is assessed as containing moderate archaeological research potential. Its archaeological significance is described as:

This area was part of the Government Domain (1810-1859). It remained largely undeveloped agricultural land associated with the Westmead Boys Home (1915-1985) until it was developed as the Parramatta Marist High School in 1965.

The physical archaeological evidence within this area may include open deposits and scatters, ecological samples and individual artefacts which have potential to yield information relating to major historic themes including Education, Environment, Industry, Agriculture, Government and Administration and Land Tenure.

Archaeological evidence at this site is likely to be subject to minor disturbance, with some areas subject to major disturbance.

The areas in the north-west of the site where the New Church and Parish Centre are to be located were formerly open space. An Historical Archaeological Assessment was undertaken (Garbov 2020) which determined that the site does not contain historical archaeological potential.

6.3 Built Environment

The WCC site does not contain any significant buildings or landscape. Therefore, the proposed works will not adversely impact upon the existing site. A building inventory has been undertaken and is attached at Appendix A. This inventory describes the existing buildings and their significance.

The buildings to be demolished are numbered 1, 2 and 3 on the plan below (Figure 14) and in the attached inventory. These buildings are all temporary demountable buildings which are visually intrusive and do not contain any heritage significance. Removal of these structures will enhance the school grounds.

The new primary school, as shown on Figure 12, which is to be constructed on the site of the former demountables will consolidate former uses. It is sited in the most appropriate location, within the lowest part of the site. The new building will be five stories high at approximately 25.5m. It will be compatible with the heights of other buildings on the site and will not have an adverse impact. Figure 15 is a render of the new primary school near building 6.



Figure 14: Area of proposed works edged in red. Buildings 1-3 to be demolished



Figure 15: A render of the new primary school shown beside building 6. The height, design and form of this building is compatible with other buildings on the site.

6.4 Visual impact on surrounding heritage items

There are two structures listed on the Local Environmental Plan in the vicinity of the study area as shown on Figure 15. These are:

- Western Sydney University. LEP item I628
- Victorian residence in the grounds of Western Sydney University. LEP item I629
- The former St Vincent's/Westmead Boys' Home is located within the grounds of Western Sydney University but is not individually listed.

Western Sydney University is located on a rise above the WCC (Figure 15). The ground slopes down to the west away from the university and the university cannot be seen from the proposed location of the new primary school. Due to the lower positioning of the WCC and other school buildings between the university and the WCC there will be no adverse visual impact on the listed items from the new low rise development on the WCC grounds. See Figure 15 and Photograph 1.



Figure 16: Western Sydney University edged in blue. Red arrow indicates location of new primary school and purple arrow indicates view line from the Victorian Residence within the University of Sydney to the location of the proposed new primary school. There will be no adverse visual impact on Western Sydney University, as it will not be possible to see the new primary school from the university



Photograph 1: View line from the proposed new primary school to the University of Western Sydney. New development will not visually impact upon the university. The existing school buildings will obscure any view from the University.



6.5 Visual impact assessment to and from Parramatta Park.

The SEARS require:

- Visual impact assessment to address views and vistas to and from Old Government House and the Government Domain in Parramatta Park

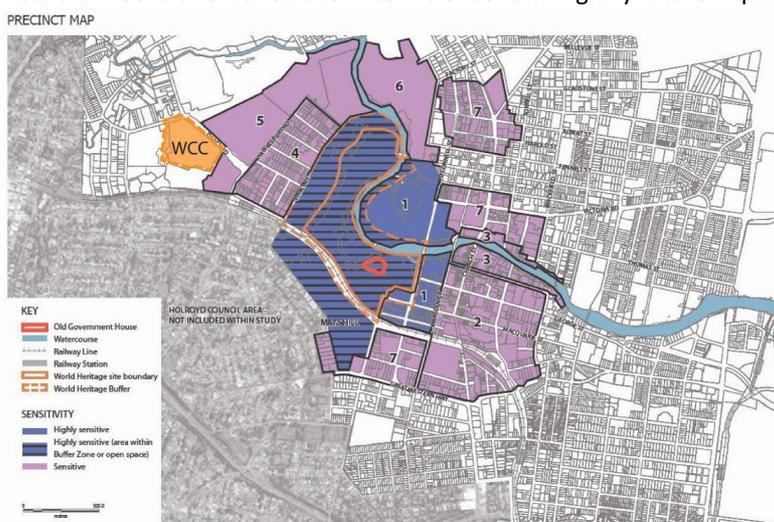
Reference is made to Part 3 Extract from: *Development in Parramatta City and the Impact on Old Government House and Domain's World And National Heritage Listed Values. Technical Report 2012* by Planisphere

The proposed redevelopment will not impact upon the views and vistas to and from Old Government House and the Government Domain in Parramatta Park for the following reasons:

1. The WCC site is 1.5km NW of the OGH and Domain



2. The WCC site is outside the westernmost boundary of the Planisphere 2012 study and may be assumed therefore to be a less than 'Sensitive' zoned site in terms of controlling any future impact. It is well beyond the World Heritage curtilage.

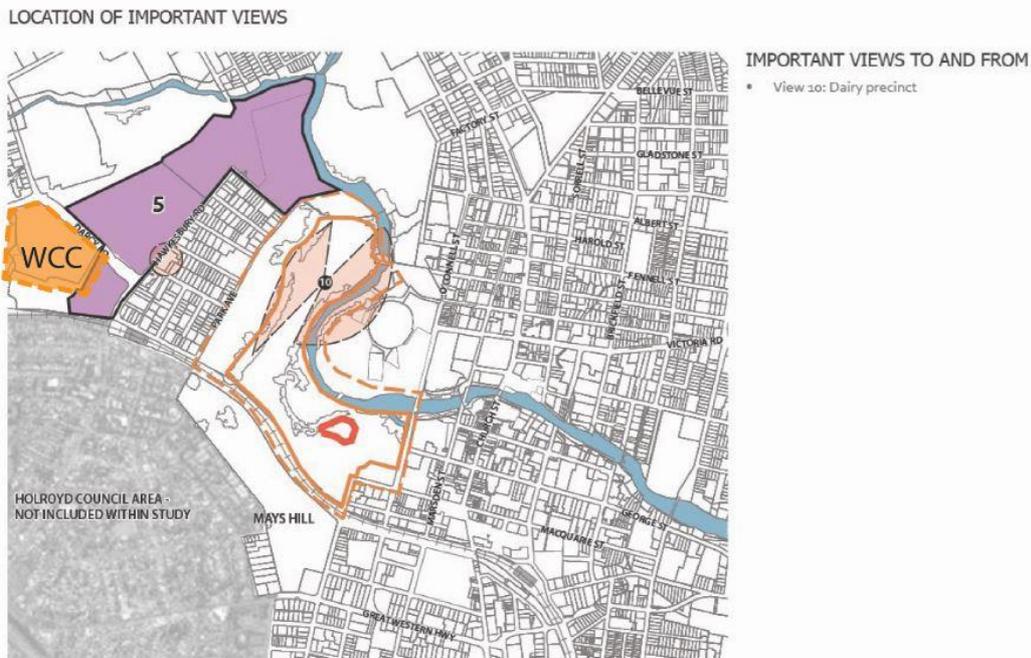


3. The WCC site is located over the intervening ridge and accordingly there is no direct line of sight between Old Government House and its Domain and the subject site

- In between the WCC site and Old Government House on the former St Vincent’s Orphanage site, there is an apartment complex of 9-24 stories high and which partially blocks any views to and from the site.



- Conclusion- There will be no impact from the proposed works on either the visual, or landscape settings, and it will retain/maintain the World and National Heritage Values of Old Government House and Domain.



6.6 Cultural Landscape

The study area does not contain a significant cultural landscape. It was formerly agricultural land which has since been replaced by the development of the educational facilities on the property. Please refer to the aerial photograph at Figure 16. Archaeological evidence of former landscapes has been addressed in section 6.1 and 6.2 above.



7.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Summary

It is proposed to undertake redevelopment of the Westmead Catholic Community (WCC). This is a State Significant Development. The WCC does not contain any buildings or a landscape with cultural heritage significance. There are no listed buildings on the site. The proposed new buildings are appropriate in bulk and scale for the site. They will not visually impact upon Old Government House and the former Government Domain, now Parramatta Park; nor will they visually impact upon Western Sydney University, which is listed on the Local Environmental Plan. There are no constraints in respect of the built environment, views or visual impact.

The WCC site is listed on the State Heritage Inventory as an Archaeological Management Unit. An historical archaeological assessment (Garbov 2020b) was undertaken which determined that the site does not contain historical archaeological potential. Therefore, the proposed redevelopment can proceed without any historical archaeological constraints.

Aboriginal consultation and an Aboriginal archaeological assessment has been undertaken and an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (Garbov 2020a) prepared. Both these reports assess the site to contain Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage significance and recommend that Aboriginal archaeological testing and, if necessary, salvage be undertaken prior to the proposed works proceeding.

7.2 Recommendations

1. There are no constraints in respect of the built environment, historical archaeology, cultural landscape, views or visual impact.
2. It will be necessary to undertake Aboriginal archaeological testing and, if necessary, salvage prior to the proposed redevelopment of the site. This should be undertaken in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties.



REFERENCES

- Comber, J. 2019a. Aboriginal Archaeological Testing, Cumberland Hospital: West Campus, Boronia Cottage, Parking and Pavilion AHIP C0004309. Unpublished report to Western Sydney Local Health District.
- Comber, J. 2019b. Aboriginal Heritage and Archaeology Risk Assessment, Westmead Precinct Cumberland Hospital. Unpublished report to Health Infrastructure NSW.
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- Kass, T, et al. 1996 .*Parramatta: a past revealed*. Parramatta City Council
- McDonald, I. 2000. *A School of their Own – the story of Parramatta Marist 1820-2000*. Parramatta Marist High School
- Planisphere Plan. 2012. *Development in Parramatta City and the Impact on Old Government House and Domain's World And National Heritage Listed Values. Technical Report*

Heritage Listings

NSW State Heritage Inventory sheet: Parramatta Archaeological Management Unit 2891.

Web pages:

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=2242891> accessed 29/1/2020

<https://www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au/UI/Main/Default.aspx?content=parish>

www.findandconnect.gov.au/ref/nsw/biogs/NE00137b.htm

<http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au/>

http://www.maristyc.com.au/MYC/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4&Itemid=14 accessed

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parramatta_Marist_High_School



APPENDIX A: BUILDING INVENTORY RECORDING

BUILDING INVENTORY RECORDING WESTMEAD CATHOLIC COMMUNITY EDUCATION CAMPUS

ADDRESS: 2 DARCY ROAD, WESTMEAD
CITY OF PARRAMATTA COUNCIL



DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta



c. 1970's



2020

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN PREPARED
OR COMBER CONSULTANTS



POC+P
architects

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FINAL DRAFT FEBRUARY 2020

THIS DOCUMENT IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH:
 - THE EXISTING SITE + USES PREPARED BY POC+P ARCHITECTS
 - STATEMENT OF HERITAGE IMPACT PREPARED BY COMBER CONSULTANTS



Westmead Catholic Community Education Campus numbered buildings + areas of proposed works in Stage 1 prepared by POC+P

X Structure Number **Area of Proposed Development in Stage 1**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

BUILDING	PAGE NO
* 1. DANCE STUDIO + STAFF ROOM + SHADE STRUCTURE	4
* 2. MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS + GLA	5
* 3. DEMOUNTABLES + MULTI USE COURTS	6
4. TECHNICS WORKSHOP	6-7
5. MCAULEY FORUM TIERED LEARNING + KITCHEN + GLA + OFFICE	7
6. OPEN LEARNING + OFFICE + GLA	8-9
7. ART + PHOTOGRAPHY	10
8. SCIENCE + HOSPITALITY KITCHEN + GLA	11
9. MERCY CHAPEL + LOCKERS	12
10. SR. EDITH ANGEL RSM ADMIN + STAFF + GLA	13
11. LIBRARY	14
12. CAMPION WELLBEING + EXAM + MUSIC + GLA	15
13. BROTHER MICHAEL GREEN CENTRE + GLA	16
14. HIVE + GLA	16
15. SCIENCE	17
16. ADMIN + STAFF + GLA	17
17. BROTHER LUDOVIC LEARNING CENTRE + ICT + GLA	18
18. TIERED OUTDOOR LEARNING	19
19. MORLEY CENTRE	20
20. HARROWAY BUILDING GLA	21
21. BROTHER ALMAN BUILDING + GLA	22
22. FATHER TERRY ARTS + TECHNICAL	22-23
23. DEMOUNTABLES + STORAGE	23
24. LAVALLA MONASTERY + SCHOOL CHAPEL	24
25. BROTHER HILARION DICKSON CANTEEN	25
26. CYRIL SHEEHAM POOL	25
27. PARRAMATTA MARIST HIGH SCHOOL GROUNDS	26
28. MCAULEY WESTMEAD GROUNDS	27

* Structures highlighted are proposed for demolition in Stage 1

Comments on significance, condition, integrity relate to generally accepted principles in relation to heritage assessment and evaluation as per NSW Heritage Manual and the Burra Charter (as amended.)

DANCE STUDIO + STAFF ROOM + SHADE STRUCTURE



DESCRIPTION:

- Demountable lightweight steel structure
- Linear form
- Extends onto outdoor COLA
- Suitable for reuse + relocation

DESIGN: Standard New Education Type

DATE: Constructed c.2015

CONDITION: Good

ALTERATIONS: None

SIGNIFICANCE: Nil

INTEGRITY: Nil



Elevated shelter faces onto outdoor informal play



Ramp access to verandah



COLA steel open span

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS + GLA



DESCRIPTION:

- Linear steel lightweight demountable
- Faces hockey field
- Elevated linked to building 1
- Suitable for relocation

DESIGN: Standard modular/on suspended structure with integrated verandah

DATE: post 2010

CONDITION: Good

ALTERATIONS: None

SIGNIFICANCE: Nil

INTEGRITY: Nil



View from Catherine McAuley building 6



Northern Facade



View from Hockey field

BUILDING 3 * One outdoor court to be preserved

DEMOUNTABLES + MULTI USE COURTS



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Metal demountable in linear row of 4
- Suitable for relocation

DESIGN: Standard Government issue

DATE: c. 2000s

CONDITION: Good

ALTERATIONS: Nil

SIGNIFICANCE: None

INTEGRITY: High

horizon, I could only guess the actual location of the boundary of the school grounds. Over time, what had been a deep depression gradually became a mountain of rubble rising above the surrounding landscape, the demolition of the old, the excavation for Westfield Parramatta, contributing to the foundation of the new. The next step in the process began with the arrival of a huge, heavy roller. Backwards and forwards, up and down it went with regular monotony as the rubble gradually yielded under its mighty weight."
Sr M. Malachy, Teacher, 1969 - 1973



Aerial view



Grounds built up post 1968 from excavation taken from Westfields Parramatta according to teacher recount c.1973

BUILDING 4 TECHNICS WORKSHOP



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Single storey
- Masonary walls with skillion roof
- Slab on ground
- Aluminium window
- NSW government funded in part

DESIGN: Unknown

DATE: September 2003

CONDITION: Good - Fair

ALTERATIONS: Curved door hood added

SIGNIFICANCE: Low

INTEGRITY: High



Interior of technics classroom



Eastern entry



4A covered link adjacent to no.4



BUILDING 5

MCAULEY FORUM TIERED LEARNING + KITCHEN + GLA + OFFICE



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Tiered learning under
- Pitched tile roof + blonde brick

DESIGN: c.2002 c.1968 original

DATE: September 2003 refurbished

CONDITION: Good - high

ALTERATIONS: Refurbished foyer + interior

SIGNIFICANCE: Medium

INTEGRITY: Fair



East entry to tiered learning



Girls lined up outside with building 5 at rear



Original c.1968



West facade

OPEN LEARNING + OFFICE + GLA



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Linear 3 storey low pitched roof, concrete framed with brick infill, open eastern verandah, tower + lift at northern end
- 3 large egress stairs breaks form into modules
- Steel portal framed upper level to structure

DESIGN: Charles Glanville Architects

DATE: 2012

CONDITION: Good

ALTERATIONS: Nil

SIGNIFICANCE: Low/intrusive

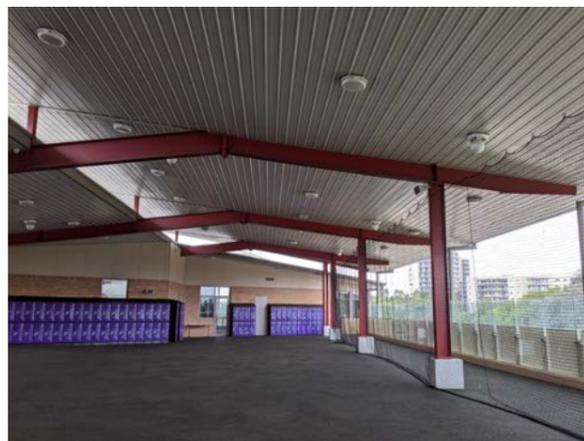
INTEGRITY: High



Looking south along east facade to building 6



Eastern covered verandahs



Upper level COLA + playground



Perforated mesh screen + balustrades



Western facade + car park



Western facade + car park



Western apron



Northern facade mural



Named The Sr Barbara McDonough Building 2012 comprises classrooms and multi purpose learning spaces



Long view west facade



Entrance to Mother Theresa Primary, southwest corner

BUILDING 7
ART + PHOTOGRAPHY



Building location

DESCRIPTION:
 - Single storey tiled gable + brick linear block with aluminium frame windows with wide eaves
DESIGN: Unknown
DATE: Late 1960's
CONDITION: Fair
ALTERATIONS: Unknown
SIGNIFICANCE: Low
INTEGRITY: Medium



NE corner with c 2000's fencing



East gable end



Bonded wall panels inset line of window sashes, expressed vertical pillars

BUILDING 8
SCIENCE + HOSPITALITY KITCHEN + GLA



Building location

DESCRIPTION:
 - 3 storey linear blonde brick + tile structure with concrete frame, colonnade + vertical brick bands
 - 1966 aerial view shows end aligned with west end of building 10
DESIGN: Unknown
DATE: 1966 + Hospitality 1998 at west end
CONDITION: Good
ALTERATIONS: Internal
SIGNIFICANCE: Medium
INTEGRITY: Medium (High external)



Building 8 on left, Building 7 on right



Northern Facade



Northern verandah of building 8



MERCY CHAPEL + LOCKERS



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Red tiled gabled linear building with northern verandah, brick block walls, natural anodised sashes, slab on ground + brick paving

- Chapel use dates from 2013

DESIGN: Unknown

DATE: c. 1968- 70

CONDITION: Good

ALTERATIONS: Yes

SIGNIFICANCE: Low - medium

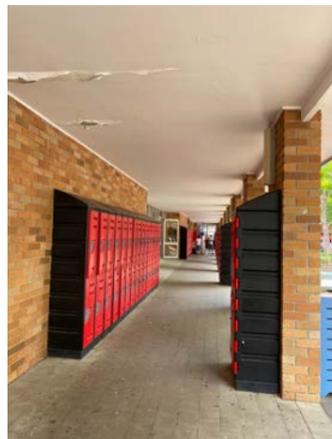
INTEGRITY: Medium- High



Aerial view



Mercy Chapel at rear of Coolock Court



Locker



Courtyard statue of Venerable Mother Catherine McAuley (b.1778)



Mercy Chapel Tabernacle and sacred vessels came originally from St Claire's Convent of Mercy Epping donated by the Parramatta Congregation.



School shield

ADMIN + STAFF + GLA



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Known as Building 1; renamed Edith Angel Building in 2014

- Linear tiled roof, brick walled

- Concrete framed 2 storey school building with open verandahs + metal railings

- Colonnaded elevated verandah opens to northern courtyard

DESIGN: Unknown

DATE: c.1968 Extended 1972

CONDITION: Fair

ALTERATIONS: Numerous

SIGNIFICANCE: Moderate

INTEGRITY: Medium



School House pennant



Sr Judith Angel RSM memorabilia principal 1978- 81



Building 10 with c.2000s addition



Sr Sophie McGrath principal 1974-77



Courtyard viewed from eastern colonnade. Area used for school assembly



Canteen east side, formerly called Tuckshop by the girls



Old Girls fundraised for leadlights

LIBRARY



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Brick multi-lined rc slab, tile roofed, aluminium sashes
- Catherine McAuley School Library
- Known as the Fr David Scott Memorial library after fundraising efforts of parish priest of Winston Hills

DESIGN: Unknown

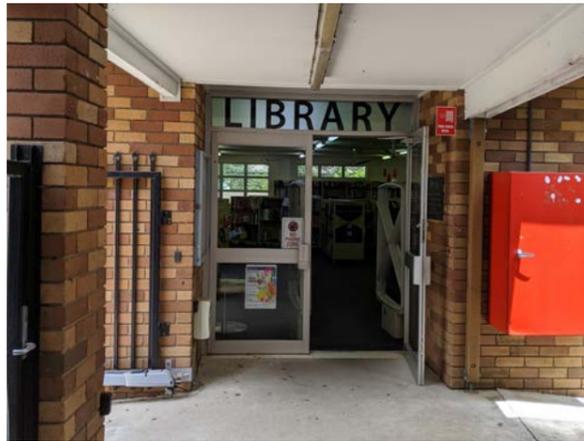
DATE: 1977-78

CONDITION: Fair

ALTERATIONS: Multiple, 2 extensions, new interiors

SIGNIFICANCE: Low

INTEGRITY: Good



Entry arcade



Interior of library

CAMPION WELLBEING + EXAM + MUSIC + GLA



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Formerly site of demountable structure
- Tile roofed, linear form with modified east-facade vertical blond brick piers + contrasting infill dark brick

DESIGN: Unknown

DATE: c. 1980s + later rendered

CONDITION: Fair

ALTERATIONS: Multiple interior

SIGNIFICANCE: Moderate

INTEGRITY: Low



North elevation looking to building 6



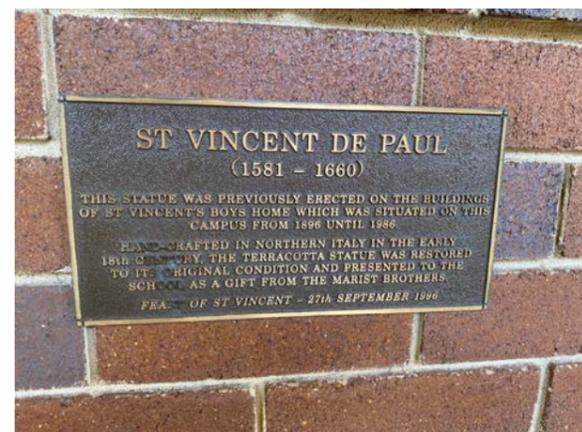
Entry view



Southern colonnade



Sculpture in niche c.1896 shows addition



POC+P architects



School crest

BROTHER MICHAEL GREEN CENTRE + GLA



DESCRIPTION:

- Named for former school principal from 1992- 1996
 - 2 storey tiled roof, blonde brick gabled structure with concrete verandah overlooking tiered COLA
 - Rendered colonnade in green appears to be an alteration
- DESIGN:** Unknown
DATE: c. 1972
CONDITION: Fair
ALTERATIONS: Refurbished interiors, aircon added
SIGNIFICANCE: Low
INTEGRITY: Medium



HIVE + GLA



DESCRIPTION:

- 2 storey linear tiled roof wing flanking open courtyard with new slab construction adjacent at eastern end
- DESIGN:** Unknown
DATE: c. 1980s
CONDITION: Fair
ALTERATIONS: Multiple, refurbished
SIGNIFICANCE: Low
INTEGRITY: Medium- Low



Site of unknown new element

SCIENCE



DESCRIPTION:

- Metal roofed brick structure with steel roof framing
 - Purpose built science labs in linear form over 2 levels with display cases
- DESIGN:** Contemporary skillion roof
DATE: c. 2011
CONDITION: Good
ALTERATIONS: Minor
SIGNIFICANCE: Low
INTEGRITY: High



ADMIN + STAFF + GLA



DESCRIPTION:

- Linear low pitched 2 storey long wing forming entry for both Marist high & Catherine McAuley
- DESIGN:** Charles Glanville architect of design in 2008
 Thompson Adsett documentation 2009
DATE: 2011
CONDITION: Good
ALTERATIONS: Nil
SIGNIFICANCE: Low
INTEGRITY: High



NE corner adjacent Morley centre

Northern verandah

BROTHER LUDOVIC LEARNING CENTRE + ICT + GLA



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Cruciform layout with central block + 4 skillion additions
 - Tile roof, face brick + rendered walls
 - Frenchman Brother Ludovic Labourer led the Marist brothers to Australia in 1972
- DESIGN:** Unknown
DATE: Unknown
CONDITION: Fair to good
ALTERATIONS: Render, awning
SIGNIFICANCE: Low - medium
INTEGRITY: Medium - low



View of building 17



Northern covered link



External statue



Interior view, archives on right



Archive memorial

TIERED OUTDOOR LEARNING



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Above tiered brick amphitheatre surrounded by verandah wings on 3 sides
 - Minimal landscaping
- DESIGN:** Unknown
DATE: 2010's
CONDITION: Good
ALTERATIONS: Nol
SIGNIFICANCE: None
INTEGRITY: High



Handball courts, Morley centre on left



MORLEY CENTRE



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Purpose built two level auditorium and indoor sports venue with low pitched metal roof, concrete masonry block walls, concrete and steel frame and large tinted glass foyer and ground stair

DESIGN: Unknown

DATE: 1993

CONDITION: Fair- Good

ALTERATIONS: Minimal

SIGNIFICANCE: Moderate

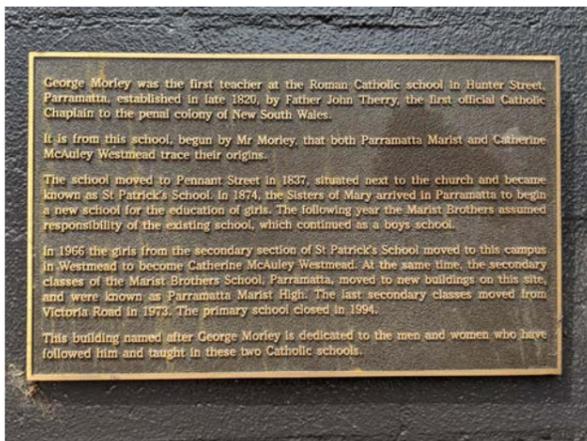
INTEGRITY: High



NE facing foyer



Commemorative brochure
Source: school archives



History of John Morley, first teacher in Parramatta



Used as games training in 2000



Apron on east adjacent pool (building 26)

HARROWAY BUILDING GLA



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Original Marist boys schoolrooms, one of a pair of tall linear blocks with brutalist expression
- Northern stepped entry + covered porch

DESIGN: Unknown

DATE: 1966

CONDITION: Good

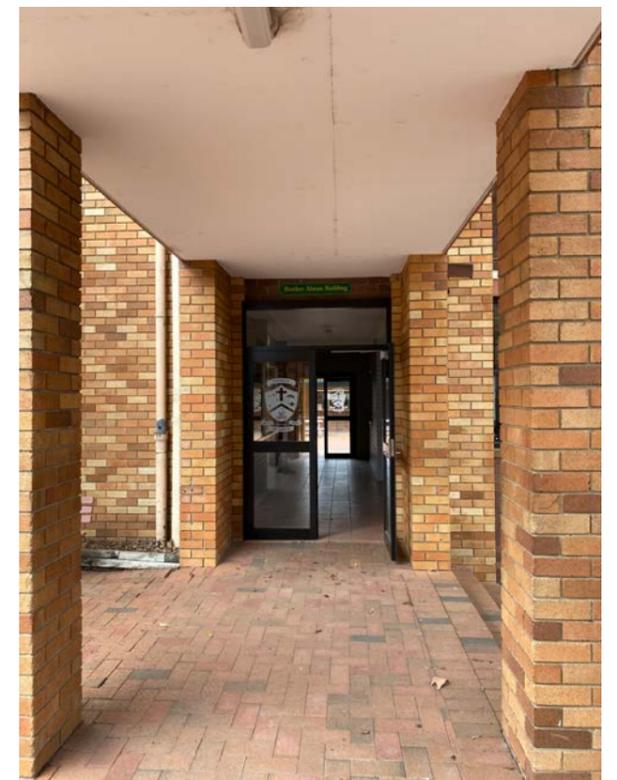
ALTERATIONS: Interiors recently renovated, airconditioning

SIGNIFICANCE: Medium

INTEGRITY: Medium



Darcy Road frontage with 200, 200 year banner



Colonnade entry

BUILDING 21

BROTHER ALMAN BUILDING + GLA



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

Brother Alman Building

- Brother Alman was principal in 1960
- Original Marist boys schoolrooms, one of a pair of tall linear blocks with brutalist expression
- DESIGN:** Unknown
- DATE:** 1966
- CONDITION:** Good
- ALTERATIONS:** Interiors recently renovated, airconditioning
- SIGNIFICANCE:** High
- INTEGRITY:** Medium



BUILDING 22

FATHER THERRY ARTS + TECHNICAL



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Named for first Catholic priest in colony of NSW and founder 1820 Catholic School in Parramatta
- Purpose designed around a small brick paved courtyard
- L shape, 2 storey brick + tile roof with skillion clerestory skylights facing east
- DESIGN:** Unknown
- DATE:** 1982
- CONDITION:** Good brickwork, timber clerestory poor, rear crack in retaining wall
- ALTERATIONS:** Internal
- SIGNIFICANCE:** Low-Medium
- INTEGRITY:** Fair



Demetrius Ampitheatre 1982



Substantial weathering to eastern highlights and cladding



Landscape forecourt

BUILDING 23

DEMOUNTABLES + STORAGE



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Linear corrugated metal demountable cluster
- DESIGN:** Standard
- DATE:** 2000s
- CONDITION:** Good
- ALTERATIONS:** Nil
- SIGNIFICANCE:** None
- INTEGRITY:** Low



LAVALLA MONASTERY + SCHOOL CHAPEL



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Lavalla monastery for 40 Marist brothers (named after Pierre Lavalla founder)
- Flay roof H form twin blocks with integrated school chapel at Darcy Rd end
- Vehicular access on eastern side

DESIGN: Unknown

DATE: c.1968

CONDITION: Poor- Fair

ALTERATIONS: Multiple interior but minor

SIGNIFICANCE: High- unusual design example

INTEGRITY: Medium + Rare



Rear courtyard, view of accommodation cells + courtyard



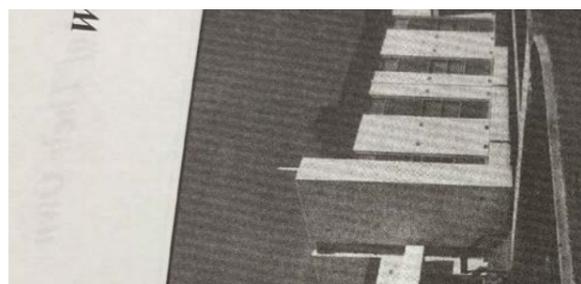
Lavalla Chapel



West facade



Entry porch



Historic photo 1966

Statue of founder, Monastery side entrance

BROTHER HILARION DICKSON CANTEEN



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- Rendered low single storey linking building
- Flat roofed infill wing
- Named for long term member of school support staff in 1994

DESIGN: Unknown

DATE: 1970s + 1990s

CONDITION: Fair-Good

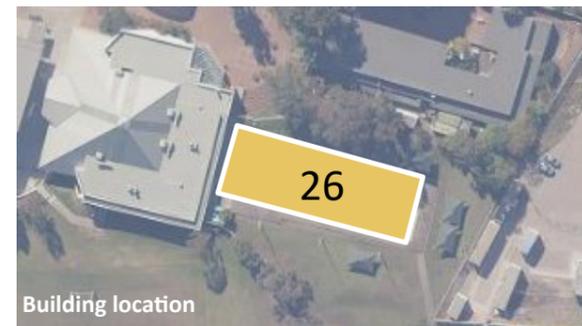
ALTERATIONS: Bay windows, considerable to interior

SIGNIFICANCE: Intrusive element

INTEGRITY: Nil



CYRIL SHEEHAM POOL



Building location

DESCRIPTION:

- 50m tiled pool with diving at west end
- Concrete in ground tiled with grassed margins
- Several springboards
- Used by Marist boys + McAuley girls
- 11' 6" at Deep end and 5' at shallow
- Named for pool manager Cyril Sheeham for service to both the school and Westmead boys home

DESIGN: Unknown

DATE: c. 1966

CONDITION: Empty

ALTERATIONS: Fencing

SIGNIFICANCE: Moderate

INTEGRITY: Medium



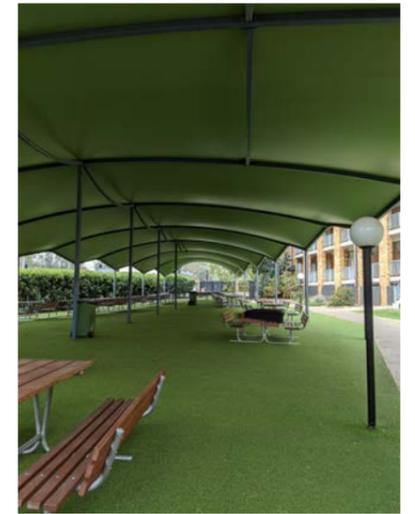
THE GROUNDS

PARRAMATTA MARIST HIGH SCHOOL



THE GROUNDS

McAuley Westmead



ARCHAEOLOGY - HERITAGE - MEDIATION - ARBITRATION

WESTMEAD CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Historical Archaeological Assessment

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REPORT TO	WESTMEAD CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
LGA	CITY OF PARRAMATTA
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta propose to undertake works in relation to the Westmead Catholic Community (WCC) Project 1 Stage 1.

This project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development (SSD) under Part 4, Division 4.1 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* (EPA Act). The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) (SSD 10383) issued on 22nd November 2019, require that a Historical Archaeological Assessment be undertaken if the Statement of Heritage Impact determines that the site contains historical archaeological potential.

Comber Consultants prepared this report in accordance with the guidelines *Archaeological Assessment* (DPIE 1996) and *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics* (DPIE 2009). This report assesses the likelihood for relics to be present, their significance and considers the impacts from the proposal on archaeological potential in order to determine appropriate mitigation strategies.

The study area is listed as an Archaeological Management Unit (AMU) 2891 on the NSW *State Heritage Inventory*. As a result of this assessment the study area has been assessed as being of nil to low historical archaeological potential.

This report therefore makes the following recommendations:

1. The study area is listed as an Archaeological Management Unit AMU 2891 on the NSW State Heritage Inventory. However, this report assesses the site as containing nil-low archaeological potential. It is not anticipated that the proposed redevelopment will impact upon any historical archaeological features or relics. Therefore, the proposed redevelopment can proceed without any further historical archaeological assessment, testing, salvage or monitoring.
2. Should any unexpected archaeological features or relics, be uncovered during the proposed redevelopment, all works must cease in the vicinity of that feature or relic and advice must be sought from a suitably qualified archaeologist prior to any further ground disturbance.



CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	BACKGROUND	1
1.2	LOCATION	1
1.3	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	2
1.4	EXISTING DEVELOPMENT	2
2.0	LEGISLATION	3
2.1	<i>NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE ACT 1974</i>	3
2.2	<i>HERITAGE ACT 1977</i>	3
3.0	HISTORY	5
3.1	ABORIGINAL HISTORY	5
3.2	WESTMEAD CATHOLIC COMMUNITY	5
3.3	SACRED HEART PARISH WESTMEAD	12
3.4	CATHERINE MCAULEY WESTMEAD	12
3.5	PARRAMATTA MARIST HIGH SCHOOL	13
3.6	MOTHER TERESA PRIMARY SCHOOL	13
4.0	ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT	14
4.1	ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	14
4.2	PHASES OF OCCUPATION	14
4.3	ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	15
4.4	SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL BY OCCUPATION PHASES	19
5.0	SITE INSPECTION	20
6.0	SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT	22
6.1	INTRODUCTION	22
6.2	ASSESSMENT	22
6.3	STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE	22
7.0	THE PROPOSAL	23
8.0	IMPACT AND MITIGATION	26
8.1	HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY	26
9.0	RECOMMENDATIONS	27
	REFERENCES	28



1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This report supports a State Significant Development for the Westmead Catholic Community (WCC) at 2 Darcy Road, Westmead.

The WCC project seeks to meet the needs of the growing population within the region by providing upgraded school facilities for Mother Teresa and Sacred Heart Primary Schools, as well as a new Parish church. WCC is a collaboration between Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP), the Diocese of Parramatta (DoP), the Sisters of Mercy and the Marist Brothers Province of Australia.

As the proposal is for the purposes of alterations and additions to an existing school and has a capital investment value in excess of \$20 million, it is State Significant Development (SSD) for the purposes of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act). The Parish church is also SSD under clause 8(2)(a) of *State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011* as it forms part of the proposal which comprises a single, integrated development with significant functional links between the education and church uses.

1.2 Location

The subject site is located at 2 Darcy Road, Westmead, approximately 2km to the north-west of the Parramatta CBD and approximately 300m to the west of Westmead Train Station. The site is located within the Parramatta Local Government Area (LGA).

The site has an area of approximately 12ha and a frontage of approximately 430m to Darcy Road. The site consists of two lots, which are legally described as Lot 1 in DP1095407, which is owned by the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church of Parramatta, and Lot 1 in DP1211982, which is under the ownership of the Trustees of the Marist Brothers.

The site is bound by Darcy Road (to the north), the T1 North Shore & Western / T5 Cumberland train lines (to the south), the Western Sydney University Westmead Campus (to the east) and residential uses (to the west).

To the north of the site, across Darcy Road is the Westmead Health and Education Precinct comprising the Westmead Hospital, Westmead Private Hospital and the Western Sydney University Medical Research Institutes. The locational context of the site is shown at Figure 1.

The Westmead Health and Education Precinct, the WCC site and the surrounding residential land collectively form part of the recently nominated Westmead Priority Precinct Area.

The Westmead Catholic Community grounds are listed on the NSW *State Heritage Inventory* as Archaeological Management Unit 2891.

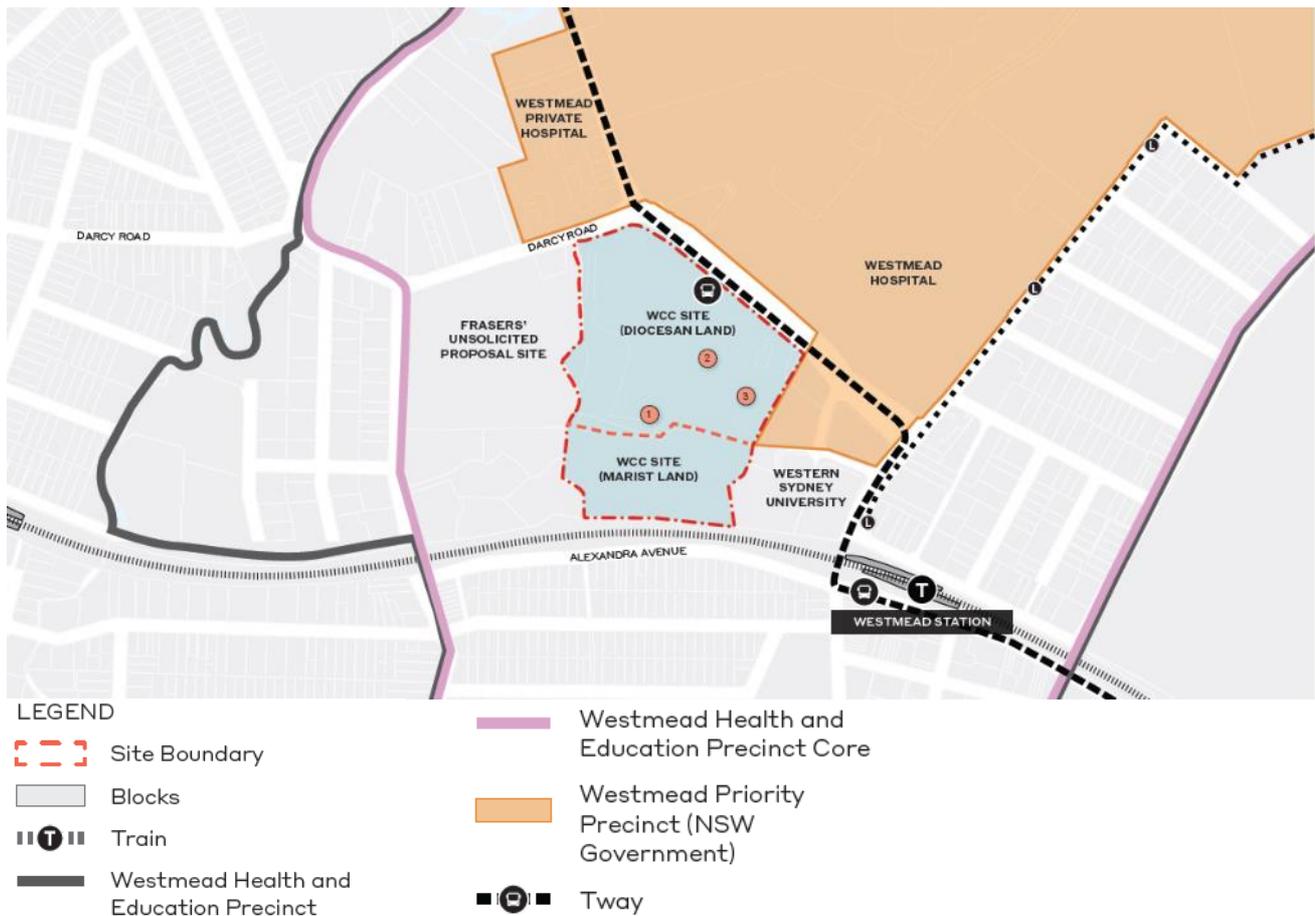


Figure 1: Location of the study area

1.3 Proposed Development

The State Significant Development application will seek approval for:

- A primary school with capacity for approximately 1,680 students, to provide expanded facilities for the existing Mother Teresa Primary School on the site and to replace the existing Sacred Heart Primary School at Ralph Street;
- A new Parish church;
- A Catholic early learning centre (fit-out within an existing building);
- New landscaping.

1.4 Existing Development

The site currently contains three separate schools being the Catherine McAuley Westmead (girls' high school) which predominantly occupies the northern part of the site, and the Parramatta Marist High School (boys' school) which occupies the eastern part of the site. The Mother Teresa Primary School occupies part of the Catherine McAuley school building in the centre of the site. The southern portion of the site contains open sports fields associated with the Parramatta Marist High School.

The existing Brother's residence is located in the north-eastern corner of the site, and an at grade car park occupies the western part of the site, to the north of the sports fields. Collectively, the three schools currently accommodate approximately 2,637 students and 190 staff.



2.0 LEGISLATION

2.1 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

The *National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act) provides statutory protection for all Aboriginal “objects”. The NPW Act is administered by the Office of Environment & Heritage. Section 90 of the NPW Act details the provisions for the issue of a written consent to impact upon an Aboriginal object. An object is defined as:

“Aboriginal object” means any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises 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.

Note: This project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development and approval is not required under the NPW Act (See details in section 3.3 below).

2.2 Heritage Act 1977

State Heritage Register

The NSW *Heritage Act 1977* provides for the establishment and maintenance of the State Heritage Register by the Heritage Council.

Under s57 of the Heritage Act a person must not “demolish, despoil, excavate, alter, move, damage or destroy” an item listed on the State Heritage Register without a permit under s60 of the Act.

Aboriginal places can be listed on the State heritage register if they are considered to be of State heritage significance. Such places can include Mission sites and cemeteries.

Protection of relics

As defined in the NSW Heritage Act 1977 a “relic”:

means any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

- (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and*
- (b) is of State or local significance”*

Note: This project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development and approval is not required under the *Heritage Act 1977* (See section 3.3 below).

2.3 Environmental Protection and Assessment Act 1979 (EPA Act) No. 203

This project is being undertaken as a State Significant Development under Part 4, Division 4.1 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* (EPA Act). Section 89J of the EPA Act (see below) does not require that a State significant development seek approval under the NPW Act or the Heritage Act as follows:

Section 89J of the EPA Act states the following:

89J Approvals etc legislation that does not apply

The following authorisations are not required for State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division (and accordingly the provisions of any Act that prohibit an activity without such authority do not apply):

- (a) the concurrence under Part 3 of the *Coastal Protection Act 1979* of the Minister administering that Part of that Act,
- (b) a permit under section 201, 205 or 219 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*
- (c) an approval under Part 4, or an excavation permit under section 139, of the *Heritage Act 1977*
- (d) an Aboriginal heritage impact permit under section 90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*
- (e) an authorisation referred to in section 12 of the *Native Vegetation Act 2003* (or under any Act repealed by that Act) to clear native vegetation or State protected land,



- (f) a bush fire safety authority under section 100B of the Rural Fires Act 1997,
- (g) a water use approval under section 89, a water management work approval under section 90 or an activity approval (other than an aquifer interference approval) under section 91 of the *Water Management Act 2000*.
- (2) Division 8 of Part 6 of the *Heritage Act 1977* does not apply to prevent or interfere with the carrying out of State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division.
- (3) A reference in this section to State significant development that is authorised by a development consent granted after the commencement of this Division includes a reference to any investigative or other activities that are required to be carried out for the purpose of complying with any environmental assessment requirements under this Part in connection with a development application for any such development.

The EPA Act is administered by the Department of Planning and Environment who will provide the consent for this project and for any impact on Aboriginal objects. Section 89J(d) does not require the consent of the Department of Premier, Industry and Environment.

The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) (SSD 10383) were issued on 22nd November 2019, and require:

Section 9. Heritage

- A Statement of Heritage Impact (SOHI) prepared by a suitably qualified heritage consultant in accordance with the guidelines in the NSW Heritage Manual. The SOHI is to address the impacts of the proposal on the heritage significance of the site and adjacent areas and is to identify the following:
 - all heritage items (state and local) within the vicinity of the site including built heritage, landscapes and archaeology, detailed mapping of these items, and assessment of why the items and site(s) are of heritage significance;
 - compliance with the relevant Conservation Management Plan;
 - the impacts of the proposal on heritage item(s) including visual impacts, required Building Code of Australia and equitable access works, new fixtures, fittings and finishes, any modified services;
 - the attempts to avoid and/or mitigate the impact on the heritage significance or cultural heritage values of the site and the surrounding heritage items; and
 - justification for any changes to the heritage fabric or landscape elements including any options analysis.
- If the SOHI identifies impact on potential historical archaeology, an historical archaeological assessment should be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in accordance with the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage Guidelines 'Archaeological Assessment' 1996 and 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics' 2009. This assessment should identify what relics, if any, are likely to be present, assess their significance and consider the impacts from the proposal on this potential archaeological resource. Where harm is likely to occur, it is recommended that the significance of the relics be considered in determining an appropriate mitigation strategy. If harm cannot be avoided in whole or part, an appropriate Research Design and Excavation Methodology should also be prepared to guide any proposed excavations or salvage programme.
- Provide a visual impact assessment (where required) to address views and vistas to and from Old Government House and the Government Domain in Parramatta Park. Colours and textures should be considered as part of the assessment.

Note: The SOHI (Nutley & O'Carrigan 2020) has identified the study area as listed on the NSW *State Heritage Inventory* as Archaeological Management Unit (AMU 2981) therefore a Historical Archaeological Assessment is required under the SEARS.



3.0 HISTORY

3.1 Aboriginal history

The Darug people are the traditional owners of the main east-west ridge of the Blue Mountains, the northern Blue Mountains and the Cumberland Plain in which the study area is located (Tindale 1974; Attenbrow 2003).

Research by R.H. Mathews, a pioneer linguist and anthropologist, in the early twentieth-century revealed that the Darug (or 'Dharruk' people as he referred to them) inhabited an area adjoining the 'Thurawal' (Dharawal) to the south and Gundungurra and Wiradjuri to the west. Their territory extended along the coast to the Hawkesbury River and inland to Windsor, Penrith and Campbelltown; then from the mouth of the Hawkesbury River to Mount Victoria (Mathews 1901a: 140; Mathews 1901b:155;). Three distinct groups have been identified – the coastal, hinterland and mountain Darug (Attenbrow 2003:23). The study area is on the border between the coastal and hinterland groups.

Aboriginal people have occupied the valley extending from Prospect to the coastline for at least twenty thousand years. One or possibly two clans occupied the land around the banks of the Parramatta River at the headwaters of Sydney Harbour (Kass, Liston & McClymont 1996:4). The surrounding area was reasonably fertile and, with the resources of the river, was able to support their living needs. Anthropological studies indicate that clan sizes varied widely, consisting of between thirty to sixty people who moved through their territory using seasonal routes to access food, shelter and other resources necessary for survival as well as ceremonial sites. Generally people camped, travelled, foraged, fished and hunted in smaller, extended family groups, coming together at times with the larger group for ceremonies and ritual combats (Attenbrow 2003:29).

The people living at the head of the Parramatta River, near Westmead and Parramatta, were a clan of the Darug, known as the *Burramatta*, *Burramattagal* (sometimes written as *Boromedegal*) or *Burramattagalleon* clan. The word *Burra* means eel whilst the word *Matta* means creek or river and described the name of the country. The suffix “-gal” (man) or “-galleon” (woman) was added to describe a man or woman from Burramatta. (Phillip 13 Feb 1790 in HRA 1(1) cited in Attenbrow 2003; Attenbrow 2003:22-24; Kass et al. 1996:6).

Initially Parramatta was named Rose Hill, with the name “Parramatta” being formally adopted in 1792. It was a derivation of the Aboriginal name for *Burramatta* the clan, recorded as originally inhabiting this location (Attenbrow 2003:24; Phillip 13 Feb 1790 in HRA I (I): 155-61; Kass 1996:6). The Parramatta district is thought to be a linguistic and economic boundary between the coastal and inland Darug people. Although opinions differ, linguists believe that a dialect of the Darug coastal language was spoken from the Sydney peninsula as far west as Parramatta, while a hinterland dialect was spoken from Parramatta to the north, west and south (Arthur Capell 1970 cited in Attenbrow 2003: 33).

Archaeological evidence from Parramatta, North Parramatta and Westmead indicates that Aboriginal people occupied the area for over 10,000 years up until about 1830. They visited Old Government House regularly and attended the Native Conferences held in Parramatta (Comber 2019a).

3.2 Westmead Catholic Community

Settlement within Parramatta occurred very soon after the settlement of Sydney was established. The study area was first cleared in 1791 by convict labourers to prepare ground to grow grain. In September 1788 Governor Phillip established a settlement at “The Crescent” which is located almost 1km to the south east of the study area in the area now known as Parramatta Park, but was then the Government Domain. Settlement soon extended beyond The Crescent with the Town of Parramatta being established, whilst the study area was contained within the Government Domain (Figure 2).

Originally part of the Government Farm, land in the area was granted to some settlers for small farms. Governor Macquarie resumed these grants in 1810 and declared the Government Domain, surrounding Government House but also encompassing what is now Westmead. Westmead was originally known as the West Meadow of the Government Domain (Kass et al 1996: 92). It was most likely used for growing maize.



Figure 2: Georeferenced 1790s sketch showing key features of Government Domain, overlain with the study area. The study area's agricultural purpose appears to be undetermined at that stage and its location appears as being west of one of domain's main maize fields.



Figure 3: Georeferenced 1830s parish map (County of Cumberland, Parish of St. John – AO Map No. 277) overlain with the study area boundary (in red) showing study area as part of government domain.

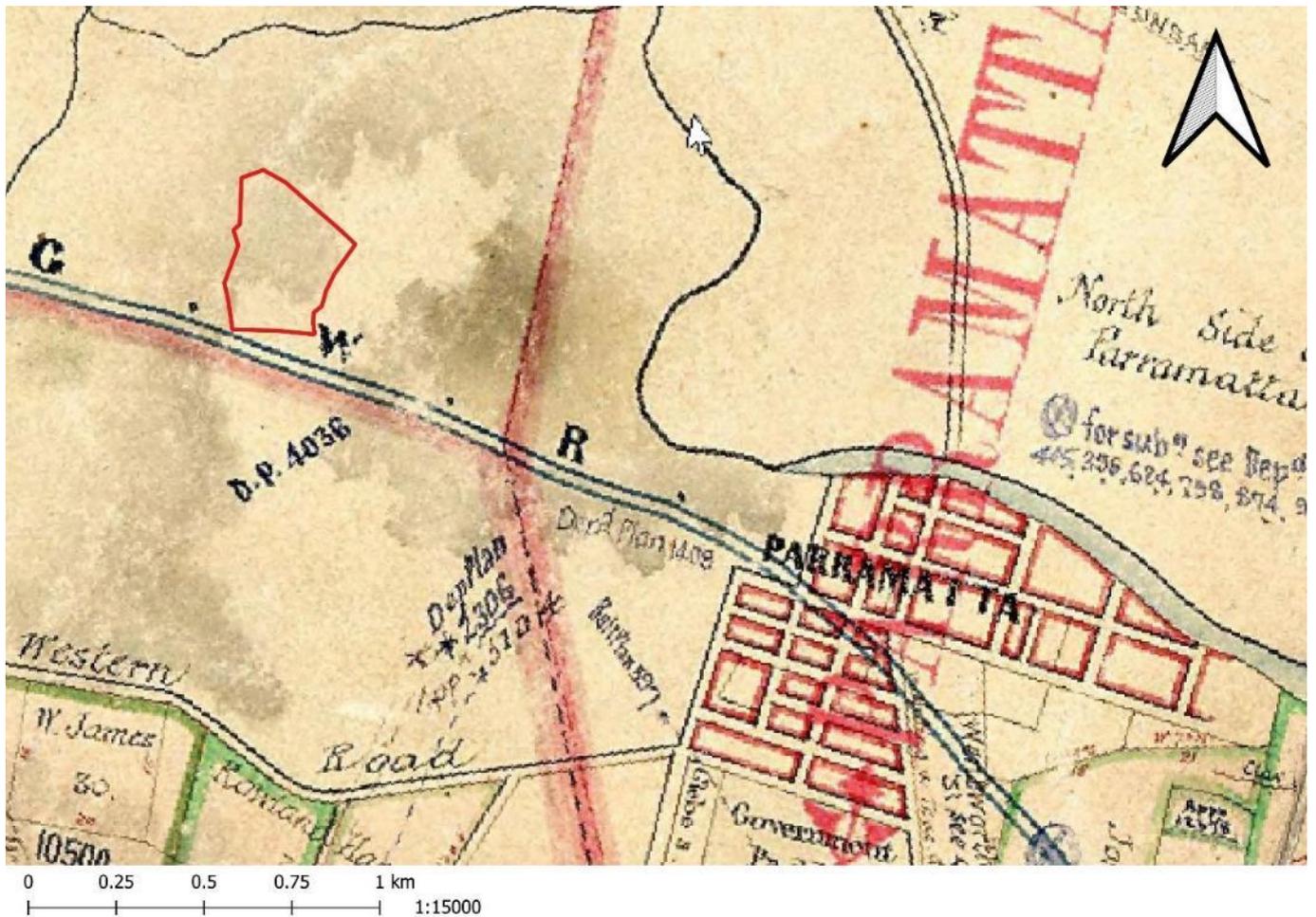


Figure 4: Georeferenced 1860s parish map (County of Cumberland, Parish of St. John – AO Map No 278) overlain with the study area boundary (in red) showing study area as undeveloped land (note: the trace of Great Western Railway is indicative on this map)

In 1859 the Government Domain was subdivided. By 1871, three lots on the Westmead Catholic Community now stands, had been purchased by W. Fullagar (who purchased many other lots in the subdivision), G. Oakes and J. S. Rodd. It is unknown whether or not Fullagar and Rodd built on their lots. (SHI inventory AMU 2242891).

In 1915, the Westmead Boys Home (also known as the St. Vincent's Boys Home) was built on the corner of Hawkesbury Road and Railway Parade, adjacent to the WCC site. It is not known whether the lots surrounding the Home were incorporated into its grounds (SHI inventory AMU 2242891), but in 1943, the WCC lands consisted of cleared land, scattered trees and open paddocks (Figure 5). No substantial structures were present within the study area although two large and one small sheds were located just to the south of the boundary with the WCC Diocesan Land with a small shed near the western boundary. Two other small sheds were just inside the border of the Marist Land in the northern area of the playing field in the south eastern corner of the study area. These vernacular structures are most likely associated with agricultural activities.



Figure 5: 1926 parish map (County of Cumberland, Parish of St. John – AO 46158) showing subdivision of the study area as properties of Fullagar, Rodd and Oakes.



The impetus for the establishment of Catholic schools in Parramatta arose from Colonial restrictions on instruction in the Catholic faith. Religious instruction was limited to the Church of England catechism in the orphan schools (McDonald 2000:3). The first Catholic school was opened in 1820 by accountant, George Morley/Marley. This school was located at the western end of Hunter Street, Parramatta (McDonald 2000:5-6,9). The school moved to Pennant Street (Victoria Road) in 1837, set between a presbytery and St Patrick's church, and remained there for 20 years ((McDonald 2000:70). The Marist Brothers assumed control of the school in 1875 (McDonald 2000:88-89).

By the 1960s, the St Patricks buildings had become cramped and deteriorated and in 1966 work had commenced on the construction of new facilities on the lands formerly owned by William Fullagar at Westmead and included new three-storey buildings. These were constructed on the former playing fields of the Westmead Boys' Home. To the south of these, the property had, at that time, been used for grazing dairy herds and a pig farm. Associated structures included a dairy and piggery as shown in a photograph dated 1963 (McDonald 2000:306-307) (Figures 6-7 below).



Figure 6: 1943 aerial photograph of the study area with 7 structures circled. Those features corresponding to the 1963 panorama in Figure 4 are colour coded for cross-referencing. Features circled in yellow are those that cannot be identified in the 1963 panorama. A seventh structure, a residential building is outside of the study area, but circled in purple (McDonald 2000:70). The site of the old show ground, now part of Westmead hospital is to the top right (overlay on image from SixMaps).

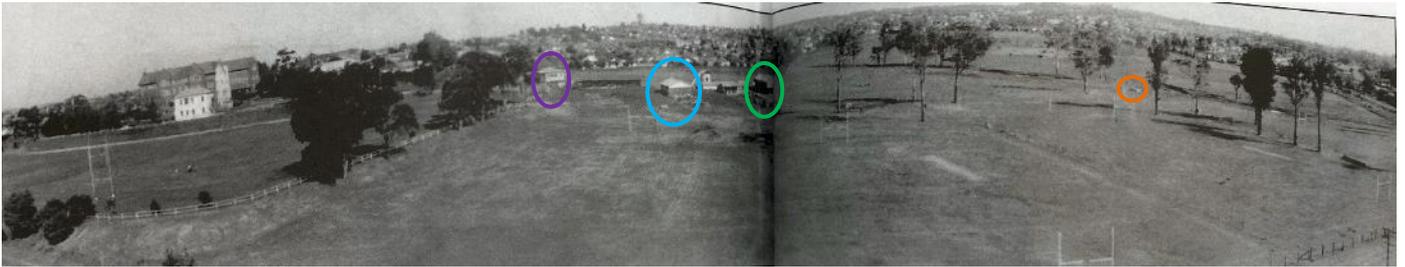


Figure 7: 1963 panorama of Westmead Boys Home. View is to the south. The main buildings are on the left. Playing fields are in the foreground. Dairy, silo and piggery structures in centre. Those of the structures corresponding to the structures in the 1943 aerial are colour coded to match.

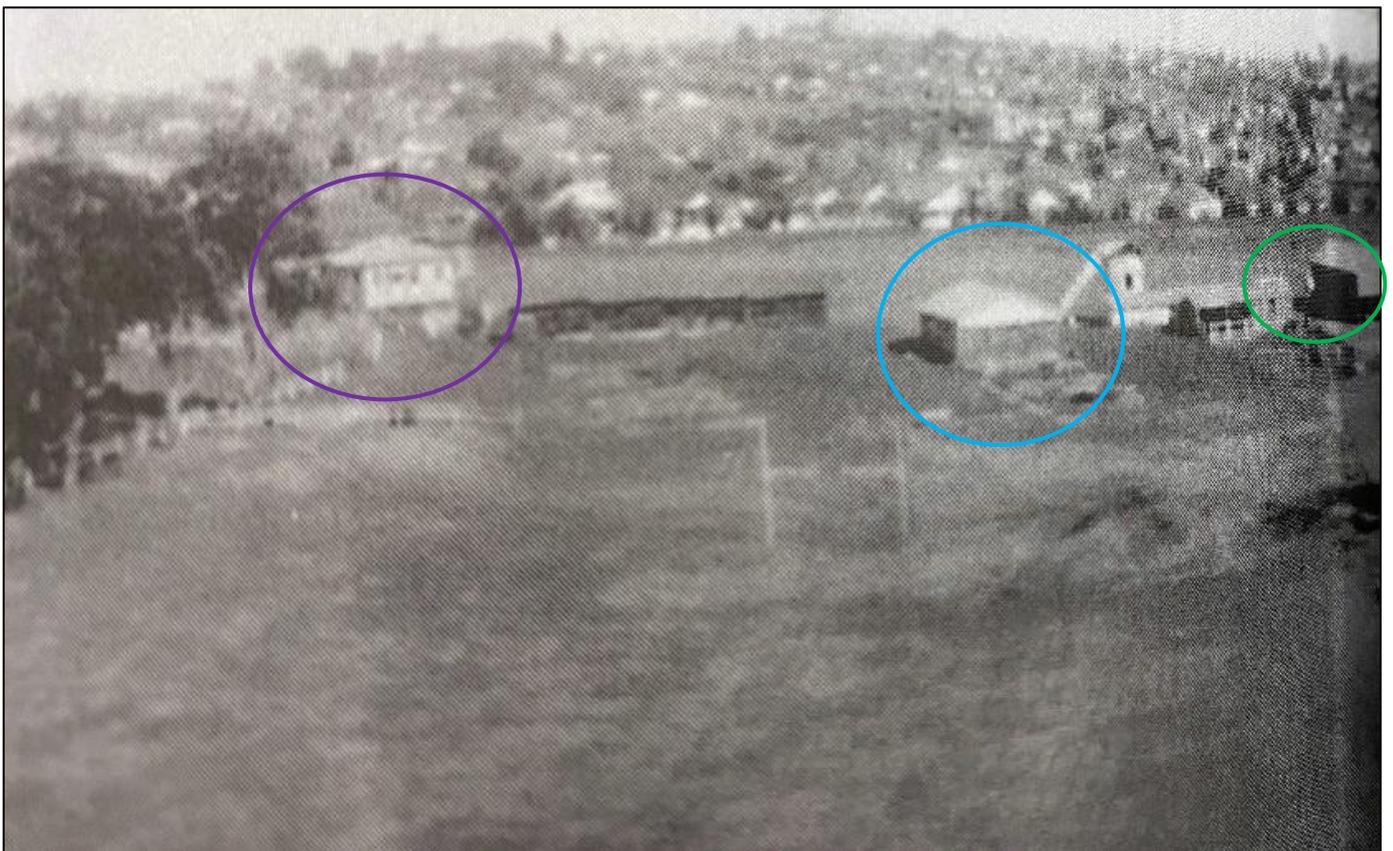


Figure 8: Detail from the 1963 panorama. The building to the left is likely to be the farm house (McDonald 2000:306-307). The 1943 aerial and 1963 photographs show a farm house which is just outside of the study area but is the likely source of the name Farmhouse Road for the roadway that now runs near that location from Hawkesbury Road.

By 1968 the new Parramatta Marist Boys High and Catherine McAuley Girls High, (Hamilton 2007:8) had been completed as well as a monastery. In addition to the main school buildings, three temporary classrooms and a swimming pool were also on the site (Figure 8). A cricket ground and football fields are shown in the 1968 aerial photograph in the grazing land of the Westmead Boys Home. The dairy itself, piggery and ancillary structures had been demolished as well as the farmhouse shown in figures 4-6. The Westmead Monastery was also completed in this year (McDonald 2000:325).

By 1977 two of the temporary classroom structures had been replaced with permanent buildings and an additional facility constructed on the eastern side of those new structures (currently ICT Support and general learning areas (Figure 9).

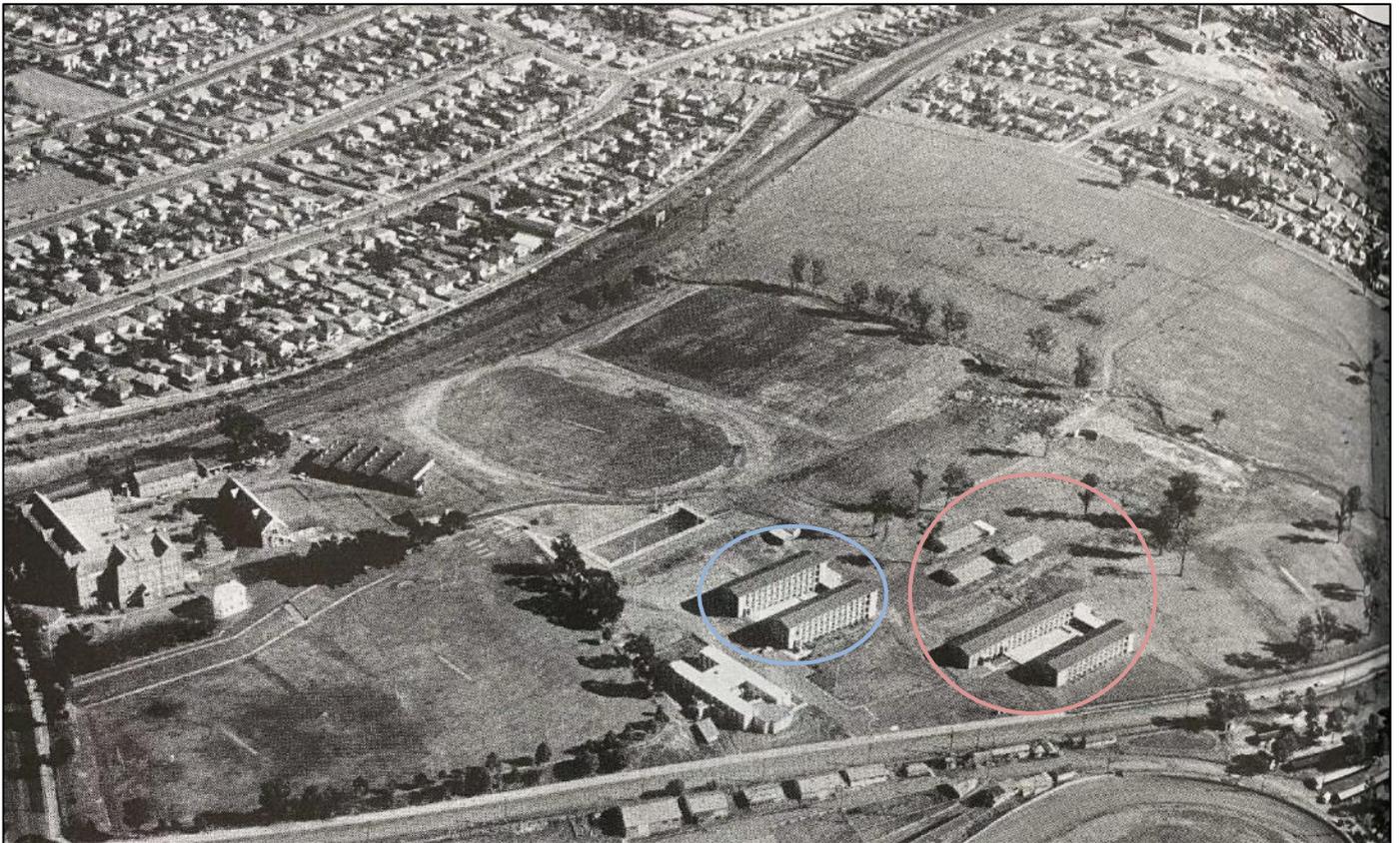


Figure 9: 1968 aerial photograph of the study area with the 4-storey Marist Boys High circled in blue and the 3-storey Catherine McAuley Girls' High School and demountables circled in apricot. The St Vincent's Boys Home is to the left and new schools complex. The new monastery is the 'H' shaped building in the foreground. View to the south-west. Monastery (McDonald 2000:308).



Figure 10: The study area in 1977 with new buildings and formalised paved areas. (McDonald 2000:343)
An administration building was added in 1984 (McDonald 2000:351).



In 1985 the St Vincent's Boys Home and some playing fields were sold by the Marist Brothers to the University of Western Sydney and in 1993 the Morley Centre was constructed as a multipurpose facility, including an assembly hall (McDonald 2000:352-353, 360). 1987 saw construction of new classrooms, a new quadrangle, a new hall (the Forum), a new tennis court and library extensions (Hamilton 2007:129).

New staff and administration areas were added in 1998 and in 2000, the quadrangle was converted into Mercy Square, a place for students to sit and meet. The following year saw a raft of construction work, including:

- the Information and Technology Centre
- another Technology Centre with workshops and practical spaces
- a Food Technology Laboratory
- a Visual Arts Centre
- four new Science Laboratories
- conversion of the Forum from a hall to a tiered lecture theatre
- a Music Centre

(Hamilton 2007:159)

3.3 Sacred Heart Parish Westmead

The Parish of Sacred Heart, Westmead was founded on 1st February 1951, when Rev James Collins was appointed Parish Priest. Mass was conducted in St Vincent's Boys' Home, (established 1891), on Hawkesbury Road Westmead until a church was built in the current study area and opened on March 28, 1954.

(<https://www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au> and www.findandconnect.gov.au both accessed 20/1/2020).

The need for a Parish was largely due to a large Housing Project which had begun in Westmead immediately after World War II. The parish purchased a house on adjacent land in 1956. In 1975 a permanent school was built with assistance from a Government Grant.

Plans for building regional secondary boys' and girls' schools in Westmead were commenced in 1964, as well as for the building of a Marist Brothers monastery in 1966 (<https://www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au>). In 1985 the Marist Brothers boys care services moved out of the old institutional building on Hawkesbury Road into two houses in Darcy Road Westmead. While the buildings were under construction at the Westmead site, 3rd and 4th Forms were housed in demountables on another part of the site (A New School Called Catherine McAuley sample pages.pdf.

(<http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au/> accessed 29/01/2020 and Marist Youth Care <http://www.maristyc.com.au> accessed 29/01/2020).

3.4 Catherine McAuley Westmead

In 1966, the Catherine McAuley Westmead was also established by the Parramatta congregation of the Sisters of Mercy (Hamilton 2007:8-9). Initially it was a regional Catholic High School for girls from Years 7 to 10 but extended to Years 11 and 12 in 1983. The school was built on land owned by the St Vincent de Paul Society and staffed by Mercy Nuns who came from Parramatta each day. In 1999 the primary school was extended to accommodate over 200 students. (<http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au> accessed 29/01/2020).

Parish pastoral work included the care of patients in Westmead General Hospital and Westmead Children's Hospital. Also included was the care of patients in Westmead Private Hospital, Cabrini Nursing Home, Mayflower Nursing Home and Westmead Rehabilitation Centre. In December 2002, the care of both the Parish and the hospitals was transferred to the Camillians (Ministers of the Infirm). In 2015, the Camillians handed back the administration of Sacred Heart Parish Westmead to the Diocese (<https://www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au> accessed 20/1/2020).

Catherine McAuley was born in Ireland in 1778 and established the Sisters of Mercy in 1831. (A New School Called Catherine McAuley sample pages.pdf <http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au/> accessed 29/01/2020).

The construction of the Catherine McAuley High School on the western portion of the site is described in *Catherine McAuley Book of Memories*. The north western portion of the school, where the redevelopment will occur was described as a deep depression which "gradually became a mountain of rubble" as excavation material from the construction of Westfield was transported to the site and used to fill the depression and then levelled. This depression was sited within a large paddock (Hamilton 2007:1920).



3.5 Parramatta Marist High School

In 1966 the first stage of the buildings on the Westmead campus was opened. Subsequent building phases have included:

- 1968 Monastery and Swimming Pool,
- 1972 Library, (built to commemorate the centenary of the arrival of the Brothers in Australia)
- 1973 Senior Block,
- 1982 Arts and Techniques Centre,
- 1984 Administration Block,
- 1993 Morley Centre multipurpose facility
- 2001 new Science Building (with 5 laboratories)
- 2003 refurbishment of the 1972 library to create the Br Ludovic Learning Centre,
- 2004 a new Canteen was built on the old uniform shop site and an eLearning Centre was created on the lower floor of the Harroway Building,
- 2007 the Science laboratories, TAS, and Creative Arts areas were updated and a 172-seat theatre was built on the site of the old canteen.

3.6 Mother Teresa Primary School

The Mother Teresa Primary School located in Darcy Road shares a building with Catherine McAuley High School. It was opened in 2012 and provides education for Kindergarten classes through to Year 6.



4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

4.1 Archaeological potential

To undertake an archaeological assessment, it is necessary to assess whether an area contains archaeological potential. For the purposes of this report “archaeological potential” is the likelihood of a site to contain archaeological deposits that are protected by the Relics Provision of the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* (amended).

Such an assessment is guided by an understanding of the site as revealed through historical research and a site inspection. This report contains detailed historical research.

It is useful to identify the level of archaeological potential as low, moderate or high. This indicates the level of impact on the potential archaeological resource and hence the likelihood of intact archaeological deposits remaining. The degree of archaeological potential does not necessarily equate with the identified level of significance. An area may be mostly intact but it may be assessed as having minimal heritage significance.

The following definitions of high, moderate and low archaeological potential will be used to assess the archaeological potential of individual items identified through the historical research.

A high level of archaeological potential indicates that there is a high probability that the archaeological remains of a structure or structures are reasonably intact as there have been little or no impact following the demolition of the known structures.

A moderate level of archaeological potential indicates that there is a moderate probability that the archaeological remains of a structure are partially or mostly intact but there has been some impact on its integrity through later development.

A low level of archaeological potential indicates that there is a low probability that the archaeological remains survive as there have been extensive impacts by known later development or works.

4.2 Phases of occupation

To assist in determining the archaeological potential the site has been divided into 4 phases of occupation or use as detailed below. This provides a framework which assists in determining archaeological potential, as quite often each successive phase of use has impacted on the previous phase or phases:

Phase 1: Pre-contact occupation by the Darug (ca. 20,000 BP to 1791)

During this phase the Darug would have used the area seasonally, whilst hunting and gathering food. The local landscape would have been sustainably managed by the Darug in order to maintain the area’s fertility and attract game. This phase of occupation of the study area has been assessed in a separate report (Garbov 2019).

Phase 2: Government Domain (1791 to 1859)

During this phase the study area was cleared of vegetation, incorporated into the Government Domain and used for agriculture and farming. Whilst direct historical evidence for the agricultural purpose of the study area has not been identified, it is likely that during this phase the study area was used for growing maize. The local landscape would have been managed through European farming practices including extensive land modification such as, but not limited to, vegetation clearing, field clearing, stone removal and disposal, fertilisation through regular manuring and regular ploughing.

Phase 3: Subdivision and private paddocks (1859/71 to 1966)

During this phase of occupation the study area was subdivided and sold to private owners. Historical mapping from the 1920s does not identify residential use of the study area, but suggests agricultural use. Photographic evidence from the 1940s and 1960s confirms the continued agricultural use of the study since its subdivision, with the northern parts of the study area (properties of Fullagar and Rodd) being maintained as open paddocks, while the southern parts of the study area (property of Oakes) were being used as dairy and piggery in the 1940s – 1960s.

Phase 4: Construction and functioning of the Westmead Catholic School Campus (1966 till present)

During this phase of occupation the study area was acquired by the Westmead Catholic schools and developed. A diverse ensemble of buildings was erected in the northern part of the study area and sports fields were established in the southern



part of the study area following intensive preparation through landscaping and terracing. Phase 4 of occupation of the study area is an ongoing process. Descriptions of the north western corner of the site where the proposed redevelopment is to be undertaken are contained in the book *Catherina McAuley a Book of Memories*. The area has been described as a large paddock where cows grazed. It also contained a large depression that was filled with rubble and material excavated during construction of Westfields, Parramatta, and then levelled (Hamilton 2007:20-21).

4.3 Assessment of archaeological potential

Phase 1: Pre-contact occupation by the Darug Aboriginal people (ca. 20,000 BP to 1791)

The archaeological potential for this phase of occupation has been assessed in a separate report (see Garbov 2019).

Phase 2: Government Domain (1791 to 1859)

This phase of occupation is defined by farming and agricultural activities as part of the functioning of Government Domain. Historical background research on the purpose of the study area during this phase of occupation is inconclusive, yet it is likely that the study area was used for the cultivation of maize.

It can be expected that archaeological evidence for this phase of occupation would fall in the following categories and contain the following archaeological features and corresponding deposits and relics:

- Environmental archaeological evidence for farming activities including, but not limited to, land and vegetation clearing, cultivation of maize;
- Archaeological evidence for lightly built vernacular structures (shelters, sheds, fence lines), and
- Archaeological evidence for negative (cut) features (boundary ditches, irrigation channels, furrows).

However, background research and the evidence for extensive land modification of the study area, recorded during the site inspection, suggest that the archaeological potential for Phase 2 of occupation of the study area is low.

Table 1 summarises archaeological potential of Phase 2 of occupation of the study area.

Land use	Activity	Type of evidence	Potential Finds, Features and Deposits	Archaeological Potential
Historic farming and cultivation of maize	Cultivation of maize	Environmental	Palynological and sedimentological data for land and vegetation clearing, cultivation, and manuring, contained within the existing soil profiles throughout the study area, particularly in the undeveloped north western portion of the study area.	Low
		Archaeological	Archaeological evidence for furrows throughout the study area, particularly in the undeveloped north western portion of the study area.	Nil to Low
	Erection of light vernacular structures (shelters, sheds, fence lines)	Archaeological	Archaeological data on light vernacular structures such as, but not limited to, post-holes and ephemeral occupation deposits throughout the study area, including associated relics	Nil to Low
	Excavation of negative features (boundary ditches, irrigation channels)	Archaeological	Archaeological data on cut features throughout the study area, including associated fills and relics	Nil to Low

Table 1: Summary of archaeological potential of Phase 2: Government Domain (1791-1859)



Phase 3: Subdivision and private paddocks (1859/71 – 1966)

This phase of occupation is defined by the subdivision of the study area and continuing farming. Photographic evidence indicates that the northern parts of the study area were maintained as open paddocks, the central portion of the study area was taken up by small cultivated blocks, while the southern parts of the study area contained a dairy and piggery in the 1940s-1960s containing a minimum of eight vernacular structures. The presence and approximate size of these vernacular structures within the southern portion of the study area (two large sheds, a pig sty and five small structures of unconfirmed use) has been identified on the basis of georeferenced photographic evidence as follows (Figure 11):

- **Structure 1:** Large rectangular shed (approx. 8 x 20m); timber and corrugated iron, north-south orientation;
- **Structure 2:** Large rectangular shed (approx. 9 x 25m); timber and corrugated iron; north-south orientation;
- **Structure 3:** Unidentified square light structure (approx. 5 x 5m); timber;
- **Structure 4:** Unidentified square light structure (approx. 4 x 5m); timber.
- **Structure 5:** Unidentified square light structure (approx. 4 x 4m); timber.
- **Structure 6:** Unidentified square light structure (approx. 4 x 4m); timber.
- **Structure 7:** Unidentified square light structure (approx. 4 x 4m); timber.
- **Structure 8:** Dairy and/or pig sty; rectangular (approx. 13 x 7m); timber and corrugated iron; east-west orientation.

It can be expected that archaeological evidence for Phase 3 of occupation would fall in the following categories and contain the following archaeological features and corresponding deposits and relics:

- Environmental archaeological evidence for farming activities including, but not limited to cattle and pig farming and cultivation;
- Archaeological evidence for vernacular structures (sheds and fence lines), and
- Archaeological evidence for negative (cut) features (boundary ditches, irrigation channels, furrows).

Background research and the evidence for extensive land modification of the study area, recorded during the site inspection, suggest that as in the case of Phase 2, the overall archaeological potential for Phase 3 occupation of the study area is low.

All identified structures were demolished prior to the construction of the Westmead Catholic Community Campus. An overlay of vernacular buildings, identified in historical photography, on a modern satellite image of the study area clearly indicates that all potential archaeological remains of these buildings would now be located in heavily landscaped areas (such as the extant terraced football fields) or within the footprint of extant buildings (Figure 11). The archaeological potential for these features has therefore been assessed as nil.

Table 2 summarises archaeological potential of Phase 3 of occupation of the study area.

Land use	Activity	Type of evidence	Potential Finds, Features and Deposits	Archaeological Potential
Historic cattle and pig farming and limited cultivation	Cultivation and farming	Environmental	Palynological and sedimentological data for land and vegetation clearing, cultivation, and manuring, contained within the existing soil profiles throughout the study area, particularly in the central and south eastern portion of the study area	Nil to Low
		Archaeological	Archaeological evidence for furrows in the central and south eastern portion of the study area	Nil
	Erection of light vernacular structures (sheds and dairy/pig sty)	Archaeological	Archaeological data on eight vernacular structures such as, but not limited to, post-holes and ephemeral occupation deposits in the southern portion of the study area	Nil
	Excavation of negative features (boundary ditches, irrigation channels)	Archaeological	Archaeological data on cut features throughout the study area, including associated fills and relics	Nil to Low

Table 2: Summary of archaeological potential of Phase 3: Subdivision and private paddocks (1859/71 - 1966)



Phase 4: Construction and functioning of the Westmead Catholic School Campus (1966 till present)

As identified in Section 4.2 of this report, Phase 4 of occupation of the study area is an ongoing process and will therefore not be assessed in this report. However, it is important to note that the north-western portion of the site, where the construction of two new buildings is proposed, was described as a large paddock prior to construction of Catherine McAuley High School, by former students. A large depression which was filled with material excavated for the construction of Westfields, Parramatta, was also located in the north western corner (Hamilton 2007:19-20).



Figure 11: Georeferenced overlay of study area on a 1943 aerial photograph (Six Maps) identifying the locations of light vernacular structures on site (No. 1-7) and the approximate location of a further vernacular structure identified on 1963 panorama (No. 8 – all features outlined in yellow).

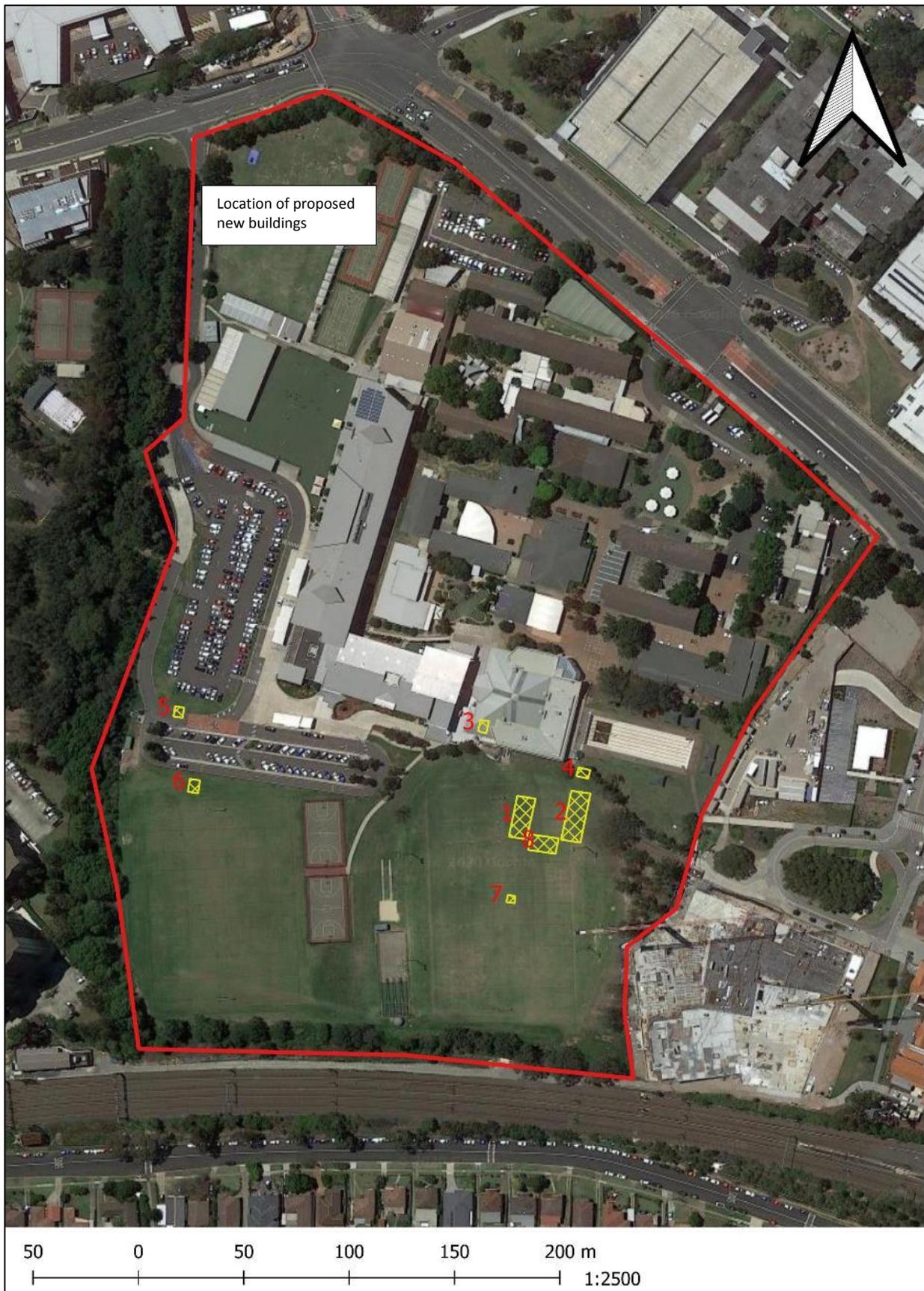


Figure 12: Georeferenced overlay of study area on a modern satellite image (Six Maps) showing the locations of structures identified in 1943 aerial image and 1963 panorama (outlined in yellow) on the current layout of the site. Proposed new development will be undertaken in the north western portion of the site.



4.4 Summary of archaeological potential by occupation phases

A summary of archaeological potential of the study area is provided in Table 3 below.

Phase	Likely archaeological evidence/remains	Potential
Phase 1 Pre-Contact (ca. 20,000 – 1791)	Assessed in separate report (Garbov 2019)	Moderate (Garbov 2019:31-32)
Phase 2 Government Domain (1791-1859)	Environmental and archaeological evidence for historic maize farming as part of Government Domain throughout the study area, potential evidence for landscaping, cultivation, erection of light vernacular structures (including sheds, shelters, fences) and excavation of negative features (cuts, irrigation channels, ditches).	Nil to Low
Phase 3 Subdivision (1859/71 to 1966)	Environmental and archaeological evidence for historic cattle, pig and dairy farming, evidence for landscaping, erection of minimum eight vernacular structures located in the southern part of the study area, and excavation of negative features (cuts and ditches).	Nil to Low
Phase 4 Westmead Catholic Community (1966 till present)	Ongoing accumulation of evidence for the construction and functioning of the Westmead Catholic Community Campus.	Ongoing process

Table 3: Summary of archaeological potential by occupation phases



5.0 SITE INSPECTION

5.1 Results

The study area was inspected on on 21 November 2019 by Dr Dragomir Garbov, Kadibulla Khan and Christopher Jones of Comber Consultants. The study area was inspected on foot and photographs were taken of the study area main features.

The following key findings were made as a result of the inspection:

- The study area contains the Westmead Catholic School Campus and heavily landscaped sports fields. Visible grounds are entirely made up of grassed and mulched areas part of the sports fields and park plantings, and therefore cannot be considered informative for the potential for historical archaeological features and relics within the study area.
- Due to the extensive land modification, the potential for historical archaeological features and relics has been assessed as low.
- Field observations confirm the information acquired through background research revealing a low potential for historical archaeological features and relics to be preserved within the study area.
- The area proposed for the redevelopment is located in the north western portion of the site. The research contained in this report indicates that former structures on the site were located in the southern portion of the site and that there were no known structures in the north western portion of the site (Figure 12).
- Student recollections of the north western corner prior to construction of Catherine McAuley High School indicate that the site for the proposed two new buildings was a large paddock used for gazing cows and did not contain structures (Hamilton 2007:19-20). That area now contains demountable buildings and basketball courts.



Photograph 1: Southern portion of the study area, view to north east showing terracing of slope



Photograph 2: Southern portion of the study area view to north showing landscaped playing field and approximate original location of vernacular structures



Photograph 3: Southern portion of the study area, view to east showing landscaping



Photograph 4: Eastern portion of the study area, view to south showing landscaping through terracing of slope



Photograph 5: North eastern corner of site where redevelopment to occur. Demountable and basketball courts to be demolished



Photograph 6: North eastern corner of site where redevelopment to occur. Demountable and basketball courts to be demolished



Photograph 7: Catherin McAuley Girls High School. New school building to be constructed beside the above building on the playing field



Photograph 8: Roads and landscaping at entrance to school



Photograph 8: Entrance to school



Photograph 9: Monastery in north eastern portion of site



6.0 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

Significance Assessment is the process whereby buildings, items or landscapes are assessed to determine their value or importance to the community.

The following criteria have been developed by the NSW Heritage Council and embody the values contained in the Burra Charter. The Burra Charter provides principles and guidelines for the conservation and management of cultural heritage places within Australia.

6.2 Assessment

Criterion (a): Historic Significance - (evolution)

an item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).

The archaeological potential within the study area does not meet this criterion.

Criterion (b): Associative Significance – (association)

an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, or importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

The archaeological potential within the study area does not meet this criterion.

Criterion (c): Aesthetic Significance - (scenic qualities / creative accomplishments)

an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

The archaeological potential within the study area does not meet this criterion.

Criterion (d): Social Significance - (contemporary community esteem)

an item has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW for social, cultural or spiritual reasons (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

The archaeological potential within the study area does not meet this criterion.

Criterion (e): Technical/Research Significance - (archaeological, educational, research potential and scientific values)

an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

The archaeological potential within the study area does not meet this criterion.

Criterion (f): Rarity

an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

The archaeological potential within the study area does not meet this criterion.

Criterion (g): Representativeness

an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places of cultural or natural environments (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).

The archaeological potential within the study area does not meet this criterion.

6.3 Statement of significance

Throughout its history of occupation, before its acquisition by the Westmead Catholic Community, the study area was used as farm and cultivation lands. The study area is currently heavily landscaped and occupied by a dense building ensemble. The study area has been assessed as being of nil to low historical archaeological potential. Therefore, archaeological potential within the study area does not meet the criteria for historic, associative, aesthetic, social, technical, rarity or representative significance.



7.0 THE PROPOSAL

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta propose to undertake works in relation to the Westmead Catholic Community (WCC) redevelopment. The Sacred Heart Parish of Westmead and the local Catholic schools are growing to meet the needs of the evolving Westmead community and new facilities are required. A new Mother Theresa Primary School and new Church and Parish Centre will be constructed in the north-western corner of the site. Figure 13 below shows the existing buildings on the site. Figure 14 shows the buildings to be demolished whilst Figure 15 shows the proposed redevelopment.

The portion of the site to be redeveloped does not contain archaeological potential. The area that formerly contained structures are the playing fields to the south.

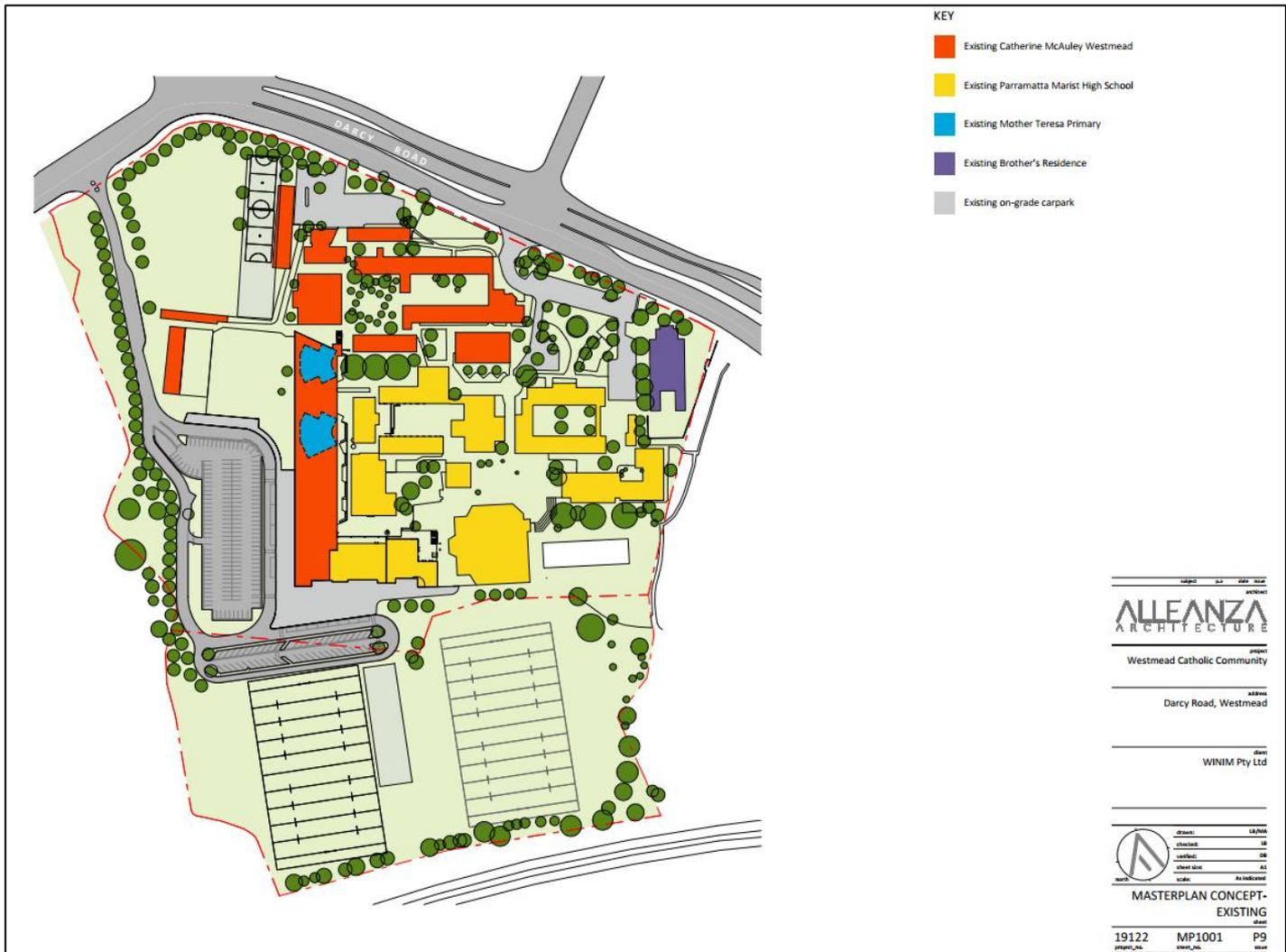


Figure 13: Existing buildings and configuration of the site

The State Significant Development application will seek approval for (Figures 14 & 15):

Demolition:

- The Specialist Dance Spaces
- The Music and Performing Arts Spaces
- Basketball /Netball courts

Construction:

- A primary school with capacity for approximately 1,680 students, to provide expanded facilities for the existing Mother Teresa Primary School on the site and to replace the existing Sacred Heart Primary School at Ralph Street;
- A new Parish church;



- A Catholic early learning centre (fit-out within an existing building);
- New landscaping.



Figure 14: Buildings to be demolished

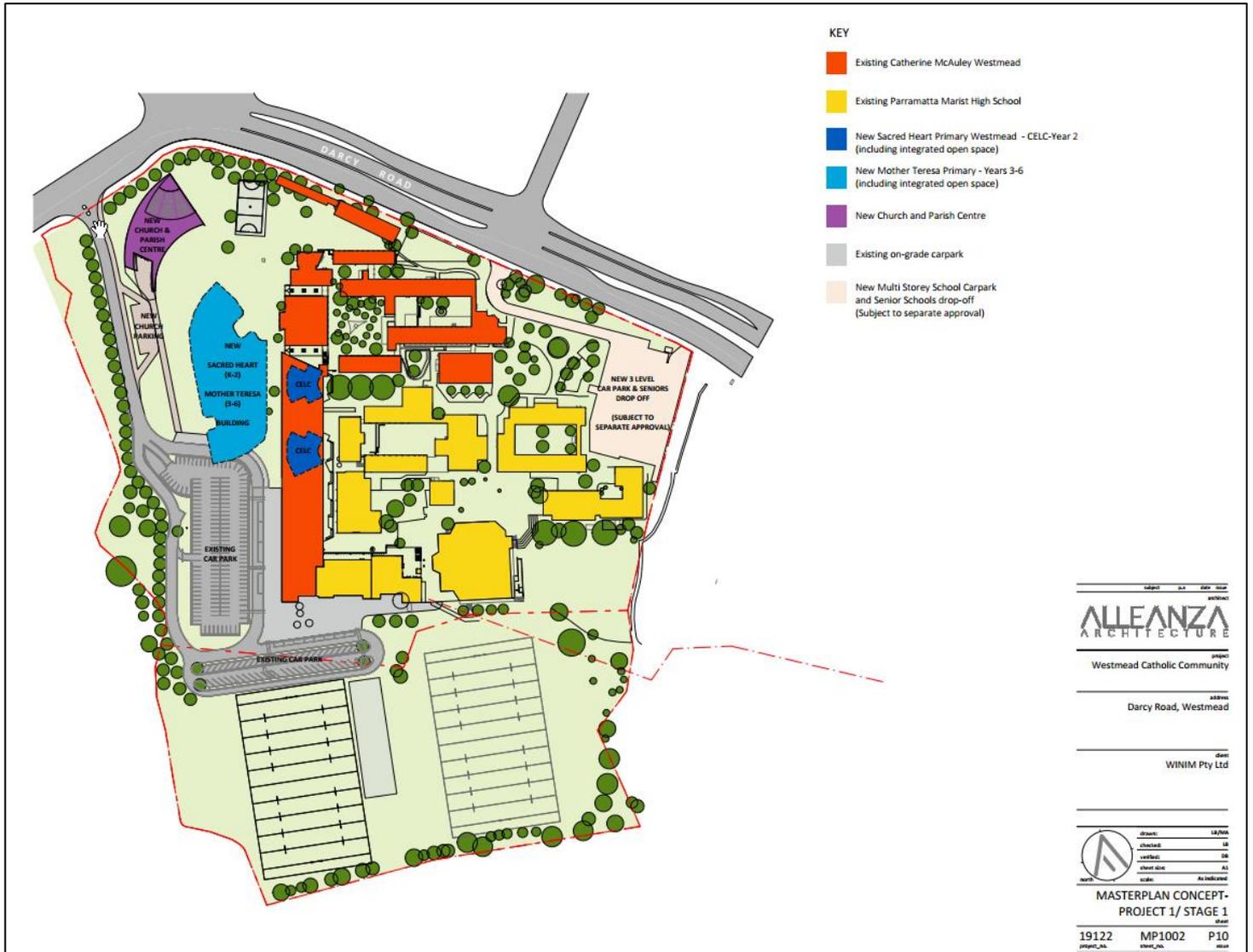


Figure 15: Concept plan



8.0 IMPACT AND MITIGATION

8.1 Historical Archaeology

The study area is listed on the State Heritage Inventory as Parramatta Archaeological Management Unit 2891. It is assessed as containing moderate archaeological research potential. Its archaeological significance is described as:

This area was part of the Government Domain (1810-1859). It remained largely undeveloped agricultural land associated with the Westmead Boys Home (1915-1985) until it was developed as the Parramatta Marist High School in 1965.

The physical archaeological evidence within this area may include open deposits and scatters, ecological samples and individual artefacts which have potential to yield information relating to major historic themes including Education, Environment, Industry, Agriculture, Government and Administration and Land Tenure.

Archaeological evidence at this site is likely to be subject to minor disturbance, with some areas subject to major disturbance.

This report has identified that the historical archaeological potential within the study area is nil to low. In addition, the area that once contained structures is in the southern portion of the site which is not currently being redeveloped. The north western portion of the study area, where two new buildings are to be sited, has been described as a large paddock where cows grazed and which did not contain any structures (Hamilton 2007:19-20). Therefore, the likelihood for impacts to historical archaeology is nil to low and no further mitigation will be required.



9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are made on the basis of:

- Legal requirements under the terms of the *Heritage Act 1977*.
- Legal requirements under the terms of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) for SSD 10383 issued on 29 November 2019.
- The research and analysis outlined contained in this report.
- Results of the assessment as outlined in this report.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT:

1. The study area is listed as an Archaeological Management Unit AMU 2891 on the NSW *State Heritage Inventory*. However, this report assesses the site as containing nil-low archaeological potential. It is not anticipated that the proposed redevelopment will impact upon any historical archaeological features or relics. Therefore, the proposed redevelopment can proceed without any further archaeological assessment, testing, salvage or monitoring.
2. Should any unexpected archaeological features or relics, be uncovered during the proposed redevelopment, all works must cease in the vicinity of that feature or relic and advice must be sought from a suitably qualified archaeologist prior to any further ground disturbance.



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Heritage Listings

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