

Bruce Zhang  
Department of Planning and Environment  
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PARRAMATTA, 2124 NSW

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## **Exhibition of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Honeman Close Data Centre (SSD-58601963) (Blacktown City)**

Dear Mr Zhang,

Thank you for your referral inviting advice from the Heritage Council of NSW on the State Significant Development (SSD) proposal for the construction and operation of a 5 storey data centre with supporting infrastructure, vehicular access, car parking, and landscaping.

The development site is directly adjacent to the Honeman Close section of the *Former Great Western Road, Prospect*, which is listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR) (SHR no. 01911).

The *Former Great Western Road, Prospect* has exceptional historical significance “as the only surviving original alignment of the 1818 Great Western Road that itself most likely followed an earlier Aboriginal track for a route over Prospect Hill. The road has the potential to retain highly significant archaeology of the convict and colonial eras.”

The proposal will be constructed entirely within the site boundaries, and there will be no access Honeman Close.

Other SHR items in the vicinity include:

- *Prospect Reservoir and surrounding area* (SHR no. 01370)

Heritage NSW (HNSW) has reviewed the supporting documents including:

- Statement of Heritage Impact (EMM, November 2023)
- Environmental Impact Statement (Patch Planning & Development, 9 November 2023)
- Visual Impact Assessment (Dem, November 2023)
- Landscape plans (Dem, November 2023)
- Architectural plans (Dem, November 2023)

As delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW, I provide the following advice in relation to environmental heritage matters:

- HNSW supports the design decisions to minimise the visual impact to the historic road alignment by providing a 10m landscape buffer in conjunction with a further 13-16m building setback.
- HNSW supports the mitigation measures recommended in section 8.1 of the Statement of Heritage Impact relating to:
  - Retention of existing mature native trees and other Cumberland Plain vegetation within the 10m landscape buffer.
  - Additional plantings within the 10m buffer to be Cumberland Plain vegetation with a mix of planting heights.
  - Not using Honeman Close for any construction or landscaping activities.
  - Unexpected historical archaeological finds.
- HNSW supports the assessment in the Statement of Heritage Impact that the proposed development will have an acceptable heritage impact to other SHR items in the vicinity. Advice on impacts to local heritage items should be sought from the local council.

If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact Lily Chu, Senior Assessments Officer at Heritage NSW on (02) 9873 8500 or [heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

*Michael Ellis.*

Michael Ellis  
 Manager, Assessments  
 Heritage NSW  
 Department of Planning and Environment  
**As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW**  
 21 December 2023