

B.2021

1 July 2021

Mr Morgan Cardiff
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Dear Morgan

**5-15 NELSON PARADE, HUNTERS HILL:
COMPLIANCE WITH HISTORIC HERITAGE CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL FOR HUNTERS HILL REMEDIATION PROJECT**

Recording of historic features at 5-15 Nelson Parade, Hunters Hill, was commenced by Comber Consultants on Tuesday 31st March, accompanied by materials conservator Clair Rowson from International Conservation Services (ICS).

In accordance with condition of approval B35:

Prior to the commencement of site establishment works, the Proponent shall complete a photographic record of the exposed historic elements on the site (including the seawall, stone retaining walls, cuttings and maritime graffiti) under the supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist.

During that initial photographic recording, the extent of vegetation that was present on the site precluded the completion of the recording of those features, including the SS Titus graffiti and the seawall.

In addition, there are significant constraints to enable a materials conservator to gain direct access to the rock face where the graffiti is located. These constraints are:

- There is no platform on the rock face for a person to stand on;
- the existing scaffolding is unsuitable for providing access;
- there is uneven ground at the base that does not provide a stable platform for lift machinery;
- the slope of the rock face and thin overhang above the graffiti inhibit the access either via machinery or scaffolding.

These constraints limit the ability of the conservator from recommending appropriate measures as required by condition B37:

The Proponent must implement measures to protect the maritime graffiti on the site for the duration of the project, in consultation with a qualified archaeologist. The management measures should include those described in the statement of commitments in Appendix 2 and the Cultural Heritage Assessment for the project prepared by Australian Museum Business Services, September 2012. The requirement to protect this heritage item during the project must be incorporated into site inductions for all personnel working on the site.

In view of these constraints, the following mitigation measure are proposed to be included in the site REMP to allow for the required vegetation removal and subsequent compliance with relevant conditions of approval prior to the excavation of contaminated materials from the site:



1. Condition B35: Photographic recording of the historic element including the seawall, stone retaining walls, cuttings and maritime graffiti:
 - Commenced on 30th March 2021 and to be completed after removal of vegetation from the site. This will include a dilapidation report on the seawall.
2. Condition B36: Implementation of measures to protect the maritime graffiti on the site for the duration of the project. These are detailed in WSP's Management Measure HH1-HH10. In consideration of the access constraints pertaining to graffiti, the following mitigation measures are recommended:
 - The area directly above the graffiti (including the rock overhang) would be marked as a no-go zone, until the structural integrity of the rock can be established.
 - The felling of trees will be undertaken carefully and incrementally, with any falling branches or vegetation to be directed away from the cliff face. The arborists will use spotters.
 - The project archaeologist is to be present on site during the removal of trees and other vegetation in the vicinity of the graffiti.
 - The feasibility of providing access to the graffiti by a materials conservator will be reassessed following the removal of vegetation in that area. That assessment would be included in the updated REMP following completion of the vegetation removal, and subsequent inspection and recommendations by the conservator.

Yours sincerely

David Nutley

Director/Archaeologist

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