Godden Mackay Logan
Heritage Consultants



Noble and Bradman Stands Redevelopment

Sydney Cricket Ground

Heritage Impact Statement

Report prepared for Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust September 2008

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Report Register

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Preamble

Godden Mackay Logan has been engaged by the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust to prepare a Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) for the proposed Noble and Bradman stands redevelopment at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG).

The proposed development constitutes a 'major project' as defined by Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) and would be undertaken pursuant to State Environmental Planning Policy (State Significant Development) 2005.

This HIS has been prepared having regard to the Director General's requirements issued pursuant to Section 75F of the EP&A Act dated 10 July 2008. The Director General's requirements specifically relevant to this report are as follows:

- A Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared to address the impacts of demolition of the Noble and Bradman stands.
- It should also address impact and management of key heritage items on the site such as the Members stand and Ladies stand as well as those in the surrounding area that are identified as having heritage significance as well as addressing impacts and management on any potential archaeological relics.

Additionally, this report has been prepared cognisant of the responses from government agencies and others to the Department of Planning's request for key issues and assessment requirements to be forwarded to the proponent with the Director General's requirements. It is noted that these responses were provided for information only and do not form part of the Director General's requirements for the Environmental Assessment.

The Sydney Cricket Ground Site Draft Conservation Management Plan (CMP), in preparation¹ by Godden Mackay Logan, provides the framework to guide detailed design and planning for the future use and upgrading of the buildings and structures at the SCG.

The Draft CMP also provides a grading of the relative contribution to significance and tolerance for change for the significant SCG components. Tolerance for change assessment for individual site components (Tables 5.4 and 5.5 of the Draft CMP) identifies the extent to which the attributes of individual components can be adapted.

This HIS includes a consideration of the impacts of the proposed development on potential historical archaeological relics based on the Archaeological Assessment contained in the Draft CMP (Appendix C). The Archaeological Assessment identifies whether 'relics', as defined by the Heritage Act 1977 (NSW), are likely to be located in the area of the proposed Noble and Bradman Stands redevelopment. It also assesses their potential archaeological and heritage significance and identifies policies to manage that significance. The Archaeological Assessment does not include any evaluation of the likely Aboriginal archaeological resources of the area.

1.2 Site Identification

The SCG site is located in the suburb of Moore Park to the southeast of the Sydney CBD.

The location of the site is shown in Figure 1.1.

The SCG site is part of a regionally significant band of recreational open space, parkland and public facilities including Moore Park, Moore Park Golf Club, Centennial Park, Queens Park, the former Moore Park Showground and Randwick Racecourse. It is generally bounded to the west by Driver Avenue, with Moore Park lying to the west of Driver Avenue. The Trust's lands include a section of Driver Avenue and a small lozenge-shaped portion of Moore Park directly to the west of the Sydney Football Stadium. Moore Park Road forms the northern boundary of the site. The former Moore Park Showground site (now Fox Studios) flanks the site on its eastern and southern sides. Small areas of that site are leased from Fox Studios in order to accommodate SCG plant and the rear portions of some cricket ground grandstands.

The Sydney Cricket Ground was established on the former 1852 Garrison Ground, south of Victoria Barracks, Paddington, by the NSW Cricket Association. Between 1878 and 1909, a substantial building program produced seven spectator stands, a scoreboard and related facilities around the main playing field, Oval No. 1. A second oval (Oval No. 2) and the Sydney Sports Ground (SSG) were created around 1900. In 1934 a major building campaign began. The MA Noble Stand is the only structure remaining of this unfinished scheme. In 1938 the Empire Games were held on the SCG site. A more detailed history of the site is included in the Draft CMP (in preparation).

In 1988 the construction of the Sydney Football Stadium (SFS) necessitated the acquisition of the former military depot in the northeast of the site and the removal of the SSG and Oval No. 2. The SCG members' facilities were expanded and upgraded at the same time. The site has hosted athletics, baseball, tennis and cycling, but its major sports have always been cricket and various codes of football.

The present configuration of the land managed by the SC&SGT is illustrated in Figure 1.2.

1.3 Existing Heritage Listings and Statutory Context

The Members and Lady Members Stands (referred to in the Draft CMP as the Members and Ladies Pavilions) are listed as a group on the State Heritage Register (SHR)² and by the National Trust (NSW). These same two buildings are listed both individually and together as 'Registered Places' on the Register of the National Estate (RNE).

The SCG site comprises the Sydney Cricket Ground Heritage Conservation Area (CA46) in the South Sydney Local Environmental Plan (SSLEP) 1998. The SCG site also contains part of Busby's Bore which is listed as a heritage item on the SSLEP 1998.

The adjacent Fox Studios comprises the Royal Agricultural Society Showground Conservation Area, which is listed on the Register of the National Estate. The citation identifies numerous individual buildings for the contributions that they make to the heritage values of the site in their own right. However, neither the former showground nor individual buildings within it are listed on the State Heritage Register or on any Local Environmental Plan.

1.3.1 Archaeology

Under Section 139 of the Heritage Act, archaeological relics are protected from being 'exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed' by the disturbance or excavation of land unless an Excavation Permit has been obtained. A 'relic' is defined by the Heritage Act as:

Any deposit, object or material evidence:

- (a) which relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and
- (b) which is 50 or more years old.

The proposed work is subject to the consent provisions of Part 3A of the EP&A Act, and Section 75U(1)c of Part 3A allows the Minister to suspend the operation of Section 139 of the Heritage Act insofar as Part 3A developments are concerned. In such circumstances, no Excavation Permit under the Heritage Act would be required to disturb relics that may be impacted by the proposed new works. This HIS is prepared on the assumption that the Minister will make that determination.

This report contains assessments of the impacts of the Noble and Bradman Stands redevelopment, and recommendations for the mitigation of the impacts consistent with the principles contained in the publications of the Heritage Office, Department of Planning.

1.4 Methodology

The methodology used in this HIS is based on the guideline document 'Statements of Heritage Impact' (published by the Heritage Office and Department of Urban Affairs & Planning 1996, revised 2002) and the principles contained in *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 1999.*

1.5 Author Identification

Godden Mackay Logan personnel involved in the project and their key roles were:

- Susan Duyker, Associate (project manager and report)
- Liliana Duran, Heritage Consultant (report)
- Sheridan Burke, Partner (project director, review and input into the report)

1.6 Terminology

The terminology used in this HIS is consistent with the terminology used in the Draft CMP (in preparation) and with the Burra Charter.

1.7 Limitations and Exclusions

No specific assessment of potential Aboriginal heritage values or potential Aboriginal archaeology has been undertaken for this HIS.

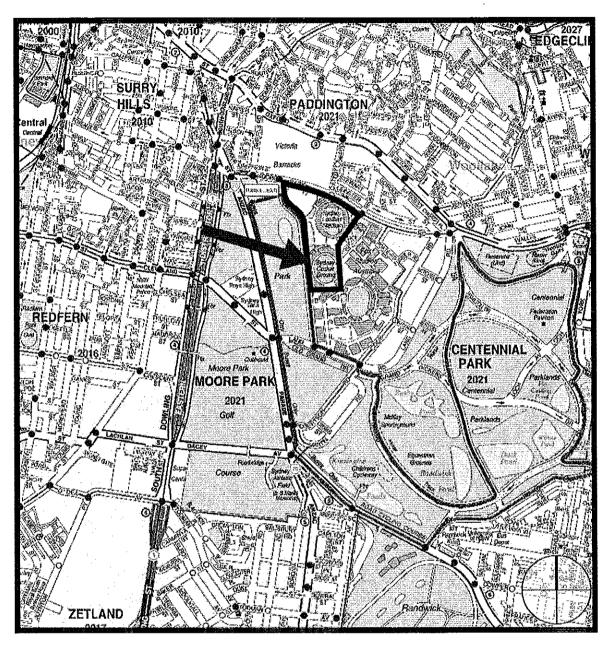


Figure 1.1 The SCG site (arrowed and bold-edged) forms part of a group of recreational facilities, including Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust lands and the former Moore Park Showground (now Fox Studios). (Source: Sydney Cricket Ground Site Draft CMP (in preparation).)

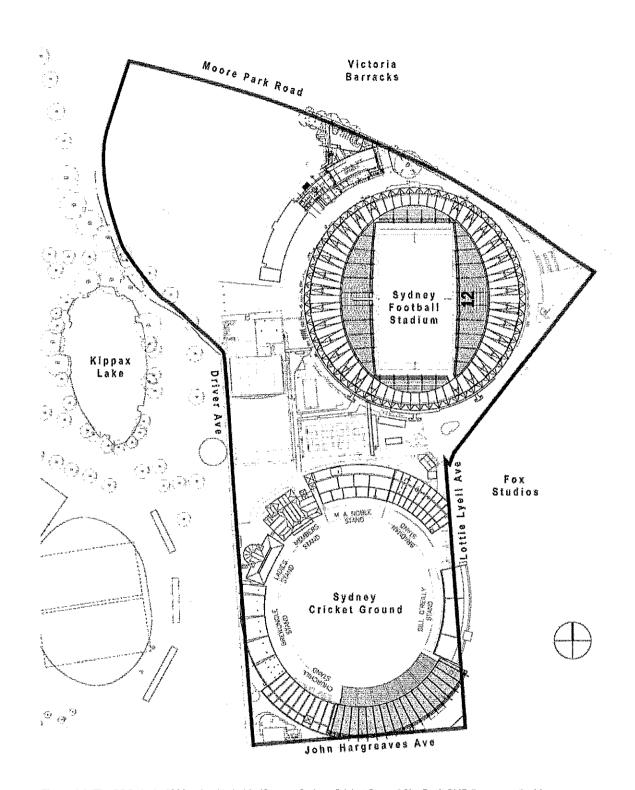


Figure 1.2 The SCG site in 2008, edged in bold. (Source: Sydney Cricket Ground Site Draft CMP (in preparation).)

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2.0 The Study Area

The following descriptions, statements of significance and gradings are drawn from the Draft CMP (in preparation).

2.1 Sydney Cricket Ground as a Whole

The SCG contains three main areas: the Sydney Cricket Ground Oval (SCG oval), which occupies the southern part of the site; the Sydney Football Stadium (SFS) to the northeast; and the Gold Members carpark to the northwest.

The SCG oval is surrounded by a number of grandstands; these include the two earliest grandstands on the site, the Members and the Ladies Pavilions; interwar MA Noble Stand, located to the north of the SCG oval; and the more recent Bradman Stand, Dally Messenger Stand, Hill Stand, Doug Walters Stand, Clive Churchill Stand and Brewongle Stand. The area between the SFS and the SCG oval is occupied by the members and players facilities and grounds maintenance facilities. The Draft CMP concludes that the SCG site is significant at a State level.

2.1.1 Summary Statement of Significance

The following is an extract from the summary statement of significance in the Draft CMP:

The Sydney Cricket Ground site has been part of a swathe of land in public ownership since it was proclaimed as Sydney Common in 1811 by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. The site has been an important focus for leisure and sporting activities for the people of Sydney since 1854. It has been the home ground for a continual succession of cricket clubs beginning with the Garrison Club from 1852, the Military and Civil Cricket Club and currently the NSW Cricket Association.

The SCG is possibly the oldest continually used site for cricket matches in New South Wales, with the first formal match occurring in 1854. It has been important in the development of a diverse range of sporting activities (including athletics, tennis, cycling and three codes of football) and technologies associated with these sports (eg broadcasting and electrical lighting for night sport). The SCG and SSG played a role in the building of Australia's colonial and national identity from self-rule through to Federation.

The site had a continual and varied association with the military from 1849 until 1986, including important training and accommodation functions during the First and Second World Wars...

The site has close associations with the SC&SGT and its predecessors, as well as longstanding associations with other sporting trusts and clubs (such as the Sydney Lawn Tennis Club). The site is associated with notable Australian cricketers (Bradman, Trumper and others), trustees and politicians (George Reid, Richard Driver, Philip Sheridan, Pat Hills) and has notable associations with Test matches and visiting overseas teams. It has associations with architectural firms Robertson and Marks, Phillip Cox & Partners and John Kirkpatrick, renowned at a state level...

The SCG is important as the headquarters to a number of sporting associations and clubs and their members, most notably the NSW Cricket Association, which has been associated with the site since the 1870s...

Busby's Bore, located in the north of the site, is a unique engineering achievement. The fabric of the bore and associated archaeological deposits possess research potential relating to substantive historical and scientific questions regarding nineteenth-century work and technology and environmental engineering.

The movable heritage on the site, including Trust records, objects and other sports memorabilia, is a rare collection and has the potential, as a group, to provide useful artefacts for future research into the history of the SCG and the development of cricket and other sports in Sydney and New South Wales.

2.2 SCG Components Directly Affected by the Design Proposal

Below is a summary description and heritage significance assessment of the components of the SCG site directly affected by the design proposal. The tolerance for change gradings from the Draft CMP are included in this section to help identify the extent to which the affected components retain and/or provide important evidence of the significance of the site in their existing form, fabric, function and/or location. Table 2.1 explains the application of these gradings to the components of the SCG site.

Tolerance for Change	Application to the Sydney Cricket Ground Site
1	The key attributes (form, fabric, function and/or location) embody the heritage
Low Tolerance	significance of the component and its contribution to the SCG site. It retains a
	high degree of intactness with only very minor alterations that do not detract
	from significance.
	The key attribute should be retained and conserved.
2	The key attributes (form, fabric, function and/or location) embody the heritage
Some Tolerance	significance of the component and its contribution to the SCG site. It has
	undergone some alteration which does not detract from its significance.
	The key attribute should generally be retained and conserved. However it may
	be altered to some degree without adverse impact on heritage significance.
	be altered to some degree without adverse impact on heritage significance.
3	The key attributes (form, fabric, function and/or location) only partly embodies
Moderately	the heritage significance of the component and the SCG site, or have been
Changeable	considerably modified.
	The key attribute should be retained and conserved. There is greater
	opportunity for change, with less adverse impact.
4	The key attributes (form, fabric, function and/or location) have relatively little
Reasonably Changeable	heritage significance, but contribute to the overall significance of the
Cilatiyeable	component and/or the SCG site. Alterations detract from significance or the
	original attributes are difficult to interpret.
5	The key attributes (form, fabric, function and or location) have little or negligible
Substantial	heritage significance to the component or the overall site.
Change Possible	

Table 2.1 Grading of Tolerance for Change for Sydney Cricket Ground Site.

2.2.1 MA Noble Stand

The Noble Stand is a four-storey high, 17-bay two-tiered stand, designed in the Inter-War style. The seating area is on the south side and is backed by a polychrome brick façade on the north side which includes a pair of brick towers which stand proud of the northern face. It is roofed by the

original steel skeleton roof, covered with replacement galvanised steel. The underlying structure of the stand is of reinforced concrete. It is abutted by and connected to the Bradman Stand to its east. It is connected to the Members Pavilion to the west by a simple pedestrian bridge at second floor level. The concrete deck and steel-framed pedestrian link to Sydney Football Stadium were constructed on the north side in the 1980s.

The Draft CMP assesses the MA Noble Stand as being of High significance as a fine (although unfinished and much altered) example of an Art Deco style stand, now a rare example of its period and style in Australia.

The MA Noble Stand provides the only remaining evidence on the site of the 1930s unfinished grand building scheme—conceived by the SCG Trust for the northern side of the SCG oval—of curved, two-storey stands of modern fireproof concrete and steel construction to be completed in stages, eventually replacing the Members and Ladies Pavilions as the Trust's finances permitted.

The MA Noble Stand was noted for its technologically advanced broadcast facilities. The MA Noble Stand's tolerance for change has been assessed as follows:

Attribute	Form	Fabric	Function	Location
Tolerance for change	3	3	2	3
	Moderately Changeable	Moderately Changeable	Some Tolerance	Moderately Changeable

2.2.2 Bradman Stand

The Bradman Stand was built in 1973 as an easterly extension to the MA Noble Stand, closely matching it in cross-sectional profile. The stand is a concrete- and steel-framed structure with brick infill on the lower levels and corrugated steel cladding to the upper levels. It contains two tiers of seating with broadcast boxes to the rear of the upper level.

The Bradman Stand has been graded as of Moderate significance in the context of the site as a whole and does not satisfy the criteria for State heritage significance. The Bradman Stand's tolerance for change has been assessed as follows:

Attribute	Form	Fabric	Function	Location
Tolerance for change	4 Reasonably Changeable	5 Substantial Change Possible	3 Moderately Changeable	3 Moderately Changeable

2.2.3 Dally Messenger Stand

The Messenger Stand is a small, two-tier concrete stand built in 1984 to replace the Paddington Hill. It is unusual for its alignment with the eastern boundary of the SCG site rather than with a direct address to the centre of the oval. It is the only stand which remains open to the sky and accommodates the large digital scoreboard above the rear of the stand, also constructed parallel with the eastern boundary.

The concrete structure is supported by a row of cast iron columns and riveted steel beams, likely to date from the 1910s, possibly being the supporting structure for the Paddington Hill.

The Dally Messenger	· Stand's tolerance fo	r change has been	assessed as follows:

Attribute	Form	Fabric	Function	Location
Tolerance for change	5 Substantial Change Possible	5 Substantial Change Possible	3 Moderately Changeable	3 Moderately Changeable

2.2.4 SCG Oval

The SCG Oval is an open space surrounded by a number of stands, including the Members Pavilion, the Ladies Pavilion, the MA Noble and Bradman Stands, the Dally Messenger Stand, the O'Reilly Stand, the Victor Trumper Stand, the Clive Churchill Stand and the Brewongle Stand. The oval generally achieved its current form with the removal of the banked bicycle track in 1920. Imperceptible to the naked eye, the oval is hipped in form, to assist drainage. Concourse seating is provided in front of each stand around the SCG oval.

The oval has been assessed as being of Exceptional significance. The SCG Oval's tolerance for change has been assessed as follows:

Attribute	Form	Fabric	Function	Location
Tolerance for change	2	3	1	1
	Some Tolerance	Moderately Changeable	Low Tolerance	Low Tolerance

2.2.5 Light Towers

The light towers, designed by architects Robertson & Marks, are prominent landmarks of the SCG site which can be viewed from surrounding and distant suburbs of Sydney, particularly during night use. The light towers have become a familiar part of the city's landscape, having achieved a level of landmark status since their construction in 1978.

The light towers have been graded as of Moderate significance in the context of the site as a whole. Their tolerance for change has been assessed as follows:

Attribute	Form	Fabric	Function	Location
Tolerance for change	3	3	3	4
	Moderately	Moderately	Moderately	Reasonably
	Changeable	Changeable	Changeable	Changeable

2.3 SCG Components in the Vicinity of the Proposed Redevelopment

Below is a summary of the description and heritage significance of the SCG components located in the vicinity of the proposed redevelopment which have the potential to be affected by the design proposal.

2.3.1 Members Garden and Walk of Honour

The area north of the SCG oval and to the southwest of the SFS functions as open space and facilities for members and players. Its focus is the Members Garden and the practice wickets.

The Members Garden is a triangular area between the western boundary, the Members and Lady Members Pavilions and the practice wickets. The southern portion of the garden has been in

existence since c1890. It attained its current size following the demolition of the caretaker's cottage and stables complex in 1944. In 1988 the Walk of Honour was inaugurated to commemorate well-known sportsmen and sportswomen. It inscribes a broad arc linking the Members Entrance to the Members Pavilion then turns north between the tennis courts and the practice wickets. It features commemorative plantings and plagues.

The Members Garden and Walk of Honour has been assessed as of High significance in the Draft CMP.

2.3.2 Ladies and Members Pavilions

The Members and Ladies Pavilions are noted items of architectural merit and are of Exceptional heritage significance. As a pair they are complementary in style and detail and provide rare evidence of historically important gender aspects of cricket in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The Ladies Pavilion, Members Pavilion and MA Noble Stand together form an exceptional group constructed between 1890 and 1940 and confer upon the SCG site aesthetic significance at a State level. They are listed together on the State Heritage Register.³

2.4 Other Items in the Vicinity

2.4.1 Fox Studios

The proposed Noble and Bradman Stands redevelopment would be located in close proximity to the Government Pavilion, Lottie Lyell Avenue and the former cattle judging rings within the Fox Studios site (former Moore Park Showground).

The Conservation Strategy for the Moore Park Showground, prepared for Fox Studios by Godden Mackay Logan in December 1995, based its assessment of the significance of components of the site on an earlier assessment by Conybeare Morrison and Partners (1988). The gradings of the above components were as follows:

- Government Pavilion—Exceptional
- Lottie Lyell Avenue—Exceptional
- Cattle judging rings—Exceptional

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3.0 Proposed Works

3.1 Background

The current proposal is Stage 2 of the expansion of SCG facilities. Stage 1 involved the construction of the new Victor Trumper Stand on the southern side of the cricket ground oval.

The proposal is for the construction of a new stand which will extend from the eastern end of the Members Pavilion to the western end of the Dally Messenger Stand.

The main requirements of the SC&SGT are:

- improving safety in venue crowd management;
- increasing spectator capacity as well as improving patron facilities and presentation, particularly for Members and Trustees;
- improving the quality of the seating area with optimum viewing at all levels and ample toilet, food and beverage outlets; and
- enlarging the size of the oval to better accommodate AFL matches.

The proposed works are described in detail in the report prepared by BBC Consulting Planners dated September 2008.

3.2 Summary of Proposal

The new stand will provide seating for approximately 13,800 patrons along with associated public facilities such as corporate suites, food and beverage outlets, patron amenities and dining rooms. The distribution of the accommodation within the proposed stand represents an increase of 2,520 seats when compared to the existing 11,270 seats currently provided in the existing MA Noble and Bradman stands. Thus the proposal can be seen more as a measure to improve facilities for patrons, advertisers, corporate sponsors and hirers and to meet contemporary expectations.

The construction of the proposed stand and associated facilities would involve the following:

- Extension of the northern side of the oval—The area involved is a slim crescent up to three
 metres in width. The work involves the removal of concrete paving and of the concourse,
 the relocation of the fence and the turfing of the new area of the oval.
- Demolition of the existing MA Noble and Bradman stands.
- Demolition of other associated miscellaneous structures within the development zone including the existing carport and fernery (both part of the groundsmans workshops), property office and shed to the north of the Bradman Stand.
- Modification to landscape elements within the Members Garden and Walk of Honour.
- Retention of a tower element of the existing Inter-war style brick structure of the MA Noble Stand, adapting it for re-use as a members' entrance and lift lobby for the new stand.
- Alterations to the Dally Messenger Stand. The concrete sub-structure including the cast iron columns and riveted steel beams within the pedestrian subway will be retained.

- Construction of a new stand to replace the existing Noble and Bradman Stands to provide seating for approximately 12,190 patrons (including 32 disabled) with associated facilities such as corporate suites, food and beverage outlets, patron amenities and dining rooms. Stairs, escalators and a lift are located at the western end of the stand with separate access points for members, media, trustees and corporate entities. Public stairs are proposed on the rear (north) elevation. A portion of the eastern end of the level 4 deck and the roof projects over the Fox Studios boundary by approximately ten metres. The construction would not involve change to the boundary wall adjacent to Fox Studios.
- Creation of a dedicated service road to the outside perimeter of the stand affording vehicles such as large trucks/delivery vehicles access to a covered loading bay below the plaza level. Primary access will be from Moore Park Road. A secondary entry is from Driver Avenue. This will be shielded from the tennis courts descending eastwards with high planted screening devices along the southern end of the courts.
- Creation of a dedicated entry plaza separating vehicular and pedestrian circulation incorporating ticket outlets and turnstiles.
- Relocation of two light towers (ie towers No. 1 and No. 6). Tower No. 6, currently located
 adjacent to the Members Pavilion, will be relocated on top of the new lift shaft associated
 western tower of the MA Noble Stand (to be retained). Tower No. 1 will be moved further
 north from its current location along the boundary with Fox Studios.
- Redesign of the existing pedestrian bridges to the Members Pavilion and the Sydney Football Stadium (SFS).
- Creation of new turnstiles located on a split-level plaza accessed from Moore Park Road and via the subway behind the Dally Messenger and O'Reilly Stands.

The project is intended to be completed in two stages. The first stage, the lower concourse seating, is to be completed in time for the January 2010 cricket season. The whole project is intended to be completed for the Ashes test match in January 2011.

3.3 Project Documentation

This HIS is based on the works illustrated in the drawings and photomontages prepared by Cox Robertson + Marks, dated 20 August 2008.

Drawing Number	Revision	Title	
PA—01	А	Site Location Plan	
PA—02	А	Demolition Plan	
PA-03	A	Ground Floor Plan	
PA-04	А	Level 1 Plan	
PA05	A	Level 2 Plan	
PA-06	А	Level 3 Plan	
PA07_	А	Level 4 Plan	
PA08	А	Roof Plan	
PA-09	А	Section A–A	

Drawing Number	Revision	Title	
PA—10	А	Section B-B	
PA—11	А	Section C–C Members Entry	
PA12	А	Section D-D	
PA—13	А	Section E–E Section Thru Press Box	
PA14	Α	Northern Elevation	
PA—15	Α	Southern Elevation	
PA—21	А	Existing Overlay Level 1 Plan	
PA22	А	Reversed section C–C Overlay Existing Noble/Bradman Stand	
PA—25	А	Existing and New Shadows March 21st	
PA-26	А	Existing and New Shadows June 21st	
PA27	Α	Existing and New Shadows December 22nd	
Montage	_	Exisitng View from Driver Avenue	
Montage	_	Proposed View from Driver Avenue	
Montage	_	Exisitng View from Fox Studios	
Montage	-	Proposed View from Fox Studios	
Montage	_	Exisitng View from Field	
Montage	-	Proposed View from Field	
Montage	_	Proposed View over Tennis Courts	

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4.0 Identification and Assessment of Heritage Impacts

4.1 Demolition and Alteration of Components of Exceptional and High Significance

4.1.1 MA Noble Stand

The proposed development would involve the demolition of the MA Noble Stand. The MA Noble Stand has been identified in the Draft CMP (in preparation) as an item of High significance. It is the last remaining building on the SCG site constructed during the interwar period and has landmark value within the site. The demolition of the MA Noble Stand would have a significant adverse heritage impact on the SCG in terms of the loss of its fabric and form. However, its spectator function—which is the most important attribute of the MA Noble Stand—will be retained. The proposal will also maintain the broadcasting accommodation on the site of the MA Noble Stand.

The ideal heritage outcome would be for the MA Noble Stand, which has been a feature of the SCG for over 70 years, to be retained in situ and incorporated into the design of the proposed new stand. This option was examined by the SCG but not considered feasible due to the following:

- The extension of the oval to accommodate AFL matches, requirements for full disabled accessibility and the additional seating required to be accommodated meant that the rear of the new stand needed to be located further north than the footprint of the existing stand.
- The structural system required to support the new seating (a concrete and steel structure identical to the system used for the recently completed Victor Trumper Stand) requires the demolition of the eastern two thirds of the MA Noble Stand.

The option of retention and integration of both towers of the MA Noble Stand into the new stand was investigated and found not to be feasible for the above reasons. A further option to retain the western tower and part of the northern wall to the east of the tower was not able to be functionally and aesthetically resolved in a meaningful way which respected the heritage values of the stand.

The most successful design option was the retention of the western tower and its integration into the new stand. The tower would be provided with an important new function as the members entry to the new stand. The floor levels, internal structural elements, clock, flagpole etc would be conserved. The lift tower on the western side of the tower would be removed and a new lift added to the southern side. The temporary cladding on the west and south sides of the tower will be replaced by a glazed skin.

The link between the tower and the new stand would be expressed as a lower glazed link to allow a view of the eastern face of the tower's parapet. The link will function as the main circulation node for the new stand.

Although the retained western tower would represent a very small area of the total north elevation of the new stand, it is the most prominent end of the Noble Stand in views from within the site and from Driver Avenue.

The heritage impacts of the demolition of the MA Noble Stand would be mitigated to some extent by a number of additional mitigative measures. These would include archival recording prior to demolition, the salvaging of certain architectural elements for the SCG museum (in line with the

collections policy of the museum) and interpretation of the heritage of the MA Noble Stand within the new development.

4.1.2 SCG Oval

The current proposal involves the extension of the SCG Oval (Exceptional significance) by a maximum of three metres along its northern side to better accommodate AFL matches. A similar extension has already occurred at the southern end, in tandem with the Stage 1 works involving the construction of the Victor Trumper Stand. While the change will be imperceptible to most users, it changes the proportions of the oval which have remained the same since the removal of the banked cycling track in c1920. However, the change is required for the safe and effective hosting of AFL matches and, in turn, the long-term viability of the ground's functionality and is therefore considered acceptable.

4.2 Demolition and Alteration of Components of Moderate and Little Significance

The demolition of the existing Bradman Stand (Moderate significance), part of the groundsmans workshops (Moderate significance) and the property offices and shed (Little significance) would not result in significant heritage impact on the SCG site as a whole.

4.2.1 Bradman Stand

The Bradman Stand's Moderate significance resides largely in its function as a spectator stand and its location as a stand associated with the SCG oval. The fabric of the stand is of lesser value, being the first in the new wave of development of the cricket ground in the 1970s. It also has little meaningful association with its namesake. The demolition of the existing Bradman Stand would not result in significant heritage impact on the SCG site as a whole.

Recommendations for mitigative measures include the archival recording of the stand prior to demolition, to a level consistent with its Moderate significance. Additionally, items of memorabilia, plaques etc are of potential interest to the SCG museum. These should be salvaged for inclusion in the collection.

4.2.2 Groundsmans Workshops

The groundsmans workshops as a group are of moderate significance, largely for their function which is an intrinsic part of the operations of the site. The demolition of two of the four buildings would not result in significant heritage impact on the SCG site as a whole as their function will be relocated elsewhere on site.

4.2.3 Property Offices and Shed

The demolition of the property offices and shed (Little significance) would not result in significant heritage impact on the SCG site as a whole.

4.2.4 Dally Messenger Stand

A partial demolition of Dally Messenger Stand (Little significance) is proposed. The upper level seating and a small part of the lower seating would be removed to allow new seating, integrated with the levels of the new, adjacent stand. The removed fabric is of neutral significance. The earlier structure, consisting of cast iron columns and riveted beams, in the subway under the rear of

the stand is not affected by the proposal. Nevertheless measures should be put in place to protect these elements during construction.

4.2.5 Light Towers

The light towers have been assessed as being of Moderate significance. Their fabric and precise location are not their most significant attributes, rather, their form (landmark qualities) and function are significant. Two light towers (No. 1 and No. 6) adjacent to the MA Noble Stand/Members Pavilion and the Bradman Stand need to be moved further north. This relatively minor relocation would have no adverse heritage impacts on the site as a whole and a minor impact on the six light towers as a group. Their landmark qualities will not be affected.

4.3 Significant Uses

The Draft CMP recognises that change has been a consistent aspect of the SCG site and that further change is inevitable to ensure the significant uses of the site can continue. The main objective of the policies in the Draft CMP is to manage change so that the significance of the site is protected.

The proposal aims to provide for the site's ongoing use as a cricket and football match venue through increasing the capacity for these and other major public events. At the same time as allowing for the continuity of significant use, the ability of the SCG to demonstrate the essential nature of its major functions through visual and functional relationships between key components should also be maintained.

The significance of the MA Noble Stand derives in part from its design intent as part of the unfinished 1930s grandstand development on the western part of the oval (originally to replace the Ladies and Members Pavilions). The proposal will continue the expansion of the SCG that has occurred over decades.

The proposed redevelopment will continue to allow for the successful functioning of the SCG, satisfying the growing demand for additional facilities, in particular fully accessible seating, at the same time as providing for financial viability of the place.

4.4 Archaeology

The proposal has the potential to disturb potential archaeological relics beneath the MA Noble Stand. The Draft CMP (Appendix C—Archaeological Assessment) provides an assessment of the potential relics belonging to the former (1897) Northern Stand which was designed by John Kirkpatrick and demolished for the construction of the MA Noble Stand in 1935. These potential relics have been assessed as having moderate potential for survival and being of Low significance. There is a low potential for relics of other early structures (the First Trustees Cottage, the bowling green, the tennis courts and Paddington Hill) to survive beneath the MA Noble and Bradman Stands. If they exist these relics would also be of Low significance. A watching brief will be maintained (see details in Appendix A).

4.5 Landscape

The proposal would result in alterations to landscape elements adjacent to the Members Garden and Walk of Honour. These elements are not of significance in themselves but are part of the

setting of the Members Garden and Walk of Honour. They are also part of the setting of the MA Noble Stand, in particular the proposed retained western tower.

Proposed changes would open this area by removing a recently planted ginko tree and low ornamental planting (box hedge) spelling out 'SCG'. The proposed works will have no adverse impact on the Members Garden and Walk of Honour. The setting of the retained western tower will benefit from an improved landscape setting and its new function as an entry point will be enhanced. The details of the landscape works will need to be developed during the next phase of project documentation.

4.6 Views

The MA Noble Stand is prominent in views within the SCG site, especially from the Walk of Honour and the Members Garden. Although only a small portion of the MA Noble Stand will be retained, it will retain some prominence and provide a focal point vista from the Walk of Honour to the south.

The proposal will facilitate views to the east elevation of the Members Pavilion from the stands on the eastern side of the oval through the setback of the roof of the new grandstand from the Members Pavilion's eastern end. The proposal would also enhance appreciation of the Ladies and Members Pavilions by the introduction of additional members' and public seating provided by the new grandstand.

4.7 Setting of the Ladies and Members Pavilions and the SCG Oval

Views to the north and northwest from the oval and grandstands opposite the redevelopment would change significantly with the removal of the MA Noble Stand and the increase in the scale and bulk of the new stand. This stand would be higher than the existing MA Noble and Bradman Stands and significantly higher than the Members Pavilion. It would introduce a more 'enclosed' character to the oval, altering its visual setting and offering little opportunities for views to the exteriors. In addition the lower tier of seating, although no closer to the Members Pavilion than the existing seating, will be marginally further forward and hence slightly higher.

In mitigation of these impacts, the inner edge of the roof of the new stand would be further back than the existing roof of the Noble and Bradman Stands. This will reduce the impact marginally. In addition, the new roof is set back from the eastern end of the Members Pavilion by approximately 15 metres which is considerably more than the setback of the existing MA Noble Stand's roof (approximately 5 metres).

The area between the Members Pavilion and the new stand would be rationalised to remove back of house related items such as plant. With the relocation of Light Tower No. 6 this area will be freer at ground level and also less cluttered in terms of views from the oval.

The existing lift well on the western side of the retained western tower of the MA Noble Stand would be relocated to the south side of the tower. This would further open up the currently very restricted space between the tower and the Members Pavilion.

The result of these measures would be improvement the setting of the Members Pavilion and the measures would assist in balancing the negative impacts of the greater bulk of the new stand.

The proposal would have no physical impacts on the adjacent Members Pavilion as the proposal would not require any physical intervention or connections. An existing pedestrian bridge would be replaced with a new bridge but this will enter the Members Pavilion in the same location as the existing. The details of the bridge have not been finalised. Due to the additional span, there is the

potential for it to be more dominant than the existing bridge. The design needs to be carefully detailed so that it appears as a recessive element.

4.8 New Development

The SCG has been the subject of considerable development since the 1980s with the result that the southern, western and eastern stands have a modern appearance and contemporary character. The proposed additions are generally freestanding and well separated from the significant group of heritage buildings to allow interpretation of the remaining early pavilion stands.

The proposal would create a sense of enclosure of the northeast end of the oval, having the potential to improve the site's presentation to the SFS by providing a more integrated appearance than is currently presented by the rear of the Bradman Stand.

New additions will be clearly distinguished as such.

The connection between the brick west tower of the MA Noble Stand to be retained and the members' entry has been designed as a transparent/neutral element to assist the transition between the two structures.

4.9 Fox Studios

The following assessment of impacts relies on the assessments of significance contained in the Conservation Strategy for the Moore Park Showground, December 1995 which, in turn, drew on a CMP by Conybeare Morrison, 1984.

4.9.1 Government Pavilion

The Government Pavilion has been assessed as being of Exceptional significance. It is located to the southeast of the proposed redevelopment of the Noble and Bradman Stands. The main entrance to the pavilion is on the southwestern side of the pavilion and views of nearby features, including the buildings to the west, are screened by substantial landscaping and mature trees. Despite being of a significantly increased scale to the existing built form, the proposed stand would present a more unified appearance when viewed from the northwestern side of the Government Pavilion. This view is presently cluttered by the back-of-house functions associated with the Bradman Stand which would be accommodated and enclosed by the new stand.

4.9.2 Lottie Lyell Avenue

The Lottie Lyell Avenue runs parallel to the boundary between the SCG and Fox Studios, directly east of the proposed redevelopment of the Noble and Bradman Stands. The road has been assessed as being of Exceptional significance. Between the avenue and the boundary wall are a number of small pavilions which have been assessed as Intrusive. The O'Reilly Stand on the western side of the SCG oval is built to and cantilevers over the western alignment of the road.

The proposed redevelopment of the Noble and Bradman stands will be visible from the avenue. In particular the proposed stand will be a dominant feature in views from the northern end of the road. However, the proposed stand would present a more unified appearance when viewed from this location. The view from the southern end of the Avenue is already dominated by the O'Reilly Stand.

4.9.3 Former Cattle Judging Rings

The former cattle judging rings form a long, landscaped area which has been assessed as being of Exceptional significance. The space is bounded by roads of Considerable significance. This landscape feature is on the eastern side of the Government Pavilion and the proposed redevelopment of the Noble and Bradman Stands will be visible from its northern end only. Given the considerable scale of the Government Pavilion, the proposed stand on the SCG site would not be a dominant feature in views from this area.

4.9.4 Conclusion

The new stand overhangs the Fox Studios site by approximately ten metres. Despite being of a significantly increased scale to the existing built form, the proposed stand would present a more unified appearance when viewed from the rear of the Government Pavilion and from the north end of Lottie Lyell Avenue. The visual impact on other parts of the site, including the former cattle judging ring will be more minor.

5.0 Heritage Office Guidelines for Heritage Impact Statements

The following table addresses the issues and questions set out in the Heritage Office, Department of Planning guidelines document *Statements of Heritage Impact*, which are relevant in the assessment of heritage impacts arising from the proposed works. The table essentially presents in a summarised form the impacts discussed in detail in Section 4.0.

Proposed Works	Recommended Questions (Heritage Impact Statement Guidelines)	Comment/Assessment
Demolition of the MA Noble Stand	Have all options for retention and adaptive re-use been explored?	Yes. Alternatives were considered but were not feasible for the reasons outlined in Section 4.0. The result of an exploration of options resulted in a decision to retain the western tower of the stand and integrate it with the new stand.
	Can all of the significant elements of the heritage item be kept and any new development be located elsewhere on the site?	The building will be recorded prior to demolition. Movable heritage will be salvaged for inclusion in the SCG museum collection in line with collection policy. The western tower (its façade, parapet and internal structure, including floors) will be retained and integrated with the new stand. The tower will function as the main members' entry into the new stand and will provide an opportunity for the interpretation of the history of the oval and the unfinished grand scheme for the SCG of the 1930s (of which the full façade and both towers of the MA Noble Stand was part). The design of the new stand and its relationship with the retained tower has been carefully considered. A low, glazed link would connect the main part of the new structure to the tower.
	Is demolition essential at this time or can it be postponed in case future circumstances make its retention and conservation more feasible?	Demolition cannot be postponed. It is essential as part of the redevelopment of the cricket ground, which is reliant on this part of the site being clear of former structures so that new facilities integral to the function of the ground can be constructed.
	Has the advice of a heritage consultant/specialist been sought? Have their recommendations been implemented? If not, why not?	Yes. Godden Mackay Logan has advised that the ideal heritage outcome would be the retention and integration of the MA Noble Stand in the redevelopment. However, this was not viable for the reasons in Section 4.0. Godden Mackay Logan's recommendations for retention and presentation of the western tower and interpretation of the inter-war development of the SCG have been adopted.
Demolition of the Bradman Stand	Have all options for retention and adaptive re-use been explored?	Yes. Alternatives were considered but were not feasible. The Bradman Stand is of Moderate significance with its most important attributes being its function and location. The replacement of the existing fabric will allow the site's function to continue.
	Can all of the significant elements of the	The building will be recorded prior to demolition.

Proposed Works	Recommended Questions (Heritage Impact Statement Guidelines)	Comment/Assessment
	heritage item be kept and any new development be located elsewhere on the site?	Movable heritage will be salvaged for inclusion in the SCG museum collection in line with collection policy.
	Is demolition essential at this time or can it be postponed in case future circumstances make its retention and conservation more feasible?	Demolition cannot be postponed. It is essential as part of the redevelopment, which is reliant on this part of the site being clear of former structures so that new facilities integral to the function of the ground can be constructed between test matches.
	Has the advice of a heritage consultant/specialist been sought? Have their recommendations been implemented? If not, why not?	Yes. Godden Mackay Logan's recommendations have been considered and mitigation measures will be implemented.
Partial demolition of the Dally Messenger Stand	Is the demolition essential for the heritage item to function?	The removal of part of the superstructure of the Messenger Stand will allow an augmentation of seating in this area. The fabric to be removed is not significant.
	Are important features of the item affected by the demolition?	No. The demolition will not involve the removal of the cast iron columns in the subway under the rear of the stand. These will be protected during work. The significant attributes of the Dally Messenger Stand relate to its function as a stand and this will be enhanced by the proposal.
	Is the resolution to partially demolish sympathetic to the heritage significance of the item?	The removal of sections of non-significant fabric will not affect the significance of the stand and will facilitate its continuing use as a spectator stand.
	If the partial demolition is a result of the condition of the fabric, is it certain that the fabric cannot be repaired?	Not applicable.
New development adjacent to a heritage item (Fox Studios items)	How is the impact of the new development on the heritage significance of the item or area to be minimised?	Although the scale of the proposed stand would be greater than the Bradman and MA Noble Stands it replaces, the form would unify the character of the SCG as viewed from the Fox Studios site, in particular from the individual elements of significance in the vicinity: the former Government Pavilion, the former cattle judging rings and Lottie Lyell Avenue.
		The new stand overhangs the Fox Studios site by approximately ten metres and would impose a large scale of development on this site. Built elements on the Fox Studio site, adjacent to the proposed stand and directly affected by the overhang, have been assessed as Intrusive in the Conservation Strategy for the Moore Park Showground, December 1995.
		A minor length of the boundary wall would be affected by the development. It will be retained and incorporated into the lower levels of the proposed stand.
	Why is the new development required to be adjacent to the heritage item?	The proposed development is an extension of the existing cricket ground's spectator facilities and

Proposed Works	Recommended Questions (Heritage Impact Statement Guidelines)	Comment/Assessment
		cannot be located elsewhere on the site.
	How does the curtilage allowed around the heritage item contribute to the retention of its heritage significance?	The Conservation Strategy, 1995 did not identify a curtilage for Fox Studios or its heritage items. Since the 1980s a number of SCG stands have extended into the Fox Studios site creating a shared curtilage.
	How does the new development affect views to and from the heritage item? What has been done to minimise negative effects?	Despite being of a significantly increased scale to the existing built form, the proposed stand would present a more unified appearance when viewed from the rear of the Government Pavilion and fror Lottie Lyell Avenue and the former cattle judging ring to the eastern side of the cricket ground (these views are presently cluttered by the back-of-house functions associated with the Bradman Stand). Views of these items from within the Fox Studios site will be affected to a minor degree. The greatest impact will be the view from the northern end of Lottie Lyell Avenue.
	Is the development sited on any known or potentially significant archaeological deposits?	There will be no impact on potential archaeological sites on the Fox Studio site.
	Is the new development sympathetic to the heritage item? In what way (eg form, siting, proportions, design)?	The proposed stand would be an increase in the mass and scale of the built form in close proximit to the Government Pavilion and Lottie Lyell Avenue. This would be mitigated to a degree by the unification of the character of the SCG in this part of the site, particularly as it presents to Lottie Lyell Avenue and adjacent gardens.
	Will the additions visually dominate the heritage item? How has this been minimised?	The proposed stand would be an increase in the mass and scale of the built form in close proximit to the heritage items discussed above. This would be mitigated to a degree by the unification of the character of the SCG in this part of the site
	Will the public, and users of the item, still be able to view and appreciate its significance?	Yes. The new stand will not alter the main views to the significant items on the Fox Studios site.
New development adjacent to a heritage item (Members and Ladies Pavilions)	How is the impact of the new development on the heritage significance of the item or area to be minimised?	The new stand is no closer to the Members Pavilion than the existing MA Noble Stand. The proposal rationalises the use of the space between the new stand and the Members Pavilion, reducing the existing clutter in the area around the retained western tower of the MA Noble stand and immediately adjacent to the eastern end of the Members Stand and improving the setting at ground level. These changes will also improve the views of the Ladies and Members Pavilions from the oval.
		The lower level of raked seating is slightly higher than the existing seating and this will have a min impact on the setting of the Members Pavilion. The roof of the stand is higher than the roof of the existing Noble and Bradman stands but is further

Proposed Works	Recommended Questions (Heritage Impact Statement Guidelines)	Comment/Assessment
		from the edge of the oval, mitigating, to some extent, the additional scale impact of the new stand.
		The existing pedestrian bridge linking the MA Noble Stand to the Members Pavilion will be altered but will not necessitate changes to the opening in the Members Stand.
	Why is the new development required to be adjacent to the heritage item?	The new development is an essential part of the continuing development of the ground, which requires new facilities integral to the function for the continuing successful operation of the SCG.
	How does the curtilage allowed around the heritage item contribute to the retention of its heritage significance?	The proposed stand does not impinge upon the curtilage of the Ladies and Members Pavilions.
	How does the new development affect views to and from the heritage item? What has been done to minimise negative effects?	Views to the Members and Ladies Pavilions from the oval would be altered through the removal of the MA Noble Stand. However, from the oval, the MA Noble Stand does not contribute to the aesthetic significance of the SCG as a whole or to the Members and Ladies Stands in particular.
		While the new stand would be higher than the existing, the rationalisation of the space between the MA Noble Stand and the Members Pavilion, through the relocation of the lift core, the relocation of Light Tower No. 6 to the top of the lift core and the accommodation of plant within the undercroft of the new stand would, to some extent, mitigate scale impacts of the proposal.
	Is the development sited on any known or potentially significant archaeological deposits?	Potentially. There is a moderate potential for the presence of relics associated with the former Northern Stand on the site of the MA Noble Stand. However these remains have been assessed as being of Low significance. There is a low potential for the presence of relics of a number of other structures and these have also been assessed as being of Low significance. A methodology is presented in Appendix A for the appropriate management of the identified potential relics including monitoring of gound disturbance during the works.
	Is the new development sympathetic to the heritage item? In what way (eg form, siting, proportions, design)?	See discussions of the positive impacts of rationalisation of the area between the proposed new stand and the Members Pavilion, above. Although the scale of the proposed stand would be greater than the Bradman and MA Noble Stands it replaces, the form would serve to unify the character of the SCG as viewed from the oval.
	Will the additions visually dominate the heritage item? How has this been minimised?	The proposed stand will result in an increase in the scale of development within the SCG. Although there will be a scale impact on the adjacent Members and Ladies Pavilion, the ability to view these pavilions will not be impacted, in

Proposed Works	Recommended Questions (Heritage Impact Statement Guidelines)	Comment/Assessment
		fact, from some angles, the view of the Members Pavilion will be enhanced by providing a less cluttered space between this and the new stand.
	Will the public, and users of the item, still be able to view and appreciate its significance?	Yes.
Minor additions (to the SCG Oval)	How is the impact of the addition on the heritage significance of the item to be minimised?	The oval has retained its current form since the removal of the cycling track in 1920. While known mainly as a cricket ground, the SCG is also historically significant for its hosting of other sports, particularly the various football codes.
		The proposed three-metre extension is the minimum required for the continued functioning of the oval for the hosting of Australian Rules footbamatches.
	Can the additional area be located elsewhere on the site?	No. The southern part of the oval has, in the last year, been extended by three metres and the equivalent extension is required at the north end to meet the requirements for AFL matches on the oval.
	Will the additions visually dominate the heritage item?	The changes represent a minor change to the geometry of the ground and will be imperceptible to spectators and visitors.
	Is the development sited on any known or potentially significant archaeological deposits?	No. The extension to the oval will not impact on known deposits. It will require only minor surface disturbance.
	Are the additions sympathetic to the heritage item? In what way?	The proposed additions are minor and would allow the continuing function of the oval. The significance of the oval (and the SCG site as a whole) will be retained.
Relocation of Light Tower Nos 1 and 6	Is the relocation essential for the heritage item to function?	Two of the six light towers require relocation. On (No. 1) is required to be moved due to the more extensive footprint of the new stand. The other (No. 6) currently contributes to the clutter adjacer to the eastern end of the Members Pavilion which will be relocated to the top of a new lift core to provide a better setting for the Members Pavilion which is a component of far greater significance.
	Are important features of the item affected by the relocation?	The most important attribute of the light towers is their function. Since their installation in 1978 the towers have been modified to suit changing requirements and a number of the towers have been relocated within the vicinity of the cricket ground oval.
	Is the resolution to relocate sympathetic to the heritage significance of the item?	Yes. The significant attribute of the towers' function is retained and the relocation of Tower No. 6 will improve the setting of the Members Pavilion.
New landscape	How has the impact of the new work on the heritage significance of the existing	Significant landscape in the immediate vicinity of the proposed new stand includes the Walk of

Proposed Works	Recommended Questions (Heritage Impact Statement Guidelines)	Comment/Assessment	
works and features	landscape been minimised?	Honour and the Members Garden. There are some changes proposed to the periphery of this area, adjacent to the retained western tower of the Members Stand, which would improve the presentation of the tower to members entering via the Walk of Honour. It would require the removal of a young gingko tree recently planted but this work would not impact negatively on the significance of these landscaped areas.	
		There are also tennis courts which have a long historic presence on the site in various locations. The new stand would lie to the south of the tennis courts, closer than the existing stands. It would not, however, affect their significance.	
	Has evidence (archival and physical) of previous landscape work been investigated? Are previous works being reinstated?	Yes. This area has been modified often over time and it is neither possible nor desirable to reinstate an earlier configuration.	
	Has the advice of a consultant skilled in the conservation of heritage landscapes been sought? If so, have their recommendations been implemented?	Godden Mackay Logan has provided assessment and advice regarding the landscape significance of the SCG site and recommendations concerning the landscaping adjacent to the retained western tower have been adopted. The detailed resolution of the landscape will be resolved during the detailed design phase.	
	Are any known or potential archaeological deposits affected by the landscape works? If so, what alternatives have been considered?	No.	
	How does the work impact on views to, and from, adjacent heritage items?	The modifications to the landscape would be minor but would improve the setting of the retained western tower.	

Table 5.1 Summary of heritage impacts.

6.0 Conclusions and Mitigative Measures

6.1 Preamble

The site of the proposed new stand in the Sydney Cricket Ground is in close proximity to a number of structures and landscape elements that are of heritage significance. The proposed development would impact on a number of those elements to varying degrees, particularly in relation to views and setting, and the demolition of the 1936 Robertson and Marks MA Noble Stand. Redevelopment would underpin the long-term functionality and vitality of the SCG and this would support the ongoing conservation and maintenance of the heritage significance of the site. The implementation of a comprehensive heritage interpretation program for the SCG (recommended in Section 6.3) will also assist with the understanding of the heritage values of the site.

The impacts of the development can be summarised as follows:

6.1.1 Impacts

- Demolition of the MA Noble Stand designed by Robertson and Marks in the 1930s.
- The demolition of the Bradman Stand constructed in the 1970s.
- Increase in the bulk and scale of development adjacent to the Members and Ladies Pavilions.
- Increase in the bulk and scale of development adjacent to the heritage items in Fox Studios.
- Disturbance or destruction of potential archaeological relics (albeit of Low significance).

6.1.2 Benefits

- Continuing function of the SCG for the hosting of major sports events (cricket and football) and other cultural events.
- The preparation and implementation of an interpretation program for the MA Noble Stand (and for the SCG site more generally), included in the recommendations in Section 6.3, will assist in celebrating and promoting the history and heritage of the SCG.
- Enhanced views and setting of the Members Pavilion through the reduction of clutter.
- Unifying the appearance of the SCG as it presents to the heritage items in the Fox Studios site.

6.2 Conclusions

The proposed development would result in the demolition of the MA Noble Stand which has been a feature of the SCG for 70 years and is the only remaining building on the site dating from the interwar period. While it clearly has historic and aesthetic value, its fabric has been compromised both externally and internally by major adaptation works since the 1980s. Its demolition would have an impact on the significance of the SCG as a whole but not to the extent that it will diminish the site's State level of significance. The impact would be mitigated to a degree by prior archival recording and the interpretation of its heritage values in accordance with an Interpretation Plan and through the retention of the MA Noble Stand's western tower.

The new development would impact on the character of the northern side of the cricket ground oval. The scale and form of the proposed stand would result in some adverse scale impacts in the vicinity. However, these are mitigated through a setting back of the roof of the stand from the edge of the oval.

Equally, the additional bulk and scale associated with the new stand would have a heritage impact on the setting of the Members and Ladies Pavilions. As viewed from the oval, these impacts would be mitigated by a slight increased setback of the roof of the stand from the oval compared with the existing stands and a greater setback of the roof from the eastern end of the Members Pavilion. Additionally, the area between the Members and MA Noble Stands is cluttered with plant, light tower and a lift well. This western end of the MA Noble Stand is also clad in temporary panels adding to the ad-hoc appearance of this area. The proposal would remove the clutter from this area and re-clad the tower in glass. Coupled with the setback of the bulk of the new stand from this end and the addition of a glazed link between the retained western tower and the new stand, the setting of the Members Pavilion will be enhanced. This will particularly be perceived in views from the oval.

The setting of the Members and Ladies Pavilions on their north side would be affected by the additional bulk and scale of the new stand. This impact is mitigated by the retention of the western tower of the MA Noble stand which acts as a buffer of transition to the greater bulk of the new stand. The new stand will, nevertheless, be visible above the tower in views from Driver Avenue and from the Members Garden area.

The Bradman Stand, the property office and part of the groundsmans complex contribute to the significance of the SCG site in a more minor way. Their demolition would not result in significant heritage impact, either in relation to the buildings themselves, or the SCG as a whole. Nevertheless, they should be recorded prior to removal.

The proposed development would result in an increase in the scale and bulk of the built form adjacent to the heritage items at the Fox Studios site, including the Government Pavilion, Lottie Lyell Avenue and the former cattle judging rings. The new stand would also overhang the boundary, over buildings backing onto the boundary wall. While this will alter the setting of Lottie Lyell Avenue and affect views along it, the affected buildings themselves have been graded as Intrusive in the Conservation Strategy for the Moore Park Showground, December 1995.

The proposed works have the potential to disturb or destroy archaeological relics related to the former Northern Stand under the MA Noble Stand. There is a lower potential for the remains of other early structures to exist. However, all these relics have been assessed as being of Low significance, should they exist (which can only be determined through the excavation process). Their research potential would be fully realised and appropriately managed through a program of archaeological monitoring and excavation consistent with the methodology provided in Appendix A. The SCG Trust is fully committed to undertaking a monitoring regime for the archaeological resources of the site.

The SCG would also benefit from the preparation and implementation of a comprehensive Interpretation Plan, which would include a consideration of the interpretation of the MA Noble Stand and the grand, unfinished scheme of the 1930s (among other elements of the site's heritage). This would be prepared in tandem with the proposed redevelopment works.

6.3 Mitigative Measures

Many of the heritage impacts noted in this Heritage Impact Statement can be effectively mitigated through implementation of the following measures:

6.3.1 Built Elements

- Archival recording should be undertaken at the site prior to the commencement of works. The
 MA Noble Stand should be archivally recorded both prior to and during the demolition works. A
 lesser level of recording should be carried out for the other elements of the site prior to their
 demolition. The archival records should be prepared using the Heritage Branch, Department of
 Planning's guidelines for archival recording.
- Consideration should be given in the design phases to the articulation, materials and colour of
 the façade elements and the detailed design of the linking bridge at the western end of the new
 stand such that they are sympathetic to the adjacent Members Pavilion.
- Consideration should be given in the design phases to the articulation, materials and colour of the façade elements of the rear of the new stand such that they are sympathetic to the adjacent elements within the Fox Studios site.
- Appropriate protective measures should be adopted to ensure that significant built elements
 (for example, the older portions of the Dally Messenger Stand (the cast iron columns), the
 retained portions of the MA Noble Stand and the boundary wall) are not damaged during the
 works. These should be included in the Construction Management Plan.

6.3.2 Landscape Elements

At a future detailed design stage, the detailed layout and planting associated with the entry to
the new stand through the retained western tower should be resolved such that they are
sympathetic to the significant landscape features in the vicinity.

6.3.3 Movable Heritage

• Prior to demolition, GML in tandem with the SCG museum staff should carry out an assessment of elements and items to be salvaged for the museum collection.

6.3.4 Interpretation

- An Interpretation Strategy/Plan and implementation options should be prepared for the SCG site as a whole, and the western tower in particular, including ways of interpreting the former MA Noble Stand and its part in the grand but unrealised scheme for the ground, designed by Robertson and Marks.
- Measures to appropriately interpret the above should be incorporated during the design development phase for the Noble and Bradman Stands redevelopment.

6.3.5 The Archaeological Resource

• If the Minister for Planning determines that the relics provisions of the Heritage Act apply to the development then an exception application should be sought from the Heritage Branch, Department of Planning, prior to ground disturbance.

OR

- If the Minister for Planning determines that the relics provisions of the Heritage Act do not apply to the development then the works should be undertaken using the following methodology.
 - The proposed ground disturbance in the area of the former Northern Pavilion, First Trustees
 Cottage, former bowling green, former tennis courts and former Paddington Hill should be
 monitored by a qualified archaeologist.
 - Any relics exposed by the ground disturbance should be investigated by the archaeologist, applying the principles of stratigraphic excavation, and recorded by photography, drawings, survey and text, as appropriate.
 - Any significant artefacts that are recovered during the proposed works (bottles, ceramics etc within undisturbed contexts) should be washed, labelled and stored in a secure place.
 Artefacts requiring specific conservation (eg significant leather and metal artefacts) should be appropriately conserved.
 - On completion of the proposed works, a succinct report must be prepared and submitted to the Heritage Branch that presents the results of any archaeological investigation.

7.0 Endnotes

¹ The Draft CMP is not yet publicly available. It is subject to Sydney Cricket &Sports Ground Trust review.

² An anomaly is noted between the curtilage shown on the map gazetted with the group listing for the Permanent Conservation Order (1985) and the 1999 State Heritage Inventory Lot and DP listing which appears to include a larger portion of the SCG site.

³ See endnote 2.