
POTTS HILL RESERVOIRS SITE - WESTERN PRECINCT
HERITAGE INTERPRETATION STRATEGY



prepared for

SYDNEY WATER
by

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

This Heritage Interpretation Strategy for the Western (residential) Precinct of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site was commissioned by Landcom to form part of the Part 3A Project Application for the redevelopment of the Potts Hill Western (residential) Precinct Surplus Lands.

The Determination of Major Project No. 07-0099 dated 27th April 2009 requires:

A Heritage Interpretation Plan for the Potts Hill Reservoirs site committed to by the Proponent shall be prepared to the satisfaction of the Director, Heritage Branch of the Department of Planning prior to the determination of the first application in relation to the subdivision or civil works for the residential precinct. The Plan shall interpret the site and its history within the new development. The Plan shall specifically outline the interpretation policy for the site including having reference to the former Migrants Camp, signage, street names, original street pattern, former railway alignment and cultural plantings. B5 (1).

Tanner Architects has had an active involvement with the master planning of this site and the securing of a reduced SHR boundary to enable to Western and Eastern Precincts Surplus lands to be available for redevelopment.

The revised SHR boundary includes all of the land considered essential for the ongoing operation of the site by the Sydney Water Corporation within its cultural setting plus the area of ecologically significant vegetation to the south west of Reservoir No.2. The setback of the SHR boundary from the edges of the reservoirs is to ensure that the environmental and cultural plantings are included within the SHR boundary.

The revised SHR boundary will enable subdivision, redevelopment and sale of the surplus land to the east and the west of the Reservoirs. The surplus land does not contain any sites or elements with State heritage significance, with the exception of two small sheds located immediately to the east of Reservoir 2 (Items 41 and 42) that will be incorporated into the proposed Sydney Water Field Headquarters development.

The evidence of the former railway alignments associated with the construction of Reservoir No. 2 and the operation of the steam powered water pumping station and its associated cultural plantings is not included within the SHR boundary but will be conserved and interpreted in the redevelopment.

1.2 STRUCTURE OF REPORT

The Heritage Interpretation Strategy generally follows the format and guidelines set out in the NSW Heritage Office Heritage Interpretation Policy (August 2005).

1.3 PURPOSE OF THE HERITAGE INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

Interpretation is an important aspect of the heritage conservation process, fostering community recognition and understanding of the significance of heritage places. There are many ways in which a place may be interpreted, allowing a breadth of opportunity for innovative visitor engagement. The following definition of interpretation has been adopted within this report:

Interpretation is an interactive communication process, involving the visitor, through which heritage values and cultural significance are revealed, using a variety of techniques in order to enrich the visitor experience and enhance the enjoyment and understanding of the site.¹

Interpretation is based on sound educational principles and aims to involve people in activities that are both educational and entertaining. It is directed at specific audiences and uses techniques selected to meet the needs of the site, the visitor and the messages to be conveyed (Tilden, 1957; Aldridge, 1975; Heritage Interpretation International, 1985; Interpretation Australia Association, 1995).

The value of using interpretation as an effective communication technique has been widely researched (O'Riordan *et al*, 1989; Watson, 1989; Bucy, 1991; Barrow, 1991; Dormaar, 1991; Blockley, 1996; Croft, 1994; Glasson *et al*, 1995), and has shown that by using interpretation, the following goals may be achieved:

¹ Murphy, S. Interpretation Planning Guidelines, National Trust of Australia (WA), 2000: 22

- improved heritage site management
- acceptable 'carrying capacity' for cultural resources
- visitor enjoyment
- appropriate visitor behaviour

A best practice approach to heritage interpretation may be described as involving:

- strategic interpretive planning
- the delivery of a quality service
- the delivery of a quality finished product
- customer satisfaction
- benchmarking (learning from other sites and agencies)
- effective use of resources
- improvement in services
- programmed management and maintenance
- flexibility
- leadership

The terms listed above can be applied to the interpretation of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site, Sydney. Considering the significance of the site, it is appropriate to apply best practice principles in its heritage interpretation.

1.4 SCOPE OF THE HERITAGE INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

This Interpretation Plan has been prepared to provide an outline for the interpretation approach to the Western Precinct of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site. The main objective of the Interpretation Plan is to guide the interpretation of the cultural significance of the place, including its history and development. The scope of this Heritage Interpretation Strategy is to:

- Identify the themes and messages considered significant to the site;
- Develop a conceptual approach to the interpretation of the site, using a variety of medium;
- Propose locations for specific interpretation to enhance the understanding of the site;
- Recommend methods and media appropriate to the interpretation of the values of the site.

In general, the image and story of the Western Precinct of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site, its elements and its relationship to the wider context will be inherent in the subdivision pattern, evident through the retention of, and views to, key elements on the site and explained through graphic and sculptural interpretive displays in publicly accessible areas. The key values of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site to be communicated are:

- 1) Use of the site as a Reservoir and achievements in hydraulic technology;
- 2) The significance of the native and exotic plantings;
- 3) The former Migrant Workers' Camp (1948-1951);
- 4) Associations of the site with State Railway and related technological development;
- 5) The site's overall representation of the growth and development of Sydney in the late 19th and 20th century.

1.5 DEFINITIONS

These definitions have been reproduced from NSW Heritage Office Heritage Interpretation Policy (August 2005):

Associations mean the special connections that exist between people and an item.

Conservation Management Plan (CMP) means a document that identifies the heritage significance of an item and sets out policies for retaining that significance and is prepared in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines.

Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) means a document that identifies the impact an activity may have on a heritage significance of an item and sets out measures to minimise the impact of a proposed activity on the heritage significance of the item and is prepared in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines.

Environmental heritage means those places, buildings, works, relics, infrastructure, movable objects, landscapes and precincts, of State or local heritage significance.

Fabric means the physical material of the item including components, features, objects and spaces.

Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) means a document that records the heritage significance of an item by using a Heritage Data form and sets out broad strategies for retaining that significance and is prepared in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines.

Heritage significance refers to meanings and values in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic importance of the item. Heritage significance is reflected in the fabric of the item, its setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. Items may have a range of values and meanings for different individuals or groups, over time.

Interpretation means all the ways of presenting the significance of an item. Interpretation may be a combination of the treatment and fabric of the item; the use of the item; the use of interpretive media, such as events, activities, signs and publications, or activities, but is not limited to these.

Interpretation plan is a document that provides the policies, strategies and detailed advice for interpreting a heritage item. It is based on research and analysis and plans to communicate the significance of the item, both during a conservation project and in the ongoing life of the item. The plan identifies key themes, storylines and audiences and provides recommendations about interpretation media. It includes practical and specific advice about how to implement the plan. It is also referred to as a Heritage Interpretation Strategy.

Interpretation policy consists of clauses and guidelines that provide an intellectual and conceptual framework for communicating the significance of an item. Policies may deal with fabric, setting, history, archaeology audiences and other people, contents, related places and objects, disturbance of fabric, research, records.

Meanings denote what an item signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses.

Media means the tools, techniques and technologies used to convey the interpretation. These can include signs, orientation, notices, guided and self guided walks, audio guides, installations, displays, models, dioramas, exhibitions, lighting, street naming, holograms, films, video, soundscapes, oral history, maps, brochures, books and catalogues, public art, writers and artists in residence programs, events, activities, role play, demonstrations, educational programs, websites, CD ROM programs, reconstructions, sets, and replicas and other means of communication.

1.6 AUTHORSHIP

This report was undertaken by Tanner Architects Pty Ltd with text prepared by Megan Jones, Director and Vanessa Holtham, Heritage Specialist.

2 HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

The Conservation Management Plan for Potts Hill Reservoirs Site prepared by Sydney Water in April 2005 was endorsed by the Heritage Council of NSW on 20 April 2005. Refer to Sections 2 and 3 of the Conservation Management Plan 2005 for the detailed history and description of the site. The following is the historical overview of the site.

The first stage of development of the PHRS came in 1888 with the completion of Reservoir No. 1 as part of the Upper Nepean Scheme. From this time until 1907 the Potts Hill reservoir was the main service or balance reservoir for the Sydney metropolitan system and until 1913 provided the only screening of water in the distribution system. The Reservoir No. 1 was supplied with water from the main storage reservoir at Prospect through a five-mile wrought-iron pipeline from Pipe Head basin at Guildford which in turn was fed from Prospect by a five-mile canal (the Lower Canal). The Prospect water was sourced from the weirs at Pheasants Nest and Broughton's Pass which tapped the Nepean River and its tributaries. Reservoir No. 1 supplied water through a single line cast iron pipe (duplicated in 1893) to the reservoir at Petersham, and continued on to the Crown Street reservoir.

To meet the increasing demand for water, the metropolitan system was upgraded in 1908 in the completion of Cataract Dam (the other dams in this system were completed later at Cordeaux (1926), Avon (1928) and Nepean (1935)). In 1910 Parliamentary approval was granted for the construction of a second reservoir (Reservoir No. 2) at Potts Hill. Actual construction commenced in 1913 and completion came in 1923. The means of delivering water from Guildford was also improved, initially in 1900 and again in 1926 and 1927. The latter improvement was a woodstave pipeline which was replaced by a steel pipeline in 1937. In the delivery of the water from Potts Hill a steam powered pumping station was initially developed from 1912 to increase the pressure of water in the distribution network. The Pressure Tunnel was completed in 1930, but failure in the tunnel's lining postponed operational use until 1935. The Pressure Tunnel was augmented in the 1950s with the construction of the City Tunnel. Reservoir No. 1 was dewatered in 2000 and Reservoir No. 2 was partly covered over and de-watered.

3 SUMMARY OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

3.1 STATEMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The following text is reproduced from the State Heritage Database Inventory for the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site:

The Potts Hill Water Supply Reservoirs were an integral part of the Upper Nepean Water Supply Scheme, which was crucial to the development and growth of Sydney from the late nineteenth century. The expansion of the complex, including the construction of Reservoir No. 2, demonstrates the growth of the city of Sydney and surrounding suburbs for more than a century.

The construction of the Reservoirs was a major achievement in hydraulic technology and associated construction methods for the time and today, the site continues to feature substantial physical evidence of these achievements, including extensive areas of subsurface water reticulation. The complex includes the inlet for an early twentieth-century high pressure tunnel, which was an outstanding engineering feat and was the third largest water supply tunnel in the world for its time.

The Reservoirs continue in an important functional role as a distribution centre for Sydney's water supply.

The Potts Hill Reservoirs are situated within a distinctive and attractive cultural landscape, combining functional industrial design, typical turn-of-the-century built features and both natural and exotic plantings. The two reservoirs in combination are rare because of their size, method of construction and proximity.

The Potts Hill Reservoirs are an important element in the history of Sydney Water and the site continues to be held in affection and esteem by many generations of Water Board workers.

The components of the Site which are the most important in terms of the heritage values of the site are:

- *The Carrier Canal and Associated items;*
- *Reservoir No.1 and associated items;*
- *The telescopic valve tower on the 1200mm Eastern Crossover;*
- *Pressure Tunnel Inlet;*
- *Pressure Tunnel Access Shaft Building;*
- *Suction Well;*
- *Surge Tank and Reflux Valve on No.1 Main;*
- *No.1 Supply Main Pipeline;*
- *No.2 Supply Main pipeline;*
- *The Pressure Tunnel; and*
- *Landscape Elements.*

Refer also to pages 204-205 of the endorsed Conservation Management Plan 2005 for the detailed Statement of Significance.

3.2 RELATIVE SIGNIFICANCE OF WESTERN PRECINCT

The following information is derived from the two Conservation Management Plans (2000 and 2005) prepared for this site, Sydney Water Archives and from site inspections undertaken by Tanner Architects.

The western fill platform and associated embankments are a by-product of the construction of Reservoir 2 in mid 1920s. The land to the South, East and West of the Reservoir is labelled on the construction drawings as “*Spoil Dump*” (Fig 2-43 Endorsed CMP 2005).

The 1922-23 Annual Report notes with reference to Reservoir 2 that “*the banks of the Reservoir have been graded, turfed and drained, and ornamental palms and trees from the State Nursery are now being planted*” (SW2005 p68). However, the 1930 aerial photograph shows no vegetation on the fill platform and embankments. The line of palms along the western edge of the Reservoir on the fill platform together with a sparse and irregular “row” of native vegetation appears to the west of the palms in the 1951, 1955 and 1961 aerial photographs. A third, more regular row of trees appears in the 1970s aerial photographs. These aerial photographs show that the embankments were very sparsely planted up until well into the 1980s.

The row of Canary Island Date palms and the less formal row of Eucalypts along the western edge of the Reservoir on the fill platform are cultural plantings of some significance as they were introduced to the site to act as windbreaks, and were part of the legacy of Joseph Maiden, Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens between 1896 and 1924.

The vegetation was introduced to the embankments for the stabilisation of the spoil dumps rather than for the creation of a cultural landscape. The resultant landscape added to the amenity of the site. The presence of established Eucalypts on the embankments indicates the age of the spoil dump and the good choice of plant species for longevity. There are many weed species present including African olives, privet, lantana etc, which also assist with the stabilisation of the embankments.

The endorsed Conservation Management Plan prepared by Sydney Water (SW2005) states that the embankments have no heritage significance. The earlier Conservation Management Plan prepared by Godden Mackay Logan (GML2000) does not include the embankments within the heritage curtilage of the site.

Both conservation management plans prepared for the Potts Hill Reservoirs site have assessed the embankment and fill platforms to have little or no heritage significance.

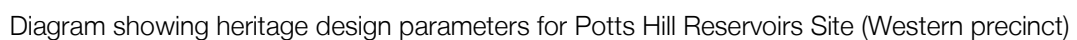
3.3 HERITAGE LISTINGS

The significance of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site and its various components is recognised through listing on the following heritage registers:

- NSW State Heritage Register lists Potts Hill Reservoir No.1, Potts Hill Reservoir No.2, and the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site as separate items.
- Sydney Water s170 Register Heritage and Conservation Register lists Potts Hill Reservoirs and Site and as an item of State significance, and the Potts Hill Pumping Station and Ruins and the Potts Hill Pumping Station (WP0004) as items of Local significance.
- Bankstown Council's LEP 2001 lists the Potts Hill Reservoirs and Site as an item of local significance No.209
- National Trust of Australia lists Potts Hill Reservoirs. The NT Register also lists Pipe Head to Potts Hill supply Pipes and Pressure Tunnel as separate items.
- Australian Heritage Commission (Register of National Estate lists Location of the Potts Hill Reservoirs and Location of Pipe Head to Potts Hill Water Supply as separate items.

4.1 HERITAGE DESIGN PARAMETERS

- The historic associations of the area of the former Migrants' Camp (now Mechanical Branch Plant warehouses in the North-West corner of the site) should be appropriately interpreted through signage and street names.
- The former railway alignment and the associated cultural plantings should be conserved and interpreted in the redevelopment.
- Provide or enhance the vegetative buffers along the revised SHR boundary beside the two Reservoirs.
- Respect the visual connections through the site and the views across the whole site.



4.2 THE URBAN DESIGN PRINCIPLES

The proposed development for the Western Precinct involves the subdivision of the site for residential development. The urban design principles that have been incorporated into the subdivision include pedestrian and vehicular links, vistas around and through the site, designated passive recreation areas and key entry points. These principles and the way they have been incorporated into the scheme are outlined in the diagram below.



Diagram showing urban design principles for Potts Hill Reservoirs Site (Western Precinct)

(Prepared by Architectus, November 2009)

4.3 CANAL PARK LANDSCAPE CONCEPT PLAN

The landscaping concept for Canal Park has been prepared by *PLACE – Planning Design Environment* and the proposal is outlined in their plan, which is included below:



5 APPROACH TO THE HERITAGE INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

5.1 CONSERVATION POLICIES

The interpretation of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site should comply with the Interpretation Policy in the Conservation Management Plan 2005, identified in Section 7.12 Social Significance and Interpretation:

Social Significance and Interpretation

The purpose of interpretation at heritage places is to reveal and explain their significance and to allow that significance to be understood by visitors. It may additionally promote an understanding of Sydney Water's history and corporate responsibilities, the development of the local area or other relevant explanatory contexts.

Fundamentally, interpretation must be founded upon significance as established by the Statement of Significance. As significance will not necessarily reside only in the fabric of a place the methods of interpretation need to be able to convey historical, social, aesthetic and other values which may be complex and not readily evident in the item, parts of its fabric or immediate locality. The significance interpreted is closely linked to the historic thematic associations as explained in Section 2.9 – Thematic Associations. These links should be emphasised in any interpretation and opportunities to link Potts Hill Reservoirs Site with other places representing the same theme should be explored.

Potts Hill Reservoirs Site has significant appeal to special interest groups such as the Institution of Engineers (Engineering Heritage Australia) and the National Trust of Australia (NSW). Expert groups such as the Institution of Engineers require minimal interpretative information about the site.

Any future Interpretation of Potts Hill Reservoirs Site should identify as a priority oral history recording of the workers experiences at the site. The memories of people who used, repaired and ran these places is an essential historical resource and oral histories can make an historic industrial complex understandable.

Policy Statement

Conservation and on-going use of heritage items should include interpretation of their role in the development of the locality, history of Sydney Water and in Australian history. This does not necessarily require on site interpretation. The interpretation potential of high profile Sydney Water sites should be investigated in a strategic manner, enabling the prioritisation of sites of potential interest.

Guidelines

1. *The Potts Hill Reservoirs Site should be included in a comprehensive interpretation strategy for Sydney Water, based on the identified historical themes and established significance. The role of interpretation, as outlined in the CMP Manual, is to reveal and explain the significance of a place, enabling it to be understood by the broader community. Any future interpretation of Potts Hill Reservoirs Site should seek to present following particular qualities or aspects of its significance:*

Working in Harsh Conditions – major land excavations for the Reservoir No.1 and No.2 with technology of the date, working at dangerous jobs (miners), roles of engineers and firemen (stokers of the boilers) at Potts Hill steam powered pumping station, use of the site for recreation.

Living and Working on Site – Migrant Workers Camp, Engineer's residence, Caretaker's residences.

Altering the Environment – evolution on environmental protection and technological response. Presentation of the earliest and latest water quality and screening as evidenced by fabric.

Developing an Australian Engineering and Construction Industry and Supplying Urban Services – how to read the buildings and spaces as a physical manifestation of the historic industrial processes. Steam, the technological evolution and redundancy of obsolete spaces whilst continuing the original and essential function.

2. *Investigations into interpretation opportunities should evaluate risk and not compromise the operation or security of Potts Hill Reservoirs Site.*

5.2 PHILOSOPHICAL APPROACH

Considering the significance of the site, it is appropriate to apply best practice principles to the heritage interpretation of the site. Accordingly, the philosophical approach to the 'heritage interpretation' of Potts Hill Reservoirs Site will be to:

- Recognise heritage interpretation as being based on sound educational principles.
- Involve people in appropriate activities that are both educational and entertaining, so that they can understand, appreciate and value the site for its exceptional cultural significance.
- Develop interpretive media and activities that are directed at target audiences.
- Develop interpretive media tailored to meet the needs of the audiences, the building and the ongoing management of the site.
- Interpret all phases of the history of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site.
- Meet best practice 'heritage interpretation' principles.

5.3 INTERPRETATION RESOURCES

The resources available for the interpretation of the site, as listed below are key elements that will contribute to its success:

- Conservation and historical information contained within the Conservation Management Plan 2005.
- A range of historical resources, images and plans from the Sydney Water, State Library and on-site records.

5.4 INTERPRETATION THEMES

Based on the Statements of Cultural Significance, the integrity of significant fabric, the NSW Heritage Office State Heritage Themes and the Australian Historic Themes Framework, the Potts Hill Reservoir Site may be divided into a number of relevant themes.

The Potts Hill Reservoirs Site is considered to have over-arching significance as a representation of the technological development and growth of the City of Sydney and the Sydney Metropolitan Area. *The Growth and development of Sydney in the late 19th and early 20th Century* may be a theme that is associated with any number of the following themes:

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Interpretation Theme
<i>2 Peopling Australia</i>	<i>Migration</i>	The Migrant Workers Camp, which operated between 1948 and 1955, populated by the workers from Baltic and other Eastern European countries.
<i>3 Developing local, regional and national economies</i>	<i>Environment – cultural landscape</i>	The evidence of native and exotic plantings on the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site; Formal row of Canary Island Date Palms and less formal row of Eucalyptus associated with Joseph Maiden and introduced as windbreaks; Vegetation introduced for stabilisation of the embankments.
<i>3 Developing local, regional and national economies</i>	<i>Industry</i>	The development of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site, which is synonymous with the development of the water industry and the provision of urban services.
<i>3 Developing local, regional and national economies</i>	<i>Technology</i>	Achievements in hydraulic technology, the Reservoirs having rarity for their size, method of construction and proximity. The introduction of electricity in the 1920s; electric powered pumping station and electrification of the railway.

	<i>Transport</i>	Railway as a key method of transportation of goods and people to the area from the 1860s. The operation of the site in association with the State Railways and with the ongoing development of the Bankstown Railway line and associated efficiencies following electrification in 1926.
<i>4 Building settlements, towns and cities</i>	<i>Utilities</i>	The Reservoirs' continuing functional role as a distribution centre for Sydney's water supply. The significance of the construction of Reservoir No.2 as demonstrative of the growth of Sydney for more than a century.
<i>4 Building settlements, towns and cities</i>	<i>Accommodation</i>	The site providing specialised accommodation for Migrant Workers between 1948 and 1955.

5.5 INTERPRETATION OBJECTIVES

The interpretive objectives as listed below should guide the Interpretation Plan for public access and understanding:

Public Access

- To develop an interpretive plan that will inform visitors of the site and its history.
- To develop an interpretive plan that will not intrude on the functional operations of the site.
- To specify appropriate vandal-resistant materials for interpretive media.
- To implement best practice presentation standards for interpretive media.
- To provide access for people with mobility disadvantages.
- To ensure that interpretive media and programs are appropriately located and designed to ensure an acceptable pedestrian flow.

Public Understanding

- To develop an appropriate interpretive plan based on the needs of target audiences.
- To interpret the site as an integrated whole.

5.6 AUDIENCE PROFILE

Visitor statistics or surveys are not available to authoritatively define the statistical make-up of potential residents and visitors to the site. However, observation suggests the following range of visitors to the site that would comprise various target audiences for the Heritage Interpretation Strategy:

- Residents occupying the new development and their visitors;
- Site owners and managers, including operational staff.
- Other user groups: including the general public, educational/school and special interest groups.
- Approval authorities: NSW Department of Planning (Heritage Branch) and Bankstown Council.

6 HERITAGE INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

6.1 OPTIONS FOR INTERPRETIVE MEDIA

The proposed options for interpretive media and the benefits of their adoption are discussed below.

The values of the site will be communicated through a range of visual graphics and sculptural displays, concepts inherent in the subdivision layout and through the retention and re-interpretation of key elements.

Options for Interpretive Media	Benefits of Adoption
Interpretive signs Signs incorporating photographs, graphics and/or text may be included in the designated recreational areas and other selected areas to indicate the historic, technological and social context of the place.	- Allows individuals to explore at own pace. - Reduces need for involvement of guides and/or staff. - Communicates clear and effective messages – high visual impact. - Develops awareness and valuing of site. - Cost effective media option.
Cultural Artefact and sculptural Display Incorporation of significant or representative objects or material into a public display in nominated passive recreation areas. The display should work in conjunction with the proposed cultural/artistic plan for the site to be prepared by cultural planners, Guppy and Associates.	- May provide tangible physical evidence of the historical use of the site and promote links with the sites past. - Contributes to a three dimensional interpretive display to activate the publicly accessible areas. - May readily interpret themes and messages. - Creates high visual impact.
Retention of significant elements Natural, built or metaphysical elements, such as use or views, of the site can be retained and included as inherent qualities in a new proposal.	- Significant values effectively communicated through tangible physical evidence; - Retained elements may be incorporated into a new proposal for the site, creating interest and providing physical evidence of the past. - Resourceful and sustainable option
Re-interpretation of significant elements Natural, built or metaphysical elements, such as use or views, of the site can be retained and included as inherent qualities in a new proposal.	Opportunity for re-introducing significant or former elements into a new proposal, which are demonstrative of the site's significance, either in a realistic or an abstract manner
Guided Tours / Open Days Carried out in conjunction with historical tours for Sydney Water.	- Encourage visitor understanding of the site. - Most effective way of communicating messages. - Reaches large groups of people and major key target audiences. - Develops awareness and valuing of site.

6.2 IMPLEMENTATION

An appropriate Interpretation Plan for the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site will meet the key objectives of interpretation as outlined. The proposed options for interpretive media may be used for the communication of the identified interpretive themes and should be read in conjunction with the images on pages 15 and 16, and the annotated subdivision plan (*Figure 1: Proposed subdivision plan showing interpretation for the Potts Hill western precinct*) on page 17, of this report.

The options for interpretation are outlined as follows:

Interpretation Theme	Proposed Interpretive Media
The Migrant Workers Camp, which operated between 1948 and 1955, populated by the workers from Baltic and other Eastern European countries.	1. The proposed changes in threshold to be reflected through variations in pavement material in a manner that re-interprets the location of the former Migrant Worker's Camp in the north western corner of the precinct; 2. Interpretive marker located in the small recreation area within the immediate vicinity of the former Migrants' Camp. 3. Naming of streets in the north western area (identified on the subdivision plan) should reflect significant individuals associated with the former Migrant Workers' Camp.
The evidence of native and exotic plantings on the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site; Formal row of Canary Island Date Palms and less formal row of Eucalyptus associated with Joseph Maiden and introduced as windbreaks; Vegetation introduced for stabilisation of the embankments.	1. Retention of the less formal row of Eucalypts along the former railway siding and inclusion in the residential subdivision, with an appropriate curtilage allowed to allow survival of these trees; 2. Views to formal row of Canary Island Date Palms retained and enhanced inherent in the proposal; 3. The development will incorporate use of native species, which are reflective of those species maintained on, and significant to the site; 4. Interpretive marker located within one of the northern recreation areas within the vicinity of the retained eucalyptus trees.
The development of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site, which is synonymous with the development of the water industry and the provision of urban services.	1. General interpretive marker at each entry point; 2. Naming of the proposed streets to correspond with notable individuals of Sydney Water 3. Incorporation of sculptural elements, such as former pipes and machinery in accordance with the proposed artistic/sculptural display;
Achievements in hydraulic technology, the Reservoirs having rarity for their size, method of construction and proximity. The introduction of electricity in the 1920s; electric powered pumping station and electrification of the railway.	1. Incorporation of sculptural elements, such as former pipes and machinery in accordance with the proposed artistic/sculptural display; 2. Interpretive marker located within the south western passive recreation area to work in conjunction with the artistic/sculptural display.

Interpretation Theme	Proposed Interpretive Media
Railway as a key method of transportation of goods and people to the area from the 1860s. The operation of the site in association with the State Railways and with the ongoing development of the Bankstown Railway line and associated efficiencies following electrification in 1926.	1. Re-interpretation of the former railway siding represented through the location and configuration of Road No.5 with the existing Eucalypts maintained along the siding as re-enforcement of the alignment; 2. Master plan of Canal Park to incorporate use of concrete sleepers to emulate railway sleepers; 3. Former carriage that has been retained on site to be incorporated into sculptural art display within one of the northern passive recreation areas; 4. Interpretive marker located in one of the northern recreation areas within the immediate vicinity of the interpreted railway siding.
The Reservoirs' continuing functional role as a distribution centre for Sydney's water supply. The significance of the construction of Reservoir No.2 as demonstrative of the growth of Sydney for more than a century.	1. Vistas to each of the Reservoirs will be inherent in the experience of the site; 2. Interpretive marker located within the recreation areas where views to the Reservoir will be most evident.

The following images of elements on the site were captured by Tanner Architects, as examples of remnants that should be considered for incorporation into interpretative sculptural displays.



Defunct water carrier pipes with structural re-enforcement



Defunct water carrier pipes with structural re-enforcement

The proposed subdivision plan is respectful of the heritage design parameters and the urban design principles and will incorporate appropriate measures for the interpretation of the significance of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site.

Of the significant values to be communicated, the location of the former Migrant Workers' Camp and railway siding and trees have been indicated on the proposed subdivision plan for the western precinct. The proposed recreation areas and entry points have also been demonstrated as key locations for interpretation of the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site.

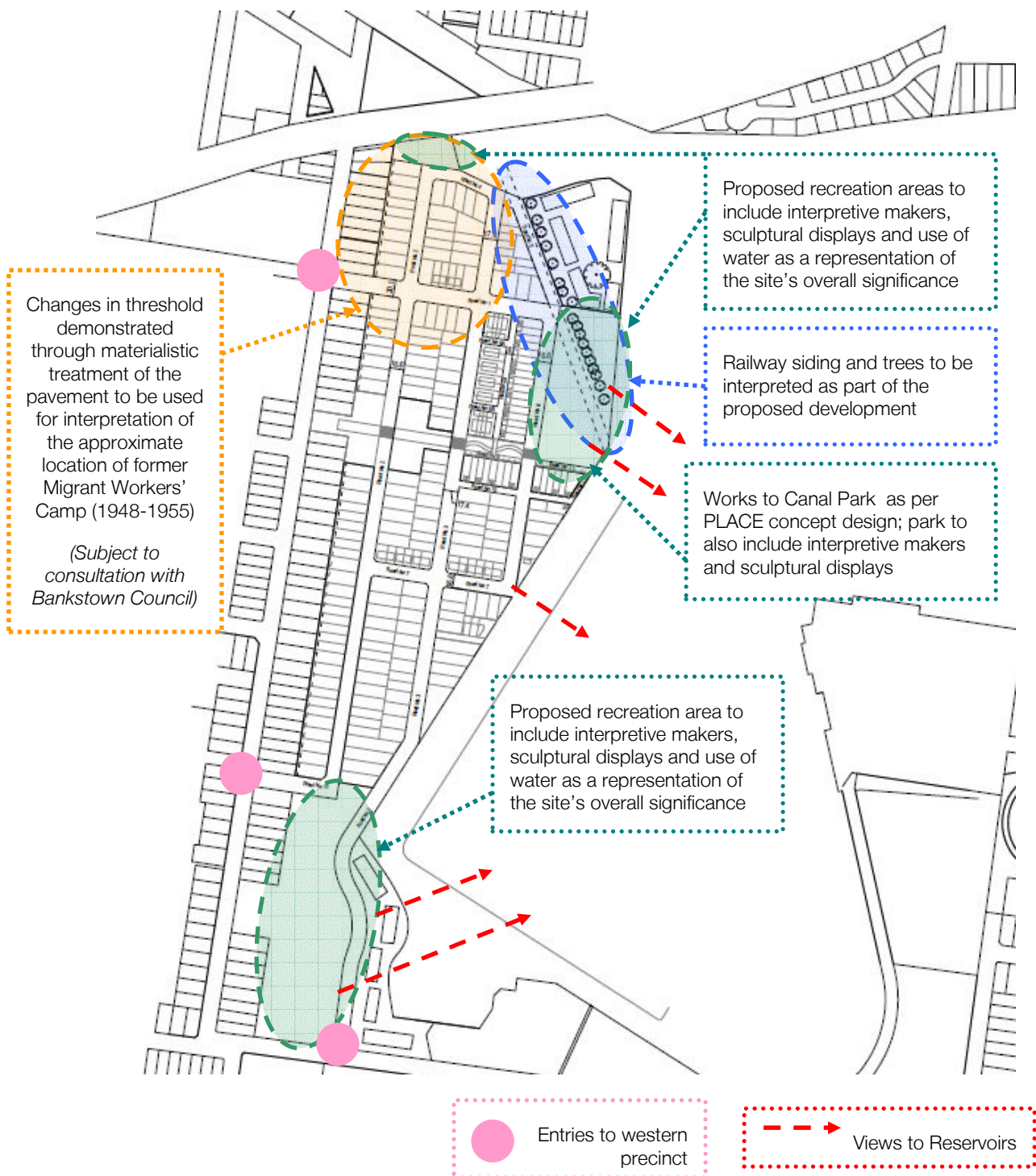


Figure 1: Proposed subdivision plan showing interpretation for the Potts Hill western precinct