

Our ref: HMS ID 14960

Ingrid Zhu
Planning Officer
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
ingrid.zhu@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Letter uploaded to the Major Projects Planning Portal

Advice on Environmental Impact Statement – State Significant Development

Proposal: Newington College Redevelopment (Concept and Stage 1) (SSD-78268465)

Major Project reference: SSD-78268465

Received: 9 June 2026

Dear Ingrid,

Thank you for your referral dated 9 June 2026 inviting comments from the Heritage Council of NSW on the above State Significant Development (SSD) proposal.

The proposed development is a concept design with details provided for Stage 1 works, and involves:

Stage 1

Construction of temporary carpark, removal of demountables east of the Old Chapel, demolition of Sevington Courts and Concordia Building, removal of 72 trees, construction of Sevington Building

Stage 2

Removal of 2 trees, Centenary Hall redevelopment

Stage 3

Construction of College Lane Building

Stage 4

Removal of 41 trees and new landscaping design across the wider campus

Stage 5

Removal of 4 trees and construction of New Entrance Forecourt

Stage 6

Removal of 3 trees, Concordia Building redevelopment, Stanmore Road Pedestrian Bridge, Memorial Drive landscaping and new shade trees and bleacher seating around the oval.

The proposed SSD site contains the State Heritage Register (SHR) item *Pressure Tunnel and Shafts* (SHR no. 1630) located below ground between Potts Hill Road and Waterloo Pumping Station. *The Pressure Tunnel is of high historical and technical significance as it represents a successful engineering response to the difficulties of increasing the volume of water from the Potts Hill Reservoir to the Pumping Station at Waterloo.* Statement of significance

The following reports were considered in our assessment:

- Relevant sections of the *Environmental Impact Statement, Concept Proposal & Stage 1 Newington College*, prepared by Urbis, dated 18 May 2026.
- Appendix B and C: *Architectural drawings*, prepared by AJC Architects, dated, 17 April 2026.
- Appendix TT: *Conservation Management Plan, Newington College, Stanmore*, prepared by Urbis, dated 18 May 2026.
- Appendix UU: *Heritage Impact Statement (SOHI), Newington College Concept Proposal & Stage 1*, prepared by Urbis, dated 30 April 2026.
- Appendix SS: *Historical Archaeological Impact Assessment (HAIA) Newington College* – prepared by Urbis, dated 14 April 2026.
- Appendix SS: *Historical Archaeological Research Design and Excavation Methodology (HARDEM) Newington College* – prepared by Urbis, dated February 2026.

As delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW, I provide the following comments:

- The CMP does not describe the SHR Item other than listing it by name and location on an aerial view. The CMP should include a description of the SHR curtilage as noted below:

The physical boundary curtilage of the Pressure Tunnel is to be taken as a distance of 3 metres around the existing infrastructure (NB this is not necessarily all owned by Sydney Water).

The infrastructure associated with this item includes the original fabric and archaeological evidence including but not limited to the tunnel, vertical shafts and buildings attached to the shafts. The visual curtilage is restricted to the shafts from which access may be gained. Most of the pipeline is located below ground.

[Source: SHR Listing]

- Stage 1 works appear to be outside the SHR curtilage and would have negligible impact on the item.
- It is noted that the Concept plan (footprint - Stage 3) includes proposed building on College Lane (the College Lane Building). The northern end of this building extends across the heritage item. Any excavation works proposed as part of Stage 3 development must avoid direct/indirect impact on the SHR item, and the SOHI should address this matter adequately.
- Heritage NSW support the conclusions and recommendations of the HAIA (Section 8) and the excavation methodology outlined in the HARDEM. Recommended draft conditions of approval for environmental heritage (archaeology) are included in Attachment B.

As the site contains local heritage items, and other local items are in the vicinity, advice should be sought from the relevant local council.

If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact James Quoye, Senior Assessments Officer at Heritage NSW on (02) 9873 8500 or heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely,



Shikha Jhalldiyal
Practice Lead, SHR Approvals
Heritage NSW
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW
31/07/2026

Attachment A – Newington College Redevelopment (Concept and Stage 1) (SSD-78268465)

Recommended Draft Conditions of Consent for Environmental Heritage

1. All reasonable steps must be taken to avoid harm, modification of or impact to heritage items and relics except as authorised by this approval. No relics of State significance can be removed or impacted under this approval.
2. Ensure workers on site receive suitable heritage inductions prior to carrying out any development on site, and that records are kept of these inductions.
3. All archaeological works must be undertaken in accordance with the Historical Archaeological Research Design and Excavation Methodology (HARDEM) dated February 2026. Any substantial amendments to the proposed methodology shall be submitted to Heritage NSW for review and approval.
4. A Final Excavation Report is to be prepared and provided to Heritage NSW within 12 months of the completion of archaeological investigations.