

Ms Emily Dickson
Principal Planning Officer
Key Sites Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
320 Pitt Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email: emily.dickson@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Dickson

Request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) for 2-60 Cumberland Street, The Rocks – Sirius Site (SSD 10384)

Thank you for your referral dated 28 October 2019 inviting SEARS input from the Heritage Council of NSW on the above State Significant Development (SSD) proposal.

The proposed SSD site is not listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR), although there are a number of SHR items in the vicinity of the site. It is recommended that the draft SEARs are amended as following:

6. Heritage

The EIS shall include:

- a Statement of Heritage Impact (SOHI), prepared by a suitably qualified heritage consultant in accordance with the guidelines in the NSW Heritage Manual.
- The SOHI is to identify all heritage items (state and local) within and near the site including built heritage, landscapes and archaeology, detailed mapping of these items, and an assessment of the proposal's impact on the heritage significance of such items;
- The SOHI is to include a detailed visual impact assessment along with photomontages on significant views to and from various heritage items in the vicinity including the Sydney Opera House and Sydney Harbour Bridge and provide detailed mitigation measures and strategies to avoid and mitigate any adverse impacts on heritage values of the affected sites.
- If the SOHI identifies impact on potential historical and/or maritime archaeology, an historical and/or maritime archaeological assessment should be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in accordance with the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage Guidelines 'Archaeological Assessment' 1996 and 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics' 2009. This assessment should identify what relics, if any, are likely to be present, assess their significance and consider the impacts from the proposal on this potential archaeological resource. Where harm is likely to occur, it is recommended that the significance of the relics be considered in determining an appropriate mitigation strategy. If harm cannot be avoided in whole or part, an appropriate Research Design and Excavation Methodology should also be prepared to guide any proposed excavations or salvage programme.

For local heritage items in the vicinity, advice should be sought from the City of Sydney Council.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Shikha Jhaldiyal, at Heritage NSW, on 9873 8545 or shikha.jhaldiyal@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rajeev Maini', with a horizontal line underneath.

Rajeev Maini

Senior Team Leader

Regional Heritage Assessments South

Heritage NSW, Community Engagement

Department of Premier and Cabinet

As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW

5 November 2019