

Mr Anthony Richardson
Planning Officer, Infrastructure Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment
By email: Anthony.Richardson@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Richardson

Young High School SSD (9671) – Modification 3: Landscaping Changes – Heritage Council of NSW Comments

Thank you for your referral dated 19 October 2021 inviting comments from the Heritage Council of NSW on a Modification to the above State Significant Development (SSD) proposal.

This SSD project is within the curtilage of an active State Heritage Register (SHR) nomination, *the Lambing Flat Riot Site (14 July 1861) and Associated Banner*. The Heritage Council of NSW resolved, at its meeting of 1 September 2020, to recommend to the Special Minister of State that this item be listed on the SHR.

The following reports were considered in our assessment:

- Letter from Ethos Urban to DPIE, titled *Section 4.55(1A) Modification Application (SSD-9671) Young High School Library and Joint-use Community Facility*, dated 24 September 2021, and its attachments.

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

- Currently, the modification application does not provide sufficient evidence to allow Heritage NSW to assess what impacts, if any, the proposed landscaping changes will have to the assessed State significant values and archaeological resources (Aboriginal and historical) of this site.
- This is because the proposed changes are not covered by the Statement of Heritage Impact (SOHI) and archaeological assessments (historical and Aboriginal) contained within the 2018 Environment Impact Statement (EIS) submitted for the SSD application and as amended since the discovery of unexpected finds.
- The proposed changes also include new potential impacts (the tree removals) within areas of high to very high archaeological potential (Lantern Heritage, *Addendum to Historical Archaeological Assessment and Research Design*, August 2021) which are not acknowledged or addressed in the modification application. Further changes to surfacing within the school playground (e.g. asphalt, soft fall and synthetic turf surfaces) have not been reviewed against the known and potential archaeological resources of the site. It is unclear whether the depth of these elements and associated subbases may impact archaeological resources of significance, or not.
- Page 2 of the modification application indicates that Heritage NSW requested the removal of the trees within Carrington Park in front of the former Courthouse (Building AA). This is not the case as Heritage NSW has never made any formal request of this kind. The removal of these trees was proposed by the proponent to restore historic lost views of the former Courthouse. This was identified in the 2018 EIS to be a moderately positive impact of major positive impact of the proposal (p.35/38 and 46). If these

positive impacts are now being removed the proponent needs to reconsider the overall heritage impacts of the project.

- As such, I recommend that a short SOHI is prepared which includes a section discussing the archaeological impacts. It should assess the potential impacts of the proposed changes on the heritage significance and archaeological resources associated with the Lambing Flat Riot Site SHR nomination as supported by the Heritage Council of NSW.
- If the SOHI identifies that impacts to State significant values including State significant archaeological resources will occur, then it should outline how the impacts will be avoided. If they cannot be avoided further detail on how they will be mitigated, and if required, managed, should be supplied including justification for the proposed approach.
- This information will allow the Heritage Council of NSW to determine if the change is acceptable to the heritage values of the place and advise the Department of the need for any additional conditions or modifications to the current approval.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Dr Damian Tybussek, Senior Heritage Operations Officer, South East at Heritage NSW on 0488 188 527 or Damian.Tybussek@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Mr. Steve Meredith
Director, Heritage Programs
Heritage NSW
Department of Premier and Cabinet
As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW
3 November 2021