



Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report

Harbourside Project, Darling Harbour

20 June 2022

Document Information

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Executive Summary

Curio Projects Pty Ltd (Curio) has been commissioned by Mirvac (the Proponent) to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) for the Harbourside Redevelopment's (the project, hereafter) Stage 2: Excavation. This report supports a State Significant Development Application (SSDA 38881729) submitted to the Minister for Planning pursuant to Part 4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act). This report will help to inform the development proposal for the demolition of the existing Harbourside Shopping Centre for the construction of a new centre in the same location (the study area).

Curio prepared an Aboriginal Objects Due Diligence Assessment (DD) for the Harbourside Shopping Centre Redevelopment Project (the Project) in Darling Harbour in 2016. Whilst the report identified nil to low archaeological potential within the study area, Heritage NSW requested that an ACHAR with Aboriginal community consultation be undertaken to further assess the potential of the site to contain Aboriginal objects and cultural deposits.

The objectives of the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment for the Harbourside Project were to:

- Identify Aboriginal community members who can speak for the Country within which the project is located.
- Involve the Aboriginal community in the cultural heritage assessment process, including consultation to determine their opinions with respect to the project and its potential 'harm' to their cultural heritage.
- Understanding the number, extent, type, condition, integrity and archaeological potential of any potential Aboriginal heritage sites and places that may be located within the study area.
- Determine whether the potential Aboriginal sites and places are component of a wider Aboriginal cultural landscape.
- Understand how any potential physical Aboriginal sites relate to Aboriginal tradition within the wider area.
- Prepare a cultural and scientific values assessment for all identified aspects of Aboriginal cultural heritage associated within the study area.
- Determine how the proposed project may impact any identified Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- Determine where impacts are unavoidable and develop a series of impact mitigation strategies that benefit Aboriginal cultural heritage and the proponent (in close consultation and discussion with the local Aboriginal community).
- Provide clear recommendation for the conservation for Aboriginal heritage and archaeological values and mitigation of any potential impacts to these values.

Aboriginal Community Consultation

Aboriginal community consultation in accordance with statutory guidelines *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010) was initiated for the Harbourside project in February 2022 (as required by project SEARs). Eight project RAPs have been identified for the project and have been consulted throughout the process of this ACHAR for their input and opinions on the project.

Aboriginal Archaeological Potential

The assessment of Aboriginal archaeological potential within the study area has been based on a combination of environmental assessments, including original landform, possible levels of disturbance across the site, and original resource zones that would have been favourable to, or sustained local Aboriginal populations of the area prior to European settlement, in combination with known previous archaeological research in the vicinity of the study area, or on comparable sites in Sydney.

The following conclusions are made with regards to Aboriginal archaeological potential within the study area:

- The study area is located on the southeastern edge of the Pyrmont peninsula, directly along the western shoreline of Darling Harbour.
- The study area is located on the soil landscape profile of 'Disturbed Terrain', underlain by Quaternary Alluvium. The western boarder of the study area aligns approximately with the boundary between the Disturbed Terrain and Deep Creek soil profiles.
- While the area was not developed extensively until the late 1800s, early historical accounts provide evidence that extensive use was made of the shell middens that lined the bay to provide mortar in lime kilns for civic development programs for early colony.
- The Pyrmont peninsula would definitely have been a focus for Aboriginal occupation and habitation prior to 1788, however, the study area itself is located across the boundary between the original shoreline and reclaimed land (part of the extensive land reclamation process that was undertaken across the Sydney estuary in the 1800s to enable development of the harbour, wharfage and associated industries).
- The study area was subject to extensive industrial use from the 1850s following the construction of rail lines into Pyrmont, and the development of the Darling Harbour Railway Goods Yard, rail tracks and neighbouring industrial services and yards.
- While the study area is likely located right at the edge of what once would have been the original shoreline, land reclamation processes would have removed, covered or disturbed all Aboriginal cultural deposits, if they were once present at this location. In addition, it is likely that the majority of the study area would have been a swamp and estuarine environment that would not have been suitable for human occupation.
- The study area does not contain any previously registered Aboriginal sites, as per an AHIMS search.
- A geotechnical investigation was undertaken within the study area in 2021 and concluded that the site is underlain by between 2.7 m and 11.9 m of fill which appears to have been

placed over either a thin layer of natural soil or bedrock. The fill is generally sandy with varying proportions of gravel, boulders and clay. The natural soils comprise soft clays and loose sands, with some organic clay encountered. This is generally consistent with disturbed soil profiles, even with natural elements present.

- While the Darling Quarter site was similarly located to the current study area, along the original shoreline of Cockle Bay, the site lay closer to the head of the cove, along the eastern side of the bay, and immediately adjacent to a documented and relatively undisturbed area of the GyMEA soil profile. Conversely, the current study area is located along the western shoreline of Darling Harbour, adjacent to the sandstone peninsula of Pyrmont and in conjunction with mapped disturbed soil profiles associated with land reclamation.
- Aboriginal archaeological deposits, should they be present within the vicinity of the study area, would most likely be either stone artefact sites, shell middens or a combination of both. In order for these archaeological deposits to be present in situ, they would require the retention of natural soil profiles in the area that would be extant from 1788.
- While the study area boundary is immediately adjacent to a mapped area of the 'Deep Creek' soil profile, it is also highly unlikely that any natural soil profiles are retained in this location due to the nature of the industrial development along the western shoreline of Darling Harbour from the 1850s to the 1970s.
- The historical development at the study area including the large area of land reclamation within the study area itself, as well as the use of the area and surrounds for railway lines and the Darling Harbour Railway Goods Yards, indicates that there is a low potential for natural intact soil profiles to be retained in the area, however geotechnical investigations have demonstrated that there are thin layers/pockets of natural profiles and materials present deep under disturbed historical fill. The soil landscape mapping of the region is consistent with this assessment, as the study area is mapped to lie within 'Disturbed Terrain'.
- As presented in Section 6, the main development works with the potential to disturb the ground surface will be the proposed bulk excavation works in the centre of the study area, resulting in a large portion of the study area being affected by the ground disturbing works. The original shoreline runs along the southern end of where the proposed bulk excavation will occur.

The predictive model of the study area can be divided into two zones of archaeological potential. The descriptions are as follows:

- **Zone 1** – portions of the study area situated along the Disturbed Terrain soil profile and identified reclamation lands. This ACHAR has identified that this zone has **low to nil potential** for subsurface Aboriginal cultural material to be present.
- **Zone 2** – portions of the study area that are situated along the original shoreline of Darling Harbour. This section is still classified as being within the Disturbed Terrain landscape with land reclamation works, and also borders the Deep Creek soil profile to the southwest. This ACHAR has identified that this zone has **low potential** for subsurface Aboriginal cultural material to be present where pockets of residual natural soils may remain within the historical fill and land reclamation.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Significance

Social, cultural and spiritual values of a site can only be identified through consultation with Aboriginal people. However, it is likely that should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit be present within the study area, it would be viewed to be of high social and cultural significance by the Aboriginal community, providing a direct and tangible link to past Aboriginal life and activity in Darling Harbour.

While there is little historical evidence regarding Aboriginal historical use of the Project study area and surrounds prior to 1788, it is evident that it was an area rich with resources (marine, freshwater and land) and would have been a central area for the local Aboriginal population. Therefore, Aboriginal archaeological deposits, if found to be located within the study area, may be of historical value.

Should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit be found to be present within the Project study area, this may have moderate scientific significance for its ability to provide evidence for and insight into Aboriginal occupation and use of the locality prior to 1788, representative of the study area as part of the wider Aboriginal cultural landscape of the Darling Harbour and wider Sydney area.

The Project study area may have aesthetic value to the local Aboriginal community in the context of the wider Sydney Aboriginal landscape it exists in if an archaeological deposit is found.

Should Aboriginal archaeological deposits be found to be present within the study area, they may potentially have aesthetic significance for the technological form of the artefacts, or as potentially considered useful for educational and interpretive purposes.

Mitigation Measures

No registered Aboriginal sites are located within the Harbourside study area. While there is low-nil potential for intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits to remain within the study area, should such deposits be found to be present, these may have potential for moderate to high social, historical and scientific significance. Therefore, it is appropriate to develop strategies to potential impact:

- **An Unexpected Finds Procedure** to be enacted for all works within the Project area. Should Aboriginal objects or natural soil landforms be identified or suspected during works, all works are to cease immediately and the Unexpected Finds Procedure (Appended to this document) be followed. This applies to historic archaeological test excavations proposed within the study area.
- Identification of opportunities for **Aboriginal Heritage Interpretation** to facilitate a long-term conservation outcome for Aboriginal cultural heritage values (tangible and intangible) within the proposed development, beneficial to the development, the project RAPs and the wider local Aboriginal community.

It is believed that the application of these strategies through the Harbourside project will serve to minimise any harm posed by the development to Aboriginal cultural heritage values.

The following overall recommendations are made regarding future management and mitigation of Aboriginal cultural heritage values within the Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour study area, including Aboriginal community consultation, ethnohistorical and environmental context, predictive modelling, heritage significance assessment and impact assessment, in accordance with relevant Heritage NSW statutory guidelines. It is recommended that:

- While archaeological potential is low, should an aboriginal archaeological find be present within the study area, this may hold moderate to high significance, and therefore it is important to have management strategies (such as the Unexpected Finds Procedure and heritage interpretation strategies provided).
- The management strategies as briefly mentioned through this ACHAR have been prepared with the anticipation that they will help guide SSDA plans.
- Should the historical archaeological investigation works (as per the Curio 2021 Historical AA) identify or suspect Aboriginal objects or natural landforms, the Unexpected Finds Procedure is to be enacted and Aboriginal archaeological monitoring and/or test excavation of the location may be required.
- Continuing consultation with the identified RAPs should be undertaken throughout the project.
- A copy of the final ACHAR should be submitted to all project RAPs for their information and records.

1. Introduction

1. 1. Introduction

Curio Projects Pty Ltd (Curio) has been commissioned by Mirvac (the Proponent) to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) for the Harbourside Redevelopment's (the project, hereafter) Stage 2: Excavation. This report supports a State Significant Development Application (SSDA 38881729) submitted to the Minister for Planning pursuant to Part 4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act). This report will help to inform the development proposal for the demolition of the existing Harbourside Shopping Centre for the construction of a new centre in the same location (the study area).

Curio prepared an Aboriginal Objects Due Diligence Assessment (DD) for the Harbourside Shopping Centre Redevelopment Project (the Project) in Darling Harbour in 2016. Whilst the report identified nil to low archaeological potential within the study area, Heritage NSW requested that an ACHAR with Aboriginal community consultation be undertaken to further assess the potential of the site to contain Aboriginal objects and cultural deposits.

In Heritage Council correspondence referring to "Response to Submissions for Harbourside Shopping Centre Redevelopment SSD 7874" it was advised:

While the proposed development appears to have low potential to impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage, we provide the following recommendations:

We note the mitigation measures in Table 12 of the RTS states the benefit of undertaking historical archaeological test excavation prior to the finalisation of the Stage 2 DA in order to inform potential design outcomes. We recommend that any proposed historical testing include consideration of Aboriginal cultural heritage values to address whether the project area does have potential for Aboriginal objects.

This report is part of the first detailed SSDA application for bulk excavation works and construction of retaining structures. It more broadly forms part of the Harbourside Shopping Centre redevelopment that will deliver a world class mixed use retail, commercial and lifestyle precinct and contribute to the ongoing renewal and revitalisation of Darling Harbour.

This ACHAR documents the process of investigation, consultation, and assessment with regards to Aboriginal cultural heritage and Aboriginal archaeology, as undertaken for the Project, specific to the proposed development works. This includes background research and assessment of evidence and information about material traces of Aboriginal land use in the study area and surrounds, significance assessment of potential Aboriginal sites, places, landscapes and/or other values, as well as an impact assessment and management recommendations to assist Mirvac with their future responsibilities for Aboriginal cultural heritage within the study area.

This ACHAR has been prepared in accordance with the following Heritage NSW guidelines:

- OEH 2011a, *Guide to Investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW*. (the Guide to Investigating)
- DECCW 2010b, *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*. (the Code of Practice)
- DECCW 2010c, *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*. (the Consultation Guidelines)
- OEH 2011b, *Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits*, a Guide for Applicants.

- ICOMOS, 2013, *The Australian ICOMOS Charter for Place of Cultural Significance: The Burra Charter*. (the Burra Charter)

This report was also prepared with the following documents:

- Curio 2016, *Redevelopment of Harbourside Shopping Centre Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment Report*. Prepared for Mirvac.
- Curio 2016, *Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour Historical Archaeological Assessment*. Prepared for Mirvac.

1.1. Background

Mirvac acquired Harbourside Shopping Centre (Harbourside), a key location within the Darling Harbour Precinct, in November 2013. Harbourside, which was opened in 1988 as part of the Bicentennial Program, has played a key role to the success of Darling Harbour as Australia's premier gathering and entertainment precinct. Despite its success, with an annual pedestrian visitation of around 13 million people, Harbourside is now outdated and in decline. The building lacks a quality interface to the Darling Harbour public domain and Cockle Bay and does not integrate well with the major transformation projects underway and planned for across Darling Harbour. Harbourside is at risk of being left behind and undermining the significant investment being made in Darling Harbour that will see it return to the world stage as a destination for events and entertainment. Accordingly, Mirvac is taking a careful considered and staged approach to the complete revitalisation of the site and its surrounds.

1.2. Site Identification

The study area is located within Darling Harbour and within the City of Sydney Local Government Area (LGA). The study area is comprised of a 60 hectare waterfront precinct, legally described as Lot 1 DP 776815. It is situated on the south-western edge of the Sydney Central Business District (CBD) and provides a mix of functions including recreational, tourist, entertainment and business.

More generally, the study area is bounded by Pyrmont Bridge to the north, the Sydney International Convention, Exhibition and Entertainment Precinct (SICEEP) to the south, Darling Drive and the alignment of the Light Rail to the west, and Cockle Bay to the east (Figure 1.1).

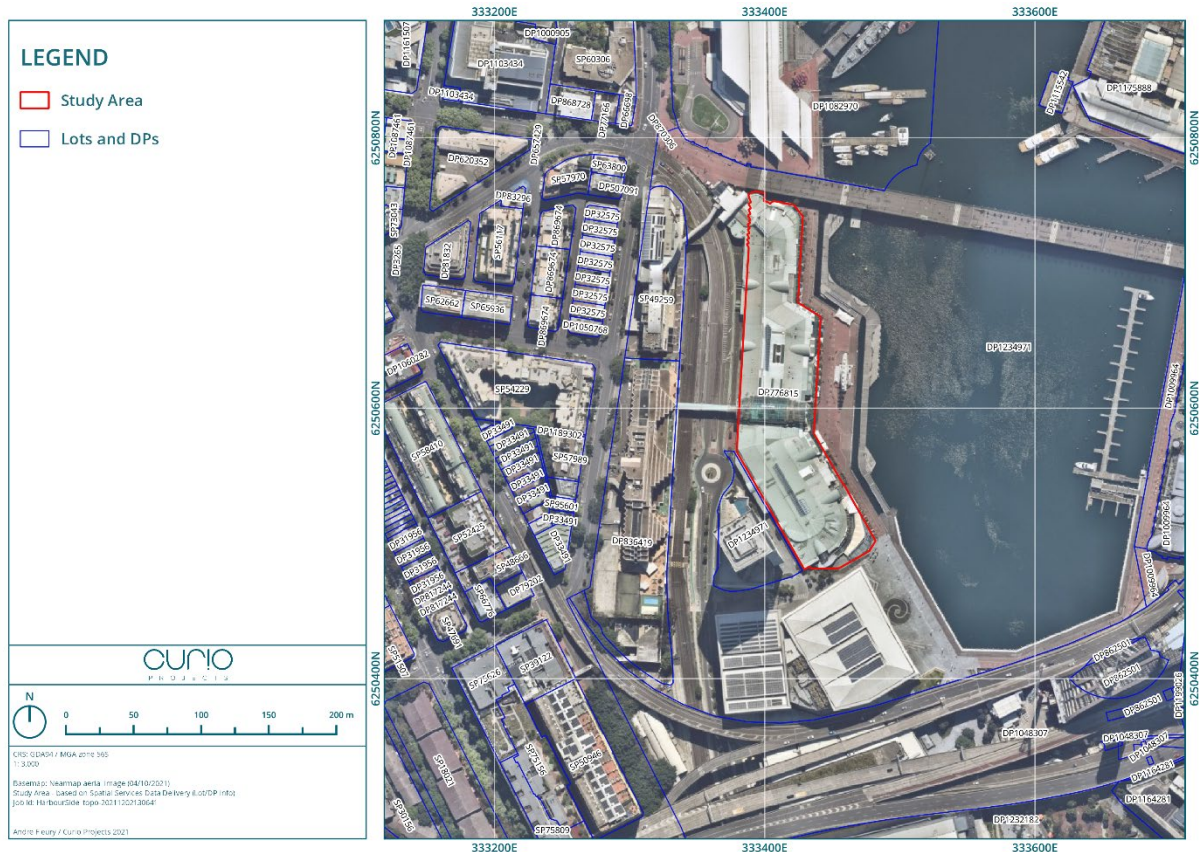


Figure 1.1: Harbourside Shopping Centre study area
Source: Curio 2021

1.3. Overview of Proposed Development

The SSDA1 proposal seeks approval for the following key components and development parameters:

- Bulk earthworks to enable the construction of the redeveloped Harbourside Shopping Centre building, including demolition of the ground level slab; and
- Construction of retaining structures for the excavated site.

1.4. Previous Curio Reports and Investigations

The site has previously been the subject of the following heritage reports by Curio Projects:

- Curio Projects, 2016, *Heritage Impact Statement Harbourside Redevelopment*, Report for Mirvac.
- Curio Projects, 2016, *Redevelopment of Harbourside Shopping Centre Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment*, Report prepared for Mirvac.
- Curio projects, 2016, *Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour Historical Archaeological Assessment*, Report prepared for Mirvac.
- Curio Projects, 2018, *Response to Submissions Heritage Impact Statement Harbourside Redevelopment*, Report prepared for Mirvac.

- Curio Projects, 2020, *Response to Submission Heritage Impact Statement Harbourside Redevelopment*, Report prepared for Mirvac.
- Curio Projects 2021, *Harbourside, Darling Harbour, Archaeological Research Design*, Report prepared for Mirvac.

1.5. Limitations and Constraints

This report has been prepared using available historical data and documentation for the study area and surrounds, including relevant archaeological reports and assessments.

This report does not include an assessment of non-Aboriginal heritage values or archaeology, nor any non-heritage related planning controls or requirements.

1.6. Investigators, Contributions and Acknowledgements

This report has been prepared by Rebecca Agius, Archaeologist and Heritage Consultant of Curio Projects, with review by Sarah McGuinness, Senior Archaeologist and Cultural Heritage Specialist of Curio Projects, and GIS and mapping by Andre Fleury, Archaeologist and GIS Specialist of Curio Projects. Details of all Project RAPs are presented in Section 3.

2. Relevant Statutory Context

2. Statutory Context

2.1. Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The EP&A Act is an 'Act to institute a system of environmental planning and assessment for the state of NSW'.¹ Dependent upon which Part of the EP&A Act a project is to be assessed under, differing requirements and protocols for the assessment of associated Aboriginal cultural heritage may apply.

Part 4, Division 4.1 of the EP&A Act identifies and defines State Significant Development projects (SSD) as those declared under Section 89C of the EP&A Act. SSD and State Significant Infrastructure projects (SSI), replace 'Concept Plan' project approvals, in accordance with Part 3A of this Act, which was repealed in 2011.

Where a project is assessed to be an SSD, the process of development approval differs, with certain approvals and legislation no longer applicable to the project. Of relevance to the assessment of Aboriginal heritage for a development, the requirement for an AHIP in accordance with Section 90 of the NPW Act is removed for SSD projects (EP&A Act Section 89J).

The project will meet the criteria for SSDA, and therefore will not be subject to the provisions of the NPW Act.

2.2. National Parks and Wildlife Act (NSW) 1974

The National Parks and Wildlife Act (NPW Act), administered by the Aboriginal Heritage Regulation Section, Heritage NSW, of the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) (formerly known as the Office of environment and Heritage – OEH), is the primary legislation that provides statutory protection for all 'Aboriginal objects' (Part 6, Section 90) and 'Aboriginal Places' (Part 6 Section 84) within NSW.

An Aboriginal object is defined throughout the NPW Act as:

"any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of the area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains."

The NPW Act provides the definition of 'harm' to Aboriginal objects and places as:

"...any act or omission that:

- (a) Destroys, defaces or damages the object or place, or*
- (b) In relation to an object – moves object from the land on which it had been situated, or*
- (c) Is specified by the regulations, or*
- (d) Causes or permits the object or place to be harmed in a manner referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c)*

The NPW Act also establishes penalties for 'harm' to Aboriginal objects and declared Aboriginal places, as well as defences and exemptions for harm. One of the main defences against the harming

¹ http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/epaaa1979389/longtitle.html

of Aboriginal objects and cultural material is to seek an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Section 90 of the NPW Act, under which disturbance to Aboriginal objects could be undertaken, in accordance with the requirement of an approved AHIP.

2.3. Native Title Act 1993

The Native Title Act 1993 provides the legislative framework to recognise and protect native titles, which recognises the traditional rights and interests to land and waters of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Under the Native Title Act, native claimants can make an application to the Federal Court to have their native title recognised by Australian Law.

There are currently no native title claims or determinations in place for the Harbourside Project study area.

2.4. NSW Aboriginal Heritage Statutory Guidelines

In order to best implement and administer the protection afforded to Aboriginal objects and places as through the NPW and EPA Acts, the OEH (now part of the Heritage NSW under the DPC) have prepared a series of best practice statutory guidelines with regards to Aboriginal heritage. These guidelines are designed to assist developers, landowners and archaeologists to better understand their statutory obligations with regards to Aboriginal heritage in NSW and implement best practice policies into their investigation of Aboriginal heritage values and archaeology in relation to their land and/or development. This report has been prepared in accordance with these guidelines, including:

- DECCW 2010(a), *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (the Due Diligence Code of Practice)
- DECCW 2010(b), *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (the Code of Practice)
- DECCW 2010(c), *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (the Consultation Guidelines)
- OEH 2011(a), *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (the Guide to Investigating)
- OEH 2011(b), *Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits, A Guide for Applicants*

2.5. Objectives of Aboriginal Heritage Assessments

The objectives of the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment for the Harbourside project were to:

- Identify Aboriginal community members who can speak for the Country within which the project is located.
- Involve the Aboriginal community in the cultural heritage assessment process, including consultation to determine their opinions with respect to the project and its potential 'harm' to their cultural heritage.
- Understanding the number, extent, type, condition, integrity and archaeological potential of any potential Aboriginal heritage sites and places that may be located within the study area.
- Determine whether the potential Aboriginal sites and places are component of a wider Aboriginal cultural landscape.

- Understand how any potential physical Aboriginal sites relate to Aboriginal tradition within the wider area.
- Prepare a cultural and scientific values assessment for all identified aspects of Aboriginal cultural heritage associated within the study area.
- Determine how the proposed project may impact any identified Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- Determine where impacts are unavoidable and develop a series of impact mitigation strategies that benefit Aboriginal cultural heritage and the proponent (in close consultation and discussion with the local Aboriginal community).
- Provide clear recommendation for the conservation for Aboriginal heritage and archaeological values and mitigation of any potential impacts to these values.

3. Aboriginal Community Consultation

3. Aboriginal Community Consultation

Aboriginal community consultation is required for assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage and should be undertaken in the early stages of project planning in order to best guide the development process.

This section documents the process of Aboriginal community consultation that has been undertaken for the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment of the Harbourside Project. Aboriginal community consultation in accordance with Heritage NSW statutory guidelines *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010*, was initiated for the project in February 2022.

Aboriginal people are recognised as the determinants of their own heritage, therefore, the process of Aboriginal community consultation for the Harbourside Project seeks to identify social and cultural values of the study area and its surrounds to the local Aboriginal community, in order to identify appropriate and respectful mitigation strategies for any identified impacts to Aboriginal heritage presented by the project.

The objectives of Aboriginal community consultation, as stated in the Consultation Guidelines is to:

Ensure that Aboriginal people have the opportunity to improve assessment outcomes by:

- *Providing relevant information about the cultural significance and values of the Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s)*
- *Influencing the design of the method to assess cultural and scientific significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s)*
- *Actively contributing to the development of cultural heritage management options and recommendations for any Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) within the proposed project area*
- *Commenting on draft assessment reports before they are submitted by the proponent to the OEH*

3.1. Heritage NSW Consultation Guidelines Process

A complete log of all communications between Curio Projects and Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for the project has been maintained throughout the project. This log will be appended to the final ACHAR as Appendix A – Aboriginal Community Consultation Log with copies of any meeting minutes, written correspondence to and responses from RAPs etc., will be included.

Cultural protocols with regards to RAP requests to censor, redact or omit sensitive cultural information from reports and correspondence have been observed throughout the consultation process. Therefore, some correspondence may be excluded from direct reproduction within this report were requested by Project RAPs.

The Aboriginal community consultation process in accordance with the Consultation Guidelines consists of four main stages:

Stage 1 – Notification of project proposal and registration of interest

Stage 2 – Presentation of information about the proposed project

Stage 3 – Gathering information about cultural significance

Stage 4 – Review of draft cultural heritage assessment report

3.2. Stage 1 – Notification of Project Proposal and Registration of Interest

The first step in undertaking the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment process for the study area, is the identification of the Aboriginal community members who can speak for Country in the area of the project.

On behalf of Mirvac, Curio Projects initiated a new process of Aboriginal community consultation for the study area in accordance with Consultation Guidelines in February 2022. Stage 1 notifications identified the nature and location of the Project. In accordance with Stage 1.1 of the consultation guidelines, letters were sent to the relevant statutory bodies on 8 February 2022 requesting names of Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the proposed project area and hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and places relevant to the study area.

The statutory bodies contacted during Stage 1.2 were:

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation- Heritage NSW
- Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC)
- The Registrar- Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983
- the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT)
- Native Title Services Corporation Limited (NTS Corp)
- City of Sydney Council, and
- The Local Land Services (LLS).

A public notice advertising the Project was also placed on the online news board “BuySearchSell” in association with the Daily Telegraphy on 25 February 2022 (consistent with Stage 1.2 of the Consultation Guidelines) (Figure 3.1), advising of the project location and proposed development and inviting registration from local Aboriginal people.

All identified stakeholders from Stages 1.1 and 1.2 of the process were written via email in early March 2022, inviting registration in the process of community consultation for the project. Responses were requested within 14 days of the date on the letter.

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATION,
REQUEST FOR KNOWN STAKEHOLDERS.
PROJECT: HARBOURSIDE SHOPPING
CENTRE, DARLING HARBOUR



On behalf of Mirvac (the proponent)

Curio Projects (heritage consultants) seek registration from local Aboriginal groups and people with respect to a proposed development. The project site is the Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour, within the City of Sydney LGA.

The Harbourside Shopping Centre and surrounding portions of the pedestrian bridge links across Darling Drive and obsolete monorail infrastructure is proposed to be demolished for the construction of a new mixed commercial and residential building complex with a basement. This will require excavation works across the site, and the demolition of all the existing features on the site.

The purpose of community consultation with Aboriginal people is to assist the proposed applicant in the preparation of an application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) in accordance with Section 90 of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, and to assist the NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment in their consideration and determination of the application.

Curio Projects invite local Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or places in the area to register an interest in a process of community consultation.

Please forward registrations to Curio Projects no later than 14 March 2022, via phone, email or mail to:

Rebecca Agius, Curio Projects
5 Blackfriars Street, Chippendale NSW 2008
rebecca.agius@curioprospects.com.au
(02) 8014 9800

Figure 3.1: Stage 1.2 Advertisement

3.2.1. Registered Aboriginal Parties

As a result of Stage 1 of the Consultation Guidelines, eight (8) RAPs were registered for the Project (listed in alphabetical order):

- Butucarbin Heritage
- Clive Freeman
- Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation
- Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation
- Didge Ngunawal Clan
- Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation
- Thoorga Nura
- Woka Aboriginal Corporation

3.3. Stage 2 and Stage 3

Each Project RAP was provided with written details of the proposed project and the proposed Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology for the project. This letter was sent to all project RAPs on 25 March 2022. Requests were made for comment and/or review within 28 days of provision of the methodology document.

Organisation	Comment
Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation support the methodology provided for the project.

3.4. Stage 4 – Review of Draft Cultural Heritage Assessment Report

The draft ACHAR was provided to all project RAPs for review and comment on 30 May 2022. Project RAPs were provided with a minimum of 28 days to review and provide comment on the draft ACHAR. Following RAP review, the ACHAR was finalised, and RAP comment, feedback and discussion of cultural values, where relevant, was recorded.

Table 3.1: RAP responses to Stage 4

Organisation	Comment
Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation support the recommendations and methodology of the report.
Didge Ngunawal Clan	DNC is happy with the ACHAR.
Thoorga Nura	Thoorga Nura have no additional feedback or comments at this time.

4. Summary and Analysis of Background Information

4. Summary and Analysis of Background Information

This section summarises the environmental, historical and archaeological background and context for the study area. This summary serves to place the study area and proposed development into an appropriate regional context. This background assessment has been undertaken in order to provide a holistic understanding of the cultural landscape within which the study area is located. This analysis has been prepared to focus on both tangible, as well as intangible cultural heritage and Aboriginal history of the region and will assist with the development of appropriate mitigation measures, prior to any non-reversible impact to the site, Aboriginal archaeology and cultural values and significance.

This analysis on the study area derives its information predominately from the previous Due Diligence written for this site (Curio 2016, *Redevelopment of Harbourside Shopping Centre Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment Report*. Prepared for Mirvac), as well as further primary research.

4.1. Aboriginal Ethnohistory

The traditional owners of the Sydney Cove region are the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. The traditional territory of the Gadigal stretches along the southern side of the Sydney Harbour from South Head, west to approximately Darling Harbour, and south towards Botany Bay. The Sydney region has two main language groups: Darug – with two main dialects, one spoken along the coast and another in the hinterland/Cumberland Plan region of western Sydney; and Tharawal – spoken to the south of Botany Bay.² Within the Darug language group, people belonged to smaller family/territorial groups or clans, through which they were connected to, and occupied, different areas of land across Sydney.

The pre-contact environment of the study area proved to be an incredibly valuable location for Aboriginal people, with access to a plethora of important resources along the Sydney Harbour and its surrounding foreshores. The local Aboriginal communities living in the area would have pursued a mixed food economy in the region, utilising and relying upon these readily available and abundant natural resources within the harbour, including fish, shellfish, and terrestrial flora and fauna.

Much of the evidence of traditional Aboriginal lifestyle and economy was disturbed in the early years of European settlement and much of our information on the local people is based on ethnohistorical sources.

It has been recorded that the Gadigal clans engaged in a variety of important ceremonial rituals. Two such recorded rituals included tooth avulsion; the removal of a tooth when young men came of age and was held on significant ceremonial grounds near Farm Cove called Yoo-lahng. Ceremonial rituals for young women involved the removal of the first two joints of the little finger on the left hand.³

At the time of the arrival of the First Fleet in January 1788, it is estimated that at least 1500 Aboriginal people would have lived along the coastal region between Broken Bay and Botany Bay. The arrival of the First Fleet devastated the lives and activities of Aboriginal people in the Sydney Harbour area, restricting access to areas traditionally used for hunting and gathering, shelter, and for ceremonial purposes, while introducing devastating diseases such as smallpox. It is estimated that almost half of

² Attenbrow 2010

³ Unearthed Archaeology & Heritage 2019

Sydney's Aboriginal population died in the first smallpox epidemic recorded in the colony in 1789.⁴ In an attempt to provide for Aboriginal communities and understand their dynamics, Governor Macquarie established the 'Blanket Returns' initiative in 1814. This aimed at collecting information about the Aboriginal people living within the region, gather individual's names, approximate age, family members and tribes.⁵

Despite the widespread devastation of colonial arrival and establishment to the Aboriginal inhabitants of Sydney, the Gadigal endured and remained a continuing culture in Sydney today.

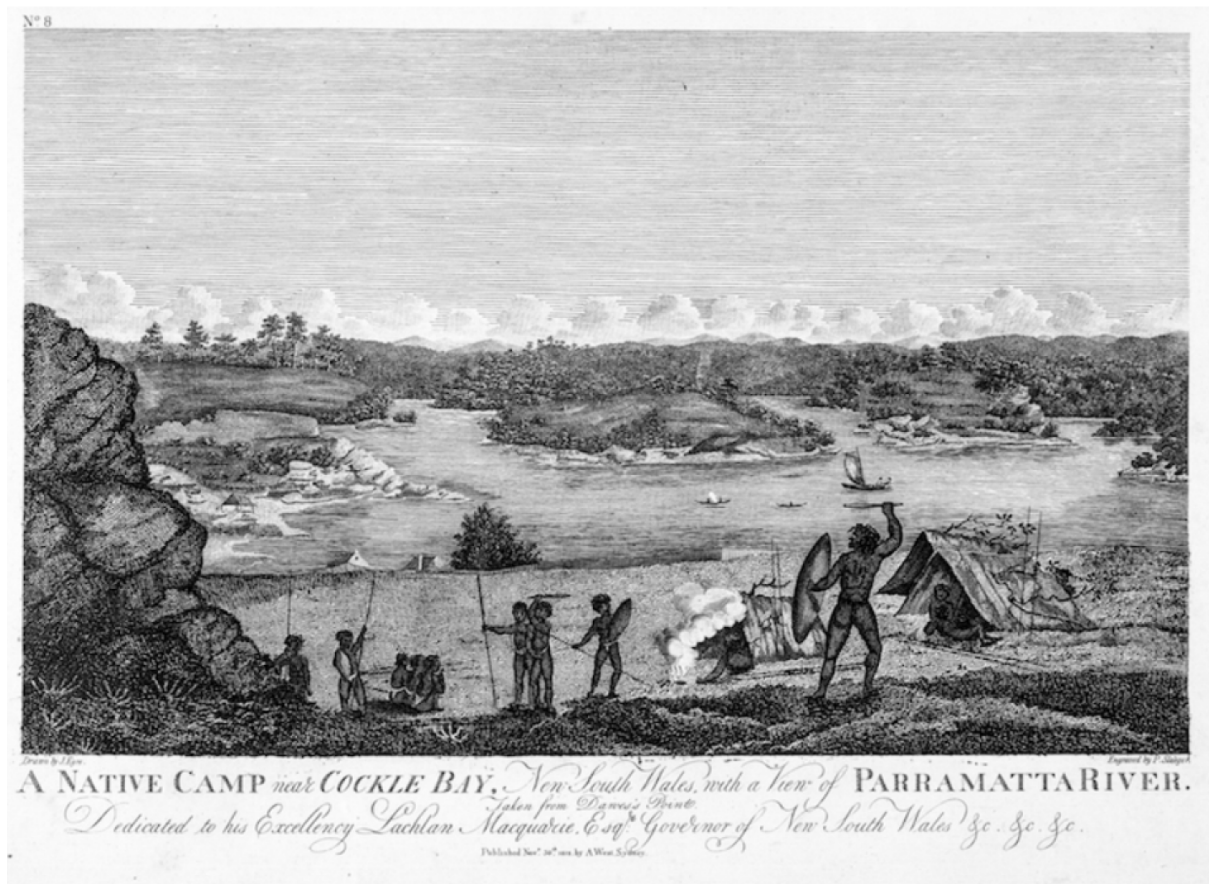


Figure 4.1: A native camp near Cockle Bay
Source: <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-135782267>.

⁴ Hinkson 2010

⁵ Irish 2014



Figure 4.2: Cockle Bay, now Darling Harbour, 1819-1820

Source: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/work/12335999>

4.2. Early Contact and Area History

During the first few years of settlement, development was predominately focused around Sydney Cove, with areas such as Cockle Bay being intermittently visited but remained undeveloped for some time.

4.3. History of the Study Area

An overview of the historical timeline of the study area has been provided by the Historical Archaeological Assessment written by Curio in 2016⁶ and as outlined below. For a comprehensive history of the study area, reference should be made to that document.

Phase 1: European Settlement and the Ultimo Estate (1788-1874)

- **1803-1840s:** John Harris acquired successive grants between 1803-1818 to create his 233-acre Ultimo Estate. Harris used his Ultimo Estate as his parkland country retreat, farming only a few acres. Land clearing occurred progressively through to the 1840s as the area was primarily used for grazing and as a deer park.⁷ After John Harris' death, legal issues prevented subdivision until after 1859, meaning little to no urban development occurred in the vicinity of the study area during this period.
- **1810s-1820s:** Shell middens on western side of Darling Harbour utilised as a source of lime, particularly during Governor Macquarie's campaign of civic improvement. Unclear if any are within the study area.
- **c1832:** In 1828 John Harris gifted 1.5 acres to Anne Murray on her marriage to Captain George Bunn. Newstead House (also known as Bunn's House or Cottage) was constructed in

⁶ Curio, 2016, *Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour, Historical Archaeological Assessment*, prepared for Mirvac

⁷ Broadbent, J. 2010, *Transformations: Ecology of Pyrmont Peninsula*, prepared for the City of Sydney

c1832. The house stood until at least 1889 and appears to be located to the west of the study area (between Murray Street and Darling Drive). Some physical developments and modifications are evident within the study area between Newstead House and the waterfront.

- **c1873:** Photograph panoramas (Figure 4.5) indicate that additional unidentified structures may be present to the south of Bunn's Cottage. A jetty appears immediately south of the slipway/track from Newstead House. The function of the other structures in this foreshore area is unclear but may relate to commercial or industrial activities. The area to the north still appears undeveloped and unmodified aside from land clearing, with the natural sandstone outcrops evident (Figure 4.6).

Phase 2: Growth & Expansion of the Darling Harbour Railway Goods Yard (1874-1960s)

- **1878:** By this time, the Atlas Engineering Works were functioning out of premises on the Darling Harbour waterfront immediately east of Bunn's Cottage, with a warehouse complex that may have served as a shipbuilding factory (Figure 4.7).⁸
- **1884-1888:** Darling Harbour Goods Line railway expanded north to Pyrmont Bridge through the study area. The waterfront appears to have undergone some land reclamation and levelling to facilitate the railway construction. Associated infrastructure, like signal boxes, were present within the study area and close to the Pyrmont Bridge.
- **1891:** Construction of Outward Goods Shed equipped with hydrologic cranes (Figure 4.8).
- **1902:** The Goods Shed Office/Forwarding Station constructed near Murray Street, at the northwest corner of the Outwards Goods Shed. The building was converted for amenities during the 20th C.
- **1920s:** A two-story structure built on the eastern side of the Outwards Shed possibly associated with the 1895 construction for transferring frozen meat across the harbour from the Meat Markets to the NSW Pastoralists Association works at North Sydney. The building may have remained following the closure of the Meat Market in 1914 until the reclamation of Darling Harbour was completed in 1926. The site may have been reused for the coal wharf that by 1984, appears to have also supported a helipad (Figure 4.9).
- **1918-1928:** Land reclamation proceeded in stages along the head of Darling Harbour and along its western shore (Figure 4.10). Some of the reclamation fill originated from the spoil excavated from the City Circle train line and the 1926 demolition of the Iron Wharf (south of the study area). Some of this reclamation is likely to extend into the study area. Additional wharves were built along the newly reclaimed land, and a jetty during this phase of construction may fall partially within the study area.

⁸ <http://www.shfa.nsw.gov.au/sydney>About-us-Our-heritage-role-Heritage-andConservation-Register.htm&objectid=173>

Phase 3: Decline, Closure & Redevelopment of the Darling Harbour Goods Yard (1960s-Present)

- 1982-1984: Closure of the Darling Harbour Goods Yard.
- 1986: The Harbourside Festival Marketplace is constructed. It was one of the first projects to commence as part of the Darling Harbour redevelopment for the Bicentennial celebrations. Harbourside is based on a design from Baltimore, USA, and was completed in time for the Bicentennial celebrations on 26 January 1988. Harbourside is still standing and in active use at the time of this report.



Figure 4.3: Detail of the 1844 Francis Webb Shields Map of Sydney indicating the location of the study area
Source: City of Sydney Archives



Figure 4.4: Detail of the 1854 Woolcott & Clarke's Map of Sydney indicating the location of the study area
Source: City of Sydney Archives

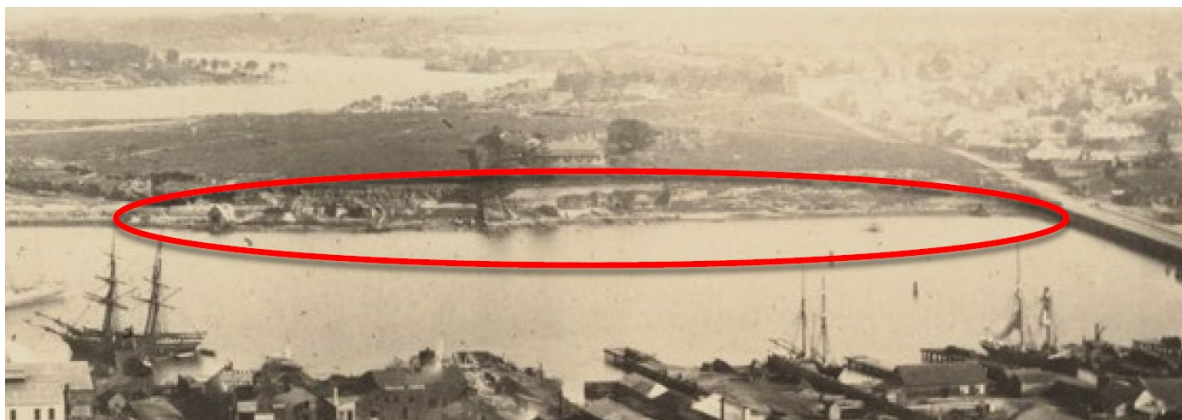


Figure 4.5: Panorama of Sydney from Town Hall (1873) with approximate location of study area in red
Source: State Library NSW Mitchell Library SPF/1626 Digital Order No. A4324010

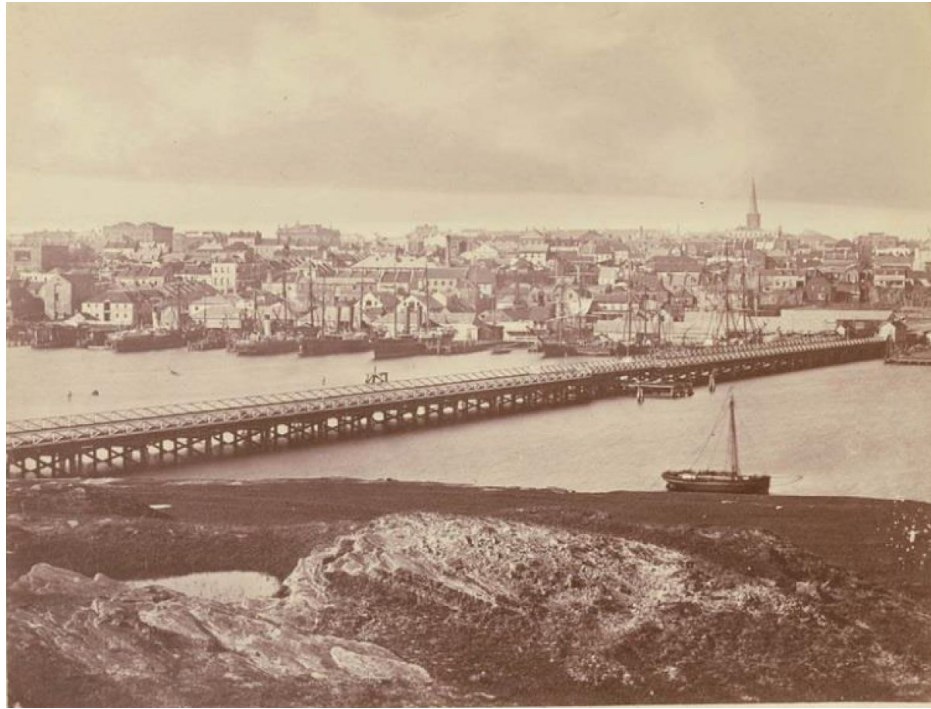


Figure 4.6: Pyrmont Bridge and northern part of the study area (1874) showing the undeveloped nature of the study area at this time

Source: State Library NSW SPF/838 Digital Order No. A089838

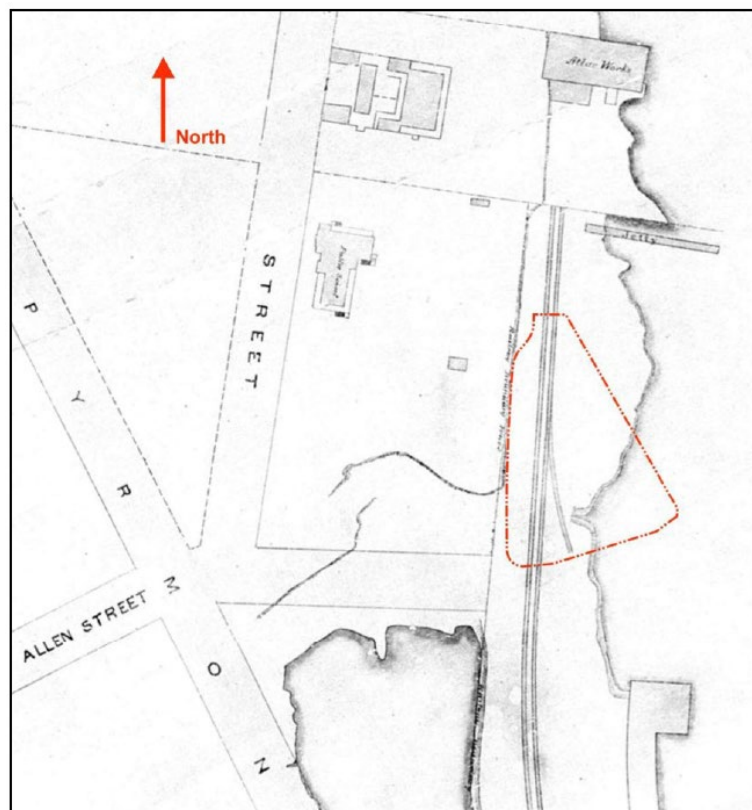


Figure 4.7: 1878 plan indicating the location of the study area

Source: State Records NSW



Figure 4.8: Framework of Darling Harbour Sheds construction (1920)
Source: NLA PIC P860/325

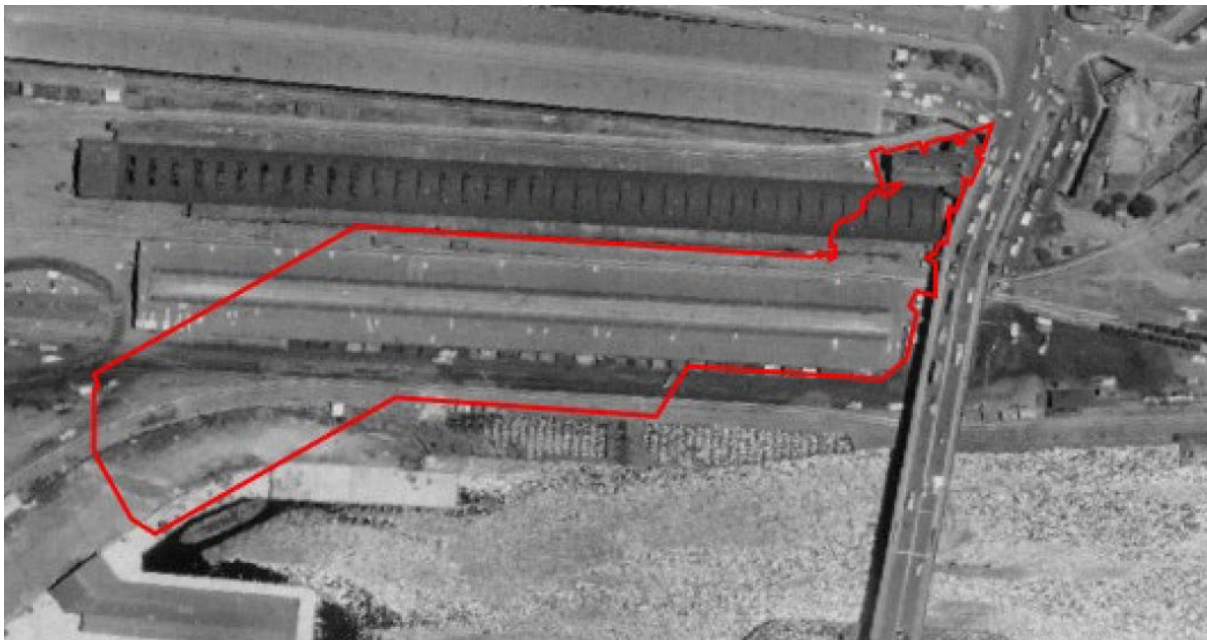


Figure 4.9: Detailed aerial image 1949 indicating the location of the study area
Source: City of Sydney Archives



Figure 4.10: Construction of the Harbourside Centre (1980s)
Source: Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority

4.4. Physical Setting and Landscape Context

4.4.1. Soils and Geology

The geology and soils of a locale can provide information for the prediction and modelling of the nature and positioning of potential Aboriginal sites. For example, soil types capable of supporting vegetation/flora resources of importance to Aboriginal people (and the corresponding faunal resources that would utilise the vegetation), may provide clues to indicate Aboriginal use and occupation across the landscape.

The study area is located on the soil landscape profile of 'Disturbed Terrain'⁹ (Figure 4.11), underlain by Quaternary Alluvium (silty to peaty quartz sand, silt and clay with ferruginous & humic cementation in places and common shell layers).¹⁰ While the study area is located wholly on Disturbed Terrain, the western boarder of the study area aligns approximately with the boundary between the Disturbed Terrain and Deep Creek soil profiles.

The Disturbed Terrain profile was created through the extensive process of land reclamation that involved the placing of man-made fill (dredged estuarine sand and mud, demolition rubble, industrial and household waste) over swamps and estuarine shores along the Sydney harbour foreshore in the late 1800s and early 1900s. It is particularly prevalent across Darling Harbour and the Pyrmont Peninsula. This landscape profile is generally characterised by the complete disturbance, removal or

⁹ Chapman, G.A. & Murphy, C.L., 1989, *Soil Landscapes of the Sydney 1:100 000 Sheet*. Soil Conservation Service of NSW, Sydney

¹⁰ Herbert, C., 1983, *Sydney 1:100 000 Geological Sheet 9130 1st edition*. Geological Survey of New South Wales, Sydney

burial of original natural soils, resulting in the possibility for any potential Aboriginal cultural material to be confirmed to pockets of remnant natural soils preserved in the disturbed profile.

4.4.2. Hydrology, Landscape and Landforms

The hydrology of an area plays an important role in identifying not only area of occupational, environmental and archaeological potential, but also in understanding how deposits at a site are formed and/or impacted by hydrology. The effects of hydrology can range from the general availability of water in an area, through to flooding events. Hydrology can influence the original occupation of a space and associated deposition of cultural material, as well as play a part in post-depositional taphonomic processes.

The study area is located immediately on the western shore of Darling Harbour. Originally known as Cockle Bay, the area has been well documented as being used by Aboriginal people for the foraging and consumption of shellfish and other marine faunal resources.

In addition to being located immediately adjacent to the waters of Darling Harbour, the study area is also located approximately 950m southeast from what was known by European settlers as 'Tinker's Well', on the northwestern point of the Pyrmont Peninsula. This was a freshwater spring located in a large sandstone overhang where water trickled from between the sandstone and collected into a natural bowl in the sandstone floor of the overhang.¹¹ Accounts from early European settlers relate the use of this area and this spring by Aboriginal people into the 19th Century. While the shelter in which Tinker's Well was located was destroyed in the early 20th Century, the water of the spring itself is still present flowing between sandstone behind a modern apartment building near the original location.

Darling Harbour is located in the central area of the Sydney basin, which is generally characterised by contrasting sandstone escarpments and gently undulating shale hills.¹² This topographic region is also identified by its large quartz sandstone plateau and escarpments that house localized thin shale caps.¹³ The Pyrmont peninsula is orientated approximately northwest/southeast. Mainly due to sandstone mining, major changes to the topography of the peninsula were undertaken prior to detailed mapping of the area. However, it is generally understood that the Pyrmont peninsula prior to 1788, generally consisted of sandstone rises and outcrops, grading down towards the water on all sides (Figure 4.12 and Figure 4.13). while the majority of the study area is located on reclaimed land, the western side may potentially perch on the very eastern edge of the grading from a sandstone hilltop, down towards the sandy shoreline of Cockle Bay.

¹¹ <http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/sites/tinkers-well/>

¹² Herbert 1983

¹³ Kelleher Nightingale Consulting 2020

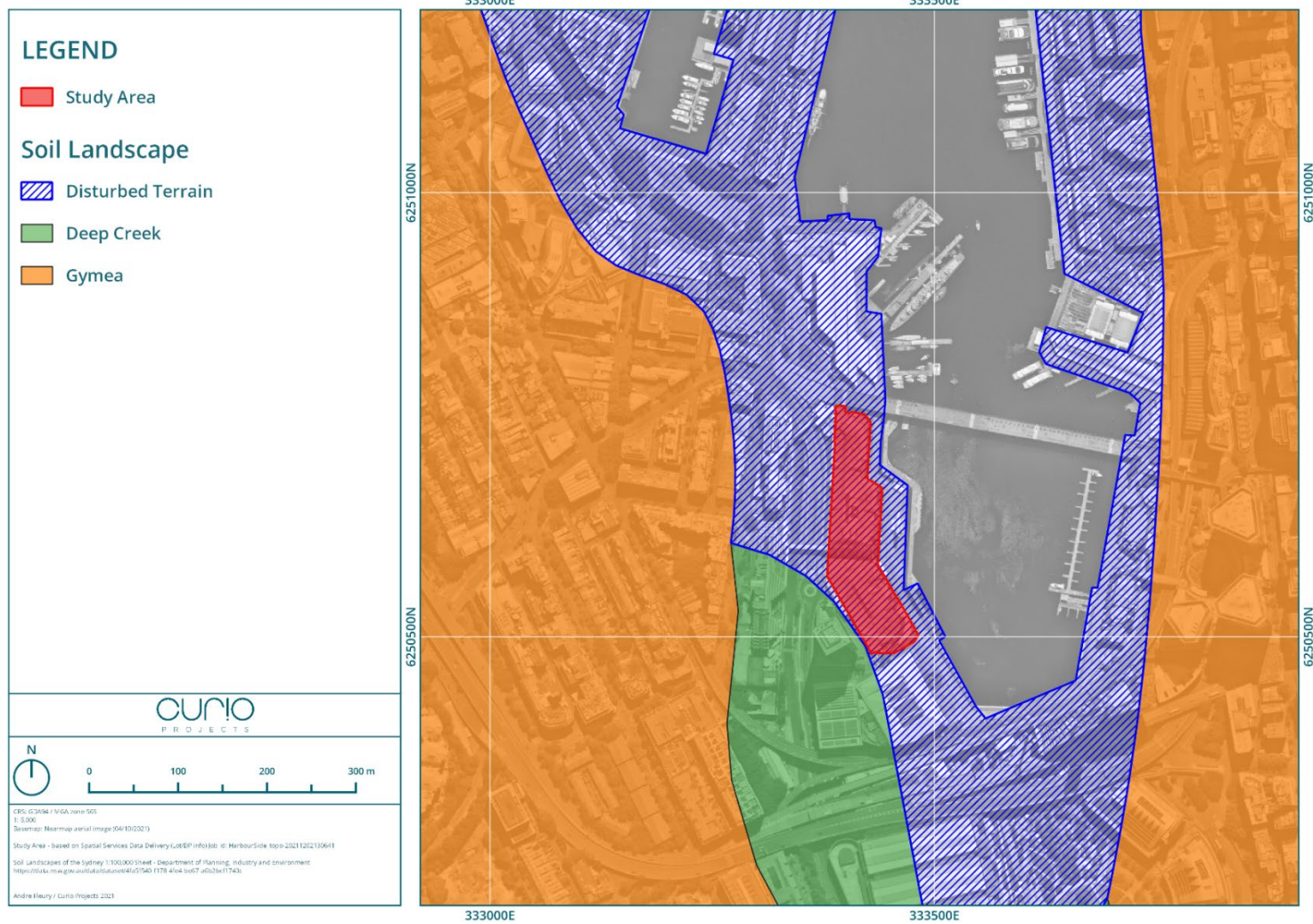


Figure 4.11: Soils and Geology Map
Source: Curio 2022

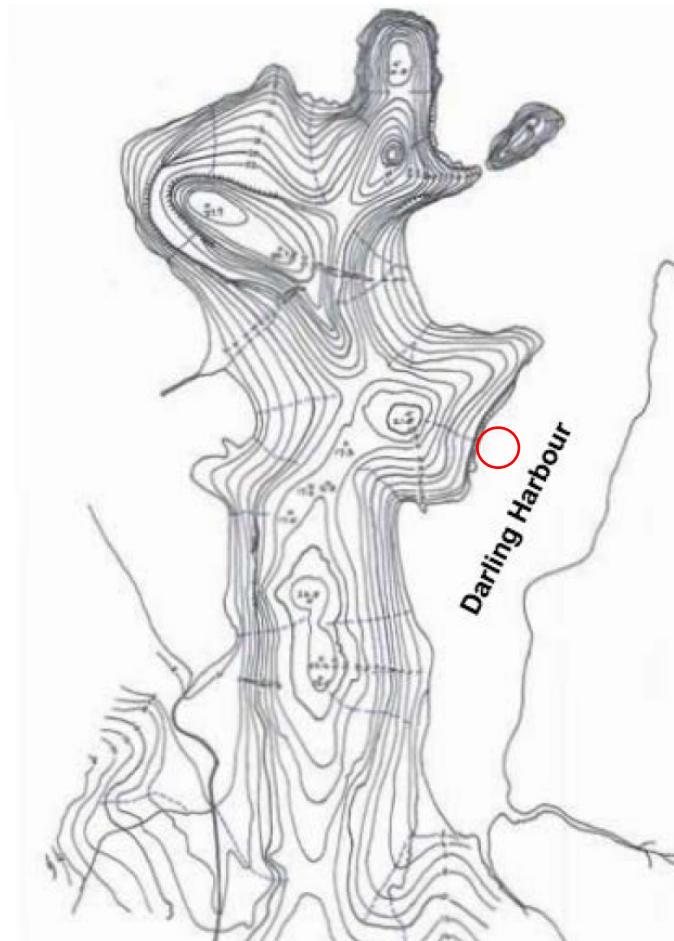


Figure 4.12: Proposed topography and drainage of the Pyrmont Peninsular in 1788. Approximate location of study area in red.
Source: J. Broadbent 2010, Transformations: Ecology of the Pyrmont Peninsula 1788-2008

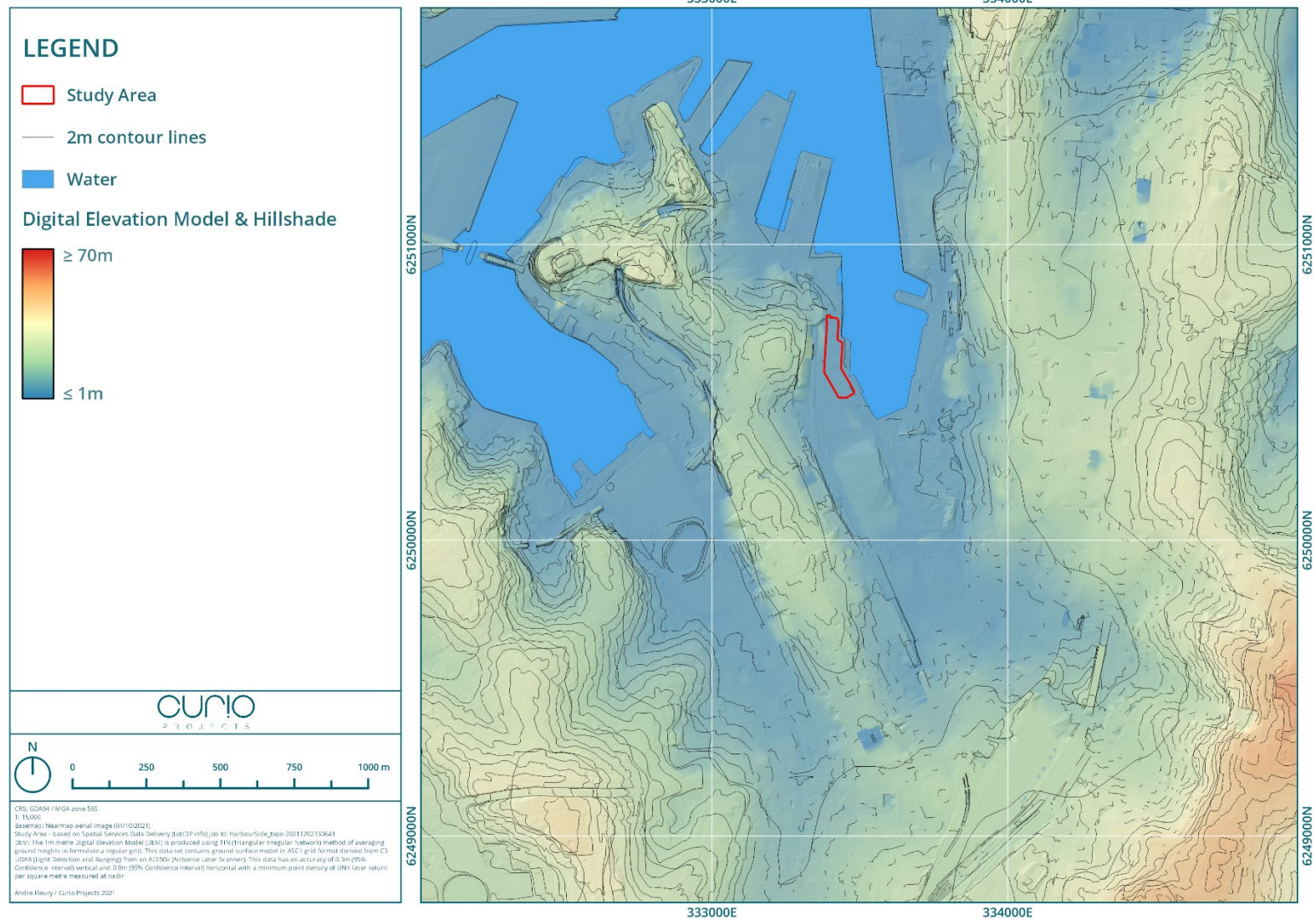


Figure 4.13: Topography Map
Source: Curio 2022

4.4.3. Vegetation and Fauna

An understanding of the original vegetation of an area provides information about the resources that such vegetation would have provided to aboriginal people in the area, and would have influenced how different locations were accessed, used and visited. Vegetation can itself be a direct resource, such as tree bark for canoes, shields etc., or edible plants, or as an indirect resource creating habitats for different animals such as possums, birds etc., available for hunting.

Prior to European settlement and subsequent land clearing, the vegetation of the Pyrmont peninsula would have generally comprised of low, dry sclerophyll open woodland along ridges and upper slopes, with species commonly present including Red Bloodwood (*Eucalyptus gummifera*), Scribbly Gum (*Eucalyptus haemastoma*), Brown Stringybark (*Eucalyptus capitellata*) and Old Man Banksia (*Banksia serrata*). More sheltered slopes would have commonly supported Black Ash (*Eucalyptus sieberi*), Sydney Peppermint (*Eucalyptus piperita*) and Sydney Red Gum (*Angophora costata*). The understory of these plant communities would have consisted of a variety of native shrubs.¹⁴ However, the nature of the sandstone peninsula, water availability and drainage would have affected the growth of these various floral species.

While the diversity of flora on the peninsula would have supported a variety of fauna such as kangaroo, wallaby, wombat, echidna, flying fox, emus, quolls, various native rats and mice, snakes and lizards, this would also have been limited by the extent of the vegetation growth on the sandstone peninsula.¹⁵ Marine faunal resources would have also been easily accessed from the study area, both from the fresh water and estuarine environment of the Tank Stream, as well as from nearby Sydney Cove.

4.4.4. Description of the Project Area

The HAA written by Curio in 2016 describes the project area as follows:¹⁶

The Harbourside Shopping Centre is located on the western foreshore of Darling Harbour. The Centre consists of a three-storey building and does not have a basement.

The subject site extends from Pyrmont Bridge in the north to the International Convention Centre site currently under development to the south (Figure 4.14). On the west the site is bounded by Darling Drive (Figure 4.15) and extends east to the public SHFA-owned promenade on the Darling Harbour foreshore (Figure 4.16). The northern boundary of the site abuts the south-western end of Pyrmont Bridge. In several locations the existing shopping centre complex has a direct physical or visual interference with Pyrmont Bridge (Figure 4.17 to Figure 4.20).

The former monorail station is located above the northern end of the Harbourside Shopping Centre complex (Figure 4.18). A set of stairs provides access from Harbourside up to Pyrmont Bridge and the former monorail station. A pedestrian footbridge connects the former monorail station, Pyrmont Bridge and the northern

¹⁴ Chapman & Murphy 1989

¹⁵ Tench, W., 1789, *A Narrative of the Expedition to Botany Bay*. In Flannery, T., (ed.) 2012, *Watkin Tench: 1788*, The Text Publishing Company, Melbourne

¹⁶ Curio, 2016, *Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour, Historical Archaeological Assessment*, prepared for Mirvac

end of the Harbourside to the multistory parking station and hotel on the western side of Darling Drive (Figure 4.21).

A second pedestrian bridge connects the upper level of the Harbourside to the multistory parking station and hotel on the western side of Darling Drive (Figure 4.15).

The external areas within the subject site adjacent to the waterfront promenade are paved in red brick and are consistent with the rest of the public promenade, western approach to Pyrmont Bridge, Australian National Maritime Museum forecourt (Figure 4.16 to Figure 4.18).

A footpath and driveway to a loading dock provide access to the north-western side of the site. The Darling Drive ramp is located immediately west (Figure 4.22).

The nearby route of the light rail runs along a section of the path of the former Darling Harbour Goods Line and is located to the west of the site. The rail line sits at a similar level to Harbourside. Darling Drive rises up from this level via a ramp (and not natural topography or an extant historical feature) to meet the higher level of Murray Street (Figure 4.22).

Evidence of subsurface services were observed across the site, including stormwater drainage (Figure 4.23).



Figure 4.14: The Harbourside Shopping Centre from the eastern shore of Darling Harbour.



Figure 4.15: Western boundary of the study area facing south. Darling Drive runs along the western boundary. The light rail line to the west of Darling Drive follows a route of the original Darling Harbour Goods line.



Figure 4.16: Eastern boundary of the Harbourside site showing interface with public promenade on the waterfront.



Figure 4.17: Western approach to Pyrmont Bridge showing entrance to Harbourside.



Figure 4.18: Interface between Harbourside (left) and Pyrmont Bridge (right) facing west. The former monorail station is visible in the centre of the image.



Figure 4.19: Physical interface with Pyrmont Bridge.



Figure 4.20: Northern boundary of Harbourside & sandstone foundation of Pyrmont Bridge, showing gated entrance to loading dock on northwestern side of Harbourside.



Figure 4.21: Pedestrian footbridge beyond the northern boundary of study area with former monorail station and Harbourside centre.



Figure 4.22: Loading dock entrance on western side of Harbourside, Darling Drive to the left.



Figure 4.23: Example of subsurface services on the western side of the Harbourside Shopping Centre.

4.4.5. Modern Land Use, History and Disturbance

Information for the development of the study area has been drawn from the previous DD report written by Curio in 2016.

A summary of the modern development history of the study area and its surrounds, including land reclamation of Cockle Bay, disturbance and historical development, is provided here in order to understand the effect that previous land use may have had on the preservation or destruction of potential Aboriginal archaeological remains at this location. Further details on historical development within the study area and surrounds, including reference sources and historical plans are contained in the full detailed history of the area presented in the Historical Assessment: Darling Harbour Railway and Goods Yard in the context of the history of the western side of Darling Harbour, Ultimo and Pyrmont (Hale, January 2016), and prepared specifically for this Harbourside project.¹⁷

Early plans of Sydney city indicate that while development was well established in eastern Darling Harbour from the early 1800s, the western side of Darling Harbour remained relatively undeveloped until the 1840s. an exception was the construction of Newstead House (also known as Bunn's Cottage) in c1832, on present day Murray Street, near Bunn Street (approximately 100m west of the study area). Subsequent development on the Pyrmont peninsula itself from the 1840s and 1850s was related to industries such as shipbuilding (Shipbuilders Chowne and Russell) and corresponding roughly built sandstone block cottages for working class residents of the area. This initial development was focused on the northeast point of the Pyrmont peninsula (Figure 4.24). Additional development on the Pyrmont peninsula included the operation of the Australian Steam Navigation Company on Darling Island from 1851, the subsequent major reclamation of Darling Island in 1870 to join it to the mainland, and establishment of the Saunders sandstone quarry on the northwestern corner pf the peninsula in 1853.

¹⁷ Curio, 2016; Hale, P., 2016

Construction of railway lines in the 1850s, and the Pyrmont Bridge, which opened in 1857 (and was replaced in 1902 with the current iteration of the bridge, constructed of steel, timber and stone), saw the Pyrmont peninsula begin its development into a main industrial port and functional centre of Sydney. In addition, in 1874, the head of Cockle Bay was reclaimed as far as Liverpool Street, and the Iron Wharf was constructed on the western side of Darling Harbour. The Iron Wharf was the first wharf in the world to be constructed wholly of iron and was considered to be a major engineering feat of the time. In collaboration with this development boom in the area, the initial stage of development of the Darling Harbour Railway Goods Yard was undertaken in 1874-88 and continued to grow and develop into the 1920s. the Goods Yard would have been located immediately west of the current study area, with the railway lines themselves running to the east.

Cockle Bay was further reclaimed in 1918, as waters south of Pyrmont Bridge became too shallow for large vessels to traverse. This also resulted in the demolition of the Iron Wharf in 1926, which was then partially dumped into the reclaimed harbour. The Darling Harbour Goods Yard became a crucial intersection between rail and shipping in Sydney and remained so up until the 1960s post war economic boom that was driven by overseas demand for Australian wool and wheat.

The collapse of the economic boom by the early 1970s, signaled the end for the Darling Harbour Railway and Goods Yard. Industrial and transport systems restructured and relocated to other parts of Sydney, and by 1971, the City of Sydney Strategic Plan was considering the redevelopment of Darling Harbour. Work commenced in 1976-77 on the Western Distributor, which allowed traffic to bypass Darling Harbour and the Pyrmont Bridge. The Darling Harbour Good Yard was closed from 1982, with the last goods train running in 1984. Plans to redevelop Darling Harbour into a recreational, entertainment and public precinct was announced by the NSW Government in 1984 with the aim of completion to coincide with the state's 1988 Bicentennial celebrations. The remaining 19th Century industrial heritage buildings at Darling Harbour were generally demolished (with the exception of Pyrmont Bridge, the Hydraulic Pumping Station and several other items). Construction of the Harbourside Festival Marketplace (the current Harbourside Shopping Centre) commenced in 1986 and was completed in time for the Bicentennial celebrations on 26th January 1988.



Figure 4.24: 1839 plan of the development of Pyrmont. Approximate location of the study area (red) has not been developed
 Source: National Library Australia

Land Reclamation

Most of the current shorelines of Sydney Harbour and the Parramatta River have been subject to land reclamation through the removal or filling of mudflats, mangroves and saltmarshes. Land reclamation processes include the deposition of fill materials (commonly waste fill or previously contaminated sediments) over semi-submerged land, and drainage of water from this land, in order to enable construction. Most of the modification of the Sydney shoreline has been undertaken for harbour construction, navigation, wharf and shore development.

The land reclamation along the western side of Darling Harbour took place mainly in 1874 (with the exception of Darling Island, which was connected to the mainland of the peninsula at an earlier point in time). Further land reclamation within the head of Cockle Bay was undertaken in 1918. Figure 4.25 demonstrates a summary of the land reclamation across the Sydney estuary, with reclamation around the area of the study area having taken place after 1854.

The study area is most likely situated across the boundary of the original shoreline (pre-1788) and the land reclaimed post 1854 (this land was reclaimed in 1874).

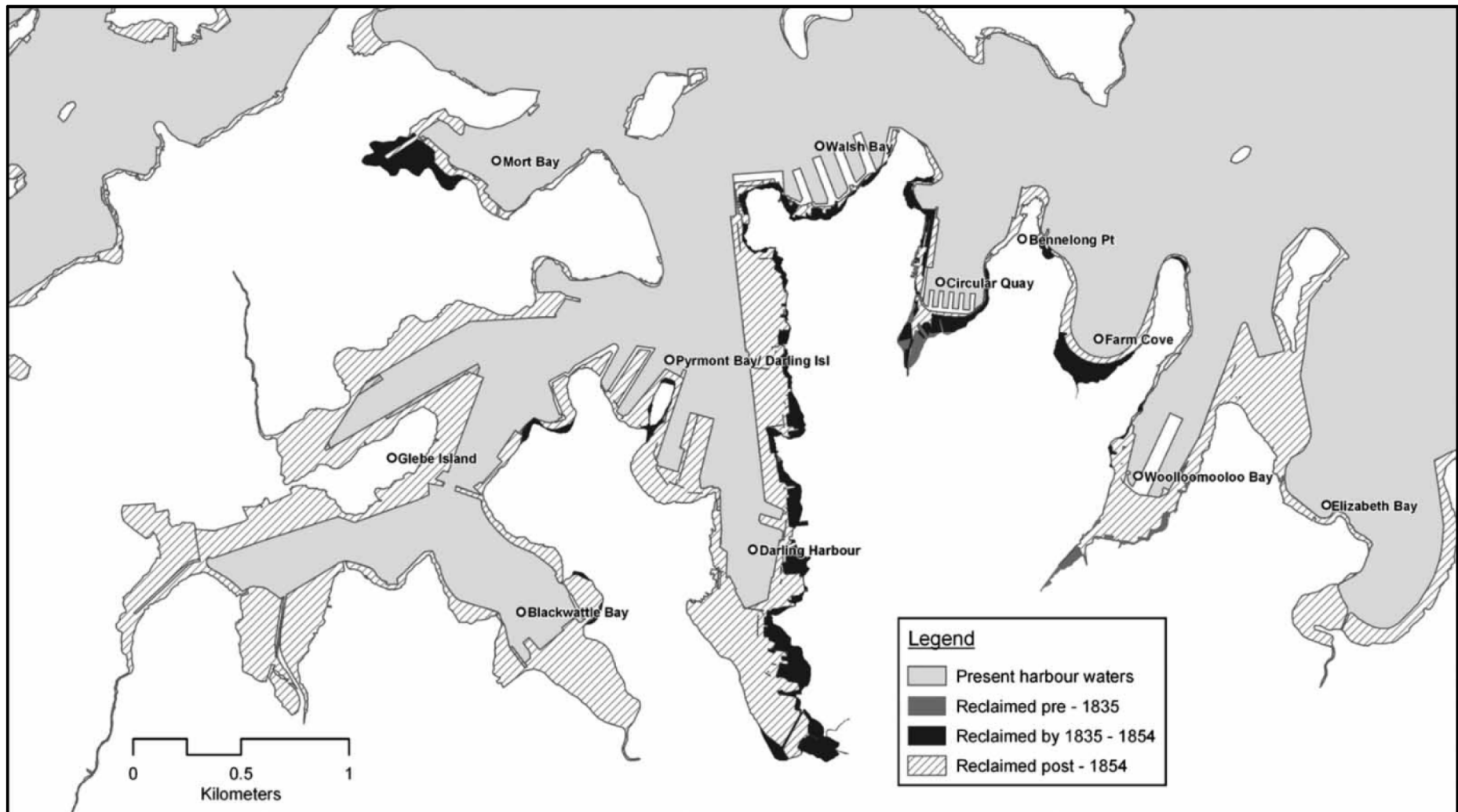


Figure 4.25: Summary of land reclamation across the Sydney estuary including Darling Harbour
Source: Birch et al 2009

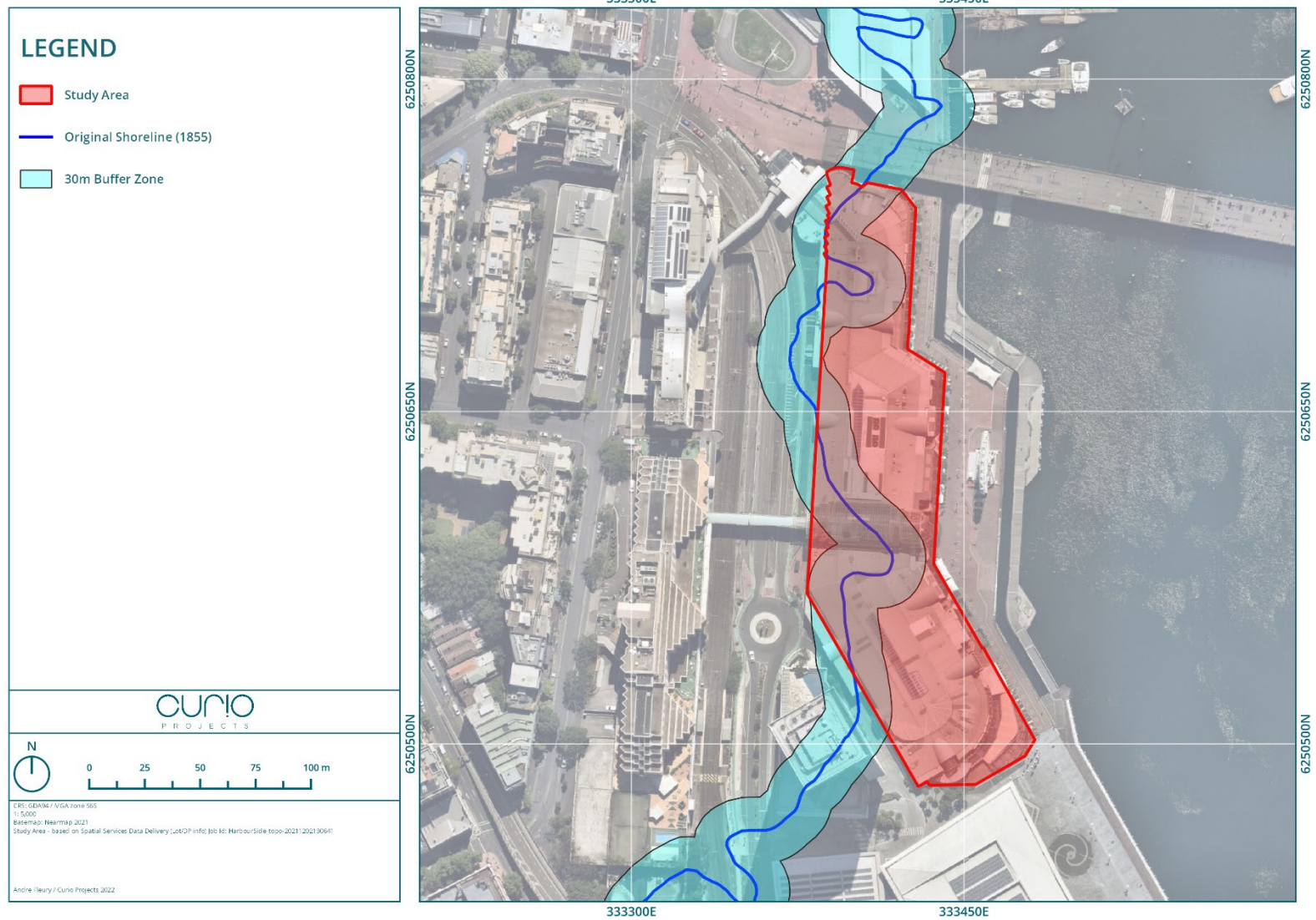


Figure 4.26: 1855 Original shoreline overlay with location of study area
 Source: Curio 2022

4.4.6. Geotechnical Investigations

A geotechnical investigation was undertaken by Douglas Partners in March 2021 to provide information on rock levels across the site, involving the drilling of eight boreholes, the installation of three temporary groundwater monitoring wells, laboratory testing and engineering interpretation. The boreholes ranged a depth of 3.5m to 18.0m and revealed that the site consists of 2.7m -11.9m of fill (generally sandy with varying proportions of gravel, boulders and clay) that appears to have been placed over either a thin layer of natural soil (soft clays and loose sands, some organic clay in BH7) or bedrock. Previous geotechnical investigations within the study area; Jeffery & Katauskas (JK) 1985 – 18 boreholes between 2.3m and 16.4m in depth, and at the neighbouring International Convention Centre (ICC) Hotel development; Coffey Geotechnics (CG) 2013 – 9 boreholes were drilled to depths between 1.8m and 20.8m. Figure 4.28 to Figure 4.31 show the locations and cross-sections of these investigations.

The 2021 report concluded that the study area:

...is underlain by between 2.7 m and 11.9 m of fill which appears to have been placed over either a thin layer of natural soil or bedrock. The fill is generally sandy with varying proportions of gravel, boulders and clay. The natural soils comprise soft clays and loose sands, with some organic clay encountered in BH7.¹⁸

Strata	RL of Top of Material Strata (m, AHD)							
	BH1	BH2	BH3	BH4	BH5	BH6	BH7	BH8
Surface/Filling	3.0	3.0	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.2	2.1
Natural Soils	0.0	-2.0	-0.5	-3.7	0.5	0.7	-8.7	NE
Class V/IV Rock	-0.9	-2.6	NE	-4.4	-0.3	-1.8	-9.7	-0.9
Class III Rock	-1.0	-3.6	NE	-4.5	NE	-5.7	-9.8	-1.1
Class II Rock	-4.9	-6.4	NE	NE	-0.4	NE	-11.8	-1.4
Base of Borehole	-6.6	-8.3	-1.0	-5.4	-4.9	-7.3	-14.8	-6.1
Groundwater	0.6	0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.5	0.7	-0.3	0.6

Notes: NE = not encountered; Rock classification in accordance with Pells et al (1998)

Figure 4.27: Summary of material strata levels and rock classifications
Source: Douglas Partners 2021

¹⁸ Douglas Partners 2021, p.5.

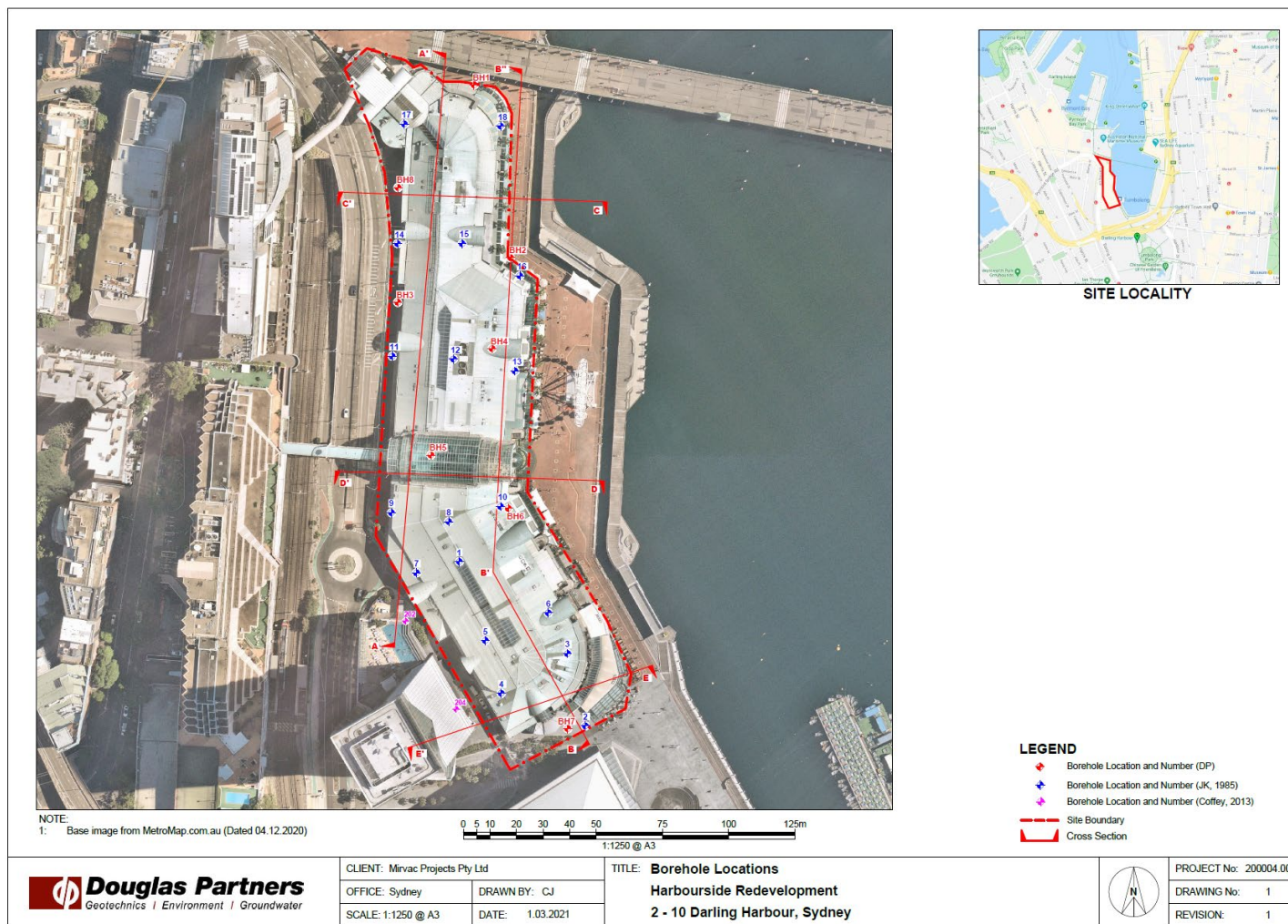


Figure 4.28: Borehole locations 1985 (blue), 2013 (pink) and 2021 (red)
 Source: Douglas Partners 2021

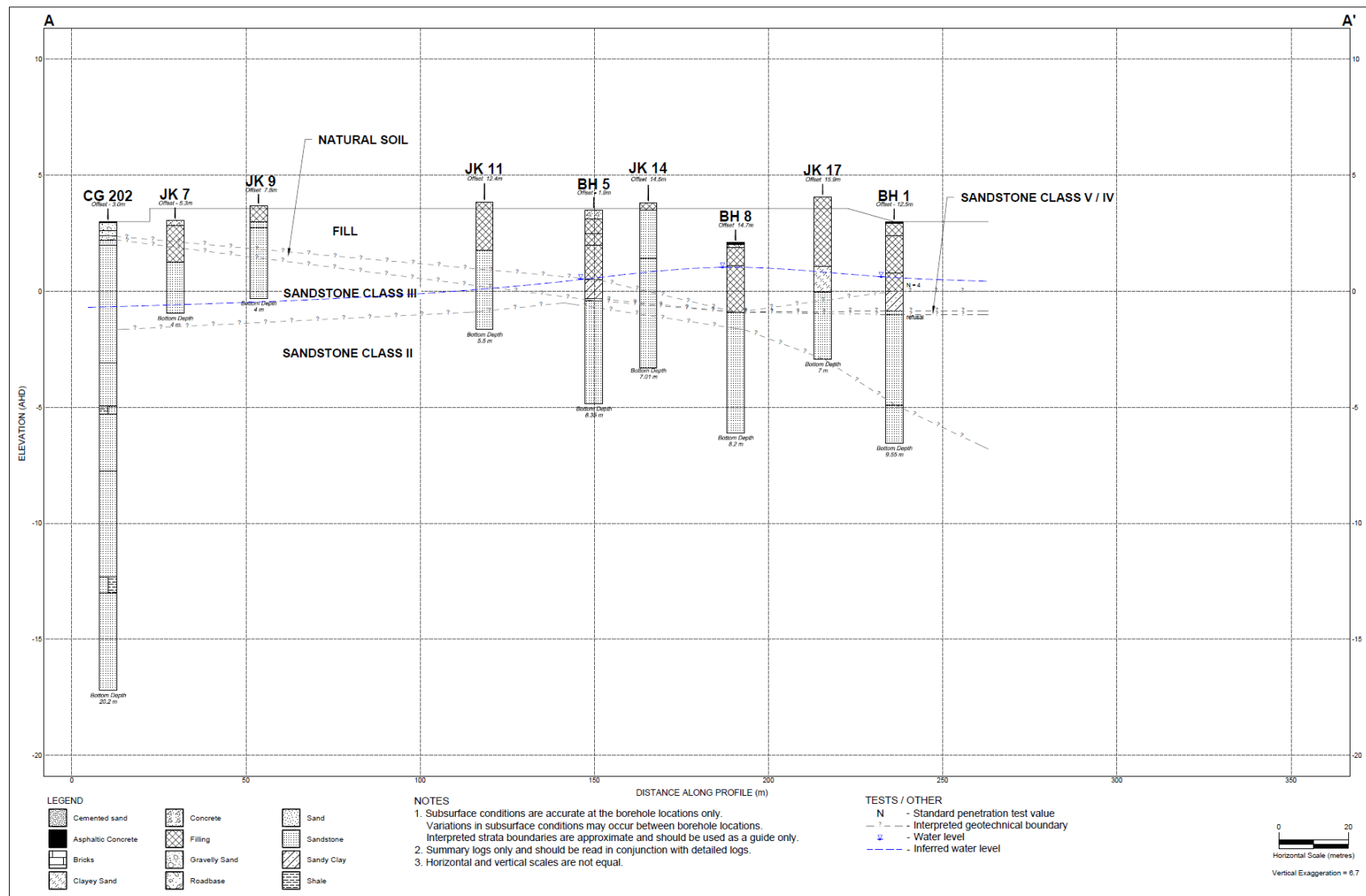


Figure 4.29: Cross-Section A-A
Source: Douglas Partners 2021

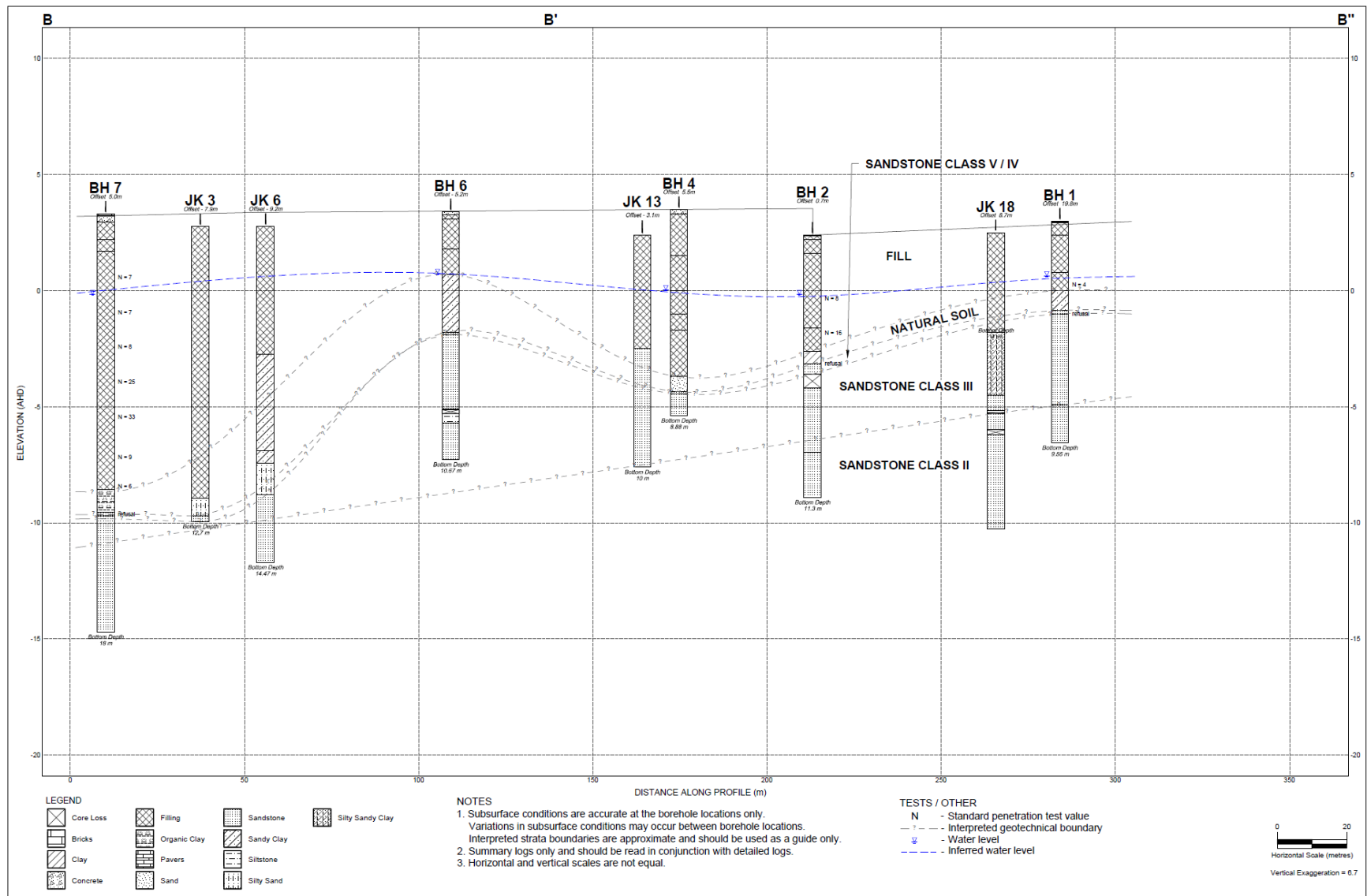


Figure 4.30: Cross-Section B-B-B'
Source: Douglas Partners 2021

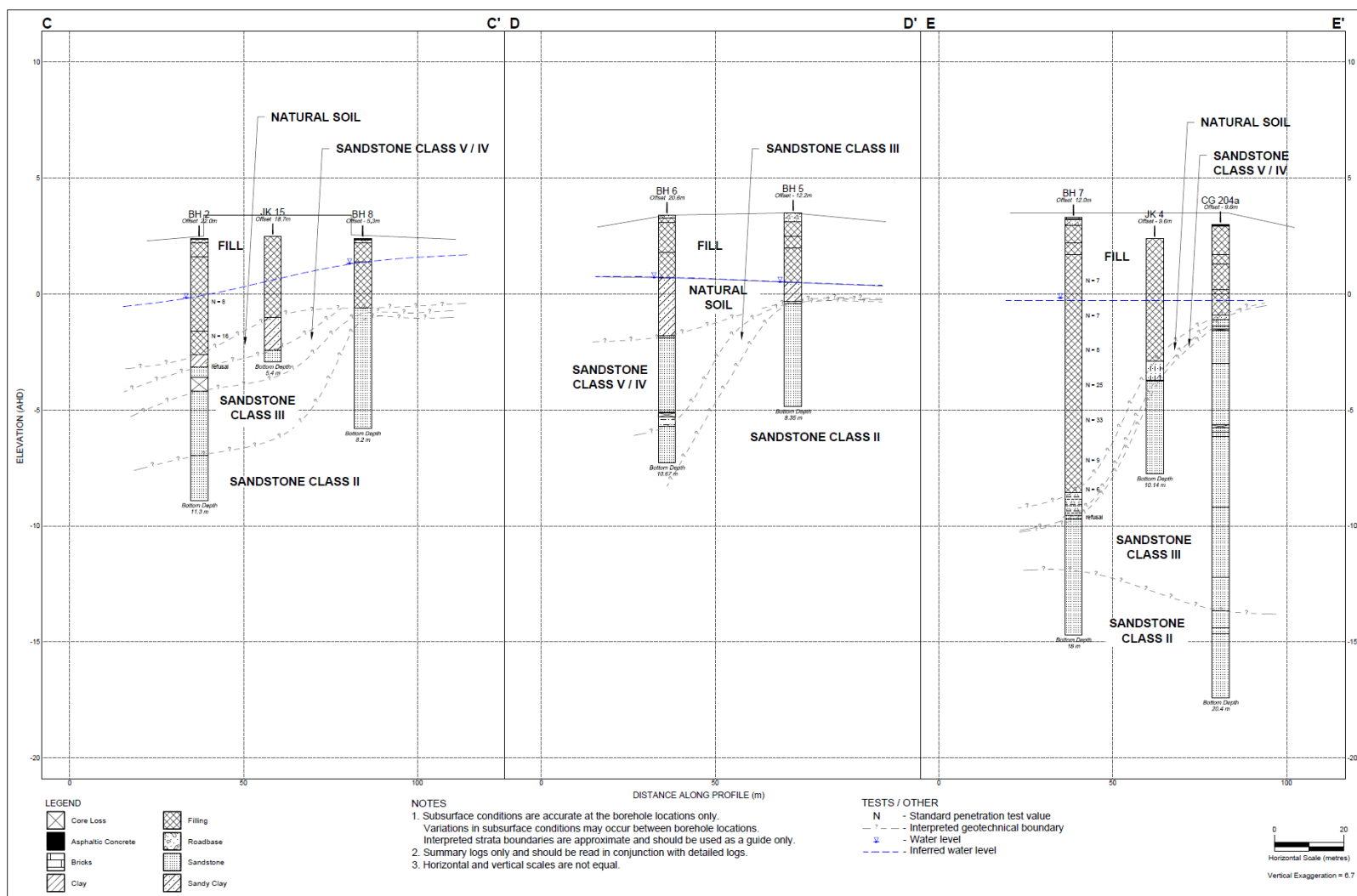


Figure 4.31: Cross-Sections C-C, D-D and E-E
Source: Douglas Partners 2021

In 2021 JBS&G completed an environmental investigation of the study area.¹⁹ This report described the site geology and soils as:

*Situated on disturbed terrain (xx) soil landscape which consists of turfed fill areas commonly capped with up to 40 cm of sandy loam or up to 60 cm of compacted clay over fill or waste materials (OEH 2021). The soil profile consists of four main horizons with various properties as described in Figure 4.32 **Error! Reference source not found.** below.*

Previous geotechnical investigations suggests that fill material at the site varies considerably in depth but, contra to the description of disturbed terrain above, contains only trace/minor anthropogenic inclusions, being comprised largely of sandy gravelly clay fill with sandstone gravel and boulders, over natural organic-rich marine sediments and sandstone bedrock.²⁰

The geotechnical investigations provide a basis for an archaeological predictive model, with the details of fill depth and natural landforms relevant to the potential for subsurface Aboriginal objects. The investigations within the study area indicate that while there is a substantial depth of introduced fills across the study area, these levels vary significantly. The presence of identified natural soils and gravels in particular within or below fill contexts may indicate the potential for in situ shore and marine deposits, that have the potential to contain Aboriginal objects, however such natural landforms are likely to be highly disturbed and difficult to predict in terms of location.

Soil Horizon	Typical depth (m)	Soil Description Summary
xx1	0-0.15	Loose black sandy loam. Brittle when dry, crumbly when moist. Generally, Nepean River alluvium or Elderslie soil series. Appears as a topsoil (A1 horizon). Moderately acidic (pH 5.0) to neutral (pH 7.5).
xx2	0.15-0.80	Compacted mottled clay. Usually used as a compacted impermeable cover for hazardous buried materials. Colour is highly variable. Extremely acidic (pH 3.5) to slightly alkaline (pH 8.0). Ironstones are occasionally present.
xx3	0.15->1.50	Variable transported fill. May consist of any type of soil or regolith material. If often includes demolition rubble and industrial and household wastes. Colour, texture, structure, fabric, degree of compaction, porosity and pH vary markedly.
xx4	0.15->1.50	Dark dredged muds and sands. Sands, sandy loams to silty clay loams and sandy clays. Appears as subsoil. Colour varies from black to yellowish brown. Charcoal, shells, or shell fragments are commonly present. This material swell, is highly saline and neutral (pH 7.0) to moderately alkaline (pH 9.0) when first dredge, but acidity may increase dramatically following drainage and oxidation.

Figure 4.32: Soil Type Summary
Source: JBS&G 2021

4.4.7. Summary of Physical Setting and Landscape Context

The study area is located along the original western foreshore of Darling Harbour, located across the boundary between the edge of the original shoreline and disturbed terrain created by land

¹⁹ JBS&G, 2021, Detailed Site Investigation Harbourside Shopping Redevelopment 2-10 Darling Drive Sydney for Mirvac Residential (NSW) Developments Pty Ltd.

²⁰ Ibid, p. 4-5.

reclamation of the estuarine environment. While the Pyrmont area was not developed extensively until the 1800s, early historical accounts note that white colonists made extensive use of the shell middens that they found lining the Bay to provide mortar in lime kilns for civic development programs of the early colony, undertook early extensive quarrying of the natural sandstone of the peninsula, as well as vegetation clearing and levelling of ground.

The Pyrmont peninsula and Darling Harbour have been the focus for Aboriginal occupation and habitation prior to 1788, likely including along and around the eastern shoreline of the Pyrmont peninsula, i.e., in proximity to the southern edge of the current study area. The study area has been historically subject to substantial disturbance and land reclamation activities across the majority of the study area, indicating that there is only limited potential for undisturbed natural soil profiles to be present across the majority of the study area.

As the study area is situated approximately along the edge of the original Pyrmont peninsula shoreline, there is some limited potential for natural soil profiles to be retained in this location. However, considering the form of the original landform in this location (prior to land reclamation and modification works) as a sandstone peninsula with moderate to steep rocky slopes to the estuarine shoreline, as well as the significant levels of disturbance to the landscape and natural landforms caused by land modification and reclamation activities, the potential for undisturbed natural soils is considered low. There is some potential for natural soils below reclamation levels across the study area, as evidenced in the geotechnical testing results.

Overall, it is likely that the majority of the study area is situated on reclaimed land with the study area potentially situated along the boundary of the original shoreline and the reclaimed lands. Due to the significant amount of land reclamation activities, the topography and soils along the original shoreline would have been severely impacted. There is nil to little potential for Aboriginal archaeological deposits below the northern land reclamation zones as these areas would have likely been originally within the water of Darling Harbour. The area along the natural shoreline from Pyrmont to Darling Harbour has a low potential for natural soil profiles to be present below reclamation or disturbance levels, or on the boundary with any residual natural landforms.

4.5. Aboriginal Archaeological Context

Research into the regional and local archaeological context of the study area can be used to develop an understanding of the patterning of Aboriginal land use and enable the preparation of a predictive model to determine the likelihood of particular site types that may be present within the study area.

Generally, the types of Aboriginal sites in this area of Sydney that have the potential to be found are:

- In areas with flat exposed boulders or sandstone outcrops (potential for rock engravings and/or grooves used to grind seeds, food and other materials).
- Within sandstone shelters and/or overhangs (potential for occupation and art sites).
- In the form of more open camp sites along the foreshore of Sydney Harbour (shell midden and artefact sites, or subsurface potential archaeological deposits (PADs) associated with former open camp sites).

Since no substantial sandstone platforms nor overhangs/shelters are known to be present within the study area, the only potential Aboriginal archaeological site relevant would be open camp sites (shell midden and artefact sites, or subsurface PADs).

4.5.1. Archaeological Evidence of Aboriginal Occupation

The diversity of the geology and landforms of the wider Sydney region landscape means that there is a wide range of existing Aboriginal archaeological evidence and sites in existence across the region. The presence of Aboriginal archaeological sites in Sydney were first noted by the First Fleet officers upon their arrival in Sydney, where Governor Phillip commented on the rock engravings in the sandstone around Sydney Cove, Botany Bay and Broken Bay.²¹ Each geographical element of the Sydney landscape provides different conditions for the survival of physical reminders of the long term Aboriginal habitation and occupation of the Sydney region, including shell midden sites along the coast and sand dunes, rock engravings and art sites in sandstone shelters and surfaces, occupation sites in remnant soils containing Aboriginal stone tools, remains of hearth and cooking sites, remnant scarred and carved trees, and other archaeological evidence preserving the pre-1788 history of the Gadigal people.

Early researchers in Sydney's colonial history recorded and published a range of information regarding Aboriginal sites in the Sydney region, such as paleontologist and museum director Robert Etheridge Jr, who, along with Thomas Whitelegge, documented an early archaeological excavation of Aboriginal stone tool sites along the coastline, including the first identification of an artefact type that has come to be known as 'Bondi Point', a type of small pointed stone tool that is common to the Sydney region.²² Hundreds of Aboriginal archaeological sites have been excavated across Sydney, especially from the 1960s onwards.

The earliest accepted scientific date from archaeological sites in Sydney are, like those across the rest of Australia, unlikely to accurately reflect the earliest occupation of Aboriginal people. This discrepancy between scientific dating and likely occupation relates largely to changes in sea levels, which impacted both occupation patterns of Aboriginal people between the Last Glacial Maximum and present day, as well as inundating sites along the coasts and rivers, making them inaccessible to today's archaeological investigations.

The most recent period of maximum glaciation in Sydney was 15,000-18,000BP, at which time sea levels would have been up to 140m below current levels, pushing coastlines further to the east. Around 10,000 years ago, at the end of the Pleistocene epoch, the polar ice caps melted, and sea levels began to rise, which would have forced Aboriginal people to abandon their coastal sites and move inland, causing significant impact both to physical occupation patterns, as well as to economic and social habits. By around 6,000 years ago, the rising sea levels had flooded what was once a coastal plain along Sydney's east coast, forming the landscape of Sydney harbour and its river valleys that we recognise today. Therefore, the majority of archaeological sites in Sydney that have actually been scientifically dated, recovering dates of 5,000BP and later, after sea levels had stabilised. Few archaeological sites in Sydney have been dated before 10,000BP, with a few exceptions – summarised as follows:

The oldest widely accepted date for Aboriginal occupation in the Greater Sydney region is 25,000-30,000 years ago, recovered from the George & Charles Street site in Parramatta, a basal date of $30,735 \pm 407$ BP, recovered from the Pleistocene geomorphological formation known as the Parramatta Sand Body.²³ Aboriginal archaeological sites closer in the Sydney region have been scientifically dated, including Discovery point in Tempe – a hearth dated to c9376 BP, the Prince of

²¹ Attenbrow 2010

²² Ibid

²³ McDonald 2005

Wales Hospital site – a hearth dated to c8400 BP, and Captain Cook’s Landing site at Kurnell – dated to c1330 BP.²⁴

4.5.2. AHIMS Search

An extensive search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database was undertaken on 21 March 2022 centered on the study area with a buffer of 1km and returned seven results. The extensive AHIMS search is attached as Appendix B. No registered sites were located directly within the current boundaries of the study area.

AHIMS search results always require a certain amount of scrutiny in order to acknowledge and accommodate for things such as inconsistencies in the coordinates (differing datum between years of recording), the existence of, and impact to, registered sites (impact to a registered site technically requires the submission of a Heritage Impact Recording form to Heritage NSW, however these forms are not always submitted), and other database related difficulties. It should also be noted that the AHIMS database is a record of archaeological work that has been undertaken and registered with Heritage NSW in the region.

The AHIMS database is therefore a reflection of recorded archaeological work, the need for which has likely been predominately triggered by development, and not a representation of the actual archaeological potential of the search area. AHIMS searches should be used as a starting point for further research and not as a definitive, final set of data.

Table 4.1: Aboriginal Site Types

Site Feature	Description
Aboriginal Burial (Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming)	A traditional or contemporary (post-contact) burial of an Aboriginal person, which may occur outside designated cemeteries and may not be marked, e.g., in caves, marked by stone cairns, in sand areas, along creek banks etc. Soft, sandy soils along creek and riverbed, and beaches were favoured for burials, as they allowed for easier movement of soil, however, burials may also have often occurred in rock shelters and shell middens.
Art Site	Art is located in shelters, overhangs, and across rock formations. Techniques include painting, drawing, scratching, carving, engraving, pitting, conjoining, abrading and the use of a range of binding agents and the use of natural pigments obtained from clays, charcoals and plants.
Artefact Site (Open Camp Sites/Artefact Scatters/Isolated Finds)	Artefact sites consist of objects such as stone tools, and associated flaked material, spears, manuports, grindstones, discarded stone flakes, modified glass or shell demonstrating physical evidence of use of the area by Aboriginal people. Registered artefact sites can range from isolated finds to large extensive open camp sites and artefact scatters. Artefacts can be located either on the ground surface or in sub-surface archaeological contexts.

²⁴ Ibid

Site Feature	Description
Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)	An area where Aboriginal cultural material such as stone artefacts, hearth, middens etc. may be present in a sub-surface capacity.
Shell Midden	A shell midden site is an accumulation or deposit of shellfish resulting from Aboriginal gathering and consumption of shellfish from marine, estuarine or freshwater environments. A shell midden site may be found in association with other objects like stone tools, faunal remains such as fish or mammal bones, charcoal, fireplaces/hearths, and occasionally burials. Shell midden sites are often located on elevated, dry ground close to the environment from which the shellfish were foraged, and where freshwater resources are available. Shell middens may vary greatly in size and components.

Table 4.2: AHIMS Sites in the Vicinity of the Study Area

Site Type	Number of Sites	Percentage of Sites (%)
Aboriginal Ceremony & Dreaming, Artefact & Shell	1	4.2
Artefact Site	3	12.4
Artefact & PAD	1	4.2
Burial, Aboriginal Ceremony & Dreaming, Artefact	1	4.2
Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)	17	70.8
Shell & Artefact	1	4.2
Total	24	100%

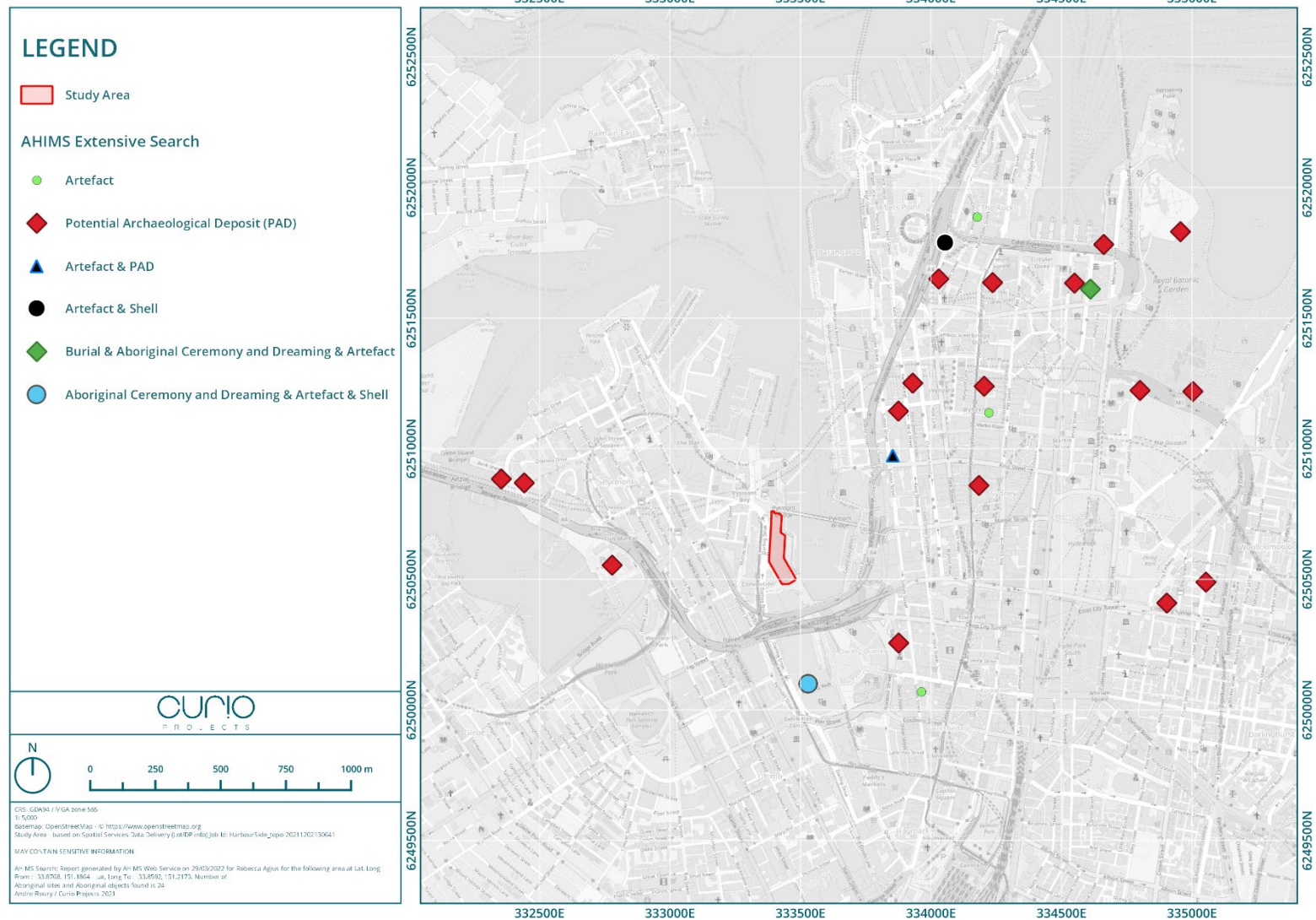


Figure 4.33: AHIMS data with locations of registered sites in proximity to the study area
 Source: Curio 2022

4.5.3. Previous Archaeological Investigations and Assessments

Review of relevant previous archaeological work is a highly informative and necessary step in identifying the likely nature of the potential archaeology at a site. The investigation of previous work undertaken in the region, on similar sites, and on similar landscapes or landforms can inform our understanding of a site by providing a proxy against which a newly investigated site can be measured (albeit with caution). That is to say, understanding the archaeological record at a general location can provide us with an indication of the nature and level of potential of archaeological resources that may be present at a site, prior to any subsurface investigation. As archaeology is by its very nature, a destructive discipline, it is important to acquire as much information and understanding of a site as possible prior to undertaking fieldwork (as once evidence has been excavated, its context is effectively destroyed), and also to avoid any unnecessary fieldwork at a site.

Research into archaeological investigations undertaken in proximity to the current study area indicate the types of archaeology that may survive in the area, and the environmental context that has allowed it to survive. No known Aboriginal archaeological excavations have been undertaken previously within the study area.

KENS Site (Steele 2006)²⁵

Aboriginal archaeological assessment and excavation was undertaken by Dominic Steele in 2003 of a large Aboriginal campsite in the location now referred to as the KENS site (named for the streets which form the general boundaries – Kent, Erskine, Napoleon and Sussex). The Aboriginal campsite was uncovered as a result of the demolition of the present building and associated historical archaeological excavation at a site. Excavation of this site recovered around 1000 Aboriginal stone artefacts within buried remnant soil profiles, including backed artefact tools, other retouched tools, cores and numerous waste flakes, which have been relatively dated to be occupied in the last 3000 years. In addition two Aboriginal artefacts manufactured of glass were recovered from this site, demonstrating that the site was occupied by Aboriginal people of the area through to the post-contact period.

Darling Quarter (Comber 2008-2009)²⁶

Comber Consultants undertook a series of Aboriginal archaeological excavations in 2008 and 2009 for the redevelopment of Darling Quarter (formerly Darling Walk), Darling Harbour (in collaboration with Casey & Lowe who undertook the historical archaeological work for the project). The post excavation report for this work was prepared in 2012.

The site was located along the original foreshore of Cockle Bay (Darling Harbour). Aboriginal test excavation identified the remains of a shell midden, including Aboriginal stone artefacts on an exposed area of bedrock in close proximity to the original shoreline. This area was expanded into an open area salvage excavation across the remainder of the sandstone outcrop in the southeast corner of the excavation area and recovered ten Aboriginal stone artefacts in association with the midden. It was determined that Aboriginal people would have used this location on the sandstone outcrop to cook and eat the shellfish that had been gathered from the surrounding environment.

²⁵ Steele, D. 2006

²⁶ Comber Consultants 2012

Of the ten stone artefacts recovered, all but two of them were manufactured of chert. There is no known local source of this rock type, and therefore the report suggests that the presence of this raw material type may have been the result of trading between the local Aboriginal people of the Cockle Bay area and Aboriginal people that lived in the west, near Plumpton Ridge – a known source of chert for Western Sydney. It is also possible that other more local sources of chert were present around the Sydney CBD area prior to 1788 that remain unknown to archaeologists.

Wynyard Walk (GML 2015)²⁷

GML Heritage undertook Aboriginal archaeological excavation of the Wynyard Walk, West Portal site in 2015. The potential Aboriginal archaeological deposit located at Wynyard Walk was assessed to be of moderate to high scientific significance primarily for its educative and research potential values. While disturbance at the site was considered likely, previous excavations in close proximity to the site such as the neighbouring KENS site, has illustrated that soil profiles capable of bearing archaeological deposits could be preserved in the area. Aboriginal archaeological excavation of this site required a two-staged approach due to the nature of the site below previous development and in association with the historical archaeology at the site. Some Aboriginal stone artefacts were recovered in association with the historical archaeology present at the site, as well as being within surviving natural soil profiles.

Sydney International Convention, Exhibition and Entertainment Precinct (SICEEP) (Comber 2015)

Comber Consultants undertook Aboriginal archaeological excavation within the Bayside/Darling Central Complex (the ICC and entertainment precinct) of the SICEEP in Darling Harbour in late 2013 to early 2014, in collaboration with Casey & Lowe, who undertook the historical archaeological excavation. Aboriginal excavation within this precinct included investigation within eleven separate open areas, identifying AHIMS #45-5-3217.

Aboriginal excavation within this precinct included investigation within eleven separate open areas, identifying:

- A sequence of middens along the rocky original Darling Harbour foreshore (which could potentially represent one continuous midden distributed along the foreshore), including 63 Aboriginal artefacts;
- Excavation of a discrete knapping floor on the edge of a midden from Open Area 2;
- Excavation of one in situ midden, dated to c300BP, between 1691 and c.1820;
- Evidence that Aboriginal people were still occupying and using this midden or sequence of middens during the early years of European occupation' and
- Predominantly silcrete artefacts, drawing the conclusion that it was likely that this material was traded with people from west of the Harbour on the Cumberland Plain.

A large proportion of this excavation took place underneath the (then existing) buildings of the former Sydney Entertainment and Exhibition Centres, this excavation successfully demonstrated the potential for intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits to be present beneath modern buildings and development, regardless of assumed impact.

²⁷ GML 2013

4.6. Regional Character and Archaeological Predictive Model

Predictive modelling plays an important role in understanding the remnant archaeological potential of a site, and thus factors into development of appropriate management recommendations and mitigation strategies. Archaeological predictive modelling integrates information about environmental context, previous historical activities and ground disturbance, and known locations of surrounding sites (excavations and registered AHIMS sites), to assess and predict the nature of archaeology that may be present within the study area.

The following assessment of Aboriginal archaeological potential within the study area is based in a combination of the environmental assessment, including original landform, possible levels of disturbance across the site, and original resource zones that would have been favorable to, or sustained local Aboriginal populations of the area prior to European settlement, in combination with known previous archaeological research in the vicinity of the study area, or on comparable sites in Sydney. Consideration of these above factors determines the likelihood for Aboriginal archaeology, artefacts, or physical objects to remain at the study area in a subsurface capacity.

The following predictions are made with regards to Aboriginal archaeological potential within the study area:

- The study area is located on the southeastern edge of the Pyrmont peninsula, directly along the western shoreline of Darling Harbour.
- The study area is located on the soil landscape profile of 'Disturbed Terrain', underlain by Quaternary Alluvium. The western boarder of the study area aligns approximately with the boundary between the Disturbed Terrain and Deep Creek soil profiles.
- While the area was not developed extensively until the late 1800s, early historical accounts provide evidence that extensive use was made of the shell middens that lined the bay to provide mortar in lime kilns for civic development programs for early colony.
- The Pyrmont peninsula would definitely have been a focus for Aboriginal occupation and habitation prior to 1788, however, the study area itself is located across the boundary between the original shoreline and reclaimed land (part of the extensive land reclamation process that was undertaken across the Sydney estuary in the 1800s to enable development of the harbour, wharfage and associated industries).
- The study area was subject to extensive industrial use from the 1850s following the construction of rail lines into Pyrmont, and the development of the Darling Harbour Railway Goods Yard, rail tracks and neighbouring industrial services and yards.
- While the study area is likely located right at the edge of what once would have been the original shoreline, land reclamation processes would have removed, covered or disturbed all Aboriginal cultural deposits, if they were once present at this location. In addition, it is likely that the majority of the study area would have been a swamp and estuarine environment that would not have been suitable for human occupation.
- The study area does not contain any previously registered Aboriginal sites, as per an AHIMS search.
- A geotechnical investigation was undertaken within the study area in 2021 and concluded that the site is underlain by between 2.7 m and 11.9 m of fill which appears to have been

placed over either a thin layer of natural soil or bedrock. The fill is generally sandy with varying proportions of gravel, boulders and clay. The natural soils comprise soft clays and loose sands, with some organic clay encountered. This is generally consistent with disturbed soil profiles, even with natural elements present.

- While the Darling Quarter site was similarly located to the current study area, along the original shoreline of Cockle Bay, the site lay closer to the head of the cove, along the eastern side of the bay, and immediately adjacent to a documented and relatively undisturbed area of the Gynea soil profile. Conversely, the current study area is located along the western shoreline of Darling Harbour, adjacent to the sandstone peninsula of Pyrmont and in conjunction with mapped disturbed soil profiles associated with land reclamation.
- Aboriginal archaeological deposits, should they be present within the vicinity of the study area, would most likely be either stone artefact sites, shell middens or a combination of both. In order for these archaeological deposits to be present in situ, they would require the retention of natural soil profiles in the area that would be extant from 1788.
- While the study area boundary is immediately adjacent to a mapped area of the 'Deep Creek' soil profile, it is also highly unlikely that any natural soil profiles are retained in this location due to the nature of the industrial development along the western shoreline of Darling Harbour from the 1850s to the 1970s.
- The historical development at the study area including the large area of land reclamation within the study area itself, as well as the use of the area and surrounds for railway lines and the Darling Harbour Railway Goods Yards, indicates that there is a low potential for natural intact soil profiles to be retained in the area, however geotechnical investigations have demonstrated that there are thin layers/pockets of natural profiles and materials present deep under disturbed historical fill. The soil landscape mapping of the region is consistent with this assessment, as the study area is mapped to lie within 'Disturbed Terrain'.
- As presented in Section 6, the main development works with the potential to disturb the ground surface will be the proposed bulk excavation works in the centre of the study area, resulting in a large portion of the study area being affected by the ground disturbing works. The original shoreline runs along the southern end of where the proposed bulk excavation will occur.

Outlined in Figure 4.34 below, the predictive model of the study area can be divided into two zones of archaeological potential. The descriptions are as follows:

- **Zone 1** – portions of the study area situated along the Disturbed Terrain soil profile and identified reclamation lands. This ACHAR has identified that this zone has **low to nil potential** for subsurface Aboriginal cultural material to be present.
- **Zone 2** – portions of the study area that are situated along the original shoreline of Darling Harbour. This section is still classified as being within the Disturbed Terrain landscape with land reclamation works, and also borders the Deep Creek soil profile to the southwest. This ACHAR has identified that this zone has **low potential** for subsurface Aboriginal cultural material to be present where pockets of residual natural soils may remain within the historical fill and land reclamation.



Figure 4.34: Map showing zones of potential across the study area (red = zone 1, green = zone 2) in line with the estimated original shoreline (blue)
Source: Curio 2022

5. Cultural Heritage Values and Significance Assessment

5. Cultural Heritage Values and Significance Assessment

The Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS 2013) defines cultural significance as:

...aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.

The five types of cultural heritage value, as presented in the Burra Charter (2013) from the basis of assessing the Aboriginal heritage values and significance of a site or area. Each of these cultural heritage values, as specifically relevant to Aboriginal cultural heritage, as summarised as follows (after OEH 2011(a)).

Social (Cultural) and Spiritual Value—spiritual, traditional, historical, or contemporary associations and attachments the place or area has for Aboriginal people. Social or cultural value is how people express their connection with a place and the meaning that place has for them.

Historic Value—associations of a place with a historically important person, event, phase, or activity in an Aboriginal community. Historic places do not always have physical evidence of their historical importance (such as structures, planted vegetation or landscape modifications). They may have 'shared' historic values with other (non-Aboriginal) communities.

Scientific Value—the importance of a landscape, area, place or object because of its rarity, representativeness, and the extent to which it may contribute to further understanding and information.

The scientific (archaeological) value lies with the potential of a site to contribute to research questions. Heritage NSW states the scientific (archaeological) value of an Aboriginal sites or place to:

Refer to the importance of a landscape, area, place or object because of its rarity, representativeness, and the extent to which it may contribute to further understanding and information. (OEH 2011: 9)

An assessment of Scientific Value also includes the consideration of:

- **Research Potential:** This criterion relates to how much potential a site has to contribute to a further scientific or archaeological understanding of a site/area/region or past human behaviours and site use. This will consider the stratigraphic integrity or preservation of a site and the connectivity to other sites in the regional context.
- **Rarity:** This criterion defines the uniqueness or distinctiveness of a site in consideration of the frequency of similar site types in a local or regional area/landscape. As with Representativeness, this criterion is best assessed through an understanding of what is common and what is unusual in the archaeological record. This criterion can be assessed at a local, state, national or global level.

- **Representativeness:** As with rarity, this criterion reflects an understanding of the archaeological context within an area or region and the existing conservation of archaeological resources in the regional context. An assessment of representativeness questions if particular sites should be conserved to preserve a representative sample of the site type within the archaeological record.
- **Education Potential:** This criterion reflects the ability of a site to contribute to the public record and provide teaching resources in order to further understanding of Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeology. An assessment of education potential incorporates key points of intactness, relevance, accessibility and interpretive potential.

Aesthetic Value—sensory, scenic, architectural, and creative aspects of the place. It is often closely linked with the social values. It may consider form, scale, colour, texture and material of the fabric or landscape, and the smell and sounds associated with the place and its use. The physical setting of a site contributes to its aesthetic value and in the sensory response people may have to it. Archaeological site types that may hold high aesthetic significance include rock art sites, cultural landscapes and scarred trees.

5.1. Assessment of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values

Assessment of each of the above criteria has been undertaken in consideration of the landscape and environmental context of the study area, Aboriginal history, previous archaeological work, and the field survey. The assessment of each criterion has then been graded (as per OEH 2011(a) Guide to Investigating) in terms of high, medium and low, in order to allow significance to be described and compared. The application of the cultural values criteria to the Aboriginal cultural heritage of the study area has also included consideration of research potential, representativeness, rarity and education potential for each criterion (as relevant).

5.1.1. Social (Cultural and Spiritual Value)

Aboriginal community consultation for the study area is ongoing at the time of writing, and project RAPs are likely to provide ongoing comment on any social or spiritual values associated with the study area.

Previous archaeological and cultural assessments undertaken across Sydney have consistently demonstrated that Gadigal people consider all their sites to be connected as part of a wider cultural landscape. Viewed as a whole, Gadigal sites across this area form a complex that embodies all aspects of Gadigal history and life.

Should archaeological deposits be present within the study area, for the local Gadigal community, this would represent a tangible and meaningful connection to their ancestors. The study area is currently assessed to be of social significance at a local level.

5.1.2. Historical Value

While limited historical accounts are available regarding Aboriginal occupation and use of the study area and surrounds prior to 1788, it was an area rich with resources (marine, freshwater, land) and would likely have been a central area for local Aboriginal population. Therefore, Aboriginal archaeological deposits, if found to be located within the study area, may be of historical value.

5.1.3. Scientific (Archaeological) Value

Heritage NSW states that the scientific (archaeological) value of an Aboriginal site or place:

Refers to the importance of a landscape, area, place or object because of its rarity or representativeness, and the extent to which it may contribute to further understanding and information.

Following Heritage NSW Guidelines for assessing scientific value, five key criteria have been considered with regards to the scientific and archaeological context of the study area in order to determine its level of scientific significance. These criteria, as they have been applied to the study area, are defined in Table 5.1. Following the criteria below, an assessment of the potential scientific significance of the Harbourside study area has been undertaken, identified as relevant to the five key criteria.

Table 5.1: Description of Significance Criteria

Criteria	Description
Research Potential	Research potential describes how much potential a site has to contribute to a further scientific or archaeological understanding of a site/area/region. This should include consideration of factors such as integrity and condition (the level of soil disturbance that a site has been subject to and the ability for the site to yield intact archaeological deposits), complexity (demonstrated or potential ability of a site to yield a complex archaeological deposit), archaeological potential (the potential for a site to yield an archaeological deposit or resource), and connectedness (the connection of a site to others in the region).
Rarity	Rarity refers to the frequency of similar site types in a local or regional area/landscape.
Representativeness	Representativeness refers to the level of variability between or within Aboriginal sites in an area or region, what is already conserved, how sites relate to each other, and the condition that a particular site type may be in that is able to better present or demonstrate more clearly that specific site types through the archaeological record.
Educational Potential	Educational potential refers to the ability of a site to contribute to the public record and provide teaching resources in order to further understanding of Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeology. Is the site well preserved? Are there artefacts that would be good to use in teaching? Are there recognisable site features, artefact types, records etc. that would be productive in teaching or use within public heritage interpretation strategies?
Archaeological Landscapes	The study of Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeological study in the context of the wider landscape (geographical and cultural/social) in which they exist.

Research Potential

The nature and extent of intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits within the study area has not yet been able to be fully determined. However, due to the study area being situated on reclaimed land and having been subject to various highly disturbing works and land use, there is very little potential for in situ natural soil profiles or archaeological deposits to be present.

Regardless of the low archaeological potential, should intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits or objects be found to be present within the study area, these may have moderate research potential for their ability to provide evidence for, and insight into, Aboriginal occupation and use of the locality prior to 1788.

Rarity

An Aboriginal artefact deposit, consistent with a background scatter derived from general occupation and use of the surrounding area, would be unlikely to be considered rare in the wider Sydney context.

Representativeness

Should intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits be present within the study area, these may be representative of the use of the study area by Aboriginal people. However, this would depend on the presence and condition of an Aboriginal archaeological deposit within this location, which is highly unlikely as the study area is situated on highly disturbed and reclaimed land.

Educational Potential

This criterion is unable to be assessed prior to further understanding as to whether an Aboriginal archaeological deposit may be present within the study area or not.

Archaeological Potential

Should the study area present with an intact Aboriginal archaeological deposit, this could potentially contribute further to the archaeological understanding of Aboriginal site use and occupation habits in the region. Therefore, the study area may be of moderate significance when considered as part of a wider Aboriginal archaeological landscape within the Darling Harbour area, however this would require further investigation for confirmation.

Summary of Scientific Value

Whilst there is a low likelihood of Aboriginal archaeological deposits to be present within the study area, if found to survive, would have the potential to contribute knowledge regarding Aboriginal occupation, land use and resource gathering in the area prior to the arrival and establishment of the NSW colony.

Overall, it is not possible to determine the nature and extent of any Aboriginal archaeological deposits in the study area without investigating the site physically. However, should an archaeological deposit be present, it would potentially be of moderate research potential and potentially moderate significance as part of the wider Aboriginal landscape.

5.1.4. Aesthetic Value

The study area is situated within a highly urban context with no environmentally intact landscape. However, the proximity to Darling Harbour offers contextual aesthetic value and accordingly, the study area is assessed to meet this criterion at a local level.

This assessment of aesthetic significance may be updated following RAP review and input into this ACHAR.

5.2. Statement of Significance

Social, cultural and spiritual values of a site can only be identified through consultation with Aboriginal people. However, it is likely that should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit be present within the study area, it would be viewed to be of high social and cultural significance by the Aboriginal community, providing a direct and tangible link to past Aboriginal life and activity in the Darling Harbour area.

While there is little historical evidence regarding Aboriginal historical use of the study area and surrounds prior to 1788, it is evident that it was an area rich with resources (marine, freshwater and land) and would have been a central area for the local Aboriginal population. Therefore, Aboriginal archaeological deposits, if found to be located within the study area, may be of historical value.

Should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit be found to be present within the study area, this may have moderate scientific significance for its ability to provide evidence for and insight into Aboriginal occupation and use of the locality prior to 1788, representative of the study area as part of the wider Aboriginal cultural landscape of the Darling Harbour and wider Sydney area.

The study area may have aesthetic value to the local Aboriginal community in the context of the wider Sydney Aboriginal landscape and direct association with Darling Harbour.

Should Aboriginal archaeological deposits be found to be present within the study area, they may potentially have aesthetic significance for the technological form of the artefacts, or as potentially considered useful for educational and interpretive purposes.

These criteria will continue to be assessed following RAP review and input into this ACHAR and following archaeological investigations.

6. Conservation and Impact Assessment

6. Conservation and Impact Assessment

As noted by Heritage NSW, it is important that an impact assessment directly addresses the potential harm that an activity may pose to an Aboriginal place, object, site or archaeological deposit.

6.1. Ecologically Sustainable Development

One of the aims of the NPW Act (Section 2A(1)(b)(i)) is to 'conserve places, objects and features of significance of Aboriginal people'. One of the ways in which this objective can be achieved is via the consideration of the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD). ESD is defined in Section 6 of the Protection of the Environmental Administration Act 1991 (NSW), as requiring the integration of both economic and environmental considerations (including cultural heritage) in the decision-making process for a development, with an aim to achieving balanced and beneficial outcomes for both development and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

ESD can be achieved with regards to Aboriginal cultural heritage, by applying the precautionary principle and the principle of inter-generational equity to the nature of the proposed activity, in relation to the Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeological values of a site.

6.1.1. Precautionary Principle

The precautionary principle states that if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation. In applying the precautionary principle, decisions should be guided by:

- *A careful evaluation to avoid, wherever practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment; and*
- *An assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options.*

The precautionary principle is relevant to DECC'S [now OEH] consideration of potential impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage where:

- *The proposal involves a risk of serious or irreversible damage to Aboriginal objects or places or to the value of those objects or places; and*
- *There is uncertainty about the Aboriginal cultural heritage values or scientific or archaeological values, including in relation to the integrity, rarity, or representativeness of the Aboriginal objects or places proposed to be impacted.*

Where this is the case, a precautionary approach should be taken and all cost-effective measures implemented to prevent or reduce damage to the objects/place (DECC 2009).

6.1.2. Intergenerational Equity

Intergenerational equity is the principle whereby the present generations should ensure the health, diversity and productivity of the environment for the benefit of future generations.

In terms of Aboriginal heritage, intergenerational equity can be considered in terms of the cumulative impacts to Aboriginal objects and places in a region. If few

Aboriginal objects and places remain in a region (for example, because of impacts under previous AHIPs), fewer opportunities remain for future generations of Aboriginal people to enjoy the cultural benefits of those Aboriginal objects and places.

Information about the integrity, rarity or representativeness of the Aboriginal objects and places proposed to be impacted, and how they illustrate the occupation and use of land by Aboriginal people across the region, will be relevant to the consideration of intergenerational equity and the understanding of the cumulative impacts of a proposal.

*Where there is uncertainty, the precautionary principle should also be followed.
(DECC 2009)*

6.2. Proposed Activity

The SSDA1 proposal seeks approval for the following key components and development parameters:

- Bulk earthworks to enable the construction of the redeveloped Harbourside Shopping Centre building, including demolition of the ground level slab; and
- Construction of retaining structures for the excavated site.



Figure 6.1: Context Image of Proposed Development
Source: Mirvac 2020

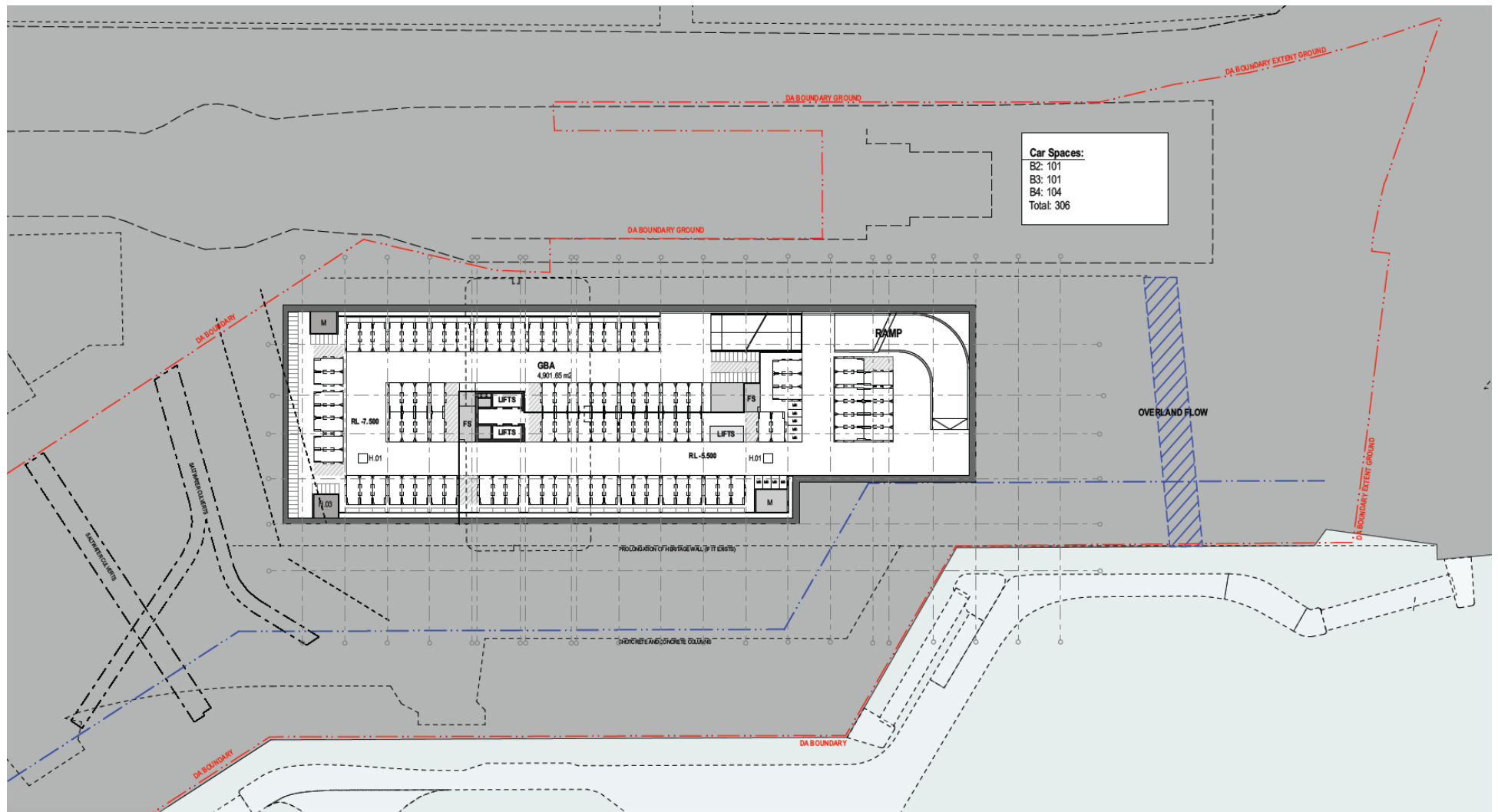


Figure 6.3: Indicative Basement Level 3
Source: FJMT 2020

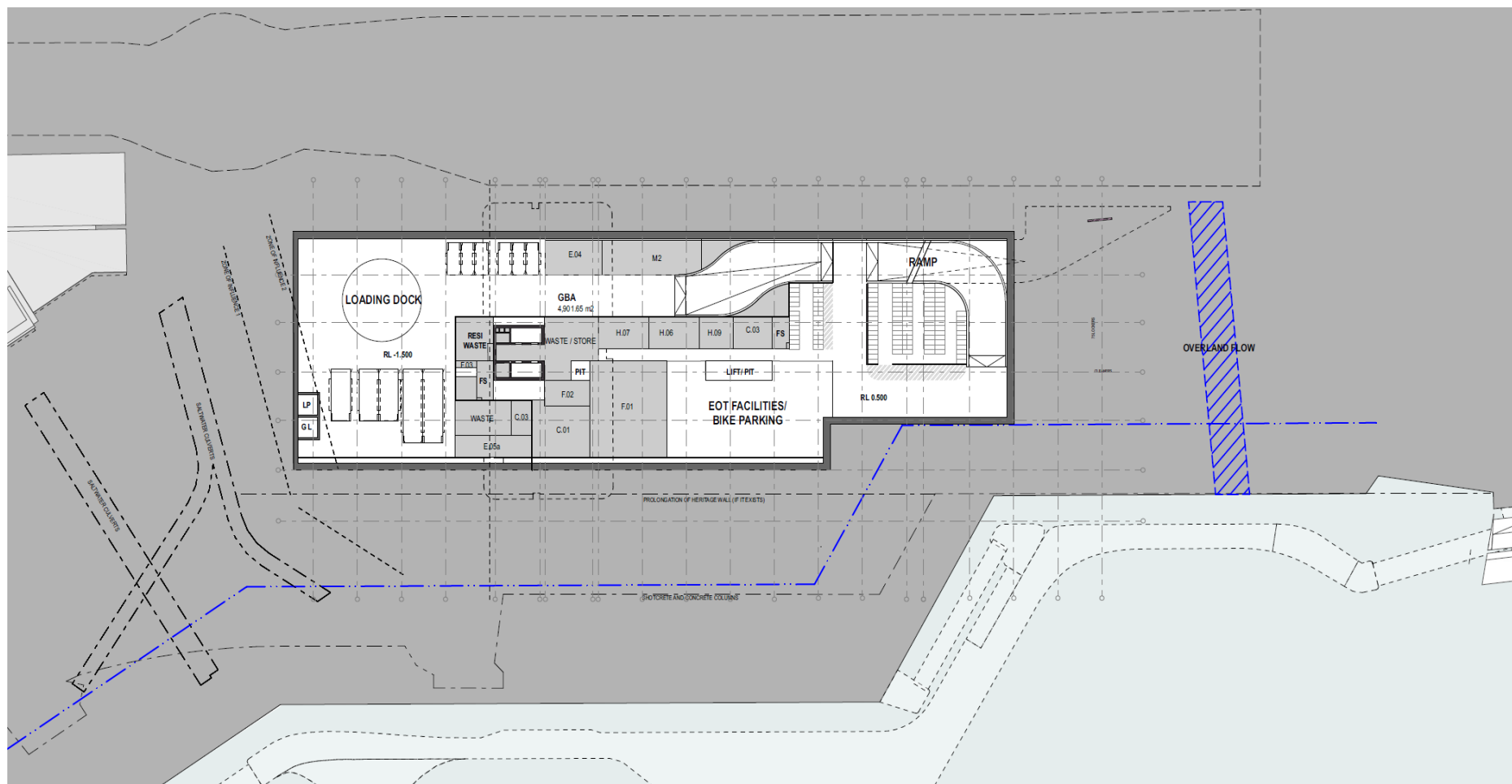


Figure 6.5: Indicative Basement Level 1
Source: FJMT 2020

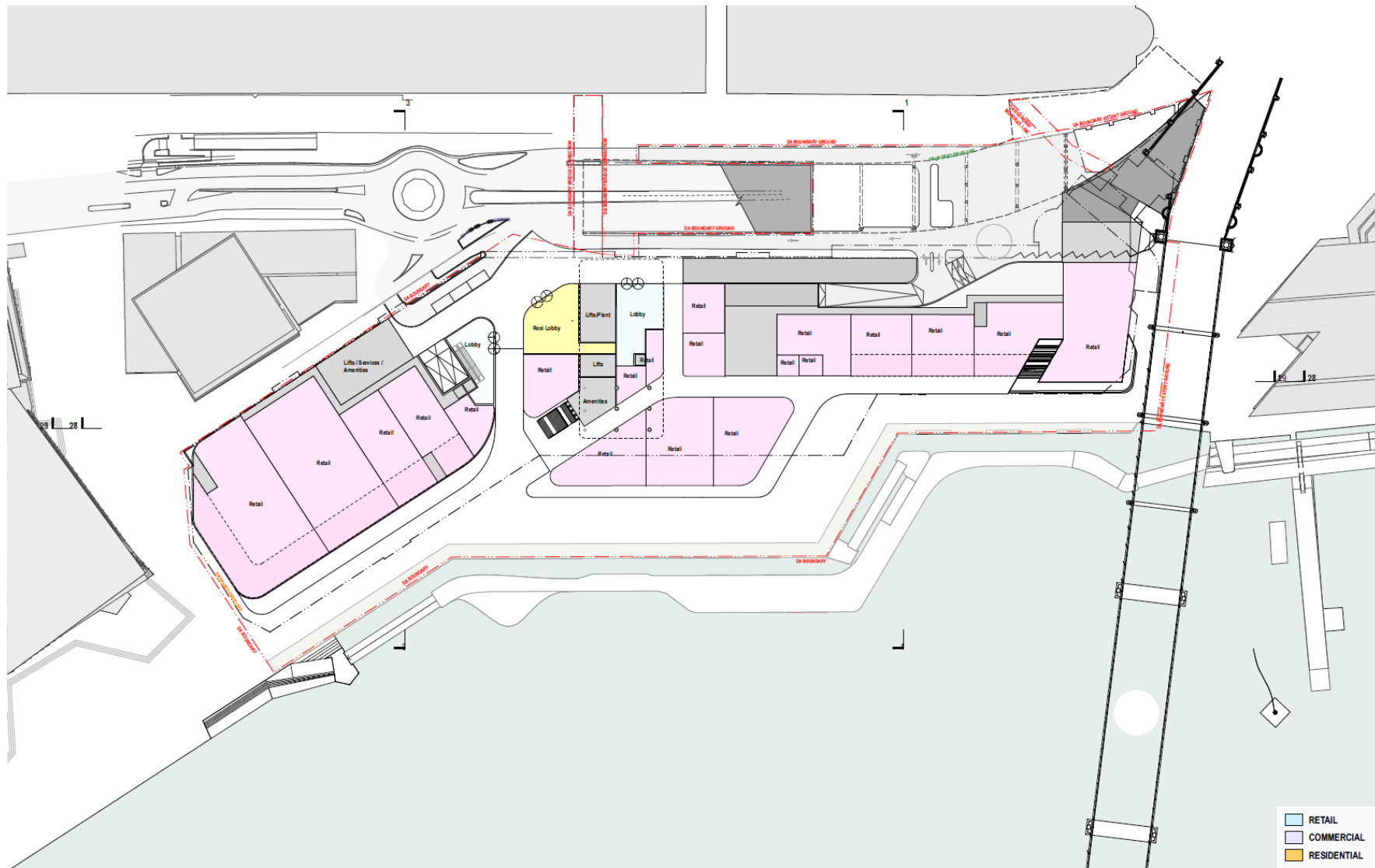


Figure 6.6: Indicative Ground Floor Plan
Source: FJMT 2020

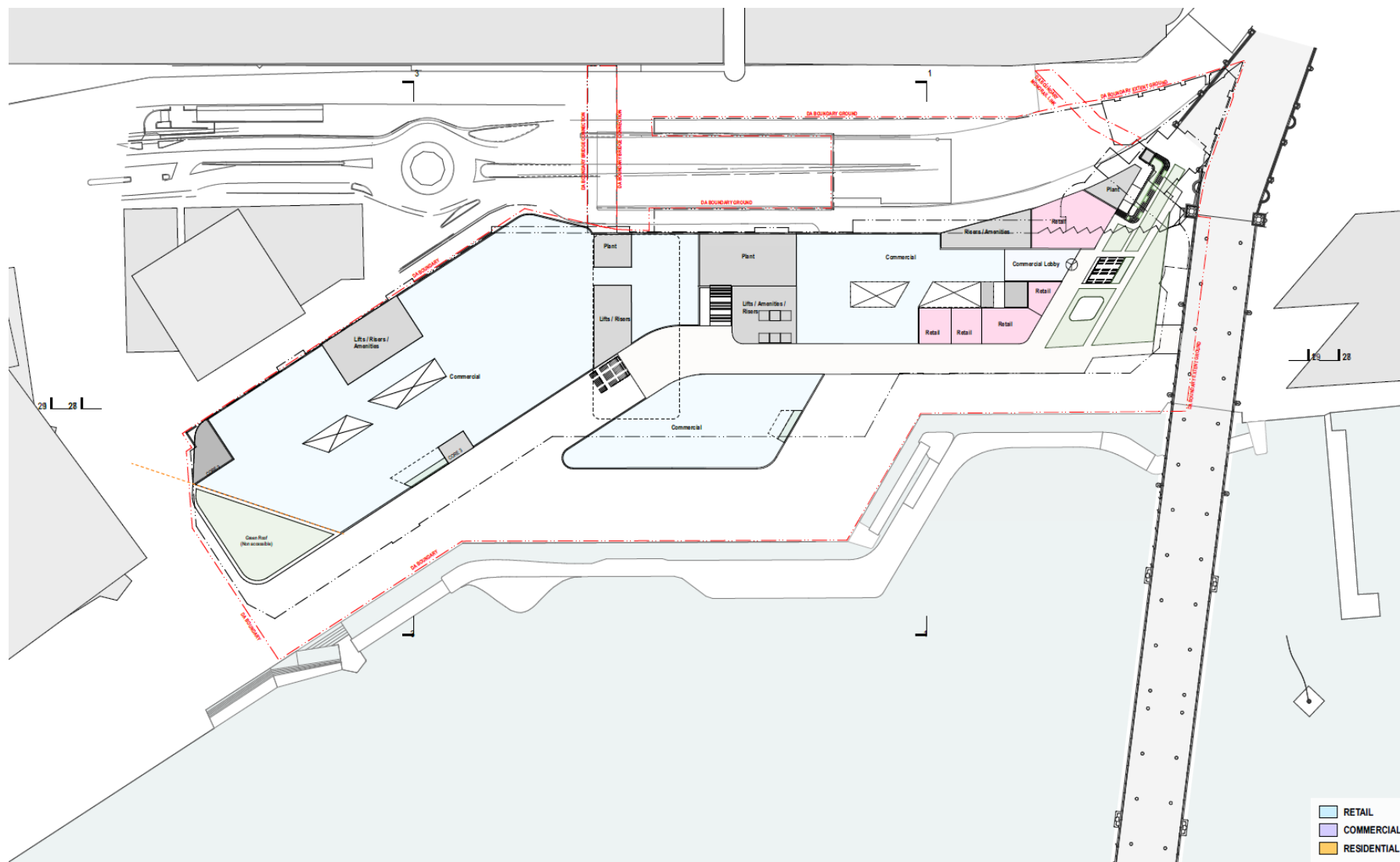


Figure 6.8: Indicative Level 2 Retail
Source: FJMT 2020

LEGEND

- EXISTING SITE BOUNDARY (LOT BOUNDARY)
- APPROX. LOCATION OF WALL BELOW PROMENADE
- - - STAGE 1 DA - DA BOUNDARY EXTENT
(APPROVED APPLICATION SSD 7874)
- - - STAGE 1 DA - DA BASEMENT ENVELOPE EXTENT
(APPROVED APPLICATION SSD 7874)
- - - EXISTING SALTWATER CULVERTS
AND ZONES OF INFLUENCE
- PROPOSED DISCHARGE LOCATION
- XL ESTIMATED FINAL EXCAVATION RELATIVE LEVEL

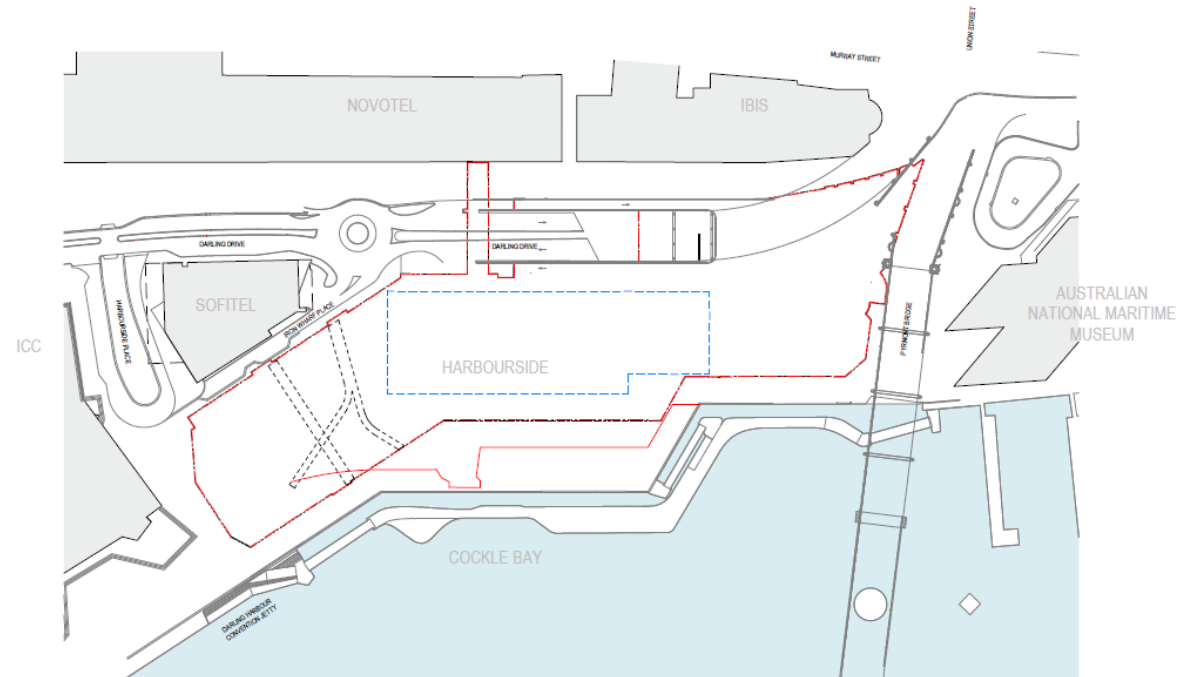


Figure 6.13: Site Plan
Source: Snohetta 2022

LEGEND

- EXISTING SITE BOUNDARY (LOT BOUNDARY)
- APPROX. LOCATION OF WALL BELOW PROMENADE
- - - STAGE 1 DA - DA BOUNDARY EXTENT (APPROVED APPLICATION SSD 7574)
- - - STAGE 1 DA - DA BASEMENT ENVELOPE EXTENT (APPROVED APPLICATION SSD 7574)
- - - EXISTING SALTWATER CULVERTS AND ZONES OF INFLUENCE
- ▨ EXTENT OF DEMOLITION

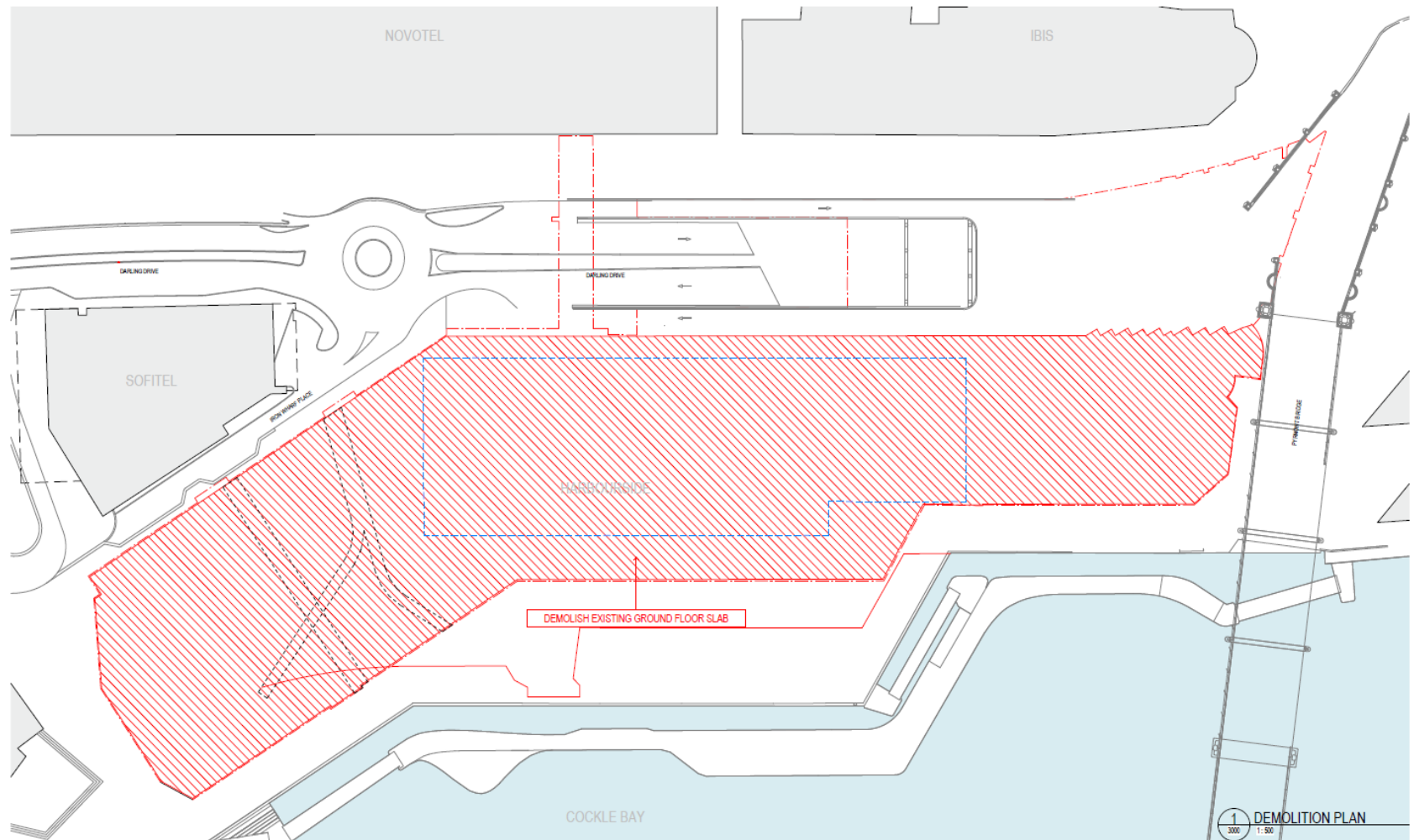


Figure 6.14: Demolition Plan
Source: Snohetta 2022

LEGEND

- EXISTING SITE BOUNDARY (LOT BOUNDARY)
- APPROX. LOCATION OF WALL BELOW PROMENADE
- - - STAGE 1 DA - DA BOUNDARY EXTENT
(APPROVED APPLICATION SSD 7874)
- - - STAGE 1 DA - DA BASEMENT ENVELOPE EXTENT
(APPROVED APPLICATION SSD 7874)
- - - EXISTING SALTWATER CULVERTS
AND ZONES OF INFLUENCE
- PROPOSED DISCHARGE LOCATION
- XL ESTIMATED FINAL EXCAVATION RELATIVE LEVEL

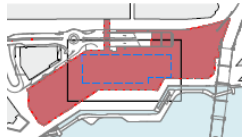
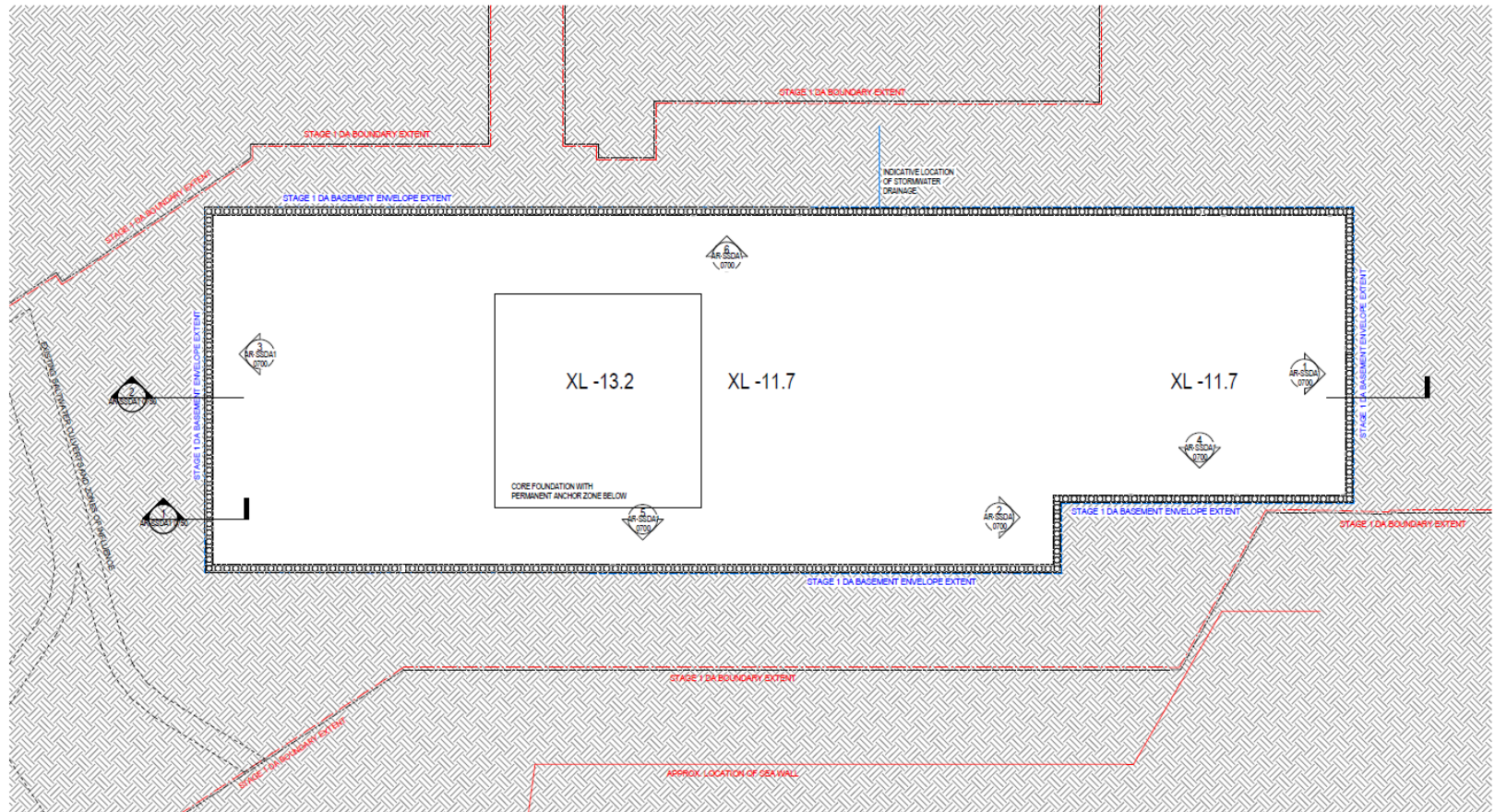


Figure 6.15: Site Excavation Plan
Source: Snohetta 2022

LEGEND

- EXISTING SITE BOUNDARY (LOT BOUNDARY)
- APPROX. LOCATION OF WALL BELOW PROMENADE
- - - STAGE 1 DA - DA BOUNDARY EXTENT (APPROVED APPLICATION SSD 7874)
- - - STAGE 1 DA - DA BASEMENT ENVELOPE EXTENT (APPROVED APPLICATION SSD 7874)
- - - EXISTING SALTYWATER OULVERTS AND ZONES OF INFLUENCE
- PROPOSED DISCHARGE LOCATION
- XL ESTIMATED FINAL EXCAVATION RELATIVE LEVEL

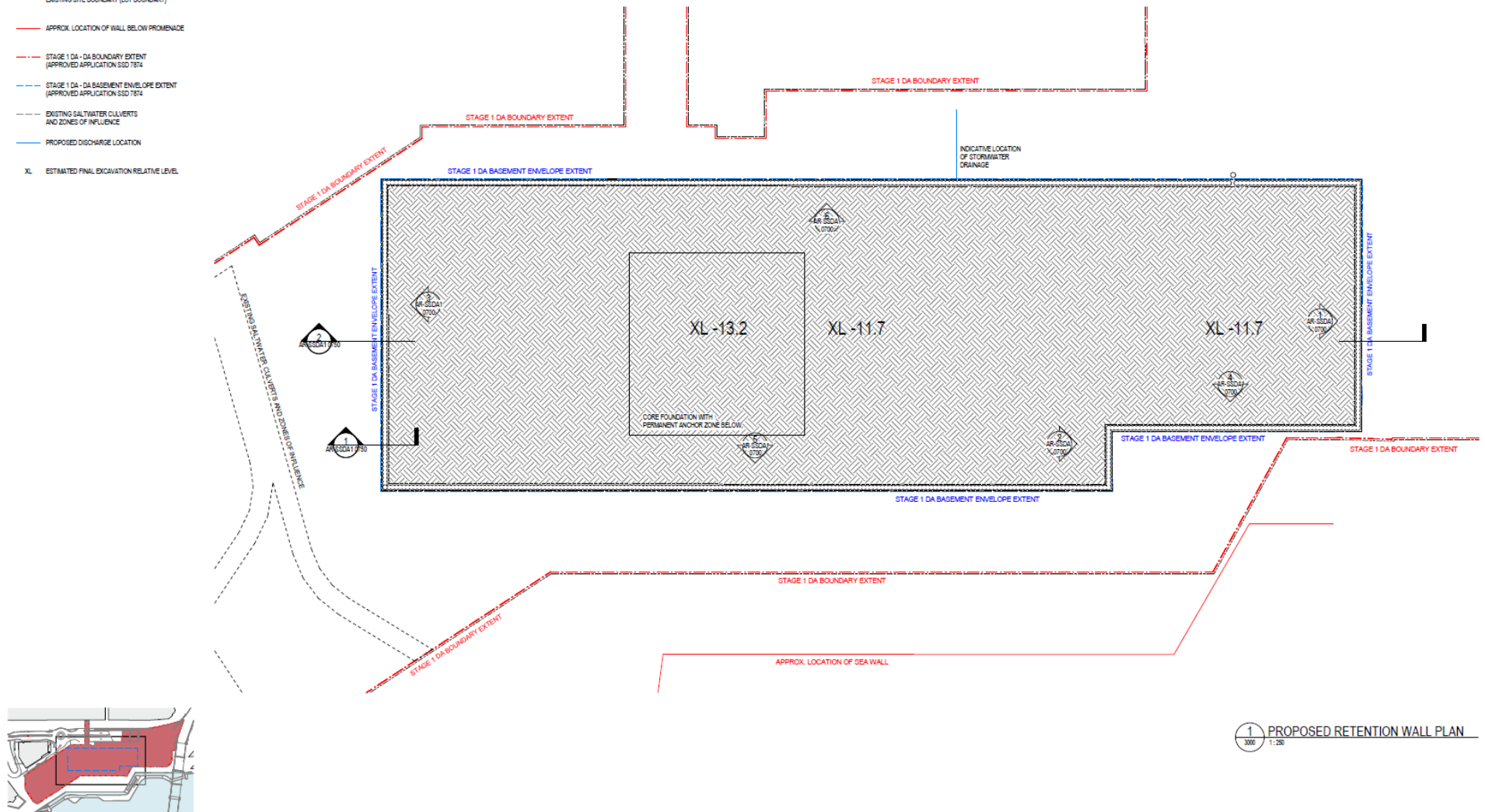


Figure 6.16: Proposed Retention Wall
Source: Snohetta 2022

LEGEND

- STAGE 1 DA - DA BASEMENT ENVELOPE EXTENT (APPROVED APPLICATION SSD 7574)
- ZONE INDICATIVE OF MAIN WORKS BUILDING SUBJECT TO A SEPARATE DA SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL

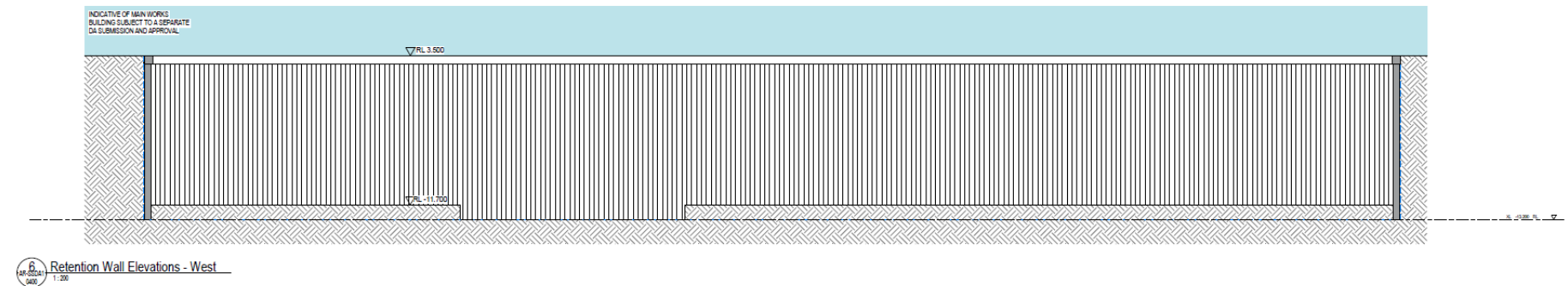
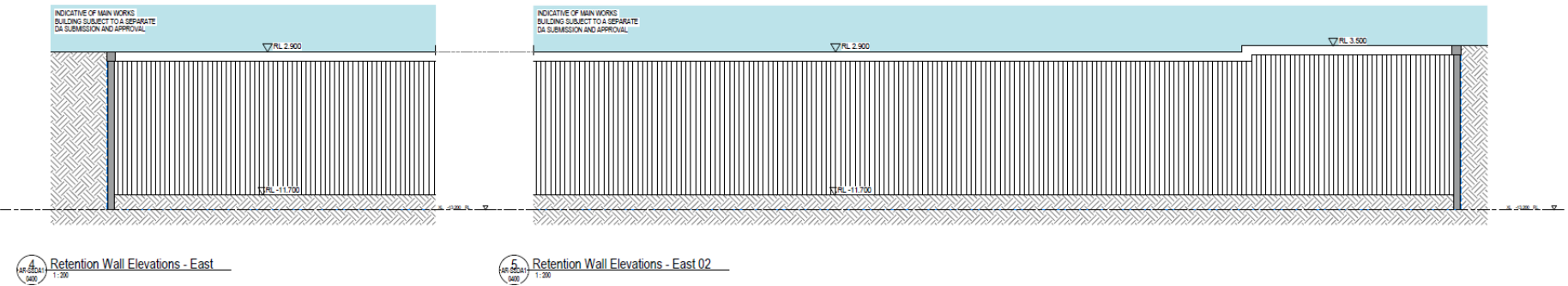
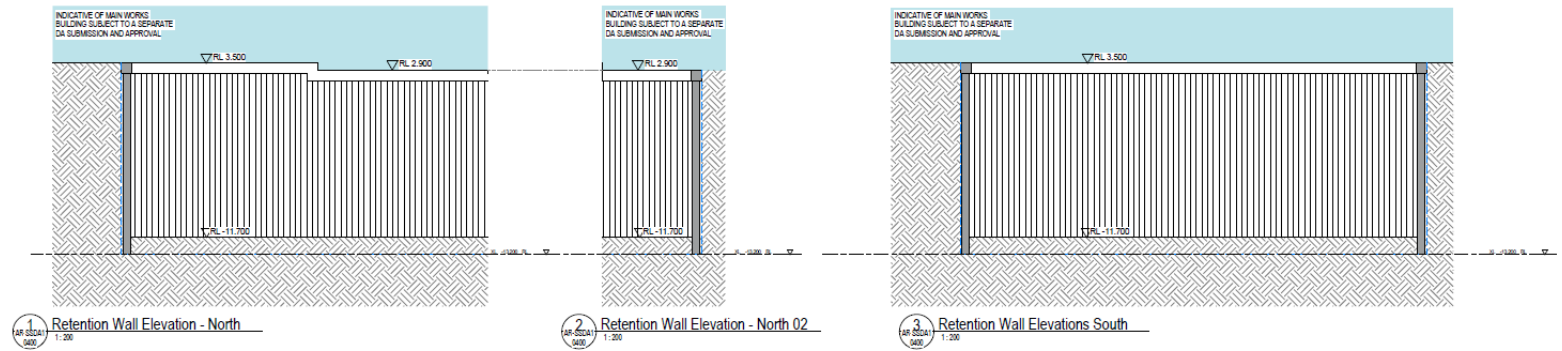


Figure 6.17: Retention Wall Elevations
Source: Snohetta 2022

LEGEND

- STAGE 1 DA - DA BASEMENT ENVELOPE EXTENT
(APPROVED APPLICATION SSD 7874)
- INDICATIVE OF BELOW GROUND BUILDING SUBJECT TO A
SEPARATE DA (MAIN WORKS) SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL
- ZONE INDICATIVE OF MAIN WORKS BUILDING SUBJECT
TO A SEPARATE DA SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL
- XL ESTIMATED FINAL EXCAVATION RELATIVE LEVEL

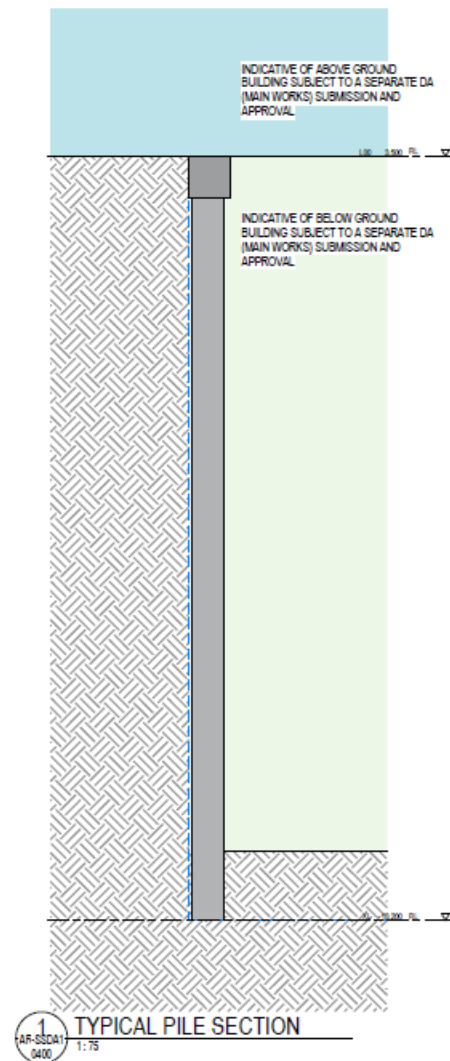


Figure 6.18: Pile Section
Source: Snohetta 2022

6.3. Avoiding and Minimising Harm

While the provisions of the NPW Act hinge predominately on the presence and protection of physical Aboriginal sites (i.e. an AHIP provides a defence against 'harm' to Aboriginal objects), an effective and holistic assessment of potential impact to Aboriginal cultural heritage values as posed by a development is really two-fold:

- The physical and archaeological values of the site (tangible heritage); and
- The wider social and cultural impact of a development within a landscape (often relating to more intangible Aboriginal heritage values, lacking material evidence).

6.3.1. Potential Impact to Aboriginal Objects/Sites/Archaeology

Development activities with the potential to impact Aboriginal sites and/or potential archaeology are those that extend below the ground surface. Bulk excavation works have the highest potential to impact soil profiles, especially potentially natural remnant profiles that hold the potential to contain Aboriginal archaeology (either partially or wholly).

Whilst the study area has not been previously subjected to extensive excavation works (i.e. bulk excavation for basements etc.) it has been subject to extensive disturbance through land reclamation and modification of the shoreline. Despite this, the western half of the study area still has potential for intact natural soil profiles to be retained, which is also supported by geotechnical investigation results. Therefore, there is potential for Aboriginal archaeological deposits associated with these natural soil profiles to be present within the study area.

The surrounding area would have been attractive to Aboriginal use due to available resources such as reliable fresh water and land and marine animals. The study area retains a low potential for middens and artefact scatters and isolated finds sites to be present within the natural undisturbed soil profiles, representative of ephemeral movement of people through the area as a natural resource zone.

Should such deposits be found to be present within remnant natural soil profiles across the study area, these may have potential for moderate to high social, historical, and scientific significance, depending on the nature of the resource present. Therefore, should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit prove to be present within the study area, it will be impacted by the bulk excavation works proposed by the development.

Overall, the proposed development works (including bulk excavation works) are assessed to have low potential to encounter or impact heritage sites or objects.

- Bulk earthworks to enable the construction of the redeveloped Harbourside Shopping Centre building, including demolition of the ground level slab; and
- Construction of retaining structures for the excavated site.

Table 6.1: Type and Degree of Impact and Harm that Development Activities may cause to Aboriginal Sites

Activity	Type of Harm	Degree of Harm	Consequence of Harm
Bulk Excavation (Basement)	Direct	Partial (TBC)	Partial loss of value (dependant on nature of disturbed terrain and

			presence of archaeological deposits)
Construction of retaining structures	Direct	Partial (TBC)	Partial loss of value (dependant on nature of disturbed terrain and presence of archaeological deposits)

6.3.2. Potential Impact to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values

As discussed in the introduction to this section above, intangible Aboriginal heritage values of a site or area are as important to the local Aboriginal community, if not more important, as the more tangible and physical evidence of Aboriginal life and culture that remains in the landscape.

At the time of writing, no cultural or social values have been expressed as being connected to/associated with the study area specifically. Should any values be identified in association with the study area, these values are likely to relate to the location of the study area within the wider cultural landscape of the Pymont area, rather than any specific values inherent within the land of the study area itself and are therefore unlikely to be impacted by the nature of the proposed development.

6.4. Proposed Conservation (Avoidance)

The study area retains a low potential for intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits to be present in a subsurface capacity, as well as in disturbed contexts within upper disturbed soil profiles. The current proposed works and development includes the proposal for bulk excavation within the study area. Therefore, should Aboriginal archaeology be present within the study area, it will be unable to be conserved or avoided by the proposed works

However, as discussed in the section above, with respect to intangible Aboriginal cultural heritage values, the development presents an opportunity to conserve, enhance, and improve communication and celebration of Aboriginal cultural heritage values via integration into the design concept, heritage interpretation initiatives, and overall approach to the development.

6.5. Harm to Aboriginal Objects and Values

There are no registered Aboriginal sites located within the study area. While there is a low to nil potential for intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits to remain within the study area, should such deposits be found to be present, these may have potential for moderate to high social, historical and scientific significance.

Table 6.2: Potential Harm to Aboriginal Sites/Objects and Values

Site	Type of Harm	Degree of Harm	Consequence of Harm
Potential Archaeological Deposit	Direct	Total (if present only)	TBC

7. Management, Mitigation and Recommendations

7. Management, Mitigation and Recommendations

This report relates specifically to the proposed development impacts of the Harbourside Shopping Centre project, in relation to potential Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage impacts and provides recommendations for management and mitigation of development impacts, both archaeologically (i.e., ground disturbing works), as well as culturally (i.e., opportunities for Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretation within the site redevelopment).

7.1. Mitigation Measures

Measures that can be applied to a site of this nature in order to mitigate impact to Aboriginal cultural values and/or potential archaeology include (but are not limited to) the following strategies:

- **An Unexpected Finds Procedure** to be enacted for all works within the Project area. Should Aboriginal objects or natural soil landforms be identified or suspected during works, all works are to cease immediately and the Unexpected Finds Procedure (Appended to this document) be followed. This applies to historic archaeological test excavations proposed within the study area.
- Identification of opportunities for **Aboriginal Heritage Interpretation** to facilitate a long-term conservation outcome for Aboriginal cultural heritage values (tangible and intangible) within the proposed development, beneficial to the development, the project RAPs and the wider local Aboriginal community.

7.1.1. Unexpected Finds Procedure

Due to the unlikely event that Aboriginal archaeological material will be found within the study area, an unexpected finds policy will be put into place in order to help manage and mitigate situations, should they arise during the proposed works.

This procedure applies to the discovery of any unexpected Aboriginal objects, natural soil landforms or any other signs or evidence of Aboriginal occupation across the study area. It applies to all Harbourside Shopping Centre redevelopment activities. This procedure must be followed by all project staff, contractors, subcontractors or any person undertaking work for the Harbourside project.

In the event that an unexpected find is encountered, the steps outlined below must be followed:

Unexpected Archaeological Deposit/Artefacts

Aboriginal sites and objects are protected in NSW under the provisions of the NPW Act. Therefore, should any unexpected archaeological deposits be encountered during construction works, after completion of the excavation works, the following policy should be implemented.

1. Cease works in the immediate vicinity of the find.
2. Contact the project archaeologists to verify the nature of the find.
3. If an Unexpected Find is confirmed as Aboriginal archaeology, the project archaeologist will notify project RAPs and Heritage NSW of the find. If the find is confirmed as not Aboriginal in origin, the project archaeologist will provide advice for works to recommence.

4. Project RAPs and project archaeologist will undertake a preliminary assessment and recording of the find.
5. Formulate archaeological or heritage management plan – specific to the nature of the find. Implement archaeological/heritage management plan.
6. Works may commence once archaeological/heritage management plan has been successfully implemented and the project archaeologist provides sign off to the contractor for works to resume in vicinity of the find.

Unexpected Human Remains

While it is acknowledged through the AHIMS search that there are burial sites in proximity to the study area, there are still steps in place in the event that potential human skeletal remains are encountered during either archaeological excavation or development works should be undertaken in accordance with the approved protocol for the discovery of human remains, which is stated as:

If any human remains are disturbed in, on, or under the land, you must:

- a) *Not further disturb or move these remains.*
- b) *Immediately cease all work at the particular location.*
- c) *Notify NSW Police.*
- d) *Notify Heritage NSW as soon as practicable and provide available details of the remains and their location.*
- e) *Not recommence any work at the particular location unless authorised in writing by Heritage NSW.*

In addition to these requirements, should suspected Aboriginal skeletal remains be uncovered during archaeological excavation or development construction works, project RAPs must be notified.

7.1.2. Aboriginal Heritage Interpretation

While physical strategies such as archaeological excavation of cultural materials and protection of sites can be applied to mitigate the impacts of development to tangible Aboriginal cultural heritage values, consideration should also be given to opportunities to help mitigate wider impacts to intangible aspects of Aboriginal cultural heritage values and significance across the study area.

Implementation of Aboriginal heritage interpretation strategies is common within many developments of NSW and can aid in the mitigation of the wider cumulative impact of development to intangible Aboriginal cultural values and tradition, encouraging wider celebration and acknowledgement of the rich traditions of Aboriginal people, specific to the traditional culture of the study area itself. Common approaches to Aboriginal heritage interpretation are often contingent on physical structures and community spaces within a development, appropriate for installation of physical displays of Aboriginal heritage, such as art, signage, stories, gardens, place naming etc.

Identified Aboriginal heritage interpretation could assist in reducing and mitigating the overall impact to Aboriginal cultural heritage values held at the Harbourside Shopping Centre study area.

Appropriate opportunities would be those capable of contributing to positive, long-lasting outcomes for the Aboriginal community, and to the knowledge and celebration of the Aboriginal peoples of the region, while also providing a positive outcome for the proponent.

7.2. Management of Aboriginal Objects

If archaeological deposits are found, there are several options when it comes to the long-term management and curation of Aboriginal objects. The suitability of each option depends on a number of factors including the nature of the development, the significance and extent of the deposit, and the wishes of the project RAs.

7.3. Conclusions and Recommendations

This report relates specifically to the proposed development works of the Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour in relation to potential Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage impacts. The following conclusions and recommendations are made based on:

- Legislation as detailed and adhered to through this ACHAR, including the NPW Act, EP&A Act, and relevant Heritage NSW statutory guidelines, protecting Aboriginal cultural and archaeological objects and places in NSW.
- Background research and archaeological analysis of the study area in its local and regional contexts.
- Consultation with the local Aboriginal community regarding the cultural significance of the study area and surrounding Darling Harbour region, noting their concern, views and requests.
- Providing general assessment on the Harbourside Shopping Centre study area as a guide for the proponent for the proposed development works.

7.3.1. Conclusions

This ACHAR documents the process of investigation, consultation, and assessment with regards to Aboriginal cultural heritage and Aboriginal archaeology, as undertaken for the Harbourside Shopping Centre project and proposed development works.

- The study area is located on the southeastern edge of the Pyrmont peninsula, directly along the western shoreline of Darling Harbour.
- The study area is located on the soil landscape profile of 'Disturbed Terrain', underlain by Quaternary Alluvium. The western boarder of the study area aligns approximately with the boundary between the Disturbed Terrain and Deep Creek soil profiles.
- While the area was not developed extensively until the late 1800s, early historical accounts provide evidence that extensive use was made of the shell middens that lined the bay to provide mortar in lime kilns for civic development programs for early colony.
- The Pyrmont peninsula would definitely have been a focus for Aboriginal occupation and habitation prior to 1788, however, the study area itself is located across the boundary between the original shoreline and reclaimed land (part of the extensive land reclamation process that was undertaken across the Sydney estuary in the 1800s to enable development of the harbour, wharfage and associated industries).

- The study area was subject to extensive industrial use from the 1850s following the construction of rail lines into Pyrmont, and the development of the Darling Harbour Railway Goods Yard, rail tracks and neighbouring industrial services and yards.
- While the study area is likely located right at the edge of what once would have been the original shoreline, land reclamation processes would have removed, covered or disturbed all Aboriginal cultural deposits, if they were once present at this location. In addition, it is likely that the majority of the study area would have been a swamp and estuarine environment that would not have been suitable for human occupation.
- The study area does not contain any previously registered Aboriginal sites, as per an AHIMS search.
- A geotechnical investigation was undertaken within the study area in 2021 and concluded that the site is underlain by between 2.7 m and 11.9 m of fill which appears to have been placed over either a thin layer of natural soil or bedrock. The fill is generally sandy with varying proportions of gravel, boulders and clay. The natural soils comprise soft clays and loose sands, with some organic clay encountered. This is generally consistent with disturbed soil profiles, even with natural elements present.
- While the Darling Quarter site was similarly located to the current study area, along the original shoreline of Cockle Bay, the site lay closer to the head of the cove, along the eastern side of the bay, and immediately adjacent to a documented and relatively undisturbed area of the Gynea soil profile. Conversely, the current study area is located along the western shoreline of Darling Harbour, adjacent to the sandstone peninsula of Pyrmont and in conjunction with mapped disturbed soil profiles associated with land reclamation.
- Aboriginal archaeological deposits, should they be present within the vicinity of the study area, would most likely be either stone artefact sites, shell middens or a combination of both. In order for these archaeological deposits to be present in situ, they would require the retention of natural soil profiles in the area that would be extant from 1788.
- While the study area boundary is immediately adjacent to a mapped area of the 'Deep Creek' soil profile, it is also highly unlikely that any natural soil profiles are retained in this location due to the nature of the industrial development along the western shoreline of Darling Harbour from the 1850s to the 1970s.
- The historical development at the study area including the large area of land reclamation within the study area itself, as well as the use of the area and surrounds for railway lines and the Darling Harbour Railway Goods Yards, indicates that there is a low potential for natural intact soil profiles to be retained in the area, however geotechnical investigations have demonstrated that there are thin layers/pockets of natural profiles and materials present deep under disturbed historical fill. The soil landscape mapping of the region is consistent with this assessment, as the study area is mapped to lie within 'Disturbed Terrain'.
- This ACAHR has found that the study area can be divided into two zones of archaeological potential. The descriptions are as follows:

- **Zone 1** – portions of the study area situated along the Disturbed Terrain soil profile and identified reclamation lands. This ACHAR has identified that this zone has **low to nil potential** for subsurface Aboriginal cultural material to be present.
- **Zone 2** – portions of the study area that are situated along the original shoreline of Darling Harbour. This section is still classified as being within the Disturbed Terrain landscape with land reclamation works, and also borders the Deep Creek soil profile to the southwest. This ACHAR has identified that this zone has **low potential** for subsurface Aboriginal cultural material to be present where pockets of residual natural soils may remain within the historical fill and land reclamation.
- As presented in Section 6, the main development works with the potential to disturb the ground surface will be the proposed bulk excavation works in the centre of the study area, resulting in a large portion of the study area being affected by the ground disturbing works. The original shoreline runs along the southern end of where the proposed bulk excavation will occur.

7.3.2. Recommendations

The following overall recommendations are made regarding future management and mitigation of Aboriginal cultural heritage values within the Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour study area, including Aboriginal community consultation, ethnohistorical and environmental context, predictive modelling, heritage significance assessment and impact assessment, in accordance with relevant Heritage NSW statutory guidelines. It is recommended that:

- While archaeological potential is low, should an aboriginal archaeological find be present within the study area, this may hold moderate to high significance, and therefore it is important to have management strategies (such as the Unexpected Finds Procedure and heritage interpretation strategies provided).
- The management strategies as briefly mentioned through this ACHAR have been prepared with the anticipation that they will help guide SSDA plans.
- Should the historical archaeological investigation works (as per the Curio 2021 Historical AA) identify or suspect Aboriginal objects or natural landforms, the Unexpected Finds Procedure is to be enacted and Aboriginal archaeological monitoring and/or test excavation of the location may be required.
- Continuing consultation with the identified RAPs should be undertaken throughout the project.
- A copy of the final ACHAR should be submitted to all project RAPs for their information and records.

8. References

8. References

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Appendix A – Aboriginal Community Consultation Log

APPENDIX A – Aboriginal Consultation Log

Stage 1 – Notification of Project Proposal and Registration of Interest

Stage 1.1 – List of Aboriginal Stakeholders

Statutory Body	Contact	Date Sent	Date Reply	Comment
Heritage NSW (former Office of Environment & Heritage Regional Office)		8.2.22	16.2.22	Please find attached the DPC RAP list for Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour – City of Sydney LGA.
Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council		8.2.22		No response – reminder email sent 19.2.22
City of Sydney Council		8.2.22		No response – reminder email sent 19.2.22
Greater Sydney Local Land Services		8.2.22		No response – reminder email sent 19.2.22
National Native Title Tribune	N/A	8.2.22	8.2.22	Search of Native Titles, no current native title claims or determinations
Native Title Service Corp		8.2.22		No response – reminder email sent 19.2.22
The Registrar, Aboriginal Lands Rights Act		8.2.22		No response – reminder email sent 19.2.22

Stage 1.2 – Newspaper Advertisement

Statutory Body	Date Sent	Date Advertised
'BuySearchSell' in association with the Daily Telegraph		

A minimum of 14 days were allowed for Aboriginal people to respond to the newspaper advertisement.

Stage 1.3 and 1.4 – List of Aboriginal Groups/People from Stage 1.1 and 1.2 + Aboriginal Notification of Proposed Project & Offer to be Involved in Consultation

Organisation/Person	Contact	How Name was Obtained	Date Sent	Date Reply
Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council	Nathan Moran	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment	Gordon Morton	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Darug Land Observations	Jamie Workman & Anna Workman	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
A1 Indigenous Services	Carolyn Hickey	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Eric Keidge	Eric Keidge	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Phil Khan	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Tocomwall	Scott Franks	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Amanda Hickey Cultural Services	Amanda Hickey	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Gunya	Kylie Ann Bell	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Walbunja	Hika Te Kowhai	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	

Badu	Karia Lea Bond	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Goobah Developments	Basil Smith	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Wullung	Lee-Roy James Boota	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Yerramurra	Robert Parson	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Nundagurri	Newton Carriage	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Murrumbul	Mark Henry	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Jerringong	Joanne Anne Stewart	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Pemulwuy CHTS	Pemulwuy Johnson	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Bilinga	Simalene Carriage	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Munyunga	Kaya Dawn Bell	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Wingikara	Hayley Bell	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Minnamunnung	Aaron Broad	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
DJMD Consultancy	Darren Duncan	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Walgalu	Ronald Stewart	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Thauaira	Shane Carriage	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Dharug	Andrew Bond	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Gulaga	Wendy Smith	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Biamanga	Seli Storer	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Callendulla	Corey Smith	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Murramarang	Roxanne Smith	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation	Jennifer Beale	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	14.3.22

Didge Ngunawal Clan	Lillie Carroll & Paul Boyd	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	28.2.22
Ginninderra Aboriginal Corporation	Steven Johnson & Krystle Carroll	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Wailwan Aboriginal Group	Philip Boney	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation	Jody Kulakowski	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Thoorga Nura	John Carriage	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	4.3.22
B.H. Heritage Consultants	Ralph Hampton & Nola Hampton	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Darug Boorooberongal Elders Aboriginal Corporation	Paul Hand	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Goodradigbee Cultural & Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	Caine Carroll	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Mura Indigenous Corporation	Phillip Carroll	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Aragung Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Assessments	Jamie Eastwood	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Waarwaar Awaa Aboriginal Corporation	Rodney Gunther & Barry Gunther	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Clive Freeman	Clive Freeman	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	28.2.22
Ngambaa Cultural Connections	Kaarina Slater	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Wori Woilywa	Daniel Chalker	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	Justine Coplin	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	4.3.22
Bidjawong Aboriginal Corporation	James Carroll	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	
Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	Shayne Dickson	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	3.3.22
Mundawari Heritage Consultants	Dean Delponte	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	

Woka Aboriginal Corporation	Steven Johnson & Krystle Carroll	Heritage NSW	28.2.22	28.2.22
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Stage 1.5 – Registered Aboriginal Parties

Organisation/Person	Contact	Method Registered	Date Reply
Clive Freeman	Clive Freeman	Email	28.2.22 - Please register our interest in the project. If you would like anything further from us please don't hesitate to make contact
Didge Ngunawal Clan	Lillie Carroll & Paul Boyd	Email	28.2.22 - DNC would like Register an interest into the Darling Harbour project Harbourside shopping precinct
Woka Aboriginal Corporation	Steven Johnson	Email	28.2.22 - We are submitting our registration of Woka Aboriginal Corporation for full process on this project. We are all aboriginal people. We are all experienced Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Officers. We have worked with the National Parks & Wildlife, WaterNSW, RMS/TFNSW on numerous projects. We have our history & stories passed down to us by our Elders. We have assisted in surveys, salvage & consulting with archaeologists over a vast number of years. We are experienced in the field of identifying artefacts, Including our learned history and knowledge passed down. We appreciate the opportunity to be part of protecting and preserving our Aboriginal heritage. We are very proud of our heritage and culture passed to us by our Ancestors. We are therefore pleased with being a part of this research and to provide our experience and knowledge. Our organisation has the current Public liability insurance and is WHS compliant, with all member's holding white cards and required PPE. All our members are extremely experienced in the identification of Aboriginal artefacts and have worked with numerous Archeologists in field surveys, including test and salvage excavations on fieldwork. We are very passionate about our ancestral land and our conservation of our history matters the upmost to us. We hold strong links to our ancestors, our culture and our heritage. We are motivated to share our history with our current generation and future generations to pass down to our Mob. Please note we do not want our details

			<i>forwarded to LALC, please do not release our correspondence. Please register Woka Aboriginal Corporations name for this project. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.</i>
Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	Shayne Dickson	Email	3.3.22 - <i>Thank you for the invitation for Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour. Could you please register Gunjeewong for this project please.</i>
Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	Justine Coplin	Email	4.3.22 – <i>We would like to register our interest for full consultation and involvement in the project area</i>
Thoorga Nura	John Carriage	Email	4.3.22 - <i>Can you please register Thoorga Nura's interest in the community consultation for the Darling Harbour shopping centre project.</i>
Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation	Lowanna	Email	14.3.22 - <i>On behalf of Butucarbin, I would like to register interest in the project at Harbourside Shopping Centre.</i>

Stage 2 – Presentation of Information About Proposed Project

All RAPs were provided a copy of a document presenting the project information and proposed cultural heritage assessment methodology. All RAPs were provided with a minimum of 28 days (from the date of provision of methodology document) to provide feedback of the project information and proposed cultural heritage methodology document.

Submissions to the project information and methodology were documented, addressed where appropriate and included within the ACHAR.

Stage 3 – Gathering Information about Cultural Significance

RAPs were provided the cultural heritage assessment methodology at the same time as the project information, with a minimum of 28 days to provide feedback of the project information and proposed cultural heritage methodology document. Details including submissions and responses are summarised below:

Organisation/Person	Date Sent	Date Reply	Method of Reply	Comments
Clive Freeman	25.3.22		Email	Sent a reminder email on 18.4.22 with no response/feedback
Didge Ngunawal Clan	25.3.22		Email	Sent a reminder email on 18.4.22 with no response/feedback
Woka Aboriginal Corporation	25.3.22		Email	Sent a reminder email on 18.4.22 with no response/feedback
Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	25.3.22		Email	Sent a reminder email on 18.4.22 with no response/feedback
Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	25.3.22	29.3.22	Email	Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation support the recommendations set out in this report
Thoorga Nura	25.3.22		Email	Sent a reminder email on 18.4.22 with no response/feedback
Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation	25.3.22		Email	Sent a reminder email on 18.4.22 with no response/feedback

Stage 4 – Review of Draft Cultural Heritage Assessment Report

All RAPs were provided a copy of the draft ACHAR via email and provided 28 days from provision of the draft ACHAR for review. Comments received are detailed below. A copy of all written submissions received from project RAPs are attached to this appendix.

Organisation/Person	Date Sent	Date Reply	Method of Reply	Comments
Clive Freeman	30.5.22		Email	
Didge Ngunawal Clan	30.5.22	1.6.22	Email	DNC is happy with the ACHAR

Woka Aboriginal Corporation	30.5.22		Email	
Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	30.5.22		Email	
Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation	30.5.22	9.6.22	Email	Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation support the recommendations and methodology of the report
Thoorga Nura	30.5.22	1.6.22	Email	Thoorga Nura have no additional feedback or comments to contribute at this time
Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation	30.5.22		Email	

Appendix B – Extensive AHIMS Search Results



AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : harbourside project

Client Service ID : 671300

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status **	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
45-6-2647	KENS Site 1	AGD	56	333750	6250785	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		99857,100494, 102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting							
45-6-3762	Harrington IFS01	GDA	56	334178	6251888	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : 1	Permits 1428,1700	
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	AMAC Group P/L,Mr.Benjamin Streat							
45-6-2637	George street 1	AGD	56	333860	6249880	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		98238,102494, 102763,10276 5
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting							
45-6-3324	RBG PAD 1	GDA	56	334802	6251224	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1	Permits 1369	
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	AMAC Group P/L,Mr.Benjamin Streat							
45-6-2687	Crown Street PAD 1	AGD	56	334950	6250300	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting							
45-6-3116	Wynyard Walk PAD	GDA	56	333931	6251252	Open site	Destroyed	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1	Permits 2017	
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	GML Heritage Pty Ltd - Surry Hills,GML Heritage Pty Ltd - Surry Hills							
45-6-2742	171-193 Gloucester Street PAD	AGD	56	333926	6251461	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102763
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	Jim Wheeler							
45-6-2581	Angel Place	GDA	56	334223	6251138	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	97963,102494, 102763,10276 5
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting							
45-6-2960	Jackson Landing Shelter	GDA	56	332442	6250870	Closed site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -	Permits 918	102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	Mary Dallas Consulting Archaeologists (MDCA),Mr.Paul Irish							
45-6-3152	168-190 Day Street, Sydney PAD	GDA	56	333877	6250257	Open site	Not a Site	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	Mr.Josh Symons,Mr.Alex Timms							
45-6-1853	Lilyvale	AGD	56	333950	6251600	Open site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Midden	102763
	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Recorders</u>	Val Attenbrow,Andrew Ross							

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 29/03/2022 for Rebecca Agius for the following area at Lat, Long From : -33.8768, 151.1864 - Lat, Long To : -33.8592, 151.2173. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 24

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AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : harbourside project

Client Service ID : 671300

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status **	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
45-6-2651	William St PAD	AGD	56	334800	6250220	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	1589,1670	
45-6-3446	71 Macquarie Street PAD	GDA	56	334663	6251783	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	4285	
45-6-3705	Kent and Erskine St PAD	GDA	56	333876	6251145	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>		
45-6-2796	320-328 George St PAD	AGD	56	334100	6251050	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u> T Russell							<u>Permits</u>	2415	
45-6-3502	Loftus PAD 01	GDA	56	334551	6251635	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	4292	
45-6-3339	The Bays Precinct PAD01	GDA	56	332779	6250555	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>		
45-6-3338	The Bays Precinct PAD02	GDA	56	332354	6250885	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>		
45-6-2838	420 George Street PAD	AGD	56	334080	6250670	Open site	Not a Site	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	2654	
45-6-3327	RBG PAD 3	GDA	56	334957	6251832	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>		
45-6-2299	First Government House	GDA	56	334612	6251612	Open site	Valid	Burial : -, Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming : -, Artefact :-	Burial/s, Historic Place	102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>							<u>Permits</u>	4552	

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AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : harbourside project

Client Service ID : 671300

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status **	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
45-6-3081	200 George Street	GDA	56	334237	6251637	Open site	Not a Site	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		103114
	<u>Contact</u>			<u>Recorders</u>	Ms.Sally MacLennan			<u>Permits</u>	3577,3934,4239	
45-6-2783	PAD Central Royal Botanic Gardens	AGD	56	334900	6251030	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-		102494,10276 3,102765
	<u>Contact</u>			<u>Recorders</u>	Haglund and Associates			<u>Permits</u>	2364	
45-6-3217	Darling Central Midden	GDA	56	333530	6250101	Open site	Valid	Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming : 1, Artefact : 1, Shell : 1		
	<u>Contact</u>			<u>Recorders</u>	Comber Consultants Pty Limited,Ms.Tory Stening			<u>Permits</u>		

**** Site Status**

Valid - The site has been recorded and accepted onto the system as valid

Destroyed - The site has been completely impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There is nothing left of the site on the ground but proponents should proceed with caution.

Partially Destroyed - The site has been only partially impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There might be parts or sections of the original site still present on the ground

Not a site - The site has been originally entered and accepted onto AHIMS as a valid site but after further investigations it was decided it is NOT an aboriginal site. Impact of this type of site does not require permit but Heritage NSW should be notified

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 29/03/2022 for Rebecca Agius for the following area at Lat, Long From : -33.8768, 151.1864 - Lat, Long To : -33.8592, 151.2173. Number of
Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 24

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