

14 June 18

Sujata Bajracharya
Architect
Tonkin Zulaikha Greer Architects

Email: sujata@tzg.com.au

Dear Sujata,

RE: BLACKFRIARS CAMPUS, UTS - 4-12 BUCKLAND STREET,
CHIPPENDALE - HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF TREES AND
LANDSCAPING

As previously discussed, the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) prepared for the site by Paul Davies Pty Ltd in November 2015 included a Landscape Analysis (Section 2.10, page 52) which included the following wording:

Comparison of the two 1940s aerial photos with modern satellite photo of the site establishes that there are more trees and grassed areas on the site today than in the past. Prior to the 1943 aerial photo it appears that the site contained little landscaping.

The site was quite cluttered with utilitarian buildings and accretions to existing buildings, both brick and weatherboard, prior to 1990 and was extensively asphalted. The site today contains grassed areas and substantial trees (some of these trees evident in the 1943 and 1949 aerial photo above).

The soft landscaping except for the trees, is recent and of little heritage significance. The trees largely do not appear to have any heritage significance and many appear to be random or self-sown plantings. The exception is the large camphor laurel on the corner of Blackfriars Street that has become a visual feature in the precinct. It does not however appear to have any heritage significance.

Further the CMP states (page 53), that:

Extant soft landscape, including shrubbery and plane trees of relatively recent planting, are assessed as not having heritage value.

During the late 1880s, the completed school complex would have been an 'oasis' of quality, ordered architecture within a suburb of overcrowded industry and residential squalor. It would also have been a fairly stark site without landscaping.

In the detailed analysis of significance of the elements of the site (page 69 of the CMP) the "site gardens and landscaping" are given a significance level of 4 (Neutral or low significance) and the associated CMP Policy is "The landscape on the site is not significant and may be retained or removed."

Due to the low significance of the existing landscaping on the Blackfriars Campus as identified in the CMP, decisions with regard to the landscaping on the site and whether trees are to remain or are to be removed, may be made according to the needs of UTS and the design requirements for proposed new development on the site.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chery Kemp', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Chery Kemp

Heritage Specialist

