



Interpretation Strategy

85 Harrington Street, The Rocks

January 2016

urbis

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	ii
1 Introduction	3
1.1 Background.....	3
1.2 Methodology	3
1.2.1 The Burra Charter and Heritage Guidelines	3
1.3 Objectives of The Interpretation Strategy	5
1.4 Author Identification	5
1.5 Limitations.....	5
2 The Subject Site.....	6
2.1 Site Location and Description	6
2.2 The Surrounding Context	7
2.3 The Rocks Heritage Conservation Area	8
2.4 Site Images.....	9
2.5 Statutory Context.....	12
2.6 Statements of Significance	14
2.6.1 85 Harrington Street, The Rocks	14
2.6.2 Bakers Terrace, 66-68 & 70-72 Gloucester Street, The Rocks.....	14
3 Historical Overview	15
3.1 Development of the Subject Site	15
4 Heritage Interpretation Strategy.....	25
4.1 Heritage interpretation themes	25
4.2 Interpretation in Built Form and Media	27
4.2.1 Retention and conservation of Bakers Terrace	27
4.2.2 Reinstatement and interpretation of former Cambridge Street Laneway	29
4.2.3 Interpretation of the former topography, use and occupation of the site.....	31
4.2.4 Interpretation of Harrington Street sandstone retaining wall	35
4.3 Signage/panel description and examples.....	37
5 Conclusion and Recommendations	40
6 Bibliography and References.....	41
6.1 Bibliography	41
6.2 References	41

Figures:

Figure 1 – The subject Site located at 85 Harrington Street, The Rocks (Bakers terrace shown in dashed blue).	6
Figure 2 – The subject site (shaded in red). Note this image is dated prior to the construction of the Big Dig Centre in c2008-2009 (Bakers terrace shown in dashed blue).	7
Figure 3 –The subject site located at 85 Harrington Street. View from Harrington Street with Cumberland stairs leading to Cambridge Street on the right (Source: Google Maps –Street View).	9
Figure 4 – Rear of Baker’s Terrace and stairs leading to Cambridge Street on the left and to Gloucester Street on the right.....	9
Figure 5 – Gloucester Street, The Rocks	10
Figure 6 – Cumberland Place and Steps, The Rocks.	10
Figure 7 – Various images.....	11
Figure 8 – Heritage context of Bakers Terrace showing items of State heritage significance listed in red. The subject site is outlined in blue.	12

Figure 9 – Physical curtilage of The Rocks Conservation Area. The subject site is outlined in red.	13
Figure 10 – Houses on Cambridge Street stepping up the rocky terrain, c1900	15
Figure 11 – City Section Street Plan, Section 77-88 and Section 80, 1833. The subject site is shown as well developed with a range of free-standing buildings and yards.	16
Figure 12 – Extract from the 1865 Trigonometrical Survey of Sydney and approximate site overlay.	16
Figure 13 – Extract from Percy Dove’s 1880 Plans of Sydney showing approximate location of the subject site.....	17
Figure 14 – Buildings in the study area in 1900, between Gloucester Street and Harrington Street with site overlay.....	18
Figure 15 – Gloucester Street 1901, part of the study area including the stone Ship and Mermaid Hotel, cottage and terraces. All of these buildings were demolished by 1949.....	18
Figure 16 – Cambridge Street (upper level Harrington Street) 1901— part of the study area including small cottages, the Ship and Mermaid Hotel and Bakers Terraces in the background.....	19
Figure 17 – C1901 showing the cutting back of the rock face on Harrington Street and partial construction of the stone facing of the wall.....	19
Figure 18 – The Sailors Return to the north of study area on Harrington Street around 1915. The stairs to Cumberland Place can be seen cut into the bedrock and the sandstone wall on the left remains in the street today. Subject site to the left of the red dashed line	20
Figure 19 – C1900 showing Cambridge Street. Part of the study area including Cumberland Place in the foreground and rear of Bakers Terrace.....	21
Figure 20 – Gloucester Street showing Bakers Terraces, c1910 prior to the realignment of Gloucester Street and the retaining wall to the front of Susannah Place.....	21
Figure 21 – Buildings in the study area in 1943, between Gloucester Street and Harrington Street with approximate site overlay, much of the study area is vacant at this time.....	22
Figure 22 – Gloucester Street 1984	23
Figure 23 – The study area in 1980 including the stairs of Cumberland Place, the stone retaining wall and Bakers Terrace in the rear.	24
Figure 24 – Excavation of Cambridge Street as part of the late 1980s redevelopment works for the subject site.	24
Figure 25 – Ground floor plan with general location of proposed public accessible areas outlined. (Note that the ground floor of Bakers Terrace is also proposed to be retail / café (dining) space will also be publically accessible.).....	27
Figure 26 – Possible images	28
Figure 27 – Relevant examples.....	30
Figure 28 – Possible images	31
Figure 29 – Suggested images.....	33
Figure 30 – Ground floor plan with location of the heritage wall indicated.....	35
Figure 31 – Suggested images.....	36
Figure 32 – Existing heritage Interpretation at Cumberland Place and Steps.	37
Figure 33 – Other relevant sample signage panels/examples interior spaces.....	37

PICTURES:

Picture 1 – View to Gloucester Street.....	10
Picture 2 – View to Harrington Street	10
Picture 3 – Cumberland Place.....	11
Picture 4 – The courtyard	11
Picture 5 – Courtyard view to Cambridge Street	11
Picture 6 – Bakers Terrace facade	11
Picture 7 – Stone retaining wall to Harrington Street.	11
Picture 8 – Retaining wall and Cumberland Place Stairs on the right.....	11
Picture 9 – Bakers Terraces in the mid—ground and the vacant subject Site covered with vegetation	23
Picture 10 – Vacant lots in the location of the subject site. Note the terracing of the site.....	23

Picture 11 –The subject site indicated in c1880s opposite the Whalers Arms Hotel. note the original cream colour scheme of the building. (Source: Trove—National Library of Australia)	28
Picture 12 – Gloucester Street showing Bakers Terrace. They are noted to be very dilapidated and with shutters on the lower level southern terraces. (Source: CMP Bakers Terrace, 2007).	29
Picture 13 – Rear of Bakers Terrace, c1910. (Source: Bakers Terrace CMP, 2007).	29
Picture 14 – Museum of Sydney, corner of Phillip and Bridge Street, Sydney, showing stone heritage interpretation ground inlays.....	30
Picture 15 – Detail of ground inlays, which mark original foundations, embedded in landscaped forecourt (Source: https://www.google.com.au/search?q=museum+of+sydney+forecourt)	30
Picture 16 – Detail of ground inlays, Parramatta Archaeological Sites. (Urbis, 2016).	30
Picture 17 – Detail of ground inlays, Parramatta Archaeological Sites. (Urbis, 2016)	30
Picture 18 — Image of Cambridge Street Laneway to the rear of Bakers Terrace, 1901. (Source: Archives offices of NSW)	31
Picture 19 — Rear of Bakers Terrace, c1963 showing rear yards, gates and rear fences to Cambridge Street Laneway. (Source: Collection Historic Houses Trust).....	31
Picture 20 — Rear façade showing extensive demolition and excavation undertaken at rear of Bakers terrace, c1988. (Source: Bakers Terrace CMP, 2007)	31
Picture 21 — Houses on Cambridge Street stepping up the rocky terrain, c1900. Subject site shown with blue arrow (Trove—National Library of Australia).....	33
Picture 22 — Cambridge Street (upper level Harrington Street) 1901—part of the study area including small cottages, the Ship and Mermaid Hotel and Bakers Terraces in the background. (Source: Rocks Resumption Photographs, Trove—National Library of Australia).....	33
Picture 23 — Gloucester Street 1901, part of the study area including the stone Ship and Mermaid Hotel, cottage and terraces. All of these buildings were demolished by 1949. (Source: Rocks Resumption Photographs, Trove – National Library of Australia)	34
Picture 24 — Buildings and through site links in the study area in 1900, between Gloucester Street and Harrington Street with site overlay	34
Picture 25 – C1901 showing the cutting back of the rock face on Harrington Street and partial construction of the stone facing of the wall (Source : Cumberland Place CMP SHFA 2008). ..	36
Picture 26 – The Sailors Return to the north of study area on Harrington Street around 1915. The stairs to Cumberland Place can be seen cut into the bedrock and the sandstone wall on the left remains in the street today. Subject site to the left of the red Dashed line (Source: Cumberland Place CMP SHFA 2008).	36
Picture 27 – Cumberland Place CMP SHFA 2008.	36
Picture 28 – Cumberland Place and Steps Heritage Interpretation. (Source: GML Webpage, www.gml.com.au , accessed January 2016)	37
Picture 29 – The Rocks Discovery Museum heritage interpretation. (Source: The Rocks Discovery Museum Webpage, http://www.therocks.com/things-to-do/the-rocks-discovery-museum/ , accessed January 2016)	37
Picture 31 – Interpretation signage/panels in public courtyard space and pedestrian thoroughfare of Liberty Place, 161 Castlereagh Street, Sydney. (Source: Urbis).....	38
Picture 32 – Interpretation signage/panels at Cumberland Street, Sydney. (Source: Urbis)	38
Picture 33 – Interpretation signage/panels at Cumberland Street, Sydney. (Source: Urbis)	38
Picture 34 – Interpretation signage/panels at Ballast Point Park, Sydney. (Source: Urbis).....	38
Picture 35 – Interpretation signage/panels at Ballast Point Park, Sydney. (Source: Urbis).....	39
Picture 36 – Interpretation signage/panels at Ballast Point Park, Sydney. (Source: Urbis).....	39
Picture 37 – Interpretation panel at the former Paramount Pictures Office, Sydney. (Source: Urbis)	39

Executive Summary

Urbis has been engaged by Golden Age Development & Hanna, The Rocks Pty Limited, to prepare the following Heritage Interpretation Strategy for the subject site located at 85 Harrington Street, The Rocks. The purpose of a Heritage Interpretation Strategy is to ensure the history of a significant place is properly documented, interpreted and displayed, such that it can be appreciated by future users and the wider public.

Specifically, the subject site comprises of a large contemporary building (c1988-90), which spans between Gloucester Street and Harrington Street (and is formerly known as 'Harrington Court') and Bakers Terrace (c1875-1882) at 66-68 and 70-72 Gloucester Street, The Rocks, and they are located on the one allotment (Lot 1, DP777033).

It is proposed to redevelop the subject site, with design, planning and approval via State Significant Development of a new mixed-use development. This involves demolition of the existing c1988-90 building on the subject site and construction of a new high end residential apartment building, incorporating additional basement space, ground level retail spaces and new pedestrian links. The works will also involve the conservation and adaptive re-use of Bakers Terraces.

The c1988-90 contemporary building on the subject site is not heritage listed. The buildings comprising Bakers Terrace are separately listed as two buildings on the State Heritage Register as 66-68 Gloucester Street (item 1530) and 70-72 Gloucester Street (item 1531). They are also listed on the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (SHFA) S170 Register as 66-68 Gloucester Street (4500100) and 70-72 Gloucester Street (4500101). The remainder of the site, including the rear courtyard of Bakers Terrace is not heritage listed.

The subject site as a whole is also identified as within The Rocks Conservation Area, listed on the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority S170 Register (item 4500458), and is in the vicinity of a number of heritage listed items; including the State heritage listed Cumberland Place (a pedestrian thoroughfare that connects Gloucester Street and Harrington Street), which is one of the oldest pedestrian routes in Australia and State heritage listed buildings along Gloucester Street (such as *Jobbins Terraces* and *Susannah Place*).

In accordance with the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS), a Heritage Interpretation Strategy is required for the proposed redevelopment of the subject site, which includes the provision of any archaeological resources uncovered during the works.

The Archaeological Assessment undertaken by Urbis as part of the SEARS requirements for the redevelopment of the subject site, has concluded that it has very low archaeological potential due to site wide extensive excavation into bedrock (including basements) as part of the c1988-90 redevelopment works. Therefore, unexpected finds including features, footings or archaeological deposits are highly unlikely. Due to this, the pertinent archaeological based interpretive themes on the site include its former typography, use and occupation, which is proposed to form a critical part of the interpretation strategy for the site as outlined in Section 4 below.

This document should be read in conjunction with the architectural plans and associated documentation prepared by Francis-Jones Morehen Thorp (FJMT) Architects and the Heritage Impact Statement (site history) prepared for the subject site. Background resources to this report include:

- Heritage Impact Statement (HIS), 85 Harrington Street, The Rocks, January 2016 (prepared by Urbis);
- Archaeological Assessment (AA), 85 Harrington Street, The Rocks, January 2016 (prepared by Urbis);
- Conservation Management Plan (CMP), Bakers Terrace, 66-68 & 70-72 Gloucester Street, The Rocks, January 2016 (prepared by Urbis); and
- Additional references as outlined in Section 6 of this report.

1 Introduction

1.1 BACKGROUND

Urbis has been engaged by Golden Age & Hanna, The Rocks Pty Limited, to prepare the following Heritage Interpretation Strategy for the subject site located at 85 Harrington Street, The Rocks.

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- Archaeological Assessment (AA), 85 Harrington Street, The Rocks, January 2016 (prepared by Urbis);
- Conservation Management Plan (CMP), Bakers Terrace, 66-68 & 70-72 Gloucester Street, The Rocks, January 2016 (prepared by Urbis); and
- Additional references as outlined in Section 6 of this report.

1.2 METHODOLOGY

Interpretation means all the ways of presenting the significance of an item. Interpretation may be a combination of the treatment and fabric of the item, the use of the item, the use of interpretive media, such as events, activities, signs and publications, or activities, but is not limited to these.¹

This Heritage Interpretation Strategy is intended to inform and guide collaborative Interpretation planning on the subject site. Due to the sites location within The Rocks precinct, this strategy has been prepared with input from SHFA. The future detailed Interpretation Plan is also to be prepared in close consultation with SHFA, to ensure it is in accordance with their greater strategy for The Rocks precinct (including content and presentation) and utilises their extensive resources and knowledge of the area.

This heritage Interpretation Strategy has been prepared in accordance with relevant guidelines and policy as outlined in Section 1.2.1 below.

1.2.1 THE BURRA CHARTER AND HERITAGE GUIDELINES

Heritage conservation seeks to sustain the values of heritage landscapes, places and objects, individually and collectively, so that the community and visitors can continue to appreciate, experience and learn from them and about them, and so that they can be passed on to future generations.² Heritage interpretation is an integral part of the experience of significant heritage places and the conservation and management of

¹ NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning, Interpreting Heritage Places and Items Guidelines, August 2005, p3.

² NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning, Heritage Information Series, Heritage Interpretation Policy, August 2005, p2.

heritage items, and is relevant to other aspects of environmental and cultural management and policy. Interpretation also incorporates and provides broad access to historical research and analysis.³

This Heritage Interpretation Strategy has been prepared in accordance with the *NSW Heritage Manual*, the NSW Heritage Branch *Interpreting Heritage Places and Items: Guidelines* (August 2005) and the NSW Heritage Branch's *Heritage Interpretation Policy* (endorsed by the Heritage Council August 2005) as well as conditions of the SEARS (as outlined above). The general philosophy and process adopted is guided by the Australia ICOMOS *Burra Charter 2013*.

The Burra Charter defines interpretation as "all the ways of presenting the *cultural significance of a place*" (Article 1.17) and it may be a combination of the treatment of the fabric, the use of and activities of the place, and the use of introduced explanatory material.

Interpretation should provide and enhance understanding of the history, significance and meaning of the place. Interpretation should respect and be appropriate to the cultural significance of the building (Article 25).

The NSW Heritage Branch *Interpreting Heritage Places and Items: Guidelines* lists the following best practice "ingredients" for interpretation:

- 1) Interpretation, People and Culture—Respect for the special connections between people and items
- 2) Heritage Significance and Site Analysis—Understand the item and convey its significance
- 3) Records and Research—Use existing records of the item, research additional information and make these publicly available (subject to security and cultural protocols)
- 4) Audiences—Explore, respect and respond to the identified audience
- 5) Themes—Make reasoned choices about themes, stories and strategies
- 6) Engaging the Audience—Stimulate thought and dialogue, provoke response and enhance understanding
- 7) Context—Research the physical, historical, spiritual and contemporary context of the item, including related items, and respect local amenity and culture
- 8) Authenticity, Ambience and Sustainability—Develop interpretation methods and media which sustain the significance of the items, its character and authenticity
- 9) Conservation Planning and Works—Integrate interpretation in conservation planning and in all stages of a conservation project
- 10) Maintenance, Evaluation and Review—Include interpretation in the ongoing management of an item; provide for regular maintenance, evaluation and review
- 11) Skills and Knowledge—Involve people with relevant skills, knowledge and experience
- 12) Collaboration—Collaborate with organisations and the local community.

³ Ibid, p3.

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

As outlined above, this Heritage Interpretation Strategy considers the recommendations of the NSW Heritage Branch *Interpreting Heritage Places and Items: Guidelines* and is consistent with the conditions of the SEARS as outlined above.

It is intended that appropriate heritage interpretation of the subject site will communicate its history and significance in various forms to audiences, which will enrich their experience and enhance their appreciation and understanding of the subject site and its association with The Rocks precinct. The development of this Heritage Interpretation Strategy has been guided by the following significant themes identified and detailed in Section 4 below.

- Retention and conservation of Bakers Terrace;
- Reinstatement and interpretation of former Cambridge Street Laneway;
- Interpretation of former topography, use and occupation; and
- Interpretation of Harrington Street sandstone wall.

Given the history and significance of the subject site, as well as its location within the historic precinct of The Rocks (and in the immediate vicinity of State heritage listed Cumberland Place and Steps, *Susannah Place* and *Jobbins Place*), this Heritage Interpretation Strategy is intended for a wider general public, and in this instance particularly overseas and local tourists. The following audience groups have been identified in order of visitation.

- Occupants of the site including residents;
- Overseas tourists;
- Local tourists; and
- General public.

With consideration for the intended wider audience, interpretation is proposed to be provided in various built forms and media, including embedded throughout landscaped zones/sections within publicly accessible areas and/or thoroughfares of the subject site.

1.4 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

The following report has been prepared by Kate Paterson (Associate Director) and Alicia Vickers (Graduate Consultant). Stephen Davies (Director) has reviewed and endorsed its content.

Unless otherwise stated, all drawings, illustrations and photographs are the work of Urbis or the project architects (FJMT).

1.5 LIMITATIONS

It is noted that possible content outlined in Section 4.1 below is subject to adjustment and editing, and is to be finalised in conjunction with SHFA, FJMT Architects and graphic design consultants. Use of images is also contingent upon copyright permission and right of reproduction which is subject to confirmation.

2 The Subject Site

2.1 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

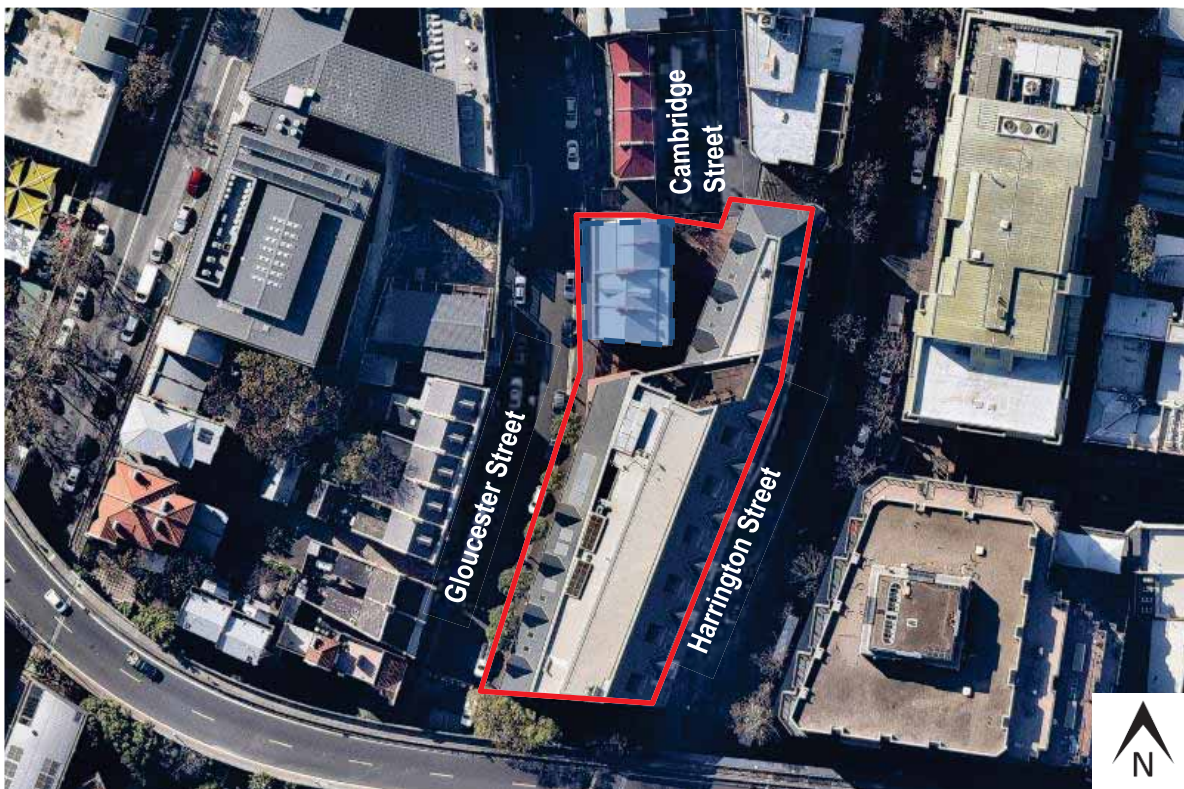
The subject site is located at 85 Harrington Street, within the historic Rocks precinct. Specifically, the site is located between the Bradfield Highway and Sydney Cove.

The subject site is bounded by Cumberland Place to the north, Harrington Street to the east, Cahill Expressway to the South and Gloucester Street to the west. It comprises of a large contemporary c1988-90 development (formerly known as Harrington Court) and a group of four historic terraces (known as Bakers Terraces) at 66-88 and 70-72 Gloucester Street, The Rocks.

The contemporary c1988-90 development comprises of a six storey hotel and office building. It has an entrance from Harrington Street and is constructed stepping up the slope between Harrington Street and Gloucester Street. The complex has basement level car parking accessed from Harrington Street. Prior to the construction of this building, the site was vacant. The shops, houses and hotel that had inhabited the site during the 19th century were progressively demolished between 1905 and 1950.

Bakers Terrace is located on the north western corner of the site, which is accessed from Gloucester Street and Cambridge Street. These terraces date from c1875-1882 and are rendered masonry, with a two storey front and three storey rear. They are attached to each other centrally and freestanding on either end. The terraces are similarly proportioned, but number 70-72 is slightly wider and taller than number 66-68.

FIGURE 1 – THE SUBJECT SITE LOCATED AT 85 HARRINGTON STREET, THE ROCKS (BAKERS TERRACE SHOWN IN DASHED BLUE).



SOURCE: SIX MAPS LAND AND PROPERTY INFORMATION

FIGURE 2 – THE SUBJECT SITE (SHADED IN RED). NOTE THIS IMAGE IS DATED PRIOR TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BIG DIG CENTRE IN C2008-2009 (BAKERS TERRACE SHOWN IN DASHED BLUE).



SOURCE: SHFA WEBPAGE, AVAILABLE AT: WWW.SHFA.NSW.GOV.AU/HERITAGE, ACCESSED JANUARY 2016.

Cambridge Street formerly joined Harrington Street to the south of the study area. The construction of the existing contemporary development truncated Cambridge Street, incorporating it into the new building and forming a courtyard. This courtyard was originally the rear yards of Bakers Terrace. The interior of the Terraces were also extensively refurbished and converted into offices as part of the redevelopment of the site.

The stone retaining wall in Harrington Street originally separated the upper level of Harrington Street from the lower level. The topography was so steep in this part of The Rocks it required separation of the road. The lower section of the road was widened around 1900 and is Harrington Street that we know today. The houses accessed by the upper portion were demolished and allotments remained vacant until the late 1980s redevelopment of the site, which is built on the vacant allotments and the upper level road. Photographs of The Rocks Resumptions demonstrate the retaining wall was constructed between 1900 and 1914 as a facing over the existing bedrock. The top of the wall acquired several additional courses after 1980.

2.2 THE SURROUNDING CONTEXT

To the north of the subject site is the State heritage listed Cumberland Place and Steps, a pedestrian thoroughfare that connects Gloucester Street and Harrington Street. It is one of the oldest pedestrian routes in Australia, and has been in continuous use since c1808. It comprises of a continuous group of four sets of stairs with two associated concourses and an open space. Also to the north of the subject site is *Susannah Place*, an early Victorian terrace row dating from 1844, which is located at 58-64 Gloucester Street. To the south of the subject site is stairway access between Gloucester and Cumberland Street and the Cahill expressway.

To the east of the subject site is Harrington Street. Opposite the subject site, on the opposite side of Harrington Street, is the rear of DFS Galleria complex. It is a tall c1980s commercial development which was erected behind heritage buildings which front George Street (at 145-155 George Street). Adjacent to this is 66 Harrington Street, a large brick building occupied by Service NSW.

To the west of the subject site is Gloucester Street. Opposite the subject site, on the opposite side of Gloucester Street, are buildings which form part of the Long's Lane precinct. This is a cluster of nineteenth and early twentieth century houses, rear yards and laneways between Gloucester and Cumberland Streets. Located at 103-111 Gloucester Street is *Jobbins terrace*, which is an example of a Greek revival terrace row and dates from c1855-1857. Adjacent to this, located at 113-155 Gloucester Street, is a pair of c1880s Victorian terraces and located at 117 Gloucester Street is a terrace of the Edwardian/Australian Federation Style which dates from c1912-1915. Also opposite the subject site is the rear of the Sydney Harbour Youth Hostel Association building and The Big Dig Archaeology Education Centre, which is a large contemporary development constructed above a state significant archaeological site.

2.3 THE ROCKS HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREA

The Rocks is sited on a rocky promontory projecting into the Harbour on the western side of Sydney Cove, with the southern approach of the Sydney Harbour Bridge along the ridge marking the western boundary of the area, and is some 21 hectares in area. The ground falls steeply to the east, in a series of sandstone escarpments, giving the important harbour views characteristic of the area. The topography gave rise to an erratic street pattern with many cuts into the rock to provide building materials and enable streets and stepped pedestrian ways to traverse the area. The conservation of The Rocks from the 1970s has reinforced these diverse streetscapes, laneways and pedestrian links.

There is a mixture of individually important buildings by significant architects and more humble shops, cottages and terraces from different eras. Within this diversity the area has a coherent and consistent character of streetscapes and urban spaces in a very strong topographical setting. It has a strong maritime character, with warehouses and bond stores, and philanthropic buildings for seamen who also were abundantly catered for in the provision of public houses. A large amount of public open space is included in the area, including Dawes Point Park, with its early fortifications and archaeological remains, Foundation Park, West Circular Quay, First Fleet Park, the public domain around the Museum of Contemporary Art, Overseas Passenger Terminal, Campbells Cove, Park Hyatt and the Hickson Road Reserve.

South of the Cahill Expressway the area has pockets of heritage items and streetscapes intermingled with high rise buildings dating from the 1970s.⁴

⁴ The Rocks SHFA Heritage and Conservation Register

2.4 SITE IMAGES

FIGURE 3 –THE SUBJECT SITE LOCATED AT 85 HARRINGTON STREET. VIEW FROM HARRINGTON STREET WITH CUMBERLAND STAIRS LEADING TO CAMBRIDGE STREET ON THE RIGHT (SOURCE: GOOGLE MAPS –STREET VIEW).



FIGURE 4 – REAR OF BAKER'S TERRACE AND STAIRS LEADING TO CAMBRIDGE STREET ON THE LEFT AND TO GLOUCESTER STREET ON THE RIGHT.



FIGURE 5 – GLOUCESTER STREET, THE ROCKS



FIGURE 6 – CUMBERLAND PLACE AND STEPS, THE ROCKS.



PICTURE 1 – VIEW TO GLOUCESTER STREET



PICTURE 2 – VIEW TO HARRINGTON STREET

FIGURE 7 – VARIOUS IMAGES



PICTURE 3 – CUMBERLAND PLACE



PICTURE 4 – THE COURTYARD



PICTURE 5 – COURTYARD VIEW TO CAMBRIDGE STREET



PICTURE 6 – BAKERS TERRACE FACADE



PICTURE 7 – STONE RETAINING WALL TO HARRINGTON STREET.



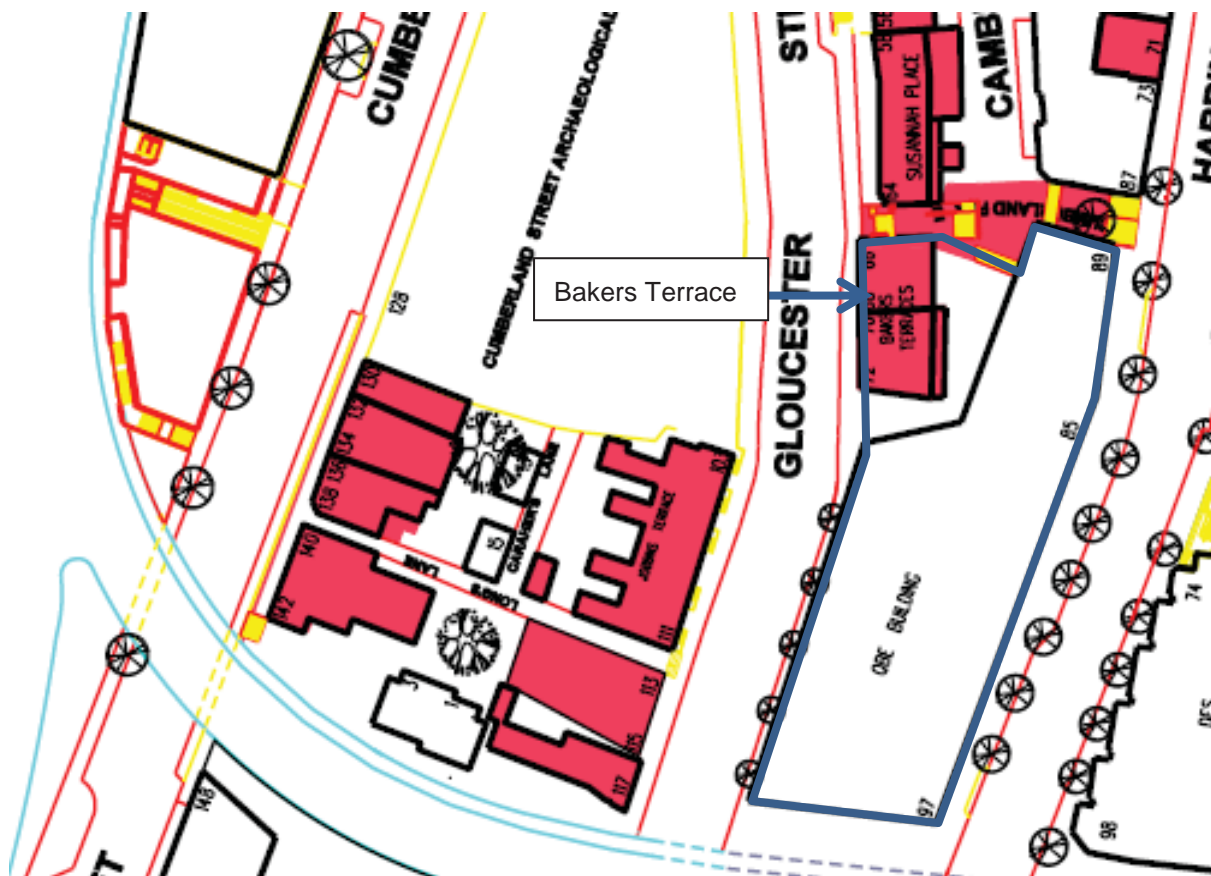
PICTURE 8 – RETAINING WALL AND CUMBERLAND PLACE STAIRS ON THE RIGHT.

2.5 STATUTORY CONTEXT

The following heritage listings apply to the site;

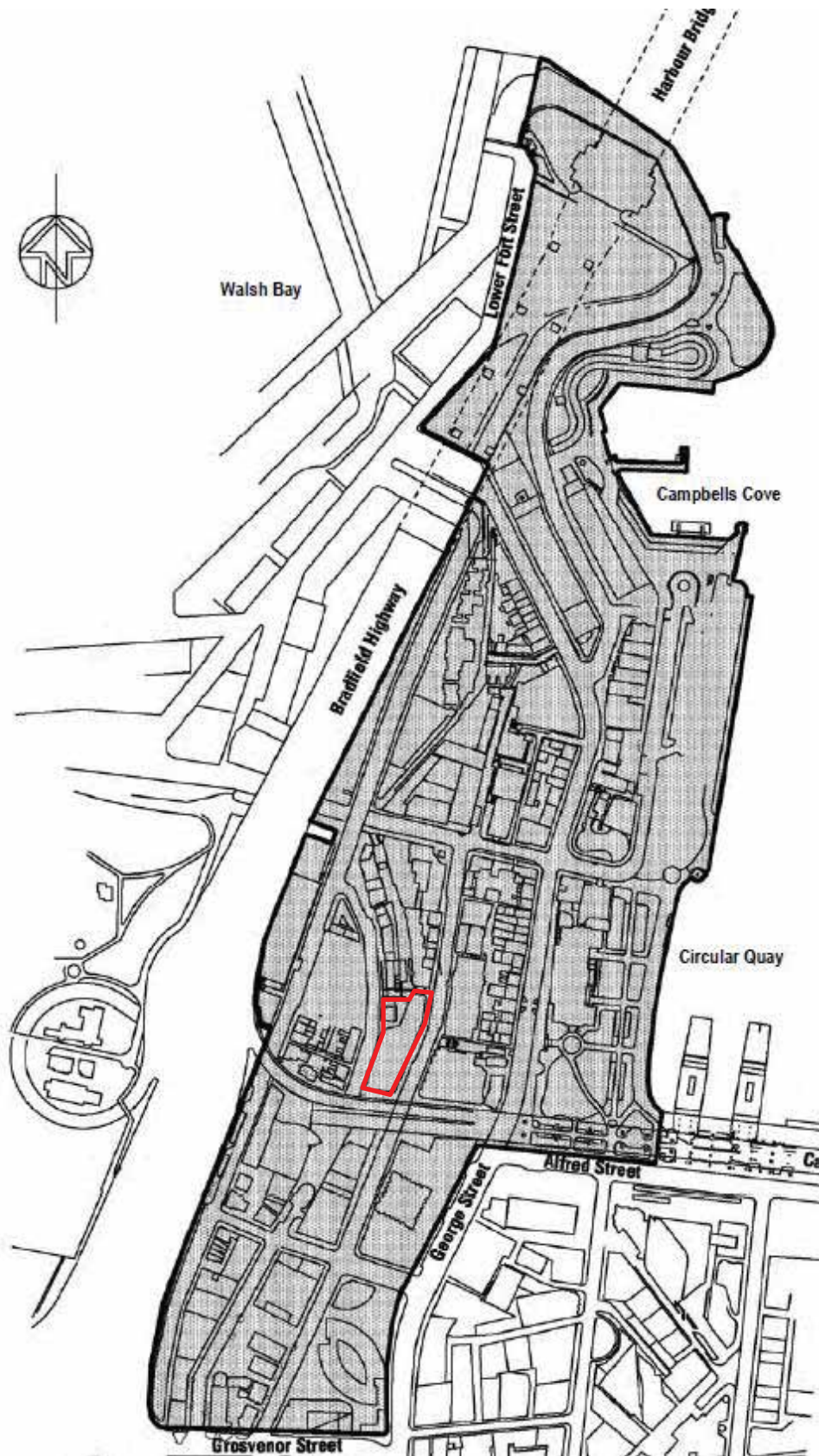
- The buildings comprising Bakers Terrace is separately listed as two buildings on the State Heritage Register as 66-68 Gloucester Street (item 1530) and 70-72 Gloucester Street (item 1531).
- In addition, Bakers Terrace is separately listed as two buildings on the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority S170 Register as 66-68 Gloucester Street (item 4500100) and 70-72 Gloucester Street (item 4500101).
- The site as a whole is also within The Rocks Conservation Area, also listed on the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority S170 Register (item 4500458) as shown in Figure 8.

FIGURE 8 – HERITAGE CONTEXT OF BAKERS TERRACE SHOWING ITEMS OF STATE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE LISTED IN RED. THE SUBJECT SITE IS OUTLINED IN BLUE.



SOURCE: MAP OF HERITAGE LISTINGS IN THE ROCKS, THE ROCKS HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN VOLUME 1, 2010, SYDNEY HARBOUR FORESHORE AUTHORITY.

FIGURE 9 – PHYSICAL CURTILAGE OF THE ROCKS CONSERVATION AREA. THE SUBJECT SITE IS OUTLINED IN RED.



SOURCE: THE ROCKS HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN VOLUME 1, BY SYDNEY HARBOUR FORESHORE AUTHORITY (SHFA), 2010, P7).

2.6 STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The subject site as a whole is known as 85 Harrington Street, The Rocks. As a majority of the site is redeveloped with a contemporary late 1980s building, and the only extant heritage buildings are Bakers Terrace in the far north western corner of the site, two individual statements of significance are outlined below for clarity.

The below statements of significance are sourced from the HIS and the Bakers Terrace CMP, both prepared by Urbis for the subject site in January 2016.

2.6.1 85 HARRINGTON STREET, THE ROCKS

Number 85 Harrington Street is a c1988-1990 mixed use commercial building which fronts both Harrington Street and Gloucester Street is considered a contemporary neutral item within the heritage precinct of The Rocks. The landform however has been so modified it has lost all evidence of its historic and associative significance. There is a historic sandstone wall constructed between 1901-1914 on the site (the subject area still present likely the latter end of this period) fronting Harrington Street to the northern end of the site directly adjacent to Cumberland Steps. This wall was modified as part of the site 1990s site redevelopment. The original parts of the wall are located to the north of the carpark opening and exclude the top three courses and capping stone (coursing levels as counted from the northern corner)

2.6.2 BAKERS TERRACE, 66-68 & 70-72 GLOUCESTER STREET, THE ROCKS

The subject site has historical significance as a row of typical late 19th century workers terraces constructed in the mid-Victorian period for the purpose of residential accommodation. Historical research shows the subject site was constructed c1875 (66-68) and c1882 (70-72). The northern pairs façade was extended by approximately 1-1.5meters post c1882 but prior to c1900 to match the new southern pair of terraces. It is speculated to have occurred between c1885-1887.

Bakers Terraces as a whole, is associated with significant historical events including the development, decline and redevelopment of The Rocks. The terraces were some of only a few that survived the wide spread demolition of buildings on Gloucester, Cambridge and Harrington Streets from the 1890s to the 1940s. The erection of Bakers Terraces demonstrates the continued pressure for greater density to house the local maritime workforce and other working class occupants.

Bakers Terraces are aesthetically distinctive as a row of terraces constructed in separate phases and unified as one building with the construction of a new decorative façade.

The subject site has social significance as part of one of the oldest precincts in the country. It has significant meaning to the residents of the area, visitors and historians.

Bakers Terraces form part of the complex layering of The Rocks, which is rare as a whole in its ability to provide evidence of ways of life, customs, technologies and processes from 1788 to the present. The subject site has representative significance as typical residential accommodation in The Rocks and demonstrates the continued pressure for greater density to house the local maritime workforce and other working class occupants.

3 Historical Overview

The below historical outline is sourced from the HIS prepared by Urbis for the subject site in January 2016.

3.1 DEVELOPMENT OF THE SUBJECT SITE

The Aboriginal people who lived along the coastal area of Sydney were called (erroneously by the Europeans) the Eora. The Sydney area, including The Rocks, Darling Harbour and Pyrmont/ Ultimo formed the territory of a “clan” (subgroup) known as the Gadigal. Their word for The Rocks- or more specifically the shore where the hospital stood on George Street between Globe Street and Argyle Street was “Tallawolodah”. The peninsula of land which we now call Dawes Point, was “Tarra”, and Sydney Cove itself was “Warrang” or “Warrane”.

European settlement of Australia commenced in 1788 when Governor Phillip established a colony at Sydney Cove, on what had traditionally been Gadigal land. The reaction of the local Aboriginal people to the arrival of First Fleet was mixed. Initially, the local Aboriginal people of Port Jackson were friendly and tried to assist the Europeans, but when the colonists began to clear vegetation and attempted to modify the landscape, the reaction was clearly negative.⁵ At Sydney Cove, the colonists were largely avoided by the Aboriginal population as they cut down trees, established gardens, erected buildings, and exploited the natural resources of the area.

Due to the rugged outcrops of rock which later gave the “The Rocks” its name, it is unlikely there was any “permanent” occupation of the upper ridges. Flat stones by the water at Dawes Point were said to have been used by the Cadigal for cooking fish.

FIGURE 10 – HOUSES ON CAMBRIDGE STREET STEPPING UP THE ROCKY TERRAIN, C1900



SOURCE: TROVE –NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA.

⁵ Attenbrow 2002:14

By 1807 the central part of The Rocks, including Cumberland, Gloucester and Harrington Streets, was settled, mainly with freestanding residential buildings with yards and probably gardens. The streets in the area were beginning to formalise with streets running north - south along the ridge and steep lanes and stairs connecting them. Prior to 1810, a steep thoroughfare from Harrington Street through to Cumberland Street was locally known as Cribbs Lane. It was named after George Cribb, a convict butcher who lived opposite the study area on the corner of the laneway and Gloucester Street. The lane was formalised and named by 1830, later being known as Cumberland Place. This was originally a steep lane which acquired a series of stairs and landings that were constructed between 1880 and 1887. By 1900 there were also bollards placed in Cumberland Place to stop carts from using the stairs.

FIGURE 11 – CITY SECTION STREET PLAN, SECTION 77-88 AND SECTION 80, 1833. THE SUBJECT SITE IS SHOWN AS WELL DEVELOPED WITH A RANGE OF FREE-STANDING BUILDINGS AND YARDS.

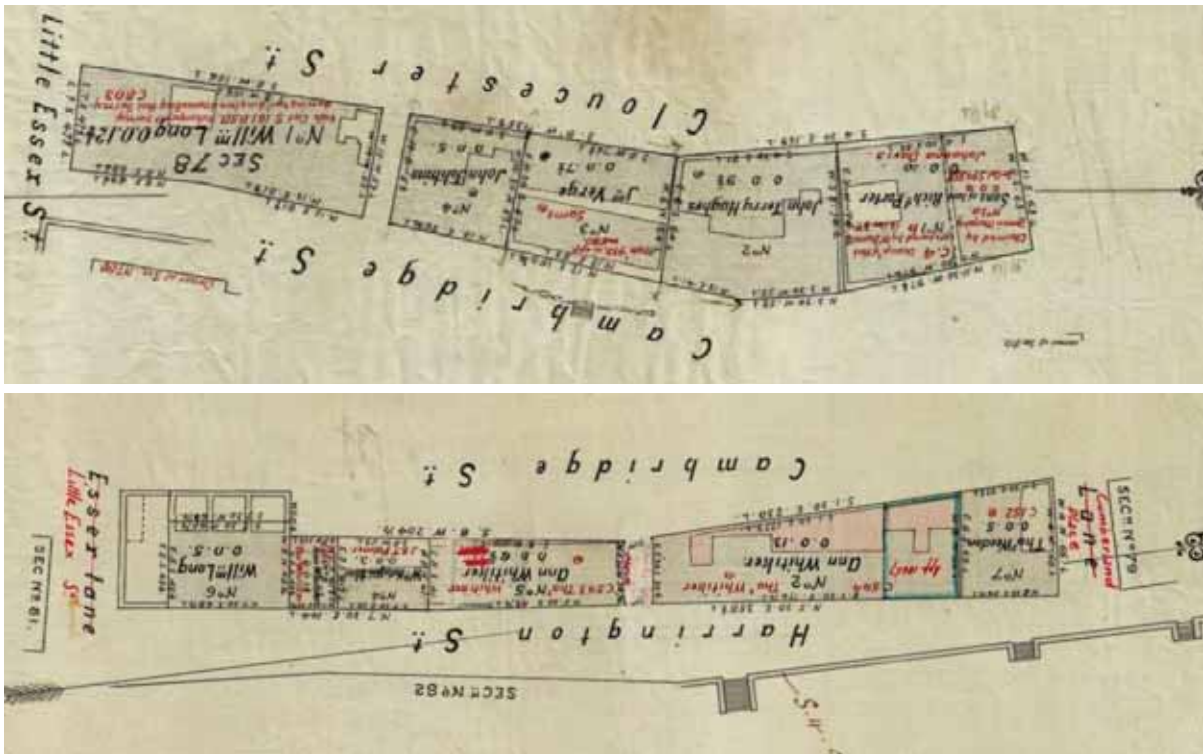
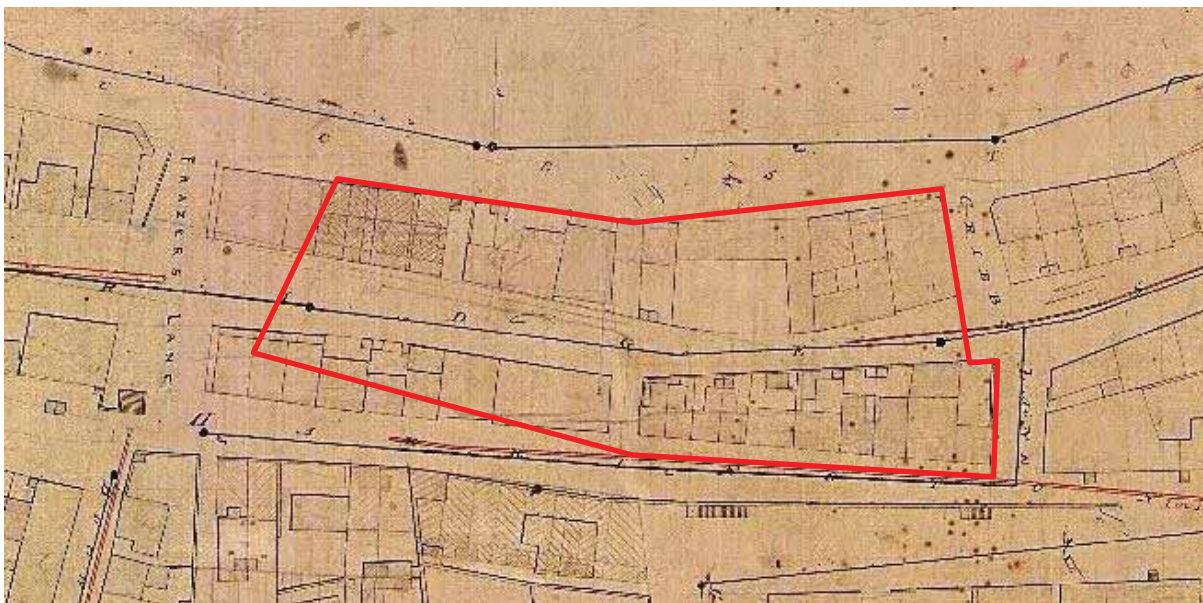


FIGURE 12 – EXTRACT FROM THE 1865 TRIGONOMETRICAL SURVEY OF SYDNEY AND APPROXIMATE SITE OVERLAY.



SOURCE: CITY OF SYDNEY ARCHIVES.

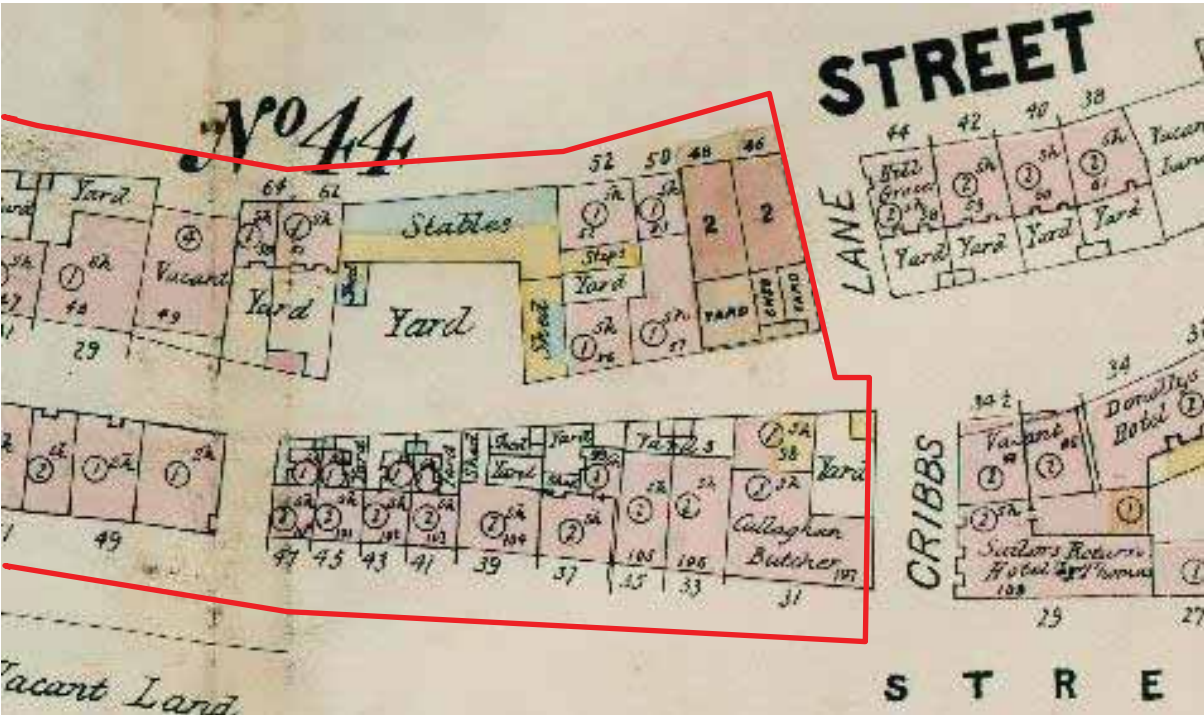
By 1830, the primarily freestanding buildings on larger lots had given way to a greater density of attached buildings. Commercial, industrial and residential buildings shared The Rocks with people living and working in the same buildings. Pubs were a very common feature of The Rocks.

Sewer lines were installed down the main streets in the 1850s, but not every house was connected. Many houses had stone cesspits and some had nothing at all and had to share a neighbour’s facilities. With the discovery of gold in 1851, immigration to the colony rose dramatically, resulting in an intense demand for housing. Developers and residents began subdividing the large old yards and built rows of small, plain terrace housing.⁶ By 1865 the allotment configuration was set. The study area consisted of single and double storey free standing houses, conjoined terraces, shops, a pub and storage sheds. The buildings on both sides of Cumberland Place were also provided with reticulated water by 1865 (Figure 12).

Redevelopment of the entire Rocks, Millers Point and Darling Harbour area took place in the wake of the bubonic plague outbreak which began in January 1900. The plague was a catalyst for the redevelopment of the entire harbour foreshore area of Sydney. Sydney Harbour Trust was formed to take on the role as landlord of all residential and commercial premises in the area and all of Millers Point, The Rocks and Darling Harbour were resumed by the Stat Government. Over the following 20 years, the entire waterfront was demolished and rebuilt. In the residential areas, hundreds of houses were demolished and the enormous task of demolition and reconstruction of the wharves, streets and public housing began.⁷

In 1900, the study area consisted of around 30 buildings which included single and double storey houses, stables, the four storey ‘Ship and Mermaid Hotel’ (Figure 14) that was operating as a boarding house, shops and additional sheds and outbuildings. The topography in Harrington Street was so steep that the road was divided into an upper and lower level in front of the study area. Cambridge Street was more like a lane than a street and joined the upper level of Harrington Street at its southern end. The lower level of Harrington Street is the road we know now, while the upper level now has the large contemporary late 1980s building constructed on it.

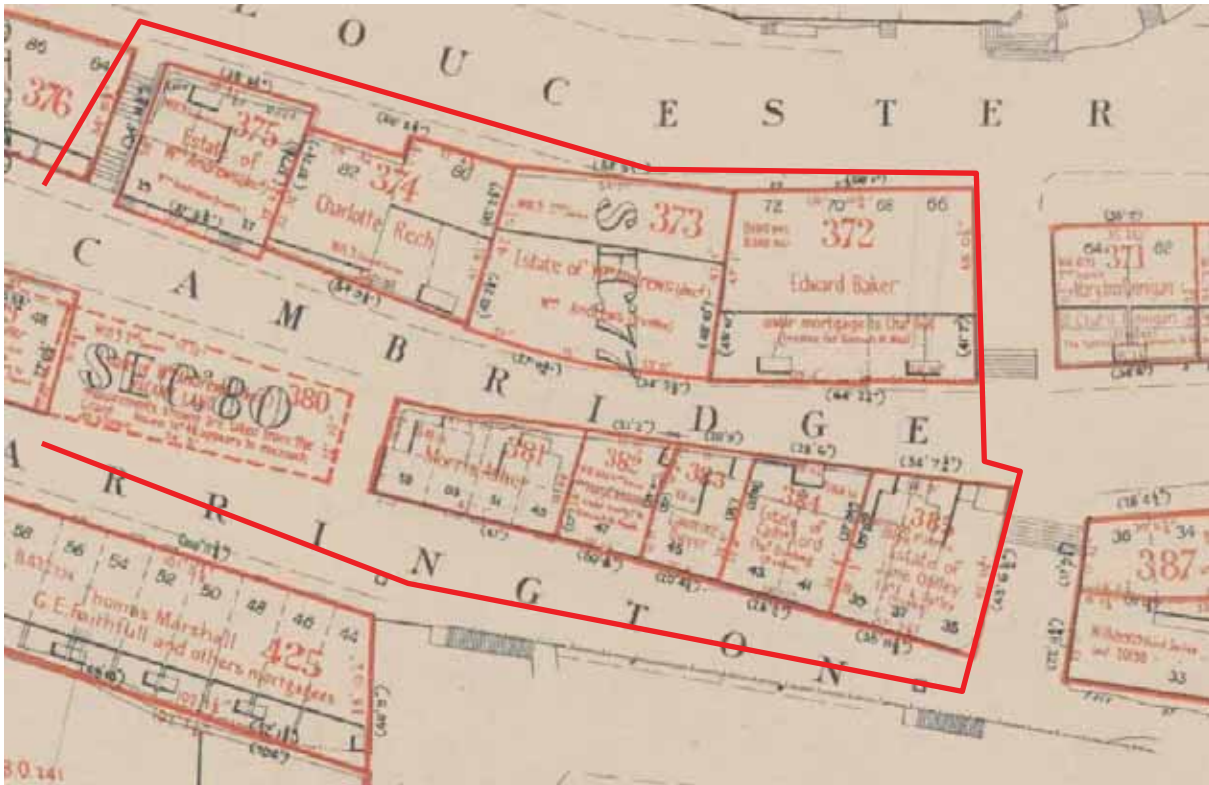
FIGURE 13 – EXTRACT FROM PERCY DOVE’S 1880 PLANS OF SYDNEY SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE SUBJECT SITE.



SOURCE: CITY OF SYDNEY ARCHIVES.

⁶ Dictionary of Sydney- The Rocks
⁷ Dictionary of Sydney- The Rocks

FIGURE 14 – BUILDINGS IN THE STUDY AREA IN 1900, BETWEEN GLOUCESTER STREET AND HARRINGTON STREET WITH SITE OVERLAY



SOURCE: THE ROCKS AND DARLING HARBOUR RESUMPTION PLANS- CITY OF SYDNEY ARCHIVES

FIGURE 15 – GLOUCESTER STREET 1901, PART OF THE STUDY AREA INCLUDING THE STONE SHIP AND MERMAID HOTEL, COTTAGE AND TERRACES. ALL OF THESE BUILDINGS WERE DEMOLISHED BY 1949.



SOURCE: ROCKS RESUMPTION PHOTOGRAPHS, TROVE – NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

FIGURE 16 – CAMBRIDGE STREET (UPPER LEVEL HARRINGTON STREET) 1901— PART OF THE STUDY AREA INCLUDING SMALL COTTAGES, THE SHIP AND MERMAID HOTEL AND BAKERS TERRACES IN THE BACKGROUND



SOURCE : ROCKS RESUMPTION PHOTOGRAPHS, TROVE – NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

FIGURE 17 – C1901 SHOWING THE CUTTING BACK OF THE ROCK FACE ON HARRINGTON STREET AND PARTIAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE STONE FACING OF THE WALL.



SOURCE : CUMBERLAND PLACE CMP SHFA 2008

FIGURE 18 – THE SAILORS RETURN TO THE NORTH OF STUDY AREA ON HARRINGTON STREET AROUND 1915. THE STAIRS TO CUMBERLAND PLACE CAN BE SEEN CUT INTO THE BEDROCK AND THE SANDSTONE WALL ON THE LEFT REMAINS IN THE STREET TODAY. SUBJECT SITE TO THE LEFT OF THE RED DASHED LINE



SOURCE : CUMBERLAND PLACE CMP SHFA 2008

In 1900 Harrington Street had a raised cut rock face and timber picket fence presenting to the street. A set of timber stairs attached to the rock face provided access to the upper level of Harrington Street. Harrington Street underwent some realignment and levelling around 1905 and the timber stairs may have been removed and the stairs leading to Cumberland Place may have been constructed at the same time. The Cumberland Place stairs were certainly in place by 1912 according to pictorial images.⁸ The original stairs were much narrower than those that exist today. They were widened to twice their original width during the 1970s. Due to wear, the older side of Harrington Street Steps were fenced off and the other side capped with concrete in the 1990s.⁹

The sandstone retaining wall on Harrington Street has not changed significantly since the early 20th century and the same bedrock and stone blocks adjacent to the Cumberland Place stairs are clearly identified in images from around 1915 (Figure 18). Photographs of The Rocks Resumptions demonstrate the retaining wall was constructed between 1900 and 1914 (Figure 17). It is constructed as a facing in front of the natural bedrock. The houses accessed by the upper portion of Harrington Street were demolished and allotments remained vacant until the construction of Harrington Court. Harrington Court is built on the vacant allotments and the upper level road. The timber picket fence remained until the 1970s and the top of the wall acquired several additional courses after 1980. The pipes post-date 1965 and have since been replaced. The current footpaths were constructed after the 1980s.

During the early years of the 20th century the buildings in The Rocks were seen as out-dated at a time when the Government wanted to move away from terrace houses. Land on which buildings had been demolished in The Rocks generally remained vacant, although some public housing was constructed such as the 16 duplex style three bedroom units arranged in eight terraces at 45-56 Gloucester Street built in 1914. By the 1920s more buildings were being demolished to make way for the approach to the Harbour Bridge. Streets in The Rocks were also realigned during this time with Harrington and Gloucester Streets undergoing substantial changes. A number of hotels were also reconstructed including the Australian and the Glenmore Hotel.

⁸ CMP (Cumberland Place), p 25

⁹ *ibid.*

FIGURE 19 – C1900 SHOWING CAMBRIDGE STREET. PART OF THE STUDY AREA INCLUDING CUMBERLAND PLACE IN THE FOREGROUND AND REAR OF BAKERS TERRACE.



SOURCE: ROCKS RESUMPTION PHOTOGRAPHS, TROVE – NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

When Cumberland Street was realigned and widened in 1911, the streetscape of Gloucester Street also changed significantly, as a number of buildings were demolished including the notable Gloucester Street Bridge over Argyle Street to the north of the study area. The level of Gloucester Street in the vicinity of the study area was raised and a retaining wall was constructed in front of the Gloucester Street terraces and Susannah Place to support the newly elevated road level. These works necessitated alterations to the stairs from Cumberland Place to Gloucester Street. Additional steps were added to the stairs to Gloucester Street to accommodate the level change (Figure 20).

FIGURE 20 – GLOUCESTER STREET SHOWING BAKERS TERRACES, C1910 PRIOR TO THE REALIGNMENT OF GLOUCESTER STREET AND THE RETAINING WALL TO THE FRONT OF SUSANNAH PLACE.



SOURCE: CMP BAKERS TERRACES, 2007

Between 1905 and the 1940s the bulk of the buildings in the study area were demolished. By 1943 Bakers Terraces, the Ship and Mermaid Hotel and seven terraces facing Gloucester Street remained in the study area, however all the buildings fronting Cambridge and Harrington Streets had been demolished. Five years later only Bakers Terraces had survived further demolition in the area to enable the construction of the Cahill Expressway. Between 1954 and 1963 construction of the Cahill expressway resulted in more demolition of buildings in Gloucester and Harrington Streets. Gloucester Street was truncated and Harrington Street was lowered slightly to allow traffic to pass under the overhead roadway.

In the 1930s the Maritime Service Board took over management of the area leasing properties to maritime workers. In 1970 the Sydney Cove Redevelopment (SCRA) became the landlords of The Rocks when most properties were occupied by Housing Commission tenants. The SCRA began infilling vacant land, leasing property for shops and cafes and instigated a large redevelopment program. The study area remained vacant apart from Bakers Terrace until 1988 when the construction of Harrington Court began.

The extant buildings on the site, known as Baker's Terrace, developed as a typical late 19th century terrace-style residential dwelling, built to accommodate multiple tenancies. Buildings are documented on the site in plans dating from 1833, 1855 and 1865. Small single storey buildings that had inhabited the northern allotments were demolished around 1875 and the construction of two (two and three storey) brick Victorian terraces in c1875 is indicated by a large increase in yearly rates.

FIGURE 21 – BUILDINGS IN THE STUDY AREA IN 1943, BETWEEN GLOUCESTER STREET AND HARRINGTON STREET WITH APPROXIMATE SITE OVERLAY, MUCH OF THE STUDY AREA IS VACANT AT THIS TIME.



SOURCE: SIX MAPS - LAND AND PROPERTY INFORMATION

In 1880, Edward Baker is first recorded in the rates assessment books as being the owner of the northern allotment (66-68), which already contained two (two and three) storey mid-Victoria terraces. By 1882, Baker is recorded as being the owner of the southern allotment (70-72) as well. It is presumed the Baker demolished the existing old single storey houses on the southern allotment to make way for the construction of a new pair of terraces between 1880 and 1881. The entire site is recorded as being 'three storey' by 1882.

Baker's Terrace is formed by the two buildings attached at the centre wall. In order to give the two sets of terraces the appearance of being one large building, a new façade was constructed onto the building between 1880 and 1887 resulting in Bakers Terraces protruding into the street further than the original building alignment. Edward Baker was the owner of the properties in 1900 when the area was resumed by the government. By the 1970s the buildings were in poor condition and uninhabitable and were taken over by the Sydney Cove Redevelopment Authority.

FIGURE 22 – GLOUCESTER STREET 1984



PICTURE 9 – BAKERS TERRACES IN THE MID—GROUND AND THE VACANT SUBJECT SITE COVERED WITH VEGETATION



PICTURE 10 – VACANT LOTS IN THE LOCATION OF THE SUBJECT SITE. NOTE THE TERRACING OF THE SITE.

The stairs adjacent to the rear of Bakers Terraces were also constructed between 1880 and 1887 which would have required the erection of the retaining wall between the rear yard of the terraces and the new stairs. It appears that the rear yard of Bakers Terraces was excavated into the original slope and that there were several steps leading from the rear basement door to the back yard.

In 1988, an extensive program of works was undertaken to the building, linked to the redevelopment of the surrounding site for the Harrington Court. The large vacant block to the south and east of Baker's Terrace was offered for commercial redevelopment, with the restoration of Baker's Terrace to form part of the terms of the leasehold and redevelopment. This involved the removal of the rear verandas and single storey skillions, removal of all original internal fabric and room configuration changes.

Bakers Terraces were incorporated into the construction of Harrington Court but separated from the new development by a stair way from Cambridge Street to Gloucester Street. Work to Bakers Terraces primarily involved removal and replacement of the rear verandas, removal of the single storey skillions to the rear yards as well as extensive internal restoration and reconfiguration. A detailed list of these works is provided in the CMP¹⁰.

The hotel and basement parking necessitated major works to Cambridge Street including excavation of up to five metres of sandstone and complete removal of the rear yards of the terraces (Figure 23). The rear yards have been turned into an open paved courtyard. The ground levels have also been raised to allow direct entry into the basement levels, whereas originally there would have been several steps down to the rear yards. There are now stairs leading up to the Cambridge Street courtyard where originally Cambridge Street was flat.

¹⁰ Bakers Terrace Conservation Management Plan Urbis 2015

FIGURE 23 – THE STUDY AREA IN 1980 INCLUDING THE STAIRS OF CUMBERLAND PLACE, THE STONE RETAINING WALL AND BAKERS TERRACE IN THE REAR.



SOURCE: CUMBERLAND PLACE CMP SHFA 2008.

FIGURE 24 – EXCAVATION OF CAMBRIDGE STREET AS PART OF THE LATE 1980S REDEVELOPMENT WORKS FOR THE SUBJECT SITE.



SOURCE: FUTUREPAST BAKERS TERRACE CMP (NO PRIMARY REFERENCE).

4 Heritage Interpretation Strategy

4.1 HERITAGE INTERPRETATION THEMES

Historical themes can be used to understand the context of a place, such as what influences have shaped that place over time. The Heritage Council of NSW established 35 historical themes relevant to the State of New South Wales. These themes correlate with National and Local historical themes.

Historical themes relevant to the subject site are provided in Table 1.

TABLE 1 – HISTORICAL THEMES (KP CHECK)

AUSTRALIAN THEME	NSW THEME	LOCAL THEME	EXAMPLE
4 Building settlements, towns and cities.	Towns, suburbs and villages	Activities associated with creating, planning and managing urban functions, landscapes and lifestyles in towns, suburbs and villages	The Rocks precinct is significant for the re-shaping of the landscape to facilitate residential and maritime activities and the buildings, roads and civic spaces that are associated with them.
4 Building settlements, towns and cities	Land tenure	Activities and processes for identifying forms of ownership and occupancy of land and water, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal	The subject site reflects Early 19 th century subdivision of early land grants and development of a residential neighbourhood.
4 Building Settlements, Towns and Cities	Accommodation	Activities associated with the provision of accommodation, and particular types of accommodation – does not include architectural styles – use the theme of Creative Endeavour for such activities	<p>The subject site developed as predominately typical late 19th century residential accommodation for the local maritime industry and various other working class tenants. Widespread demolition of these buildings from the 1890s to the 1940s is associated with significant historical events, including the development, decline and redevelopment of the Rocks precinct.</p> <p>The extant remaining Bakers Terrace has significance in early residential construction techniques, including as an unusual example of two earlier separate buildings incorporated into a single terrace.</p>
7 Governing	Welfare	Activities and process associated with the provision of social services by the state or philanthropic	The extant remaining Bakers Terrace was acquired by the NSW Government as part of The Rocks resumption in the early 20 th century and provided social housing until

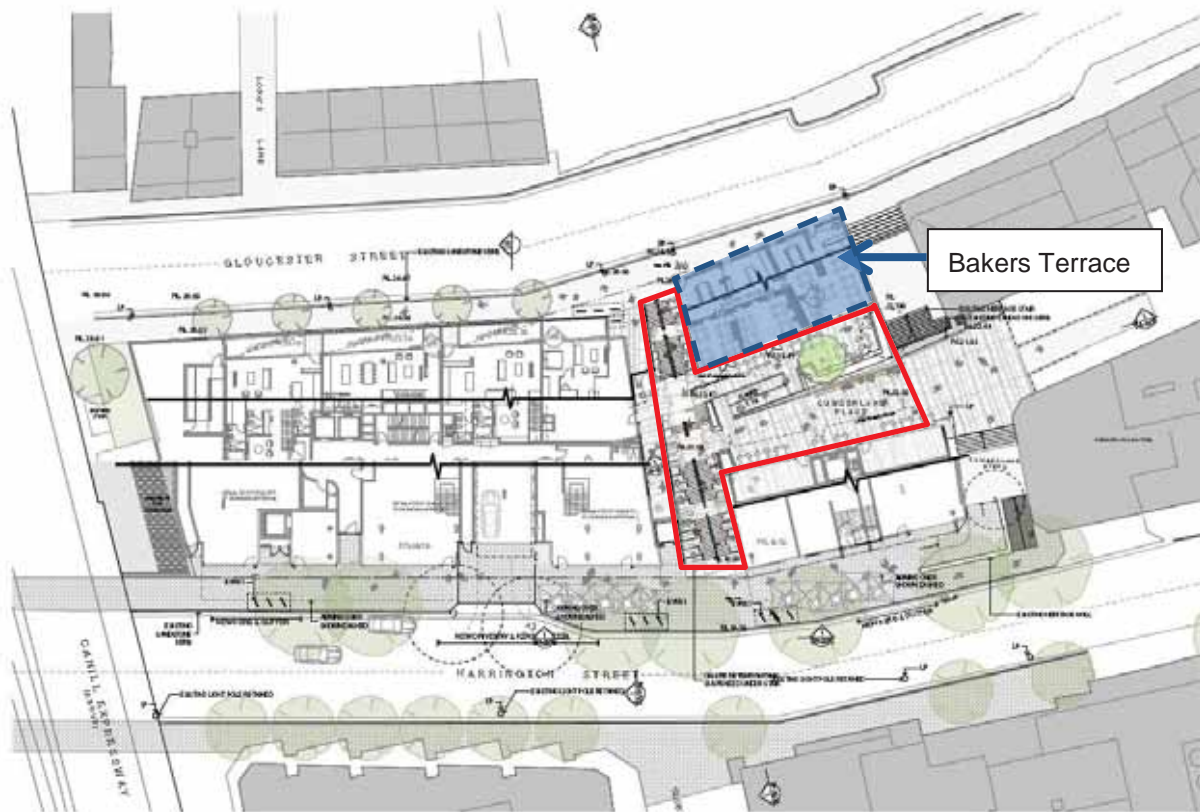
AUSTRALIAN THEME	NSW THEME	LOCAL THEME	EXAMPLE
		organisations	the c1970s, when it was taken over by the Sydney Cove Redevelopment Authority.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Domestic life	Activities associated with creating, maintaining, living in and working around houses and institutions	<p>The subject site developed as predominately typical late 19th century residential accommodation for the local maritime industry and various other working class tenants. Widespread demolition of these buildings from the 1890s to the 1940s is associated with significant historical events, including the development, decline and redevelopment of the Rocks precinct.</p> <p>The extant remaining Bakers Terrace has continuously provided residential accommodation from the early 19th century until the late 20th century, to various occupants of differing backgrounds.</p>

The subject site at 85 Harrington Street, The Rocks forms a part of the historic Rocks precinct, which is recognised for its considerable heritage significance and is a highly visited tourist attraction forming part of the rocks precinct. Whilst the site has very low archaeological potential, its redevelopment offers opportunity for site specific interpretation to contribute to the wider interpretation strategy of The Rocks. Interpretation is therefore aimed at the overall historical development of the site, including its former typography, use and occupation, which is associated with significant historical events in The Rocks, including the development, decline and redevelopment of the area.

It is noted that the sites extant heritage buildings, Bakers Terrace, also have considerable significance in their own right which should be interpreted. As outlined in the Statement of Significance for Bakers Terrace in Section 2.6.2, Constructed c1875 (66-68) and c1882 (70-72).they have significance as an aesthetically distinct row of late 19th century workers terraces constructed in the mid-Victorian period for the purposes of residential accommodation and are some of only a few that survived wide spread demolition of buildings on Gloucester, Cambridge and Harrington Streets from the 1890s to the 1940s. They form part of the complex layering of the Rocks, which is rare as a whole in its ability to provide evidence of ways of life, customs, technologies and processes from 1788 to the present.

Relevant heritage interpretation themes associated with the subject site are outlined in Sections 4.2.1 to **Error! Reference source not found.** below. With consideration for the intended wide audience profile including international tourists, interpretation is proposed to be provided in various built forms and media, including embedded throughout landscaped zones/sections within public accessible areas and/or thoroughfares of the subject site. The general location of proposed public accessible areas on the site is shown in Figure 25 below.

FIGURE 25 – GROUND FLOOR PLAN WITH GENERAL LOCATION OF PROPOSED PUBLIC ACCESSIBLE AREAS OUTLINED. (NOTE THAT THE GROUND FLOOR OF BAKERS TERRACE IS ALSO PROPOSED TO BE RETAIL / CAFÉ (DINING) SPACE WILL ALSO BE PUBLICALLY ACCESSIBLE.)



SOURCE: FJMT ARCHITECTS, SHEET NO. DA-8002.

4.2 INTERPRETATION IN BUILT FORM AND MEDIA

4.2.1 RETENTION AND CONSERVATION OF BAKERS TERRACE

The proposed redevelopment of the subject site involves the retention and conservation of Bakers Terrace, which will be adaptively reused as café space on the lower level/ basement and residential apartments on the upper two levels. The terraces, inclusive generally of all identified original heritage fabric, as well as some identified fabric that is a sympathetic reconstruction of the c1988-89 works, will be retained and conserved. The proposed works to Bakers Terrace seeks to provide interpretation of its original elements and its original setting. Interpretation is proposed in the following ways listed below, and where panels/signage has been indicated, an outline of relevant topics:

- **Reinstatement and interpretation of the former basement level**

It is proposed to reinstate and interpret the former floor level of the basement (note that this will be in relation to the proposed new design of the rear courtyard, which will reinstate the former level of the rear courtyard of Bakers Terrace).

Historic images show that the former basement floor level opened directly onto the former rear yards of Bakers Terrace, which adjoined Cambridge Street Laneway. The present basement level was raised in c1988-90, in relation to the redevelopment of the site and construction of the existing raised courtyard to the rear of the terraces.

- **Provision of heritage interpretation panels/signage (and possible content overview):**

Provision of heritage interpretation panels/signage will aid in the interpretation of Bakers Terrace and its relationship with its overall wider setting and The Rocks precinct in general. As the only extant buildings

on the site, there is opportunity to incorporate panels/signage outlining the key components of their significance as outlined in their Statement of Significance in Section 2.6. This includes the opportunity to reference their historic development, use, and associations as outlined below.

In terms of historic development, this includes an outline beginning with their early construction (c1875-1882). Bakers Terrace were designed as typical late Victorian two up and two down terraces, with slightly larger basements and providing six rooms in total as well as a finished attic. Their historic development should also encompass their two main phases of redevelopment, which are identified as being the late nineteenth century alterations and additions to the façade of the northern terraces (Number 66-68) to match that of the southern terraces (Number 70-72), and the extensive modifications undertaken in 1988-90, to convert the terraces to commercial use as part of their incorporation with the overall wider site.

In terms of historic use, this includes an outline of their long period of use as residential terraces, from their initial construction to house the local maritime workforce and other various working class tenants, to their resumption by the NSW Government in the early 20th century and subsequent use as a housing commission.

In terms of historic association, this includes their association with Edward Baker and other significant figures associated with the site, whom SHFA will provide additional information about, in addition to that which has been provided in the historic outline within the Bakers Terrace CMP. As well as this, historic association in terms of the terraces overall association to significant historical events in The Rocks, including the development, decline and redevelopment of the Rocks, in which the terraces are some of only a few which survived widespread demolition of buildings on Gloucester, Cambridge and Harrington Streets.

- **Possible images for interpretation panels/signage:**

FIGURE 26 – POSSIBLE IMAGES



PICTURE 11 –THE SUBJECT SITE INDICATED IN C1880S OPPOSITE THE WHALERS ARMS HOTEL. NOTE THE ORIGINAL CREAM COLOUR SCHEME OF THE BUILDING. (SOURCE: TROVE—NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA)



PICTURE 12 – GLOUCESTER STREET SHOWING BAKERS TERRACE. THEY ARE NOTED TO BE VERY DILAPIDATED AND WITH SHUTTERS ON THE LOWER LEVEL SOUTHERN TERRACES. (SOURCE: CMP BAKERS TERRACE, 2007).



PICTURE 13 – REAR OF BAKERS TERRACE, C1910. (SOURCE: BAKERS TERRACE CMP, 2007).

4.2.2 REINSTATEMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF FORMER CAMBRIDGE STREET LANEWAY

- **Reinstatement and Interpretation of former Cambridge Street Laneway:**

It is proposed to reinstate and interpret the former ground level to the existing rear courtyard of Bakers Terrace and the former alignment of Cambridge Street Laneway within the new design. Historic research shows that Cambridge Street Laneway formerly ran to the rear of Bakers Terrace (as an extension of the present Cambridge Street), separating buildings fronting both Gloucester Street and Harrington Street, and adjoined Harrington Street to the south. Historic images (refer Figure 28) show that in c1988-90, the redevelopment of the subject site truncated Cambridge Street Laneway and incorporated it into the present rear courtyard of Bakers Terrace.

The former alignment of Cambridge Street Laneway will be delineated within the design via its layout, design and materiality. These may include the use of differing levels (already incorporated into the design) ground inlays or other built forms or elements. Relevant examples of how this can be achieved are provided below.

FIGURE 27 – RELEVANT EXAMPLES

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PICTURE 14 – MUSEUM OF SYDNEY, CORNER OF PHILLIP AND BRIDGE STREET, SYDNEY, SHOWING STONE HERITAGE INTERPRETATION GROUND INLAYS.



PICTURE 15 – DETAIL OF GROUND INLAYS, WHICH MARK ORIGINAL FOUNDATIONS, EMBEDDED IN LANDSCAPED FORECOURT (SOURCE: [HTTPS://WWW.GOOGLE.COM.AU/SEARCH?Q=MUSEUM+OF+SYDNEY+FORECOURT](https://www.google.com.au/search?q=MUSEUM+OF+SYDNEY+FORECOURT))



PICTURE 16 – DETAIL OF GROUND INLAYS, PARRAMATTA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES. (URBIS, 2016).



PICTURE 17 – DETAIL OF GROUND INLAYS, PARRAMATTA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES. (URBIS, 2016)

- **Provision of heritage interpretation panels/signage:**

Provision of heritage interpretation panels/signage will aid in the interpretation of the Cambridge Street Laneway and its former alignment. There is opportunity to incorporate panels/signage outlining its overall historic development and use, embedded in the landscape of the proposed courtyard design. This area also provides opportunity to interpret the former topography and overall development and use of the entire site, as outlined in Section 4.2.3 below.

- **Possible images for interpretation panels/signage:**

FIGURE 28 – POSSIBLE IMAGES



PICTURE 18 — IMAGE OF CAMBRIDGE STREET LANEWAY TO THE REAR OF BAKERS TERRACE, 1901. (SOURCE: ARCHIVES OFFICES OF NSW)



PICTURE 19 — REAR OF BAKERS TERRACE, C1963 SHOWING REAR YARDS, GATES AND REAR FENCES TO CAMBRIDGE STREET LANEWAY. (SOURCE: COLLECTION HISTORIC HOUSES TRUST)



PICTURE 20 — REAR FAÇADE SHOWING EXTENSIVE DEMOLITION AND EXCAVATION UNDERTAKEN AT REAR OF BAKERS TERRACE, C1988. (SOURCE: BAKERS TERRACE CMP, 2007)

4.2.3 INTERPRETATION OF THE FORMER TOPOGRAPHY, USE AND OCCUPATION OF THE SITE.

- **New pedestrian thoroughfare (staircase)**

Provision of a new pedestrian thoroughfare (staircase) between Harrington Street and Gloucester Street will interpret and enhance the former steep topography of the site. There is opportunity here for panels and signage embedded into the landscape to communicate the former topography, use and occupation of the site with as detailed below.

- **Provision of heritage interpretation panels/signage:**

Topography of the Site

Provision of heritage interpretation panels/signage will aid in the interpretation of the overall former steep topography and use of the site (and its relation to The Rocks precinct in general). The steep topography of the site is typical of the topographic nature of The Rocks, which developed on rugged rocky terrain and outcrops which gave 'The Rock's' its name.

Historic research shows that originally Harrington Street was so steep it was constructed with an upper and lower level of road cut into the bedrock. A stairway provided access from the lower level of road to the upper level of road. Several laneways provided access from Harrington to Cambridge Street and Cambridge to Gloucester Street. The land covering the subject site fell steeply in an easterly direction across the site from Gloucester Street to Harrington Street. It was terraced with roads and buildings cut into the slope and set on bedrock. With the site being split level (separated by the former Cambridge Street Laneway), there was an unusual and diverse array of buildings fronting both Harrington Street and Gloucester Street.

Use of the Site

Provision of heritage interpretation panels/signage will aid in the interpretation of the former overall development and use/occupation of the site (and its relation to The Rocks precinct in general). Historic research shows that by 1830, primarily freestanding buildings on larger lots in The Rocks had given way to a greater density of attached buildings. Commercial, industrial and residential buildings shared The Rocks with people living and working in the same buildings and pubs were a very common feature of The Rocks.

Historic research shows that by 1865, the subject site consisted of single and double storey free standing houses, conjoined terraces, shops, a pub and storage sheds and by 1900, the subject site consisted of around 30 buildings which included single and double storey houses, stables, the four storey 'Ship and Mermaid Hotel' that was operating as a boarding house, shops and additional sheds and outbuildings. A majority of different owners and tenants occupied the site at this time, which SHFA may be able to provide additional information about, beyond that of which is outlined in the history of the site. These buildings were demolished progressively from 1905 with Bakers Terraces the only extant buildings now remaining.

- Potential images for heritage interpretation panels/signage:

FIGURE 29 – SUGGESTED IMAGES



PICTURE 21 — HOUSES ON CAMBRIDGE STREET STEPPING UP THE ROCKY TERRAIN, C1900. SUBJECT SITE SHOWN WITH BLUE ARROW (TROVE—NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA).



PICTURE 22 — CAMBRIDGE STREET (UPPER LEVEL HARRINGTON STREET) 1901—PART OF THE STUDY AREA INCLUDING SMALL COTTAGES, THE SHIP AND MERMAID HOTEL AND BAKERS TERRACES IN THE BACKGROUND. (SOURCE: ROCKS RESUMPTION PHOTOGRAPHS, TROVE—NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA).



PICTURE 23 — GLOUCESTER STREET 1901, PART OF THE STUDY AREA INCLUDING THE STONE SHIP AND MERMAID HOTEL, COTTAGE AND TERRACES. ALL OF THESE BUILDINGS WERE DEMOLISHED BY 1949. (SOURCE: ROCKS RESUMPTION PHOTOGRAPHS, TROVE – NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA)



PICTURE 24 — BUILDINGS AND THROUGH SITE LINKS IN THE STUDY AREA IN 1900, BETWEEN GLOUCESTER STREET AND HARRINGTON STREET WITH SITE OVERLAY

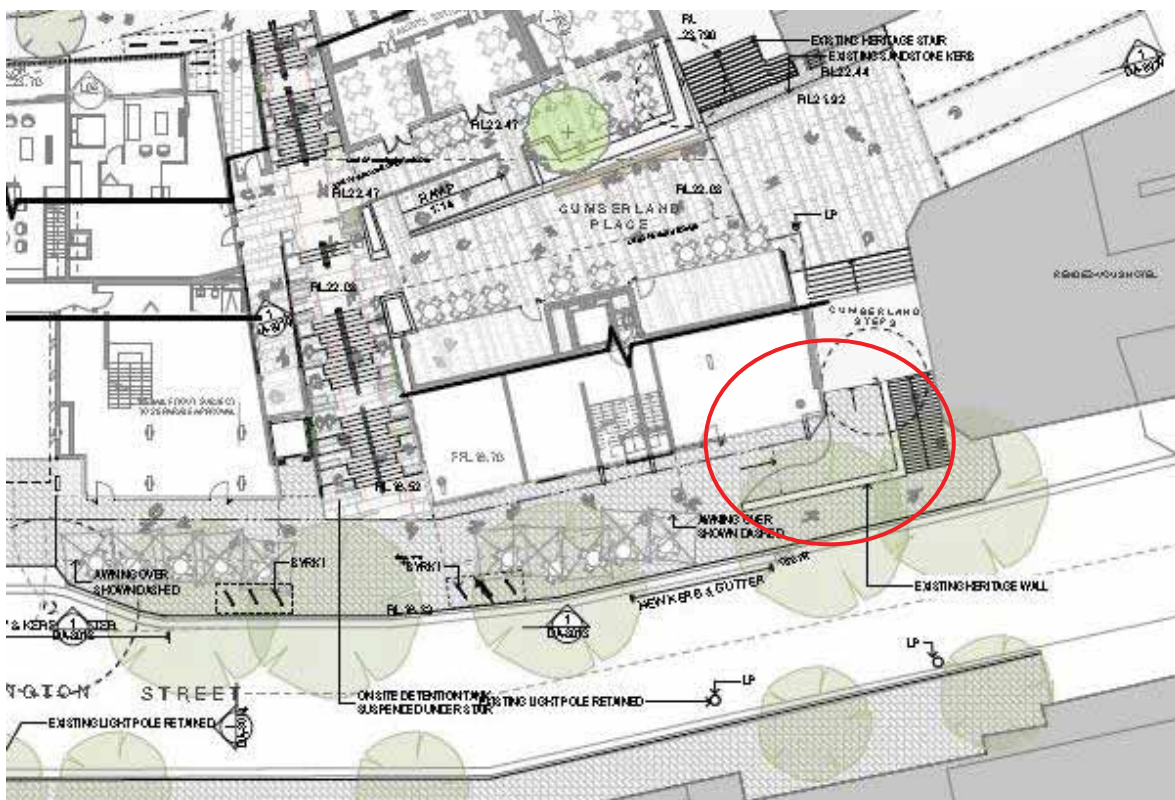
4.2.4 INTERPRETATION OF HARRINGTON STREET SANDSTONE RETAINING WALL

- **Provision of heritage interpretation panels/signage**

Provision of heritage interpretation panels/signage will aid in the interpretation of the stone retaining wall fronting Harrington Street. Historic research shows the topography was so steep in this part of The Rocks it required separation of the road. This stone retaining wall separated the upper level of Harrington Street from the lower level. Photographs of The Rocks Resumptions demonstrate the retaining wall was constructed between 1900 and 1914 as a facing over the existing bedrock. The top of the wall acquired several additional courses after 1980 and it has not changed significantly since the early 20th century. This stone retaining wall also provides an opportunity to interpret the former topography and overall development and use of the entire site, as outlined in Section 4.2.3 above.

- **Location on subject site**

FIGURE 30 – GROUND FLOOR PLAN WITH LOCATION OF THE HERITAGE WALL INDICATED



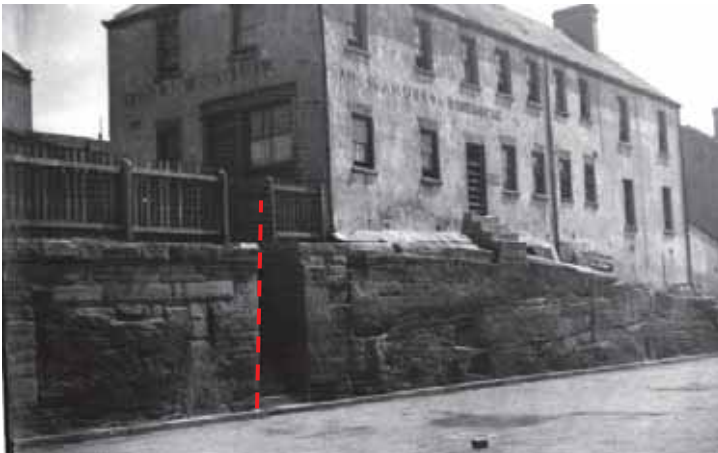
SOURCE – FRANCIS-JONES MOREHEN THORP, SHEET NO. DA-8002

- **Suggested images for heritage interpretation panels/signage:**

FIGURE 31 – SUGGESTED IMAGES



PICTURE 25 – C1901 SHOWING THE CUTTING BACK OF THE ROCK FACE ON HARRINGTON STREET AND PARTIAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE STONE FACING OF THE WALL (SOURCE : CUMBERLAND PLACE CMP SHFA 2008).



PICTURE 26 – THE SAILORS RETURN TO THE NORTH OF STUDY AREA ON HARRINGTON STREET AROUND 1915. THE STAIRS TO CUMBERLAND PLACE CAN BE SEEN CUT INTO THE BEDROCK AND THE SANDSTONE WALL ON THE LEFT REMAINS IN THE STREET TODAY. SUBJECT SITE TO THE LEFT OF THE RED DASHED LINE (SOURCE: CUMBERLAND PLACE CMP SHFA 2008).



PICTURE 27 – CUMBERLAND PLACE CMP SHFA 2008.

4.3 SIGNAGE/PANEL DESCRIPTION AND EXAMPLES

Materials for signage/panels are to be designed in the later stages in conjunction with the architects and the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority. Contemporary interpretation methods and materials are encouraged. Materials for signage may include brass, stainless steel, anodised aluminium, other sheet metals or glass.

Signage/panels fixed to original fabric should be attached where it can be demonstrated to be reversible and not damage any significant finishes.

Signage/panels should be consistent with existing heritage interpretation signage panels already in place at Cumberland Place and Steps as shown in Figure 32. Other relevant examples are also shown below for reference in Figure 33.

FIGURE 32 – EXISTING HERITAGE INTERPRETATION AT CUMBERLAND PLACE AND STEPS.



PICTURE 28 – CUMBERLAND PLACE AND STEPS HERITAGE INTERPRETATION. (SOURCE: GML WEBPAGE, WWW.GML.COM.AU, ACCESSED JANUARY 2016)

FIGURE 33 – OTHER RELEVANT SAMPLE SIGNAGE PANELS/EXAMPLES INTERIOR SPACES



PICTURE 29 – THE ROCKS DISCOVERY MUSEUM HERITAGE INTERPRETATION. (SOURCE: THE ROCKS DISCOVERY MUSEUM WEBPAGE, [HTTP://WWW.THEROCKS.COM/THINGS-TO-DO/THE-ROCKS-DISCOVERY-MUSEUM/](http://www.therocks.com/things-to-do/the-rocks-discovery-museum/), ACCESSED JANUARY 2016)



PICTURE 30 – INTERPRETATION SIGNAGE/PANELS IN PUBLIC COURTYARD SPACE AND PEDESTRIAN THOROUGHFARE OF LIBERTY PLACE, 161 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY. (SOURCE: URBIS)



PICTURE 31 – INTERPRETATION SIGNAGE/PANELS AT CUMBERLAND STREET, SYDNEY. (SOURCE: URBIS)



PICTURE 32 – INTERPRETATION SIGNAGE/PANELS AT CUMBERLAND STREET, SYDNEY. (SOURCE: URBIS)



PICTURE 33 – INTERPRETATION SIGNAGE/PANELS AT BALLAST POINT PARK, SYDNEY. (SOURCE: URBIS)



PICTURE 34 – INTERPRETATION SIGNAGE/PANELS AT BALLAST POINT PARK, SYDNEY. (SOURCE: URBIS)



PICTURE 35 – INTERPRETATION SIGNAGE/PANELS AT BALLAST POINT PARK, SYDNEY. (SOURCE: URBIS)



PICTURE 36 – INTERPRETATION PANEL AT THE FORMER PARAMOUNT PICTURES OFFICE, SYDNEY. (SOURCE: URBIS)

5 Conclusion and Recommendations

This Interpretation Strategy is required as a condition of the SEARS, in order to ensure that the history of the subject site is properly documented, interpreted and displayed, such that it can be appreciated by future visitors. This strategy incorporates interpretation within built form and media to communicate the following significant themes of the site:

- Retention and conservation of Bakers Terrace;
- Reinstatement and interpretation of former Cambridge Street Laneway;
- Interpretation of former topography, use and occupation; and
- Interpretation of Harrington Street sandstone wall.

The strategy is intended to provide for a border audience, inclusive of international and local tourists. As such, interpretation is proposed as part of the landscaping of the site, in publically accessible areas.

If approved, it is intended that Urbis will continue to work with the project team to further develop a detailed Interpretation Plan.

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[Note: Some government departments have changed their names over time and the above publications state the name at the time of publication.]

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