

SSD 7054 (LEES1 Building) & SSD 7055 (F23 Building), Camperdown Campus Supplementary Information on Building Alignments and Heritage Significance

F23 – response to the concerns of the Heritage Council [letter 07 October 2016].

1. Reposition F23 so as to respect the alignment of the Madsen and Anderson Stuart buildings on Eastern Avenue:

The University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan identifies Eastern Avenue as a major planning and visual axis on the Camperdown campus (Figure 1) that “should be retained and, if possible, enhanced” (GCMP Policy 18), but it does not impose a policy specifically referring to the pre-WWII building alignment.

The alignment of the Madsen and Anderson Stuart buildings on Eastern Avenue exists only on plan. The construction of the Chemistry building (1958) disrupted irrevocably this visual building alignment. In addition, the spatial experience of Eastern Avenue was further altered by the urban design works and associated landscaping, which transformed Eastern Avenue into a pedestrian zone (2008).

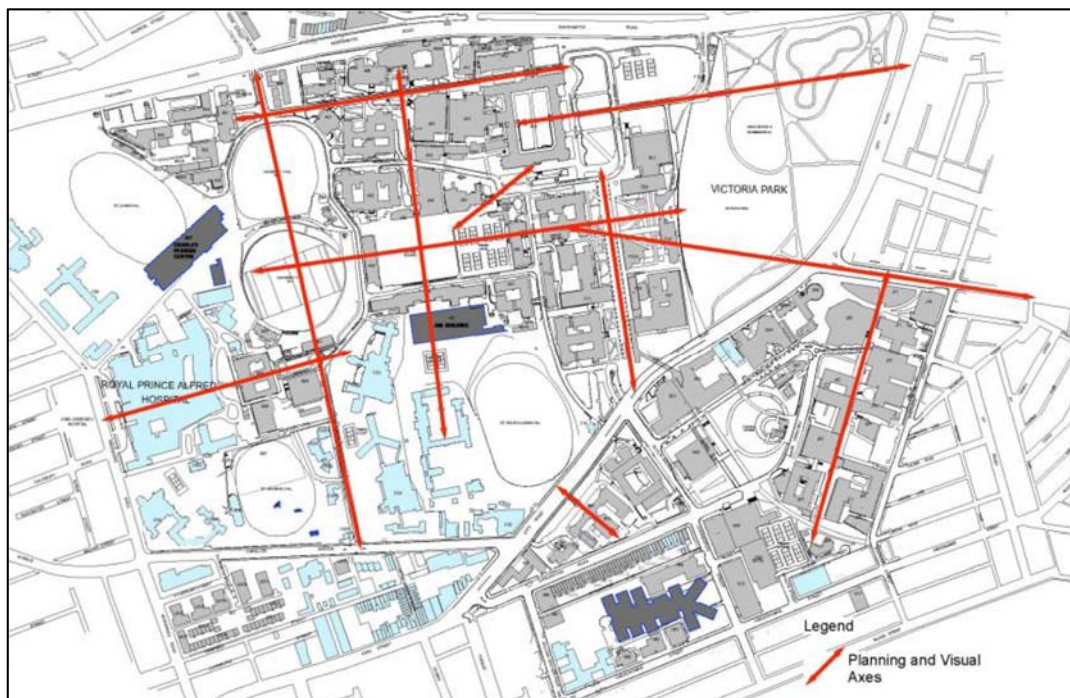


Fig.1 University of Sydney Campus Planning and Visual Axes

(source: Fig. 6.1, University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan (2015))

The proposed Administrative (F23) Building is located outside the Eastern Avenue visual corridor when viewed from either University Place (north) or City Road (south) and as such does not have an adverse impact on its heritage significance.

2. Provide more open landscape at the south-eastern corner of the F23 Building:

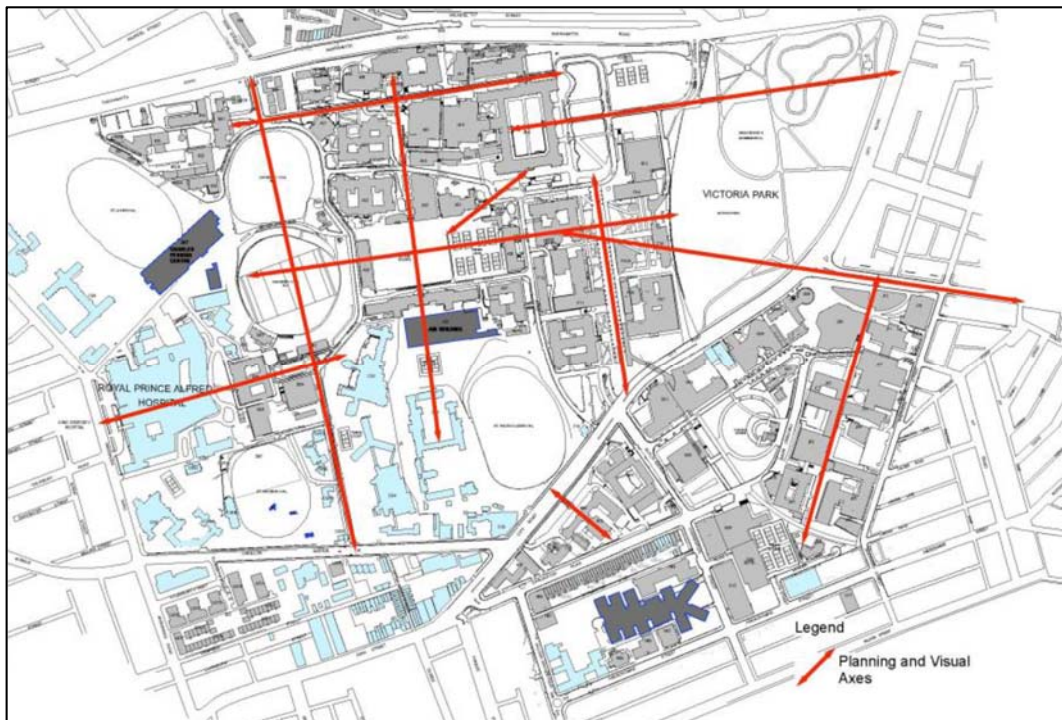
Plan F23 –A-DA-0204 (Rev.1) prepared by Grimshaw Architects illustrates the provision of a more amenable public domain and an improved interface of F23 with City Road in the south-east corner of the project site. Vehicular access, except for emergencies, has been removed and the space is integrated with the Eastern Avenue pedestrian zone.

Conclusion: The proposed F23 building does not adversely impact on the overall heritage significance of the University’s Camperdown campus.

LEES1 (F07) – response to the concerns of the City of Sydney (letter 07 October 2016)

1. Protrusion of levels 5-8 beyond the heritage alignment of the adjacent Carslaw Building:

The University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan identifies Eastern Avenue as a major planning and visual axis on the Camperdown campus (Figure 1) that “should be retained and, if possible, enhanced” (GCMP Policy 18), but it does not impose a policy specifically referring to the post-WWII building alignment on the eastern side of the avenue.



University of Sydney Campus Planning and Visual Axes

(source: Fig. 6.1, University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan (2015))

The building alignment on the city (eastern) side of Eastern Avenue varies from the Fisher Library at the northern end to the Carslaw Building in the south. The recent construction of the low rise Law Buildings (2008) adjacent Carslaw Building has created a distinctive building alignment at the southern end of Eastern Avenue, but it is not an alignment of *heritage* significance.

The lower levels of the proposed F07 conform to this building alignment, but with the projecting floors levels 5-8. The HIS for the revised design concluded that “... taking into account the position of the F07 building anchoring the City Road end of Eastern Avenue; the width of Eastern Avenue; and the continuation of the view corridor across City Road to the Darlington campus buildings, the visual impact of the projection of Levels 5, 6, 7 & 8 into the southern Eastern Avenue view corridor is considered to be relatively minor and, therefore, acceptable.” (HIS, May 2016, p.28) Similarly, the University’s independent heritage and architect peer reviewer for this project, Howard Tanner (former HC Chairman), has also concluded “... *this scheme had merit, as it gave some real definition and conclusion to the view south down Eastern Avenue ...*” (Design Review Meeting Notes: 26 April 2016).

The University notes that the presentation material provided to the DPE/GAO has provided ‘broader context information that assisted in clarifying this matter’. The design and alignment of LEES1 has been the subject of ongoing refinement of its western façade

alignment which included setting it back further to the east following advice from Howard Tanner's.

Conclusion: The proposed projection of levels 5-8 on the F07 Building does not adversely impact on the heritage significance of the Eastern Avenue view corridor, nor the overall heritage significance University's Camperdown campus.