

HERITAGE INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

BLACKBURN BUILDING UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

31 AUGUST 2017
SA6477
PREPARED FOR LAING O'ROURKE AUSTRALIA

URBIS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Heritage Interpretation Strategy ('the Strategy') has been prepared for the Blackburn Building and satisfies the conditions of consent for the University of Sydney Campus Improvement Program 2014-2020 (SSD 6123) which state:

B14: All future development applications for new built form that involve the demolition or alteration of existing items of heritage significance shall include a heritage interpretation plan in accordance with the NSW Heritage Branch Guidelines, titled "Interpreting Heritage Places and Items: guidelines and policy" titled 'Heritage Information Series: Heritage Interpretation Policy' for assessment and approval. The interpretation plan must:

- a) Detail how information on the history and significance of the building within the University of Sydney will be provided for the public and include pictures, text, and detailed designs for its implementation.*
- b) Include significance themes, including the buildings contribution to the development of the university and residential colleges.*

This report forms part of staged delivery and implementation of interpretation at the site. It is provided for the purpose of conceptualising the precincts vision for 'interpretation'

The intent of the strategy is to facilitate integration of interpretation into the proposed development and to inform and guide interpretation planning. Based on the history of the site, the Strategy nominates themes and narratives associated with the place to be interpreted, and provides recommendations for interpreting its history and significant values to the identified audiences. The strategy also identifies examples of interpretive media that may be suitable for the site including interpretation in the built form, signage and historic markers, public art, and/ or published media.

This strategy is considered to satisfy the CIP conditions of consent however further work is required to develop and implement interpretation as part of staged delivery of the site as set out in sections 6.4 and 7.1.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Health Precinct site falls within the recently approved Concept Campus Improvement Program (CIP) – SSD 13_6123.

The 13,000 sqm (Health Precinct) redevelopment site is located on an underutilised part of the campus and is essentially unseen from any major road or public areas. The Health Precinct currently houses five separate buildings being the Bosch 1A and 1B Buildings, the Bosch Glasshouse, the Blackburn Building and the associated Dangerous Goods Store. These buildings have concept planning approval for demolition under the CIP (refer to section 5).

The demolition of the subject Blackburn Building and Dangerous Goods Store buildings was approved under a separate early works package under the provisions of Clause 29 *Development Permitted Without Consent* of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007*. The demolition of the balance of the buildings within the Health Precinct boundary (i.e. Bosch 1A, Bosch 1B and Glasshouses), which have CIP Stage 1 approval for demolition will form part of future planning applications.

This Heritage Interpretation Strategy ('the Strategy') has been prepared for the Blackburn Building and satisfies the conditions of consent for the University of Sydney Campus Improvement Program 2014-2020 (SSD 6123) which state:

B14: All future development applications for new built form that involve the demolition or alteration of existing items of heritage significance shall include a heritage interpretation plan in accordance with the NSW Heritage Branch Guidelines, titled "Interpreting Heritage Places and Items: guidelines and policy titled 'Heritage Information Series: Heritage Interpretation Policy' for assessment and approval. The interpretation plan must:

- *a) Detail how information on the history and significance of the building within the University of Sydney will be provided for the public and include pictures, text, and detailed designs for its implementation.*
- *b) Include significance themes, including the buildings contribution to the development of the university and residential colleges.*

This strategy is also provided in response to the Health Precinct Heritage Impact Statement (2013) prepared by Clive Lucas Stapleton and Partners, which required the salvaging of specific elements of the Blackburn Building, and their re-use as interpretive elements within the eventual 'Health Precinct' development, as a means of mitigating the heritage impact of the demolition. Elements recommended to be salvaged and re-used for interpretative purposes are listed in section 6.4.3.

The Strategy presents a strategic approach to the interpretation of the site's heritage significance and values. The intent of the Strategy is to facilitate integration of interpretation into the stage 1 development and guide interpretation planning, and further to make recommendations for ongoing development of the precinct. Informed by the physical fabric and the history of the place, the Strategy nominates themes and narratives associated with the place to be interpreted (refer to section 6.3) and provides recommendations for interpreting its history and archaeological resource to the identified audiences. The strategy also identifies examples of interpretive media suitable for the site (refer to section 6.4) and further steps to implement this strategy (refer to section 7.1).

Subsequent stages of interpretation are to include detailed design development and implementation of select interpretive initiatives (to be developed in conjunction with project and landscape architects to ensure an integrated response and in conjunction with any relevant stakeholders) including but not limited to,

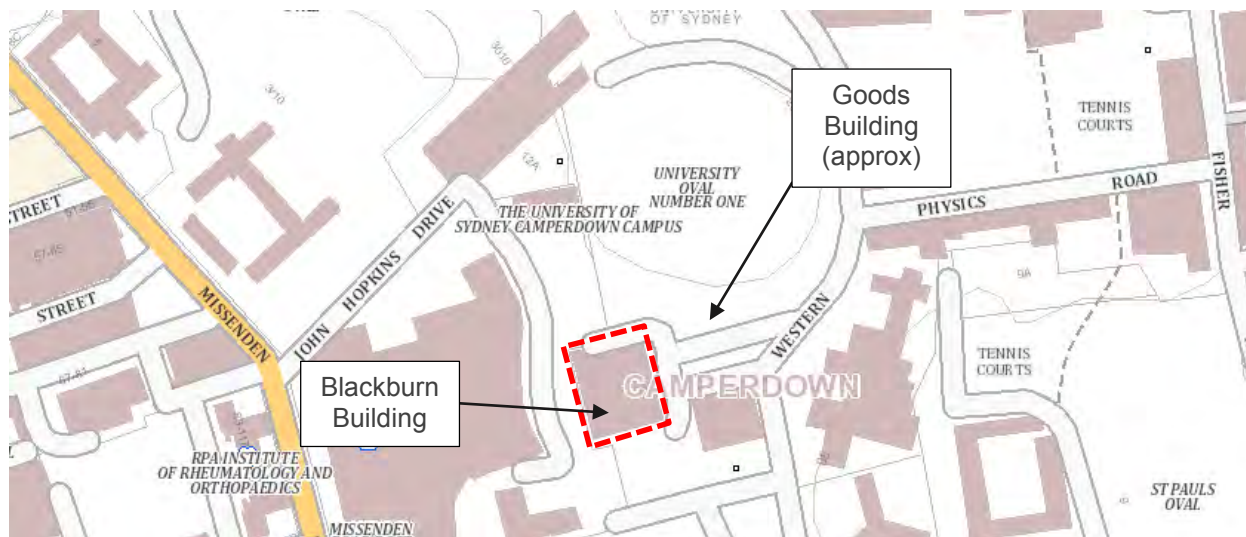
- Display of salvaged materials
- Signage and Historic markers
- Built form interpretation
- Display of collections and memorabilia
- Public art; and
- Published materials

1.1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

The area that is to become the new Health Precinct incorporates five separate buildings being the Bosch 1A and 1B Buildings, the Bosch Glasshouse, the Blackburn Building and the associated Dangerous Goods Store.

The subject Blackburn Building is located on the western side of the Camperdown campus of the University of Sydney. Blackburn Circuit is located to the east of the building, while Lambie Dew Drive is located to the west. The 'Dangerous Flammable Stores Building' is located to the east of the Blackburn Building.

Figure 1 – Map showing the location of the Blackburn Building



Source: SixMaps 2016

1.2. METHODOLOGY

The Strategy is intended to inform and guide collaborative interpretation planning for the subject site, with stakeholders, consultants and other relevant parties, and forms part of a staged delivery of interpretation and development of detailed briefs in conjunction with subsequent stages of works.

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 that they may be passed on to future generations.¹ Interpretation is an integral part of the experience of significant heritage places and the conservation and management of 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.²

This 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 the Conditions of Consent 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" 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 material (Article 1.17).

¹ NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning, Heritage Information Series, Heritage Interpretation Policy, August 2005, pg 2.

² Ibid 3

Interpretation should provide and enhance understanding of the history, significance and meaning of the building. 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

1.3. AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following report has been prepared by Ashleigh Roddan (Heritage Consultant) and Fiona Binns (Associate Director - Heritage). Unless otherwise stated, all drawings, illustrations and photographs are the work of Urbis.

1.4. LIMITATIONS

This report forms part of staged delivery and implementation of interpretation at the site. It is provided for the purpose of conceptualising the precincts vision for ‘interpretation’. The formalisation of the final Heritage Interpretation Strategy and detailed briefs are subject to detailed design development in conjunction with the consultant and technical team to integrate interpretation within the development of the site.

It is noted that recommended locations for interpretation and media contained within this strategy outline are indicative and will be subject to further consideration through the preparation of the final Interpretation Strategy and development of detailed interpretation proposals.

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1. BLACKBURN BUILDING

The Blackburn Building is located on the western side of the University of Sydney Camperdown campus. It houses various departments within the Faculty of Medicine for the teaching of medicine to senior medical students, and also houses a number of research units and institutes. The Faculty of Medicine maintains very close links with the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, located to the west; the Blackburn Building was connected to the main hospital complex for many years via a covered walkway.

The building was constructed between 1931–1933 to the design of the NSW Government Architect, Evan Smith, and funded by the Rockefeller Foundation. It was called the 'New Medical School' or the 'Rockefeller Foundation Building' until 1960 when it was officially re-named the Blackburn Building in honour of Sir Charles Bickerton Blackburn.

2.1.1. Physical Description

The Blackburn Building consists of a five-level face brick institutional building arranged around two courtyards. The principal entrance is on the east side facing the University; the secondary entrance is on the west side, facing the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Until recently the building was connected to the Hospital by an elaborate two-level covered way. Circa 1970 the building was connected to Bosch Building 1B on the third and fourth levels, by concrete bridges.

Figure 2 – Principal (eastern) façade of the building showing main entryway (Urbis 2016)



The building is designed largely in the Art Deco style, popular in the 1930s. However, the mansard roof to the fifth level retains a slightly Georgian Revival style character. The original composition included double level spaces in the octagonal shaped central wing to house the library and Pathology Museum. As originally constructed the building also contained large lecture theatres and demonstration classrooms in the north-west and south-west legs of the building. Most of these larger spaces have now been in-filled.

Figure 3 – Principal (eastern) façade of the building, facing southwest (Urbis 2016)



Figure 4 – View of the northern elevation, facing west



The building is configured in a figure eight with two central courtyards and three wings at the rear (western) façade. The central hall features an octagonal form, comprising offices and the former pathology museum. Circulation within the building is via front (east) and rear (west) stairs and lifts. The rear (west) corridor contains locker and lavatory combination. At each level the corridor provides access to a series of offices and laboratories, storerooms, staff offices, services etc. The corridor is generally located on the courtyard side of the wings, but on the north side is located adjacent the northern façade (reportedly to keep sun out of the northern laboratories).

The original fenestration appears to be a combination of steel framed and timber framed windows (perhaps due to depression shortages). Many original windows have been replaced by aluminium windows. Since its construction most of the offices/laboratories/classrooms plus lecture theatres have been significantly altered, principally by the introduction of mechanical services, new ceilings and fitments.

It has been considerably altered internally.

Figure 5 – View of the rear (western) façade of the building



Figure 6 – Internal view within one of the courtyards towards the octagonal central bay



Figure 7 – Internal photographs of the Blackburn Building



Picture 1 – The ground floor eastern stair lobby (at the entrance)



Picture 2 – Ground floor hall



Picture 3 – One of the smaller ground floor laboratories (southern side)



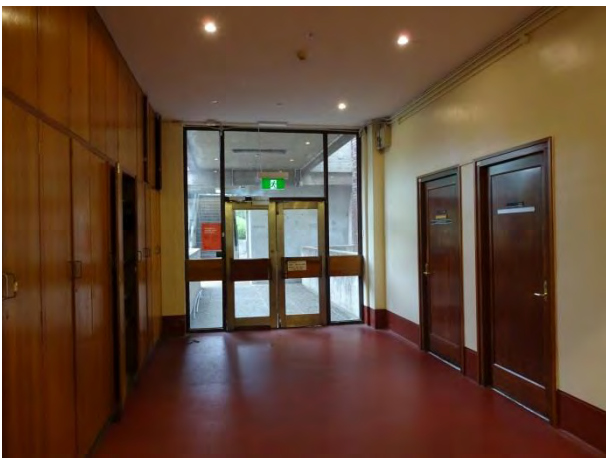
Picture 4 – Ground floor general hall view



Picture 5 – Ground floor hall view within the octagonal central core (department of endocrinology)



Picture 6 – View to level 3 from the stair landing towards the entry



Picture 7 – The level 3 southern link



Picture 8 – Level 3 laboratory (357)



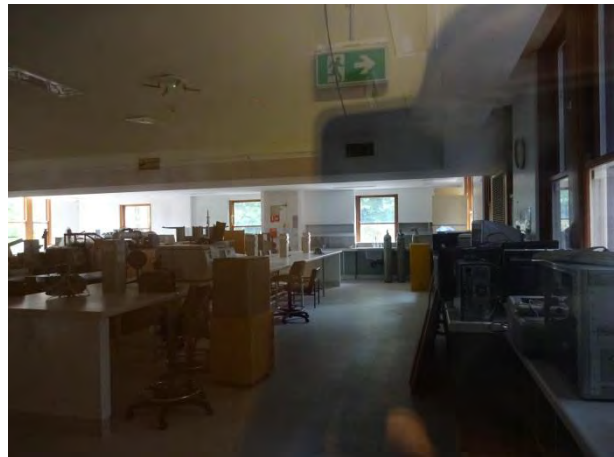
Picture 9 – Level 3 northern hall



Picture 10 – Office/ staff room 368 off the northern hall (level 3)



Picture 11 – Level 3 office space within the octagonal central space



Picture 12 – Level 4 laboratory (425) at the southwest corner



Picture 13 – Level 6 laboratory/ office space (605/606)



Picture 14 – level 6 hall view (room 630 at left – south hall)



Picture 15 – Art Deco urinal – level 4 men’s WC (434)



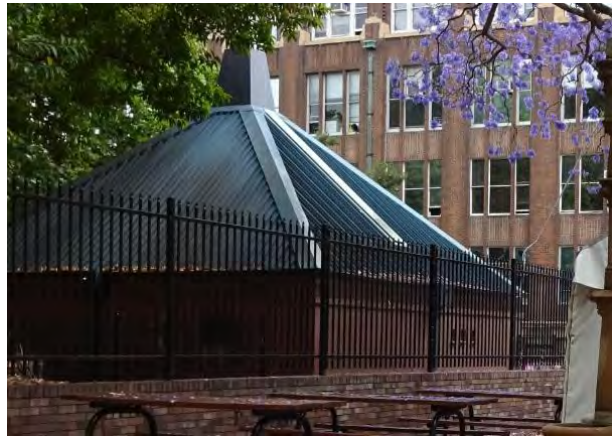
Picture 16 – View along the central corridor (level 4)

2.2. DANGEROUS AND FLAMMABLE GOODS STORE

The Dangerous and Flammable Goods Store is a single level, rendered brick building with a steep metal-deck roof. It functions as a store room.



Picture 17 – View of the western façade of the building, facing north



Picture 18 – View of the northern and eastern façades of the building, facing west towards the Blackburn Building

3. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

3.1. THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Under its Act of Incorporation in 1850, one of the principal functions of the new University of Sydney was the 'promotion of useful knowledge'. However, the University suffered from low enrolments and poor funding. It was largely a 'gentleman's university' with an emphasis on arts, languages and classical subjects.

In 1859 an anatomical school was planned and the Government Architect, Edmund Blacket asked to prepare plans for a new building. The scheme was defeated through the opposition of some professors who argued the scarce funds would be better deployed in finishing the main building still in construction.³

In the late nineteenth century, the fortunes of the University improved. In 1880, it was informed of the John Henry Challis bequest, and in 1884 it received the Thomas Fisher bequest for a library. A reformed school education system provided more students, and it began to receive more government funding. In the 1880s the University embarked on a major building program and extended its range of subjects to include, professional subjects, the sciences and medicine.

At the beginning of 1883 Thomas Peter Anderson Stuart arrived from Edinburgh to become the first Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.⁴ At the same time a four-roomed cottage was built behind the main building (where the Old Geology Building now stands) for the teaching of Medicine, Botany and Zoology. The first-year Medicine enrolment consisted of four students.⁵

Anderson Stuart immediately became involved in the planning and design of a permanent medical school. Plans were finalised by the Government Architect's office in November 1884, and the new sandstone Gothic Revival style building next to the Main Building was completed in 1889.⁶ The teaching of medicine expanded in the early years of the faculty. Anderson brought with him four graduates from the Edinburgh Medical School, including J T Wilson who succeeded Anderson Stuart as Professor of Anatomy and D A Welsh who became the first Professor of Pathology in 1903.⁷

The Faculty of Medicine has constantly grown and developed in parallel with the rapid twentieth century expansion of medicine as both a clinical and a research discipline. By the early twentieth century, the role of the Faculty of Medicine had expanded to include clinical research as well as the training of medical practitioners. This required dedicated full-time scientific and research staff and an increase in laboratory facilities.⁸ This led to the building of the New Medical School (later called the Blackburn Building) in 1931–1933 with money provided by the Rockefeller Foundation.

By the 1960s the Faculty of Medicine had outgrown its two buildings. In 1965 the George H Bosch Lecture Theatre building was completed as Stage 1 of the Bosch Complex, and in 1968 the Bosch Building next to the Blackburn Building and housing the library was completed as Stage 2. Both buildings were designed by architects, Stephenson and Turner.⁹

Early and well-known benefactors of the Medical Faculty were John Henry Challis (Anatomy), Sir Samuel McGaughey (Biochemistry and the Principles and Practice of Surgery) and George Henry Bosch (who donated four medical Chairs: Histology and Embryology, Medicine, Surgery and Bacteriology).¹⁰

The Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sydney has, over many years, supervised clinical instruction at major teaching hospitals (for example, St Vincent's, Royal North Shore, Royal Paddington Hospital for

³ James Semple Kerr, *Anderson Stuart's Medical School*, Sydney, University of Sydney, 1992. page 1.

⁴ Kerr, *Anderson Stuart's Medical School*, page 1.

⁵ Information collated from the History of the Faculty of Medicine, www.medfac.usyd.edu.au

⁶ Kerr, *Anderson Stuart's Medical School*, pages 1–12.

⁷ Information collated from the History of the Faculty of Medicine, www.medfac.usyd.edu.au

⁸ Building, 12 October 1933, page 21.

⁹ Young et al, *Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine*, page 433; Faculty of Medicine, University of Sydney,

[http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/museum/mwmuseum/index.php/Centenary_Book_of_the_University_of_Sydney_Faculty_of_Medicine_\(1984\)_by_J_Young,_A_Sefton_and_N_Webb](http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/museum/mwmuseum/index.php/Centenary_Book_of_the_University_of_Sydney_Faculty_of_Medicine_(1984)_by_J_Young,_A_Sefton_and_N_Webb).

¹⁰ Young et al, *Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine*, page 355.

Women, Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children) and its graduates have occupied most chairs and professorships in Medicine around Australia.

3.2. THE BLACKBURN BUILDING

- 1913 The Rockefeller Foundation was established with \$100 million from oil magnate, John Davison Rockefeller. Its aim was to 'promote the well-being of mankind throughout the world'. Rockefeller had earlier funded the establishment of the University of Chicago (\$25 million in 1889), the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research (1901), the General Education Board (\$129 million in 1903), the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission for the Eradication of Hookworm Disease (1909).¹¹
- 1923 Claude Witherington Stump (1891–1971) was offered the Chair of Anatomy at the new Rockefeller Medical School in Bangkok. However, he didn't like living in Thailand and moved to Australia to take up the Associate Professorship in Histology and Embryology at Sydney University in mid-1926. He became friends with George Henry Bosch who had already endowed grants to the Faculty of Medicine.¹²
- 1927 George Henry Bosch gave 25,500 pounds to establish the Chair of Histology and Embryology to which Stump was appointed the first Bosch Professor Histology and Embryology in 1928.¹³
- 1928 George Bosch gave another 222,000 pounds to establish full-time Chairs in Medicine, Surgery and Bacteriology.¹⁴
- early 1929 Negotiations began between Professor Stump and the Rockefeller Foundation for the building of clinical research laboratories.¹⁵ (Stump appears to have acted as a local agent for the Rockefeller Foundation which later funded Foundation Fellowships in neurosurgery, cytology, veterinary pathology and bacteriology).¹⁶
- Jan 1930 Bosch and Stump travelled to New York to meet with the Rockefeller Foundation.
- April 1930 The Rockefeller Foundation approved the donation of £100,000, on the following proviso:¹⁷
- '... the Foundation would expect the University of Sydney to carry out the main purpose for which the grant was made and not to divert any considerable part of the building to other purposes, especially if that should in any way interfere with the main purpose for which the grant was made, viz. to provide adequate laboratory facilities for the clinical departments together with the laboratories of pathology and bacteriology.'*
- Oct 1930 The University reports to the Rockefeller Foundation on progress on the new building:¹⁸
- 'The Directors of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital have offered, and the University has accepted, a site within the Hospital area, adjoining the site of the University Tennis Courts, on which it was originally proposed to erect the building. The building will be about 100 feet distant from the Hospital wards, with which it will be connected by corridors. The Tennis Court area will be utilised for part of the building, and for the provision of a suitable approach. I shall send you in due course a copy of the plan on which the Architect is at present engaged.'*
- 1930 Government Architect, G. A. Evan Smith, drew up plans for a new medical school. See Figure 8.

Figure 8 - Location plan for the Blackburn Building, possibly drawn by the Government Architect in 1931. This plan shows that the Blackburn Building was located along on an axis between RPAH and the corner of Western Avenue. Its

¹¹ The Rockefeller Foundation, <https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/>.

¹² Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 312.

¹³ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 312.

¹⁴ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 313

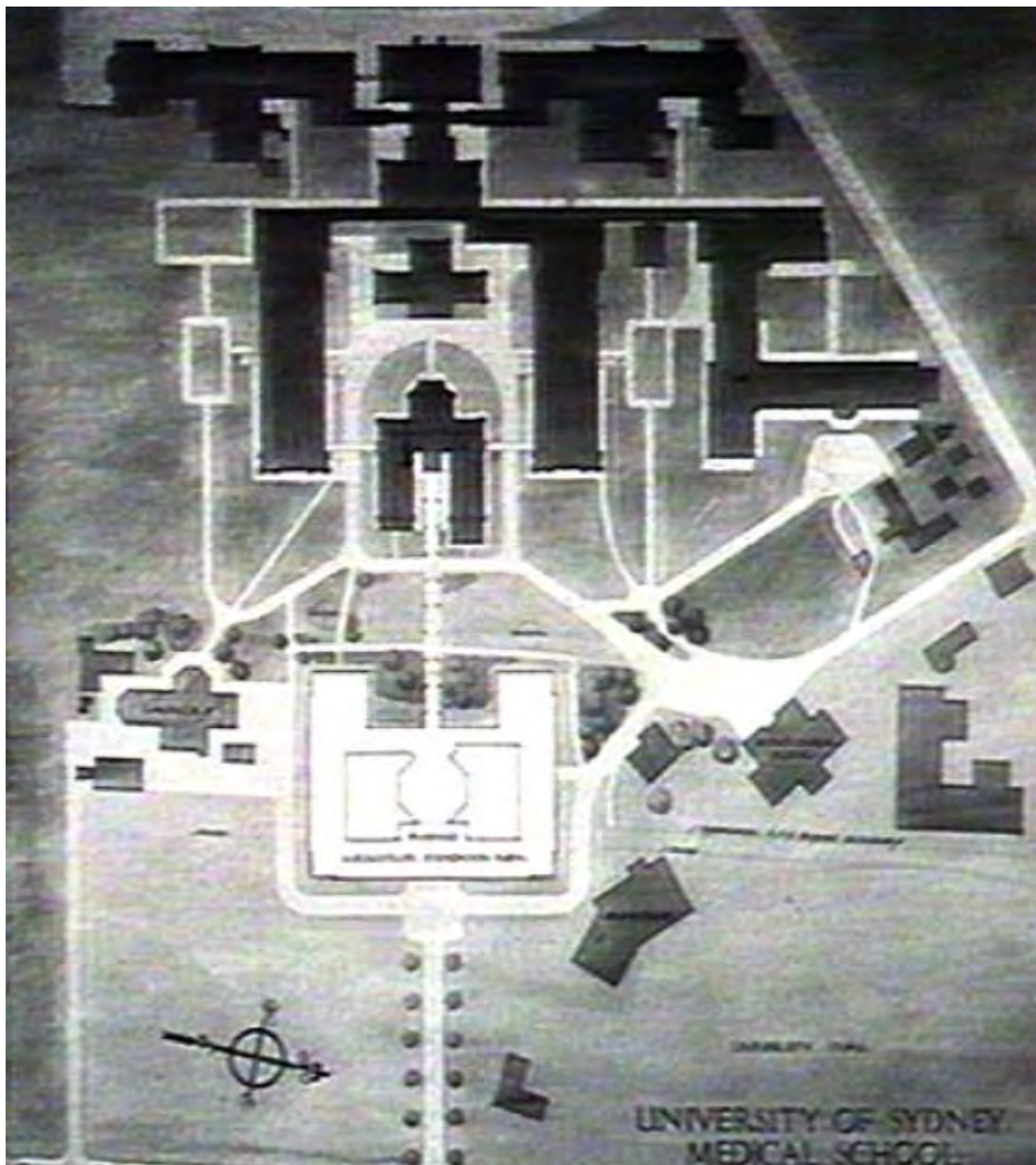
¹⁵ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 314.

¹⁶ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 314.

¹⁷ Letter from Rockefeller Foundation to the Vice Chancellor, 17 April 1930 (Sydney University Archives G3-13/3087B).

¹⁸ Letter from the Vice Chancellor to the Rockefeller Foundation, 13 October 1930 (Sydney University Archives G3-13/3087B).

primary focus appears to be its relationship to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, rather than the more distant University buildings



Source: ML GPO1 – 21798, copy supplied by the Facilities Management Office

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1930 | First full-time Chair of Medicine was established with C G Lambie the professor (1930–1957). ¹⁹ |
| 1930 | First full-time Chair of Surgery was established with Sir Harold Dew the professor (1930–1956). ²⁰ |
| 1930 | The School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine was established in 1930, funded by the Federal Government and controlled jointly by the government and the University. ²¹ |
| May 1931 | The plans and estimates for the new school were approved, and a sketch plan of the proposed building was exhibited at an Architectural Exhibition. ²² |

¹⁹ Information collated from the History of the Faculty of Medicine, www.medfac.usyd.edu.au

²⁰ Information collated from the History of the Faculty of Medicine, www.medfac.usyd.edu.au

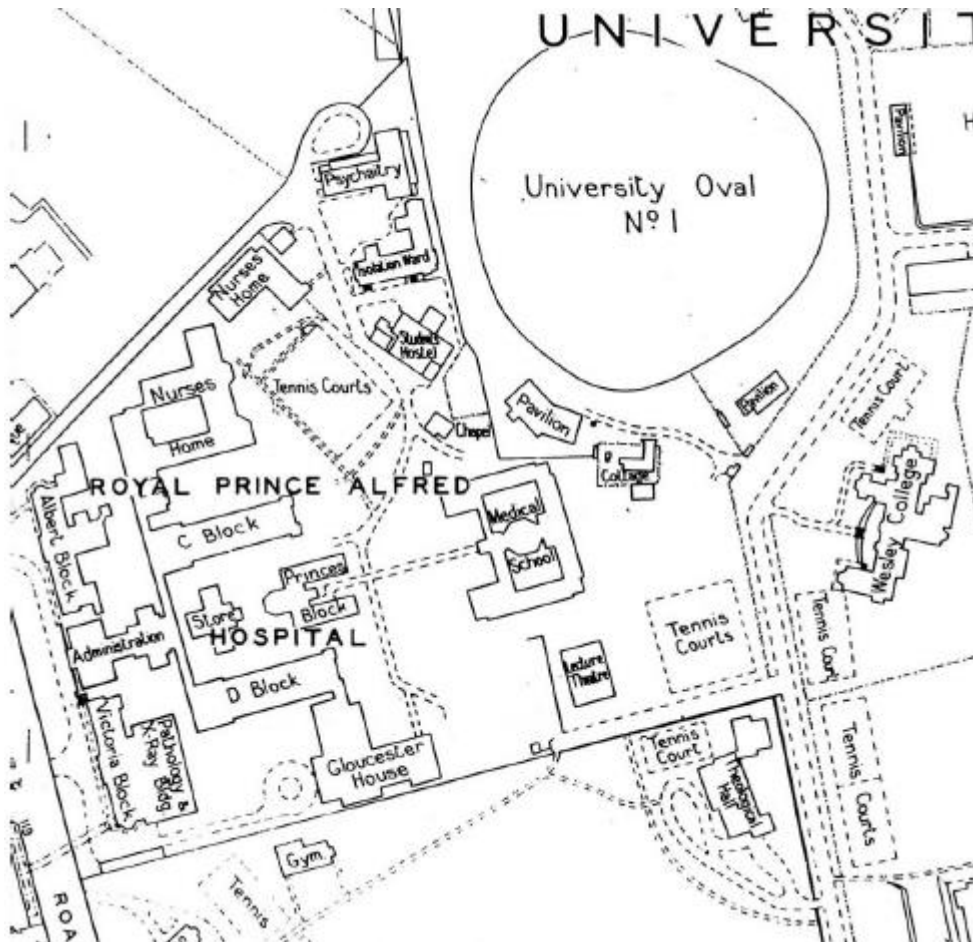
²¹ Information collated from the History of the Faculty of Medicine, www.medfac.usyd.edu.au

²² Letter from the Vice Chancellor to the Rockefeller Foundation, 6 May 1931 (Sydney University Archives G3-13/3087B).

May 1931 Building publishes a sketch of the proposed 'Rockefeller Foundation Building' (likely to be the sketch exhibited at an architectural exhibition referred to by the Vice-Chancellor), and comments that:

'considerable skill has been shown in the planning, the purpose of the building requiring a maximum of unobstructed glass area for the numerous microscopic research laboratories. The elevation is to be faced in red brick, the entrance being treated with cast cement of a light tone so as to stand out by contrast, while the roof and the cheeks of the mansard corner treatment will be covered with slates'.²³ See Figure 10.

Figure 9 - Detail of a 1949 block plan of Sydney University, showing the Blackburn Building in relation to RPAH and nearby buildings



Source: Sydney City Council Archives

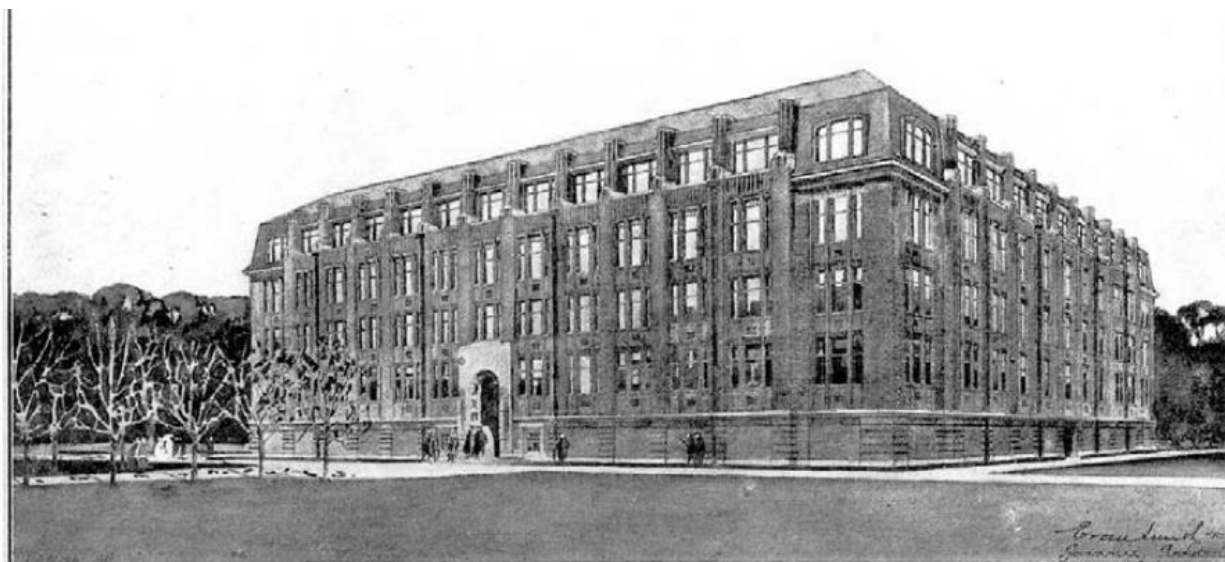
Sept 1931 The location of the new building is moved 40 feet further away from the hospital to avoid water and sewerage pipes and to 'preserve some of the amenity of the hospital'. A set of the plans were sent to the Rockefeller Foundation, the foundations had begun, and the professors had spent considerable time to 'thresh out the general arrangement of the building with the architects'.²⁴

The building work was carried out by Kell and Rigby.

²³ Building, 12 May 1931, pages 37, 48.

²⁴ Letter from the Vice Chancellor to the Rockefeller Foundation, 29 September 1931 (Sydney University Archives G3-13/3087B).

Figure 10 – 1931 Sketch of the proposed New Medical School building



THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION BUILDING IN THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY GROUNDS

To be Proceeded with Immediately

Through the generosity of John D. Rockefeller, the world famous American oil magnate, who distributes large sums to all sorts of educational bodies throughout the globe, this building, to further medical research in New South Wales, is to be erected immediately. All the money is available; some of it being in Australia and the rest waiting in England to be sent out as the work proceeds. Considerable skill has been shown in the planning, the purpose of the building requiring a maximum of unobstructed glass area for the numerous microscopic research laboratories. The elevation is to be faced in red brick, the entrance being treated with cast cement of a light tone so as to stand out by contrast, while the roof and the cheeks of the mansard corner treatment will be covered with slates. There is little doubt that all who see the perspective will compliment the Government Architect, Mr. Evan Smith, on the excellence of the design, and the delineator, Mr. A. J. Brown, on his rendering. (See reference on page 37).

Source: *Building*, 12 May 1931, page 48

Oct 1931 The Rockefeller Foundation confirmed its policy that the name 'Rockefeller' is not to attached to any building to which the Foundation has contributed (the only exception being the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York which was founded before the Rockefeller Foundation was established).²⁵

11 Nov 1931 A drawing of the front elevation of the proposed building was published in the Sydney Morning Herald.²⁶ It prompted the following letter to the editor from 'I am Medical Graduate':²⁷

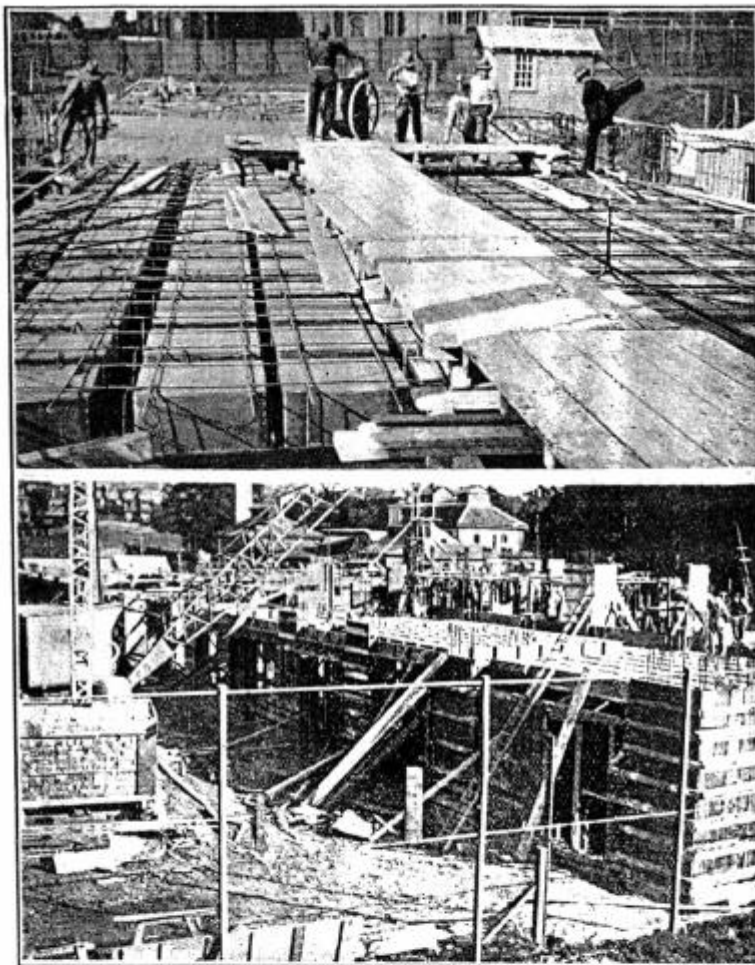
'In to-days issue of your paper is a picture of the proposed new medical school, to be built in the grounds of the University of Sydney. On looking at it one is struck by the absence of beauty in its architecture, and by the factory-like appearance of its general contour. ... The present medical school building – a monument to the untiring efforts of the late Sir Thomas Anderson Stuart – and the main university building, are examples of beautiful architecture.'

²⁵ Letter from Rockefeller Foundation to the Vice Chancellor, 29 October 1931 (Sydney University Archives G3-13/3087B).

²⁶ Kazokas, Museum of Pathology, University of Sydney, unpublished report, page 3.

²⁷ Quoted in Kazokas, Museum of Pathology, University of Sydney, unpublished report, pages 3–4.

Figure 11 - Blackburn Building during construction of the concrete floors



**CONSTRUCTION WORK AT ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION BUILDING,
UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.**

These photographs were taken during the early progress of the Rockefeller Foundation Building at the Sydney University. The upper illustration shows the use of paper board domes strengthened by collapsible cores of heavier paper board, which form 25 square compartments. The specifications provided for a hollow floor, and it was left to the discretion of the builders as to the method of construction they would adopt. Having previously used these boards in the construction of Wald-er's Building in Liverpool St., Sydney, Kell & Rigby decided upon their use in the Rockefeller Foundation Building, and, it is stated, were able to reduce their price for the job by considerably over £1,000 by their adoption of the domes as a medium of construction. After the floor is set, the domes are drawn, and a false ceiling is obtained, in which the dead-weight is considerably reduced. The domes themselves may be used over again in the construction of another floor.

Source: *Building*, 12 December 1932, page 93

- July 1932 The Vice-Chancellor sent another set of plans and drawings to the Rockefeller Foundation. He included a selection out of a total of 40 or 50 detailed sketches and specifications.²⁸
 - 1933 The Chair of Obstetrics became full-time and was occupied by J C Windeyer.²⁹
 - 28 Sept 1933 The New Medical School was opened by Sir Philip Woolcott, Governor of New South Wales.³⁰ The building became informally known as the Rockefeller Building.
- The opening coincided with the Jubilee of the Medical School 1883–1933.

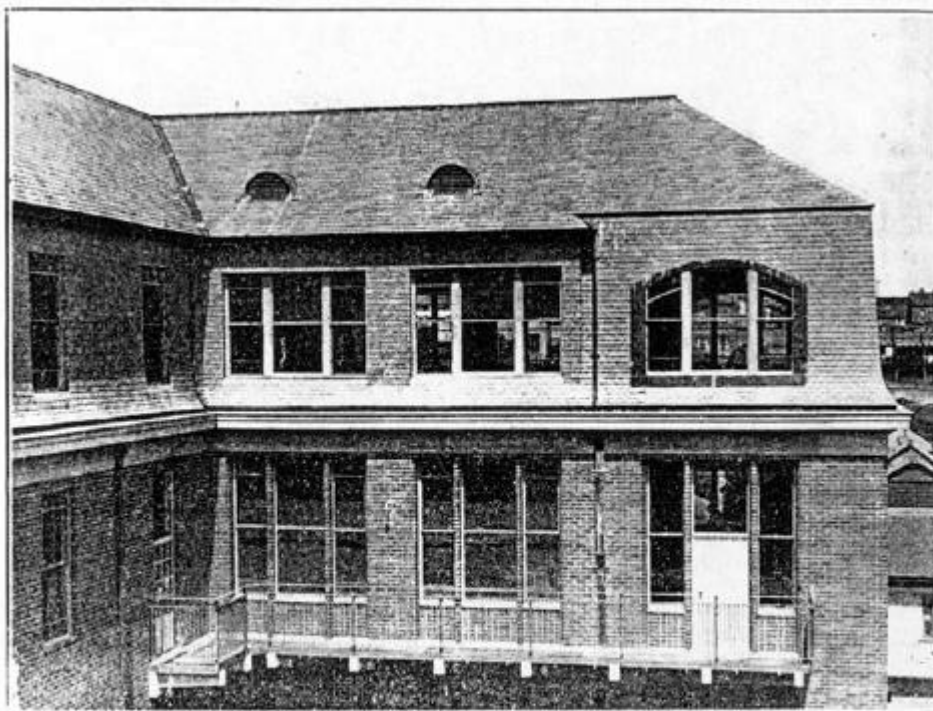
²⁸ Letter from the Vice Chancellor to the Rockefeller Foundation, 1 July 1932 (Sydney University Archives G3-13/3087B).

²⁹ Information collated from the History of the Faculty of Medicine, www.medfac.usyd.edu.au

³⁰ 'Opening of the New Medical School', brochure dated 28 September 1933 (File G3-13/13590).

The Faculty of Medicine was divided between the two medical school buildings. The teaching of physiology and anatomy (Years 1, 2 and 3) remained in the Anderson Stuart Building, and the new Rockefeller Building took over the specialist departments, their research activities, and the teaching of Years 4, 5, and 6).³¹

Figure 12 - Photograph of the Blackburn Building shortly after construction



FIRST-CLASS SLATE WORK.

The colourful slates and the excellence of the workmanship of the roofing are a feature of the Rockefeller Foundation Medical School. These slates, which are known as "Green Abbey," were supplied and laid by the N.S.W. Slate Co. Ltd., whose quarries are situated near Goulburn. The accurate ridge and hip work and the delicate curves of the "bells" are features which will delight the hearts of those versed in the intricate work of slating.

Source: *Building*, 12 October 1933, page 47

October 1933 Building features the newly completed building.³² It was originally designed to house the University Departments of Medicine and Surgery, Obstetrics, Pathology and Bacteriology, and to provide both teaching and research facilities.³³ The building contained some 120 laboratories of various sizes, instruction laboratories for teaching, several large lecture halls, a library, museum and animal house. The departments were generally housed on separate floors:³⁴

- basement: left largely vacant for future expansion, with a surgical laboratory, dissecting and embalming rooms in the centre
- ground floor: Surgery
- first floor: Medicine
- second floor: Pathology
- third floor: Bacteriology and a small department of Obstetrics.

³¹ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 190.

³² *Building*, 12 October 1933, cover, pages 21–30.

³³ *Building*, 12 October 1933, page 22.

³⁴ *Building*, 12 October 1933, page 23; 'Opening of the New Medical School', brochure dated 28 September 1933 (File G3-13/13590).

*'It should be pointed out that the building has been so designed that the main entrance may be said to serve the research portion of the building, while the secondary entrance at the back serves the student section, where is situated the lecture theatres, administrative rooms, etc.'*³⁵

*'Another of the major problems in the design of this building was that of keeping the direct rays of the sun from streaming into the laboratories during normal working hours ... Thus, as the main axis of the building is roughly east-west, the corridor serving the laboratories is on the inside except on the north side, where it is changed over to the outside of the building, and acts as a screen to the laboratories, which, on this side, face the internal area.'*³⁶

*'A word should be said for the joinery, of which there is a tremendous volume in the finishing and fitments in the building. [Queensland] Maple has been employed everywhere, and the builders cannot be too much praised not only for the excellence of the workmanship, but also for the beauty of the timber.'*³⁷

The new building included an elaborate 2 level reinforced concrete covered way connected to the hospital.

Figure 13 - The New Medical School shortly after completion



ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION MEDICAL SCHOOL, SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

The planning of a unit such as the new Rockefeller Foundation Medical School to house a tremendous number of complex units was no simple problem, and many months of careful thought and planning on the part of the Government Architect of N.S.W. (Mr. Evan Smith) were necessary before a satisfactory solution was evolved. Adequate light to the many laboratories was one of the main essentials, consequently the large window area, which is a feature of the elevations. The manner in which the Mansard roof treatment has been employed to provide a crowning feature and likewise tie the building together at the top storey is quite satisfactory, and the whole building provides a practical and economical solution to the problem. The builders were Messrs. Kell & Rigby.

Source: *Building*, 12 October 1933, page 22

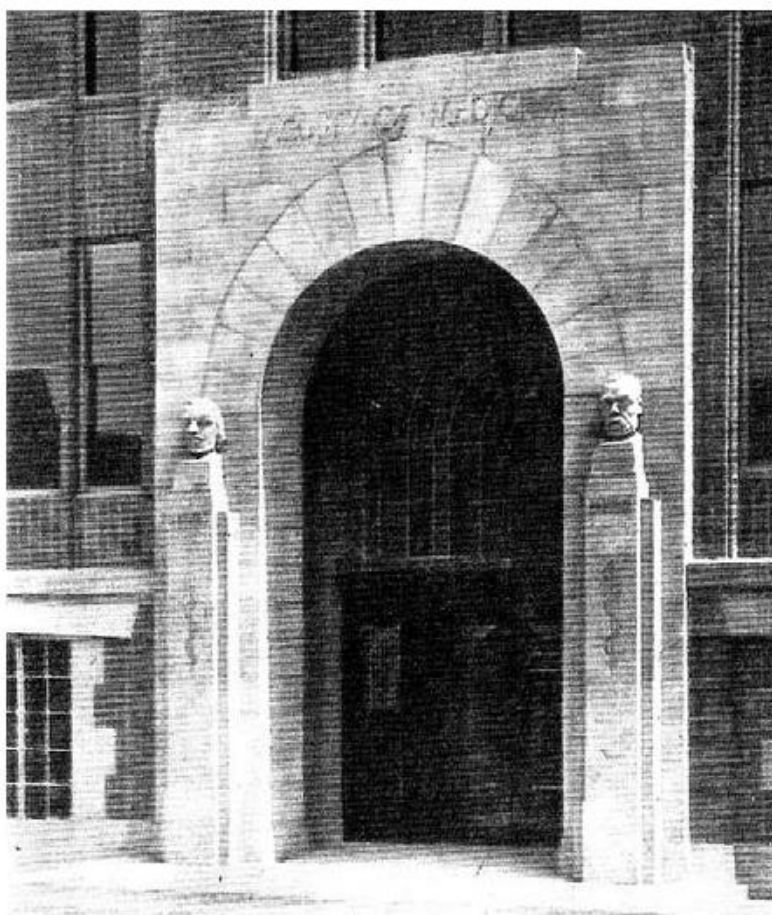
³⁵ *Building*, 12 October 1933, page 23.

³⁶ *Building*, 12 October 1933, page 24.

³⁷ *Building*, 12 October 1933, page 27.

- 1933 The Museum of Normal and Morbid Anatomy, established by Anderson Stuart in 1883, was divided and the morbid anatomy collection was moved into the new building to become the Pathology Museum. It was housed in the upper storey of a two-storey, octagonal galleried space. The remainder of Anderson Stuart's collection was renamed the J T Wilson Museum in 1936.³⁸
- 1933 A room in the basement of the New Medical School was set aside for the use of students.³⁹ The Medical Society used this room and also maintained their former offices in the Old Medical School.
- Feb 1934 Medical Branch Library opened in the Rockefeller Building in a purpose-designed two-storey octagonal galleried library space. It was the first branch library of the University.⁴⁰
- 1934 to date Numerous changes have been made to the building to accommodate changes in use.
- 1958 The Queen Elizabeth II Research Institute for Mothers and Babies was established⁴¹ and housed in a new building located to the east.
- 1958 A measured survey of the building was made, indicating the use of spaces within the building.⁴²

Figure 14 - Entrance to the Rockefeller Foundation Medical School. Note the lettering, 'Faculty of Medicine'. Flanking the entrance are the busts of Harvey and Pasteur, sculpted by Ena Smith



Source: *Building*, 12 October 1933, cover illustration

³⁸ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, pages 232, 279-280.

³⁹ www.med.usyd.edu.au/medsoc

⁴⁰ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 432.

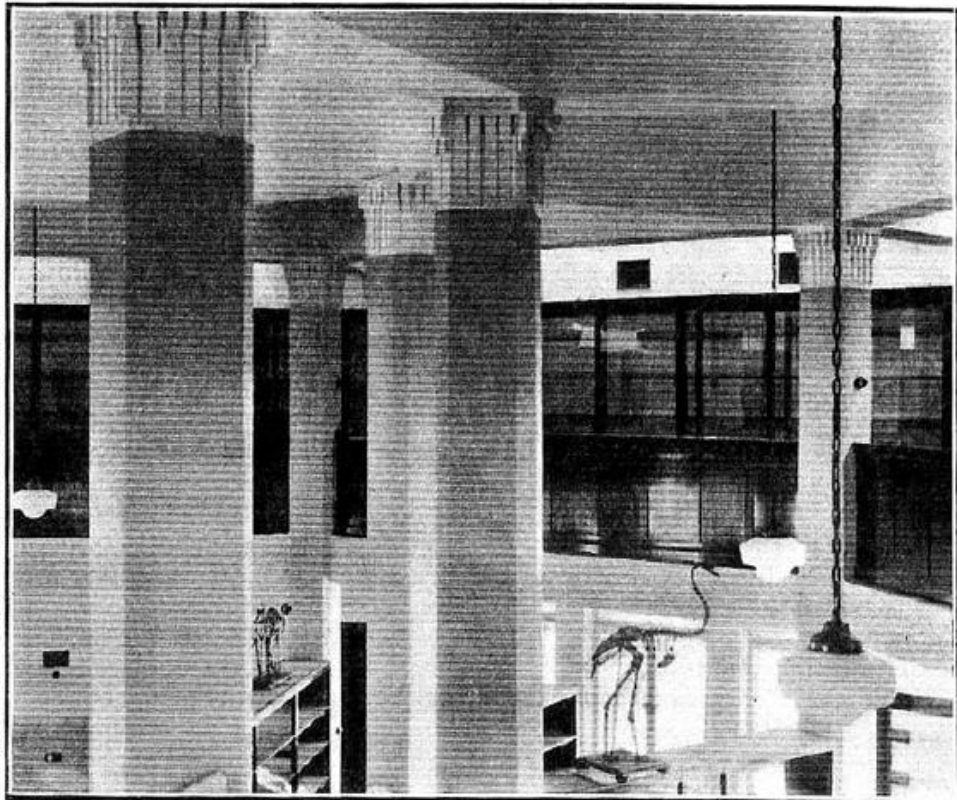
⁴¹ Information collated from the History of the Faculty of Medicine, www.medfac.usyd.edu.au.

⁴² Information from University of Sydney Heritage Inventory sheet for the Blackburn Building.

Figure 15 - View of the Pathology Museum with custom-built display cabinets, also designed by the Government Architect. This was a two-storey octagonal space above the library. The museum moved into this space in 1933. The space was filled in 1961, and the Pathology Museum is now housed in Room 503

PATHOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

The Pathological Museum, like the library at the Rockefeller Foundation Medical School recently completed at the University of Sydney, is octagonal in shape with two internal rows of supporting columns as indicated, consequently it is particularly difficult to obtain a comprehensive photograph of these two large rooms. This illustration, however, which is taken from the gallery that runs round the Pathological Museum, thereby greatly increasing its storage capacity, gives an idea of the octagonal



shape and the impressive effect that the slender columns impart to the design. The banks of display cabinets which radiate from the centre may also be seen.

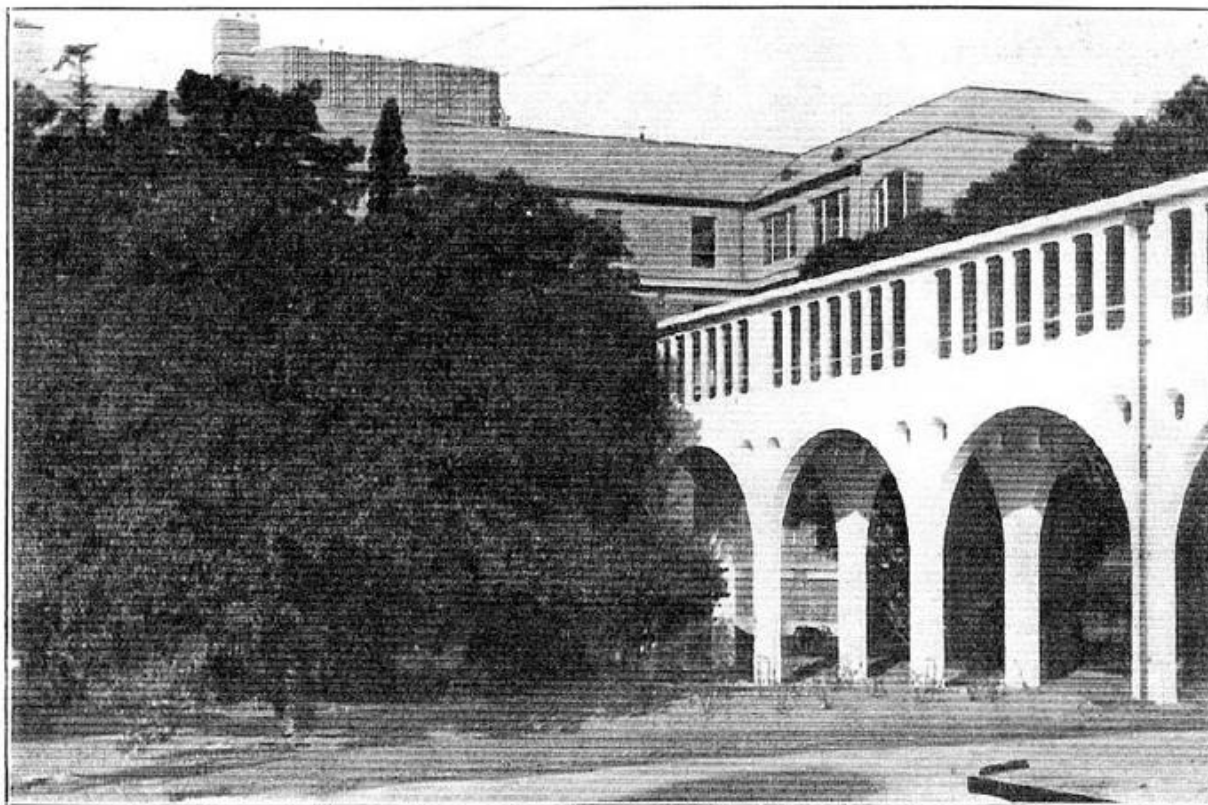
Source: *Building*, 12 October 1933, page 27

Figure 16 - View of the newly completed Rockefeller Building, looking east over the grounds of the university



Source: *Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine*, page 371

Figure 17 - Covered walkway to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (demolished 1990s)



REINFORCED CONCRETE WALKWAY

It was one of the essentials of the Rockefeller Foundation Medical School that communication between it and the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital be established. This factor had considerable bearing upon the selection of the site and also on the design of the building, especially in regard to the disposition of the floor levels. Our illustration shows the reinforced concrete covered way which connects the new building with the hospital. The design of this feature, with its simple outline and general lightness, is very attractive, whilst its white surfaces, reflecting the sunlight, form a pleasing contrast to the rich foliage of the surrounding trees. Messrs. Kell & Rigby were the builders.

Source: *Building*, 12 October 1933, page 23

- Jan 1960 The University Senate officially named the two medical schools the Anderson Stuart Building and the Blackburn Building.⁴³ The Blackburn Building was named in honour of Sir Charles Bickerton Blackburn, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine 1932–1935 and later Chancellor of the University. See Figure 19.
- 1961 The gallery of the Pathology Museum was infilled to create more space for the museum. The surgical instruments collection was transferred to the Macleay Museum.⁴⁴
- c1965 The George H Bosch Lecture Theatre building was completed as Stage 1 of the Bosch Complex.⁴⁵ Funds were provided by the Australian Universities Commission.⁴⁶

⁴³ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 473.

⁴⁴ Kazokas, Museum of Pathology, University of Sydney, unpublished report, page 8.

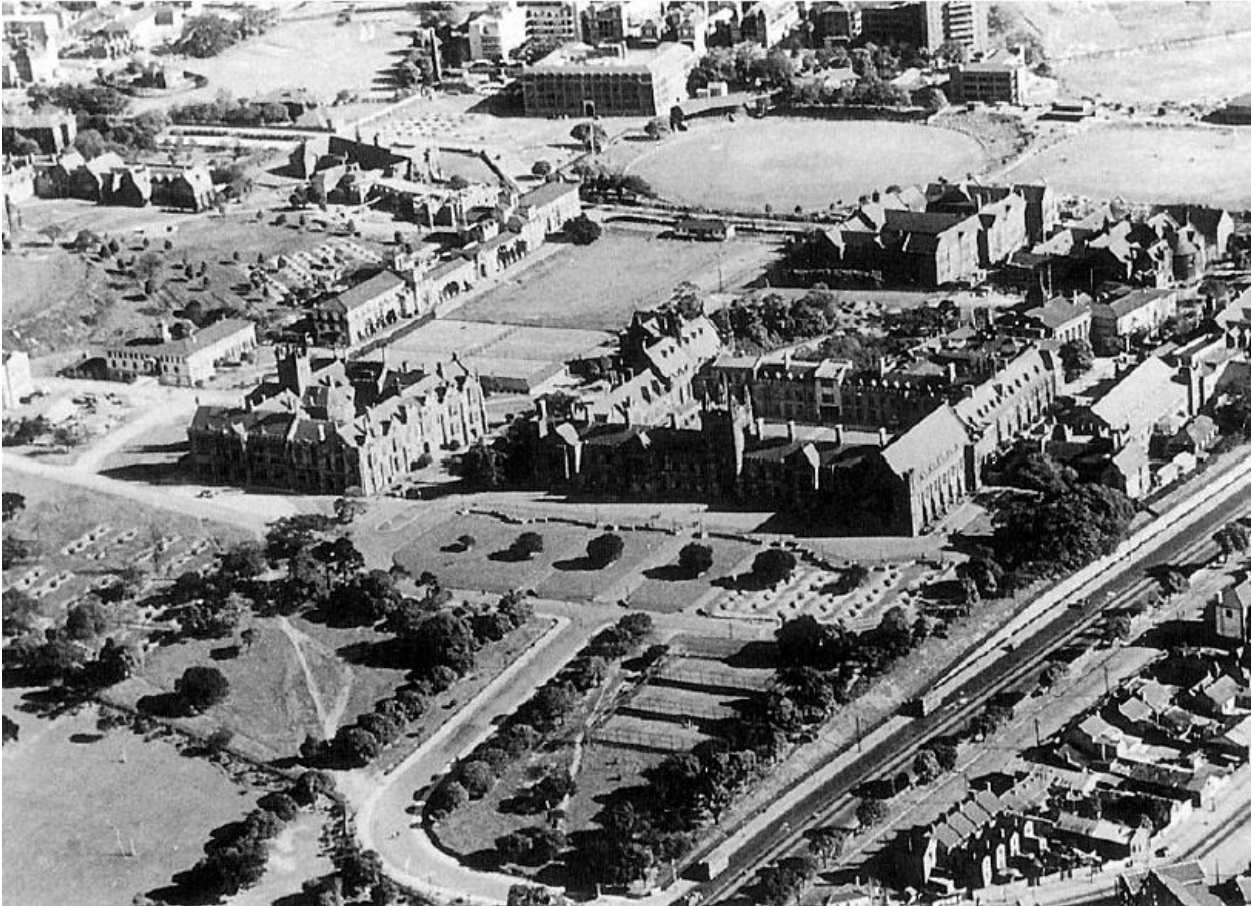
⁴⁵ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 347; Faculty of Medicine, University of Sydney

internet web page.

⁴⁶ www.medfac.usyd.edu.au

1966 The new curator of the Pathology Museum, G L Morrison, began experimentation with new forms of polyester resin embedment for specimens, producing solid plastic exhibits and plastic containers for suspending wet specimens. He also created more space by dividing the two sides of the display cabinets and improved visibility by painting the inside of the shelves light green.⁴⁷

Figure 18 - Aerial photograph taken in the 1940s, showing the Blackburn Building in the distance and its relationship with the main group of University buildings



Source: Image supplied by the Facilities Management Office

1968 Bosch Building next to the Blackburn Building was completed as Stage 2 of the Bosch Complex.⁴⁸ It was designed by Stephenson and Turner.⁴⁹ The Medical Library had outgrown its space in the Blackburn Building and moved into a new library space in the Bosch Building.⁵⁰ The new building also housed the Department of Pharmacology, the Dean's Office and additional animal houses.

1969 The Medical Society offices and shop were remodelled and refurbished to their present size and layout. The offices and shop were extended into the adjacent ground-floor corridor and laboratory, doubling the space available. Second-hand books, notes and instruments had been sold by part-time staff in the Society's small room in the Old Medical School, which was now abandoned.⁵¹

⁴⁷ Kazokas, Museum of Pathology, University of Sydney, unpublished report, page 9.

⁴⁸ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 433.

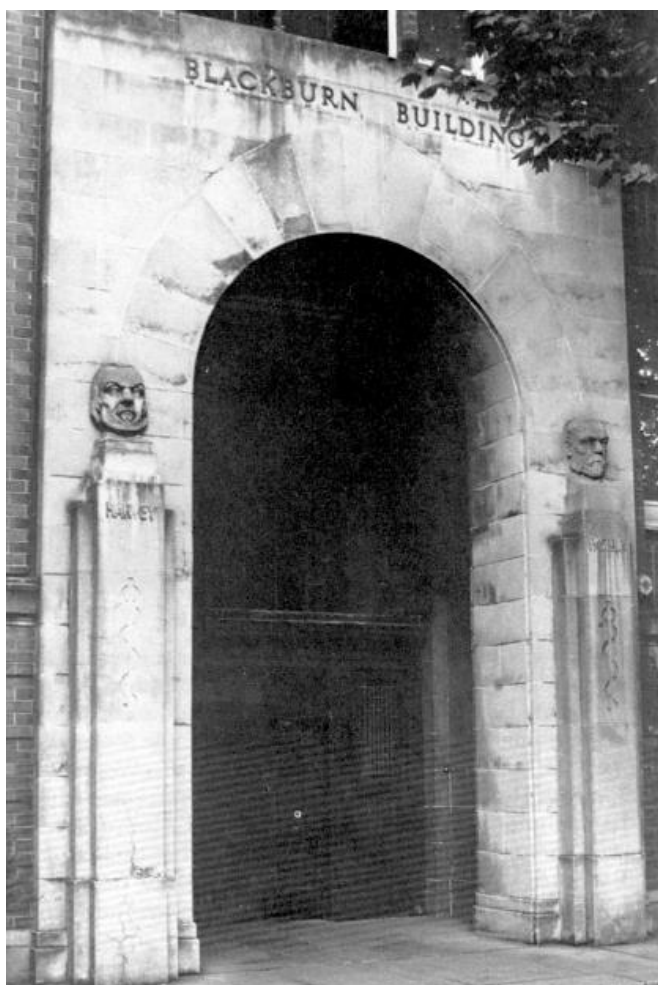
⁴⁹ City of Sydney Street Index Cards.

⁵⁰ Young et al, Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine, page 433.

⁵¹ www.med.usyd.edu.au/medsoc.

- 1979 The Chair of Clinical Pharmacology was established (funded by Reckitt and Colman Australia).⁵²
- c. 1982 Royal Prince Alfred Hospital took over the clinical haematology, microcirculation and histopathology units of the former Kanematsu Memorial Institute of Pathology. These became a department of RPA, renamed the 'Kanematsu Laboratories' and were housed in the Blackburn Building. The Kanematsu Memorial Institute of Pathology was the first medical institute in New South Wales and was opened in Sydney Hospital on 20 April 1933. In 1958 it was split into two sections: Clinical Pathology and Medical Research. In 1982 the Clinical Pathology section was dissolved and the Medical Research section divided between six Sydney hospitals.⁵³
- 1987 Following the closure of the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine was established (and continues to be funded by Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing).⁵⁴

Figure 19 - Entrance to the Blackburn building after its official name change in honour of Sir Charles Bickerton Blackburn in 1960. The lettering over the entrance door has been changed



Source: Young et al, *Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine*, page 376

3.2.1. Date of Construction

The Blackburn Building was constructed in 1931-1933.

⁵² www.medfac.usyd.edu.au

⁵³ History of the Kanematsu Laboratories, Central Sydney Health Service, <http://www.kanematsu.co.jp/en/company/history/memorial.html>.

⁵⁴ Information collated from the History of the Faculty of Medicine, www.medfac.usyd.edu.au.

3.3. DANGEROUS AND FLAMMABLE GOODS STORE

The building was constructed in 1980 as a storage space.

4. HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

4.1. WHAT IS HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE?

Before making decisions to change a heritage item, an item within a heritage conservation area, or an item located in proximity to a heritage listed item, it is important to understand its values and the values of its context. This leads to decisions that will retain these values in the future. Statements of heritage significance summarise a place's heritage values – why it is important, why a statutory listing was made to protect these values.

4.2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE – BLACKBURN BUILDING

Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners prepared the below summary statement of significance for the Blackburn Building:

“The Blackburn Building at Sydney University demonstrates the evolution of medical teaching at Sydney University (and in the wider Australian context) instigated by philanthropy including by the Rockefeller Foundation in the early 20th century. The building contains an exterior which a good example of a large Art Deco style institutional building and contains some interior spaces of historical, architectural and technical note.

The building is a rare example of an Art Deco faculty building within the University of Sydney and contains a Pathology Museum which, throughout Australia, is a rare purpose-built museum space containing a collection of Australia-wide significance, with potential for interpretation by reconstruction.”⁵⁵

Urbis concurs with this statement of significance as prepared by Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners as part of their 2002 assessment of the Building.

4.3. SIGNIFICANCE GRADING WITHIN THE RELEVANT CMP

The University is subject to the Grounds Conservation Management Plan (CMP) prepared by Clive Lucas Stapleton and partners. The CMP identifies the Blackburn Building as being of moderate significance within the site as a whole.

The CMP defines an element of moderate significance as being:

“A component of the University grounds that has itself a moderate level of significance for their historical, aesthetic, social or scientific values and/or are representative of a particular aspect of the heritage values of the place as a whole.

Elements in this category might contribute to the significance of the grounds as a whole or to specific precincts without having high significance in their own right. The contributory significance might be that the component adds to the understanding of the historical, aesthetic or social heritage values of the place, while not being essential to that understanding.”

Policy 13 of the CMP notes that all fabric identified to be of moderate significance:

‘should be retained and conserved except where alteration or removal is important for continuing historical use as a University, important for the maintenance of the place, or to make a better reconstruction of a component previously reconstructed.’⁵⁶

⁵⁵ Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners Pty Ltd, 2002, *Blackburn Building Heritage Assessment and Statement of Significance*, Prepared for Facilities Management Office University of Sydney, p. 61-76.

⁵⁶ The Planning Team, Campus Infrastructure Services, based on information and methodology provided by Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners Pty Ltd with cultural landscape significance material prepared by Circle Square Design Landscape Architects, December 2014, *The University of Sydney, Camperdown, NSW, Ground Conservation Management Plan (Revised)*, prepared for The University of Sydney Campus Infrastructure Services, p. 114.

4.4. SIGNIFICANCE GRADING WITHIN THE RELEVANT PRECINCT HIS

Like the relevant CMP, the ‘Blackburn & Veterinary Science Precincts, University of Sydney, Camperdown – Proposed Schemes for Redevelopment – Statement of Heritage Impact’, also prepared by Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners, identifies the Blackburn Building to be of moderate significance.

Within this document, the following definition of moderate significance is offered:

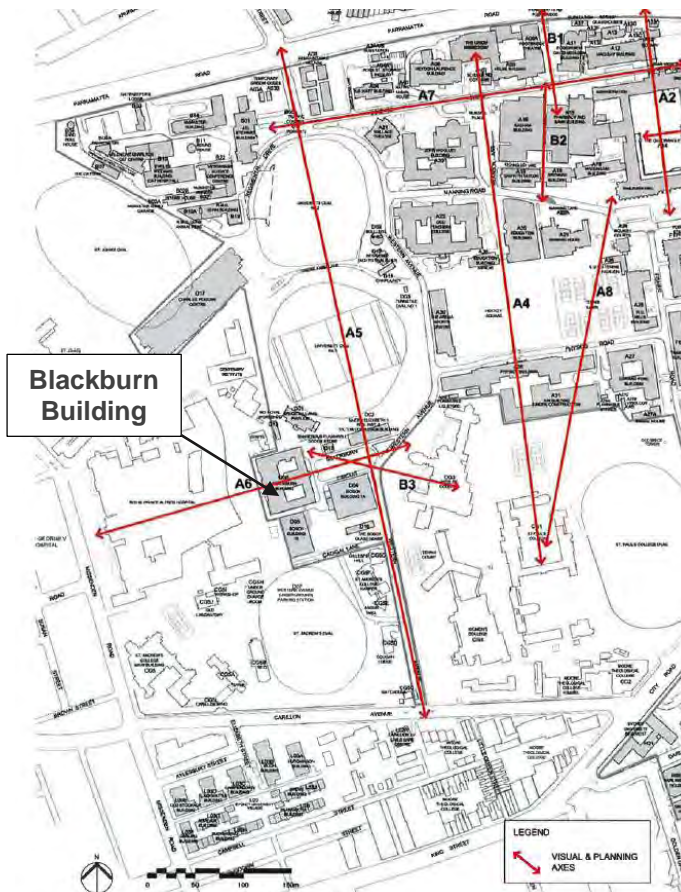
“A component of the University grounds that has itself a Moderate level of significance for their historic, aesthetic, social or scientific values and/or are representative of a particular aspect of the heritage values of the place as a whole.

Elements in this category might contribute to the significance of the grounds as a whole or to specific precincts without having high significance in their own right. The contributory significance might be that the component adds to the understanding of the historic, aesthetic or social heritage values of the place, while not being essential to that understanding.”⁵⁷

4.5. SIGNIFICANT VIEWS AND OTHER SITE ELEMENTS

The 2013 ‘Health and Blackburn & Veterinary Science Precincts, University of Sydney, Camperdown – Proposed Schemes for Redevelopment – Statement of Heritage Impact’ identifies significant views and vistas, axes, character areas and landscapes within the precincts. These are shown in Figure 20, below.

Figure 20 – Planning and visual axes within the University



Source: Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners Pty Ltd, 2013, *Blackburn & Veterinary Science Precincts, University of Sydney, Camperdown – Proposed Schemes for Redevelopment – Statement of Heritage Impact*, prepared for Campus Infrastructure Services, The University of Sydney, p. 36.

⁵⁷ Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners Pty Ltd, 2013, *Blackburn & Veterinary Science Precincts, University of Sydney, Camperdown – Proposed Schemes for Redevelopment – Statement of Heritage Impact*, prepared for Campus Infrastructure Services, The University of Sydney, p. 46.

The following significant views or other elements were identified in association with the Blackburn Building.

- Axis A6 – Blackburn Building – Planned axis linking entry of Blackburn Building with entry to the RPA Hospital on Missenden Road, representing the links between the two institutions.
- View CV6 - View from St Andrews College residential wing past Blackburn Building, over trees to Education Building.
- View EV9 - View from Missenden Road across St Andrew’s College Oval to upper section of Blackburn Building.
- View V7 - View from Western Avenue to façade of Blackburn Building.
- Character Area P12 – Blackburn Forecourt - Forecourt space created by the architectural concept of the Blackburn Building.

The Grounds CMP (2014) also identifies Axis A6 as a significant visual axis in Figure 6.1. Policy 18 of the CMP notes that:

“Significant views to and from the expanded curtilage and internal views within the University grounds (as shown in Figures 6.1) should be retained and if possible enhanced.”⁵⁸

In addition to this, the CMP also identifies the forecourt area to the east of the Blackburn Building as a landscape or open space area of moderate significance, as shown in Figure 21, below.

Figure 21 – Significant landscapes and open spaces identified in the Grounds CMP 2014. Forecourt of the Blackburn Building is identified as having ‘moderate’ significance



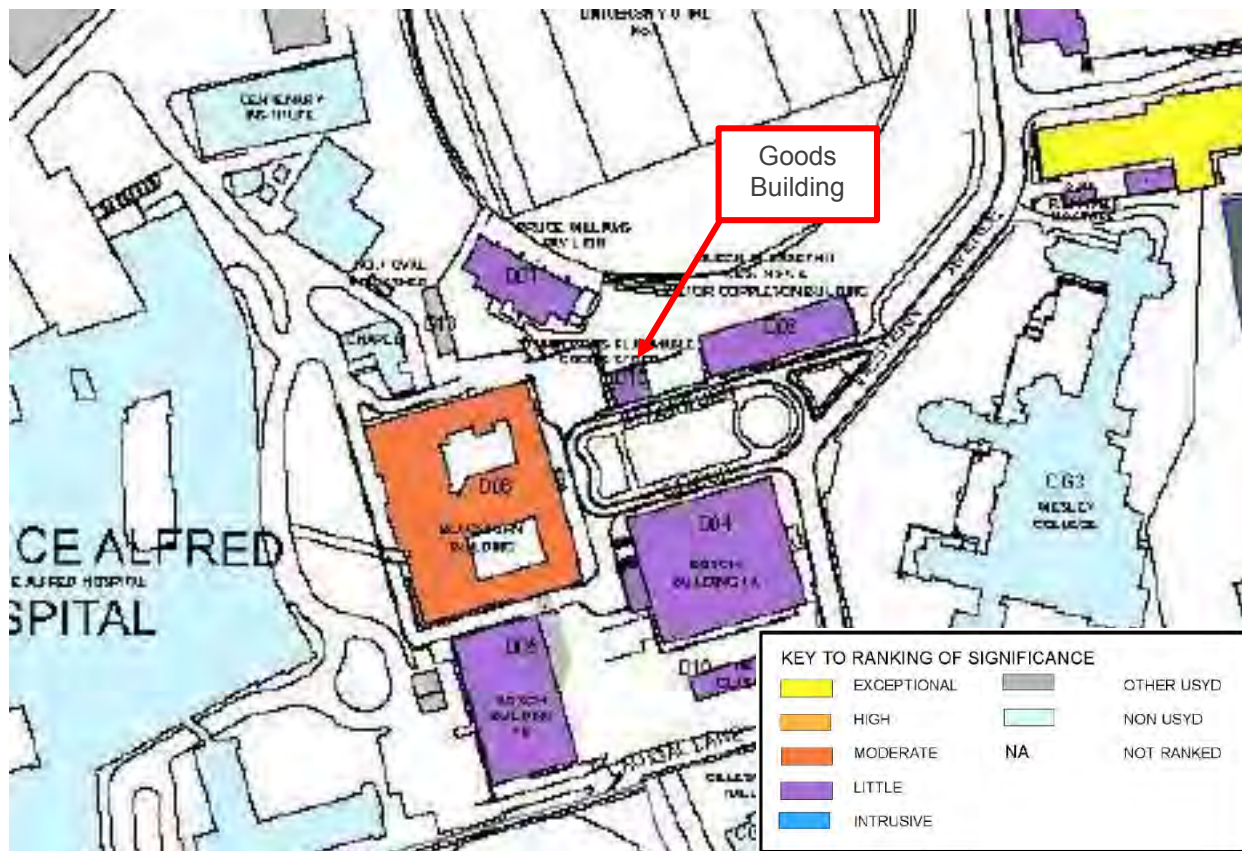
Source: Campus Infrastructure Services based on information and methodology provided by Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners Pty Ltd, 2014, The University of Sydney, Camperdown, NSW, Ground Conservation Management Plan (Revised), prepared for The University of Sydney Campus Infrastructure Services, p. 87.

⁵⁸ Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners Pty Ltd, 2013, Blackburn & Veterinary Science Precincts, University of Sydney, Camperdown – Proposed Schemes for Redevelopment – Statement of Heritage Impact, prepared for Campus Infrastructure Services, The University of Sydney, p. 116.

4.6. THE DANGEROUS AND FLAMMABLE GOODS STORE

The 2013 HIS and 2014 CMP identify this 1980s building as being of 'little' significance.

Figure 22 – Significance ranking of the buildings at the University, as shown in Figure 4.1 of the 2014 CMP



Source: Campus Infrastructure Services based on information and methodology provided by Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners Pty Ltd, 2014, The University of Sydney, Camperdown, NSW, Ground Conservation Management Plan (Revised), prepared for The University of Sydney Campus Infrastructure Services, p. 86.

5. PROPOSED WORKS

5.1. BACKGROUND - THE CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

A Stage 1 DA (SSD 13_6123) was lodged by the University of Sydney in December 2013, for a concept proposal which comprised a long-term master plan for the delivery of new development, access, public domain and infrastructure works across the University's Camperdown and Darlington Campuses.

The project was known as the Campus Improvement Program (CIP), a seven-year (2014-2020) program for the delivery of new development, access, public domain and infrastructure works to accommodate the strategic direction and delivery of the University and its programs. The CIP was informed by a number of University strategies that aim to position the University as the leading teaching, learning and research institution in Australia.

The CIP was driven by the University's identified needs to:

- Provide state of the art teaching and learning facilities;
- Enable cutting edge research;
- Promote collaboration between faculties and achieve greater efficiencies of use across the Camperdown/Darlington campus;
- Provide increased and affordable student accommodation on campus;
- Conserve indigenous and non-indigenous heritage on the campus; and
- Provide a campus that is accessed by both the University community and wider resident community for the mutual benefit of both (Cadigal Green, Noel Martin Centre, Women's Gymnasium, Hockey Ground, Tennis Courts, Ovals 1 and 2).

The Stage 1 DA was approved by the Minister for Planning on 16 February 2015. This approval; established:

- Precinct based building envelopes;
- The demolition and refurbishment of various buildings;
- Built form design controls;
- Open space;
- Transport linkages; and
- Indicative land uses.

The CIP also delivers on the University's adopted strategies and findings of The University of Sydney White Paper, Health and Medical Research Strategic Review ('The Wills Review'), Student Accommodation Review, and The University of Sydney Disability Action Plan 2013. It also reflects and coordinates the delivery of a number of strategy overlays to improve overall campus functioning and give strategic direction to University land uses (including integrated learning and research facilities, student accommodation, sport and recreation, museum, exhibition and event space, and waste management).

Figure 23 illustrates the six principle growth precincts/development sites which were subject to the CIP SSD approval. Of these precincts identified within the Precinct Plan, the Strategy relates to part of Precinct D which was known within the Stage 1 DA as the 'Health Precinct'. This is situated at the western part of the campus adjoining Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

The demolition of the subject Blackburn building and associated redevelopment of the site and surrounds was considered to be an essential part of the overarching CIP.

Figure 23 – CIP Precincts



A-DIA-08 Rev B

Existing Buildings Sydney University Boundary

A. MEREWETHER PRECINCT

- REDEVELOPMENT MEREWETHER
- FACULTY OF ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES
- INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
- REDEVELOPMENT OF REGIMENT
- MIXED USES INCLUDING STUDENT ACCOMMODATION, RETAIL, PARKING

B. CITY ROAD PRECINCT

- PRECINCT BUILDING ENVELOPES FOR FUTURE MIXED DEVELOPMENT
- SITES INCLUDE INTERNATIONAL HOUSE, W.H. MAZE BUILDING, WILKINSON & WENTWORTH

C. ENGINEERING PRECINCT

- UPGRADE OF TEACHING, LEARNING AND RESEARCH FACILITIES, OPEN SPACE, GATEWAYS & ANCILLARY USES
- NEW DEVELOPMENT FOR FOOD & BEVERAGE, LOADING DOCK & CHEMISTRY BUILDING
- REFURB FOR FUNCTION SPACE

D. HEALTH PRECINCT

- MULTI FUNCTION RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTRE
- REDEVELOPMENT OF BLACKBURN/ BOSCH/ GLASSHOUSE
- CO-LOCATION OF MEDICINE, NURSING, MIDWIFERY, SCIENCES, DENTISTRY, PHARMACY

E. LIFE SCIENCES PRECINCT

- CO-LOCATION OF VET SCIENCES, AGRICULTURE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
- ROSS STREET DEVELOPMENT & MACMASTERS EXTENSION

GRANDSTAND

- DEVELOPMENT OF GRANDSTAND ON OVAL NO.2 FOR SUSF
- MULTI-FUNCTIONAL SPACE FOR EVENTS, HIGH PERFORMANCE GYM, CRICKET NETS, EVENTS/ FUNCTION SPACE & AMENITIES

F. CULTURAL PRECINCT

- RELOCATING BIOSCIENCES TO HEALTH PRECINCT
- CONSOLIDATE MUSEUMS AND ART
- REDEVELOPMENT OF MACLEAY BUILDING
- EXTENSION, MULTI FUNCTIONAL SPACE & NEW CAFE

5.2. THE HEALTH PRECINCT STAGE 1 DA

The 13,000 sqm (Health Precinct) redevelopment site is located on an underutilised part of the campus and is essentially unseen from any major road or public areas.

The Health Precinct currently houses five separate buildings being the Bosch 1A and 1B Buildings, the Bosch Glasshouse, the Blackburn Building and the associated Dangerous Goods Store. The demolition of the Blackburn Building and Dangerous Goods Store buildings has been approved under a separate early works package under the provisions of Clause 29 *Development Permitted Without Consent* of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure)* 2007. The demolition of the balance of the buildings within the

Health Precinct boundary (i.e. Bosch 1A, Bosch 1B and Glasshouses), which have CIP Stage 1 approval for demolition will form part of future planning applications.

The University's Campus Improvement Program 2014-2020 (CIP) envisages the creation of a Health Precinct on Camperdown campus, to support the business needs of the health disciplines and to co-locate the faculties of Nursing and Midwifery and Health Sciences with components of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Dentistry. The New Health Precinct is one initiative of the several activities that the University and its partner Local Health Districts are undertaking in planning for increased integration of health service provision with research, education, policy and practice.

The Health Precinct redevelopment is intended to meet the relocation and accommodation requirements of the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) from Cumberland campus, the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery (FNM) from Mallett Street Camperdown, and the Central Clinical School (CCS). The proposal also includes teaching, administrative and break out spaces along with approximately 30 on-site car parking spaces. The Stage 1 area is shown at Figure 24. The proposed 'Health Precinct' will further promote the University as a principal education, research, as well a significant destination to national and international markets. The precinct will also address future connections to the adjoining Royal Prince Alfred Hospital west of the precinct, and the Charles Perkins Centre north of the precinct.

The proposed new usage for the site of the Blackburn Building following demolition is for a new building for faculty teaching and learning spaces for the Health Multi-Faculty Research and Education Clinic (MFREC).

Figure 24 – Site Location (CIS)



As outlined in section 1.1, heritage interpretation of the Blackburn Building is required in accordance with conditions of the CIP and informs the development of the Health Precinct Stage 1 Development Application. This interpretation strategy primarily informs development of Stage 1 of the 'Health Precinct', providing recommendations for subsequent interpretation within the precinct. There will be subsequent SSD DAs lodged for the other proposed buildings which form the balance of the new precinct.

6. HERITAGE INTERPRETATION PLAN

6.1. AUDIENCE PROFILE

Interpretation aims to reveal meanings and connections. To effectively achieve this, interpretation is predicated on identifying audiences and using appropriate media. It is important to identify specific audiences so that interpretation responds to audience needs and motivations and also takes into consideration literacy levels, disability, gender, ethnicity and age. Accessible interpretation of heritage themes and values will ensure that the heritage significance and values of the site are appreciated by the precinct occupants and wider community.

The site forms part of the University of Sydney campus, and as such, the primary audience for interpretation of the building will be:

- Students and faculty of the University of Sydney;
- General public visitors to the precinct; and
- Special interest groups such as heritage, art and architecture enthusiasts and learning audiences.

6.2. RESOURCES

Various resources are available to inform detailed development of the interpretation of the site, including the physical built elements, historical records, published histories, oral histories, potential student and faculty histories and reports.

6.3. INTERPRETATION THEMES AND NARRATIVES

With consideration for the documented historical uses and occupation of the site, the following historical themes have been identified for interpretation. These themes collectively and individually embody the significant aspects of the site and will assist to communicate significant values via interpretation.

6.3.1. Historical 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 at each level that are relevant to the subject Blackburn Building site are provided below.

Table 1 – Relevant historical themes

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme	Relevance to the site
2 Peopling Australia	Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures	Activities associated with maintaining, developing, experiencing and remembering Aboriginal cultural identities and practises, past and present; with demonstrating distinctive ways of life; and with interactions demonstrating race relations.	Potential pre and post contact evidence in the archaeological resource.

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme	Relevance to the site
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Events	Activities and processes that mark the consequences of natural and cultural occurrences.	Association with University of Sydney as the location of numerous protests, campaigns and events over time.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Health	Activities associated with preparing and providing medical assistance and/or promoting or maintaining the well-being of humans.	Demonstrates the evolution of medical teaching at Sydney University (and in the wider Australian context). Reflects associations with significant figures, research advancements etc. The Blackburn Building extended the facilities previously based in the Anderson Stuart building, and took over the specialist departments, their research activities, and the teaching of Years 4, 5, and 6.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Science	Activities associated with systematic observations, experiments and processes for the explanation of observable phenomena	Demonstrates the evolution of medical teaching and research at Sydney University (and in the wider Australian context). The Blackburn Building extended the medical campus previously based in the Anderson Stuart building, and took over the specialist departments, their research activities, and the teaching of Years 4, 5, and 6.
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	As a historical phase of the University of Sydney's development and development of the medical faculty.
6 Educating	Education	Activities associated with teaching and learning by children and adults, formally and informally.	The Blackburn building is an important element of the University of Sydney's medical faculty, purpose built for teaching and laboratory facilities.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Creative Endeavour	Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	The building is an example of the Art Deco style, popular in the 1930s. The New Medical school was constructed between 1931–1933 to the design of the NSW Government Architect, Evan Smith, and funded by the Rockefeller Foundation.

6.3.2. Summary Interpretation Themes

Key themes for interpretation are summarised below.

Natural Heritage (Pre 1788)

The Grounds CMP (Revised) states the following regarding the landscape and natural setting of the site:

The landscape and setting of the University precinct originates with the natural systems that shaped the Sydney Basin, a geological formation on the NSW coast. These systems developed the natural landscape character of Sydney including the local environment of University of Sydney. The rolling landscape of the University is characterised by rounded hills, broad ridges, wide valleys and (once) swampy lowlands. This landform is typical of the Cumberland Plain and its deeply weathered Wianamatta Group shales.⁵⁹

The university sits on the north-south aligned Petersham ridgeline (Eastern Avenue) that crosses the University grounds. This ridgeline forms a watershed between two sub catchments, the creeks of which once flowed into the bays of Sydney Harbour dropping off from the main flat ridge is the line of a spur (Science Road precinct), sloping gradually and steeper in parts, down from its highest point near the Great Hall to its lowest levels near the original Orphan School Creek line (south of J.D. Stewart, Veterinary Science building). The natural form of the spur is as a long gentle slope running down the middle of a 'tongue' to lower ground, with steep gradients falling off to the side. These steeper slopes are found in the vicinity of the Woolley Building and Russell Place.⁶⁰

Turpentine-Ironbark Forest, with trees up to 20-30 metres tall in an open forest structure, are thought to have existed on site prior to the university's development. Orphan School Creek rose in Grose Farm in the vicinity of the University of Sydney Oval 2. Once a crystal clear stream, it provided foods by fishing, hunting land animals and gathering plants for the Cadigal people.

The natural landscape has the potential to be an important cross-cultural interpretive element at the site, and should be interpreted in conjunction with Indigenous themes.

Aboriginal Heritage (Pre-1788 and post contact)

The Grounds CMP (Revised) states the following regarding the Aboriginal occupation of the site:

*"The Camperdown and Darlington campuses of The University of Sydney were originally occupied by Aboriginal people of the Cadigal and/or Wannigal clans. The freshwater sources and swamps within or in close proximity to the University grounds, west and east of the Petersham Ridge, may have attracted occasional Aboriginal occupation. However, there are no sandstone outcrops (commonly utilised by Aborigines in the region) on the campus, no source of stone for tool manufacture have been found, and no Aboriginal sites have yet been located within the area of the grounds."*⁶¹

The University acknowledges the traditional custodians of the country on which the University of Sydney campuses stand, and its responsibility to respect and care for country, people and spirit. This is set out in the Indigenous strategy, Wingara Mura-Bunga Barrabugu (creating a "thinking path to make tomorrow"), which outlines the University's commitment to creating higher education and leadership opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and for valuing Indigenous culture at the University.⁶²

The Grounds CMP (Revised) states that the Blackburn /Bosch precinct is heavily disturbed and has low Aboriginal archaeological potential⁶³ however indigenous values must be recognised, as inherent to the place. Further, although there is a paucity of archaeological finds from the university site generally, oral histories have revealed the historical significance of the area to indigenous people.⁶⁴

⁵⁹ Campus Infrastructure Services, December 2014, The University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan (revised), University of Sydney, p.38

⁶⁰ Ibid

⁶¹ Ibid, p.7

⁶² The University of Sydney, Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community: <http://sydney.edu.au/about-us/vision-and-values/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-participation.html>

⁶³ Campus Infrastructure Services, December 2014, The University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan (revised), University of Sydney, p. 65

⁶⁴ University of Sydney, Wingara Mura Design Principles, April 2016, pg 23

Healing Hands: The Medical Faculty

Medicine was taught at the university from 1883, when Thomas Peter Anderson Stuart arrived from Edinburgh to become the first Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.⁶⁵ The first-year Medicine enrolment consisted of four students.⁶⁶ Anderson Stuart immediately became involved in the planning and design of a permanent medical school. Plans were finalised by the Government Architect's office in November 1884, and the new sandstone Gothic Revival style building next to the Main Building was completed in 1889.⁶⁷

The Faculty of Medicine has constantly grown and developed in parallel with the rapid twentieth century expansion of medicine as both a clinical and a research discipline. By the early twentieth century, the role of the Faculty of Medicine had expanded to include clinical research as well as the training of medical practitioners. This required dedicated full-time scientific and research staff and an increase in laboratory facilities.⁶⁸ This led to the building of the New Medical School (later called the Blackburn Building) in 1931–1933 with money provided by the Rockefeller Foundation.

The New Medical School was deliberately sited close to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital to offer clinical training at the hospital for higher-level medical students, and was specially designed to provide research facilities. The building symbolically straddles the boundary between the University and the land granted to the Prince Alfred Hospital in 1873, to demonstrate its twin role as both a research facility and a teaching institution. The George H Bosch Lecture Theatre and the Bosch Building next to the Blackburn Building were constructed in 1965 and 1968 respectively, when the faculty had outgrown the Blackburn building.

It is now proposed to demolish the Blackburn and Bosch buildings to facilitate the development of a new Health Precinct. The highly significant Anderson Stuart Building remains (adjacent to the Main Quadrangle) and continues in use as part of the medical faculty.

The University's Campus Improvement Program 2014-2020 (CIP) envisages the creation of a Health Precinct on Camperdown campus, to support the business needs of the health disciplines and to co-locate the faculties of Nursing and Midwifery and Health Sciences with components of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Dentistry. The New Health Precinct is one initiative of the several activities that the University and its partner Local Health Districts are undertaking in planning for increased integration of health service provision with research, education, policy and practice.

The historical significance of the site as part of the continuing story of Medicine and Health at the University of Sydney, should be interpreted.

6.4. PROPOSED HERITAGE INTERPRETATION

This report forms part of staged delivery and implementation of interpretation at the site. It is provided for the purpose of conceptualising the vision for 'interpretation' (as identified in Section 1) and will form part of the brief for the development of detailed interpretation devices. The below outlines recommended interpretation devices for the site, with detailed design and locations for interpretation to be determined. The interpretation is informed by the historical analysis and responds to the proposed site redevelopment and nominated audiences as detailed above.

Key principles for developing interpretation of the site include the following:

- Ensure that interpretation is integrated into the detailed design of the place – interpretation should be a collaborative exercise, involving project and landscape architects and archaeologists and other relevant technical advisers in developing detailed interpretation design briefs.
- Interpretation should be integrated into the overall site planning and management of the site, including planning for the continued maintenance and review of interpretive media.
- Ensure that interpretation is engaging to identified audiences.

⁶⁵ Kerr, Anderson Stuart's Medical School, page 1.

⁶⁶ Information collated from the History of the Faculty of Medicine, www.medfac.usyd.edu.au

⁶⁷ Kerr, Anderson Stuart's Medical School, pages 1–12.

⁶⁸ Building, 12 October 1933, page 21.

- Interpretation should be undertaken in accordance with the relevant heritage guidelines and best practice “ingredients” for interpretation and consent requirements.
- Interpretation should consider extant interpretation and the broader context of the University of Sydney.
- Interpretation should not be visually or otherwise intrusive and should permit the audience to discover and interact or engage with the interpretation over time and on various levels.
- Interpretation should be contemporary and allow for technological innovation, including social and multimedia where appropriate.
- Development of interpretation should be collaborative and undertaken in consultation with the relevant Stakeholders, the Consultant Teams and Consent Authorities.

6.4.1. Built Form/ Landscape interpretation

Interpretation in the built form refers to the treatment of the built form (being existing and adaptively reused buildings, new structures, landscape and streetscape elements) to interpret the site’s significant values. A built form interpretive strategy is generally a subtler response, which emphasises and compliments the more overt interpretive media. Built form interpretation can be used to interpret specific events, uses, former structures and subdivision patterns as well as cultural uses and activities including Aboriginal narratives.

Opportunities for integrated built form interpretation, informed by the identified themes and heritage values, should be a key consideration in the detailed design of Interpretation briefs and in the detailed design of the ground plane and public areas of the new Health Precinct as set out below.

The intent for the new Health Precinct is that the building and landscape *express themselves as inspiring contemporary spaces emerging out of a deep sense of material and cultural connection to the historic grounds. Through innovative integration of art, planting, stone, and water, the architecture and its landscape will re-awaken the diverse histories of the place, including that of the Cadigal people.*⁶⁹

Built and landscape design will interpret the site’s natural and indigenous values in line with the objectives of the Wingara Mura-Bunga Barrabugu Strategy, which aims to see the built environment become the ground for progressing reconciliation, and for creating an opportunity to explore not only the distinctions or differences, but also the elements that bind and connect Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.⁷⁰ Facilitating this, the Landscape design for the new Health Precinct prepared by Arcadia has a vision to reinterpret fundamental landscape effects to engage the senses and elicit a response to place. This includes:

- Planting strategy which aims to strengthen the indigenous vegetation of the local area to create an Urban Bushland character. This is achieved through reintroducing lost vegetation communities to enhance a sense of scenic heritage through the distinctive characteristics found in bush habitat of colour, smell and texture which give the site a uniquely Australian quality.
- Rejuvenation of the turpentine ironbark forest (thought to have been located on the site prior to the development of the university) and replacement of the exotic plane trees that are to be removed from the Blackburn forecourt;
- Incorporation of native species as well as traditional indigenous bush tucker and medicinal plants integrated in pockets throughout the site (e.g. Eucalyptus oil, Emu bush, Billy goat plum/Kakadu plum and tea tree oil are proposed to reinforce the site narrative);
- Reinterpretation of lost waterways, specifically the Orphan School Creek which was located in the vicinity of the University of Sydney Oval 2 (The Cadigal peoples lives were strongly tied to the water and the confluence of the historic water way was of local significance);
- Identification of zones within the proposed Wakil Terraces and other areas for indigenous artworks in the ground plane (subject to detailed design);

⁶⁹ Billard Leece Partnership, DS +R Diller Scofidio +Renfro, SSSA Design report, University of Sydney Health Precinct Stage 1 (28/08/2017)

⁷⁰ University of Sydney, Wingara Mura Design Principles, April 2016, op.cit pg 15

- Incorporating place naming, with the landscape spaces in and around the site to be known as “Cadigal Ground”.

Figure 25 – Detail of the Lower Wakil Gardens



Picture 19 – Plan of the Lower wakil garden including nominated zones for Wingara Mura feature paving (designated at 6)

Source: Arcadia Landscape Architecture Plan submitted for the SSDA

The site’s European historical values as part of the medical precinct should also be interpreted. Facilitating this, the proposed landscaping experience is curated, through programme, orientation and material, enhancing the building function and experience for users. Physical, mental and spiritual well-being can be directly influenced through our environment and layering healing into the landscape and building is central to the design. This will assist to interpret the site’s historic values albeit in an abstract and passive way.

There is also the opportunity to incorporate the reuse of salvaged materials from the Blackburn Building (to be demolished) such as building materials (brick and stone) and items identified in section 6.4.3 in the landscape design, subject to detailed design.

Heritage interpretation is subject to detailed design and development in accordance with interpretation briefs and in conjunction with project architects, landscape architects and relevant stakeholders and community groups. Future proposals for built form interpretation may take a wide variety of forms and may include any or all of the following:

- Text and graphic representations of significant site aspects and narratives in surfaces and finishes, e.g. ground inlays, wall surfaces, street furniture, façade treatments etc;
- Provision of built and landscape design that references the site’s natural and indigenous values;
- Provision of native tree and shrub plantings;
- Reuse of salvaged materials and/ or artefacts from the Blackburn building (e.g. reuse of salvaged brickwork, sandstone in new built forms and/ or reuse of salvaged elements nominated in section 0);
- Interpretation of former structures;

- Associated signage and historic markers.

Figure 26 – Examples of built form interpretation



Picture 20 – The layout of the gardens interprets the former tanks on the Ballast point park site

Source: Urbis



Picture 21 – Circular Quay footpath markers indicating the position of the Sydney harbour shoreline in 1788.

6.4.2. Signage and Historic Markers

Interpretive signage can take a variety of different forms and may feature text, images, drawings or digitally rendered images and may also incorporate object display and/ or interactive media. Signage is particularly useful to interpret specific significant sites and values but should form part of the overall integrated response. Materials for signage can vary extensively and may be specific to a place evoking the significant values being interpreted. Signage may be permanent/ fixed or temporary, with temporary signage being particularly appropriate for hoardings during building works or during temporary programs.

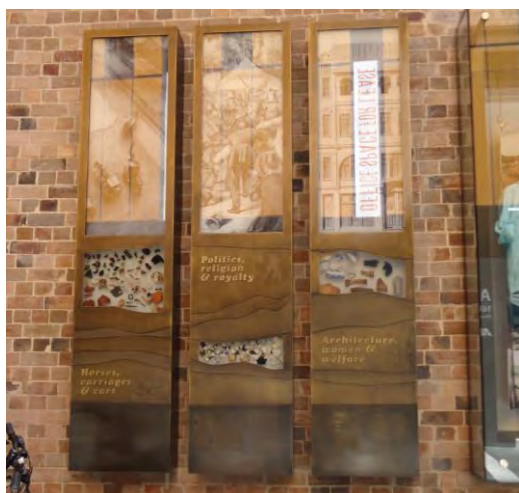
Signage must be designed with regard to durability, installation and maintenance while location of signage should consider pedestrian traffic, accessibility, presentation, historical accuracy/ relevance and compatibility with the proposed development. Signage should not be visually or otherwise intrusive.

To interpret the significant values and identified themes, it is recommended that a principal signage/ interpretation zone be identified within the Health Precinct Stage 1 building. The signage location is to be determined in conjunction with detailed design development, however should be located within a primary circulation area (e.g. principal foyer) to enable best access to the interpretation. The signage in particular should interpret the sites former occupation for the Blackburn and Bosch Buildings and place these buildings in the broader narrative of The Faculty of Medicine and Health at the campus, as well as interpreting important local connections and affiliations, principally RPA. Interpretation should profile important historical and contemporary figures as well as significant events, research etc. Interpretation should be developed in consultation with relevant University Museums and archives and may include display of relevant museum and archive collections (subject to review) and/ or salvaged elements (refer to section 6.4.3) e.g. portraits and photographs of key staff and other personnel.

It is noted that the proposed New Health Precinct also co-locates and consolidates other faculties and services such as Nursing and Midwifery and Health Sciences with components of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Dentistry. The aim is to strengthen the University's leading edge position and to drive the next generation of leaders in health working in partnership with local communities. Therefore, there may be opportunities to also interpret these additional disciplines and their associated collections, subject to consultation with the University's Health Facilities Heritage User Group (HUG) and other relevant stakeholders.

Secondary signage and interpretation zones should be identified in the subsequent stage 2 and 3 Health buildings (subject to further development applications). Subsequent interpretation should complement and build on the stage 1 interpretation and narratives.

Figure 27 – Samples of signage



Picture 22 – Interpretation signage at 200 Gorge Street
Source: Urbis



Picture 23 – sample of signage at Ballast Point Park
Source: Urbis










6.4.3. Salvaged Materials






The significance of the Blackburn Building has been acknowledged and in order to mitigate heritage impacts of the proposed demolition, a list of potentially salvageable significant elements, materials and objects from the subject Blackburn Building, have been identified, some of which have potential for integration into interpretative devices. This list is included hereunder.






The majority of the identified elements for salvage, in particular building elements such as the principal entry doors and clerestory light (items 2 and 3), the Art Deco pendant light (item 4) balustrade (item 5), internal doors, fixed features such as fireplaces and Art Deco urinals, slate roofing materials etc. will be salvaged either for re-sale or for reuse in a comparable building of the period elsewhere on the campus.

Salvaged elements appropriate for use in conjunction with heritage interpretation signage and display (refer to section 6.4.2 above) or built form interpretation (refer to section 6.4.1 above) may include:

- The Pasteur and Harvey busts (item 1) (potential to be used in conjunction with interpretation signage and display within the public domain)
- Rockefeller Foundation Plaque (item 6) (in conjunction with interpretation signage and display/ located within principal foyers within the new development)
- War memorial plaque (item 7) (in conjunction with interpretation signage and display/ located within principal foyers within the new development subject to review)
- University of Sydney Coat of Arms (Item 8) (in conjunction with interpretation signage and display/ located within principal foyers within the new development)
- Original oil portrait (item 16) (appropriateness of use to be determined in conjunction with the Faculty of Medicine and the Art Curator). It is recommended that the interpretation profile key historical and contemporary figures and the portrait has potential for display in the new development in conjunction with interpretation signage or display, or variously within the teaching areas in conjunction with other applicable portraits (subject to curatorial input).
- Rogue's gallery portraits (item 17). It is recommended that the interpretation profile key historical and contemporary figures and the portraits have potential for display in the new development in conjunction with interpretation signage or display, or variously within the teaching areas in conjunction with other applicable portraits (subject to curatorial input).

No	Item	Description	Location	Photo	Photo	Comments
1	Pasteur and Harvey busts	Cast head busts, copper letters and rendered Art Deco assembly of the two famous medical researchers	Main entrance 200G			Potential to be used in new building as part of heritage interpretation.
2	Arched clerestory light	Curved leadlight window	Main entrance 200G			Potential for reuse in new building as for example entry to lift foyer.
3	Entry doors	Pair of entry doors including sidelight windows	Main entrance 200C			Potential to be re-used in new building as for example entry to lift foyer.
4	Art deco pendant lamp	Brass and glass assembly	Main entrance			Potential to be re-used in new building. Goes with entry door and clerestory window.
5	Balcony Balustrade	Fabricated steel balustrade with timber handrail	Main entrance foyer			Art deco stair arrangement, balustrade and skylight.
6	Rockefeller Foundation Plaque	Plaque	Entrance Foyer			Need to locate this plaque within a public space within main foyer.

7	War Memorial Plaque	Plaque	Entrance Foyer			Medicine to advise on this plaque. There are University war memorial Plaques with list of names in the Quadrangle.
8	USyd coat of arms	Concrete boss	W200			This is a unique to Blackburn example of University coat of arms; cast instead of carved.
9	Typical door	Door	This door is on Level 5. All levels east corridor.			This is a unique to Blackburn example of an art deco door; could be re-used.
10	Door furniture	Door	All levels east corridor.			This is a unique to Blackburn example of an art deco door; could be re-used.
11	Fireplace	Simple terrazzo faced with tiled hearth and metal fittings and proprietary wall mounted flue.	676			Example gas fireplace of the Blackburn Building. Last surviving example.
12	Laboratory timber storage unit No 1		676			Blackburn furniture that is typical of the period 1900 to 1940. Recommended to re-purpose.

13	Laboratory timber storage unit No 2		677			Blackburn furniture that is typical of the period 1900 to 1940. Recommended to re-purpose.
14	Laboratory timber storage unit No 3		601			Blackburn furniture that is typical of the period 1900 to 1940. Recommended to re-purpose.
15	Staff lockers	Timber construction full height lockers	Corridor 500B1			Detail of the doors and the doors to offices could be copied as part of heritage interpretation.
16	Portrait	Original oil portrait. University art curator to be consulted before any action.	Level 4 Corridor 400 outside room 476			Faculty of Medicine and University Art curator to be consulted on the portrait and photos of persons significant to the history of Blackburn Building and site. Architect to design a heritage interpretation strategy around
17	Rogues Gallery	Photos	Level 4 476			Architect to design a heritage interpretation strategy around the history of the building, connection with RPA, Faculty of

						Medicine at the building and famous individuals who worked within the building.
18	Settle	Timber bench seating.	Level 4			Typical timber bench seating in pre 1940 university buildings. Can be re-used in new building or other pre 1940 University building.
19	Entry doors – male and female toilets	Art deco door and signage	635 and 633			In good condition: Suitable for salvage.
20	Urinal	Art deco	635A			In good condition: Suitable for salvage.
21	Roof slate – Mansard roof	Slate from NSW quarry near Goulburn	Roof			In good condition: Suitable for salvage.
22	Flat roof	Copper	Roof			In good condition: Suitable for salvage for recycling.
23	Windows	Timber – double hung	Facade			In good condition: Suitable for salvage.
24	Windows	Aluminium	Façade			In good condition: Suitable for salvage.
25	Brickwork	Dry pressed clay bricks	Facade			In good condition:

						Suitable for salvage either bricks or recycled granular fill.
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6.4.4. Collections and Memorabilia

Display of collections and memorabilia may complement proposed signage and interpretation and should be considered subject to liaison with relevant medical museums and curatorial input.

As detailed above, the new Health Precinct supports the business needs of the health disciplines and co-locates the faculties of Nursing and Midwifery and Health Sciences with components of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Dentistry. It is understood that the respective disciplines may hold additional collections and memorabilia which should be considered for interpretation and display, subject to curatorial input and consultation with the University's Health Facilities Heritage User Group.

Additional memorabilia suitable for interpretation and display may also be contained within collections in the Bosch buildings which should be considered as part of future staged interpretation.

6.4.5. Public Art

Public Art is a rich and evocative interpretive tool which also adds to the aesthetic and cultural character of a place and there is an opportunity to incorporate public art that responds to, engages with and challenges the identified values of the site. Public Art should consider and draw on the site's significant values (whether in an abstract or more tangible way) and form part of an integrated response to the place.

The landscape design for the public domain provides for public art zones. Indicative potential artwork interprets the indigenous and natural values through a variety of media including in-ground paving, interpretative wall etchings, soundscape elements and experiential elements, such as interactive foggers (interpreting the mist from the red gum trees/ eucalyptus baths).

Figure 28 - Indicative Interpretation



ARCADIA

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY HEALTH PRECINCT
LANDSCAPE COSTING + MATERIALS BRIEF

PREPARED BY Arcadia Landscape Architecture DATE: AUGUST 2017
CLIENT: University of New South Wales SCALE: SITE
ARCHITECT: Emily Ottobello / Oliver Scudlark + Studio ISSUE: C

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Picture 24 – Indicative zones have been provided for public art, subject to further detailed design and development of interpretation briefs

Source: Arcadia Landscape Architecture Plan submitted for the SSDA

There is an opportunity for additional public art in the commons and public spaces of the new building that may further interpret the sites historical and contemporary values as part of the Health precinct.

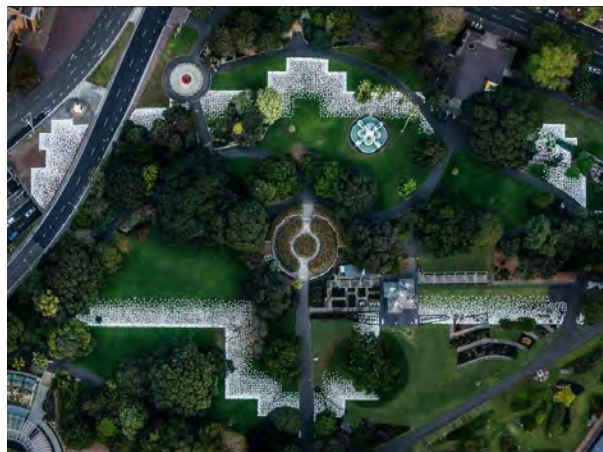
In developing briefs for public art, nominated interpretation themes herein should be considered. There is also the potential to use salvaged heritage material in the Public Art. Samples of artworks are provided at Figure 29 below.

Figure 29 – Samples of Public Art and interpretation



Picture 25 – The *Edge of the Trees* sculpture, at the Museum of Sydney incorporates soundscapes (Aboriginal voices call out their clan and place names).

Source: *Urbis 2015*



Picture 26 – Aerial view of Jonathan Jones *Barrangal Dyara* (Skin and Bones) which commemorates the lost Garden Palace and the countless Aboriginal artefacts lost with it, in the fire of 1882.

Source: *Art Guide Australia 2016*

6.4.6. Published Materials and Multimedia

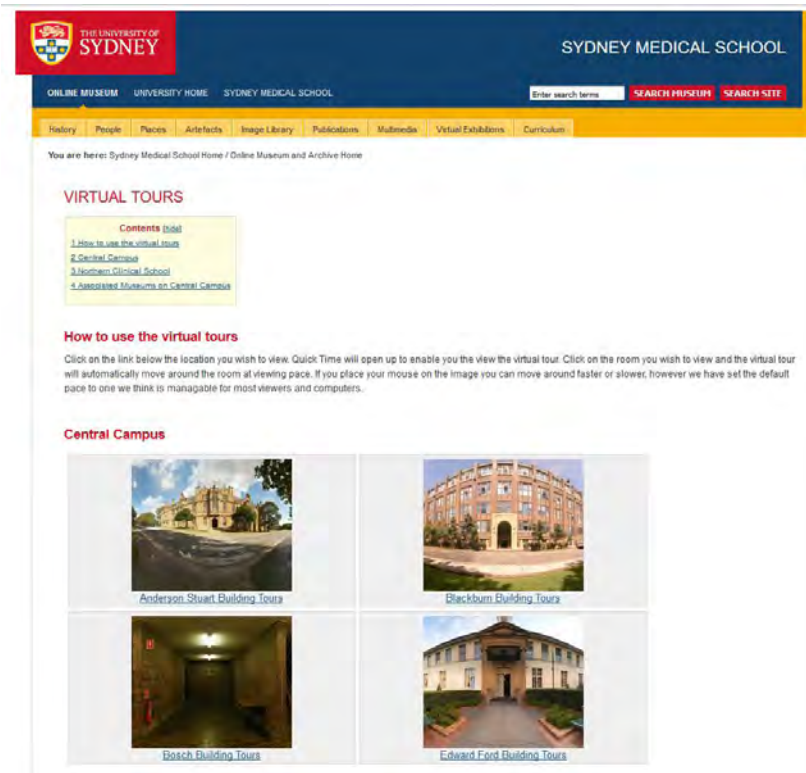
Interpretation of the site should also build on existing published materials and multimedia. This may involve a variety of media including print and electronic publications, soundscape or film productions and internet or digital media (e.g. phone applications), with the intent of making the information more readily accessible to a broader public audience through a broader variety of channels.

Interactive guide maps may also be considered allowing the end user to download an app or QR code on their smart device to navigate around the site. The app/ code would allow the end user to scan specific trigger points and listen to information about the designated points on the map. The benefit of this media is that it is widely accessible but allows the user to determine their level of interaction.

Existing published materials and media that assist to interpret the Medical school include (but is not limited to) the Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine and the Sydney Medical School Online Museum and Archive. The online archive features summary historical information, biographies and information on relevant people, images, artefacts and publications. With specific regard to the Blackburn and Bosch buildings proposed to be demolished for the new Health precinct, it also features Virtual tours. A downloadable brochure allows users to take a self-guided walking tour of the campus. The self-guided Medical Heritage Trail is designed for students and alumni. It encompasses museums, buildings, libraries, monuments and artworks across the Camperdown Campus to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

It is recommended that the website maintain the photographic archive and 'virtual tour' of the Blackburn and Bosch buildings as a record of the former buildings. Historical information should be reviewed and where applicable, updated. An updated walking tour should be prepared and may consider digital media (phone applications) as a more accessible and contemporary medium.

Figure 30 – Sample of website content and other media



Picture 27 – Part view of the Sydney Medical School page which features ‘virtual tours’ of the Blackburn and Bosch buildings (photographic archive)

Source: University of Sydney Medical School :
https://sydney.edu.au/medicine/museum/mwmuseum/index.php/Virtual_tours



Picture 28 – Sample page from the heritage trail

Source: University of Sydney Medical Heritage Trail
<https://sydney.edu.au/medicine/museum/mwmuseum/extensions/MediaBank/MediaBankShow.php?mid=http://smp.sydne.edu.au/mediabank/medmediabank/FMMUS3584>

7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This Interpretation Strategy has been prepared in conjunction with the Stage 1 State Significant Development (SSD) Development Application and to satisfy CIP conditions of consent as outlined in section 1.1 which requires provision on an Interpretation Strategy.

The strategy forms part of staged delivery and implementation of interpretation at the site and is provided for the purpose of conceptualising the vision for 'interpretation' at the site and to inform development of interpretation briefs in conjunction with detailed development of the Stage 1 precinct. Specific locations and media for interpretation are subject to final design development. The recommended interpretation responds to the site proposal and anticipated audiences.

A variety of interpretive devices are identified herein, including:

- Built form interpretation;
- Signage and Historic markers;
- Reuse of salvaged items;
- Display of collections and memorabilia;
- Public Art; and
- Published Materials and Multimedia.

7.1. NEXT STEPS

This strategy is to be submitted with the State Significant Development Application for Stage 1 of the new Health Precinct and satisfies CIP conditions of consent. Interpretation is an integral part of delivery of the site and further work is required to develop and implement interpretation as detailed below:

- 1) The Interpretation Strategy should be integrated into detailed design development of the precinct in conjunction with project architects, landscape architects and other relevant consultants.
- 2) Undertake stakeholder liaison to inform interpretation content and design, including (but not limited to) the Heritage User Group and other stakeholders (as identified by the University of Sydney).
- 3) Confirm appropriate media and locations for interpretation in conjunction with the consultant team and stakeholders.
- 4) Develop content and detailed briefs for specific interpretation media, as part of the staged delivery of the site in consultation with relevant designers, architects, landscape architects, engineers, archaeologists, historians, public art and other consultants and stakeholders to ensure media that is integrated into the overall design response to the site and public domain.
- 5) Implement Interpretation in conjunction with interpretive designer and manufacturer/ fabricator.

The above will need to be incorporated into project and construction programming. Detailed design and development of interpretation media should be subject to SSD conditions of consent and approvals (where required).

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