

Figure 4.2 Significant view corridors and planning axes within the expanded curtilage of the University campus
(source: University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan (2017))

4.2.1 Significant Trees and Landscapes

The GCMP has identified the Significant Trees and Types of Open Spaces and Landscapes across the University campus. (Fig.4.3) The trees bordering Oval No.1 are ranked as having Exceptional significance, while in the Blackburn forecourt the large Fig tree is ranked as having Moderate significance and the numerous London Plane trees are ranked as having Some significance..

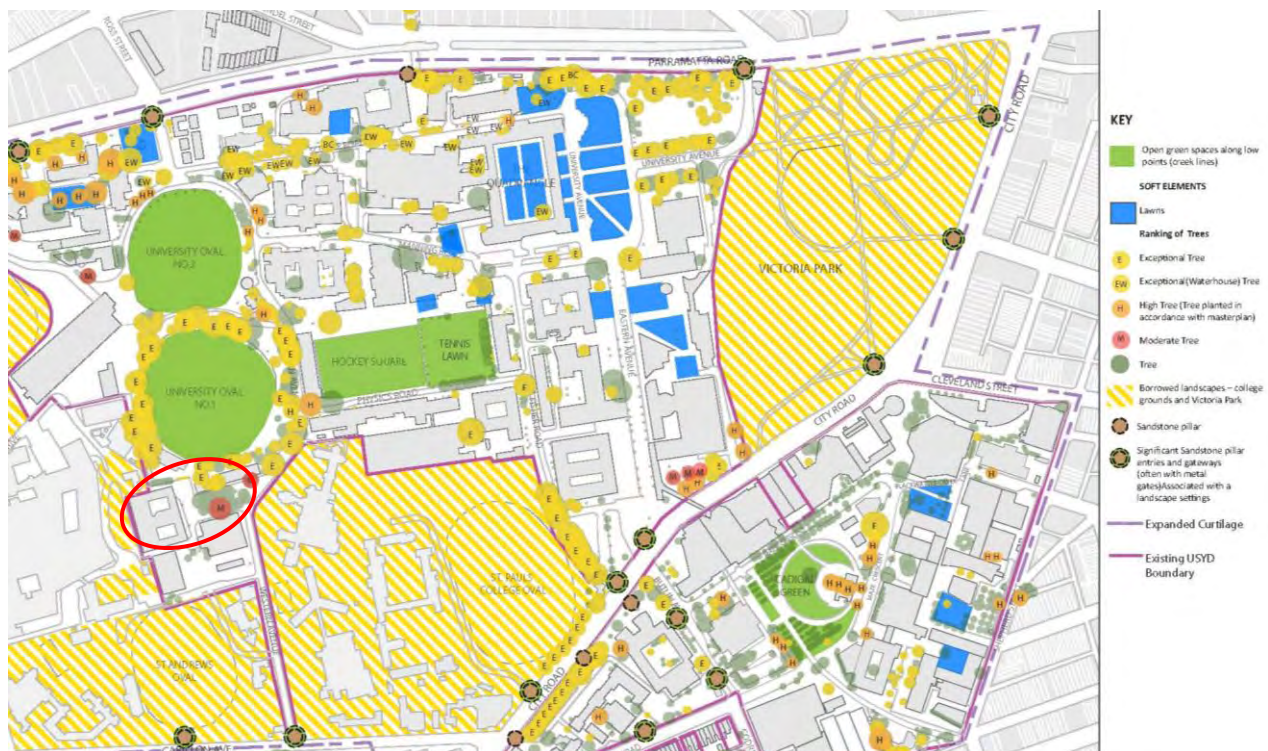


Figure 4.3 Significant Trees and Types of Open Spaces and Landscapes
(source: University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan (2017))

The City of Sydney *Register of Significant Trees (2013)* lists the trees lining Western Avenue (Item C-263), east of the SWAOHB site, as being significant.

4.3 Aboriginal Heritage Assessment

The Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment (AHIA) prepared by AHMS (February 2016) in consultation with the local Aboriginal community has identified places across the University's Camperdown and Darlington campuses which have Aboriginal cultural heritage values. (Appendix B) These places include the Macleay Museum, Shellshear Museum in the Anderson Stewart Building, Mackie Building, the Quad, the Koori Centre, the Sports Ovals and the University entrances." (AHIA, p.64.)

A number of Aboriginal heritage assessments of the University campus in general and for specific work sites, prepared over the past decade, have concluded that no archaeological sites or artefacts relating to Aboriginal occupation have been found within the University grounds.

There are, however, a number of areas within the University grounds which, because they have remained generally undisturbed, are regarded as being archaeologically sensitive. These areas are primarily ovals and playing fields, none of which are impacted by the proposed SWAOHB development.

The Grounds CMP (2017) identifies the Blackburn-Bosch Precinct (AA9) as an area having potential Aboriginal Archaeology (Fig.4.4), but assesses the area as being "heavily disturbed" and therefore its archaeological potential is Low. (GCMP, p.81)

The Campus Improvement Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Report (AHDDR), prepared by GML Heritage (October 2013), concludes:

"The current state of knowledge about the nature of past Aboriginal landscape use in the study area suggests that only few traces of these past inhabitants may be visible in the archaeological record. This result is a low potential for the preservation of in-situ Aboriginal archaeological deposits within the study area; however, if found these deposits would be of high archaeological significance due to their rarity." (AHDDR, p.34)

The GML conclusion was subsequently reinforced by the Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment, prepared by AHMS (February 2016), which concludes:

"Existing information suggests that much of the subject area (University campus) is heavily disturbed by historical activities. This disturbance has reduced or removed the potential for cultural materials to be present. In the unlikely event that in-situ deposits are identified, they are likely to be of local or State significance." (AHIA, p.63)

4.4 Archaeology Assessment

Over the past decade a number of archaeological reports have been prepared for the University campus, both in general and for specific work sites. Based on these previous reports, and given the amount of development that has occurred at the place, the GCMP concludes "the potential for archaeology, either Aboriginal or European, is considered to be low." (GCMP, p.81)

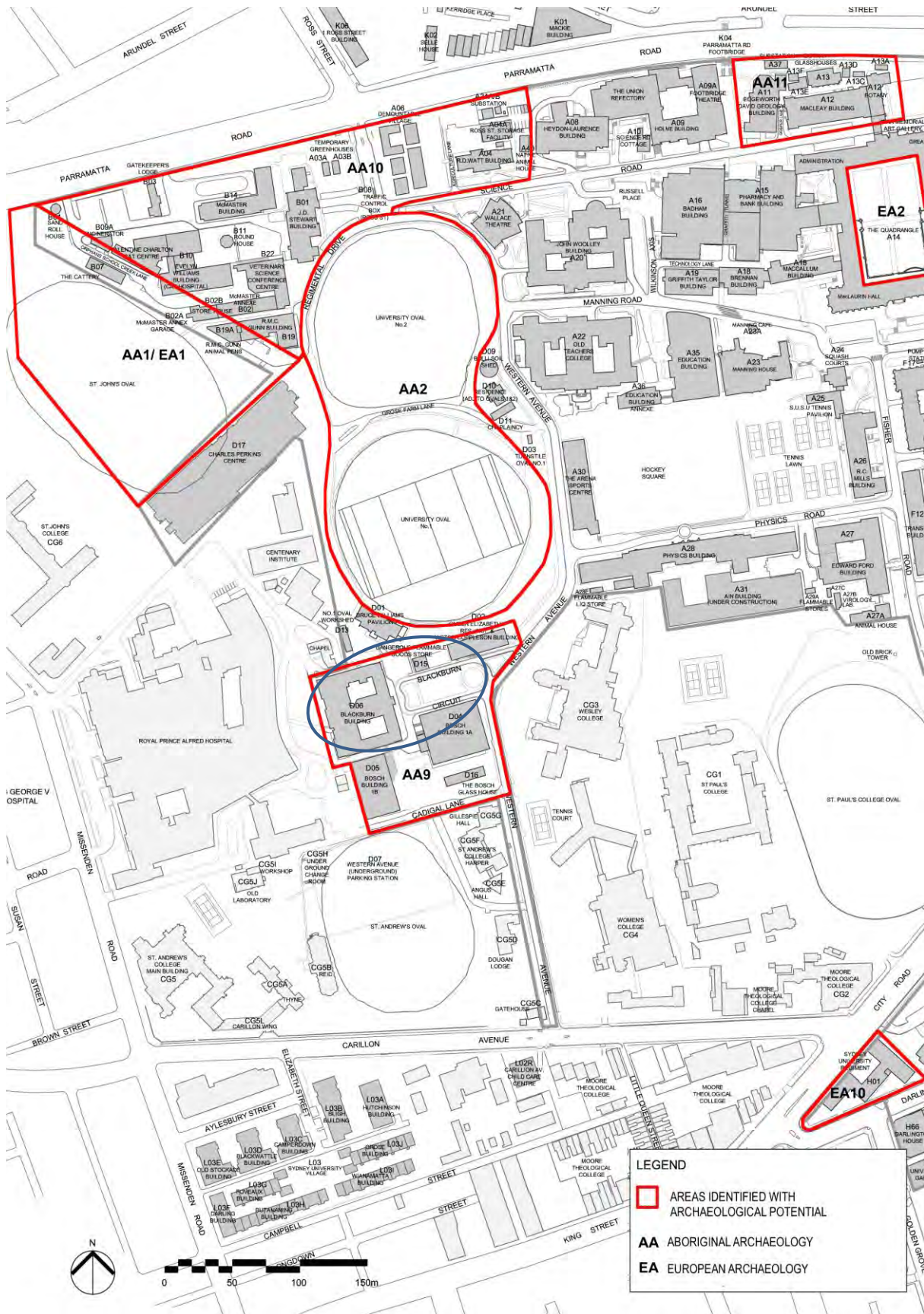


Figure 4.4 Ranking of archaeological areas on the Camperdown – Darlington Campus
(source: University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan (2017))

4.5 Heritage Items in the Vicinity

There are several heritage items of varying levels of significance in the vicinity of the SWAOHB site. (Fig 4.1) The heritage items include:

- Royal Prince Alfred Hospital: the Administration Block (Exceptional Significance); Victoria and Albert Pavilions (High Significance); and Gloucester House (Moderate Significance);
- St Andrew's College (High Significance);
- Wesley College (High Significance);
- Bosch 1A Building (D04) and Bosch 1B Building (D05) (Little Significance);
- University Oval No.1 Grandstand (Little Significance); and
- L.E.F.Neill Fountain (Some significance)

This Heritage Impact Assessment addresses the potential adverse impact of the proposed development upon these adjacent heritage items and recommends the means to mitigate any adverse impacts.

5.0 Description of the Proposal

5.1 Site of the proposed SWAOHB

The University's proposed Health Precinct is located in the south-western sector of the Camperdown campus. (Fig.1.2) The site of the Stage 1 development, the Susan Wakil AO Health Building (SWAOHB) the subject of this HIS), is bounded on the north by University Oval No.1, east by Western Avenue, south by the Bosch 1A Building (D04) and Bosch 1B Building (D05) and west by the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. (Fig.3.1) The Blackburn Building (D06) currently stands on the site.

The proposed SWAOHB is a multi-disciplinary health and education building. (Fig.5.1) The new building will co-locate the faculties of Nursing and Midwifery (currently located at Mallett Street, camperdown), Health Sciences (currently at the Cumberland Campus) and the Central Clinical School from the Sydney medical School (currently located in the RPAH and the Blackburn Building).

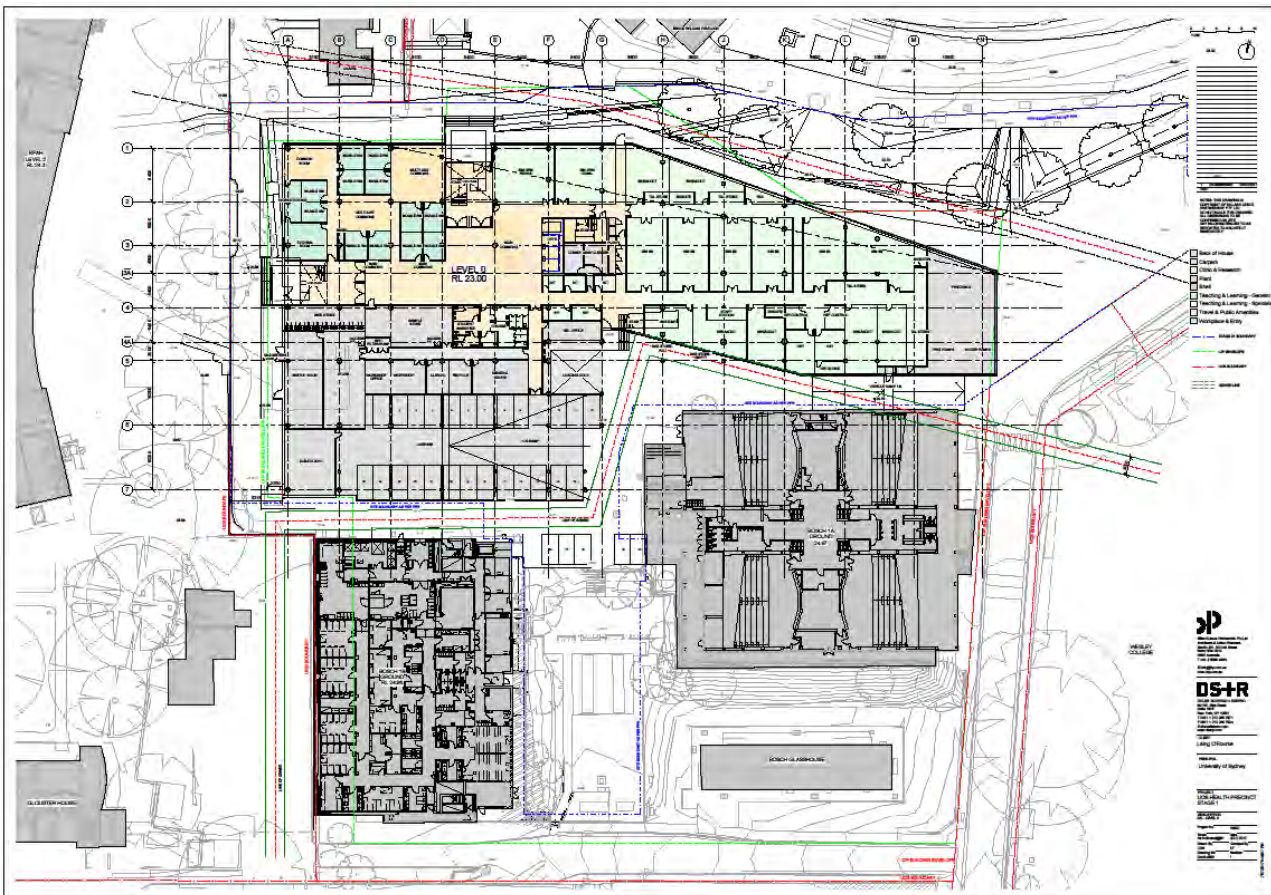


Figure 5.1 Ground Floor Plan

(Source: Drawing DA18-0001 (Rev.1), prepared by BLP/DS+R Architects, dated July 2017)

The proposed SWAOHB comprises of eight levels with a central void, with Level 0 cutting into the existing ground levels at the eastern end of the site. The SWAOHB will accommodate the following components:

- Entry foyer and reception facilities;
- General teaching spaces;
- Specialist teaching spaces
- A clinical and research hub;
- Offices and workstations for academic and professional services;
- Breakout spaces and meeting rooms;
- Support and back of house spaces; and
- Significant landscaped areas.

The proposed works also include associated earthworks, tree removal, landscape works and the augmentation of existing infrastructure and services.

6.0 Assessment of Heritage Impact

6.1 Heritage Impact Analysis

The SEARS issued by the Department of Planning & Environment requires the SHI to address the impact of the proposed SWAOHB on the following:

- heritage items on the site;
- adjacent significant heritage items;
- the cultural landscape;
- significant views;
- potential historical archaeological relics;
- Aboriginal cultural heritage values and potential archaeology; and
- the character and heritage of the University of Sydney, University Colleges and Victoria Park as connected landscapes;

6.2 Potential Impacts on Heritage Items on Site

Discussion: The Blackburn Building (1931-33) symbolically straddles the boundary between the University and the land granted to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in 1873, demonstrating its twin role as both a medical research facility and a teaching institution. (Fig.6.1) The building is ranked in the Grounds CMP as having Moderate heritage significance.



Figure 6.1 Blackburn Building (1931-33)

(source: Author, July 2017)

The demolition of the Blackburn Building was identified in the Campus Improvement Program (SSD 6123) (Fig.6.2) and the heritage impact of its loss to the University was assessed in the Health and Life Sciences (Blackburn and Veterinary Science) Precincts Statement of Heritage Impact (SHI) prepared by Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners (2013).

The SHI prepared by CLS&P (2013) concluded that the demolition of the Blackburn Building would have a medium impact on the heritage values of the University, but that the demolition was necessary to enable the University to achieve its strategic teaching and research objectives. The loss of significance could be mitigated, to some extent, by the preparation of an archival record of the building and suitable interpretation at the location of the new health buildings. (Health and Life Sciences Precinct SHI, p.101).

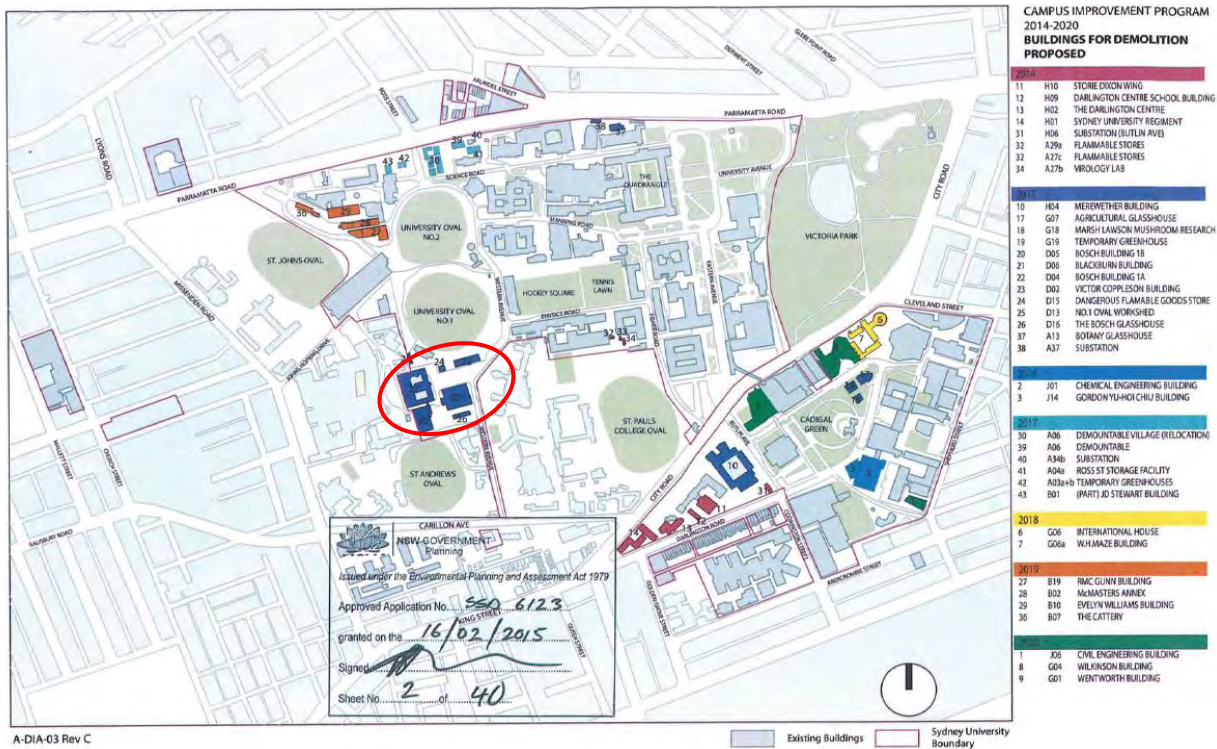


Figure 6.2 Buildings for Demolition, Campus Improvement Program (SSD 6123, approved 2015)
(source: CIS, University of Sydney)

An HIS prepared by Urbis (Dec 2016) to accompany an REF for the demolition of the Blackburn Building concluded:

“Whilst the proposed demolition has an acknowledged heritage impact on the building and the broader campus, the demolition has, however, been supported in the context of the need to redevelop the (Health) precinct and facilitate the ongoing university functions.” (Blackburn Building HIS, p.i)

It is noted that the “historic continuing use” of this section of the University campus for medical tuition and research will be maintained in the new Health Precinct, which is in accordance with GCMP Conservation Policy 20. (GCMP, p.136)

The HIS for both the approved CIP (SSD 6123) and the approved REF for Demolition recommended the loss of heritage significance could be mitigated, to some extent, by the preparation of an Archival Record (in accordance with the NSW Heritage Office guideline) of the Blackburn Building prior to demolition, the salvaging of specific elements of the Blackburn Building for interpretative purposes and the preparation of an Interpretation Strategy to acknowledge the Blackburn Building.

Conclusion: The moderate adverse impact on the overall significance of the University due to the loss of Blackburn Building was acknowledged in the approved CIP (SSD 6123) and the subsequent REF which approved its demolition. In accordance with University procedures an archival record of the Blackburn has been prepared and numerous items identified for retention and future interpretative purposes. An Interpretation Strategy for the overall Health Precinct, with a focus on the SWAOHB (Stage 1), has been prepared.

6.3 Potential Impacts on Adjacent Heritage Items

There are a number of heritage items of varying levels of significance immediately adjacent to the proposed SWAOHB site (Fig.6.3), including:

- Royal Prince Alfred Hospital: Administration Block (Exceptional Significance); Victoria and Albert Pavilions (High significance); and Gloucester House (Moderate significance);
- St Andrew’s College (High significance);
- Wesley College (High significance);
- Bosch 1A Building (D04) and Bosch 1B Building (D05) (Little significance);
- University Oval No.1 Grandstand (Little significance); and

- L.E.F.Neill Fountain (Some significance)

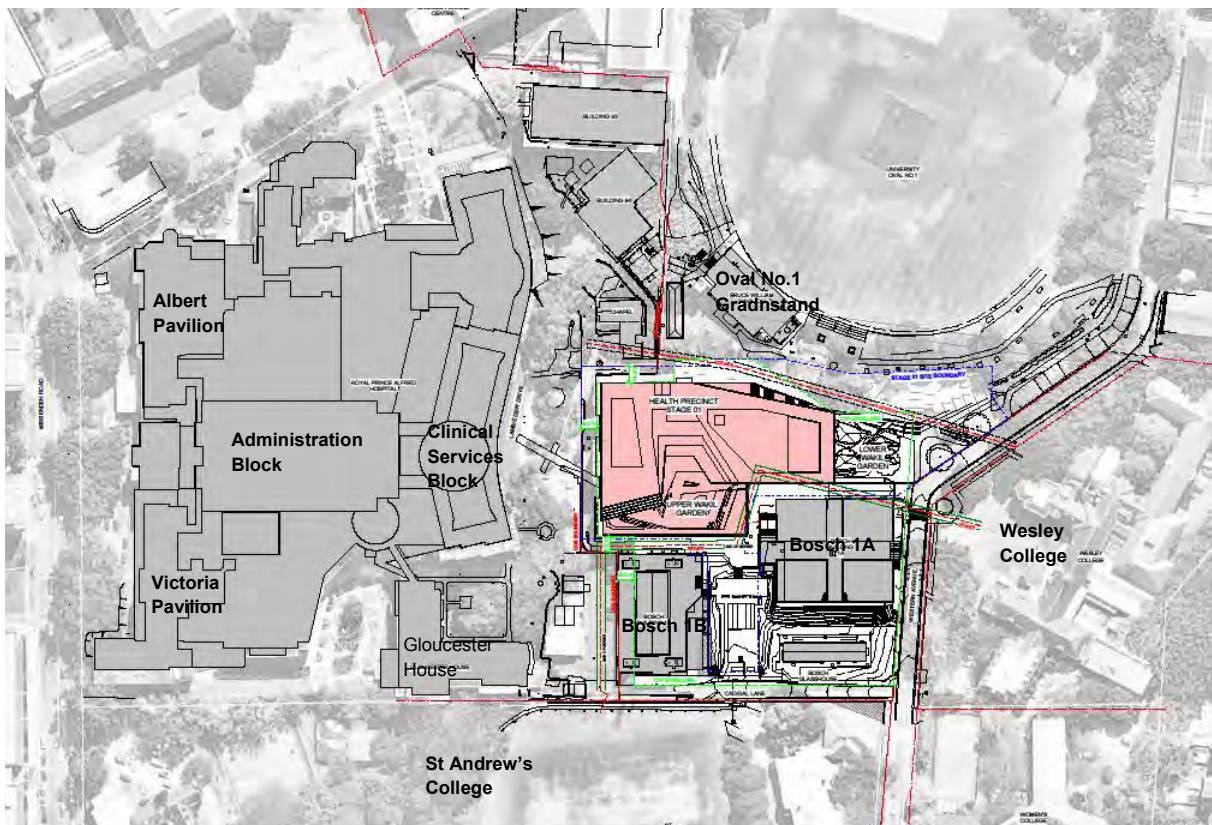


Figure 6.3 Heritage Items adjacent to the SWAOHB

(source: Drawing DA03-0002, prepared by BLP/DS+R Architects, dated July2017)

6.3.1 Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Discussion: The Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH) was established on land that had originally been assigned for Wesley College. The college was not commenced within the stipulated time therefore, in 1873, the University transferred the land to the proposed hospital on the proviso that part of the site would be reserved for a future school of medicine. It was for this reason that the new medical building, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation in the early 1930s, was located in this section of the University campus. The Blackburn Building, as it was later known, was sited on the central axis of the RPAH Administration Block thereby emphasising the strong tuition and research links between the hospital and the university.

The RPAH grounds contain three elements of heritage significance: the Administration Block (1876-82) (Exceptional Significance); Victoria and Albert Pavilions (1904) (High significance); and Gloucester House (1936) (Moderate significance)

The SWAOHB is located to the east of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. The RPAH Administration Block (Exceptional significance) and the Albert and Victoria Pavilions (High significance) are all physically and visually separated from the SWAOHB by the RPAH Clinical Services Block. (Fig.6.4)

Gloucester House (Moderate significance) is located to the south west of the SWAOHB and west of Bosch 1B Building. The rear aspects of Gloucester House are already overwhelmed by the location and scale of its surrounding buildings, including the RPAH Clinical Services Block and the Blackburn Building. The SWAOHB will have a minor (additional) impact on its heritage significance.

Conclusion: The SWAOHB will have no physical or visual impact on the heritage significance of the Administration Block (1876-82) and the Victoria and Albert Pavilions (1904), and only a minor impact on the rear aspects of Gloucester House (1936). The impact of the SWAOHB on the overall heritage significance of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital is acceptable.

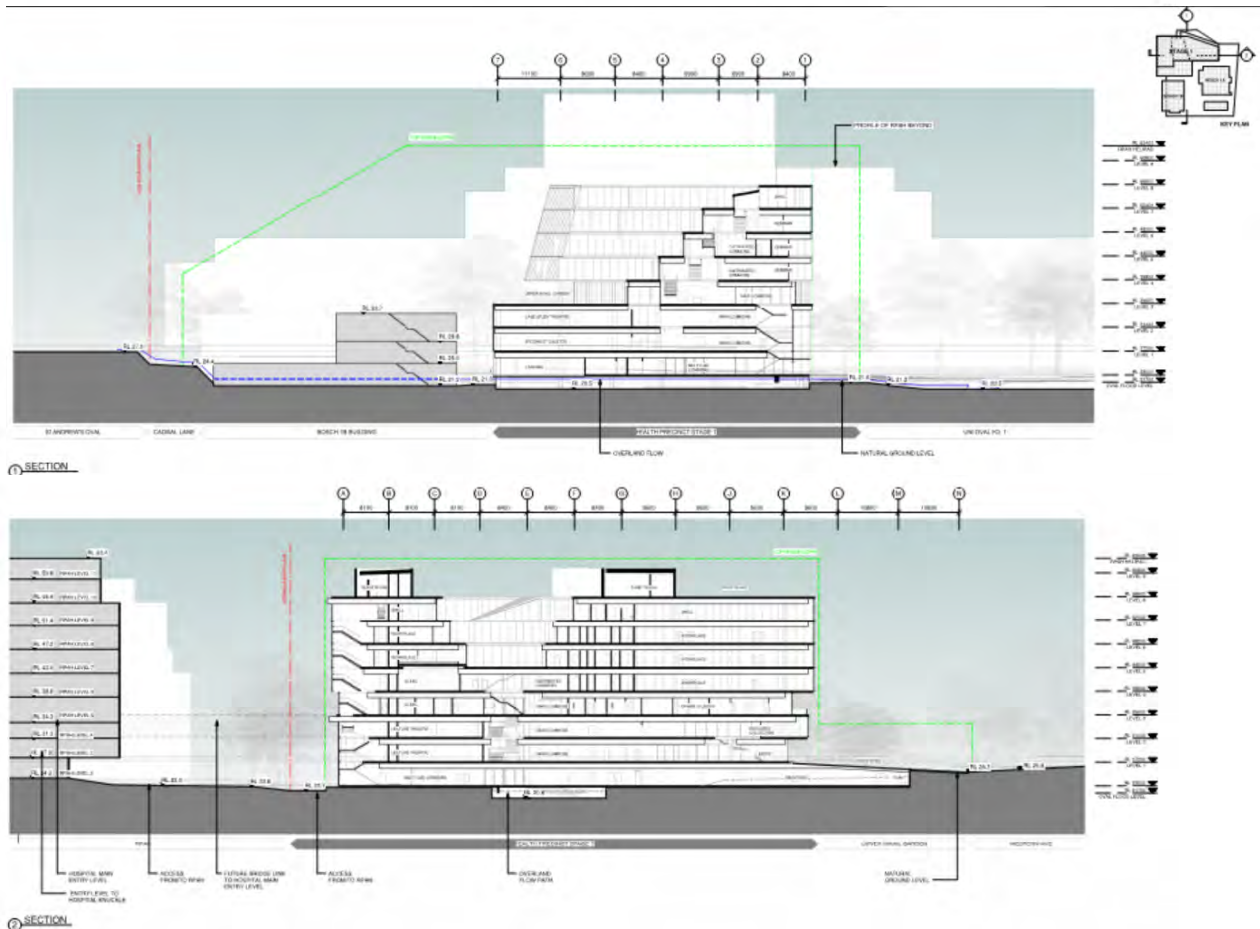


Figure 6.4 Sections showing RPHA Clinical Services Block and Gloucester House behind the SWAOHB
(source: Drawing DA30-0001 (Rev.1), prepared by BLP/DS+R Architects, dated July 2017)

6.3.2 St Andrew’s College (High Significance)

Discussion: St Andrew’s College is located immediately south of the Bosch 1B Building (D05). The college grounds extend south from Cadigal Lane to Carillon Avenue and west from Western Avenue to Missenden Road. The principal college buildings are located in the south–west corner of the grounds. The college sports oval occupies the area immediately south of the Bosch 1B; atop a university car-park.

St Andrew’s College Master Plan (2002) proposes several new buildings around the campus perimeter, but the oval atop the carpark will remain as is. Due to its location the SWAOHB will be physically and visually separated from the St Andrew’s College principal buildings by the College’s own landscaping, the college oval, Gloucester House (RPAH) and the Bosch 1B Building. (Fig.6.5)

The Grounds CMP identifies View CV6 – a view from St Andrew’s College residential wing past Blackburn Building (D06), over trees to the Education Building (A35) – as an important secondary view. The Blackburn and Veterinary Precincts HIS, prepared for the CIP (SSD 6123) recommended the retention of CV6. (B&V Precincts HIS, p.102)

View CV6, from St Andrew’s College across to the University’s Education Building, is a rather oblique view, taken from the residential Reid Building, adjacent to the college Oval. (Fig.6.6) The



Figure 6.5 View from the front door of the St Andrew's College main building
(source: Author, August 2017)



Figure 6.6 View from the residential Reid Building, St Andrew's College.
(source: Author, August 2017)
(Note: the Education Building (A35) is in the centre background)

eastern end of the SWAOHB does not project into the CV6 view across the College Oval to the Education Building.

Conclusion: The impact of the SWAOHB on the heritage significance of St Andrew's College will be minimal and, therefore, is acceptable.

6.3.3 Wesley College (High Significance)

Discussion: Wesley College is located on the eastern side of Western Avenue, across from the SWAOHB site. The principal college building, set well back from Western Avenue, faces north-west with tree-framed views across the Blackburn forecourt. (Fig.6.7)



Figure 6.7 View from Wesley College front door, across Western Avenue to the proposed SWAOHB.
(source: Author, August 2017)

The trees lining Western Avenue that define the western boundary of Wesley College, will be retained, as will the low level Bosch Building 1A. The trees in the Blackburn forecourt (background) will be removed and replaced by new trees in the landscaped Lower Wakil Garden, leading up to the entrance of the SWAOHB. (Fig. 6.8)

In discussions with the University, Wesley College expressed some concern regarding the potential for the SWAOHB to overshadow the College grounds and the loss of existing trees in the Blackburn Forecourt, but did not express a concern about the impact of SWAOHB itself. An overshadowing diagram demonstrates that the SWAOHB does not increase the existing shadow on the College. The loss of the existing trees in the Blackburn forecourt will be compensated by the proposed replacement of trees proposed for the Lower Wakil Garden.



Figure 6.8 View from Western Avenue to the Lower Wakil Garden and SWAOHB entrance.
(source: Drawing DA30-0001, prepared by BLP/DS+R Architects, dated August 2017)

Conclusion: Due to the physical distance between the SWAOHB and the Wesley College buildings and the visual separation provided by the trees lining Western Avenue, the proposed SWAOHB will have a minimal impact on the overall heritage significance of Wesley College and, therefore, is acceptable.

6.3.4 Bosch 1A Building (D04) and Bosch 1B Building (D05) (Little Significance)

By the 1960s the Faculty of Medicine had outgrown its two principal buildings (Anderson Stuart and Blackburn buildings). The George H Bosch Lecture Theatre 1A Building (Fig.6.9) was completed in 1965, as Stage 1 of the Bosch Complex. Stage 2, the Bosch 1B Building (Fig.6.10), located next to the Blackburn Building and housing the library, was completed in 1968. The two low profile Brutalist brick and concrete buildings were designed by architects, Stephenson and Turner.

The Bosch Complex is named after George Henry Bosch, who had made several substantial endowments to the Faculty of Medicine, specifically to establish the Chair of Histology and Embryology (1927) and the Chairs in Medicine, Surgery and Bacteriology (1928). Together with Prof. Claude Witherington Stump, Bosch was instrumental in the University gaining a Rockefeller Foundation grant of £100,000 to further medical research in NSW.

Discussion: While the Bosch 1B Building (Fig.6.10) displays more external articulation than the Bosch 1A Building (Fig.6.9), both buildings are architecturally understated. Their contribution to the heritage significance of the University relates more to demonstrating the development of the Health Precinct than to their architectural merit.

The SWAOHB will physically and visually overwhelm the two Bosch buildings. The two Bosch buildings, however, were identified in SSD 6123 (CIP 2014-20) for future demolition (Fig.6.2) and the SWAOHB (Health Precinct Stage 1) has been designed on the basis that these two buildings will be replaced in the Health Precinct Stage 2 development (the subject of a future Development Application).



Figure 6.9 Eastern Elevation of Bosch 1A Building, facing Western Avenue
(source: Author, July 2017)



Figure 6.10 Eastern Elevation of Bosch 1B Building (D05), adjacent to the Blackburn Building (right)
(source: Author, July 2017)

Conclusion: The impact of the SWAOHB on the heritage significance of Bosch 1A Building (D04) and Bosch 1B Building (D05) is acceptable.

6.3.5 University Oval No.1 Grandstand (Little Significance)

Discussion: The University Oval No.1 Grandstand faces north-east, with its back towards the proposed SWAOHB site. (Fig.6.11) The significance of the Oval No.1 Grandstand, a minor functional building, relates primarily to its connection with the historic oval, not as an element in its own right. The SWAOHB will have a negligible impact on the heritage significance of the Oval No.1 Grandstand.



Figure 6.11 Oval No.1 Grandstand, backing on to the SWAOHB site (Blackburn Building, left)
(source: Author, July 2017)

Conclusion: The proposed SWAOHB will have a negligible impact on the heritage significance of Oval No.1 Grandstand and, therefore, is acceptable.

6.3.6 L.E.F.Neill Fountain (Some Significance)

Discussion: The L.E.F Neill Fountain (Fig.6.12), located east of the Oval No.1 Grandstand, is a memorial to Dr Leopold Neill (1867-1901). Neill was a graduate of the University's Medical School, avid university sportsman and, later, a tutor of university medical students at RPAH. His untimely early death was keenly felt by his university and medical colleagues, who funded his memorial fountain.

The sandstone Gothic fountain (1902) will be retained in its present location, but within an improved landscape setting.(Item 14 on Fig.6.14) The proposed landscaping will ensure the retention of the symbolic connection between Neill and the University's sports oval, the Health Precinct and the RPAH.

Conclusion: The impact of the SWAOHB landscaping on the L.E.F Neill Fountain is positive.



Figure 6.12 L.E.F.Neill Fountain (1902), with the Blackburn Building in the background (left)
(source: R Scharenguivel, September 2016)

6.4 Potential Impacts on the Cultural Landscape

Discussion: Historically, the Blackburn Building (new medical school), located in the south western section of the Camperdown Campus and bounded by University Oval No.1, Wesley College, St Andrew;s College and RPAH, has always been slightly detached from the rest of the University. There is presently neither a strong physical or visual connection between the buildings or landscape to the rest of the Camperdown campus; to the point where the Blackburn Building had a closer physical link with the RPAH.

The Grounds CMP (2017) identifies the Significant Trees and Types of Open Spaces and Landscapes across the University campus. The trees which border the southern edge of University Oval No.1 are ranked as having Exceptional significance, while in the Blackburn forecourt the large Fig (*Ficus spp.*) tree is ranked as having Moderate significance and the numerous London Plane trees are ranked as having Some significance. (Fig.6.13) The Blackburn forecourt, itself, is ranked as being a Late-Modern (1947-1980) landscape of Moderate significance.

The Blackburn Forecourt and the area previously occupied by the demolished Queen Elizabeth II Research Institute and Victor Coppleson Building (D02) will be replaced by the Lower Wakil Garden, Upper Wakil Garden and Turpentine Forest. (Fig.6.14).

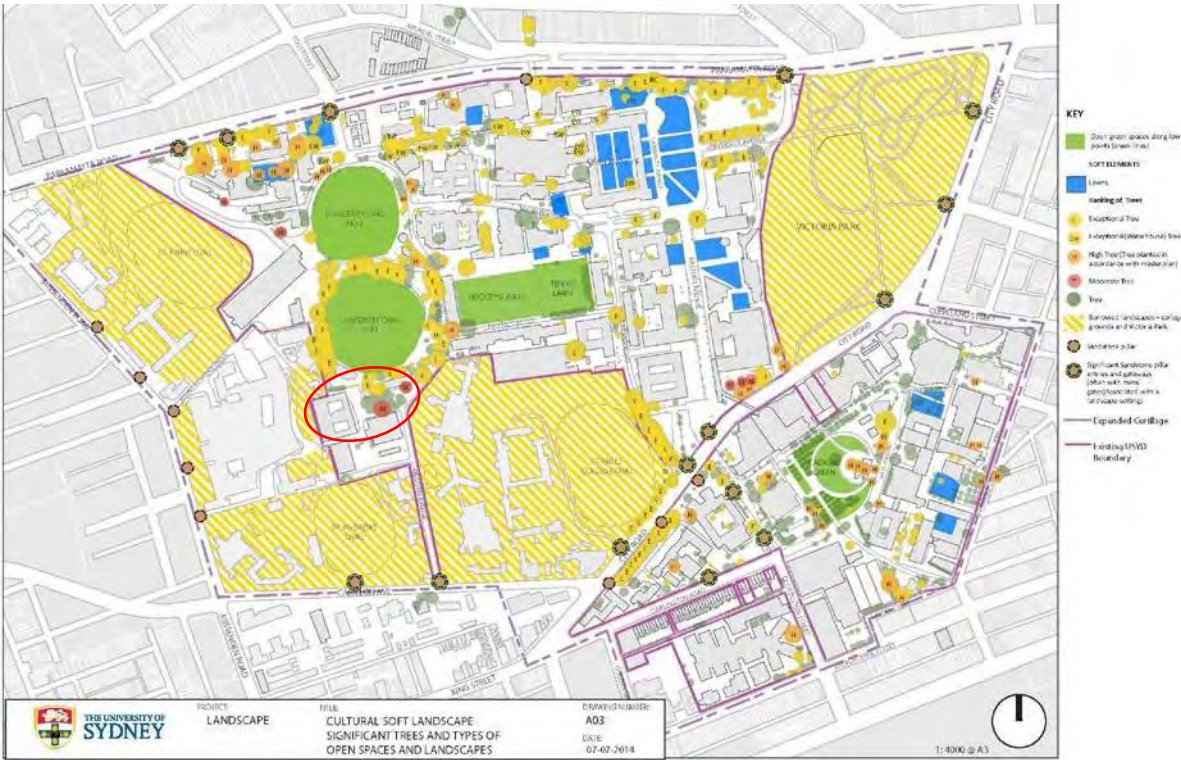


Figure 6.13 Significant Trees and Types of Open Spaces and Landscapes
(source: University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan (2017))

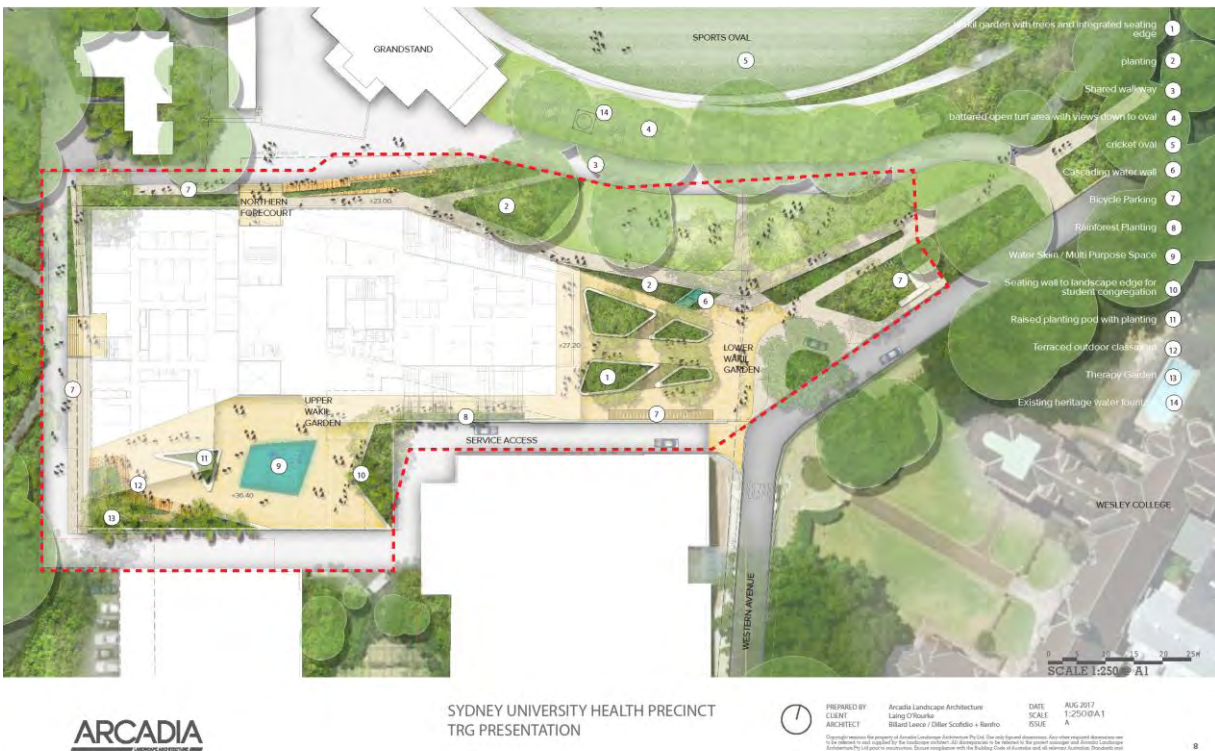


Figure 6.14 HealthPrecinct Stage 1 Landscape Plan
(source: Drawing prepared by Arcadia Landscape Architecture (August 2017))

The Aborigicultural Impact Assessment (AIA), prepared by Tree IQ (dated August 2017) assessed twenty eight (28) trees (or groups of trees) within the SWAOHB site, using the VTA criteria and notes. (Fig.6.15)

5.1 PLANTING DESIGN_VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

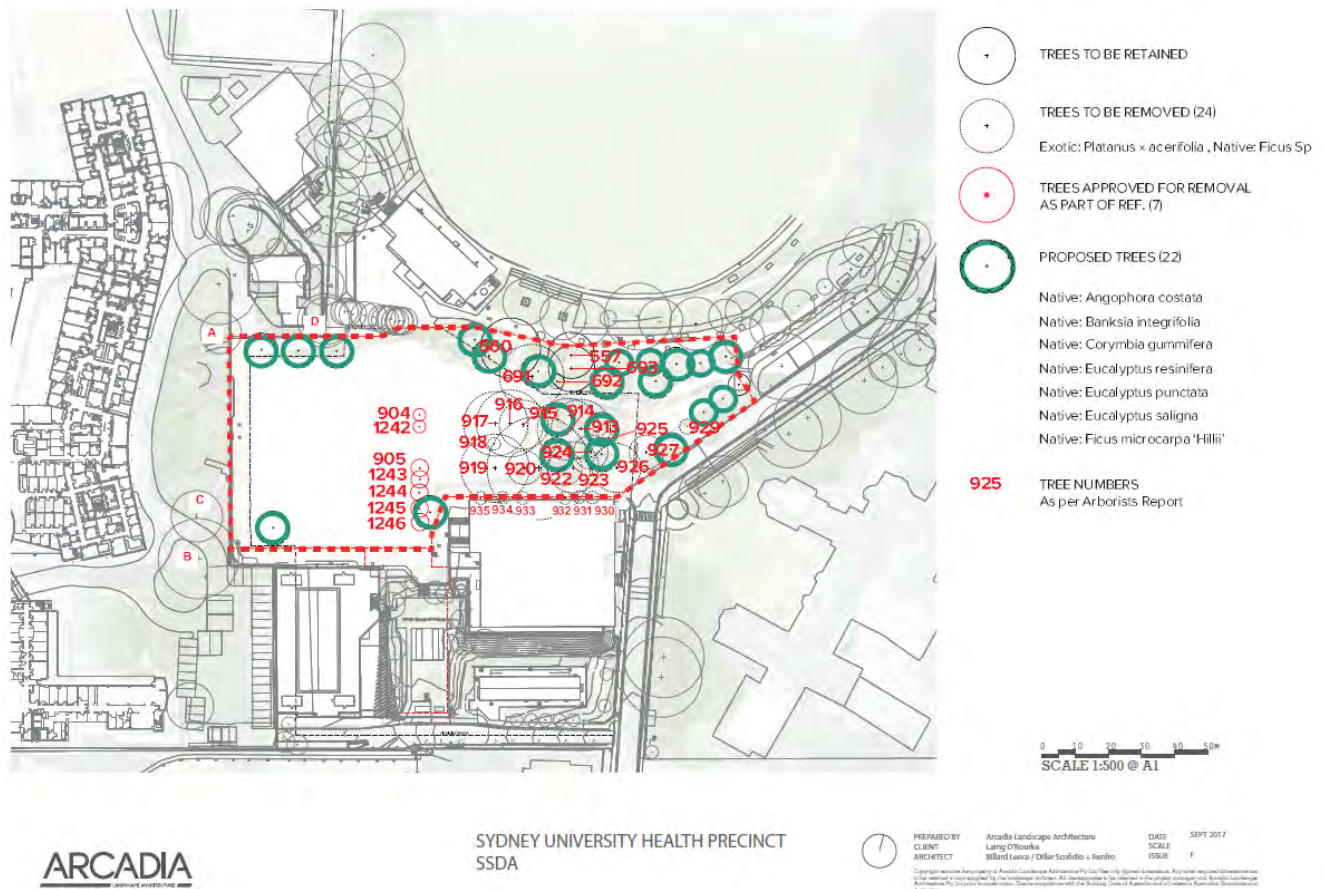


Figure 6.15 Vegetation Management Plan (showing trees to be retained, removed and replaced)
(source: Drawing prepared by Arcadia landscape Architecture (August 2017))

Of the three (3) trees proposed to be retained:
 Four (4) trees are rated as *Priority for Retention*;
 Ten (10) trees are rated as *Consider for Retention*;
 Eighteen (18) are rated as *Consider for Removal*.

Eighteen (18) of the twenty eight (28) trees assessed are proposed to be removed, of which:
 Sixteen (16) are rated as *Consider for Retention*; and
 Two (2) are rated as *Consider for Removal*.

To mitigate the loss of eighteen trees, a total of twenty two replacement trees are proposed, including a 1000ltr Ficus spp. (Fig), which will replace Tree 921 currently in Blackburn Circuit. (Tree 921 was identified in the Grounds CMP as having Moderate significance, but the arborist report deemed the tree to be unsuited for salvaging for later replanting.)

The trees lining the southern edge of University Oval No.1, ranked in the GCMP (2017) as being of Exceptional significance, are to be retained. Similarly, the various trees lining Western Avenue, on the eastern edge of the SWAOHB site, which are listed in the City of Sydney *Register of Significant Trees* (2013) as being significant (Item C-263) will not be impacted by the SWAOHB project.

All trees on the neighbouring properties (Trees A-H) are proposed for retention, although trees A, B, and D will required minor pruning to provide clearance for the proposed building. The AIA concludes that “the extent of pruning required should not significantly impact the health, form or amenity value of any of these trees.” (AIA, p.8)

The contemporary landscape proposed to replace the Blackburn Forecourt includes the Lower Wakil Garden, of Western Avenue; the Turpentine Forest, backing onto Oval No.1; and the Upper Wakil Garden, a large public space which will unite the Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3 buildings.

Conclusion: The impact of the SWAOHB and its associated landscaping on the cultural landscape is acceptable.

6.5 Potential Impact on Significant Views

Discussion: The Grounds CMP (2017) identifies a number of significant view corridors and planning axes within the expanded curtilage of the University campus (Fig.6.16), that “should be retained and if possible enhanced.” (GCMP Policy 18)

The principle view corridor in this part of the Camperdown campus is the A5 north-south view along Western Avenue from Carillon Avenue to Parramatta Road. The demolition of the Queen Elizabeth II Research Institute and Victor Coppleson Building (D02) in preparation for the construction of the Health Precinct, has reinstated this significant view corridor in accordance with GCMP Policy 18. The SWAOHB has been sited so as to respect the reinstated significant A5 view corridor.

A planning axis (A6), as distinct from an actual view corridor, was established when the Blackburn Building (1931-33) was aligned on the central axis of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Administration Block. This planning axis, which originally reinforced the physical and historical connections between the two institutions, has since been disrupted by the construction of the RPAH Clinical Services Building.

A secondary view corridor is the B3 view from the front door of Wesley College, which looks north-west across the Blackburn forecourt towards the back of RPAH. (Fig.6.7) The view across the Blackburn forecourt will be replaced by a view across the Lower Wakil Garden to the SWAOHB entrance (Fig.6.8), still framed by the existing Western Avenue trees.

Conclusion: The demolition of the Queen Elizabeth II Research Institute and Victor Coppleson Building (D02) and the siting of the SWAOHB will enhance the significant A5 view corridor, in accordance with GCMP Policy 18. The siting of the SWAOHB and the future buildings in the Health Precinct will have no impact on the A6 planning axis, because the RPAH Clinical Services Block has already diminished its relevance. The secondary view corridor B3 from the Wesley College front door will be impacted somewhat by the removal of the Blackburn forecourt and its replacement with the proposed Lower Wakil Garden. The B3 view line will be maintained, but with a different form of landscape.

The overall impact of the SWAOHB on the various significant view corridors is acceptable.

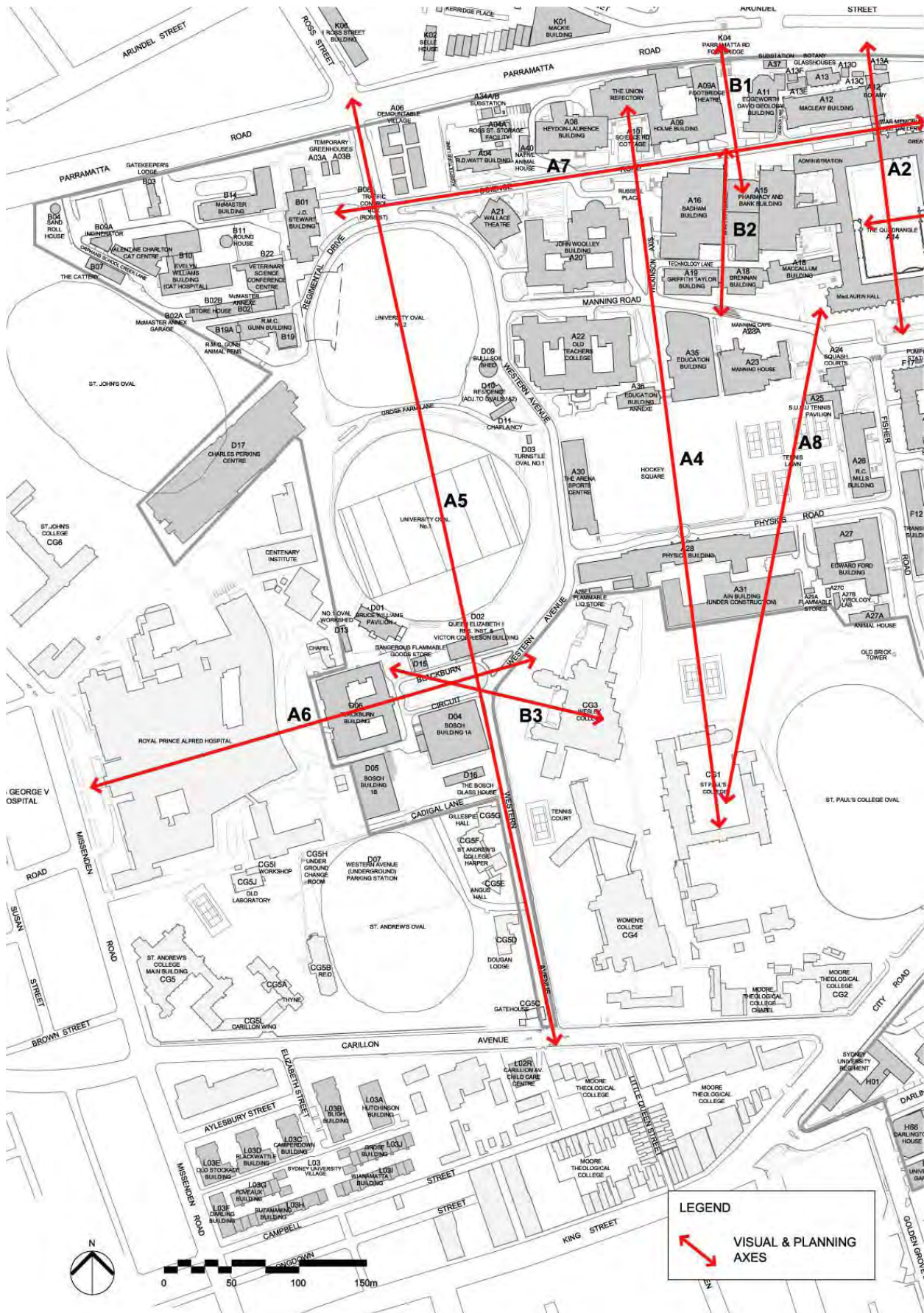


Figure 6.16 Significant Visual and Planning Axes
(source: University of Sydney Grounds Conservation Management Plan (2017))

6.6 Potential Historical Archaeology

Discussion: Over the past decade a number of archaeological reports have been prepared for the University campus, both in general and for specific work sites. Based on these previous reports, and given the amount of development that has occurred at the place, the GCMP concludes “the potential for archaeology, either Aboriginal or European, is considered to be low.” (GCMP, p.81)

The SWAOHB site was heavily excavated for the construction of the Blackburn Building (1931-33). Additional ground disturbance occurred when the adjacent Bosch buildings and forecourt were built in the 1960s, further diminishing the potential for finding any archaeological evidence.

Conclusion: The historic archaeology potential of the site is Low, due to the site having been heavily disturbed.

6.7 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values and Potential Archaeology

Discussion: An Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment (AHIA) has been prepared by AHMS (February 2016), in accordance with the Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (DECCW, 2011) and Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (DECCW).

The AHIA, which covers Aboriginal cultural heritage values across the University's Camperdown and Darlington campuses, concludes:

“Consultation with RAPs identified six places retaining cultural values within the subject area. (It is highlighted that while the discussions focused on the six CIP precincts, it also considered the wider Camperdown and Darlington Campuses). These include the Macleay Museum, Shellshear Museum in the Anderson Stewart Building, Mackie Building, the Quad, the Koori Centre, the Sports Ovals and the University entrances.” (AHIA, p.64.)

None of the places identified in the AHIA as retaining Aboriginal cultural values on the University of Sydney campus will be affected by the SWAOHB.

The Grounds CMP identified a site (AA9) within the Health Precinct as having Aboriginal Archaeology potential, but it concluded that the potential was Low due to the site having been “heavily disturbed”. (GCMP, p.81)

The University of Sydney Campus Improvement Program Aboriginal Due Diligence Report, prepared by Godden Mackay Logan (2013) concluded there “is a low potential for the preservation of in-situ Aboriginal archaeological deposits within the study area; however, if found these deposits would be of high significance due to their rarity.” (ADDR, p.34)

The AHIA, prepared by AHMS (February 2016), reached a similar conclusion: “with the exception of the western portion of the Life Sciences and Health Precincts, it is considered that the remaining (University) precincts would have low potential for cultural materials to be present.” (AHIA, p.7) The archaeological potential of the western portion of the Life Sciences and Health Precincts were flagged on the basis that *“geotechnical investigations within the university grounds indicate that natural soil horizons may be preserved below 3-5m of fill in areas in close proximity to the former Orphan School Creek beneath the western portion of the Life Sciences and Health Precincts.” (AHIA, p.6)*

The 3-5m of fill referred to in the AHIA is present in the northern portion of the Health Precinct, specifically under the RMC Gunn Building (B19) and the nearby University Oval No.2, and is clearly evident in the level change between University Oval No.1 and University Oval No.2 (Fig.6.17], all of which is well north of the SWAOHB site.



Figure 6.17 Ground Level change between Oval No.1 (foreground) and Oval No.2 (background)
(source: Author, August 2017)

The SWAOHB site, in the southern portion of the Health Precinct, was heavily excavated for the construction of the Blackburn Building (1931-33). The construction drawings clearly show the footings, basement level and finished ground around the Blackburn Building as all being constructed at a level below the existing ground level. (Fig.6.18) In addition, University records state that the preliminary ground works included diverting an existing stormwater drain and sewer to miss the footings of the new building. (Blackburn Building CMP, p.48)

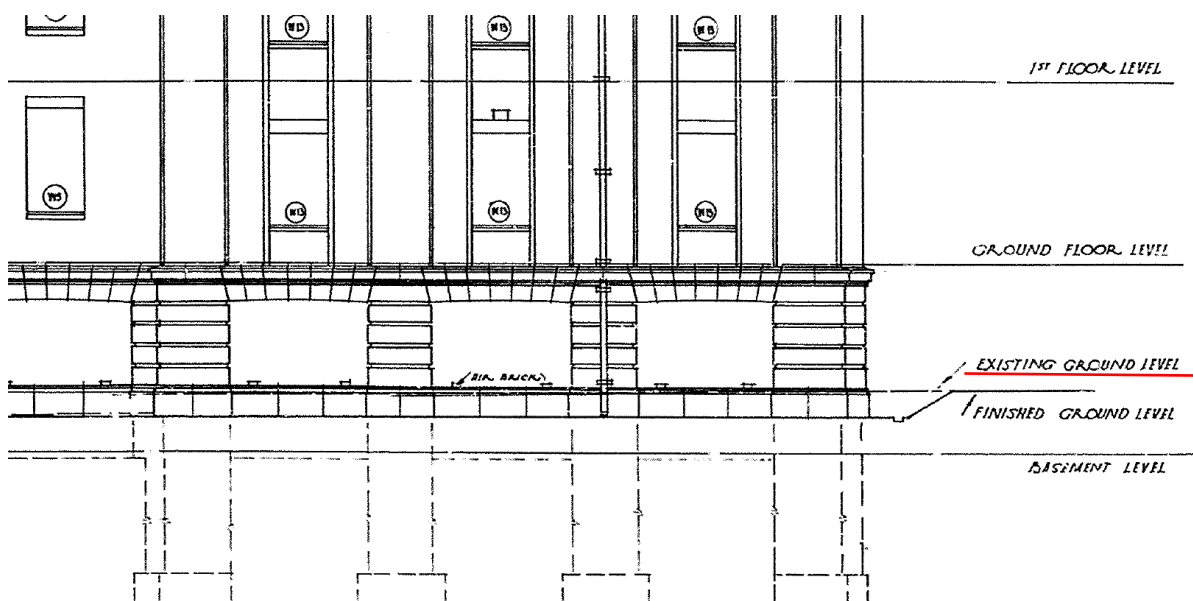
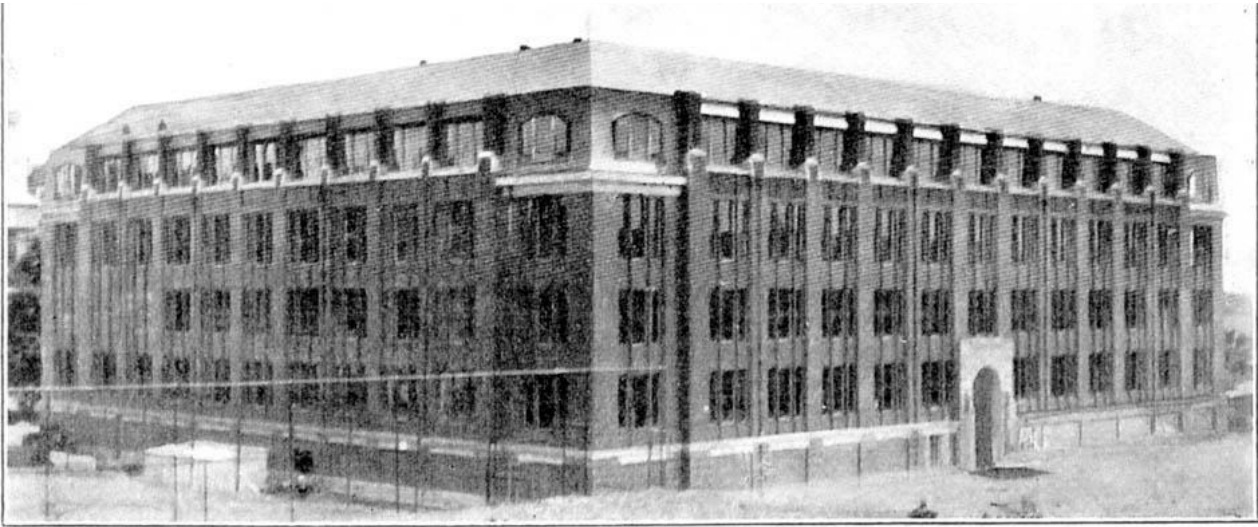


Figure 6.18 New Medical School (1931), detail of West Elevation
(source: CIS, Apspd, Plan D06-1052a)

A photograph of the completed building, taken in late 1933, shows the newly lowered ground level beyond the front façade. (Fig.6.19)



ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION MEDICAL SCHOOL, SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

Figure 6.19 New Medical School (now known as Blackburn Building) 1933

(source: *Building*, 12 October 1933, p.22, illustrated in Blackburn Building CMP (2002)

Additional ground disturbance in the immediate vicinity occurred when the adjacent Bosch buildings (D04 & D05) and the associated landscaped Blackburn forecourt were constructed in the 1960s, further diminishing the potential for finding any archaeological evidence.

Conclusion: The construction of the SWAOHB on the proposed site is unlikely to have any adverse impact on the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of this part of the University campus. The potential for the preservation of in-situ Aboriginal archaeological deposits within the SWAOHB site is low due to previous extensive ground disturbance. It would be prudent, however, to prepare an “unexpected finds” procedure.

6.8 Potential Impacts on the Character and Heritage of the University of Sydney, University Colleges and Victoria Park as connected landscapes

Discussion: Historically, the New Medical School (Blackburn Building) located in the south western section of the Camperdown Campus, bounded by University Oval No.1, Wesley College, St Andrew’s College and RPAH, has always been slightly detached from the rest of the University. There is presently neither a strong physical or visual connection between the buildings nor landscape to the rest of the Camperdown campus; to the point where the Blackburn Building had a closer physical tie with the RPAH. The new Health Precinct, of which the SWAOHB is Stage 1, aims to reinforce the connections, visually and physically, between its various neighbours and the rest of the University.

Conclusion: The construction of the SWAOHB (Health Precinct Stage 1) on the proposed site and its associated landscaping will improve the character and heritage of the University of Sydney, University Colleges and Victoria Park as connected landscapes.

7.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

7.1 Conclusions

With reference to the issues identified in the SEARS the HIS concludes the following:

i) Significant heritage items on site:

The moderate adverse impact on the overall significance of the University due to the demolition of Blackburn Building is acknowledged. In accordance with University procedures an archival record of the Blackburn has been prepared and numerous items identified for retention and future interpretative purposes. An Interpretation Strategy for the overall Health Precinct, with a focus on the the SWAOHB (Stage 1), has been prepared.

ii) Adjacent Significant Heritage Items:

The impact of the proposed SWAOHB on the cultural significance of the adjacent heritage items, including:

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (the Administration Block, Victoria and Albert Pavilions, and Gloucester House);

St Andrew's College;

Wesley College;

Bosch 1A Building (D04) and Bosch 1B Building (D05);

University Oval No.1 Grandstand; and

the L.E.F.Neill Fountain

is acceptable.

iii) The Cultural Landscape

The SWAOHB and its associated landscaping replaces a Modern (1960s) landscape of Moderate significance with a new building integrated into a contemporary landscape. The impact of the SWAOHB and its associated landscaping on the cultural landscape is acceptable.

iv) Significant Views:

The demolition of the Queen Elizabeth II Research Institute and Victor Coppelson Building (D02) and the siting of the SWAOHB will enhance the highly significant A5 view corridor, in accordance with GCMP Policy 18. The siting of the SWAOHB and the future buildings in the Health Precinct will have no impact on the A6 planning axis, because its relevance is already diminished. The secondary B3 view line will be maintained, but with a different form of landscape. The overall impact of the SWAOHB on the various significant view corridors, therefore, is acceptable.

v) Potential Archaeological Relics

The SWAOHB site was heavily excavated for the construction of the Blackburn Building (1931-33). Additional ground disturbance occurred when the adjacent Bosch buildings and forecourt were built in the 1960s, further diminishing the potential for finding any archaeological evidence. Various archaeological reports which encompass the SWAOHB site conclude that the potential for archaeological relics is low, but it would be appropriate to maintain a watching brief.

vi) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values and Potential Archaeology:

None of the places identified in the Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment (2016) as retaining Aboriginal cultural values on the University of Sydney campus are located near the proposed SWAOHB.

Due to the excavation associated with the construction of the Blackburn Building (1931-33) and the later Bosch complex and its associated landscaping (1960s), the various archaeological reports which encompass the SWAOHB site conclude that the potential for the preservation of in-situ Aboriginal archaeological deposits within the proposed SWAOHB site is low. It would be prudent, however, to prepare an "unexpected finds" procedure.

vii) The character and heritage of the University of Sydney, University Colleges and Victoria Park as connected landscapes:

Historically, the Blackburn Building (new medical school), located in the south western section of the Camperdown Campus and bounded by University Oval No.1, Wesley College, St Andrew;s College and

RPAH, has always been slightly detached from the rest of the university. There is presently neither a strong physical or visual connection between the buildings or landscape to the rest of the Camperdown campus; to the point where the Blackburn Building had a closer physical link with the RPAH. The new Health Precinct, of which the SWAOHB is Stage 1, aims to reinforce the connections, visually and physically, between its immediate neighbours and the rest of the University.

The overall conclusion of this heritage assessment is that the proposed Susan Wakil AO Health Building (Health Precinct Stage 1) will improve the overall character and heritage of the University of Sydney, University Colleges and Victoria Park as connected landscapes, subject to the following mitigation measures: the preparation of an Archaeological Unexpected Finds Procedure and the implementation of the Interpretation Strategy.

7.2 Recommendation

The proposed Susan Wakil AO Health Building (Health Precinct Stage 1) could be approved subject to the preparation of an Archaeological Unexpected Finds Procedure and the implementation of the Interpretation Strategy.