

DESIGN REPORT Built From & Urban Design

MAJOR ALTERATIONS & ADDITIONS TO THE STEVENSON LIBRARY SSD 8922

Prepared for: THE SCOTS COLLEGE

29-53 Victoria Rd, Bellevue Hill, NSW 2023

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Rev: C

Issue: SEARS



This chapter outlines the objectives and general requirements of the Built Form and Urban Design for the proposed Stevenson Library at The Scots College. As the proposed works consist of major renovations to an existing structure, height, density, bulk and scale are all relatively similar. This chapter shall explain how the proposed works will improve the built environment and Scots.

1. SITE AND CONTEXT ANALYSIS

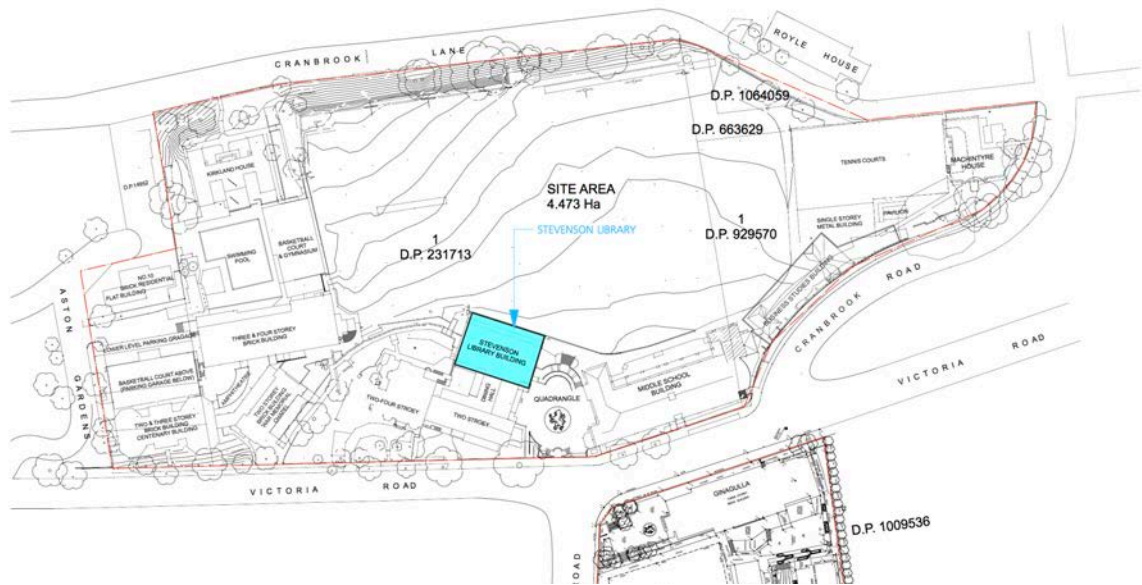


Fig 1 – Context Analysis

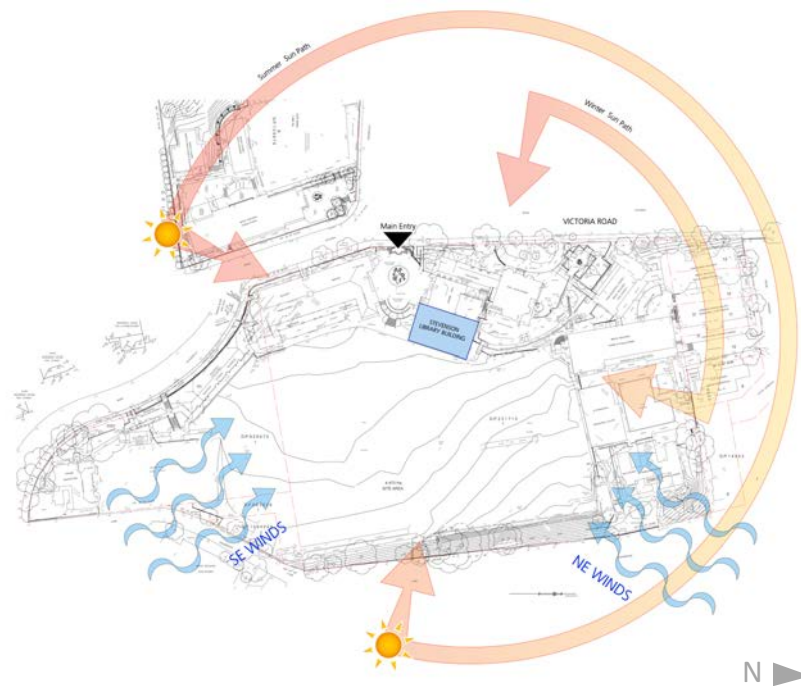


Fig 2 – Site Analysis (Sun Path & Wind Rose)

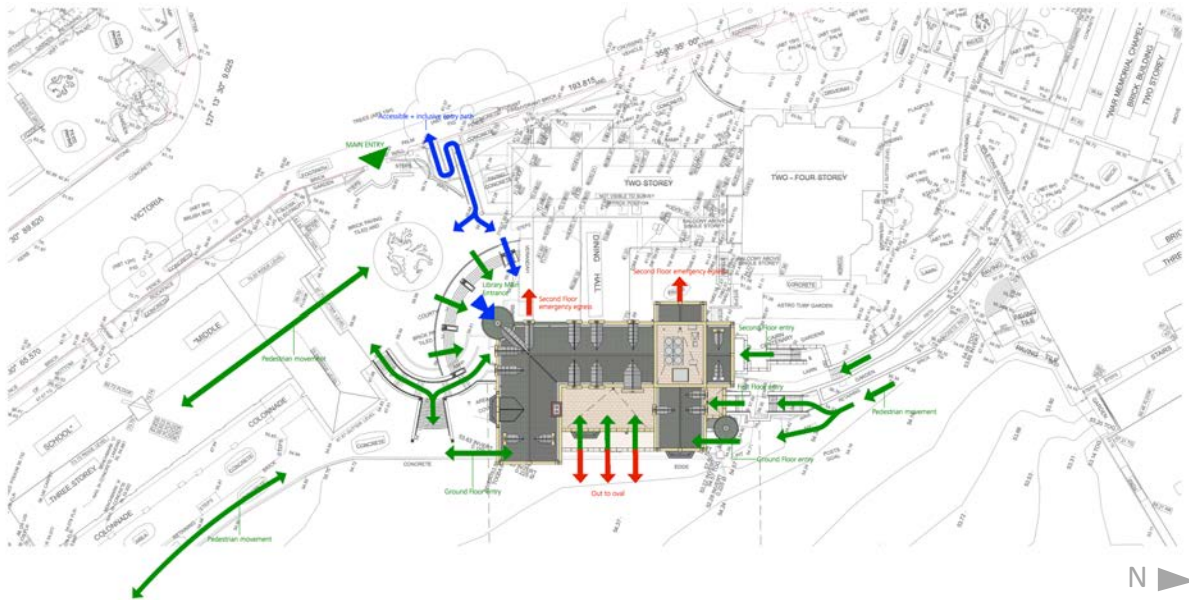


Fig 5 – Proposed Pedestrian Movement

2. HEIGHT:

The existing Stevenson Library is a five-story brutalist building with a flat roof that extends to RL 71.13. Currently, the existing Stevenson Library sits below the Middle School Building [RL 73.75] as well as Aspinal House [RL 76.12]. The proposed Stevenson Library is to extend to a height that is in-between the Middle School Building and Aspinal House so that it reads contextually with the neighboring buildings, scaling up in height from the Business Studies Building to the South, to Aspinal House to the North – Refer Fig 6.

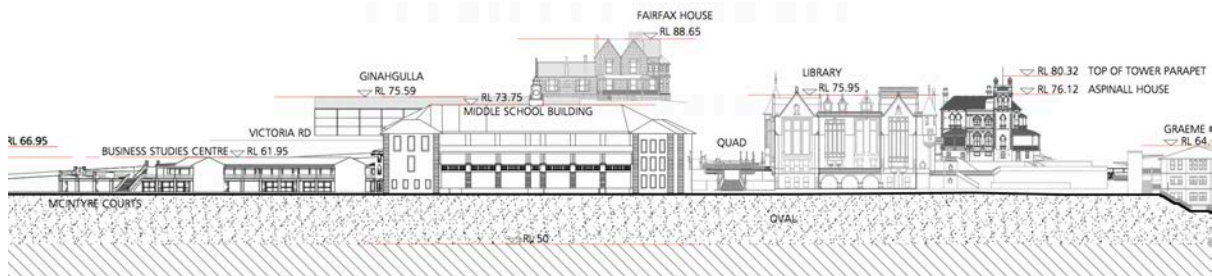


Fig 6 – Oval Elevation Building Context

3. DENSITY + BULK

The current Stevenson Library is brutalist and monolithic in its design. On the Western, Northern, and Southern sides of the existing library, it is two dimensional in its elevation. On its predominate oval facing elevation, it appears as a solid mass, emphasised by the off-form concrete materiality.

The proposed Stevenson Library seeks to eliminate the unrelieved horizontal block-like form especially the roof ridge line by breaking it up using gables, dormers and other roof forms so as to be less dominant. The design addresses these issues in density and bulk by creating depth in each elevation. The building is flanked by two extended bays that formally address the oval to reduce its appearance of bulk. This is further emphasised by the terracing balconies that recess backwards, counteracted by dormers and bay windows that punctuate outwards. Increased transparency in each elevation by the employment of large windows and openings also contributes to a lesser sense of density and bulk.

4. SCALE:

As the proposed works consist of major renovations to an existing structure, the new Stevenson Library shall share a similar scale. On each level, the existing floor slab and columns provide the basic form for the proposed library, with the gross floor area of each floor slab only increasing slightly where absolutely necessary to accommodate other design concerns – Refer Fig 7.

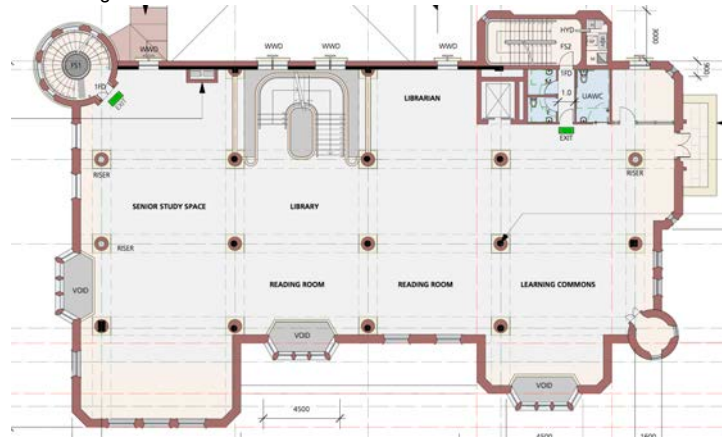


Fig 7 – Typical proposed floor plate. Existing floor plate in grey

5. SETBACKS:

As previously mentioned, the proposed Stevenson Library predominately fits within the confines of the existing library. As such, there are no proposed changes to the setbacks of the proposal in relation to the surrounding development.

6. STREETScape:

Proposed changes to the streetscape are minimal. Views along Victoria Rd towards the existing Stevenson Library are predominately blocked by surrounding buildings, and the increased height of the proposed library bears minimal affect – Refer Fig 8 + 9. Comprehensive view and street analysis has been undertaken.



Fig 8 – Minimal view impact along Cranbrook Rd



Fig 9 – Minimal view impact along Victoria Rd

7. MATERIALS

As stated earlier in this report, the current Stevenson Library is predominantly made out of concrete, with moderately-sized openings. In North and South Elevation however a mixture of rendered masonry walls and concrete can be seen. The proposed Stevenson Library has a smooth render finish on most of its exterior walls. Dressed sandstone is used to highlight openings such as doors and windows, rails, stairs to the oval, and other complimentary detailing. In addition, the tourelle, which is the main entry to the building, has an uncoursed sandstone blocks finish. The gable roof and tourelle’s roof are both covered with slate roof tiles. The ridges however are covered with multiple panels of lead. For visualization refer to Fig 10.

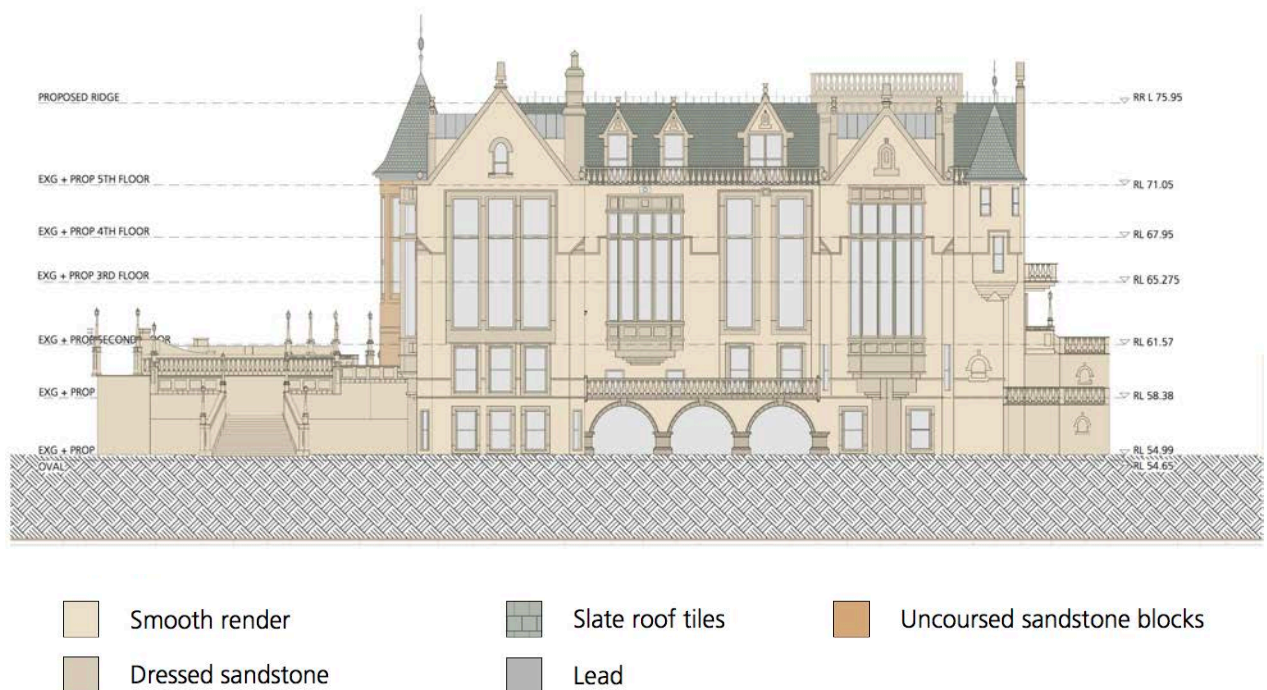


Fig 10 – Material Elevation Diagram

8. COLOURS

The current Stevenson Library has an overall monochromatic colour palate with a faint warm tint. The tinted windows are noticeably darker than the rest of the mass, emphasising its brutalist nature – refer to Fig 6. The proposed Stevenson Library has a mixture of soft pastel cream colour palate. The proposed slate roofing compliments that of

Aspinall and will also prompt the eventual replacement of the tiles on the Main School Building to slate as fitted in 1939. The slate roof tiles are relatively dark with an obscure green tone, contrasting the vivid and soft appearance that the smooth render brings. The grey lead roof ridges are a subtle addition to the generally dark roof. Smooth render finish is complimented with rich brown from dressed sandstone that highlights the building's openings and detailing – refer Fig 11



Fig 11 – Existing Stevenson Library



Fig 12 – Proposed Stevenson Library

9. BUILDING ARTICULATION

As stated earlier, the proposed Stevenson Library doesn't appear out of place with the surrounding environment, making it a subtle addition to its neighbourhood. The building has minimal impact on the street frontage in relation to the surrounding development. The main entry on Victoria Road remains unaltered – Refer to Fig 11 and 12. Entrance from the oval has been improved with a new addition of stairs, making the library more accessible and convenient for users.