



Mr Cameron Sargent
Team Leader, Key Sites Assessments
Department of Planning & Environment
23-33 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Sent by e-mail to: Ellen Mannix, Ellen.Mannix@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Sargent

Request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for ASN Co Building, 1-3 Hickson Road, The Rocks (SSD 8967)

Reference is made to your correspondence received on 12 December 2017 requesting SEARs input from the Heritage Council of NSW (the Heritage Council) for State Significant Development (SSD) 8967 which proposes works to Bays 4 and 5 of the ASN Co Building. The works include the installation of an external ramp, removal of concrete floors and reinstallation of timber flooring (using salvaged timber where possible), and upgraded amenities and fire, electrical, hydraulic and fire safety services to support a future commercial use.

The proposed SSD site includes State Heritage Register (SHR) item ASN Co Building (SHR no. 01526). The subject site is in the vicinity of other SHR items, namely: Campbell's Stores (SHR 01536); Mining Museum (former) (SHR 01555); Metcalfe Bond Stores (SHR 01562).

Approval under section 63 of the *Heritage Act 1977* was granted on 16 May 2016 (2016/s60/006) for works at the ASN Building Co incorporating a change of use to a hospitality school comprising complete internal refurbishment and external additions and alterations. The scope of works for this SSD appears to relate to a portion of the scope of 2016/s60/006. Especially the access ramp. Condition 3 of 2016/s60/006 stated:

3. *The proposed design of the balustrade for the new access ramp along Hickson Road is not approved in its current form. Alternative design options shall be explored to minimise impact, and amended design submitted for the Delegate's approval.*

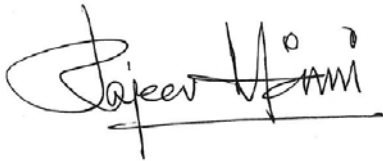
It is therefore, requested that the applicant be required to demonstrate how the design of the balustrade of the access ramp proposed as part of SSD 8967 has been refined in accordance with the above condition.

It is recommended that the draft SEARs are adopted, and the following additional SEARS are included:

- If the HIS identifies impact on potential archaeology, an historical archaeological assessment should be prepared by a suitably qualified historical archaeologist in accordance with the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage Guidelines 'Archaeological Assessment' 1996 and 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics' 2009. This assessment should identify what relics, if any, are likely to be present, assess their significance and consider the impacts from the proposal on this potential resource. Where harm is likely to occur, it is recommended that the significance of the relics be considered in determining an appropriate mitigation strategy. In the event that harm cannot be avoided in whole or part, an appropriate Research Design and Excavation Methodology should also be prepared to guide any proposed excavations.

If you have any questions regarding the above matter, please contact Anna London, Senior Heritage Assessment Officer at the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage on telephone (02) 9873 8608 or by e-mail: anna.london@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rajeev Maini', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rajeev Maini

Acting Regional Manager (South)

Heritage Division

Office of Environment & Heritage

As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW

19 December 2017