



HERITAGE IMPACT STATEMENT

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM PROJECT DISCOVER

JANUARY 2019



ORWELL & PETER PHILLIPS
HERITAGE CONSERVATION ARCHITECTURE

Revision	Date	Description	Author
P1	18/07/18	Draft issue to client	OPP
P2	14/08/18	Amended draft including items in vicinity	OPP
P3	15/08/18	Amended draft including Aboriginal heritage	OPP
A	31/08/18	Final issue for development application	OPP
B	10/01/19	Draft following Project Discover scheme redesign	OPP
C	17/01/19	Amended draft reflecting design modifications	OPP
D	18/01/19	Final revised issue for amended SSDA	OPP

Cover: General view of the Australian Museum from the north-west.
Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips, 2016

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HERITAGE IMPACT STATEMENT

THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM: PROJECT DISCOVER

Executive summary

This report accompanies an amended application for the State significant development of proposed alterations and additions at the Australian Museum, known as Project Discover. Orwell & Peter Phillips has been advising on the project and has been engaged to prepare a heritage impact statement for the proposed works.

The Australian Museum is listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR No 00696) and as a heritage item in Schedule 5 of Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012. The former National School in William Street, including the adjoining site on Yurong Street, is separately listed in Schedule 5. The Museum is also in the vicinity of a considerable number of other heritage items, including seven items on the State Heritage Register, six individual items listed in Schedule 5, and three conservation areas.

The Australian Museum is the oldest museum in Australia. It was founded in 1827 and its collection includes over 10 million specimens and artefacts of natural history and anthropology. The Museum has been located at the corner of College and William Streets since the 1840s, and the site contains several buildings constructed over a period of some 160 years.

The Australian Museum complex, first constructed in 1846 and subsequently added to by successive Colonial and NSW Government Architects into the late 20th century as the museum's role and requirements evolved, is of state and national significance as the purpose-built location for the nation's largest natural history collections, and is the earliest and most intact cultural institution in Australia. It contains, in addition to the museum collection, a number of very fine and intact 19th century interiors. The Australian Museum continues to be, as it was at its inception, a symbol of the scientific pursuits of NSW and Australia.

The Australian Museum buildings are of paramount importance in the College Street streetscape, itself part of the finest streetscape in Sydney, with urban qualities defining views from Hyde Park, St Marys Cathedral, and William Street. The individual wings of the museum complex provide statements of individual aesthetic merit, while the harmony achieved by the use of similar materials, scale, and fenestration results in an outstanding architectural statement reflecting changing modes of design between 1846 and 1960.

The works that are the subject of the present application consist of external alterations to the northern façade of the Parkes Farmer wing, and internal alterations to the Lewis wing, the Parkes Farmer wing and the Still addition to enhance wayfinding within the Museum, and create an expanded display space and associated facilities for temporary exhibitions. The former National School will be unaffected by any of the proposed works.

Although the proposed works result in some further loss of fabric and alteration to spaces that have mostly been assessed as being of medium significance, the majority of the

works affect fabric and spaces previously assessed as being of low significance or intrusive. Moreover, the removal of some sections of the Still addition will allow for a greater appreciation of the internal facades of the Lewis, Barnet and Vernon wings surrounding the atrium, and the ability of the Museum to fulfil one of its primary functions will be enhanced. Careful detailing of the new work, matching original finishes where appropriate, will mitigate many of the minor negative impacts.

The overall heritage impact of the proposal is assessed as neutral to minor positive.

ORWELL & PETER PHILLIPS

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'O P Phillips', with a large, stylized initial 'O'.

O P PHILLIPS

HERITAGE IMPACT STATEMENT

THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM: PROJECT DISCOVER**Introduction**

This report accompanies an amended application for the State significant development of proposed alterations and additions at the Australian Museum, known as Project Discover. The Australian Museum is listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR No 00696) and as a heritage item in Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012. Orwell & Peter Phillips has been engaged to prepare a heritage impact statement for the proposed works. The purpose of this report is to evaluate the heritage impact of proposed works associated with the construction of alterations to the Museum buildings. In particular, this requires the identification of items of heritage significance that may be directly or indirectly affected during construction or operation of the proposed works, and assessment of the potential impacts to the values, setting and integrity of heritage areas and items located in the vicinity of the project. This report does not address Aboriginal cultural significance (which is the subject of a separate report by the Museum), nor the significance of the Museum collections that will need to be relocated to allow the works to proceed.

The property

The site of the Australian Museum in the City of Sydney is bounded by College Street to the west, William Street to the north and Yurong Street to the east. Sydney Grammar School, across the site boundary to the south, occupies most of the remainder of the block to Stanley Street, and the Museum site faces Hyde Park to the west across College Street, and Cook and Phillip Park to the north across William Street, with views north to St Mary's Cathedral (Figure 1).

**Figure 1**

Location plan of the Australian Museum site (outlined in yellow).

Source (base plan): Google maps

Methodology

The philosophy, process and terminology adopted in this report are based on the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter 2013.

Statements of significance for the affected elements on the Museum site are taken from the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the Museum prepared by Orwell & Peter Phillips in 2015. The methodology used for the assessment of cultural significance in the CMP generally follows the criteria set out in the NSW Heritage Manual guideline Assessing Heritage Significance, revised in 2002. These indicate that an item will be considered to be of State (or local) heritage significance if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

Criterion (a): An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural history of the local area) [usually abbreviated to historic significance];

Criterion (b): An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area) [historic association significance];

Criterion (c): An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area) [aesthetic significance];

Criterion (d): An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons [social significance];

Criterion (e): An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area) [scientific significance];

Criterion (f): An item which possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area) [rare];

Criterion (g): An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places, or cultural or natural environments (or a class of the local area's cultural or natural places, or cultural or natural environments) [representative].

As part of the assessment of significance in the CMP, the elements or components that make up the heritage item have been assessed and graded. The grading system used in the CMP is as follows:

Significance	Definition
Exceptional	This category comprises those elements that are critical to the significance of the place. It includes items of national or state significance, worthy of inclusion on any register of buildings of significance, which are fundamental to the listing of the place on the State Heritage Register.
High	This category comprises those elements that are primary to the identified cultural significance of the place. It includes items of state or regional significance, worthy of inclusion on any register of buildings of significance, which are also important in the listing of the place on the State Heritage Register.

Significance	Definition
Medium	This category comprises those secondary elements that contribute to the significance of the place, including those originally of high significance which have been compromised by later non-significant modification. They retain in some cases a potential for recovery of significance. The category also includes valuable spaces and fabric from later stages of development.
Low	This category includes most of the later alterations and additions made to accommodate changing requirements, where these are expedient and of marginal intrinsic worth.
Intrusive	This category includes those alterations and additions which positively detract from the significance of the place, and includes fabric which in both materials and workmanship either poorly emulates or pays no regard to earlier fabric. This category also includes fabric which obscures or interferes with fabric or spaces of primary significance.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Heritage Manual guideline *Statements of Heritage Impact*, revised in 2002. The method used to rate the heritage impact is as follows:

Rating level	Description
Major negative	Major negative impacts with serious, long-term and possibly irreversible effects leading to serious damage, degradation or deterioration of the physical, economic or social environment. Requires a major re-scope of concept, design, location, justification, or requires major commitment to extensive management strategies to mitigate the effect.
Moderate negative	Moderate negative impact. Impacts may be short-, medium- or long-term and impacts will most likely respond to management actions.
Minor negative	Minimal negative impact, probably short-term, able to be managed or mitigated, and will not cause substantial detrimental effects. May be confined to a small area.
Neutral	Neutral—no discernible or predicted positive or negative impact.
Minor positive	Minimal positive impact, possibly only lasting over the short-term. May be confined to a limited area.
Moderate positive	Moderate positive impact, possibly of short-, medium- or long-term duration. Positive outcome may be in terms of new opportunities and outcomes of enhancement or improvement.
Major positive	Major positive impacts resulting in substantial and long-term improvements or enhancements of the existing environment.

Background

The Australian Museum is the oldest museum in Australia. It was founded in 1827 and its collection includes over 10 million specimens and artefacts of natural history and anthropology. The Museum has been located at the corner of College and William Streets since the 1840s, and the site contains several buildings constructed over a period of some 160 years. For ease of reference, the building names adopted for this report are those now used by the Museum, although a number of the buildings have had different names in the past. Similarly, the slope of the site has generated several levels within the

various buildings, and the names of levels used in this report also reflect those in current use by the Museum. The level names are shown in Figure 2, and the building names used are shown on the site plan in Figure 3.

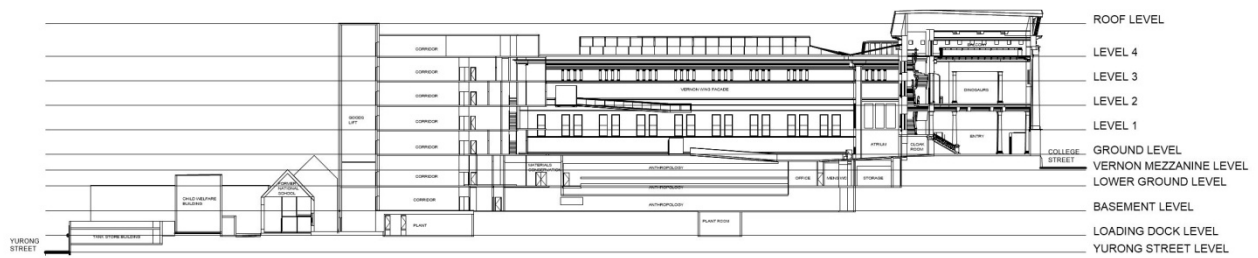


Figure 2
East-west section through the Australian Museum, showing the names of levels used in the report.
Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips

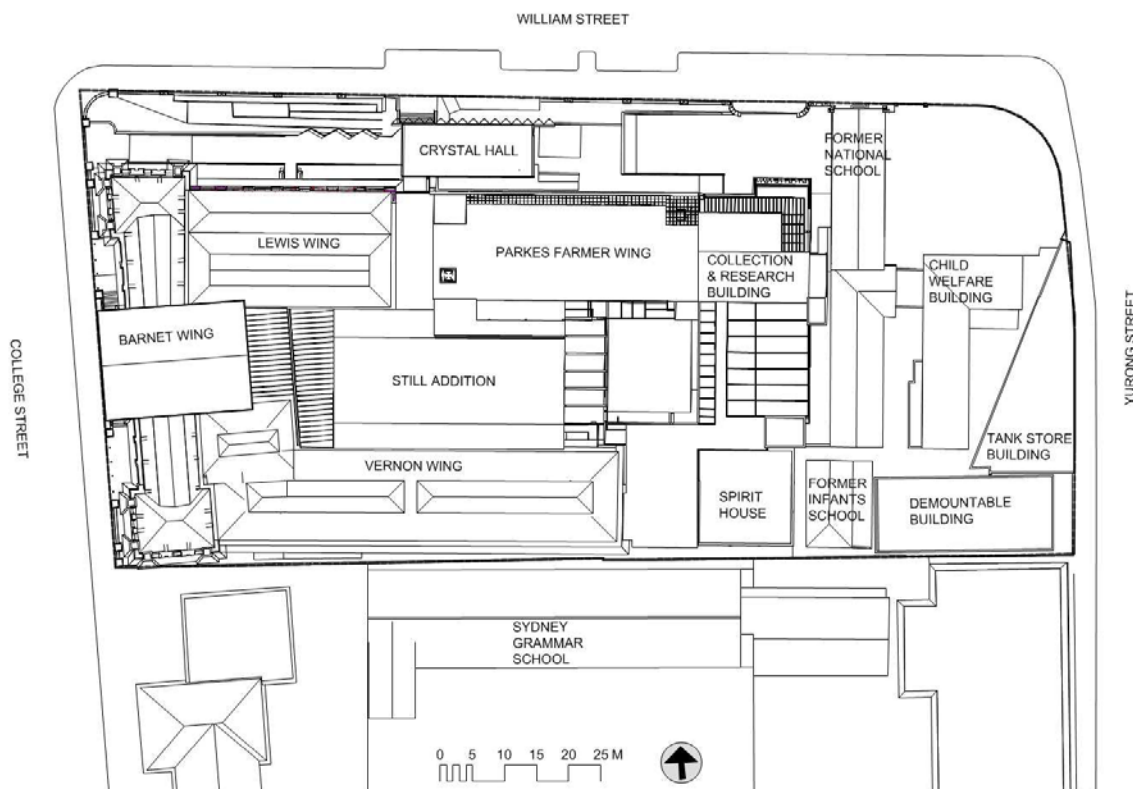


Figure 3
Site plan of the Australian Museum in 2016, showing the names of buildings used in the report.
Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips

The works that are the subject of the present application consist of external alterations to the northern façade of the Parkes Farmer wing, and internal alterations to the Lewis wing, Barnet wing, Parkes Farmer wing and the Still addition to enhance wayfinding within the Museum, and create an expanded display space and associated facilities for temporary exhibitions. In more detail, the proposed works include:

- A new external door in the northern façade of the Parkes Farmer wing at basement level to provide an entrance for visitor groups, and the removal of the western stair at this level

- Removal of partitions and false ceilings within the southern section of the lower ground floor of the Lewis wing, and provision of new cloaking and lavatory facilities
- Removal of the existing security window in the eastern wall of the Lewis wing at lower ground floor level, and reconstruction of the wall
- Removal of the original main stair at the western end of the Parkes Farmer wing between lower ground level and level 4, and the construction of a new stair serving these levels within the glazed link connecting to the Lewis wing, extending through the roof of the link
- A new external opening in the northern ground floor wall of the Parkes Farmer wing, together with a new link from the Crystal Hall, and the reconstruction of the glass curtain wall previously removed for the existing link from the Crystal Hall
- Creation of new openings in the rear façade of the Parkes Farmer Building to facilitate new entries into the Museum, and reconstruction of the rear façade where existing openings are no longer required
- Demolition of internal elements within the Still addition including the existing storage space at basement level and the existing floors at lower ground level and level 1 to create new exhibition spaces
- Raising the level of the atrium floor at ground level to match the floor level of the adjacent Barnet and Vernon wings
- Construction of new facilities for groups on the lower ground level of the Parkes Farmer wing including education rooms and a members' lounge
- Construction of a new Museum shop on the ground level of the Parkes Farmer wing, and new stairs and ramp linking this floor to the new raised floor of the atrium
- Installation of new escalators between the basement level of the Still addition and the new raised floor of the atrium
- Construction of a new cafe and commercial kitchen, lavatories, a new education space and a new kids' space on level 2 of the Still addition and the Parkes Farmer wing, including a reconfigured ramp to level 2 of the Long Gallery in the Lewis wing.

Heritage legislation

State Heritage Register

The Australian Museum is listed on the State Heritage Register as Australian Museum (SHR No 000805), gazetted on 2 April 1999.¹ The boundary of the listing includes all three parcels of land within the current Museum site, and the listing notes that the site contains the former William Street National School.

Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012

The Australian Museum including interior is also listed as a heritage item (item No I246) in Schedule 5 (Environmental Heritage) of Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012, although that listing only includes the original Museum site. The former National School and Palladium sites are separately listed (as a combined site) as former National School building including interior (item I495).² The Museum site is in the vicinity of other significant heritage items, including Sydney Grammar School and Hyde Park, and adjacent to the East Sydney Conservation Area on the opposite side of Yurong Street. It is also within the College Street/Hyde Park Special Character Area under Sydney Development Control Plan 2012.

¹ Information from [State Heritage Register](#) web site

² Information from [Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012](#)

Other heritage legislation

The Museum site is listed as an area of archaeological potential under the Central Sydney Archaeological Zoning Plan, and is covered by the general archaeology provisions of the NSW Heritage Act.

All of the above heritage controls are subject to the provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 in relation to State significant development. Section 4.41 of the Act notes that approvals otherwise required under the Heritage Act do not apply to State significant development. Nevertheless, it is expected that the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements will contain similar provisions to those normally required for approval under the Heritage Act.

Significance of the place

The following statement of significance for The Australian Museum as a whole is taken from the conservation management plan prepared by Orwell & Peter Phillips in 2015:

The Australian Museum complex, first constructed in 1846 and subsequently added to by successive Colonial and NSW Government Architects into the late 20th century as the museum's role and requirements evolved, is of state and national significance as the purpose-built location for the nation's largest natural history collections, and is the earliest and most intact cultural institution in Australia. It contains, in addition to the museum collection, a number of very fine and intact 19th century interiors. The Australian Museum continues to be, as it was at its inception, a symbol of the scientific pursuits of NSW and Australia.

The artefact and archival collections of the Australian Museum, still largely housed in the institution that created them, are an integral part of its significance. They document the evolution of scientific inquiry and endeavour in Australia from amateur origins in the 1820s to the highly professional present day, and are the oldest and most comprehensive collection in Australia relating to natural history and biological science.

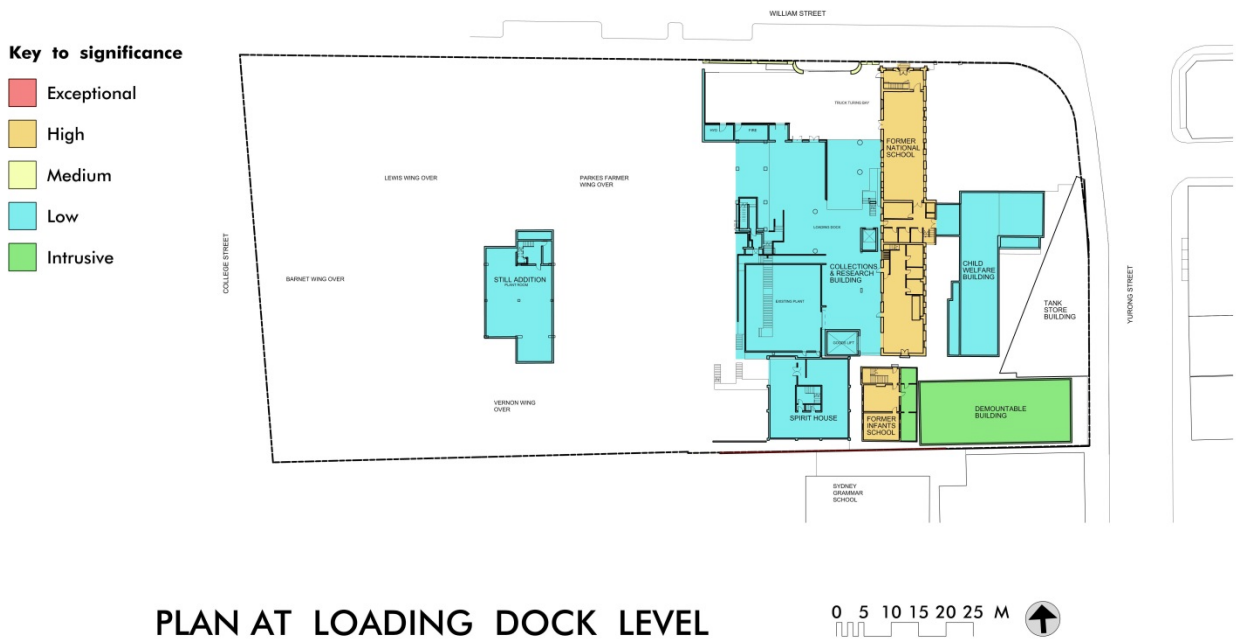
The Australian Museum buildings are of paramount importance in the College Street streetscape, itself part of the finest streetscape in Sydney, with urban qualities defining views from Hyde Park, St Marys Cathedral, and William Street. The individual wings of the museum complex provide statements of individual aesthetic merit, while the harmony achieved by the use of similar materials, scale, and fenestration results in an outstanding architectural statement reflecting changing modes of design between 1846 and 1960.

The Australian Museum site now also contains the earliest extant purpose-built National School in the Sydney area, which was used for educational purposes for about a century.

The entire site is associated with numerous politicians, scientists, educators, administrators, and architects who were prominent in their own fields and have influenced the direction of the former National School and the Australian Museum.

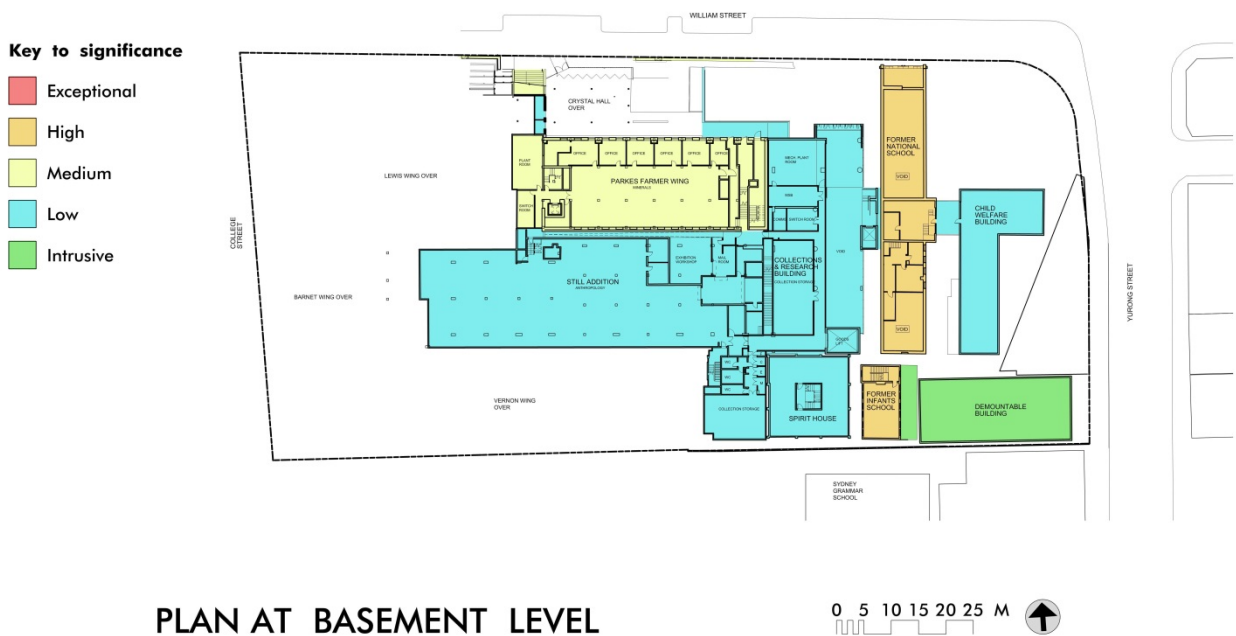
In addition to the technical significance of the Lewis, Barnet, and Vernon Wings themselves, the site contains archaeological potential for cultural material relating to the occupation of the place from 1820 as a convict garden.

The following diagrams show the significance of major built elements (as assessed in the 2015 CMP, and updated to include the subsequent works) for the levels affected by the works currently proposed:



PLAN AT LOADING DOCK LEVEL

Figure 4
 Site plan of the Australian Museum showing significance of major built elements
 Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips



PLAN AT BASEMENT LEVEL

Figure 5
 Site plan of the Australian Museum showing significance of major built elements
 Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips

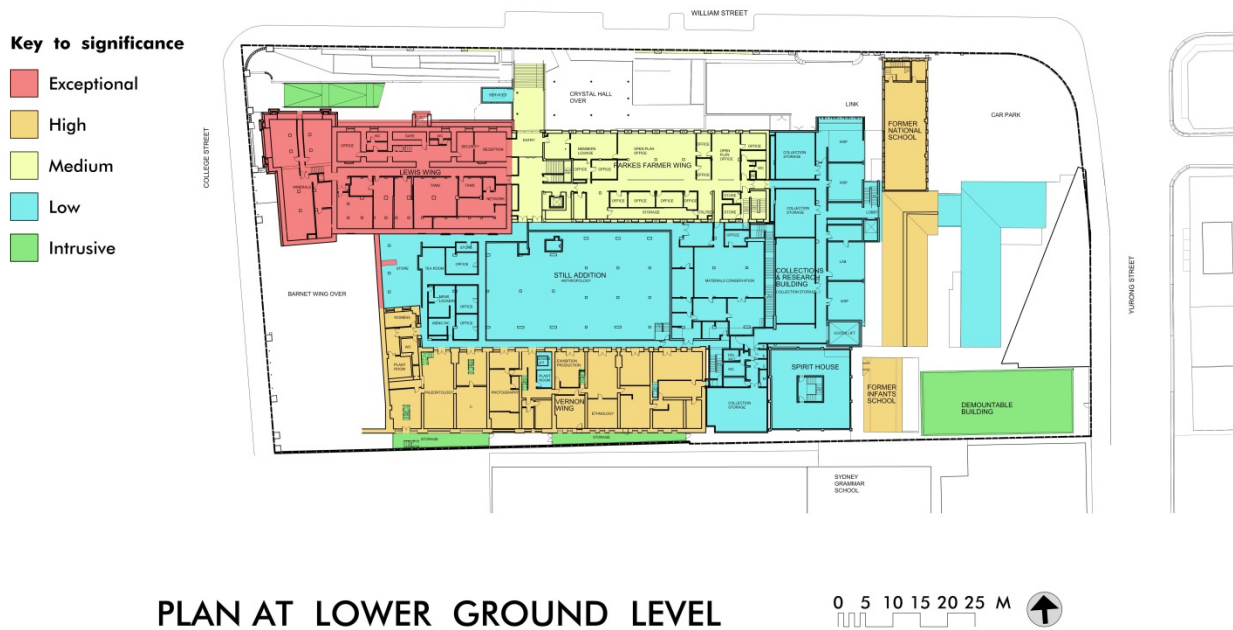


Figure 6
 Site plan of the Australian Museum showing significance of major elements
 Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips

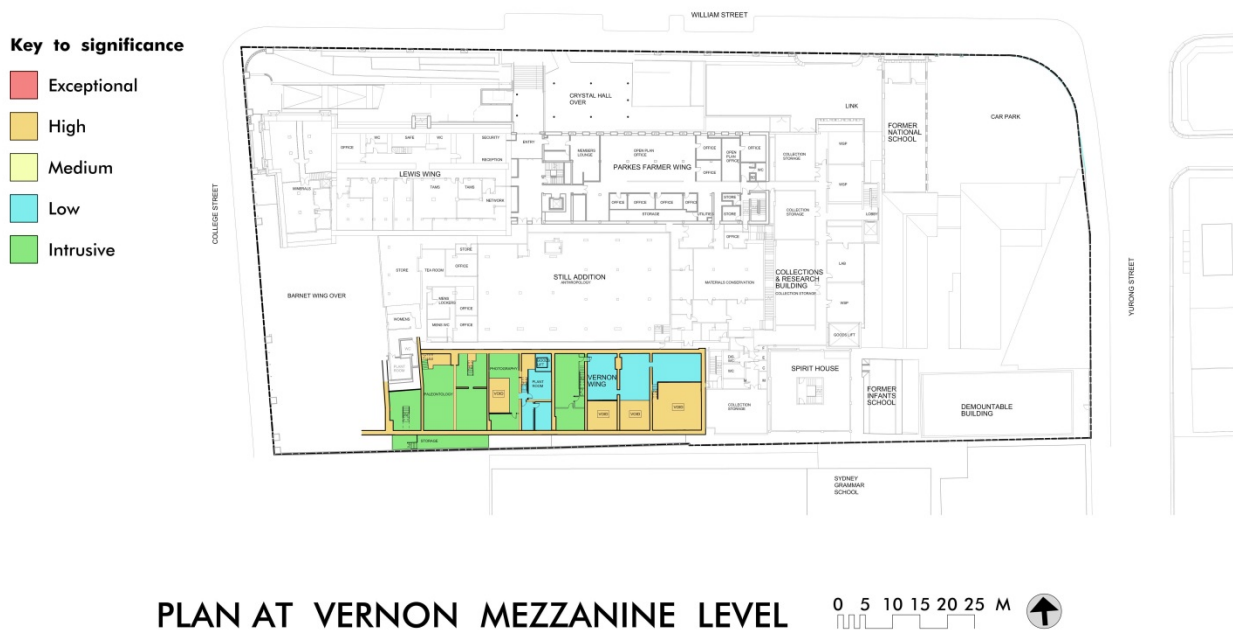


Figure 7
 Site plan of the Australian Museum showing significance of major built elements
 Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips



Figure 8
 Site plan of the Australian Museum showing significance of major built elements
 Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips

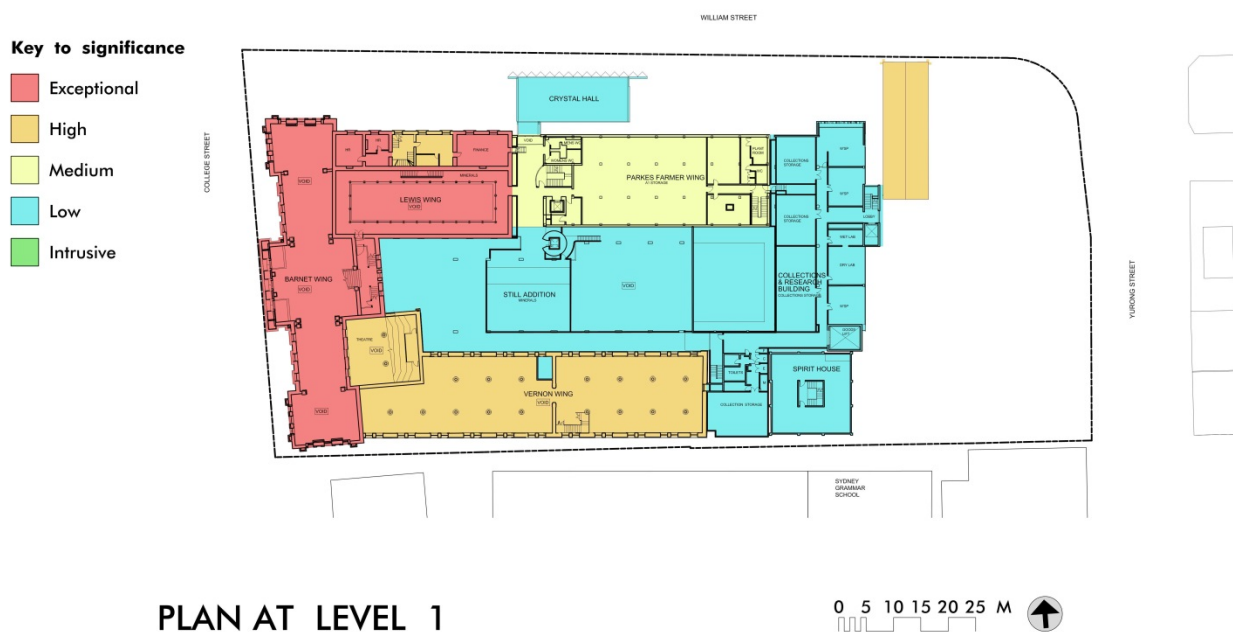
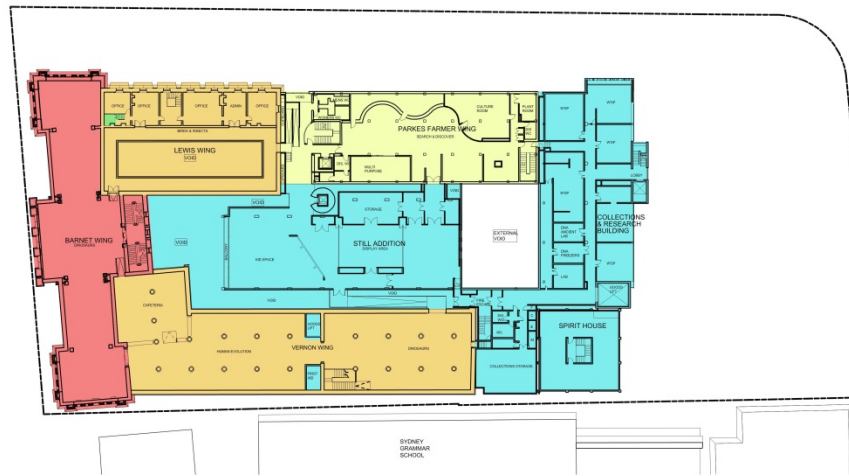


Figure 9
 Site plan of the Australian Museum showing significance of major built elements
 Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips

Key to significance

- Exceptional
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Intrusive



PLAN AT LEVEL 2

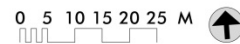


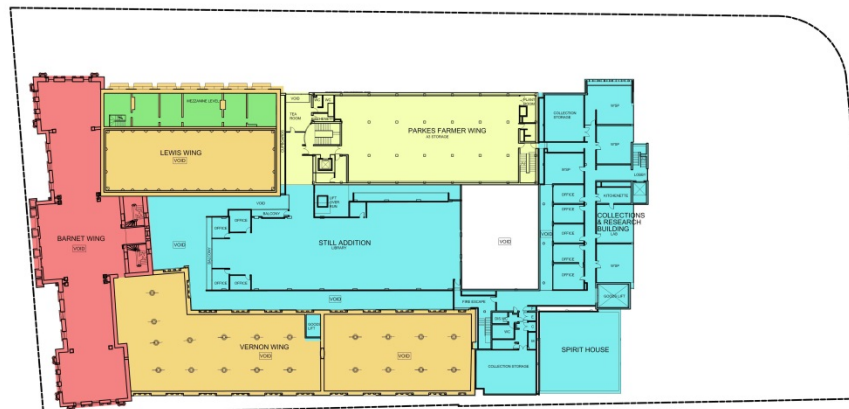
Figure 10

Site plan of the Australian Museum showing significance of major built elements

Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips

Key to significance

- Exceptional
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Intrusive



PLAN AT LEVEL 3

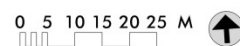


Figure 11

Site plan of the Australian Museum showing significance of major built elements

Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips

Key to significance

- Exceptional
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Intrusive



PLAN AT LEVEL 4



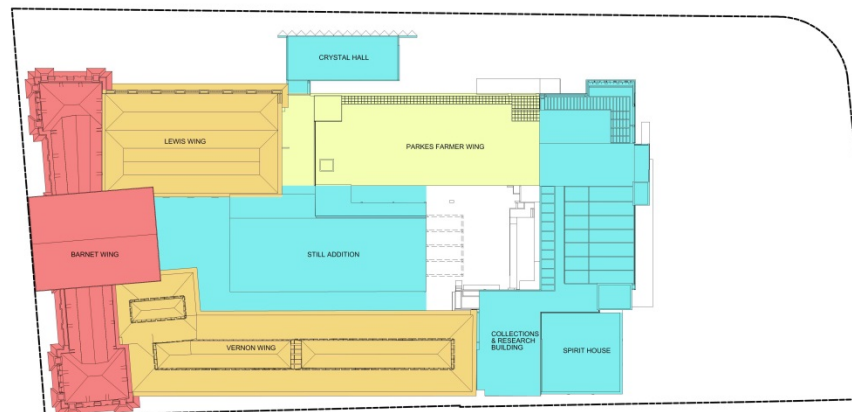
Figure 12

Site plan of the Australian Museum showing significance of major built elements

Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips

Key to significance

- Exceptional
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Intrusive



PLAN AT ROOF LEVEL

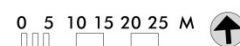


Figure 13

Site plan of the Australian Museum showing significance of major built elements

Source: SJB Architects. Australian Museum, August 2012, adapted by Orwell & Peter Phillips

Brief history of the present Australian Museum site

The land on which the Museum now stands is part of Gadigal country. Following European settlement, the sites later occupied by the Museum and William Street National School were cultivated in the 1820s as a convict garden associated with Hyde Park Barracks. The remaining area of the current Museum site was adjacent to the stream which ran down to Woolloomooloo Bay.

The present site is made up of three separately identified parcels of land (Figure 4):

- Lot 1, DP 1157811: the land originally occupied by the Museum
- Lot 3, DP 1046458: the land occupied by the former William Street National School
- Lot 11, DP 588102: part of the land on the other side of the original Riley Estate boundary, formerly occupied by the Palladium Building.

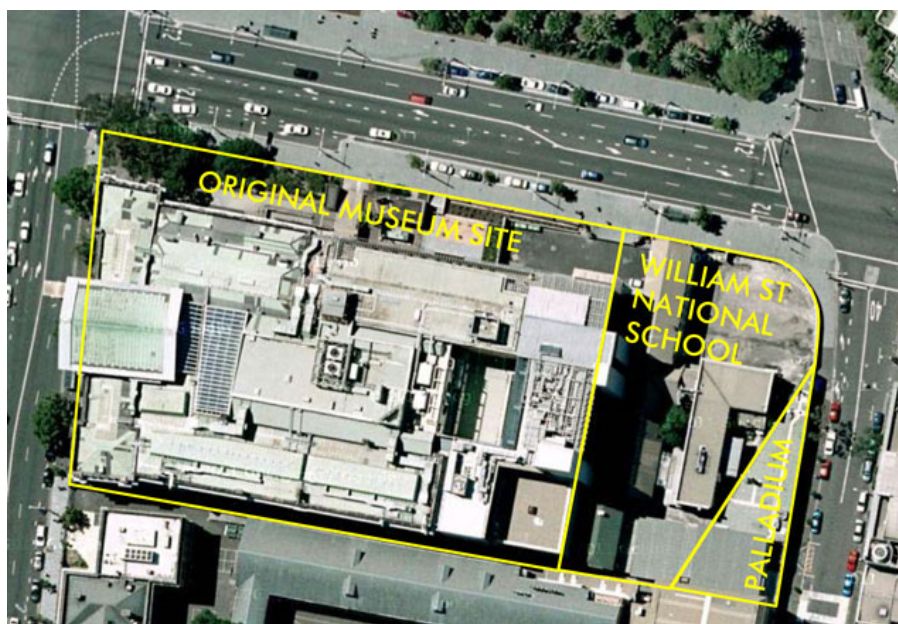


Figure 14

Site plan of the Australian Museum showing the land title boundaries (outlined in yellow).

Source (base plan): Google maps

The first Museum building on the site, the Lewis wing, was constructed as a two-storey building with basement between 1846 and 1852. During this period the National School was completed in 1851 as a single storey building, with a temporary iron shed to the south for the infants. The two-storey Barnet wing of the Museum on College Street was added to the Lewis wing between 1862 and 1864. Behind the museum buildings was a yard which gradually became occupied by a number of sheds and outbuildings. The infants shed at the National School (renamed William Street Public School in 1867) was replaced by a two-storey building, completed in 1875, and a number of buildings were constructed on the formerly vacant land along Yurong Street between 1873 and 1880.

In 1890, a third storey was added to the Lewis wing, altering its William Street facade to match that of the Barnet wing. Shortly afterwards, between 1896 and 1901, a separate south wing (two storeys with basement) was constructed, linked to the Barnet wing by a covered walkway. At about the same time, a spirit house (to house preserved specimens) was built in 1897 behind the Barnet wing. The covered way was replaced by an extension to the south wing, completed in 1909, linking it to the Barnet wing and incorporating a lecture theatre, the whole forming the Vernon wing. The main museum buildings now

formed a U shape around the courtyard. Additions were constructed to the Public School building in 1892 (a second storey and new facade to the northern wing at the William Street end) and in 1911-12 (two-storey additions along the western side). In 1911 the Yurong Street buildings were demolished for the construction of the Palladium building, which occupied a triangular site extending to the south behind Sydney Grammar School. In 1916 William Street was widened with the resumption of a strip of land from the northern sides of both the Museum and School sites, and a new wall was built along the William Street boundary of the Museum.

The next major building campaign at the Museum began in 1956, with the removal of sheds in the yard and the construction of the Parkes Farmer wing (six floors with a roof terrace) in two stages between 1957 and 1964. A new spirit house to the east of the Vernon wing was completed in 1969, and the old spirit house was converted to an education centre. Meanwhile, William Street Public School had closed in 1950, and a two-storey addition with basement had been built on the eastern side in 1951 for the Child Welfare Department which had taken over the site. In 1971, the former school buildings were taken over by the Museum and modified for museum use, and part of the former Palladium building was added to the Museum site in 1977, creating the present site. The building was partly demolished and adapted as the Tank Store in 1986.

The old spirit house was demolished for the construction of the Still addition, which was completed as a Bicentennial project in 1988. It had six floors with two basement levels, and occupied the whole of the former yard enclosed by the existing wings. Additional accommodation was provided by means of demountable buildings at the eastern end of the site. Between 2006 and 2008, the Collection and Research building (now known as AMRI) was constructed, sandwiched between the former school buildings and the Museum buildings. In 2015, a new entrance to the Museum, the Crystal Hall, was constructed in front of the Parkes Farmer wing, with ramp access from the gate near the corner of College and William Streets. The Long Gallery in the Lewis Wing was conserved in 2017.

Documents reviewed

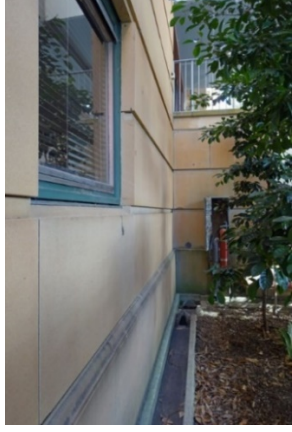
The proposed works that are the subject of this heritage impact statement are shown in the following drawings for Project Discover by Cox Architecture and Neeson Murcutt Architects:

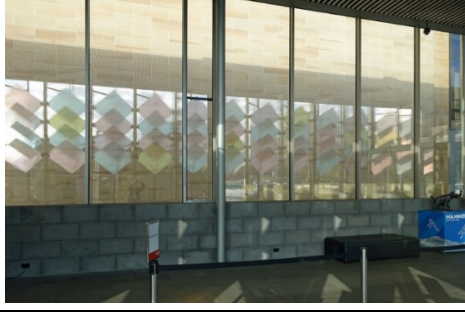
Dwg No	Revision	Date	Title
DA 000	C	18/01/19	Cover sheet & location plan
DA 101	C	18/01/19	Site plan - existing
DA 121	C	18/01/19	Site analysis plan
DA 122	D	18/01/19	Site plan - proposed
DA 123	E	18/01/19	Public domain plan
DA 140	B	18/01/19	GFA plan - existing
DA 141	B	18/01/19	GFA plan - existing
DA 142	B	18/01/19	GFA plan - existing
DA 150	E	18/01/19	GFA plan - proposed
DA 151	E	18/01/19	GFA plan - proposed
DA 152	E	18/01/19	GFA plan - proposed
DA 200	D	18/01/19	Floor plan – loading dock - existing
DA 201	D	18/01/19	Floor plan – basement - existing
DA 202	H	18/01/19	Floor plan – lower ground - existing
DA 204	D	18/01/19	Floor plan – ground - existing
DA 205	D	18/01/19	Floor plan – level 1 - existing


Dwg No	Revision	Date	Title
DA 206	D	18/01/19	Floor plan – level 2 - existing
DA 207	D	18/01/19	Floor plan – level 3 - existing
DA 208	D	18/01/19	Floor plan – level 4 - existing
DA 209	D	18/01/19	Roof plan - existing
DA 210	C	18/01/19	Demolition – loading dock
DA 211	I	18/01/19	Demolition plan – basement (William Street)
DA 212	I	18/01/19	Demolition plan – lower ground
DA 214	H	18/01/19	Demolition plan – ground
DA 215	G	18/01/19	Demolition plan – level 1
DA 216	C	18/01/19	Demolition plan – level 2
DA 217	C	18/01/19	Demolition plan – level 3
DA 218	C	18/01/19	Demolition plan – level 4
DA 220	F	18/01/19	Floor plan – loading dock - proposed
DA 221	F	18/01/19	Floor plan – basement - proposed
DA 222	Q	18/01/19	Floor plan – lower ground - proposed
DA 224	R	18/01/19	Floor plan – ground - proposed
DA 225	L	18/01/19	Floor plan – level 1 - proposed
DA 226	K	18/01/19	Floor plan – level 2 - proposed
DA 227	H	18/01/19	Floor plan – level 3 - proposed
DA 228	H	18/01/19	Floor plan – level 4 - proposed
DA 229	C	18/01/19	Roof plan - proposed
DA 401	C	18/01/19	William Street elevation - existing
DA 402	B	18/01/19	East and west elevations - existing
DA 411	E	18/01/19	Demolition elevation
DA 422	E	18/01/19	Crystal Hall elevations - proposed
DA 424	D	18/01/19	Elevation – Parkes Farmer wing
DA 451	C	18/01/19	Elevation – Parkes Farmer heritage interface
DA 453	C	18/01/19	Section – Parkes Farmer heritage interface
DA 501	B	18/01/19	Long section – existing
DA 502	C	18/01/19	Cross section – existing
DA 511	F	18/01/19	Demolition – Cong section
DA 512	E	18/01/19	Demolition - Long section
DA 520	G	18/01/19	Long section – proposed – looking north
DA 522	G	18/01/19	Cross sections - proposed
DA 901	B	18/01/19	Materials and finishes schedule
DA 922	B	18/01/19	Indicative perspective views
DA 923	C	18/01/19	Indicative perspective views
DA 924	A	18/01/19	Indicative perspective views

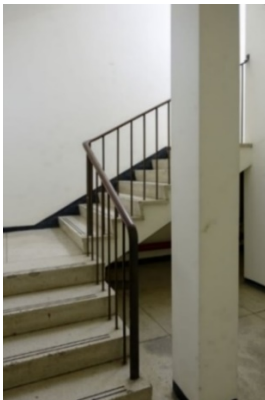
Heritage impact assessment


The following table includes the elements affected by the works, details of the works proposed, the significance of the spaces and fabric affected, conservation policy from the inventory in Volume 2 of the CMP (where applicable) and the assessed heritage impact of the work, together with suggested mitigation measures where appropriate.


Element	New entrance to Parkes Farmer wing, basement level
Image	
Significance	Medium.
Conservation policy	Retain and conserve the Parkes Farmer wing, and maintain its visual prominence in William Street.
Proposed works	Formation of new opening beside western-most window at basement level to provide an accessible entry for groups.
Heritage impact	Minor negative; windows at eastern end have been altered to doors previously. Although additional penetrations in the façade are preferably avoided, the new door represents a relatively minor alteration and will reflect a corresponding door at the eastern end.
Recommended mitigation	Careful detailing of the stonework at the entrance, and consistent head height with adjacent windows.


Element	New opening in north façade of Parkes Farmer wing
Image	
Significance	Medium.
Conservation policy	Retain and conserve the Parkes Farmer wing, and maintain its visual prominence in William Street.
Proposed works	New opening three structural bays wide for new entry into the Museum; existing entrance through glazed link will be removed and the curtain wall reconstructed at this level only.
Heritage impact	Moderate negative. This is a new opening in an original wall characterised by a complete lack of openings above lower ground level.
Recommended mitigation	Careful detailing of the new opening, especially at the western end, and conservation of the remaining stonework, including repointing failed joints. If possible, stone facings should be salvaged for reuse, although previous experience in salvaging stone has not been positive.

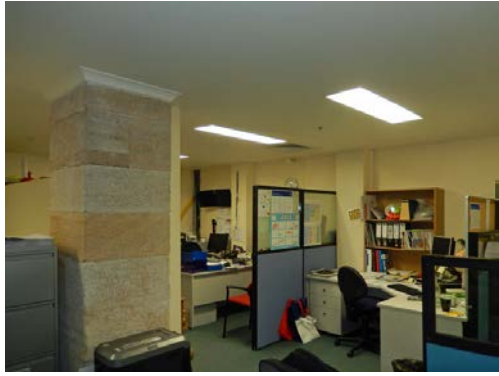
Element	Extension of relocated stair above Parkes Farmer link
Image	
Significance	Medium.
Conservation policy	Retain and conserve the Parkes Farmer wing, and maintain its visual prominence in William Street.
Proposed works	Extension of stair through roof of link to connect to level 4 of main Parkes Farmer wing, associated with relocation of western stair.
Heritage impact	Minor negative; the roof of the link is already occupied with mechanical equipment visible from the street, and the stair extension will be set back and be less visible than the existing equipment.
Recommended mitigation	The detailed design of the stair enclosure should be sympathetic to the forms and materials of the original wing; a vertical wall and flat roof set back from William Street may be preferable to a sloping roof over the stair extension.


Element	Removal of stairs, Parkes Farmer wing, basement level
Image	
Significance	Medium.
Conservation policy	In any future reworking of this part of the Museum, explore ways in which the stair could be re-opened to lobby areas.
Proposed works	Removal of column and stairs, to provide access to lift for groups using new accessible entrance.
Heritage impact	Moderate negative; the stair is largely in original condition, and was probably adapted to this configuration in Stage 2 of the Parkes Farmer wing, associated with construction of the substation at the entrance.
Recommended mitigation	Salvage bronze handrail (if compliant) for adaptation and reuse on relocated stairs. Match original stair construction of terrazzo finishes and concrete structure if possible.


Element	New entrance, Parkes Farmer wing, basement level
Image	
Significance	Medium (later partitions, finishes and equipment Low).
Conservation policy	These areas should preferably continue in use as offices and workrooms, but may be adapted for other compatible uses.
Proposed works	New opening in external (north) wall, removal of internal wall (south), and construction of new internal wall to divide this space from adjoining work areas to the east.
Heritage impact	Minor negative; this area has continually been used as a working area although previously altered.
Recommended mitigation	Match internal finishes in the entrance those of the existing stair for consistency with former use.


Element	Removal of opening, Parkes Farmer wing, lower ground level
Image	
Significance	Medium (stone wall Exceptional, late 20th century linings Low, opening in western wall and plasterboard overshooting Intrusive).
Conservation policy	This area should continue to be used as an entrance to the building. In any future reworking of this area and adjacent areas, consider restoring or reconstructing their original configuration and finishes.
Proposed works	Reconstruction of timber-lined false wall to lower ground floor lobby.
Heritage impact	Moderate positive; the opening has been assessed as Intrusive and its removal, together with the reconstruction of the former timber linings, will enhance significance.
Recommended mitigation	The removal of linings on the western side of the wall to expose the stonework, as has been done on other walls, would enhance interpretation of the former room in the Lewis wing.

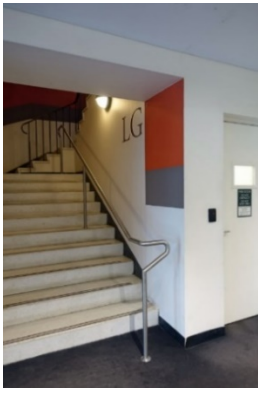
Element	Widening of door opening, Lewis wing, lower ground level
Image	
Significance	Medium (late 20th century finishes and services Low).
Conservation policy	This area should continue to be used as an entrance route to the building. In any future reworking of this area and adjacent areas, consider restoring or reconstructing their original configuration and finishes, including the former open stair
Proposed works	Relocation of services and widening of the door opening to improve access to new amenities beneath the Lewis wing.
Heritage impact	Minor negative. The opening, despite modern linings concealing all original surfaces, corresponds to the original basement entrance to the Lewis wing.
Recommended mitigation	Remove modern linings from original walls and expose and record the original opening. Preserve original jamb one side, and interpret the original opening through floor finishes or otherwise


Element	Construction of amenities, Lewis wing, lower ground level
Image	
Significance	Exceptional (concrete floor medium, late 20th century linings Low, late 20 th century partitions Intrusive).
Conservation policy	When opportunity permits, explore for original floor/ceiling finishes and remove intrusive later partitions, finishes, fitout and services.
Proposed works	Removal of partitions and construction of new partitions and services for cloakrooms and lavatories
Heritage impact	Minor negative. Although the work involves the introduction of new services (including plumbing and drainage), the new work will improve interpretation of original external walls and internal piers.
Recommended mitigation	Remove modern linings from original walls and structure, and expose the original fabric, including any former windows in the south wall.


Element	New internal doors, Lewis wing, lower ground level
Image	
Significance	Exceptional (timber stair High, concrete floor medium, late 20th century linings and partitions Low).
Conservation policy	When opportunity permits, explore for original floor/ceiling finishes and remove intrusive later partitions, finishes, fitout and services.
Proposed works	New fire doors in existing opening between corridor and space to the south where new amenities are to be installed.
Heritage impact	Neutral. The doors will be inserted in an opening which has no original fabric exposed, and which is likely to have had doors fitted in the past
Recommended mitigation	Avoid damage to original stonework and other significant fabric in fixing new door frame.


Element	Removal of floor structures, Still addition, lower ground level
Image	
Significance	Low.
Conservation policy	No specific policy.
Proposed works	Removal of internal columns and floors between basement and ground floor levels to create full height exhibition space.
Heritage impact	Neutral.
Recommended mitigation	None required.


Element	Internal fitout, Parkes Farmer wing, lower ground level
Image	
Significance	Medium (internal fitout Low)
Conservation policy	These areas may continue to be adapted for office or other Museum purposes, retaining original significant fabric and taking advantage of the natural light from northern windows. In any future reworking of the space, consider exposing the former window openings along the southern wall to aid interpretation of the original configuration.
Proposed works	Removal of internal fitout and refitting as Members' Lounge and Education area, with new passage to AMRI building.
Heritage impact	Neutral. The original laboratories along the northern wall have long been removed, and the present fitout is of no significance
Recommended mitigation	Interpretation of former southern windows, and removal of air conditioning duct from above northern windows.


Element	Relocation of stairs, Parkes Farmer wing, lower ground level
Image	
Significance	Medium (separating wall Low, steel handrail Intrusive).
Conservation policy	In any future reworking of this area and adjacent areas, consider restoring or reconstructing their original configuration and finishes, including the former open stair.
Proposed works	Relocation of stairs to northern end of glazed link (protected by held-open fire doors).
Heritage impact	Minor negative; the current configuration is awkward owing to later alteration for fire separation. Although the stair will be in a new location, requiring the demolition of the floors at the north end of the link lobby, its previous open character will be recovered.
Recommended mitigation	Salvage bronze handrail (if compliant) for adaptation and reuse on relocated stairs. Match original stair construction of terrazzo finishes and concrete structure if possible.


Element	Creation of plant room, rear Barnet wing, lower ground level
Image	
Significance	Exceptional (rear of Barnet wing), Intrusive (concrete floor, services, storage racks)
Conservation policy	When the opportunity arises, explore ways to improve the setting and interpretation of Barnet's rear wall.
Proposed works	Creation of a new enclosed plant room against the former external wall of the Barnet wing.
Heritage impact	Moderate negative. The enclosure of this area will conceal the lower wall of the Barnet wing and could potentially damage the stonework.
Recommended mitigation	Conservation and protection of all stonework is essential. If possible, the wall to the plant room should be partly glazed so that the stonework remains visible from the service corridor.

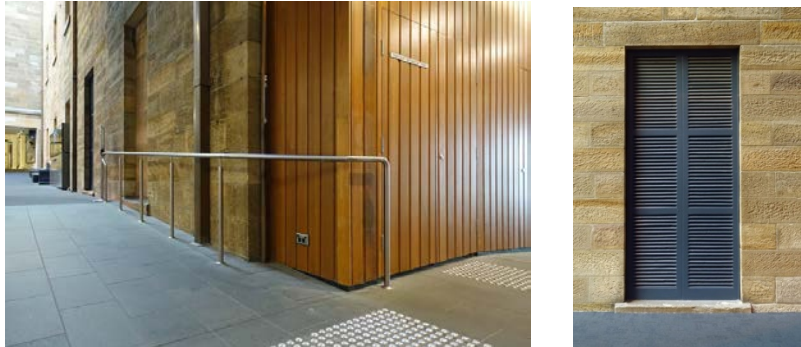
Element	New openings in south wall, Parkes Farmer wing, ground level
Image	
Significance	Medium
Conservation policy	No specific policy
Proposed works	Removal of services and structure associated with Still addition, and construction of new openings in former external wall.
Heritage impact	Minor negative. This section of the former external wall has survived (although with some damage) the construction of the Still addition and later works, whereas other sections have been altered.
Recommended mitigation	Careful detailing of the new opening and conservation of the remaining stonework, including repointing failed joints. If possible, stone facings should be salvaged for reuse, although previous experience in salvaging stone has not been positive. Interpret through floor finishes or otherwise the original location of the wall.

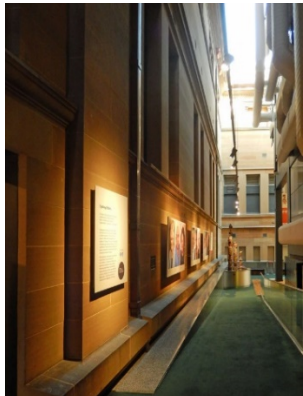
Element	Infill of existing openings, Parkes Farmer wing, ground level
Image	
Significance	Medium (existing opening Intrusive)
Conservation policy	No specific policy
Proposed works	Infilling with glazing of existing openings between Parkes Farmer wing and atrium so as to enclose future exhibition space.
Heritage impact	Minor positive. The infilling of the openings will assist in interpreting the original footprint of the Parkes Farmer wing.
Recommended mitigation	None required.


Element	Relocation of stairs, Parkes Farmer wing, ground level
Image	
Significance	Medium (plasterboard enclosure and fire doors Low).
Conservation policy	In any future reworking of this area and adjacent areas, consider restoring the former open main stair.
Proposed works	Relocation of stairs to northern end of glazed link (protected by held-open fire doors).
Heritage impact	Minor negative; the current configuration dates from the construction of the Crystal Hall. Although the stair will be in a new location, requiring the demolition of the floors at the north end of the link lobby, its previous open character will be recovered.
Recommended mitigation	Salvage bronze handrail (if compliant) for adaptation and reuse on relocated stairs. Match original stair construction of terrazzo finishes and concrete structure if possible.


Element	Internal fitout, Parkes Farmer wing, ground level
Image	
Significance	Low (interior fitout), Medium (Parkes Farmer wing structure)
Conservation policy	This area may continue to be adapted for exhibition or related Museum purposes.
Proposed works	Removal of finishes and amenities, and construction of new stairs, ramp and shop.
Heritage impact	Neutral. This area has been refitted a number of times. The new arrangement will be more appropriate to the original open plan.
Recommended mitigation	Interpretation through floor finishes or otherwise of the original footprint of the Parkes Farmer wing.

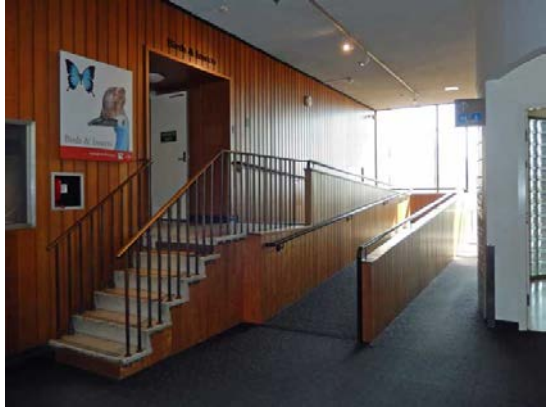
Element	Raised floor and relocation of door, Barnet wing, ground level
Image	
Significance	Exceptional (floor and door to central room Medium; ramps, openings, lintels and display cases Low)
Conservation policy	When the outer spaces are next refurbished, explore for opportunities to improve the interpretation of these spaces and the former eastern wall of the Barnet wing.
Proposed works	Raising the atrium floor to the level of the original ground floor of the Barnet wing, providing new door to centre room in location of original opening, and reconstructing window in existing door opening.
Heritage impact	Minor positive. The ramps and display cases are of low significance, and the reconstruction of original openings will assist interpretation.
Recommended mitigation	Interpretation through floor finishes or otherwise of the former footprint of the two rooms that have since become openings to the Barnet wing, and also the original ground level to the east.


Element	Raised floor in atrium, rear wall of Lewis wing, ground level
Image	
Significance	Exceptional (Lewis wing), Low (ramp and railing)
Conservation policy	No specific policy
Proposed works	Raise floor level of atrium against former south external wall of Lewis wing, and remove handrail, with edge of new concrete floor set back from stone wall.
Heritage impact	Neutral to minor negative, depending on detail. Obscuring the sills and shutters of the blind openings should be avoided.
Recommended mitigation	The infill between the edge of the floor and the stone wall will need to be very carefully detailed to avoid physical damage to the stone and visual intrusion to views of the wall. For interpretation, the opportunity should be explored to provide views down to the original wall at lower ground level.


Element	New escalators and raised floor, Vernon wing, ground level
Image	
Significance	Exceptional (Vernon wing), Low (Still addition including ramp)
Conservation policy	No specific policy.
Proposed works	Raising the floor level of the atrium to eliminate the existing ramp beside the Vernon wing, and installing new escalators between the lower ground and ground floors.
Heritage impact	Neutral. The fabric affected is of low significance, and there will be no change to the Vernon wing.
Recommended mitigation	The edge of the new raised floor against the wall should match the current detail at the top of the ramp. For interpretation, the opportunity should be explored to cut back at least part of the floor to allow views down to the wall at lower ground level.

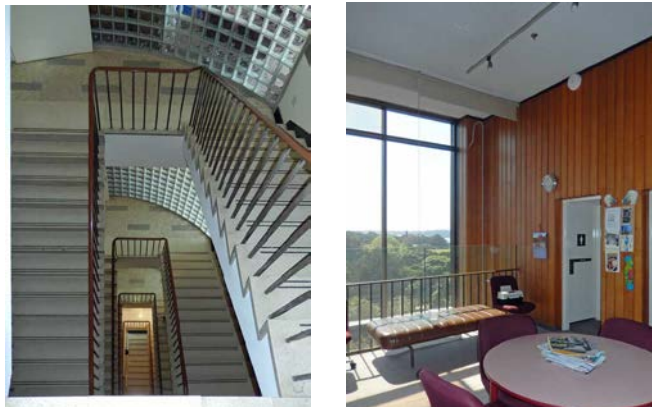
Element	Removal of mezzanine and internal fitout, level 2, Still addition
Image	
Significance	Low
Conservation policy	No specific policy.
Proposed works	Removal of the fitout at ground level and the mezzanine level above to enlarge and increase the height of the exhibition space.
Heritage impact	Minor positive. The removal of this non-significant fabric will allow enhanced views to the surrounding stone walls.
Recommended mitigation	None required.

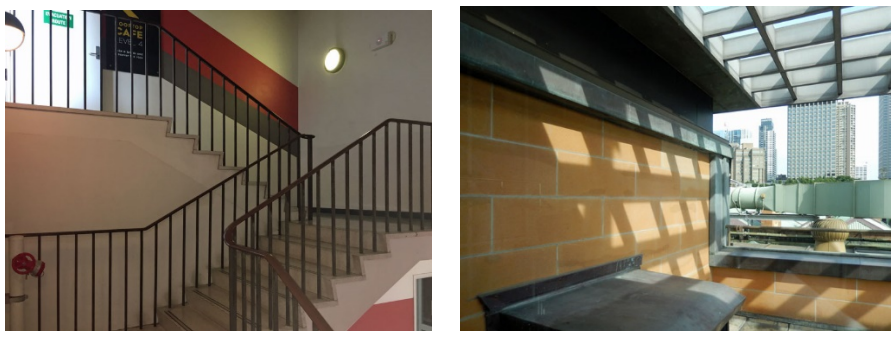
Element	Relocation of stairs, Parkes Farmer wing, level 1
Image	
Significance	Medium (glass block and plasterboard enclosure Intrusive).
Conservation policy	In any future reworking of this area and adjacent areas, consider restoring the former open main stair.
Proposed works	Relocation of stairs to northern end of glazed link (protected by held-open fire doors) and removal of stairs and opening to Lewis wing.
Heritage impact	Minor negative. Although the main stair will be in a new location, requiring the demolition of the floors at the north end of the link lobby, the previous open character of the stair and the lobby will be recovered. The opening to the Lewis wing dates from the 1960s.
Recommended mitigation	Salvage bronze handrail (if compliant) for adaptation and reuse on relocated stairs. Match original stair construction of terrazzo finishes and concrete structure if possible, and interpret the former opening to the Lewis wing.

Element	Relocation of stairs, Parkes Farmer wing, level 2
Image	
Significance	Medium (glass block and plasterboard enclosure Intrusive).
Conservation policy	In any future reworking of this area and adjacent areas, consider restoring the former open main stair.
Proposed works	Relocation of stairs to northern end of glazed link (protected by held-open fire doors), removal of stairs to Lewis wing and construction of new ramp.
Heritage impact	Minor negative. Although the stair will be in a new location, requiring the demolition of the floors at the north end of the link lobby, the previous open character of the stair and the lobby will be recovered.
Recommended mitigation	Salvage bronze handrail (if compliant) for adaptation and reuse on relocated stairs. Match original stair construction of terrazzo finishes and concrete structure if possible. Interpret stairs to Lewis wing.

Element	Internal fitout, Parkes Farmer wing, level 2
Image	
Significance	Low (interior fitout), Medium (Parkes Farmer wing structure)
Conservation policy	This area and the adjacent spaces should continue to be adapted for exhibition purposes.
Proposed works	Removal of internal fitout, construction of new amenities and refitting as exhibition and education space.
Heritage impact	Neutral. This area has previously been used for exhibition and education and its adapted reuse for these purposes is appropriate.
Recommended mitigation	Preservation of original structure of Parkes Farmer wing including shaft in south-east corner.

Element	Rebuilding of roof, Still addition, level 2
Image	
Significance	Low (Parkes Farmer wall Medium)
Conservation policy	No specific policy
Proposed works	Demolition of existing metal deck roof, and construction of new roof on steel framing at higher level
Heritage impact	Neutral.
Recommended mitigation	Careful treatment of stone facing, including supporting roof off non-significant east and west walls of light well, and flashing into existing horizontal joints rather than chasing stone

Element	Reconfiguration of stairs, Parkes Farmer wing, level 3
Image	
Significance	Medium (glass block and plasterboard enclosure Intrusive).
Conservation policy	In any future reworking of this area and adjacent areas, consider restoring the former open main stair.
Proposed works	Relocation of stairs to northern end of glazed link (protected by held-open fire doors), alteration to amenities area and extension of new stair to Level 4.
Heritage impact	Minor negative. Although the stair will be in a new location, requiring the demolition of the floors at the north end of the link lobby, the previous open character of the stair and the lobby will be recovered.
Recommended mitigation	Salvage bronze handrail (if compliant) for adaptation and reuse on relocated stairs. Match original stair construction of terrazzo finishes and concrete structure if possible.

Element	Reconfiguration of stairs, Parkes Farmer wing, level 4
Image	
Significance	Medium
Conservation policy	These areas should be conserved and continue to be used for circulation purposes. The terrace should be retained and conserved in its original configuration.
Proposed works	Reconfiguration of lift and removal of stairs to create new lobby, with access from new stairs on floor below, retaining northern wall to lobby.
Heritage impact	Minor negative. The present stair configuration is original and was always enclosed.
Recommended mitigation	Salvage bronze handrail (if compliant) for adaptation and reuse on relocated stairs. Match original stair construction of terrazzo finishes and concrete structure if possible.

The overall heritage impact of the proposal is assessed as neutral to minor positive, depending on the resolution of details, the implementation of the mitigation measures outlines above, and the quality of the interpretation plan. The works affecting significant fabric are almost all required to allow the Museum to function effectively in dealing with increased visitor numbers and expanded display areas.

Archaeology

The 2015 CMP assessed the archaeological potential of the Museum site. Figure 15 summarises the findings of the investigation by Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd.

The proposed extent of excavation for the alterations and additions is minor and consists of the following:

- Excavation of a lift pit at Loading Dock level, which will be excavated further into the bedrock beneath the Still addition
- Excavation at Basement level within the northern forecourt for new pad footings for the columns of the extended Crystal Hall, and for the footings of the relocated flight of stairs to the landing at Lower Ground level.
- Excavation for drainage and planting associated with the new biodiversity garden at Basement level.

It will be seen from Figure 15 that all the areas affected by the current proposed works fall within zones that are either basements with no archaeological potential, or (in the case of the relocated external stairs and extension to the Crystal Hall) low to nil archaeological potential (fills, surfaces, convict garden topsoils).

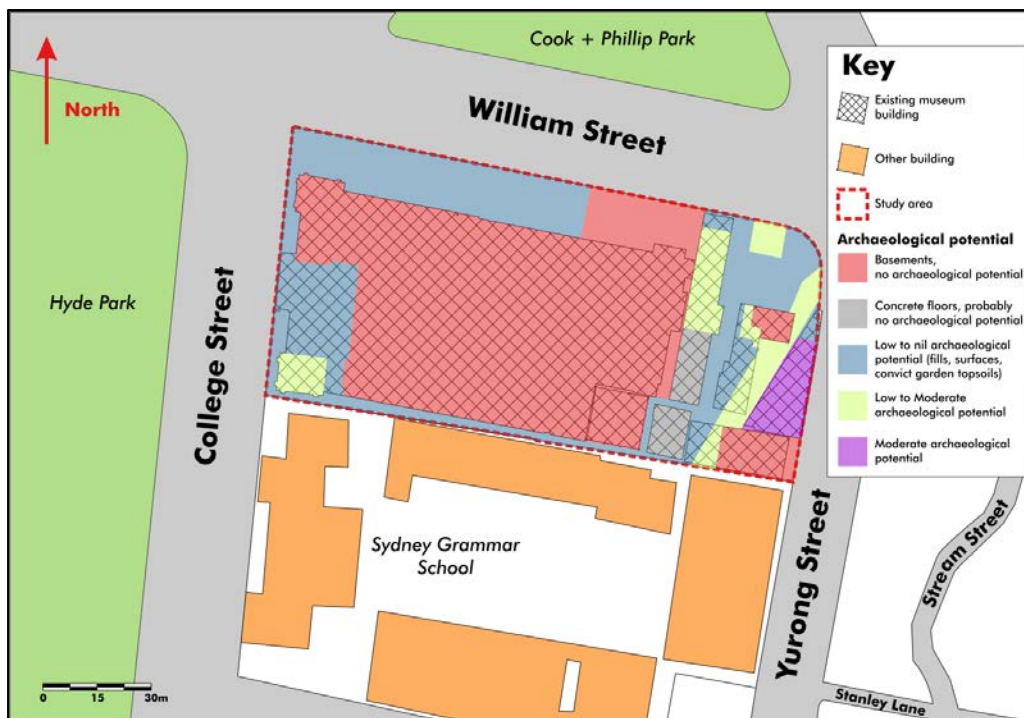


Figure 15
 Map of archaeological potential across the Australian Museum site
 Source: Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd

BCA and DDA compliance works

The proposed alterations and additions will result in the rebuilding, alteration, enlargement or extension of an existing building, including a change of use of a part of the Museum complex from a storage area to an exhibition space. Under Section 94 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 (EPAR), a consent authority is required, when determining such a development application, to assess the fire safety provisions of the existing building, and whether it would be appropriate to require the existing building to be brought into total or partial conformity with the Building Code of Australia (BCA). In this context it should be noted that the BCA is a performance-based code, and that the performance requirements of the Code can be achieved either through compliance with deemed-to-satisfy provisions or by means of alternative solutions.

As previously noted, the existing Australian Museum building complex has State-significant heritage elements which constrain a full upgrade that would bring the entire complex into compliance with the current provisions of the Building Code of Australia. Consequently, as part of this application, the applicant is requesting that the consent authority use its discretionary power under section 94 of the EPAR to permit the retention of existing features, on the basis that the safety of the existing building will not be diminished by the proposed works.

With the exceptions noted in the BCA report prepared by Steve Watson & Partners (Reference No. 2018/1418 R1.2), the existing building and proposed alterations and extensions have been found to be capable of complying with the BCA. It is expected that a number of compliance issues will be resolved by means of alternative solutions, as permitted by the BCA. It is further noted that additional issues may be identified in the

course of the development which may subsequently require modifications to the upgrading strategy.

Elements where the heritage significance or other existing aspects of the building complex will seriously constrain an upgrade include the following:

1. Existing structures and their structural adequacy and fire resistance levels (FRLs)
2. Components of the stairs in the Lewis, Barnet and Vernon wings, and the eastern stairs in the Parkes Farmer wing (all outside the area of the proposed works)
 - a. Tread and riser profiles in the curved sections of existing stairs in the Lewis, Barnet and Vernon wings
 - b. Stair tread and riser profiles leading from the topmost floor to the roof in the Parkes Farmer wing
 - c. Landing dimensions, tactile indicators and handrails to a number of the above stairs
 - d. Certain other accessible features in the Lewis, Barnet and Vernon wings as nominated in the Access report
 - e. Some balustrades within the Lewis, Barnet and Vernon wings
3. Balustrades to balconies in the Parkes Farmer wing (outside the area of work);
4. Lighting and Mechanical systems outside the area of work;
5. Damp- and weather-proofing to the existing structures.

The consultant team has worked closely with the Museum's Access Committee to ensure that all of the new work complies with the principles of full, equitable and dignified access in accordance with the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

Heritage items in the vicinity of the site

There are several heritage items within the vicinity of the site, shown in Figure 16. These include the following items listed on the State Heritage Register, and a number of other sites listed as heritage items in Schedule 5 of Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012.

State Heritage Register items

- Hyde Park (SHR 01871)
- St Mary's Catholic Cathedral and Chapter House (SHR 01709)
- Anzac Memorial (SHR 01822)
- HMAS Sydney 1 – SMS Emden Memorial (SHR 01946)
- Sewer Vent (SHR 01642)
- Museum Railway Station (SHR 01207)
- St James Railway Station Group (SHR 01248)

Items listed in Schedule 5 of Sydney LEP 2012

- Sydney Grammar School (item I247)
- Museum Hotel (item I496)
- Park Hotel (item I510)
- Cook and Phillip Park (item I1655)
- Commercial building "Peejays Building" (item I2198)
- William Street arch (item I2199)
- East Sydney conservation area (area C13)
- William Street South conservation area (area C16)
- Woolloomooloo conservation area (area C71)



Figure 16

Plan showing the Australian Museum (gold) and other heritage items in the vicinity, including State Heritage Register items (green), local heritage items (brown) and conservation areas (hatched red). Source (base plan): Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012

The following statements of significance for the items listed above have been taken from the State Heritage inventory:

Hyde Park: Hyde Park has State significance as public land (the Australian colony's first common) that has influenced the development of Sydney's layout from as early as 1789, occupying approximately the same site since that time. Proclaimed by Governor Macquarie, it is Australia's oldest designated public parkland (1810), and has been continuously used from 1788 for public open space, recreation, remembrance, celebration and leisure. Hyde Park has contributed to the cultural development of the city as a recreational space encapsulating the principles of a Victorian parkland through the use of a hierarchy of pathways and the strategic siting of monuments, statues and built items. It is of State significance as a demonstration of the international spread of the English public parks movement originating in the mid-19th century. It provides evidence of the influence of transport infrastructure on urbanisation by its upheaval and re-creation after construction of the city underground railway in the 1920s. It was site of some of Australia's first sporting events, and remains the prime open space in Sydney for special events, protests and festivals as it has been since 1810. The Park contains a collection of monuments and sculptures which mark key events and personalities in the history of the State including war memorials and significant artistic works.

St Mary's Cathedral and Chapter House: The Cathedral site is the oldest place maintaining its use as a place of worship for the Catholic community in Australia. It is the

site of the original St Mary's Cathedral, the first Catholic church in Australia and is the first land granted to the Catholic church in Australia. It also the oldest permanent place of residence of Catholic clergy and can be said to be the birthplace of Catholicism in Australia. The cathedral is associated with significant figures in the history of the Catholic Church in Australia notably with Father Therry, Archbishops Polding and Vaughan, Cardinal Moran and Archbishop Kelly. It is also associated with important persons of the 19th and 20th centuries including Governors Macquarie and Bourke and the architects Greenway, Pugin, Wardell and Hennessy. The Cathedral is the seat of the Bishop of Sydney and the mother diocese of Australia. The Cathedral is of major architectural significance as the largest 19th century ecclesiastical building in the English Gothic style anywhere in the world. The Cathedral Chapter Hall located to the east is significant as the oldest building extant on the site, possibly the oldest surviving Catholic School building in Australia and evidence to suggest an important direct involvement in its design by Pugin.

Anzac Memorial: The ANZAC Memorial, completed in 1934, is of historical significance to the State for its embodiment of the collective grief of the people of NSW at the loss of Australian servicemen and women since World War I. It is associated with the landing of Australian troops at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915, since fundraising for the memorial was established on the first anniversary of the landing. It is also associated with returned servicemen and their organisations including the RSL, which lobbied for the erection of the monument and occupied offices within it. The ANZAC Memorial is of State aesthetic significance as a great work of public art which is arguably the finest expression of Art Deco monumentality in Australia. The result of an outstanding creative collaboration between architect Bruce Dellit and sculptor Rayner Hoff, it contains complex symbolic embellishments that reinforce and enhance the commemorative meanings of the building. Its landscape context in Hyde Park was purposefully designed for it by Dellit including the large Pool of Reflection lined by poplars. Its positioning on a major axis linked to the Archibald Fountain contributes significantly to the physical character of Hyde Park and the city of Sydney. The ANZAC Memorial is of State significance as the largest and most ambitious of the numerous war memorials constructed throughout NSW after the Great War. The memorial is also representative as NSW's contribution to the group of 'national war memorials', whereby each state capital city developed its own major war memorial in the inter-war period. In this group the ANZAC Memorial is outstanding in its size, integrity and aesthetic appeal.

HMAS Sydney/SSS Emden memorial: The HMAS Sydney 1 - SMS Emden Memorial (the Emden Gun) is of state significance as a major component of the German ship SMS Emden, defeated by the Royal Australian Navy in its first ship-to-ship battle. The gun is one of only four salvaged from the cruiser, three of which are located in Australia. Its significance is magnified by the value of the gun as a reminder of the Australian naval crew who served and died in action. Its retrieval was a symbol of victory and proof of the success that could be achieved with the strength and patriotism that accompanied self-government and loyalty as part of Empire. It is an important relic in the suite of relics found across the state which visually demonstrate the actions participated in by the British Empire and the Australian nation from the Crimean War through to current peace keeping activities. Today, the gun serves as a reminder of world history. The memorial itself is an important reminder of the battle between the HMAS Sydney 1 and the German ship SMS Emden and the sailors of both fleets who served with honour during the battle. The memorial also serves to remember those who sacrificed their lives in the battle - four lives from the Royal Australian Navy and 134 lives from the SMS Emden. The gun has national significance as the first naval war trophy of the First World War.

Sewer vent: The first planned sewerage system in the city of Sydney was completed in 1857. The Obelisk was the first major sewer vent constructed and the only ventshaft

constructed entirely of sandstone. The Obelisk Vent was an ambitious achievement at the time of construction owing to its utilitarian purpose. It is historically significant as one of the oldest items of infrastructure in the early City sewerage system. It has landmark qualities, providing a fitting terminus to the eastern end of Bathurst Street. It is also significant for its contribution to the streetscape of Elizabeth Street, its visual role in the axial vistas of Sydney, and as a significant object within Hyde Park.

Museum Railway Station: Museum Station has state significance as the first underground station in Australia (with St James opened the same day) and demonstrates the adaptation of the London tube style station to the Australian situation. The station is well constructed, proportioned and detailed and represents the culmination of many years of political lobbying to have a city railway system in place. The station complex is an important part of the larger NSW railways network, particularly the inner-city system, and has associations with prominent persons such as JJC Bradfield and organisations such as the Department of Railways. It played an important part in the development of the CBD in Sydney as evidenced by direct pedestrian subway connections to adjacent department stores such as Mark Foy's. The Museum Station entry building (Liverpool Street) is a fine and largely intact example of a small-scale Inter-War Stripped Classical style building which adds to the general character of the immediate area. It has significance as one of two buildings of its type and style remaining in the city (the other being St James). The combination of the entry portals, pedestrian subways and decorative interiors including light fittings, tiling and signage contribute to the aesthetic significance of the place and evoke a former era of railway travel.

St James Railway Station group: St James Station is of State significance because, along with Museum, it was the first underground station in Australia and demonstrates the adaptation of the London tube-style station to the Australian situation. The station is well constructed, proportioned and detailed. The station complex is an important part of the larger Sydney Harbour Bridge and the electrified City Underground Railway scheme and has associations with prominent persons such as JJC Bradfield, chief engineer and designer of the Sydney Harbour Bridge and city underground and organisations such as the Department of Railways and represents the culmination of many years of political lobbying for a city railway system. The construction of the city underground and position of St James Station encouraged the retail and commercial development of the Sydney CBD in the late 1920s and 1930s, with large department stores constructed around the stations. The St James Station entry building is a fine and largely intact example of a small-scale Inter-War Stripped Classical style building which adds to the general character of the immediate area. It has significance as one of two buildings of its type and style remaining in the city railway system (the other being Museum Station entrance) and is a rare example of this type of station building. The underground platforms and concourse retain many original features and provide one of the most ornate station interiors in the NSW railway system. Disused platforms demonstrate the grand plans of the 1930s railway network of Bradfield, while the air raid shelter areas in the southern tunnels are rare surviving elements of Sydney's World War II defences. Individual elements, such as the tiling, ornate stairs, lights and clocks add to the ambience of the station, while the Chateau Tanunda neon advertising sign at the Elizabeth Street entrance is a rare surviving example of a 1930s neon sign in Sydney.

Sydney Boys Grammar School: Sydney Grammar School is historically significant as probably the earliest school surviving in use in the city of Sydney, and as the site on which the University of Sydney began. The site and earlier buildings are associated with people and events involved not only in the development of the school and education in Australia, but also in the foundation and cultural evolution of the Australian nation. The place is aesthetically significant principally for the 1830s building by Hallen, and its classically inspired extensions by Blackett in the 1850s, which form an important element in a major

historic streetscape. The social significance of the place derives from its association with the education of several thousand Australians (including the author), many distinguished in later life. The place has scientific significance as containing examples of early building materials and techniques. The H Block at the Sydney Grammar School is significant as an integral part of the built and social fabric of the school for over 100 years, and is associated with architects Mansfield Brothers and John W Manson. It is a fine example of nineteenth century classroom design. The Old Science Block is a good example of a nineteenth century special purpose building constructed for the teaching of science. Both buildings form part of the Sydney Grammar School site which remains a focus for the thousands of Australians who have been educated there, many of whom have been distinguished in later life for their contribution to Australia.

Museum Hotel: Hotel William is of local historical significance as the building demonstrates the re-subdivision and subsequent redevelopment that followed the widening of William Street. It is of aesthetic significance as a fine representative example of an inter-war Free Classical Style hotel building, designed by prominent architect Ernest Lindsay Thompson, that contributes to the streetscape.

Park Hotel: The Park Hotel has historic and aesthetic significance as a representative example of 1920s multi-storey private hotel accommodation providing evidence of the urban development in Darlinghurst at the time. It was designed in 1922 by the notable architectural office of Hassall & Stockham for C.A. De Kantzow Esq. Its aesthetic qualities are associated with the Inter-war Free Classical style and together with its historic association with the Inter-War housing in Darlinghurst, the building is a significant contributory building within the streetscape of Yurong Street and the East Sydney Heritage Conservation Area.

Cook and Phillip Park: Cook and Phillip Park remains part of the original open space network of Sydney. It originally linked Hyde Park and the Domain but was sub-divided into two parks (with a total of four sub-divided parklands) during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Commercial building "Peejay's Building": 52-58 William Street is a fine example of an inter-war functionalist style commercial building designed by prominent architectural practice of Stephenson and Turner for the Head Office and showrooms for the glass manufacturers, Australian Consolidated Industries. It is of historical significance for its association with glass manufacturers who were a leading influence in modelling with glass in the inter-war years

William Street arch: The William Street Arch is of exceptional state significance as a rare surviving example of early colonial bridge construction in NSW. The Arch is the only known surviving example of a stone bridge within or near the township boundaries of Sydney prior to 1850 and still in existence. It is contemporary to the first significant examples of stone bridges on mainland Australia. The Arch was built at the beginning of a significant era of engineering works brought about by the vision of Thomas Mitchell, the employment of David Lennox, the arrival of the Royal Engineers and the increasing number of skilled tradesmen immigrating to the colony. All figure in the construction of this Arch and in the general development of the colony. The Arch, itself, however, was soon to be superseded. It thus represents a relatively rare form of construction in the Australian Colonies. The Arch has significance for its strong association with the development of the eastern suburbs of Sydney. It exemplifies the Georgian concepts of simplicity and grace that underlay Mitchell's schemes for the orderly extension of the township beyond its original boundaries. The Arch has significance for its association with its designer, Sydney's first Town Surveyor, Felton Mathew. It is thus an important indicator of confidence in the future of Sydney. The site clearly reflects the local area's development and the influence exerted by one of the city's main thoroughfares. Relics

associated with the use and occupation of the site are of moderate significance at a local level for their historical and scientific values. The site has exceptional state significance for its ability to demonstrate the progression of waste and stormwater removal from open stream to piped sewer. This is a key reflection of the development of Sydney from convict outpost to a city bearing all the hallmarks of British municipal order. The Woolloomooloo Sewer has significance as the first concerted attempt to combat the dangers of open sewers and it represents the then most current forms of sewer construction. The sewer and the Arch represent the overlay of two uses for one structure. The Arch is now used as a sewer superseding the earlier use as a drain. This is an example of one of the earliest occurrences of this type of overlay in Australia. The sewer and the Arch have significance for their potential to reveal new information about their construction and modifications through archaeological investigation.

East Sydney heritage conservation area: The East Sydney Conservation Area has historic and aesthetic significance for its ability to demonstrate the development of an inner city suburb during the mid to late nineteenth century, with later overlay. The area demonstrates the predominantly small lot subdivision, along a grid pattern based on Darlinghurst Road and Oxford Street, that followed the subdivision of the Riley Estate in the 1840s and the incremental subdivision of the Darlinghurst villa estates during the second half of the nineteenth century. This pattern of subdivision, and the predominantly terraced housing that developed from it, reflects the rapid population growth in Sydney particularly during the period 1850 to 1900. Development related to institutions as well as residential flat development during the inter-war period (c.1919-1940) is also demonstrated. The topography and dense urban form of the area create a strong sense of place and significant district vistas from higher areas. The area contains a number of aesthetically significant and prominent buildings such as the former St Peter's Church, Burton Street Tabernacle, former Palmer Street Presbyterian Church Group, Caritas House and the former Darlinghurst Police Station, as well as a number of fine terraces and inter-war residential flat buildings. The area has historic significance for the important institutions that are to be found within it including SCEGGS Darlinghurst.

William Street South heritage conservation area: Originally subdivided as part of the Riley Estate, Victorian William Street was demolished subsequent to the Royal Commission for the improvement of Sydney and its Suburbs 1908. The southern side of William Street now provides evidence of the development of comprehensive planning and city improvement schemes implemented by the Municipal Council of Sydney in the early twentieth century. The commercial development illustrates a later overlay reflecting the growing importance of the streetscape as a commercial centre in the early twentieth century. The streetscape is representative of the redevelopment of Victorian streetscapes for road widening in the early twentieth century. The conservation area possesses a coherent and strongly urban form deriving from amalgamated Victorian sites to create larger sites supporting inter-war commercial buildings, three to five storeys in height. It is remarkably consistent and intact, and comprises a rare inter-war streetscape within Central Sydney.

Woolloomooloo heritage conservation area: First settled by John Palmer in 1793, Woolloomooloo is significant as one of the earliest residential districts of Sydney. The rapid development of the area in the period 1850-1880 is demonstrated by the surviving rows of Victorian terracing of a modest scale and character. Remnant warehouses and hotels provide evidence of the port activities particularly in the early 20th century with the reorganisation of Cowper Wharf and the construction of the Finger Wharf. The extensive redevelopment of the Woolloomooloo Basin by the Housing Commission of NSW in the 1970s is significant as it provided a new model for public housing based on the scale and form of Victorian development.

Heritage impact on items in the vicinity of the site

None of the listed heritage items above will be in any way affected by the proposed alterations and additions at the Australian Museum, which (except for the alterations to the northern façade of the Parkes Farmer wing) are entirely internal. Because all of the external alterations and additions on the Museum site will be minor in the context of the entire complex, there will be no material visual impacts on any of the listed heritage items in the vicinity, nor any impacts to items in the vicinity arising from BCA and DDA works, new fixtures, fittings and finishes, or modified services.

It is appropriate to note here, as the former National School (although now part of the Museum site) is separately listed in Schedule 5 of Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 and could therefore technically be considered as a heritage item in the vicinity, that there will be no adverse heritage impacts to the former National School arising from the proposed alterations and additions.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

The 2015 CMP included the following statement about pre-European occupation of the site:

For many thousands of years, the traditional owners of the land around what became Central Sydney were the Cadigal. They were a clan of 50-80 Aboriginal people whose land included Farm Cove (Woggan-ma-gule) and Sydney Cove (War-ran). The Cadigal were coastal people who were dependent on the harbour for providing most of their food. They were one of seven clans living in coastal Sydney who spoke a common language and have become known as the 'Eora people'.^[1]

The site of the present Australian Museum was a slope leading down to a small freshwater creek which discharged into what is now Woolloomooloo Bay. Stream Street, to the east of Yurong Street, traces part of the route of the original creek. The location of the site, supplied with fresh water and elevated, with views to the sunrise, suggests that it is likely to have been of some importance to the local Aboriginal people.^[2]

The archaeological assessment for the 2015 CMP also noted that the area along William Street had been the subject of an archaeological investigation in 2007 associated with the construction of the Collections and Research (now AMRI) building. Most of the information recorded related to a series of fills which lay across the site. These deposits were brought on to both the museum and former school sites in order to level the heavily sloping land. Very little of the original topsoil remained within the 2007 study area. The topsoil was thought to have been either removed or eroded away to leave a B- or C-horizon clay. The underlying bedrock was Hawkesbury sandstone with some shale lenses. Nothing was found during the 2007 investigation which could be associated with the 1820s convict garden.

This assessment also suggests that it is unlikely that any physical remains from the pre-European phase of occupation of the site would still be present.

The Executive Director of the Museum met representatives from the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Lands Council in September 2016 to discuss the Master Plan for the Museum site. Both parties noted the extensive Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island collection held by the Museum and proposals in the Master Plan to display more of the collection. The

[1] https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/education/Resources/indigenous_people_of_sydney

[2] Personal comment from Derek Walker, Australian Museum

proposal for a future Indigenous and Pacific Cultural Research Centre was also well received. It was suggested that the entrance to the Museum should herald the Gadigal people, and this proposal will be explored in the detailed landscape design of the altered garden beneath the Crystal Hall.

Assessment in accordance with the Heritage Council model

In relation to the model Statement of Heritage Impact published by the Heritage Council of NSW, the following comments can be made:

The following aspects of the proposal respect or enhance the heritage significance of the item or conservation area for the following reasons:

The removal of parts of the Still addition to create larger exhibition spaces enhances one of the primary activities of the Museum with little or no impact on fabric or spaces of exceptional or high significance. The enlarged and more accessible entrance from William Street into the “heart” of the Museum will enhance the experience of visitors and their appreciation of its historic structures.

The following aspects of the proposal could detrimentally impact on heritage significance. The reasons are explained as well as the measures to be taken to minimise impacts:

The proposed new openings in the external walls of the Parkes Farmer wing will have some negative heritage impact. However, these alterations and additions are comparatively small in relation to the total façade, and enhance the relocation of the main entrance of the Museum to William Street, following the original concept of James Barnett. The openings will be detailed so as to follow existing stone jointing, and if possible the stone facing will be salvaged for reuse in the blocking up of existing openings in the former external wall on the south side, which will recover some of the previously lost significance of that façade. The façade will have increased visibility from the atrium following removal of part of the Still addition.

The relocation of the main stair in the Parkes Farmer wing, and the removal of its lowest flight, are potentially detrimental to heritage significance, as the stair was formerly an important visual element, open on two sides to the glazed lobby linking the Parkes Farmer wing with the Lewis wing. However, much of the stair’s architectural character was lost when it was altered and enclosed as part of an enhanced fire egress system in the 1980s. The past alterations have generally retained the original palette of materials (terrazzo treads and risers and bronze handrails) and the current proposal has the same intention. The new location of the stair, although requiring the demolition of the floors and balustrades at the northern end of the link lobbies, will restore the open character of both the stairs and the lobbies with views to the north, using full-width held-open fire doors, and will also give greater generosity of space in front of the lift, needed to cope with the significant increase in visitor numbers.

The following sympathetic solutions have been considered and discounted for the following reasons:

The proposed new opening for an accessible entrance at basement level could have been made by enlarging an existing window opening (as has previously occurred at the eastern end of the Parkes Farmer wing) rather than creating an entirely new opening. The new opening is however preferable for equitable and dignified access, and responds to a similar later opening at the opposite end of the facade.

The option of leaving the existing western stair in the Parkes Farmer building in its original location was explored and could not be justified for functional reasons;

moreover, the intrusive enclosures to the stair would have had to remain to provide fire safety. Other locations were considered within the building, to avoid interference with the lobbies in the glazed link, but it was considered that moving the stair to the glazed link was the best functional solution and also enabled the clarity and open quality of the stair to be recovered while preserving much of the same quality in the western lobbies.

Summary and recommendations

The 2015 conservation management plan includes the following policy relating to the facilitation of ongoing Museum use on the site:

Future development on the site should aim to maximise the compatible use of existing significant buildings and spaces, and provide new accommodation, so as to enable the Museum to continue operating to current high museum standards on its present site.

The proposed alterations and additions to the Museum entirely conform with this policy. The overall heritage impact of the proposal is assessed as neutral to minor positive. The majority of the works affect fabric and spaces previously assessed as being of low significance or intrusive. There is some loss of significant fabric (in a few cases concealed fabric of exceptional significance, otherwise mostly of medium significance), and also alteration to significant spaces (mostly of medium significance, with one instance a heavily modified space of exceptional significance). On the other hand, the removal of some sections of the Still addition will allow for a greater appreciation of the internal facades of the Lewis, Barnet and Vernon wings surrounding the atrium, and the ability of the Museum to fulfil one of its primary functions will be enhanced. Careful detailing of the new work, matching original finishes where appropriate, will mitigate many of the minor negative impacts, and present opportunities for enhanced interpretation of the development and significance of the Museum complex.

In addition to the recommended mitigation included in the table of heritage impacts above, it would be appropriate to include the following provisions in any approval for the works:

- The appointment of a suitably qualified and experienced heritage consultant throughout the documentation and construction period, with authority to review and advise on documents and work in progress.
- The requirement to secure, as soon as possible, suitable sources of stone for the repair of the Parkes Farmer wing.
- The use of skilled and experienced heritage tradespeople for work on or in the vicinity of elements of exceptional, high or medium significance
- A requirement for the completed project to be signed off by the appointed heritage consultant as having been completed in accordance with good conservation practice.