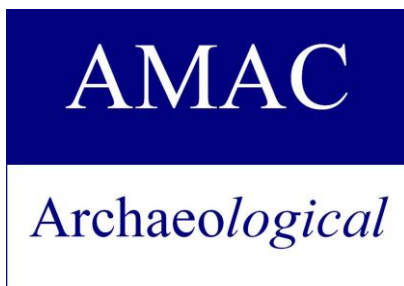
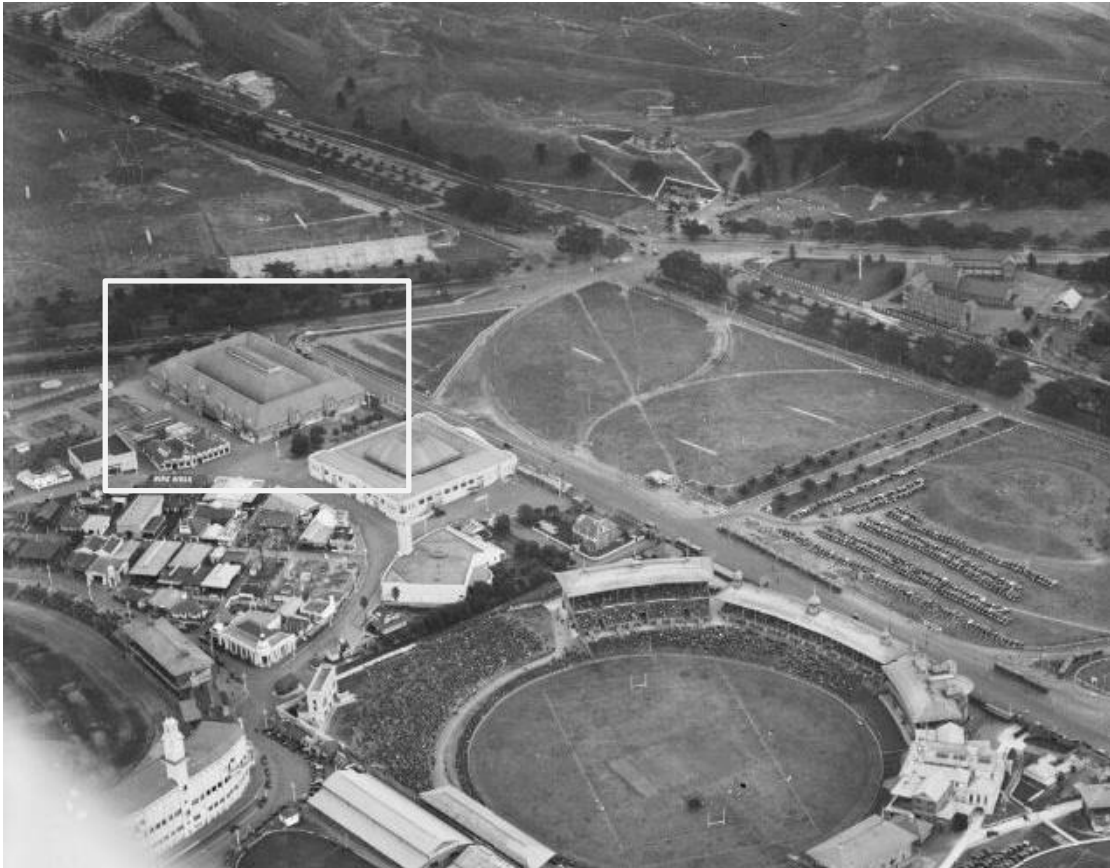


ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT & WORK METHOD STATEMENT

Royal Hall of Industries
Moore Park, NSW



**Prue Newton &
Kelly Strickland**

Archaeological Management & Consulting Group

for

**Urbis on behalf of
Sydney Swans Limited**

May 2019

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Cover Image

c.1930 Aerial photograph of the Royal Hall of Industries, Sydney showgrounds and cricket grounds. Fairfax Corporation, Retrieved February 26, 2019, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-1561115310>

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Documentary Research

- The study site was dedicated as part of Sydney Common in 1811 by Governor Macquarie.
- In 1881 the Agricultural Society leased 10 hectares of Sydney Common for the use as a showground which later expanded.
- The Royal Hall of Industries building was opened in 1913 on the study site and was used as an exhibition hall for the Royal Easter Show, a morgue during the influenza epidemic in 1919 and a boxing venue in the 1930s.
- The monumental building continued to be used as an exhibition hall in the Royal Easter Show before the show moved to Homebush in the 1990s.

Physical Evidence

- The study area contains the original 1913 Royal Hall of Industries building and surfaced southern courtyard.
- The proposed development will modify and renovate the existing Royal Hall of Industries building for adaptive reuse by the Sydney Swans and Sydney Swifts sporting teams.
- Low archaeological potential exists for intact archaeological remains demonstrating occupation and use of the site as the Royal Hall of Industries during the 20th century.
- There is unknown archaeological potential for undocumented remains associated with the site's 19th century use of Sydney Common.

Significance

- The exhibition hall's unique and consistently changing function for over a century demonstrates continual utilisation of the study site for Sydney's commercial and recreational needs.
- The building remains are well preserved and still in use, therefore, archaeological evidence predating the hall occupation phase is quite limited and may include undocumented 19th – 20th century agricultural and commercial activity. These remains, should they exist, are of potential local significance.

Statement of Heritage Impact

- No relics have been identified within the study site area. However, unknown potential exists for undocumented archaeological remains from the 19th century Sydney Common phase and the 20th century Hall of Industries phase.
- An Archaeological Work Method Statement containing an unexpected finds protocol should be in place for the duration of works. It is also recommended that an archaeologist be on site to inspect the floor cavity of the building for underfloor deposits when portions of the floor is lifted.

Recommendations

- It is recommended that this document be submitted as the fulfilling component to the historical archaeological condition 3, point 2 in the SEARs request for SSD 9627.
- The Archaeological Work Method Statement presented in Section 6.0 of this document will form the guiding methodology for any archaeological works required on site, as well as the overarching guidelines for on-site contractors to consult prior to, and during all excavation works as part of the development.

GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following definition of terms have mostly derived from the glossary provided in Heritage Office Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (1996) *Archaeological Assessments*.

Term	Definition
AMAC	Archaeological Management and Consulting Group
AMP	Archaeological Management Plan
AZP	Archaeological Zoning Plan
Archaeological feature	Any physical evidence of past human activity. Archaeological features include buildings, works, relics, structures, foundations, deposits, cultural landscapes and shipwrecks. On archaeological excavations the term 'feature' may be used in a specific sense to refer to any item that is not a structure, a layer or an artefact (for example, a post hole).
Artefacts	An object produced by human activity. In historical archaeology the term usually refers to small object contained within occupation deposits. The term may encompass food or plant remains and ecological features (for example, pollen).
CMP	Conservation Management Plan
Conservation	The processes of looking after a place so as to retain its heritage significance.
Contact sites	Sites which are associated with interaction between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.
DCP	Development Control Plan
DP	Deposited Plan
Heritage Division	Formerly known as the Heritage Branch
Historical Archaeology	The study of the human past using both material evidence and documentary sources. In Australia 'historical archaeology' excludes Aboriginal archaeology prior to non-indigenous occupation but may include 'contact' sites.
LEP	Local Environment Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
LTO	Land Titles Office
NPW Act	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
OEH	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (formerly known as the DECCW)
Post-contact	A term used to refer to study archaeological sites dating after European occupation in 1788.
Relic	Defined by the NSW Heritage Act (see Section 1.5.3) as: "any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that: (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and (b) is of State or local heritage significance"
S57	Refers to definition of Section 57 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
S60	Refers to definition of Section 60 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
S139	Refers to definition of Section 139 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
S140	Refers to definition of Section 140 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
SOHI	Statement of Heritage Impact
SHI	State Heritage Inventory
SHR	State Heritage Register
Work	Archaeological material related to road and rail infrastructure which is not considered a relic in terms of the NSW Heritage Act 1977, though may retain archaeological significance independent of the statutory definitions. The interpretation of a 'work' has been defined in consultation with the Heritage Division



Figure 1.1.1 Site location, approximately outlined in red.
NSW Land and Property Information, Six Maps Viewer, accessed 25th February 2019, <http://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/>



Figure 1.1.2 Aerial photograph showing the study site outlined in red.

Note: The Royal Hall of Industries is on Lot 3 DP 861843 whereas the small portion in the southeast corner of the study site is part of a larger Lot 52 DP 1041134 and is outlined in red and shaded yellow.

NSW Land and Property Information, Six Maps Viewer, accessed 25th February 2019.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Urbis, on behalf of The Sydney Swans Limited has commissioned the Archaeological Management and Consulting Group to prepare an archaeological assessment for the site known as Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park in response to SEARs conditions issued for State Significant Development 9627. This report specifically addressed SEARs condition 3, point 2.

The report conforms to Heritage Office Guidelines for Archaeological Assessment.¹

1.2 STUDY AREA

The study site is that piece of land described as part Lot 3 in Land Titles Office Deposited Plan 861843 and part Lot 52 in Deposited Plan 1041134. The street address is known as 1 Driver Avenue, Moore Park, in the Parish of Alexandria, County of Cumberland.

1.3 SCOPE

This report assesses and considers the potential historic archaeological record of the study site. This report does not consider the potential Aboriginal archaeology of the study site. However, any Aboriginal sites and objects are protected by the National Parks and Wildlife Act (see Section 1.5.2). A separate Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) is being completed by AMAC Group.

The heritage value of the structures currently standing on the study site is not assessed as part of this report.

The discovery of unknown and unassessed remains will require additional assessment.

1.4 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

This report was researched and written by Prue Newton and Kelly Strickland. The report was reviewed by Martin Carney.

The collections used were the State Library of New South Wales, National Library of Australia Trove online collection, NSW Land and Property Information, Land Titles Office, City of Sydney Archives and NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages.

¹ Heritage Office and Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (1996).

1.5 STATUTORY CONTROLS AND HERITAGE STUDIES

1.5.1 NSW Heritage Act 1977 (as amended)

The NSW Heritage Act 1977 affords automatic statutory protection to relics that form archaeological deposits or part thereof. The Act defines relics as:

Relic means any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

- (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and
- (b) is of State or local heritage significance

Sections 139 to 145 of the Act prevent the excavation or disturbance of land for the purpose of discovering, exposing or moving a relic, except by a qualified archaeologist to whom an excavation permit has been issued by the Heritage Council of NSW.

1.5.2 National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974)

The *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (as amended) affords protection to all Aboriginal objects and is governed by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage. These objects are defined as:

any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.²

It is an offence to destroy Aboriginal objects or places without the consent of the Director-General.³ Section 86 discusses 'Harming or desecration of Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places':

- (1) A person must not harm or desecrate an object that the person knows is an Aboriginal object. Maximum penalty:
 - (a) in the case of an individual-2,500 penalty units or imprisonment for 1 year, or both, or (in circumstances of aggravation) 5,000 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years, or both, or
 - (b) in the case of a corporation-10,000 penalty units.
- (2) A person must not harm an Aboriginal object. Maximum penalty:
 - (a) in the case of an individual-500 penalty units or (in circumstances of aggravation) 1,000 penalty units, or
 - (b) in the case of a corporation-2,000 penalty units.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, "circumstances of aggravation" are:
 - (a) that the offence was committed in the course of carrying out a commercial activity, or
 - (b) that the offence was the second or subsequent occasion on which the offender was convicted of an offence under this section.

This subsection does not apply unless the circumstances of aggravation were identified in the court attendance notice or summons for the offence.
- (4) A person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place.
Maximum penalty:
 - (a) in the case of an individual-5,000 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years, or both, or
 - (b) in the case of a corporation-10,000 penalty units.
- (5) The offences under subsections (2) and (4) are offences of strict liability and the defence of honest and reasonable mistake of fact applies.

² Part 1 Section 5, National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

³ Part 6 Section 90 (1) National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

- (6) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply with respect to an Aboriginal object that is dealt with in accordance with section 85A.
- (7) A single prosecution for an offence under subsection (1) or (2) may relate to a single Aboriginal object or a group of Aboriginal objects.
- (8) If, in proceedings for an offence under subsection (1), the court is satisfied that, at the time the accused harmed the Aboriginal object concerned, the accused did not know that the object was an Aboriginal object, the court may find an offence proved under subsection (2).⁴

1.5.2.1 Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW

In October 2010 DECCW (now the Office of Environment and Heritage) introduced the “Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW”.⁵ This code of conduct was released in response to changes in the NPW Act which now states “A person must not harm or desecrate an object that the person knows is an Aboriginal object” or that “A person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place” (NPW Act, Amendment 2010). Individuals or organisations who are contemplating undertaking activities which could harm Aboriginal objects should consult this code or engage the services of an appropriately qualified archaeological consultant to carry out a Due Diligence study on any proposed development.

This code provides a process whereby a reasonable determination can be made as to whether or not Aboriginal objects will be harmed by an activity, whether further investigation is warranted, and whether the activity requires an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application.

If through this or any other process which meets the standards of this code, such as the commission of an Environmental Impact Assessment, one has already taken reasonable steps to identify Aboriginal objects in an area subject to a proposed activity. Subsequently if it is already known that Aboriginal objects will be harmed, or are likely to be harmed by an activity, then an application should be made for an AHIP.

1.5.3 State Heritage Register and Inventory

The NSW State Heritage Register or Inventory is a list which contains places, items and areas of heritage value to New South Wales. These places are protected under the New South Wales Heritage Act 1977.

The site is not listed on the NSW State Heritage Register or Inventory. It is adjacent to, but not part of, State Heritage Register item SHR01384 ‘Centennial Park, Moore Park, Queens Park’.

1.5.4 National Heritage List

The National Heritage List is a list which contains places, items and areas of outstanding heritage value to Australia. This can include places and areas overseas as well as items of Aboriginal significance and origin. These places are protected under the Australian Government's EPBC Act.

The study site is not listed on the National Heritage List.

⁴ Part 6 Section 86, National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

⁵ Office of Environment and Heritage,
<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/cultureheritage/ddcop/10798ddcop.pdf>

1.5.5 Commonwealth Heritage List

The Commonwealth Heritage List can include natural, Indigenous and historic places of value to the nation. Items on this list are under Commonwealth ownership or control and as such are identified, protected and managed by the federal government.

The study site is not listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List.

1.5.6 Sydney Local Environment Plan (2012)

Heritage Conservation is discussed in Part 5; Section 5.10. The following section highlights the archaeological considerations of a site in relation to developments:

7) Archaeological sites

The consent authority must, before granting consent under this clause to the carrying out of development on an archaeological site (other than land listed on the State Heritage Register or to which an interim heritage order under the *Heritage Act 1977* applies):

- (a) notify the Heritage Council of its intention to grant consent, and
- (b) take into consideration any response received from the Heritage Council within 28 days after the notice is sent.

Schedule 5 of this plan lists Items of Environmental Heritage with heritage items listed in Part 1, Heritage Conservation areas listed in Part 2 and Archaeological Sites listed in Part 3. The study site is not listed as a heritage item.

1.6 PREVIOUS HERITAGE STUDIES AND REPORTS OF THE STUDY SITE

1.6.1 The Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust (CP&MPT)

The Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust (CP&MPT) was set up in 1983 and is responsible for the management of the Centennial Parklands which includes; Centennial Park, Moore Park, Queens Park and the former Sydney Showground. The following heritage studies address the wider location within Moore Park South, identifying its heritage and cultural significance as well as strategies for its long-term conservation and adaptive reuse:

- Plan of Management for the Parklands (CP&MPT, 1998).
- Centennial Parklands Conservation Management Plan (Conybeare Morrison & Partners, 2001).
- Moore Park South Master Plan (Spackman & Mossop, 2002).
- Centennial Parklands Plan of Management 2006-2016 (CP&MPT).

The Centennial Parklands Conservation Management Plan (2001) makes the following statements regarding archaeological potential and management in Section 6.1: Conservation in Practice:

If work involves excavation, application must be made to the NSW Heritage Office and pre-colonial and post-contact archaeological potential must be considered.⁶

⁶ , Conybeare Morrison & Partners (2001), Volume 1, section 6-1.

1.7 NEARBY EXCAVATIONS/ SIMILAR SITES

1.7.1 AMAC Group (October 2018), Archaeological Assessment: Tramway Oval Project, Moore Park East.

Root Partnerships commissioned the Archaeological Management and Consulting Group to prepare an archaeological assessment for the site known as Moore Park tramway oval to support an s57(2) Exemption Notification and s60 Permit Application (Heritage Act 1977).

The proposed development involved excavation for the resurfacing of the oval and installation of new service lines and drainage. The archaeological material relating to the site from the late 19th century to early 20th century was considered locally significant and included evidence of a late 19th century tramway and trenches associated with the 1940s war efforts.

It was recommended that any excavation required as part of this work considered the Archaeological Work Method Statement allowing for archaeological monitoring in locations of potentially significant relics identified in the report. No excavation works in the vicinity of any known relics have occurred to date.

1.8 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Kate Paterson and Allie Barnier of Urbis for all their assistance during the reporting process.

2.0 SITE HISTORY

2.1 HISTORY

2.1.1 Sydney Common

The site is part of an area dedicated by Governor Macquarie as Sydney Common in 1811.⁷ The area had previously not been used much by Europeans, as the soil was sandy with swamps and the vegetation scrubby. The Common was intended to be used by the residents of Sydney for grazing their animals.⁸ The boundaries of the Common were redefined in 1849.⁹

Parts of the Common were subsequently set aside for various purposes. In 1820, a Water Reserve was created, including the Lachlan Swamps.¹⁰ There was also a tunnel reserve for Busby's Bore, which was built between 1827 and 1837 in order to take water from Lachlan Swamps to Hyde Park.¹¹ 29 acres were assigned to the Victoria Barracks in 1841, and a further area for the adjoining Military and Volunteer Rifle Ranges was also created.¹²

Grazing and timber cutting, which tended to destabilise the sand dunes, continued in the Common. There were also reports of illegal stone quarrying, and the dumping of night soil and other rubbish.¹³

2.1.2 Moore Park

In 1866 a large area of the Sydney Common was vested in the Sydney City Council as trustee.¹⁴ This was dedicated as a recreation ground for the public, and was named Moore Park in 1867, after Charles Moore, the mayor of Sydney City Council from 1867 to 1869.¹⁵

A Zoological Garden was laid out in 1879, on the site currently occupied by the Sydney Girls' and Sydney Boys' High Schools.¹⁶ Some of the Moore Park land was sold for residential development to meet the costs of the formation of the Park.¹⁷

2.1.3 Sydney Cricket Ground

In 1852, 10 hectares of the Sydney Common was set aside for use as a garden and cricket ground by the British troops stationed at Victoria Barracks.¹⁸ The southern half was selected as the cricket ground, and subsequently cleared, levelled and fenced.¹⁹ It was known as the Garrison Ground, and from about the mid-1860s, the

⁷ Casey and Lowe (2002) 4.

⁸ Conybeare Morrison and Partners (August 1988) 15.

⁹ Conybeare Morrison and Partners (August 1988) 7.

¹⁰ Casey and Lowe (2002) 4.

¹¹ Aird (1961) 5-6.

¹² Conybeare Morrison and Partners (August 1988) 16.

¹³ Godden Mackay (June 1996) 7-8.

¹⁴ Conybeare Morrison and Partners (August 1988) 8.

¹⁵ Casey and Lowe (2002) 4.

¹⁶ Casey and Lowe (2002) 5.

¹⁷ Conybeare Morrison and Partners (August 1988) 18.

¹⁸ CSK Planning and Associates (1994) 7.

¹⁹ Derriman (1981) 4-5.

Military and Civil Ground. As well as cricket, the ground was used for horse races and athletics.²⁰

In 1870 the British troops were withdrawn, and in 1875 the Ground was taken over by the New South Wales Cricket Association.²¹ It was then known as the Association Ground. The first intercolonial match at the Association Ground was held in 1878, between New South Wales and Victoria.²²

During earthworks for the replacement of the Brewongle Stand at the Sydney Cricket Ground in the late 1970s, a pile of jars and bottles were unearthed. Some of these appear to date to the late nineteenth century. Their context is unknown.²³

2.1.4 Royal Agricultural Society Showground

In 1881, the Agricultural Society leased 10 hectares of Moore Park from the Sydney City Council for use as a showground. The Society was formed in 1822 with the aim of furthering the quality of Australia's primary production by means of contests and competitions. The Society lapsed in 1836 and was reformed in 1857. It held agricultural exhibitions at Parramatta until 1868, and then at Prince Alfred Park until the move to Moore Park.²⁴ The showground area at Moore Park was increased to 16 hectares in 1883, including land on the south side of the current John Hargreaves Avenue.²⁵

Work to showground land carried out in the 1880s included clearing scrub, levelling and turfing ground, and draining marshy areas.²⁶ The whole ground was surrounded by a fence.²⁷ In 1894, after the Society gained a secure lease on the land, more substantial improvements were undertaken.²⁸

In 1880 a tramline had been laid down on Randwick Road, now Anzac Parade, near the study site. In 1881, a loop was laid off this line to run past the Cricket Ground and the Showground.²⁹ The loop ran along the western edge of what became Driver Avenue. Trams stopped near the main entrance to the showground, which was at John Hargreaves Avenue, known earlier as Jersey Road. Trams ran along this line until the late 1950s, when they were replaced by buses.³⁰ Buildings were constructed at a fast rate as part of the showground in this period including the Royal Hall of Industries building which is on the study site and was built by 1913.

Although the Royal Agricultural Society had its offices on the showground site, the main use was for an annual show, which was later called the Royal Easter Show. However, the grounds have occasionally had other uses. In 1919 the Show was cancelled due to an influenza epidemic in Sydney, and some of the buildings were

²⁰ Derriman (1981) 7-8.

²¹ Derriman (1981) 12-14.

²² Conybeare Morrison and Partners (August 1988) 11.

²³ Derriman (1981) 111.

²⁴ RAS NSW, Historical Summary.

²⁵ Conybeare Morrison and Partners (August 1988) 18.

²⁶ Godden Mackay (June 1996) 9.

²⁷ Fletcher (1988) 103.

²⁸ Godden Mackay (June 1996) 9.

²⁹ Keenan (1982) 67.

³⁰ Keenan (1982) 86.

used as hospitals. The Royal Hall of Industries was utilised as a morgue.³¹ For the duration of the Second World War, the Showground was taken over by the army.³²

In the 1990s the Royal Easter Show was moved to Sydney Olympic Park at Homebush. The first Show at the new site was held in 1998.³³ The Moore Park Showground precinct was redeveloped as a shopping mall.

³¹ RAS NSW, RAS Timeline.

³² RAS NSW, RAS Timeline.

³³ RAS NSW, Historical Summary.

2.2 DEVELOPMENT

The study site forms part of the larger Sydney Common area that remained predominantly undeveloped and utilised for grazing purposes since 1811. An 1852 plan shows the study site as undeveloped (Figure 2.1). The 1868 plan demonstrates that the study site remained vacant whilst the Military Cricket Ground to the north (later SCG) had been built by this time (Figure 2.2). The area to the north west of the cricket ground is called Moore Park whereas the area to the south and west, including the study site, is still referred to as Sydney Common.

A plan dating to 1871 shows the northern 25 acres as a 'Reserve for the use of the Military as a Garden and Cricket Ground', though the study site still remained unoccupied (Figure 2.3). An 1879 aerial sketch of Sydney captures the cricket ground with a loop track running out of it from Randwick Road (now Anzac Parade) and the study site to the south. The area of the site appears to form undulating land covered with scrub (Figure 2.4).

A road is represented on the c.1887 plan where John Hargreaves Avenue is currently located and runs east-west from Randwick Road to the Agricultural Society's ground, along the southern boundary of the cricket ground and north of the study site (Figure 2.5). There is no visible road along the line of Driver Avenue or Lang Road at this point in time. The plan does not depict any buildings on the plan, though the boundaries of the Agricultural Society's Ground is defined to the east of the study site.

A newspaper article dating to 1882 affirms what is shown in earlier plans regarding the study site's vacancy. It describes that for over 50 years, the portion of the government's park land grant appeared to have been forgotten, thus the study site remained undeveloped, potentially even unused, for several years.³⁴

The c.1892 and 1894 plans depict the showground, though neither John Hargreaves nor Driver Avenues are shown. A tramline runs along the western side of where Driver Avenue appears later (Figure 2.6-Figure 2.8). Lang road which was unnamed on the plans appears to have been constructed by the 1892 plan and shows the south boundary of the study site fronting the road.

By c.1903, Driver Avenue is represented on a map of Sydney travelling along the western boundary of the study site (Figure 2.9). The showground authorities with the Botanic Garden staff planted trees along Driver Avenue which have been renewed and changed multiple times.³⁵ The c.1903 plan also shows a boundary line going through the south portion of the study site. Although both areas either side of the boundary are part of the Royal Agricultural Society's ground, the line represents a road which is later called Desmond Road in a 1949-1972 survey (Figure 2.21). The road is part of a series of roads constructed in the c.1920s within the showground premises that are shown on later plans and photographs (Figure 2.11-Figure 2.14).

Several buildings were built within the Showground premises but the first direct development to the study site was the largest of these buildings, known as the Royal Hall of Industries (Figure 2.10). It was built in just nine months, commencing in 1912 under the direction of architect J. B. Sanders at a cost of £23,000. The building is

³⁴ THE PUBLIC RESERVES OF SYDNEY. (1882, May 20). *The Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser* (NSW : 1871 - 1912), p. 788.

³⁵ Conybeare Morrison and Partners (August 1988), p.18-20.

monumental in appearance, with Greco-Roman architectural details including arched windows which allows for light to flood the enormous space inside.³⁶

In February 1913, an article from the Sydney Morning Herald recounts that the Royal Hall of Industries could be seen at the Royal Show in 1912 and was opened at the beginning of 1913. The building fronts Moore Park on the west side of the Showground and was described as:

“Easily the largest exhibition hall in Australasia and is certainly designed on the most modern line for the comfort and entertainment of the public and the benefit of the manufacturers who will display goods within its beautifully lighted interior.”³⁷

In 1919 during the influenza epidemic the Royal Hall of Industries was commandeered by the government to be used as a morgue.³⁸ Moving into the 1920s, the hall remained as an exhibition hall for the Easter Show, however, the other 10 months of the year the hall was transformed into a dance hall, roller skating and ice-skating rink (Figure 2.11-Figure 2.13 & Figure 2.18). The public referred to the hall in this time as “Palais Royale” and “Ice Palais”.³⁹

A plan dated to 1928 shows the Royal Hall of Industries building fronting Driver Avenue and the south portion of the study site which remains vacant fronting Lang road to the south (Figure 2.14). The monumental Hordern Pavilion is also shown to the north of the building which was constructed in 1924 (Figure 2.14).⁴⁰ On the 1928 plan there does not appear to be any structures to the east of the study site however, the 1920s aerial photographs show temporary structures in the form of square and circular tents or marques that functioned as stalls for the Royal Easter Show (Figure 2.11-Figure 2.13).

During the 1930s and the Great Depression, the Royal Hall of Industries was used for boxing events outside of the Easter Show. By the time World War II was in effect, the Australian Army took over the building’s facilities.⁴¹ Aerial photographs taken in the 1930s shows an exercise track on the south portion of the study site fronting Lang Road (Figure 2.15-Figure 2.16). The 1934 map and 1938-1950 survey plan also represent this track and several trees (Figure 2.17-Figure 2.19). The same plans show a road between the Royal Hall of Industries building and the buildings to the east on Errol Flynn Boulevard. The 1934 map labels this road as Denman Road which is later changed to be included as Errol Flynn Boulevard (Figure 2.17).

Based on aerial photographs taken in the 1940s and a 1949-1972 survey plan, no other significant developments occur within the study site. The plan does show the now named Desmond Road which runs through the south portion of the study site and Denman Road along the east boundary (Figure 2.20-Figure 2.22). The survey also labels the track partly in the south portion of the study site as “Horse Exercising

³⁶ ROYAL SHOW. (1913, February 28). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 9.

³⁷ ROYAL SHOW. (1913, February 28). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 9.

³⁸ State Library of South Australia, Royal Hall of Industries, Sydney, Historical Information, <https://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/PRG+280/1/7/47>

³⁹ State Library of South Australia, Royal Hall of Industries, Sydney, Historical Information, <https://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/PRG+280/1/7/47>

⁴⁰ Centennial Parklands, Hordern Pavilion, <https://www.centennialparklands.com.au/visit/our-parks/moore-park/hordern-pavillion>

⁴¹

Track”. A building with “Horse Pavilion” is situated to the east of the track (not on the study site). Thus, it is clear the function of this area is for training and showing horses.

The south portion of the study site at some point ceased being used as a horse exercise track and Denman Road (now Errol Flynn Boulevard) was extended southward to connect with Lang Road and allow access to this part of the showground (Figure 2.23). The south boundary fronting Lang Street was fenced with a brick wall and a building, likely a storage shed, was built in the southeast corner of the site.

The Conservation Plan of Sydney Showground demonstrated the development of the showground and study site between 1882 and 1988. The plans illustrate and support the plans that have been discussed throughout this report (Figure 2.24).

The Royal Hall of Industries continued to be used as an exhibition hall during the Easter Show and is very well known for its use as the “Showbag Pavilion”. After the Easter show moved in 1990s to Homebush the building has been used for a variety events including the annual Mardi Gras Party, The Marie Claire Awards, MasterChef Live and festivals including Stereosonic.



Figure 2.2 Sydney Common in 1868.

Approximate location of study site in red circle. James Willis (1868) Map of Port Jackson and City of Sydney showing the adjacent municipalities. In Ashton and Waterson (2000) 30-31.

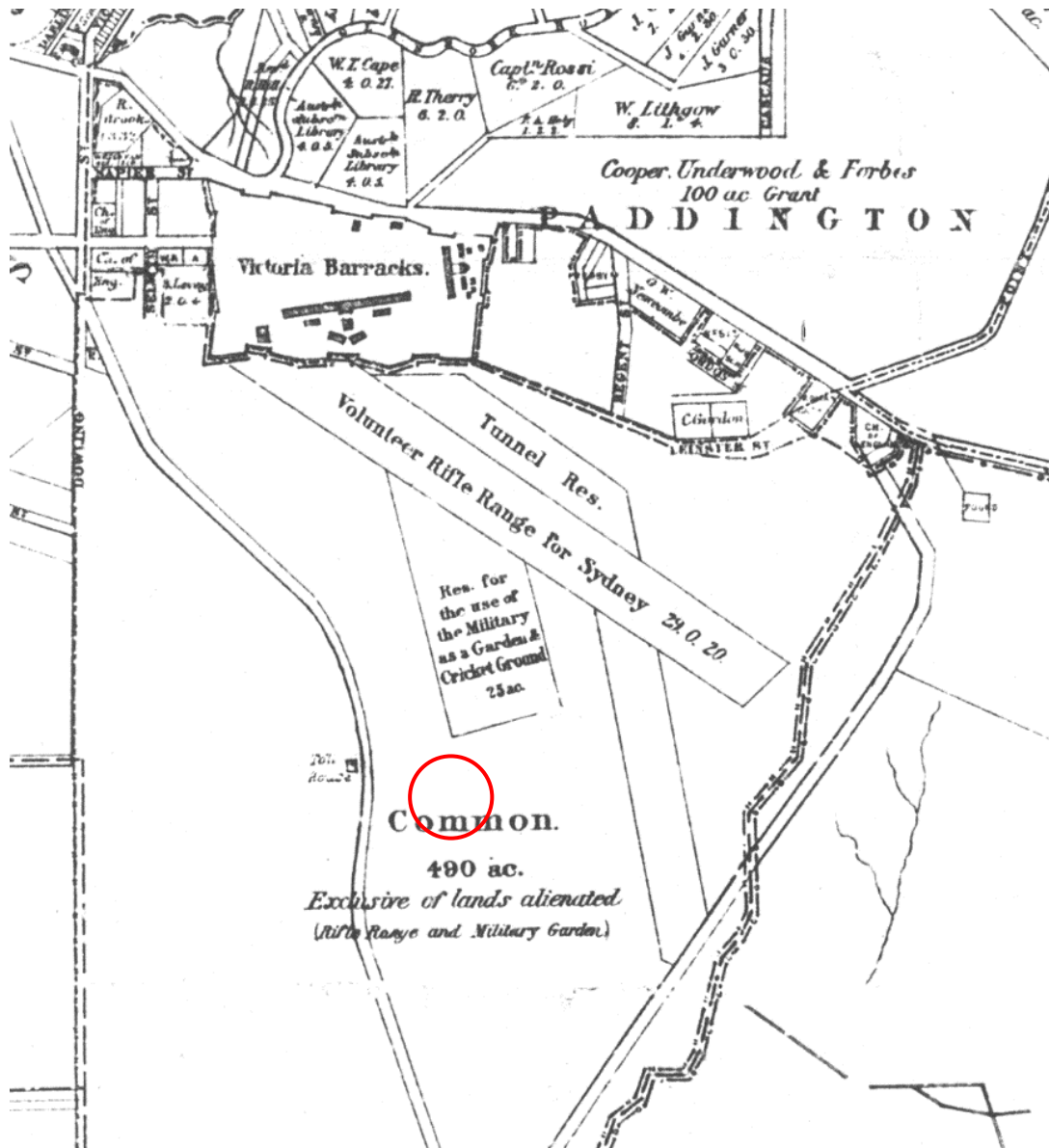


Figure 2.3 Sydney Common in 1871.
Approximate location of study site in red circle. (1871) Parish of Alexandria, County of Cumberland. ML Z 1871.



Figure 2.4 The area of the site in 1879, south of the cricket pitch.
Approximate location of study site in red circle. Gibbs, Shallard and Co. (1879) Birds-eye View, Sydney. In Ashton and Waterson (2000) 34-35.

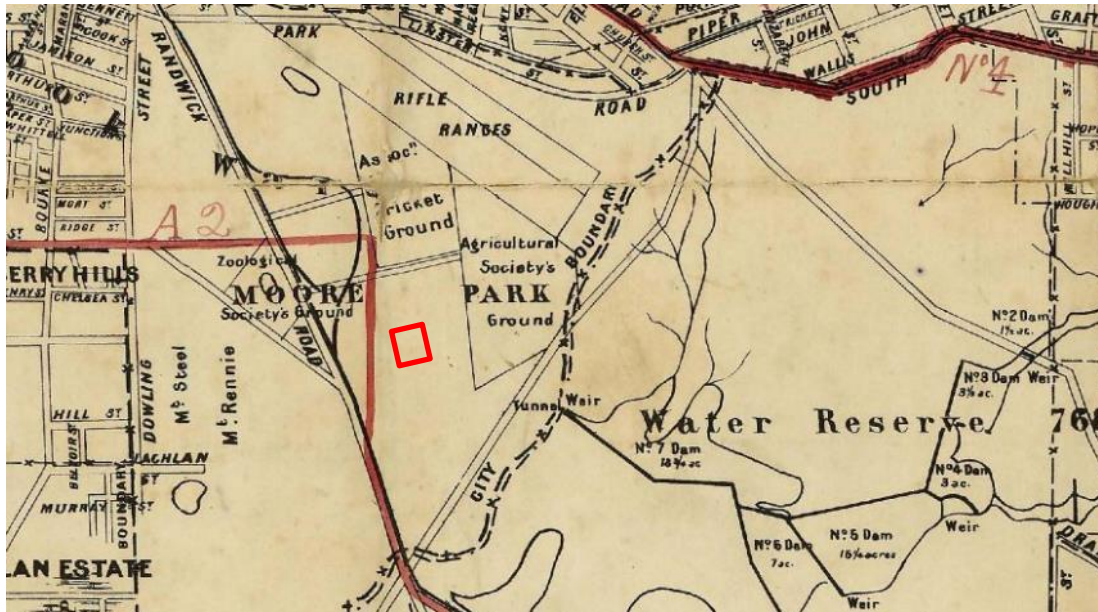


Figure 2.5

Part of a c.1887 map of the City of Sydney and Suburbs.

The study site is approximately outlined in red. Note that this map does not represent any structures or buildings. Map of the City of Sydney and Suburbs, c.1887. Historical Atlas of Sydney, accessed 25th February 2019, <http://atlas.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/>

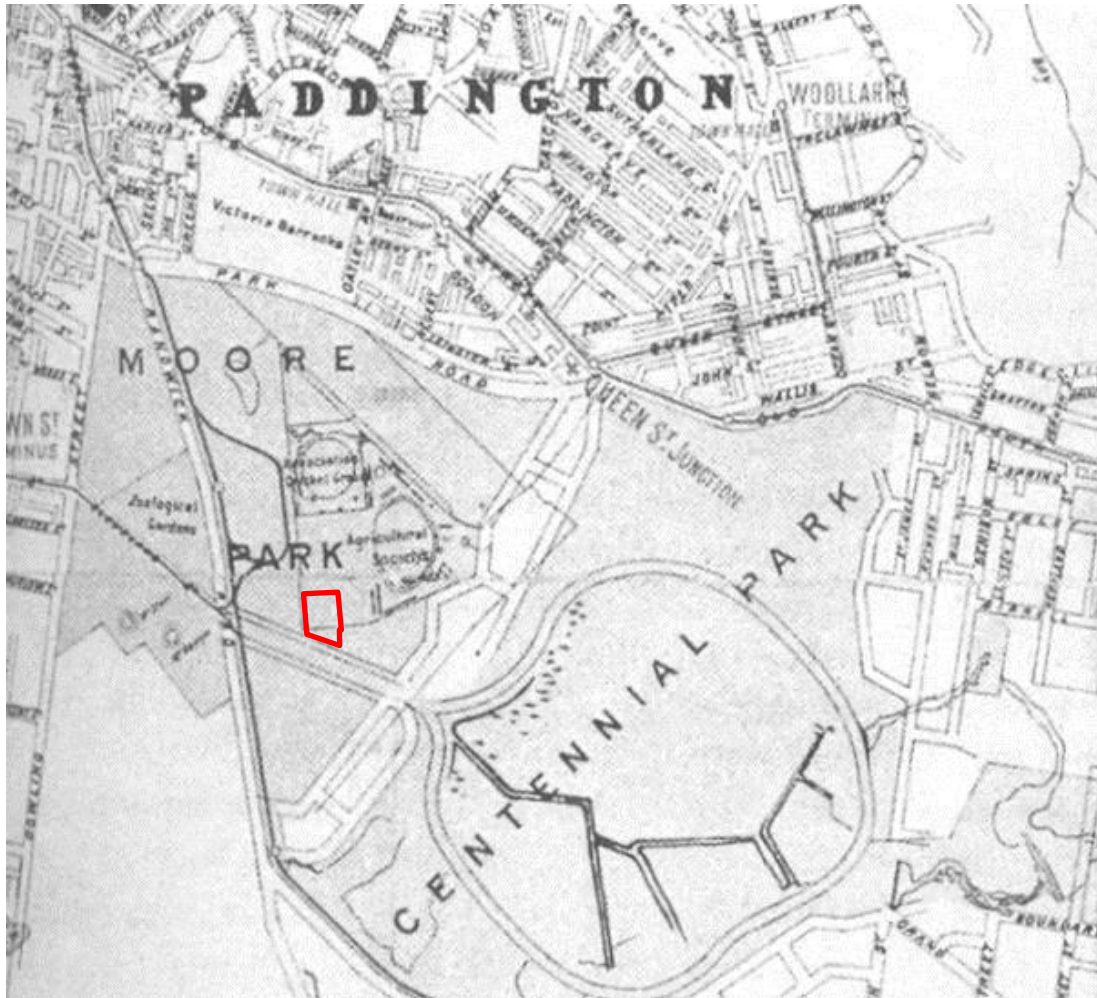


Figure 2.6 **Gibbs and Shallard Co., c. 1892.**
Study site outlined in red. (1892) Map of Sydney and Suburbs showing Tramway Lines and Stopping Places. In Ashton and Waterson (2000) 46-47.



Figure 2.7 Part of a c. 1892 plan of Sydney by the Department of Works. The study site is approximately outlined in red. Department of Public Works, 1892. Historical Atlas of Sydney, <http://atlas.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/>

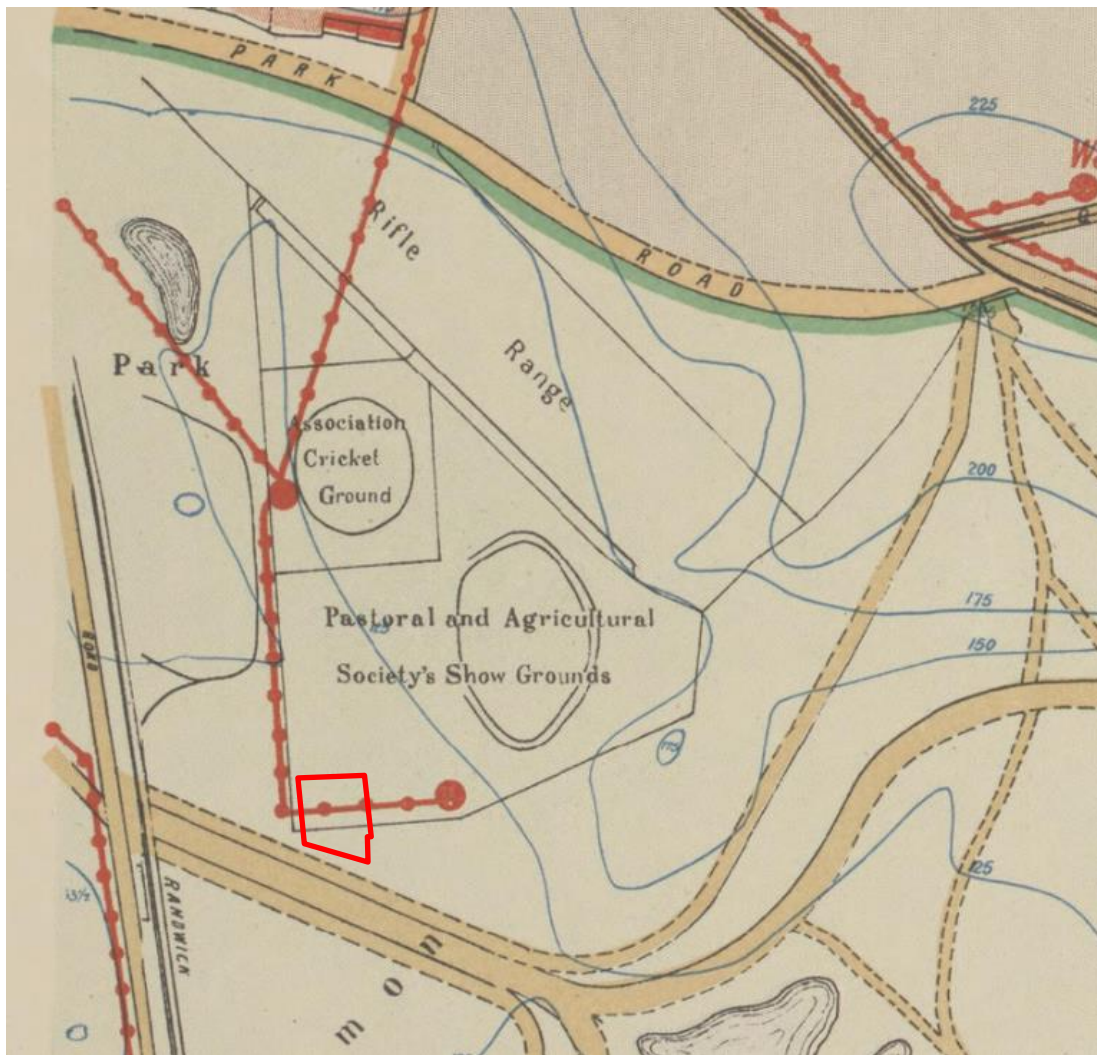


Figure 2.8 Moore Park in 1894.

Study site outlined in red. The red dotted lines are believed to form electricity services. Lieut. John H.R. King and Lieut. Anderson (1894) Contour map of the country between Port Jackson and Botany Bay. ML Z M3 811.18/1894/1.



Figure 2.9 c. 1903 map of Sydney.

The study site is outlined approximately in red.

Map of Sydney, c.1903. Historical Atlas of Sydney, accessed 24th August 2018, <http://atlas.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/>



Figure 2.10 c.1918 Photograph of Royal Hall of Industries building, Sydney
State Library PRG 280/1/7/47, Retrieved 26 February 2019.



Figure 2.11 1920s aerial photograph of the Sydney Showground, Royal Hall of Industries (red arrow) and temporary structures at the rear for the Easter Show.

Fairfax Corporation, accessed February 26, 2019,
from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-163166203>

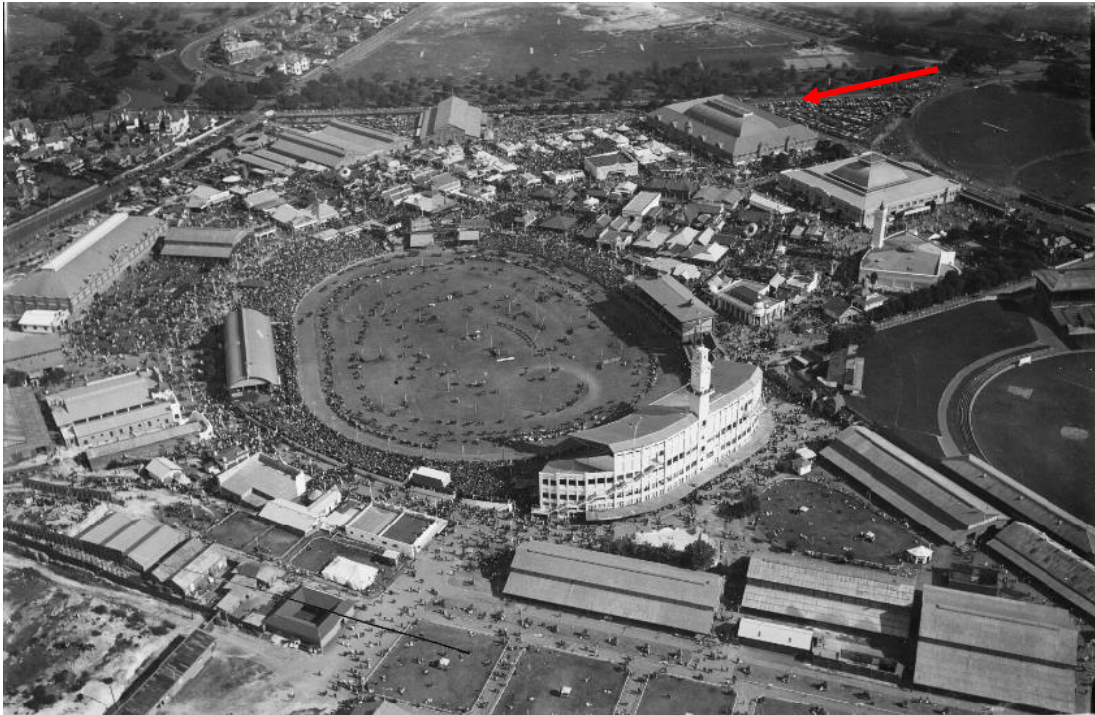


Figure 2.12 1920 aerial photograph of the Royal Hall of Industries (red arrow), Sydney Showground and temporary structures.
Fairfax Corporation, Retrieved February 26, 2019, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-163165704>



Figure 2.13 1922 aerial photograph of the Royal Hall of Industries indicated by the red arrow and the Royal Agricultural Society Showgrounds with temporary structures.

Australian War Memorial, Accession Number H03503
<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C302551>

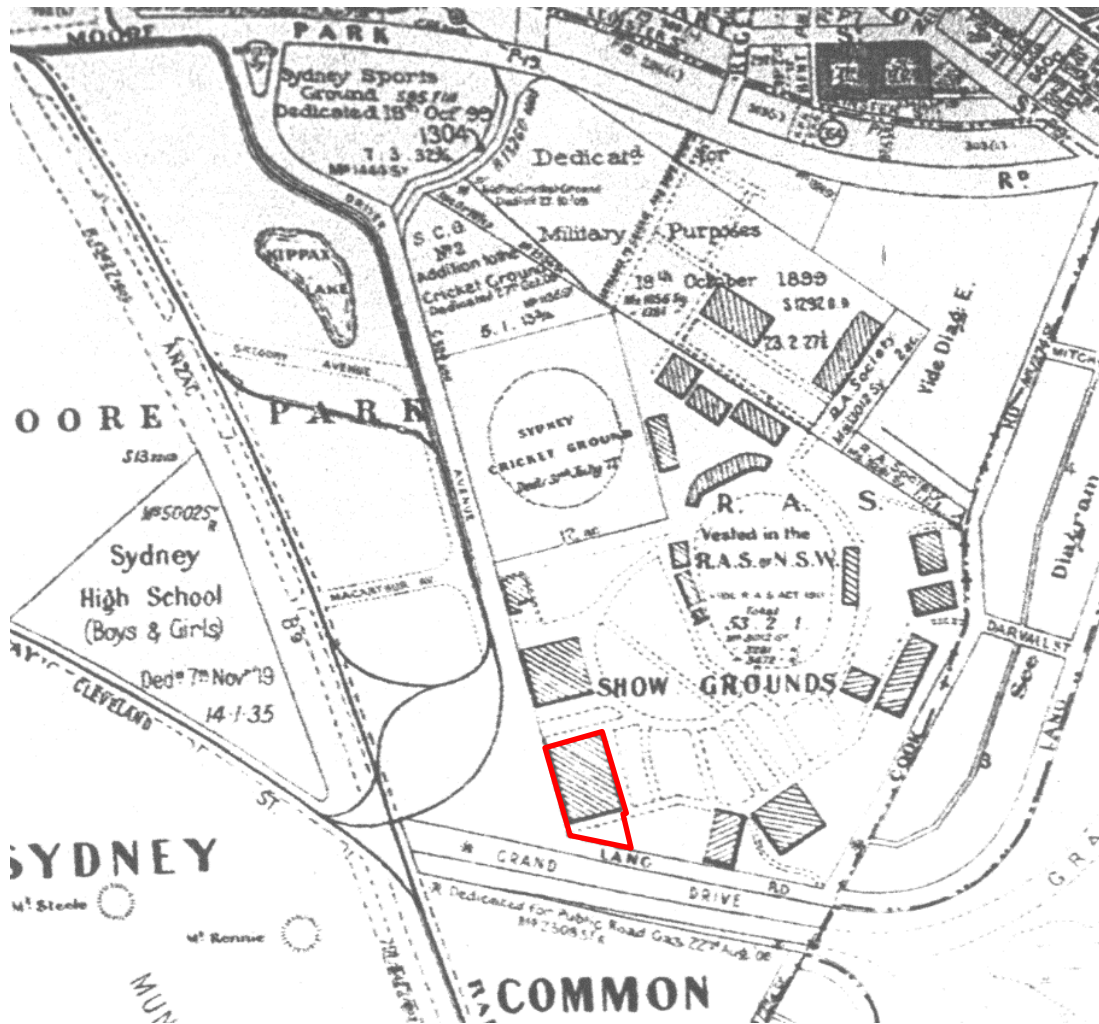


Figure 2.14 Moore Park in 1928.
 Study site outlined in red.
 (1928) Parish of Alexandria, County of Cumberland. ML Z 1928.

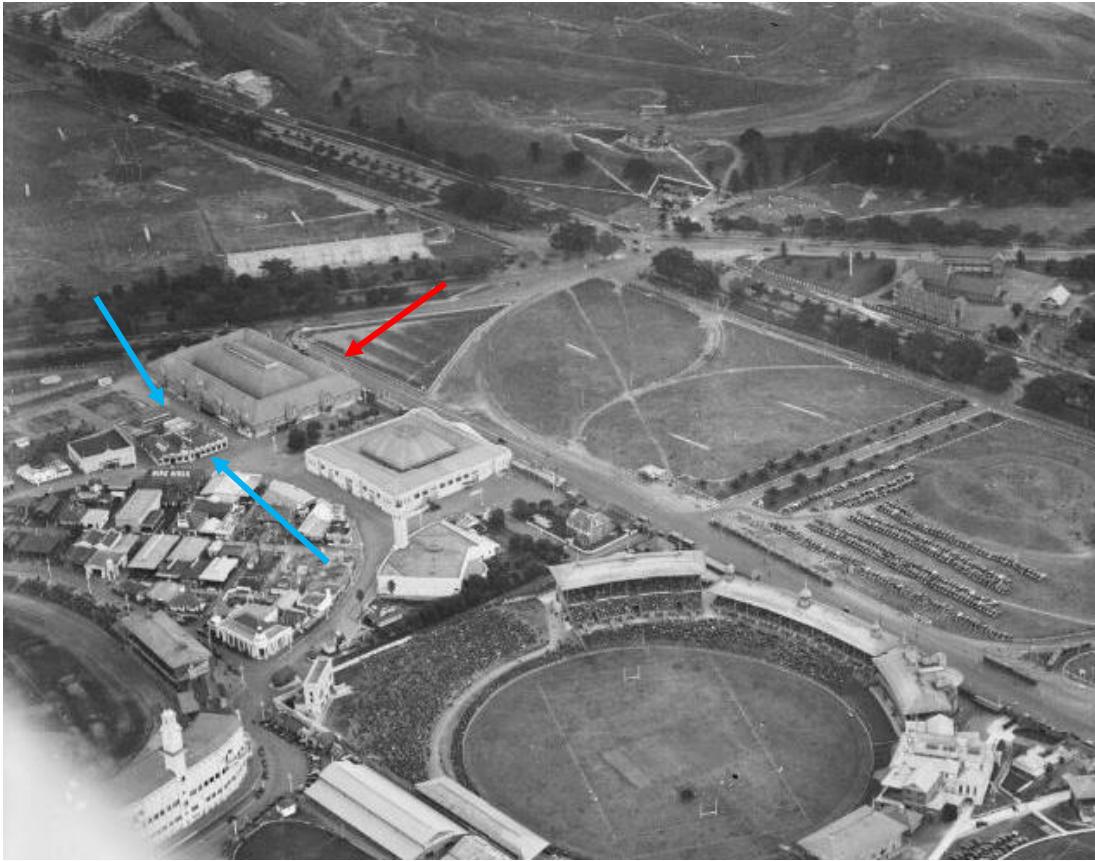


Figure 2.15 c.1930 Aerial photograph of the Royal Hall of Industries (red arrow), Sydney showgrounds and cricket grounds.
Note: Blue arrows indicate two buildings (not in the study site)
Fairfax Corporation, Retrieved February 26, 2019,
from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-1561115310>



Figure 2.16 c.1930 aerial photograph of Royal Hall of Industries, showground, cricket and sports ground in Sydney.

Fairfax Corporation, Retrieved February 26, 2019,
from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-162831675>

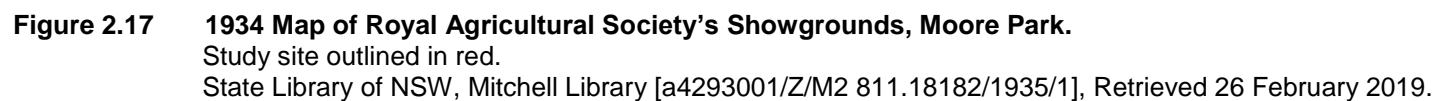




Figure 2.18 Bussell's White Wing Flour Exhibit in the Royal Hall of Industries
State Library of NSW, Home and Away 7576, FL1300639, Retrieved
26 February 2019

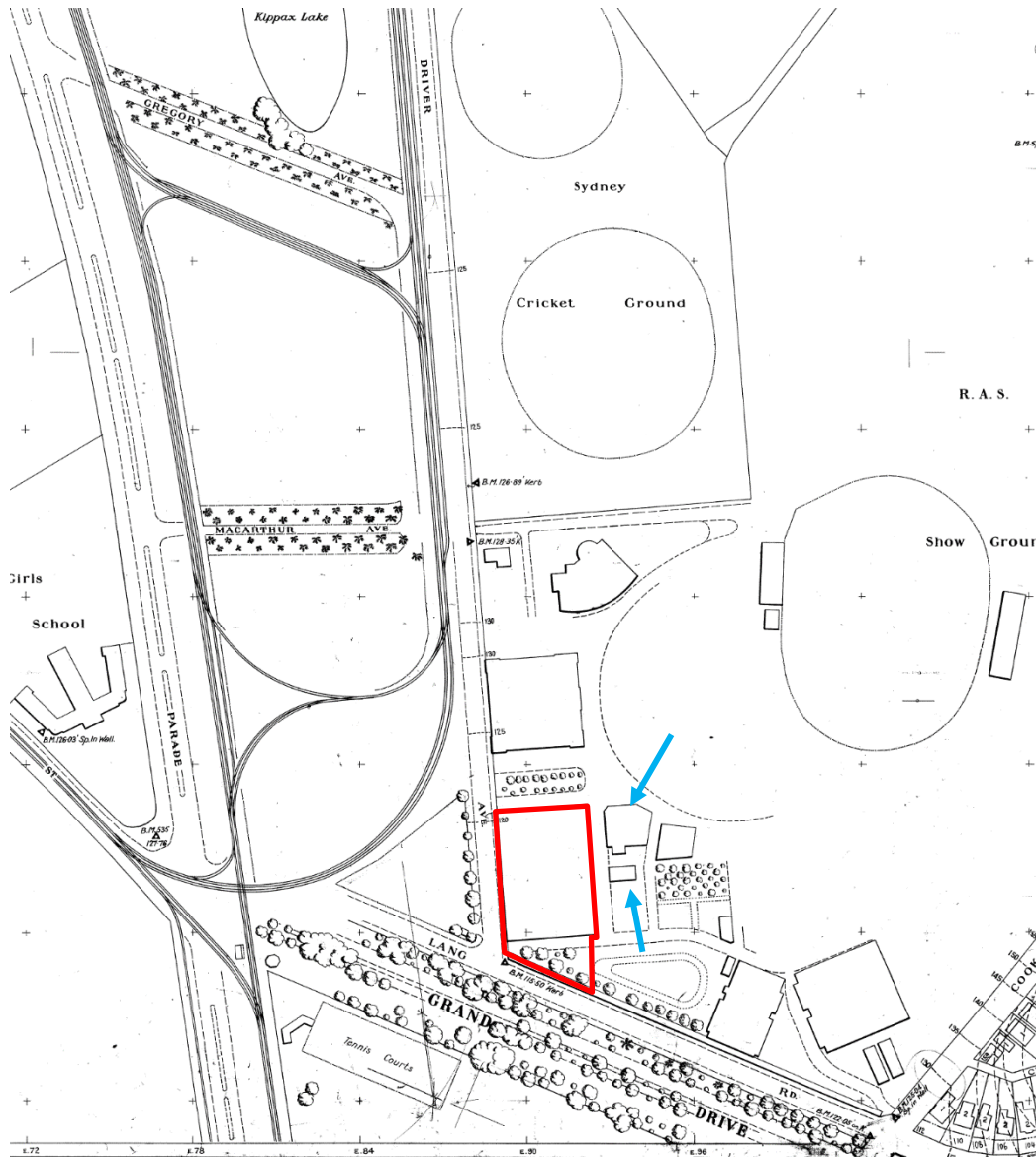


Figure 2.19 Part of a 1938-1950 City of Sydney civic survey plan detailing streetscapes and buildings.

Study site outlined in red. Blue arrows indicate two buildings (not in the study site). City of Sydney Civic Survey map, 1938-1950, map 20. Historical Atlas of Sydney, accessed 26th February 2019 <http://atlas.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/>

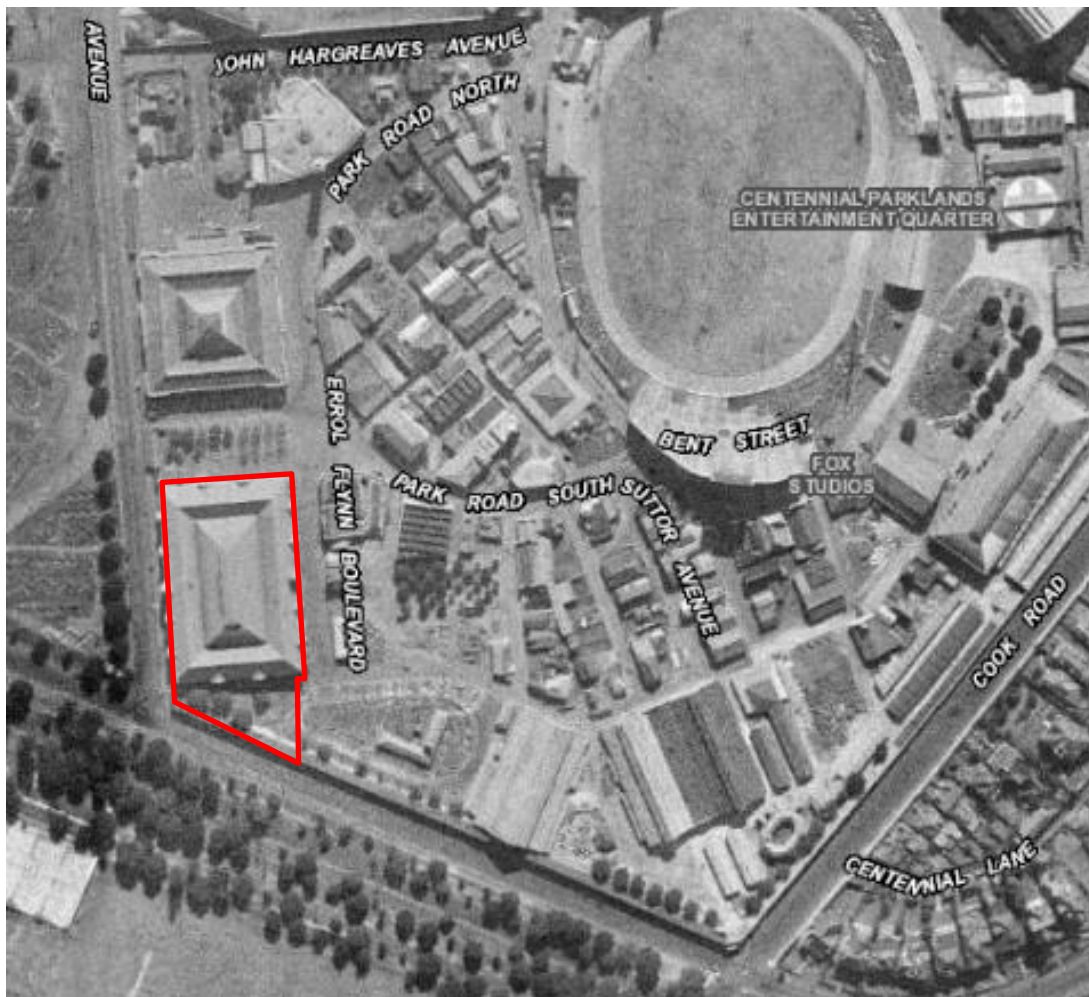


Figure 2.20 1943 aerial photograph, showing the study site approximately outlined in red.

NSW Land and Property Information, Six Maps Viewer, accessed 25th February 2019, <http://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/>

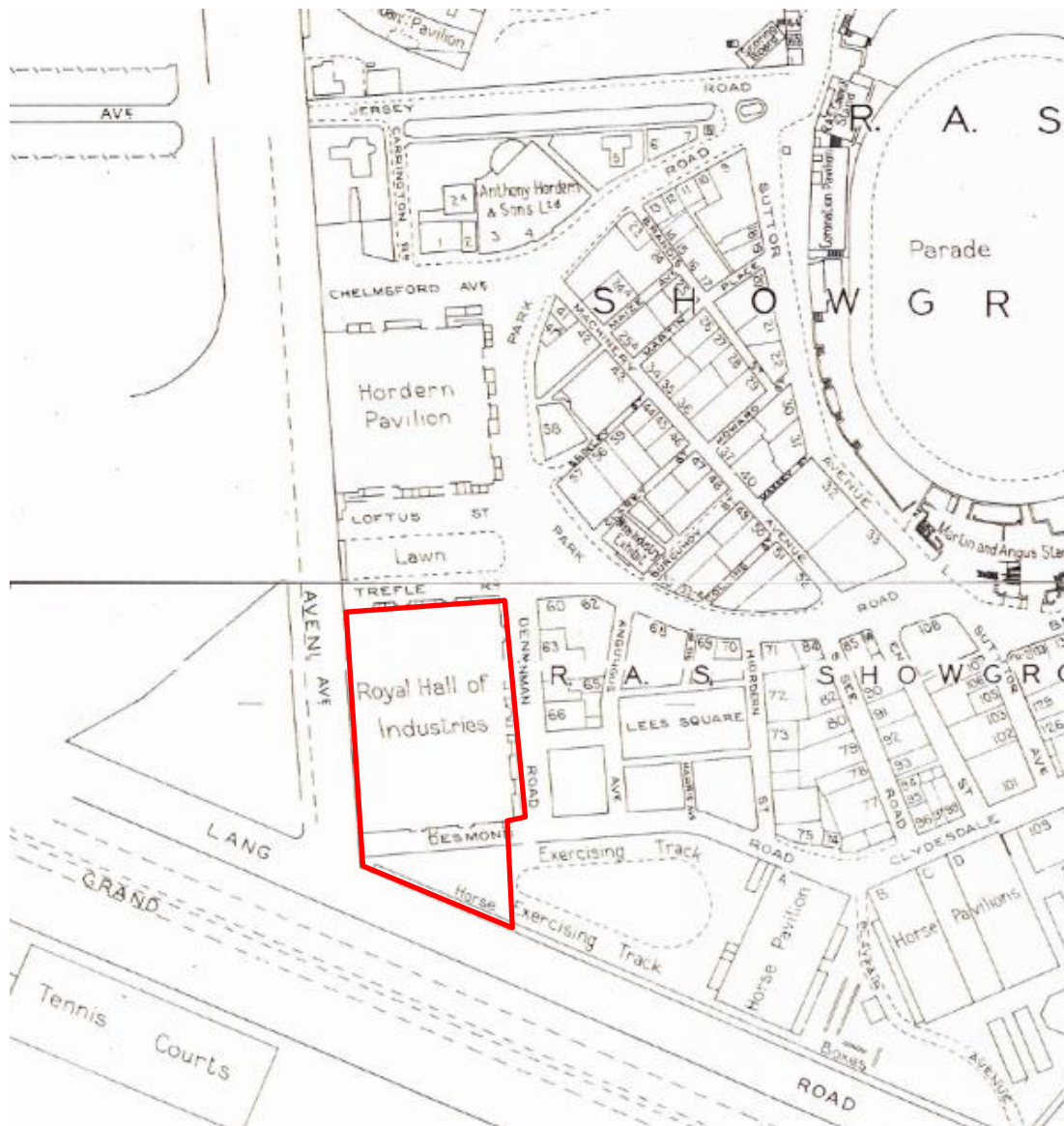


Figure 2.21 Part of two 1949-1972 City of Sydney civic surveys, showing building outlines of the study site in red.
 Note: Building Surveyor's Detail Sheets, 1949-1972, Map 21 overlaid with Map 16. Historical Atlas of Sydney, accessed 26th February 2019, <http://atlas.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/>



Figure 2.22 1949 aerial photograph of the study site (outlined in red).
Historical Atlas of Sydney, Map 58.
<http://atlas.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/maps/city-of-sydney-aerial-photographic-survey-1949/city-of-sydney-aerial-photographic-survey1949-image-87>



Figure 2.23 Current aerial photograph showing the study site outlined in red.
Note: Denman Street is now Errol Flynn Boulevard.
NSW Land and Property Information, Six Maps Viewer, accessed 25th February 2019.

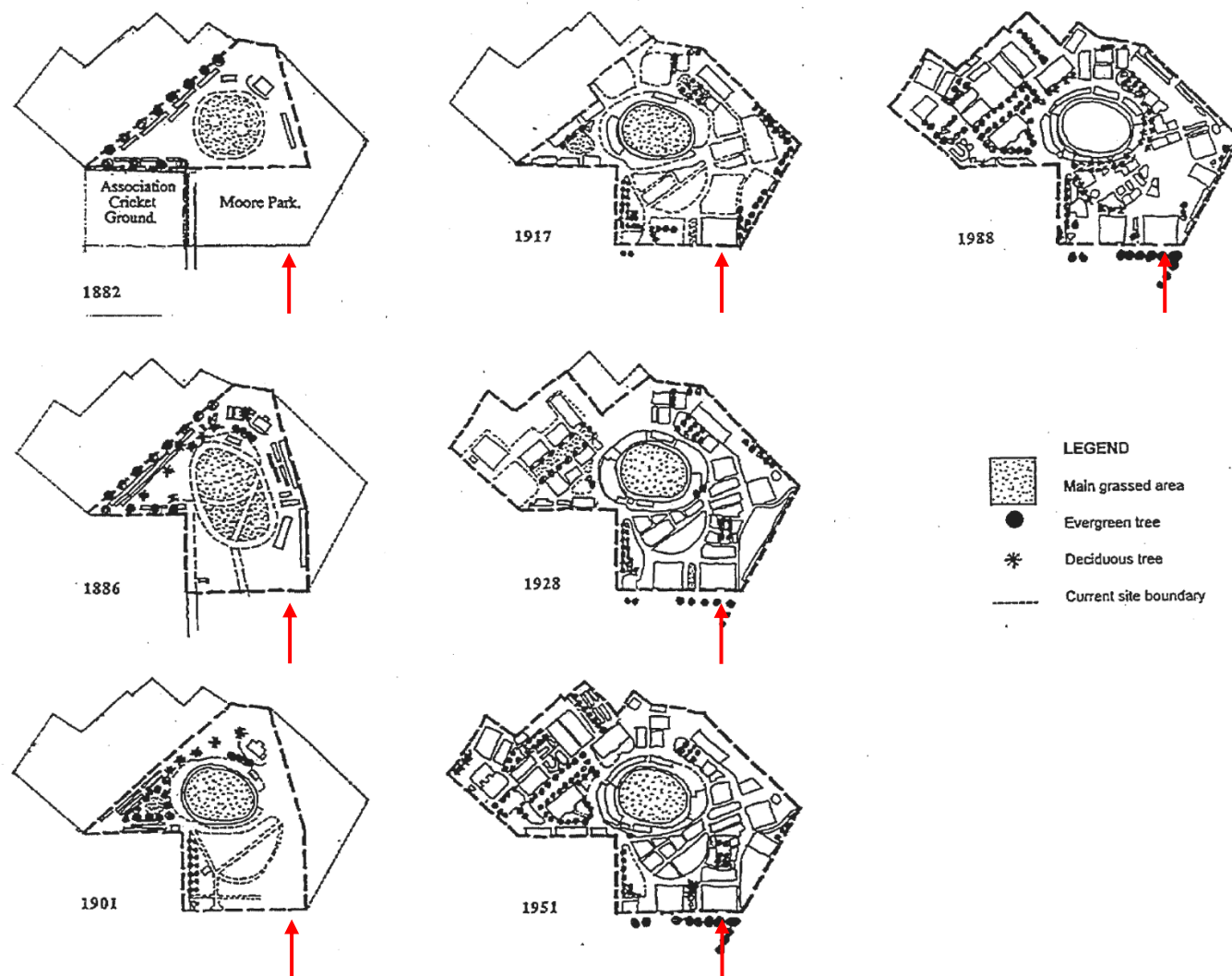


Figure 2.24 Development of the Showground site since occupation the Agricultural Society NSW from 1882-1888.

Note: The study site is indicated by the red arrow. Reproduced from the Conservation Plan of Sydney Showground, Conybeare Morrison and Partners (1988).

3.0 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 SITE INSPECTION

The study site is bounded by Driver Avenue to the west, Lang Road to the south, Errol Flynn Boulevard to the east and a paved/ asphalt area to the north. The Hordern Pavilion is situated directly north of the study site. Much of the site is occupied by the c.1913 Royal Hall of Industries, a large rectangular building fronting Driver Avenue. There is an asphalt walkway along the east side of the building and a garden bed containing trees that separate the walkway from Errol Flynn Boulevard (Figure 3.1).

The surface of the southern triangular courtyard of the site is laid with concrete and asphalt and a building (storage shed) is situated in the southeast corner. The east, west and south boundaries of the southern courtyard are boarded by a brick wall. Storage containers are visible, and the function appears to be for load and plant space (Figure 3.2-Figure 3.4).

There are two entrances to the site, one along Driver Avenue marked by five metal gates and the other via an intersection connecting Lang Road and Errol Flynn Boulevard with a gate at the entrance. There is a driveway off Errol Flynn Boulevard that allows car and pedestrian access to the walkway on the east side of the Royal Hall of Industries building (Figure 3.5-Figure 3.7).

The Royal Hall of Industries building contains arched and rectangular shaped windows on all four sides. Fronting Driver Avenue there are staircases either side of the two arched raised entrances to the building. The “Royal Hall of Industries” is written on top of the arch way of the doorways. The east side of the building fronting Errol Flynn Boulevard has six doorways, four of them being large enough for a vehicle to enter. The north and south sides of the building contain two large arched doorways (Figure 3.8-Figure 3.10).



Figure 3.1 **Aerial Photograph of the study site.**
Google Earth, accessed 28th February 2019.



Figure 3.2 Aerial Photograph of the southern portion of the study site.
Note: Storage units and building in the southeast corner.
Google Earth, accessed 28th February 2019.

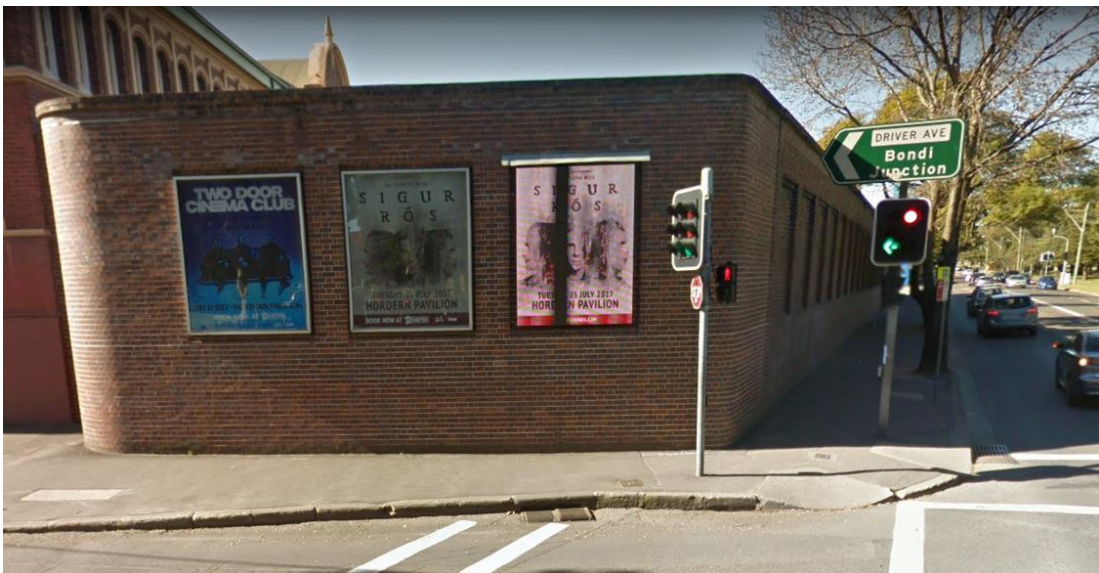


Figure 3.3 Brick wall on the corner of Driver Avenue and Lang Road, facing east.
Google Earth, accessed 28th February 2019.



Figure 3.4 Brick wall on the corner of Driver Avenue and Lang Road, facing north
Google Earth, accessed 28th February 2019.



Figure 3.5 Gateway access on Driver Avenue, facing east.
Google Earth, accessed 28th February 2019.



Figure 3.6 Entrance to the site at the intersection of Lang Road and Errol Flynn Boulevard.
Google Earth, accessed 28th February 2019.

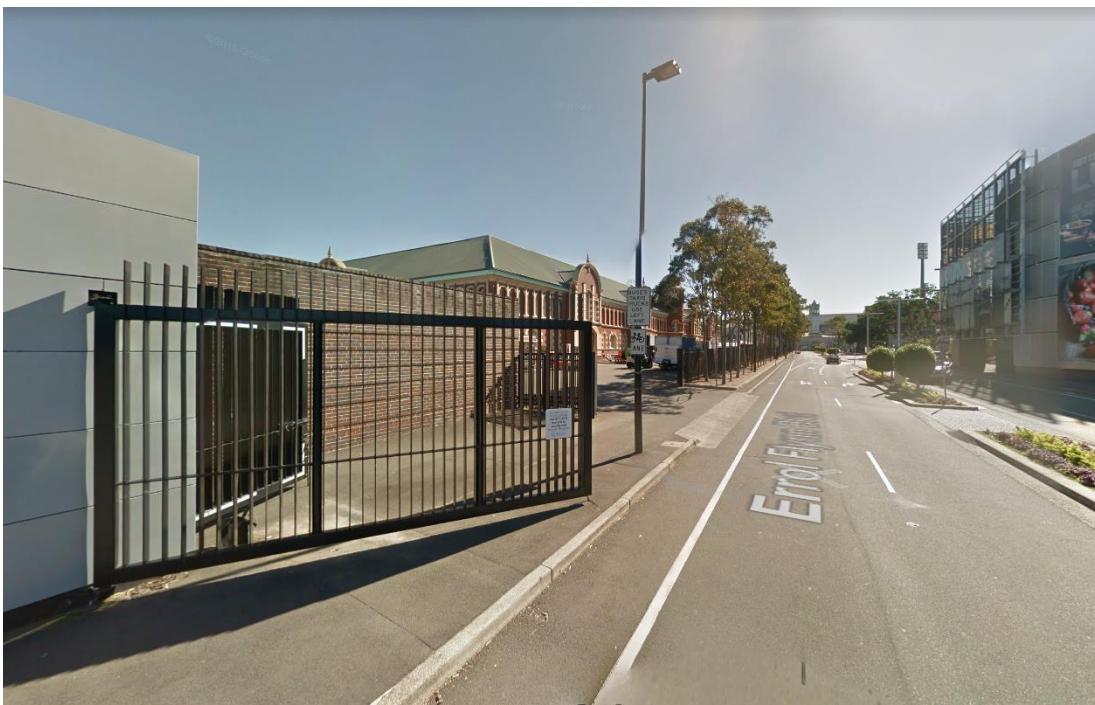


Figure 3.7 Gateway access to Errol Flynn Boulevard and driveway into the study site.
Google Earth, accessed 28th February 2019.



Figure 3.8 The north and west sides of the Royal Hall of Industries building, facing south-east.
Google Earth, accessed 28th February 2019.

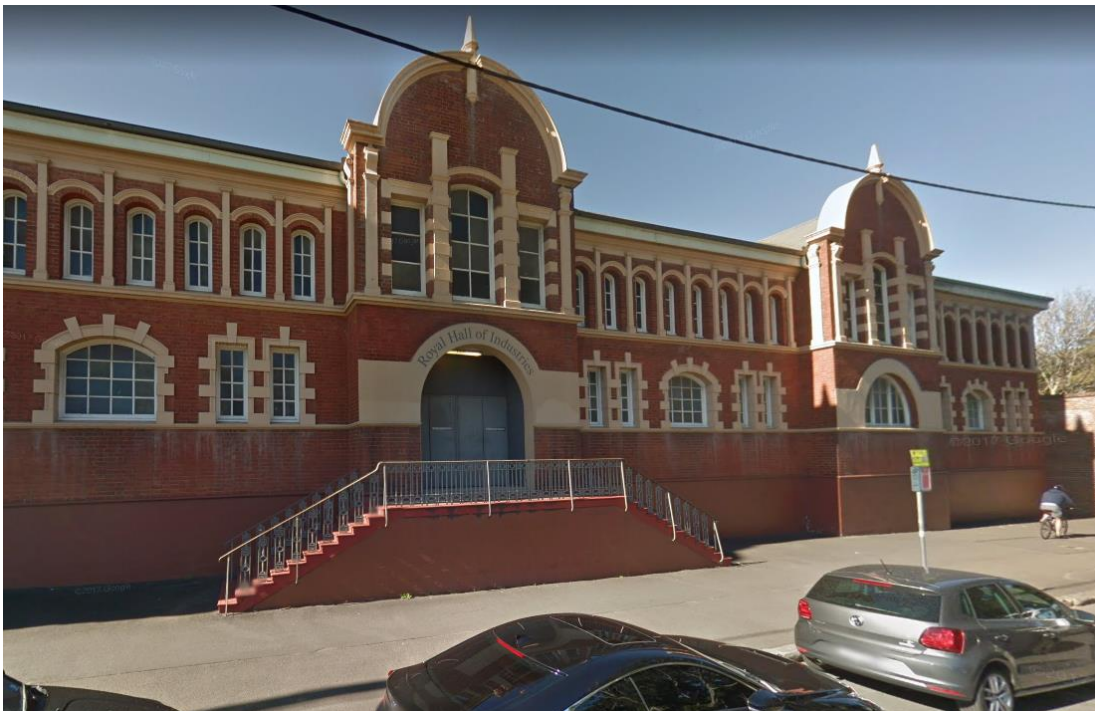


Figure 3.9 The Royal Hall of Industries building fronting Driver Avenue and staircase to one of the two arched doorways, facing east.
Google Earth, accessed 28th February 2019.



Figure 3.10 South and east sides of the Royal Hall of Industries building showing large doorways, facing northwest.
Google Earth, accessed 28th February 2019.

3.2 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

The geology of the study area consists of Quaternary marine sands of fine to medium grained quartz sand. There is an absence of shell fragments and the sand differs from sands found on foredunes and on beaches as it appears to be a finer grain.

The soils are found to be deep (>200 cm) Podzols around the dunes and Podzols/Humus Podzol intergrades around the swales. These are part of the Moore Park Sand Sheets where the deeper sand layers associated with the coffee rock (tg5), are dated to the late Pleistocene, between 30,000 to 40,000 BP (Attenbrow 2002:9-10). Grey-brown loamy sands are associated with the surrounding dunes. The swales generally consist of bleached greyish yellow to dull yellow orange loose sands and are closely associated at the capillary fringe of the water-table. Swales that are poorly drained have dark-brown to black earths of organic rich topsoil materials.

Dominant Soil Material	Soil Horizon	Description
tg1	A1 Horizon	Loose, speckled grey-brown loamy sand. Sand to loamy sandy with apedal structure and porous sandy fabric. Soil can range in colour from brownish-grey to brownish-black or black. Usually water repellent. Common is the presence of charcoal fragments and roots.
tg2	A2 Horizon	Bleached loose sand. Sand with apedal structure and porous sandy fabric. Soil can range in colour from greyish-yellow to dull yellow-orange. Stones and charcoal fragments are absent, and roots are rare.
tg3	A2/B Horizon	Grey-brown mottled sand. Mottled sand or loamy sand with apedal structure and loose sand fabric. This subsoil occurs at areas of poor drainage. Soil can range in colour from brownish-grey to greyish-brown with faint grey mottles occurring more common with depth. Stones and charcoal fragments are absent, and roots are rare.
tg4	B1 Horizon	Black soft sandy organic pan. Organic stained sand to loamy sand with apedal structure and sandy or earthy fabric. Soil can range in colour from black or brownish-black. Usually hard-setting on exposure. Charcoal, stones and roots are absent.
tg5	B Horizon	Brown soft sand iron pan. Iron stained sand to loamy sand with apedal structure and sandy or earthy fabric. This subsoil is generally known as coffee rock. Soil can range in colour from bright yellowish-brown to brown. Orange and dark brown mottles are common. Usually hard-setting on exposure. Stones and charcoal fragments are absent, and roots are rare.
tg6	B/C Horizon	Yellow massive sand. Sand to clayey sand with apedal structure and sandy or earthy fabric. Soil can range in colour from light yellow to dull yellow-orange. Charcoal fragments, stones and roots are absent.

3.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

3.3.1 Introduction

The key role in assessing the archaeological potential of a site is to determine the probability for archaeological remains on the study site as well as the likelihood of their survival.⁴² The discussion of archaeological potential synthesises the results of historic development of the site and evaluating impacts of existing structures to earlier archaeological remains.

3.3.2 Statement of Archaeological Potential

Prior to the construction of the Royal Hall of Industries building in c.1913, the study site was used as grazing land as part of the greater Sydney Common. No evidence for direct development has been found within the study site prior to the c.1913 development phase, however, unknown potential remains for evidence of agricultural activities associated with Sydney Common. The excavation required for construction of the Royal Hall of Industries building would have significantly impacted or truncated any undocumented archaeological features associated with the 19th century agricultural use of Sydney Common (see Table 3.1). The likely use of tongue in groove wooden floorboards inside of the building itself virtually limits potential for underfloor deposits relating to the building's 20th century commercial occupation.

Some archaeological potential exists in the very southern portion of the study site which was partly used as a horse exercise track from the mid-20th century onwards. Evidence of the track or associated activities would be ephemeral in nature, and excavation and installation of a modern concrete surface in this area would have likely disturbed evidence for the mid-20th century use of this area. It can be suggested that low potential exists for archaeological remains associated with recreational activities for the horse track, various festivals and shows throughout the 20th century.

Table 3.1 Table of expected archaeological features per site type and phase.

Development/ Occupation Phase	Site Type	Types of undocumented archaeological features
19 th century Sydney Common	Agricultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post holes for fences or animal enclosures - Evidence of cultivation (hoe marks) - Ag drains or culverts
20 th century Hall of Industries & associated recreational activities	Commercial/ Recreational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Earlier surfaces - Yard deposits/ rubbish pits - Postholes for fencing - Former services

⁴² Heritage Office, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (1996), p. 15.

3.4 CONCLUSIONS OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

- Majority of study site is occupied by the intact and well preserved 1913 Royal Hall of Industries building.
- Southern courtyard presently contains a concrete and asphalt surface and storage shed.
- The study site was used as grazing land and part of Sydney Common in the 19th century.
- The study site has one known development phase: 1913 Royal Hall of Industries.
- Southern courtyard formed a small part of a horse exercise track in the mid-20th century prior to modern resurfacing.
- Excavation works for the construction of the 1913 building and late 20th – 21st century southern courtyard would have significantly impacted and/or removed any undocumented archaeological features associated with the 19th century agricultural occupation. Unknown potential exists for 19th century agricultural material.
- Low archaeological potential exists for remains associated with the mid-20th century horse track and evidence of temporary shows or festivals in the southern courtyard space.

4.0 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

4.1 METHODOLOGY

The current standard for assessment of significance of heritage items in NSW is the publication ‘Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and ‘Relics’ produced by the Heritage Branch of the NSW Department of Planning (December 2009). This production is an update to the NSW Heritage Manual (1996), and the criteria detailed therein are a revised version of those of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, formulated in 1979, which was based largely on the Venice Charter (for International Heritage) of 1966.

Archaeological heritage significance can also be viewed in light of the framework set out by Bickford and Sullivan in 1984.⁴³ Bickford and Sullivan, taking into consideration the “archaeological, scientific or research significance” of a site posed three questions in order to identify significance:

1. Can the site contribute knowledge which no other resource can?
2. Can the site contribute knowledge which no other site can?
3. Is this knowledge relevant to general questions about human history or other substantive problems relating to Australian history, or does it contribute to other major research questions?⁴⁴

These questions have been broadly used to shape the response to the heritage significance criteria as described in Section 4.2 and 4.3.

The criteria and the definitions provided by ‘Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and ‘Relics’ have been adhered to in assessing the cultural significance of the potential archaeological site at the Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park. An assessment of significance, under each of the criteria, is made possible by an analysis of the broad body of archaeological sites previously excavated both locally and elsewhere, in conjunction with the historical overview of the study site in particular.

The Criteria used to assess Heritage Significance in NSW are the following:

Criteria for Assessing Heritage in NSW

Criterion	Description	Significance
Criterion A	An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's or the local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
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 or a local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
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	State significant or locally significant
Criterion D	An item has strong or special association	State significant or

⁴³ Bickford and Sullivan (1984)

⁴⁴ Bickford and Sullivan (1984), p.23-4

	with a particular community or cultural group in NSW or a local area for social, cultural or spiritual reasons	locally significant
Criterion E	An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's or a local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
Criterion F	An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's or a local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
Criterion G	An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's or a local area's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cultural or natural places; or - cultural or natural environments 	State significant or locally significant

The following assessment deals only with sub-surface archaeological features and deposits. The built environment is not considered in this study.

4.2 IDENTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

Archaeological Research Potential (NSW Heritage Criterion E)

The archaeological research potential for the site is limited, primarily due to the site remaining undeveloped and forming part of the wider Sydney Common prior to its one and only development phase in c.1913 for the construction of the Royal Hall of Industries. This building is still standing, remains well preserved and in continual use at the study site in addition to being well documented among the historical record for both the building/architectural features itself and the activities which occur there. In terms of the archaeological record and based on the hall's construction date, tongue in groove floorboards were likely used internally which significantly reduces the potential for any underfloor deposits demonstrating and providing information for direct occupation of the space. The construction of the building would have likely significantly impacted on any undocumented archaeological material associated with agricultural occupation and use of the wider Sydney Common during the 19th century.

Part of the southern portion of the site was used in association with a horse exercise track in the mid-late 20th century and has nil-low archaeological potential for undocumented features associated with this activity. At the same time, these activities are well documented in the historical record and any new evidence discovered to be associated with this occupation phase is unlikely to contribute any new, additional or rare information from what is already known.

The Royal Hall of Industries demonstrates many instances of temporary use of the space for various commercial, recreational and agricultural activities, predominantly in the form of shows or festivals. Though occupation of this site can be considered unique in demonstrating Sydney's colourful recreational activities and celebrations throughout the 20th and 21st centuries, the archaeological research potential of the site itself is low. Any undocumented archaeological features or material found to be associated with either 19th century occupation of Sydney Common or the 20th century Hall of Industries phase are considered to be of local significance according to Criterion E.

Associations with individuals, events or groups of historical importance (NSW Heritage Criteria A, B and D)

The c.1913 exhibition hall was part of Sydney's Royal Agricultural Society's showgrounds and played a vital role in the Royal Easter Show during the 20th century. The building also holds a rich and symbolic history for its colourful, temporary uses. It functioned as a morgue during the 1919 influenza epidemic, a dance hall and grand ball known as "Palais Royale" in the 1920s, roller skating and ice-skating rink, boxing venue in the 1930s and affectionately known for its role as the "Showbag Pavilion" at the Royal Easter Show.

Thus, due to its robust commercial and recreational use in Australian history for over a century, as well as forming part of the Sydney Common during the 19th century, the study site can be considered to hold local and State cultural significance and values to a variety of Sydney and New South Wales communities (Criterion A and D). This symbolic and associative significance connections include Mr J. B Sanders, the architect responsible for the design of the c.1913 building (Criterion B), the Sydney Royal Agricultural Society who managed the use of the exhibition hall and individuals who visited or utilised the precinct for recreational activities with family and friends.

It is extremely unlikely that the study site's associations with these individuals, events and groups will be represented in the archaeology or physical evidence of the site. Therefore, while the study site is considered significant potentially at both local and State levels (Criteria A, B and D), this significance is unlikely to be borne out in the archaeological record.

Aesthetic or technical significance (NSW Heritage Criterion C)

Though the Hall of Industries building may hold an element of aesthetic or technical significance directly associated with the physical structure, the archaeological record of the study site is not considered significant according to Criterion C.

Ability to demonstrate the past through archaeological remains (NSW Heritage Criteria A, C, F & G)

The majority of the study site contains the well-preserved Royal Hall of Industries building, which has solely occupied the site since c.1913 and used for both commercial and recreational purposes. Prior to this development phase, the study site formed undeveloped scrub land as part of Sydney Common for use as public grazing land as a means to retain agricultural land in close vicinity to a rapidly evolving Sydney community. Any undocumented archaeological remains associated to the previous wider agricultural occupation would likely been ephemeral and have been significantly impacted on during the 1912-13 excavation works for the construction of the Royal Hall of Industries. Undocumented remains from the site's 19th century role may include post holes for fencing or animal enclosures, evidence of cultivation and ag drains or culverts. Any intact remains of this type would be considered of potential local significance in further demonstrating use of Sydney Common in association with the residential and commercial development of Sydney (Criterion A and G).

The southern portion of the study site was not developed until the mid-late 20th century where it was partly used as a horse exercise track. Any archaeological remains associated with the track would be ephemeral, such as earlier surfaces, and it is unlikely that any rare or new interpretable data would come from this evidence. The original internal flooring of the c.1913 hall was likely tongue in groove floorboards which significantly limits the potential for underfloor deposits relating to the 20th century commercial use of the building. Should intact underfloor deposits survive, these would potentially provide a snapshot into some of the temporary occupants and activities at the hall (Criterion G).

Should any undocumented, intact and legible archaeological remains survive on site and associated with the 19th century agricultural occupation of Sydney Common or evidence of early 20th century commercial/ recreational use of the building these remains would be considered of potential local significance according to these criteria (Criteria A and G).

4.3 STATEMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The study site remained undeveloped throughout the 19th century as part of the Sydney Common. The Royal Hall of Industries building was constructed in 1912-1913 by architect J. B Sanders and forms the only development on the study site. The southern portion of the site was partly used as a horse exercise track in the mid to late 20th century before becoming a concreted courtyard for the c.1913 building. The building remains well preserved and still in use, therefore, archaeological evidence predating the hall occupation phase is quite limited and may include undocumented 19th – 20th century agricultural and commercial activity including postholes for fencing or animal enclosures, ephemeral evidence of cultivation, ag drains or culverts. Should evidence of these activities survive, it will reiterate the function of the wider 19th century Sydney Common and considered of local significance.

The 1913 exhibition hall was part of Sydney's Royal Agricultural Society's showgrounds and was used for a diverse range of purposes including a morgue in 1919, dance hall, grand ball, roller skating and ice-skating rink, boxing venue and the Royal Easter Show's "Showbag Pavilion". The exhibition hall's unique and consistently changing function for over a century demonstrates continual utilisation of the study site for Sydney's commercial and recreational needs. Any archaeological material which can demonstrate evidence of this recreational use by the wider Sydney community can be considered of potential local significance according to the above criterion.

5.0 STATEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT

Heritage impact statements are intended to convey the impact to the archaeological or heritage resource of a site proposed by a particular development. As with a Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI), this section synthesises the significance of the resource, what impact the proposed works will have on that significance, what measures could mitigate negative impacts and why more sympathetic solutions are not viable.⁴⁵ Unlike a SoHI, this section focuses only on the archaeological significance of the study site.

5.1 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The Sydney Swans Limited are proposing adaptive reuse of the Royal Hall of Industries building and southern courtyard to be transformed into a Sydney Swans headquarters and community centre.

Based on proposed development plans, the following proposed works have been divided into the following areas; Royal Hall of Industries building (including eastern walkway) and the southern courtyard.

Royal Hall of Industries building

- Existing basement toilet block in the southwest corner will be repurposed including subsurface excavation for a new lift shaft.
- All existing solid timber doors of the building to be replaced with glazed shop door entries with no modification to the brickwork.
- All existing window glazing replaced with transparent safety glass.
- Potential new entryways on the north and east side of the building, as well as a potential opening in the façade for access to the proposed southern terrace.
- Construction of new internal walls and rooms on the ground floor or the building. Room types include a large multipurpose indoor facility, entry foyer, team rooms, offices, medical and rehab room, retail, café, gym and player lockers with wet areas.
- Excavation for four lifts on the ground floor to first floor.
- Isolated instances of floor replacement in wet spaces or bathrooms on the ground floor level.
- Demolition of existing internal ancillary facilities at the east entry of the ground floor of the building.
- Minor excavation of the existing asphalt surface of the eastern walkway and replacing it with paving.
- Landscaping works in the area of the eastern walkway including; planting, wayfinding signage and low-level street furniture.
- Construction of Level 01 floor in a mezzanine style on the south and east sides of the building leaving open viewing spaces of the ground floor of the building. As well as a Mezzanine level on the west side for a storage plant.

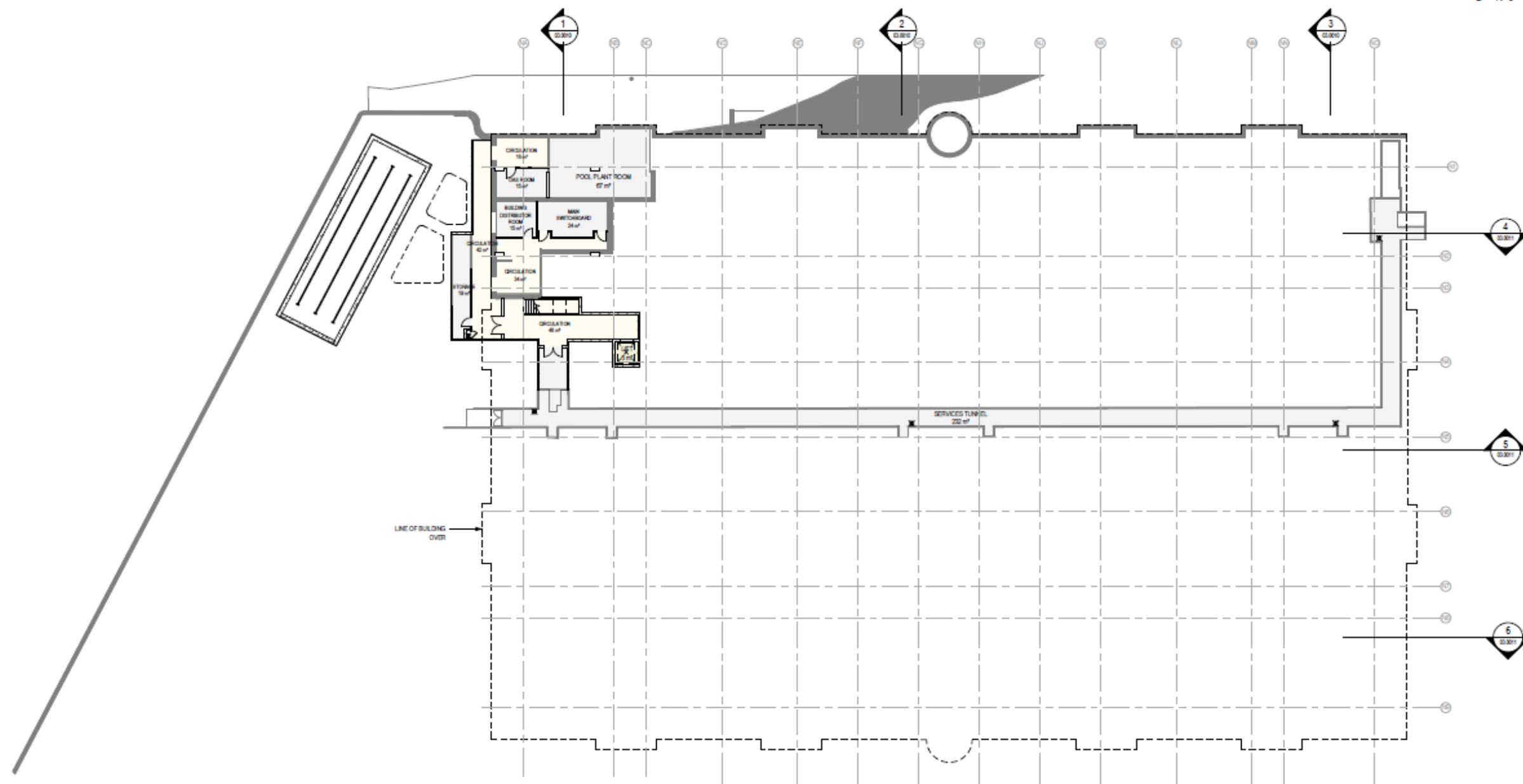
⁴⁵ Heritage Office and Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (1996) NSW Heritage Manual: Statements of Heritage Impact.

- Construction of stairs from the ground floor to the first level.
- Construction of new internal walls and rooms on the first level including an auditorium, offices, a kitchen, meeting rooms, retail stores and amenities.
- Roof modification work including adjustments to existing plant equipment and addition of skylights into the existing roof fabric.

The Southern Courtyard

- Construction of a new building adjoined to the south wall of the Royal Hall of Industries building.
- Removal of the east brick wall and storage sheds.
- Removal of concrete surface
- Construction of surface for a netball court.
- Minor excavation for the installation of services.
- Excavation for the installation of a 20m lap pool, cold plunge pool and hot spa at basement level and ground floor.
- Existing brick wall surrounding the courtyard retained for a lot realignment.
- Excavation for a lift shaft.
- Construction of rooms on the ground floor including; a lobby, wet recovery area, change rooms, storage rooms, rehab area, medical and physio rooms and an indoor netball court.
- Construction of level 01 and new rooms.
- Construction of a new roof terrace on level 01 in the southwest corner.
- Construction of two new roofs covering the rooms and indoor netball court.

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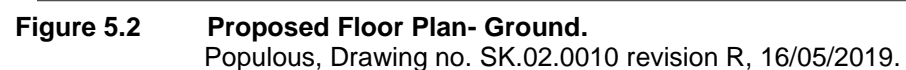
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Sydney Swans HQ & Community Centre

FLOOR PLAN
BASEMENT LEVELSK.02.0B10
DATE: 03.05.2019
DRAWN: POPREV: C
SCALE: 1:200 - 100% @ A1
PROJECT: 15.7401.00**SSDA APPLICATION**

FOR INFORMATION ONLY - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Figure 5.1 Proposed Floor Plan- Basement.
Populous, Drawing no. SK.02.0B10 revision C, 03/05/2019.



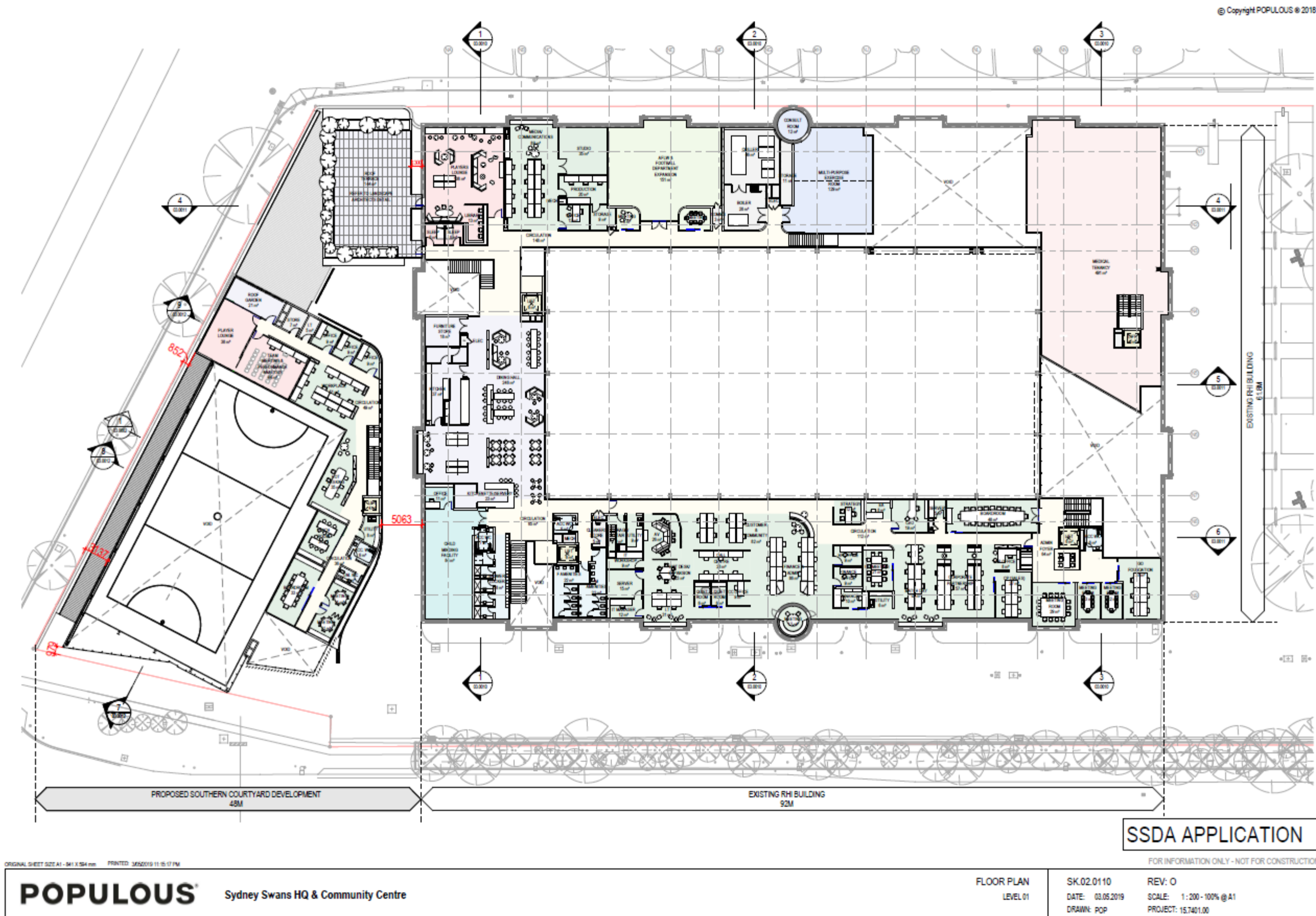


Figure 5.3 Proposed first floor plan.
Populous, Drawing no. SK.02.0110 revision O, 03/05/2019.

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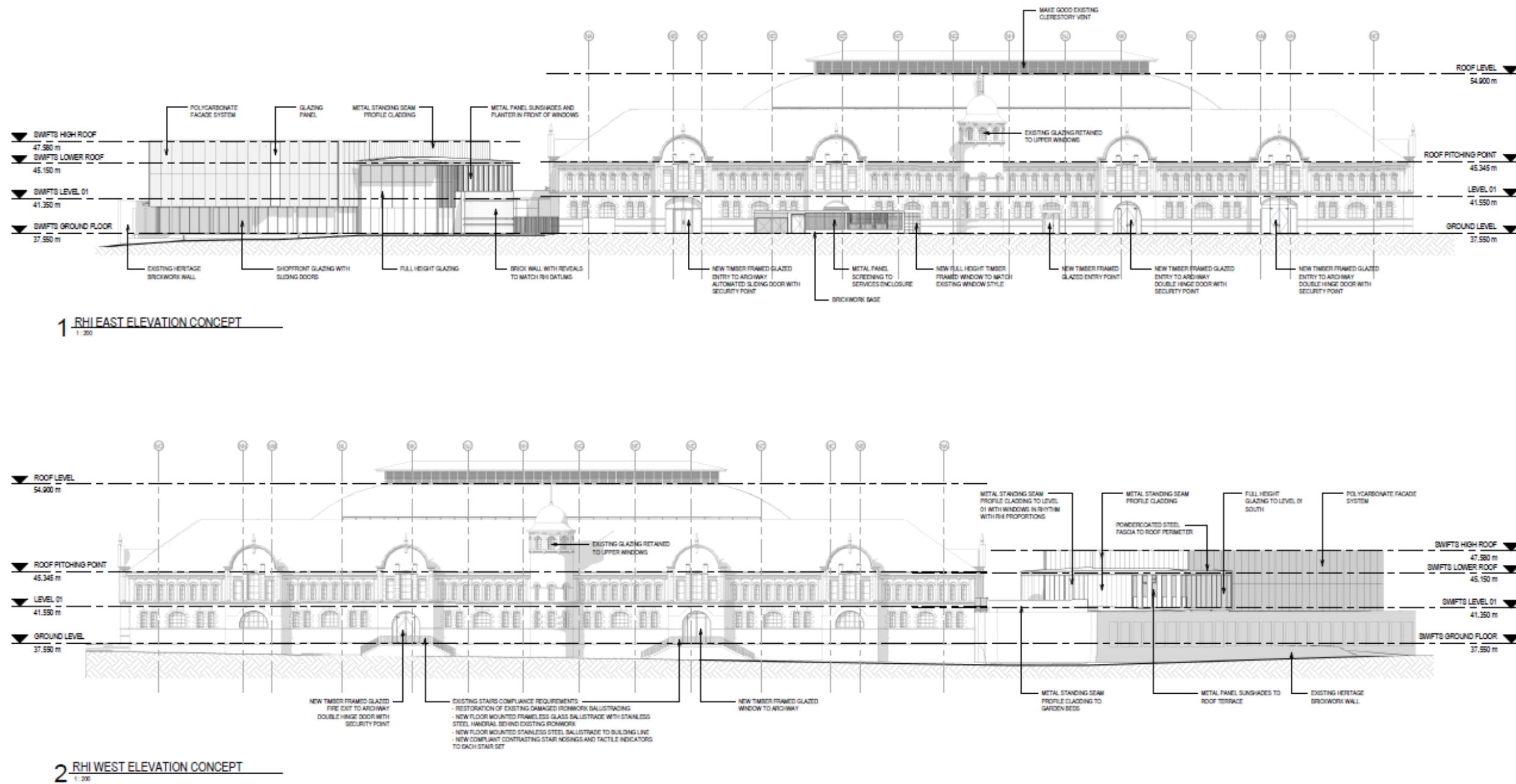
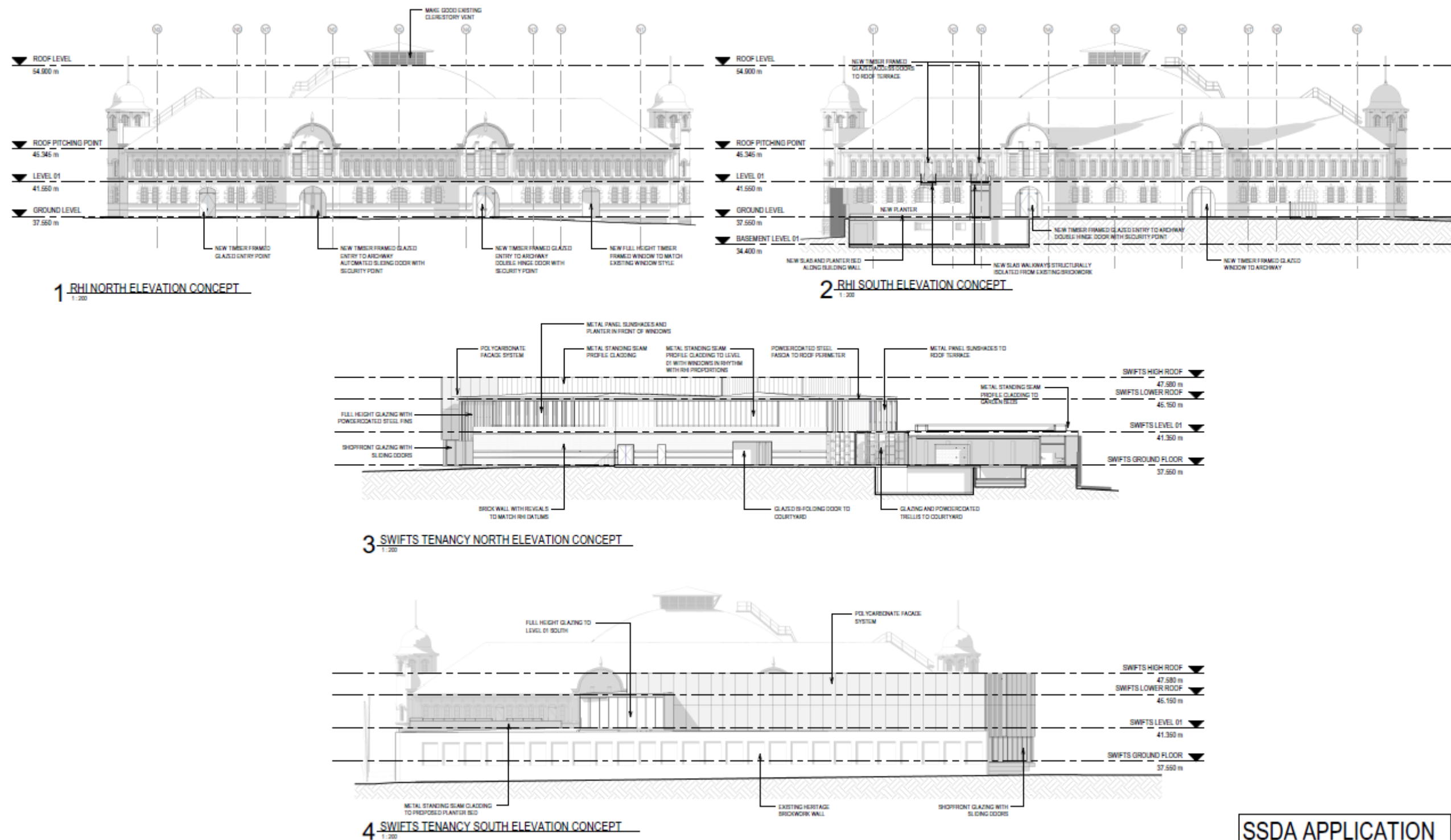


Figure 5.4 Proposed East and West Elevations.
 Populous, Drawing no. SK.03.0013 revision B, 16/05/2019.

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Sydney Swans HQ & Community Centre

RHI & SWIFTS BUILDING ELEVATIONS
NORTH - SOUTH

SK.03.0014

DATE: 03.05.2019

DRAWN: POP

REV: A

SCALE: 1:200 - 100% @ A1

PROJECT: 15.7401.00

Figure 5.5 North and South Elevations.
Populous, Drawing no. SK.03.0014 revision A, 03/05/2019.

5.2 STATEMENT OF HERITAGE IMPACT

Based on the above listed alterations and improvements, the proposed development requires only minor excavation in the basement and ground floor of the Hall of Industries building for new lift shafts and in the southern courtyard for the purposes of resurfacing the site, installing new services and a lift shaft. Deep excavation will be required for installation of pool facilities in the southwest corner. While no relics have been identified within the study site area, there is unknown potential for undocumented archaeological remains for both the 19th century Sydney Common phase and the 20th century Hall of Industries phase. For this reason, it is recommended that an Archaeological Work Method Statement containing an unexpected finds protocol be in place for the duration of works (see Section 6.0). The work method statement will provide contractors with guidelines to follow for any undocumented material found on site, should it exist.

Isolated portions of the current floor of the Hall of Industries building will be lifted and replaced. This will primarily occur in the location of wet spaces. The construction date of the building deems it unlikely that underfloor deposits would have accumulated. However, it is recommended that an archaeologist be on site to inspect the floor cavity of the building for underfloor deposits when the floors are lifted (see Section 6.0).

5.3 CONCLUSIONS OF SOHI

- The Sydney Swans Limited are proposing the adaptive reuse of the Royal Hall of Industries building and southern courtyard into a Sydney Swans headquarters and community centre.
- Some of the modifications include isolated removal and replacement of some flooring in the Royal Hall of Industries building, excavation for a lift shafts in the basement and ground floor; as well as minor excavation for the installation of services.
- No known relics have been identified within the study site.
- Based on proposed development works, it is recommended that works abide by an archaeological work method statement (Section 6.0) for the management of the discovery of unexpected finds and inspection of the floor cavity of the Hall of Industries building.

6.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK METHOD STATEMENT

6.1 INTRODUCTION

The proposed development for the site requires excavation in the southern courtyard for the installation of pool facilities as well as excavation for a lift shaft. The archaeological potential for the site is low and is not known to contain any relics that will be exposed by this work. Thus, the site-specific methodology provided below contains an unexpected finds protocol for the management of undocumented archaeological material should it be uncovered during works on the site. If relics are exposed during excavation works, they will be limited to the removal and recording of locally significant archaeological material as assessed by this document (Section 3.3 and Section 4.0). Any excavation will follow the general excavation methodology outlined below.

No archaeological material of State significance is expected to be encountered during the proposed development works. If found, the evaluation of State significant material or relics outside of the initial study would be the subject of consultation with the Heritage Division, Heritage Council or its relevant Delegate, and additional analysis, evaluation or endorsement as required by the finds.

Any archaeological excavation will be carried out according to, the current best practice,⁴⁶ and the terms of the methodology set out below.

6.2 SITE SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY

6.2.1 Initial Briefing

At the outset of excavation works for the proposed development a suitably qualified archaeologist should be present to inspect the site and brief the excavation personnel regarding its potential archaeology and the excavation procedures set out in this methodology. This brief will provide contractors with the historical context of the site, the anticipated soil profile, the types of unexpected or undocumented finds that may be encountered during excavation work and the stop works procedures to follow if any unexpected archaeological material is found.

If archaeological relics are exposed outside of those assessed within this report, the archaeologist will notify and consult the Heritage Division or relative delegate. Notification and consultation involving the Heritage Division is detailed below in the 'Discovery of Unexpected Finds' section.

6.2.2 Royal Hall of Industries – Underfloor inspection

An archaeologist will need to be present onsite to inspect the underfloor cavity of the ground floor of the Royal Hall of Industries to identify the presence of any underfloor deposits. The inspection will occur when isolated portions of flooring is being lifted to avoid impacting on any deposits should they exist.

If no underfloor deposits are identified, works can continue immediately following the inspection. Should intact underfloor deposits be identified and be disturbed by the

⁴⁶ NSW Department of Planning and Heritage Council of NSW (2006) *Historical Archaeology Code of Practice*

development works, these will need to be archaeologically excavated and removed prior to any works occurring within the floor cavity. Excavation of the deposit will follow the general excavation methodology outlined in Section 6.3 below.

6.2.3 Unexpected Finds Protocol

Should any archaeological material be found during excavation works, all works will cease in the immediate location of the potential relic. The head contractor will contact AMAC Group and an archaeologist will be sent out to inspect the find.

The proceedings of the investigation are dependent on the nature, extent and condition of the finds, the investigation is conducted in order to allow the archaeologist to determine an appropriate management procedure. Management of undocumented/ unexpected relics on site have several possible outcomes. A range of possible procedures for unexpected material is outlined below:

The archaeologist identifies archaeological material not deemed a relic i.e. - not of local or state significance:

- This material can be removed and, if deemed necessary by the archaeologist, recorded. Excavation for the proposed development may re-start at the discretion of the archaeologist and subject to conditions of the permit.

The archaeologist identified locally significant material predicted and assessed by the archaeological assessment (see Section 3.3 and Section 4.0):

- This material can be excavated and recorded by the archaeologist. Excavation can occur by hand, or where possible by machine, following the general excavation methodology (Section 6.3) and to the extent that they will be destroyed by the proposed development. Excavation for the proposed development may re-start at the discretion of the archaeologist and subject to conditions of the permit.

The archaeologist discovers relics not predicted or assessed by the archaeological assessment, human remains, potentially State significant relics, or relics outside the conditions of the SSD:

- The archaeologist must investigate – by physical exposure of the potential relic and/or desktop research – in order to ascertain the nature, extent, condition and significance of the relic (local or state). The Heritage Division, Heritage Council or relevant Delegate will be notified of these findings and their advice will be sought as to how to proceed, further assessment or documentation may be required at this point in order to obtain approval. Re-start of excavation for the proposed development occurs at the discretion of the Heritage Division, Heritage Council or its relevant Delegate.

Should any undocumented archaeological material be uncovered, but not removed, in the process of excavation, these will be recorded per the excavation methodology below (Section 6.3). They should be covered with a semi-permeable membrane, such as bidum, before construction. Should the proposed development require any plantings in the areas of retained archaeological remains, these should be restricted to small plants and not include trees, as significant root growth may disturb the retained remains.

Should undocumented relics be exposed, and an area be deemed to be archaeologically sensitive, it may be necessary to archaeologically monitor and further excavate in this area; this would be at the discretion of the excavation director.

6.3 GENERAL EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

6.3.1 Excavation

Should any significant archaeological relics (see Section 4.0) be found during the excavation of the site, excavation will cease while these are investigated. If the relics are found to be of State significance, or otherwise outside the range of relics predicted in the assessment of the site, excavation will cease while the Heritage Division, Heritage Council or its relevant Delegate is notified. Additional archaeological assessment or evaluation and approval may be required to deal with any such find.

All other relics found will be recorded and excavated by hand (or where possible machine) to the extent which they will be destroyed by the proposed development. All works will be carried out in compliance with the SSD conditions issued for such works.

Samples will be taken of any earlier topsoils, of soils within features such as pits or a well, and of occupation deposits especially those from the nineteenth century occupation of the site. Should intact soil profiles of this period be found, these will be recorded and sampled appropriately with the possibility of further scientific analysis. Samples will also be taken of any building materials, such as bricks and mortar found.

Any occupation deposits and fills of features such as pits will be sieved, and all artefacts will be retained, with the exception of building materials, which will be sampled. Any underfloor deposits will be manually hand excavated using small tools such as a trowel. Dependant on the size and depth of the deposit, the area will be broken up and excavated in 1m x 1m squares, in 10cm spits, until the extent of the deposit is reached, or to the extent of impact. Any occupation deposit will be hand excavated and placed into buckets (divided by square numbers) and weighed prior to sieving. The deposit will be sieved through double nested sieves (10mm on top of 5mm) and all artefacts collected. A sample square will be sieved for any yard deposit which covers a large area.

Should any archaeological relics be uncovered, but not removed, in the process of excavation, these will be recorded. They should be covered with a semi-permeable membrane, such as *bidum*, before construction. Should the proposed development require any plantings in the areas of retained archaeological remains, these should be restricted to small plants and not include trees, as significant root growth may disturb the retained remains. This is considered unlikely for this site.

6.3.2 Archaeological Recording

Any archaeological relics found and excavated will be recorded in three ways. A written description of each feature and context will be made using printed context sheets. A Harris Matrix will be formulated in order to record the relationship of all contexts found. A scaled plan will be made of the site and of each feature found, and levels will be taken as part of this process. The site and features will also be

recorded photographically, according to current Heritage Division guidelines. Recording of the site will be carried out according to Heritage Division guidelines.⁴⁷

Any artefacts from the excavation will be cleaned, catalogued, and placed in labelled bags according to their catalogue number. The artefacts, in boxes, will be returned to the property owner for safe-keeping.

6.3.3 Archaeological Reporting

The scope and extent of reporting is linked directly to the nature, extent and complexity of site finds and a ratio of 1:1 for site time should be expected as a starting point to complete reporting in terms of Heritage Division Guidelines, the methodology proposed and permit conditions. The time frame will move up or down relative to the extent and complexity of material.

A final report on the archaeological work at the site will be prepared in compliance with the Heritage Division guidelines. This will include an analysis of the results of the work and a comparison with the results of similar sites in the local area, where possible. Additional research may also be conducted in response to the finds of excavation. The final report will be submitted to the NSW Heritage Division, Department of Planning or its relevant Delegate, who reserves the right to respond to the report.

⁴⁷ NSW Heritage Office (1998) and (2001, revised 2006).

7.0 RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 RESULTS

7.1.1 Documentary Research

The study site was dedicated as part of Sydney Common in 1811 by Governor Macquarie. The Common was used for grazing animals and some areas were later set aside for various purposes. In 1866 Moore Park was vested to the Sydney City Council as trustee and was used as a recreation ground. In 1881 the Agricultural Society was leased 10 hectares for the use as a showground which later expanded. The showground sites main use was to host the annual Royal Easter Show. The Royal Hall of Industries building was opened in 1913 on the study site and was used as an exhibition hall for the Royal Easter Show. Outside of this annual event the building was used for a morgue on the onset of the influenza epidemic in 1919, and moving into the 1920s a dance hall, roller skating and ice-skating rink and by the 1930s a boxing venue.

The south portion of the site remained vacant up until its use as a horse exercising track in the late 20th century before being resurfaced with concrete and used as a courtyard to the Royal Hall of Industries building. The monumental building continued to be used as an exhibition hall in the Royal Easter Show before the show moved to Homebush in the 1990s. In more recent times the Royal Hall of Industries building is used for a variety of events and festivals.

7.1.2 Physical Evidence

The current study site is bounded by Driver Avenue to the west, Errol Flynn Boulevard to the east, Lang Road to the south and the Hordern Pavilion to the north. The study area contains the original 1913 Royal Hall of Industries building and southern courtyard.

The proposed development will modify and renovate the existing Royal Hall of Industries building for adaptive reuse by the Sydney Swans and Sydney Swifts sporting teams. There is unknown archaeological potential for undocumented remains associated with the site's 19th century use of Sydney Common. Low archaeological potential exists for intact archaeological remains demonstrating occupation and use of the site as the Royal Hall of Industries during the 20th century.

7.1.3 Significance

The study site remained undeveloped throughout the 19th century as part of the Sydney Common. The Royal Hall of Industries building was constructed in 1912-1913 by architect J. B Sanders and forms the only development on the study site. The southern portion of the site was partly used as a horse exercise track in the mid to late 20th century before becoming a concreted courtyard for the c.1913 building. The building remains are well preserved and still in use, therefore, archaeological evidence predating the hall occupation phase is quite limited and may include undocumented 19th – 20th century agricultural and commercial activity including postholes for fencing or animal enclosures, ephemeral evidence of cultivation, drains or culverts. Should evidence of these activities survive, it will reiterate the function of the wider 19th century Sydney Common and considered of local significance.

The 1913 exhibition hall was part of Sydney's Royal Agricultural Society's showgrounds and was used for a diverse range of purposes including a morgue in 1919, dance hall, grand ball, roller skating and ice-skating rink, boxing venue and the Royal Easter Show's "Showbag Pavilion". The exhibition hall's unique and consistently changing function for over a century demonstrates continual utilisation of the study site for Sydney's commercial and recreational needs. Any archaeological material which can demonstrate evidence of this recreational use by the wider Sydney community can be considered of potential local significance.

7.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that this document be submitted as the fulfilling component to the historical archaeological condition 3, point 2 in the SEARs request for SSD 9627.

The Archaeological Work Method Statement presented in Section 6.0 of this document will form the guiding methodology for any archaeological works required on site, as well as the overarching guidelines for on-site contractors to consult prior to, and during all excavation works as part of the development.

7.3 STATEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT

The proposed development requires only minor excavation in the basement and ground floor of the Royal Hall of Industries building for lift shafts, and deeper excavation in the southern courtyard for the purposes of resurfacing the site, pool installation, new services and a lift shaft. While no relics have been identified within the study site area, there is unknown potential for undocumented archaeological remains for both the 19th century Sydney Common phase and the 20th century Hall of Industries phase. For this reason, it is recommended that an Archaeological Work Method Statement containing an unexpected finds protocol be in place for the duration of works (see Section 6.0). The work method statement will provide contractors with guidelines to follow for any undocumented material found on site, should it exist.

Though the construction date of the building deems it unlikely that underfloor deposits would have accumulated, it is recommended that an archaeologist be on site to inspect the floor cavity of the building for underfloor deposits when portions of the floor is lifted (see Section 6.0).

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