

30 April 2024

The Planning Secretary
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
320 Pitt Street
Sydney, NSW 2000

Attention: Joel Fleming (or whom it may concern)
Project: Nihon University Newcastle Campus - SSD 9787
Re: Condition F4 Heritage Interpretation Plan

Dear Joel,

Reference is made to SSD-9787 Condition F4 in relation to the Heritage Interpretation Plan for the development. Occupation commenced on 1st February 2024. As such Condition F4 required the following prior to 1st May 2024:

- F4. Within three months of the commencement of use, the Applicant must submit an updated Heritage Interpretation Plan to acknowledge the heritage of the site to the Planning Secretary. The plan must:*
- (a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced expert in consultation with the NSW Heritage Division and Council;*
 - (b) incorporate the Stage 2 heritage interpretation strategy*
 - (c) include provision for naming elements within the development that acknowledges the site's heritage;*
 - (d) include a strategy detailing how movable heritage items and any archaeological findings will be interpreted*
 - (e) incorporates interpretive information in to the site of the former legal and court functions of the former Newcastle Courthouse.*

A previous submission was provided on 1st April 2021, resulting in the Departments acceptance of compliance for part of this condition. Refer to Attachment A with extract as follows:

Consent condition F4 - Heritage Interpretation Plan is partially satisfied. The Plan satisfies (a), (c), (d) and (e).

Condition F4 (b) – relates to the incorporation of the Stage 2 heritage interpretation. This cannot be satisfied until the building has been occupied, after which an updated Heritage Interpretation Plan, or evidence of the implementation and media approved in condition C11 and F4, must be submitted to the Planning Secretary within three months of the commencement of use.

The Applicant has since incorporated the Stage 2 heritage interpretation strategy. As evidence, the Applicant engaged City Plan as the appropriately qualified person to review the implemented interpretive actions and media, providing certification of its compliance. Refer to Attachment B for their report. The report concludes that:

...the recommendations of the approved Heritage Interpretation Plan, 9 Church Street, Newcastle, dated 5 March 2021 and prepared by City Plan Heritage, have been implemented in a professional and excellent manner for the satisfaction of Condition of Consent F4 (b) of the above mentioned SSD 9787.

We now consider the entirety of Condition F4 to now be satisfied and compliant.

Should you require further clarification, please feel free to contact Mathew Watson of The APP Group.

Yours sincerely,

APP CORPORATION PTY LIMITED



MATHEW WATSON

Project Director

Attachment A – Department of Planning letter (dated 30 March 2021)



Our ref: DOC21/169415-3

Edward Clode
Design Director
dwp
19 Harris Street,
PYRMONT NSW 2009

By email: edward.c@dwp.com

Dear Mr Clode,

Compliance with Consent Conditions E11 and F4 Heritage Interpretation Plan for Nihon University Newcastle Campus – SSD 9787.

Thank you for your correspondence dated 8 March 2021 regarding consent conditions E11 and F4 for Heritage Interpretation Plan for the above State Significant Development.

The proposed SSD affects the State Heritage Register (SHR) item Newcastle Court House (SHR no. 00796) located at 9 Church Street, Newcastle, NSW 2300, with consent conditions *E11 and F4 Heritage Interpretation Plan* – requiring a Heritage Interpretation Plan an updated Heritage Interpretation Plan. See condition details below:

- E11. Prior to issue of an Occupation Certificate, the Applicant must submit a Heritage Interpretation Plan to acknowledge the heritage of the site to the Planning Secretary. The plan must:*
- (a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced expert in consultation with the NSW Heritage Division and Council;*
 - (b) outline the Stage 1 heritage interpretation strategy*
 - (c) include provision for naming elements within the development that acknowledges the site's heritage;*
 - (d) incorporates interpretive information into the site of the former legal and court functions of the former Newcastle Courthouse.*
- F4. Within three months of the commencement of use, the Applicant must submit an updated Heritage Interpretation Plan to acknowledge the heritage of the site to the Planning Secretary. The plan must:*
- (a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced expert in consultation with the NSW Heritage Division and Council;*
 - (b) incorporate the Stage 2 heritage interpretation strategy*
 - (c) include provision for naming elements within the development that acknowledges the site's heritage;*
 - (d) include a strategy detailing how movable heritage items and any archaeological findings will be interpreted*
 - (e) incorporates interpretive information into the site of the former legal and court functions of the former Newcastle Courthouse.*

The following document has been provided to satisfy the conditions of consent:

- 'Heritage Interpretation Plan, 9 Church Street, Newcastle' prepared by City Plan Heritage P/L, dated 5 March 2021

As delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW (the Heritage Council), I have considered the above document and found that it satisfies consent condition C11 (a), (b), (c) and (d) - *Heritage Interpretation Plan*, and partially satisfies consent condition F4 – *Heritage Interpretation Plan*. The following comments are provided for your information:

Consent condition F4 - *Heritage Interpretation Plan* is partially satisfied. The Plan satisfies (a), (c), (d) and (e).

Condition F4 (b) – relates to the incorporation of the Stage 2 heritage interpretation. This cannot be satisfied until the building has been occupied, after which an updated Heritage Interpretation Plan, or evidence of the implementation and media approved in condition C11 and F4, must be submitted to the Planning Secretary within three months of the commencement of use.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact James Quoyale, Senior Assessment Officer at Heritage NSW, on james.quoyale@environment.nsw.gov.au or 9873 8612.

Yours sincerely,



30/03/2021

Katrina Stankowski

STL, Regional Heritage Assessments North
Heritage NSW
Department of Premier and Cabinet

As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW

Attachment B – Statement of completion for the satisfaction of consent condition F4 (b) of SSD-9787 for implementation of Heritage Interpretation Plan (City Plan dated 24 April 2024)

24 April 2024

Our Ref: H-24033

The Planning Secretary
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
320 Pitt Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Attention: Megan Fu
Project: Nihon University Newcastle campus - SSD 9787
Re: Consent Condition F4(b)

Dear Megan,

**RE: STATEMENT OF COMPLETION FOR THE SATISFACTION OF CONSENT CONDITION F4 (B) OF
SSD 9787 FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF HERITAGE INTERPRETATION PLAN**

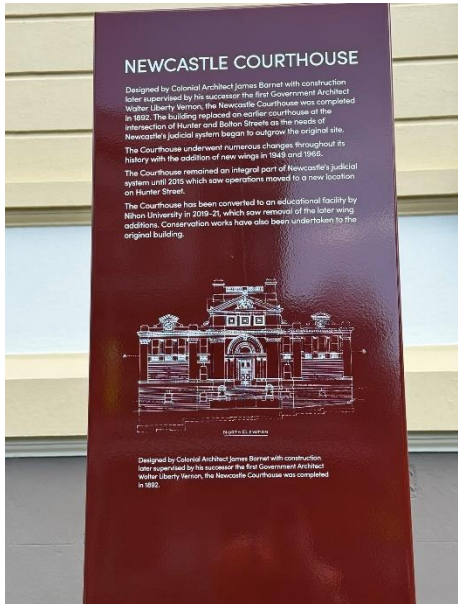
I am writing in relation to the completion of recommended interpretive actions and media detailed in the approved *Heritage Interpretation Plan, 9 Church Street, Newcastle*, dated 5 March 2021 and prepared by City Plan Heritage, in response to Conditions of Consent E11 and F04 of the above mentioned SSD 9787.

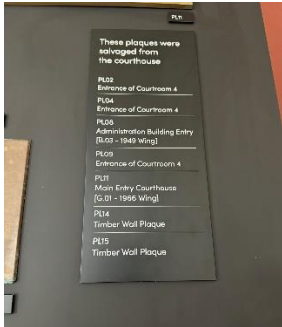
As the proposed SSD affected the State Heritage Register (SHR) item Newcastle Court House (SHR no. 00796) located at 9 Church Street, Newcastle, NSW 2300, confirmation of the Heritage Council of NSW in relation to the satisfaction of consent conditions E11 and F4 was sought and received approval from the delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW on 30 March 2021. The confirmation letter noted the following comments:

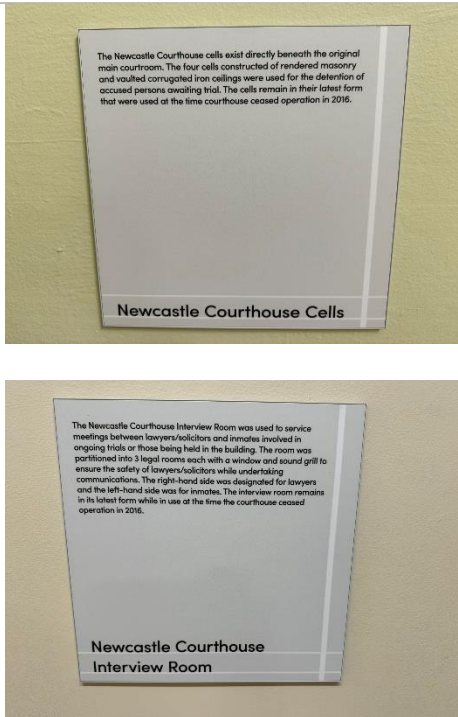
Consent condition F4 - Heritage Interpretation Plan is partially satisfied. The Plan satisfies (a), (c), (d) and (e).

Condition F4 (b) – relates to the incorporation of the Stage 2 heritage interpretation. This cannot be satisfied until the building has been occupied, after which an updated Heritage Interpretation Plan, or evidence of the implementation and media approved in condition C11 and F4, must be submitted to the Planning Secretary within three months of the commencement of use.

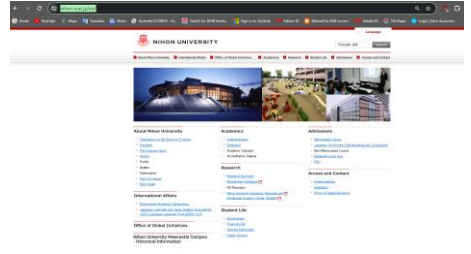
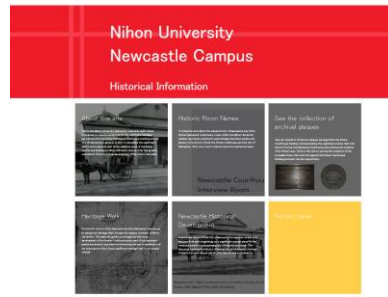
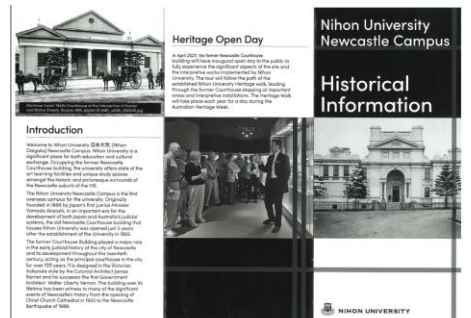
This statement includes the review of the implemented interpretive actions and media, and provides evidence through images and electronic links as applicable in line with the Heritage Interpretation Plan (CPH, March 2021). The following table details the implemented interpretive media and items with supporting images.

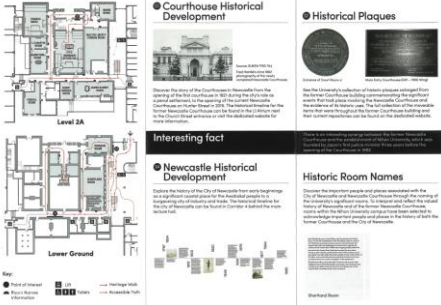
Section #	Interpretive Action	Location/Form		Image of implemented media/action
5.2 Interpretive Signage	Sign 01	External Marker	Freestanding	 

Section #	Interpretive Action	Location/Form	Image of implemented media/action
	Sign 02	Internal Plaque Display Items PL02, PL04, PL08, PL09, PL11, PL14 & PL15 have been displayed on the purpose designed & built display table - see below. 	
	Sign 03	L1 Atrium Timeline	
	Sign 04	Corridor 4 Timeline	

Section #	Interpretive Action	Location/Form	Image of implemented media/action
	ID01-ID09, ID11 - ID12	Room Name Identification *only one of the signs has been provided here. Refer to Attachment A .	
	ID10, ID13	Room Name Identification *only one of the signs has been provided here. Refer to Attachment A .	

Section #	Interpretive Action	Location/Form	Image of implemented media/action
5.3 Moveable Heritage Display	Table 3 - List of salvaged plaques	The salvaged plaques have been displayed within L2 foyer as detailed under Sign 02 above.	
	Table 4 - List of existing furniture to be used within the new establishment	14 furniture items that are included in Table 4 of the Interpretation Plan have been sighted and images included in Attachment B . Image of item EX.TB01 has been provided here.	
5.4 Naming Strategy	Selective rooms have been attributed a name as detailed in the table of section 5.4	While the text in this section refers to 12 rooms, it appears that an error in numbering occurred in the table, hence there are only 11 room names. All nominated room names have been sighted. Only one example (02 Walter Liberty Vernon Room) has been provided here. Refer to Attachment A for all room name signs.	

Section #	Interpretive Action	Location/Form	Image of implemented media/action
5.5 Website	A dedicated website has been developed	The website is embedded within the Nihon University main website visible and accessible on the bottom of the home page at https://www.nihon-u.ac.jp/en/ and the historical information link opens the cover page of the interpretation pages at https://www.nihon-u.ac.jp/en/newcastlecampus/	 
5.6 Brochure	In addition to the website a brochure has been developed for printing and dissemination to the students and visitors	A digital copy of the brochure has been provided, which is designed to be three-fold double sided brochure for printing in black & white for easy access by all. Screenshots of the pages included here with the full digital copy provided as Attachment C.	 

Section #	Interpretive Action	Location/Form	Image of implemented media/action
			
5.7 Open Day	The open day is proposed to commence from April 2025 on annual basis within the week of 18th April.	It is noted that the contact with the National Trust of Australia has been made via email sent by The APP Group on behalf of Nihon University on 12 April 2024. Response is pending. Given consideration that the Newcastle Campus has commenced operation on 1 February 2024, organisation of an Open Day within the Australian Heritage Week wasn't achievable. It is thought that it would be more appropriate to commence the annual Open Day from April 2025 when the operation and educational system of the Newcastle Campus is settled and ready to celebrate the layered history of the former Courthouse with the community. This will also enable establishment of potential partnership / collaboration between Nihon University and relevant stakeholders who may assist and help in getting the logistics and protocol ready, such as the National Trust	Refer to Attachment D for the copy of the email sent to National Trust of Australia.

Section #	Interpretive Action	Location/Form	Image of implemented media/action
		and/or the City of Newcastle's Heritage Officers.	

In conclusion, as evident from the images and documentation provided in **Attachments A, B, C and D** the recommendations of the approved *Heritage Interpretation Plan, 9 Church Street, Newcastle*, dated 5 March 2021 and prepared by City Plan Heritage, have been implemented in a professional and excellent manner for the satisfaction of Condition of Consent F4 (b) of the above mentioned SSD 9787. The recommended interpretive signs (external & internal), display panels, room names, reuse of restored moveable furniture and plaques, website and brochure as detailed in Section 5 of the Plan have been completed as part of Stage 2 heritage interpretation even before the buildings are occupied. The designs of Minale Tattersfield, which accompanied the approved *Heritage Interpretation Plan* have been manufactured accordingly with all details, dimensions, locations, positions/locations, and materials matching the approved documentation.

I commend the Nihon University for the completion of the recommendations of the *Heritage Interpretation Plan* in a timely and excellent manner achieving the aims of the *Heritage Interpretation Plan* detailed in Section 1.2 of the Plan.

I trust that this statement of completion and the Attachments are satisfactory for your confirmation of the satisfaction of Consent Condition F4 (b). Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 8270 3500 or at kerime@cityplan.com.au.

Yours Sincerely,



Kerime Danis
Director - Heritage

Enclosed:

- Attachment A - Images of Room Names signs
- Attachment B - Images of Moveable Furniture
- Attachment C - The Brochure
- Attachment D - Copy of the Email to National Trust of Australia



Statement of Completion - Heritage Interpretation Plan

Nihon University Newcastle Campus - SSD 9787

9 Church Street, Newcastle

Project # H-24033

April 2024

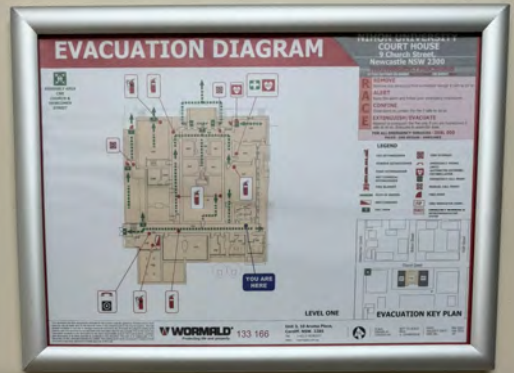
ATTACHMENT A

Images of Room Names signs

John Shortland was a naval officer and Lieutenant in the Royal Navy. On the 9th of September 1797, Shortland, while on route to Port Stephens pursuing runaway convicts who had seized 'the largest and best boat, belonging to Government', entered the estuary of the Hunter River. While only stopping briefly within the bounds of the Hunter River, Shortland named the river (after Governor John Hunter), made the first chart of the harbour as an eye-sketch and also collected some samples of coal. A later letter to his father announced Shortland's prediction that the find of coal would provide to be a 'great acquisition to the settlement'.

The Shortland Room formerly held 'Courtroom 6' as part of the Children's Court of the Newcastle Courthouse. The courtroom was created in the 1960s when the bedroom and living room of the original 1892 Caretakers Suite were converted.

Shortland Room

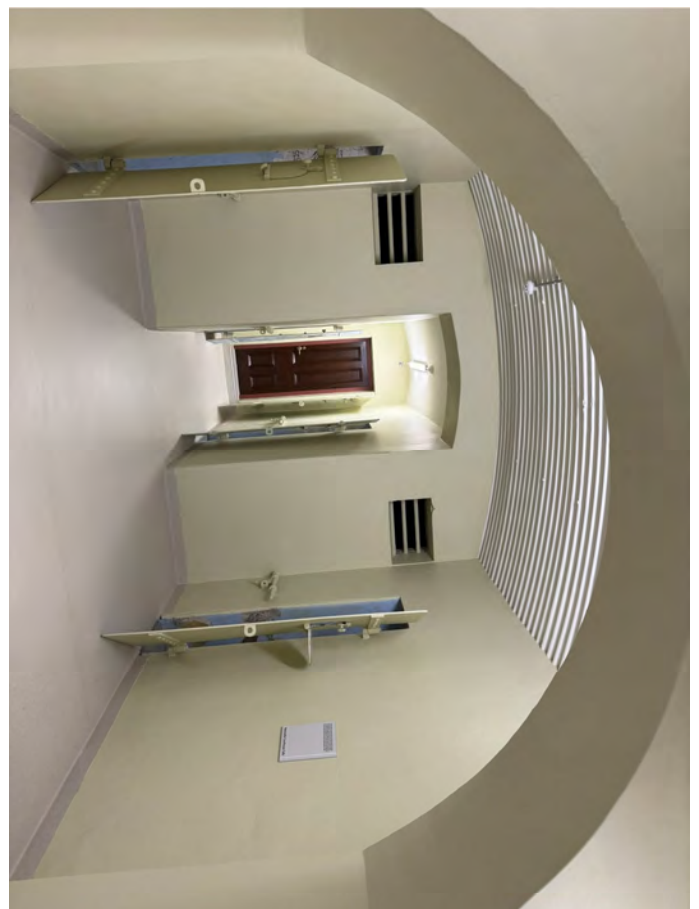


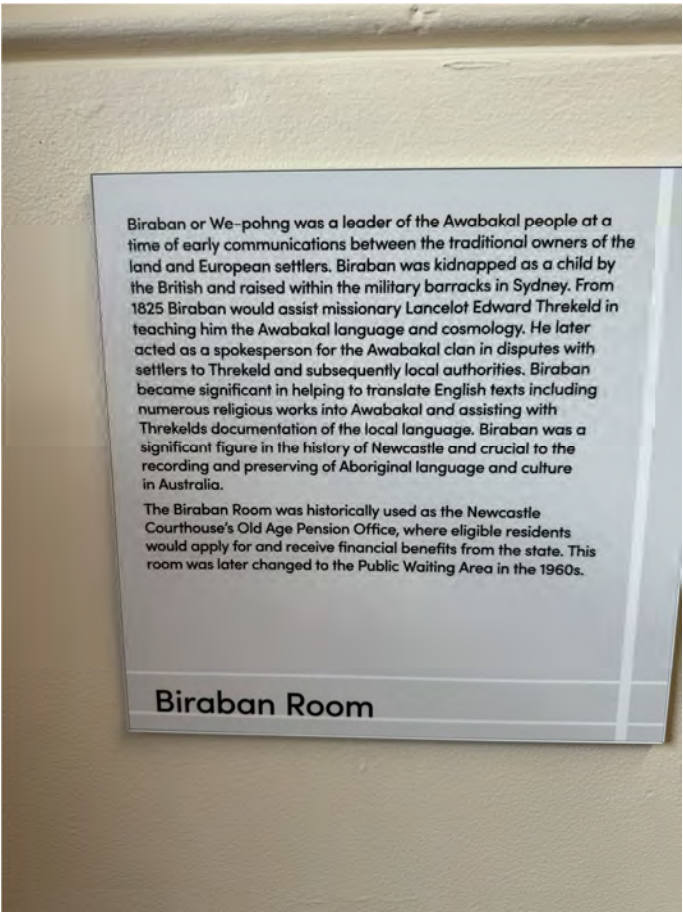
The Newcastle Courthouse Interview Room was used to service meetings between lawyers/solicitors and inmates involved in ongoing trials or those being held in the building. The room was partitioned into 3 legal rooms each with a window and sound grill to ensure the safety of lawyers/solicitors while undertaking communications. The right-hand side was designated for lawyers and the left-hand side was for inmates. The interview room remains in its latest form while in use at the time the courthouse ceased operation in 2016.

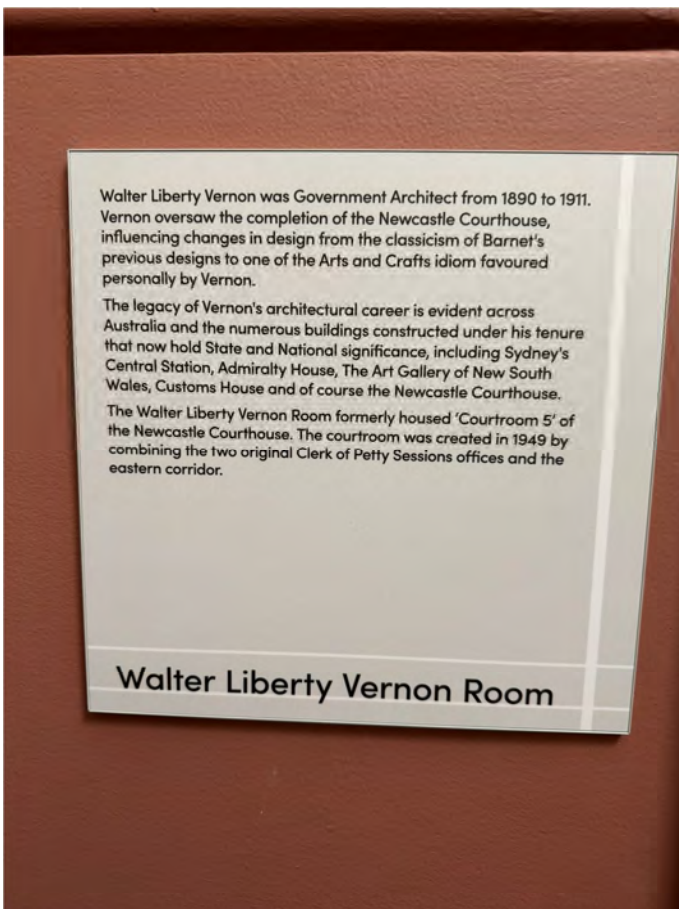
Newcastle Courthouse Interview Room

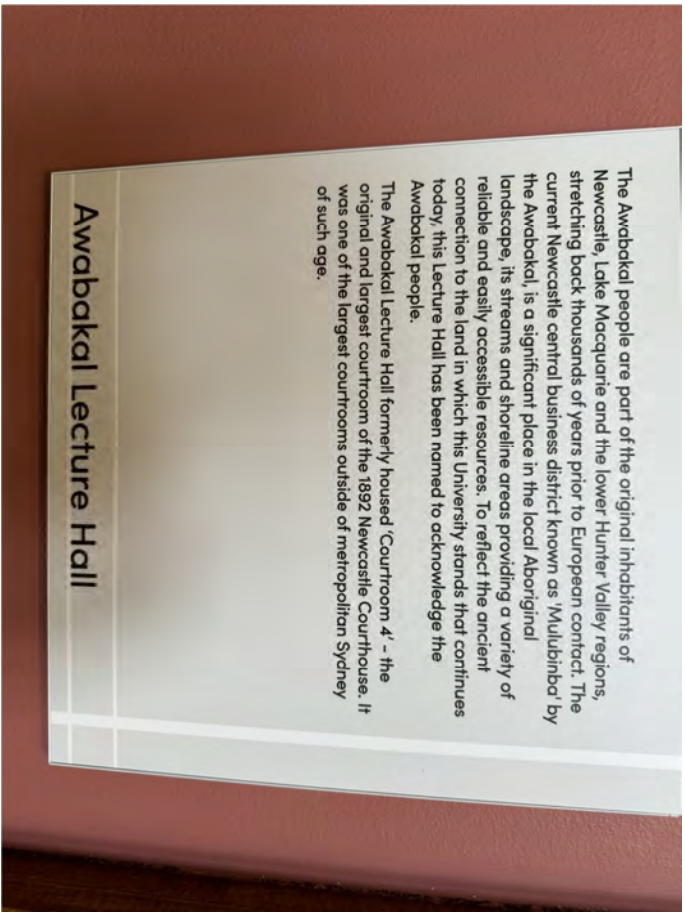
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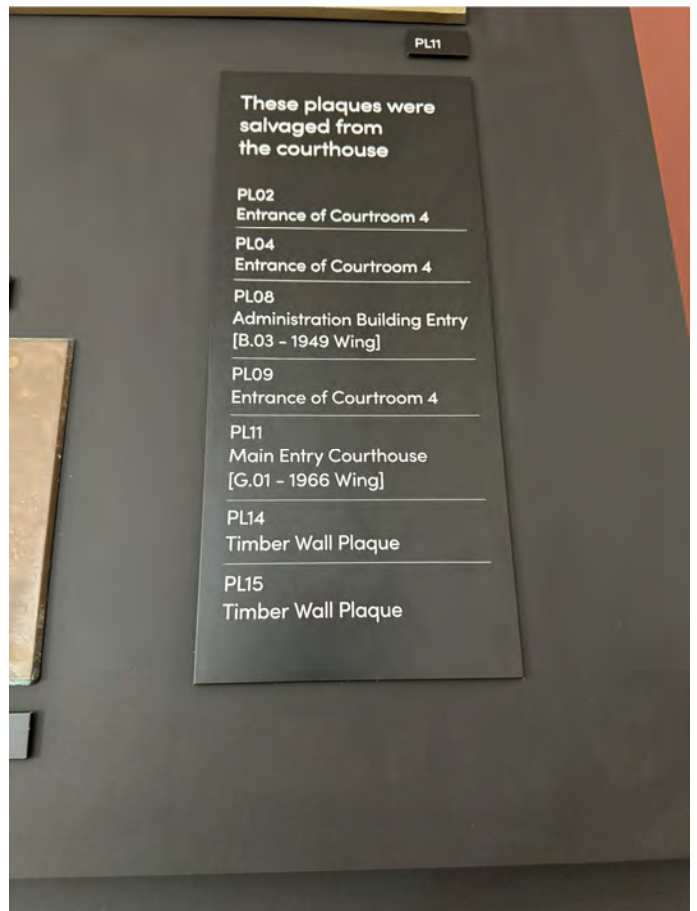
Newcastle Courthouse Interview Room

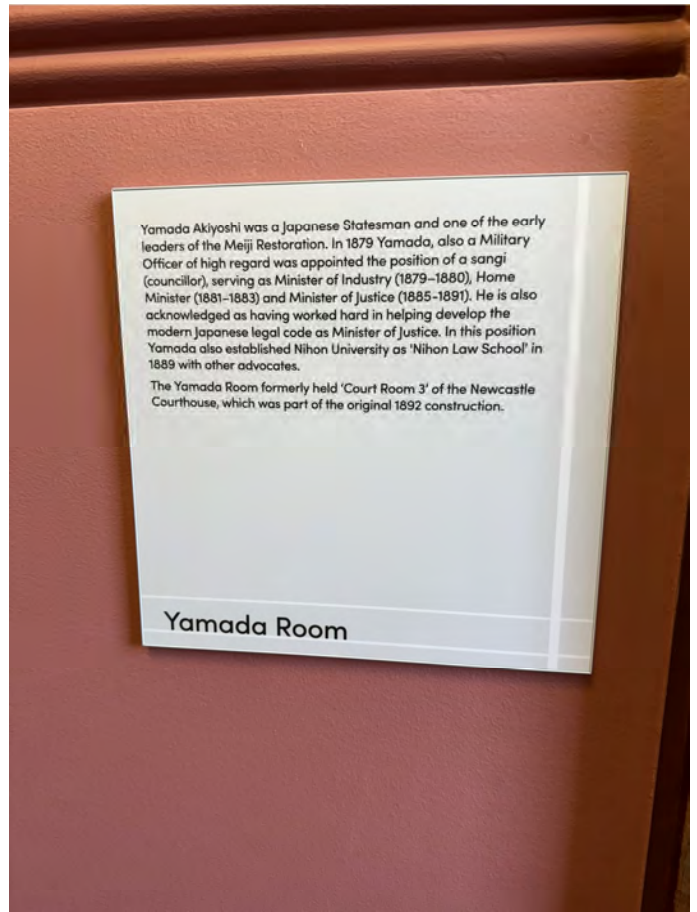


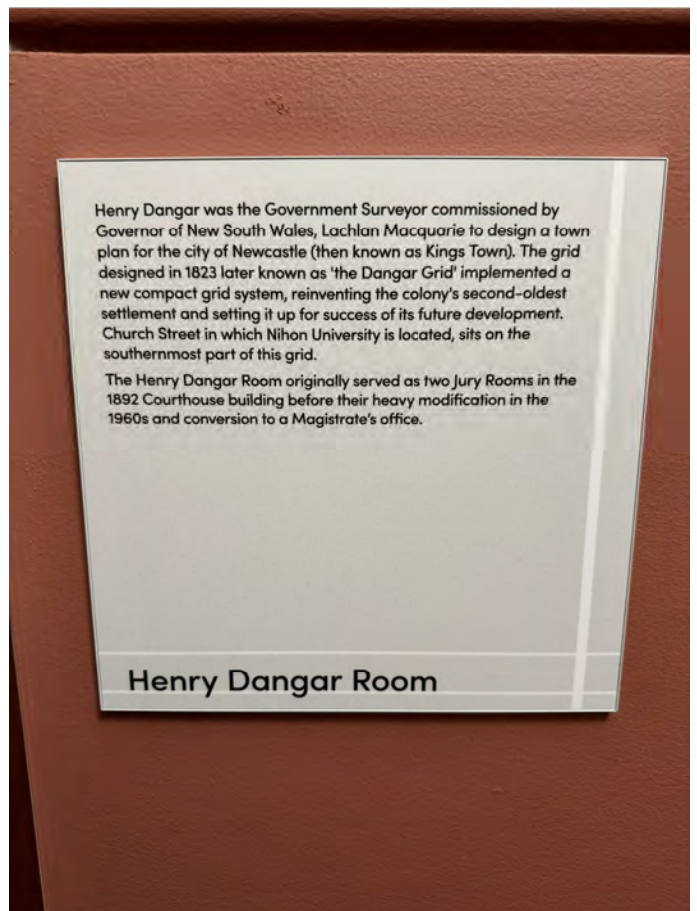
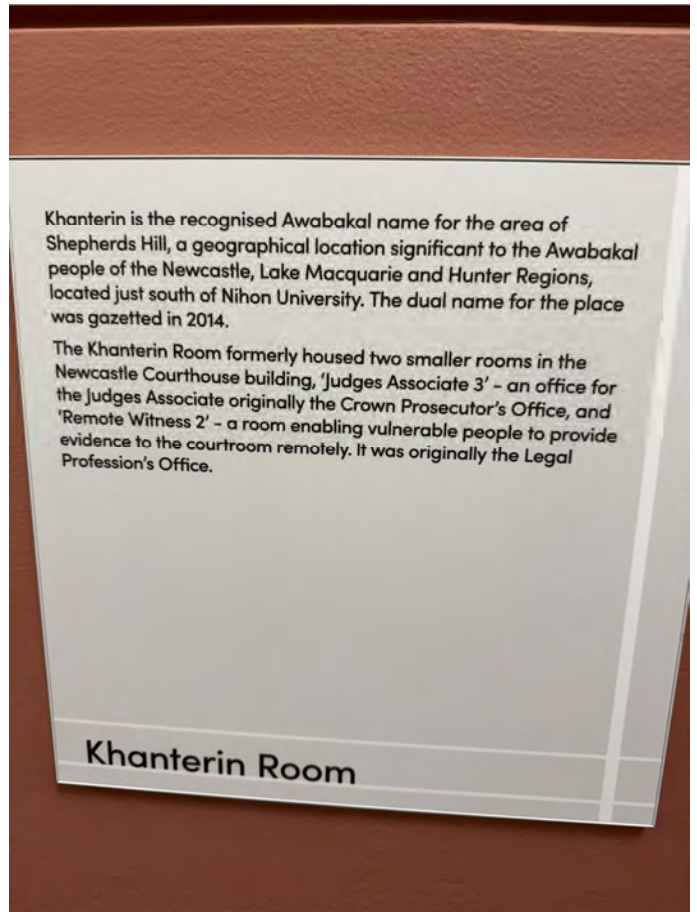


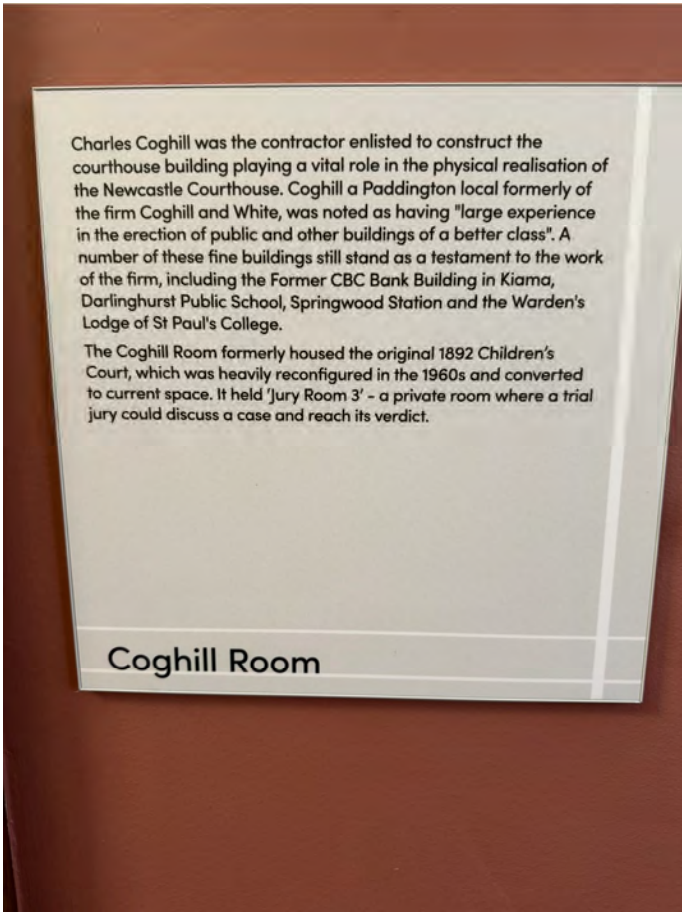


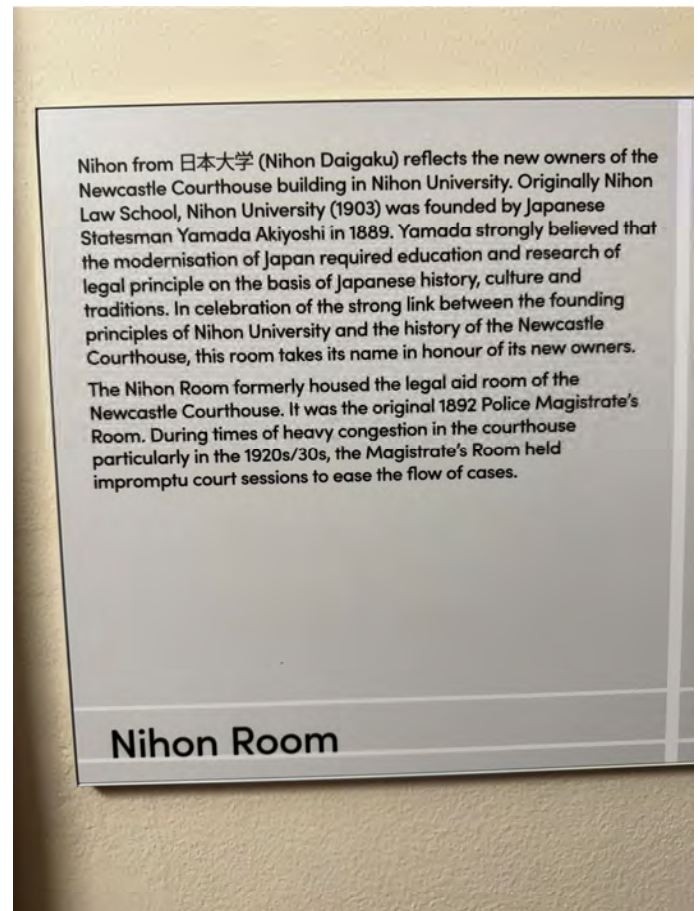












Nihon from 日本大学 (Nihon Daigaku) reflects the new owners of the Newcastle Courthouse building in Nihon University. Originally Nihon Law School, Nihon University (1903) was founded by Japanese Statesman Yamada Akiyoshi in 1889. Yamada strongly believed that the modernisation of Japan required education and research of legal principle on the basis of Japanese history, culture and traditions. In celebration of the strong link between the founding principles of Nihon University and the history of the Newcastle Courthouse, this room takes its name in honour of its new owners.

The Nihon Room formerly housed the legal aid room of the Newcastle Courthouse. It was the original 1892 Police Magistrate's Room. During times of heavy congestion in the courthouse particularly in the 1920s/30s, the Magistrate's Room held impromptu court sessions to ease the flow of cases.

Nihon Room



Statement of Completion - Heritage Interpretation Plan

Nihon University Newcastle Campus - SSD 9787

9 Church Street, Newcastle

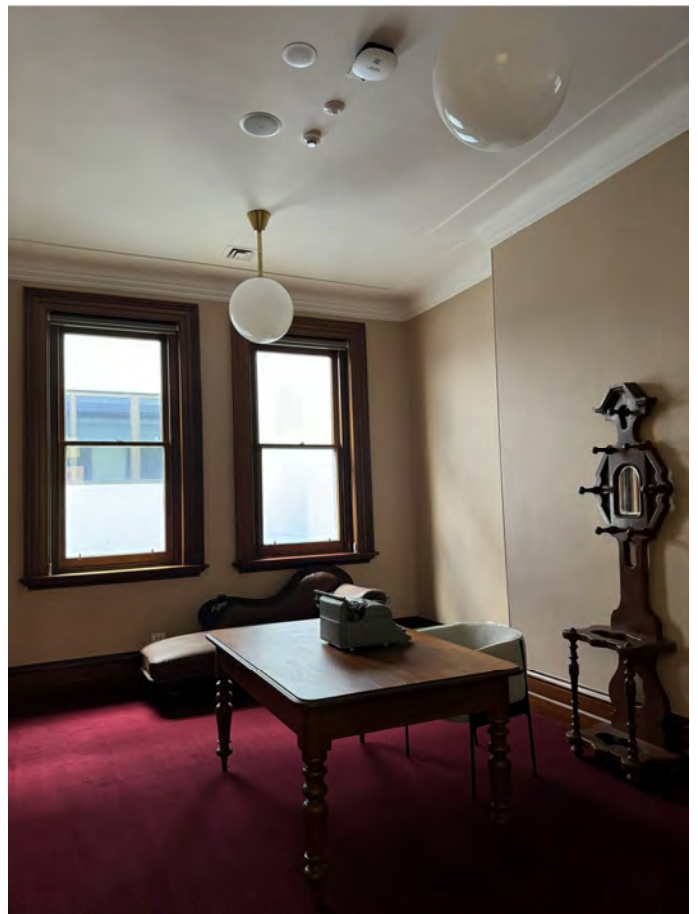
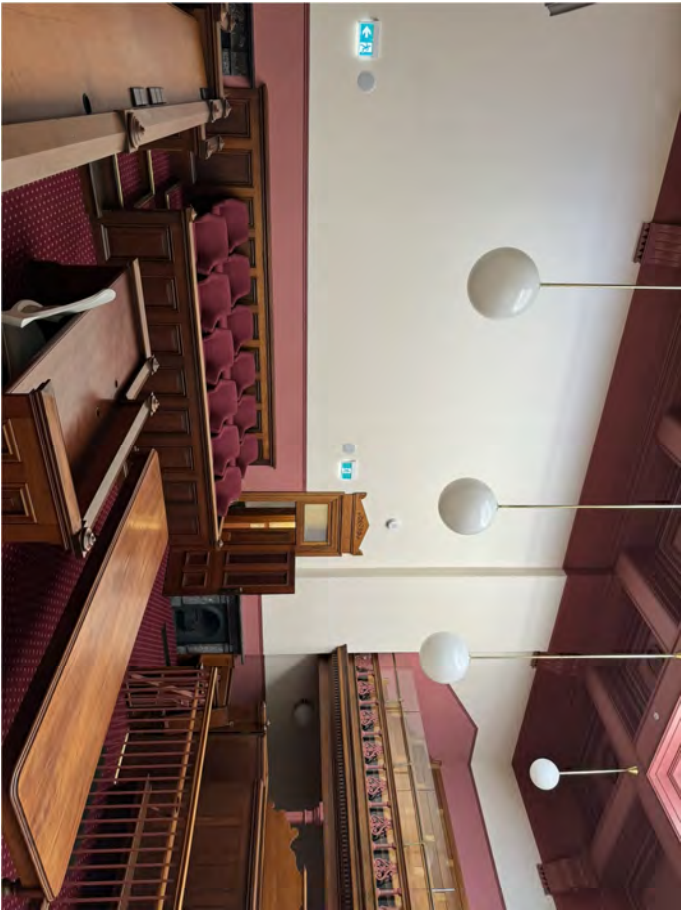
Project # H-24033

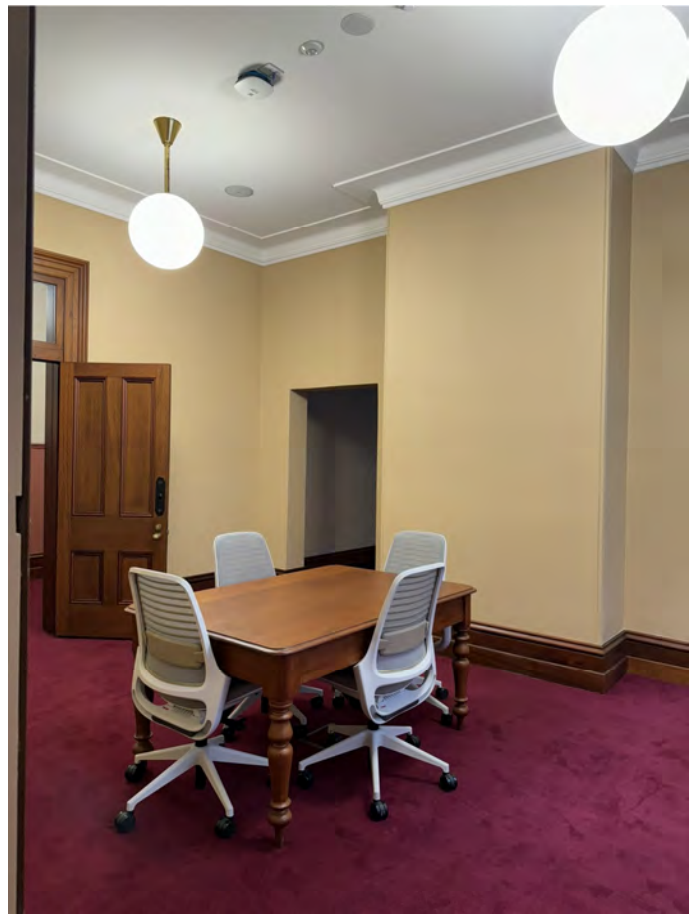
April 2024

ATTACHMENT B

Images of Moveable Furniture













Statement of Completion - Heritage Interpretation Plan

Nihon University Newcastle Campus - SSD 9787

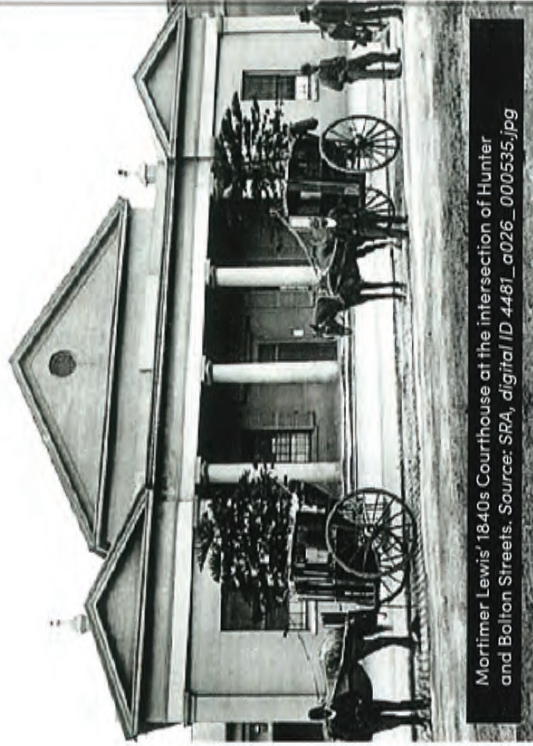
9 Church Street, Newcastle

Project # H-24033

April 2024

ATTACHMENT C

The Brochure



Mortimer Lewis' 1840s Courthouse at the intersection of Hunter and Bolton Streets. Source: SRA, digital ID 4481_a026_000535.jpg

Introduction

Welcome to Nihon University 日本大学, (Nihon Daigaku) Newcastle Campus. Nihon University is a significant place for both education and cultural exchange. Occupying the former Newcastle Courthouse building, the university offers state of the art learning facilities and unique study spaces amongst the historic and picturesque surrounds of the Newcastle suburb of the Hill.

The Nihon University Newcastle Campus is the first overseas campus for the university. Originally founded in 1889 by Japan's first Justice Minister Yamada Akiyoshi, in an important era for the development of both Japan and Australia's judicial systems, the old Newcastle Courthouse building that houses Nihon University was opened just 3 years after the establishment of the University in 1892.

The former Courthouse Building played a major role in the early judicial history of the city of Newcastle and its development throughout the twentieth century, acting as the principal courthouse in the city for over 100 years. It is designed in the Victorian Italianate style by the Colonial Architect James Barnet and his successor the first Government Architect Walter Liberty Vernon. The building over its lifetime has been witness to many of the significant events of Newcastle's history from the opening of Christ Church Cathedral in 1902 to the Newcastle Earthquake of 1989.

Heritage Open Day

In April 2025, the former Newcastle Courthouse building will have inaugural open day to the public to fully experience the significant aspects of the site and the interpretive works implemented by Nihon University. The tour will follow the path of the established Nihon University Heritage walk, leading through the former Courthouse stopping at important areas and interpretive installations. The Heritage Walk will take place each year for a day during the Australian Heritage Week.



Nihon University Newcastle Campus

Historical Information



NIHON UNIVERSITY



Statement of Completion - Heritage Interpretation Plan
Nihon University Newcastle Campus - SSD 9787
9 Church Street, Newcastle
Project # H-24033
April 2024

ATTACHMENT D

Copy of the email to National Trust of Australia

Kerime Danis

From: Mathew Watson <Mathew.Watson@app.com.au>
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2024 12:13 PM
To: reception@nationaltrust.com.au
Subject: Nihon University - Former Newcastle Courthouse

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Nihon University, owners of 9 Church Street Newcastle NSW, I would like to open discussions with the National Trust. Welcoming any potential partnership between organisations to support Nihon University with public tours of the former courthouse facility.

Please refer to below links for information on the site.

- <https://www.newcastleherald.com.au/story/8240395/japanese-university-prepares-to-open-newcastle-campus/>
- <https://www.nihon-u.ac.jp/en/newcastlecampus/>

Nihon University would like to hold an annual “open day” from 18th April 2025. This proposed date has been selected to coincide with the ICOMOS International Day on Monuments and Sites, celebrated worldwide on April 18. We also understand the 18th of April also marks the beginning of the Australian Heritage Week each year celebrating our heritage, our communities, our diversity and creativity in bringing heritage to life at historical locations, in nature, in performance and digitally. As such, Nihon envisage that the significant cross-cultural connection that Nihon University creates at its new Newcastle campus will provide a successful integration of a global initiative.

Is this an initiative that the National Trust can support Nihon University?

If yes, it would be great to better understand how a partnership between Nihon University and the National Trust can be formed.

I look forward to hearing back from you on this exciting prospect.

Regards,

Mathew Watson (he/him)
Project Director | Newcastle



The APP Group

(02) 4928 7600 | 0408 927 612 | app.com.au
Awabakal Country | Level 2, 426 King Street, Newcastle NSW 2300
Note: I work a 9-day fortnight with every second Friday off.



**A Leader in Property
and Infrastructure**

The APP Group acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the Land, Rivers and Sea. We acknowledge and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual to whom it is addressed. If you have received this email in error, please inform the postmaster@app.com.au or the sender.
APP Corporation Pty Limited, ABN 29 003 764 770.