

Anna Nowland
Planner
Department of Planning and Environment
PO BOX 404, PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

By email: anna.nowland@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Nowland

Notice of Exhibition of application for Taronga Zoo Sydney Wildlife Hospital (SSD-33211326)

Thank you for your referral dated 16 November 2022 inviting comments from the Heritage Council of NSW on the above State Significant Development (SSD) proposal.

The proposed development involves:

- demolition of existing structures,
- service upgrades and rearticulation,
- clearance of vegetation and landscaping,
- the construction of a multi-storey Wildlife Hospital building and associated infrastructure and landscaping.

The proposed SSD affects Taronga Zoo located at Bradley's Head Road, Mosman, which is not currently listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR). However, it has been assessed in several studies to have State heritage significance. There are no other SHR items in the immediate vicinity of the subject site.

The following reports were considered in our assessment:

- Taronga Zoo Wildlife Hospital EIS, (Urbis, 21 September 2022)
- Appendix E - Architectural drawings (dwp, 8 July 2022)
- Appendix J - Heritage Impact Assessment (Geoffrey Britton, July 2022)
- Appendix K - Historical Archaeological Assessment (Urbis, 12 August 2022)

As delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW, I provide the following comments:

Non-aboriginal heritage

- The Heritage Impact Assessment has addressed the impacts of the proposal on heritage items within the project area, as well the broader impacts on the zoo's fabric and setting.
- Heritage NSW supports the recommendations outlined in Section 7 to minimize visual impact, conservation actions for the Remnant *Angophora costata* Woodland (s170 Item 240L), salvage of interpretive material/artworks and salvage of valuable site vegetation. The final design should address these recommendations.

Historical Archaeology

- The Historical Archaeological Assessment has found that there is low potential for the project area to contain archaeological resources associated with the early European development of the subject site and Mosman more generally (1788-1911), or with the establishment of Taronga Zoo under the Directorship of La Souef (1912-1940). There is moderate potential for archaeological resources which evidence adaptations to the

Zoo under Hallstrom's Directorship (1941-1966). Such resources have been assessed as being likely to hold archaeological significance at a Local level for their association with the adaptation of Taronga Zoo and the historical development of zoological practices.

- The works are unlikely to impact on any archaeological remains of State significance. Heritage NSW supports Recommendations 1, 2 and 3 of the Historical Archaeological Assessment.
- In the unlikely event that archaeological remains of State significance are uncovered they should be conserved in situ.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

- Comments relating to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage will be provided in separate correspondence by Heritage NSW.

As the site contains a local heritage item, and other local items are in the vicinity, advice should be sought from the relevant local council.

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

Yours sincerely

'Michael Ellis.

Michael Ellis
Manager Assessments
Heritage NSW
Department of Planning & Environment
As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW
17 November 2022