



Ms Prity Cleary  
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Via Email: [Prity.Cleary@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Prity.Cleary@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Ms Cleary

**Response to Notice of Exhibition for SCEGGS Darlinghurst Concept Development Application and Stage 1, 165 – 215 Forbes Street Darlinghurst (SSD 8993)**

Reference is made to your correspondence received on 4 March 2019 referring the above Notice of Exhibition to the Heritage Council of NSW (the Heritage Council) for comment and the provision of any recommended conditions of consent. Detailed comments were previously provided to the Department on 6 January 2018.

*The SSD application comprises a Concept DA for the demolition of existing buildings, three new building envelopes for use as an education establishment and early education and care facility, on-site vehicular drop-off, and a Detailed DA component for the first stage of works, being the demolition of 'Wilkinson House' and detailed design and construction of one building within the Concept DA for an educational establishment.*

The SCEGGS Darlinghurst Campus Site includes the State Heritage Register (SHR) listed item, St. Peter's Church and Precinct (SHR No.00148). It is noted that the proposed Concept DA site is located outside, however in the vicinity of the item's listed curtilage. The Concept DA site is also identified as a local heritage item, 'Sydney Church of England Girls Grammar School Group including Barham, Church Building and Wilkinson House and their interiors and grounds' and is located within the Darlinghurst heritage conservation area and adjacent to a number of local heritage items.

The following documents were reviewed as part of this application:

- *SCEGGS Darlinghurst 2040 Masterplan, Historical Archaeological Assessment, dated October 2018*, for TKD Architects on behalf of SCEGGS Darlinghurst, prepared by Casey & Lowe Archaeology & Heritage

The archaeological assessment by Casey & Lowe indicates that archaeological remains associated with Barham Hall and Bourke Street terraces are considered to have a moderate degree of archaeological potential to survive. These remains belong to the residential occupation of the study area dating from c1833 until the later twentieth century. The project area has potential to contain remains associated with Barham Hall located between the existing buildings, between Barnham and the Chapel, in the driveway and the carpark to the south of the Chapel and general vicinity of these buildings. There may also be outbuildings, including cesspits, located between Barham and the Chapel buildings. The old stables are located to the south of Barham adjacent to the property boundary. Features such as paths, garden beds in the vicinity of Barham may survive as well as artefacts inside Barham, within underfloor cavities which may date to nineteenth-century use of the building. The



assessment of significance indicates that remains within the study area are regarded as having a local level of historic significance.

The assessment indicates that remains of the Bourke Street terraces are not expected to have survived the construction of the Science and Library Buildings as well as the underground carparking and primary school. However, archaeological remains of the terraces' outbuildings to the east of the Science and Library Buildings and the Primary School are probable. Evidence of the terraces that stood in the area off Bourke Street in the forecourt of St Peters Church is also likely.

The assessment notes that landscape features including the quarried rockfaces to the rear of where Bourke Street terrace houses stood provide evidence of the pre-1840s Government quarry. Whilst these are significant, there is unlikely to be any relics or other features associated with their use.

The assessment indicates that the proposed demolition and development as part of the Stage 1 works would remove archaeological remains and deposits in the areas of impact, including remains associated with Barnham Hall and its outbuildings in the yard areas of the demolished Bourke Street terraces. Additionally, the proposal would impact on the quarried rockfaces in the western half of the site.

The proposed recommendations as outlined below and based on the archaeological assessment from Casey & Lowe would be appropriate to guide the management of the archaeological resource prior to the commencement of Stage 1 works being carried out:

1. No development-related or archaeological works can be undertaken in the identified parts of the site until prior development approval and the receipt of conditions relating to the site's archaeology.
2. A qualified archaeologist should be appointed as excavation director to manage the site's archaeology.
3. Depending on the impacts, an archaeological testing and recording program should be undertaken to the east of Barnham Hall on the site of the proposed administration Building, in the current open areas to the south and west of the Chapel, and in the areas to the east of the Science and Library buildings on the site of the proposed Multi-Purpose Building.
4. Enough flexibility in the development timetable must be allowed to enable remains to be recorded in appropriate detail.
5. To align with standard permit conditions, artefacts recovered during an excavation should be catalogued and analysed with a report written that includes responses to the identified archaeological research design.
6. The exposed sections of pre-1840s government quarry should be recorded by an appropriate consultant prior to impacts on them.

In addition to the above conditions the Heritage Council recommends that the Department of Planning and Environment include the following conditions of approval should this project be approved:



7. Archaeological testing shall be undertaken east of Barham Hall on the site of the proposed administration Building, in the current open areas to the south and west of the Chapel, and in the areas to the east of the Science and Library buildings on the site of the proposed Multi-Purpose Building to inform the detailed design for this site. Avoidance of state significant archaeological deposits and substantially intact archaeological evidence should be employed by the works.
8. The testing shall be guided by an appropriate research design and excavation methodology and must be prepared in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines. Those documents should be prepared for the approval of the Director-General, Department of Planning & Infrastructure upon receipt of advice from the Heritage Division of the Office of Environment & Heritage.
9. The name of the nominated Excavation Director suitable to satisfy the Excavation Director Criteria of the Heritage Council of NSW for the proposed activity and significance level.
10. All construction contractors, subcontractors and personnel are to be inducted and informed by the nominated Excavation Director prior to commencing work on site as to their obligations and requirements in relation to historical archaeological sites and 'relics' in accordance with guidelines issued by the Heritage Council of NSW.
11. After any archaeological works have been undertaken, a copy of the final excavation report(s) shall be prepared and lodged with the Heritage Council of NSW, the City of Sydney and the Department of Planning & Infrastructure. The proponent shall also be required to nominate a repository for the relics salvaged from any historical archaeological excavations.

If you have any questions regarding the above matter, please contact Anna Foroozani, Archaeologist at the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage at (02) 9895 6479 or by e-mail: [Anna.Foroozani@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Anna.Foroozani@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

**Dr Siobhan Lavelle OAM**  
Senior Team Leader, Specialist Services  
Heritage Division  
Office of Environment & Heritage  
**As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW**  
03 April 2019

