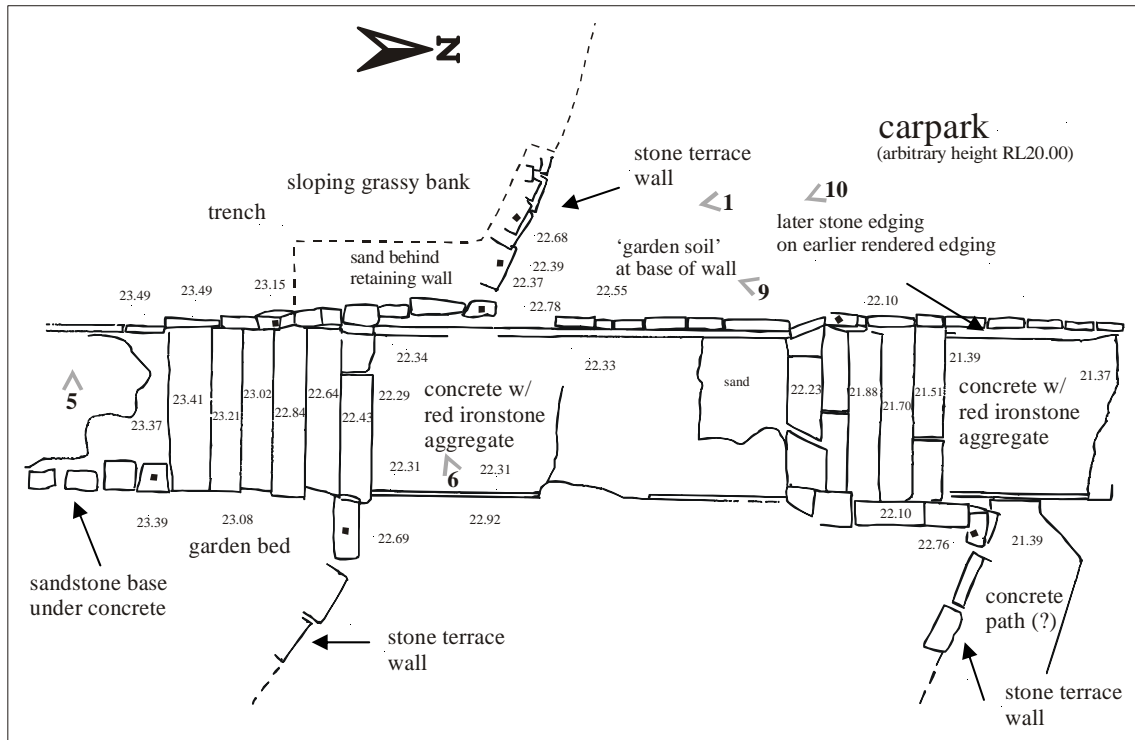


# Assessment of Archaeological Impact

## The Scottish Hospital, Paddington



Report to

**The Presbyterian Church (NSW) Property Trust**

**c/o Cerno Management Pty Ltd**

**November 2010**

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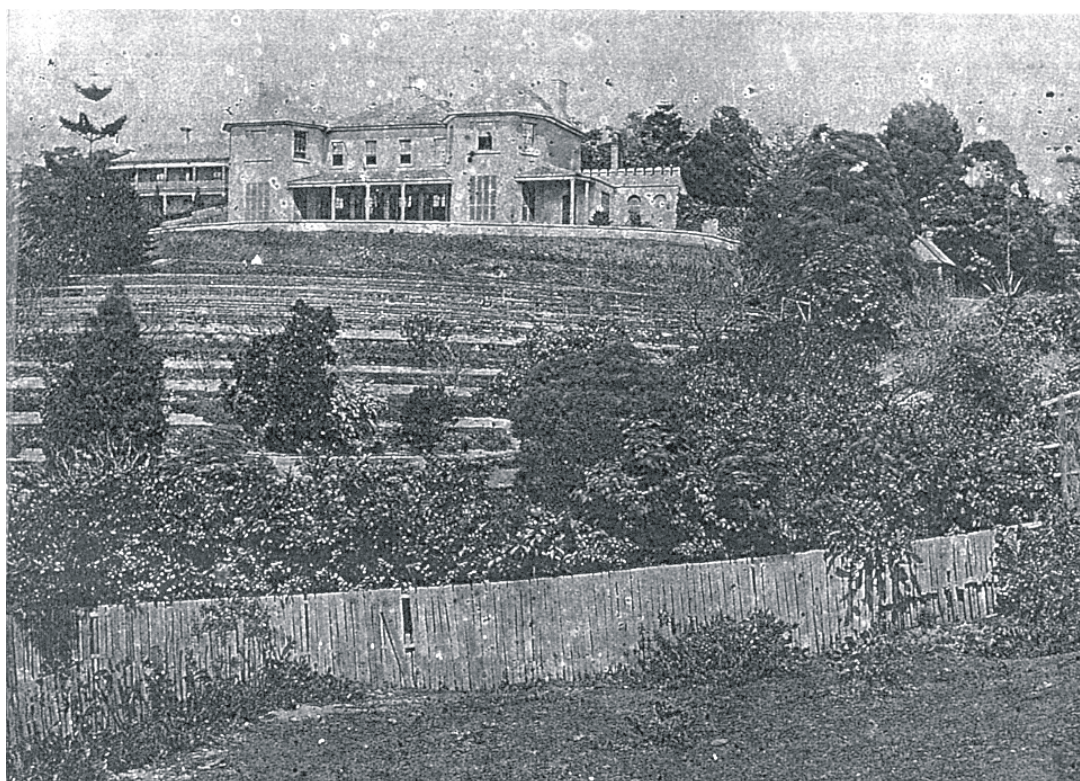
# Assessment of Archaeological Impact The Scottish Hospital, Paddington

## **1.0 Introduction**

### **1.1 Background**

This Assessment of Archaeological Impact analyses the likely impact of the proposed Major Project Application (as per plans dated 7/6/10) on the archaeological remains at the Scottish Hospital site. The proposed Major Project Application involves extensive excavation for basement levels and relandscaping of the present grounds, although aspects of the terraces below the old house will be retained in the new landscape design.

Historical research has indicated that an extensive terraced garden was established at The Scottish Hospital site by 1866, probably designed by the owner Henry Burton Bradley.<sup>1</sup> A photo taken in that year shows the garden descending in multiple terraces to the north of the house, The Terraces (Fig. 1). The garden seems to have been created in the years following Bradley's family's move to the house in 1848 or 1849. Bradley was known as a keen horticulturist and gardener. The name of the house, which seems to reflect the built landscape, is first used in 1851.<sup>2</sup>



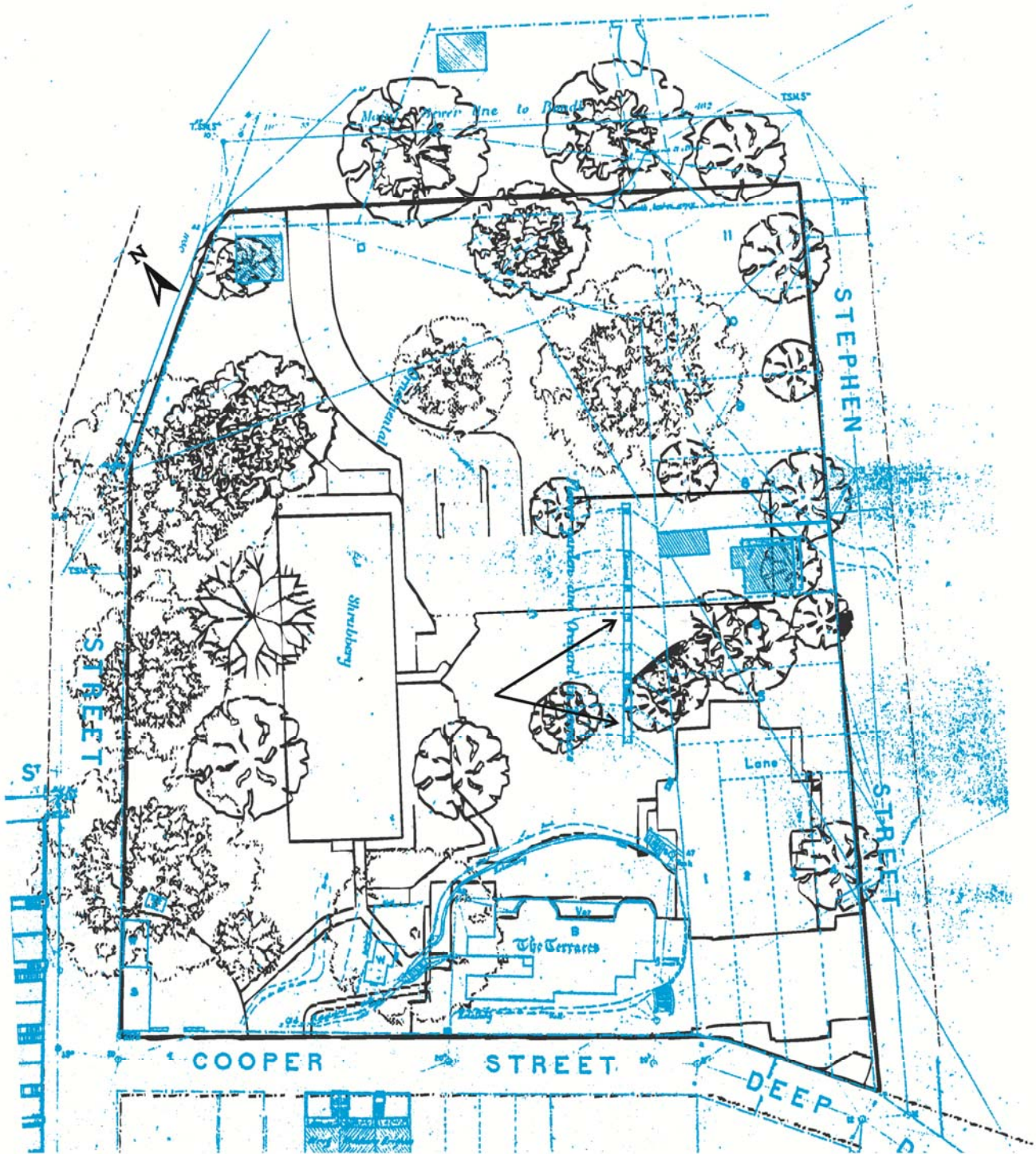
**Figure 1:** 1866 photograph showing the house and its terraced garden. Source: NBR&P.

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<sup>1</sup> NBR&P, *Conservation Plan*, p.11.

<sup>2</sup> *Fords Sydney Commercial Directory*, 1851, 'The Terrace' and 'The Terraces' in *Waugh & Cox's Directory of Sydney*, 1855; NBR&P, *Conservation Plan*, Appendix 10.2.





**Figure 2:** Modern site layout overlaid onto 1883/89 plan (blue), showing the eastern section of the terraces and the path (arrowed).

A plan dated 1883 with additions in 1889 shows a pathway with steps adjacent to each terrace at the eastern side of the garden (Fig. 2). The path is labelled 'concrete', while the steps were presumably sandstone. This plan also shows a house which fronted Stephen Street as well as a building in the northwest corner of the site. Both these buildings are present by 1889 and survived into the twentieth century.



Two archaeological reports are relevant to this statement of impact. The archaeological assessment of the site concluded:

The upper [southern] section of the garden below the house probably retains the remains of nineteenth-century garden terraces belonging to the original garden, which would include planting beds, terrace walls and pathways. The level above the northern half of the garden has risen substantially due to the importation of fills and probably covers the remains of the original garden.<sup>3</sup>

The second report detailed the results of the archaeological exposure of the extant path and stairs.<sup>4</sup> The results indicated that:

- the central section of extant pathway, consisting of five segments of concrete path and four sets of steps, appears to be that shown on the 1883/89 plan.
- the pathway had been modified when the levels of the adjacent terraced garden were raised.
- the stone terrace walls belonging to the nineteenth-century garden are present to the east and west of the path, with the walls on the western side buried under later fills.
- the pathway and terracing are likely to continue under the carpark.



**Figure 3:** Detail of 1943 aerial photograph showing terraced garden with sparse plantings.  
Source: LPMA.

<sup>3</sup> Casey & Lowe, *Archaeological Assessment, The Scottish Hospital*, report to NBR&P, Feb. 2001, p.13. This report was a revised version of a preliminary assessment, dated March 2000.

<sup>4</sup> Casey & Lowe, *Results of Initial Archaeological Testing, The Scottish Hospital*, report to NBR&P, April 2001.





## 2.0 New Development

### 2.1 Nature of Proposed Impacts

The main impact in terms of archaeology will be the excavation for the basement (Fig. 5). These will impact on the remains of the buried garden terrace and both the exposed and buried sections of the pathway. The site of the house off Stephen Street will also be impacted.



**Figure 5:** Detail of site plan showing extent of basement excavation.



## 2.2 Nature of the Archaeological Remains

The proposed development will impact on the sections of the site previously occupied by the terraced garden. Testing in the upper extant section of the garden has shown that remains are present in the form of relatively small stone retaining walls (Fig. 6). The section of exposed pathway, however, is reasonably intact and includes large sandstone stair treads as well as concreted path sections (Figs 7, 8). The site of the 1880s house off Stephen Street is regarded as having little archaeological potential due to its later nineteenth-century date.



**Figure 6:** Lower section of path (near carpark) with retaining wall to west. Scale 1m.



**Figure 7:** View of path looking southwards.





**Figure 8:** View of path looking southwards.

### 2.3 Impacts on the Archaeological Remains

**Pathway** - It is proposed that the pathway be shifted sideways to the west. This will involve removing and relaying all existing stonework.

**Upper terracing** – The landscaping of the area below the historic house will impact the earlier terraces, most of which have been buried or modified.

**Lower terracing** – The basement excavation will remove all remains of the terraced garden currently buried under the carpark and adjacent areas.

### 2.3 Mitigation of Impacts

**Pathway** – The pathway will be relaid in its original configuration, which will reinstate the steps at the existing southern and northern ends which have been altered. The concrete sections should be relaid using pebble aggregate, to replicate the original finish, with sandstone edging.

**Upper terracing** – a portion of the upper terracing should be archaeologically excavated and recorded prior to the civil works commencing.

**Lower Terracing** – a section of the carpark below the line of the pathway should be excavated and the pathway and its adjacent terraces recorded.



### **3.0 Results and Recommendations**

#### **3.1 Results**

The proposed development will impact on the whole area once occupied by the terraced garden. Most of the remains will be removed. The extant pathway will be removed and rebuilt adjacent to its present alignment.

#### **3.2 Recommendations**

A S140 approval under the NSW Heritage Act 1977 should be obtained from the Heritage Council of NSW to permit the archaeological excavation and recording of least two areas of the garden, including the area of the present carpark below the pathway, and the shifting of the pathway, to be rebuilt in its original configuration.

The permit application should be accompanied by this statement and the 2001 results of testing, as well as a research design to guide the proposed archaeological investigation.