

From:Bem Le Hunte <bemlehunte@gmail.com>To:<plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>, <sharon.armstrong@lands.nsw.gov.au>,...Date:15/12/2010 1:17 pmSubject:MP10_0016 - The Scottish Hospital Development

To all decision-makers and other concerned public representatives:

I am a neighbour of the Scottish Hospital, and while all of us locals have been discussing SO many concerns about the overdevelopment of the site, I would like to simplify our case down to the most important issue.

WE OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED OVER-DEVELOPMENT OF AN HISTORIC SITE - A DEVELOPMENT OF A MASS AND SCALE THAT WOULD NEVER BE PERMITTED UNDER OUR LOCAL COUNCIL PLANNING GUIDELINES - A MASS AND SCALE THAT IS NOT IN KEEPING WITH THE SURROUNDING HERITAGE AREA WE ALL ENJOY.

To elaborate on this:

Virtually every person who was supposedly 'consulted' felt that this, our main concern, was never addressed - nor intended to be addressed by the architects and others employed by The Scottish Hospital.

* As a result we are requesting an independent enquiry into:

A) Whether it is appropriate to build a project of such enormous bulk and scale in one of the few remaining historic enclaves of Australia that attracts visitors and admirers from far and wide.

B) Whether it is appropriate to build a project of disproportionate bulk and scale in the knowledge that people have died to save historic areas such as Paddington from over-development. This is no longer the 70's nor is it an era of rampant upheaval and disregard of heritage issues we have to respect the wisdom of hindsight and protect the character of this area for future citizens.

C) Whether it is appropriate to build beyond the bulk and scale guidelines developed by the community for the community through our local Council.

D) Whether it is appropriate to allow such bulk and scale in the development of a site when even the family who gave the land to the Scottish Hospital are horrified at the intended over-development of the land their forbears donated in good faith.

These are emotional issues, so they must be stated as such. I know that your decisions must be pragmatic, and that you must plan for an ageing population. Nonetheless, I hope that when I age it won't be at the expense of my surrounding community, nor at the expense of the environment and heritage that our heirs will inherit. It must be remembered that there are other places that do not have the same historic guidelines.

The Scottish Hospital has been progressively extending its footprint over the years, from what was once a quaint local vineyard. Please don't let it become a monstrous eyesore at the heart of a very vibrant, active, informed and articulate community.

Wishing that the Solomon in all of you will see good sense and prevent this particular aged care facility from having its way and ruining our suburb. Please, please, conduct an independent enquiry into the bulk and scale of the proposed development so that we can at least feel that SOMEONE championed our community's concerns.

Yours sincerely,

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