

Ian Mundy

From: Russell Hand <RHand@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 16 June 2016 3:31 PM
To: Ian Mundy
Cc: Christopher Corradi; Margaret Desgrand
Subject: RE: Section 75W Modification Request to Headland Park and Northern Cove – Main Works, Hickson Road Barangaroo (MP 10_0048 MOD 9) – Trim Ref S076158

Dear Ian,

I refer to the Barangaroo Delivery Authority's Section 75W modification to the Barangaroo Headland Park approval requesting to delete any reference to a heritage interpretation device relating to the Harbour Control Tower ("the Tower") that would have provided a physical representation of the Tower on-site in the form of a void or 'Occulus' with an inscription or installation (such as public seating) within the 4.9m diameter shaft area of the Tower.

The City objects to the application.

We disagree that interpretation of the Tower on this portion of the site, being the actual location of the structure where it will be appreciated from multiple vantage points, will dominate or overpower any Aboriginal heritage interpretation in the Park itself. The two are readily capable of co-existence with the proper and subtle treatment of the Tower interpretation.

We disagree that any reduction in the size of the existing void around the Tower will create a constraint in terms of existing use for public events and future use as a lettable tenancy in The Cutaway. Public events have been successfully occurring in the cutaway since September 2015 and currently benefit from significant voids already present along Merriman Street for natural light and ventilation. A future tenancy within The Cutaway can function, unconstrained, without a small area (around 36sqm) in one corner of a potential 18,000sqm three-level tenancy.

We contend that interpretation of the structure would be optimised in the actual location of the structure and that the proposed 'Maritime Stories' interpretation along Hickson Road can function alongside the Tower's interpretation in-situ. Reliance on signage mediums, public art mediums or other media elsewhere and relatively disconnected in order to convey the significance of the structure is inferior to on-site physical interpretation. A truer sense of discovery and curiosity would be created when the public are able to immediately relate an interpretation device to the location of the former structure. A lasting reminder of the structure where it stood is significantly more meritorious than a media used hundreds of metres away.

We contend that future opportunities to interpret the footprint of the Tower in any future tenancy fitout DA is inferior to the Merriman Street level interpretation. Such a 'future opportunity' also has no certainty attached to it.

We trust that the above matters will be considered in the assessment of the application.

Regards,

Russell Hand
Senior Planner
Planning Assessments