

Mr Nicholas Gunn
Planner, School Infrastructure Assessments
Dept Planning, Infrastructure & Environment
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By email: nicholas.gunn@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Gunn

Notice of Exhibition of EIS for SSD 9914 - Darlington Public School Redevelopment

Thank you for your referral dated 10 June 2020 inviting comments from the Heritage Council of NSW on the above State Significant Development proposal. Please note that these comments address matters covered by the NSW Heritage Act, 1977, and do not address other matters related to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.

The proposed development involves redevelopment of the Darlington Public School including demolition of all buildings and landscape features on the school site (the site) and redevelopment of the site with new school facilities featuring cultural interpretation arising from community consultation.

The following reports were considered in preparing our comments:

- *School Redevelopment Program SSD 9914 Heritage Impact Statement*, Darlington Public School, Golden Grove Street, Chippendale, GML Pty Ltd, Final June 2020.
- *Darlington Public School Historical Archaeological Assessment*, Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd. September 2019.
- *Environmental Impact Statement Darlington Public School Redevelopment*, Golden Grove Street, Darlington, Ethos Urban 9 June 2020.

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

The current School is not a listed heritage item. It is adjacent to several local council Heritage Conservation Areas and other locally listed heritage items. GML Heritage have found that the proposed development is generally compatible in scale and form with the adjacent areas and items and have recommended a number of mitigation measures such as archival recording, and specific construction methodologies to protect nearby heritage items. These measures are generally appropriate and could be supported by Conditions of Approval.

The Historical Archaeological Assessment by Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd found that the majority of the Darlington Primary School Site does not contain 'relics' within the meaning of the NSW Heritage Act, 1977, and an Unexpected Finds protocol to report any features encountered during building works would be appropriate. Remains associated with the shop on the corner of Abercrombie and Golden Grove Streets may retain some research value and Casey & Lowe have recommended that site should be inspected and tested by an archaeologist after the demolition of the building. If 'relics' are found on the Shop site then a program of archaeological recording is recommended in accordance with the Archaeological Research Design (ARD) provided in Section 6.0 of the Casey & Lowe report, with artefact analysis and final reporting prepared in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines.

These recommendations are considered appropriate. Heritage NSW has noted, however, that the recommendations from Casey & Lowe have not been included in the main EIS report by Ethos Urban. Only the GML report has been referenced and the Mitigation Measures in Sections 5.0 and 7.0 of the EIS do not include the matters recommended by Casey & Lowe.

Consequently, Heritage NSW recommends that the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment considers Conditioning historical archaeology matters as part of any approval. The recommendations made by Casey & Lowe could be implemented as part of a Construction Environmental Management Plan for the project.

As the site is adjacent to other local heritage items, advice should be sought from the relevant local council.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact me at Heritage NSW on 02 9873 8546 or siobhan.lavelle@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



7 July 2020

Dr Siobhan Lavelle OAM

Senior Team Leader, Specialist Services

Heritage NSW

Department of Premier and Cabinet

As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW