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13 November 2018

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta C/-TSA Management Pty Ltd Level 15, 207 Kent Street Sydney NSW 2000

# RE. SANTA SOPHIA CATHOLIC SCHOOL, BOX HILL NORTH ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT ON ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Catholic Education Office Diocese of Parramatta is proposing the construction of the Santa Sophia Catholic School at Box Hill North, NSW ('the proposal'). The proposal forms part of a wider development program at Box Hill North known as 'The Gables'. The proposal area is located north of Red Gables Road, off (future) Fontana Drive. The proposed school site comprises Precinct E.5 within the planned Town Centre at The Gables and is shown in Figures 1-2 (attached).

Kelleher Nightingale Consulting (KNC) was engaged to assess the potential harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage as the result of the proposal. Review of background information, existing assessments and database searches have established that no archaeological sites containing Aboriginal objects exist within the boundaries of the proposed school site.

The entirety of the area has been subject to comprehensive Aboriginal heritage assessment and is covered under an existing Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP). The existing AHIP (AHIP number C0001213) allows for impact to identified Aboriginal heritage within the Box Hill North area. This AHIP is current and includes development work associated with the proposed school.

No further Aboriginal heritage assessment of the Santa Sophia Catholic School proposal is warranted.

#### **Previous Assessment**

KNC has previously completed comprehensive Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage assessment for the overall Box Hill North development. This has included a full consultation process with registered Aboriginal stakeholders. The existing Aboriginal heritage assessment for Box Hill North includes the area for the proposed school site. The following documents have previously been prepared for the area:

- KNC, 2015. Box Hill North: Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (CHAR). Report prepared for APP Corporation Pty Limited on behalf of E.J. Cooper and Son Pty Limited.
- KNC, 2014. Box Hill North Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment: Test Excavation Report. Report prepared for APP Corporation Pty Limited on behalf of E.J. Cooper and Son Pty Limited.
- KNC, 2013. Box Hill North Planning Proposal: Aboriginal Heritage Assessment. Report prepared for APP Corporation Pty Ltd.

No archaeological sites containing Aboriginal objects were identified within the proposed school site.

Identified sites within the wider Box Hill North development area included one isolated artefact (site name BHN 7), a series of artefact scatters (BHN 2-6) and one location with axe grinding grooves (BHN 1) (Figure 3). Sites were identified during an archaeological field survey and subsequent test excavation across the development area.

It was determined that all sites except for grinding groove site BHN 1 would be impacted by the Box Hill North development. BHN 1 was avoided within a no-harm area.

Following the completion of the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment process for Box Hill North, an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) was sought and granted under s.90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* by the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) on 13 July 2015 (AHIP number C0001213).

The existing AHIP allows for impact to identified Aboriginal heritage within the Box Hill North area. This AHIP is current and includes development work associated with the proposed school.

The AHIP included provision for archaeological salvage excavation at certain sites within the Box Hill North development area. Salvage work was completed in stages in August 2015 and September 2017. All sites listed for impact on the AHIP are now destroyed.

The existing Aboriginal heritage assessment process for Box Hill North is compliant with relevant legislation and guidelines, including:

- Code of Practice for archaeological investigation of Aboriginal objects in NSW (OEH 2010a)
- Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW (OEH 2011)
- Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010 (OEH 2010b)
- National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009

#### Database Search (AHIMS)

A search of the OEH Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) was conducted on 13 November 2018 to identify any registered (known) Aboriginal sites within or adjacent to the proposed school site and to confirm the status of sites previously assessed as part of the Box Hill North development (Appendix A).

The AHIMS database search was conducted within the following coordinates (GDA search area):

Easting: 305565 - 306624 Northing: 6276752 - 6278087

Buffer: 0 metres (coordinates included a large buffer around the proposed school site)

Number of records on AHIMS database: 2

The AHIMS search identified no Aboriginal sites within the proposed school site (Figure 3). Sites BHN 7 (45-5-4500) and BHN 5 (45-5-4501) were recorded to the east of the proposal area.

Search results confirmed that these sites (previously assessed as part of the Box Hill North development) have since been destroyed under AHIP C0001213). The findings of the AHIMS search correlate with the findings of the detailed Aboriginal heritage assessments.

In addition, a search was undertaken of the following statutory and non-statutory heritage registers for Aboriginal heritage items:

- State Heritage Register and State Heritage Inventory
- The Hills Local Environmental Plan 2012
- The Hills Development Control Plan 2012
- Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Registers
- National Heritage List
- Commonwealth Heritage List
- Australian Heritage Database
- Australian Heritage Places Inventory
- Register of the National Estate Non-statutory archive.

No Aboriginal archaeological sites or Aboriginal heritage items were recorded on these databases within the proposal area.

#### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

No archaeological sites containing Aboriginal objects exist within the boundaries of proposed school site. The proposal area has been subject to detailed and comprehensive assessment as part of the Box Hill North development. A full consultation process with registered Aboriginal stakeholders has been completed. The existing AHIP C0001213 is active over the proposal area and allows for development work associated with the proposed school.

No further Aboriginal heritage assessment of the proposal is warranted.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 9232 5373 or email Matthew.Kelleher@knconsult.com.au.

Yours sincerely

Dr Matthew Kelleher Director/Archaeologist



Figure 1. Location of proposed school site within The Gables Masterplan

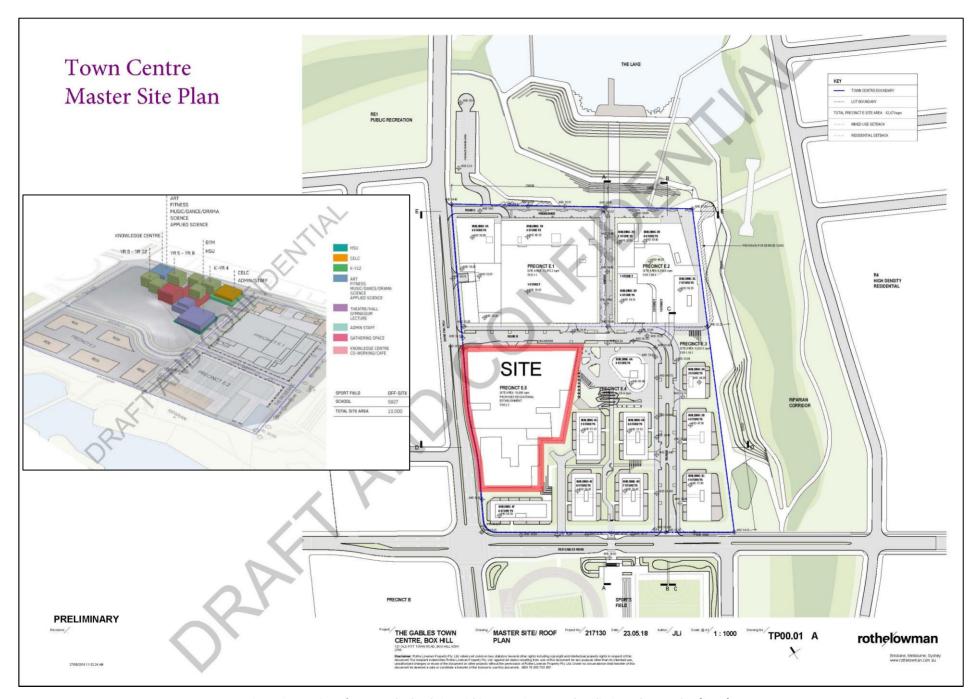


Figure 2. Location of proposed school site within Town Centre and preliminary layout plan (inset)



Figure 3. AHIMS search results

### Appendix A



## **AHIMS Web Services (AWS)**

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number: 1821 BHN School

			253

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	<u>SiteFeatures</u>	<u>SiteTypes</u>	Reports
45-5-4500	Box Hill North 7 (BHN 7)	GDA	56	305998	6277433	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	Recorders	Matt	hew Kellehe	r,Kelleher Nigl	ntingale Consulting l	Pty Ltd,Miss.Kriste	n Taylor <u>Permits</u>	3859	
45-5-4501	Box Hill North 5 (BHN 5)	GDA	56	306267	6277691	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact:-		
	Contact	Recorders	Matt	hew Kellehe	r.Kelleher Nigl	ntingale Consulting	Pty Ltd,Miss.Kriste	n Taylor Permits	3859	

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 13/11/2018 for Cristany Milicich for the following area at Datum: GDA, Zone: 56, Eastings: 305565 - 306624, Northings: 6276752 - 6278087 with a Buffer of 0 meters. Additional Info: Archaeological Assessment. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 2

This information is not guaranteed to be free from error omission. Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) and its employees disclaim liability for any act done or omission made on the information and consequences of such acts or omission.