

Existing view





Proposed view



Existing view Proposed view
MAX REDEVELOPMENT - 31 WHEAT ROAD, DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

3.3.2 MERITON TOWER - VIEW ASSESSMENT V3 UNIT 5602 - L56, LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view in question is a primary view from the living room of a serviced apartment in the north-western corner looking north-west towards the proposal. The view is iconic given the breath of the view, the continuous horizon line and the extent of the water body and water-land interface visible. The view presents distant views to the Balmain peninsula, Blackwattle Bay and Parramatta River. Visible elements of interest include the Maritime Museum and the Anzac Bridge. Alternative views to the north to the CBD, Sydney Harbour and lower north shore are available from the balcony. This view is considered to be of high significance.

Impact of proposal:

The southern and eastern elevations of the proposal will be visible at the centre of the existing view and there will be a partial loss of water views to Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces. The profile of the building is visible against other buildings and there is no loss of the horizon line or sky. The Meriton Tower is located 4 blocks to the south-east of the proposal and it is unreasonable to expect retention of views as redevelopment of the city edge occurs. The sculptural quality of the proposal has the potential to enhance the view and contribute to the cityscape character of the view, particularly at night. Although the impact is moderate, it is considered to be reasonable as water views and the open character of the view is retained.

SIGNIFICANCE: HIGH IMPACT: MODERATE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

V4 UNIT 5604 - L56, LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view in question is a primary view from the living room of a serviced apartment in the north-western corner looking north-west towards the proposal. The view is an iconic view given the openness of the view, the continuous horizon line and the extent of the water body and water-land interface visible. The view presents distant views to the Balmain peninsula, Blackwattle Bay and Parramatta River. Visible elements of interest include the Maritime Museum and the Anzac Bridge. Night time views are animated by the skyline of the city. This view is considered to be of high significance.

Impact of proposal:

The southern and eastern elevations of the proposal will be visible at the centre of the existing view and there will be a partial loss of water views to Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces. The profile of the building is visible against other buildings and there is no loss of the horizon line or sky. The Meriton Tower is located 4 blocks to the south-east of the proposal and it is unreasonable to expect retention of views as redevelopment of the city edge occurs. The sculptural quality of the proposal has the potential to enhance the view and contribute to the cityscape character of the view, particularly at night. Although the impact is moderate, it is considered to be reasonable as water views and the open character of the view is retained.

SIGNIFICANCE: MEDIUM IMPACT: MODERATE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE



Apartment location (internal)

- Balcony location
- View to proposal
- Approx. location of windows (excluding enclosed balconies)







(nts)



Existing view





Proposed view



Existing view Proposed view
IMAX REDEVELOPMENT - 31 WHEAT ROAD, DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

3.4 WORLD TOWER

The World Tower Development is located at the corner of George and Liverpool Streets. This development consists in general of a rectangular tower with angled balconies protruding beyond the façade toward the north end of the tower. This development consists of 84 levels with the upper roof RL at 246.200. Due to the tower's longitudinal axis located in the north-south direction, the western façade of the development will have general views toward the proposal, Darling Harbour and Cockle Bay.

The views selected for testing are from Level 74 (RL 212.290) and Level 56 (RL 165.10). In plan view, the point within the units selected for testing are the living areas of units located on the southern and northern ends of the tower.

A typical plan contains 8 units per level, with 4 units facing in the general direction of the proposal. Meriton Towers is located between The World Tower Development and the proposal. Meriton Towers partly affects the existing views from the northern units of the World Tower blocking existing views to Darling Harbour, the lower north shore and the horizon line.

It is GMU's understanding that the World Tower development is a mixed-use development with residential units as well as serviced apartments. Views to the west are mainly available above other development to the west of George Street Units along the eastern elevation are estimated to have views toward the CBD, Sydney Harbour and the Tasman Sea beyond.



VIEWS FROM WORLD TOWER

In general, the views along the western elevation can be characterised as follows:

- Panoramic views to the northwest toward Darling Harbour and the lower north shore above existing development to the west of George Street.
- City views to the north and south from the end units
- Views to the west toward Tumbalong Park and Anzac Bridge



3.4.1 World Tower - View Assessment

VI UNIT 49.05 - L56, LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view in question is a primary view from the living room of an apartment in the north-western corner looking north-west towards the proposal. Due to its comparable height to other development to the north-west, the view and horizon line is obstructed by existing built form. The lower extent of the view is characterized by the infrastructure elements of the Western Distributor. A small area of Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces are visible. Distant visible elements of significance include the Anzac Bridge and Blackwattle Bay. Alternative views to the north to the CBD, Sydney Harbour and lower north shore are available from the bedrooms. This view is considered to be of medium significance.

Impact of proposal:

The southern elevation of the proposal will be visible at the centre of the existing view, obstructing water views to Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces. The profile of the building is visible against other buildings and there is no loss of the horizon line or sky. The view is already compromised by the existing built form to the north-west. The sculptural quality of the proposal has the potential to enhance the view and contribute to the cityscape character of the view, particularly at night. Although the impact is moderate-significant, it is considered to be reasonable as alternative views to the west capturing Anzac Bridge and Blackwattle Bay are retained.

SIGNIFICANCE: MEDIUM IMPACT: MODERATE-SIGNIFICANT ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

UNIT 49.08 - L56, LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW V2

Description of view:

The view in question is a primary view from the living room of an apartment in the south-western corner looking north-west towards the proposal. The view is open and is characterized by the distant horizon line, the cityscape, and water views of Cockle Bay, Blackwattle Bay and Parramatta River. The lower extent of the view is characterized by the Western Distributor, Darling Quarter and the land-water interfaces of Cockle Bay.Visible elements include Pyrmont Bridge, Anzac Bridge and the Maritime Museum. Alternative open views to the south of Southern Sydney are available from the bedrooms. This view is considered to be of high significance.

Impact of proposal:

The southern and eastern elevations of the proposal will be visible at the centre of the existing view, partially obstructing water views to Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces. The profile of the proposal is visible against other buildings and there is no loss of the horizon line or sky. The view is already compromised by the existing built form to the north-west. The sculptural quality of the proposal has the potential to enhance the view and contribute to the cityscape character of the view, particularly at night.

Although the impact is moderate-significant, it is considered to be reasonable as the breath of the view is retained, as are alternative views to the west capturing Anzac Bridge and Blackwattle Bay.

SIGNIFICANCE: HIGH IMPACT: MODERATE-SIGNIFICANT ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE















Existing view Proposed view
MAX REDEVELOPMENT - 31 WHEAT ROAD, DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

V2

3.4.2 WORLD TOWER - VIEW ASSESSMENT

V3 UNIT 71.03 - L74, LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view is a primary view from the living room of an apartment in the north-western corner looking northwest towards the proposal. The view to the proposal is oblique. The view is iconic given the openness of the view, the continuous horizon line, and extent of the water body and water-land interface visible. The view captures Cockle Bay, part of Darling Harbour, Blackwattle Bay, Parramatta River, Pyrmont and the Balmain Peninsula in the distance. Visible elements of interest include Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum and Anzac Bridge. The lower extent of the view is characterized by the infrastructure elements of the Western Distributor. This view is considered to be of high significance.

Impact of proposal:

The southern and eastern elevations of the proposal will be visible at the centre of the existing view, partially obstructing water views to Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces. The profile of the proposal is visible against other buildings and there is no loss of the horizon line or sky. Although the impact is moderate, it is considered to be reasonable as the majority and most dramatic portion of the view and breath of view is retained on the basis of reasonable view sharing and the lack of height limit and FSR controls affecting site.

SIGNIFICANCE: HIGH IMPACT: MODERATE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

V4 UNIT 71.05 - L74, LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view is a primary view from the living room of an apartment in the south-western corner looking northwest towards the proposal. The view to the proposal is oblique. The view is iconic given the openness of the view, the continuous horizon line, and extent of the water body and water-land interface visible. The view captures Cockle Bay, part of Darling Harbour, Blackwattle Bay, Parramatta River, Pyrmont and the Balmain Peninsula in the distance. Visible elements of interest include Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum and Anzac Bridge. The lower extent of the view is characterized by the infrastructure elements of the Western Distributor. Alternative views to the south to South Sydney are available from the bedrooms. This view is considered to be of high significance.

Impact of proposal:

The southern and eastern elevations of the proposal will be visible at the centre of the existing view, partially obstructing water views to Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces. The profile of the proposal is visible against other buildings and there is no loss of the horizon line or sky. Although the impact is moderate, it is considered to be reasonable as the majority and most dramatic portion of the view and breath of view is retained on the basis of reasonable view sharing and the lack of height limit and FSR controls affecting site.

SIGNIFICANCE: HIGH IMPACT: MODERATE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE









Existing view





Proposed view



Existing view Proposed view
MAX REDEVELOPMENT - 31 WHEAT ROAD, DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

3.5 MILLENNIUM TOWERS

Millennium Towers is bound by Bathurst, Day and Sussex Streets. It is comprised of two elements with the taller tower facing Day Street and Bathurst Street and the lower part of the development being bound by Bathurst, Sussex Streets and James Lane.

According to the typical plan, generally 6 units per level on the western component, facing Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park, will have available views in the general direction of the proposal.

The western component is a 20 storey residential development with the lower 5 levels presented as part of a podium facing Day Street and Bathurst Street. Levels selected for general view testing include Level 20 (RL 62.20) and Level 6 (RL 24.30). In plan view, the selected views correspond to the living areas of units located at the north-western corner of the building.







IMAX REDEVELOPMENT - 3 I WHEAT ROAD, DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

VIEWS FROM THE MILLENNIUM TOWERS

In general, the views along the north-western elevations can be characterised as follows:

- City views to the west and Tumbalong Park with upper levels having a direct view to Anzac Bridge and the western horizon
- Darling Harbour outlooks over the Western Distributor's flyover ramps framed by the Darling Quarter's development to the right and with the existing IMAX to the left.
- Low to medium altitude views framed by existing development
- Views of Harbour Street to the west and alternative city views to the east for the north facing units facing Bathurst Street.



3.5.1 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - VIEW ASSESSMENT VI UNIT 187 - L6, LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view is a primary view from the living room of an apartment located in the north-western looking north-west corner towards the proposal. Due to its relative low level compared to other nearby development, the view is obstructed by existing built form and the Western Distributor. The upper extent of the view is mostly open and is characterized by a large area of sky, the skyline of Pyrmont and a small glimpse of Cockle Bay and the Maritime Museum. Alternative views to the west are available from the balcony and bedrooms. This view is considered to be of low significance.

Impact of proposal:

Most of the eastern and southern elevations of the proposal will be visible at the left edge of the existing view and there is a narrowing of the view corridor. There is a change in the scale and focus of the view and a minor loss of water glimpses. A small area of the sky is retained. The proposal does not detract from the view given the prominence of the existing road infrastructure within the view. Although the impact is moderate-significant, it is considered to be acceptable as the precinct is undergoing a change in the scale of the built form and the level at which the view is obtained which reasonably would be impacted even a low scale extension to the existing envelope of the IMAX and the low quality of the view. Due to the level of significance of the views in general, this development has been selected for further view analysis in Chapter 4 of this report.

SIGNIFICANCE: LOW IMPACT: MODERATE-SIGNIFICANT

V2 UNIT 326 - L20, LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view is a primary view from the living room of an apartment located in the north-western looking north-west corner towards the proposal. The view is broad and characterized by water views of Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces, the skyline of Pyrmont and distant horizon views to the north west. Night time views are animated by the lights of Cockle Bay and Pyrmont. Visible elements of interest include the Anzac Bridge concrete pylons, the Maritime Museum, Pyrmont Bridge and the wharves of Pyrmont Bay. Alternative views to the west are available to Tumbalong Park from the balcony and bedrooms. This view is considered to be of high significance.

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale and focus of the view and it will be the most prominent element in the view. The proposal obstructs views to the Pyrmont skyline, Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces. The extent of the sky is also diminished. Partial views to Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge the Pyrmont Bay wharves and the Balmain Peninsula. Although impacting severely on the existing view, some major elements of the view are retained. Given the location of the existing building and the lack of control limiting development on the subject site, the proposal does follow the principle of view sharing. Although the impact is considered to be severe, it is considered to be acceptable as the precinct is undergoing a change in the scale of the built form and there should not be expectation of the retention of views for properties immediately behind development sites facing Darling Harbour. Due to the level of significance of the views in general, this development has been selected for further view analysis in Chapter 4 of this report.

SIGNIFICANCE: HIGH IMPACT: SEVERE









Apartment location

Approx. location of windows (excluding enclosed balconies)



IMAX REDEVELOPMENT - 31 WHEAT ROAD. DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS





Existing view



V2 Proposed view



3.6 EMPORIO APARTMENTS

Emporio Apartments is located at 339-345 Sussex Street. This proposal is located approximately two city blocks away (approx. 450m) from the water's edge on Cockle Bay and approximately one and a half city blocks (approx.400m) from the proposal.

The proposal is composed of a single tower with a northern lower element and a southern taller element bound by Liverpool Street to the south and Sussex Street to the west. The lower element consists of a tower of 14 storeys with the lower 7 storeys being presented as a podium form. The upper 7 levels are being setback from the northern, western and eastern boundaries. The taller southern portion of the proposal has 15 levels with the upper roof level being located at RL 55.150.

According to the typical plans there are 3 units along the lower western façade for levels 1 through 12 that will have general views to the proposal and Cockle Bay. There is generally only one unit per level on the taller tower to the south that will generally have views towards the proposal. In plan view this unit is located on the north western corner of this development.

Views for general testing have been selected at Level 12 (FSL 46.450) and Level 6 (FSL 29.050). In plan view, the views for testing on Levels 6 and 12 are of the living area of the north-western unit.



Day Street elevation of the 'Emporio Apartments'



LEVEL 12 (Floor 13)

Typical floorplates of the 'Emporio Apartments'

VIEWS FROM THE EMPORIO APARTMENTS

In general, the views along the north-western elevations can be characterised as follows:

- City views to the west, Tumbalong Park and the Chinese Garden of Friendship with upper levels having a direct view to Anzac Bridge and the western horizon line;
- City views to the north along Harbour Street;
- Darling Harbour outlooks over the Western Distributor's flyover ramps framed by the Darling Quarter's development to the right and the recent Tumbalong Park Development to the left;
- Low to medium altitude views framed by existing development, and
- Alternative city view toward the east and southeast for upper level terraces and units with dual aspect to the east.



3.6.1 EMPORIO APARTMENTS - VIEW ASSESSMENT VI UNIT 6-03 - L6, LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view is a primary view from the living room of the apartment in the north-western corner looking northwest towards the proposal. Due to its relatively low level compared to other development on the other side of Harbour Street, the majority of the view is enclosed by substantial built form and the Western Distributor. The view presents a very small glimpse of Cockle Bay and the Maritime Museum in the distance. The view is considered to be of low significance.

Impact of proposal:

Most of the southern elevation of the proposal will be visible at the centre of the existing view and there is a change in the scale and focus of the view and a minor loss of water glimpses. The majority of the sky is retained and the sculptural quality of the architecture has the potential to enhance the view, particularly at night. Although the impact is moderate, it is considered to be acceptable as the precinct is undergoing a change in the scale of the built form. Also even a low scale form on the IMAX site would impact the views and obscure the water and land interface. Due to the level of significance of the views in general, this development has been selected for further view analysis in Chapter 4 of this report.

SIGNIFICANCE: LOW IMPACT: MODERATE

V2 UNIT 1202 - L12, LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view in question is a primary view from the living room of the apartment in the north-western corner looking north-west towards the proposal. Due to its relatively comparable height to other development to the north-west, the view and horizon line is partially obstructed by existing built form. The view presents water views of Cockle Bay and Darling Harbour and associated land-water interfaces. Visible elements of interest include Pyrmont Bridge and the Maritime Museum. This view if considered to be of medium-high significance.

Impact of proposal:

Most of the southern elevation of the proposal will be visible at the centre of the existing view and there is a change in the scale and focus of the view and a moderate loss of water views. The views of Pyrmont Bridge and the Pyrmont Bay wharves are retained. Although the impact is moderate-significant, it is considered to be acceptable as the view is already obstructed by road infrastructure and existing built form and the proposal achieves acceptable view sharing. The development potential of the site (which is not constrained by height or FSR controls) would be significantly reduced if the existing view was required to be retained. Due to the level of significance of the views in general, this development has been selected for further view analysis in Chapter 4 of this report.

SIGNIFICANCE: MEDIUM-HIGH IMPACT: MODERATE-SIGNIFICANT







IMAX REDEVELOPMENT - 31 WHEAT ROAD, DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS







Existing view IMAX REDEVELOPMENT - 31 WHEAT ROAD, DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS



VI

3.7 The Peak Apartments

The Peak Apartments are located at No. 2 Quay Street, Hay Market. This proposal is located approximately 900m from the water's edge on Cockle Bay and approximately 850m from the proposal. This development consists of a single residential tower with 53 levels. The upper level of the upper most penthouse is located on Level 50.

Based on the typical plans, the lower levels of the tower have approximately 6 apartments per level while the upper levels have only 4 units per level. Due to the orientation of the tower, 3 units on the lower levels and two on the upper levels on the north elevation will have general views toward the proposal, Cockle Bay and Darling Harbour.

It is important to note that views from the Peak Apartments will be detrimentally affected by the proposed SICEEP tower that is located to the south of Tumbalong Park. The proposal will generally not contribute to any further view loss for most of the units in the Peak Apartments. This is already well documented in Appendix 2 of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the SICEEP by JBA dated March 2012. Views from this report that illustrate the level of impact to the Peak Apartments are views P1A, P2A, P3A, P3B.







(nts)

Based on the findings of the JBA report, GMU understands that views to the proposal from the Peak Apartments will only be available above Level 40 (L45) which is the estimated height of some of the proposed SICEEP buildings. Therefore, views for testing have been selected above this level.

Views selected for general view testing are located on L49 (Level 44 at RL 136.525) and L45 (Level 40 at RL 125.125). In plan view, the selected views are from living areas of the north-western unit looking toward the north. Please note that the approved SICEEP building envelopes have also been modelled in the view to assess the proposal's level of impact taking into account the impact from the SICEEP as well.

VIEWS FROM THE PEAK APARTMENTS

In general, the views along the north elevations can be characterised as follows:

- Panoramic views to the north toward Darling Harbour and the lower north shore above existing development on Tumbalong Park; and
- City views to the west and east from units facing in those directions and from corner units that also enjoy views to Cockle Bay.



3.7.1 THE PEAK APARTMENTS - VIEW ASSESSMENT VI LEVEL 40/ H2(L45) - LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view is a primary view from the living room of an apartment in the north-western corner looking north towards the proposal. The view is iconic given the breath of the view, the continuous horizon line, and extent of the water body and water-land interface visible. The view captures the western edge of the CBD, Pyrmont, Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, Darling Harbour, the Balmain Peninsula, Goat Island, Balls Head Reserve and the lower north shore. The lower extent of the view captures Tumbalong Park, the Chinese Garden of Friendship, the Darling Quarter, and the Western Distributor. Alternative views of the horizon line, lower north shore and Anzac Bridge are available to the north and west from balconies and bedrooms. This view is considered to be of high significance.

Impact of proposal:

The southern elevation of the proposal will be visible at the centre of the existing view, partially obstructing water views to Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces. The profile of the proposal is visible against other buildings and there is no loss of the horizon line or sky. The views north to the Balmain Peninsula are retained. The sculptural quality of the proposal has the potential to enhance the view and contribute to the cityscape character of the view, particularly at night. The impact is considered to be minor and reasonable as the open character of the view is retained and the majority of the proposal will be contained behind the SICEEP proposal.

SIGNIFICANCE: HIGH IMPACT: MINOR ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

LEVEL 44/ PENTHOUSE I (L49) - LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW V2

Description of view:

The view in question is a primary view from the living room of an apartment in the north-western corner looking north towards the proposal. The view is iconic given the openness of the view, the continuous horizon line, and extent of the water body and water-land interface visible. The view captures the western edge of the CBD, Pyrmont, Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, Darling Harbour, the Balmain Peninsula, Goat Island, Balls Head Reserve and the lower north shore. The lower extent of the view captures Tumbalong Park, the Chinese Garden of Friendship, the Darling Quarter, and the Western Distributor. Alternative views of the horizon line, lower north shore and Anzac Bridge are available to the north and west from balconies and bedrooms. In summary this view is considered to be of high significance.

Impact of proposal:

The southern elevation of the proposal will be visible at the centre of the existing view, partially obstructing water views to Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces. The profile of the proposal is visible against other buildings and there is no loss of the horizon line or sky. Views due north to the Balmain Peninsula are retained. The sculptural quality of the proposal has the potential to enhance the view and contribute to the cityscape character of the view, particularly at night. The impact is considered to be minor and reasonable as the open character of the view is retained, and the majority of the proposal will be contained behind the SICEEP proposal.

SIGNIFICANCE: HIGH IMPACT: MINOR ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE











Existing view





Proposed view



3.8 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

GMU conducted view testing for 6 different developments in the vicinity of the proposal. These include 2 commercial facilities: Meriton Towers and PARKROYAL Hotel, one mixed use facility; World Tower, and three residential facilities; Millennium Towers, Emporio Apartments and The Peak Apartments. The number of views tested as part of the general view testing is a total of 20 views.

PARKROYAL Hotel - In general, the significance of the views from the PARKROYAL Hotel were found to be low to medium with the impact levels ranging from minor to moderate and two instances of significant impact. In general, the impact was found to be reasonable in light of the commercial nature of this development with the majority of the views being of low significance. This combines with the majority of the views suffering only a minor to moderate impact. This development has not been selected for further detail view analysis.

Meriton Towers – In general, the views from this development were found to be of medium to high significance. The level of impact for all the views was moderate and the acceptability of the impact was considered to be reasonable, in light of the commercial nature of this development. This development has not been selected for further detailed view analysis.

World Towers - The views from this development were found to be generally of high significance. The level of impact for all the views was moderate to significant with some instances of the proposal providing an improvement to the view. The acceptability of the view was considered to be reasonable and this development has not been selected for further detailed view analysis.

Millennium Towers - The views from this development were found to be generally of low to high significance and the level of impact is considered to be severe to significant. Therefore this development was selected for detailed view analysis, which is discussed in Chapter 4 of this report.

Emporio Apartments - The views from this development were found to be generally of low to medium significance and the level of impact is considered to be moderate to significant. Therefore this development was selected for detailed view analysis, which is discussed in Chapter 4 of this report.

The Peak Apartments - The views from this development were found to be generally of high significance. The level of impact was considered to be low in light of the potential impacts from the approved envelops of the southern towers of the SICEEP. Therefore this development has not been selected for further detailed view analysis.

As a result of the general view analysis discussed in this chapter of the report, GMU has concluded that further detailed testing should be conducted for the Millennium Towers and the Emporio Apartments. This will be discussed in the following chapter of this report.

A summary of our assessment is presented below.

Development	Level	Description	View	Significance (see Sect. 3)	Impact	Acceptability
PARKROYAL						Reasonable
Coffee Shop	R/Mez	Coffee Shop Standing	VI	Low	Minor	Reasonable
Unit 316	5	Bedroom/Studio Standing	V2	Low	Minor	Reasonable
Unit 325	5	Bedroom/Studio Standing	V3	Low	Significant	Reasonable
Unit 331	5	Bedroom/Studio Standing	V4	Low	Significant	Reasonable
Club Lounge	9	Standing Location I	V5	Medium	Moderate	Reasonable
		Standing Location 2	V6	Medium	Moderate	Reasonable
MERITON TOW	/ER					
Unit 3802	38	Living Area Standing	VI	High	Moderate	Reasonable
Unit 3803	38	Living Area Standing	V2	High	Moderate	Reasonable
Unit 5602	56	Living Area Standing	V3	Medium	Moderate	Reasonable
Unit 5604	56	Living Area Standing	V4	Medium	Moderate	Reasonable
WORLD TOWE	R					
Unit 49.05	56	Living Area Standing	VI	High	Moderate	Reasonable
Unit 49.08	56	Living Area Standing	V2	High	Moderate	Reasonable
Unit 71.03	74	Living Area Standing	V3	Medium	Moderate	Reasonable
Unit 71.05	74	Living Area Standing	V4	High	Significant	Reasonable
MILLENNIUM T	OWER					
Unit 187	6	Living Area Standing	VI	High	Severe	N/A*
Unit 326	20	Living Area Standing	V2	Low	Significant	N/A*
EMPORIO APAR	 RTMENTS		_			
Unit 6-03	6	Living Area Standing	VI	Medium	Significant	N/A*
Unit 1202	12	Living Area Standing	V2	Low	Moderate	N/A*
THE PEAK						
	40	Living Area Standing	VI	High	Minor	Reasonable
	44	Living Area Standing	V2	High	Minor	Reasonable

*Views selected for detailed testing as discussed in Chapter 4 of this report.





4.1 INTRODUCTION AND SELECTION OF VIEWS

Based on the findings of the general testing discussed in the previous chapter, GMU conducted further detailed photorealistic analysis of visual impacts on individual objectors of the Millennium Towers and the Emporio Apartments.

A broad range of views have been documented for each of the units viewed and the most significantly affected views have been selected for photorealistic testing. The study focusses on primary view locations (enclosed and open balconies and living areas) where possible. Views from bedrooms and alternative views were also documented for each of the units viewed. However, not all of the alternative views were selected for an impact analysis. The photographic documentation was carried out based on Land and Environment Court certifiable guidelines with a professional surveyor and photographer.

FORMAT OF ASSESSMENT

The selected images have been grouped by unit in an ascending order for the levels. 'Existing' and 'proposed' (before and after) computer generated perspectives are shown adjacent to each other, with key alternative views from the same location, where these are available. Enclosed and open balcony/terrace views are shown mainly from a standing position; only with a few instances of seating positions were documented if they were available within the unit. Internal views are shown from the seated position when this was representative of the actual furniture layout of the unit. Otherwise, only standing views were documented. The eye level at a standing position has been calculated at approximately between 1557 - 1559mm and the seated position at approximately 1221 -1225mm.

For each group of views, an analysis of the view itself, how it is gained and the impact of the proposal on each view is presented. This analysis is structured to describe the original quality of the view and quality of impact, leading to an overall conclusion as to the acceptability or not of the proposal on the quality of the view.

The analysis of each view concludes with a categorized summary of the view significance, the proposal's impact, its overall acceptability and any mitigation measures that may be proposed. A description of the 'view significance', level of 'impact' and level of 'acceptability' (as described in Chapter 2 of this report) is shown adjacent to each view.

4.2 MILLENNIUM TOWERS

Individual unit access and viewings for the Millennium Towers were coordinated directly with the Strata Management and/or Executive Committee and access was given on December 19th 2013 to a broad range of units at various levels and locations within the development.

Across the height of the building, access was given to the following levels and units:

- Level 8 Apartment 209;
- Level 12 Apartment 251;
- Level 15 Apartment 293;
- Level 17 Apartment 305;
- Level 19 Apartments 322 and 324;
- Level 20 & 21 Apartment 329;

Views have been selected for each apartment from the following locations where they have the potential to be affected:

- balconies (enclosed or open); and
- a minimum of I window with a preference for a living area i.e. Family, living or dining (from seated and standing positions).

The diagram and floor plans overleaf show the location and levels for the views chosen.

LOCATION OF VIEWS INVESTIGATED





Typical floorplates of the 'Millennium Towers'



Cross section of the 'Millennium Towers'

IMAX REDEVELOPMENT - 31 WHEAT ROAD, DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

4.2.1 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 209, L8 (VI) VI LIVING AREA. STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

The view in question is the primary view from a standing position in the living room of the north-west unit on Level 8. The view is characterized by its openness with views of the Pyrmont skyline and distant glimpses to the north-west horizon. The view includes a glimpse of Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces and the Maritime Museum. This view is considered to be of a medium significance.

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale of the view and it will become the most prominent element within the view. The level of impact is considered to be severe-devastating. The impact to this view is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal and the extent of sky and water views that is lost.

Mitigation measures have been considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view. A significant reduction of the building curvature to the east will only be achieved by relocating a substantial portion of the building toward the west or extending the height of the proposal, resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of the Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park.

In addition, the extent of constraints affecting the site due to the flyover ramps results in a very small available floorplate area of less than 1,100sqm for a more traditional vertical tower. This would result in a reduction from a Premium Grade to an A-Grade commercial building rating according to the "Office Quality Grade Matrix by the Property Council of Australia, 2006". An A-Grade building would offer floorplates much smaller than those proposed for Barangaroo of 2,300sqm+ (www.lendlease. com). This will compromise the proposal's ability to compete with the future scale of development envisioned in Barangaroo and it may affect its overall viability.

In addition, a narrow more vertical tower will still intrude into the sky plane of this unit and will result in increased overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and loss of the 'valley floor' form currently respected by the development.

Other mitigation measures considered included a sharper tapering of the lower levels of the eastern curvature of the tower to allow an increased retention of Cockle Bay water glimpses and land interfaces. However, this will allow only a marginal increase in the view retained and potentially compromise the structural integrity of the proposal.

In general, the level of impact to this unit is severe-devastating, however, it is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors being:

- Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.
- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.

Key plan of view:



• A more skilful reduction of the lower levels of the curvature will not mitigate the overall apparent scale of the proposal and will compromise the finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and required alignment of the inclined structural members.

Location of view:

• The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line, Pyrmont Bridge, and the Maritime Museum.

A reduction of the building curvature from the east or the relocation of building mass to the west would ultimately result in greater overshadowing of Tumbalong Park. The improved retention of the view of this unit (and I other unit that has been found to have a severe to devastating impact on a view) needs to be weighed against the impacts to a highly utilised public open space. Therefore, the level of impact is considered to be reasonable.







Existing View

Proposed View

VI – SIGNIFICANCE: MEDIUM IMPACT: SEVERE-DEVASTATING ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE



MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 209, L8 (V2) 4.2.2

LIVING AREA, SITTING VIEW V2

Description of view:

View 2 is the primary view from a seated position in the living room of the north-west unit on Level 8. The view is constrained due to the height of the sill and is characterized by a glimpse of the Pyrmont skyline, the existing built form to the north-west, and a large area of sky visible. This view is considered to be of low significance.

Impact of proposal:

Part of the southern and eastern elevations will be visible at the left-centre of the existing views. There will be a change in the scale and focus of the views and it will be the most prominent element in the view.The proposal obstructs the view of the Pyrmont skyline however the horizon is still visible to the right of the proposal. The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view sharing" and the level of impact is considered to be moderate and therefore reasonable.

V2 – SIGNIFICANCE: LOW **IMPACT: MODERATE** ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

Key plan of view:



Location of view:







Existing View



Proposed View



4.2.3 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 209, L8 (V3)

V3 BALCONY, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

View 3 is from the balcony of the north-west unit on Level 8. Due to the relatively low elevation of the unit compared with the adjacent development, the view is obstructed by existing built form and the elevated ramps of the Western Distributor. The view towards the proposal is an oblique, secondary view taken from the southern corner of the balcony. It includes a glimpse of Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum, the Pyrmont skyline, and constrained long distance views to the north west. This view is considered to be of medium significance. Alternative views to Cockle Bay the north (A1) and the Darling Quarter to the west (A2, A3) are retained (please see overleaf on page 61).

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale of the view and the proposal will become the most prominent element in the view. The level of impact is considered to be devastating even though the quality of the view has been categorised as medium significance. It is important to note that the level of impact to this view is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal within the view and the extent of water that is lost, including land/water interfaces.

Mitigation measures have been considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view. A significant reduction of the building curvature to the east will only be achieved by relocating a substantial portion of the building toward the west or extending the height of the proposal, resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park.

The current form has been derived following many months of redesign and negotiations with DoPI in order to avoid overshadowing to the park at critical times of the day and to preserve a critical width of the view corridor between the proposal and the SICEEP.

In addition, the extent of constraints affecting the site due to the flyover ramps results in a very small available floorplate area of less than 1,100sqm for a more traditional vertical tower. This would result in a reduction from a Premium Grade to an A-Grade commercial building rating according to the "Office Quality Grade Matrix by the Property Council of Australia, 2006". An A-Grade building would offer floorplates much smaller than those proposed for Barangaroo of 2,300sqm+ (www.lendlease. com). This will compromise the proposal's ability to compete with the future scale of development envisioned in Barangaroo and it may affect its overall viability. In addition, a narrow more vertical tower will still intrude into the sky plane of this unit and will result in increased overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and loss of the 'valley floor' form currently respected by the development.

Other mitigation measures considered included a sharper tapering of the lower levels of the eastern curvature of the tower to allow a greater retention of Cockle Bay water glimpses and land interfaces. However, this will allow only a marginal increase in the view retained and will potentially compromise the structural integrity of the proposal as the form requires a 'tie-floor' structural solution. This requires the angle of the taper to align with nodal points at the intersections of floor levels and columns on selected floors.

Key plan of view:



Location of view:

The curvature along the eastern edge is the result of a finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and the required alignment of the inclined structural members. This limits the extent to which the slab edges can be cantilevered beyond the inclined supports and therefore a more tapered solution may not be structurally possible. While this mitigation measure might assist in preserving a marginally larger extent of water and land interface from this unit, this will not be useful in the overall mitigation of the perceived scale of the proposal. While some of these measures would be helpful in the partial retention of the view for this unit, they will compromise the development potential of the proposal and result in impacts to the public domain.

Due to the low elevation of the unit, the significance of the view is considered to be medium due to the dominant presence of the highway infrastructure and existing built form, with very limited areas of land/water interface.





Existing View

The level of impact to this unit is regrettable, however, this needs to be considered and balanced against the overall employment and economic benefits to the area of the development. On this basis, the level of impact is considered reasonable. No mitigation measures are recommended as:

- There are no applicable controls to the site and therefore the proposal is considered to be a compliant development.
- The view to the proposal is oblique and taken from the southern corner of the balcony.
- An alternative built form of similar height to the existing IMAX (across the width of the land available for development) will have similar impacts in terms of the overall reduction of water and land interface.
- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for lower level views and for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.
- The general change in scale taking place around Darling Harbour including Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties behind development sites facing Darling Harbour will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to allow the redevelopment of the precinct.

In general, the level of impact to this unit is devastating. It is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors being:

 Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.



Proposed View

- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.
- A more skilful reduction of the lower levels of the curvature will not mitigate the overall apparent scale of the proposal and will compromise the finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and required alignment of the inclined structural members.
- The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line, a glimpse of Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum and some water and land interfaces to the south and north of Pyrmont Bridge.

A reduction of the building curvature from the east or the relocation of building mass to the west would ultimately result in greater overshadowing of Tumbalong Park. The improved retention of the view of this unit (and I other unit that has been found to have a severe to devastating impact on a view) needs to be weighed against the impacts to a highly utilised public open space. Therefore, the level of impact is considered to be reasonable.

V3, SIGNIFICANCE: MEDIUM IMPACT: DEVASTATING ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

4.2.4 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 209, L8 (V4)

V4 DINING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

View 4 is the primary view from the dining area of the north-west unit on Level 8. Due to the relatively low elevation of the unit compared with the adjacent development the view is obstructed by existing built form and the elevated ramps of the Western Distributor. The view is direct to the west and is characterized by the existing built form of the Darling Quarter and the Western Distributor. This view is considered to be of low significance. Alternative views to Cockle Bay the north (A1) and the Darling Quarter to the west (A2,A3) are retained.

Impact of proposal:

A small part of the southern elevation of the proposal will be visible at the right edge of the existing view and there is a change in the scale and focus of the view. The proposal will replace the existing IMAX building which is not considered to be of iconic quality. Due to the visibility of the motorway infrastructure and the low significance of the existing view, the sculptural quality of the proposal has the potential to contribute to the cityscape of the view, particularly at night.

Due to the low elevation of the unit, the significance of the view is considered to be low due to the dominant presence of the highway infrastructure and existing built form, with very limited areas of land/water interface.

The impact of the proposal is considered to be moderate due to the reduced extent of sky. In determining the acceptability of this impact a number of considerations have been taken into account. These include:

- The absence of applicable controls to the site and the proposal is considered to be a compliant development.
- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for lower level views and for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.
- The general change in scale taking place around Darling Harbour including Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties behind development sites facing Darling Harbour will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to allow the redevelopment of the precinct.

Whilst there will be a change in the scale and focus of the view, on balance it is considered that the impact is reasonable and therefore acceptable.

V4 – SIGNIFICANCE: LOW IMPACT: MODERATE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

Key plan of view:



Location of view:





Existing View



Proposed View

Alternative retained views





V4

4.2.5 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 251, L12 (V5-V6)

V5 LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW, AND

V6 LIVING AREA, SITTING VIEW

Description of view:

Views 5 and 6 are primary views from the living room of a mid-block unit along the western boundary on Level 12. The views to the proposal are oblique and include a standing view (V5) and a seated position (V6) within the same apartment. Due to the relatively low elevation of the unit compared with the adjacent development, both views are obstructed by existing built form and the elevated ramps of the Western Distributor. The standing view is enclosed by the soffit of the balcony above and includes a glimpse of Anzac Bridge, and part of the Pyrmont skyline. This view is considered to be of low significance. The seated view is characterized by the same elements, yet is further constrained due to the height of the balustrade. This view is considered to be of low significance.

Impact of proposal:

Part of the southern elevation of the proposal will be visible at the right edge of the existing view and there is a change in the scale and focus of the view. Distant views to Anzac Bridge are lost and the scale of the proposal reduces the width of, and sky within, the view. The proposal will replace the existing IMAX building which is not considered to be of iconic quality. Due to the visibility of the motorway infrastructure and the low significance of the existing view, the sculptural quality of the proposal has the potential to contribute to the cityscape of the view, particularly at night.

The impact of the proposal is considered to be moderate primarily due to the reduction in the width of the view and the depth perceived. In determining the acceptability of this impact a number of considerations need to be taken into account. These include:

- The absence of applicable controls to the site and the proposal is considered to be a compliant development.
- The view to the proposal is oblique.
- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for lower level views and for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.

Whilst there will be a change in the scale and focus of the view, on balance it is considered that the impact is reasonable and therefore acceptable.

V5,V6 – SIGNIFICANCE: LOW IMPACT: MODERATE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

Key plan of view:



Location of view:







ExistingView



ExistingView







Proposed View

4.2.6 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 251, L12 (V7)

V7 BALCONY, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

View 7 is from the balcony of a mid-block unit along the western boundary on Level 12. The view to the proposal is oblique and taken from the southern corner of the balcony. Due to the relatively low elevation of the unit compared with the adjacent development, the lower extent of the view is partially obstructed by existing built form and the Western Distributor. The centre of the view is relatively unobstructed and includes Cockle Bay, Anzac Bridge, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum, the Pyrmont skyline, the Pyrmont Bay wharves and distant views to the north west horizon. This view is considered to be of medium-high significance.

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale of the view and it will become the most prominent element within the view. Therefore, the level of impact is considered to be severe. It is important to note that the level of impact to this view is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal within the view and the extent of sky and water that is lost, including land/water interface.

Mitigation measures have been considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view. A significant reduction of the building curvature to the east will only be achieved by relocating a substantial portion of the building toward the west or extending the height of the proposal, resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of the Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park.

In addition, the extent of constraints affecting the site due to the flyover ramps results in a very small available floorplate area of less than 1,100sqm for a more traditional vertical tower. This would result in a reduction from a Premium Grade to an A-Grade commercial building rating according to the "Office Quality Grade Matrix by the Property Council of Australia, 2006". An A-Grade building would offer floorplates much smaller than those proposed for Barangaroo of 2,300sqm+ (www.lendlease. com). This will compromise the proposal's ability to compete with the future scale of development envisioned in Barangaroo and it may affect its overall viability.

In addition, a narrow more vertical tower will still intrude into the sky plane of this unit and will result in increased overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and loss of the 'valley floor' form currently respected by the development.

Due to the low elevation of the unit, the significance of the view is considered to be medium-high due to the dominant presence of the highway infrastructure and existing built form, with limited areas of land/water interface.

The level of impact to this unit is regrettable. This needs to be considered and balanced against the overall employment and economic benefits to the area. The level of impact is considered to be reasonable based on the following reasons:

• There are no applicable controls to the site and therefore the proposal is considered to be a compliant development.

Key plan of view:



Location of view:

- The view to the proposal is oblique and taken from the southern corner of the balcony.
- An alternative built form of similar height to the existing IMAX (across the width of the land available for development) will have similar impacts in terms of the overall reduction of water and land interface.
- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for lower level views and for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.
- The general change in scale taking place around Darling Harbour including Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties behind development sites facing Darling Harbour will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to allow the redevelopment of the precinct.


Existing View

The level of impact to this unit is severe. However, it is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors being:

- Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.
- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.
- A more skilful reduction of the lower levels of the curvature will not mitigate the overall apparent scale of the proposal and will compromise the finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and required alignment of the inclined structural members.
- The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line above the Balmain Peninsula, a glimpse of Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, and the Pyrmont Bay wharves.

V7 -SIGNIFICANCE: MEDIUM - HIGH IMPACT: SEVERE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE



Proposed View



4.2.7 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 293, LI5 (V8-V9)

V8 LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW, AND

V9 LIVING AREA, SITTING VIEW

Description of view:

Views 8 and 9 are primary views from the living room of a unit close to the south-west corner on Level 15. The views to the proposal are oblique and include a standing view (V8) and a seated position (V9) within the same apartment. Due to the relatively low elevation of the unit compared with the adjacent development, both views are obstructed by existing built form. The standing view is enclosed by the soffit of the balcony on the level above and includes a glimpse of Anzac Bridge, and the Pyrmont skyline. This view is considered to be of low significance. The seated view is characterized by the same elements, yet it is constrained due to the height of the solid portion of the balustrade. This view is considered to be of low significance.

Impact of proposal:

A small part of the southern elevation of the proposal will be visible at the left edge of the existing view. The proposal will replace the existing view to the IMAX building which is not considered to be of iconic quality. The distant view to Anzac Bridge is retained. Due to the low significance of the existing view, and the fact that the view to the proposal is oblique, the impact is considered to be reasonable and therefore acceptable.

V8,V9 – SIGNIFICANCE: LOW IMPACT: MINOR CONCLUSION: REASONABLE

Key plan of view:



Location of view:



Approx. location of windows (excluding enclosed balconies)



Existing View



Existing View





Proposed View



V9

V8

4.2.8 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 293, L15 (V10) VI0 BALCONY, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

View 10 is from the balcony of a unit at the south-west corner on Level 15. The view to the proposal is oblique and taken from the southern corner of the balcony. The character of the view is expansive with a large area of sky visible, although it is partially obstructed by existing built form and the Western Distributor. The centre of the view is relatively unobstructed and includes Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum, the Pyrmont skyline, the Pyrmont Bay wharves and distant views to the north west horizon. This view is considered to be of medium-high significance. Alternative views to the south-west long Harbour Street are retained (A1).

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale of the view and it will become the most prominent element in the view. The level of impact is considered to be severe. It is important to note that the level of impact to this view is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal within the view and the extent of sky and water that is lost, including land/water interfaces.

Mitigation measures have been considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view. A significant reduction of the building curvature to the east will only be achieved by relocating a substantial portion of the building toward the west or extending the height of the proposal, resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of the Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park.

In addition, the extent of constraints affecting the site due to the flyover ramps results in a very small available area of less than 1,100sqm for a more traditional vertical tower. This would result in a reduction from a Premium Grade to an A-Grade commercial building rating according to the "Office Quality Grade Matrix by the Property Council of Australia, 2006". An A-Grade building would offer floorplates much smaller than those proposed for Barangaroo of 2,300sqm+ (www.lendlease. com). This will compromise the proposal's ability to compete with the future scale of development envisioned in Barangaroo and it may affect its overall viability.

In addition, a narrow more vertical tower will still intrude into the sky plane of this unit and will result in increased overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and loss of the 'valley floor' form currently respected by the development.

Due to the low elevation of the unit, the significance of the view is considered to be medium-high due to the dominant presence of the highway infrastructure and existing built form, with limited areas of land/water interface.

The level of impact to this unit is regrettable. This needs to be considered and weighted against the overall employment and economic benefits to the area. Therefore, the level of impact is considered to be reasonable based on the following reasons:

• There are no applicable controls to the site and therefore the proposal is considered to be a compliant development.

Key plan of view:



- The view to the proposal is oblique and taken from the southern corner of the balcony.
- An alternative built form of similar height to the existing IMAX (across the width of the land available for development) will have a similar impact in terms of the overall reduction of water and land interface.

Location of view:

- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for lower level views and for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.
- The general change in scale taking place around Darling Harbour including Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties behind development sites facing Darling Harbour will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to allow the redevelopment of the precinct.



Existing View

In general, the level of impact to this unit is severe; however, it is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors:

- Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.
- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.
- A more skilful reduction of the lower levels of the curvature will not mitigate the overall apparent scale of the proposal and will compromise the finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and required alignment of the inclined structural members.
- The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line above the Balmain Peninsula, a glimpse of Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, and the Pyrmont Bay wharves.
- Alternative views to the south-west are unaffected

V10 – SIGNIFICANCE: MEDIUM-HIGH IMPACT: SEVERE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE



Proposed View

Alternative retained views





4.2.9 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 305, L17 (VII)

VII LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

View 11 is the primary view from a standing position in the living room of the north-west unit on Level 17. The view is characterized by its openness, with water views of Cockle Bay and associated land-water interfaces, Pyrmont Bridge, a partial view of Darling Harbour, Anzac Bridge, the Pyrmont skyline, the Pyrmont Bay Wharves and distant views to the north-west horizon. This view is considered to be of high significance.

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale of the view and the proposal will become the most prominent element in the view. The level of impact is considered to be severe. It is important to note that the level of impact to this view is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal within the view and the extent of water that is lost, including land/water interfaces.

Mitigation measures have been considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view. A significant reduction of the building curvature to the east will only be achieved by relocating a substantial portion of the building toward the west or extending the height of the proposal, resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park.

The current form has been derived following many months of redesign and negotiations with DoPl in order to avoid overshadowing to the park at critical times of the day and to preserve a critical width of the view corridor between the proposal and the SICEEP.

In addition, the extent of constraints affecting the site due to the flyover ramps results in a very small available floorplate area of less than 1,100sqm for a more traditional vertical tower. This would result in a reduction from a Premium Grade to an A-Grade commercial building rating according to the "Office Quality Grade Matrix by the Property Council of Australia, 2006". An A-Grade building would offer floorplates much smaller than those proposed for Barangaroo of 2,300sqm+ (www.lendlease. com). This will compromise the proposal's ability to compete with the future scale of development envisioned in Barangaroo and it may affect its overall viability.

In addition, a narrow more vertical tower will still intrude into the sky plane of this unit and will result in increased overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and loss of the 'valley floor' form currently respected by the development.

Other mitigation measures considered included a sharper tapering of the lower levels of the eastern curvature of the tower to allow a greater retention of Cockle Bay water glimpses and land interfaces. However, this will allow only a marginal increase in the view retained and will potentially compromise the structural integrity of the proposal as the form requires a 'tie-floor' structural solution. This requires the angle of the taper to align with nodal points at the intersections of floor levels and columns on selected floors.

Key plan of view:



Location of view:

The curvature along the eastern edge is the result of a finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and the required alignment of the inclined structural members. This limits the extent to which the slab edges can be cantilevered beyond the inclined supports and therefore a more tapered solution may not be structurally possible. While this mitigation measure might assist in preserving a marginally larger extent of water and land interface from this unit, this will not be useful in the overall mitigation of the perceived scale of the proposal. While some of these measures would be helpful in the partial retention of the view for this unit, they will compromise the development potential of the proposal and result in impacts to the public domain.

The level of impact to this unit is regrettable, however, this needs to be considered and balanced against the overall employment and economic benefits to the area of the development. On this basis, the level of impact is considered reasonable. No mitigation measures are recommended as:

- There are no applicable controls to the site and therefore the proposal is considered to be a compliant development.
- An alternative built form of similar height to the existing IMAX (across the width of the



Existing View

land available for development) will have a similar impact in terms of the overall reduction of water and land interface.

- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.
- The general change in scale taking place around Darling Harbour including Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties behind development sites facing Darling Harbour will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to allow the redevelopment of the precinct.

In general, the level of impact to this unit is severe; however, it is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors:

- Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.
- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.
- A more skilful reduction of the lower levels of the curvature will not mitigate the overall apparent scale of the proposal and will compromise the finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and required alignment of the inclined structural members.



Proposed View

• The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line, a glimpse of Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum, and some water and land interface to the south and north of Pyrmont Bridge.

VII – SIGNIFICANCE: HIGH IMPACT: SEVERE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE



MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 305, L17 (V12) 4.2.10

V12 LIVING AREA, SITTING VIEW

Description of view:

View 12 is the primary view from a seated position in the living room of the north-west unit on Level 17. The extent of the view is restricted due to the height of the sill, however the view does include part of the Pyrmont skyline and the north-west horizon and is mostly characterized by the extent of sky visible.

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale, extent and focus of the view and it will become the most prominent element in the view. The level of impact is considered to be severe, even though the quality of the of the view has been categorised as having a low level of significance due to the restricted view extent. The impact to this view is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal and the extent of sky that it is lost.

Mitigation measures have been considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view. A significant reduction of the building curvature to the east will only be achieved by relocating a substantial portion of the building toward the west or extending the height of the proposal, resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of the Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park.

In general, the level of impact to this unit is severe; however, it is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors:

- Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.
- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.
- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.
- The general change in scale taking place around Darling Harbour including Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties behind development sites facing Darling Harbour will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to allow the redevelopment of the precinct.

VI2 – SIGNIFICANCE: LOW **IMPACT: SEVERE** ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

Key plan of view:



Location of view:





Existing View



Proposed View



4.2.11 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 305, L17 (V13) V13 BALCONY, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

View 13 is from the balcony of the north-west unit on Level 17. The view to the proposal is oblique. The view is characterized by its openness and almost continuous horizon line, and includes Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum, the Pyrmont skyline, the Pyrmont Bay wharves and distant views to the north west horizon. This view is considered to be of high significance. Alternative views of the city skyline to the north (A1) and Darling Quarter to the west (A2) are retained.

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale of the view and the proposal will become the most prominent element in the view. The level of impact is considered to be severe. It is important to note that the level of impact to this view is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal within the view and the extent of water that is lost, including land/water interfaces.

Mitigation measures have been considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view. A significant reduction of the building curvature to the east will only be achieved by relocating a substantial portion of the building toward the west or extending the height of the proposal, resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park.

In addition, the extent of constraints affecting the site due to the flyover ramps results in a very small available floorplate area of less than 1,100sqm for a more traditional vertical tower. This would result in a reduction from a Premium Grade to an A-Grade commercial building rating according to the "Office Quality Grade Matrix by the Property Council of Australia, 2006". An A-Grade building would offer floorplates much smaller than those proposed for Barangaroo of 2,300sqm+ (www.lendlease. com). This will compromise the proposal's ability to compete with the future scale of development envisioned in Barangaroo and it may affect its overall viability.

In addition, a narrow more vertical tower will still intrude into the sky plane of this unit and will result in increased overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and loss of the 'valley floor' form currently respected by the development.

Other mitigation measures considered included a sharper tapering of the lower levels of the eastern curvature of the tower to allow a greater retention of Cockle Bay water glimpses and land interfaces. However, this will allow only a marginal increase in the view retained and will potentially compromise the structural integrity of the proposal as the form requires a 'tie-floor' structural solution. This requires the angle of the taper to align with nodal points at the intersections of floor levels and columns on selected floors.

The curvature along the eastern edge is the result of a finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and the required alignment of the inclined structural members. This limits the extent to which the slab edges can be cantilevered beyond the inclined supports and therefore a more tapered solution may not be structurally possible. While this mitigation measure might assist in preserving a marginally larger extent of

Key plan of view:



water and land interface from this unit, this will not be useful in the overall mitigation of the perceived scale of the proposal. While some of these measures would be helpful in the partial retention of the view for this unit, they will compromise the development potential of the proposal and result in impacts to the public domain.

Location of view:

The level of impact to this unit is regrettable, however, this needs to be considered and balanced against the overall employment and economic benefits to the area of the development. On this basis, the level of impact is considered reasonable. No mitigation measures are recommended as:

- There are no applicable controls to the site and therefore the proposal is considered to be a compliant development.
- The view to the proposal is oblique
- An alternative built form of similar height to the existing IMAX (across the width of the land available for development) will have a similar impact in terms of the overall reduction of water and land interface.
- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.



Existing View

• The general change in scale taking place around Darling Harbour including Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties behind development sites facing Darling Harbour will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to allow the redevelopment of the precinct.

In general, the level of impact to this unit is severe. It is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors:

- Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.
- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.
- A more skilful reduction of the lower levels of the curvature will not mitigate the overall apparent scale of the proposal and will compromise the finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and required alignment of the inclined structural members.
- The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line above the Balmain Peninsula, partial views of Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, and the Pyrmont Bay wharves.
- Alternative views to iconic city elements to the north and the Darling Quarter to the south-west are unaffected.



Proposed View

VI3 SIGNIFICANCE: HIGH IMPACT: SEVERE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

Alternative retained views





MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 322, LI9 (VI4,VI5) 4.2.12 VI4 LIVING AREA, STANDING VIEW, AND

V15 LIVING AREA, SITTING VIEW

Description of view:

View 14 and 15 are the primary views from the living room of the northern unit on Level 19. The views modelled are a from a standing position (V14) and a seated position (V15) from within the same apartment. The views are constrained due to the detailing of the balustrade, the dominance of the column on the balcony, and the soffit of the level above. The standing view includes obstructed views of Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum, Anzac Bridge, the Pyrmont skyline, the Pyrmont Bay wharves and distant views to the north-west horizon. This view is considered to be of medium significance.

The seated view is restricted due to the dominance of the balcony and provides a very a small glimpse of Cockle Bay and a partial view to the north-west horizon. This view is considered to be of lowmedium significance.

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale and focus of the view and it will become the most prominent element in the view. The level of impact for the standing view is considered to be severe. The level of impact is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal within the view and the resultant enclosed character.

Mitigation measures have been considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view. A significant reduction of the building curvature to the east will only be achieved by relocating a substantial portion of the building toward the west or extending the height of the proposal, resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of the Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park.

In general, the level of impact to this unit is severe. It is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors:

- Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.
- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.
- The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line above the Balmain Peninsula, partial views of Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum and the Pyrmont Bay wharves.

Key plan of view:



Location of view:

VI4,VI5 -SIGNIFICANCE: MEDIUM (V14), LOW-MEDIUM (V15) IMPACT: SEVERE (V14), SIGNIFICANT (V15) ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE







Existing View



Existing View



Proposed View



Proposed View

4.2.13 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 322, L19 (V16)

VI6 TERRACE, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

View 16 is from the balcony of the northern unit on Level 19. The view to the proposal is direct. The view is characterized by its breadth and depth with an almost continuous horizon line. It includes Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum, the Pyrmont skyline, the Pyrmont Bay wharves and distant views to the north west horizon. This view is considered to be of high significance. Alternative views of the iconic city elements to the north-east (A1) and Darling Quarter to the west (A2) are retained.

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale of the view and the proposal will become the most prominent element in the view. The level of impact is considered to be severe. It is important to note that the level of impact to this view is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal within the view and the extent of water that is lost, including land/water interfaces.

Mitigation measures have been considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view. A significant reduction of the building curvature to the east will only be achieved by relocating a substantial portion of the building toward the west or extending the height of the proposal, resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park.

The current form has been derived following many months of redesign and negotiations with DoPI in order to avoid overshadowing to the park at critical times of the day and to preserve a critical width of the view corridor between the proposal and the SICEEP.

In addition, the extent of constraints affecting the site due to the flyover ramps results in a very small available floorplate area of less than 1,100sqm for a more traditional vertical tower. This would result in a reduction from a Premium Grade to an A-Grade commercial building rating according to the "Office Quality Grade Matrix by the Property Council of Australia, 2006". An A-Grade building would offer floorplates much smaller than those proposed for Barangaroo of 2,300sqm+ (www.lendlease. com). This will compromise the proposal's ability to compete with the future scale of development envisioned in Barangaroo and it may affect its overall viability.

In addition, a narrow more vertical tower will still intrude into the sky plane of this unit and will result in increased overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and loss of the 'valley floor' form currently respected by the development.

Other mitigation measures considered included a sharper tapering of the lower levels of the eastern curvature of the tower to allow a greater retention of Cockle Bay water glimpses and land interfaces. However, this will allow only a marginal increase in the view retained and will potentially compromise the structural integrity of the proposal as the form requires a 'tie-floor' structural solution. This requires the angle of the taper to align with nodal points at the intersections of floor levels and columns on selected floors.

Key plan of view:



The curvature along the eastern edge is the result of a finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and the required alignment of the inclined structural members. This limits the extent to which the slab edges can be cantilevered beyond the inclined supports and therefore a more tapered solution may not be structurally possible. While this mitigation measure might assist in preserving a marginally larger extent of water and land interface from this unit, this will not be useful in the overall mitigation of the perceived scale of the proposal. While some of these measures would be helpful in the partial retention of the view for this unit, they will compromise the development potential of the proposal and result in impacts to the public domain.

Location of view:

The level of impact to this unit is regrettable, however, this needs to be considered and balanced against the overall employment and economic benefits to the area of the development. On this basis, the level of impact is considered reasonable. No mitigation measures are recommended as:

- There are no applicable controls to the site and therefore the proposal is considered to be a compliant development.
- An alternative built form of similar height to the existing IMAX (across the width of the land available



Existing View

for development) will have a similar impact in terms of the overall reduction of water and land interface.

- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.
- The general change in scale taking place around Darling Harbour including Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties behind development sites facing Darling Harbour will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to allow the redevelopment of the precinct.

In general, the level of impact to this unit is severe; however, it is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors:

- Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.
- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.
- A more skilful reduction of the lower levels of the curvature will not mitigate the overall apparent scale of the proposal and will compromise the finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and required alignment of the inclined structural members.
- The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line above the Balmain Peninsula, partial views of Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum and the Pyrmont Bay wharves.



Proposed View

• Alternative views to iconic city elements to the north-east, Tumbalong Park and the Darling Quarter to the south-west are unaffected.

VI6 – SIGNIFICANCE: HIGH IMPACT: SEVERE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

Alternative retained views



IMAX REDEVELOPMENT - 31 WHEAT ROAD, DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

4.2.14 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 324, L19 (V17)

VI7 BALCONY, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

View 17 is from the balcony of the southern unit on Level 19. The view to the proposal is oblique and is only possible from the southern corner of the balcony. Due to the unit's southern location in the floor plan of the building this view captures a moderate extent of adjacent built form and the Western Distributor. The centre of the view captures Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum, the Pyrmont skyline, the Pyrmont Bay wharves and distant views to the north west horizon. This view is considered to be of medium significance. Alternative views of the city skyline to the west (A1) and the city to the east (A2) are retained.

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale of the view and it will become the most prominent element in the view. The level of impact is considered to be severe. The level of impact to this view is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal within the view and the extent of sky and water that is lost, including land/water interfaces.

The level of impact to this unit is severe. This needs to be considered and weighted against the overall employment and economic benefits to the area. The level of impact is considered to be reasonable based on the following reasons:

- The main view for this unit is directly to the west towards Tumbalong Park.
- There are no applicable controls to the site and therefore the proposal is considered to be a compliant development.
- The view to the proposal is oblique and taken from the lower southern corner of the balcony.
- An alternative built form of similar height to the existing IMAX (across the width of the land available for development) will have a similar impact in terms of the overall reduction of water and land interface.
- The quality of the view is compromised due to the dominant presence of the highway infrastructure.
- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.
- The general change in scale taking place around Darling Harbour including Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties behind development sites facing Darling Harbour will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to allow the redevelopment of the precinct.

In general, the level of impact to this unit is severe. It is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors:

- Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.
- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.

Key plan of view:



Location of view:



- A more skilful reduction of the lower levels of the curvature will not mitigate the overall apparent scale of the proposal and will compromise the finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and required alignment of the inclined structural members.
- The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line above the Balmain Peninsula, a glimpse of Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, Anzac Bridge, and the Pyrmont Bay wharves.
- Alternative views to iconic city elements to the south-east and the Darling Quarter to the south-west are unaffected.

V17 – SIGNIFICANCE: MEDIUM IMPACT: SEVERE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE





Existing View



Proposed View

Alternative retained views



4.2.15 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 329, L20 (V18-V19)

V18 DINING AREA, STANDING VIEW

V19 MASTER BEDROOM, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

Views 18 and 19 are primary views from the dining area (V18) and master bedroom (V19) of a unit along the western facade on Level 20. The views to the proposal are oblique. The view from the dining area is restricted due to the height of the balustrade, the detailing of the window and the soffit of the level above. The centre of the view is dominated by the Western Distributor, with a small glimpse of Cockle Bay, Anzac Bridge and the western horizon above the Pyrmont skyline. This view is considered to be low-medium significance.

The relative location of the bedroom further to the north of the building, compared to the dining area results in a loss of the water views and visual dominance of the Western Distributor. The significance of this view is considered to be low. According to the Tenacity view sharing principles, the impact on views from bedrooms is considered to be less important than those from living areas. Therefore, the bedroom view has not been selected for further assessment.

Impact of proposal:

Part of the southern elevation of the proposal will be visible at the left edge of the existing view enclosing the view and obstructing existing glimpses to Cockle Bay. The proposal replaces the existing view to the IMAX building which is not considered to be of iconic quality. The distant view to Anzac Bridge and the horizon line to the west is retained. Due to the low-medium significance of the existing view and the fact that the view to the proposal is oblique, the impact is considered to be moderate and therefore reasonable.

V18,V19 – SIGNIFICANCE: LOW-MEDIUM (V18), LOW (V19) IMPACT: MODERATE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

Key plan of view:



Approx. location of windows (excluding enclosed balconies)

Location of view:





Existing View





Proposed View

Existing View



4.2.16 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 329, L20 (V20)

V20 TERRACE, STANDING VIEW

Description of view:

View 20 is from the terrace of a unit along the western facade on Level 20. The view to the proposal is oblique and only possible from the southern corner of the terraces. Due to the unit's southern location in the floor plan of the building, the view captures a moderate extent of adjacent built form and the Western Distributor. This view is generally broad and captures Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, Anzac Bridge, the Maritime Museum, the Pyrmont skyline, the Pyrmont Bay wharves and distant views to the north-west horizon. This view is considered to be of medium-high significance. Alternative views of the city skyline to the west (A1,A2) are retained.

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will significantly change the scale of the view and the proposal will become the most prominent element in the view. The level of impact is considered to be severe-devastating. It is important to note that the level of impact to this view is derived from the overall apparent scale of the proposal within the view and the extent of water that is lost, including land/water interfaces.

Mitigation measures have been considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view. A significant reduction of the building curvature to the east will only be achieved by relocating a substantial portion of the building toward the west or extending the height of the proposal, resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park.

The current form has been derived following many months of redesign and negotiations with DoPI in order to avoid overshadowing to the park at critical times of the day and to preserve a critical width of the view corridor between the proposal and the SICEEP.

In addition, the extent of constraints affecting the site due to the flyover ramps results in a very small available floorplate area of less than 1,100sqm for a more traditional vertical tower. This would result in a reduction from a Premium Grade to an A-Grade commercial building rating according to the "Office Quality Grade Matrix by the Property Council of Australia, 2006". An A-Grade building would offer floorplates much smaller than those proposed for Barangaroo of 2,300sqm+ (www.lendlease. com). This will compromise the proposal's ability to compete with the future scale of development envisioned in Barangaroo and it may affect its overall viability.

In addition, a narrow more vertical tower will still intrude into the sky plane of this unit and will result in increased overshadowing of Tumbalong Park and loss of the 'valley floor' form currently respected by the development.

Other mitigation measures considered included a sharper tapering of the lower levels of the eastern curvature of the tower to allow a greater retention of Cockle Bay water glimpses and land interfaces. However, this will allow only a marginal increase in the view retained and will potentially compromise the structural integrity of the proposal as the form requires a 'tie-floor' structural solution. This requires the angle of the taper to align with nodal points at the intersections of floor levels and columns on selected floors.

Key plan of view:



Location of view:

The level of impact to this unit is regrettable, however, this needs to be considered and balanced against the overall employment and economic benefits to the area of the development. On this basis, the level of impact is considered reasonable. No mitigation measures are recommended as:

- There are no applicable controls to the site and therefore the proposal is considered to be a compliant development.
- The view to the proposal is oblique and taken from the southern corner of the balcony.
- An alternative built form of similar height to the existing IMAX (across the width of the land available for development) will have a similar impact in terms of the overall reduction of water and land interface.
- The significance of the view is compromised due to the dominance of the highway infrastructure
- The reasonableness of an expectation of view retention for development located a distance away from the water's edge where developable land exists between the residential unit and the water's edge without height constraints.
- The general change in scale taking place around Darling Harbour including Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties behind development sites facing Darling Harbour will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and



Existing View

the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to allow the redevelopment of the precinct.

In general, the level of impact to this unit is severe-devastating; however, it is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors:

- Mitigating overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, requiring massing being concentrated to the east.
- A significant reduction in the overhanging portion of the building (east curvature) will result in abandonment of the project due to the lower grade of space available.
- A more skilful reduction of the lower levels of the curvature will not mitigate the overall apparent scale of the proposal and will compromise the finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and required alignment of the inclined structural members.
- The proposal does adhere to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line above the Balmain Peninsula and Anzac Bridge, and retains views partial views of Cockle Bay, Pyrmont Bridge, and the Pyrmont Bay wharves.
- Alternative views to the Darling Quarter to the south-west are unaffected.

A reduction of the building curvature from the east or the relocation of building mass to the west would ultimately result in greater overshadowing of Tumbalong Park. The improved retention of the view of this unit (and 1 other unit that has been found to have a severe to devastating impact on a view) needs to be weighed against the impacts to a highly utilised public open space. Therefore, the level of impact is considered to be reasonable.



Proposed View

V20 – SIGNIFICANCE: MEDIUM-HIGH IMPACT: SEVERE-DEVASTATING CONCLUSION: REASONABLE

Alternative retained views



4.2.17 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - APARTMENT 329, L21 (V21)

V21 UPPER LEVEL TERRACE STANDING

Description of view:

View 21 is from the upper level terrace of a unit along the western facade on Level 21. The view to the proposal is oblique. The extent of the view is significantly obstructed by the height of the balustrade to the terrace. As a result the view captures part of the Pyrmont skyline and restricted distant views to the north-west. The Anzac Bridge is also visible. This view is considered to be of low significance. Alternative views to the south are retained (A3).

Impact of proposal:

The proposal will change the scale of the view and it will become the most prominent element in the view. Views of the Pyrmont skyline are obstructed, however, distant view to the Anzac Bridge and the horizon line to the west is retained. Due to the low significance of the existing view and the fact that the view to the proposal is oblique, the impact is considered to be reasonable and therefore acceptable.

V2I – SIGNIFICANCE: LOW IMPACT: MODERATE ACCEPTABILITY: REASONABLE

Key plan of view:



Apartment location (internal) **Balcony** location View to proposal Alternative retained view Approx. location of windows (excluding enclosed balconies)

Location of view:







Existing View

Proposed View

Alternative retained view





4.2.18 MILLENNIUM TOWERS - SUMMARY

GMU analysed 6 units and a total of 21 views for the Millennium Towers. In general, the views ranged from low to medium to high significance. The views of high significance were generally from upper levels with broad views to Cockle Bay and significant amounts of water/land interfaces. The level of impact for the majority of the units was found to range between minor to moderate for the majority of the views.

One view had a significant level of impact and eight units had a severe impact. One unit had a severe to devastating impact while only one other unit was found to have a devastating impact. The main reason for the severe and devastating impacts is due to the level of change in scale where the proposal became the more prominent element within the view. While the level of impact for the majority of the units was severe, the level of impact is considered to be reasonable due to the following factors:

- The proposal has been required to mitigate overshadowing to Tumbalong Park, pushing the development potential to the east. A reversal of this would undoubtedly result in a greater overshadowing of the park. The impacts to a reduced number of units have to be weighed against the public benefit to a highly used green open space.
- The most important reason for the designation of the impacts as being reasonable is that the proposal adheres to the principles of "view-sharing" as the view partially retains the horizon line, Pyrmont Bridge, the Maritime Museum and some water and land interface to the south or north of Pyrmont Bridge.

Mitigation measures were considered in order to reduce the apparent scale of the proposal within the view for units within The Millennium Towers development. However, any significant change will only be achieved by shifting or relocating the eastern curvature of the building toward the west or as additional levels resulting in a more traditional tower form. However, this will result in substantial overshadowing of the Tumbalong Park and the narrowing of the view corridor between Cockle Bay and Tumbalong Park. The current form has been arrived at after long months of redesign and negotiations with the DoP&I in order to avoid overshadowing to the park at critical times of the day and to preserve a critical width of the view corridor between the proposal and the SICEEP.

In addition, the extent of constraints affecting the site due to the flyover ramps would result in a very small available floorplate area (less than 1,100sqm) for a more traditional vertical tower. This would cause a downgrade in the commercial rating of the proposal from a Premium Grade to an A-Grade commercial building rating according to the Grade Matrix by the Property Council of Australia (2006). An A-Grade building would offer floorplates much smaller than those proposed for Barangaroo of 2,300sqm+ according to Lend Lease, which will compromise the proposal's ability to compete with the future scale of development envisioned in Barangaroo. This will affect the proposal's overall viability.

Other mitigation measures considered included a sharper tapering of the lower levels of the eastern curvature. However, this will allow only a marginal increase in the view retained and potentially compromise the structural integrity of the proposal as the proposed form is the result of a finely balanced equilibrium between the structural capacity and required alignment of the inclined structural members. This limits the extent to which the slab edges can be cantilevered beyond the inclined supports and therefore a more tapered solution may not be structurally possible. In addition, a reduction of the lower levels of the curvature will not mitigate the overall apparent scale of the

proposal. Therefore, mitigation measures were considered, but not recommended.

GMU analysis showed that the level of impact is reasonable based on a number of key factors. These include the strategic changes occurring in the precinct, which will result in a significant increase in the scale of the built form of the precinct. The change in scale taking place in Darling Harbour and Barangaroo suggests that the retention of views for properties immediately behind development sites facing the edge of the water will become increasingly difficult. The approved development at Barangaroo and the SICEEP proposal suggests that this level of impact is accepted as an inevitable outcome in order to achieve the redevelopment of the precinct.

Out of the 7 units analysed for the Millennium Towers, one unit was found to have a devastating impact to a balcony view and one other unit was found to have a severe to devastating impact to a balcony view. The individual impacts to a reduced number of private units need to be weighed against the overall employment and economic benefits to the area considering that there are no applicable controls to the site and therefore the proposal is considered to be a compliant development. Due to these reasons, the level of impact to the units in the Millennium Towers is considered to be reasonable.

TOMONTAGE ANALYSIS, THE PROPOSAL'S IMPACT AND ACCEPTABILITY

Development	Level	Description	View	Significance of	Impact	Impact acceptability
				view		
				(see Section 4)		
MILLENNIUM TOWERS				,////		
Apartment 209	8	Living Area Standing	VI	Medium	Severe to Devastating	Reasonable
	8	Living Area Sitting	V2	Low	Moderate	Reasonable
	8	Balcony Standing	V3	Medium	Devastating	Reasonable
	8	Dining Area Standing	V4	Low	Moderate	Reasonable
Apartment 251	12	Living Area Standing	V5	Low	Moderate	Reasonable
	12	Living Area Sitting	V6	Low	Moderate	Reasonable
	12	Balcony Standing	V7	Medium-High	Severe	Reasonable
Apartment 293	15	Living Area Standing	V8	Low	Minor	Reasonable
	15	Living Area Sitting	V9	Low	Minor	Reasonable
	15	Balcony Standing	V10	Medium-High	Severe	Reasonable
Apartment 305	17	Living Area Standing	VII	High	Severe	Reasonable
	17	Living Area Sitting	VI2	Low	Severe	Reasonable
	17	Balcony Standing	VI3	High	Severe	Reasonable
Apartment 322	19	Living Area Standing	V14	Medium	Severe	Reasonable
	19	Living Area Sitting	V15	Low-Medium	Significant	Reasonable
	19	Terrace Standing	V16	High	Severe	Reasonable
Apartment 324	19	Balcony Standing	V17	Medium	Severe	Reasonable
Åpartment 329	20	Dining Area Standing	V18	Low-Medium	Moderate	Reasonable
	20	Master Bedroom Standing	V19	Low	Moderate	Reasonable
	20	Terrace Standing	V20	Medium-High	Severe to Devastating	Reasonable

4.3 EMPORIO APARTMENTS

Individual unit access was given on January 7th, 2014 to a broad range of units at various levels and locations within the development.

Across the height of the building, access was given to the following levels and units:

- Level 8 Apartment B905;
- Level 9 Apartment B1003;
- Level 10 Apartment B1103;
- Level 12 Apartment A1302, B1301, B1302;
- Level 13, 14 & 15 Apartment A1501 and A1507;

Views have been selected for each apartment from the following locations where they have the potential to be affected:

- balconies (enclosed or open); and
- a minimum of 1 window with a preference for a living area i.e. Family, living or dining (from seated and standing positions).

The diagram and floor plans overleaf show the location and levels for the views chosen.



Day Street elevation of the Emporio Apartments

IMAX REDEVELOPMENT - 31 WHEAT ROAD, DARLING HARBOUR - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS





LEVEL 8

LEVEL 9





LEVEL 10

LEVEL 12



Typical floorplates of the Emporio Apartments





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