

5.0 Heritage Significance

5.1 Heritage Significance

5.1.1 Statement of Outstanding Universal Values for the 11 Convict sites

Brief synthesis

The property consists of 11 complementary sites. It constitutes an outstanding and large-scale example of the forced migration of convicts, who were condemned to transportation to distant colonies of the British Empire; the same method was also used by other colonial states.

The sites illustrate the different types of convict settlement organised to serve the colonial development project by means of buildings, ports, infrastructure, the extraction of resources, etc. They illustrate the living conditions of the convicts, who were condemned to transportation far from their homes, deprived of freedom, and subjected to forced labour.

This transportation and associated forced labour was implemented on a large scale, both for criminals and for people convicted for relatively minor offences, as well as for expressing certain opinions or being political opponents. The penalty of transportation to Australia also applied to women and children from the age of nine. The convict stations are testimony to a legal form of punishment that dominated in the 18th and 19th centuries in the large European colonial states, at the same time as and after the abolition of slavery.

The property shows the various forms that the convict settlements took, closely reflecting the discussions and beliefs about the punishment of crime in 18th and 19th-century Europe, both in terms of its exemplarity and the harshness of the punishment used as a deterrent, and of the aim of social rehabilitation through labour and discipline. They influenced the emergence of a penal model in Europe and America.

Within the colonial system established in Australia, the convict settlements simultaneously led to the Aboriginal population being forced back into the less fertile hinterland, and to the creation of a significant source of population of European origin.

Criterion (iv): The Australian convict sites constitute an outstanding example of the way in which conventional forced labour and national prison systems were transformed, in major European nations in the 18th and 19th centuries, into a system of deportation and forced labour forming part of the British Empire's vast colonial project. They illustrate the variety of the creation of penal colonies to serve the many material needs created by the development of a new territory. They bear witness to a penitentiary system which had many objectives, ranging from severe punishment used as a deterrent to forced labour for men, women and children, and the rehabilitation of the convicts through labour and discipline.

Criterion (vi): The transportation of criminals, delinquents, and political prisoners to colonial lands by the great nation states between the 18th and 20th centuries is an important aspect of human history, especially with regard to its penal, political and colonial dimensions. The Australian convict settlements provide a particularly complete example of this history and the associated symbolic values derived from discussions in modern and contemporary European society. They illustrate an active phase in the occupation of colonial lands to the detriment of the Aboriginal peoples, and the process of creating a colonial population of European origin through the dialectic of punishment and transportation followed by forced labour and social rehabilitation to the eventual social integration of convicts as settlers.

Integrity and authenticity

The structural and landscape integrity of the property varies depending on the site, and on the type of evidence considered. It has been affected by local history, at times marked by reuse or lengthy periods of abandonment. The integrity varies between well preserved groups and others where it might be described as fragmentary. Apart from certain visual perspectives in urban settings, the level of the property's integrity is well controlled by the site management plans.

Despite the inevitable complexity of a nomination made up of a series of 11 separate sites with more than 200 elements that convey the value of the property, the authenticity of the vast majority of them is good.

5.1.2 Statement of Heritage Significance 2008

The following Statement of Significance was taken from the *Old Government House and Domain, Parramatta Park, Management Plan* (2008:37) and informed the subsequent National Heritage Statement of Significance.

Old Government House and Domain, Parramatta Park, is of Local, State and National heritage significance for its unique evidence of the convict period in the history of Parramatta, New South Wales and Australia, particularly its associations with the survival of the first colonial settlement in 1788 and the subsequent establishment of European-style agriculture in Australia, the vice-regal control of the convict system, especially under governors Phillip, Macquarie and Brisbane, and their activities associated with consolidating Imperial power, notably botanical collecting, astronomical observations, and the economic development of colonial New South Wales, the Georgian-style architecture of Old Government House and its outbuildings (of which it is a key Australian exemplar), the multi-layered cultural landscape embracing the vice regal residence, the parklands and the town of Parramatta, its development as one of Australia's earliest dedicated public parks, and the extent of the known and potential archaeological resources within the landscape. The Place is also significant for illustrating the associations between the Burramatta clan of the Dharug People and their pre-contact lifestyle as well as the continuing connections of their contemporary descendants with the site.

Old Government House and Domain, Parramatta Park is also highly significant for its contribution to the serial inscription of eleven Australian Convict Sites on the World Heritage List, illustrating in its built forms, archaeological sites and the overall topographical form of the whole site as a cultural landscape, its role as a command centre within the Imperial convict system, and the reforming activities of Governor Macquarie; and reflecting ideas and beliefs in the punishment and reformation of convicts and the projection of British Imperial power in the South Pacific.

Old Government House is associated with the use of convicts to expand British geo-political interests in the Asia Pacific. The initial survival of the penal settlement in 1788-89 can be attributed to the successful establishment of farming in what became the Domain, which assured the subsequent development of the convict system in Australia. Government House was continually expanded with convict labour, and mirrors the increasing complexity of the convict system. By Governor Macquarie's time the House had become a key destination for international travellers, especially French, Spanish and Russian, who all reported upon the success of the penal colony and the use of the colony to project British power in the South Pacific. Governor King's establishment of botanic gardens on the site, using convict labour, contributed to British prestige and authority in the scientific world. Governor Brisbane's operation of the observatory, constructed with convict labour, helped maintain British naval power through accurate charting of the stars for maritime navigation, and provided the basis for surveying the colony and expanding settlement, much of it associated with the increased use of assigned convict labour, and the settling of convicts whose sentences had expired. The expansion of penal stations to western and northern Australia, partly to

forestall French and Dutch colonial ambitions, was planned from Old Government House by Governor Darling.

5.1.3 Landscape Management Plan 2002, 2008

The Western Sydney Stadium partially falls within land which is part of Parramatta Park. The heritage significance of the park has been assessed several times, most recently in the 2002 Landscape Management Plan, which was repeated in the 2008 CMP for the park:

Parramatta Park is of exceptional cultural significance to Australia, NSW and the City of Parramatta because:

- a) It contains evidence of remnant vegetation of the Cumberland Plain Woodland.
- b) It is the core of the territory of the Burramatta clan of the Darug.

It is still of high cultural value to the Darug people, who continue to participate in the cultural and physical management of the place.

c) It is an enduring symbol of early European settlement in Australia. Its siting relates to the identification of 'The Crescent' by Governor Phillip and the establishment of an agricultural settlement in 1788, vital towards the survival of the early colony.

- d) It is evidence of 18th Century Parramatta.

The overall place is highly regarded by the community for its significant historical role in Australian history and providing a sense of identity for the City of Parramatta.

- e) It is a place of early Government enterprise.

This includes farming, agricultural experimentation, gardens and botanical collection and propagation, and public transport.

- f) It is the domain of the oldest surviving Government House in Australia.

- g) It is Governor and Mrs Macquarie's landscaped park and estate.

Its establishment, layout and design is directly associated with the creation of the Government Domain under Governor and Mrs Macquarie. It is a rare example of a public park reflecting the structure and character of the former Government Domain of the late 18th Century in Australia.

h) It is the site of 19th Century and 20th Century recreation and public sporting activities. As one of the earliest public parks in Australia and the third national park it continues to be a major place for public recreation, since its dedication as a public park in 1858.

- i) It is a major green space landmark and public recreation area for the people of Parramatta.

Of its landmark quality, it is a prominent feature along the Parramatta River and a focal point in the local townscape.

- j) Of its substantial surviving fabric (extant and archaeological) and the substantial body of historical material documenting its historical development.

It provides a major research, educational and interpretative resource, providing an understanding of the original landscape, the impact of Aboriginal and European cultural activities, and the planning and development of the City of Parramatta.

- k) Of its association with various individuals and organisations.

including the Burramatta clan of the Darug and Aboriginal identities such as Pemulway, Baluderry and Arabanoo, Governor Phillip, Governor and Mrs Macquarie, Governor Brisbane, other governors who resided at Old Government House, aviator William Hart the Parramatta Park Trust and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, explorers, Sydney Botanic Gardens Directors and staff, landscape designers.⁶⁸

⁶⁸ DPWS landscape design group 2002:33; PPT 2008:8-9.

5.1.4 Old Government House and the Government Domain, National Heritage Values

About 50ha, O'Connell Street, Parramatta, comprising all that part of Parramatta Park and Old Government House, as entered in the New South Wales Heritage Register on 2 April 1999, that is located to the north of the Great Western Railway Line and to the south and west of the right bank of the Parramatta River.

Criterion Values

a) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's importance in the course, or pattern, of Australia's natural or cultural history.

Old Government House and the former Government Domain in Parramatta Park provides a most significant tangible link with the earliest days of the foundation of the colonial development of Australia in 1788.

Old Government House at Parramatta is the oldest surviving public building on the Australian mainland, and the only early colonial Government House to have survived relatively intact, particularly illustrated by brick flooring of the Phillip era building of July 1790 on display. The three rooms at the front of the main section of the house date to Governor Hunter in 1799 while the remainder of the Palladian style main house and the two side pavilions date to Governor Macquarie in 1818. It provides a publicly accessible cultural focus and landmark for many Australians, providing physical evidence of the earliest years of colonial development.

The house and domain also represent convict working places as well as primary sites associated with the foundation of British colonial settlement. The house itself and the surrounding historic elements such as the Crescent, the governor's dairy, the bathhouse, memorials, carriageways and gatehouses, and the remains of Governor Brisbane's observatory, all reflect the establishment of agricultural production, the administration of the colony, the administration of the convict system in Australia, the commencement of town planning, and the site of some of Australia's earliest astronomical and botanical endeavours.

(c) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Australia's natural or cultural history.

The Government Domain is an extensive cultural landscape that has yielded archaeological evidence and has potential to yield more, particularly as a convict work place. Supporting information of historic documents and images are available in public records.

(d) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of: (i) a class of Australia's natural or cultural places; or (ii) a class of Australia's natural or cultural environments.

Old Government House in its setting of the former Governor's Domain is significant as a cultural landscape of importance in Australia's history. Although the Park has been reduced from the original 99.6 hectares to 85 hectares, allocated in 1856, it contains a number of historic elements that have a tangible link with the earliest days of the foundation of British colonial settlement of Australia, and that interlink with the landscape. These historical elements include the Crescent, the governor's dairy, the bathhouse, memorials, carriageways and gatehouses, and the remains of Governor Brisbane's observatory. These historic elements demonstrate strong links with cultural processes of importance in Australia's development from a penal colony dependant on Great Britain to a self-governing colony.

Old Government House provides evidence of the evolution of early colonial and convict administration. The development of the house itself mirrors the growth and complexity of these processes, both as the governor's home and as the seat of administration, while the Domain and the Crescent mark the commencement of agricultural production in Australia.

Other historic elements within the Domain provide evidence of the beginnings of astronomical and botanical science in this country. Uniquely for a site of this age in Australia, the pattern of use and living established by the early governors is still clearly legible in the house and the surviving historic elements in the landscape.

- (h) **the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Australia's natural or cultural history.**

Old Government House and the Governor's Domain at Parramatta Park are significant for their association with the life and work in Australia of the early colonial governors. Governors Phillip, Hunter, King, Macquarie and Brisbane all resided and worked at the house, and all have left their mark on the site through their development of the fabric of the respective buildings and the enhancement of the Domain. Old Government House and the Domain provide a remarkable insight into the life and work of these governors. This insight is enhanced by the wealth of information available about the site, both in terms of its documentation and the pictorial representations and photographs of the various stages of its development.

5.2 Statement of Significance for the historical archaeology of the WSS site

This is taken from Casey & Lowe (January 2017) and identifies values noted in the first paragraph of the 2008 Statement above.

This site is within a remnant landscape which was used for agricultural and productive purposes through the operation of the group of early farm buildings which formed the core of the Government Farm, and the Government Watermill with its mill dam, races and watermill site. They are the first on mainland Australia and are considered to be unique as part of the success of agriculture in Parramatta. The archaeology of the site is associated with governors Hunter and King, who both sought to stop the corrupting power of the civilian and military officers by providing other strategies to combat their influences, as well as Henry Dodd who ran the Government Farm, Nathaniel Lucas, Rev. Samuel Marsden and George Caley. The remnant colonial landscape formed a central element for siting the watermill and allows us to read how the mill operated within this landscape and offers a rare example of aesthetic/technical values from the beginnings of British colonial settlement.

The archaeology of the farm and watermill should be able to testify to, exemplify, and offer insight into the history of this place, especially when examined through properly defined archaeological research questions, such as those relating to: survival of the British Colony, technology of farming and watermills, the changing landscape of Parramatta from 1788 to modern times, survival of the British Colony and the agricultural settlement and contact between Aboriginal People and the British colonists. Therefore, this site is part of a State and potential Nationally significant archaeological and remnant landscape belonging to the beginnings of early colonial Australia.

The archaeology of Ross Street gatehouse is considered likely to offer insight into the early Government Domain, Parramatta Park and the lifeways of the residential households. The archaeology and remnant and partly buried landscape of the Government Farm and Watermill are considered to be of State significance and potentially of National significance. They need to be read as part of a rare landscape of lost agriculture and technical practices which hardly survive, other than perhaps on Norfolk Island.

6.0 The Proposal

6.1 Brief Description of the Proposal

The Proposal involves the construction and use of the 30,000-seat Western Sydney Stadium including:

- General Admission Facilities including bars, food and drink stalls, amenities and viewing areas;
- A function centre and kitchen facility;
- Associated Stadium facilities including player and coaching facilities, media and press conference rooms, security and stadium managers' facilities;
- Waste storage and loading dock;
- Construction and embellishment of the public domain including;
 - Outdoor sporting and recreation facilities;
 - Public plazas and entertainment areas;
 - General landscaping works;
- Provision of up to 500 car parking spaces with vehicle access to the development from O'Connell Street and internal roads for vehicular circulation;
- Provision of signage zones, lighting and other ancillary stadium elements;
- Pedestrian access and footpath upgrades along O'Connell Street; and
- Extension and augmentation of physical infrastructure / utilities as required.

6.2 The Public Domain and Stadium

The Western Sydney Stadium proposal includes (Figure 6.1, Figure 6.2, Figure 6.3, Figure 6.5, Figure 6.6, Figure 6.7, Figure 6.8):

- The Boulevard of Legends
- The Urban Park
- The River Terraces
- The People's Loop
- Grid to Green
- Stadium Precinct Design

6.3 Proposed works to be undertaken under previous applications

6.3.1 Stage 1 DA – Concept Design and Demolition

- **Demolition of Existing Buildings or Structures**
The demolition of the Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre and the Pirtek Stadium was previously approved as part of SSD 8175 Western Sydney Stadium Stage 1 and are not considered further in this Statement of Heritage Impact.
- No impacts on archaeology were identified in Stage 1 and archaeology of State and National significance is to be retained *in situ*.

6.3.2 S96 Modification – Bulk Excavation

- Bulk excavation, includes removal of ACM within the Stage 1 EIS. This application is for the removal of ACM from above archaeology and natural levels within the area of the Government Farm and the Government Watermill.

6.3.3 Stage 2 – Design and Construction

6.3.4 Visual impacts on Parramatta Park and World Heritage

The Proposal is adjacent to and within Parramatta Park, as well as the buffer zone of the World Heritage Area (WHA). Its positioning with the site and the height of the stadium need to be considered against the WHA values, significant view lines and how these have been mitigated. See Section 6.

6.3.5 Tree removal and planning

There is some limited tree removal and planting and these are discussed in detail in Section 8.

6.3.6 Bulk Excavation

The bulk excavation works within the Stage 2 proposal are limited to the southern carpark and are discussed in detail in Section 11.



Figure 6.1: The stadium with the core elements of the design of the Proposal. Lendlease

Roof

The cantilevered fabric roof with translucent polycarbonate leading edge contributes to the extraordinary fan experience while providing 100% spectator roof coverage. This highly efficient roof serves as enclosure, event backdrop, weather protection, gutter system and landmark design element.

The design concept for the roof is as a clean, articulated roof form floating above the seating bowl as the landmark element of the stadium easily identifiable from the city, park and key spectator approaches.

During sports events the soffit encloses the stadium to create a Coliseum like atmosphere and will also be up lit with the colours of the home team to brand the stadium as the 'home' for those teams. For concerts and other cultural events within the stadium and precinct the soffit will provide a backdrop and screen for suitable lighting and video displays to activate the precinct and serve as a clearly identifiable landmark from the city.

To maintain a clean unbroken soffit line sports lighting, PA systems and speakers will be fixed to the roof at the interface of the fabric and polycarbonate leading edge so as to minimize the visual disruption of these elements within the bowl further enhancing the fan experience.



Figure 6.2: View of the stadium from the O'Connell Street bridge and the lower view is west along Victoria Road to the northeast corner of the Stadium.



Western Sydney Stadium
ASPECT Studios™





Client:  SD/GE | Scale: 1:500 @ A3 |  |  |  | Stage 2 DESIGN APPROVAL
SITE ANALYSIS
Dwg no.: WSS-L-MP-1-001-00-3

Figure 6.4: Plan showing the Stage 2 development area and surrounding heritage. This plan shows the placement of the new Stadium in relation to the Pirtek Stadium and potential archaeology.

5.1.1 STADIUM PRECINCT DESIGN

Public Domain Master Plan (Overall site layout)

A variety of rich and diverse environments cater for an array of activities, demographics and user groups. The layout and arrangement of open spaces allows for and invites use of the site 7 days a week, on both game and non-game days.

These include:

The Civic Entry Plaza

The main arrival point of the stadium, this open flexible space allows for large crowds to gather with shaded seating provided at the plaza edges under a grove of feature trees.

O'Connell Place

The public centre-piece of the precinct include a multitude of active and passive uses which comprise of children's play, water play, outdoor courts, performance space, climbing wall and retail cafe.

Southern Entry Plaza

A large secondary entry plaza with grand stairs and lift access to the stadium concourse.

Southern Training Field

Open turf zone for informal games.

Western Carpark

Adaptable paved carpark capable of accommodating event overflow

Riverside Terraces

Naturalistic green terraces that step down towards Parramatta River, offering places to gather, barbecue or attend an event

Boulevard of Legends

A tree lined dedicated public link connecting O'Connell Street to the River

Northern Carpark

The main carpark with integrated ESD initiatives such as planted stormwater swales, large shade trees to reduce heat and LED lighting for increased safety.

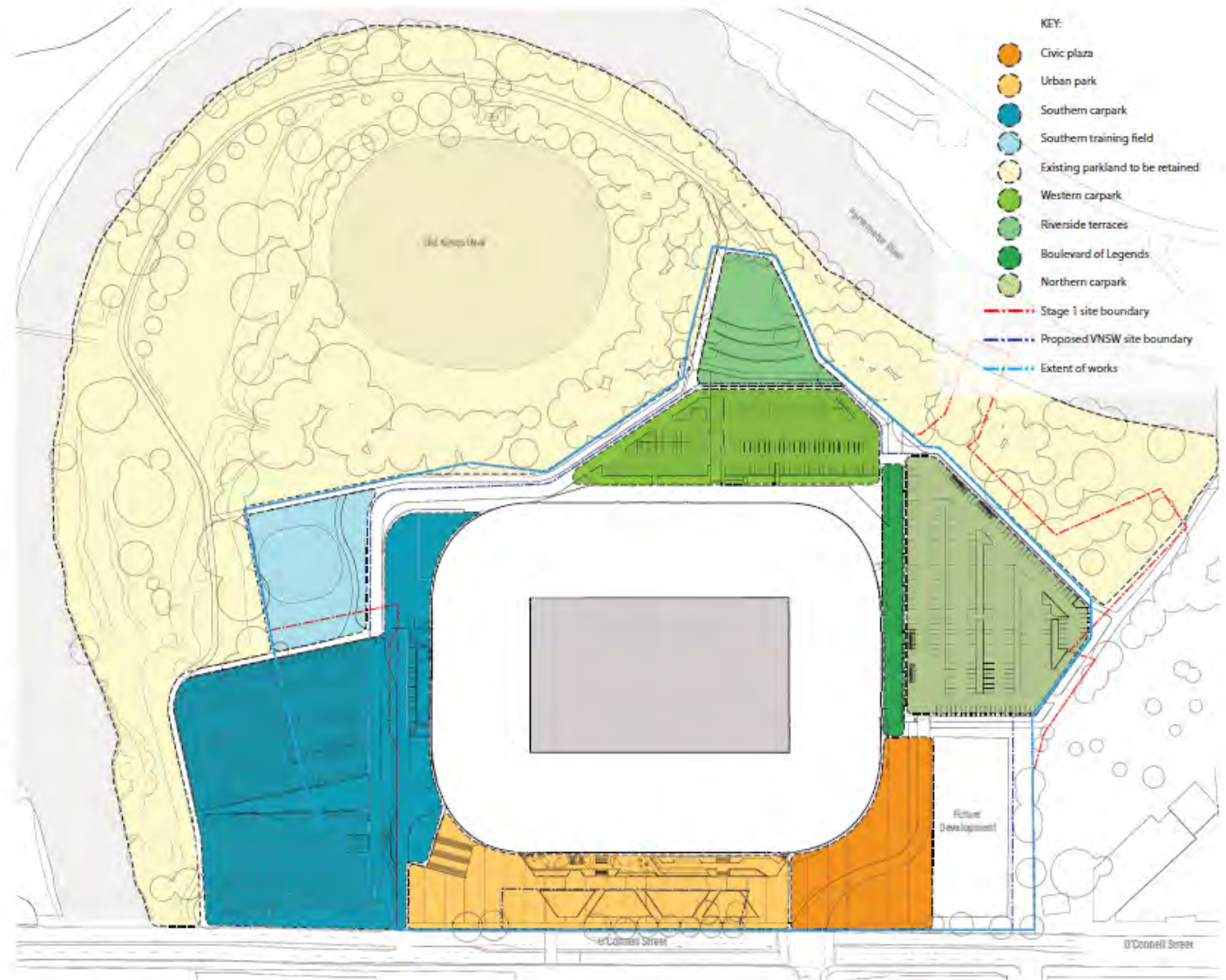


Figure 6.5 : Public Domain Masterplan with various uses around the perimeter of the Stadium.

Planting Strategy

A planting palette consisting of predominantly locally indigenous species will be planted across the site. The use of locally endemic species will ensure longevity of the plants and minimise irrigation requirements. Select exotic species will be used in key locations to reference the site's colonial cultural heritage. This may include species used within the first government farm and species commonly found within colonial landscapes.

The indigenous and cultural significance of the site and its surrounds have been a strong influence in the establishment of the planting selection. The diversity of planting characters including, Native and Exotic (Cultural) will result in a broad and diverse mix of tree species that respond to the following key targets of:

- Urban Forest health and durability.
- Climate adaption and resilience (drought tolerance)
- Shade quality and amenity for people.
- Biodiversity and habitat potential.
- Design objectives such as form, structure, heritage and cultural relevance.
- Conformance to the Parramatta City Council Street Tree master Plan.
- Parramatta's cultural landscapes.
- Trees pot sizes including a mix of 45L (ecological regeneration) to 400L (significant cultural plantings).

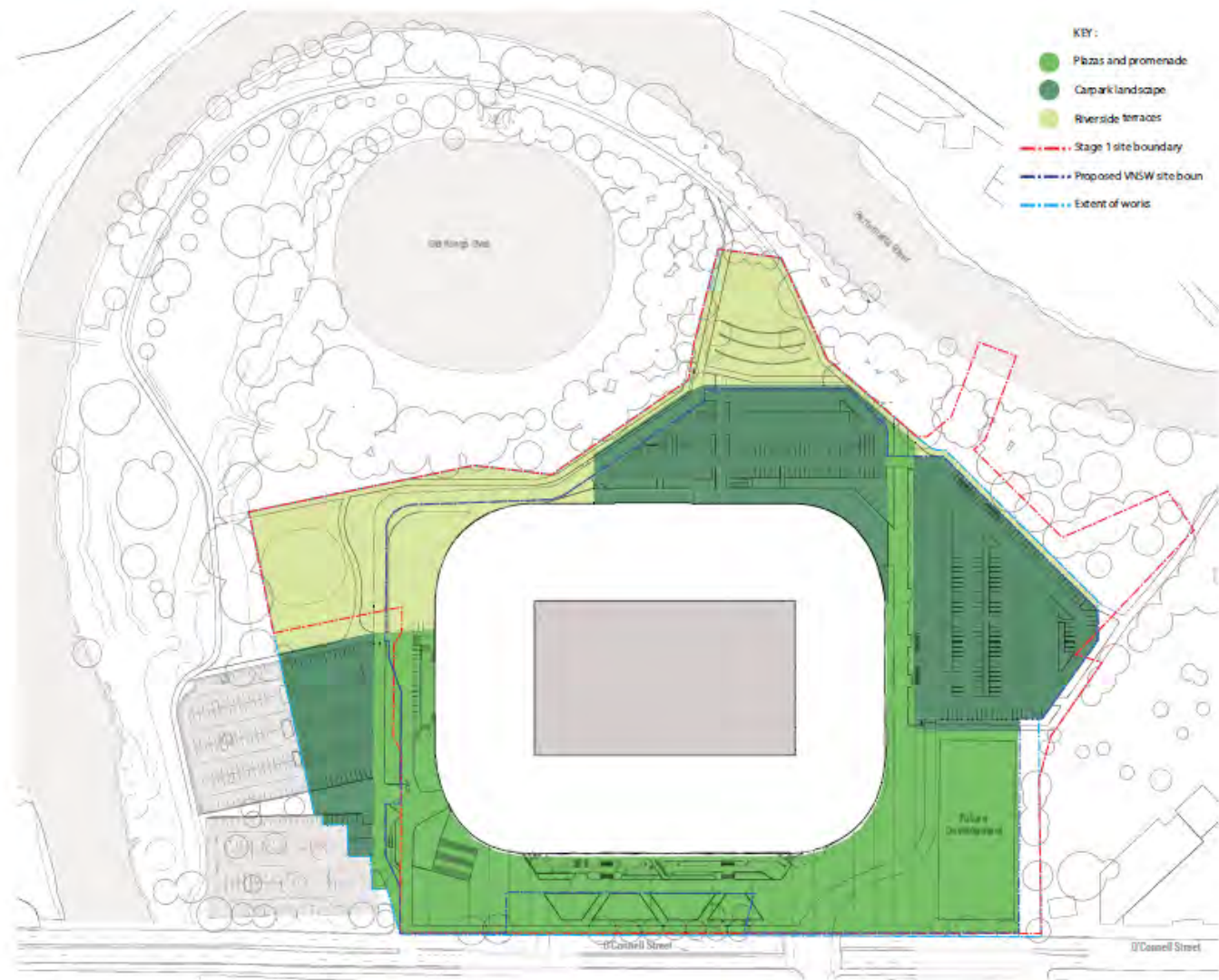


Figure 6.6 : Proposed planting within the Public Domain and the Stage 2 development and works areas.

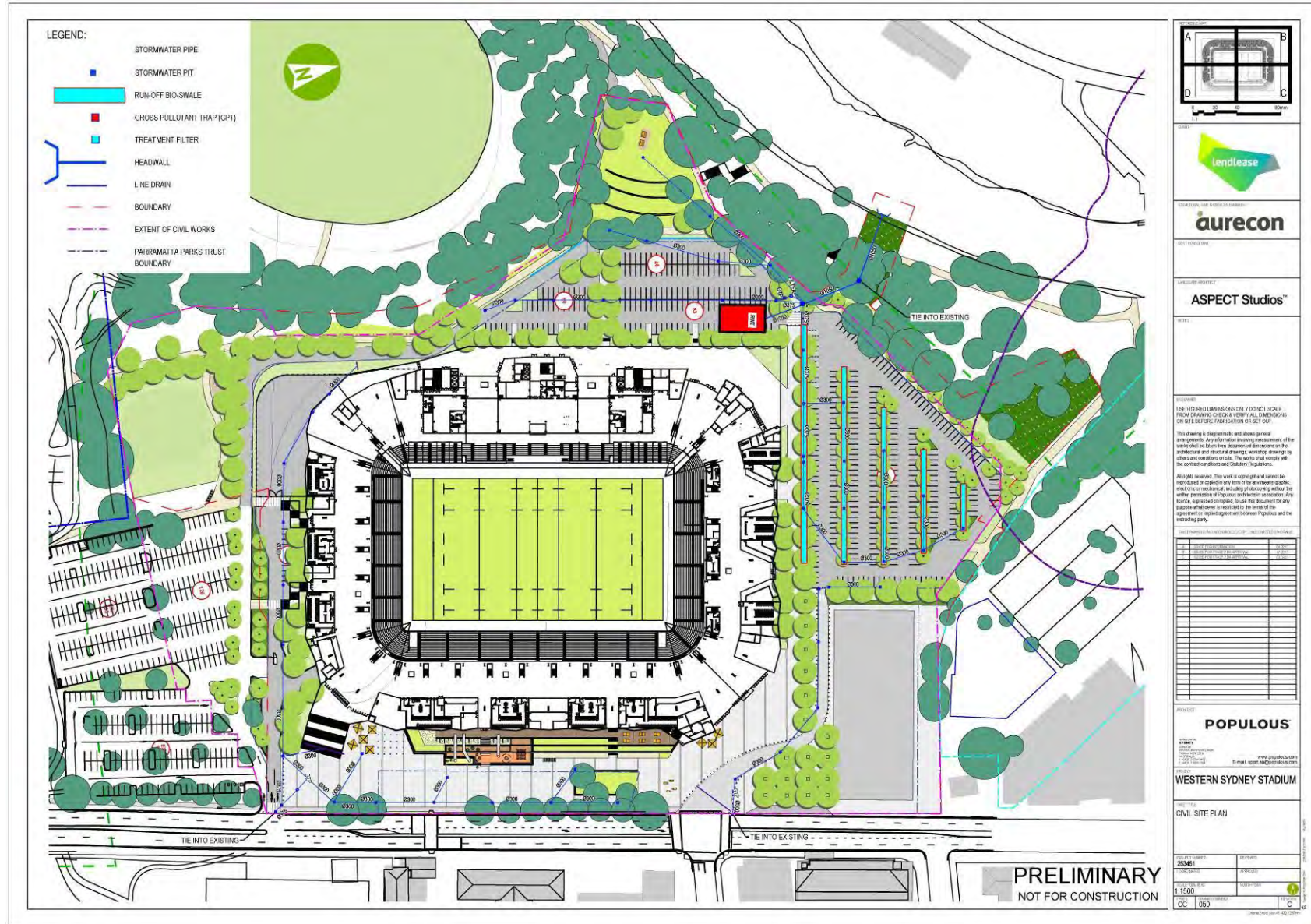


Figure 6.7: Plan of the Western Sydney Stadium with Stage 2 development footprint and the southern carpark works area.

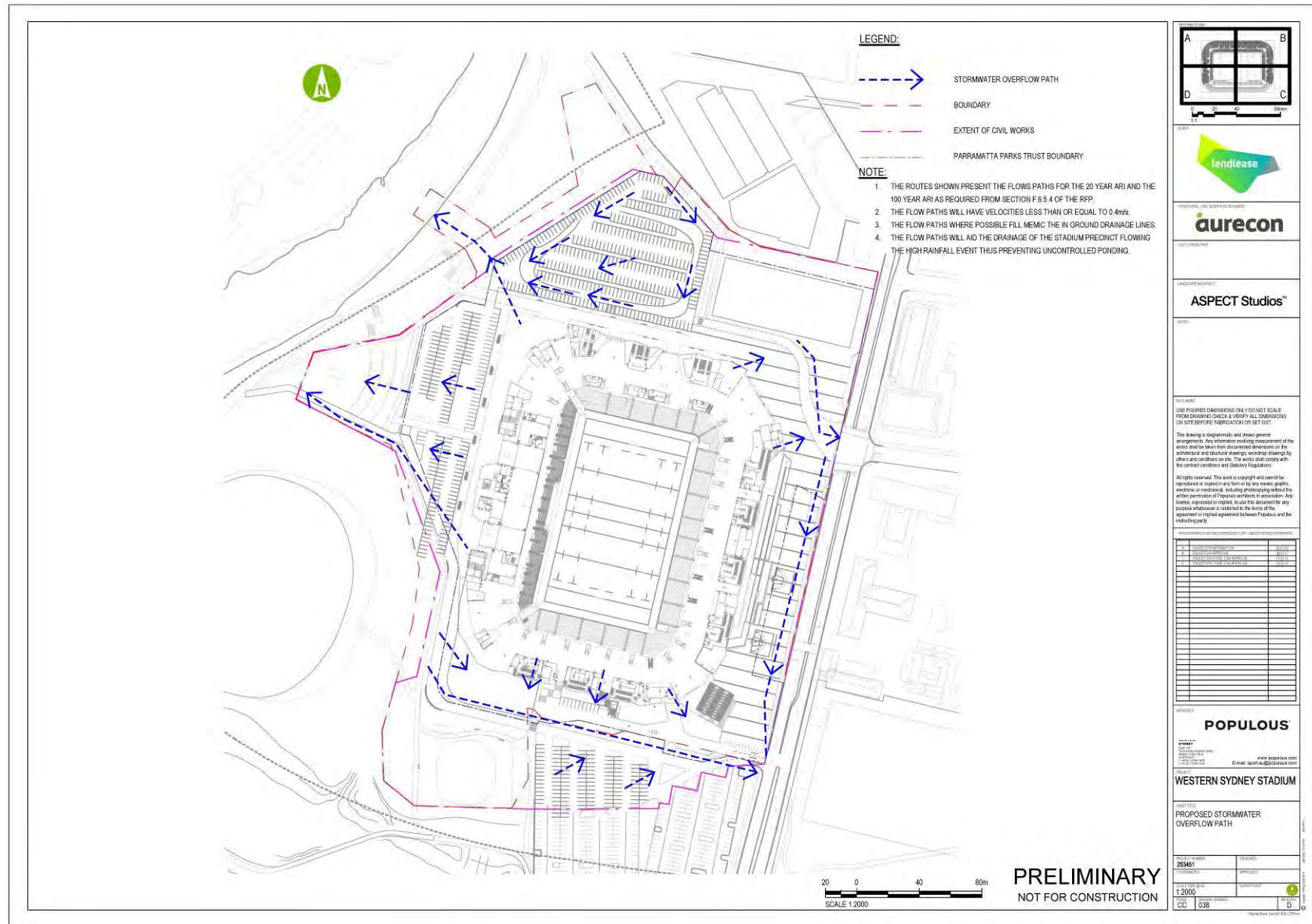


Figure 6.8: Plan showing the overland flow which requires overflow pathways. This may require some regrading of areas. Proposed excavation in this area will need to be managed in accordance with the Archaeological Research Design.

7.0 Analysis of Views and Adjoining Landscape

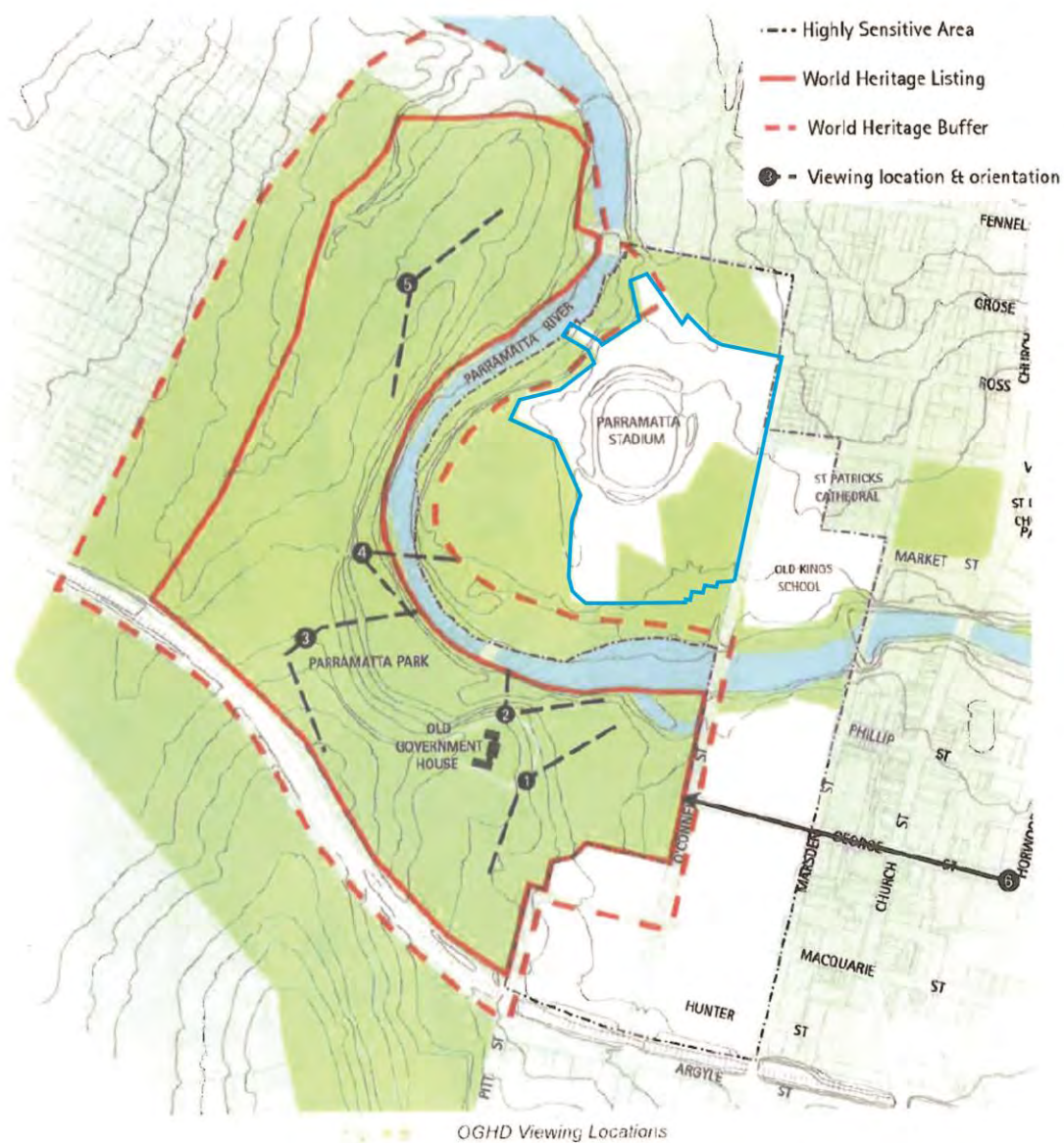
7.1 World Heritage Views

The OGHDL WHL Conservation Agreement identifies a number of visually sensitive areas and significant key views, as listed below and shown on (Figure 7.1, Figure 7.2).

1. View from lawn east and south of OGH towards Parramatta CBD.
2. View from NE corner of OGH to Old Kings School.
3. View from Bath House area west of OGH to Parramatta CBD.
4. Parramatta River views towards City from road within Parramatta Park on western side of the river.
5. View from Dairy Precinct within Parramatta Park looking north east and south east towards the City.
6. View west along George Street towards Tudor Gatehouse and OGH.



Figure 7.1: Highly Sensitive Areas in the vicinity of the OGHDL WHL listed area. Conservation Agreement



Map reference	View
1	From lawns east and south of OGH towards the city
2	From NE corner of OGH to Old Kings School
3	From Bath House area west of OGH to city
4	Parramatta River views towards city from road within Parramatta Park on west side of river
5	From Dairy Precinct within Parramatta Park looking north east and south east towards city
6	West along George Street towards Gatehouse of OGH

Figure 7.2: Map showing the OGHD WHL listed area and buffer zone, Highly sensitive areas and the viewing locations and directions of key heritage views. (OGHD WHL& NHL Conservation Agreement)

7.2 Other Views from Significant Places

In addition, there are significant views from other points within Parramatta Park, from other heritage items in the vicinity of The Proposal and from the nearby public domain, as listed below and shown on figure page 78 below:

1. View north to Stadium site from top of stairs leading from The Crescent near the Boer War Memorial down to the amphitheatre, Parramatta Park.
2. View to Stadium site from front door of Old Government House, Parramatta.
3. View across Parramatta River from south bank of river at Noller Footbridge.
4. View across Parramatta River from open ground on southern side of the Little Coogee café, Parramatta Park.
5. View southeast across Domain Creek and Parramatta River to Stadium site from open ground near southeast corner of Glengariff, Wisteria Gardens, Cumberland Hospital West Campus.
6. View to Stadium site from grandstand on western side of Old Kings School Oval, Parramatta Park.
7. View to Stadium site from a point in open ground just north of the Mays Hill Gate Lodge, Parramatta Park (just west of Parramatta High School).
8. View to Stadium site from a point high in open ground on the golf course, Mays Hill.
9. View south towards the Stadium site from the oval, Cumberland Hospital East Campus.
10. View south from the main entrance to the Cumberland Hospital East Campus in Fleet Street, Parramatta North.
11. View north along O'Connell Street towards the Stadium site from the eastern side of the Tudor Gatehouse at the intersection of O'Connell Street and George Street.
12. View west along Victoria Road to stadium Site from St Patricks Catholic Cathedral at the intersection of Marist Place and Victoria Road, Parramatta.
13. View from Park Street Gatelodge, Parramatta Park towards the Stadium site.

7.3 Adjoining Development and Landscape Character

The existing landscape character of the Study Area is of mid to late 20th-century public recreation facilities comprising the Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre and the Pirtek Stadium and their associated parking areas and infrastructure. The landscape is dominated by the bulky built form of the existing stadium and the smaller structures of the swimming centre, including entry pavilion, pools, shade structures, and diving tower. There are extensive areas of paving around both the stadium and swimming centre and car parking areas to the south of the swimming centre and northeast of the existing stadium.

The landscape character of adjoining development varies considerably. To the south and west of the Study Area, west of O'Connell Street, is the historic cultural landscape of Parramatta Park, including the Old Kings Oval, the Parramatta River, remnants of the Government Farm, Old Government House and The Domain. This landscape includes grassed areas, formal and informal plantings, the river corridor and structures such as the Noller Footbridge.

Immediately to the east of the Study Area is the four-lane carriageway of O'Connell Street and its intersection with the four-lane carriageway of Victoria Road. Just to the southeast of the Study area, O'Connell Street is carried over the Parramatta River on the concrete Rings Bridge.

Immediately to the north of the Study Area, on the west side of O'Connell Street, is the Parramatta Leagues Club and associated car park, with extensive institutional buildings including Kamballa /

Norma Parker Centre and Cumberland Hospital (East Campus) further to the north on Fennell Street.

To the east of the Study Area are the institutional buildings of the former Kings School, with its parade ground fronting the river, St Patrick's Catholic Cathedral, both on the south side of Victoria Road. On the north side of Victoria road is Our Lady of Mercy College. On the eastern side of O'Connell Street, north of Ross Street, single-storey buildings include the heritage-listed colonial house 'Roseneath'.

7.4 Visual Absorption Capacity

Visual absorption capacity is an estimation of the ability of a particular area of landscape to absorb development without creating a significant change in visual character or a reduction in scenic quality of the area. The capacity of an area to absorb development visually is primarily dependent on landform, vegetation and the location and nature of existing development. Generally, flat or gently undulating open forest or woodland has a higher capacity to visually absorb development than open heathland or swamp or heavily undulating topography with cleared ridges and slopes.

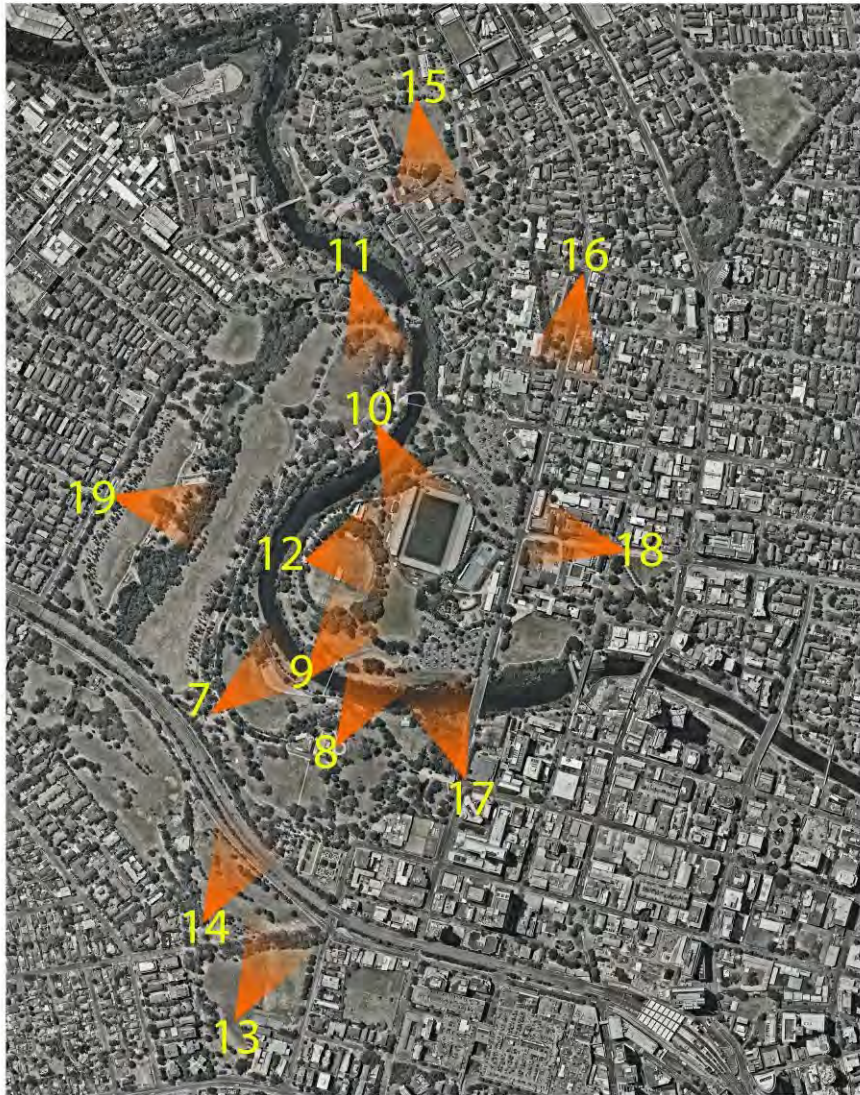
A major factor influencing visual absorption capacity is the level of visual contrast between the proposed development and the existing elements of the landscape in which it is to be located. If, for example, a visually prominent development already exists, then the capacity of that area to visually absorb a replacement or an additional development of similar scale and form is higher than a similar section of land that has no similar development but has a natural undeveloped visual character.

The visual absorption capacity of the study area to absorb the proposed WSS without a significant change in visual character or a reduction in scenic quality of the area is considered to be moderate. While the new stadium will be replacing existing structures, it is larger in footprint than any of these and closer than the existing Pirtek Stadium to sensitive cultural landscape areas to its south and west.

7.5 Photomontages showing before and after views with the Western Sydney Stadium



Figure 7.3: Location of World Heritage views.



Additional Heritage Views

			
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Figure 7.4: Other significant viewpoints.



Viewpoint 1 (stadium hidden from view)

Viewpoint 1

View from lawn east and south of
OGH towards Parramatta CBD.

Viewpoint 2

View from NE corner of OGH to
Old Kings School.

Viewpoint 3

View from Bath House area west
of OGH to Parramatta CBD
View from Bath House area west of
OGH to Parramatta CBD



Viewpoint 2 (existing)



Viewpoint 3 (existing)



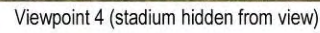
Viewpoint 2 (proposed)



Viewpoint 3 (proposed)

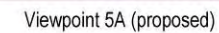
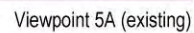
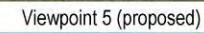
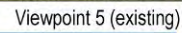
OGHD WHL Conservation Agreement Views

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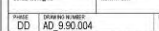


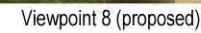
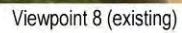
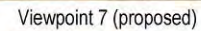
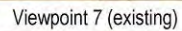
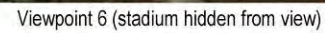
Parramatta River views towards City from road within Parramatta Park on western side of the river.

View from Dairy Precinct within Parramatta Park looking north east and south east towards the City.



OGHD WHL Conservation Agreement Views





Additional Heritage Views



Viewpoint 9 (proposed)



Viewpoint 10 (proposed)

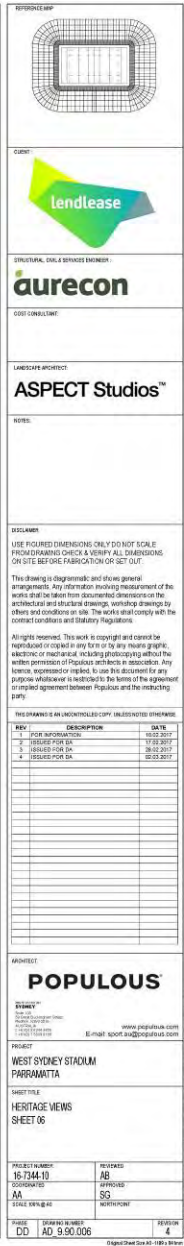


Additional Heritage Views

View across Parramatta River from south bank of river at Noller Footbridge. View across Parramatta River from south bank of river at Noller Footbridge.

View across Parramatta River from open ground on southern side of the café, Little Coogee, Parramatta Park.

View southeast across Domain Creek and Parramatta River to Stadium site from open ground near southeast corner of Glengariff, Wisteria Gardens, Cumberland Hospital West Campus.





Viewpoint 12 (proposed)



Viewpoint 14 (stadium hidden from view)



Viewpoint 16 (stadium hidden from view)

Viewpoint 16
View south from the main entrance to the Cumberland Hospital East Campus in Fleet Street, Parramatta North.



Additional Heritage Views

Viewpoint 17

View north along O'Connell Street towards the Stadium site from the eastern side of the Tudor Gatehouse at the intersection of O'Connell Street and George Street

Viewpoint 18

View west along Victoria Road to stadium Site from St Patricks Catholic Cathedral at the intersection of Marist Place and Victoria Road, Parramatta.

Viewpoint 19

View from Park Street Gatelodge, Parramatta Park towards the Stadium site.

8.0 Existing Vegetation and Proposed Tree Removals

8.1 Existing Vegetation

Landscaping around the Western Sydney Stadium site includes a number of existing trees of various species, sizes and conditions, planted to provide shade and other amenity to visitors. While some trees will be retained within the proposed scheme, approximately 140 existing trees are proposed for removal, with approximately 65 of these already approved for removal as part of the Stage 1 DA (Figure 6.9).

The Biodiversity Assessment prepared by Ecological Australia as part of the Stage 1 Development Application for the site identified the significant vegetation community – River Flat Eucalyptus Forest, adjacent to the stadium precinct. None of the trees proposed for removal fall within this vegetation community - all are planted native and exotic species.

Approximately four trees identified within cluster no. 60 fall within the Grey Headed Flying Fox 50m buffer zone although a number of indigenous trees species are proposed to replace these within this immediate area.

8.2 Trees already approved for removal

Trees already approved for removal under the Stage 1 DA consent include Trees 1-31, 34, 36, 39, 41-43, 59, 66-74, 77-78. Refer to Arborist report - for further information regarding existing trees: Dr TreeGood Job: 61401 Ref: 2017-672 (Figure 6.9).

8.3 Additional trees proposed for removal

A number of additional trees are required for removal as part of the Stage 2 DA submission (Figure 6.9). These trees comprise those numbered 40, 44, 45 and approximately 5 trees in the group labelled 46. Trees numbered 44-46 located along O'Connell Street require removal in order to provide equitable pedestrian access to the Civic Plaza and main stadium entry from Victoria Road and the O'Connell Street footpath. These trees are currently planted on a raised berm which inhibits pedestrian flows from the street. Tree 40, also located along O'Connell Street is a Camphor Laurel tree in poor condition and is also proposed to be removed. Trees within group 60 and 64 are proposed to be removed to accommodate the new Northern Carpark, as they are located within areas required for vehicular circulation and car parking. Further to these trees, an additional approximately 15 trees numbered A-N may require removal due to the reconfiguration of Parramatta Park Trust's Southern Carpark. The reconfiguration is required in order to accommodate the 360-degree ring road needed around the stadium for servicing and vehicular movements.

Further detailed design of the carpark levels is required to determine the full extent of removal of these trees.



Figure 8.1: View to the northeast across the southern carpark showing a small stand of trees proposed to be removed as part of Stage 2 works within the Parramatta Park Trust carpark.



Figure 8.2: View to the east across the carpark showing native trees proposed to be removed as part of Stage 2 works within the Parramatta Park Trust carpark. The area of the median strip is proposed to be reduced to increase overland flow.

9.0 The World Heritage Area Buffer Zone & Impacts

9.1 The Buffer Zone

The *Old Government House and Domain Parramatta Park, Management Plan* (2009:57) which formed part of the nomination for the WHL includes a description of the buffer zone and its purpose.

The buffer zone covers an area which encompasses the immediate setting of the World Heritage property, important views to and from the property, and important historical function attributes of the property, including:

- **Immediate Setting**

Old Government House and Domain is located on a hill top (Rose Hill) overlooking an enclosed vale (Parramatta River and The Crescent) forming the World Heritage property. The immediate setting within the buffer zone consists of the hill overlooking the Parramatta River valley townscape and broader plain with the open grasslands and treed copses and glades of Parramatta Park, former fields and agricultural pastures and the upper reaches of the Parramatta River. This setting reinforces understandings of the property as a control centre over the large convict workforce throughout the Domain, and metaphorically as a command centre for all the penal stations and convicts in the colony.

- **Important Views**

Important view from OGH over the broader Domain are contained within the buffer zone emphasising the command and control function of OGH and Domain and consistent with historical records such as maps and plans, illustrations and paintings. Longer and more extensive views extend from the Domain and beyond the Buffer Area eastwards along the Parramatta River to Lennox Bridge, westwards and southwards to Mays Hill, the highest point in Parramatta Park. There are reciprocal views back from these positions to the Domain and OGH with the buffer zone. There is also an occasional vista from the eastern edges of the property along several key streets of the Parramatta CBD, which are contained within the buffer zone.

- **Other areas or attributes that are functionally important**

The buffer zone includes the Flat Rocks in Parramatta Park, which mark the types of terrain encountered not far from The Crescent by Governor Phillip's expedition in April 1788 that led to his decision to establish a settlement and government farm, with convict management and labour on a site within the WHA and which saved the colony from starvation.

The historical-function connection between OGH & Domain that illustrates the functions of the Governor and includes within the buffer area archaeological remains of the government farm and of a number of other industrial functions within the Domain, such as the mill and mill race (c.1798-01812) on the northern banks of the Parramatta River, as well as former carriageways, bridges and river crossings. The northern and western parts of the river either side of the property are also included in the buffer zone for their function in the late 1780s as the transport corridor between the Government House and its Domain, Parramatta and Sydney Harbour, 20 km to the east.

The location of cattle yards and the physical evidence in the form of extant furrows of maize from the Government Domain are included within the buffer area as they demonstrate the diversity and intensiveness of convict-labour based industries operating with the Domain. In addition, the buffer area demonstrates the extent of the land clearing undertaken by convict labour to create the Domain.

Collectively the sites within the buffer zone provide evidence of the use of the Domain as a centre of government administration and demonstrate the nature of Vice-Regal authority within the convict system and are a microcosm of the functional role of the Governor across all convict stations and settlements.

9.2 Impacts

Most of the WHA buffer zone is outside of the current study area (Figure 2.2). The northwestern sections of the study area extend into the buffer zone. Preliminary designs indicated that these areas will be modified into a more natural landscape, as an appropriate setting for the archaeological and landscape qualities of the place (Figure 6.1, Figure 6.3, Figure 6.5, Figure 6.6). The parts of the site within the buffer zone are also included within the Interpretation Strategy. The Boulevard Legends terminates near the river in this area (Figure 6.3, Figure 6.5).

10.0 Historical Archaeology Impacts

10.1 Civil Works

10.1.1 Bulk Excavation

As described in the S96 modification there is considerable extent of asbestos containing material (ACM) across the EIS study area which will need to be removed (see Section 5.1, Archaeological Assessment 2017). Nearly all of the reduction across the site is within the EIS and is therefore within the S96 application.

Further to this, it is proposed to reduce an area of a Parramatta Park Trust owned southern carpark (Figure 10.1). The bulk excavation extends from quite shallow works up to 1.4m in an area of a raised median strip and trees (Figure 8.1, Figure 8.2). These works are within the area of the Government Farm and there is potential for impacts on this site.

10.1.2 Overland Flow

The overland flow works may require some minor regrading but most of these works are included in the S96 bulk excavation works (Figure 6.8). These works are within the area of the Government Farm and there is potential for impacts on this site.

10.1.3 Services

The stormwater works may involve the re-excavation of an existing stormwater line that empties into the Parramatta River within the World Heritage buffer zone. The current outfall is not visible. This excavation would need to be handled cautiously so as manage any potential issues. There are no known historical archaeological sites in this area. Most of these works are outside areas of potential archaeology and focus on the footprint of the stadium (Figure 6.7). There are no known services being laid within the Government Farm or the Government Watermill sites.

10.1.4 Tree Planting and Removal

This Proposal includes the planting of approximately 200 trees as well as the removal of an number of trees (Figure 6.6, Figure 6.9, Figure 8.1, Figure 8.2). New plantings would need to be carefully placed so as to avoid excavation within the core archaeological zones of the Government Farm and the Government Watermill and mill dam. Also, trees to be removed need to be carefully reviewed as to their potential impact on archaeology.

10.1.5 Landscape Design

Landscaping within the archaeology zones may impact State-significant archaeology. This will need to be reviewed at detailed design to mitigate possible impacts. This needs to be in accordance with the Stage 1 approval that archaeology of potential State or National significance needs to be conserved *in situ*.

10.2 Government Farm

The main potential impact on the Government Farm site is the bulk excavation works (Figure 10.1). Also, landscaping within the former training field. Measures to mitigate these impacts are outlined in the Archaeological Assessment and S96 Impact Statement and will be employed for these works as well.

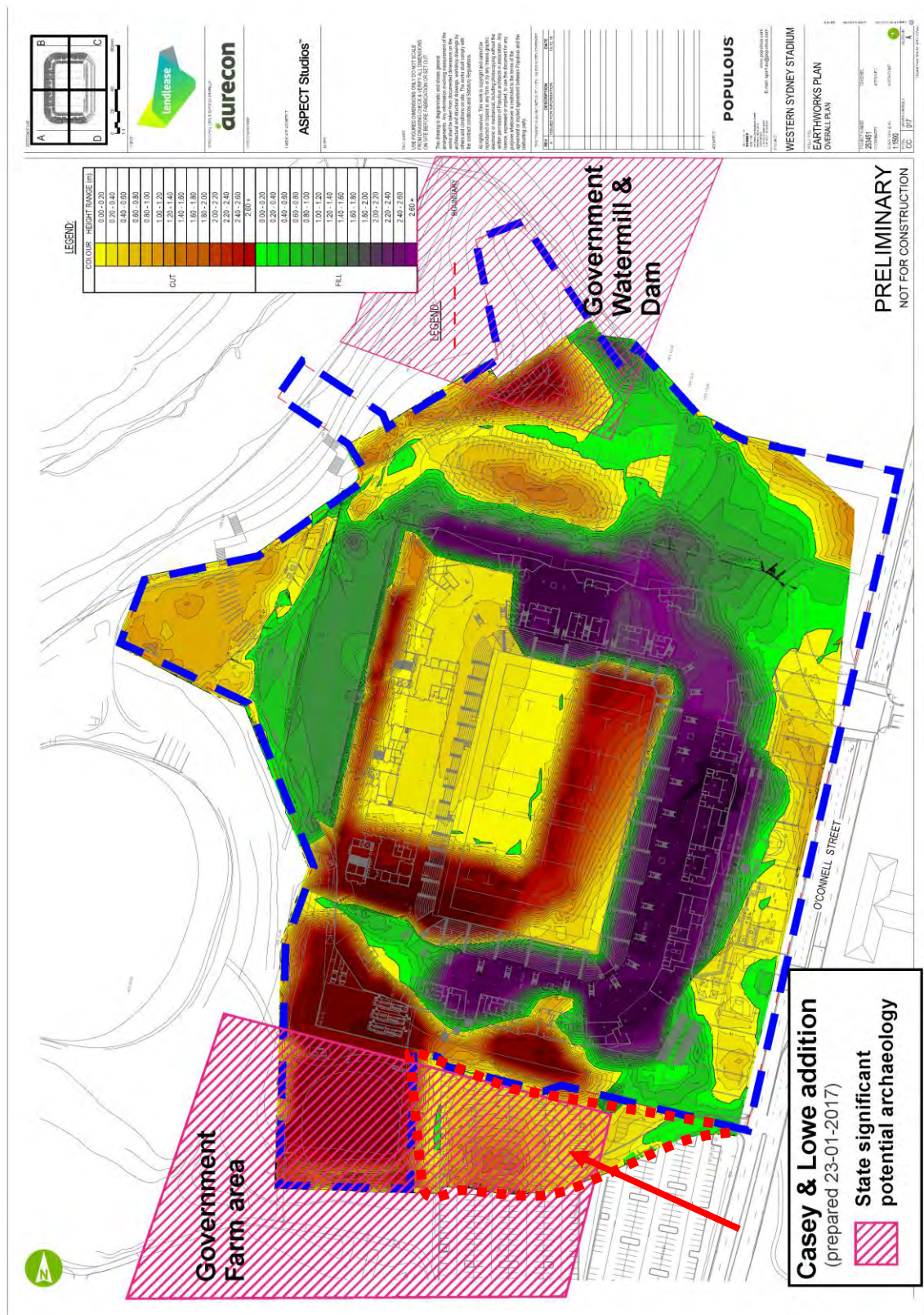


Figure 10.1: All of the area within the blue dashed line is within Stage 1 EIS approval. The red dashed area (red arrow) indicates an area of shallow excavation within the SHR boundary and is outside of the WHA buffer zone (Figure 6.4). This is part of the works areas. This is within the site of the Government Farm.

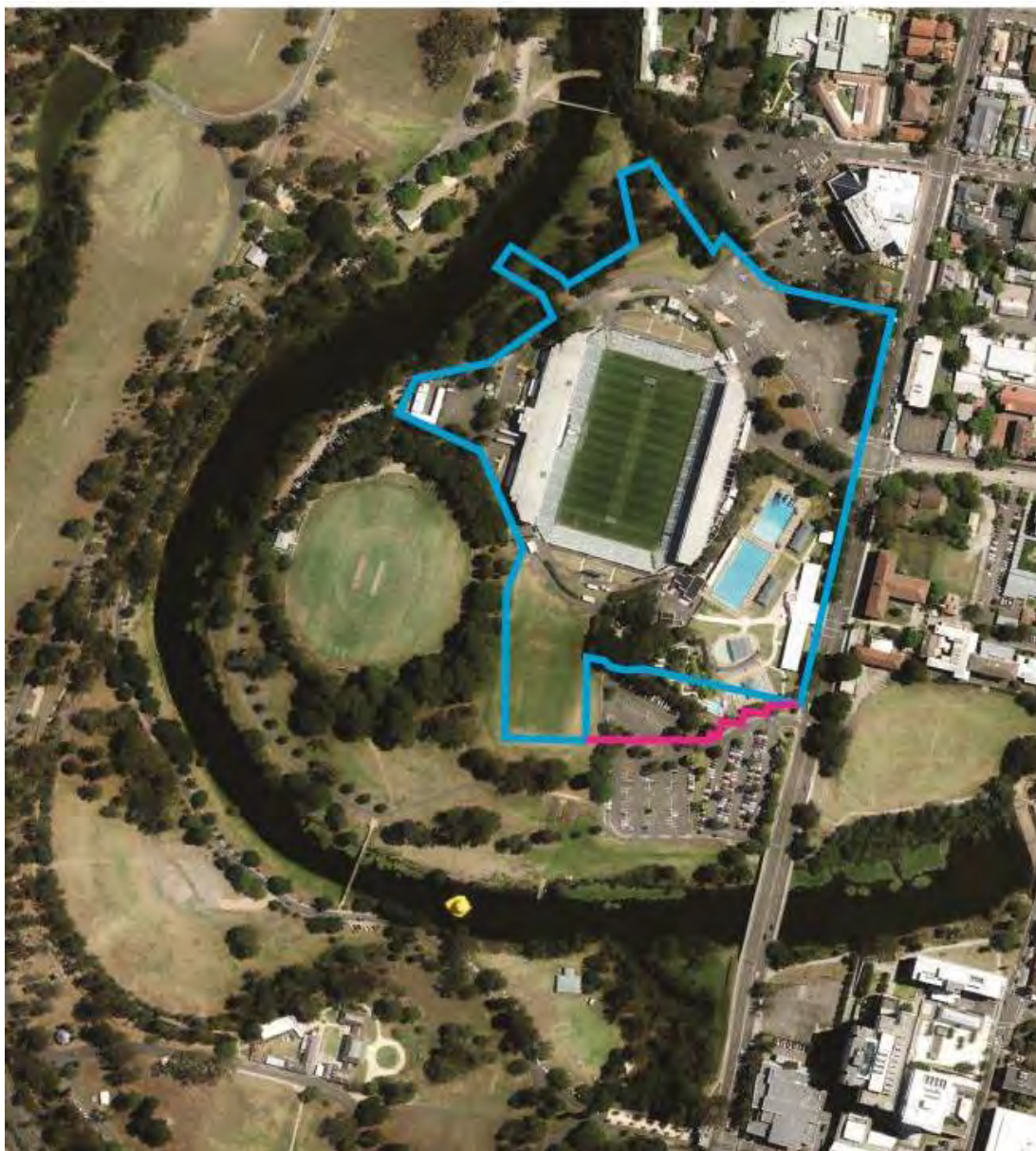


Figure 10.2: Section of southern carpark is part of the works area and also involves some cut and fill.

10.3 Government Watermill

There is some limited potential for impacts from the removal of trees and planting of new trees (Figure 6.6, Figure 6.9, Figure 8.1, Figure 8.2).

11.0 Assessment of Heritage Impacts from Development

11.1 New Development Adjacent to Heritage Items

1. Why is the new development required to be adjacent to a heritage item and can all the significant elements of the heritage items be kept and new development located elsewhere?

A decision has been made by Government that the WSS is State Significant Development, to be constructed within the Study Area and the Minister's Consent for the SSD to proceed was given in December 2016, following public exhibition of the EIS for Stage 1 and response to submissions on the EIS. Adjoining heritage items will be subject to potential direct physical impacts (parts of Parramatta Park, including those adjoining the Government Farm and archaeological sites associated with the mill pond and mill race from the former Government Mill). Other heritage items in the vicinity will be subject to visual impacts to varying degrees, dependent on their proximity to the Stadium and the nature of intervening structures and vegetation.

2. How is the impact of the new development on the items' significance to be minimised?

The objective is to minimise the visual impact of WSS on significant views from OGHD WHL, views from other listed heritage items nearby and major viewing points in the public domain. The WSS has been designed with rectangular structural steel elements to create a lighter appearance than many existing stadia. Functional spaces around the pitch are in the form of pods located within the structure. Exterior cladding is well articulated both vertically and horizontally. The roof is stretched fabric and stadium lighting is located around the roof rather than on high towers as exist at Pirtek stadium. It is considered that use of a mid to dark grey finish for the lower exterior structural steel elements will achieve a lower contrast between WSS and its environmental context than an overall white finish although the exterior finish will grade to white on the upper structural elements to blend with the roof fabric which is only available in white.

3. How does the curtilage of the heritage items contribute to the retention of their significance?

The proposal is partially located within the State Heritage Register (SHR) curtilage of Parramatta Park and Old Government House, an historic cultural landscape with significant built, landscape and archaeological values. The proposal may also impact on the Aboriginal cultural significance of the SHR item, which is of high spiritual and social significance to the Darug community.

There is an opportunity to amend the SHR curtilage in the vicinity of the WSS to account for the new footprint of the development, at the same time allowing for some areas currently within the boundaries of the Pirtek Stadium and Swimming Centre sites to be returned to Parramatta Park.

The statutory curtilages of other listed heritage items in the vicinity of WSS will not be physically impacted by The Proposal.

4. Is the new development sympathetic to the heritage items? In what ways?

The new development continues the active recreational use of this part of the former Governors' Domain / Parramatta Park. The new stadium has been designed to minimise physical and visual impacts on the heritage items through measures such as building design, exterior finishes and landscaping.

In terms of the archaeology it should be able to be managed so that there is no impact on State or Nationally significant archaeology.

5. Will the new development visually dominate the heritage items? How has this been minimised?

The Proposal will introduce a large new structure into an area currently containing a variety of structures, including the existing Pirtek Stadium.

The footprint of the new building is larger than that of the stadium it will replace but the overall height of the new building has been reduced from RL42.50 permitted under the Stage 1 DA to RL 41.50, resulting in a small but significant reduction in the visual intrusion of the new stadium above the established tree canopy.

The roof of the new stadium is an open roof truss with roofing plane installed to the underside of the roof truss at approximately RL37.5, further reducing the visual impact of the building when compared to similar designs that have the roofing fabric installed over the roof trusses.

6. Will the public, and users of the items, still be able to view and appreciate their significance?

Access to the OGHD WHL area, the remainder of Parramatta Park and other heritage items in the vicinity of WSS will not be affected by The Proposal. Although there will be changes to the perception of these areas arising from the construction of the new stadium, the public and users of the items will still be able to appreciate their significance by visiting the site and/or by access to various interpretive media that do or will communicate the heritage significance of the items. The history and significance of The Proposal site will be interpreted by various culturally appropriate media and devices that will tell the stories of the Aboriginal, non-Aboriginal and sporting history of the place in accordance with an endorsed Interpretive Strategy and Plan.

11.2 Impacts on Significant Views

1. How does the new development affect views to, and from, the heritage items? What has been done to minimise negative effects?

The new stadium construction will introduce a large new built element in the cultural landscape, albeit replacing existing structures which already include a large football stadium. There will be changes to views towards the new stadium precinct from various viewing points within Parramatta Park, including the OGHD WHL area, and from other heritage items in the vicinity. The negative impacts on these views will be minimised by the following measures.

The proposed building envelope will not exceed the building height controls set out in the Conservation Agreement for the protection and conservation of the World and National Heritage values of the Australian Convict Sites, Old Government House and Domain, Parramatta (Conservation Agreement) and the project complies with the acceptable height control for Important View 2 – Old Government House towards Old Kings School building.

Building masses under the roof structure of the new stadium have been articulated both horizontally and vertically, to minimise visual impact. Additionally, the materials and colour palette for exterior finishes have been chosen to respond to, and be sympathetic to the surrounding parkland, heritage and urban context.

The traditional tall lighting towers used at many stadia, including the Pirtek Stadium, have been replaced at WSS with roof-mounted LED lights located on the underside of the roof. These have the advantage of removing visible elements above the tree line that obscure clear views across Parramatta Park. The downward direction of light into the new stadium from the new lighting system will avoid the wide dispersal of bright light during night fixtures that has previously existed.

Existing trees lining the banks of Parramatta River and surrounding the Old Kings Oval will be retained and supplemented with landscaping around the new stadium to maintain a green outlook when the stadium is viewed from key heritage viewing points.

11.3 Impacts on Landscape and Trees

The WSS will introduce a large rectangular built element of considerable bulk and scale in the landscape, replacing the existing Pirtek Stadium and Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre. The new stadium will extend further south than the existing stadium, bringing it closer to the significant areas of Parramatta Park and the OGHD WHL area.

1. How has the impact of the new work on the heritage significance of the existing landscape been minimised?

Existing vegetation in Parramatta Park outside The Proposal area will be retained and will help to screen the new stadium as viewed from sensitive viewing points within the OGHD WHL area and elsewhere within the Park. This visual screening will be increased by new landscaping around the stadium, including along its southern edge, where plantings of tall canopy trees and under-plantings of trees and shrubs will serve to reduce the visual bulk of the new building.

2. Has evidence (archival and physical) of previous landscape work been investigated? Are previous works being reinstated?

The landscape of the existing training ground at the southwest corner of The Proposal area and the landscape to the west and northwest of The Proposal area have been researched for their potential archaeological significance. Fill, including contaminated material, will be removed from these areas to a level above likely archaeological deposits, resulting in a return to a landform closer to the original. In the case of the Government Farm this is about respecting the curtilage of the farm within the landscape of river terraces.

3. Has the advice of a consultant skilled in the conservation of heritage landscapes been sought? If so, have their recommendations been implemented?

This Statement of Heritage Impact has been prepared by a team including Chris Betteridge, Director, Betteridge Consulting Pty Ltd t/a **MUSEcape**, a practice specialising in conservation and management of historic cultural landscapes. The author's findings and recommendations for mitigation measures are included in this report.

11.4 Impacts on the OGHD WHA and Parramatta Park

The Stage 2 DA intrudes into the SHR curtilage for Parramatta Park and Old Government House and adjoins the buffer zone for the WHL curtilage for Old Government House and The Domain, one of eleven sites that make up the Australian Convict sites on the WHL.

As part of the Stage 1 approval the Swimming Pool area of the SHR property of Parramatta Park was included within the project. Additional works are proposed within SHR curtilage on an existing carpark to the south of the WSS and east of the training field. The works involve some excavation, up to 1.4m, and removal of trees and regrading and design of the carpark. There are no substantial changes to the existing design. The current proposal will require archaeological management to ensure that archaeology of the State-significant Government Farm is retained with its core values intact.

11.5 Assessment of Compliance with OGHD WHA Conservation Agreement

The detailed design of the project must comply with the Conservation Agreement for the protection and conservation of the World and National Heritage values of the Australian Convict Sites, Old Government House and Domain, Parramatta (Conservation Agreement) which is linked to the controls in Parramatta City Centre LEP 2007 in regard to the following:

- 21 Height of buildings.
- 21A Architectural roof features.
- 22 Floor space ratio.

The new Stadium site is within Park Edge Highly Sensitive area A2 – Parramatta Stadium, Parramatta Pool and Car Park in which the following controls apply under the Conservation Agreement:

- a) At least 80% of the building height (other than lighting towers for Parramatta Stadium) must be contained below the established tree canopy of Parramatta Park when viewed from any of the key viewing locations from OGH shown in Figure 4.3.3.7.7 [of the Conservation Agreement]. Buildings must be oriented so as to minimise the visual impact from these viewing locations.
- b) External building materials must be muted in colour with matt finishes to minimise contrast with the park surrounds and be complimentary to its setting.
- c) Signage on the upper level of buildings must not face the Domain of Parramatta Park.

11.5.1 Compliance with controls

Building height and orientation

The design for WSS obviates the need for lighting towers, thereby reducing potential visual intrusion above the established tree canopy. The new stadium is hidden from view from OGH WHA viewing points 1, 4 and 6 (see Photomontages in section 7.5). The new stadium complies with the height control for viewing point 2 and appears to comply with the height control for viewing points 3 and 5 (see Photomontages in section 7.5). Visual impacts from these last-mentioned points will be further reduced by proposed landscaping to the south and west of the new stadium respectively.

The new stadium has been oriented so that its narrower dimension is towards Old Government House.

External building materials

The lower structural elements will be in muted colours with matt finishes to minimise contrast with park surrounds including the established tree canopy. The upper elements will be lighter in colour to minimise contrast when viewed against the sky.

Signage

There is no signage on the upper levels of the new stadium facing the Domain of Parramatta Park.

Protection of important views to and from Old Government House and Domain

Within the Park Edge Special Area, development must not be carried out that obstructs the sight lines between Old Government House and the Old Kings school site and the spire of St Patricks Cathedral.

Compliance

While the new stadium will be visible within the view arc shown from viewing point 2 on Figure 4.3.3.7.7 of the Conservation Agreement, the sight lines between OGH and Old Kings School and the spire of St Patricks Cathedral will be retained (see Photomontage at section 7.5 of the HIS).

Conclusion

The WSS stadium design had used a number of strategies to mitigate impacts as outlined in the Conservation Agreement. Therefore, it is considered that the WSS design is compliant with the

intent of the Conservation Agreement in retaining the significant views from the World Heritage Area, notably Old Government House.

11.6 Compliance with Western Sydney Stadium Urban Design and Public Realm Guidelines

The WSS EIS *Urban Design and Public Realm Guidelines* (CHROFI et al, June 2016) include several principles and objectives related to conservation of heritage values, as follows:

- Mitigate effects on local communities and users of the surrounding lands and water.
- Respect the cultural heritage & urban context of Parramatta Park.
- Enhance a 'sense of place' through high quality landscape.
- Integrate and connect with other land uses on surrounding sites, as well as the Parramatta CBD.
- Deliver district and regional level sporting infrastructure including improving access to Old Kings Oval.

Stage 2 design of the WSS will be subject to the requirements under cl. 7.10 of the Parramatta LEP, as it would be for development that involves the erection of a building. Stage 2 designs will need to exhibit design excellence through the following matters

- a. whether a high standard of architectural design, materials and detailing appropriate to the building type and location will be achieved,
- b. whether the form and external appearance of the proposed development will improve the quality and amenity of the public domain,
- c. whether the proposed development detrimentally impacts on view corridors,
- d. how the proposed development addresses the following matters:
 - (i) the suitability of the land for development,
 - (ii) the existing and proposed uses and use mix,
 - (iii) any heritage and archaeological issues and streetscape constraints or opportunities,
 - (iv) the location of any tower proposed, having regard to the need to achieve an acceptable relationship with other towers (existing or proposed) on the same site or on neighbouring sites in terms of separation, setbacks, amenity and urban form,
 - (v) the bulk, massing and modulation of buildings,
 - (vi) street frontage heights,
 - (vii) environmental impacts, such as sustainable design, overshadowing and solar access, visual and acoustic privacy, noise, wind and reflectivity,
 - (viii) the achievement of the principles of ecologically sustainable development,
 - (ix) pedestrian, cycle, vehicular and service access and circulation requirements, including the permeability of any pedestrian network,
 - (x) the impact on, and any proposed improvements to, the public domain,
 - (xi) the impact on any special character area,
 - (xii) achieving appropriate interfaces at ground level between the building and the public domain,
 - (xiii) excellence and integration of landscape design".

Source: Parramatta Local Environmental Plan 2011 – 7.10 (4)

Conclusion

The WSS stadium design has used a number of strategies to mitigate impacts as outlined in the **Urban Design and Public Realm Guidelines**. Therefore, it is considered that the WSS design is compliant with the intent of the **Urban Design and Public Realm Guidelines**:

- In retaining the highly sensitive views from OGH to the Former Kings School site.

- The height of the WSS is such that “at least 80% of the building height (other than lighting towers for Parramatta Stadium) is contained below the established tree canopy of Parramatta Park when viewed from any of the key viewing locations from OGHD.
- External building materials are muted in colour with matt finishes to minimise contrast with the park surrounds and be complimentary to its setting.
- Signage on the upper level of the building does not face the Domain of Parramatta Park.

The design for the WSS and the future development area considers the over-arching goals of the Parramatta Park Trust, which include (Parramatta Park Masterplan - Oct 2015):

- Protect and enhance the Park’s cultural heritage values.
- Protect and revitalise the Park’s natural systems.
- Cater for recreation and public open space needs of a growing population of western Sydney and Parramatta whilst having regard to the conservation of the Park’s heritage values.
- Improve edges, links and access to Parramatta.
- Improvement of the north-south and east-west pedestrian permeability of the Trust lands, consistent with the goals of the “people’s loop”.
- Improvement of the visibility of and access to the river foreshore.
- Upgrade of the landscaping between the Stadium, the Parramatta Leagues Club and the “people’s loop”.
- Inclusion of a Stadium plaza with gyms, cafes and other destination places to provide Non-Event Day activation of the WSS Precinct.
- Enhanced access to the Old Kings Oval for Event Day access.
- Removal and remediation of the Training Field.
- Retention and augmenting of the annual income associated with parking on Trust land, particularly within the car park.

The location of the stadium on the site acknowledges existing site conditions and preferred stadium orientation while fitting in with the local context. The final positioning has a respectful relationship to Old Kings Oval and the Parramatta River while addressing O’Connell Street in a manner that recognises its future character and role as the primary pedestrian threshold into the site. The WSS also avoids any obstruction of heritage related view corridors prescribed within the Conservation Agreement relating to Old Government House and Domain. Costly excavation has been minimised by siting the stadium edge to the north of the training field mound. Further excavation will be avoided by overlapping the footprint of the existing Parramatta Stadium.

11.6.1 Aspiration 1

The stadium is located so as to reconcile complex site constraints while achieving a vastly improved relationship to the City of Parramatta, O’Connell Street, Old Kings Oval and Parramatta River.

Compliance with guidelines

- Establishes a formal relationship with O’Connell Street with adequate space provided for pedestrian flows.
- Does not obstruct vistas between Old Government House and Domain (OGHD) and the Former Kings School and Saint Patrick’s Cathedral.
- Provides adequate curtilage to Parramatta River embankment to preserve scenic quality and permits development of future river corridor public domain.
- Provides adequate curtilage to Old Kings Oval and allows for future synergetic opportunities between the two facilities.
- Utilises existing footprint of Pirtek Stadium to minimise excavation.
- Avoids costly excavation of training field mounds.

- Orientates playing field within +/-15 degrees from true north.

The WSS site is located within the 'Highly Sensitive' perimeter of Old Government House and Domain. Accordingly, the building height and bulk is consistent with the controls of the Conservation Agreement governing development in this precinct. These primarily limit height and bulk to being no more than 20% visible (of total development facade) from particular vantage points within Old Government House and Domain. WSS is also sited at the urban edge of Parramatta CBD where it is appropriate to celebrate its presence as a significant public building. Further, the demands for more vertical stadia to improve user experience have been considered.

11.6.2 Aspiration 2

WSS must strike a balance between fulfilling the operational brief, minimising the overall impact on conservation sites, whilst creating a presence to its urban address

Compliance with guidelines

- A maximum of 20% of the facade will be visible from the protected view corridors identified in the Conservation Agreement.
- Stadium height has been minimised (below RL+42.5 max) to lessen visual impact to Old Government House and the parkland setting.
- WSS utilises setbacks and develops foreground elements and landscaping to the O'Connell Street frontage to mediate scale to Kings School and other existing buildings in O'Connell Street.
- Massing and scale of the stadium has been determined as a balance between overall footprint, structural height, functional brief, and stadium experience.

The character of transition spaces to the South and West

- The landscape character should reflect a high quality civic public domain precinct that responds to the concept of a 'stadium in a park'.
- The landscape should be integral to the WSS and add to the public realm as an overlay to create a cohesive functional user experience. The landscape should provide a high level of user amenity, designing for night and day experiences.
- The landscape character to the western and southern sides of the stadium should create a transition between the stadium site and the park, respecting and relating to the parkland site and vegetation communities.
- The treatment, however, at pedestrian level at the boundary between the stadium site and the parklands should strengthen the historical context of the parkland compared with the new urban edge of the stadium site, so the user is aware of entering or leaving the site and the significance of the historical landscape.
- Additional canopy planting should be implemented to replace and trees removed as part of the construction process thereby alleviating a potential impact on the historic view lines from Old Government House and the Domain.

11.6.3 Aspiration 3

Seamless continuity of the landscape between the stadium precinct and the parkland

Compliance with guidelines

- WSS provides additional canopy planting to mitigate the potential loss of trees through the construction process.
- The proposed vegetation will maintain and enhance existing views and vistas through the parkland, towards Old Kings Oval, Government Farm, the Parramatta River and across to Parramatta Park and Old Government House.

- The Stadium Precinct is incorporated into the park through the use of hard and soft landscape elements particularly across the various thresholds between the stadium and the park.

The architectural expression of WSS should respond to the complex conditions of the site. The stadium facade treatment must be sensitive where it addresses the park, however it also needs to outwardly express its role as the heart of sporting culture in Parramatta. In this regard, the architectural expression should be more vibrant in its presentation when viewed from the city (O'Connell St and Victoria Rd), but have a more quiet and respectful expression when viewed from within Parramatta Park. Where possible, the architectural expression should reflect the programmatic layout of the stadium to enhance legibility for patrons.

11.6.4 Aspiration 4

To create a stadium that sits quietly within the parkland setting, while being expressive of the excitement and drama of the stadium experience to the key urban approaches.

Compliance with guidelines

- Stadium entries have an expressive urban character
- Stadium facade has a respectful expression with muted colours and matt finish (Conservation Agreement - Parramatta DCP 2011) to address historical parkland setting
- Materiality and lighting are used to reinforce the Architectural Expression.

Careful selection of materials is used to provide tactility and detail interest at a finer scale, important in making the stadium appreciable from both a distance and up close. Materials chosen also contribute to transparency and accommodate lighting effects, which can assist in establishing a night-time identity for the stadium. The lighting effects are controlled to avoid light spill to the park while contributing to the atmosphere and excitement of 'the game' and its outward expression to the city.

11.6.5 Aspiration 5

- Materiality contributes to the daytime and night time identity of the stadium, while providing a finer layer of interest at close range.
- Lighting to avoid light spill to the park while being expressive of the atmosphere and excitement of 'the game'.
- Stadium lighting to be seamlessly incorporated within roof structure.

Compliance with guidelines

- External building materials will be muted in colour with matt finishes to minimise contrast with the park surrounds and be complimentary to its setting (Conservation Agreement - Parramatta DCP 2011).
- References local historical character.
- Materiality and lighting at stadium entrance contrast to the general stadium expression.
- All lighting external to the stadium and visible from the park is below the tree line.
- Safe lighting of public domain is obtained.
- Pitch lighting is on the leading edge of the roof as opposed to pole mounted.

11.6.6 Compliance with Urban Design and Public Realm Guidelines

The new stadium is considered to comply with those guidelines related to conservation of heritage values.

11.7 Aspects of Proposal considered likely to retain and / or enhance significance

1. The Proposal has minimal physical encroachment on significant areas of Parramatta Park.
2. The Proposal allows for some remediation of previously modified landscape to return it to more natural grades, with the potential of enhancing future interpretation of those areas.
3. The Proposal provides opportunities to adjust the SHR curtilage, with the possibility of returning some currently alienated areas back to Parramatta Park.
4. The Stadium has been designed with the use of structural steel elements and a fabric roof to minimise visual bulk compared with many traditional stadia.
5. Stadium pitch lighting will be located on the roof structure, directing light downwards, obviating the need for light towers (as at the present stadium) and minimising night time light spillage.
6. The proposal allows for minimal impact on the archaeology of the State-significant Government Farm and Government Watermill and allows for the return of a section of the land to Parramatta Park previously alienated which may contain archaeology of the watermill and mill dam.
7. The Proposal provides for interpretation of the Aboriginal, European and sporting history and heritage significance of the site.

11.8 Aspects of Proposal considered likely to have a possible adverse impact on significance

The proposed video screen on the northeast corner of WSS is large and will have a high visual impact as viewed from the public domain.

Compared with the existing stadium, the proposed stadium is larger than and closer to the significant cultural landscape areas of Parramatta Park, including the OGHD WHL area, Government Farm and the Parramatta River corridor. This will result in visual impacts on views from some viewing points within those areas and other viewing points in the public domain.

12.0 Mitigation of Impacts

12.1 The Stadium

12.1.1 Compliance with Conservation Agreement

The detailed design of the project must comply with the Conservation Agreement for the protection and conservation of the World and National Heritage values of the Australian Convict Sites, Old Government House and Domain, Parramatta (Conservation Agreement).

12.1.2 Design Review

It is recommended that a design review panel be created to ensure positive urban design, architectural and heritage outcomes in the Stage 2 process. It is recommended that a member of the Heritage Council and a heritage landscape specialist be included on the panel.

12.1.3 Exterior Finishes

It is considered that use of a mid to dark grey finish for the lower exterior structural steel elements will achieve a lower contrast between WSS and its environmental context than a white finish. It is appreciated that the roof fabric is only available in white and a change from grey to white for the upper structural steel elements is considered reasonable. This is a decision made in response to advice from the heritage specialist and the writing of this report and in response to the key issues identified in the Conservation Agreement.

12.1.4 Signage and External Displays

The proposed video screen on the northeast corner of WSS is large and will have a high visual impact as viewed from O'Connell Street and Victoria Road. It is recommended that projections on the NE screen be limited:

- to the day before a game or fixture so as to promote the fixture only and on no later than 10pm.
- To the day of a game or fixture until the game or fixture is over.

Any future development relating to this project that is within the SHR curtilage, and not assessed as a State Significant Development or State Significant Infrastructure project, would require approval under Section 60, Heritage Act 1977. Therefore, granting of naming rights and subsequent signage on the building are for future determination and are better left until after the SHR curtilage has been adjusted.

12.1.5 Landscaping

New landscaping, particularly along the southern edge of the WSS building should be selected to reduce as much as possible the visual bulk of the stadium as viewed from the OGHD WHL area and other significant places. A mix of native evergreen canopy trees should be selected with height at maturity of 20m to 40m and proven performance in the local environment. Species should also be chosen to minimise public safety risks and planting locations will need to be chosen to minimise potential conflicts with archaeology.

Site to be landscaped with plant species appropriate to the locality, to meet one or more of the following requirements:

- Proven performance in the local environment.
- Environmentally sustainable.
- Non-invasive.

- Any exotic ornamentals should be historically appropriate for the cultural landscape of the area.

12.1.6 Landscaping and mitigation of tree loss

Any existing significant trees or other vegetation to be retained should be protected during implementation of the Proposal in accordance with current best practice in arboriculture, as recommended by the consulting arborist and in accordance with *Australian Standard - Protection of trees on development sites AS4970-2009*.

Any works to significant trees and other vegetation on site must be carried out in accordance with current best practice in arboriculture by or under the direct supervision of appropriately qualified arborists and in accordance with the Arboriculture Australia Code of Ethics. All tree works should be performed in accordance with *Australian Standard AS4373-1966 'Pruning of Amenity Trees'* and WorkCover Code of Practice for Amenity Tree Industry, 1998.

Consideration should be given to improving visual and access connections to the Old Kings Oval.

The WSS masterplan proposed to mitigate the loss of trees throughout the site by introducing in excess of 200 proposed trees predominantly of locally indigenous species throughout the site in more suitable locations that allow the stadium to function as per the required brief.

Trees to be removed under the Stage 1 DA consent and trees to be removed as part of the Stage 2 DA for plaza works and carpark works are to be replaced with more than 200 new trees, predominantly locally indigenous species, in locations selected according to the following parameters:

1. to minimise visual impacts of the stadium when viewed from significant viewing points in the public domain, including listed heritage items;
2. to minimise impacts on known or potential archaeological deposits;
3. to provide shade and other amenity for site users;
4. to allow the stadium to function in accordance with its brief.

12.1.7 Site Protection

Measures should be taken to ensure that during construction there is no runoff or spillage of concrete, adhesives or other waste from the site that might have a negative impact on heritage values or the environment generally.

12.1.8 Land Transfers

If the Proposal is approved, the notification of any transfer of land relating to the State Heritage Register (SHR) items should be provided to the Office of Environment and Heritage. The Parramatta Park Master Plan, which was approved by the Heritage Council in November 2015, would need to be updated to include the approved works or any change in ownership and/or curtilage.

12.2 Bulk Excavation and Civil Works

The only proposed bulk excavation involved in this application is within the Parramatta Park Trust carpark outside of the Stage 1 EIS. This area is within the Parramatta Park SHR curtilage but this area is a carpark. The following mitigation strategies are outlined to protect the State significant and potentially Nationally significant archaeology of the Government Farm.

12.2.1 The Government Farm

This reduction would have the potential to impact on the curtilage, landscape and archaeology of the Government Farm. This has exceptional heritage significance. While contaminated (ACM) or other material needs to be removed, these works should be undertaken using methods which will have no impact on the significance of this archaeological and cultural landscape. This includes the river terraces as well as the fenced area of the Government Farm identified from the 1792 map.

To determine the level at which significant archaeology or natural landscapes elements and soil profiles may survive, archaeological testing will need to be undertaken to clarify the extent of introduced contaminated fills and where natural material survives. It is hoped that this testing allows for a methodology to be developed to remove the contaminated fill but not the natural soils and landscape which contain the significant archaeology, soil profiles with remnant palynological information, hoe and possibly plough marks, as well as the remains of buildings associated with the beginnings of British settlement in Australia.

Tree Planting or Removal

- Any tree planting or removal of trees needs to be carefully managed so as not to impact on the curtilage of the Government Farm and make it more difficult to read landscape evidence of the government farm.
- These works need to be co-ordinated with the archaeologist and avoid impact on archaeology.

12.2.2 The Government Watermill, Mill Dam and Water Race

A group of trees are proposed to be removed within an area of ACM and within the area of the mill dam. The removal of these trees will need to be carefully undertaken in consultation with the archaeologist and in accordance with the Archaeological Research Design.

Tree Planting or Removal

- Any tree planting or removal of trees needs to be carefully managed so as not to impact on the archaeology of the Government Watermill and should assist with the interpretation of this area and its landscape.
- These works need to be co-ordinated with the archaeologist and avoid impact on archaeology, as outlined in the Archaeological Research Design (ARD).

12.2.3 Civil Works with the World Heritage Area Buffer Zone

There is no known potential historical archaeology known in this area but any design needs to be appropriately designed to accommodate the international significance of the WHA and the cultural landscape of Parramatta Park. It is noted that this area is part of the land to be transferred back to the park with the land swap of the swimming pool area. It is therefore likely that this area will be included in an amended gazettal of the SHR boundary of Parramatta Park following the completion of the Western Sydney Stadium development. Careful redesign of the stormwater system is required as part of Stage 2 to ensure the design does not have an impact on State and National heritage significance. The preference is to remove it from the buffer zone of the WHA which at this point includes Parramatta River.

12.3 Relocation of Parramatta Swimming Centre

The Stage 1 demolition involves the demolition of the Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre and there have been suggestions that a new swimming centre may be proposed on the current site of Mays Hill Golf Course, a site also located within the SHR curtilage of Parramatta Park and Old Government House. Given that the Office of Environment and Heritage has indicated that the Heritage Council of NSW is unlikely to support a new swimming centre in this location due to potential impacts on historic use, highly sensitive views and significant archaeology, it is recommended that an alternative site without such heritage constraints be found for a new swimming centre.

13.0 Archaeological Research Design, Stage 1, S96 & Stage 2

13.1 Background

This research design is for both the S96 archaeological program and the Stage 2 works. Key principles guiding the program are:

- There is no approval to remove archaeology of State or National significance.
- Sites of State or National significance within the study area are the Government Farm and the Government Watermill.
- There are considerable amounts of Asbestos Containing Material within these archaeological sites.
- The inclusion of the areas within the buffer zone and reference to them within the buffer zone means that they are of National significance.
- Potential for unknown archaeology which may relate to agricultural or botanical activity.
- All of these sites are ephemeral and difficult to determine archaeologically and therefore we need to use broad strategies to minimise impacts. Such strategies include:
 - The archaeology of these sites will typically only be exposed by the removal of topsoil which is currently protecting the surviving archaeological evidence and therefore provides a buffer to any works above the archaeology.
 - Therefore, it is intended to use the natural topsoil as the marker of the archaeological horizon.
 - It is not the intention to remove the topsoil but it is considered appropriate to undertake some limited archaeological sampling of this material to confirm that it is the natural soil horizon rather than flood-laid deposits burying the archaeology. This would be done in co-operation with the Archaeological program.
 - If the appropriate levels have been reached in removing the ACM and natural topsoil has not been found, no further work is intended to be undertaken to expose the archaeology.
 - Some limited collection of soil and timber samples is proposed where relevant deposits are exposed. This is considered to be too significant an opportunity to not take examples of these deposits.
 - It is noted that there is more than 4m deep ACM in an area where it is likely that the mill dam is buried. This is likely to be a natural creek line with a ponding action of some kind which was chosen by Governor Hunter as a suitable location for the first watermill on mainland Australia.
 - The landform of the mill dam and race/creek line is considered to be an important part of the cultural landform that survived into the 1960s. It is hoped that this original landform, if it survives below the ACM, should be able to be protected and possibly exposed or retained buried in the ground.
 - The purpose of this archaeological program is conserve State and Nationally significant archaeology rather than the excavation such sites therefore there is unlikely to be quantities of artefacts recovered during the archaeological program. Most artefacts expected to be recovered should come from fill contexts or isolated features.

In relation to proposed services design must be a key mitigation action to remove potential impacts within areas of significance.

13.2 Government Farm

The reduction of levels within the Training Field and Southern Carpark needs to be appropriately managed by testing to determine the levels at which natural soils associated with the Government Farm site survive.

1. Once these levels are found they should be used as the baseline for stripping the site down to natural topsoil. It is possible that suitable levels may be reached and the area can be capped without exposing archaeological remains.
2. The level at which this area is left will need to provide some protective material above the archaeological area within the curtilage of the Government Farm.
3. An archaeological testing strategy of machining to find natural strata below the ACM material should be undertaken once the Stage 1 EIS is approved, as this includes the RAP for the site remediation. No excavation of the ACM can be undertaken until this is approved.
4. Some minor sampling across the site to determine where actual natural strata is located and at what depth.

13.3 The Government Watermill

Managing of the ACM presents some difficulties in this area due to the uneven nature of the site. Testing trenches will need to be excavated in proposed areas to determine excavation strategies to remove ACM and how it should be managed. It is acknowledged that this is a complicated process but Lendlease have assured Casey & Lowe that they will be willing to co-operate to achieve the required conservation outcomes.

13.4 Research Questions

1. Understanding the landform associated with early colonisation and agriculture.
 - Is the early archaeology buried by various flood events?
 - Are the terraces visible throughout the Government Farm?
 - How does the archaeological testing program inform us about early agricultural, rotational undertakings and the management of water and grinding of grain?
 - If artefacts are found how do, they relate to known or unknown occupation of the site.
2. How do the results of the testing inform our model of the survival, extent and location of the potential archaeological resource, including:
 - Existence, condition and alignment of mill race and mill dam.
 - The site of the Government Watermill.
3. What is the archaeological potential and significance of areas of National and State significance? How does the archaeological testing inform the Statement of Significance?

13.4.1 Wider Research Questions

Landscape of Colonial Parramatta

- Evidence for the pre-European landscape, especially in relation to the placement of the watermill, mill dam and race and their relationship with the original creekline. How was this landscape modified to make it useable to British sensibilities? What does it tell us about the choices made by governors Hunter and King and Rev. Samuel Marsden?
- Nature and effect of modification of the pre-European landscape.
- Remaking of the landscape, the social, cultural and political context and how it was manifest in this landscape.⁶⁹ Are many of the same issues influencing the way in which the

⁶⁹ This general topic was the focus of Mary Casey's PhD thesis but in relation to the Sydney Domain (Casey 2002).

landscape was formed similar to those which affected the Sydney Domain? This is much more likely due to the relationship of St John's church and the Market Place to the site and how the Macquaries remade colonial landscapes that were significant to them.

- Evidence for Aboriginal and British peoples' activities and contact during early settlement.
- Water management and how the role of this practice within the site.
- Evidence for management of drought though water management and agricultural practices.
- Evidence for agricultural practices, such as plough lines and hoe mark and fossil pollen.

13.5 Excavation Methodology

13.5.1 Proposed Testing and Monitoring Methodology

- Survey line of mill race or dam or other known elements based on the best historical maps.
- Survey the curtilage of the Government Farm as far as we can determine based on the 1792 map.
- Excavation of a series of strip trenches.
- We propose to machine excavate a single trench 8m x 3m across the line of the race or dam.
- Undertake testing in general areas of ACM to gain an understanding of the depth of natural topsoil. Where possible this is to precede any excavation for ACM. Where the depth of the AMC is more than 1m we are likely to have to wait until the upper 2 to 3m or so is removed. This removal would be monitored by the archaeologist to confirm that works are not exceeding required depths or finding uneven ground.
- This monitoring/testing program would be undertaken in co-operation with the Aboriginal Archaeological program (Comber Consultants).
- Use of a 7 to 14 tonne excavator or similar with a tilt bucket, flat buckets and a range of sized buckets.

13.5.2 Recording for Monitoring/Testing

- All Testing Areas will be surveyed to provide detailed plans of the location of trenches and remains to inform the detailed design process. A surveyor will take RLs on the archaeological remains within the testing areas. This is essential to refining our understanding of the course of the Mill Race and other State significant remains.
- Substantial or significant surviving remains will have detailed archaeological scale plans and sections drawn.
- Detailed photography and photogrammetry will be taken of the Testing Areas and trenches.
- Use of detailed trench recording forms.
- Analysis of stratigraphic information to help inform the overall impacts of the proposed development as so we can extrapolate positions and RLs of potential archaeology as predictors across the site.
- We are currently proposing to use a magnetometer at the PNUT site to assist understanding of the 800m or so of mill race within that precinct. If that is found to be useful for predicting the mill race we would use it at this site to assist within understanding a range of issues.

13.5.3 Unexpected Archaeology

- If unknown archaeology of potential State significance is found, then it would need to be retained *in situ*.

13.5.4 Excavation of Archaeology of Local Significance

The areas of the site containing potential archaeological remains should be subject to detailed archaeological recording. The basic principles to be employed on this site are:

- Firstly, determine significance and if considered to be local undertake archaeological recording.
- If isolated features are found, then record and remove them if necessary.
- Use of context recording forms and context numbers to record all archaeological information.
- Some deposits will be sieved to determine if significant archaeology survives.
- Deeper features would be excavated in 20 cm spits or tip lines (if identifiable), with changes of context numbers where relevant. These deposits will be sieved.
- All structural remains, post holes will be surveyed to determine if they are significant.
- Detailed survey of the area.
- Detailed photographic and photogrammetry if considered warranted.
- Generally, all artefacts will be collected except from unstratified fills. Samples of bricks and mortar will be collected from structures.
- Collection, labelling, safe storage, washing, sorting and boxing of artefacts.

13.5.5 Artefacts

It is not the intention to recover artefacts from test trenches but if significant deposits of objects are found these will be collected. All artefacts recovered will be catalogued according to Casey & Lowe's cataloguing system by our team of specialists. All collected artefacts will be washed, labelled, bagged and boxed prior to cataloguing. Much of this is within Parramatta Park or areas to be handed back to the park. Lendlease will need to discuss with them providing a repository for artefacts recovered from the site. Artefacts recovered need to be stored in perpetuity.

13.5.6 Reporting

A testing report needs to address the results of the archaeological program. This is to include:

- Description and analysis of the monitoring and testing program and findings.
- Detailed plans, photos and photogrammetry.
- Further analysis of impacts.
- Artefact catalogue for the final report.

13.5.7 Personnel

The Primary Director is Dr Mary Casey with either Mr Tony Lowe or Mr Mike Hincks as the Secondary Director for the project. This will be determined depending upon availability to undertake the work. Key Site Directors include Rhian Jones, Dr Nadia Iacono and Jill Miskella. Artefact Specialists include Robyn Stocks, Jane Rooke, and Jeanne Harris.

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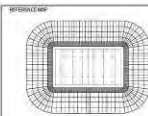
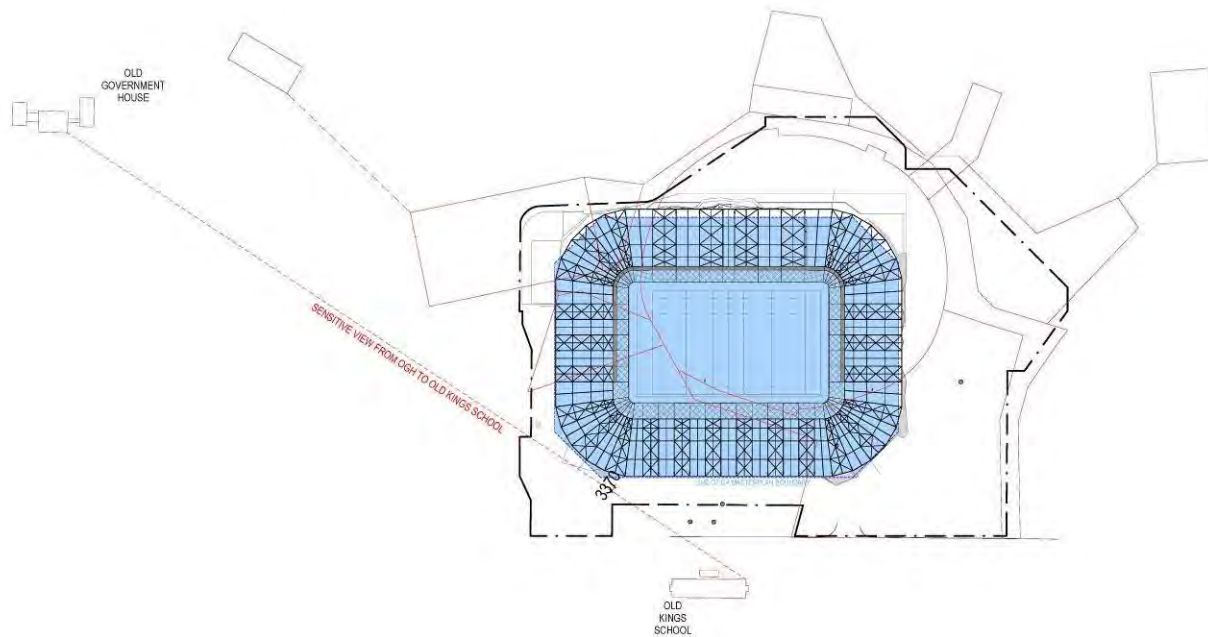
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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: View lines to Old Kings School from Old Government House



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WEST SYDNEY STADIUM
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BOUNDARY AND SIGHTLINE
SURVEY OVERLAY - DA MASTERPLAN

PROJECT NUMBER 16-7344-10	REVISION AB
COORDINATED NM	APPROVED SG
SCALE: HORIZONTAL 1" = 1000'	NORTHPOINT
PAPER DD	DRAWING NUMBER AD-1.00.01

