

Alterations and additions to President Private Hospital

Demolish historic Hotham House 65 Hotham Road, GyMEA.

I would like to submit my **very strong objection** to the demolition of Hotham House as part of the Macquarie Health development.

I have read through the Statement of Heritage Impact of Hotham House that was provided by Graham Brooks.

I find this report is most favourable to the Macquarie Health Development application.

In this report there was mention that Hotham House was only a “**good example**” of a large individual designed Inter-War brick house and a representative example of **any older suburbs of Sydney**.

Hotham House is one of the few Federation and Californian bungalow style pre-1920's houses remaining in the Sutherland Shire. It reflects the early architecture of the area and although it may not be the *best (special, strong or important)* example, it stands to remind us of the very early farming communities, workers and the location of the early settlement of families in Kirrawee and GyMEA in the Sutherland Shire.

Along with the eccentric family history, and the history of the original land purchase for the house and Poultry Farm from the Holt Estate this house has substantial presence in the local landscape.

It was noted in the report that Hotham house *does not have all the features that represent the architect style of Federation, Californian style bungalow*.

Hotham house is a fine example of what is left of **local** Federation and Californian bungalow style. There are still many key characteristics and features to this pre-1920's brick house, such as the prominent surrounding veranda, sloping roof, stained glass windows, fireplaces and the layout. The addition of the ballroom should be considered a substantial feature to the property. As it adds to the social history of the people and the area as Kirrawee and GyMEA were developing.

It is more than just the architecture it reflects the history of the development of the areas of Kirrawee and GyMEA and a reminder of food producing farms in the early development of the Sutherland Shire.

Families in the Shire would build homes to their needs making alterations and additions over time to their homes when finances allowed. I would argue, in more recent years Hotham House has had many renovations and repairs and these renovations and repairs have not taken into account the style of the original period it was built but only to satisfy the need to have a functional building for the purpose of a health provider.

I consider Hotham House a house worth protecting and preserving to remind us:

- of the Kirrawee and GyMEA areas past and developing history.
- for future generations to have a visual record of their local history.
- Hotham House has strong historical and social values.
- as a reminder of the Sutherland Shires early landscape and pre-1920's architecture.

Hotham House deserves to be preserved. As we have lost many of our pre-1920 buildings.

I would like to see Hotham House and front garden retained and restored.

It is not unreasonable to ask Macquarie Health Corporation to engage an architect to work with retaining the heritage structure and some of the very strong features of Hotham House.

I feel modern inclusions can be added to the house and grounds to make a better facility for Health workers and their patients and still keep the Hotham House historical integrity on the local landscape.

There are many examples of restored houses and buildings which include modern additions so a building can serve as an active and productive presence for the community to access.

Anne Tyrrell