*Figure 3.10: Western section of Test Trench 7 showing mixed fills with bitumen surface (indicated), underlain by potential natural soil profile. (Source: Curio 2019)*

*Figure 3.11: Environmental Pit 8 showing partly disturbed natural profile below bitumen surface (indicated) with levelling fills above. (Source: Curio, 2019).*

*Figure 3.12: Environmental pit 9 showing intact natural soil profile below sandstone and clay levelling fill. (Source: Curio, 2019).*

### 3.3.6. Summary of Environmental Context

The study area is located on the Gymea soil landscape profile, underlain by Hawkesbury Sandstone. Gymea soils are generally shallow to moderately deep (30-100cm) on crests and insides of benches, shallow (<20cm) on leading edges of benches, and moderately deep (<100cm) on drainage lines, with a high propensity for sheet erosion following vegetation clearance. The depth of the underlying bedrock across the FSPS study area generally follows the topography of Observatory Hill, which generally slopes towards the east.

Located on Observatory Hill, the crest of a rocky ridge overlooking Sydney Harbour the elevation and geographical location of the study area would have afforded advantageous views of the harbour and surrounding landscape in every direction, and would likely have been a popular and/or important lookout for the local Aboriginal population. The study area is located at the western end of the former catchment area for the Tank Stream, as well as in close proximity to Sydney Harbour- the location would have therefore allowed easy access to both fresh and salt water (and all the resources afforded by both).

While little ethnographic evidence is available regarding the use and occupation of Observatory Hill by Aboriginal people prior to 1788, the elevation of the FSPS study area and associated access to resources, indicates that the area would almost certainly been utilised by Aboriginal people prior to colonisation.

Ongoing intensive use of the study area and surrounds has continued successively from 1788 to the present day, which accordingly has presented high levels of disturbance to the natural environment including soils, vegetation and landscape. This will have impacted the ability for an Aboriginal archaeological resource to be retained within the FSPS study area.

## 3.4. Material Evidence of Aboriginal Land Use

### 3.4.1. Archaeological Evidence of Aboriginal Occupation in Sydney Region

The diversity of the geology and landforms of the Sydney region landscape means there is a wide range of existing Aboriginal archaeological evidence and sites in existence all across the region. The presence of Aboriginal archaeological sites in Sydney were first noted by the First Fleet officers upon their arrival in Sydney, where Governor Phillip commented on the rock engravings in the sandstone around Sydney Cove, Botany Bay and Broken Bay (Attenbrow 2010). Each geographical element of the Sydney landscape provides different conditions for the survival of physical reminders of the long term Aboriginal habitation and occupation of the Sydney region, including shell midden sites along the coast and sand dunes, rock engraving and art sites in sandstone shelters and surfaces, occupation sites in remnant soils containing Aboriginal stone tools, remains of hearth and cooking sites, remnant scarred and carved trees, and other archaeological evidence preserving the pre-1788 history of the Gadigal people.

Early researchers in Sydney's colonial history (late 19th Century) recorded and published a range of information regarding Aboriginal sites in the Sydney region, such as palaeontologist and museum director Robert Etheridge Jr, who (along with Thomas Whitelegge) documented an early archaeological excavation of Aboriginal stone tool sites along the coast, including the first identification of an artefact type that has come to be known as a 'bondi point', a type of small pointed stone tool that is common to the Sydney region (Attenbrow 2010: 6). Hundreds of Aboriginal archaeological sites have been excavated across Sydney, especially from the 1960s onwards.

Aboriginal archaeological sites in the Sydney region have been scientifically dated, including Discovery Point in Tempe (a hearth dated to c.9376BP), the Prince of Wales Hospital site (a hearth dated to c.8400BP), and Captain Cooks Landing Site at Kurnell (dated to c.1330BP) (Attenbrow 2010).

### 3.4.2. AHIMS Search

The OEH guidelines for Aboriginal cultural heritage management require a current extensive search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database, managed by OEH (i.e. current within the last 12 months). The AHIMS search was undertaken on 7 August 2019, centred on the study area with a buffer of 1km, and returned 23 results. The extensive AHIMS search is attached as Appendix B to this report. No registered sites were located directly within the current study area.

AHIMS search results always require a certain amount of scrutiny in order to acknowledge and accommodate for things such as inconsistencies in the coordinates (differing datums between years of

recording), the existence of, and impact to, registered sites (impact to a registered site technically requires the submission of a Heritage Impact Recording form to be submitted to the OEH, however these forms are not always submitted), and other database related difficulties. It should also be noted that AHIMS database is a record of archaeological work that has been undertaken, and registered with OEH in the region. The AHIMS database is therefore a reflection of recorded archaeological work, the need for which has likely been predominantly triggered by development, and not a representation of the actual archaeological potential of the search area. AHIMS searches should be used as a starting point for further research and not as a definitive, final set of data.

Therefore, the above AHIMS search result has been synthesized as best possible within the scope of this current report to determine the most likely nature and location of previously registered sites in proximity to the current subject site.

Summary descriptions of Aboriginal site features as identified by OEH, and as relevant to this report are presented in Table 3.1. The 23 results from the current AHIMS search included seven different site types, some in combination with each other. These sites are summarised in Table 3.2. The general location of each of these registered sites in relation to the study area is depicted in Figure 3.13. The most common site types registered in the area are artefact + midden sites and Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs). The closest sites to the FSPS study area are 'Lilyvale' (AHIMS 45-6-1853) and '171-193 Gloucester Street (AHIMS 45-6-2742): a shell midden and PAD respectively.

*Table 3.1: Aboriginal Site Features referred to in this report.*

| SITE FEATURE | DESCRIPTION/DEFINITION BY OEH |
|---|---|
| Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming | These types of sites are usually identified by the local Aboriginal community as locations of cultural significance, and they may not necessarily contain material evidence of Aboriginal associations with the place. |
| Aboriginal Burial (Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming Site) | A traditional or contemporary (post-contact) burial of an Aboriginal person, which may occur outside designated cemeteries and may not be marked, e.g. in caves, marked by stone cairns, in sand areas, along creek banks etc.<br>Soft, sandy soils along creek and river beds, and beaches were favoured for burials, as they allowed for easier movement of soil, however burials may also often have occurred in rock shelters and shell middens. |
| Art Site | Art is located in shelters, overhangs and across rock formations. Techniques include painting, drawing, scratching, carving, engraving, pitting, conjoining, abrading and the use of a range of binding agents and the use of natural pigments obtained from clays, charcoal and plants. |
| Artefact Site (Open Camp Sites/artefact scatters/isolated finds) | Artefact sites consist of objects such as stone tools, and associated flaked material, spears, manuports, grindstones, discarded stone flakes, modified glass or shell demonstrating physical evidence of use of the area by Aboriginal people. Registered artefact sites can range from isolated finds, to large extensive open camp sites and artefact scatters. Artefacts can be located either on the ground surface or in a subsurface archaeological context. |

| SITE FEATURE | DESCRIPTION/DEFINITION BY OEH |
|---|---|
| Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) | An area where Aboriginal cultural material such as stone artefacts, hearths, middens etc, may be present in a subsurface capacity. |
| Shell Midden | A shell midden site is an accumulation or deposit of shellfish resulting from Aboriginal gathering and consumption of shellfish from marine, estuarine or freshwater environments. A shell midden site may be found in association with other objects like stone tools, faunal remains such as fish or mammal bones, charcoal, fireplaces/hearths, and occasionally burials.<br>Shell midden sites are often located on elevated, dry ground close to the environment from which the shellfish were foraged, and where fresh water resources are available. Shell middens may vary greatly in size and components. |
| Shelter | Naturally formed rock shelter or overhang used by Aboriginal people as an occupation site (long or short term). Shelters often also include archaeological deposits, art and/or surface archaeology. |

*Table 3.2: AHIMS Sites in Vicinity of Study Area*

| SITE TYPE | NUMBER OF SITES | PERCENTAGE OF SITES (%) |
|---|---|---|
| Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming | 1 | 4 |
| Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming & Burial | 1 | 4 |
| Art | 2 | 9 |
| Artefact | 2 | 9 |
| Artefact & Midden | 4 | 18 |
| Artefact & Potential Archaeological Deposit | 1 | 4 |
| Potential Archaeological Deposit | 11 | 48 |
| Shelter with Midden | 1 | 4 |
| **TOTAL** | **23** | **100** |

The distribution of the AHIMS sites (i.e. with the majority located within the Central Sydney CBD) is more a reflection of a higher density of archaeological survey and excavation work due to urban development, than an indication of the occupation patterns of Aboriginal people.

Of the 23 registered sites, the status of four has been updated as 'Destroyed', while two have been updated as 'not a site' (200 and 420 George Street PADs). It is possible that other site results from this AHIMS search have already been subject to harm or have been destroyed under AHIPs or through authorized site works, and have not been updated in AHIMS. However, as none of these sites are located within the current study area, this is not of a direct concern for this project, and the location of all sites, regardless of their current status, will inform the Aboriginal archaeological potential assessment for the FSPS site.

### *Assessment of AHIMS Search*

The AHIMS results, combined with the landforms and geology of the subject site suggest that the most likely site types to be present within the study area and surrounds would be limited to stone artefact sites and PAD sites, as the required geology and environment for other site types such as art sites, shelters, grinding grooves and scarred trees etc is not present.

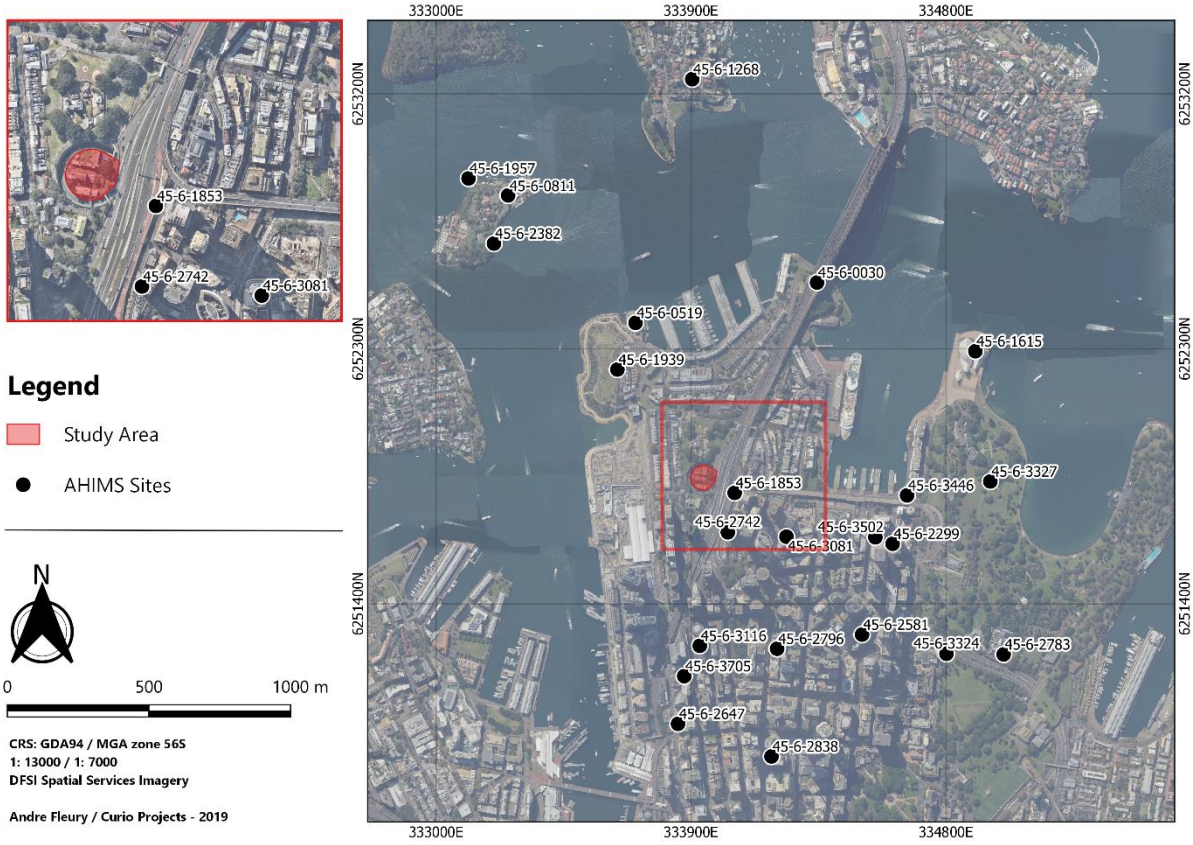



*Figure 3.13: AHIMS Search Results Sites (Source: Curio 2019)*

### 3.4.3. Previous Archaeological Investigations and Assessments

Review of relevant previous archaeological work is a highly informative and necessary step in identifying the likely nature of the potential archaeology at a site. The investigation of previous work undertaken in the region, on similar sites, and on similar landscape or landforms, can inform our understanding of a site by providing a proxy against which a newly investigated site can be measured (albeit with caution). That is to say, understanding the archaeological record at a general location can provide us with an indication of the nature and level of potential of archaeology that may be present at a site, prior to any subsurface investigation. As archaeology is by its very nature, a destructive discipline, it is important to acquire as much information and understanding of a site as possible prior to undertaking fieldwork (as once evidence has been excavated, its context is effectively destroyed), and also to avoid any unnecessary fieldwork at a site.

Research into archaeological investigations undertaken in proximity to the current study area indicate the types of archaeology that may survive in the area, and the environment that has allowed it to

survive. No known Aboriginal archaeological excavations have been undertaken previously within the study area nor in the immediate surrounds.

### *Port Jackson Archaeological Project (Attenbrow 1990)*

The Port Jackson Archaeological Project was undertaken by Val Attenbrow in 1989-90, and involved documentary research into previous archaeological work undertaken around Sydney harbour, including details and assessment of registered sites, as well as some field survey to identify new sites. Upon conclusion of the project, Attenbrow concluded that:

- Aboriginal people were gathering shellfish in the Port Jackson region at least 4,500 years ago;
- Most Aboriginal shell middens are located within 10m of the high water level; and
- Burials in the region were placed in open middens as well as within rockshelters.

### *174 Cumberland Street (Attenbrow 1992)*

A midden site (AHIMS Site 45-6-2742) was excavated in 1991 during excavation works for a hotel. The midden site presented with Rock Oyster and Anadara species shells in a layer 6cm thick, located immediately beneath the remnant footings of a historical cottage at the site. Radiocarbon dating of the deposit returned a date of c. 502BP, however the site was interpreted as being representative of ephemeral land use, rather than a result of long-term occupation of the location specifically.

### *First Government House (Museum of Sydney)*

The site of Sydney's first government house is located on Bridge Street (c.600m southwest of the current study area), the foundations for which were laid within months of the arrival of Governor Phillip and the First Fleet to Sydney Cove in 1788. This site is of extreme significance in the history of Sydney and Australia, not just as the first seat of colonial government, but also as an important place of early contact between the local Aboriginal people and the colonists. Government house was eventually relocated to a newly build purposed building in 1845 (the current location of Government House, alongside the Royal Botanic Gardens), and the original government house was demolished. Unmarked Aboriginal burials were reported to be located at the First Government House site (AHIMS #45-5-2299).

The site is now occupied by the Museum of Sydney, after it was excavated extensively in 1983 as part of the redevelopment of the area. No Aboriginal burials were located as a result of this excavation, however physical evidence for the use of the area by Aboriginal people was encountered at the site in the form of contact period Aboriginal artefacts that appeared to have been manufactured from dark green bottle glass.

### *Sydney Conservatorium of Music*

The current site of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music is located on the site of the former stables for first government house. Historical excavation of the former stables was undertaken in 1998, during which, some Aboriginal stone artefacts were uncovered. While the archaeologists concluded that it was likely that the Aboriginal stone artefacts had in fact been relocated to the site through the movement of soil and 'fill' material during the early colonial period, the presence of the artefacts was still significant. The relocated soil material (within which the artefacts would likely have originally been deposited) would likely have been sourced by the colonists from a site close to the former stables site. Therefore, while the actual artefacts did not provide specific information about Aboriginal use of the

site, it provided physical evidence for the ubiquitous use of the surrounding landscape by Aboriginal people (Attenbrow 2010).

### *KENS Site, Aboriginal Excavation (Steele 2006)*

Aboriginal archaeological assessment and excavation was undertaken by Dominic Steele in 2003, of a large Aboriginal campsite, at the site that has come to be known as the KENS site (named for the streets which form the general boundaries of this site: Kent, Erskine, Napoleon and Sussex Streets). This Aboriginal campsite was uncovered as a result of the demolition of the present building, and associated historical archaeological excavation at the site. Excavation of this site recovered around 1000 Aboriginal stone artefacts within buried remnant soil profiles, including backed artefact tools, other retouched tools, cores and numerous waste flakes, which have been relatively dated to be occupied in the last 3000 years. In addition, two Aboriginal artefacts manufactured of glass were recovered from this site, demonstrating that the site was occupied by Aboriginal people of the area through to the post-contact period.

### *200 George Street, Sydney (GML 2014)*

The 200 George Street site was identified as having a high potential for historical archaeological relics and a low to moderate potential for Aboriginal objects to be present, mainly due to its location on the banks of an intertidal zone of the Tank Stream. This potential would be impacted by the proposed redevelopment of the site. The Aboriginal PAD site was registered with AHIMS (#45-5-3081), and therefore required an AHIP to impact. However, due to the nature of the site in an urban, developed environment, as well as the potential presence of Aboriginal artefacts in conjunction with the historical archaeology, usual methods of Aboriginal archaeological test excavation in accordance with the OEH *Code of Practice* could not be undertaken for this site. Therefore, the proposed excavation methodology involved the commencement of Aboriginal archaeological test excavation at the site, if and when natural soil profiles were uncovered through the course of the historical excavation.

While the excavation of the site identified a few areas of remnant natural soil profiles across the site, no Aboriginal objects were recovered from the excavation of these soils. Geomorphological investigation of the site determined that the stepped sandstone and highly organic estuarine environment would likely have been unsuitable for Aboriginal people, or not suitable for the preservation of archaeological signature relating to possible Aboriginal activity (GML 2014). The 200 George Street excavation demonstrated that the presence of isolated pockets of natural soil within a site does not necessarily mean an Aboriginal archaeological deposit will be present.

### *Fort Street Public School Archaeological Assessment (AMBS 2016)*

AMBS prepared an Archaeological Assessment report for the Fort Street Public School as part of the preparation of the draft Conservation Management Plan for the site. AMBS concluded that there may be potential for Aboriginal archaeological deposits in areas of the study area that had experienced limited construction and historical impacts- notably within the school yards to the north and east of the existing 1940s school building. However, it was also noted that even if archaeological deposits were to remain in those less disturbed areas, they would be likely to be highly disturbed due to high levels of sheet erosion that Gymea soils tend to undergo following vegetation clearing (AMBS 2016).

### 3.5. Regional Character and Archaeological Predictive Model

The following assessment of Aboriginal archaeological potential within the study area is based on a combination of the environmental assessment, including original landform, possible levels of disturbance across the site, and original resource zones that would have been favourable to, or sustained local Aboriginal populations of the area prior to European settlement, in combination with known previous archaeological research in the vicinity of the subject site, or on comparable sites in Sydney. Consideration of these above factors determines the likelihood for Aboriginal archaeology, artefacts or physical objects to remain at the subject site in a subsurface capacity.

The following predictions are made with regards to Aboriginal archaeological potential within the study area:

- In order for Aboriginal archaeological deposits to be present in situ within the study area, they would require the retention of natural soil profiles in the area that would be extant from 1788- and require these natural soils to be intact- subject to limited amounts of natural erosion.
- Artefact and midden sites are the most common site type in the region, and are the most likely site types to be present within the study area, should the site conditions allow the preservation of such a site (i.e. where historical land disturbance activities have not already removed all natural soil profiles)
- There may also be potential for isolated Aboriginal artefacts (stone artefacts and shells) to be present in a disturbed context.
- The study area has no potential for site types such as scarred trees, rockshelters and grinding grooves, as the natural features required for these types of sites are not present.
- It is highly likely that the study area landscape was occupied and used in some way by Aboriginal people prior to 1788- especially in consideration of the commanding presence and advantageous views from (what is now referred to as) Observatory Hill.
- The Gymea soil landscape has a high propensity for sheet erosion following vegetation clearance, and this would have impacted the ability for the soils within the study area to retain an Aboriginal archaeological deposit.
- The study area has been subject to very high levels of historical ground disturbance and use since 1788 relating to the use of the site as a Military Hospital, Sydney Observatory activities/Bureau of Meteorology, and Fort Street Public School, that would likely have impacted and/or removed the majority of natural soil profiles.

Overall, the FSPS study area is considered to have low potential for intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits to be present.

# 4. Cultural Heritage Values and Significance Assessment

The Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS 2013) defines cultural significance as:

> *…aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups. (Australia ICOMOS 2013: 2)*

The five types of cultural heritage value, as presented in The Burra Charter (2013) form the basis of assessing the Aboriginal heritage values and significance of a site or area. Each of these cultural heritage values, as specifically relevant to Aboriginal cultural heritage, are summarised as follows (after OEH 2011a).

**Social (Cultural) and Spiritual Value**—*spiritual, traditional, historical or contemporary associations and attachments the place or area has for Aboriginal people. Social or cultural value is how people express their connection with a place and the meaning that place has for them.*

**Historic Value**—*associations of a place with a historically important person, event, phase or activity in an Aboriginal community. Historic places do not always have physical evidence of their historical importance (such as structures, planted vegetation or landscape modifications). They may have 'shared' historic values with other (non-Aboriginal) communities.*

**Scientific Value**—*the importance of a landscape, area, place or object because of its rarity, representativeness and the extent to which it may contribute to further understanding and information.*

- Assessment of Scientific Value also includes assessment in terms of Research Potential, Integrity, Condition, Complexity, Archaeological Potential, Connectedness, Representativeness, Rarity, Education Potential, and Archaeological Landscapes.

**Aesthetic Value**—*sensory, scenic, architectural and creative aspects of the place. It is often closely linked with the social values. It may consider form, scale, colour, texture and material of the fabric or landscape, and the smell and sounds associated with the place and its use.*

Assessment of each of the above criteria has been undertaken in consideration of the landscape and environmental context of the study area, Aboriginal history, previous archaeological work, and consultation with the project RAPs. The assessment of each criteria has then been graded (as per OEH 2011a *Guide to Investigating*) in terms of high, medium and low, in order to allow significance to be described and compared. The application of the cultural values criteria to the Aboriginal cultural heritage of the study area has also included consideration of research potential, representativeness, rarity and education potential for each criteria (as relevant).

## 4.1. Assessment of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values

### 4.1.1. Social (Cultural) and Spiritual Values

Social, cultural and spiritual values of a site can only be identified through consultation with Aboriginal people. However, it is likely that should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit be present within the

study area, it would be viewed to be of high social and cultural significance by the Aboriginal community, providing a direct and tangible link to past Aboriginal life and activity in Sydney's centre.

#### 4.1.2. Historical Value

While little historical evidence is available regarding Aboriginal historical use of the study area and surrounds, as the highest point in Sydney Cove, Observatory Hill would likely have been a popular and/or important lookout for the local Aboriginal population. Therefore, Aboriginal archaeological deposits, if found to be located within the study area, may be of historical value.

#### 4.1.3. Scientific (Archaeological) Value

OEH states the scientific (archaeological) value of an Aboriginal site or place to:

> *Refer to the importance of a landscape, area, place or object because of its rarity, representativeness, and the extent to which it may contribute to further understanding and information. (OEH 2011: 9)*

Following OEH guidelines for assessing scientific value (OEH 2011), five key criteria have been considered with regards to the scientific and archaeological context of the study area in order to determine the level of scientific significance of the study area. These criteria, as they have been applied to the study area, are defined below in Table 4.1. Following the criteria above, an assessment of the potential scientific significance of the FSPS Expansion study area has been undertaken, identified as relevant to the five key criteria.

*Table 4.1: Archaeological significance criteria*

| CRITERIA | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|
| Research Potential | Research potential describes how much potential a site has to contribute to a further scientific or archaeological understanding of a site/area/region. This should include consideration of factors such as: integrity and condition (the level of soil disturbance that a site has been subject to and the ability for the site to yield intact archaeological deposits); complexity (demonstrated or potential ability of a site to yield a complex archaeological deposit; archaeological potential (the potential for a site to yield an archaeological deposit or resource); and connectedness (the connection of a site to others in the local area or wider region, though aspects such as type, chronology, content, location etc). |
| Rarity | Rarity refers to the frequency of similar site types in a local or regional area/landscape. |
| Representativeness | Representativeness refers to the level of variability between or within Aboriginal sites in an area or region, what is already conserved, how sites relate to each other, and the condition that a particular site type may be in that is able to better present or demonstrate more clearly that specific site type through the archaeological record. |
| Education Potential | Education potential refers to the ability of a site to contribute to the public record and provide teaching resources in order to further understanding of Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeology. Is the site well preserved? Are there artefacts that would be good to use in teaching? Are there recognisable site features, artefacts types, records etc, that would be productive in teaching or use within public heritage interpretation strategies? |

| CRITERIA | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|
| Archaeological Landscapes | The study of Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeological study in the context of the wider landscape (geographical and cultural/social) in which they exist. |

### *Research Potential*

The nature or extent of an intact Aboriginal archaeological deposit within the study area has not yet been able to be determined, as due to the high amount of fill and the potential historical archaeology across the site, test excavation has not been able to be undertaken under the *Code of Practice*. It is noted that other investigations have confirmed that many locations within the study area have no remnant natural soil profiles present (i.e. historical activities have previously removed all natural soil profiles to sandstone bedrock), while some areas retain limited potential for discrete areas of natural soil profiles to be retained.

Regardless of the low archaeological potential, should intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits or objects be found to be present within the study area, these may have moderate research potential for their ability to provide evidence for and insight into Aboriginal occupation and use of the Millers Point/Observatory Hill locality prior to 1788.

### *Rarity*

A low density Aboriginal artefact deposit, consistent with a background scatter derived from general occupation and use of the surrounding area, would be unlikely to be considered rare in the wider Sydney context.

### *Representativeness*

Should intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits be present within natural soil profiles within the study area, these may be representative of the use of Observatory Hill/Millers Point area by Aboriginal people. However, this would depend on the presence and condition of an Aboriginal archaeological deposit in this location- which considering high levels of historical disturbance- is considered to have a low potential to be present.

### *Education Potential*

This criterion is unable to be assessed prior to further understanding as to whether an Aboriginal archaeological deposit may be present within the study area or not.

### *Archaeological Landscapes*

The FSPS study area exists within a wider Aboriginal archaeological landscape of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore. Should the study area present with an intact Aboriginal archaeological deposit, this could potentially contribute further to the archaeological understanding of Aboriginal site use and occupational habits in the region. Therefore, the study area may be of moderate significance when considered as part of a wider Aboriginal archaeological landscape of Sydney Harbour Foreshore- however this would require further investigation.

***Summary of Scientific Significance***

Aboriginal archaeological deposits, if found to survive within the study area, would have the potential to contribute knowledge regarding Aboriginal occupation, land use, and resource gathering in the area prior to the establishment of the NSW colony.

Overall, it is not possible to determine the nature and extent of any Aboriginal archaeological deposit at the study area without investigating the site physically (although, archaeological assessment has determined the potential for such a deposit to be retained within the site to be low). However, should an intact Aboriginal archaeological deposit be present, it would potentially be of moderate research potential and potentially moderate significance as part of the wider Aboriginal landscape of Millers Point/Observatory Hill and the Sydney Harbour Foreshore.

#### 4.1.4. Aesthetic Value

The FSPS study area may have aesthetic value to the local Aboriginal community in the context of the wider Sydney Aboriginal landscape it exists in, however this would need to be confirmed with the community.

Should Aboriginal archaeological deposits be found to be present within the FSPS study area, they may potentially have aesthetic significance for technological form of the artefacts, or as potentially considered useful for education and interpretative purposes.

### 4.2. Statement of Significance

Social, cultural and spiritual values of a site can only be identified through consultation with Aboriginal people. However, it is likely that should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit be present within the study area, it would be viewed to be of high social and cultural significance by the Aboriginal community, providing a direct and tangible link to past Aboriginal life and activity in Sydney's centre.

While little historical evidence is available regarding Aboriginal historical use of the study area and surrounds, as the highest point in Sydney Cove, Observatory Hill would likely have been a popular and/or important lookout for the local Aboriginal population. Therefore, Aboriginal archaeological deposits, if found to be located within the study area, may be of historical value.

Should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit be found to be present within the FSPS study area, this may have moderate scientific significance for its ability to provide evidence for and insight into Aboriginal occupation and use of the Millers Point/Observatory Hill locality prior to 1788, representative of the FSPS study area as part of the wider Aboriginal cultural landscape of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore.

The FSPS study area may have aesthetic value to the local Aboriginal community in the context of the wider Sydney Aboriginal landscape it exists in.

Should Aboriginal archaeological deposits be found to be present within the FSPS study area, they may potentially have aesthetic significance for technological form of the artefacts, or as potentially considered useful for education and interpretative purposes.

# 5. Avoiding and Minimising Harm (Impacts)

As noted by the former OEH (now BCD of DPIE), it is important that an impact assessment directly addresses the potential harm that an activity may pose, specific to an Aboriginal place, objects, site or archaeological deposit (OEH 2011: 12).

The following section provides assessment and discussion the potential impacts posed by the FSPS Expansion project to both Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage values, with respect to the proposed development impacts.

## 5.1. Ecologically Sustainable Development

One of the aims of the NPW Act is to 'conserve places, objects and features of significance to Aboriginal people' (NPW Act, Section 2A(1)(b)(i)). One of the ways in which this objective can be achieved, is via the consideration of the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD). ESD is defined in Section 6 of the *Protection of the Environmental Administration Act 1991 (NSW)*, as requiring the integration of both economic and environmental considerations (including cultural heritage) in the decision-making process for a development, with an aim to achieving, on balance, beneficial outcomes for both development, and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

ESD can be achieved with regards to Aboriginal cultural heritage, by applying the precautionary principle, and the principle of inter-generational equity, to the nature of the proposed activity, in relation to the Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeological values of a site.

### 5.1.1. Precautionary Principle

*The precautionary principle states that if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation. In applying the precautionary principle, decisions should be guided by:*

- *a careful evaluation to avoid, wherever practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment; and*
- *an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options.*

*The precautionary principle is relevant to DECC's [now OEH] consideration of potential impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage where:*

- *the proposal involves a risk of serious or irreversible damage to Aboriginal objects or places or to the value of those objects or places; and*
- *there is uncertainty about the Aboriginal cultural heritage values or scientific or archaeological values, including in relation to the integrity, rarity, or representativeness of the Aboriginal objects or places proposed to be impacted.*

*Where this is the care, a precautionary approach should be taken and all cost-effective measures implemented to prevent or reduce damage to the objects/place. (DECC 2009: 26)*

#### 5.1.2. Intergenerational Equity

*Intergenerational equity is the principle whereby the present generation should ensure the health, diversity and productivity of the environment for the benefit of future generations.*

*In terms of Aboriginal heritage, intergenerational equity can be considered in terms of the cumulative impacts to Aboriginal objects and places in a region. If few Aboriginal objects and places remain in a region (for example, because of impacts under previous AHIPs), fewer opportunities remain for future generations of Aboriginal people to enjoy the cultural benefits of those Aboriginal objects and places.*

*Information about the integrity, rarity or representativeness of the Aboriginal objects and places proposed to be impacted, and how they illustrate the occupation and use of land by Aboriginal people across the region, will be relevant to the consideration of intergenerational equity and the understanding of the cumulative impacts of a proposal.*

*Where there is uncertainty, the precautionary principle should also be followed.* (DECC 2009: 26)

### 5.2. Description of Proposed Development- SSDA Plan

Approval is sought for the expansion of Fort Street Public School to accommodate a total of 600 primary school students (Figure 5.2). Specifically:

- **Site preparation, demolition and excavation**
  - Site remediation.
  - Demolition of the southernmost school building, the garage and storage shed west and east of the Bureau of Meteorology Building, and the toilet block adjoining the main school building.
  - Selective removal of various elements of the main school building, as well as minor and insignificant elements of the Bureau of Meteorology Building and the Messenger's Cottage to facilitate refurbishment and future use of these buildings.
  - Bulk excavation works to facilitate the new southern buildings and western addition to the main school building.
  - Tree removal.
  - Installation of hydraulic and electrical services.
- **Land use**
  - Use of all buildings for the purpose of a school.
- **Existing buildings**
  - Retention, refurbishment and extension of the existing Fort Street Public School, including construction of a new roof and rooftop additions.
  - Retention and refurbishment of the Bureau of Meteorology Building and internal alterations and additions.

- Retention and minor alterations to the Messenger's Cottage.

- **New buildings**
  - Construction of two new buildings on the western part of the site for classrooms and a staff room.
  - Construction of two new, interconnected school buildings on the southern third of the site.
  - Construction of a new communal hall and canteen building.
- **Landscaping**
  - Retention of the existing large fig tree.
  - Landscaping works throughout the site, including construction of a new amphitheatre, a deck around the fig tree, new central plaza, and a multi-purpose forecourt.
  - Landscaping of roof gardens on top of the new southern buildings, the existing Bureau of Meteorology Building and the EEC building.
- **Other works**
  - Construction of a new pedestrian link bridge across the Cahill Expressway on the western side of the site.
  - Works to the existing entrance road, including alterations to the Bradfield Tunnel Services Building.
  - Modifications to existing pick-up / drop-off arrangements.
  - Provision of signage zones.

Figure 5.1 and Figure 5.2 below present the existing plan of the FSPS study area in comparison with the proposed as per the SSDA Plan.

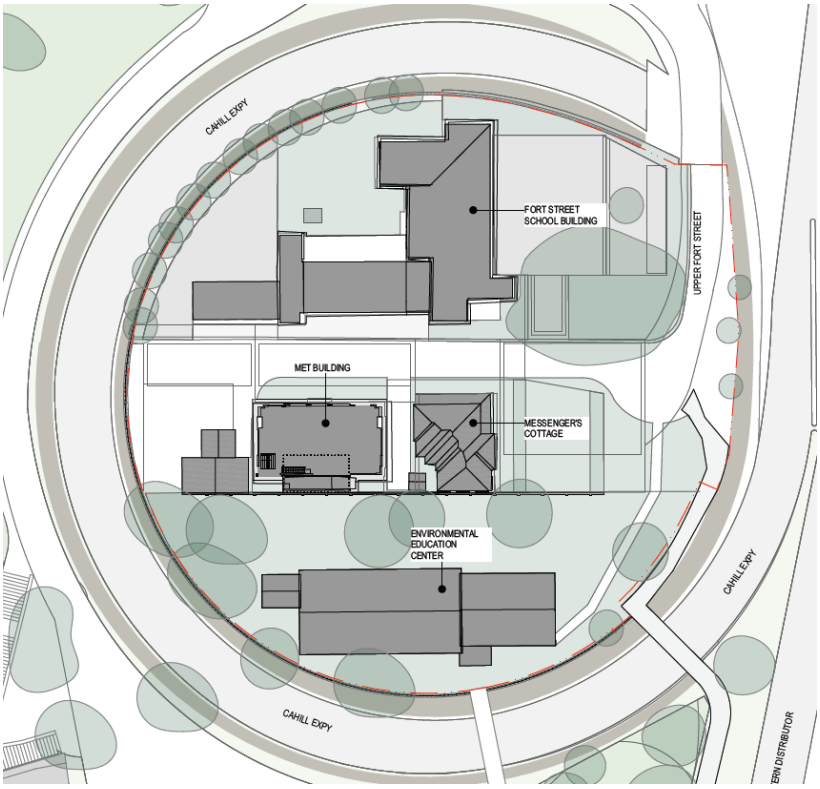



*Figure 5.1: Site Plan- Existing (Source: FJMT DWG DA-1201, 18.10.19)*

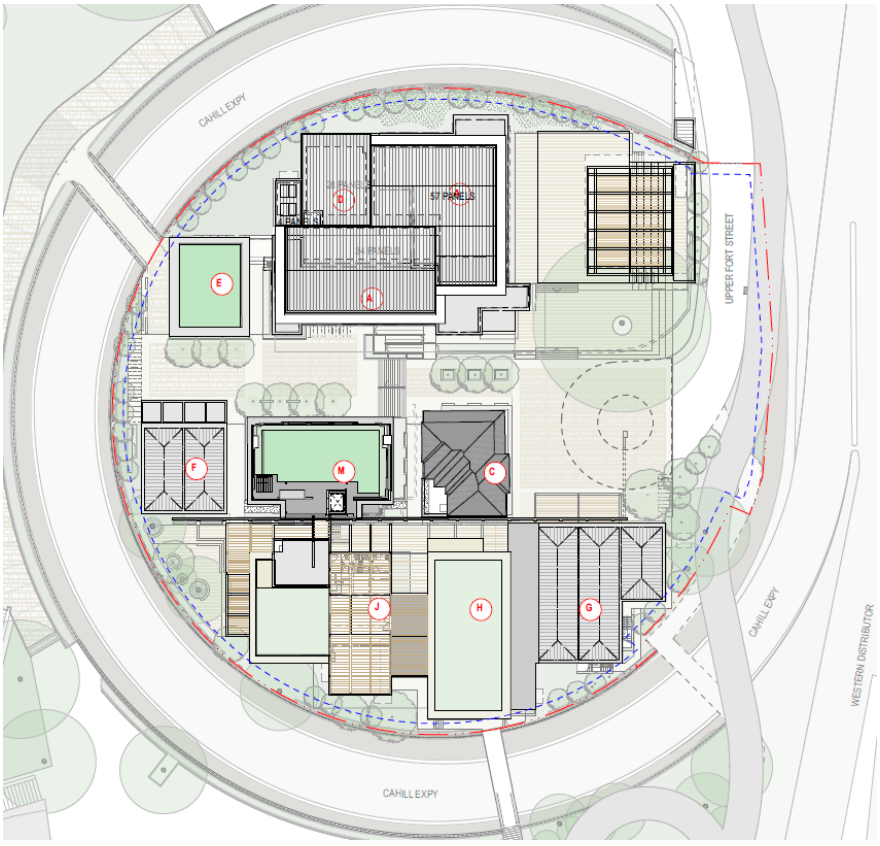



*Figure 5.2: Site Plan- Proposed (Source: FJMT DWG DA-1211, 18.10.19)*

### 5.2.1. Bulk Excavation

Bulk excavation works will be required for the construction of a new basement level beneath the new Buildings G and H (Figure 5.3to Figure 5.5). New footings for the new buildings will be situated on the underlying sandstone bedrock to provide uniformity of support. The new basement below new buildings G and H will be constructed by pouring a 150mm thick concrete slab over a layer of 80mm deep crushed rock layer and plastic membrane (BG 2019: 20). The majority of the basement concrete slab will be laid directly over the sandstone bedrock- that is, it is assumed that all fill and any remnant natural soil profiles within the footprint of the new basement will require full excavation.

*Figure 5.3: Locations of Bulk Excavation- Proposed Lower Ground Plan (Source FJMT DWG DA-2001-SSDA01, 18.10.19)*

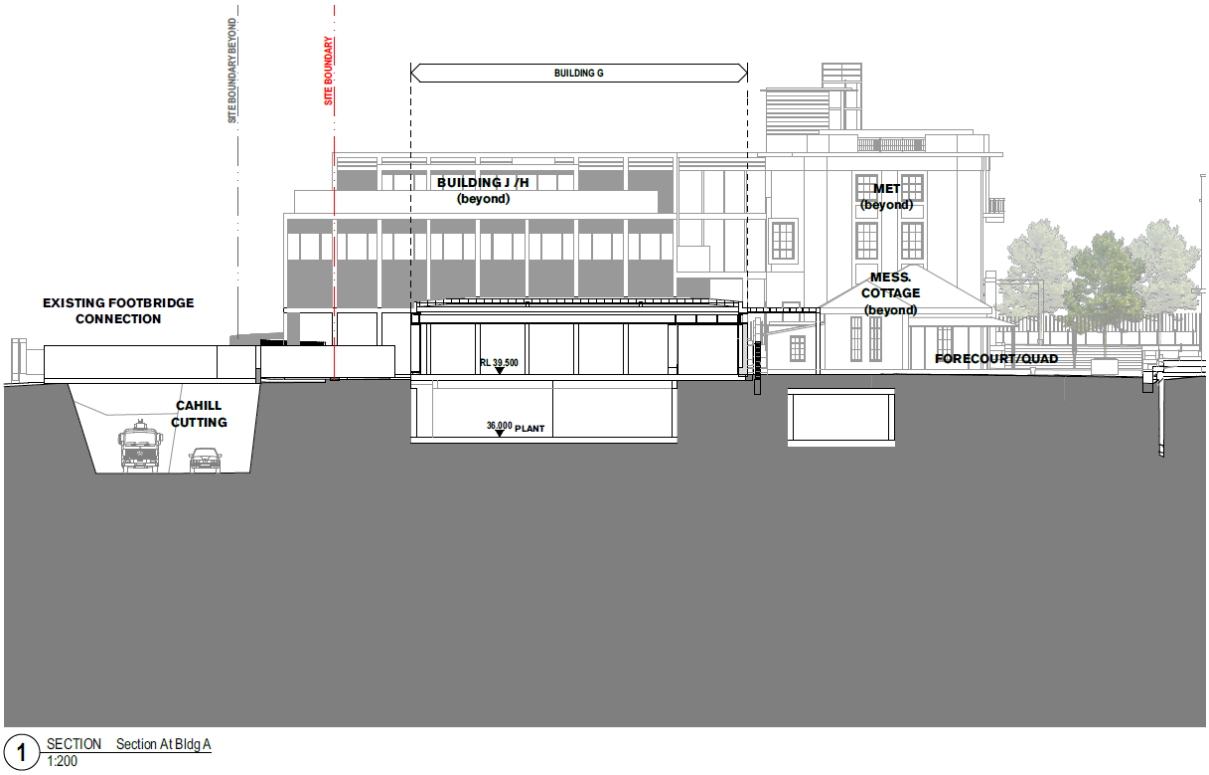



*Figure 5.4: Section 1, c. North-South- New Basement and OSD Tank visible (Source: FJMT DWG DA-4001, 18.10.19)*

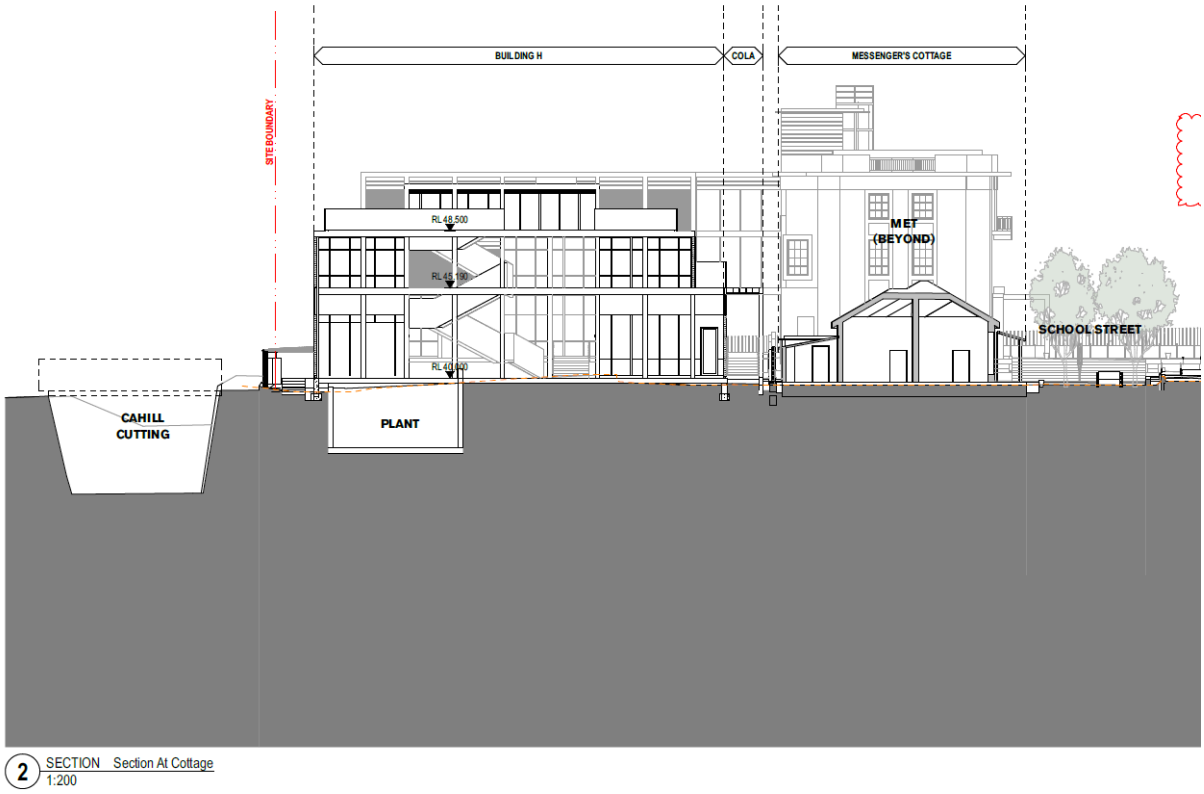



*Figure 5.5: Section 2, c. North-South- New Basement visible (Source: FJMT DWG DA-4001, 18.10.19)*

### 5.2.2. Service Trenching

Figure 5.6 presents the current proposed services plan over the demolition plan for the development. Further descriptions of the required service trenching are described in the following sub-sections.

***Electrical***

Electricity supply enters the site via the north east corner, and provides a low-voltage connection to the site. The combination of the existing and new buildings in the proposal have been assessed for peak demand by the project electrical engineers and verified against the supply capacity as being sufficient. Supplementary photovoltaic solar cells on the roof of the additions to building A and battery provisions in the Lower Ground Floor of Building G are proposed to allow additional power supply and storage to ameliorate the effects of peak demand, grid shortages and/or future functions.

Electrical and Communications services for the proposal include conventional cabling provided to each homebase cluster, teacher's area and staff administration room. Provisions in the classrooms and teaching / admin areas shall respond to current pedagogical requirements for delivery of modern teaching techniques via AV and other aides (smartboards, handheld devices, VR, etc), and will consist of future-proof aspects to ensure viability.[2]

***Stormwater***

The FSPS expansion will require the installation of a new below ground On-Site Stormwater Detention (OSD) tank. The location of the OSD is proposed to be to the east of the Messengers Cottage. The OSD would require excavation to c.2.5m depth. The new OSD tank is indicated in Figure 5.6 below.

[2] From FJMT SSDA Report, p. 42

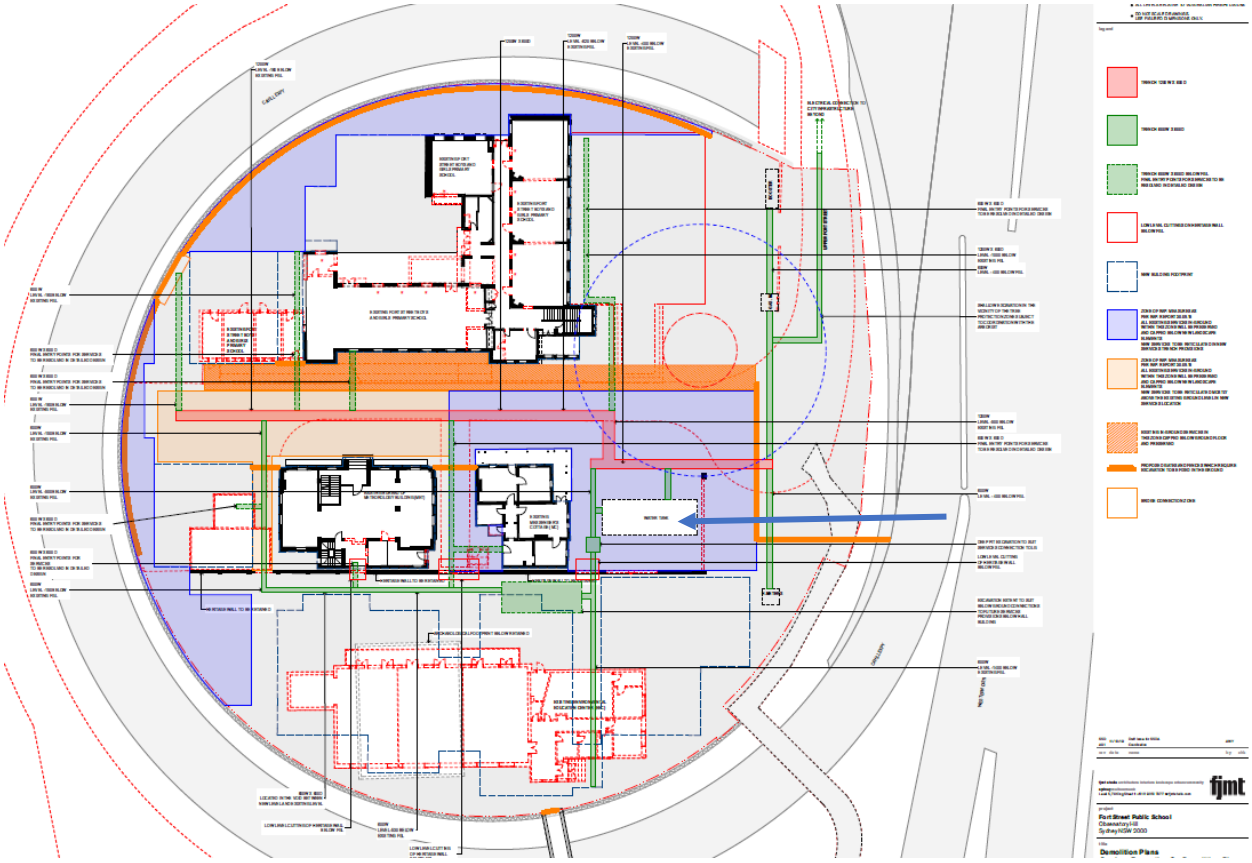


*Figure 5.6: Proposed Services Plan over Demolition Plan. OSD tank shown as white rectangle (indicated) (Source: FJMT DWG DA-2105, 18.10.19)*

### 5.2.3. Landscaping

The final SSDA landscaping plan indicates that proposed landscaping works will generally entail soft landscaping and planting which will generally be limited in below-ground impact. At present, the majority of the proposed landscaping plan in fact proposes filling in order to slightly elevate the ground surface from existing (Figure 5.7). Therefore, the proposed landscaping works present no potential for impact to any potential Aboriginal archaeology within the site.

The SSDA Plan also proposes the installation of a new school fence and gate fronting Upper Fort Street in the east of the site (indicated as an orange 'L' line in Figure 5.6 above- on the right of image). This will require localised excavation for installation- with the exact excavation requirements to be confirmed through the schematic design.

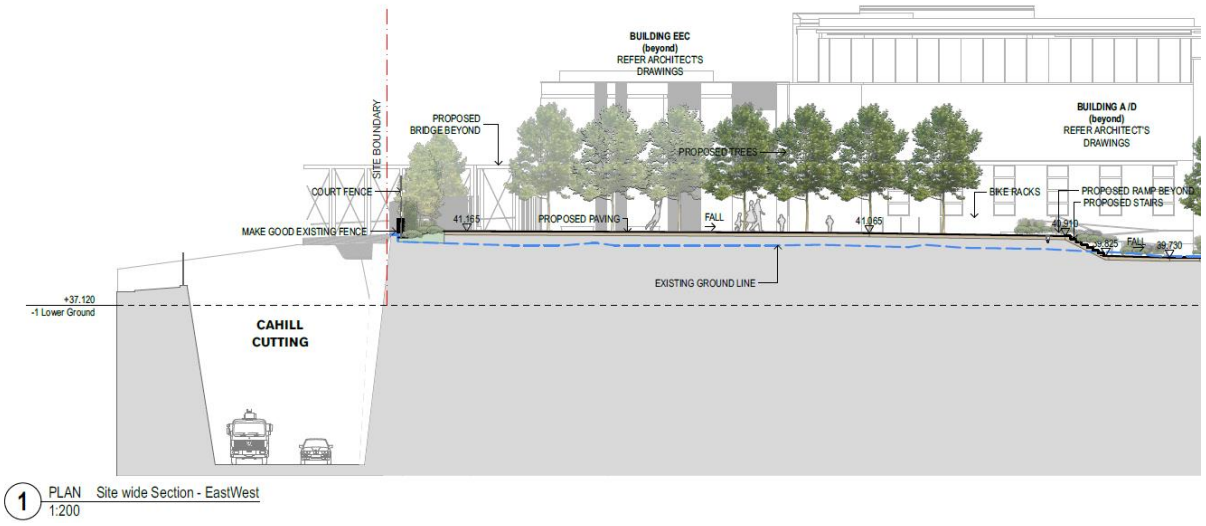



*Figure 5.7: Landscaping Section (1)- EastWest (Source: FJMT DWG DA-8101, 18.10.19)*

## 5.3. Conservation and Impact Assessment

### 5.3.1. Proposed Impact to Potential Archaeological Resources

Development impacts with potential to impact any potential Aboriginal archaeological deposits (should they be present within the study area), are only impacts that will disturb the ground surface. Therefore, this impact assessment has been prepared with specific reference to the following development activities:

- Bulk excavation works (south of the site and west of the existing main school building);
- Installation of new hydraulic, civil and electrical services- including a new stormwater detention tank;
- Localised excavation for new school fences and gate; and
- Landscaping works (unlikely to impact under SSDA Plan- again dependent on nature, depth and location of any excavation works required for landscaping).

The location and extent of below ground development impacts have been compared with areas in the site that have been demonstrated to retain a natural soil profile- or with potential to retain a natural soil profile- in order to identify areas where the development has potential to encounter/impact natural soil profiles.

Table 5.1 summarises the SSDA Design below ground development impacts. These development impacts have then been compared in Table 5.2 with locations within the FSPS study area that confirmed or potential natural soil profiles have been identified, in order to conclude whether each development activity has potential to encounter natural soils (and therefore where archaeological mitigation may be required).

Figure 5.8 maps the locations across the study area where natural soil profiles have been identified. Figure 5.9 locates the development impacts over the estimated area of potential remnant natural soil profiles.

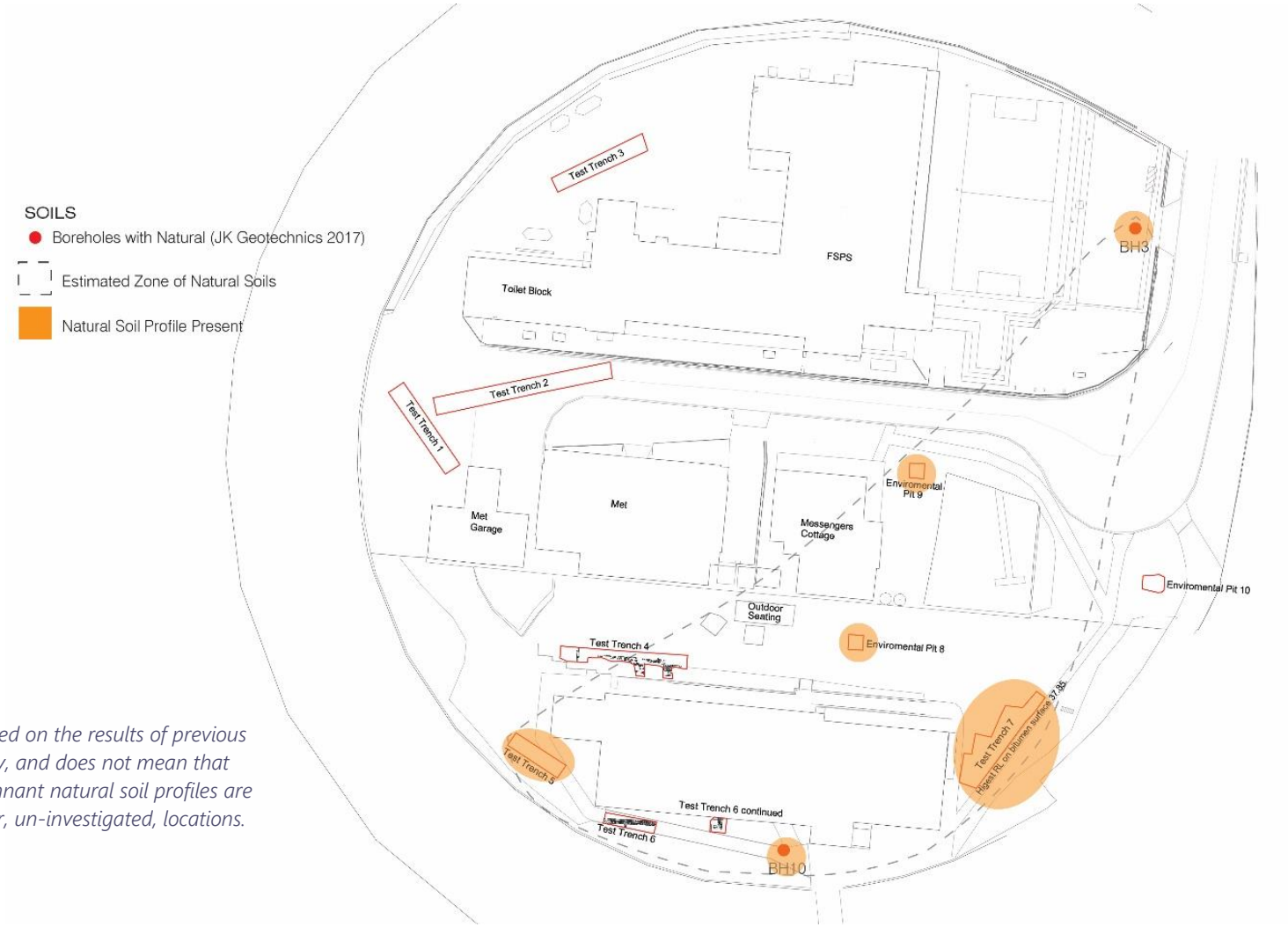
*Table 5.1: Development Excavation Impacts*

| DEVELOPMENT EXCAVATION IMPACT | LOCATION | DIMENSIONS OF WORKS/DEPTH | IMPACT NATURAL SOILS? |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bulk Excavation for New Buildings G | SE (east of existing ECC) | To bedrock | Yes |
| Bulk Excavation for New Building H | South-Centre | To bedrock | Yes |
| New OSD | East of Messengers Cottage | 2.5m depth | Yes |
| New Lift Pits | Within MET North of existing school. | c. 2.4m x 2.5m x 1.1m deep | Unlikely |
| Service Trenching:<br>• 1.2m w x 60cm d (Pink on Plan) | E-W on north side of MET/Messengers (approx. in existing driveway/road) | 1.2m w x 60cm d | Yes |
| • 60cm x 60cm (Green on Plan) | Across numerous areas | 60cm w x 60cm d | Yes |
| New fences and gate | East of study area | TBC | Maybe |
| Landscaping | Across study area | TBC | Unlikely |

*Table 5.2: Natural Soil Profile Locations vs Impacts*

| LOCATION WITH POTENTIAL NATURAL SOIL PROFILE | DESCRIPTION | DEPTH FROM SURFACE (NATURAL SOIL) | DEVELOPMENT WORKS PROPOSED (CONCEPT DESIGN) | POTENTIAL FOR WORKS TO ENCOUNTER NATURAL SOILS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trench 5 | 'Mid-brown sandy soil', disturbed. Potential natural soil only. | c.60cm below ground level (bgl) | No works | No |
| Trench 7 | Dark brown loam, potential buried remnant natural soils | c. 2m bgl | Basement | Yes |
| Environmental Pit 8 | Sequence of loams and fills to bedrock- suggestive of a *partially disturbed* natural | ? c.60-70cm bgl | Basement/electrical trenching | Yes |

| LOCATION WITH POTENTIAL NATURAL SOIL PROFILE | DESCRIPTION | DEPTH FROM SURFACE (NATURAL SOIL) | DEVELOPMENT WORKS PROPOSED (CONCEPT DESIGN) | POTENTIAL FOR WORKS TO ENCOUNTER NATURAL SOILS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Environmental Pit 9 | Decayed sandstone rubble fill sealing an intact natural profile to the bedrock | ? c. 80-90cm bgl | Service Trenching | Yes |
| BH3 | 'Clayey sand' | c.2.1m to c.2.8m bgl | Service Trenching | Maybe |
| BH10 | 'Clayey sand' | c.0.5m to 1.4m bgl | Basement | Yes |




*NB. This map is based on the results of previous investigations only, and does not mean that discrete areas of remnant natural soil profiles are not possible in other, un-investigated, locations.*

*Figure 5.8: Estimated Zone of Mapped Natural Soil Profiles within FSPS study area (Source: Curio 2019)*


*Figure 5.9: Development Impacts over Estimated Zone of Natural Soil Profiles (Source: Curio 2019)*

## 5.4. Harm to Aboriginal Objects and Values

Excavation works proposed to be undertaken within the FSPS study area for the expansion of the school, including bulk excavation for new buildings, as well as new services, stormwater detention tank, and associated landscaping, has potential to encounter pockets of remnant natural soil profiles- particularly in the southeast of the study area, where natural soils have been demonstrated to be present (although to what extent remains uncertain).

Therefore, while the potential for Aboriginal archaeological deposits to be present within the study area is considered to be low, ground disturbing works still have some potential to encounter natural soil profiles with the capability of containing Aboriginal archaeological deposits.

Due to the level of fill and State significant historical archaeological deposit present within the study area, Aboriginal archaeological test excavation under the OEH *Code of Practice* to investigate these potential natural soil profiles further was not possible. Therefore, it is appropriate that the opportunity for targeted Aboriginal archaeological mitigation strategies be applied to the study area as necessary, prior to below ground development impacts being undertaken, in order to properly confirm whether or not the study area is capable of retaining an Aboriginal archaeological resource, and investigating said resource if demonstrated to be present.

### 5.4.1. Avoiding and Minimising Harm

Firstly, it should be noted that any natural soil profiles beneath the FSPS study area are likely to have already been subject to high levels of disturbance, due to extensive historical use and development of the site since 1788- as well as the propensity for the soil types in this area to suffer from extensive sheet erosion following vegetation clearing. While this severely limits the intactness of any potential Aboriginal archaeological resource, until the nature of the potential natural soils (as identified through the historical archaeological testing, and associated geotechnical/environmental testing) can be investigated, the potential for the presence of Aboriginal archaeological deposits within the study area, albeit low, must still be acknowledged.

The highest levels of Aboriginal archaeological potential within the site have been assessed to be in the northeast and north of the study area. Aboriginal archaeology was considered during the Master Planning process for the site, and this level of potential was one of the contributing factors that lead the development of the Concept Plan to avoid new development below ground in the north and east of the study area. Therefore, any impact to potential Aboriginal archaeological deposits that may be present in the north/northeast of the study area, would be avoided through this development.

With regards to Aboriginal heritage values, the FSPS expansion project will not pose any additional or further impact to Aboriginal cultural and social values associated with the site and surrounds. In fact, it provides an opportunity to provide a positive impact to values, through the potential future implementation of Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretation elements and initiatives at the site.

## 5.5. Summary of Impact Assessment

There are no registered Aboriginal sites are located within the study area. While there is a low potential for intact Aboriginal archaeological deposits to remain within the FSPS study area, should such deposits be found to be present within remnant natural soil profiles, these may have potential for

moderate to high social, historical and scientific significance. Therefore, it is appropriate to develop strategies to mitigate this potential impact.

Potential below ground impacts (as per the SSDA Design) appear to be focused in the southeast of the study area.

The following chapter develops appropriate management and mitigation strategies to further clarify the actual potential for impact to potential Aboriginal archaeological deposits (if present within the study area).

# 6. Management and Mitigation

This report relates specifically to the proposed development impacts of FSPS SSDA design, in relation to potential Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage impacts, and provides recommendations for management and mitigation of development impacts, both archaeologically (i.e. ground disturbing works), as well as culturally (i.e. opportunities for Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretation within the site redevelopment).

Therefore, the Aboriginal cultural heritage values and Aboriginal archaeological potential of the study area are proposed to be managed and mitigated via two main strategies:

- **Archaeological monitoring and potential targeted test excavation**- tailored to specific below ground impacts of the development works; and
- **Aboriginal Heritage Interpretation** to facilitate a long term conservation outcome for Aboriginal cultural heritage values (tangible and intangible) within the proposed development, beneficial to both SI and the school itself, as well as contributing to the acknowledgement, maintenance, and celebration of Gadigal (Darug) cultural heritage.

It is believed that the application of these strategies through the FSPS expansion project will serve to minimise any harm posed by the development to Aboriginal cultural heritage values.

## 6.1. Strategy One—Archaeological Monitoring and Testing

Due to the high level of fill and confirmed presence of State significant historical archaeology present within the FSPS site, Aboriginal archaeological test excavation under the OEH *Code of Practice* has not been possible for the study area.

While the potential for the study area to retain Aboriginal archaeological deposits has been assessed to be low- that is, an Aboriginal archaeological deposit is not considered likely to be encountered during development works- historical archaeological test excavation and geotechnical/environmental assessment have demonstrated the potential for some truncated natural soil profiles to be present within the south-eastern areas of the site. As some of these locations coincide with the areas proposed through the SSDA plan for excavation, it is appropriate that the opportunity for Aboriginal archaeological mitigation strategies be implemented (if found to be necessary) during site works to confirm whether an Aboriginal archaeological deposit is present within the study area or not (and to mitigate the impact to such a deposit- should one be found to be present).

Therefore, the proposed Aboriginal archaeological mitigations in relation to the below ground works proposed by the SSDA Plan for the expansion of the FSPS will include three main methods of archaeological investigation:

- **Targeted archaeological monitoring** of excavation works in areas that have demonstrated potential to encounter natural soil profiles (with potential to trigger test excavation if natural soils are encountered);
- **Targeted test excavation** in any areas where monitoring encounters substantial intact natural soil profiles requiring impact; and

- **Salvage excavation** of any identified Aboriginal archaeological deposit (if encountered), in order to understand the full extent, and nature of the identified resource, to the extent of development impacts.

### 6.1.1. Co-ordination with Historical Archaeology

Due to the historical archaeological potential of the study area, the Aboriginal archaeological monitoring may potentially be undertaken concurrent with a program of historical archaeological investigation, guided by a separate historical ARD (to be prepared in the future, specific to the Schematic Design, once completed).

Should historical archaeological excavation (as guided by the future ARD) encounter any displaced Aboriginal objects within historical archaeological deposits, the Aboriginal archaeology Excavation Director, and project RAPs would be informed. Any displaced Aboriginal objects within historical contexts would be recorded in their location, and removed, to be catalogued and analysed in accordance with the methodology outlined above.

### 6.1.2. Monitoring

In locations where ground disturbing works have potential to encounter natural soil profiles, targeted Aboriginal archaeological monitoring is proposed.

The monitoring methodology would proceed as follows:

- Monitoring of the excavation works in identified monitoring areas undertaken under the supervision of a qualified archaeologist, accompanied by representatives from project RAPs acknowledged as being cultural knowledge holders for the FSPS area.
- The general stratigraphy of the soil profiles shall be recorded via field notes, photography, and preparation of stratigraphic section drawings.
- Should natural soils be identified within development impact zones, opportunity should be made (to be discussed between archaeological Excavation Director, project RAPs and site contractor) to commence Aboriginal archaeological test excavation in these locations, in accordance with the test excavation methodology as presented in the section below.
- Allowance must be made for any contamination considerations or issues at the site during proposed archaeological mitigation works, should such issues become apparent, in order to ensure that all WH&S and Environmental requirements are met during site works. This may require slight variation of proposed strategy of soil monitoring, and should this be required, would be discussed between the archaeologist, contractor, client, and RAPs in the field.

### 6.1.3. Test Excavation

Should intact natural soil profiles be encountered during the archaeological monitoring phase, development excavation in the immediate vicinity will be paused, and a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist will be consulted to assess the nature of the soils, in order to confirm whether the soils are in fact remnant natural profiles with the potential to retain an Aboriginal archaeological deposit. If soils are confirmed to be natural, the project archaeologist/Aboriginal Excavation Director, in consultation with project RAPs and site contractor, would identify if test

excavation is possible within the parameters of the location (i.e. considering factors such as accessibility, WHS conditions, and the required level of ground impact for the specific development location).

In areas identified through monitoring as presenting with natural soil profiles, where test excavation is possible within the required development impact zone, the following methodology would be applied:

- Should a remnant soil profile be positively identified, that is capable of being subject to archaeological test excavation, this would proceed by hand excavation in targeted locations, with the purpose of testing for Aboriginal archaeological material within the natural soil profile.
- Test units will generally be undertaken in accordance with the methodology proposed in Requirement 16 of the OEH *Code of Practice*, as much as possible given site-specific conditions) as per the following:
    - A test unit would be initialised within the identified natural soil profile, size and orientation to be established to meet with the location, with maximum continuous surface area to be no greater than $3m^2$.
    - Excavation of the test unit would proceed in 50cm x 50cm quadrants, with the first spit of the first quadrant being undertaken in 50mm spits, with all subsequent quadrants to be excavated in 100mm spits, unless a shallower depth is defined by natural soil profiles or other stratigraphy/features are identified.
    - Hand excavation would proceed in this way until culturally sterile soils are reached within the test unit, or until site conditions dictate that safe access for hand excavation can no longer be maintained.
- If carbon or other features suitable for scientific dating are identified, these would be sampled for possible further analysis.
- The deposit from each test unit would be wet or dry sieved (depending on the nature of the soils, and any limitations of the work site at the time of excavation) through a 5mm aperture wire-mesh sieve, with any recovered objects recorded in correspondence to their test trench and catalogued appropriately.
- The location of each test trench will be recorded by GPS and recorded in detail including stratigraphic/soil profile description and drawings, description of any relevant features, artefacts etc, and photographed using a DSLR camera and appropriate photoscale.
- If the test excavation within the identified natural soil profile (i.e. targeted test excavation areas) does not identify any Aboriginal objects or archaeological deposits within an initialised test trench, then excavation will cease in this location, and the archaeological investigation will return to monitoring.
- Should a test trench identify high numbers of Aboriginal artefacts (>2 artefacts/$m^2$), the Excavation Director will assess whether establishment of a salvage excavation undertaken by hand is possible (given site conditions), in order to understand the full extent and nature of

the resource within development impact zones. Salvage excavation methodology is presented in the relevant section below.

- Where possible, information derived from the monitoring/test excavation would be used to expand the archaeological understanding of the FSPS study area, and wider Aboriginal occupation patterns around Millers Point and the wider Sydney Harbour Foreshore.
- Stone artefact recording of any recovered Aboriginal stone artefacts would follow the requirements detailed through the OEH Code of Practice, and in accordance with current accepted academic texts for stone artefact analysis and recording in southeast Australia (i.e. Holdaway and Stern 2004).

#### 6.1.4. Salvage Excavation

Should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit be identified within test trenches, and hand excavation is deemed to be possible in the location (considering WHS and stability issues), the relevant test trench would be subject to salvage archaeological expansion, with the purpose of identifying, fully understanding and salvaging the nature and extent of any identified Aboriginal archaeological deposit, within the extent of the development impact zone.

Archaeological salvage excavation in identified locations would proceed as per the following methodology:

- Salvage excavation would be undertaken by the nominated Aboriginal Excavation Director, accompanied by representatives from project RAPs. OEH would be notified of the commencement of any salvage Aboriginal archaeological excavation works.
- The test trench presenting with an Aboriginal archaeological deposit would be expanded through the initialisation of a 1m x 1m excavation unit, to identify the extent of any identified Aboriginal archaeological resource. If additional Aboriginal objects or features are located, the trench would continue to be expanded by 1m x 1m at a time, until the extent of the resource has been fully explored (i.e. to culturally sterile soils), or to the extent of the development impact zone (whichever comes first), assuming WHS requirements can be maintained throughout the excavation.
- All deposits will be excavated in 100mm spits, unless a shallower depth is defined by natural soil profiles, or other stratigraphy/features are identified.
- Should Aboriginal archaeological features such as a midden or hearth deposit be identified, each feature would be subject to stratigraphic hand excavation in 1m x 1m test pits (or as required if space restrictions apply), appropriate to the nature of the feature, and would be expanded by 1m x 1m excavation units in order to fully explore the extent of the resource encountered, within the extent of the development impact zone.
- If carbon or other features suitable for scientific dating are identified, these would be sampled for possible further analysis.
- The deposit from each expansion unit would be wet or dry sieved (depending on the nature of the sands, and any limitations of the work site at the time of excavation) through a 5mm

aperture wire-mesh sieve, with any recovered objects recorded in correspondence to their test trench and excavation unit and catalogued appropriately.

- Where expansion units fail to yield a significant Aboriginal archaeological deposit (i.e. an artefact density of <2 artefacts/$m^2$, or absence of any other unusual or significant archaeological feature), excavation will cease.
- A post-excavation report detailing the results of both the monitoring and excavation phases (if required) of the investigation would be prepared following completion of the archaeological works for the FSPS development. This report would be provided to all project RAPs for their information, as well as forwarded to OEH for their records.
- Should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit have been identified within the FSPS study area (as per the methodologies described above), this would be reflected in the submission of a site registration card to the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database.

#### 6.1.5. Research Framework

Three primary objectives have been identified to guide any Aboriginal archaeological investigation required to be undertaken within the FSPS study area, with regard to the Aboriginal archaeological potential. These objectives are:

- to identify to what extent intact natural soil profiles capable of retaining an Aboriginal archaeological deposit are present within the study area;
- to determine whether these natural soil profiles contain an Aboriginal archaeological deposit, and, if present, to undertake an assessment of the deposit within a local and regional landscape context; and
- to explore and fully understand the extent and nature of any identified Aboriginal archaeological deposit, within required development impact zones (as possible in consideration of any WHS concerns or accessibility issues at the site).

Several research questions have been developed to inform the above objectives. Key research questions for the proposed archaeological investigation of the study area include:

- Will the proposed development works within the FSPS study area impact intact natural soil profiles?
- If natural soil profiles are encountered during development works, is an Aboriginal archaeological deposit present within these soils? If so, to what nature and extent are Aboriginal archaeological remains present?
- Can the natural soil profiles inform a geomorphological context of the study area? If so, how?
- Can archaeological investigation provide any additional information as to whether the overall study area is likely to retain a remnant Aboriginal archaeological signature (i.e. within potential natural soils in the north and northeast of the study area)?
- Can archaeological investigation provide any information as to whether the wider Millers Point/Observatory Hill area is likely to retain a remnant Aboriginal archaeological signature?

- How can the Aboriginal archaeological deposit (if recovered) be interpreted in a local and regional context?
- Is the archaeological deposit (if encountered) culturally and/or publicly significant? To what extent?

### 6.2. Strategy Two—Aboriginal Heritage Interpretation

Appropriate heritage interpretation can contribute to the conservation and celebration of the history and cultural heritage of the local Gadigal (Darug) people and wider local Aboriginal community, preserving their culture, history and stories within the development for generations to come.

The preliminary Landscaping Plan for the SSDA Plan describes a proposed 'Indigenous Planted Garden', to be located as an Educational Rooftop garden (FJMT 2019- Landscaping Plan: 31) within the Fort Street Public School. The introduction of the Indigenous Garden provides a significant opportunity to interpret Aboriginal heritage, history and significance of the site, potential initiatives to include:

- Aboriginal cultural workshops and demonstrations
- Native permaculture and environmental sustainability practices
- Aboriginal heritage walking and learning (FJMT: 31).

It is recommended that SI work closely with the Metropolitan LALC through the development of this garden and associated educational programs.

During the August 2019 site visit, Aboriginal site Officer, Selina Timothy (Metro LALC) noted that the Metro LALC would be interested in working with SI for development of possible Aboriginal heritage interpretation initiatives that could be implemented at the site, appropriate to the nature and function of the area as a primary school. These could include:

- Place naming within appropriate locations within the school with Gadigal words
- Use of native plants within the new landscaping plan to refer back to the natural landscape of Observatory Hill pre 1788
- MLALC to assist in the development of a 'Yarning Circle' location within the school grounds- a meeting place for parents, teachers, and children- something that the MLALC has helped to implement at other Sydney public schools
- Additional opportunities and suggestions to be added following RAP review of this ACHAR.

### 6.3. Management of Aboriginal Objects

While there is considered low potential for Aboriginal archaeological deposits or objects to be encountered through the development works, it is still appropriate to develop options and a strategy for the management of Aboriginal objects, should such a deposit be encountered.

There are several options when it comes to the long-term management and curation of Aboriginal stone objects, once recovered from excavations. The suitability of each option depends on a number

of factors including the nature of the development, the significance and extent of the deposit, and the wishes of the Aboriginal community.

A possible temporary storage location for any Aboriginal artefacts recovered during development works could be the office of the Metropolitan LALC. However, this has yet to be discussed with the LALC.

## 6.4. Unexpected Finds

### 6.4.1. Unexpected Aboriginal Objects

Upon discovery of an archaeological feature that is suspected to be an Aboriginal Unexpected Find (excluding human remains- see Section 6.4.2 below), the following procedure should be followed:

1. Cease works in the immediate vicinity of the find.
2. Contact the project archaeologist to verify the nature of the find.
3. If Unexpected Find is confirmed as Aboriginal archaeology, project archaeologist will notify project RAPs and BCD of the find. (If Unexpected Find is confirmed as not Aboriginal in origin, project archaeologist will provide advice for works to recommence).
4. Project Archaeologist/Project RAPs will undertake a preliminary assessment and recording of the find.
5. Formulate archaeological or heritage management plan- specific to nature of the find.
6. Implement archaeological/heritage management plan.
7. Works may commence once archaeological/heritage management plan has been successfully implemented and project archaeologist provides sign off to contractor for works to resume in vicinity of find.

### 6.4.2. Unexpected Skeletal Remains

While not anticipated to be encountered within the FSPS study area, the unexpected discovery of any potential skeletal remains during development works would be managed in accordance with the approved OEH protocol for the discovery of human remains which is stated as:

> *If any suspected human remains are discovered and/or harmed the proponent must:*
>
> *a) Not further harm these remains;*
>
> *b) Immediately cease all work at the particular location;*
>
> *c) Secure the area so as to avoid further harm to the remains;*
>
> *d) Notify the local police and OEH's (now BCD of DPIE) Environment Line on 131 555 as soon as practicable and provide any available details of the remains and their location; and*
>
> *e) Not recommence any work at the particular location unless authorised in writing by OEH (now BCD of DPIE).*

# 7. Management Recommendations

The following management recommendations are made for the SSDA for the Fort Street Public School study area, located on Observatory Hill, at Upper Fort Street, Millers Point. These recommendations are made on the basis of:

- Legislation as detailed and adhered to through this ACHAR, including the NPW Act, EP&A Act, and relevant OEH (now BCD of DPIE) statutory guidelines, protecting Aboriginal cultural and archaeological objects and places in NSW;
- Background research and archaeological analysis of the study area in its local and regional contexts;
- Consultation with the local Aboriginal community regarding the cultural significance of the study area and surrounding Millers Point/Observatory Hill region, noting their concerns, views and requests; and
- The impact of the proposed development within the FSPS study area.

## 7.1. Conclusions

- This ACHAR documents the process of investigation, consultation and assessment with regards to Aboriginal cultural heritage and Aboriginal archaeology, as undertaken for the FSPS expansion project, specific to the SSDA Plan.
- The FSPS study area has been subject to very high levels of historical ground disturbance and use since 1788 relating to the use of the site as a Military Hospital, Sydney Observatory activities/Bureau of Meteorology, and Fort Street Public School, that would likely have impacted and/or removed the majority of natural soil profiles.
- In general, the study area has low potential for Aboriginal archaeological deposits to be present, due to the high levels of historical disturbance at the site, as well as the propensity for Gymea soils for erosion following vegetation clearance.
- Previous investigations within the study area has shown that many areas across the site have been previously excavated to sandstone bedrock, removing all natural soil profiles. However, some areas, particularly in the southeast of the study area have potential to retain remnant natural soil profiles- although the extent and integrity of these natural soils is not currently fully understood.
- Due to the high level of fill and confirmed presence of State significant historical archaeology present within the FSPS site, Aboriginal archaeological test excavation under the OEH *Code of Practice* has not been possible for the study area.
- While the Aboriginal archaeological potential within the FSPS study area is considered low, should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit be found to be present within the FSPS study area, this may have moderate scientific significance for its ability to provide evidence for and insight into Aboriginal occupation and use of the Millers Point/Observatory Hill locality prior to 1788, representative of the FSPS study area as part of the wider Aboriginal cultural landscape of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore.

## 7.2. Recommendations

The following management and mitigation statements are made in light of the conclusions above, following from the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment of development works proposed by the SSDA Plan for the expansion of the Fort Street Public School, including Aboriginal community consultation, ethnohistorical and environmental context, predictive modelling, heritage significance assessment and impact assessment, in accordance with relevant NSW OEH statutory guidelines. It is recommended that:

- While archaeological potential is low, should an Aboriginal archaeological deposit be present within the FSPS study area, this may have moderate to high significance, and therefore management strategies have been developed to mitigate any potential impacts.
- The impact assessment and management mitigation strategies as development through this ACHAR have been prepared with reference to the SSDA Plan for the FSPS expansion only. Should the detailed Schematic Design process find the required below-ground impacts to differ substantially from those assessed in this ACHAR, it would be appropriate to revise the Impact Assessment and Management Strategies according to the revised impacts.
    - The recommendations of this ACHAR should be included within any Construction Management Plan prepared for site works.
- Following approval of the SSDA, the proposed archaeological investigation (Management Strategy One), including monitoring, and archaeological test excavation (if required based on the results of the monitoring) should be undertaken, to be coordinated with the project development works.
- With regards to Aboriginal intangible heritage values (social and cultural), the FSPS expansion project has the opportunity for a positive impact to be achieved via interpretation initiatives such as the Indigenous Rooftop Garden, to celebrate and communicate the significance of the site and landscape to the Gadigal (Darug) people through education.
- Continuing consultation with the project RAPs should be undertaken through subsequent development stages of the project.
- The Unexpected Aboriginal Finds Protocol (presented in Section 6.4 of this ACHAR) should be implemented during all ground disturbing works within the FSPS study area (to be included within the Construction Management Plan).
- The Metropolitan LALC should be consulted with reference to any proposed heritage interpretation initiatives and programs proposed for implementation at the site, in order to seek input into the plan with regards to Aboriginal cultural heritage significance.
- A copy of this ACHAR was provided to all project RAPs for their review and comment, with all RAP feedback being incorporated into the final ACHAR.

# 8. References

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Irish P. and Goward T. 2012, "Where's the evidence? The archaeology of Sydney's Aboriginal history." *Archaeology in Oceania*, Vol. 47, No. 2 (July 2012), pp. 60-68

Steele, D. 2006, *Final Aboriginal Archaeological Excavation Report. The KENS Site (Kent, Erskine, Napolean and Sussex Street), Sydney, NSW.* Report to Leighton Contractors Pty Ltd

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# APPENDIX A—Aboriginal Consultation Log—Fort Street Public School

## Stage 1—Notification of project proposal and registration of interest

### Stage 1.1—Compilation of a list of Aboriginal stakeholders

| Statutory Body | Contact | Date Sent | Date Reply | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| NSW Office of Environment and Heritage Regional Office | Barry Gunther | 16.4.19 | 1.5.19 | List of stakeholders |
| The Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act | Elizabeth Loane | 16.4.19 | 18.4.19 | Not currently any Registered Aboriginal Owners in project area, contact Metropolitan LALC |
| National Native Title Tribunal | N/A | 16.4.19 | 16.4.19 | Search of Native Title web. No native title holders. |
| Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) | Nathan Moran | 16.4.19 | 14.6.19 | Registration |
| City of Sydney Council | John Poulton | 16.4.19 | 16.4.19 | 'the City of Sydney defers to the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council as the cultural stakeholder for these matters.' |
| Native Title Services Corp | | 16.4.19 | | |
| Greater Sydney Local Land Services | Margaret Bottrell | 16.4.19 | 16.4.19 | 'We strongly recommend that you make contact with the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), Cultural Heritage Division, for all-inclusive contact lists of persons and organisations that may assist with your investigation.' |

Stage 1.2—Newspaper Advertisement

| NEWSPAPER | DATE SENT | DATE PRINTED |
|---|---|---|
| Daily Telegraph | 17.4.19 | 18.4.19 |

A minimum 14 days were allowed for Aboriginal people to respond to the newspaper advertisement (2 May 2019).

Stage 1.3 and 1.4—List of Aboriginal groups/people from Stage 1.1 and 1.2, Aboriginal notification of proposed project and offer to be involved in consultation

| Organisation/Person | Contact | How Name was Obtained | Date Contacted | Date Registered | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Metropolitan LALC | | City of Sydney | 16.4.19 | | |
| La Perouse LALC | Chris Ingrey | OEH | 9.5.19 | | |
| Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments | Gordon Morton | OEH | 9.5.19 | | |
| Darug Land Observations | Jamie and Anna Workman | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| A1 Indigenous Services | Carolyn Hickey | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Eric Keidge | | OEH | 9.5.19 | | |
| Tocomwall | Scott Franks | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Amanda Hickey Cultural Services | Amanda Hickey | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |

| Organisation/Person | Contact | How Name was Obtained | Date Contacted | Date Registered | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gunyuu | Kylie Ann Bell | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Walbunja | Hika Te Kowhai | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Badu | Karia Lea Bond | OEH | 9.5.19 | | |
| Goobah Developments | Basil Smith | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Wullung | Lee-Roy James Boota | OEH | 9.5.19 | | |
| Yerramurra | Robert Parson | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Nundagurri | Newton Carriage | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Murrumbul | Mark Henry | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Jerringong | Joanne Anne Stewart | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Pemulwuy CHTS | Pemulwuy Johnson | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Bilinga | Simalene Carriage | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Munyunga | Kaya Dawn Bell | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Wingikara | Hayley Bell | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Walgalu | Ronald Stewart | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Thauaira | Shane Carriage | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Dharug | Andrew Bond | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |

| Organisation/Person | Contact | How Name was Obtained | Date Contacted | Date Registered | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mirramajah | Management | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Gulaga | Wendy Smith | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Biamanga | Seli Storer | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Callendulla | Corey Smith | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Murramarang | Roxanne Smith | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| DJMD Consultancy | Darren Duncan | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation | Jennifer Beale | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Didge Ngunawal Clan | Lillie Carroll, Paul Boyd | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Ginninderra Aboriginal Corporation | Steven Johnson, Krystle Carroll | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Nerrigundah | Newtown Carriage | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Wailwan Aboriginal Group | Phil Boney | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation | Jody Kulakowski (Director) | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Thoorga Nura | John Carriage | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Darug Boorooberongal Elders Aboriginal Corporation | Gordon Workman | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |

| Organisation/Person | Contact | How Name was Obtained | Date Contacted | Date Registered | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B. H Heritage Consultants | Ralph and Nola Hampton | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Goodradigbee Cultural & Heritage Aboriginal Corporation | Caine Carroll | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |
| Mura Indigenous Corporation | Phillip Carroll | OEH | 8.5.19 | | |

A minimum 14 days were allowed for Aboriginal people to register and interest to be consulted.

### Stage 1.5—Registered Aboriginal Parties

| Aboriginal Organisation/Person | Contact | Method Registered | Registration Date and Comments |
|---|---|---|---|
| Darug Land Observations | Anna Workman | Email | 9.5.19 |
| Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation | Jody Kulakowski | Email | 8.5.19 |
| Didge Ngunawal Corporation | Paul Boyd/Lilly Carroll | Email | 8.5.19 |
| Murramarang | Roxanne Smith | Email | 13.5.19 |
| Biamanga | Janaya Smith | Email | 13.5.19 |
| Cullendulla | Corey Smith | Email | 13.5.19 |
| Goobah | Basil Smith | Email | 13.5.19 |
| Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments | Celestine Everingham | Phone | 20.5.19 |

| Aboriginal Organisation/Person | Contact | Method Registered | Registration Date and Comments |
|---|---|---|---|
| Metropolitan LALC | Nathan Moran | Email | 14.6.19 |

A copy of the registered Aboriginal parties was provided to the OEH and LALC via email on 19 December 2019.

### Stage 2—Presentation of information about proposed project

#### Stage 2.1—Presentation of proposed project information and provision of proposed assessment methodology to RAPs

All RAPs were provided a copy of a document presenting the project information and proposed cultural heritage assessment methodology.

| RAP | Date Sent | Date Reply | Method of Reply | Comments, Outcomes or Issues |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Darug Land Observations | 18.6.19 | 8.7.19 | Email | *Darug Land Observations Pty Ltd has reviewed the project background and cultural heritage methodology and supports the methodology for the proposed expansion of Fort Street Public School, located at Upper Fort Street, Observatory Hill, in Millers Point.*<br><br>*In relation to the long-term storage of recovered artefacts, if any, we strongly believe that recovered artefacts should be reburied on Country (study area).*<br><br>*Furthermore, we would like to be involved in the onsite meeting / field survey, archaeological test excavations, topsoil removal and all other forms of works to be carried out on the site.* |
| Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation | 18.6.19 | | | |
| Didge Ngunawal Corporation | 18.6.19 | | | |
| Murramarang | 18.6.19 | | | |

| RAP | Date Sent | Date Reply | Method of Reply | Comments, Outcomes or Issues |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Biamanga | 18.6.19 | | | |
| Cullendulla | 18.6.19 | | | |
| Goobah | 18.6.19 | | | |
| Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments | 18.6.19 | | | |
| Metropolitan LALC | 18.6.19 | | | . |

All RAPs were provided with a minimum of 28 days (from date of provision of methodology document) to provide feedback of the project information and proposed cultural heritage methodology document. Verbal comment was also accepted from RAPs if desired, during the site visit (see below).

Submissions to the project information and methodology were documented, addressed where appropriate, and included within the ACHAR. Submissions received are appended to this document below.

### Stage 2.2—On-Site Consultation Meeting and Opportunity for RAPs to Visit project site—Attendees

An opportunity was made for RAPs to visit the project site on 13.8.19 for an on-site meeting and site visit. All RAPs were invited to attend the site visit.

| RAP | Representative | Date | Comments/Discussion |
|---|---|---|---|
| Selina Timothy | MLALC | 13.8.19 | |

### Stage 3—Gathering information about cultural significance

#### Stage 3.1—Gathering information from RAPs on presence of Aboriginal objects of cultural value, and places of cultural value

RAPs were provided with the cultural heritage assessment methodology at the same time as the project information, with a minimum of 28 days to provide feedback of the project information and proposed cultural heritage methodology document. Details of, including submissions and responses are summarised above in Stage 2.1.

### Stage 4—Review of cultural heritage assessment report

A copy of the draft of this ACHAR was provided to all project RAPs via email and registered post on 29 October 2019 and provided with 28 days from date of provision of ACHAR for review. Comments received are detailed below. Where verbal comment has been provided rather than written comment, Curio Projects has confirmed with the RAP that they are happy with this method of submission of feedback and comments. A reminder email for feedback/comment was sent to all RAPs on 16 December 2019, as well as follow up phone calls.

A copy of all written submissions received from project RAPs are attached to this appendix.

| RAP | Contact | Date Sent | Date Reply | Method | Comments, Outcomes or Issues | How Comments were Addressed (where relevant) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Darug Land Observations | Anna Workman | 29/10/19 | | Email | Sent follow up email 16/12/19, left phone message. No response. | |
| Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation | Jody Kulakowski | 29/10/19 | 31/10/19 | Email | *Myself and the members of Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation have agreed and are satisfied with the project information and assessment methodology provided.* | |

| RAP | Contact | Date Sent | Date Reply | Method | Comments, Outcomes or Issues | How Comments were Addressed (where relevant) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Didge Ngunawal Corporation | Paul Boyd/Lilly Carroll | 29/10/19 | 17.12.19 | Email & Phone | Spoke to Paul Boyd. Happy with report, no comments to make at this stage. | |
| Murramarang | Roxanne Smith | 29/10/19 | | Email | Sent follow up email 16/12/19, no response. | |
| Biamanga | Janaya Smith | 29/10/19 | | Email | Sent follow up email 16/12/19, no response. | |
| Cullendulla | Corey Smith | 29/10/19 | | Email | Sent follow up email 16/12/19, no response. | |
| Goobah | Basil Smith | | 17.12.19 | Phone | Spoke to Basil Smith and he is happy with the report, no comments to make at this stage. | |
| Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments | Celestine Everingham | 30/10/19 | 17/12/19<br>By Phone | Post & phone | Spoke to Celestine Everingham and she is happy with the report, no comments to make at this stage. She did query how long it will take before the project is due to commence. | |
| Metropolitan LALC | Nathan Moran | 29/10/19 | | Email & phone | Left message to call or email 17/12/19, no response. | |

**Jacky Dalton**

**From:** Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation <barkingowlcorp@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, 31 October 2019 5:21 PM
**To:** Jacky Dalton
**Subject:** Re: Request for comment on the draft Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report - Fort Street Public School expansion project, Upper Fort St Millers Point

Dear Jacky,

Myself and the members of Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation have agreed and are satisfied with the project information and assessment methodology provided.

Kind regards

Jody Kulakowski - BOAC
Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation
Phone: 0426242015
Email: barkingowlcorp@gmail.com

On 29 Oct 2019, at 5:06 pm, Jacky Dalton <jacky.dalton@curioprojects.com.au> wrote:

> Dear Jody,
>
> Please find attached a copy of the draft Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) for the Fort Street Public School expansion project at Upper Fort Street, Millers Point, provided for your review and comment.
>
> We would greatly appreciate any comment, feedback, questions or input you may have in response to this draft document. Following your input and feedback, the ACHAR will be revised to reflect any comments, and will then be submitted to the NSW DPIE with an application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) for the proposed development.
>
> We would greatly appreciate receiving your review and input of the draft ACHAR within 28 days of this email (i.e. 26 November 2019).
>
> Comments can be submitted via email to: Jacky.dalton@curioprojects.com.au or via verbal comment if preferred to Jacky Dalton or Natalie Vinton on 8014 9800.
>
> Written comment can also be provided via post addressed to:
> Attn: Jacky Dalton
> Curio Projects
> Suite 9, 17 Thurlow Street
> REDFERN NSW 2016
>
> Yours sincerely,
>
> **Jacky Dalton**
> **Curio Projects Pty Ltd.** | EA/CULTURAL HERITAGE EDUCATOR
> Archaeology Built Heritage & Interpretation Specialists
>
> 1

# APPENDIX B—AHIMS Search Results

Office of Environment & Heritage

## AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

**Extensive search - Site list report**

Your Ref/PO Number : FSPS
Client Service ID : 440468

| SiteID | SiteName | Datum | Zone | Easting | Northing | Context | Site Status | SiteFeatures | SiteTypes | Reports |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 45-6-2382 | Goat Island 2 | AGD | 56 | 333100 | 6252480 | Closed site | Valid | Artefact : -, Shell : -, Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming : - | | |
| | Contact | Recorders | Klim Gollan | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-2299 | First Government House | GDA | 56 | 334612 | 6251612 | Open site | Valid | Burial : -, Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming : -, Artefact : - | Burial/s,Historic Place | 102494,102763,102765 |
| | Contact | Recorders | Michael Guider,Watkin Tench,Artefact - Cultural Heritage Management ,Mrs.Anna c | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-0519 | Moores Wharf | AGD | 56 | 333600 | 6252200 | Open site | Valid | Artefact : - | Open Camp Site | 808 |
| | Contact | Recorders | R Lampert | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-1268 | Balls Head Reserve; | AGD | 56 | 333800 | 6253060 | Open site | Valid | Shell : -, Artefact : - | Midden | |
| | Contact | Recorders | Michael Guider,Mr.Phil Hunt,Aboriginal Heritage Office | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-2581 | Angel Place | AGD | 56 | 334400 | 6251100 | Open site | Valid | Artefact : - | Open Camp Site | 97963,102494,102763,102765 |
| | Contact | Recorders | Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting | | | | | Permits | 918 | |
| 45-6-1939 | MSB Tower; | GDA | 56 | 333640 | 6252227 | Open site | Destroyed | Art (Pigment or Engraved) : - | Rock Engraving | 102763 |
| | Contact | Recorders | Michael Guider | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-1615 | Bennelong Point | AGD | 56 | 334800 | 6252100 | Open site | Destroyed | Shell : -, Artefact : - | Midden | 102763 |
| | Contact | Recorders | ASRSYS | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-1957 | Goat Island Cave; | AGD | 56 | 333010 | 6252710 | Closed site | Valid | Shell : -, Artefact : - | Shelter with Midden | |
| | Contact | Recorders | Michael Guider | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-1853 | Lilyvale | AGD | 56 | 333950 | 6251600 | Open site | Valid | Shell : -, Artefact : - | Midden | 102763 |
| | Contact | Recorders | Val Attenbrow,Andrew Ross | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-0030 | Dawes Point;Dawes Point Park; | GDA | 56 | 334345 | 6252534 | Open site | Destroyed | Art (Pigment or Engraved) : - | Rock Engraving | |
| | Contact | Recorders | Michael Guider | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-2647 | KENS Site 1 | AGD | 56 | 333750 | 6250785 | Open site | Valid | Artefact : -, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : - | | 99857,100494,102494,102763,102765 |
| | Contact | Recorders | Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting | | | | | Permits | 1428,1700 | |
| 45-6-0811 | Goat Island;Parramatta River; | AGD | 56 | 333150 | 6252650 | Open site | Valid | Artefact : -, Shell : - | Midden,Open Camp Site | |
| | Contact | Recorders | Elizabeth Rich | | | | | Permits | | |

**Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 07/08/2019 for Sam Cooling for the following area at Lat, Long From : -33.8625, 151.2015 - Lat, Long To : -33.8587, 151.2075 with a Buffer of 1000 meters. Additional Info : AA. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 23**

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

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Office of Environment & Heritage NSW GOVERNMENT

# AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

## Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : FSPS
Client Service ID : 440468

| SiteID | SiteName | Datum | Zone | Easting | Northing | Context | Site Status | SiteFeatures | SiteTypes | Reports |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 45-6-2742 | 171-193 Gloucester Street PAD | AGD | 56 | 333926 | 6251461 | Open site | Valid | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : - | | 102763 |
| | Contact | Recorders | Jim Wheeler | | | | | Permits | 2143,2342,2766 | |
| 45-6-2783 | PAD Central Royal Botanic Gardens | AGD | 56 | 334900 | 6251030 | Open site | Valid | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : - | | 102494,102763,102765 |
| | Contact T Russell | Recorders | Haglund and Associates | | | | | Permits | 2364 | |
| 45-6-2796 | 320-328 George St PAD | AGD | 56 | 334100 | 6251050 | Open site | Valid | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : - | | 102494,102763,102765 |
| | Contact T Russell | Recorders | Mr.Dominic Steele | | | | | Permits | 2415 | |
| 45-6-2838 | 420 George Street PAD | AGD | 56 | 334080 | 6250670 | Open site | Not a Site | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : - | | 102494,102763,102765 |
| | Contact | Recorders | Doctor.Tim Owen | | | | | Permits | 2654 | |
| 45-6-3081 | 200 George Street | GDA | 56 | 334237 | 6251637 | Open site | Not a Site | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1 | | 103114 |
| | Contact | Recorders | Ms.Sally MacLennan | | | | | Permits | 3577,3934,4239 | |
| 45-6-3116 | Wynyard Walk PAD | GDA | 56 | 333931 | 6251252 | Open site | Destroyed | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1 | | |
| | Contact | Recorders | GML Heritage Pty Ltd + Context - Surry Hills,GML Heritage Pty Ltd + Context - Surr | | | | | Permits | 3670 | |
| 45-6-3324 | RBG PAD 1 | GDA | 56 | 334802 | 6251224 | Open site | Valid | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1 | | |
| | Contact | Recorders | AMAC Group P/L,Mr.Benjamin Streat | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-3327 | RBG PAD 3 | GDA | 56 | 334957 | 6251832 | Open site | Valid | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1 | | |
| | Contact | Recorders | AMAC Group P/L,Mr.Benjamin Streat | | | | | Permits | | |
| 45-6-3502 | Loftus PAD 01 | GDA | 56 | 334551 | 6251635 | Open site | Valid | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : - | | |
| | Contact | Recorders | Artefact - Cultural Heritage Management ,Miss.Julia McLachlan | | | | | Permits | 4292 | |
| 45-6-3446 | 71 Macquarie Street PAD | GDA | 56 | 334663 | 6251783 | Open site | Valid | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : - | | |
| | Contact | Recorders | GML Heritage Pty Ltd + Context - Surry Hills,Ms.Jodi Cameron | | | | | Permits | 4285 | |

**Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 07/08/2019 for Sam Cooling for the following area at Lat, Long From : -33.8625, 151.2015 - Lat, Long To : -33.8587, 151.2075 with a Buffer of 1000 meters. Additional Info : AA. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 23**

Office of Environment & Heritage NSW GOVERNMENT

## AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

### Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : FSPS
Client Service ID : 440468

| SiteID | SiteName | Datum | Zone | Easting | Northing | Context | Site Status | SiteFeatures | SiteTypes | Reports |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 45-6-3705 | Kent and Erskine St PAD | GDA | 56 | 333876 | 6251145 | Open site | Valid | Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : - | | |

Contact | Recorders | GML Heritage Pty Ltd + Context - Surry Hills,Ms.Jodi Cameron | Permits

**Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 07/08/2019 for Sam Cooling for the following area at Lat, Long From : -33.8625, 151.2015 - Lat, Long To : -33.8587, 151.2075 with a Buffer of 1000 meters. Additional Info : AA. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 23**

# Appendix E: *Fort Street Public School- Final Excavation Report (2023)*

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PROJECTS

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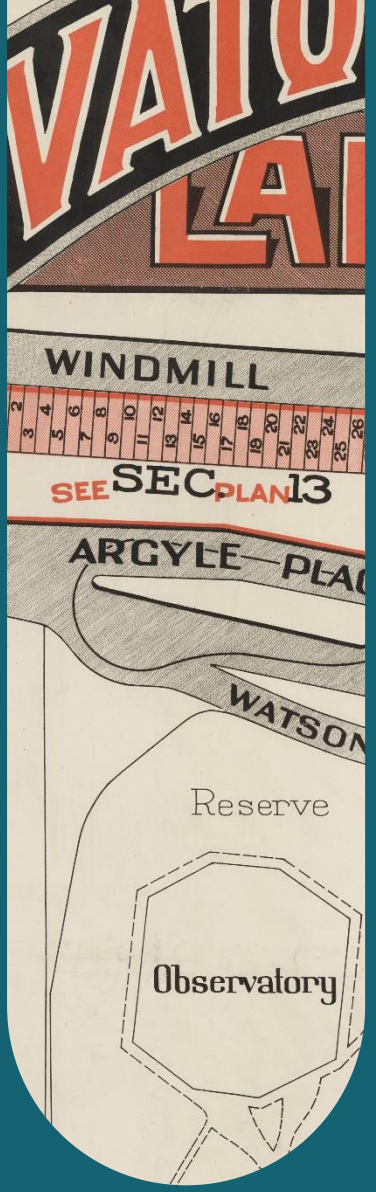
PROJECTS





# Fort Street Public School

## Archaeological Excavation Report

November 2023

# Document Information

### Citation

Curio Projects, 2023. *Fort Street Public School: Excavation Report*. Prepared for Lendlease on behalf of NSW Schools Infrastructure (NSWSI).

### Local Government Area

City of Sydney

| Issue | Issue date | Version | Notes/Comments | Author | Review |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | September 2023 | Draft Report | For Client Review | Matthew Kelly<br>Adele Zubrzycka | Client |
| 2 | November 2023 | Final Report | For issue | Matthew Kelly<br>Adele Zubrzycka | |
| 3 | | | | | |

This report has been prepared based on research by Curio Projects specialists. Historical sources and reference material used in the preparation of this report are acknowledged and referenced at the end of each section and in figure captions.



Curio Projects Pty Ltd
5 Blackfriars Street
Chippendale NSW 2008

# Contents

# Figures

# Tables

# Executive Summary

## Introduction

This report presents the findings of archaeological monitoring, testing and salvage excavations at the Fort Street Primary School (FSPS) between September 2021 and July 2023 by Curio Projects Pty Ltd (Curio). The study area has been the subject of a number of archaeological and built heritage assessments since 2016 (summarised in Section 1.3). These identified potential for archaeological resources associated with Aboriginal and post-1788 land use to be present within the FSPS grounds.

In July 2019, an archaeological test excavation program, guided by the ARD and Excavation Methodology, was carried out under an approved Section (s) 60 application (S60/2019/066). These uncovered intact sandstock brick footings associated with the former Surgeons Cottage. A test excavation results report prepared in September 2019 assessed these remains as having archaeological significance at a State level and recommended salvage excavations be carried out prior to excavation works for the project.

On 9 March 2020, the NSW Government, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) granted State Significant Development (SSD) Development Consent to the FSPS redevelopment project (SSD-10340). Management of historical archaeological resources was set out under Consent Conditions B31, B32, C41 and C24 which included the preparation of an ARD and Excavation Methodology. These conditions are discussed in detail in Section 1.4. To address Condition B32, an ARD and Excavation Methodology which recommended archaeological monitoring and salvage in the study area was prepared and submitted to DPIE by Curio in 2021. The archaeological monitoring and salvage program that is the subject of this current report was guided by this approved ARD and Excavation Methodology. This report has been prepared to address Condition C42.

## Significance

The footings of the Surgeon's Cottage which have been retained in situ remain a significant set of remnants from the early colonial landscape of Sydney that are complementary to the former military hospital, now the National Trust Centre. The cottage remains have the ability, through further analysis and interpretation, to provide information about the site that cannot be derived from any other source. The remains of the cottage are of State Significance. The small size of the early artefact collection reduces its ability to provide substantive information about the lives of the surgeons occupying the cottage. Therefore the artefact collection is of local research significance.

The meteorological evaporation tank is a rare example of specialist equipment from the nearby observatory during the period when it doubled as the meteorological office. More research is required to determine the designer and/or maker and any possible comparative examples from the late nineteenth century. The meteorological artefact is potentially of State Significance.

## Artefact Collection

It should be recognised that artefacts dating from all periods of the occupation and excavated from the study area are a potentially significant physical resource to understand and interpret past

activities on the place. Where possible artefacts excavated from the study area should be curated on site. All elements of the archaeological excavation have ability to present the story of the study area and options to utilise the collection for interpretation should be explored. Ideally the artefact collection should be stored on site.

### Conclusions

The open area excavations and the monitoring revealed a site that had demonstrated substantial areas of disturbance. This disturbance had consequently removed or damaged the archaeological remains of the occupation of the site by the surgeons of the nearby Military Hospital. As a result the ability of the structural remains on the site and the artefacts excavated during the archaeological work had a limited ability to answer the research design questions in a substantive way.

No significant areas of intact soil profile were identified which might require testing for the presence of Aboriginal cultural material.

Nevertheless significant remains of the 1815 Surgeon's Cottage were exposed and recorded and remain in-situ below Building J of the new school complex.

A small collection of artefacts (693 items) was recovered from the archaeological program that is associated with the occupation of the cottage, and later school, that should be curated on site. The results of the excavation, the remains of the cottage and the associated artefacts have interpretation potential.

As the remains of this State Significant structure remain on site any proposal for redevelopment of the area under Building J should avoid impacts on the remains of the Surgeon's Cottage. it is necessary to address the archaeological implications of potential impact of ALL proposed work (below a depth of 40 m AHD ) at the earliest stage of design and site planning.

# 1. Introduction

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Project Background

This report presents the findings of archaeological monitoring, testing and salvage excavations at the Fort Street Primary School (FSPS) between September 2021 and July 2023 by Curio Projects Pty Ltd (Curio). The FSPS (the study area, hereafter) is located at Upper Fort Street, Millers Point and has been continuously occupied by Europeans since 1815 and Aboriginal people for tens of thousands of years. Archaeological investigations were required to mitigate and prevent impacts to archaeological resources during construction works for the FSPS redevelopment (the project). The project, which involves the demolition of buildings and structures, refurbishment and alterations to three existing buildings of heritage value, construction of four new buildings, and associated works including tree removal, landscaping and access improvements is being led by Schools Infrastructure New South Wales (SINSW).

The study area has been the subject of a number of archaeological and built heritage assessments since 2016 (summarised in Section 1.3). These identified potential for archaeological resources associated with Aboriginal and post-1788 land use to be present within the FSPS grounds. In 2019, Curio was engaged by SINSW to prepare a  Historical Archaeological Research Design (ARD) and Test Excavation Methodology to investigate the nature of potential archaeological resources in the study area. The report found that there was moderate potential for archaeological evidence of a Surgeons Cottage associated with a former Military Hospital (1815-1850) to survive in the study area along with ancillary structures and unrecorded features associated with Sydney Observatory and Metrological Station.

In July 2019, an archaeological test excavation program, guided by the ARD and Excavation Methodology, was carried out under an approved Section (s) 60 application (S60/2019/066). These uncovered intact sandstock brick footings associated with the former Surgeons Cottage. A test excavation results report prepared in September 2019 assessed these remains as having archaeological significance at a State level and recommended salvage excavations be carried out prior to excavation works for the project.

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## 1.2. Site Location

The study area is located at Upper Fort Street, Millers Point, and is generally defined by the circular cut of the Cahill Expressway on ramp (Figure 1-1). The FSPS site consists of a number of Lots and DPs (Lot 108, DP 748340; Lot 2, DP 732592; Lot 3 DP 732592; Lot 9, DP 732592; Lot 4, DP 732592; Lot 5, DP 258013; Lot 106, DP 748340; Lot 107, DP 748340) all shown in Figure 1-1.

At the time of the 2021 excavations, the school comprised of three main buildings: The Fort Street School; The Messengers Cottage and The Bureau of Meteorology building (MET Building) (all shown in Figure 1-2). A fourth building, the Environmental Educational Centre (EEC) was demolished for the project and occupied the former Surgeon's Cottage footprint. Of these four structures, only the EEC building is not heritage listed.

## 1.3. Previous Reports

The following reports have been prepared for the study area and should be read in conjunction with this document:

- Tanner Kibble Denton (TDK) Architects, 2016. *Fort Street Public School and Environs Upper Fort Street, Millers Point, Conservation Management Plan*.
- AMBS Ecology and Heritage, 2016. *Fort Street Public School Archaeological Assessment*. Prepared for Tanner Kibble Denton Architects Pty Ltd October 2016.
- Curio Projects, September 2019. *Fort Street Public School: Test Excavation Archaeological Report*. Prepared for Schools Infrastructure NSW.
- Curio Projects, 2020. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report: Fort Street Public School*. Prepared for SINSW.
- Curio Projects, 2021. *Fort Street Public School Archaeological Research Design*. Prepared for Lendlease on behalf of Schools Infrastructure NSW.

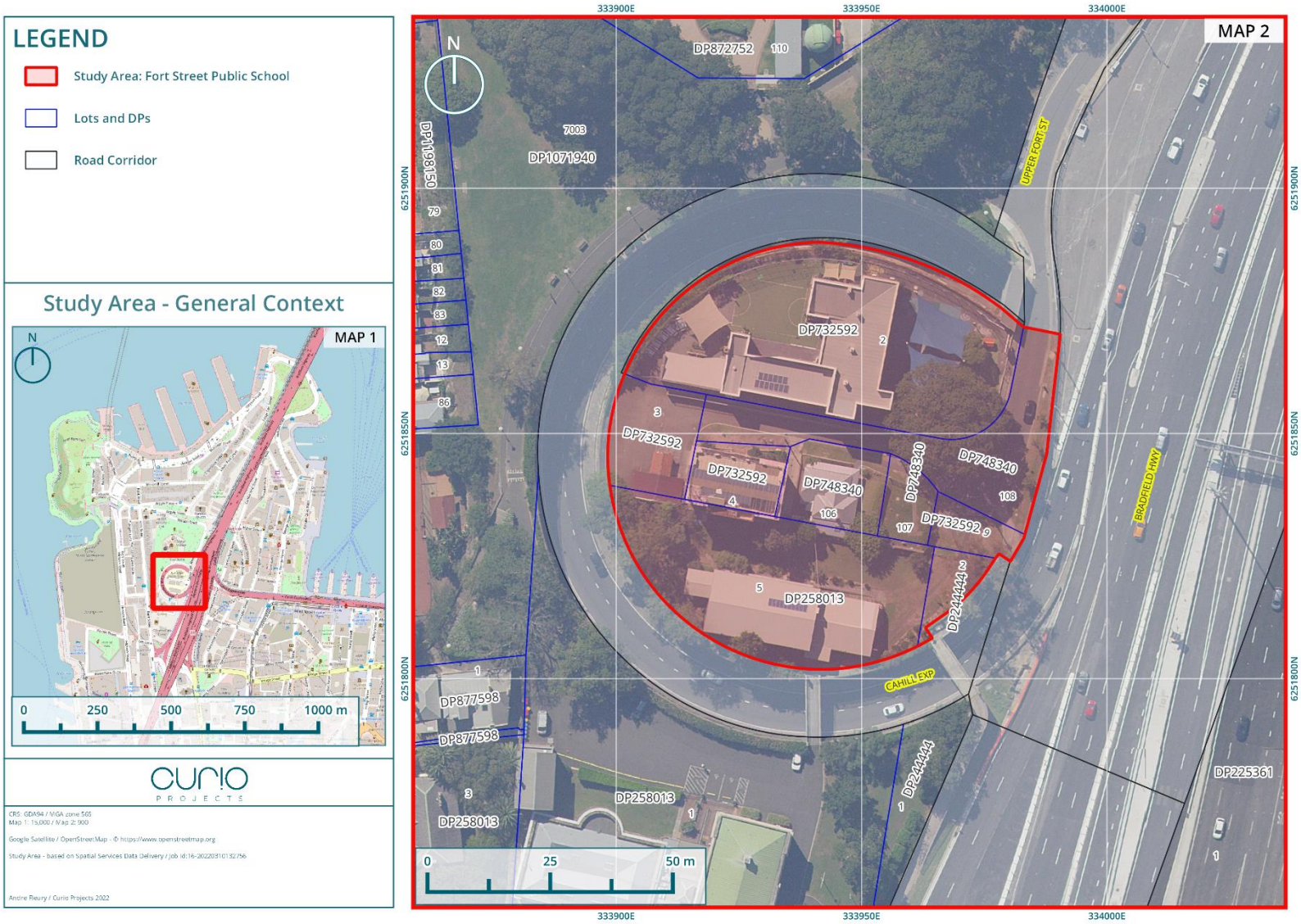


Figure 1-1. General FSPS study area location including Lot and DP boundaries. Source: Curio 2022.

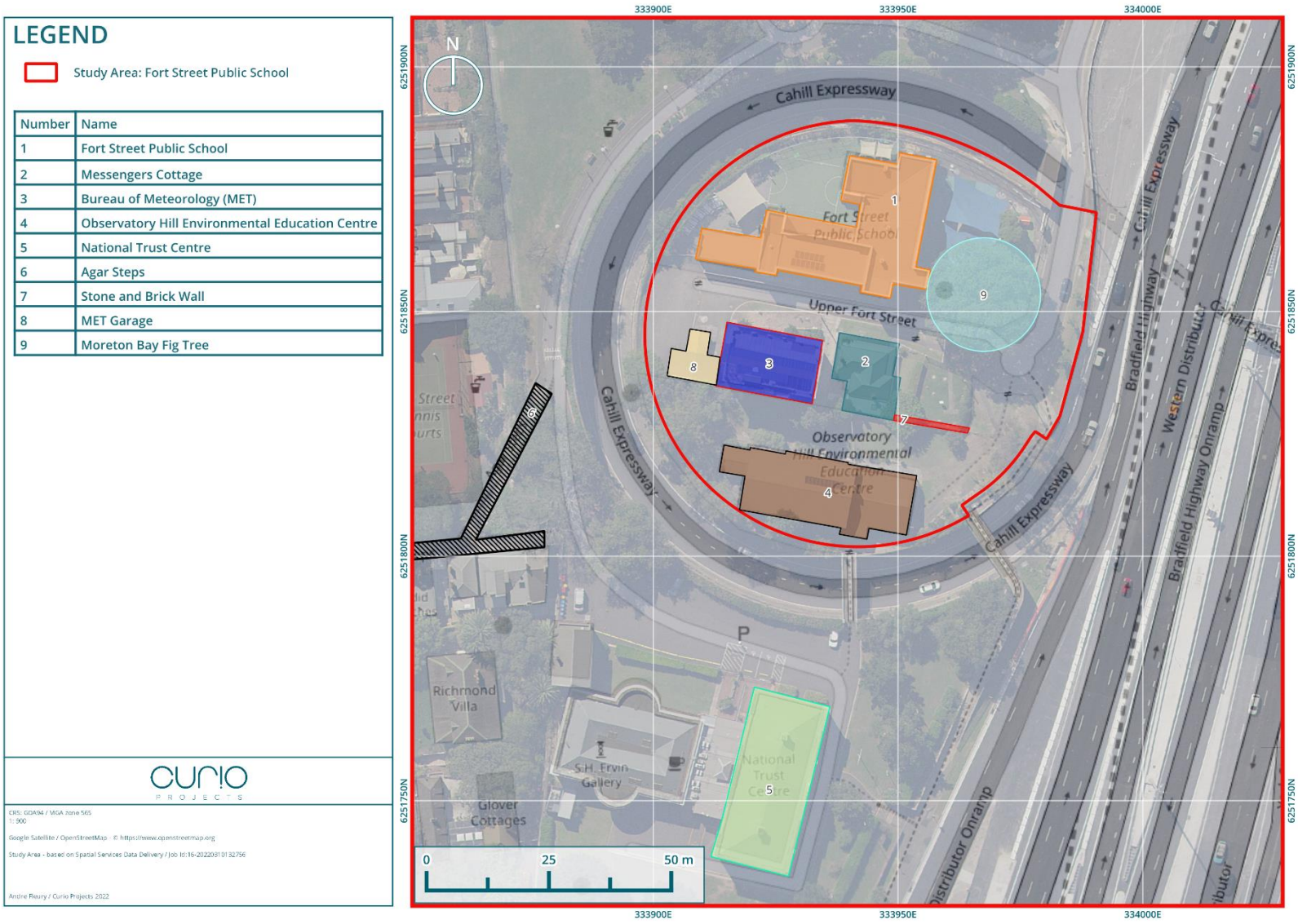


Figure 1-2. Key structures within the study area prior to redevelopment works commencing. Source, Curio, 2022.

## 1.4. SSD Conditions of Consent

The following Conditions of Consent for Historical Archaeological Management are relevant to this report:

- B31. *Prior to any excavation works that may disturb archaeological 'relics', the Applicant must nominate a suitably qualified Excavation Director who complies with the Heritage Council of NSW's Criteria for Assessment of Excavation Directors (2019) to oversee and advise on matters associated with historic archaeology and advise the Department and Heritage NSW. The archaeologist must meet the criteria for the proposed activity and significance level. The Excavation Director must be present to oversee the excavation and advise on archaeological issues. The Excavation Director must be given the authority to advise on the duration and extent of oversight required to ensure that archaeological 'relics' are recorded to an adequate standard. Details of the Excavation Director must be provided to Heritage NSW and the Planning Secretary.*
- B32. *Prior to any excavation works that may disturb archaeological 'relics', the Applicant must prepare an Archaeological Research Design and Excavation Methodology in consultation with Heritage NSW to monitor and manage archaeological remains on the site. The Archaeological Research Design and Excavation Methodology must be submitted to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary and a copy of the approved Archaeological Research Design and Excavation Methodology provided to Heritage NSW*
- C41. *Archaeological excavation must be undertaken in accordance with the Archaeological Research Design and Excavation Methodology approved under condition B31 and be directed by a suitably qualified and experienced excavation director who fulfils Heritage Council of NSW's Criteria for Assessment of Excavation Directors (2019). Areas of state significant archaeology and substantially intact archaeological evidence must be appropriately managed and avoided wherever possible in the design.*
- C42. *A final excavation report must be prepared within 12 months of the completion of the archaeological works on site. It should include details of any artefacts recovered, where they are located and details for their ongoing conservation and protection in perpetuity by the land owner. Copies must be provided to the Planning Secretary and Heritage NSW*

## 1.5. Limitations and Constraints

The open area excavations and some of the monitoring was conducted under COVID health and safety requirements which required regular testing, negative results before site access was granted and wearing of face masks during the work on site.

## 1.6. Authorship and Archaeological Team

This report has been prepared by Matthew Kelly (Excavation Director, Curio) and Adele Zubrzycka, Senior Archaeologist, Curio). Site plans and ortho photographs were prepared by Andre fleury, Curio Projects Senior Archaeologist and CRUX Surveying.

The excavation team consisted of:

- Excavation Director: Matthew Kelly
- Senior Archaeologist: Adele Zubrzycka
- Archaeologists: Rebecca Agius, Sebastian Gerber -Hood, Kieren Watson, Andrew Brown,

Greg Sing and Ismael Raupp

- Site Surveyors: CRUX Surveying
- Artefact Analysis: Alex Thorn

## 1.7. Acknowledgements

The authors would like to acknowledge the following individuals for their assistance throughout the excavation program:

- Christine Eberl, Project Manager, User Experience, Lendlease
- Petri Mah-Chut, Senior Project Engineer, Construction, Lend Lease
- James Rongen-Hall, Senior Manager, Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS).
- Andrew Jacob, Curator, MAAS.

# 2. Environmental Context

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## 2.1. Landscape and Landforms

### 2.1.1. Geology and Soils

The study area is located on the Gymea soil landscape profile, underlain by Hawkesbury Sandstone (medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone, very minor shale and laminate lenses). The Gymea soil profile is considered to be an erosional landscape, characterised by undulating to rolling rises and low hills with broad convex crests, moderately inclined side slopes with wide benches, and localized rock outcrop. Soils are generally shallow to moderately deep (30-100cm) on crests and insides of benches, shallow (<20cm) on leading edges of benches, and moderately deep (<100cm) on drainage lines (Figure 2-1).[1]

Previous investigations in the study area have identified the depth of sandstone bedrock to range between 0.4m-3.5m below ground level.

### 2.1.2. Hydrology

The study area is located on Observatory Hill, the crest of a rocky ridge overlooking Sydney Harbour that geographically separates Sydney Cove to its east, and Darling Harbour to the west. It is also located at the western end of the former catchment area for the Tank Stream - a freshwater stream that started around the area of Hyde Park, draining north to the harbour at what is now Circular Quay. The stream's location was a major deciding factor of the positioning of Sydney Cove in 1788.

### 2.1.3. Flora, Fauna, Land Clearance and Disturbance

Prior to European settlement and land clearing, vegetation in the study area and surrounding landscape would have generally comprised of dry sclerophyll open woodland and forest across ridges and upper slopes. Common varieties would have included Red Bloodwood, Scribbly Gum, Brown Stringybark and Old Man Banksia. The understory would have consisted of a variety of native shrubs.

The fauna of Sydney in and prior to 1788 consisted of species such as kangaroo, wallaby, wombat, echidna, flying fox, emus, quolls, various native rats and mice, snakes, lizards and marine animals. Very early in the history of the NSW colony, the natural environment of the Millers Point and Observatory Hill area was subject to early alterations by colonists including extensive land clearing, establishment of quarries and early roadway infrastructure.

[1] Chapman, G, et al, 1989, Soil Landscapes of the Sydney 1:100000 Sheet, NSW Soil Conservation Service, Sydney.

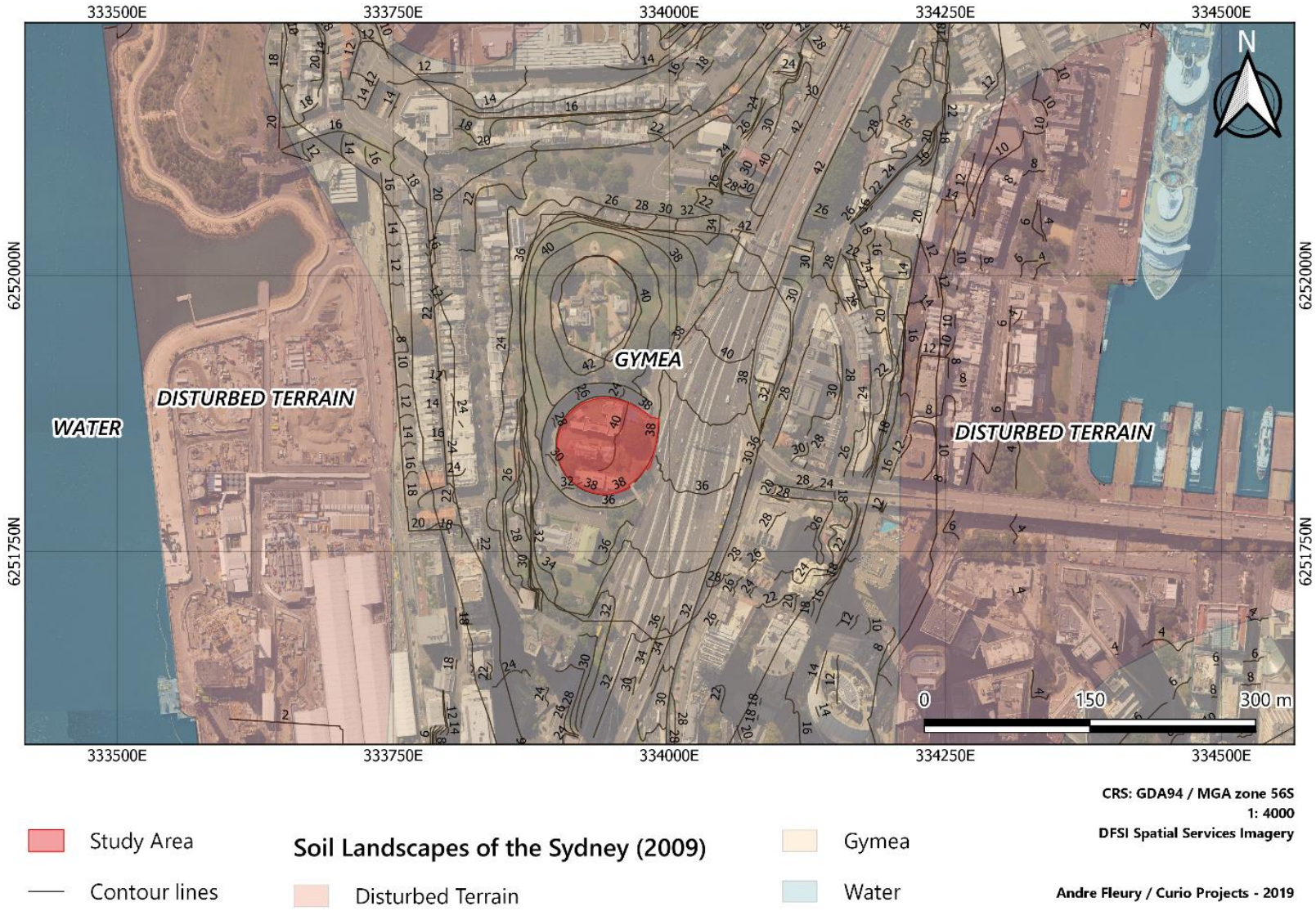


Figure 2-1. Soil Landscapes and Topography in and around the study area. Source. Curio, 2019.

## 2.2. Background from Previous Excavations

### 2.2.1. JK Geotechnics, 2017[2]

JK Geotechnics (JKG) undertook a geotechnical investigation within the study area in 2017. The investigation comprised 13 boreholes (BH1- 4 and BH6-14) and one test pit (TP5) with five of the boreholes (BH2, 3, 6, 8, and 14) cored to recover rock samples and the others augered through soil to refusal in rock. The test pit was excavated to expose the footings and founding strata of one corner of the MET building. While the majority of the boreholes encountered varying depths of historical fill material directly over sandstone bedrock, in some select areas, the investigation encountered evidence for potential natural soil profiles (see BH3 and BH10 in Figure 2-2).

BH3 was recorded as having 'clayey sand' from c.2.1m to c.2.8m below ground, directly overlying sandstone bedrock, while BH10 is recorded with 'clayey sand' from c.0.5m to 1.4m, also directly over bedrock.

### 2.2.2. Douglas Partners, 2019[3]

A subsequent preliminary geotechnical assessment was undertaken in the study area by Douglas Partners in 2019 in relation to the FSPS expansion project. This consisted of the hand excavation of four test pits (numbers TP12 to TP15) under existing floors of the main school building to provide preliminary comment on geotechnical risks and guide the preliminary design for the redevelopment. It was undertaken in conjunction with a program of historical archaeological test excavations for the project (summarised in the following section).

The 2019 investigation generally confirmed the 2017 results, indicating that residual soils have likely been historically removed across most of the site. This was demonstrated by historical fill deposits encountered directly over sandstone bedrock. However, some select areas potentially presented with isolated pockets of residual clayey sand soils.

[2] JK Geotechnics, 2017, Geotechnical Investigation for Proposed School Upgrade at Fort Street Public School, Upper Fort Street, Millers Point, NSW.
[3] Douglas Partners, 2019, Proposal for Geotechnical, Contamination and Hazardous Materials Investigations Proposed School Expansion Upper Fort Street, Millers Point.

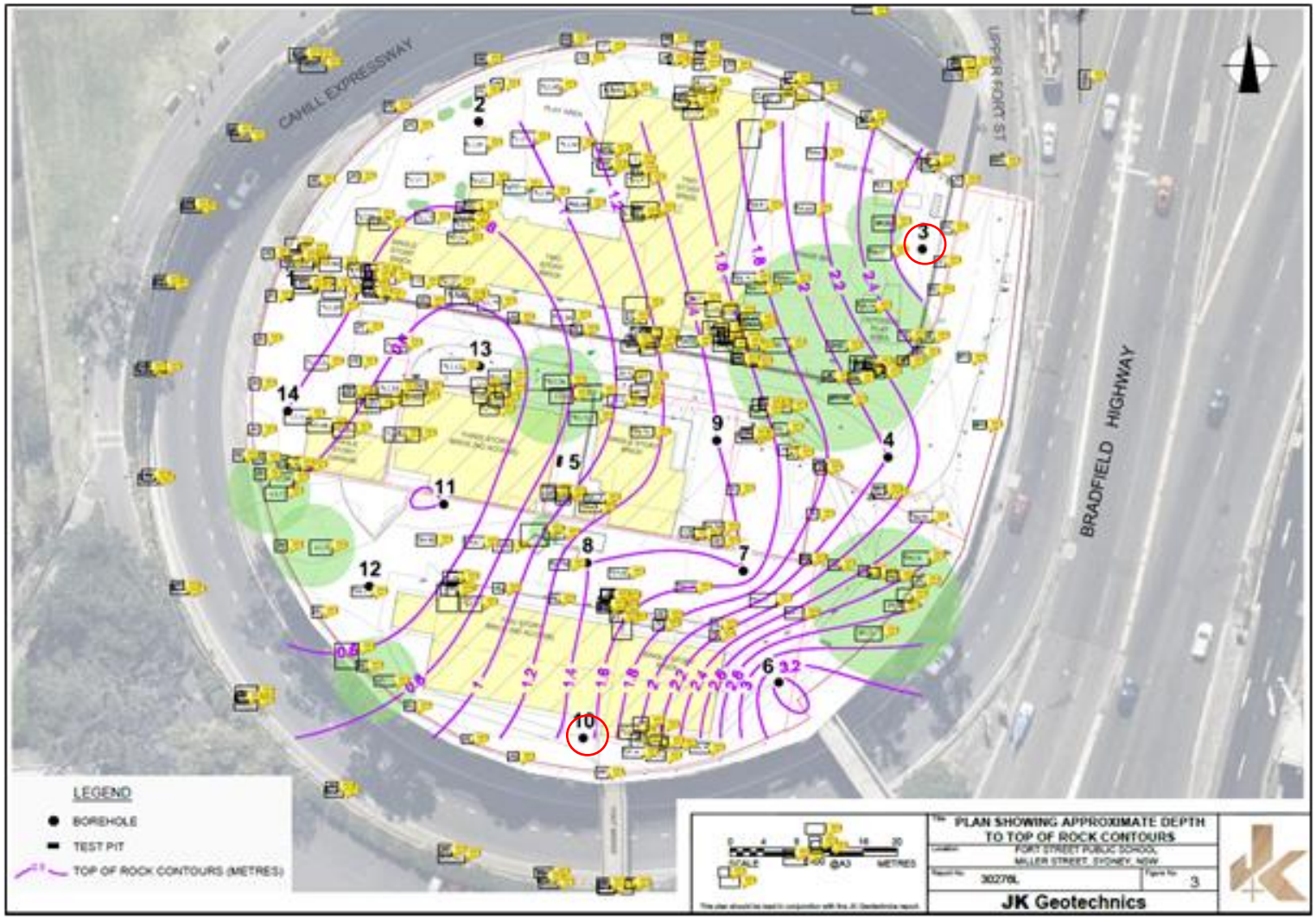


Figure 2-2. 2017 Geotechnical Results. Boreholes 3 and 10 (circled) presenting with a layer of 'clayey sand'. Approximate depth of sandstone bedrock indicated by purple contour lines. Source: JK Geotechnics 2017 with Curio annotations.

### 2.2.3. Archaeological Test Excavations, Curio, 2019[4]

Historical archaeological test excavations were carried out at the study area in July 2019 to inform detailed designs for the project.

Seven test excavation trenches were excavated in the study area with an aim of investigating the nature of the historical archaeological resource present at the site. A further three pits were excavated by environmental scientists under archaeological supervision for a contamination investigation.

Of the seven test trenches, Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 (Figure 2-4, Figure 2-5 - Figure 2-6 and Figure 2-8) contained contemporary and historical fill deposits directly overlying sandstone bedrock. Some were associated with active and inactive services. Trench 5 presented partly disturbed potential thin natural soil profile (Figure 2-8). Trench 4 was associated with an east-west sandstock brick footing and pressed brick alignment, both running perpendicular with one another (Figure 2-7).

Archaeological remains in Trench 6 comprised two east-west aligned sandstock brick footings bonded with shell lime mortar and truncated by a modern PVC pipe (Figure 2-9). The upper stratigraphy in Trench 7 was highly disturbed, with the deeper layers not able to be adequately recorded due to Work Health and Safety (WHS) restrictions (Figure 2-10). However, the trench extended to a maximum depth of 2.6m, with potentially buried natural soil profiles in its deeper stratigraphy underlying a layer of bitumen.

Of the three environmental test pits, two encountered potential remnant natural soil profiles (Pit 8- and Pit 9, shown in Figure 2-11 and Figure 2-12), of which only Pit 9 appeared to be relatively intact (Figure 2-12). Environmental Pit 10 contained disturbed construction fills to over 3m depth (Figure 2-13).

[4] Curio Projects, September 2019. Fort Street Public School: Test Excavation Archaeological Report. Prepared for Schools Infrastructure NSW.

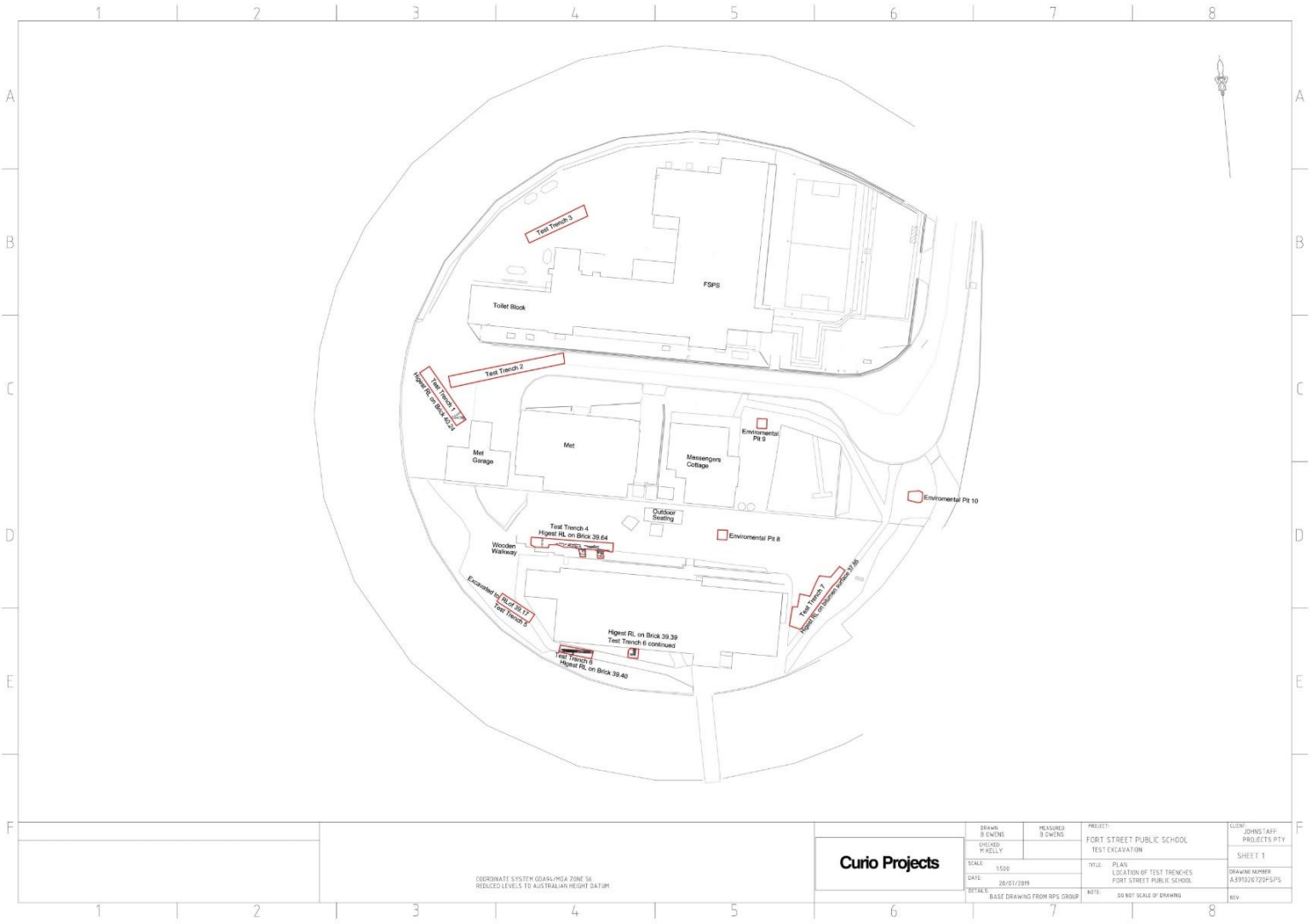


Figure 2-3. Location of test trenches at Fort Street Public School. Source: Curio, 2019.

Figure 2-4. Test Trench 1 after excavation with 1.003 (grey sandy fill) and 1.005 (machine pressed brick line) exposed in the foreground. Source: Curio, 2019.

Figure 2-5. Test Trench 2 after excavation showing 2.006 exposed at the base of trench. Source: Curio, 2019.

Figure 2-6. Test Trench 3 after excavation showing 3.004 sandstone bedrock exposed in trench. Source: Curio, 2019.

Figure 2-7. Test Trench 4 looking west with features 4.005 (sandstock brick alignment), 4.004 (20th century brick alignment) and 4.007 (yellow sandy clay) exposed in trench. Source: Curio, 2019.

Figure 2-8. Test Trench 5 after excavation showing 5.005 (CEW pipe) and 5.008 (bedrock) exposed in trench. Source: Curio, 2019.

Figure 2-9. Overview of brick footings in Test Trench 6. Source. Curio, 2019.

Figure 2-10. Western section of Test Trench 7 showing mixed fills and 7.004 (bitumen surface). Source: Curio 2019.

Figure 2-11. Environmental Pit 8 showing partly disturbed natural profile below bitumen surface with levelling fills above. Source: Curio, 2019.

Figure 2-12. Environmental pit 9 showing intact natural soil profile below sandstone and clay levelling fill. Source: Curio, 2019.

Figure 2-13. Environmental Pit 10 showing disturbed construction fills to over 3m depth. Source: Curio, 2019.

# 3. Historical Context

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## 3.1. Introduction

The study area is associated with several primary occupation phases governed by periods of prosperity, economic fluctuations and Sydney's evolving needs, all summarised in Table 3-1 below. Those particularly relevant to this report and findings from the archaeological salvage program are discussed in detail in Sections 3.3 to 3.10.

Table 3-1. Summary of land use in the study area.

| Occupation Phase | Land use, occupation and structures |
|---|---|
| Phase 1 (pre-1788) | Aboriginal occupation and land use in the study area and across the broader landscape |
| Phase 2 (1788-1814) | Establishment of Fort Phillip and Windmill Hill.<br>No known development or land use on land to the south. |
| Phase 3 (c.1814-1848) | Establishment of Military Hospital. Construction and occupation of the Surgeon's Cottage by various individuals and their families.<br>Quarrying activities |
| Phase 4 (1849-1889) | Occupation of the study area by the Fort Street National School and use of the Surgeon's Cottage as a school building and/or Principal's residence.<br>Development of the Bureau of Meteorology and associated buildings including the Messenger's Cottage north of the Surgeon's Cottage. |
| Phase 5 (1890-1900) | Use of the study area and Surgeon's Cottage by the Fort Street Girls High School including various additions and modifications to the overall landscape.<br>Surgeon's Cottage functions as a Principal's residence during this period. |
| Phase 6 (1901-1948) | Ongoing use of the site as a school, use of some buildings by the Bureau of Meteorology and construction of the Cahill Expressway and associated cuttings.<br>Surgeon's Cottage functions as a Cookery School during this period.<br>School buildings south of MET Building demolished, including former Surgeon's Cottage and infants' school. |
| Phase 7 (c.1949-1990s) | Construction of the EEC Building and associated services on site of the former Surgeon's Cottage |
| Phase 8 (1990s –Present) | Continued use of the study area for the Fort Street Primary School and commencement of the FSPS redevelopment |

## 3.2. Phase 1: Aboriginal Land Use and Occupation

The traditional owners of the Sydney Cove region are the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. The traditional territory of the Gadigal stretches along the southern side of Sydney Harbour from South Head, west to approximately Darling Harbour, and south towards Botany Bay. The Sydney region has two main language groups: Darug–with two main dialects, one spoken along the coast, and another in the hinterland/Cumberland Plain region of western Sydney; and Tharawal–spoken to the south of Botany Bay (Attenbrow 2012). Within the Darug language group, people belonged to smaller family/territorial groups or clans, through which they were connected to, and occupied, different areas of land across Sydney, of which the Gadigal people are one.

While the Observatory Hill locality would most likely have been an original contact site between the new colonists and Sydney's first inhabitants, few accounts or evidence remain to provide further

information about contact in this location. The local Aboriginal people living in the area of the Fort Street Public School would have pursued a mixed food economy in the region, utilising and relying on the abundant natural resources of Sydney cove, including marine resources from the harbour and surrounding waters, hunting terrestrial mammals, as well as collecting and processing local plants (Figure 3-1).

At the time of arrival of the First Fleet and Captain Arthur Phillip in January 1788, it is estimated that at least 1500 Aboriginal people would have lived along the coastal region between Broken Bay and Botany Bay. The arrival of the First Fleet devastated the lives and activities of Aboriginal people of the Sydney Harbour area, restricting access to areas traditionally used for hunting and gathering, shelter and for ceremonial purposes, while introducing devastating diseases such as smallpox. It is estimated that almost half of Sydney's Aboriginal population died in the first smallpox epidemic recorded in the colony in 1789.[5] However, despite the widespread devastation of colonial arrival and establishment to the Aboriginal inhabitants of Sydney, the Gadigal endured and remain a continuing culture in Sydney today.

## 3.3. Post Contact

Discussion of the post contact evidence for the presence of Aboriginal groups in the vicinity of the study area is problematic. As Irish has pointed out:

> *Archaeological research into Sydney's Aboriginal past has overwhelmingly focused on the pre-contact period, while historical archaeology focusing on Aboriginal heritage has mostly been undertaken in regional or remote areas.*[6]

This was the result, as Irish explains, of the existence of an "Aboriginal/historical heritage divide" within the archaeological community due to a number of factors.

Two recent efforts have highlighted the presence of specific sets archaeological remains of Aboriginal presence in the Sydney Basin area in the post contact period.[7] Goward focussed on Aboriginal Glass Artefacts (AGA) and identified 58 sites mostly focussing on Botany Bay and Port Jackson.[8] Three AGAs were identified at First Government House site, only 700 m to the south east of the study area.

McDonald recorded 37 examples of art depicting contact motifs in the Sydney Basin, mostly around Broken Bay and the Hawkesbury River, none are around Botany Bay or Port Jackson and only one is

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[5] Hinkson M. & Harris, A. 2010, *Aboriginal Sydney: a guide to important places of the past and present*, 2nd ed, Aboriginal Studies Press, Canberra.

[6] Irish, P. and Goward, T., 2012. Where's the evidence? The archaeology of Sydney's Aboriginal history. *Archaeology in Oceania*, 47(2), pp. 60-68.

[7] Goward, T., 2011. Aboriginal Glass Artefacts of the Sydney Region, A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Archaeology. University of Sydney and McDonald, J. 2008. Rock art and cross cultural interaction in Sydney. Veth, P., P. Sutton and M. Neale (eds.). *Strangers on the Shore: Early Coastal Contacts in Australia*. Canberra. Nation Museum of Australia Press, pp. 94-112.

[8] Though she notes that this is likely a product of where archaeological work is being undertaken not a reflection of Aboriginal cultural behaviour – see Goward, *op cit*, p. 113.

south of Port Jackson near the Georges River.[9]

Irish in his 2014 thesis draws much of the available archaeological and historical information together for the Sydney region and was able to document an ongoing presence of Aboriginal individuals and communities post invasion around Port Jackson for the majority of the nineteenth century.[10] Settlements are known from the Domain (1846) and Woolloomooloo (1844) not far from the study area.

Artistic depictions also suggest a presence and level of interaction in the early period neat the site, though these may need to be treated with some caution (Figure 3-2). Major James Taylor's famous panorama shows four groups of Aborigines, the first two on the grounds of the Military Hospital itself, two conversing with a member of the military – all are clothed. The third and fourth present the members of small family(?) groups, north of the study area, naked with weapons living in more demonstrably "primitive" circumstances traditionally anticipated by the European viewers.

From historical sources we also know of the relations recorded between the civil and military authorities and the local Eora in the immediate aftermath of the invasion. For example Governor Phillips attempts to establish intercourse with the Aboriginal groups through Arabanoo and then Bennelong and Colebee.[11]this relationship was focussed on the east side of Sydney Cove at Tubowgulle (now Bennelong Point) and the First Government House and Domain. Nearer the study area was the early observatory established at at the north end of the headland Tar-ra (now Dawes Point).[12]William Dawes was a Marine on the First Fleet and was given the task of observing a comet expected in 1788 from the southern hemisphere. He was able to provide engineering and survey expertise to the developing settlement and also developed the first Eora language.[13] His relationship with fifteen-year-old native girl, Patyegarang, was close and she acted as his teacher and servant.[14]

### 3.4. Phase 2: Post-European Arrival: Government Windmill, 1788-1814

Following European arrival in 1788, the study area, and what is today known as Observatory Hill was known as Flagstaff Hill after the flag staff erected there in July 1788.[15] It was later occupied by a series of windmills which gave it the alternative name of Windmill Hill (Figure 3-2). Situated on a high point to the west of Sydney Cove, it offered extensive views of the colony and provided sufficient wind to operate the mills. Government windmills played a vital role in the colony's development by

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[9] McDonald, *op cit,* p. 101.
[10] Irish, P., 2014. Hidden in Plain View: Nineteenth-century Aboriginal people and places in coastal Sydney, Thesis submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, UNSW Sydney.
[11] Smith, K, 2009, "Bennelong among his people". *Aboriginal History*. 33, pp. 7–30.
[12] What was to become known as Dawes Point was originally named Maskelyne Point after Dr Neville Maskelyne Dawe's patron and the then British Astronomer Royal.
[13] Phyllis Mander-Jones, 'Dawes, William (1762–1836)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/dawes-william-1968/text2377, published first in hardcopy 1966, accessed online 17 September 2022
[14]Gibson, R., 2010, "Patyegarang and William Dawes: The space of imagination", *In Making Settler Colonial Space: Perspectives on race, place and identity*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 242-254.
[15] Fitzgerald, S and Keating, C, 1991, *Millers Point: The Urban Village,* Hale and iremonger, Sydney, p. 15.

efficiently grinding wheat for flour provided to settlers.[16]

The provision of large facilities for grinding the grain produced in the colony was becoming paramount as the numerous small hand mills and convict operated step mills that had been used since 1788, were not meeting the requirements of the population.

Governor Hunter had arrived in the colony in 1795 and had brought out with him machinery to construct the first windmill in the colony.[17] This was constructed by July 1797 within the area that was to later become the Fort Phillip on the heights west of the Tank Stream. Two further Government mills were constructed to the south of this first mill – the first of these not finished till 1802.[18] The third of which was a large wooden smock-mill built by Nathaniel Lucas in early 1806 and was built within the future study area referred to as "near the esplanade of Fort Phillip"(Figure 3-3 and Figure 3-4). [19]It was described as

> *The height of the frame is 40 feet and the diameter of the base from opposite angles 22 feet. It is to work two pair of mill-stones, which are the best that can be procured at Norfolk island, and every possibly attention has been bestowed in its formation to the leading objects, real use and durability.*

In January 1804, the hill was renamed Fort Phillip or Citadel Hill and occupied by the beginnings of a hexagonal fort designed to protect the harbour against foreign threats and internal threats from Aboriginal groups and convicts.[20] This fort project was abandoned in 1807, yet the site continued to be used for gun and gunpowder storage until the 1820s.[21]

The mill sited within the study area would remain in service through the 1820s by being hired out on a yearly basis and still operated at least until 1825 when it was still being made available for public use (Figure 3-4).[22]It appears to have been a feature of the landscape into the 1830s (Figure 3-5).

## 3.5. Phase 3: Establishment and use of the Royal Military Hospital: 1814-1848

In 1814, the first known development commenced in the study area with the established of a Military Hospital and ancillary buildings including a Surgeon's Cottage (the site of monitoring and salvage excavations discussed in this report (Section 6.2) and detached kitchen building, to the south of Fort Phillip. The hospital was to service the George Street Barracks, near what is now Wynyard. These barracks had been constructed originally in 1792 but had seen substantial additions and updating

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[16] Gilchrist, C. 2016. Windmills of Sydney, Dictionary of Sydney. Accessed online at: http://dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/windmills_of_sydney, on 26 Aug 2022.
[17] Collins, D, 1804, An Account of the English colony in New South Wales, Cadell, London, p. 305.
[18] King to Hobart, 1 March 1804, HRA, IV, p. 468.
[19]See *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser,* 16 February 1806, p. 2 and Morton Herman, 'Lucas, Nathaniel (1764–1818)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/lucas-nathaniel-2380/text3133, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 17 September, 2022.
[20] Dunn, M. 2008. Fort Phillip, Dictionary of Sydney. Accessed online at http://dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/fort_phillip on 26 Aug 2022
[21] Allen, C, 2011, Fort Phillip Archaeological Excavations, Sydney Observatory: Final Excavation Report, p. 47.
[22] *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 16 August, 1822, p.2, *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 2 October 1823, p.1 and *Australian,* 24 March 1825, p.1.

by Governor Macquarie from 1810 onwards.[23]

In a correspondence of 1814 Governor Macquarie notes that the construction of Military Hospital is currently underway.[24] The location at the top of the ridge here was no doubt influenced by the contemporary belief of the transmission of disease through 'miasma' or foul air and thus the efficacy of circulation of fresh air through the wards to aid in recovery.[25] At the same time a new barracks was being constructed in the area of what is now Wynyard fronting George Street and was completed in 1817. The hospital was designed based on West Indian colonial architecture by Lt. J. Watts, Aid de Camp, to the Governor.[26] When completed Macquarie would describe the complex as:

> *Military Hospital. Brick-built, two Stories high, having upper and lower Verandahs, with all the necessary Out offices for the accommodation of 100 Patients ; the whole being enclosed with a Stone Wall or Stockade.*
>
> *A Brick-built Barrack for the Accommodation of the Military Surgeon and one Assistant Surgeon.*[27]

According to Kerr, a shortage of long timbers at the time of the hospital's construction forced Watt's to reduce the size of some rooms in the main building.[28] Timbers used for shingles, roof beams, verandahs and floors comprised of rose she-oak (*Casuarina turrulosa*), narrow leaf ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*) and grey ironbark (*Eucalyptus paniculata*), respectively.[29]

The move to the new hospital from the old site in George Street was ordered for 24 July 1815 by Colonel Molle of the 46th Regiment.[30] The 46ths' Surgeon, J Foster and Assistant Surgeon, G Bush, presumably moved into their quarters at the same time.[31]

The hospital represented the second Military Hospital in the colony and replaced the Regimental Hospital located near today's Clarence and Erskine Streets.[32] The hospital's primary objective was to

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[23] Vardanega, R, 1963, "The Paddington Barracks", *Australian Army journal,* 169, p. 13 and Macquarie to Castlereagh, 10 March 1810, HRA, VII, p. 223

[24] Macquarie to Bathurst, 28 April 1814, HRA, VII, p. 152.

[25] Halliday, S, 2001, "Death and Miasma in Victorian London: An Obstinate Belief", *British Medical Journal*, 323, [7327], pp. 1469-1471.

[26] Herman, M, 1954, *The Early Australian Architects and Their Work,* Angus and Robertson, Sydney, pp. 87-9. Other buildings designed by Watts include the Lancer Barracks at Parramatta (circa 18200, additions to Government House at Parramatta (1815), the towers of St John's Church at Parramatta (1818) and Parramatta Hospital (1817;
demolished)

[27] Macquarie to Bathurst, 27 July 1822, HRA, X, p. 684.

[28] Kerr, J.S. 1984. *Design for Convicts*, p. 49.

[29] Herman, M. 1970. *The Early Australian Architects and Their Work*, p. 138 and '*based on the evidence of the demolished materials of the surgeons' barracks*.' Thorp, W. 1977. *Historical Context Observatory Hill Sydney: Section 7*, for City of Sydney Council.

[30] *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser,* 22 July 1815, p.1

[31] The surgeons of the Regiments that served in Sydney can be found in War Office Records, 1770-1960, Series WO 17. Monthly Returns, 1790 – 1865.

[32] Tanner Kibble Denton (TDK) Architects, 2016. *Fort Street Public School and Environs Upper Fort Street, Millers Point, Conservation Management Plan*, p. 6.

service the 'Sick of the Corps".[33] The main building was situated to the south of the study area, in an area east of today's Kent Street and west of the Cahill Expressway (Figure 3-5).

Only a few years after Macquarie's report Francis Greenway's replacement as Government Architect, Standish Lawrence Harris, would report on the Military Hospital (see Figure 3-10):

> *This building, together with the Doctor's House, are in a tolerable state of Preservation, & well adapted for the purpose intended*. [34]

An annotated drawing from the Surveyors Sketch Books dated 1854 notes that the hospital's northern boundary was fenced, and the remainder of the site walled. A town survey prepared in 1822 also indicated the surgeon's quarters and kitchen were separated from the hospital by a wall.[35]

In 1836 the complex was partly illustrated in a plan of the nearby Fort Phillip and Flagstaff Hill (Figure 3-11). The hospital compound now appears to be surrounded by a fence with the windmill now no longer extant. A fence also divides the surgeon's cottage from the main hospital complex.

At the same time as that plan was being drawn up Governor Bourke had decided to move the garrison to a new site. The presence of the military barracks (and hospital) in the commercial centre of the township was unsustainable and unpopular. As one newspaper correspondent contemplated the prospect of the move:

> *I feel assured that the inhabitants of Sydney will be much gratified in hearing that the intended new Military barracks on the South Head Road are being commenced…The removal of the troops from the centre of our metropolis to such a convenient distance must certainly be conducive of great improvements as regards public peace and security, and their own better discipline*.[36]

Construction began on the new site for the barracks in 1841 along the South Head Road after several other options were discounted. The new complex, including a hospital for 50 patients, was ready for occupation by 1848 and the garrison marched to the new location.

By 1839, Flagstaff Hill was being used as a telegraph station a year later a portion of the fort demolished to make way for a new signal station.[37]

### 3.5.1. Military Surgeons

At the time the Military Hospital was opened, the Colony's Principal Surgeon was James Bowman, who assumed office on October 25, 1819 and held the position until 1836.[38] He was proceeded by Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals John Vaughan Thompson and later William Dawson following a reshuffle of the Colonial Medical Service. Prior to 1836, Military and Colonial (civil) surgeons were

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[33] Sydney Gazette, 22 July 1815, Government and General Orders", p.1.
[34] Harris, S. L., 1824, Report & Estimate of the Value of the Improvements which have taken place in the Public Buildings of Sydney, Parramatta, Windsor, Liverpool and Campbell-Town (SLNSW C225-C226)
[35] Harper's 1822 survey of Sydney. State Archives of NSW, AO Map SZ434.
[36] *The Sydney Herald*, 5 December, 1840, p.3.
[37] Dunn, M. 2008.
[38] Cummins, 2003. *A History of Medical Administration in NSW 1788-1973*. Prepared for NSW Health, pp. 18-19.

distinct professions; however, after 1836 each had been amalgamated.[39]
Colonial Military Surgeons were employed by the British Navy and Army and were generally considered to be less qualified than civilian surgeons.[40] Since their employment relied heavily on periods of military conflict, they were often under-employed during times of peace. Consequently, Military Surgeons were available to work in the colonial service and were often assigned convict patients.[41]

Military Surgeons also worked alongside Colonial Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons. The responsibilities and duties of Colonial Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons are not well documented in secondary sources; however, prior to 1836, records suggest Assistant Surgeons were responsible for medical stores and acted as dispensers and apothecaries. They often worked alongside convicts employed as storekeepers and bookkeepers.[42] According to colonial statistics published in 1840, there were nine military surgeons employed by various regiments in the colony, and seven employed by the Royal Navy.[43]

### 3.5.2. The Surgeon's Cottage and its occupants

#### The Cottage

The Surgeon's Cottage was originally designed to house '*the Military Surgeon and one Assistant Surgeon*'.[44] Otto Cserhalmi & Partners suggest that one half of the building may have been occupied by the Military Surgeon and the other half by the Assistant Surgeon. Sometime later, a larger house was constructed on Bunkers Hill, Cumberland Street that may have been occupied by married Military Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons with children. The Surgeon's Cottage would subsequently have been used as bachelor quarters.[45]

Architectural plans of the building prepared in 1824 (Figure 3-10) and 1949 (Figure 3-29), suggest the building reflected a typical early Georgian residence, symmetrically configured with four of its six rooms entered from a central hallway and front verandah. The cottage was constructed of brick and sandstone was used for its arches, windowsills, lintels, paved verandah and quoins. This design reflected a typical layout for civilian and military quarters and was popularly referred to as a 'verandah cottage'.[46] A short distance to its southwest sat a two-storey detached kitchen with cellar, the upper floor of which was occupied by domestic servants (Figure 3-5).[47]

The Cottage's front rooms faced east with views towards Sydney Cove from four sash windows along

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[39] Ibid, p. 20.
[40] Australian Medical Pioneers Index, n.d. *Colonial Medical Life*. Accessed online at: http://www.medicalpioneers.com/colonial.htm on 21/2/2023.
[41] Australian Medical Pioneers Index, n.d.
[42] Cummins, 2003, p. 27.
[43] The Temperance Advocate and Australasian Commercial and Agricultural Intelligencer, 10 February 1841. *Colonial Statistics,* p. 11.
[44] Historical Records of Australia Volume VII, p. 42.
[45] Otto Cserhalmi and Partners, 2000. *CMP: National Trust Centre, Millers Point* pp. 3 and 30
[46] Boyd, N & Rice, J. 2014, "Analysing Nineteenth Century Military Building Typologies: an Australian Perspective", *WIT Transactions on The Built Environment,* 143, pp.87-98p. 96.
[47] Colonial Engineer, Report on Military Hospital, Public Buildings, 1827. *Colonial Secretary Letters Received* SAONSW 4/ 1960.1.

its eastern elevation (Figure 3-10). They were entered from building's central hallway and through internal doors leading to and from the dwelling's back rooms. Both had their own fireplace and may have functioned as a dining room and sitting room (or drawing/parlour room). In early colonial Australia, the drawing room or parlour traditionally acted as a sitting room for residents of the home and their guests. They often sat across the hall from the dining room.[48]

The back rooms, divided into four small rooms as shown on a plan of the Cottage prepared in 1824, each had a window facing onto the yard and kitchen (Figure 3-10). These smaller rooms would have functioned as a study, bedrooms and possibly a storeroom. They were later enlarged to form two single rooms through demolition of their internal partition walls during the Fort Street School's occupation of the property (Figure 3-29, discussed in Section 3.6 and 3.7).

A portion of a panorama of the town dating to the same time shows the building from the north with a double pitched roof with a central box gutter between and the chimneys servicing the sitting room fireplaces (Figure 3-8). At the rear of the building stands another structure possibly a kitchen block with an upper set of rooms for servants. A Colonial Engineers report of 1827 indicates that the kitchen had a cellar.[49]

This 1827 report describes the condition of the Surgeon's cottage in more detail:

> *'The Surgeon's Quarters belonging to this establishment are in a separate Building about 100 yards from it They are convenient and in totally good order. This building also requires a drain to collect a dropping of the water from the Roof - several Bricks in the Extremal wall and chimney shafts require renewing. Two sashes in several apartments connected with the Kitchen to be replaced. The whole of the quarters to be painted*.[50]

### Residents of the Cottage

Information regarding surgeons who resided in the Cottage is limited, yet according to an article describing the theft of a watch from the Military Hospital privy, Assistant Surgeon Cornelius Wood was living on the property in 1826, most likely in the Surgeon's Cottage.[51] Wood died in October 1827 at the age of 35 following an attempted suicide at Raffles Bay, North Australia.[52]

At around that time, newly promoted Principal Surgeon Robert Ivory may also have occupied the Cottage, as alluded to by an advertisement published in November 1827 for the sale of household goods. This described him as living 'near the Military Hospital'. Items offered for sale in the auction included cane bottomed chairs, books, plated liquor and cruet (condiment) stands, crockery, carpets and furniture.[53] The auction may have been driven by his impending departure to India, which never came into fruition as he died during this passage in February 1828.[54] Ivory appears to have worked

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[48] Evans, I. 1983. *The Australian Home*, p. 21.
[49] Colonial Engineer, Report on Military Hospital, Public Buildings 1827, Colonial Secretary Letters Received SAONSW 4/1960. 1
[50]. *Ibid.*
[51] Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, 5 August 1826 p. 2.
[52] Australian Medical Pioneers Index, 2012. *Cornelius Wood*. Accessed online at: http://www.medicalpioneers.com/cgi-bin/index.cgi?detail=1&id=3456 on 21/2/2023.
[53] The Australian, 16 November 1827. *Advertising*, p. 2.
[54] Australian Medical Pioneers Index, 2020. *Robert Ivory*. Accessed online at: http://www.medicalpioneers.com/cgi-bin/index.cgi?detail=1&id=3453 on 21/2/2023.

alongside Dr Andrew Gibson, Assistant Surgeon of the Royal Veterans, who supported him during an enquiry into the death of a colonial sergeant and was employed as a Military Surgeon.[55] Gibson too, may have lived in the Cottage.

Occupation of the Cottage between 1827 and the mid-1830s, is unclear; however, an obituary published in January 1839 suggests James Andrew dú Molin, late surgeon of the 59th (or Queens Own) Regiment, died in the Surgeon's Cottage at the age of 62.[56] Dr. dú Molin, a native of the Netherlands, had arrived in the colony along with his wife Jane and eleven children from London five years earlier aboard the *Rossyln Castle*.[57] What a family of that size meant for occupation of the cottage is unclear. Perhaps the whole cottage was occupied by dú Molin and his family and the Assistant Surgeon at that time moved to other quarters.

A year later, an article in the *Sydney Monitor and Commercial Advertiser* described the funeral procession for Dr. Reid, a Surgeon of the 50th (or Queens Own) Regiment, noting that it had passed his 'quarters' at the Military Hospital, Princes Street.[58] The Military Hospital was bordered to the east by Princes Street at the time.

Table 3-2 Partial list of surgeons and assistant surgeons from British Regiments during service in the Colony 1815-1848. (Source NLA Series WO 17. Monthly Returns, NSW, 1790 - 1865)

| Unit | Surgeon | Assistant surgeon |
|---|---|---|
| 73rd Regiment of Foot | John Carter | John Martyn Dermott |
| 46th South Devonshire | J Foster | G Bush |
| 48th Northamptonshire | G Alexander | Abraham Fenton[59] |
| 3rd East Kent (The Buffs) | T Anderson | R Ivory (later Surgeon) |
| 40th 2nd Somerset | C Jones | P Coleman |
| 57th (West Middlesex) | James Evans | D Lister |
| 39th (Dorsetshire) | A Hamilton /J Mair | R M Davis |
| 63rd (West Suffolk) | W Bohain | J J Russell & W Milligan |
| 17th (Leicestershire) | J.W. Martindale | J Smith & J D Barnes |
| 4th (King's Own) | F Davis | K Parry |
| 50th (Queen's Own) | J A du Moulin | R Ellson A Graydon |
| 21st (Royal North British Fusiliers) | E Pilkington | J Davison R Smith |
| 28th (North Gloucestershire) | J Campbell | A S MacDonnell A Alexander |
| 80th (Staffordshire Volunteers) | R Turnbull | J Reid P Gammie A C Macnish |
| 51st (2nd Yorkshire West Riding) | J D Miller D Norris J L Tighe | W Power T Bartlett |
| 96th (Manchester) | W Lucas | B De Lisle M Andrews G Stewart |

[55] The Australian, 10 January 1827, p. 2; Australian Medical Pioneers Index, 2012. *Andrew Gibson*. Accessed online at: http://www.medicalpioneers.com/cgi-bin/index.cgi?detail=1&id=3455.
[56] The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, 15 January 1839, p. 3.
[57] Sydney Morning Herald, 28 September 1834, p. 2 and Wheeler Family History, n.d. *di Moulin family*. Accessed online at: wheelerfamilyhistory.net on 3/2/2023.
[58] The Sydney Monitor and Commercial Advertiser, 15 January 1840, p.2.
[59] Fenton served in Port Macquarie from 1821

| Unit | Surgeon | Assistant surgeon |
|---|---|---|
| 99th (Wiltshire) | A West J J Hadley | G R Smith G J Galbraith |
| 58th (Rutlandshire) | C Pine | R Bannatine |
| 11th (North Devonshire) | J J Grant | T Grey MD J Marshall |
| 65th (2nd Yorkshire, North Riding) | R H Proudfoot | T G White W Parke |

In 1845, the decision was made to relocate the Military Hospital New South Head Road, Paddington (now the Victoria Barracks). In the same year, the foundation stone was laid in 1845.[60] During this period, Assistant Surgeon George Roach Smith was working at the Military Hospital and possibly living in the residence.[61] Smith, employed under the 99th Regiment, had been in the colony since 1835, residing there with his wife, and later a son Robert, who was born in 1844.[62]

According to Table 3-2 Surgeon West served in the 99th Wiltshire Regiment during its service in New South Wales (1843-1856). in February 1845, a newspaper account details as visit to Surgeon West:

> *On Saturday evening, a tall man, apparently about 40 years of age, with gray hair and whiskers, went to Dr. West, of the Military Hospital, and state that his son, who is in the habit of serving the doctor with oysters, had been accidentally drowned, and that he (the applicant) had not the means of interring the body. The mournful tale induced the doctor to give him half-a-crown. A short time after the man had left, the boy came as usual with his oysters "all alive O!" and on hearing the story which had been told about him, stated that he had no relation answering the description of the man who had been raising money on the statement of his being food for the worms."*[63]

Two days later, an advertisement was published in the Sydney Morning Herald for the contents of Dr. West's elegant household, a 'cottage next [to] the military hospital'.[64] The sale included furniture for dining and drawing rooms, bedrooms and dressing rooms, a kitchen and butler's pantry, and an English-built Phaeton (carriage) and carriage horses. If West's cottage is indeed the Surgeon's Quarter's, these descriptions offer useful insights into the function of each room.

The Victoria Barracks was completed in 1847 and garrison ordered to move to their new accommodation in 1848. The Military Hospital was subsequently closed along with the Surgeon's Cottage.

## 3.6. Phase 4: Fort Street National School and the Observatory, 1849-1899

It has been claimed that the first century of educational development in NSW can be broadly separated into two divisions – from 1788 to 1848, prior to the development of the National System

[60] The Sentinel, 22 October 1845. *Local Intelligence*, p. 2.
[61] Morning Chronicle, 26 November 1845. *Inquests*, p. 2.
[62] Australian Medical Pioneers Index, 2017. *George Roche Smith*. Accessed online at: http://www.medicalpioneers.com/cgi-bin/index.cgi?detail=1&id=3499 on 21/2/2023.
[63] The Sydney Morning Herald, 4 Feb 1845, *Domestic Intelligence*, p. 2.
[64] The Sydney Morning Herald, 6 Feb 1846. *Advertising,* p. 4.

and 1848 to 1900 the period when the National System was in operation.[65]

In the early decades of the colony education had been seen as the bailiwick of the various charitable groups supported by the Government. This was seen succeeded by a period that was characterised by a loose arrangement between Church and State that saw religious control of education increase with the Anglican Church in the preeminent position.

However by 1848 education in the colony was placed under the management of two Government subsidised boards – The Board of National Education and the Denominational School Board. The former was responsible for the regulation and inspection of those state schools to be established under the national system of education. The latter was responsible for those schools operated by religious denominations. The division between Church and State in the educational sphere was formalised by the creation of these two bodies that were in effect rivals for students.[66]

The Military Hospital's closure paved the way for the Board of National Education to apply to the Government requesting use of the former hospital buildings as a Model School and a Normal School "*for training teachers for the future supply of the interior*".[67] Between 1848 and 1851 the Board of National Education opened 37 schools, most were in regional areas. Four city schools were established, Crown Street (1849), Riley Street (1849) a third at Fort Street and the fourth later in 1850 in William Street.[68]

The application was approved in 1848 and formal possession acquired in 1849. The alterations were designed by the Colonial Architect, Mortimer Lewis.[69] A request for tenders was announced in the Government gazette immediately and the tender of Peter McBeath was accepted on 7 February (Figure 3-14).[70]

The former hospital buildings were soon repaired, altered and adapted for the school and grounds occupied by the Surgeon's Cottage and kitchen levelled to improve access across the area (Figure 3-13).[71] By May the following year 266 children of both sexes were present for instruction at the school.[72]I In December 1850 work on the site was still proceeding with tenders called for "Alterations and additions to two verandahs, the erection of a shed cisterns etc, wooden gates."[73]

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[65] Turney, C, 1962 A Study of the Origins and Development of the Colony's Infant, Primary and Secondary Education with Special Reference to the Influence of European Educational Theories and practices, A thesis submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy , University of Sydney.
[66] McCulloch, S.C., 1959. "The Attempt to Establish a National System of Education in New South Wales, 1830-1850", *Pacific Historical Review*, 28, [1], pp. 19-37.
[67] Australian Town and Country Journal, 29 April 1903. *Our Public Schools*, p. 31 and Thorp, W. 1977. Section 8.
[68] Otto Partners 2000, The National Trust Centre, Observatory Hill Precinct—Conservation Management Plan, prepared for NSW Department of Public Works and Services, p 40.
[69] M. Lewis, 27 December, 1848, Colonial Architect Correspondence 1848. SAONSW 4/2795.2.
[70] *New South Wales Government Gazette*, 5 January 1849, Issue No.3, p.18 and 13 February, 1849, Issue no. 22, p. 226.
[71] P. McBeath Memo 6 July 1849. *Board of National Education, National School Tenders 1849 - 1858*. SA ON SW I/369
[72] *Bell's Life in Sydney and Sporting Reviewer,* 11 May, 1850 p. 2
[73] *The Sydney Morning Herald,* 4 December, 1850 p. 1.

In 1854, a secondary school was added to the school grounds, necessitating modifications to the main school building and construction of a new school building immediately west of the former Military Hospital building (Figure 3-15).[74] .An Infant's School was built to the southwest of the Surgeon's Cottage in c.1862 (Figure 3-17).[75] Otto Cserhalmi and Partners suggest the Surgeon's Cottage may have been used as a Principal's residence during this period.[76]

The 1855 plan of the school shows the surgeon's cottage with the same brick kitchen at rear with a small brick addition abutting the south wall that may be a privy (Figure 3-15). The cottage is set in a separate fenced compound to the main school building with a path from the cottage's front door to the entrance gate at Fort Street where a stone wall is indicated. Schematic indications of plantings, possibly hedges, are shown in the front garden.

At the rear the line of the fence to the rear of the house conforms to that seen in the Taylor panorama where the fence line runs from the south to just off centre at the rear door (Figure 3-6) this fence line then turns south and divides the kitchen/servant wing off from the larger rear yard of the cottage. A stone wall forms the west boundary of the allotment. A smaller yard is to the cottage's north may represent a kitchen garden.

The Fort Phillip site was later adapted for an Observatory and parklands and renamed the 'Flagstaff Reserve'. The current Observatory building was constructed between 1857-1859. In 1862, a Messenger's Cottage, designed to house government employees associated with the Observatory was built immediately north of the Surgeon's Cottage (shown Figure 3-17). In the same year, the Fort Street Infant's school was erected immediately south of the Surgeon's Cottage kitchen and west of the Surgeon's Cottage (also shown in Figure 3-17).

In 1870, various repairs were carried out to the former Military Hospital building. At the same time, inadequate toilet, sewerage and drainage systems on the property were highlighted in school correspondence.[77] This appears to have been rectified by 1880, when a Doves plan recorded a linear shaped building to the west of the Surgeon's Cottage and kitchen annotated as a latrine, along with a square shaped building marked as a lavatory (Figure 3-17). A shed and enclosure are shown abutting the northern elevation of the cottage during this period. While the cottage and kitchen are not annotated on the Doves plan, the cottage was being used as a Headmaster's residence according to an article published in 1903.[78]

## 3.7. Phase 5: Fort Street Girls School and Sydney Harbour Bridge, 1900-1949

### 3.7.1. School grounds and the Cookery School

Fort Street School and its grounds were formally dedicated as a 'public school' in 1901 and it celebrated its jubilee in 1903.[79] In the same year, the Surgeon's Cottage was noted to have been converted into a cookery school by a visiting journalist:

> *"A smaller, old, detached building which was originally used a hospital surgeon's*

[74] Colonial Architect records, Fort Street School, SAONSW2/614 and TDK Architects, *op cit*, p. 10.
[75] TDK Architects, *op cit*, p. 11.
[76] Otto Cserhalmi and Partners, 2000, p. 119.
[77] Otto Cserhalmi and Partners, 2000, 54.
[78] *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 27 May 1903. *The Girls' School at Fort-street, Sydney*, p. 33.
[79] TDK Architects, *op cit*, p. 13.

> *quarters and was afterwards the headmaster's residence, is now a cookery school, but its appearance is quite unchanged."*[80]

A photograph of the cookery school's interior is shown in Figure 3-20.

Towards the end of the 19th century, the Fort Street Public School was becoming so overcrowded that the even the lavatory building was put forward as a potential classroom.[81] It is possible that this growing need for teaching space acted as a catalyst for the Cottage's conversion from a private residence to a classroom.

A block plan prepared for the school in 1909 indicates that the Surgeon's Cottage's detached kitchen and a later lavatory shown in the Dove Plan had been demolished, possibly in response to recent plague outbreaks in Sydney that led to resumptions and sanitation activities across the city.[82]

In 1910, the school became co-educational and was split into separate primary and high schools.[83] Six years later, the Boys School was relocated to the new Fort Street High School at Taverners Hill, and Fort Street subsequently became the Fort Street Girls High School.

A photograph taken towards the school's eastern boundary in c1900-1910 shows the Surgeon's Cottage surrounded by a group of small buildings and its grounds divided by timber fences. A lawn occupies land to its east (Figure 3-21).

In 1917, a plan was prepared for 'remodelling sanitary conveniences' that included detailed annotations for each building's function. This described the former Surgeon's Cottage as a 'Cookery School' (Figure 3-23).[84] The plan also included several new outbuildings to the north, west and south of the Cookery School building, although a small lavatory at the end of the including a 'Dining Room', 'Wood Shed' and 'Weathersheds'. The latrines constructed between 1870 and 1880 and shown on the Doves plan (Figure 3-17) had been retained. A covered walkway appears to have been constructed between the Cookery School and Infants School.

### 3.7.2. Construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge

In 1923, construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge commenced, significantly modifying the surrounding landscape. While no major structures associated with the school were demolished, its eastern boundary was slightly reduced, Princes Street entrance gates resumed, and all residential development along Princes Street and Upper Fort Street cleared for the bridge's southern approach and the Bradfield Highway (Figure 3-25).

### 3.7.3. The Cahill Expressway Cutting

In 1940, works led by the Circular Quay Co-ordination Committee commenced for the construction of a ring road on ramp leading onto the Bradfield Highway from Cumberland Street and what would eventually become the Cahill Expressway (completed in 1958). This involved deep excavations within the Fort Street School grounds that dissected the main school building (the former Military Hospital) from buildings to the north, including the former Surgeon's Cottage and weather bureau buildings

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[80] *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 27 May 1903, p. 33.
[81] Otto Cserhalmi and Partners, 2000, p. 63.
[82] Otto Cserhalmi and Partners, 2000, pp. 55 and 65.
[83] TDK Architects, *op cit*, p. 15.
[84] Department of Finance Plan Services drawing SB575/8, dated 15 October 1917.

such as the Messenger's Cottage (Figure 3-26, Figure 3-27 and Figure 3-30).

While the former Surgeon's Cottage was retained, several structures on the school grounds and within the footprint of the cutting were cleared including the Infant's School, lavatory, latrines and sheds shown in the 1880 Doves plan (Figure 3-17) and 1917 plan (Figure 3-23).

## 3.8. Construction of the Fort Street Public School

In 1941, a new school building designed by the Government Architect's office was approved for construction on Observatory land north of the Surgeon's Cottage and former Military Hospital (Figure 3-30). This was completed in late 1942 and represents the current Fort Street Public School.

At some time between 1943 and 1949, a footbridge was constructed over the Cahill Expressway on ramp cutting proving access to the old school building and tennis courts (Figure 3-30).[85]

### 3.8.1. Demolition of the Surgeon's Cottage

Once works for the cut were complete, the Surgeon's Cottage appears to have become obsolete, and proposals were soon made to demolish the building and replace it with a more appropriate school structure in early 1948. This was met with intense public resistance and debate around its significance, with some incorrectly suggesting the building was the oldest European structure in the colony.[86] According to one article lamenting its impending demolition, the structure was being used as a staff room for school employees.[87]

Despite efforts to block its removal, demolition was approved that year. An architectural plan and elevations of the building was prepared by architect Morton Hermann (Figure 3-28 and Figure 3-29) in the same year, perhaps to mitigate its loss.

Annotations on the plan demonstrate various alterations made to the building during the school's occupation, including the removal of several internal walls in the buildings back rooms and front hallway, alterations to its east-front openings and replacement of its shingled roof with iron.

These modifications would have created a large single room at the front of the Cottage through the removal of the building's central hallway.

An aerial photograph taken in 1949 (Figure 3-30) shows vacant land where the cottage once stood. No substantial excavation works appear to have been carried out in its immediate vicinity.

## 3.9. Phase 6: Fanny Cohen Gymnasium, High School Relocation & National Trust, 1949-1974

In late 1949, construction works commenced for a new gymnasium on the site of the former Surgeon's Cottage. The building, a single storey, linear shaped brick structure, was officially opened in 1952 and named the Fanny Cohen Gymnasium after the school's former headmistress (Figure 3-31).[88] A lower section of the building along its western elevation was used as a changing facility

[85] TDK Architects, *op cit* p. 19.
[86] *Sydney Morning Herald*, 21 August 1948. *Is Cottage Historic*, p. 2 and *Sydney Morning Herald*, 23 August 1948, *History of Cottage*, p. 2.
[87] Sydney Morning Herald, 18 August 1948. *Old Brick Cottage Is To Go*, p. 2.
[88] TDK Architects, *op cit*, p. 21-22.

(Figure 3-32).[89]

In the 1960s, plans were circulated to close the Fort Street Girls High School (operating from the former Military Hospital and National School Buildings) which had lost its lawns and tennis courts to the Cahill Expressway's circular on-ramp. This was exacerbated by the construction of the Western Distributer which created additional noise and pollution.[90]

In 1974, the Fort Street School was closed, and all surviving Military Hospital and National School buildings south of the Surgeon's Cottage (and now separated from the remainder of the Fort Street School grounds by the Cahill Expressway on-ramp cutting), were acquired by the National Trust of Australia (NSW) for the National Trust Centre.[91]

## 3.10. Phase 7: Continued School Use & Development of the Environmental Education Centre (1975-present)

Following the Fort Street Girls School's closures in 1974, all school buildings and outdoor recreational moved north of the Cahill Expressway on-ramp cutting. The former Fort Street Girls High School and Military Hospital Building taken over by the National Trust. Land surrounding the Fanny Cohen Gymnasium and former site of the Surgeon's Cottage was used as a green space.

In 1991, the Gymnasium was converted to a field studies centre and later renamed the Environmental Education Centre, or EEC.[92] Environmental education facilities became popular in the 1970s and were used to study the natural environment.

When a CMP was prepared for the Fort Street Public School in 2016, a brick wall extending along the northern boundary of the EEC building dividing it from the Messenger's Cottage was assessed as dating to the 1860s. The wall, which continued to occupy the school grounds until 2021 had been constructed when land to the north of the Surgeon's Cottage was developed for the Observatory.

In 2021, the EEC Building and brick wall were demolished to make way for new school buildings associated with the SSD Fort Street Public School redevelopment project.

[89] TDK Architects, *op cit*, p. 61.
[90] *Ibid*, p. 71.
[91] Otto Cserhalmi and Partners, 2000, p. 3 and TDK Architects, *op cit*, p. 72.
[92] TDK Architects, *op cit*, p. 25.


Figure 3-1: View of Parramatta River from Observatory Hill, c.1789 (Source: NLA. http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-135681388)

Figure 3-2 Three depictions of Aboriginal groups in the vicinity of the Military Hospital and Surgeons Cottage, c 1821. Source: Panoramic views of Port Jackson, ca. 1821 drawn by Major James Taylor, SLNSW.

Figure 3-3. Detail of image showing the third Government (smock) windmill with the first stone mill within Fort Phillip.c.1818 Third Government Windmill (current Fort Street School Site) in front of Fort Phillip. Source. Mitchell Library SLNSW A1528797/Ml942.

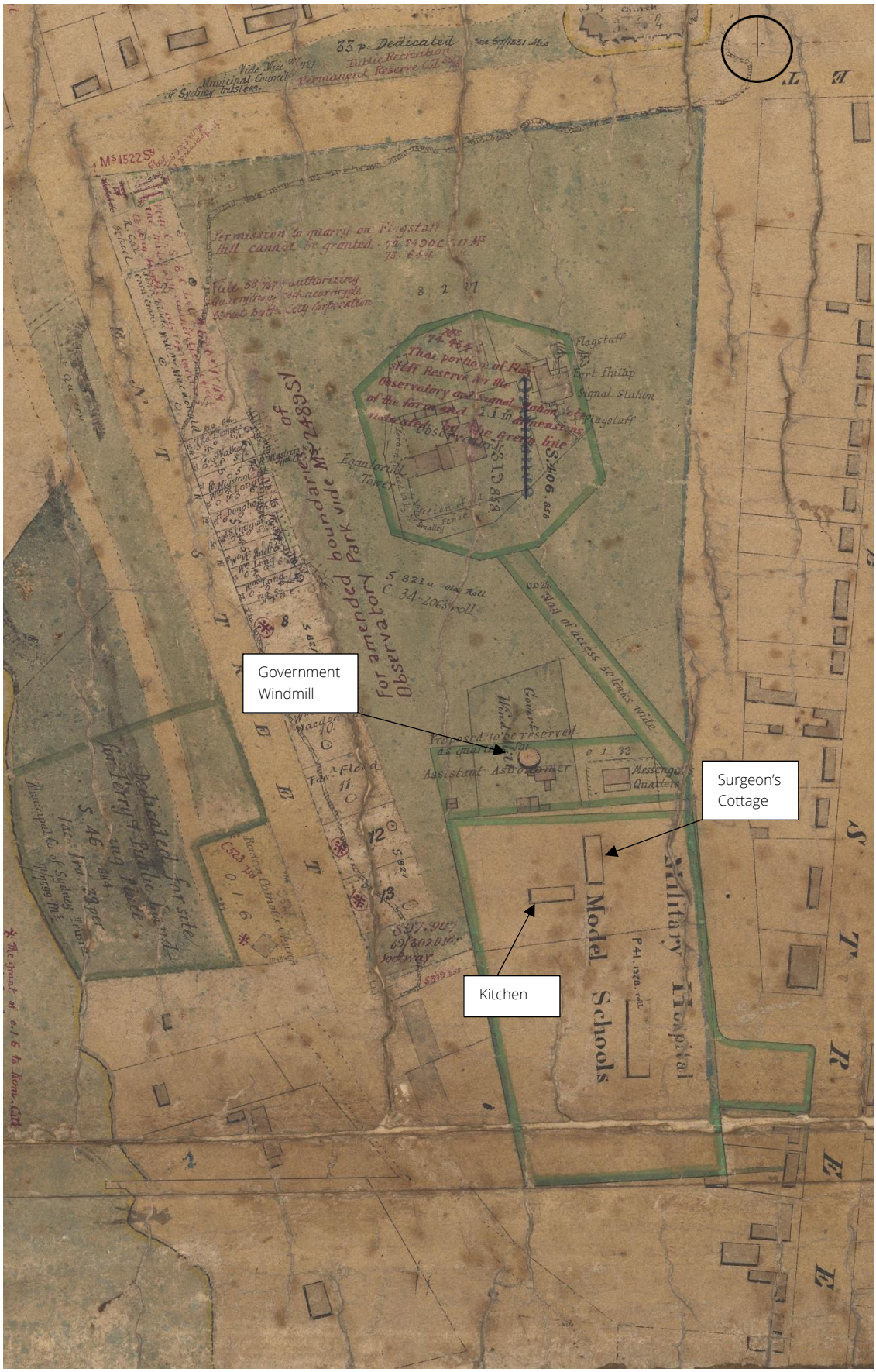


Figure 3-4. Detail of the 1825 Stewart map "Plan of the allotments of ground in Sydney" showing the Government Windmill still in place. (Source: NSW State Archives, SZ469)

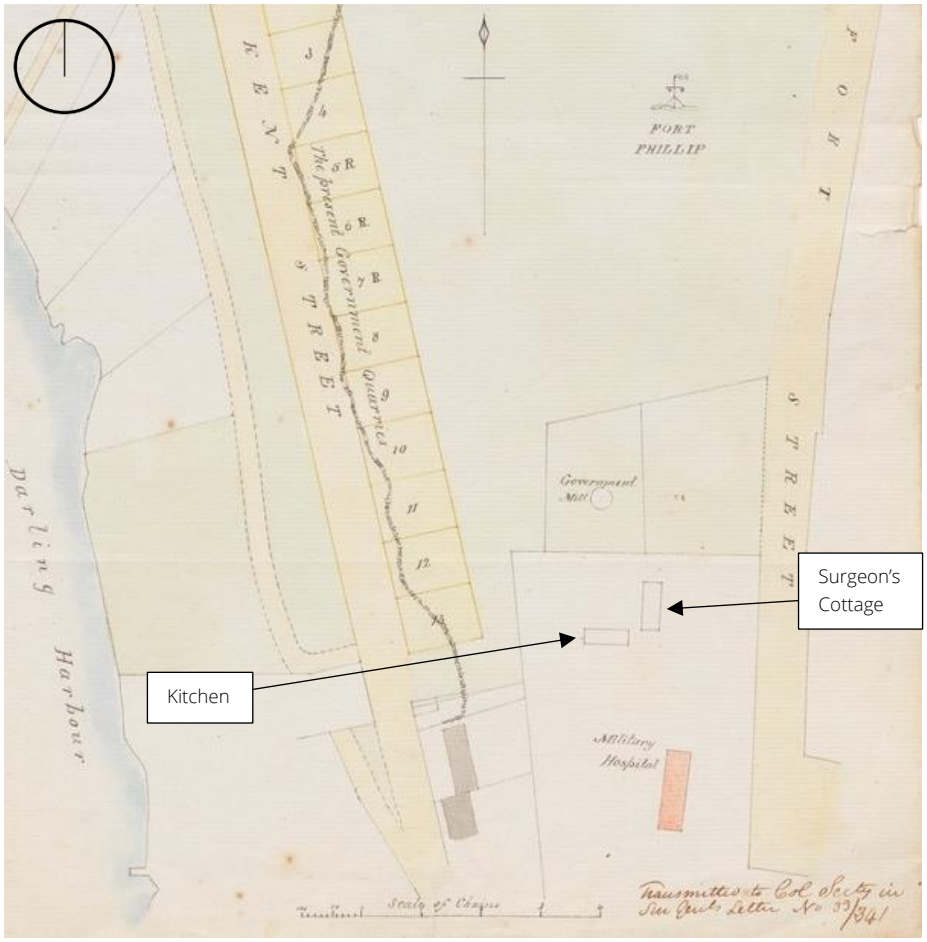


Figure 3-5: 1833 Plan by Thomas Livingstone Mitchell showing the third Government Mill, Military Hospital, Surgeon's Cottage and Kitchen. Source. SLNSW A4694001/Ca83/14.

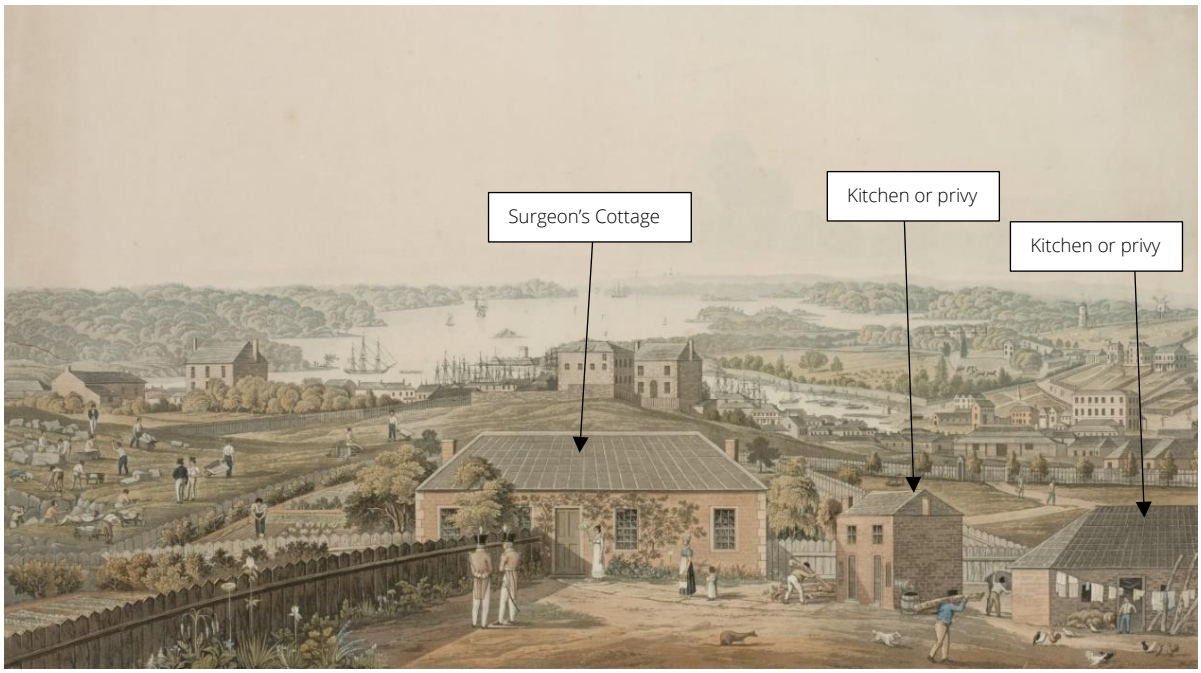


Figure 3-6. Panoramic view of Port Jackson c.1820 drawn by Major James Taylor and engraved by R. Havell & Sons looking east towards the back of the Surgeon's Cottage. The detached kitchen is visible to the right along with what is likely a privy. The Military Hospital is just out of frame, to the right. Convicts quarrying windmill hill are visible in left of frame. Source. SLNSW, Call numbers: V1/ca. 1821/4 , V1/ca. 1821/5 , V1/ca. 1821/6.


Figure 3-7. Panoramic view of Port Jackson c.1820 drawn by Major James Taylor and engraved by R. Havell & Sons looking northeast towards the Military Hospital. Source. SLNSW, Call numbers: V1/ca. 1821/4 , V1/ca. 1821/5 , V1/ca. 1821/6.

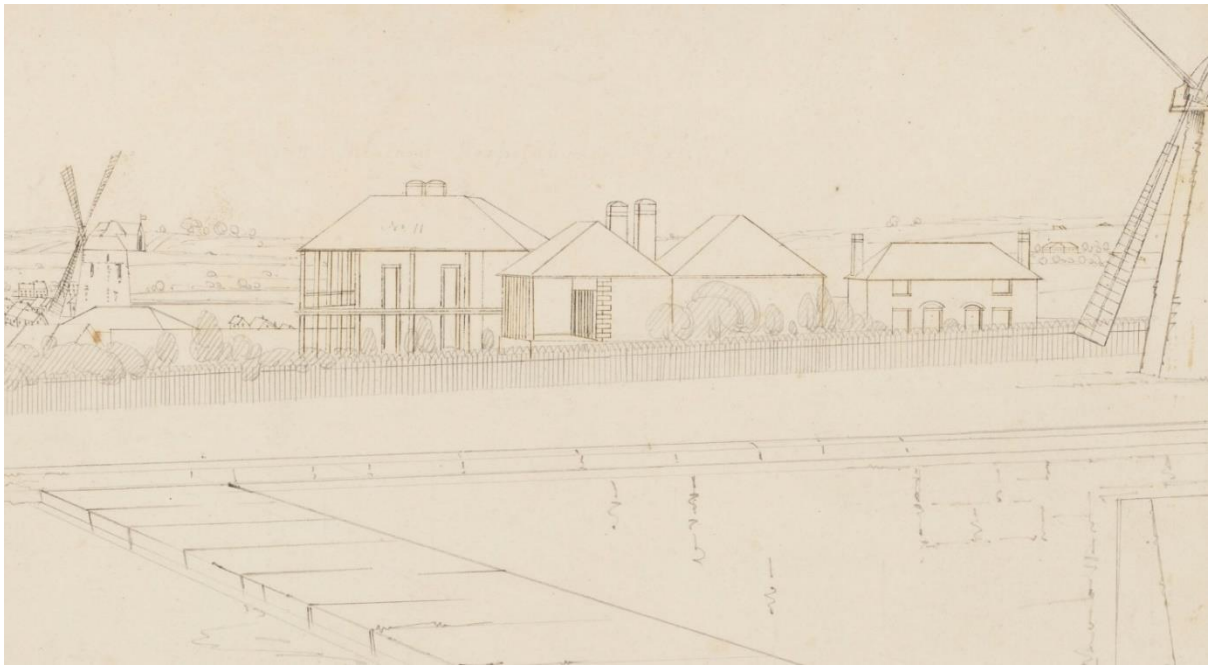

Figure 3-8 Detail of the hospital from the north with the surgeon's cottage in the centre of the image. c. 1824. It shows what is possibly a kitchen wing to the rear. Source: Panoramic View of the Town and Harbour of Sydney New South Wales possibly by G.W. Evans


Figure 3-9. Military Hospital, 1842. E. T. Blacket's sketchbook, 1842. Source . SLNSW, Call no. PXE 925 Box 1.

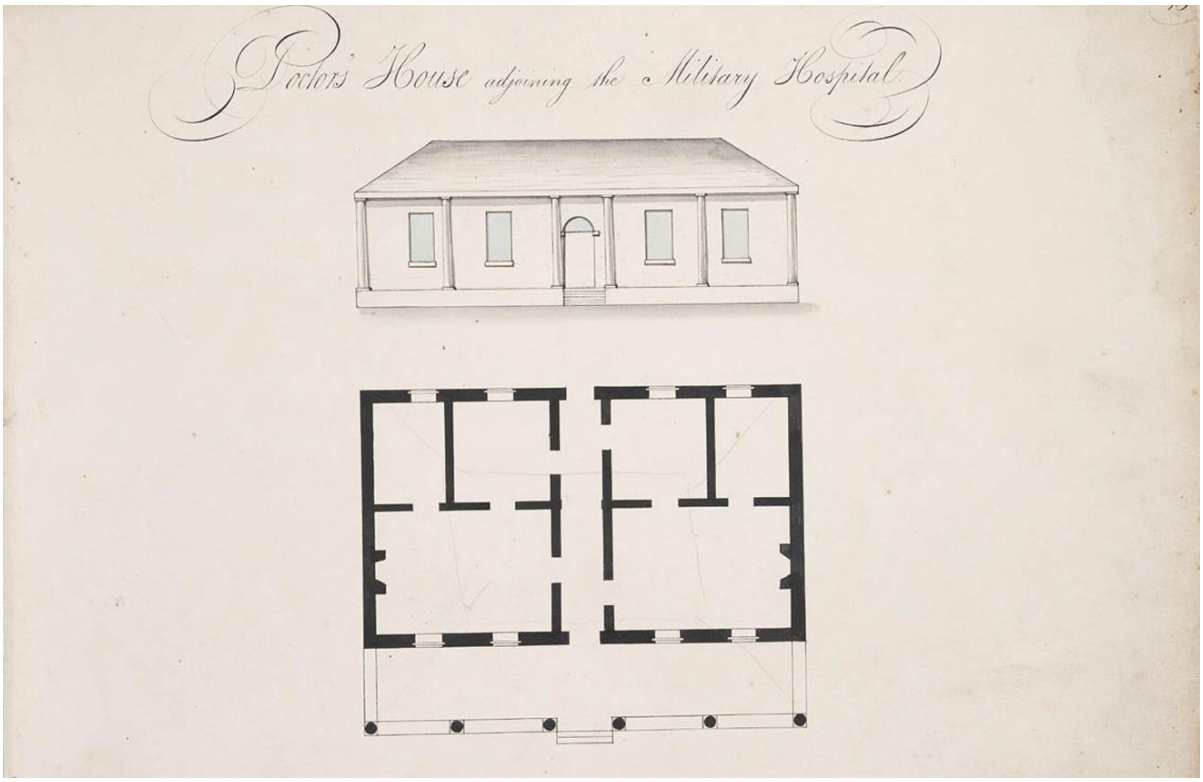


Figure 3-10. Plan of 'Doctor's House' (1824), from Standish Lawrence Harris – 'Report & Estimate Of The Value Of The Improvements Which Have Taken Place In The Public Buildings Of Sydney, Etc.' Source: SLNSW C 225/ Fl3255340.

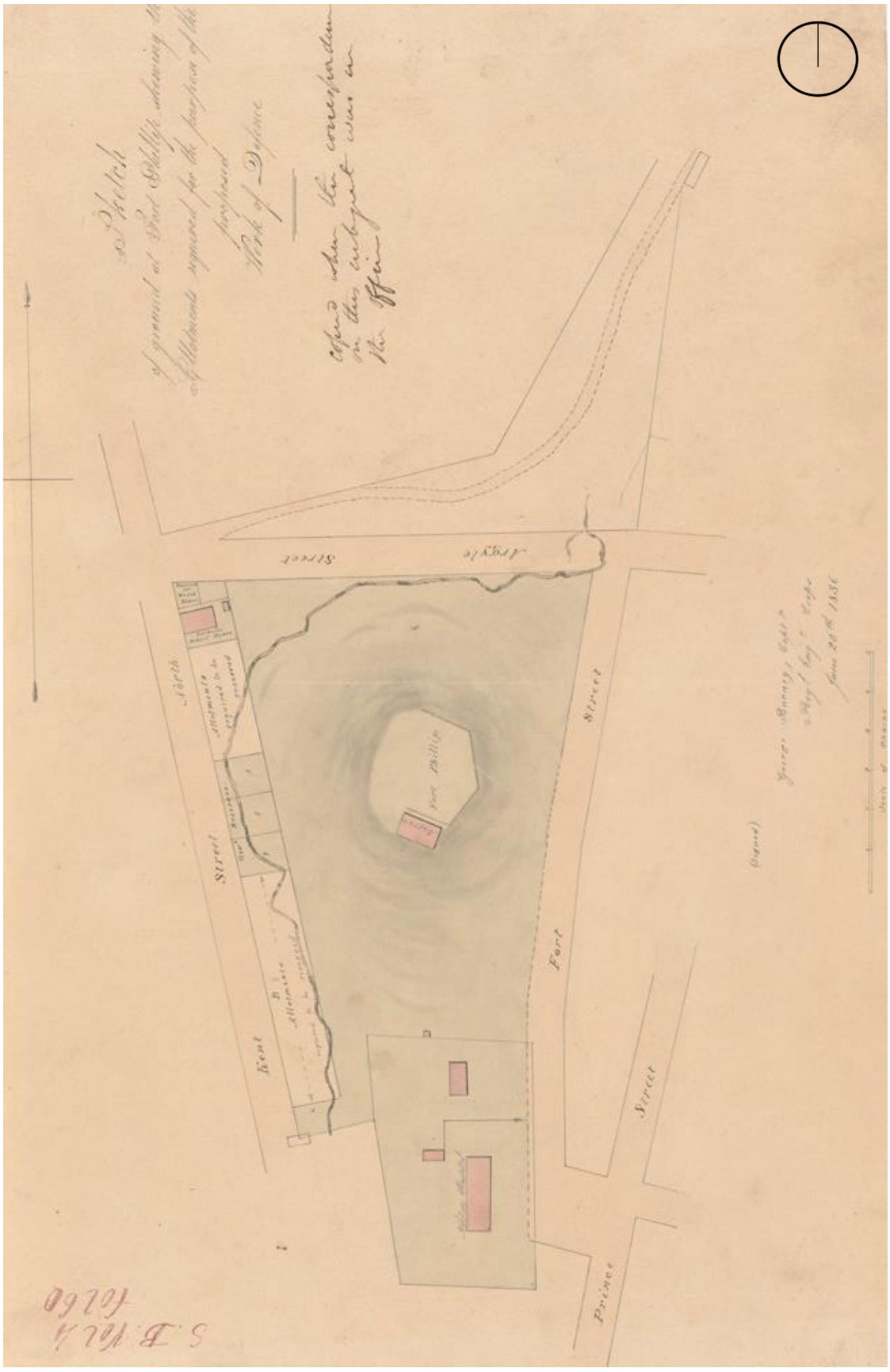


Figure 3-11 A Plan of Fort Phillip and Flagstaff Hill in 1836 showing the cottage and hospital grounds. (Source: Surveyors Sketch books, v4 f260 AONSW)


Figure 3-12. View south towards Fort Street School and Princes Street from Observatory Hill showing the former Military Hospital buildings and school structures. This photograph is one of four panoramas taken by Freeman Bros & Prout in 1864. Source: SLNSW SV/13-16, digital order no. a260004.

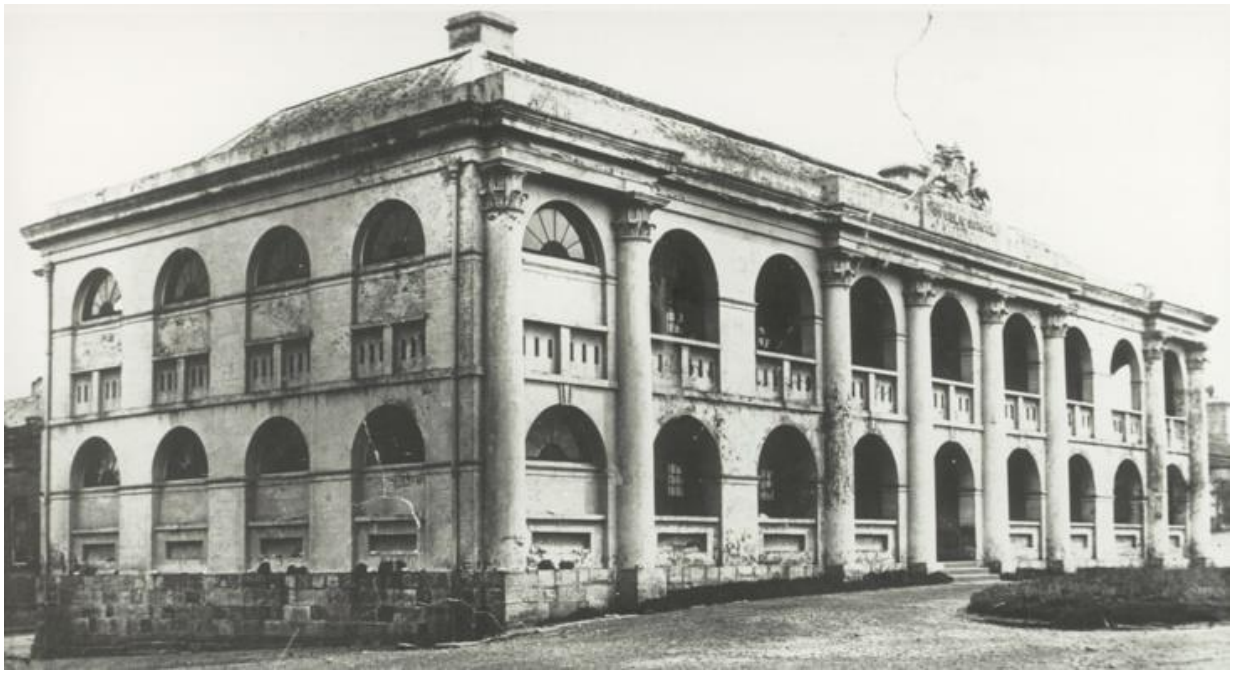

Figure 3-13. The Fort Street Public School occupying the modified former Military Hospital in 1871, by Charles Percy Pickering. Source. SLNSW, [a089443 / SPF/443].

*Colonial Secretary's Office,*
*Sydney, 28th December, 1848.*

**NATIONAL SCHOOL HOUSE, SYDNEY.**

TENDERS *will be received at this Office, until 12 o'clock on Monday, 8th January, 1849, from persons willing to contract for the performance of the alterations, repairs, and additions required to the building in Fort-street, Sydney, late the Military Hospital, for converting the same into a National School House.*

*Tenders to be endorsed,* "Tender for Repairs &c., National School House, Fort-street."

*Plan, specification, and form of Tender may be seen, and further particulars obtained at the Colonial Architect's Office, Hyde Park.*

*Tenders must state the time within which it is proposed to complete the work, and at the foot of every Tender there must be a memorandum signed by the party tendering, and two responsible persons as sureties, agreeing to be responsible for the due performance of the Contract, in the event of the Tender being accepted, and undertaking in that event, that they will severally execute and deliver at the Office of the Civil Crown Solicitor, in Sydney, within seven days from the notification of acceptance, a bond in the penal sum of £500, for securing such performance, in failure of which the Tender and acceptance thereof will be void.*

*Parties tendering, or their agents, are requested to attend at this Office, at the time named for opening the Tenders, to afford any information or explanation that may be required.*

*By His Excellency's Command,*
E. DEAS THOMSON.

Figure 3-14 Government Gazette call for tenders for conversion of the school. (Source: New South Wales Government Gazette, 5 January 1849, [Issue No.3, p.18)


Figure 3-15. City of Sydney - Detail Plans, 1855: Sheet 1 showing the Surgeons Cottage, detached kitchen and National School buildings now occupying the former Military Hospital Buildings. The building to the west of the former Military Hospital was constructed for the school. Source. City of Sydney Archives, Unique ID A-00880154.