



Artist impression of the new library and community facility

Young High School upgrade and joint-use library and community facility

Project update

November 2021

Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is investing \$7.9 billion over the next four years, continuing its program to deliver 215 new and upgraded schools to support communities across NSW. This is the largest investment in public education infrastructure in the history of NSW.

The NSW Department of Education is committed to delivering new and upgraded schools for communities across NSW. The delivery of these important projects is essential to the future learning needs of our students and supports growth in the local economy.

Project overview

A major upgrade is underway at Young High School. The project will deliver a new joint use library and community facility, funded under a partnership between Hilltops Council and the NSW Department of Education.

Students and community members will benefit from new learning spaces, access to multimedia technology, reading and study areas, children's activity area, coffee bar, dedicated arts area and the Wiradjuri learning and cultural centre.

Additional upgrade works to the school by School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) include a new toilet block, canteen, staff hub and landscaping of the grounds.

Update on archaeological salvage and excavations

Archaeological salvage works restarted in September on the site for the new joint use library building. The archaeological team has recovered and processed over 4000 historical artefacts so far, with most dating from the 19th century.

The artefacts include fragments of glass and ceramics, buttons from police uniforms, pen nibs, a piece of an animal rib bone (likely from a sheep) with a hand-carved floral design, and firearms-related artefacts (including projectiles fired). Some of these are believed to be associated with the Lambing Flat riots. See images of these artefacts overleaf.

Community members are invited to find out more at an open day at Young High School (details overleaf).

The archaeological team has also recently started working with local Aboriginal groups on excavations for Aboriginal stone artefacts in an area north of the old courthouse. We will provide information on the outcomes of this in a later project update.

For more information contact:

School Infrastructure NSW
Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 1300 482 651
www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au



Works progress and next steps

In addition to archaeological salvage, work on the new canteen and student toilets for Young High School has continued and we expect the buildings to be ready for use in early 2022.

The archaeological team will finish the salvage works, and preparation works will then begin to lay the concrete slab for the new joint use library.

Sample of artefacts uncovered from the archaeological salvage works



Image 1: 19th century piece of an animal rib bone (likely from a sheep), with hand carved floral design, believed to have been part of a picture frame.



Image 2: gold pen nib.



Image 3: carbine ball from an early 1860s police carbine (short musket) of the type used during the riot of 1861.



Image 4: carbine clip used by mounted troopers to attach their carbine (a short musket) when on horseback.



Image 5: Chinese coin dated to 1723-1908, evidence of the presence of Chinese people on the Gold Fields.

Archaeological open day

We invite you to join us for drop-in sessions to learn more about the archaeological investigations taking place as part of the Young High School upgrade and joint use library and community facility project.

The open day will be an opportunity to meet the archaeologists working on the site for the new library and see some of the artefacts they have found.

Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021

Time: 4-6 pm

Venue: Young High School, at the old courthouse building

Bookings are essential. Please book one of the 30-minute slots using the link or QR code: edu.nsw.link/CYA62G



Please note it is a condition of entry that all guests over the age of 16 provide proof of double vaccination against COVID-19. Please do not attend if you are feeling unwell or have any respiratory or COVID-19 symptoms.

The event will have a COVID-19 Safety Plan to ensure that it is conducted in a way that protects staff and community members and complies with current NSW public health guidelines.

Information from the event will also be made public on the Young High School and joint use library and community facility webpage on the School Infrastructure website www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au

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