

Maclean High School

Project Update | September 2023

Flood Remediation Works – Artefact Find

School Infrastructure NSW and NSW Public Works are working together to deliver remediation and repair works to Maclean High School after it was damaged by floods in early 2022.

Working closely with the school, we are delivering refurbished and flexible learning environments, and core facilities that will support the long-term needs of the local community. In addition to refurbishing and remediating flood damaged areas of the school, we are also delivering extensive planned maintenance works, providing much improved facilities for the students and staff.

On April 6, 2023, a Yaegl People's stone hand axe was unearthed during the excavation of storm water trenches. The artefact was confirmed by NSW Public Works Archaeologist on 14 April 2023 and was logged on the NSW Government Aboriginal Site Recording Form System (AHIMS) identifying the geo coordinates of the find. The archaeological assessment required for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) began in accordance with Heritage NSW and the National Parks and Wildlife Act requirements and is currently approaching completion.

Current Status

Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) have provided advice, and the AHIP application has now been submitted for review and determination by Heritage NSW. The following process has been delivered according to mandatory and expected timeframes:

ACHAR Stage	Expected Duration	Tentative Completion Date
Site Visit, Methodology Preparation & Stage 1 ACHCRs	4 Weeks	Complete
Stage 2/3 ACHCRs Draft Methodology – Current Status	Mandatory 28 Day Review Period	Complete
Test Excavation	1-2 Weeks (Weather / Availability)	Complete
Formal Report Preparation and Internal Review (SINSW & NSWPW)	3 Weeks	Complete
Stage 4 ACHCRs	Mandatory 28 Day Review Period	Complete
Report Finalisation, Internal Review & Submission (SINSW & NSWPW)	2 Weeks	Complete
<i>Heritage NSW Review and Issue AHIP for Works to commence</i>	~3 Weeks (Note 60 day review period is allowed under the Act)	6 October 2023 – 10 November 2023

During the AHIP process, work continued on classroom and administration buildings, with three renovated classrooms receiving new walls, windows, carpet, pin boards, and internal and external painting. The agricultural workshop has now been completely remediated, with only fencing works remaining pending AHIP finalisation.

Next Steps

Once the AHIP has been issued work on the COLA and sports court areas, and storm water drains, can be resumed.

School holiday works

Over the spring break, internal renovations and external repairs, and painting work will continue in the industrial arts buildings (Block M) within the fenced off construction zone.

