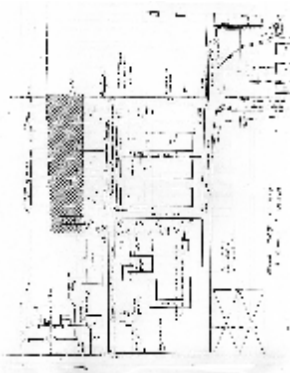


POW MRI PROJECT NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH PRECINCT

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT EUROPEAN ARCHAEOLOGY



CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

**POW MRI PROJECT
NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH PRECINCT**

**PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
EUROPEAN ARCHAEOLOGY**

NOVEMBER 2008

**CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
FOR
WINTON ASSOCIATES PTY LTD
On Behalf of THE POW MRI**



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1.0

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



1.1

THE WORK

This report has been prepared in response to the proposed development of a new Neuroscience Research Precinct for the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute. The development will take place on the existing MRI site. This work contributes to a Part 3A application for development. It responds to a specific clause of the Director General's Requirements concerning the identification and management of European archaeological resources. This report provides an initial review of European archaeological issues pertaining to the site with the objective of identifying whether there is a likely archaeological resource within the Concept Plan area. This review will inform specific strategies for any future archaeological analysis with respect to Stages 1-3 of the application.

1.2

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The concept site encompasses a distinctive soil profile derived from the underlying ancient dune system. Originally this is likely to have been covered by banksia scrub. The present topography is a much-modified landscape due to extensive European remodelling over more than 150 years. The pre-settlement environment would have resource-rich for Aboriginal people and confirmation of their occupation was revealed during the archaeological investigation of the Destitute Children's Asylum in the form of a fireplace dated to 7800 years BP as well as other scattered debris and artefacts.

The excavation of the cemetery revealed no specific evidence of land-use from settlement until the development of the burial ground in the 1860s. To date there has been no specific analysis of the use or associations of this site during the first half of the nineteenth century. Later evidence suggests that the ground was considered to be wasteland and may not have attracted any more than casual visitation. This is an area requiring more research.

By the mid nineteenth century the problems of pauperism and the social ills arising from it were of grave concern particularly with respect to children. The first meeting of the Destitute Children's Society was held in 1852. Work commenced in mid-1856 on an Asylum at Randwick and was completed by February 1857. The site continued to serve this purpose, with several substantial additions made to it in the second half of the nineteenth century, until 1915. Throughout this long period of use the development site was on the fringes of the main Asylum precinct. Largely vacant it was used for a small amount of staff housing, several small service buildings and apparently for market gardening. A cemetery was established here in 1861; this site is located outside the concept plan area to the north-east, largely under the Kiloh Centre.

Randwick Asylum was converted for use as a military hospital in 1915. New wards were built to help with the numbers being brought to the place. In 1918 ten of these wards were built at the north-eastern corner of the concept plan site. They were built over the site of the cemetery, which extended beyond them to the south for several metres. A dispensary was built over the former burial ground and a kitchen was also built here on the southern boundary of the cemetery. The majority of works of this period were located in the south-western corner of the site. Apart from the wards, dispensary and kitchen, new works included a morgue, attendants accommodation, TB ward and boiler house. A new road was opened from Barker Street. Several of these additions are within the concept plan area.

Between 1918 and 1939 the hospital served as a repatriation facility for soldiers who were permanently incapacitated and needing long-term care. Substantial improvements were made to the buildings to accommodate the ongoing need. In particular the wards at the southern end of the hospital were upgraded although a few were demolished in this period. The kitchen remained in use. During the later 1920s–1930s most works were designed to improve existing facilities and improve sanitation. The landscape was also subject to a major overhaul. This included the construction of a new road between the kitchen and Barker Street cottages.

At the outbreak of war in 1939 the hospital was brought back into active military use. Throughout the war the entire hospital was subject to an unending programme of repairs of varying scales, upgrades and some additions but there are no identified significant additions or removals from the concept plan area in this period. At the end of the war the hospital served in a repatriation role until the 1950s.

From then the hospital served as an annexe to Sydney Hospital. It catered principally for long-term and convalescent patients but also evolved several specialist services. Throughout the later 1950s and 1960s the services and facilities were massively expanded throughout the site. Despite these works many of the older structures, including many of the older military wards in the south-western corner of the site and the kitchen remained in use. Additions included an ambulance station.

From the 1970s administrative changes led to the reorganisation of services at the hospital. At the same time growing demand for services led to the largest programme of redevelopment to occur within the site in its history. In the south-western portion two new blocks were added to the hospital road frontage including the medical research institute and, finally, the nineteenth century workers cottages on Barker Street were demolished and the site partially redeveloped. Throughout the 1990s a series of investigations and reports were prepared that began to analyse and define the importance of this site. In 1996 the cemetery site was excavated entailing the demolition of the old wards. Since that time the former cemetery site has been redeveloped; a memorial garden has been established in recognition of this place. Further additions have been made to the existing buildings

1.3

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROFILE

The outcome of this preliminary review is that the concept site is likely to encompass a potential archaeological resource. This is a minimum evaluation based only on existing information; it may be amended as a result of further analysis. It may be summarised as follows:

- Environmental evidence that could be used to define and describe the pre-settlement landscape and bio-diversity; this is one of the few methods now remaining to do so.
- Minimal potential for additional burials to be found from the Destitute Children's Asylum although there is no evidence available to target or focus a particular site.
- Evidence of at least one later nineteenth century Asylum cottage on Barker Street in the area of the car park
- Evidence of one small and unidentified Asylum building in the area of the Ambulance Station
- Evidence of one unidentified Asylum building in the central courtyard area of the MRI building on Hospital Road

- Evidence of a kitchen built in c. 1915 with several additions from later periods in the car park on Easy Street;
- Evidence of a boiler house built between 1915 and 1924 in the car park at the corner of Easy and Barker Streets
- Evidence of landscape works including paths and gardens from several phases of occupation in the twentieth century.

This review has also identified several issues that need more research to aid in the identification of potential archaeological evidence. In particular these issues are:

- The use or otherwise of this site in the period 1788 – 1852.
- The location of a Chinese market garden said to have been active in the southern part of the site from 1905.

Generally, the profile is also likely to contain artefact assemblages and services for any or all phases of occupation.

A comprehensive evaluation is likely to refine or amend this archaeological profile for the concept site. This preliminary assessment has not yet taken into account the impacts caused by the introduction of services and the extent of disturbance caused by the construction of buildings. These are detailed impacts that need to be addressed in a future comprehensive assessment.

1.4

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Prince of Wales Hospital is a significant site largely due to its role as a major institutional site over a long period with diverse aspects of care and welfare provided there, some rare. The fabric preserved above the ground is the best demonstration of the historic associations of this place. It preserves significant components of all identified European periods of occupation. The archaeological evidence likely to be contained within the concept plan area can compliment and amplify this resource but in aspects more concerned with services that supported the provision of care from the mid-nineteenth century onwards. The majority of the potential archaeological assemblage identified to date is neither uncommon nor endangered and is representative of the service needs of the hospital. Evidence of the Barker Street cottages and Asylum out-buildings could be considered uncommon in that they would provide evidence for the service and management of the Asylum that is no longer represented above ground.

There are several exceptions to this assessment. There is the potential for uncovering additional burials of the Destitute Asylum. A separate assessment of significance has been prepared for this aspect. The cemetery and burials were considered to be of outstanding cultural significance because of rarity, research values and social significance. Additional burials would contribute to this important archaeological and historical resource. There may be the potential for uncovering additional evidence of Aboriginal occupation. A separate assessment is being prepared for this aspect but it should be noted that the age of the material discovered to date and its associations for the living community make the potential for uncovering more evidence of this type of high significance. Both aspects have outstanding significance for research values and for their value to living communities.

At this time the history of the site and its associations and possible use during the first half of the nineteenth century have not been determined. Additional research and evaluation may encompass aspects of the site's history that pre-date its institutional associations and contribute to the historical values of the place. As well the site has the evidence to preserve evidence of the pre-settlement environment that provides one the few means now available to describe the original bio-diversity of the region.

A graded evaluation of the archaeological potential of the site as far as it has been identified to date may be expressed as follows:

Exceptional Significance

- Potential asylum burials.

High Significance

- Elements and features derived from the Asylum period of occupation, specifically the Barker Street cottages and out-buildings and artefacts. Environmental evidence pre-dating the principal European development.

Medium Significance

- Elements and features that derive from the military periods of occupation including the kitchen, boiler house, artefacts and landscape works.

Low Significance

- Elements that derive from the post-war development of the place for repatriation and community hospital use.

1.5

RECOMMENDATIONS

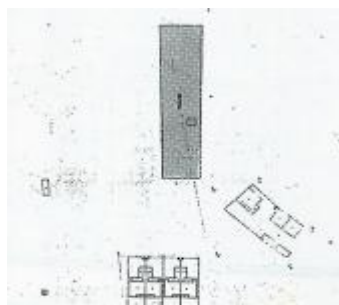
This preliminary assessment has demonstrated that the concept site of the proposed POW MRI development is likely to encompass an archaeological profile encompassing features and relics from all phases of the site's development. To respond to the requirements of the Director General with respect to ongoing consideration and recognition this review needs to be expanded into a comprehensive archaeological assessment as part of the commitment of works for the application stages.

Specifically the proponent of the development will need to commission a comprehensive archaeological assessment with respect to Stages 1-3 of the application. The priorities of the assessment will be:

- To undertake additional research particularly for those aspects already highlighted in the review to have been inadequately addressed by past research
- To define more precisely the predicted extent and nature of each archaeological element
- To evaluate the impacts of recent developments on the integrity of the archaeological profile
- To Re-assess the preliminary statement of significance
- To recommend specific strategies for individual sites or stages of work. This should take the form of a schedule of works addressing issues including but not confined to the development of research designs, test excavation, comprehensive excavation and documentation, monitoring and recording and burial protocols in the event that a burial is unearthed during the course of redevelopment.
- Consider the integration of European and Aboriginal archaeological requirements
- Canvass issues such as in-situ conservation, retrieval and storage of artefacts.

2.0

SCOPE OF WORK



2.1

PROJECT INITIATION

This report has been prepared in response to the proposed development of a new Neuroscience Research Precinct for the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute. The development will take place on the existing MRI site within the Prince of Wales Hospital campus. This work contributes to a Part 3A application for development. It responds to a specific clause of the Director General's Requirements being;

“Heritage: Detail any potential Aboriginal and European archaeological heritage on the site, such as the Randwick Destitute Children’s Asylum, and how it could be considered and recognised appropriately”.

This report provides the first analysis of the potential of the entire south-western corner of the hospital campus. However, the archaeological sensitivity of the area is well-known from the identification and excavation in 1996 of the Randwick Destitute Children’s Asylum cemetery immediately adjoining the north-eastern corner of the concept site.

The Director General’s Requirements recognise that proposed development within the concept site may impact on archaeological evidence. This report provides an initial review of European archaeological issues with the objective of identifying whether there is a potential archaeological resource within the Concept Plan site and its distribution within the application areas 1-3. It is the first component of a staged evaluation that will inform strategies for any future archaeological analysis specific to those stages. The on-going evaluation will encompass detailed archaeological assessments for Stages 1-3 and possible on-site investigation and documentation contingent on the results and recommendations of the assessment process.

This report only addresses European archaeological resources. A separate report has been prepared to address the potential for archaeological evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

2.2

THE DEVELOPMENT AREA

The proposed development site, the “concept site” encompasses land within the south-western corner of the Prince of Wales Hospital campus. It is bound by Barker Street to the south, Easy Street to the east, Hospital Road to the west and, to the north, Francis Martin Drive.



*The extent of the concept plan site
(Source: NSW Department of Lands; Six Viewer)*

The concept site is presently occupied by The Villa, in the north-western corner, the Medical Research Institute on Hospital Road and Barker Street and the ambulance station in the south-western corner of the site. As well there is landscaping, car parking and hard paved areas between them.

2.3

STAGED DEVELOPMENT

Development will to be undertaken in three stages.

Stage 1: temporary additions to the MRI building in the courtyard, on the north-eastern corner and between it and the ambulance station. No demolition is required at this stage. The works are shown in brown to the right (the buildings coloured green are existing and are retained for this stage).



Stage 2A: encompasses new construction over part of the site of the MRI building and the open car park adjoining it at the junction of Easy Street and Barker Street (shown in blue to the right).



Stage 2B: entails construction over the remainder of the Baker Street frontage in place of the rest of the southern portion of the MRI building and the ambulance station and land around it (shown in dark blue to the right).



Stage 2C: is the redevelopment of the Easy Street car park south of the Kiloh Centre (shown in dark blue to the right)



Stage 2D: entails the demolition of the remainder of the existing MRI building on Hospital Road and new construction in its place (shown in dark blue to the right).



Stage 3: is concerned with the demolition and redevelopment of the Villa in the north-western corner of the site (shown in dark blue to the right).



This review evaluates the potential of the concept plan site and determines the principal archaeological features that could be found in each of the Stage 1-3 areas. This preliminary evaluation will be more precisely defined in subsequent phases of work specific to the application areas¹.

2.4

EXISTING STUDIES

From the mid-twentieth century onwards the historic role of the Prince of Wales Hospital has been recognised by historians, the community and heritage authorities. From the 1990s a series of reports have been prepared that discuss, analyse and report on aspects of the heritage values of this place. These include an archaeological assessment of the Destitute Asylum's cemetery in 1993, archaeological reports on the cemetery in 1996 and a conservation plan in 1997. A full list of these works is included in the bibliography attached to this report (*refer Section 5.0*). Reference is made to these works in this report.

The most detailed historical analysis of the site to date was included within the conservation plan². This information has been used for the purposes of this review. Specific evidence relevant to the potential archaeological sites identified in this review will be used to more precisely define the extent and probable integrity of those sites in the subsequent phases of this analysis.

¹ Plans made available by Winton and Associates

² Wendy Thorp, Historical Analysis Prince of Wales Hospital in GBA (1997); *Conservation Management Plan The Prince of Wales Hospital Campus Randwick*; 6-35 and appendices.

2.5

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

2.5.1

RANDWICK LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 1998

The LEP contains provisions relating to the development of land known or likely to contain non-Aboriginal archaeological evidence. These provisions require the preparation of a comprehensive archaeological assessment in a form compliant to Heritage Branch requirements. Council must inform the Heritage Council of its intention to grant permission for a development on an archaeological site and take into consideration comments from the Council. It must be satisfied that any necessary permits are obtained from the Heritage Council before the commencement of work.

Assessments prepared for the application areas as an outcome of this preliminary evaluation will satisfy this requirement.

3.5.2

HERITAGE ACT OF NSW 1977

The Act provides protection for non-indigenous archaeological relics. Sections 139-142 of the Act refer to the disturbance of land known or likely to contain relics of this type. Provisions are made for permits that respond to the integrity and significance of the resource that will be disturbed by the development. These are Section 139 and Section 140 permits.

In the event of approval for a Part 3A application and the identification of archaeological investigation that may be required on site the usual procedures for a permit application will not be necessary; these are superseded by the Part 3A approval. However, the Heritage Branch of the NSW Department of Planning usually requires the submission of a research design and methodology for site works.

2.6

OBJECTIVES AND TASKS

The principal objective of this work have been to review the existing evidence to determine whether there is a European archaeological issue that needs to be addressed as part of the commitment to future works for the application areas. This is the first evaluation of the archaeological resource likely to be encountered in the entire south-western corner of the hospital campus. It considers the profile with respect to the entire concept site.

To this end the following tasks have been undertaken:

- Analysis using existing resources sufficient to determine the principal characteristics of an archaeological profile or to identify where additional research may be required to achieve this outcome. The discussion uses the phases of occupation defined for the conservation plan as an analytical framework.
- Reference to the information obtained by the archaeological investigation of the Destitute Children's Cemetery.
- A determination of the potential archaeological profile;
- A preliminary evaluation of the cultural significance of that resource based on standard evaluation criteria;
- Identification of strategies to be implemented that will comprehensively define an archaeological profile for each application stage;
- Documentation of the programme.

2.7

METHODOLOGY

This review has been adapted from the methodology expressed in the NSW Heritage Office's publication *"Archaeological Assessments"* (1996).

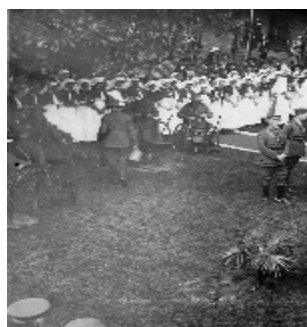
2.8

AUTHORSHIP AND CLIENT

This report has been written by Wendy Thorp (Cultural Resources Management). It has been commissioned by Winton Associates on behalf of the proponents of the development the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute. The copyright of this report remains with Cultural Resources Management.

3.0

THE CULTURAL CONTEXT



3.1

ENVIRONMENT AND TOPOGRAPHY

The development site is located on part of an extensive series of Quaternary Aeolian sand dunes. They separated the coastal land of rocky headlands, sandy beaches and estuaries from swamps and wetlands that run between Botany Bay and Port Jackson. The dunes ranged in height from between 20-30 metres at Bondi to 4-5 metres above the sandstone bedrock³. Presently there is a gentle fall to the south but the surface topography is a product of considerable site formation processes over more than 150 years.

The cemetery excavation revealed what is likely to be a standard soil profile for the concept plan site being:

- Disturbed surface deposits accumulated from European uses
- Top-soil (A1 horizon)
- Bleached white loose sand (A2 horizon)
- Black and brown sandy iron pan known as Coffee Rock (B1 Horizon)
- Yellow sand (B2 horizon)
- Sandstone bedrock⁴.

Captain Cook described the area as “*mostly a barren heath diversified with Marshes and Morasses*”⁵. The heath was most likely banksia scrub. The wetlands had localised swamp vegetation⁶.

Environmental conditions influenced the future European use of the site with respect to the location of buildings and agricultural works and may have been a factor in the relatively late selection of the site for European exploitation. However, the associations of the site for the first half of the nineteenth century are, at this time, unknown.

³ GBA (1997); *Conservation Plan Prince of Wales Hospital*; 6

⁴ GML (1996); *Archaeological Investigations Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum Cemetery Interim Report*; 14

⁵ Quoted in Benson and Howell (1990); *Taken for Granted the Bushland of Sydney and Its Suburbs*; 94

⁶ Ibid: 94-95

3.2

ABORIGINAL OCCUPATION

The pre-settlement environment would have provided rich resources for indigenous peoples. The excavation of the Children's Asylum cemetery revealed evidence of Aboriginal occupation close to the proposed development area. Found on west facing dunes, this was a hearth or fireplace dated to 7800 years BP⁷. It contained evidence of a meal of fresh-water fish or shellfish. There was evidence to suggest that there may have been three or four more hearths. Scattered flaked stone artefacts were found in the dune sand. A separate report on the Aboriginal occupation and potential of the development site is being prepared for this application.

3.3

OCCUPATION: 1788-1852

The excavation of the cemetery revealed no specific evidence of land-use from settlement until the development of the burial ground in the 1860s. To date there has been no specific analysis of the use or associations of this site during the first half of the nineteenth century. Later evidence suggests that the ground was considered to be wasteland and may not have attracted any more than casual visitation. This is an area requiring more research as part of a detailed assessment for Stages 1-3.

⁷ Ibid.

3.4

RANDWICK DESTITUTE CHILDRENS ASYLUM: 1852-1915

Destitute and abandoned children had been a problem from the first years of the colony. The first measure to redress it was the establishment of a female orphanage in 1801. Several other institutions followed it. By the mid nineteenth century the problems of pauperism and the social ills arising from it were of grave concern. There was a resurgence of interest in the plight of street children. This led to a series of government and charitable initiatives particularly the Destitute Children's Society. The first meeting of the society was held in 1852. The first building used as an Asylum was at Paddington. A public enquiry in 1855 found much to condemn in the place. By later 1855 sixty acres had been selected for a new site at Randwick. It was fenced immediately and a plan prepared for a new building to house four hundred children. Work commenced in mid- 1856 and was completed by February 1857.

The main building (less a proposed southern wing) was fully occupied by 1858. It was located on Avoca Street (where it remains) to the north-east of the development area. After this building was completed work commenced on the land surrounding it. Statements made in later years claimed that the main part of the Asylum site was only fractionally used due to the poor state of the land; essentially wasteland. This was probably due to the sandy dune system lying across much of it.

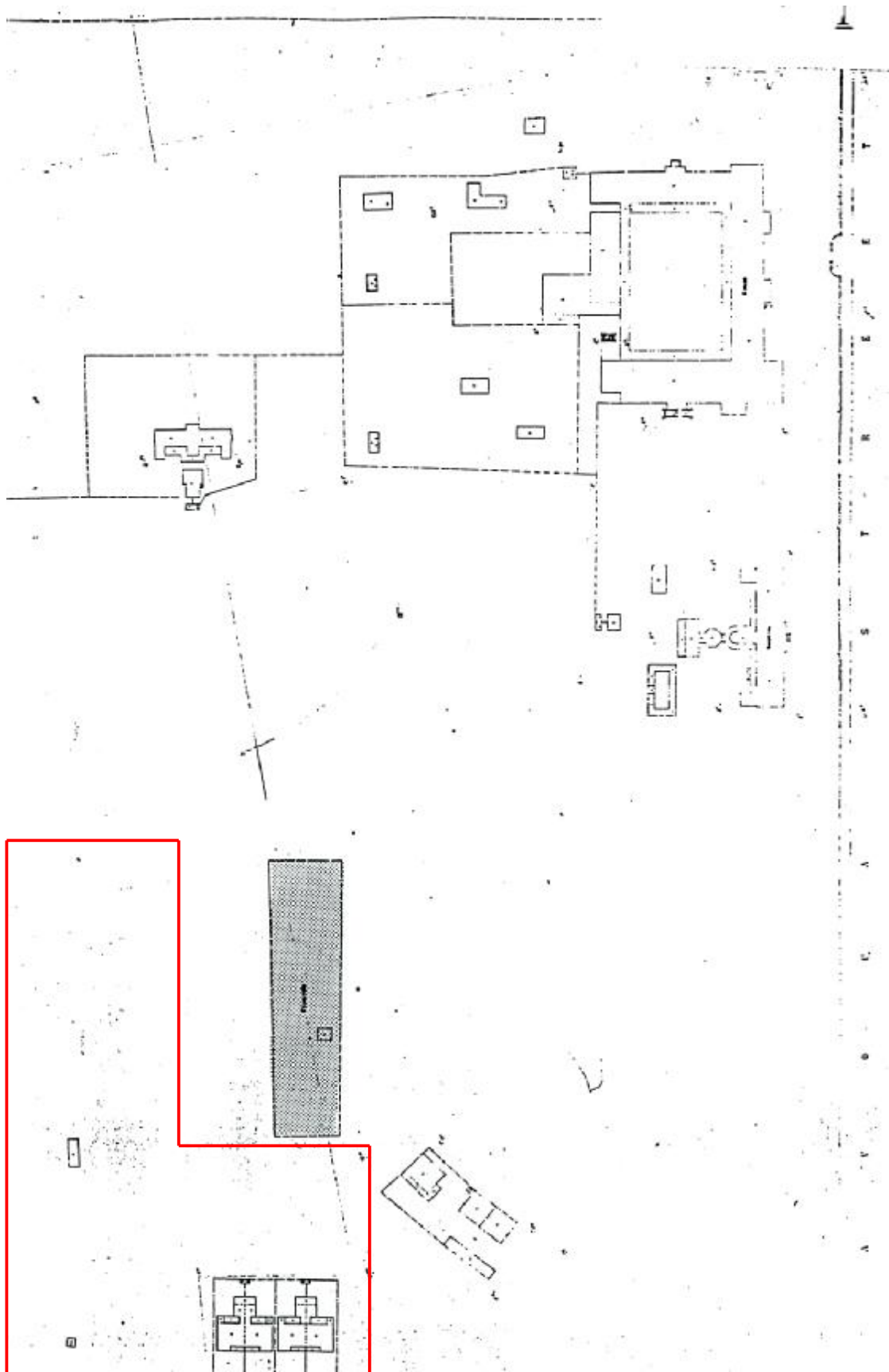
During the 1860s the facilities at the Asylum were considerably expanded to meet the growing numbers housed there including a hospital. This was also located on Avoca Street to the south of the main wing. Before this a cemetery was established in 1863. This site, adjoining the concept site, has been archaeologically investigated and recorded.

During the 1870s a Royal Commission was appointed to examine the hospital. The system of care, based on early nineteenth century models, was criticised. Recommendations made by the Commission led to substantial changes in the administration of the place. A receiving house was built in 1878 to the west of the main building and outside the study area. Another inspection in the 1880s generally provided a good report. In 1882 over six hundred children were housed there. More repairs and additions were made to the place.

From the later 1880s large numbers of children were removed and placed in foster care and state financial support was withdrawn. The place began to deteriorate slowly and few repairs were made. The last burial in the cemetery was made in 1891. A survey plan of this period shows the site to have been largely vacant. The principal buildings were the main block, the hospital, receiving house and cottages as well as the cemetery and several smaller buildings, some of the latter in the development area.

By this time Randwick was greatly expanding and the large amount of land tied up in the asylum was of concern. The site was greatly under-used; apart from three staff cottages on and close to Barker Street the southern part was leased to a Chinese market gardener. It was fenced and gardened from 1905. Several reviews of the site were made in the early years of the twentieth century with a view to subdivision and sale and conversion of the buildings to new uses. In 1914 at the outbreak of war the site was considered for use as a military hospital. It began life as such in 1915. The last children left the Asylum in 1915.

Throughout this long period of use as an Asylum the development site was on the fringes of the main precinct. Largely vacant it was used for a small amount of staff housing, several small service buildings and apparently for market gardening. The cemetery was just outside the concept plan area.

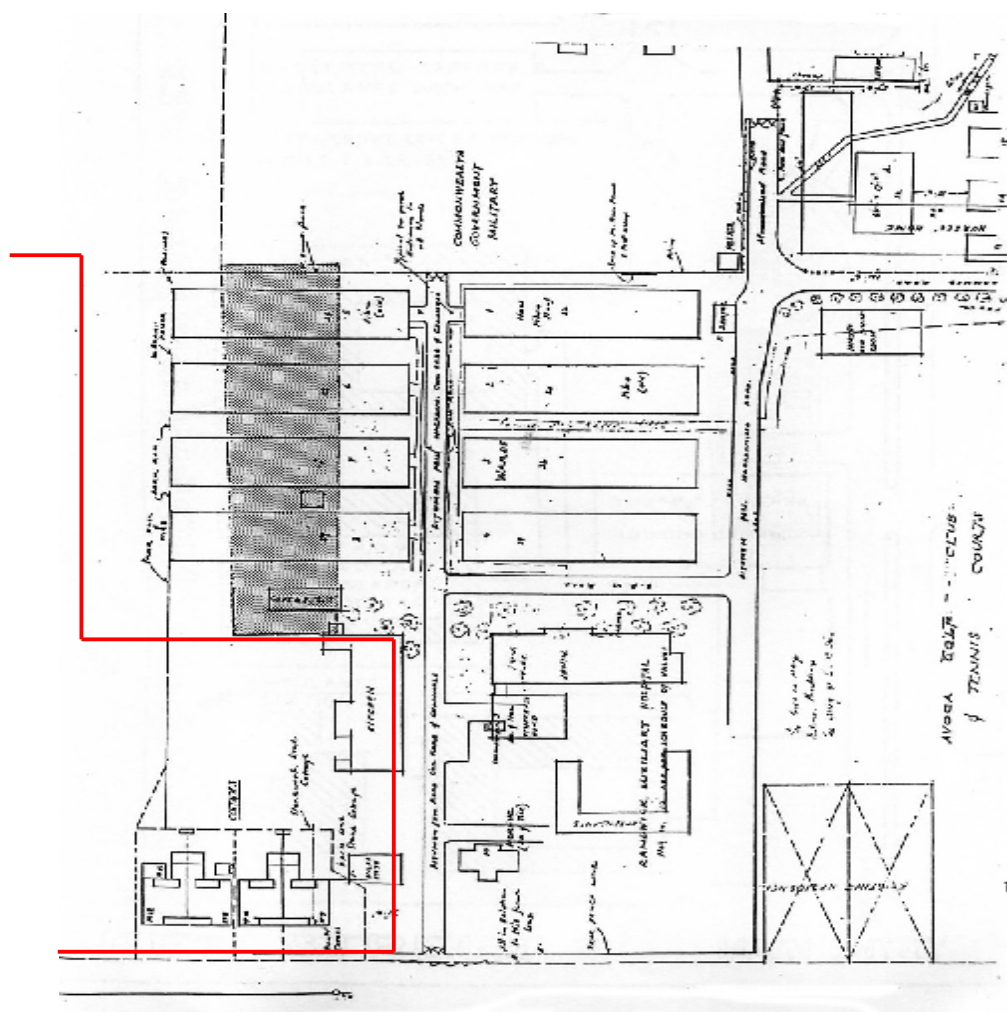


*Survey of the Asylum in 189; it shows the cottages on Barker Street and two smaller buildings.
Source: Sydney Water, Plan PWD 942-1544*

3.5

AUSTRALIAN GENERAL MILITARY HOSPITAL: 1915-1924

Large numbers of wounded soldiers began to arrive in Australia particularly after the Gallipoli campaign. In that year military general hospitals were established in each state. Until these were in operation state hospitals and private agencies provided emergency accommodation. Randwick Asylum was one of these sites of interim care. By the end of 1917 there was a system of military and auxiliary hospitals throughout Australia and the short-term places of care were no longer required for the purpose. By November 1917 there were three hundred wounded soldiers at the hospital. New wards were built to help with the numbers being brought to the place. In 1918 ten of these wards were built at the north-eastern corner of the concept plan site. They were built over the cemetery, which extended beyond them to the south for several metres. A dispensary was built over the former burial ground and a kitchen was also built here on the southern boundary of the cemetery. The majority of works of this period were located in the south-western corner of the hospital. Apart from the wards, dispensary and kitchen, new works included a morgue, attendants accommodation, TB ward and boiler house. A new road was opened from Barker Street. Several of these additions are within the concept plan area.



Plan of part of the military hospital in 1918; it shows part of the concept plan site including the two remaining Barker Street cottages, the new kitchen and dispensary.

Source: PWD PH 152/2

3.6

REPATRIATION HOSPITAL: 1924-1939

In 1918 the Repatriation Administration was established to look after a huge network of settlements, pensions and similar concerns for returning soldiers. One of its responsibilities was for soldiers who were permanently incapacitated and needing long-term hospital care. Most hospitals remained in the control of the Department of Defence until 1921 until taken over by the Repatriation Department. At Randwick substantial improvements were made to the buildings to accommodate the ongoing need. In particular the wards at the southern end of the hospital remained in use and were upgraded although a few were demolished in this period as well as the dispensary. The kitchen remained in use. During the later 1920s – 1930s most works were designed to improve existing facilities, sanitation, upgrade services such as the kitchen and accommodate new technologies. The landscape was also subject to a major overhaul. This included the construction of a new road between the kitchen and Barker Street cottages.

3.7

RENEWED ACTIVE SERVICE: 1939 - 1954

At the outbreak of war in 1939 Randwick was brought back into use as an active military hospital serving both Army and Navy. A massive programme of works was initiated to make it ready for this new emergency including the addition of seven wards. By July 1940 it was at capacity. More wards were built to the north of the existing wards in the south-western part of the precinct. Throughout the war the entire hospital was subject to an unending programme of repairs of varying scales, upgrades and some additions although no major works have been identified for the concept plan area. At the end of the war the hospital served in a repatriation role. During the first half of the 1950s repatriation patients were moved to Concord. Administration of the hospital was taken over by the Hospital Commission. Excavation of the cemetery site revealed extensive assemblages of artefacts related to the use of the wards and its occupants from both periods of military service.



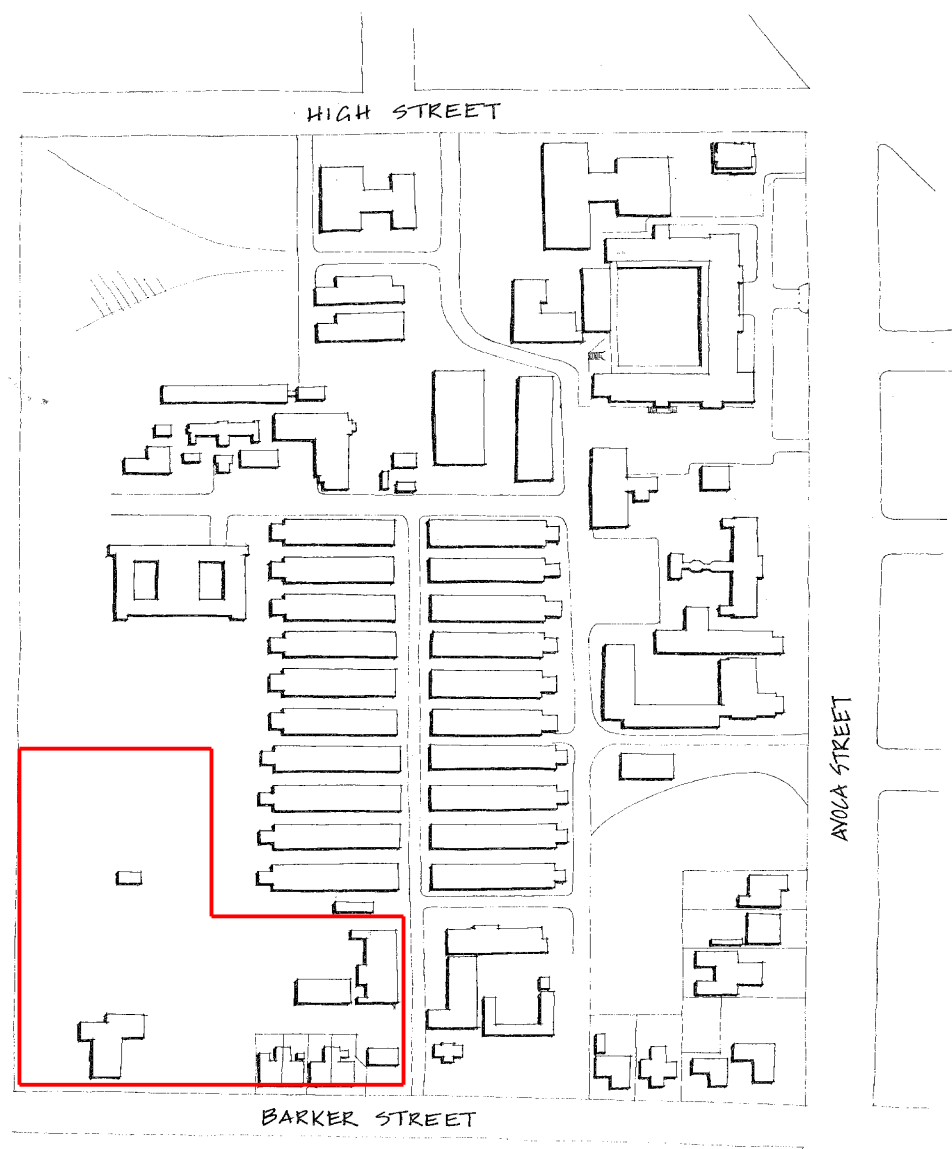
*Aerial view of the site in 1943, the concept site(approximate).
Source: RTA, From the Skies*

3.8

ANNEXE AND TEACHING HOSPITAL: 1954-1972

At the end of its service as a repatriation hospital the Prince of Wales served as an annexe to Sydney Hospital. It catered principally for long-term and convalescent patients but also evolved several specialist services. Throughout the 1950s the hospital massively expanded throughout its site. Despite these works many of the older structures, including many of the military wards in the south-western corner of the site and the kitchen remained in use. Additions included an ambulance station.

PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL
1960's



Approximate area of concept site
Source: GBA (1997), Conservation Plan

3.9

AMALGAMATION AND HERITAGE: 1972-2008

In this period major administrative changes led to the reorganisation of services at the hospital. At the same time growing demand for services led to the largest programme of redevelopment to occur within the site in its history. In the south-western portion of the campus two new blocks were added to the hospital road frontage including the medical research institute and, finally, the nineteenth century workers cottages on Barker Street were demolished and the site partially redeveloped. Throughout the 1990s a series of investigations and reports were prepared that began to analyse and define the importance of this site. With respect to the concept site the principal concern that emerged was the potential presence of the intact cemetery from the Asylum close to it. An archaeological assessment of this site was prepared in 1993 and in 1996 the cemetery site was excavated entailing the demolition of the old wards. Since that time the former cemetery site has been redeveloped; a memorial garden has been established in recognition of this place. Further additions have been made to the existing buildings.

4.0

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROFILE



4.1

IDENTIFIED RESOURCES

The only detailed archaeological assessment, investigation and analysis on any part of the Prince of Wales Hospital has been with respect to the site of the Destitute Children's Asylum cemetery. The evidence recovered from that investigation encompassed relics of Aboriginal occupation dating back 7800years BP, environmental evidence, extensive evidence of the cemetery and relics, structures, features and deposits of the development and use of the site for military and non-military use from 1915 onwards. This excavation has provided a large sample of the underlying profile immediately adjoining the proposed development site.

There are no surface indications within the concept plan site of any underlying archaeological features.

4.2

POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

Using only the existing information it is possible to determine that the concept site is likely to contain an archaeological profile encompassing elements of several different phases of occupation. More detailed research as part of a subsequent phase of work for the application areas is likely to refine and amend this initial review. The following sections discuss the conclusions of this preliminary analysis for the concept plan site.

4.2.1

ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

The excavation of the cemetery has revealed that there is an intact and ancient soil profile underlying the hospital. Despite several substantial additions made to the concept area within the last twenty years it is still certain to preserve more of this environmental time capsule. Palynological evidence sampled from the site could be used to define and describe the pre-settlement landscape; it is one of the only means left to do so. There are very few surviving environments indigenous to the sand dunes of this area⁸. Preserved pollen and soils are now the only means to document the original biodiversity.

4.2.2

INTERMITTENT OCCUPATION

From 1788 to 1852 virtually nothing is known of the development or use, if any, of this site. All preceding studies have focussed on the first major European association with the site, the Asylum. Evidence from later in the history of the place infers that the land was poor and, by inference it might be assumed that for this reason it was not exploited. However, there is a substantial gap, over half a century, for which consideration needs to be given to determine whether any association would have left some impact on the archaeological profile.

4.2.3

THE DESTITUTE CHILDREN'S ASYLUM

There are very few surveys of the site as it was configured for use by the Destitute Children's Asylum. The most reliable is from the end of the nineteenth century. Using this survey as well as archival evidence the following sites can be identified for the concept area.

The Cemetery

The cemetery site was excavated and recorded during the 1996 programme of work. Most of the site now lies under the Kiloh Centre. The excavation retrieved evidence of approximately sixty-five individuals. There were at least 163 burials recorded here. Some if not all are almost certain to have been removed through processes of redevelopment commencing in 1915 thereby accounting for the known burials within the cemetery. However, it would be prudent to exercise caution in the areas immediately surrounding the site of the former cemetery, within the north-eastern part of the concept site. Although there is no specific evidence to identify burials outside the boundaries of the known cemetery the possibility should be recognised that some interments occurred outside that site either before or during its period of use from

⁸ Benson and Howell (1990); *Taken For Granted the Bushland of Sydney and Its Suburbs*; 94-95

the 1860s to the 1890s. The likelihood is minimal but establishing a protocol in the event of the circumstance arising ensures minimal delays and confusion during any future development.

The Barker Street Cottages

Two semi-detached houses were built on the Barker Street frontage as housing for workers at the Asylum. A separate cottage was built in a small fenced enclosure to the north-east of those houses. The site of the western Barker Street cottage is likely to have been substantially disturbed by the construction of the MRI building. Evidence of the eastern cottage may be found within the car park adjoining the MRI building. The single cottage was located to the east under Easy Street and Hut U outside the concept site.



The Barker Street Cottages pre-1916
Source: J. Coulter, Randwick Asylum

Unidentified Buildings

The 1891 survey places three small structures in the south-western corner of the Asylum. At this time none have any identifiable function. The smallest was in the area of the ambulance station and evidence of it may be preserved there close to the street frontage. It was demolished by 1918. The next largest was in the area of the Kiloh Centre and outside the concept area. The largest appears to have been located in the centre of the MRI building on Hospital Road and may be preserved or partly preserved there in the courtyard. It had been removed by the early 1940s.

Market Garden

There is a single reference discovered to date from 1905 that seems to indicate some form of Chinese market garden was established somewhere in the southern part of the Asylum. At this time it is impossible to locate it on the basis of available evidence. If it was in operation within the development site it is likely to have left identifiable evidence within the archaeological profile. Several gardens of this type and date have been excavated and all have revealed not only earthworks but, in some cases, substantial structural additions.

4.2.4

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL 1915-1924

Wards

Eight wards were built initially in the southern part of the site; half were over the site of the cemetery. The excavation here revealed extensive evidence of the work undertaken to prepare the site for these buildings as well as structural evidence of them and artefacts associated with the patients and staff. The Kiloh Centre has been built over these sites outside the concept area.

Dispensary

Several metres south of the southernmost hut was a substantial dispensary. This is now within the site of the memorial garden and is not part of the concept site

Kitchen

South of the dispensary was a large kitchen servicing the wards. Although much modified and added to it survived into the 1990s and was in the area of the Easy Street car park. Evidence of it may survive here.

Boiler House

Adjacent to the Barker Street cottages was a boiler house. This site is within the Easy Street car park and there is likely to be archaeological evidence of it preserved there.

4.2.5

REPATRIATION: 1924-1939

Landscape Works

There were several improvements made to the landscape. This included the construction of a new road south of the kitchen. This is now within the Easy Street car parking area and is likely to have left evidence within the profile. There were tracks formed in the area of the MRI building.

Unidentified Building

The aerial view of the site in 1943 shows a substantial structure within a compound located to the west of the military wards over the former cemetery. The site of this unidentified building is now contained within the northern wing of the MRI building on Hospital Road and is unlikely to be visible in the archaeological record due to the impact of construction of this hospital building.

4.2.6

RENEWED ACTIVE SERVICE: 1939 - 1954

There are no sites additional to those from earlier phases phase identified at this time within the concept site.

4.2.7

ANNEXE AND TEACHNING HOSPITAL: 1954-1972

Apart from the construction of the ambulance station, still present, an addition was made to the kitchen in this period. This, along with the kitchen is likely to be preserved within the car park as archaeological evidence.

4.2.8

AMALGAMATION: 1972 - 2008

The works of this phase are more concerned with the removal of older features including the Barker Street cottages and the excavation of the cemetery.

4.3

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROFILE

The outcome of this preliminary review is that the concept site is likely to encompass a potential archaeological resource. This is a minimum evaluation based only on existing information; it may be amended as a result of further analysis. It may be summarised as follows:

- Environmental evidence that could be used to define and describe the pre-settlement landscape and bio-diversity; this is one of the few methods now remaining to do so.
- The potential, considered minimal, for additional burials to be found from the Destitute Children's Asylum although there is no evidence available to target or focus a particular site.
- Evidence of at least one later nineteenth century Asylum cottage on Barker Street in the area of the car park.
- Evidence of one small and unidentified Asylum building in the area of the Ambulance Station
- Evidence of one unidentified Asylum building in the internal courtyard of the Stage 2 building on Hospital Road
- Evidence of a kitchen built in c. 1915 with several additions from later periods in the car park on Easy Street;
- Evidence of a boiler house built between 1915 and 1924 in the car park at the corner of Easy and Barker Streets
- Evidence of landscape works including paths and gardens from several phases of occupation in the twentieth century.

As well this review has also identified several issues that need more research to aid in the identification of potential archaeological evidence. In particular these issues are:

- The use or otherwise of this site in the period 1788 – 1852.
- The location of a Chinese market garden said to have been active in the southern part of the site from 1905.

Generally, the profile is also likely to contain artefact assemblages and services for any or all phases of occupation.

A comprehensive evaluation is likely to refine or amend this archaeological profile for the concept site. This preliminary assessment has not yet taken into account the impacts caused by the introduction of services and the extent of disturbance caused by the construction of buildings. These are detailed impacts that need to be addressed in a future comprehensive assessment.

4.4

DISTRIBUTION

The preceding preliminary profile is a statement relevant to the entire concept site. With respect to the stages of development this profile responds to the several stages of work as follows:

STAGE 1

- Environmental evidence
- Potential burial sites
- Possible unidentified Asylum out-building
- Artefact assemblages particularly associated with the wards
- Landscape works, services and artefact assemblages.

STAGE 2A

- Environmental evidence
- Possible burial sites (although considered to be a minimal probability)
- Evidence of the Barker Street cottages
- Evidence of the boiler house
- Part evidence of the kitchen
- Landscape works, services and artefact assemblages.

STAGE 2B

- Environmental evidence
- Evidence of small, unidentified Asylum building
- Landscape works, services and artefact assemblages

STAGE 2C

- Environmental evidence
- Potential for Asylum burials
- Evidence of the c.1915 kitchen and subsequent modifications
- Landscape works, services and artefact assemblages

STAGE 2D

- Environmental evidence
- Potential for Asylum burials
- Potential for one unidentified Asylum out-building
- Landscape works, services and artefact assemblages

STAGE 3

- Environmental evidence
- Potential for burials
- Landscape works, services and artefact assemblages.

This distribution does not take into account the potential for sites pre-dating the occupation by the Asylum and those of a potential market garden and is likely to be amended subsequent to a comprehensive evaluation.

4.5

CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Prince of Wales Hospital has been assessed on several occasions and most comprehensively in the 1997 Conservation Plan.

With respect to the standard inclusion/exclusion criteria used for assessing the significance of a place the statement of significance for the potential archaeological resource has been assessed in the SHI format and draws from the evaluation prepared for the conservation plan. This assessment will need to be revised as part of a comprehensive archaeological assessment process initiated as part of the commitments for the application stages.

4.5.1

CRITERION A: Importance in the course or pattern of either NSW's or the local area's cultural or natural history.

The conservation plan notes the following aspects of historic importance:

- One of the longest-serving, continuously used sites of institutional care in Sydney and one of the earliest twentieth century hospitals in Sydney. This longevity is demonstrated in the fabric of the site.
- It contains evidence of the one of the largest and best-known nineteenth century welfare organizations in Sydney, the Destitute Children's Asylum. This is a rare survivor and illustrates methods and philosophies of nineteenth century care.
- It illustrates the measures taken to provide care for service personnel during both World Wars and was one of the first sites mobilised for this purpose in WW1.
- It was the largest repatriation hospital in the post-war years and is representative of methods and philosophies of the time.
- It demonstrates major development influences in the post-war public health care system.
- It has operated as a major teaching hospital and buildings within the site illustrate this function
- It has close associations with significant individuals in medical practice as well as architects for various developments within it and patrons and politicians.
- It has been a major influence in the development of the suburb.

The fabric preserved above the ground is the best demonstration of the historic associations of this place. It preserves significant components of all identified European periods of occupation. The archaeological evidence likely to be contained within the concept plan area can compliment this resource but in aspects more concerned with services that supported the provision of patient care, such as a kitchen. Intact evidence of the Barker Street cottages would contribute to documenting one of the substantial components of the Asylum period now removed from the site. Discovery and documentation of the smaller out-buildings from the Asylum would help to make clear the management processes of this institution. Generally most of the archaeological evidence identified to date could contribute by amplifying and

complimenting the above ground fabric and archival records but it generally will be in relation to service and maintenance aspects.

There are several exceptions to this assessment. The possibility has been recognised for the potential to uncover additional burials of the Destitute Asylum. A separate assessment of significance has been prepared for this aspect⁹. The cemetery and burials were considered to be of outstanding cultural significance because of rarity, research values and social significance. Additional burials would contribute to this important archaeological and historical resource. It is noted that unearthing a burial of this type is a minimal likelihood, however, a possibility remains and the importance of evidence of this kind should be clearly understood.

At this time the history of the site and its associations and possible use during the first half of the nineteenth century have not been determined. Additional research and evaluation may encompass aspects of the site's history that re-date its institutional associations and contribute to the historical values of the place.

4.5.2

CRITERION B: Strong or special associations with the life or works of a person, group or the cultural history of NSW or the local area.

The Conservation Plan notes the following:

- The site has a great importance to the La Perouse Aboriginal community through its demonstrated evidence of ancient occupation.
- The site has great significance for the families of the children accommodated in the Asylum
- The hospital has a strong sense of identity for those who work there.
- The hospital contributes to the local identity of the suburb.

There may be the potential for uncovering additional evidence of Aboriginal occupation. A separate assessment is being prepared for this aspect but it should be noted that the age of the material discovered to date and its associations for the living community make the potential for uncovering more evidence of this type of high significance.

The potential for uncovering additional burials from the Asylum raises the same issues addressed in 1995 during the excavation of the cemetery. Subsequent interviews with descendents, canvassed in the conservation management plan¹⁰, identified that great value was placed on the physical remains preserved within burials rather than specific sites.

Archaeological evidence recovered of other aspects of the site in all its European periods of development is likely to have interest for the local community but is unlikely to have strong or special associations for any single person or group.

4.5.3

⁹ GML (1995), *Destitute Children's Asylum Cemetery Statement of Significance*

¹⁰ GBA (1997), *Prince of Wales Hospital Randwick Conservation Management Plan*; 83-84

CRITERION C: Important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement.

The Conservation Plan notes the following:

- The campus has landmark qualities and a strong visual presence
- Several of the buildings are of outstanding importance being fine and rare examples of their type.
- There are several buildings that are good representative examples of institutional architecture.

The archaeological resource is unlikely to make any significant contribution to this aspect of cultural value.

4.5.4

CRITERION D: A strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

The Conservation Plan notes the following:

- The site has a great importance to the La Perouse Aboriginal community through its demonstrated evidence of ancient occupation.
- The site has great significance for the families of the children accommodated in the Asylum
- The hospital has a strong sense of identity for those who work there.

The discussion outlined for Criterion B (*Section 4.5.2*). is relevant here.

4.5.5

CRITERION E: The research potential of an item to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the cultural or natural history of an area.

The Conservation Plan notes the following:

- The buildings and plan of the site illustrate processes of hospital care over a long period.
- The site has the potential to yield archaeological evidence complimentary to the above ground fabric.

The archaeological resource identified to date has the potential to yield information about the European uses of this site from the mid-nineteenth century onwards. Generally, this evidence will pertain to service aspects of the various institutions. The exceptions are the potential for more burials of the Destitute Asylum to be recovered and for more evidence of Aboriginal occupation. Both aspects, if found, have outstanding significance for research values and for their value to living communities. As well the site has the potential to preserve evidence of the pre-settlement environment that provides one the few means now available to describe the original bio-diversity of the region.

4.5.6

CRITERION F: Rarity, in that the item possesses uncommon or endangered aspects of the cultural or natural history of the area.

Apart from the rarity of the cemetery the Conservation plan does not address this head of consideration.

The majority of the potential archaeological assemblage identified to date is neither uncommon nor endangered. The exceptions are the potential for more Asylum burials and evidence of Aboriginal occupation. To a lesser degree evidence of the Barker Street cottages and Asylum out-buildings could also be considered uncommon in that they would provide evidence for the service and management of the Asylum that is no longer represented above ground.

4.5.7

CRITERION G: Representativeness – an item demonstrates the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places in an area.

This aspect is not addressed in the conservation plan.

The majority of the potential archaeological assemblage, excluding those aspects discussed in Criterion F (*Section 4.5.6*) identified to date is representative of the service needs of the hospital in the twentieth century.

4.5.8

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Prince of Wales Hospital is a significant site largely due to its role as a major institution over a long period with diverse aspects of care and welfare provided there, some rare. The fabric preserved above the ground is the best demonstration of the historic associations of this place. It preserves significant components of all identified European periods of occupation. The archaeological evidence likely to be contained within the concept plan area can compliment and amplify this resource but in aspects more concerned with services that supported the provision of care from the mid-nineteenth century onwards. The majority of the potential archaeological assemblage identified to date is neither uncommon nor endangered and is representative of the service needs of the hospital. Evidence of the Barker Street cottages and Asylum out-buildings could be considered uncommon in that they would provide evidence for the service and management of the Asylum that is no longer represented above ground.

There are several exceptions to this assessment. There is the potential for uncovering additional burials of the Destitute Asylum. A separate assessment of significance has been prepared for this aspect. The cemetery and burials were considered to be of outstanding cultural significance because of rarity, research values and social significance. Additional burials would contribute to this important archaeological and historical resource. There may be the potential for uncovering additional evidence of Aboriginal occupation. A separate assessment is being prepared for this aspect but it should be noted that the age of the material discovered to date and its associations for the living community make the potential for uncovering more evidence of this type of high significance. Both aspects have outstanding significance for research values and for their value to living communities.

At this time the history of the site and its associations and possible use during the first half of the nineteenth century have not been determined. Additional research and evaluation may encompass aspects of the site's history that pre-date its institutional associations and contribute to the historical values of the place. As well the site has the evidence to preserve evidence of the pre-settlement environment that provides one the few means now available to describe the original bio-diversity of the region.

A graded evaluation of the archaeological potential of the site as far as it has been identified to date may be expressed as follows:

Exceptional Significance

- Potential asylum burials.

High Significance

- Elements and features derived from the Asylum period of occupation, specifically the Barker Street cottages and out-buildings and artefacts. Environmental evidence pre-dating the principal European development.

Medium Significance

- Elements and features that derive from the military periods of occupation including the kitchen, boiler house, artefacts and landscape works.

Low Significance

- Elements that derive from the post-war development of the place for repatriation and community hospital use.

4.6

RECOMMENDATIONS

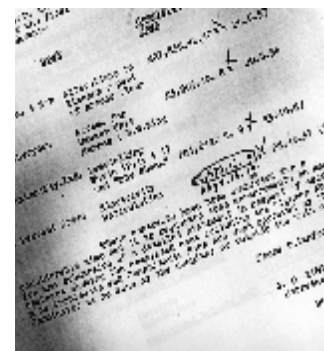
This preliminary assessment has demonstrated that the concept site of the proposed POW MRI development is likely to encompass an archaeological profile encompassing features and relics from all phases of the site's development. To respond to the requirements of the Director General with respect to ongoing consideration and recognition this review needs to be expanded into a comprehensive archaeological assessment as part of the commitment of works for the application stages.

Specifically the proponent of the development as a priority will need to commission a comprehensive archaeological assessment with respect to Stages 1-3 of the application. The priorities of the assessment will be:

- To undertake additional research particularly for those aspects already highlighted in the review to have been inadequately addressed by past research
- To define more precisely the predicted extent and nature of each archaeological element
- To evaluate the impacts of recent developments on the integrity of the archaeological profile
- To Re-assess the preliminary statement of significance
- To recommend specific strategies for individual sites or stages of work. This should take the form of a schedule of works addressing issues including but not confined to the development of research designs, test excavation, comprehensive excavation and documentation, monitoring and recording and burial protocols in the event that a burial is unearthed during the course of redevelopment.
- Consider the integration of European and Aboriginal archaeological requirements
- Canvass issues such as in-situ conservation, retrieval and storage of artefacts.

5.0

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