The first connections of this type were probably made during the later years of the nineteenth century with gas and later electricity also being connected to the properties. There are no plans of these services.

It is known that the Chapman Lane main is still functioning with connections to the Victoria Street properties and that the Wethered Street main still exists but is disconnected. There is a sewer running parallel to the Wethered Street main and it connects to the Liverpool Street sewer through 421 Liverpool Street²⁰⁰.

There is visible evidence at the surface of the car park of newly introduced services, principally drainage, that have been introduced after the demolition of the former nineteenth century structures and the construction of the car park. These works are sure to have made some impact on any underlying relics.

4.4 Geo-technical Evidence

A geo-technical survey has been made of part of the area. It has identified up to 1.5 metres of fill described as asphalt and concrete pavements, gravel and sandy gravel, some bricks and porcelain²⁰¹. The description clearly indicates intact levels of archaeological deposits and cultural material within the site.



View of the intersection of Chapman Lane and Liverpool Street looking to the south-east. This shows the sloping topography from west to east. The study area is the open area (Sites A, B) is behind the hedge surrounded by the buildings.

 ²⁰⁰ Waterman AHW, <u>St Vincents Research and Bio-technology Precinct Darlinghurst Site Plan Existing Services</u>
²⁰¹ Golder Associates, <u>Geo-technical Investigation St Vincent's Research and Bio-technology Precinct development</u>
<u>Darlinghurst NSW</u>; 5

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Above, view from Site B up through part of Site A to the back of the Victoria Street terraces (Site C). Below, looking east through Site B to West Street.





Above, view north to part of the Liverpool Street frontage Below, view south-east across the former area of Wethered Street



4.5 Archaeological Evidence

Almost no archaeological sites have been investigated in East Sydney to date. The closest to the study area is that of the former Sargent's Pie Factory at a site bound by Burton, Bourke and Palmer Streets. Here, despite substantial later disturbance, evidence was recovered of the pre-existing environment (a hanging swamp) and some early industrial activity (quarrying) as well as remnants of the nineteenth century town²⁰². There have been no investigations of substantial townscape samples as has been the case in Central Sydney and Pyrmont and Ultimo.

4.6 Survival of Archaeological Material

Until its demolition in the 1990s the study area is likely to have retained the entire capsule of nineteenth and twentieth century building and cultural history; there is no evidence of any substantial disturbance to any of the individual allotments until that date. The principal issue with respect to the survival of archaeological evidence is how thorough was the demolition process of the 1990s with respect to the removal of structures and associated deposits. No evidence of this work could be located.

The more substantial damage is likely to have occurred at the western end. Here the current level of the car park is closer to the existing footpath but at the eastern end there is approximately one metre of material above the level of the surrounding ground. This is also demonstrated in the lane from Chapman to West Street where the deposits of the site are retained by a substantial dwarf wall.

The structure of the site suggests that the buildings at the western end were demolished to ground level or perhaps into the lower profile and some of the demolition material has been pushed down the hill over more intact foundation to provide a level surface for the car park.

If this was the case then, although structures and deposits at the western end of the site closer to Chapman Lane may be damaged or even removed in some cases there is likely to remain a substantial archaeological landscape over the majority of the site.



The dwarf wall at the access lane from West Street retaining the deposits of Sites A, B

202 CRM, Report of Archaeological Investigation Former Sargent's Pie Factory Site: 2000

4.7 The Potential Archaeological Resource

The preceding analysis and discussion has enabled the following conclusions to be reached concerning the archaeological resource that is likely to be or might be contained within the study area, Sites A-C. This potential resource may be summarised as follows:

- Evidence of the pre-existing environment in terms of preserved micro-flora and the impact and means of European clearance.
- Possible efforts to manage environmental problems such as water run-off
- Possible boundary lines and one or two small buildings of the 1840s
- Extensive structural evidence of mid and later nineteenth century domestic residences, one at least with a basement level, and contemporary out-buildings.
- Evidence of changes and additions to those buildings.
- Evidence of services from the mid-nineteenth to twentieth century, with the potential for wells and cess-pits
- Evidence of yards
- Evidence of Wethered Street
- Evidence of domestic environments by means of yard and sub-floor deposits
- Evidence of domestic life through artefact assemblages.

Generally it may be described as a large archaeological landscape of mid-later nineteenth century domestic life with the potential for examining environmental conditions, personal life and the built environment. The latter has particular interest because of the documentary evidence of "block" ownership by few landlords. The integrity of this archaeological profile is likely to have been compromised by the impact of the demolition programme of the 1990s as well as the introduction of services at the same time. The extent of this impact cannot be precisely predicted from the available evidence; at this time the indications are for a largely intact profile particularly in the centre and eastern portions of the site.

SECTION 5.0 CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

5.1 Evaluation Criteria

An assessment of significance provides the objective basis for developing policies and management strategies for a site. The criteria used to assess significance are derived from the Burra Charter of Australia ICOMOS and are given legislative authority through the Heritage Act of NSW 1977 (amended). The assessment is implemented through the procedures described in the <u>NSW Heritage Manual</u> and <u>Archaeological Assessment</u> <u>Guidelines</u>. There are five principal criteria that describe the possible nature of significance, that is, why a place or relic is significant. These are as follows:

Historic Significance (evolution)

An item is important in the course of pattern of the cultural or natural history of the state or local area.

Associative Significance (association)

An item has a strong or special association with the life or works of a person or group that has importance for the cultural or natural history of the state or local area.

Aesthetic Significance (scenic qualities/creative accomplishment)

An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical accomplishment for the state or local area.

Social Significance (contemporary community esteem)

An item has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW or the local area for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

Technical/research Significance (archaeological, educational, research potential and scientific values)

An item has the potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the cultural or natural history of NSW or the local area.

Two criteria address the degree to which an item is significant. These are:

Rarity

An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the cultural or natural history of NSW or the local area.

Representativeness

An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of places of natural or cultural history that are of importance to the state or local area.

To be assessed as having heritage significance an item must meet at least one of the seven criteria and retain the integrity of its key attributes. Items may also be assessed according to the community to which they have the most relevance, local, state or national significance.

5.2 Assessment of Significance

5.2.1 Historic Significance

The study area encompasses land from two of the largest early nineteenth century estates in east Sydney. While there is no evidence to suggest that any improvements were made to this land, other than to be cleared, in this period the relationship of the two properties influenced property boundaries until the demolition of the buildings on this site in the 1990s.

The subdivision and pattern of building is representative of mid-later nineteenth century development in this part of Sydney. The relationship between the landlords and the working class tenants is also representative of this period of speculative development in the booming economy of the period.

5.2.2 Associative Significance

The site has no particular significant historical association with a person or group but that dynamics of land ownership and leasing is particularly associated with the historical development of this area.

5.2.3 Aesthetic Significance

The study area has no particular aesthetic values.

5.2.4 Social Significance

There is no identifiable social significance of the study area or its potential resource

5.2.5 Technical/research Significance

The potential archaeological resource of this site has the ability to address the historical profile of this site examining issues that are unavailable through archival means such as questions of culture and environment. It has the potential, through physical evidence, to address historical bias in primary records. It also offers the first opportunity to examine neighbourhood profiles in East Sydney to provide comparisons with comparable neighbourhoods of central Sydney and Pyrmont, Ultimo. It is also the largest extant record of the nineteenth century community now remaining on the site and the only one for which a comprehensive record is feasible with the majority of the profile having been lost in the mid-twentieth century.

5.2.6 Degree

Neither the evidence of the built or cultural environments within the study area is likely to be particularly rare but it is representative of a community. What is more unusual is that the archaeological resource is likely to span the full compass of European occupation of this place and provide evidence of the site before it was developed for that purpose.

5.3 Statement of Significance

The study area encompasses land from two of the largest early nineteenth century estates in East Sydney. While there is no evidence to suggest that any improvements were made to this land in this period the relationship, other than to be cleared, the two estates influenced property boundaries until the demolition of the buildings on this site in the 1990s. The subdivision and pattern of building is representative of mid-later nineteenth century development in this part of Sydney. The dynamics of land ownership and leasing is particularly associated with the historical development of this area and is representative of this period.

The evidence of the built and cultural environments is unlikely to be rare but it is representative of a community and the potential archaeological resource has the ability to address the historical profile of this site examining issues that are unavailable through archival means such as questions of culture and environment. It has the potential, through physical evidence, to address historical bias in primary records. It is also the largest extant record of the nineteenth century community now remaining on the site and the only one for which a comprehensive record is feasible with the majority of the profile having been lost in the mid-twentieth century.

It offers the first opportunity to examine neighbourhood profiles in East Sydney to provide comparisons with those undertaken in comparable neighbourhoods of central Sydney and Pyrmont, Ultimo. What is more unusual is that the archaeological resource is likely to span the full compass of European occupation of this place and provide evidence of the site before it was developed for that purpose.

The potential archaeological resource of this place is assessed to have high cultural value of particular significance to the local community and for general scientific research values.



The junction of Liverpool Street and Chapman Lane with the Green Park Hotel on the western corner and Site A on the eastern corner.

SECTION 6.0

MANAGEMENI

6.1 Statutory Issues

6.1.1 South Sydney Heritage Conservation Development Control Plan 1998

The principal provision from this planning instrument relevant to the study area is Section 3.7 that requires an archaeological assessment and, where necessary, application for a Section 140 Excavation Permit. This report fulfils that requirement.

6.1.2 The NSW Heritage Act 1977 (amended)

The principal legislative protection for archaeological relics in NSW is provided by the relics provision of the NSW Heritage Act. A "relic" is an "item of environmental heritage" which is defined by the Act as being "those places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects and precincts or State or Local Heritage Significance". Further definition is given to "relics", being any deposit, object or material evidence that is relevant to the settlement of NSW which is of non-indigenous settlement and which are fifty or more years old.

A relic or an archaeological site cannot be disturbed without an excavation permit. This permit gives approval from the Heritage Council of NSW to an applicant for that disturbance within specified parameters.

Application for the permit is made through the Heritage Office of NSW and may take between four and eight weeks to process. The application must nominate an archaeologist who will be responsible for the management of the relics. There is a small processing fee required for each permit.

6.2 The Development Proposal and Impact Assessment

The proposal is to develop the site in stages for a research and bio-technology precinct. It will comprise an eight-storey building with two basement levels. The excavation associated with construction of the building, introduction of services and landscaping will remove any relics remaining within the study area.

6.3 Mitigation: Archaeological Strategy and Objectives

The level of significance of the relics likely to be contained within the site is not sufficient to warrant consideration of in-situ conservation of structures as a means of preserving evidence. There are standing structures that provide permanent examples of the more substantial types of buildings likely to be recorded here and the more ephemeral buildings are likely to be identified by deposits that are impossible to maintain, such as post holes.

The evidence of culture and environment in association with this built environment is the more significant aspect of the resource and generally as difficult to conserve as ephemeral structures. It is a more appropriate option to investigate, record and interpret the archaeological evidence, transferring this data to stable and more accessible forms, plans, sections, photographs etc as well interpreting it in light of the primary archival resource and evidence from comparable sites.

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This action would entail a comprehensive salvage excavation with the objective of documentation and examination of specific issues or research questions prior to the redevelopment of the site. These overall objectives should provide the basis for a research design for the site. A research design accompanies the application for an excavation permit. The research design is essentially a specification of archaeological works that details how the site will be investigated and what the expected outcome of that excavation will be with respect to the information gathered during its investigation.

6.4 Recommendations

- The proponents of the development should make application for a Section 140 Excavation Permit from the Heritage Council of NSW.
- The excavation strategy expressed in the application should be for comprehensive open area excavation with the objective of providing an archival record of the information now preserved in the ground with reference to specific aspects and issues of community and scientific relevance.



The intersection of Liverpool and West Streets

SECTION 7.0

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Peter Bemi

Edward Hallen

Edward Knapp

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Sydney Water