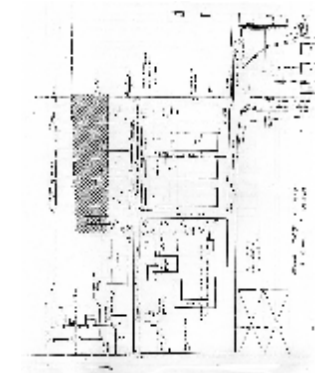


POW MRI PROJECT NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH PRECINCT

ASSESSMENT and MANAGEMENT EUROPEAN ARCHAEOLOGY



CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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EUROPEAN ARCHAEOLOGY**

JUNE 2009

**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 fulfils a commitment made for the Part 3A application for development. It provides a comprehensive assessment of the resource. This work follows on from an overview made to respond to a specific clause of the Director General's Requirements concerning the identification and management of European archaeological resources.

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 landscape is much-modified due to extensive European remodelling over more than 150 years. The pre-settlement environment would have been 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.

For Europeans the landscape of sand and sparse vegetation was unattractive for either occupation or exploitation. It was described later in the nineteenth century as a wasteland. While several grants were made and developed in the early years of the nineteenth century close to the future Asylum site this land remained unallocated almost certainly due to its poor environment.

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. The first asylum was located at Paddington. By later 1855 sixty acres had been selected and granted for a new site at Randwick. It was surveyed and fenced by the end of that year. 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 its only known use was for a small amount of staff housing and two unidentified out-buildings. 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. Following a site clean-up new wards were built to help with the numbers being brought to the place. In 1918 eight of these wards were built over the site of the cemetery. A dispensary was built to the south of these buildings and a kitchen beyond that as well as a boiler house; the buildings were located within the development area. A new road was opened from Barker Street. The staff cottages on Barker Street erected in the preceding phase of occupation were maintained and leased in this period.

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 demand. 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 few identified significant additions or removals from the development area in this period with the exception of one building added in the area of the present Villa 2. 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 stern corner of the site and the kitchen remained in use. Additions included an ambulance station. This was located within the development site on Barker Street and is still in use.

From the 1970s administrative changes led to the reorganisation of services at the hospital. At the same time growing demand led to the largest programme of redevelopment to occur within the site in its history. Villas 1, 2 and 3 are products of this period of development in the last quarter of the twentieth century. It was in this period that the Barker Street cottages were demolished and the kitchen. Throughout the 1990s a series of investigations and reports were prepared that began to analyse and define the importance of this site. In 1995 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.

1.3

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROFILE

The development site is likely to encompass a potential archaeological resource. This resource is likely to be fragmentary and much disturbed from the impact of new building works of the last thirty years. 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 but the cemetery excavation has already provided a good analysis of this evidence preserved within that area. Unless there are unusual features or exceptional circumstances of preservation within the development area it is unlikely to provide much that is new or additional to that already recorded during the earlier programme.
- The potential for additional burials to be found from the Destitute Children's Asylum is acknowledged but considered to be highly unlikely particularly taking into consideration the extent of redevelopment on the land surrounding the former cemetery.
- Evidence of at least one later nineteenth century Asylum cottage on Barker Street could survive within the area of the southern portion of the car park. In addition there may be evidence of a service wing, and out-house, landscape improvements and artefact assemblages. The evidence, if it survives, is likely to have been disturbed by the impact of the construction of the Barker Street MRI building, the construction of the car park and introduction of services.

- Evidence of one small and unidentified Asylum building might be found in the area of the Ambulance Station on the Barker Street frontage. If so it is likely to be disturbed by the construction of the ambulance station and, more particularly, the provision of services along the street frontage.
- Evidence of Asylum period detritus buried as part of a clean-up of the site initiated in 1915 may be found anywhere within the development site. There is no means to identify any specific site.
- Evidence of the eastern end of a boiler house built between 1915 and 1924 might survive in the car park at the corner of Easy and Barker Streets. If so it is likely to be disturbed by the impact of the construction of the car park and the provision of services.
- Evidence of rubbish and debris from the occupation of the site during both periods of military use in the form of rubbish pits and dumps could be located anywhere within the development site.
- Evidence of a building constructed on the western side of the kitchen in the mid-twentieth century could survive in the car park but it is likely to be only a fragmentary part of the eastern end of the building.
- Evidence of landscape works including paths and gardens from several phases of occupation in the twentieth century could be found anywhere within the development site.

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

1.4

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 development 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.

With respect to the Destitute Asylum this is likely to encompass aspects that were secondary to the main work of the establishment. The potential sites include elements from staff cottages and, possibly, an unidentified out-building and drainage systems. There is also the possibility of locating artefact assemblages from this phase that could help to describe the material culture available to those who worked and lived in the Asylum. The buildings and material culture and what can be inferred of the lives of those associated with the Asylum are poorly documented; archaeological evidence has the potential to make a substantial contribution.

With respect to the periods of use by the military the development site is unlikely to encompass substantial deposits or features that relate to this period, principally a small portion of a service building and possibly artefact assemblages, landscape improvements and services. Much of the profile uncovered within the development area is likely to belong to the mid-twentieth century and later. It could encompass a small fragment of a service building but is likely to encompass services and landscape improvements.

The majority of the potential archaeological assemblage identified to date is neither uncommon nor endangered although 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.

The potential is acknowledged for more burials associated with the Destitute Asylum to be recovered but is considered to be extremely unlikely. More probable is evidence of Aboriginal occupation. Both aspects, if found, have outstanding significance for research 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 of the few means now available to describe the original bio-diversity of the region. However, it is unlikely to add more than has been recovered and analysed from the cemetery excavation.

In all cases the ability of the archaeological evidence to realise its potential research values is likely to have been substantially compromised by the integrity of the resource. The area has been substantially redeveloped, particularly within the last thirty years. The impact of these works is likely to have removed or disturbed or fragmented the various components of the profile.

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, drainage system and artefacts.
-

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

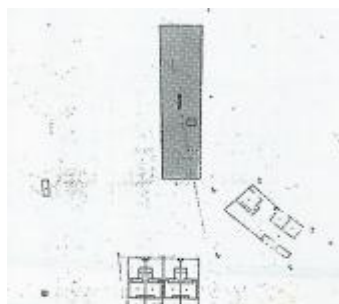
RECOMMENDATIONS

This assessment has demonstrated that the development site for the POW MRI is likely to encompass an archaeological profile of features and relics from all phases of the site's development. The ability of this resource to realise its research potential is constrained by the likely integrity of the profile. To address this issue and requirements and obligations arising from the investigation of the European archaeological profile the following recommendations should be addressed:

- A copy of this report should be made available to the NSW Heritage Branch and a meeting arranged to discuss the scope of proposed works.
- A small programme of test excavation should be established in the area of the car park and in front of the ambulance station on Barker Street to test the extent and integrity of potential features identified to be of high significance. The results of this work will inform on-going works.
- If necessary, based on the results of the test programme, salvage excavation programmes should be initiated in those areas ahead of the bulk excavation to uncover and document all the evidence pertaining to those features associated with the Asylum.
- A programme of intermittent observation and documentation should be initiated for the period of bulk excavation to provide for the identification and documentation of archaeological features and relics for which there is insufficient archival information to provide specific targets for prior investigation.
- A well-defined protocol (described in this assessment) should be established in the event that human skeletal evidence is uncovered on site.
- Artefacts unearthed during the course of the excavation should be left in situ to allow an archaeologist to record their contexts.
- The evidence recovered during the course of this programme must be documented in a final report that describes methodology and data recovered and interprets this evidence in light of the established chronological framework for the site and the research design described in this assessment. This period of analysis will need to encompass curation of any artefacts retrieved from the site.
- The final report should be made available to the hospital and the NSW Heritage Branch. A copy should also be included in any archive of records stored on site from the earlier cemetery excavation programme. As well, artefacts recovered from this programme of work should be housed with artefacts recovered from the cemetery excavation.
- If appropriate interpretive elements could be included within the final development to explain the archaeological significance of the site. The value of this strategy will depend on the evidence recovered from the site.

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.

A preliminary assessment of the archaeological potential of this site was made to respond to a specific clause of the Director General's Requirements for a Part 3A application for development¹.

This evaluation determined that the site did have the potential to contain significant European archaeological resources. It was a recommendation of this report that a comprehensive archaeological assessment be prepared with the objective of more precisely defining the extent and nature of that resource and to develop a management strategy for it. This report provides that comprehensive analysis of European archaeological evidence. A separate report has been prepared to address the potential for archaeological evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

¹ CRM (2008): POW MRI Project Neuroscience Research Precinct Preliminary Assessment European Archaeology.

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 Villa 3, in the north-western corner, Villa 2 on Hospital Road and Villa 1 on 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. The development area encompasses the southern extent of a landscaped area associated with the Memorial Garden, south of the Kiloh Centre.

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 Barker 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 assessment evaluates the potential of the development area and determines the principal archaeological features that could be found in each of the Stage 1-3 areas as well as strategies required to manage that evidence.

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 has 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 6.0*). 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 assessment in addition to the new research carried out for the purposes of this analysis.

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

The Heritage Act of NSW (1977) 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. However, in this case the usual procedures for a permit application will not be necessary; these are superseded by the Part 3A approval for this project. The provisions of the Act that confer protection of relics still apply to this site.

In place of the application the Heritage Branch of the NSW Department of Planning usually requires the submission of a research design and methodology for site works. These are accompanied by the supporting documentation of an archaeological assessment. This report fulfils that requirement.

2.6

OBJECTIVES AND TASKS

The principal objective of this work has been to define the extent, nature and significance of the European archaeological resource contained within the entire concept area.

To this end the following tasks have been undertaken:

- Analysis using existing resources and additional research to determine the principal characteristics of an archaeological profile. The discussion uses the phases of occupation defined for the conservation plan as an analytical framework.
- An assessment of the physical evidence for the site encompassing both surface indications, geo-technical data and archaeological evidence from the excavation of the former Destitute Children's Asylum;
- A determination of the potential archaeological profile.
- An evaluation of the cultural significance of that resource based on standard evaluation criteria;
- Identification of management protocols and strategies to be put into place as part of the development to ensure the most effective means of managing that resource commensurate with its significance.

2.7

METHODOLOGY

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

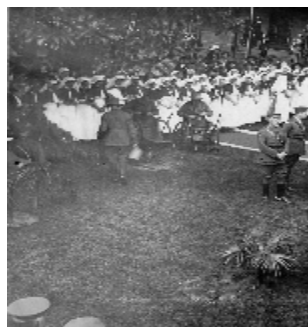
2.8

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. At the base of the dune is Hawkesbury sandstone. The sand above was deposited there approximately 35,000 years BP³. The sand was blown inland from the coast and was then sculpted into dunes. The dunes ranged in height from between 20-30 metres at Bondi to 4-5 metres above the sandstone bedrock⁴. The study area is on the southern and western slope of a former dune.

The sand dunes separated the coastal land of rocky headlands, sandy beaches and estuaries from swamps and wetlands that run between Botany Bay and Port Jackson. The swamps, both fresh-water and brackish, were formed in the shallow depressions between dunes. The dune on which the study area developed was located between two arms of a fresh water swamp.

A decaying layer of organic material and leaf litter accumulated on the surface of the dune contributing to the development of topsoil. This soil was at the surface of the site in the pre-and post-settlement period. Soil located away from the swamps was highly acidic and infertile due to poor water retention and wild fires.

At depth this surface soil became paler-coloured; gradually it became bleached white sand. Leaching waters through this material accumulated at the level of the water table and hardened to form a dark cemented layer known as coffee rock. Below this is the massive deposit of ancient yellow dune sand that lies directly over the sandstone.

Excavation of the former Asylum cemetery revealed what is likely to be a standard soil profile for the development area being:

- Disturbed surface deposits accumulated from European uses
- Grey-brown 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 bedrock⁵.

The landscape was not attractive to Europeans for occupation or exploitation. Captain Cook described the area as “*mostly a barren heath diversified with Marshes and Morasses*”⁶. The heath was most likely banksia scrub. The wetlands had localised swamp vegetation⁷. Whatever trees and shrubs grew on the hills were quickly removed for firewood. The deforestation of the area was so great that sand blowing from these dunes caused great problems for the outer parts of the city. A Bailiff was appointed in the 1840s to try and secure what remained of the tree cover in an effort to mitigate some of these environmental issues⁸.

³ GML (1996); *Archaeological Investigations Randwick destitute Children's Asylum* Volume 2: 07

⁴ GBA (1997); *Conservation Plan Prince of Wales Hospital*: 6

⁵ GML (1996); *Archaeological Investigations Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum Cemetery Interim Report*:14

⁶ Quoted in Benson and Howell (1990); *Taken for Granted the Bushland of Sydney and Its Suburbs*: 94

⁷ Ibid: 94-95

⁸ Lynch and Larcombe (1959); *Randwick 1859-1959*: 30-31)

Residents who remembered the place in the early part of the nineteenth century recalled an undulating landscape of swamps and sand hills⁹. Even though efforts were made to revegetate this landscape during the later part of the nineteenth century away from the main building precinct the former landscape and vegetation was little changed. In 1918 a visitor inspected the land around the former Asylum cemetery and described it; “a *gentle westerly slope and the slope is almost pure sand thinly grassed....*”.¹⁰

Environmental conditions influenced the future European use of the site. Buildings and major improvements were sited either on the top of the slope or at the base. Almost certainly the environment contributed to the relatively late selection of the site for European exploitation. Although land grants were made and used from the early years of the nineteenth century close to the future Asylum site this land was not occupied until the mid-nineteenth century. It was described as “a wasteland”.

3.2

ABORIGINAL OCCUPATION

In contrast to the European perspective of this place the pre-settlement environment would have provided rich resources for indigenous peoples. The excavation of the Children's Asylum cemetery revealed evidence of sporadic Aboriginal occupation close to the proposed development area. Found on west-facing dunes, this was a hearth or fireplace dated to 7800 years BP¹¹. 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 was prepared for the project.

⁹ Quoted in Lynch and Larcombe (1959); *Randwick 1859-1959*: 11-15)

¹⁰ GML (1996); *Archaeological Investigations Randwick destitute Children's Asylum* Volume 1: 32

¹¹ Ibid.

3.3

WASTELAND: 1788-1852

Land around the Asylum had been the subject of several land grants allocated from the early years of the nineteenth century. Further south were church and school lands. Apart from these larger estates original settlement was sparse and scattered. By the mid-nineteenth century much of the land around the study area had been allocated in properties of varying size demonstrated by a parish map of 1856 shown below. Much of the land immediately adjoining the future Asylum site was granted to Simeon Henry Pearce one of the most influential figures in the development of Randwick, Coogee and near-by suburbs. The rest was owned by several smaller land-owners.

There is no evidence to show that the Asylum site or the land for its model farm to the south was ever alienated for any European use prior to its commitment to the Asylum in 1852. There is no evidence of an earlier title for the land and the excavation of the Asylum cemetery revealed no specific evidence of land-use from settlement until the development of the burial ground in the 1860s. It provides confirmation that the site was vacant for nearly half a century after the first European occupation in the area. The most likely conclusion to be drawn from this circumstance is that the environmental conditions were so poor that it was not sought or offered for use or occupation.



*Detail of a parish map of 1856 showing the site of the Asylum (red arrow) and the proposed model farm (blue arrow). It shows the pattern of land ownership around the site at that time.
Map of the Parish of Alexandria 1856
ML M2 811.1816/1856/1*

3.4

RANDWICK DESTITUTE CHILDREN'S ASYLUM: 1852-1915

Destitute and abandoned children had been a problem from the first years of the colony. The first measure taken 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. A new beginning was sought with a new site for a purpose-built establishment.

3.4.1

SELECTION

By later 1855 sixty acres had been selected and granted for a new site at Randwick. It was bound on the north-west by a property of sixty-nine acres belonging to Simeon Henry Pearce and on the east and south by roads. It encompassed two separate allotments. The northern block was of a little over thirty-one acres that was to be used for the Asylum buildings and the second of twenty-eight acres to the south was to be used as a farm that would employ the children and supply the Asylum with produce. Lewis Gordon surveyed the land in early 1855¹². By the end of the year the site was fenced¹³. A plan was prepared for a new building that would house four hundred children.

¹² Affidavit of Lewis Gordon: Supreme Court Equity proceedings – Moore and Ors V Attorney General Case No. 1786. [SRO 3/753](#).

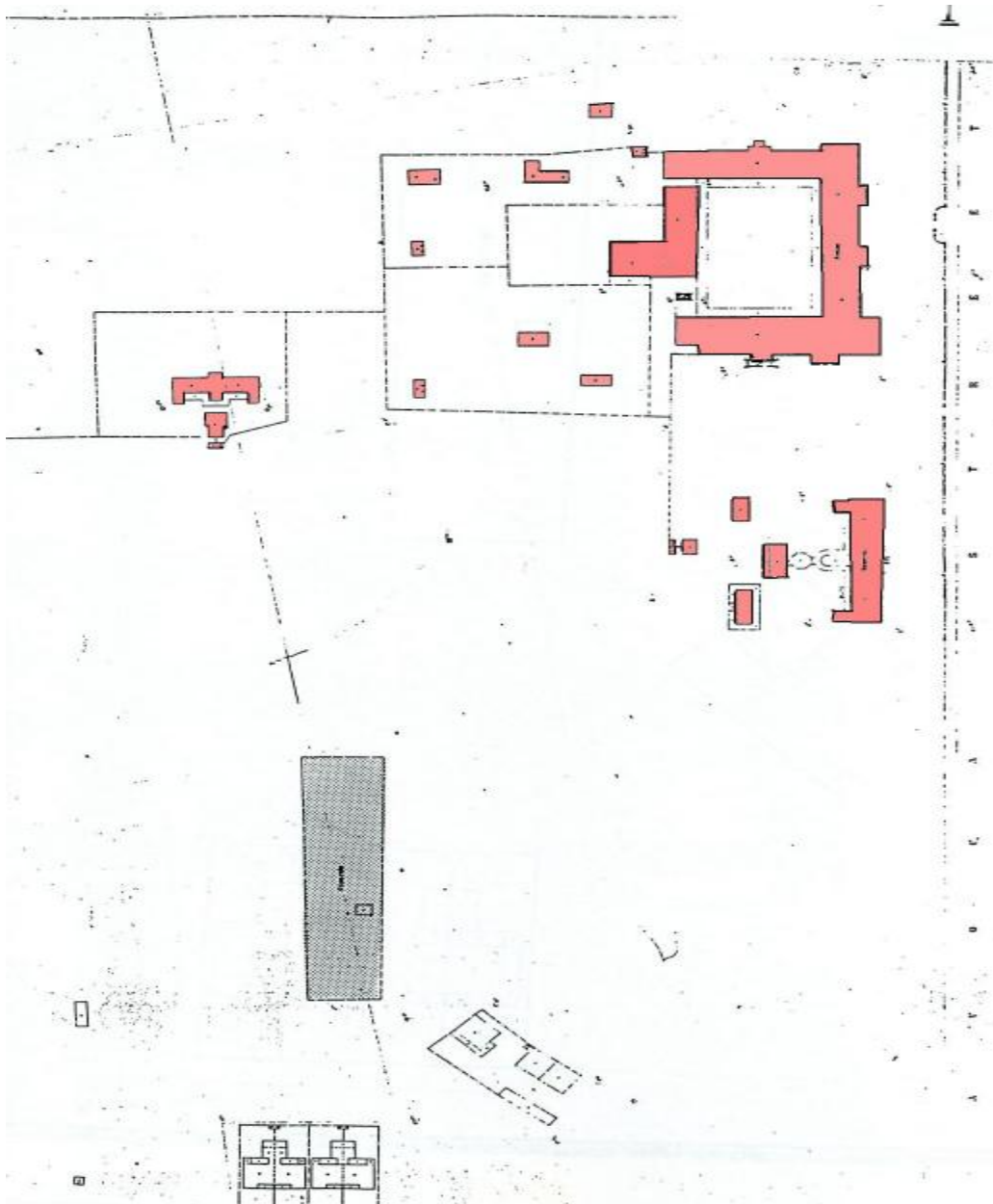
¹³ Annual Report Asylum for Destitute Children 1855

3.4.2

PRINCIPAL BUILDINGS

The principal buildings for the Asylum were located at the northern end of the northern block. Work commenced on the main building in mid-1856 and was completed by February 1857. This 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.

Over the next few years several other buildings were added to this part of the site to provide services for the establishment. Eventually the principal buildings encompassed, apart from the Asylum a new wing to it, a kitchen, a Superintendent's house, a hospital, a receiving house, kitchen and laundry facilities, water closets and other out-buildings. They were all located outside the development area.



Plan of the Asylum in 1891 with the principal buildings highlighted in red; these are the asylum, hospital, receiving house, kitchen and out-buildings. (Sydney Water PWD 942 – 1544)

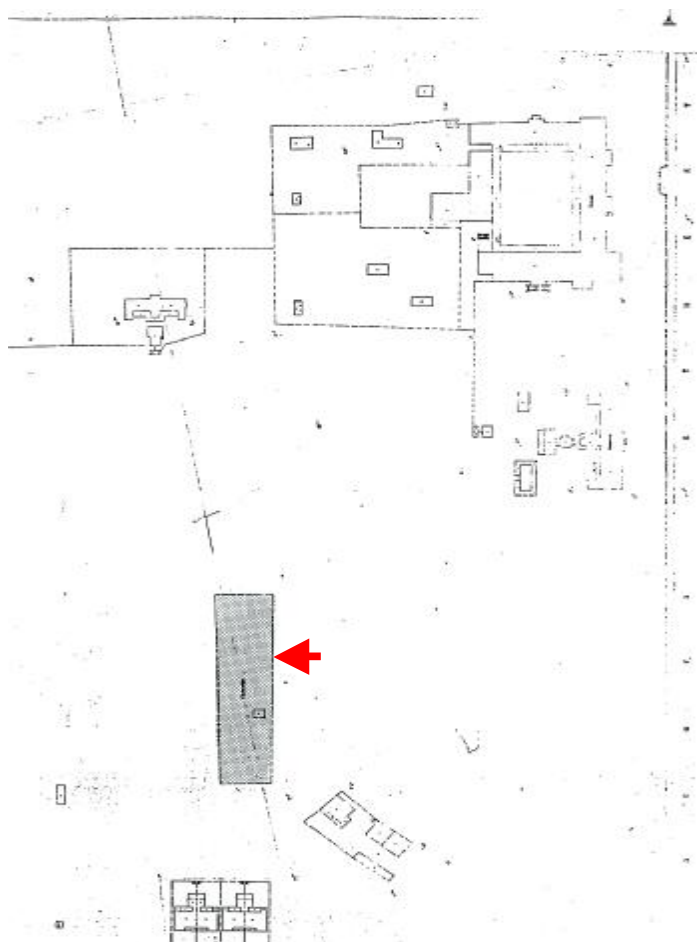
3.4.3

THE CEMETERY

A cemetery was established in 1863. Asylum records indicate that at least 174 deceased children were interred there between 1863 and 1891¹⁴. This site, adjoining the development site, has been archaeologically investigated and recorded. The excavation revealed sixty-five in-situ burials and 216 individual fragments. As well, one unregistered burial was found bringing the identified number of individuals known to have buried in the cemetery to 175¹⁵. One of the individual skeletal elements was morphologically older than the rest of the children found here; it was considered that this individual was buried here either before the establishment of the cemetery or following its closure¹⁶.

There is little contemporary evidence for the use and appearance of the cemetery. In 1863 it was reported that the land has been fenced off and the ground prepared for this use¹⁷. In 1874 it was reported that a mortuary had been built in the cemetery¹⁸. Presumably this is the building noted on the plan of the cemetery recorded in 1891.

There is only one contemporary description of the Asylum cemetery. In 1890 it was reported *"far away to the back of the grounds we saw a pretty planted shady-looking plot railed off. That we were told was the burying ground belonging to the institution"*¹⁹.



The cemetery shown on the 1891 survey of the property.

Sydney Water PWD 942-1544

¹⁴ Godden Mackay Logan (1997): Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum Cemetery Volume 1; 1

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Annual Report RDCA 1863

¹⁸ Ibid; 1873

¹⁹ Illustrated Sydney News 17 April 1890; 21

3.4.4

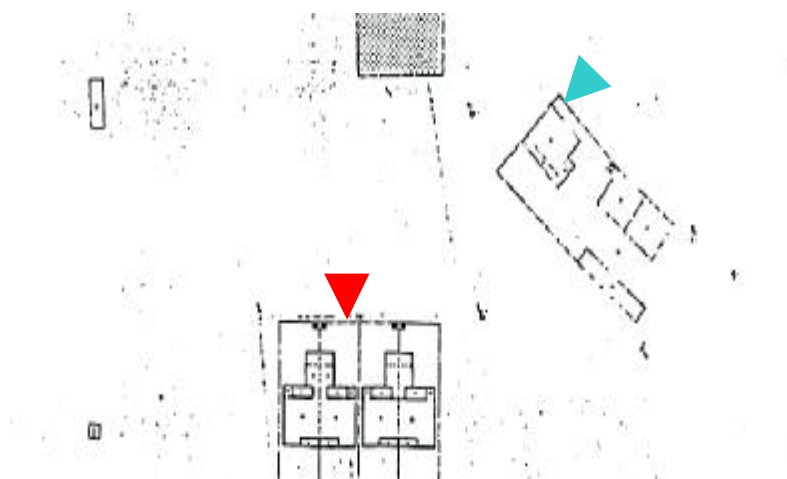
STAFF COTTAGES

During the last quarter of the nineteenth century several cottages were added to the site for the use of staff working at the Asylum. The first known addition was made in 1879. In that year it was reported that a cottage had been erected for the occupation of a farm worker²⁰. This cottage was located to the south-east of the cemetery. It was placed in a fenced plot that had smaller fenced areas within it.

In 1884 the Annual Report noted “*the cottages have been completed and occupied by the workmen engaged in the institution*”²¹. These four cottages were in fact two semi-detached houses located to the south of the cemetery on what is now Barker Street. The position of the cottages was probably determined by the creation of this street; it only began to be listed in 1884 suggesting that the houses were some of the first on the new thoroughfare²². The 1889 Annual Report noted that improvements had been made to these workmen’s cottages²³.

There is only one description of these buildings. It was made in an undated report of the asylum; its is likely to date to approximately 1900. It was reported that “*fronting Barker Street are four cottages in two semi-detached blocks and somewhat at the back of these buildings is a single cottage standing within a fenced piece of ground. These cottages are I believe, occupied by the some of the employees of the institution*”²⁴.

In 1904 some unidentified improvements were made to the cottages on Barker Street²⁵. In that year these buildings were valued at £800. One was let at thirteen shillings and sixpence a week and the other three were occupied by Asylum officers as residences²⁶. These buildings were renovated in 1913²⁷. In 1915 an estimate was made of the cost of construction of various elements within the Asylum site. The workmen’s cottages were claimed to have been built at a cost of £2191-13-11²⁸. The only reliable survey of these buildings is that of 1891, a detail of which is reproduced below.



Detail of 1891 survey showing the Barker Street cottages (red arrow) and the farm worker's cottage (blue arrow). The southern end of the cemetery is shown as the grey, hatched feature.

²⁰ Annual Report RDCA 1879

²¹ Ibid: 1884

²² Sands and Kenney, *City and Suburban Street Directory 1883 – 1884*, Barker Street Randwick

²³ Ibid: 1889

²⁴ Report on the Asylum; *Colonial Secretary Correspondence Special Bundle 5/5229*

²⁵ Annual Report RDCA 1904

²⁶ Report prepared for the Legislative Assembly 1904: Randwick Destitute Asylum. Col. Sec Correspondence Special Bundle 5/5229.

²⁷ Ibid: 1913

²⁸ Joint Papers of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly 1915-1916 Volume 1

Apart from this survey, which shows each house with an attached service wing and out-house at the end of a fenced yard, very little is known of these buildings. One photograph was taken of them in the early years of the twentieth century. It reveals Italianate detailed buildings that certainly appear to have justified the more than two thousand pounds spent upon them.



The Barker Street cottages in c. 1916
J. Coulter, Randwick Asylum: An Historical Review of the Society for the Relief of Destitute Children.

The first occupants of the cottages were Richard Bamber (in the westernmost), Thomas Ellis who had a delivery van and probably was not connected with the Asylum; Phillip Skillithorne and a Mr Newman. William Bateson, a teacher at the asylum, occupied the separate cottage²⁹.

In 1890 the asylum farm overseer occupied the single cottage and the easternmost of the semi-detached houses was home to Lewis Huddleston. The second cottage was vacant and the third was occupied by John McDonald, an engineer. The fourth cottage was home to Laurence Stark, an engineer³⁰. The buildings were described in this year as the Asylum Cottages.

In 1901 William Russell, a gardener, lived in the easternmost cottage, Robert Mcredie the next house, Richard Dawson the third and Laurence Stark still occupied the fourth cottage. By this time one other house had been built further along Barker Street, near Maude Street. This was home to John Alsop, a horse-trainer connected to the near-by stables³¹.

Over the next few years the cottages were constantly leased; the first cottage was home to William Russell the gardener for over fifteen years. One of the houses had acquired a name by 1910; the third from the east was named "Edith Villa"³². It had been renamed "Rahona" by 1915³³. By this year, at the time of the close of the Asylum, Barker Street was home to several small villa homes.

²⁹ Sands and Kenney, *City and Suburban Directory 1884*; Randwick Barker Street

³⁰ Ibid: 1890

³¹ Ibid: 1901

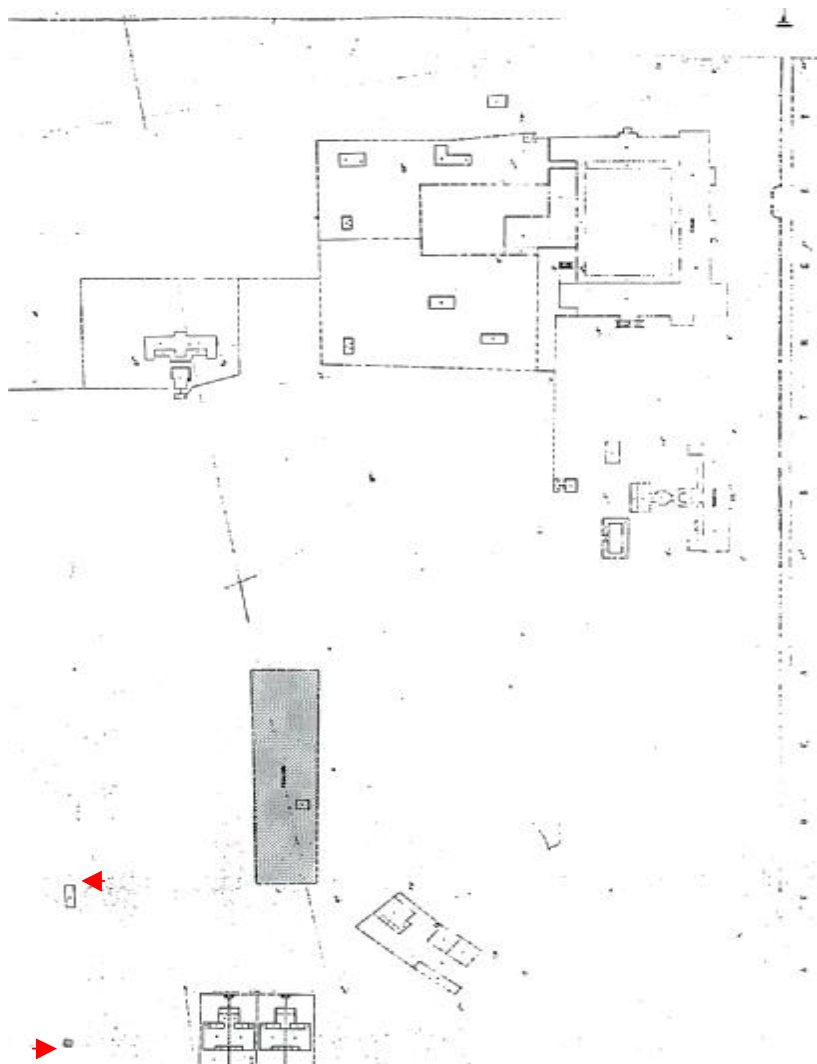
³² Ibid: 1910

³³ Ibid: 1915

3.4.5

UNIDENTIFIED OUT-BUILDINGS

The 1891 survey also shows several small buildings in the southern part of the principal block. Nothing is known of these buildings with respect to when they were built, for what purpose or the details of their construction.



1891 survey of the asylum showing two unidentified out-buildings

Sydney Water: PWD 942-1544

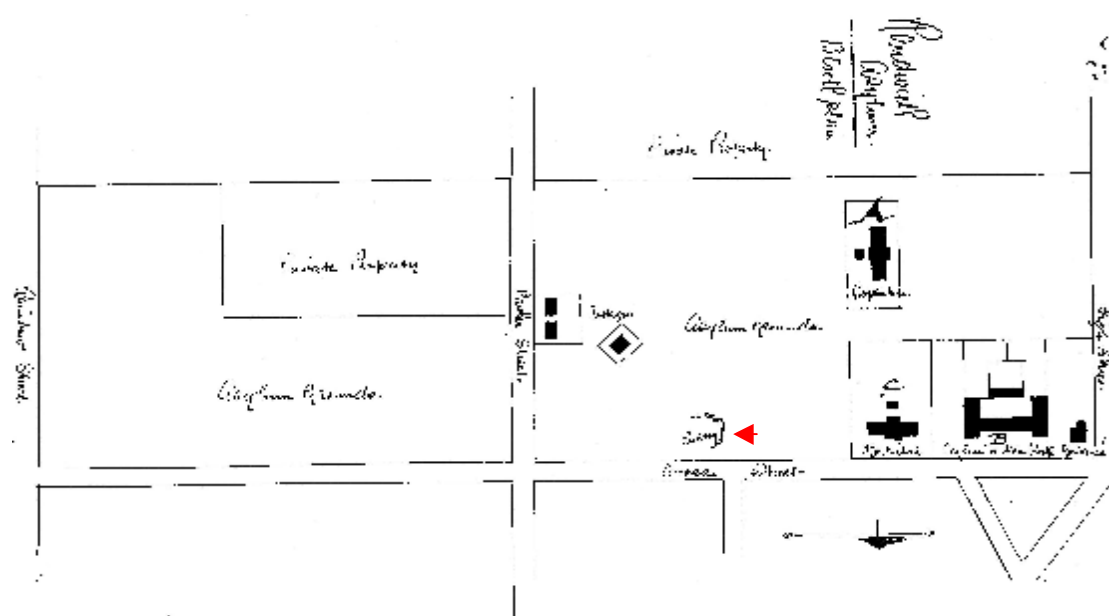
3.4.6

THE LANDSCAPE

Following the construction of the principal Asylum building in 1857 work commenced on improving 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 referred to the northern block rather than the southern model farm block. By 1863 the Annual Report could state that the grounds surrounding the principal buildings had been landscaped. This work was made possible by the generous support of several well-known nurserymen. The annual report of 1868 stated that a considerable portion of the land had been planted with trees and shrubs.

The block of land set aside for a model farm to the south of the main asylum site was said to have been abandoned due to the poor quality of the land and the lack of reliable water. It was described in 1863 as being in part “very rocky”³⁴. There is some evidence to suggest, though, that it was used as grazing paddocks for the farm livestock (*refer Section 3.4.7*). In place of this site the asylum was able to use twenty acres of a block at the corner of Barker and Botany Streets for this purpose. But even this was said to be a difficult enterprise despite a large well being constructed close to it³⁵. 1859 sixteen acres were ready for cultivation and six were supporting crops³⁶. Most of the references to the landscape of the site refer to the improvements made to the farm. For example, in the Annual Report of 1871, it was noted that fencing had been made in the large paddocks and farm.

There is less evidence for the appearance of the southern portion of the principal Asylum block. The cemetery was described in the 1880s as being among “clumps” of trees³⁷. There was a quarry on part of the site in the south-eastern corner; it was described as containing good stone that could be easily worked³⁸. It was located close to Avoca Street.



*A sketch plan prepared in 1905 showing principal features including the quarry (indicated with an arrow)
Source: Colonial Secretary Correspondence Special Bundle 5/5229*

³⁴ Annual Report RDCA 1863

³⁵ Coulter, J (1916): *An Historical Review of the Society for the Relief of Destitute Children*; 112

³⁶ Annual Report RDCA 1859

³⁷ *The Evening News* March 31 1884

³⁸ Report for the Disposal of Surplus Property 1913. *Col. Sec. Correspondence Special Bundle 5/5229*.

3.4.7

SERVICES

Little is known of the services that were supplied to the site at its construction or in the following years. The most information concerns the sewerage system that ran from the asylum to what is referred to as the grazing paddocks. There was over 3500 feet of pipe that ended at two pits in these paddocks. Each pit was six feet square and two feet deep; they were connected to filtering chambers. These chambers fed a nine feet long pipe that ran to a rubble drain. This drain ran through a sand hill at a depth of nine feet below the surface and then into trenches in the grazing paddock. These were about four feet in depth and filled with pine branches and soil³⁹. A later reference described the “stench pots” that were located along the line of the sewer⁴⁰; these were probably funnels to release gas from the system.

There are no plans or images that provide any indication as to the precise location of this system. In 1916 it was declared that it ran to the original model farm site, that is, the block to the south of the Asylum⁴¹. If this was the case then it infers that the original model farm site, rather than being abandoned, was used to graze the farm animals. Furthermore, it means that the elaborate sewerage system would have run through or close to the development site. As the latrines for the asylum were located in the main building on Avoca Street it suggests that the line of the system would have extended through the eastern half of the development site or, possibly, through Easy Street. Possible confirmation of this conclusion might be drawn from the later nineteenth century observation of the “stench pots”. The visitor who recorded this observation was said to have been looking toward the cemetery at the same time; there was also a cricket ground in the same vicinity.

3.4.8

SLOW DECLINE

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. 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.

Despite these improvements, 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 to it.

³⁹ Annual Report RDCA 1880

⁴⁰ The Evening News March 31 1884

⁴¹ Coulter, J (1916); Randwick Asylum, An Historical Review of the Asylum for Destitute Children; 26

3.4.9

NEW OPTIONS

Leasehold Auction

By the beginning of the twentieth century the suburb of Randwick was greatly expanding and the large amount of land tied up in the asylum was of concern. The asylum at that time was suffering severe financial problems and in recognition of the changing circumstances of its setting it was decided to lease four acres of unused land⁴². The land chosen for the lease was on the southern boundary of the principal block. It included the cemetery and land around it. The auction in 1903 was not a success, possibly because the land was offered as a ninety-nine year leasehold rather than freehold. Only one block was sold at the auction.

This land gradually fell into disuse. The cemetery, for example, was so overgrown that it had been largely forgotten when the sketch plan on the preceding page was prepared in 1905.



A detail of a proposed subdivision of 1903 to sell leases to the Asylum grounds; the Barker Street cottages are shown as well as the principal asylum buildings and quarry. The streets proposed by the subdivision did not eventuate.
(Col. Sec. Correspondence Special Bundle 5/5229)

⁴² Annual Report RDCA 1903

Market Garden

In 1905 a large part of the southern asylum block, possibly used to that date as grazing paddocks, was put under promise of a lease for a market garden. The lease was to a Chinese man named Ah Young and it was to last for five years⁴³. Ah Young had already fenced the land and ploughed it in 1904. The remainder of the block apart from a portion on Botany Street was let to Thomas Payten⁴⁴. The lease to the Chinese family caused much protest and a public meeting was held; the Asylum Directors undertook to lease no more land to the Chinese⁴⁵.

3.4.10

CLOSURE

Despite several investigations and options such as leasing land for the last decade the property was under-utilised and in serious physical decline. In 1914 at the outbreak of war the site was considered for use as a military hospital. The Directors of the asylum offered the use of the southern portion of the main building, the hospital and vacant land on the southern part of the site to the Minister for Defence. In 1915 the entire property was resumed for the war effort. The remaining fifty children left in 1915.

⁴³ Report on the Randwick Asylum for the Legislative Assembly 1904 in Col. Sec. Special Bundle 5/5229

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Miscellaneous Report on the Children's Destitute Asylum 9 October 1907 in Col Sec Special Bundle 5/5229

3.5

AUSTRALIAN GENERAL MILITARY HOSPITAL: 1915-1924

Large numbers of wounded soldiers began to arrive in Australia soon after the commencement of the war and 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. The 4th Australian General Hospital was established in the asylum building. 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. Randwick continued to provide care throughout the war and afterwards. Apart from utilising the existing buildings in the northern part of the site most of the new works were located in the south-eastern corner of the principal Asylum block.

3.5.1

SITE PREPARATION

After the closure of the Asylum in 1915 and before its reopening for use as a military hospital the archaeological excavation of the cemetery revealed evidence of a period when the site was cleaned up and detritus from the old Asylum was buried within the site. At the cemetery rubbish pits filled with discarded artefacts and cat carcasses evidenced this site clearance⁴⁶.

By November 1917 there were three hundred wounded soldiers at the Randwick hospital. New wards were needed to help accommodate the numbers of patients being brought to the place. In 1918 a plan was prepared to build eight wards in the south-eastern corner of the site. The site chosen for the new buildings was the former Asylum cemetery. By this date the old ground was so degraded that the cemetery had been forgotten and was only rediscovered when work commenced on ground works for the wards. The officer in charge of the works later recorded how the site was prepared for the buildings.

*"There was a hill on the south-west side. There was a cemetery, in front of the hill between Avoca-street and the rear of the property. We removed the cemetery, cut the hill down and graded from the south-west corner back towards the main permanent building."*⁴⁷

The archaeological excavation of the cemetery revealed more details of the work undertaken to prepare the site for the buildings.

The sand dune was levelled to form terraces for the huts; these terraces cut into the eastern side of the cemetery. The soil from this excavation was pushed to the west and was then used to form a steep narrow batter at the end of the terraces. After the huts were built soil from the upper dune was brought to the site. This mixed brown sand was deposited to form a compact layer. It was between 600-1000mm in depth and it was planted with grass⁴⁸.

It is clear from the plans of the site in this period that several of the older Asylum out-buildings were demolished as part of this programme although there is no archival evidence of the work. Specifically the two small buildings shown to the west of the Barker Street cottages were certainly removed as part of the new development of the site during the war years.

⁴⁶ GML (1997); Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum Cemetery Volume 2; 8, 154

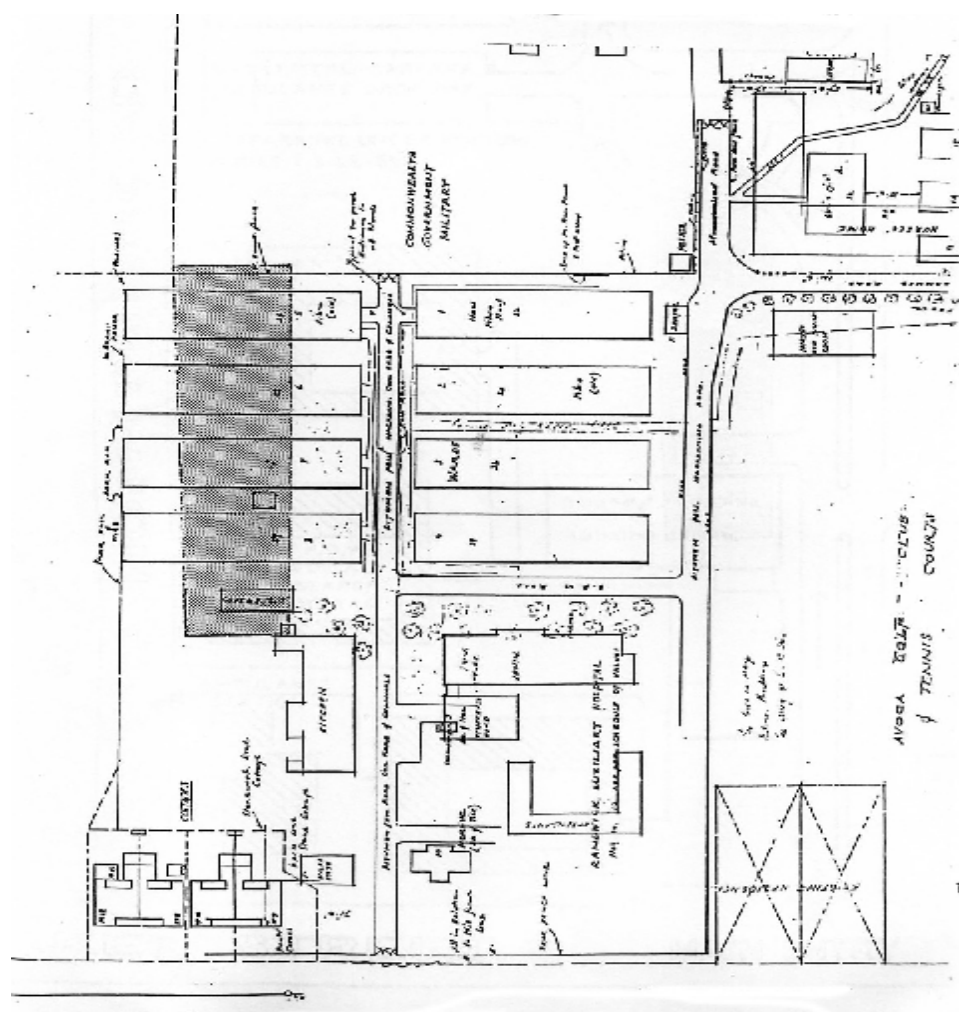
⁴⁷ Arthur Percival, Commonwealth Surveyor General and Chief Property Office Department of Works quoted in Ibid; Volume 1: 33

⁴⁸ Ibid: 154

3.5.2

THE WARDS

After the initial construction of eight wards another ten wards were added to this part of the site in 1918. The cemetery excavation revealed that the wards had been built on piers. Services were supplied to them and the land between was used for the disposal of rubbish. Pits were found containing relics from the full period of military association.



Plan of part of the military hospital in 1918; it shows the eight new wards built over the cemetery (indicated by the dark grey area).

Source: PWD PH 152/2

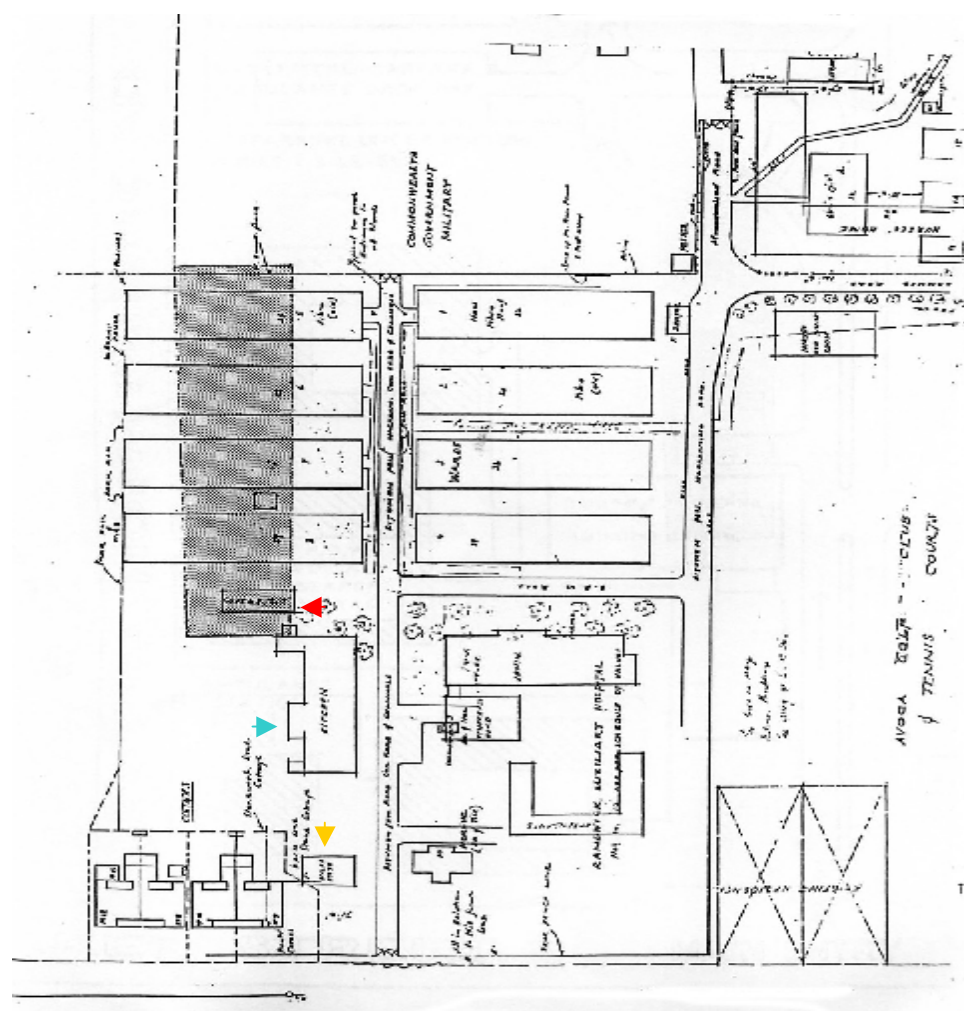
3.5.3

THE DISPENSARY, KITCHEN AND BOILER HOUSE

Apart from the wards several service buildings were constructed in this part of the site in the immediate post-war years. Closest to the wards and built over part of the cemetery was a dispensary. The archaeological excavation revealed that this building had also been built on a terrace formed into the cemetery and dune.

The kitchen was a larger building located just to the south of the dispensary. Trial trenching in this area demonstrated that the site had been prepared for it in the same manner by cutting a terrace, forming a compacted bench and building upon this platform⁴⁹.

The boiler house was the southernmost of the new buildings located just to the east of the Barker Street cottages.



Plan of part of the military hospital in 1918; it shows the dispensary (red arrow), kitchen (blue arrow) and boiler house (yellow arrow)..

Source: PWD PH 152/2

⁴⁹ GML (1997); Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum Excavation Volume 2: 157

3.5.4

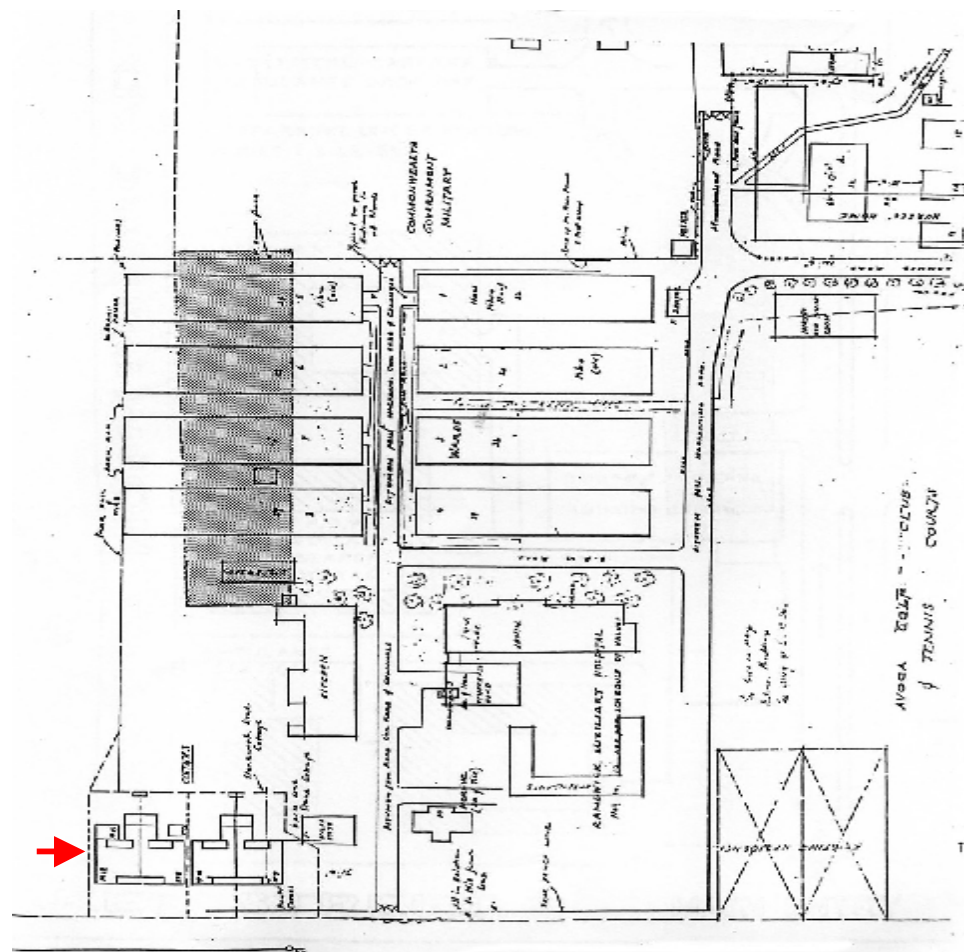
LANDSCAPING

Along with the earth-works required to reshape the site for the construction of the new buildings several elements were added to it to improve movement around the site. Paths were made between the wards but the largest change came about through the introduction of a street from Barker Street. This provided access to the centre of the site between each block of wards. It remains in use in a modified form.

3.5.5

THE BARKER STREET COTTAGES

The relationship of the cottages to the military hospital is unclear. They were part of the property resumed by the Government at the beginning of the war but they were fenced from the main site. The homes appear to have been leased to tenants with no connection to the former institution or the new military hospital. In 1915 the occupants of the houses were William Pryor in the easternmost (now numbered 85 Barker Street), John Bins at No. 83, John Moroney at No. 81 and Harry Chowne at 79 Marker Street⁵⁰.



Plan of part of the military hospital in 1918 showing the Barker Street cottages and the new access road.
Source: PWD PH 152/2

⁵⁰ Ibid: 1925

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. In 1927 approximately half the hospital accommodation including the eight wards over the former cemetery were handed over to the state and began an association with the Coast Hospital. It was identified as the Coast Hospital Auxiliary Randwick.

3.6.1

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

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. More wards were added to the site. The kitchen was remodelled in 1935 and a smoke stack was erected near the boiler house in 1928.

3.6.2

DEMOLITION

Several wards were demolished in this period.

3.6.3

SERVICES AND SANITATION

During the later 1920s – 1930s most works were designed to improve existing facilities, sanitation, upgrade services such as the kitchen and accommodate new technologies. For example in 1928 two steam boilers were converted from steam to oil. In May of the same year a new smoke stack replaced an old one and in 1934 a new boiler was brought to the site.

3.6.4

ACCESS

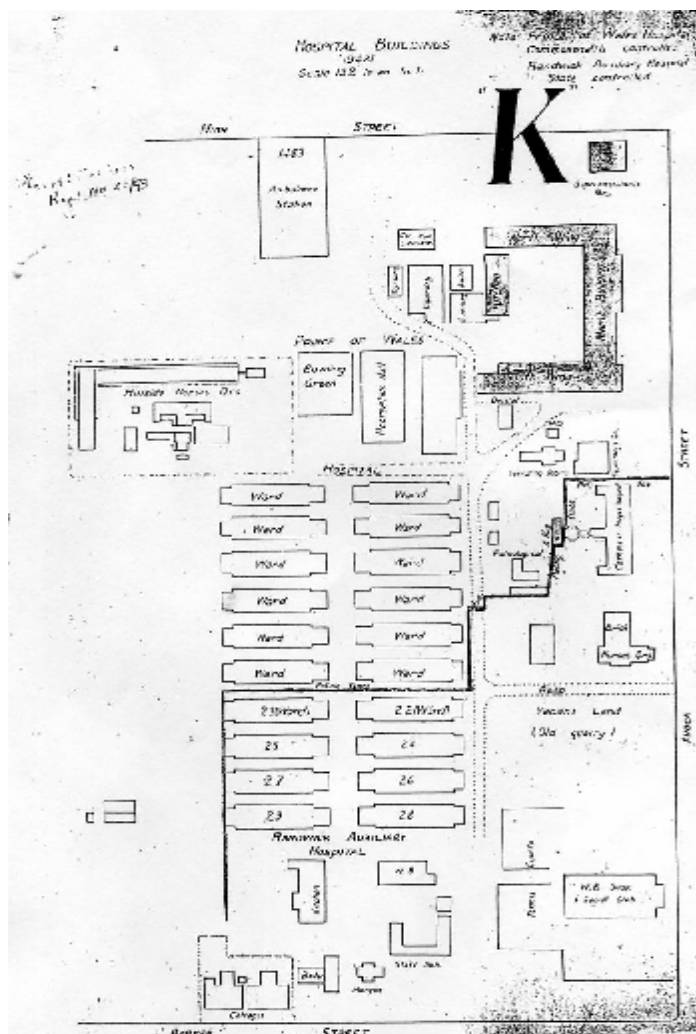
The landscape was also subject to a major overhaul. This included the construction of a new road between the kitchen and Barker Street cottages.

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 development 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.

Within the development area the kitchen was upgraded and the dispensary was removed by 1943. It was replaced by a dental clinic in 1953. By the 1940s a small, unidentified building had been constructed to the west of the wards. It was in the area of the small out-building of the asylum but was oriented differently. It may be seen in the following aerial image and on the plan of the site in 1942. Its purpose is unknown.



Plan of the site in 1942
Source: Department of Land and Water
Conservation Blacktown

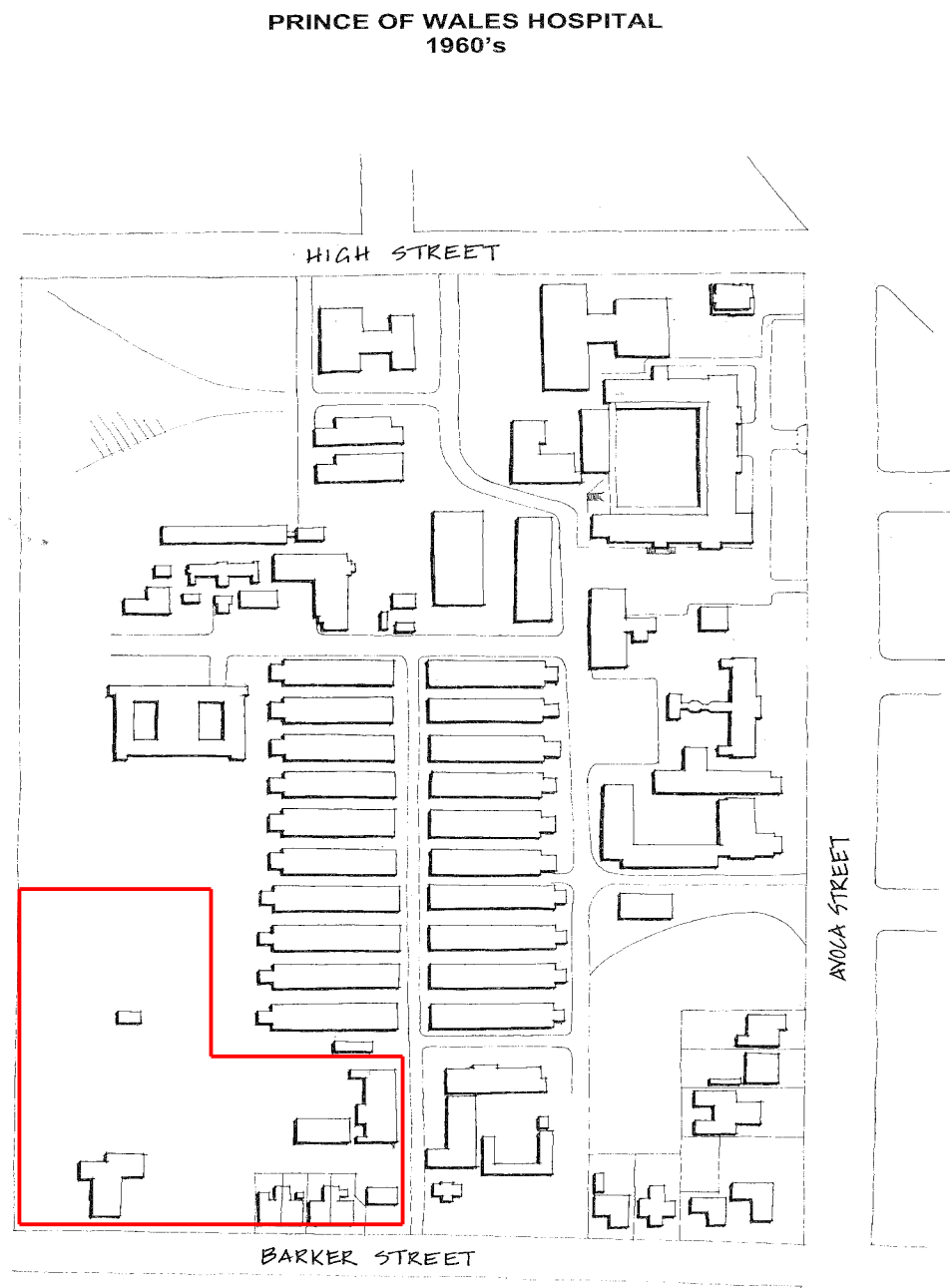


*Aerial view of the site in 1943, the development area(approximate).
Source: RTA, From the Skies*

3.8

ANNEXE AND TEACHING HOSPITAL: 1954-1972

At the end of its service as a repatriation facility the hospital served as an annexe to Sydney Hospital. It was renamed, in 1953, the Prince of Wales 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 and the kitchen remained in use. Additions included an ambulance station and the medical research building in 1968.



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

3.9

AMALGAMATION AND HERITAGE: 1972-2009

In this period major administrative changes led to the reorganisation of services at the hospital. At the same time growing demand led to the largest programme of redevelopment to occur within the site in its history. Alongside this period of great growth, throughout the 1990s a series of investigations and reports were prepared that began to analyse and define the importance of this site. Of particular concern was the potential presence of the intact cemetery from the Asylum. An archaeological assessment of this site was prepared in 1993 and in 1995 the cemetery site was excavated and recorded.

3.9.1

DEMOLITION

The wards that occupied the cemetery site were not the only elements to be demolished in this period. The kitchen was demolished at the same time and the cottages on Barker Street.

3.9.2

CONSTRUCTION

The removal of some of the older buildings allowed the hospital to provide new services in the southern portion of the site. The three villa buildings were constructed in the later 1980s. 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. Easy Street, which was constructed as part of the WW1 development was widened in 1997.

4.0

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROFILE



4.1

THE SITE

The development site is a later twentieth century landscape and there is no surface evidence of any of the earlier twentieth century or nineteenth century uses. There are several distinct components:

4.1.1

THE CAR PARK

The car park is located in the south-eastern corner of the development site. It was constructed in the later 1980s. It has a frontage to Barker Street and to Easy Street. On the west is Villa 1. To the north is the lower landscaped area attached to the Memorial Garden. There is a small road that leads from the car park around the northern end of Villa 1.

The car park falls from the north to the south and from the east to the west. It is hard paved and several services appear to be routed through it.

The car park encompasses the sites of part of the asylum period Barker Street cottages, the boiler house and kitchen from the WW development period. It also encompasses the site of a building constructed behind or to the west of the kitchen in the middle years of the twentieth century.



Top: view south of the car park

Middle: view north of the car park

Bottom: View west to the entrance to the MRI wing.

4.1.2

THE MEMORIAL GARDEN

After the conclusion of the excavation of the former asylum cemetery a garden was established over part of the southern end of the plot and land just to the south. The garden includes interpretive material with respect to the development of the hospital and, specifically, those children buried within the cemetery.

The development site encompasses the southern portion of this garden. This was the site of a large part of the WWI kitchen.



Top: view of the entry to the car park with the southern part of the Memorial Garden on the northern side.

Middle: view south of the garden with the entrance to the car park in the distance.

Bottom: View north across the garden.

4.1.3

VILLA 1

Villa 1 was built in the late 1980s. It has a square plan around a large central courtyard. It has a principal entrance from the car park on Barker Street. It has a basement level of over two metres depth but the central courtyard sits on ground surface. Inspection inside the building reveals that it has largely been built on piers excavated deep into the underlying sand as well as slabs.

This building occupied part of the site of the Barker Street cottages.

Top: The Barker Street frontage

Middle: The entrance from the car park on Barker Street

Bottom: The internal courtyard.

Below: view inside the MRI building showing some of the supporting piers excavated into the underlying dune.



4.1.4

THE AMBULANCE STATION

The ambulance station occupies the remaining portion of the Barker Street frontage. It is a single-storey brick building with a residence behind it. There is a small courtyard at the north-eastern corner. The building is constructed on a slab. There are access roads to the north and east of the building. The ambulance station was constructed in the 1960s.

This building occupies land that was used during the Asylum phase for one of the small, unidentified out-buildings. It had no known use during the twentieth century until its development for the ambulance station.



4.1.5

VILLA 2

Villa 2 is located on Hospital Road. Like Villa 1, it was constructed in the 1980s as a square plan structure around a central courtyard. Like the Barker Street building it has a basement level below the building but the central courtyard is at ground level. The building has been constructed on piers and slabs. Since that time a new wing has been constructed to link Villas 1 and 2. It runs from the back or eastern side of the Hospital Road building to the north-western corner of the Barker Street building.

Villa 2 occupies land that was the site of one of the small out-buildings built during the Asylum phase and another building constructed in the period between the 1920s and early 1940s.



Top: The Hospital Road frontage

Below: view from Hospital Road of the new wing linking the two MRI wings.

4.1.6

VILLA 3

Villa 3 is located in the north-western corner of the development area. It was built in the later 1980s and, like Villas 1 and 2, is a square plan around an open courtyard.

There are no known sites of occupation preceding this building.



Top: an aerial view of the Villa building.

Bottom: the Villa building in the background with the northern end of the Hospital Road MRI in the foreground.

4.2

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.

The same excavation undertook some trial excavation within the land immediately to the south of the cemetery. This had been the site of the dispensary erected there in WWI. The work revealed that nineteenth century deposits had been removed in 1918 and mixed fills had been introduced as a building platform for the new building. As well pits were found with detritus and artefacts accumulated during the occupation of the site as a military hospital⁵¹.

Some trial pits were also put into the northern end of the kitchen site. This building had been constructed in WWI and had survived until 1993. The pits demonstrated that this portion of the site had been disturbed by the demolition work of the 1990s which had created a layer of debris across the site. Below it the site had been levelled in 1918 for the new building. This work had substantially disturbed the underlying natural profile of sand and coffee rock⁵².

A series of trenches was excavated on the western side of the cemetery up to the Villa 3 building and several were excavated on the southern side of the cemetery. These were revealed to be archaeologically sterile. There has been no testing or excavation anywhere within the present development site.

4.3

GEO –TECHNICAL EVIDENCE

The site and its environs have been extensively sampled with thirty-one bores taken between 1993 and 1999 and another eleven dug in 2008. In her analysis of the potential for Aboriginal archaeological evidence to be preserved within the site Dallas concluded that the majority of the site, with the exception of the Memorial Garden, could be considered sensitive because of the presence of intact A2 soils witnessed by the profiles from bores⁵³. The inference to be drawn from this analysis, with respect to European archaeology, is that the processes of demolition and construction have been relatively mild. Substantial removal of foundations and grading, for example, would likely have impacted on this more fragile deposit.

The bores indicate that there is a varying depth of "fill" across the site. Of the bores taken within the car park they reveal a profile under the bitumen of only approximately 0.5 metres of sandy gravel and inclusions although it deepens towards the centre. Within the Memorial Garden this appears to have been removed within the development area and introduced topsoil covers the underlying sand although the latter has also been impacted upon. There is between 300-500mm of fill around the external walls of Villa 1 and similar levels around the Ambulance Station and Villa 2. There is approximately 500mm of fill around Villa 3.

⁵¹ GML (1997); Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum Excavation Volume 2: 111-112

⁵² Ibid: 145

⁵³ Mary Dallas (2008): Aboriginal Archaeology – Preliminary Assessment: 38.

With respect to aiding an interpretation of the potential of this site to preserve European archaeological evidence, the results are ambiguous. The relatively small deposits of fill across most of the site would suggest that anything that had been here before the construction of the most recent buildings has been substantially if not completely removed from the site and, possibly, deposits of fill have been brought in to level the land around those buildings and for the car park.

It is an interpretation at odds with the preservation of the A2 horizon, which would have been far more substantially disturbed, if this had been the case, than appears to be so on the evidence from the logs. The limited descriptions of “fill” in the logs also contribute to using this information more effectively. The presence of inclusions such as glass, sandstone and charcoal suggest that the material may be demolition debris from those structures spread across the site. This would accord with the observations of the test trenches made in 1995.

The tentative conclusion drawn from these considerations is that structures such as the Barker Street cottages were demolished possibly only to foundation level and the debris was spread about the site to level and contour it.

4.4

CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

The land encompassed by the southern section of the Memorial Garden appears to have been completely excavated removing all historical levels. Specifically this was the area of the kitchen. The test trenches excavated at the northern end of this building in 1995 and the evidence from the bore logs suggest that nothing substantial will remain of this building.

Within the area of the car park on Barker Street and the small road leading around to the linking wing between Villas 1 and 2, it is possible that the demolition of the cottages, the boiler house adjoining them and a secondary building to the kitchen might all have left some fragmentary traces, the logs suggesting possible demolition to surface with debris being used to contour the site. Survival of archaeological evidence here is more likely because the original topography appears to be less altered than, for example, in the area of the Memorial Garden. There the base of the dune has been substantially cut into; the car park was built on flat land at the base of the dune and the demolition works appear to have slightly raised the level of the site rather than cutting into it.

In the area of Villa 1 the land inside the footprint of the building has almost certainly been cleared of any remnant historical profile. This is due to the depth of the basement level, to 2.5 metres, along with the extent of excavation that is likely to have been required to construct strip footings and piers in the sand. It is also likely that the sand from this excavation was used to fill the central courtyard, possibly up to 1.5 metres in depth. It is possible that the work could have preserved features within this area but the impacts of machinery movement about the surface suggest otherwise.

Left: view of basement walls and piers and sand piles behind (to the left)



The ambulance station has no basement and is built on slab footings. Geo-technical evidence suggests that there are similar levels of fill around this building to those in the car park. This is an area of one of the Asylum out-buildings and its projected position might only be partially encompassed within the station building, on the Barker Street frontage. It is a more likely area, though, for services to be located for this and other buildings along this street frontage. There is insufficient evidence about the extent of services for their impact to be determined. Certainly, further along Barker Street, in front of Villa 1 there are large service pits; its suggests that the street frontage has been considerably disturbed, possibly in localised areas.



View east along Barker Street showing service pits.

The same conditions are likely to exist for the Villas 2 and 3 as for Villa 1. The excavation for the basements is likely to have removed all the historic profile and disturbance for the construction programme and, possibly, services will have substantially removed or destroyed the deposits within the courtyards.

4.5

POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

This section uses the evidence from archival sources as well as the evidence for physical investigation to determine full scope of the archaeological resource that could be encompassed within the development site.

4.5.1

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 development area within the last thirty years it is still certain to preserve more of this environmental time capsule. The soil profiles revealed by bores indicate preservation of at least a substantial A2 horizon. 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 area⁵⁴. Preserved pollen and soils are now the only means to document the original biodiversity. However, the cemetery excavation has already undertaken a detailed analysis of this profile as part of that programme of work. Unless excavation revealed exceptional or unusual circumstances of preservation it would not be a priority for on-going research.

4.5.2

PRE-ASYLUM USE

From 1788 to 1852 there is no evidence to indicate that this site had any formal occupation or use. At most the place was subject to deforestation and destabilisation through repeated and illegal tree-cutting. There is unlikely to be any substantial evidence in the archaeological profile of this period.

4.5.3

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 was excavated and recorded during the 1995 programme of work. Most of the site now lies under the Kiloh Centre and is outside the development area. The excavation retrieved evidence of approximately sixty-five individuals. There were at least 163 burials recorded here. Some, if not all of those unaccounted for are almost certain to have been removed through processes of redevelopment commencing in 1915. The presence of one burial that was considered by the excavators to have taken place either before the establishment of the cemetery or after its closure indicates that some caution should be exercised to allow for the possibility of undocumented burials. However, the extent of

⁵⁴ Benson and Howell (1990); *Taken For Granted the Bushland of Sydney and Its Suburbs*; 94-95

disturbance that has occurred around all four sides of the former cemetery makes it highly unlikely that even burials outside the plot would have survived the impact of those works.

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 Villa 1. Evidence of the eastern cottage may be found within the car park adjoining Villa 1. The evidence from bore logs in this area is ambiguous with respect to preservation but the possibility exists that foundations of the houses, service wings and out-houses could survive in this area. In this case the site could encompass evidence of contemporary landscape improvements, and discrete assemblages of artefacts particularly associated with out-houses.

The single cottage for the farm worker was located to the east under Easy Street and Hut U outside the concept site.

Unidentified Buildings

The 1891 survey places two small structures in the south-western corner of the Asylum. Neither their form nor function is known. The smallest was in the area of the ambulance station. It was demolished by 1918. Evidence of it may be preserved there close to the street frontage but, if so, the impact of services and to a lesser extent the construction of the ambulance station is likely to have disturbed any intact foundations or associated features.

A larger building was located within the footprint of Villa 2. It is likely to have been on or close to the boundary of the courtyard with the south-western corner of the building. The impact of the construction of the basement for this building and earthworks within the courtyard suggest that little or nothing will survive of this structure.

Drainage

The elaborate system of disposing of sewage from the Asylum encompassing pipes and trenches, rubble drains and pits appears on the basis of the few archival references to have been located within the eastern half of the development area. It could also have been outside it and further east; the indications are too few and imprecise to be more accurate. The reference to the drains cutting through the dune certainly places it close to this area. Without a precise location it is impossible to assess the impacts of later works on any evidence of this system.

4.5.4

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 development 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 southern part of the Memorial Garden. The geo-technical evidence and trial trenches dug at the northern end in 1995 suggest that most if not all evidence of this building has been removed from the site. .

Boiler House and Smoke Stack

Adjacent to the Barker Street cottages was a boiler house. It was modified on several occasions including the rebuilding of a smoke stack. This site is only partly within the car park and any evidence that remains here would be fragmentary and probably only related to the western end of the main building. The probability of survival is the same as that of the Barker Street cottages; the ambiguity of the bore logs make a more certain assessment impossible.

Artefact Assemblages

The excavation of the cemetery revealed that as part of the development of this site for its new use a programme was initiated of cleaning up detritus from the Asylum. It was buried in pits apparently randomly placed about the site. There was also evidence from this excavation that rubbish and wastes from the military hospital was similarly disposed of in this area. The potential for similar assemblages and features needs to be considered although the impact of the several substantial structures in this area both for the military hospital and the present-day buildings is likely to have disturbed evidence of this kind. Furthermore the area in which this is likely to have been a feature would have been constrained by existing occupation specifically the Barker Street cottages. The only areas now likely to encompass the potential for this type of feature is within the car park and, possibly in some of the streets that surround the ambulance station and the Hospital Road MRI building.

4.5.5

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 an area now within the car park. The potential exists for it to be visible in the profile but it is likely to be much disturbed.

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 Villa 2 and is unlikely to be visible in the archaeological record due to the impact of construction of this hospital building.

4.5.6

RENEWED ACTIVE SERVICE: 1939 - 1954

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

4.5.7

ANNEXE AND TEACHING HOSPITAL: 1954-1972

Apart from the construction of the ambulance station, still present, an addition was made to the site close to the western side of the kitchen. The site has been largely built over by Villa 1. Some fragmentary evidence of this structure might remain within the street leading from the car park to the link wing between Villa 1 and Villa 2.

4.5.8

AMALGAMATION: 1972 - 2008

The works of this phase are more concerned with the removal of older features including the Barker Street cottages and the construction of the Villa buildings.

4.6

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROFILE

The development site is likely to encompass a potential archaeological resource. This resource is likely to be fragmentary and much disturbed from the impact of new building works of the last thirty years. 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 but the cemetery excavation has already provided a good analysis of this evidence preserved within that area. Unless there are unusual features or exceptional circumstances of preservation within the development area it is unlikely to provide much that is new or additional to that already recorded during the earlier programme.
- The potential for additional burials to be found from the Destitute Children's Asylum is acknowledged but considered to be highly unlikely particularly taking into consideration the extent of redevelopment on the land surrounding the former cemetery.
- Evidence of at least one later nineteenth century Asylum cottage on Barker Street could survive within the area of the southern portion of the car park. In addition there may be evidence of a service wing, and out-house, landscape improvements and artefact assemblages. The evidence, if it survives, is likely to have been disturbed by the impact of the construction of Villa 1, the construction of the car park and introduction of services.
- Evidence of one small and unidentified Asylum building might be found in the area of the Ambulance Station on the Barker Street frontage. If so it is likely to be disturbed by the construction of the ambulance station and, more particularly, the provision of services along the street frontage.
- Evidence of Asylum period detritus buried as part of a clean-up of the site initiated in 1915. There is no means to identify and specific site.
- Evidence of the western end of a boiler house built between 1915 and 1924 might survive in the car park at the corner of Easy and Barker Streets. If so it is likely to be disturbed by the impact of the construction of the car park and the provision of services.
- Evidence of rubbish and debris from the occupation of the site during both periods of military use in the form of rubbish pits and dumps. There are no specific sites.
- Evidence of a building constructed on the western side of the kitchen in the mid-twentieth century. Only a small fragment of the eastern end has the potential to survive and it is likely to be fragmentary.
- Evidence of landscape works including paths and gardens from several phases of occupation in the twentieth century.

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

4.7

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 (in brown)

- Environmental evidence
- Landscape works, services and artefact assemblages
- Asylum drainage system?.



STAGE 2A (in blue)

- Environmental evidence
- Evidence of the Barker Street cottages
- Evidence of the boiler house
- Landscape works, services and artefact assemblages.
- Asylum drainage system?



STAGE 2B (in dark blue)

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



STAGE 2C (in dark blue)

- Environmental evidence
- Evidence of a mid-twentieth century building
- Landscape works, services and artefact assemblages
- Asylum drainage?



STAGE 2D (in dark blue)

- Environmental evidence
- Landscape works, services and artefact assemblages
- Asylum drainage?



STAGE 3 (in dark blue)

- Environmental evidence
- Landscape works, services, artefact assemblages



The most archaeologically sensitive area within the development site is the Stage 2A development, which encompasses the potential for relics from both the Asylum and WWI military use of the site.

4.8

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.

4.8.1

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 development area can compliment this resource but is constrained by the likely integrity of that evidence. 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 could contribute by amplifying and complimenting the above ground fabric and archival records.

There are several exceptions to this assessment. The possibility has been recognised for the potential to uncover additional burials of the Destitute Asylum although it is considered an extremely unlikely outcome. A separate assessment of significance has been prepared of the cemetery and its burials⁵⁵. They 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.

4.8.2

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, however unlikely, raises the same issues addressed in 1995 during the excavation of the cemetery. Subsequent interviews with descendants, canvassed in the conservation management plan⁵⁶, 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.

4.8.3

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

⁵⁵ GML (1995), *Destitute Children's Asylum Cemetery Statement of Significance*

⁵⁶ GBA (1997), *Prince of Wales Hospital Randwick Conservation Management Plan*; 83-84

- 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.

4.8.4

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 4.8.2*) is relevant here.

4.8.5

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 has the potential to yield information about certain European uses of this site from the mid-nineteenth century onwards. With respect to the Destitute Asylum this is likely to encompass aspects that were secondary to the main work of the establishment. The potential sites include elements from staff cottages and, possibly, an unidentified out-building and drainage systems. There is also the possibility of locating artefact assemblages from this phase that could help to describe the material culture available to those who worked and lived in the Asylum. The buildings and material culture and what can be inferred of the lives of those associated with the Asylum are poorly documented; archaeological evidence has the potential to make a substantial contribution.

With respect to the periods of use by the military the development site is unlikely to encompass substantial deposits or features that relate to this period, principally a small portion of a service building and possibly artefact assemblages, landscape improvements and services.

Much of the profile uncovered within the development area is likely to belong to the mid-twentieth century and later. It could encompass a small fragment of a service building but is likely to encompass services and landscape improvements.

The potential is acknowledged for more burials of the Destitute Asylum to be recovered but is considered to be extremely unlikely. More probable is 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 of the few means now available to describe the original bio-diversity of the region. However, it is unlikely to add more than has been recovered and analysed from the cemetery excavation.

In all cases the ability of the archaeological evidence to realise its potential research values is likely to have been substantially compromised by the integrity of the resource. The area has been substantially redeveloped, particularly within the last thirty years. The impact of these works is likely to have removed or disturbed or fragmented the various components of the profile.

4.8.6

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.

4.8.7

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 4.8.6*) identified to date is representative of the service needs of the hospital in the twentieth century.

4.8.8

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 development area 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.

With respect to the Destitute Asylum this is likely to encompass aspects that were secondary to the main work of the establishment. The potential sites include elements from staff cottages and, possibly, an unidentified out-building and drainage systems. There is also the possibility of locating artefact assemblages from this phase that could help to describe the material culture available to those who worked and lived in the Asylum. The buildings and material culture and what can be inferred of the lives of those associated with the Asylum are poorly documented; archaeological evidence has the potential to make a substantial contribution.

With respect to the periods of use by the military the development site is unlikely to encompass substantial deposits or features that relate to this period, principally a small portion of a service building and possibly artefact assemblages, landscape improvements and services. Much of the profile uncovered within the development area is likely to belong to the mid-twentieth century and later. It could encompass a small fragment of a service building but is likely to encompass services and landscape improvements.

The majority of the potential archaeological assemblage identified to date is neither uncommon nor endangered although 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.

The potential is acknowledged for more burials associated with the Destitute Asylum to be recovered but is considered to be extremely unlikely. More probable is 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. However, it is unlikely to add more than has been recovered and analysed from the cemetery excavation.

In all cases the ability of the archaeological evidence to realise its potential research values is likely to have been substantially compromised by the integrity of the resource. The area has been substantially redeveloped, particularly within the last thirty years. The impact of these works is likely to have removed or disturbed or fragmented the various components of the profile.

4.8.9

GRADED SIGNIFICANCE

A graded evaluation of the archaeological potential of the site 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, out-buildings, drainage and artefacts.

Medium Significance

- Elements and features that derive from the military periods of occupation including the 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.

5.0

MANAGEMENT



5.1

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL

The development is concerned with the construction of an extensive neuroscience research facility. The site of the facility will eventually encompass the land now occupied by Villas 1, 2 and 3, the ambulance station, the car park and the southern area of the landscaped memorial garden. The new multi-storey building will have street frontages to both Hospital Road and Barker Streets. It will require demolition of the existing structures and extensive excavation. The development is intended to proceed in stages; these stages have been described in Section 2.3 of this report.

5.2

IMPACTS

A separate assessment has been made of the impact of the proposed development on the above ground fabric and assets⁵⁷. This report only addresses the impact of the development on the archaeological profile that now exists within the development area. To that end the combined effects of demolition, excavation and construction will remove the remnant archaeological evidence contained within the development area. This loss will remove the ability of any evidence now preserved within the ground to realise its research potential and the information it provides for the use and development of this site from the mid-nineteenth century onwards.

5.3

MITIGATION

The archaeological features and elements that may be found within the development area are not of such exceptional significance that they either warrant changes to the proposed design to ensure that they remain undisturbed nor in-situ preservation after documentation by excavation. However, the information currently preserved in the ground has value for this site in its potential ability to more accurately illustrate the development of some aspects of the place and, possibly, reveal material culture, which may assist in describing the lives of those who have lived and worked here.

A programme of archaeological investigation designed to uncover, record and interpret this resource can mitigate the loss of this evidence and information. It might also be appropriate to encompass interpretive elements within the finished development to make this information more readily accessible to the community. The need for an interpretation strategy will be determined by the scope of evidence revealed by the site work.

⁵⁷ GBA (2008): Proposed Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute Concept Plan and Project Application.

5.4

STRATEGIES

5.4.1

TEST TRENCHING

This assessment has concluded that there are likely to be areas within the site that encompass significant archaeological features. However, there is insufficient evidence and ambiguity arising from the evidence of geo-technical bores to indicate how intact these features might be or, in some cases, whether they survive at all.

In areas where there are elements that would have high significance it would be appropriate as a first step to undertake some exploratory trenching to determine the presence or absence of those features and how intact the profile. Specifically this should encompass the southern portion of the car park to determine the presence or absence of the Barker Street cottages, their yards and out-buildings. The trenching could also be extended to examine the integrity of the boiler house site adjoining these cottages to the east. As well, a small trench could be placed in front of the ambulance station on Barker Street to determine if the small asylum out-building identified in this assessment has left evidence here.

The test trench for the cottages could be confined to a single strip trench approximately two metres wide running east to west across the car park. It would be sufficient to determine the presence or absence of walls of the buildings. If the wall foundations survive it is not unreasonable to assume that other deposits and features will also be found in association with the main buildings. The trench in front of the ambulance station could be confined to a square measuring approximately 4 x 4 metres.

The excavation could be undertaken using a small mechanical excavator under supervision of an archaeologist. Any features or deposits within the trenches will need to be cleaned and recorded by means of plans and photographs.

While the northern area of the car park has not been identified to be one where highly significant features are preserved intact it would also be useful to place a small square, measuring approximately 2 x 2 metres, in the area of the site of the mid-twentieth century building. The trench could reveal whether evidence of this structure survives but also provide a better indication of the extent of disturbance to the profile caused by the several construction and landscaping works in this area.

The results of these small test programmes can be used to inform any requirements for on-going work. Test trenching is undertaken ahead of the bulk excavation.

5.4.2

SALVAGE EXCAVATION

Salvage excavation is a programme of larger scale archaeological investigation designed to uncover and document all that remains of an archaeological profile before it is lost through redevelopment of a site. The need for programmes of this type is only likely to arise in the car park and, possibly in front of the ambulance station. The requirement to do so will be determined by the evidence recovered from the test programmes. If this initial work provides evidence that the asylum cottages and out-building are present and have reasonable integrity, by reason of their significance within the history of this site, they would warrant comprehensive investigation and documentation.

This can be achieved by a combination of mechanical excavation and manual excavation using a small group of archaeologists. The purpose of the work is to record all the evidence that is now preserved in the ground and make it available by means of plans, sections, images and a report that interprets this field data. Salvage excavation is undertaken ahead of the bulk excavation.

5.4.3

MONITOR AND RECORD

This assessment has recognised that land around the buildings and, less likely, within the buildings, could encompass elements such as rubbish pits, other artefact assemblages and drainage systems. There is insufficient evidence to identify specific areas or locations within the development site. To manage these more elusive elements of the past development of this site a programme of monitoring can be initiated; it requires an archaeologist to observe the excavation of each new area over a series of short inspections. The purpose of the work is to determine whether there is an intact profile, to describe the profile and to identify and record any unique archaeological features. This work is undertaken in concert with the bulk excavation.

5.4.4

SKELETAL EVIDENCE

The possibility has been recognised in this assessment that European burials may be found outside the area of the cemetery. It is considered a very unlikely circumstance but it is one that requires a protocol in the event that human skeletal material is uncovered during the course of the excavation.

The presence of what is likely to be an intact horizon for Aboriginal material means that skeletal material could either be European or Aboriginal. In either case it is absolutely essential to preserve the context in which the bones are recovered; the context can help determine the age and ethnicity of the burial. If the burial is shown to be contemporary or from the recent past the context will need to be preserved as a crime scene for forensic analysis.

A burial protocol has been established as part of the Aboriginal assessment of the site⁵⁸. The procedures defined by that protocol can be extended to evidence of European burials. The recovery of skeletal material will require that work must stop in the area to ensure the context of the burial is preserved. Determination should then be made as to the bones being human or animal. If they are human a physical anthropologist will need to be consulted to determine the ethnicity of the bones. The context will provide evidence for the age of the burial.

In the case of potential European burials if the remains are from a context that is likely to be more than fifty years old the Heritage Branch will need to be contacted; although the Part 3A approval allows archaeological work to proceed on a site without the normal approvals process the provisions of the Heritage Act that provide protection for relics still apply. It might also be necessary to contact the police; the Coroner's Act (1980) gives the State Coroner jurisdiction over deaths that have occurred in NSW in the last one hundred years. The identification of burials that may be associated with the Asylum will require comprehensive excavation and documentation.

If the skeletal material is from a context that is less than fifty years the police will certainly need to be contacted and the site may be subject to forensic evaluation.

⁵⁸ Mary Dallas (2008): Proposed Neuroscience Research Precinct Concept Plan and Project Application Aboriginal Archaeology – Preliminary Assessment: Appendix 1

5.4.5

ARTEFACTS

Artefacts are the portable relics of occupation; they can encompass evidence of consumption, dress, occupation, taste, pass-times, beliefs or affiliations amongst many other aspects of human lives. They can also provide assistance to an archaeological enquiry by means of providing chronological parameters.

Artefacts only have value for research and interpretation if they come from a secure context. That means that an artefact or a group or assemblage of artefacts must be recorded in association with the soils and structures with which it or they have been buried; no artefact should be removed from the site or the place in which it was buried until that basic contextual evidence has been recorded by the archaeologist.

This assessment has concluded that the development site could contain assemblages of artefacts in the form of rubbish pits, possibly associated with out-houses or cess pits, sub-floor deposits as well as casual losses.

Artefacts revealed by the excavation of the site, outside the parameters of controlled archaeological investigation, must be left in situ until they can be recorded and removed by the archaeologist.

The information inherent in these collections is only accessible when they have been cleaned and professionally catalogued. The information they can provide with respect to chronology and occupation can be incorporated into the final narrative.

Artefacts that are retrieved from the site should be permanently stored with the artefacts recovered from the cemetery excavation.

5.4.6

RESEARCH DESIGN

All archaeological investigation is undertaken to achieve specific outcomes. Defining these outcomes, what information an archaeological programme is anticipated to deliver is normally called a research design. It is a series of questions for which the archaeological profile is likely to make a meaningful contribution. This can be achieved through providing evidence that is unavailable from other sources, for example, artefact assemblages that illuminate aspects of people's lives. It can provide more comprehensive documentation of aspects for which minimal information might only be available, for example, details of buildings or plans of properties for which only the most substantial buildings have been recorded on surveys or environmental conditions either for landscapes or places of occupation.

With respect to the archaeological profile within the development site the following questions will be addressed:

- Is there evidence of the Barker Street cottages and, if so, is it sufficient to define the entire living environment with respect to building plan, out-buildings and landscape improvements;
- Is there evidence of the lives, tastes and economic status of the occupants of these cottages evidenced from artefact assemblages;
- Is there evidence of the small Asylum out-building located to the west of the cottages and, if, so, is it sufficient to determine its use and date of construction;

- Is there evidence of the sewage system that ran from the back of the principal Asylum building;
- Is there evidence of the Asylum period of occupation that has not been identified from archival sources;
- Is there evidence of the period of clean-up and refuse disposal anywhere with the development site similar to that found in the area of the cemetery;
- Is there evidence of the boiler house constructed during WW1 and, if so, is it sufficient to determine the scale of the building.
- Is there evidence of the lives of the patients and staff housed here during the period of use as a military hospital.

5.4.7

APPROVALS

The approval of this project as a Part 3A development means that the normal process of application and approval for excavation permits for archaeological works is not required for this site. However, as noted, the protection of the Heritage Act for relics of European occupation still apply and it is normal to inform the Heritage Branch of the Department of Planning of the scope and methodology of works planned for a Part 3A project. Familiarity with the project and its objectives facilitates any communication that may arise during the course of the project if advice needs to be sought from the Branch.

For this reason a copy of this report and the final documentation from the programme should be provided for the Heritage Branch. It would also be helpful to meet with officers from the Branch to discuss the scope of the works prior to their commencement on site.

5.4.8

DOCUMENTATION

The ultimate objective of all the work that is undertaken on the site is to provide a permanent record of the evidence that will be lost through the removal of the archaeological profile. For that reason the documentation of the programme at its conclusion is vital. This record of work will need to encompass a description of the methodology, the evidence recovered from the site and its interpretation based on the chronological structure already determined for this place. It must be supported by plans, sections and images produced during the course of the work. If artefacts are recovered from secure contexts they will need to be curated; cleaned and catalogued so that the information they can provide with respect to chronology and occupation can be incorporated into the final narrative.

The final record of this work should be provided to the hospital so that it can join the evidence and records accumulated from the cemetery excavation. Any artefacts retrieved from the work should also be stored with the artefacts recovered from the cemetery excavation. A copy of the final report should be made available to the Heritage Branch.

5.5

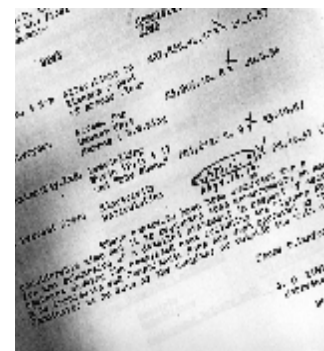
RECOMMENDATIONS

This assessment has demonstrated that the development site for the POW MRI is likely to encompass an archaeological profile encompassing features and relics from all phases of the site's development. The ability of this resource to realise its research potential is constrained by the likely integrity of the profile. To address this issue and requirements and obligations arising from the investigation of the European archaeological profile the following recommendations should be addressed:

- A copy of this report should be made available to the NSW Heritage Branch and a meeting arranged to discuss the scope of proposed works.
- A small programme of test excavation should be established in the area of the car park and in front of the ambulance station on Barker Street to test the extent and integrity of potential features identified to be of high significance. The results of this work will inform on-going works.
- If necessary, based on the results of the test programme, salvage excavation programmes should be initiated in those areas ahead of the bulk excavation to uncover and document all the evidence pertaining to those features associated with the Asylum.
- A programme of intermittent observation and documentation should be initiated for the period of bulk excavation to provide for the identification and documentation of archaeological features and relics for which there is insufficient archival information to provide specific targets for prior investigation.
- A well-defined protocol (described in this assessment) should be established in the event that human skeletal evidence is uncovered on site.
- Artefacts unearthed during the course of the excavation should be left in situ to allow an archaeologist to record their contexts.
- The evidence recovered during the course of this programme must be documented in a final report that describes methodology and data recovered and interprets this evidence in light of the established chronological framework for the site and the research design described in this assessment. This period of analysis will need to encompass curation of any artefacts retrieved from the site.
- The final report should be made available to the hospital and the NSW Heritage Branch. A copy should also be included in any archive of records stored on site from the earlier cemetery excavation programme. As well, artefacts recovered from this programme of work should be housed with artefacts recovered from the cemetery excavation.
- If appropriate interpretive elements could be included within the final development to explain the archaeological significance of the site. The value of this strategy will depend on the evidence recovered from the site.

6.0

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