

Annexure L: Heritage Study



Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050

Heritage and Archaeological Services

Heritage Report

GNL
HERITAGE

Acknowledgement of Country

We respect and acknowledge the Wangal people, their lands and waterways, their rich cultural heritage and their deep connection to Country, and we acknowledge their Elders past and present. We are committed to truth-telling and to engaging with the Wangal people to support the protection of their culture and heritage. We strongly advocate social and cultural justice and support the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

Cultural warning

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that this report may contain images or names of First Nations people who have passed away.

Report register

The following report register documents the development of this report, in accordance with GML’s Quality Management System.

Job No.	Issue No.	Notes/Description	Issue Date
23-0043	1	Heritage Report	7 July 2023
23-0043	2	Final Heritage Report	5 September 2023
23-0043	3	Revised Final Heritage Report	16 February 2024
23-0043	4	Updates for 2024 issue	7 August 2024

Quality management

The report has been reviewed and approved for issue in accordance with the GML quality management policy and procedures.

It aligns with best-practice heritage conservation and management, *The Burra Charter: the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013* and heritage and environmental legislation and guidelines relevant to the subject place.

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Executive summary

Sydney Olympic Park Authority (SOPA) has engaged GML Heritage Pty Ltd (GML) to provide heritage and archaeological services to support the preparation of the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050 (Master Plan 2050). Preparation of the Master Plan 2050 is a requirement of the *State Environment Planning Policy (Precincts—Central River City) 2021* and will provide an integrated plan for the town centre and parklands, consolidating the existing master plan and management reports.

Sydney Olympic Park is a dynamic landscape. The Master Plan 2050 will continue to guide the place's transition to a vibrant suburb. To support this, the Master Plan 2050 conceives 10 distinct character areas, comprising seven urban neighbourhoods and three open parklands that will provide new uses among the existing natural and historic environments.

Sydney Olympic Park has a rich interwoven history. It encompasses natural, First Nations, colonial, military, industrial and the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games (Sydney 2000 Games) legacy as significant heritage values.

This Heritage Report provides:

- a synthesis of previous heritage and archaeological reports and other documentation relevant to heritage management for incorporation into the Master Plan 2050;
- a status review of existing conservation management policy for identified heritage places and items;
- recommendations to guide future development focusing on built form controls, settings, interface areas, and connections to heritage items and zoning archaeological potential within Sydney Olympic Park and the broader area, taking account of views, landscape, spatial arrangements, movable heritage items and the like; and
- guidance on the holistic management of existing and potential heritage places and items within Sydney Olympic Park.

This Heritage Report forms a part of a suite of reports prepared by GML to inform the Master Plan 2050. It should be read in conjunction with the stand-alone Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) study and Heritage Interpretation Strategy (HIS).

As the host site for the Sydney 2000 Games, preliminary analysis of the opportunities associated with the Olympic legacy at Sydney Olympic Park has identified several key themes:

- **Sporting excellence and achievement:** location of a successful Olympic Games that is synonymous with a coming-of-age associated with Australian cultural identity and sporting prowess on the world stage.

- **Designed for excellence:** purpose-built and designed urban landscape and built environment that represents a landmark in Australian design history and demonstrated Sydney’s Olympic bid sustainability commitments. This includes the site’s remediation from a toxic industrial precinct to usable public space, building energy-efficient venues and delivering the Sydney 2000 Games.
- **Historical narratives:** the industrial past occupation of the landscape, its uses and contaminated legacy, aggregating to a diverse landscape of lives and stories.
- **Sydney Olympic Park as the heart of the Olympic city:** Sydney Olympic Park was the metaphorical heart of a network of satellite sporting venues, but unquestionably recognised as the focus of the Sydney 2000 Games.
- **Cultural expression:** Sydney’s Olympic experience was not limited only to place, but also to the exploration of cultural value through cultural performances, the centring of First Nations culture and the intensive community engagement in the staging of the Sydney 2000 Games. At that time, Sydney Olympic Park became synonymous with Australia’s coming-of-age internationally.

The Sydney 2000 Games represented a key phase in Australian cultural history, showcasing Australia’s cultural diversity and the nation’s sporting, creative, and technical prowess on the world stage. Opportunities to manage, conserve and interpret these significant values have been incorporated into this Heritage Report.

This report makes the following recommendations:

- Engage with the Heritage Council of NSW to communicate the approach to heritage management and conservation in the Master Plan 2050.
- Consult with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment and Heritage NSW to determine the preferred approach to addressing the inconsistencies between existing statutory heritage listings.
- Prepare a revised conservation management policy for the **Newington Armory** and **State Abattoir** to reflect the recommendations in this report.
- The **Brickpit** should be assessed for potential heritage listing.
- The **Olympic legacy** heritage items identified in this report should be assessed for potential heritage listing.
- Explore opportunities for additional display locations for the **Hall of Champions** movable heritage collection within Sydney Olympic Park so as to raise the public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the collection’s significance.
- **Development controls** pertaining to heritage conservation that are listed in this document should be included in both the Master Plan 2050 and future planning controls.
- All heritage items and conservation areas identified in the NSW State Heritage Register, SEPPs and LEPS, should be further investigated as an integrated cultural landscape in consideration of the many layers of history: deep time, natural, First Nations, industrial uses, military uses and the Olympic legacy.

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1 Introduction

1 Introduction

Sydney Olympic Park is transforming into a thriving suburb strategically located in the centre of Greater Sydney. It is a suburb that benefits from a diversity of land uses, proximity to both Sydney and Parramatta central business districts, and is of national significance, all of which have played an important role in its evolution since hosting the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games. As the 640-hectare site continues to evolve into vibrant neighbourhoods, it will reconnect with its Wangal roots and extensive natural assets to provide a meaningful connection to Country.

The Sydney Olympic Park 2050 Vision & Strategy (the Vision) was released in June 2022 and serves as a roadmap to inform decision-making for the next three decades. Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050 (Master Plan 2050) is the next stage of strategic planning for Sydney Olympic Park. Master Plan 2050 will ensure a coordinated, long term development plan is prepared for the whole precinct.

The most recent iterations of a master plan for Sydney Olympic Park were completed in 2018 and 2021, to support the delivery of Sydney Metro West. Building upon the Vision, Master Plan 2050 considers Sydney Olympic Park holistically, seeking opportunities to integrate thinking about the parklands and urban core together, enhancing its role in Greater Sydney.

The Vision articulates an aspiration to position Sydney Olympic Park as Sydney's Green Beating Heart: a place that is energised with everyday life, is Country-first, nature positive and where Sydney comes to play.

In 2050, Sydney Olympic Park will be a complex, layered suburb offering a rich and varied range of experiences. Many will live and work here, others will visit for events, diverse attractions or for everyday retail and entertainment. Master Plan 2050 aims to balance certainty with flexibility enabling Sydney Olympic Park's future to be resilient, dynamic and able to leverage future opportunities and technologies not yet known.

1.1 Project background

Sydney Olympic Park Authority (SOPA) has engaged GML Heritage Pty Ltd (GML) to provide heritage and archaeological services to support the preparation of the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050 (Master Plan 2050). Preparation of the Master Plan 2050 is a requirement of the *State Environment Planning Policy (Precincts—Central River City) 2021* and would provide an integrated plan for the town centre and parklands, consolidating existing master plan and management reports.

The Master Plan 2050 will guide the transition of Sydney Olympic Park (the study area) from a purpose-designed major events precinct to a complex layered suburb comprising residential and commercial precincts. The Master Plan 2050 conceives 10 distinct character areas, comprising seven urban neighbourhoods and three open parklands that will provide new uses among the existing natural and historic environments.

Sydney Olympic Park has a rich history that encompasses a range of heritage values including First Nations, colonial, military, industrial and the Sydney 2000 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games (Sydney 2000 Games) legacy. The history and significance of the place is recognised in the range of state and local heritage within the precinct, as well as within several conservation management plans. The history and value of Sydney Olympic Park in relation to its previous historic uses and Olympic origins have not, however, been addressed holistically.

1.1.1 Scope of works

The Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) has prepared requirements for the Master Plan 2050, including the preparation of technical reports to be submitted with the master planning package. This Heritage Report provides a synthesis of previous heritage and archaeological reports, and other documentation relevant to heritage management, for incorporation into the master plan. It also provides recommendations to guide future development, focusing on built form controls, setting, interface areas, connections to heritage items and zoning archaeological potential within the precinct and the broader area. The Heritage Report forms part of a suite of reports prepared by GML to inform the Master Plan 2050. It should be read in conjunction with the stand-alone Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) study and Heritage Interpretation Strategy (HIS).

This report is informed and builds on iterative advice prepared by GML to support the Master Plan 2050, namely:

- an assessment of the potential heritage values associated with Sydney Olympic Park's Olympic legacy (the foundation of Section 4);
- a desktop review of the existing documentation for built heritage, as well as Aboriginal, historical and maritime archaeology, to identify gaps where further targeted research and assessment is required (Appendix A); and
- preliminary advice concerning high-level controls within Sydney Olympic Park (Sections 3, 5 and 6).

There is a range of places and items with varying heritage attributes to be considered in the Master Plan 2050. From an interpretive perspective, these diverse heritage features provide a multitude of opportunities to engage with communities and individuals, create experiences and tell different stories. As only the second Olympic Games in Australia and given the scale of public investment in planning and establishing the precinct as a purpose-designed landscape and built environment for the Sydney 2000 Games, it is

important to consider the Olympic legacy of Sydney Olympic Park as part of any proposed future master plan.

1.1.2 Methodology

Any preliminary Heritage Assessments (HA) provided within this report uses methodology and terminology consistent with the following documents and best practice guidelines, including:

- *Assessing heritage significance: Guidelines for assessing places and objects against the Heritage Council of NSW criteria*, Department of Planning and Environment, June 2023;
- *The Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter*, 2013 (the Burra Charter).

1.1.3 Report structure

The Heritage Report is structured to include the following:

- statutory background information for Sydney Olympic Park (Section 2);
- a synthesis of the heritage values and assessment of historical archaeological potential within the precinct, arranged by:
 - the Sydney Olympic Park precinct (Section 3);
 - the Olympic legacy of Sydney Olympic Park (Section 4);
 - Newington Armory (Section 5); and
 - character areas (Section 6).
- recommendations to guide future development focusing on built form controls, setting, interface areas, connections to heritage items and zoning archaeological potential within the precinct and the broader area (Section 7).

1.2 Study area

Sydney Olympic Park is a suburb located close to the geographic centre of Sydney (Figure 1.1). The precinct is associated with the Sydney 2000 Games. Sydney Olympic Park is defined as the land under the protection and authority of SOPA, as shown in Figure 1.2. Several sections within the Master Plan 2050 are also in the Parramatta Local Government Area (LGA) (Figure 1.2).

1.2.1 Character areas

The Master Plan 2050 proposes 10 distinct character areas, comprising seven urban neighbourhoods and three open parklands that will provide new uses among the existing natural and historic environment (Figure 1.3).

The seven urban neighbourhoods proposed within Sydney Olympic Park are:

- The Urban Centre;
- The Eastern Neighbourhood;
- The Southern Neighbourhood;
- Haslams Neighbourhood;
- Sports and Civic Precinct;
- Stadia Precinct; and
- Edwin Flack Neighbourhood.

The three parkland character areas proposed within Sydney Olympic Park are:

- Riverfront Park;
- Haslams Ecopark; and
- Bicentennial Park.

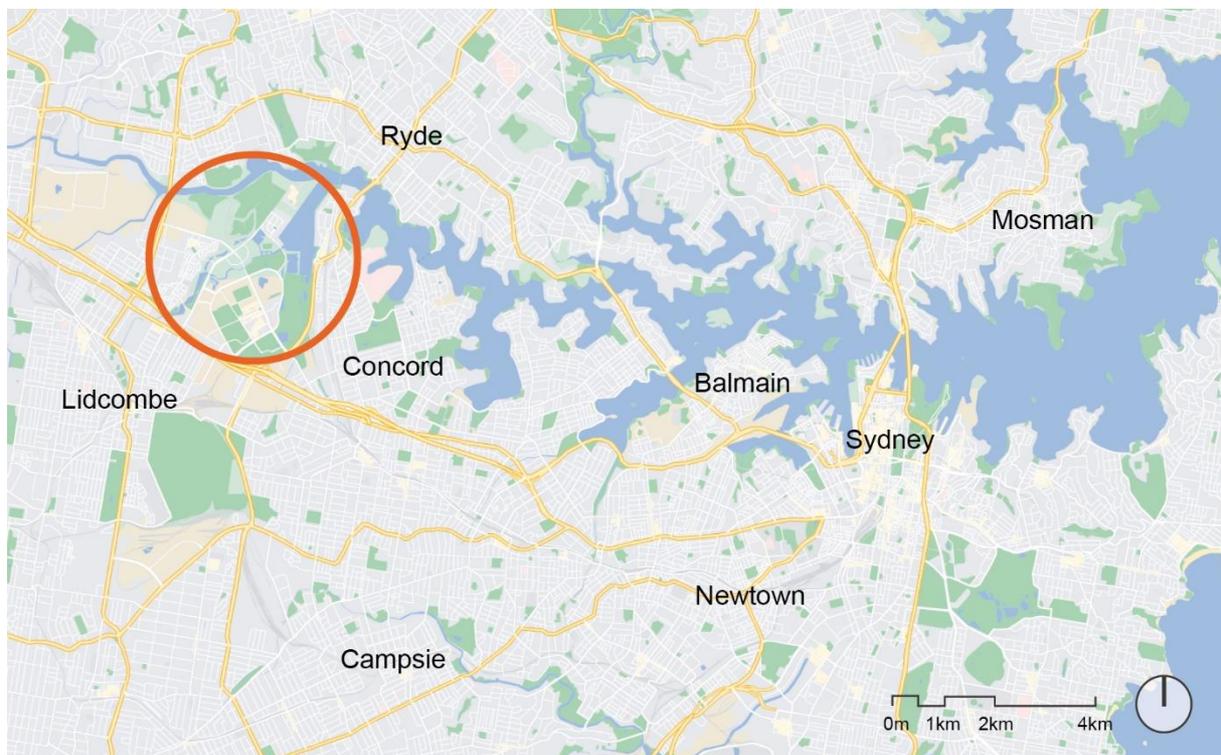


Figure 1.1 The location of Sydney Olympic Park. (Source: © Google Maps with GML overlay)

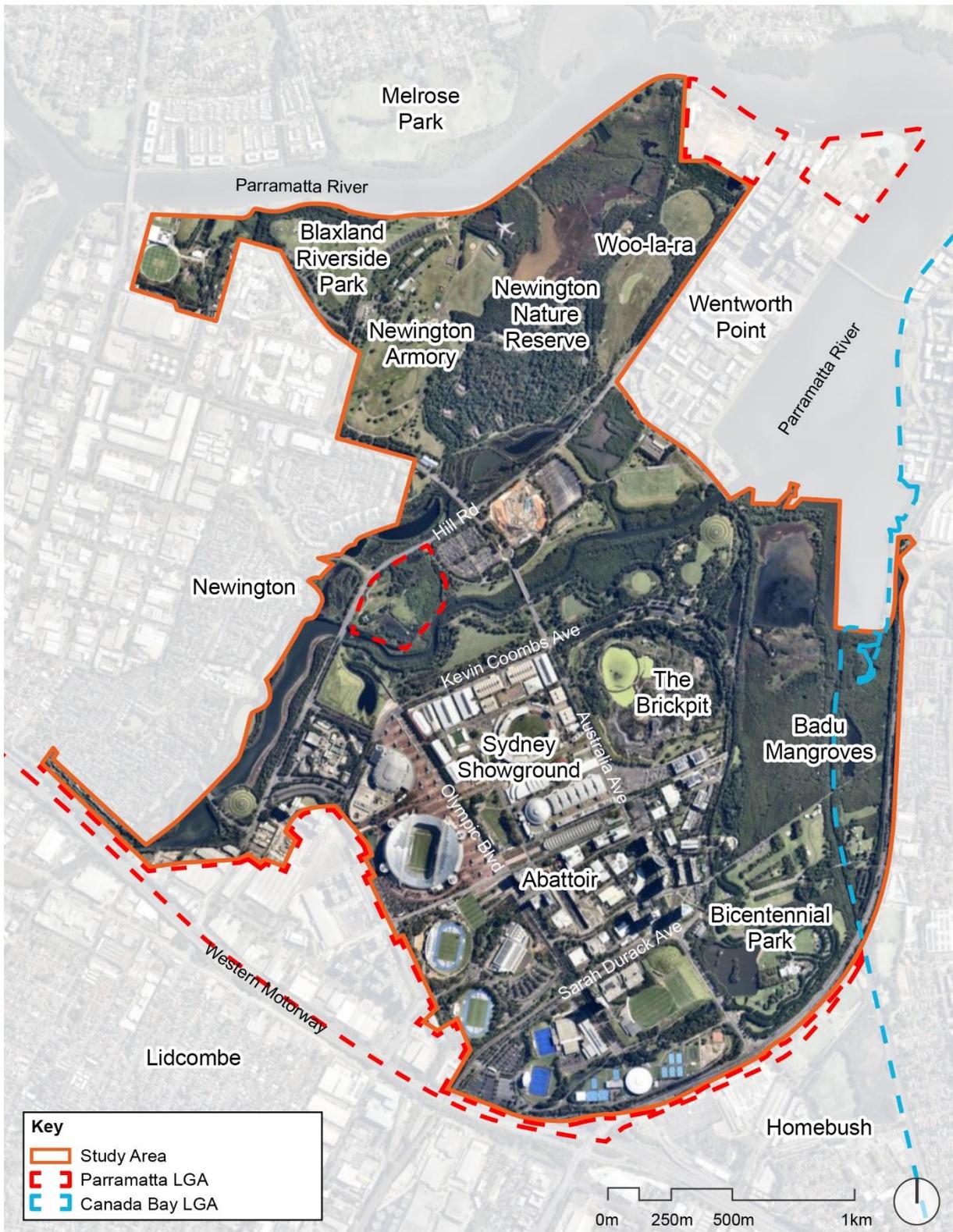


Figure 1.2 Master Plan 2050 study area. (Source: Nearmap with GML overlay)



Figure 1.3 The proposed neighbourhoods and parklands within Sydney Olympic Park. (Source: Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050)

1.3 Summary historical background

The following historical background has been extracted and summarised from previous reporting for Sydney Olympic Park, in particular:

- Graham Brooks and Associates Pty Ltd, 2003 'Abattoir Heritage Precinct—Conservation Management Plan';
- Government Architects Office, 2013 'Abattoir Heritage Precinct, Sydney Olympic Park—Conservation Management Plan (update)'; and
- Tanner Architects, 2013 'Conservation Management Plan—Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve'.

1.3.1 Aboriginal Country

The land area which became the Sydney Olympic Park area was part of traditional lands occupied by the Wangal (also spelled Wann-gal) clan of the Darug people.¹ Their lands stretched along the southern shore of Parramatta River between Darling Harbour (Gadigal/Cadigal land) and Rosehill (Burrattagal land). Homebush Bay is estimated to comprise only 15 per cent of the approximately 100 sq km they occupied.² Further examination of Sydney Olympic Park's Aboriginal cultural background can be found in the stand-alone ACH (GML 2023).

1.3.2 Early land grants, 1788–1906

Less than a month after British colonists arrived in Botany Bay, exploratory missions were sent west along Parramatta River in search of land suitable to cultivate crops. Colonists first reached Homebush Bay on 5 February 1788 as part of a team led by Captain John Hunter and Lieutenant William Bradley.³ The Homebush Bay area came to be known as 'The Flats', after the extensive mangroves and mud flats in the region.

Wentworth's 'Homebush'

The earliest land grant in the area was the original 100 acres (40 ha) allotted to Thomas Laycock at Liberty Plains in 1794. Laycock named his farm 'Home Bush', gradually growing his holdings to 785 acres (317 ha) by 1803.⁴ In January 1808, Laycock sold his farm to D'Arcy Wentworth, and by 1810 Wentworth's holdings at Homebush totalled 920 acres (372 ha) (Figure 1.4) within an area bounded by Parramatta Road, Haslams Creek, Homebush Bay and Powells Creek.⁵ Wentworth built a country estate with a large homestead, 'Homebush House', located near to the current corner of Figtree Drive and Australia Avenue. It had several outbuildings, stables, cow sheds, workers cottages, barns and a separate kitchen. By 1825, Wentworth had established a private racing track on the estate, adjoining Parramatta Road. From 1841 to 1860, the private racing track

accommodated the Australian Jockey Club (visible in Figure 1.5, c.1859). It continued to be used up to 1875.⁶



Figure 1.4 c1840s plan of Concord showing Wentworth’s Homebush Estate, Blaxland’s neighbouring Newington and the three earlier small grants (to Captain Waterhouse, Lieutenant Shortland and Isaac Archer) comprising Sydney Olympic Park. (Source: SLNSW, Maps/0034)

Following D’Arcy’s death in 1827, the property transferred to his son, W.C. Wentworth, and the estate was tenanted.⁷ By 1881, the estate comprised 1094 acres (442 ha), with the addition of areas drained and reclaimed from around Powells and Haslams Creeks and The Flats.⁸ In 1883, Fitzwilliam Wentworth registered a residential subdivision to be called the ‘Homebush Park building estate’.⁹ Very few of the planned allotments sold and the estate was still largely intact in the early 1900s when the whole property was resumed for the State Abattoir. A newspaper report from 1903 provides an evocative description of the estate prior to its resumption, although (erroneously) suggests that Homebush House was constructed in 1792:

... in a great part marshy ground covered with mangroves, amongst which sport blue-bottle crabs. The other side (western) of the point is fringed with a belt of tall shea-oaks and a smaller marsh. The point itself is a beautiful cleared, undulating piece of country, the highest part of it crowned by the residence of Mr J. R. Croft, local manager for Messrs. Hill Clark, and Co., who rent the paddocks for the cattle and sheep consigned to them. The quaint old residence of Mr D’Arcy Wentworth stood alongside Mr Croft’s house seven years ago. This house was erected in 1792, so that was 103 years old when it was demolished. Mr D’Arcy Wentworth’s homestead was the only one for miles for many years ... The old stables are ... still in existence ... A well 92ft deep supplied the house with most of the water used. Great paddocks covering thousands of acres and stretching from the river to Parramatta-road ...¹⁰

Blaxland’s ‘Newington Estate’

From 1797, several small grants were made in the vicinity of Newington: 25 acres (10 ha) each to Captain Waterhouse¹¹ and Lieutenant Shortland;¹² 80 acres (32 ha) to Isaac Archer in 1800 (Figure 1.4 above);¹³ and 50 acres (20 ha) Samuel Haslam (along Parramatta Road) in 1806.¹⁴

In 1807, John Blaxland was granted 1,200 acres (522 ha) at Newington, immediately purchasing the smaller holdings along the riverfront.¹⁵ Blaxland built a fine house, ‘Newington House’ (still extant, now within Silverwater Correctional Facility), on a rise within his estate and began to establish a series of industrial and pastoral enterprises on the property. The area where the Newington Armory is situated was likely initially used for grazing livestock or collecting timber. Blaxland erected a ‘small factory ... where blankets and tweed were made’, and miners were employed to bore for coal (unsuccessfully) across the estate.¹⁶ Along the foreshore, Blaxland erected salt and lime works, purportedly supplying salt to the colony for ‘years afterwards’:

[quoting Blaxland] I have made an embankment and enclosed about 100 acres. It was subject to overflowing of the river, but I have erected a building house for the making of salt, and have appropriated about eight acres of land for the works ... The remaining enclosures promises to be very productive as it resembles the marshes on the banks of the Thames.¹⁷

The salt works were still operating in the 1880s and traces of the works were visible in 1933. The area was, however, extensively reclaimed throughout the early twentieth century and subsequently used as a council rubbish tip.¹⁸

Reuss and Browne’s 1859 ‘map of the subdivisions of Parramatta and environs’ provides elaborate detail of the Newington and Wentworth estates, including the extent of the marshlands, the salt pans—in the vicinity of Blaxland Riverside Park—to the north of Blaxland’s house, as well as Homebush House and the racecourse (Figure 1.5).

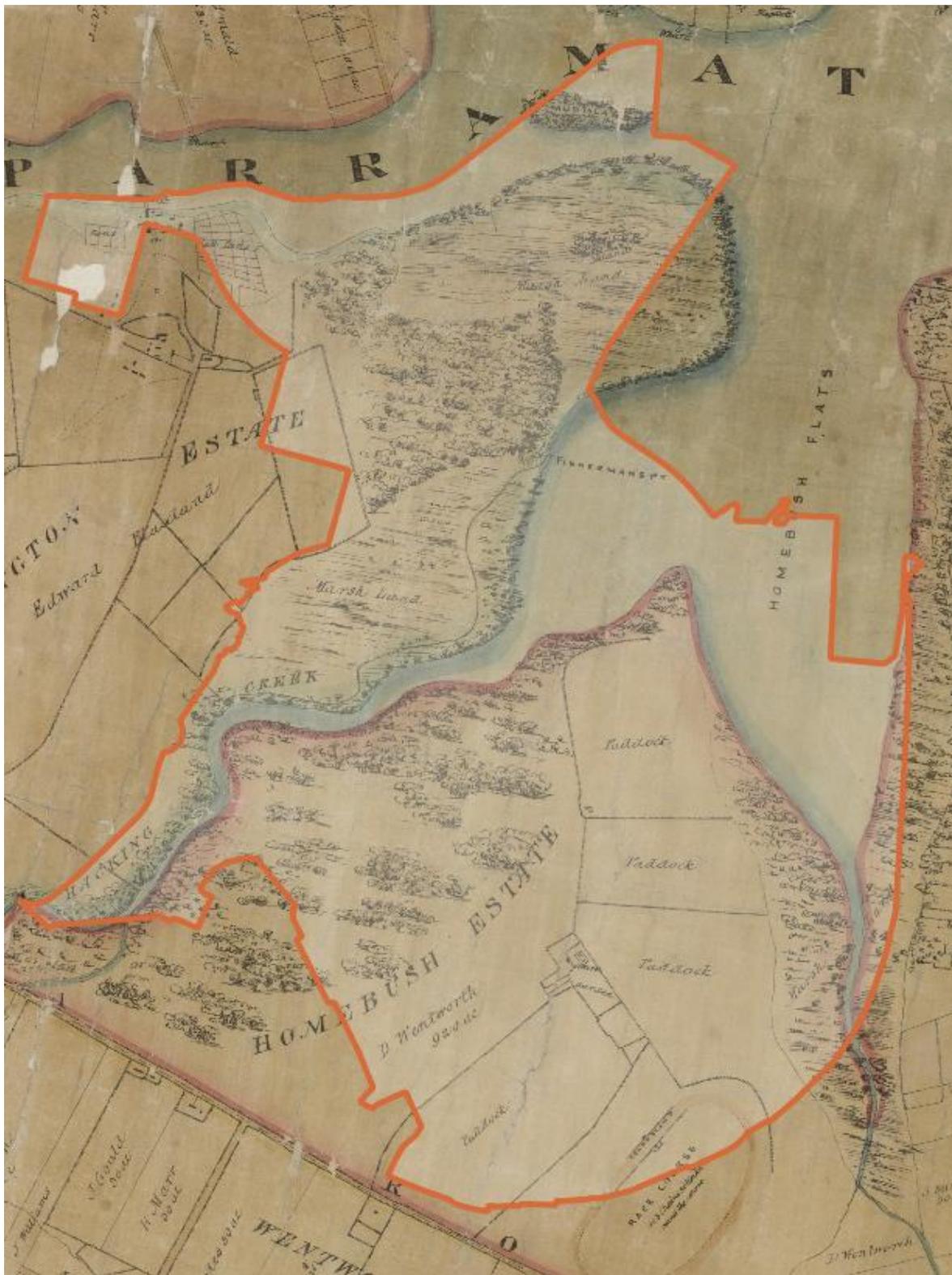


Figure 1.5 Detail from Reuss and Browne's map of the subdivisions of Parramatta and environs, c1859 with the study area boundary shown within the orange line. (Source: SLNSW, Z/M3 811.13gbbd/1859/1, Maps/0313)

1.3.3 Newington's military past, 1882–1999

In 1882, the land to the east of Newington House was resumed by the colonial government for the establishment of a powder magazine. At this time, most of the 217 acres (8 ha) comprised mudflats, swamp, mangroves or saltmarsh.¹⁹ Large-scale reclamation works were begun in 1889, which saw 200 acres (81 ha) of mudflats drained and the foreshore straightened and banked. Reclamation of the wetland continued through to World War II. Construction on the first buildings at the Newington Armory was started in 1897,²⁰ designed in the Colonial Architect's Office and erected by John Howie & Sons.

After World War I, control of the area passed from the Australian military to the Royal Australian Navy. By 1922, works had commenced on new buildings, and the site continued to be developed until the Depression.

Newington was greatly expanded during World War II as more land was acquired from the nearby abattoirs and new buildings were planned to separate domestic buildings from storehouses. Throughout the twentieth century, the Newington Armament Depot played a vital role in naval fleet operations as the major depot for the storage of explosive ordnance and formed part of a historically significant network of naval sites, such as Goat and Spectacle Islands in the Sydney metropolitan area. As early as the 1960s, the Department of Defence had been interested in relocating the functions of the Newington Armament Depot to another facility and the efficient functioning of Newington was greatly compromised by the adoption of NATO safety principles for the storage, transport and handling of explosives in 1981. In 1994, it was announced that the Newington Armament Depot would be closed. Newington was officially closed in 1999 and transferred from the Commonwealth to the State Government on 1 January 2000. Its current name, the Newington Armory, was bestowed in 2003.

1.3.4 The State Abattoirs and Brickworks, 1907–1980s

On 27 March 1907, the Wentworth estate was resumed by the Minister for Public Works for the purposes of erecting an abattoir following growing concerns about public health in relation to the Glebe Island public abattoir. There was also pressure from the meat trade to relocate the abattoir closer to saleyards. The original stockyard location at Homebush Railway Station, established in 1870, had been transferred to Flemington Railway Station in 1882. The new site required road and rail access, water supply, sewage connection, and space for resting paddocks, as well as proximity to saleyards.

Initial works started in 1907–1908, with the construction of a branch railway line through the abattoir site.²¹ In April 1910, the tender for the construction of the abattoirs was awarded to the McLeod Brothers for a cost of £158,765.²² The development of the abattoirs required significant levelling works to the site, as well as wharfage, reclamation

and dredging.²³ In April 1915, the abattoir officially opened; however, the project was hampered by considerable construction delays and the facility was not fully operational until 1923.

After World War II, with an increasing population, growing export trade and the specific needs of regional areas, the NSW government began a program of decentralising slaughterhouse facilities, financing several regional slaughterhouses throughout NSW. By the late 1970s, mounting debts, a fall in meat exports and a need to modernise the facility had all added to pressure from private and rural abattoirs who wanted to see Homebush closed. In June 1988, the State Abattoir was closed.

In 1911, part of the abattoir site was resumed for the purpose of establishing the State Brickworks.²⁴ The brickworks continued under state ownership until 1932, when it was purchased by Brickworks Limited. By 1940, the brickworks had closed, owing to the slump in sales during the war. During World War II, the Newington Armament Depot took over the brickworks as a munitions store. The brickworks were resumed and reopened under government ownership in 1946. The post-war building boom resulted in an increased demand for bricks, reaching a peak in 1969. From the 1960s, however, excavation had halted in the clay pit and it became a waste depot for the local municipality. The State Brickworks were officially closed in June 1988, although sandstone was still removed under royalties until 1992.



Figure 1.6 Aerial view of State Abattoirs by E.W. Searle, c1940. (Source: NLA, PIC P838/2183 LOC Album 172, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-142184384>)

1.3.5 Industrial uses, remediation and the Sydney Olympic Park redevelopment, 1960s–present

From the 1960s, the Homebush Bay area was used as a council dumping ground for domestic and industrial waste from nearby factories. Part of the bay was also used as a ship-breaking yard (the Maritime Services Board [MSB] yard). By 1988, there was an estimated 9 million cubic metres of waste and contaminated soils spread over 400 hectare within the 760 hectare site.²⁵ Geotechnical investigations at the future Olympic site during the 1990s indicated that fill and garbage levels were up to 3 metres deep at parts of the site, with high levels of contaminated fill evident in these investigations.²⁶ Approximately 160 hectares of the site was identified as containing wastes including

power station ash, demolition rubble, asbestos, industrial hydrocarbons, domestic garbage and dredging material from Parramatta River.

Remediation strategies prior to the Sydney 2000 Games involved extensive earthworks to manage ground toxins, including the excavation of 400 tonnes of chemical waste. The initial remediation plan involved stripping the topsoil of contaminated land and containing it in the former Brickpit. This approach was abandoned following the discovery of the threatened Green and Golden Bell Frog species in the Brickpit.²⁷ Excavated waste was subsequently consolidated into designated waste containment mounds. These were capped, landscaped and turned into parkland. The remediation strategy was to consolidate and re-contain the waste into several areas within Sydney Olympic Park, as opposed to relocating the pollution.

Redevelopment of Sydney Olympic Park had started in the 1980s, with the opening of the Australia Centre (a private business park), the State Sports Centre (1984, now Quay Centre) and Bicentennial Park, as well as the closure of the State Abattoirs and Brickworks in 1988. Construction on the Sydney International Aquatic Centre and Sydney International Athletic Centre was completed in 1994 and, by 1995, fifteen further venues were under construction. For further detail on development of Sydney Olympic Park for the Sydney 2000 Games, see Section 4. Many of the sporting facilities within Sydney Olympic Park continue their original sporting purpose and are sporting excellence destinations for water sports, track and field athletics, hockey, archery, gymnastics and tennis. As a purpose-built sporting and events precinct that was designed for an international event with specific functions, Sydney Olympic Park embodies excellence of the built environment in its architectural, urban design, landscape architecture, environmental management (a key part of the Sydney 2000 Games bid) and services design.

1.4 Timeline of historical development

Date	Event
Aboriginal Country	
Pre 1788	Part of traditional Country occupied and managed according to traditions and beliefs of the Wangal clan of the Darug people.
Phase A: 1788–1807—Colonisation of unceded Country	
Oct 1794	Thomas Laycock granted 100 acres at Liberty Plains, 'Home Bush'.
1797–1806	Several smaller allotments granted in the vicinity of Newington.
Phase B: 1807–1880s—Wentworth's 'Homebush' and Blaxland's 'Newington'	
1807	John Blaxland granted 1,200 acres (522ha) at Newington. The property comprised the land between Parramatta River and Parramatta Road, and

Date	Event
	<p>between Haslams Creek (Hackings Creek) and Duck River. Blaxland likely acquired the surrounding earlier grants (excluding Haslams) shortly after this purchase.</p> <p>Large parts of the property remained undeveloped throughout the nineteenth century—approximating the current Newington Nature Reserve and Woo-la-ra. Blaxland established a series of industrial (including salt and lime works, coal-searching) and pastoral enterprises (predominantly sheep grazing) on the estate.</p>
Jan 1808	Laycock’s farm assigned to D’Arcy Wentworth. By 1810 Wentworth’s Homebush amounted to 920 acres (37ha). The property comprised the land between ‘the Flats’, Parramatta Road and Haslams Creek.
By 1825	<p>Homebush House had been constructed near to the current corner of Figtree Drive and Australia Avenue and a private racing track was established adjoining Parramatta Road.</p> <p>Wentworth undertook large-scale drainage work on his property, particularly around Powells and Haslams Creeks.</p>
1841–1860	Wentworth’s private racecourse had been remodelled to accommodate the Australian Jockey Club. It continued to be used up to 1875.
1880s	Fitzwilliam Wentworth registered a subdivision ‘Wentworth Estate’ or ‘Homebush Village’, although very few of the planned allotments sold.
Phase C: 1880–1920s—Newington Armory/State Abattoirs and Brickworks	
1882	Land at Newington resumed by the colonial government for the purposes of erecting a powder magazine. At this time, most of the 217 acres (8ha) comprised mudflats, swamp, mangroves or saltmarsh.
From 1889	Large-scale reclamation works begun, with almost 200 acres (8ha) of mudflats drained and the foreshore straightened and banked. Reclamation of the wetlands continued through the 1930s and into World War II.
15 Feb 1897	Worked commenced on the construction of the Government powder magazine.
1901–1902	The Committee on Public Works inquiry into relocating the public abattoir from Glebe Island was established and endorsed the proposal to move the abattoirs to a new site at Homebush.
1906	NSW Parliament passed legislation authorising the construction of the new abattoir. By Dec 1906, 909 acres (368ha) of the Wentworth estate had been resumed for the construction at a total cost of £70,831.
1907–1908	<p>In 1907, 368 ha of ‘Homebush’ estate was resumed by the Department of Public Works to establish the State Abattoir.</p> <p>Branch railway line connecting the abattoir to the main suburban line was completed, in addition to levelling the site and constructing the roadways by the Railways Commissioners.</p> <p>Abattoir designed by Public Works, under the direction of Government Architect Walter Liberty Vernon with input from Principal Assistant Architect George McRae.</p>
Apr 1911	The State Brickworks was established.

Date	Event
1914	The area bounded by Jamieson Street, Haslams Creek, Carnarvon Street and Holker Street (part of Blaxland's 1807 'Newington' estate grant) was resumed to add to State Abattoir operations.
7 Apr 1915	Abattoir was officially opened, and the southern part of the magazine leased to the State Abattoir.
By 1923	The new abattoir at Homebush was fully operational.
Phase D: 1921–1939—Expansion of the Armory	
1921	Following World War I, control of the Newington Amory passed from the Australian military to the Royal Australian Navy.
By 1922	Works had commenced on new buildings.
By 1924	The Navy requested that more land be made available from the area leased to the State Abattoir.
1928	The abattoir gave the eastern areas back to the magazine.
Phase E: 1939–1960—World War II and maximum expansion	
1 Sep 1939– 2 Sep 1945	World War II The Newington Armament Depot was greatly expanded to the south to serve the needs of Australian, British and American naval forces. This included the area bounded by Jamieson Street, Haslams Creek, Carnarvon Street and Holker Streets, that was resumed in 1914 for abattoir use.
1942–1947	The Newington Armaments Depot took over the Brickworks as a storage area.
Phase F: 1960–Present—Decline and closure of the Newington Armory/Sydney Olympic Park Redevelopment	
From 1960s	Sydney Olympic Park used as a council dumping ground for domestic and industrial waste.
1966	Maritime Services Board (MSB) approved a section of Homebush Bay for use as a ship-breaking yard. Several vessels still lie in the vicinity of ship-breaking equipment within the ships' graveyard in Homebush Bay.
1968	New stock saleyards opened on the abattoir site, replacing the Flemington Station saleyards.
10 Jun 1988	State Abattoir closed.
Jun 1988	State Brickworks ceased operations.
1988	Bicentennial Park opened, following a period of remediation and redevelopment
By 1980s	Large parts of Sydney Olympic Park were unsuitable for most urban uses and was a contamination source for Sydney's waterways. The type of contamination included petroleum waste, industrial rubble, asbestos, fly ash, unexploded ordnance, putrescible municipal waste, abattoir discharge and dumped or spilled chemical wastes.

Date	Event
24 Sep 1993	Sydney won the right to stage the Sydney 2000 Games.
1992	Remediation program commenced, following investigations that began in 1990.
1995	Olympic Master Plan created.
1999	Newington Armory officially closed. Hall of Champions (collection) State Heritage Register gazettal (2/4/1999).
2000	Former Naval Precinct transferred from Commonwealth Government to NSW Government. The Sydney 2000 Games held in Sep–Oct.
2001	SOPA was established with the enactment of the <i>Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act 2001</i> .
2005	Brickpit Ring Walk officially opened.
2009	Sydney Olympic Park officially designated as a suburb by the NSW Geographic Names Board and the Master Plan 2030 was approved, guiding the future development of Sydney Olympic Park.
2010	Olympic Cauldron State Heritage Register gazettal (10/9/2010).
2011	Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve State Heritage Register gazettal (14/1/2011).

1.5 Limitations

This Heritage Report is subject to the following limitations:

- Heritage engagement took place towards the latter stages of the master planning project, with many parameters already determined.
- An assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage values associated with Sydney Olympic Park has not been conducted as part of this Heritage Report. This is the subject of a separate report prepared by GML (ACH 2023).
- Site analysis was undertaken on several occasions, but given the vast nature of Sydney Olympic Park, not all areas were inspected.
- Where site analysis was not undertaken, this report was informed by extensive desktop review of existing documentation.
- No interior inspection of buildings was undertaken with the exception of two buildings in Newington Armory.
- Archaeological advice is given on the basis of desktop review of available existing documentation. Given the complexity of past impacts to Sydney Olympic Park, no mapping of archaeological potential has been included.

1.6 Acknowledgments

GML wishes to thank the following for their ongoing collaboration and assistance in preparing this report:

- Vivienne Albin—Acting Director Environment and Planning, SOPA
- Kate Bartlett—Partner/Director, The Planning Studio
- Kerry Darcovich—Senior Manager Environment & Ecology, SOPA
- Madeleine Lloyd—Senior Consultant, Ramboll Australia Pty Ltd
- Viveca McGhie—Infrastructure and Environmental Compliance Officer, SOPA

We are particularly grateful for the knowledge shared by Kerry Darcovich.

1.7 Authorship

This report was prepared by Alison Starr (Senior Associate), Dr Kat McRae (Senior Heritage Consultant, Archaeology) and Loredana Sipione (Heritage Consultant). Strategic advice and review were provided by Sharon Veale (CEO).

1.8 Endnotes

- ¹ Irish, P., 2005, 'Aboriginal People at Homebush Bay: From the Wann-gal to the present day', report prepared for Sydney Olympic Park Authority, p 29.
- ² Irish, P., 2005, 'Aboriginal People at Homebush Bay: From the Wann-gal to the present day', report prepared for Sydney Olympic Park Authority, p 29.
- ³ William Bradley, 5 February 1788, 'A Voyage to New South Wales', December 1786–May 1892, compiled c1802, p 76.
- ⁴ 100 acres granted 3 Oct 1794 (Grant Register (GR) Serial No 1, Page 98); also 160 acres granted 17 May 1799 (GR Serial No 2, Page 286); and 785 acres granted 9 Dec 1803 (GR Serial No 2, Page 123).
- ⁵ GR Serial No. 5, Page 6.
- ⁶ AMAC, 2000 'Archaeological Monitoring Report, Former AJC Racecourse Olympic Tennis Centre, Homebush NSW', p 7.
- ⁷ Bertie, C.H. 1930 'Pioneer families of Australia, Chapter 5—The Wentworths', *The Home: an Australian Quarterly*, Vol. 11, No. 5 (1 May 1930), p 44–45.
- ⁸ 'Australian Politics', *The Australian*, 10 May 1826; AMAC 1997, 'Test Excavations & Survey, Australia Avenue, Fig Tree Avenue Circuit 2000 Olympic Site, Homebush, NSW', p 14.
- ⁹ Hardie & Gorman Pty. Ltd & Gibbs, Shallard & Co. *Homebush Park building estate* Retrieved June 23, 2023 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-230213863>
- ¹⁰ 'The proposed site for Abattoirs', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 Jan 1902, p 3.
- ¹¹ GR Serial No 2, Page 86.
- ¹² GR Serial No 2, Page 87.

- 13 GR Serial No 3, Page 54.
- 14 GR Serial No 3, Page 204.
- 15 GR Serial No. 3, Page 220.
- 16 'The Biographer' *The Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser*, 27 Oct 1883, p 775.
- 17 'Newington Farm' *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 Apr 1930, p 9.
- 18 Sue Rosen Pty Ltd, 1993 'The Silverwater Complex of Prisons, a history', p 67.
- 19 'Ministerial inspection of reclamation works', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 Mar 1892, p 11.
- 20 'Newington powder magazine', *The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 4 Sep 1897, p 8.
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- 24 'State Brickworks', *Construction: Weekly Supplement to Building*, 13 Feb 1911, p 6.
- 25 <https://www.sopa.nsw.gov.au/About-Us/History-and-Heritage/Site-Remediation>
- 26 AMAC, 1998 'Archaeological Impact Assessment Report, Proposed Olympic Tennis Centre, 2000 Olympic Site', Homebush, NSW, p 8.
- 27 Laginestra, E. 2002, 'Monitoring the effectiveness of remediation: A case study from Homebush Bay, Sydney, Australia', in C.A. Brebbia, D. Almorza and H. Klapperich (eds) *Brownfield Sites: Assessment, Rehabilitation and Development*.

2 Statutory context

2.1 Introduction

Sydney Olympic Park is administered, regulated and managed under several Acts of Parliament, planning instruments, management plans and policies. Statutory heritage protection, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, within Sydney Olympic Park and its immediate vicinity is afforded under the following Acts:

- *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act 2001*
- *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*
- *Heritage Act 1977*
- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Places that are assessed to have significant heritage values at World, National or Commonwealth levels are afforded statutory protection under the Australian Government's *Environmental Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act 1999).

2.2 Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act

The gazettal of the *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act* (SOPA Act) 2001 established SOPA as the management agency for Sydney Olympic Park. SOPA Act aims to ensure that Sydney Olympic Park is an active and vibrant centre within metropolitan Sydney, and a premium destination for cultural, entertainment, recreation and sporting events.

Section 3 of the SOPA Act identifies one of the key objectives of the Act is to:

- (d) ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural heritage of the Millennium Parklands.

Section 13 of the SOPAA states that one of the key functions of the Act is:

- (c) to protect and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of Sydney Olympic Park, particularly the Millennium Parklands.

2.2.1 Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050

The Master Plan 2050 will be a statutory document under the SOPA Act which will provide detailed design controls for development proposals. It will supersede the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030 (2018 Review) and the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan (Interim Sydney Metro Review) 2021.

2.3 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW)

The *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act) is a statute aimed at conserving NSW's natural heritage within the state's reserve system, and Aboriginal cultural heritage through the regulation and protection of all Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places.

Aboriginal objects are defined as:

Any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.

Aboriginal objects, including sites, are recorded on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) maintained within the Department of Environment and Planning.

The majority of the forest and wetland areas of Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve were gazetted in September 2000 as Silverwater Nature Reserve (now Newington Nature Reserve). The Newington Nature Reserve is to be managed in accordance with the management principles for Nature Reserves contained in Division 2 30J of the NPW Act.

At the time of writing, it is noted that the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW is subject to proposed reform. The intention is to create new stand-alone legislation for the recognition, conservation and preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage. Timeframes for the new legislation are yet to be confirmed by the state government.

2.3.1 The Parklands Plan of Management 2010

The Parklands Plan of Management 2010 (Parklands POM) was adopted by the Minister responsible for Sydney Olympic Park on 8 November 2010. The Parklands POM incorporates the Newington Nature Reserve Plan of Management and sections of the Parklands POM relate specifically to the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve:

Priorities for leisure and play areas:

- Further 'open', interpret and adaptively re-use Newington Armament Depot to better provide for the public use and enjoyment of the place in the context of its heritage status.
- Minimise the impacts from any developments, uses and activities in Blaxland Riverside Park, Wilson Park and the Newington Armament on the proper function and security of the adjoining Silverwater Correctional Centre.
- Incrementally transform the Armory from its former role as an operational defence facility into a place accessible to the public for a suitable range of new and

contemporary uses while conserving and interpreting its heritage and cultural values and features.

Priorities for conservation areas:

- Consulting with the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water before any major changes in the use or undertaking of major works or developments in the Armory and Woo-la-ra that are considered to impact on the Newington Nature Reserve.

2.4 Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)

The *Heritage Act 1977* (NSW) (Heritage Act) is a statute that has as its principal object the conservation of NSW's environmental heritage. Through various approvals and permits, the Heritage Act regulates the impacts of development on the significance of the state's heritage. It defines a heritage item as 'a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct'. To assist in management of the state's heritage assets, the Heritage Act distinguishes between items of local and state heritage significance.

'Local heritage significance', in relation to a place, building, work, relic, movable object or precinct, means significance to an area in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item.

'State heritage significance', in relation to a place, building, work, relic, movable object or precinct, means significance to the state in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item.

2.4.1 State Heritage Register

The State Heritage Register (SHR) was established under Section 22 of the Heritage Act. It comprises a list of identified heritage items determined to be of significance to the people of New South Wales. The SHR includes items and places such as buildings, works, archaeological relics, movable objects or precincts.

The 'Hall of Champions (collection)' (SHR 01295) (Figure 2.1), 'Olympic Cauldron at Olympic Park' (SHR 01839) (Figure 2.2) and 'Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve' (SHR 01850) (Figure 2.3) are listed on the SHR. There is one state heritage item listed on the SHR in the vicinity of Sydney Olympic Park, known as 'Silverwater Prison Complex' (SHR 00813).

The Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve does not include the Explosives Store (Building 87). This building is listed on the Sydney Olympic Park Section 170 of the state agency heritage and conservation register.



Figure 2.1 State Heritage Register Plan 2391, showing boundaries of the Hall of Champions (collection), as defined by its state heritage listing. (Source: Heritage Council of NSW)



Figure 2.2 State Heritage Register Plan 2343, showing the boundaries of the Olympic Cauldron, as defined by its state heritage listing. (Source: Heritage Council of NSW)



State Heritage Register - SHR:01850 - Plan: 2320

Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve

Holker Street, Homebush Bay

Gazettal Date: 14/01/2011

0 210 420 630 840 Meters

Scale: 1:13,000 @A4

Datum/Projection: GCS GDA 1994

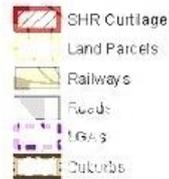


Figure 2.3 State Heritage Register Plan 2320, showing the boundaries of the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve, as defined by its state heritage listing. (Source: Heritage Council of NSW)

2.4.2 Relics provisions

Archaeological relics are protected under the 'relics provisions' (Section 139 to 146) of the Heritage Act.

The Act defines a 'relic' as any deposit, object or material evidence that:

- (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and
- (b) is of State or local heritage significance.

Sections 139–145 of the Heritage Act prevent the excavation of a relic except in accordance with an excavation permit (or an exemption from the need for a permit) issued by the Heritage Council of New South Wales.

Section 139 [1] of the Heritage Act states:

A person must not disturb or excavate land knowing or having reasonable cause to suspect that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed unless the disturbance or excavation is carried out in accordance with an excavation permit.

Approval is required under Section 140 of the Heritage Act (for relics not listed on the SHR) or under Section 60 (for relics listed on the SHR) before impacting or harming archaeological relics.

2.4.3 Standard exemptions

Section 57(2) of the Heritage Act provides exemptions to Section 57(1) approval for some minor activities where those activities may affect an SHR listed item. There are two types of exemptions: standard and site-specific exemptions. The standard exemptions do not apply to the disturbance, destruction, removal or exposure of archaeological relics.

2.4.4 Section 170 State agency heritage and conservation register

Under Section 170 of the Heritage Act 1977 (NSW), government agencies are required to keep a Heritage and Conservation Register that lists heritage significant assets they own, manage or care for. They are also required to maintain the items in accordance with *State-Owned Heritage Management Principles* (NSW Heritage Office 2005).

The Sydney Olympic Park Heritage and Conservation Register (Sydney Olympic Park Section 170 Register) includes the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve, Olympic Cauldron, Hall of Champions (collection), Explosives Store (Building 87) and the Abattoir Heritage Precinct.

2.5 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW) (EPA Act) is administered by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment and provides for environmental planning instruments to be made that guide the process of development and land use. The EPA Act also provides for the protection of local heritage items and conservation areas through listing on State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) and Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) which provide local councils with the framework required to make planning decisions.

2.5.1 State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts—Central River City) 2021

The SEPP (Precincts—Central River City) 2021 contains planning provisions for precincts within the Central River City, including Sydney Olympic Park. The SEPP has consolidated provisions from SEPP (State Significant Precincts) 2005 which is now repealed.

Appendix 4 of the SEPP provides interpretation of the heritage conservation areas and heritage items as shown on the heritage map (Figure 2.4).

2 Interpretation

(1) In this Appendix—

heritage conservation area means one of the following areas of land, as shown on the Heritage Map as a heritage conservation area—

- (a) State Abattoirs,
- (b) Newington Armory.

heritage item means—

(a) the Olympic Cauldron at Sydney Olympic Park, being a heritage item of State significance listed in the State Heritage Register, and

(b) a building, work, archaeological site, tree, place or Aboriginal object situated within a heritage conservation area and specified in one of the following documents—

- (i) Abattoir Heritage Precinct Sydney Olympic Park: Conservation Management Plan, dated September 2013, prepared by the Government Architect's Office, NSW Public Works, Department of Finance and Services, a copy of which is held in the head office of the Authority,
- (ii) Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve Sydney Olympic Park: Conservation Management Plan, dated September 2013, prepared by Tanner Architects, a copy of which is held in the head office of the Authority.

Heritage Map means the State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts—Central River City) 2021 Sydney Olympic Park Heritage Map.

The SEPP (Precincts—Central River City) Heritage Map for Sydney Olympic Park identifies two heritage conservation areas and one heritage item within Sydney Olympic Park. The heritage conservation areas are known as 'State Abattoir Conservation Area' (Item no. A) and 'Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve Conservation Area' (Item no. B). The heritage item is known as 'Olympic Cauldron' (Item no. C).

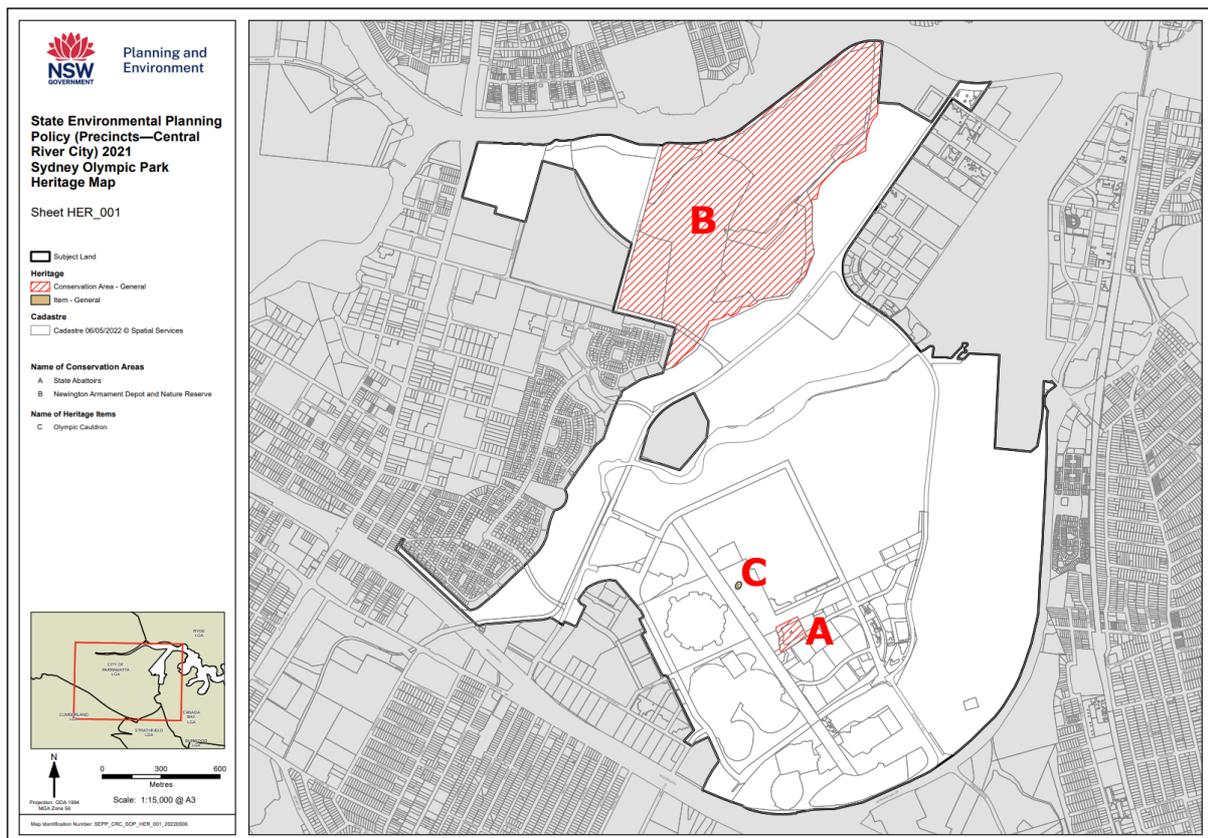


Figure 2.4 State Environment Planning Policy (Precinct—Central River City) 2021 Sydney Olympic Park, Sheet HER_001. (Source: NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure with GML overlay)

2.6 Conservation policy

2.6.1 Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve

Current conservation policy for Newington Armament Depot is an endorsed conservation management plan (CMP) by Tanners Architects.¹ This CMP, while sound and comprehensive, is overdue for review. The 2013 CMP built on the previous CMP by Graham Brooks and Associates,² which excludes Blaxland Riverside Park but is consistent

with the SEPP heritage listing. Site-specific exemptions to the SHR listing (01850) were gazetted in 14/1/2011 and last updated in 10/10/2012.

2.6.2 Abattoir Heritage Precinct

Current conservation policy for the Abattoir Heritage Precinct is an endorsed conservation management plan by the Government Architects Office.³ This CMP, while sound and comprehensive, is overdue for review. The 2013 CMP built on the previous 2003 CMP by Graham Brooks and Associates.⁴

2.7 Endnotes

- ¹ Tanners Architects, 2011 (endorsed 2013) 'Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve Sydney Olympic Park, Conservation Management Plan'.
- ² Graham Brooks and Associates, 2003 'Millenium Parklands Heritage Precinct, Sydney Olympic Park'.
- ³ Government Architects Office, 2013 'Abattoir Heritage Precinct Sydney Olympic Park, Conservation Management Plan'.
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3 Sydney Olympic Park



3 Sydney Olympic Park

3.1 Site analysis

- Sydney Olympic Park is bordered by Parramatta River and Homebush Bay to the north, Homebush Bay Drive and the suburbs of Liberty Grove and Rhodes to its east, the M4 Motorway along its southern boundary and the suburbs of Newington and Silverwater to its west.
- The recently built suburb of Wentworth Point is situated between Sydney Olympic Park and Homebush Bay, at the northeastern corner of Sydney Olympic Park.
- Haslams Creek (to the west) and Powells Creek (to the east) border the central area of Sydney Olympic Park.
- The primary vehicular entry point into Sydney Olympic Park is off Homebush Bay Drive, along Australia Avenue.

3.2 Heritage context

3.2.1 Statutory heritage listings

Sydney Olympic Park is not listed on a heritage register, although there are sites within the precinct that are listed on multiple heritage registers. Table 3.1 provides a summary of identified heritage items and conservation areas within Sydney Olympic Park (see Figure 3.1, Figure 3.2). The Sydney Olympic Park Environmental Conservation Area (Figure 3.3)

Table 3.1 Heritage items and heritage conservation areas within the Sydney Olympic Park.

Heritage item	State Heritage Register	Schedule 4 Heritage conservation areas, SEPP (Precincts— Central River City) 2021	Schedule 5 Heritage Items, SEPP (Precincts— Central River City) 2021	Sydney Olympic Park Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register	PLEP 2023
Movable heritage					
Hall of Champions (collection)	01295	-	-	Yes	-
Olympic Cauldron					

Heritage item	State Heritage Register	Schedule 4 Heritage conservation areas, SEPP (Precincts— Central River City) 2021	Schedule 5 Heritage Items, SEPP (Precincts— Central River City) 2021	Sydney Olympic Park Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register	PLEP 2023
Olympic Cauldron at Sydney Olympic Park	01839	-	Item C <i>(per Sheet HER_001)</i>	Yes	-
Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve					
Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve	01850	-	Item B <i>(per Sheet HER_001)</i>	Yes	-
Millennium Parklands Heritage Precinct					
'The collection of buildings, structures, relics and landforms constructed by the Royal Australian Navy as an armaments depot during the 19th and 20th centuries, together with the rare river edge wetlands and the Cumberland Plain woodland area'	-	-	Item A	-	-
Other					
Explosives Store — Building 87	-	-	Item 87	Yes	I291
State Abattoir					
Abattoir Heritage Precinct (Heritage Conservation Area)	-	Area No 1	Area A <i>(per Sheet HER_001)</i>	Yes	-
State Abattoir locality					
The Vernon Buildings, the Maiden Gardens and the Railway Garden within	-	-	Item 1	-	-

Heritage item	State Heritage Register	Schedule 4 Heritage conservation areas, SEPP (Precincts— Central River City) 2021	Schedule 5 Heritage Items, SEPP (Precincts— Central River City) 2021	Sydney Olympic Park Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register	PLEP 2023
the Historic Abattoir Administration Precinct, bounded by Herb Elliott Avenue, Showground Road, Dawn Fraser Avenue and the Railway Garden	-	-	Item 2	-	-
The Avenue of Palms	-	-	Item 2	-	-

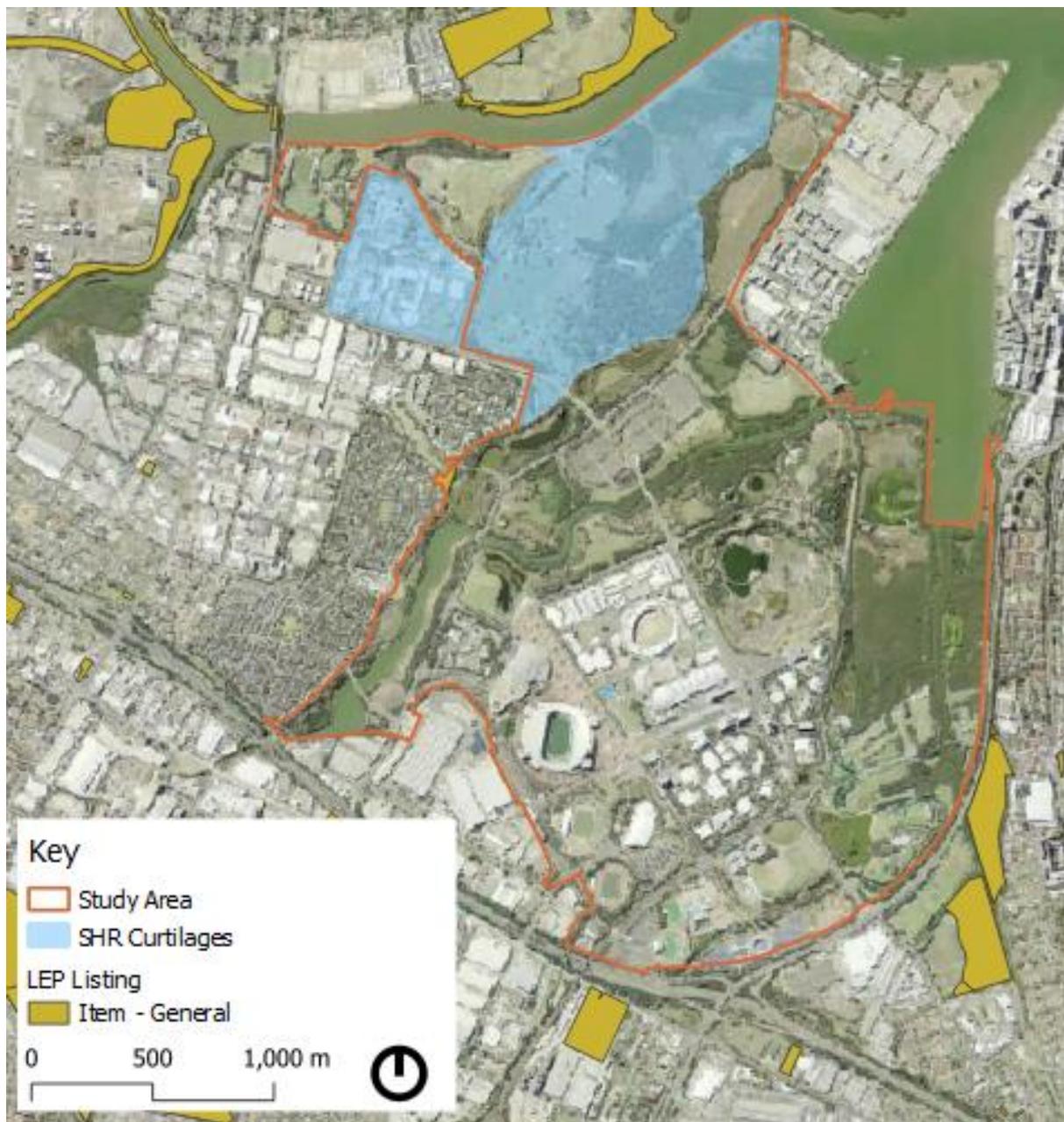


Figure 3.1 Heritage context map showing the location of SHR listed heritage items and heritage conservation areas within the study area and in the vicinity. (Source: Nearmaps with GML overlay)

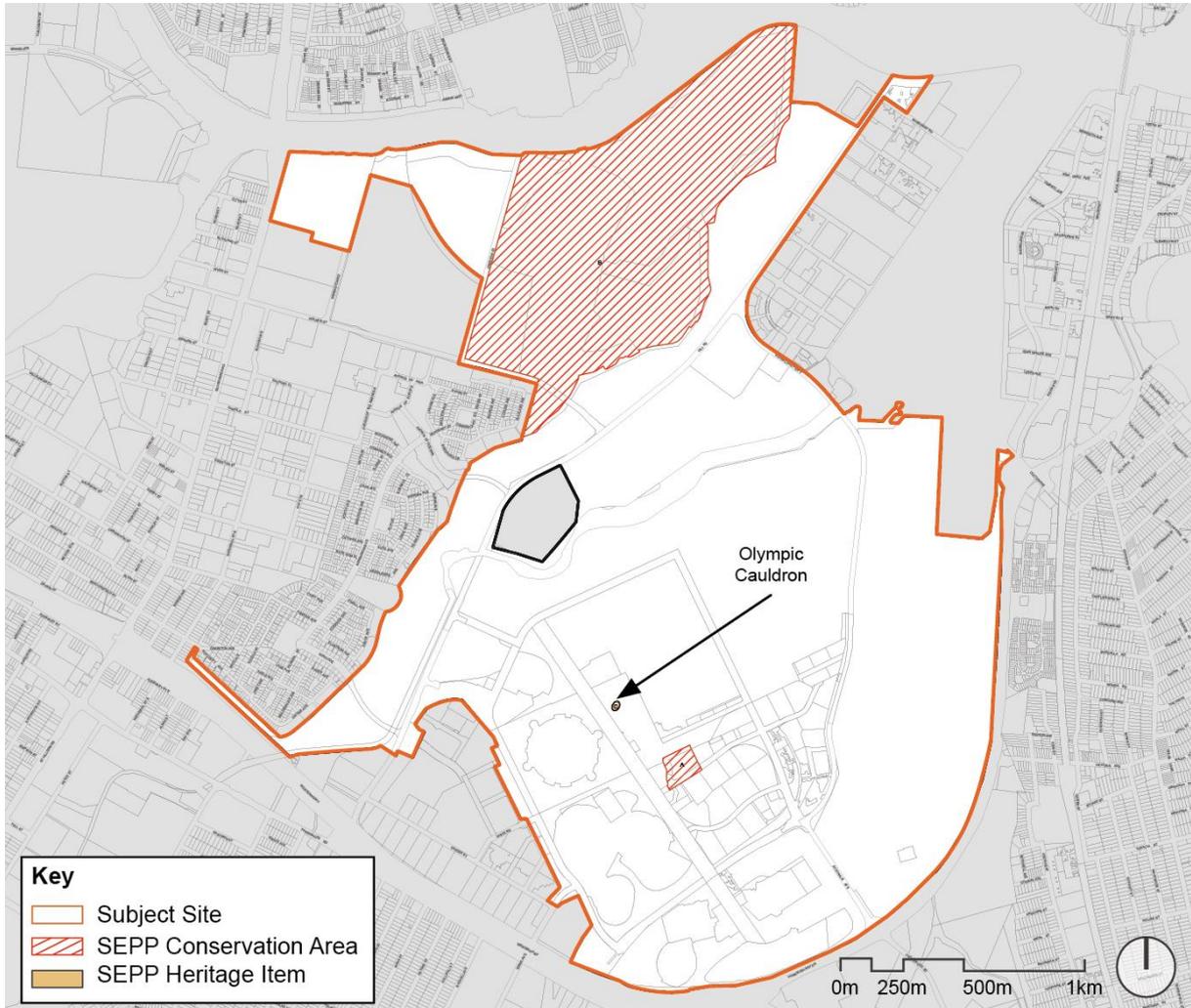


Figure 3.2 The heritage item and curtilage of the heritage conservation areas listed under the SEPP. (Source: SEPP [Precincts—Central River City] 2021 with GML overlay)

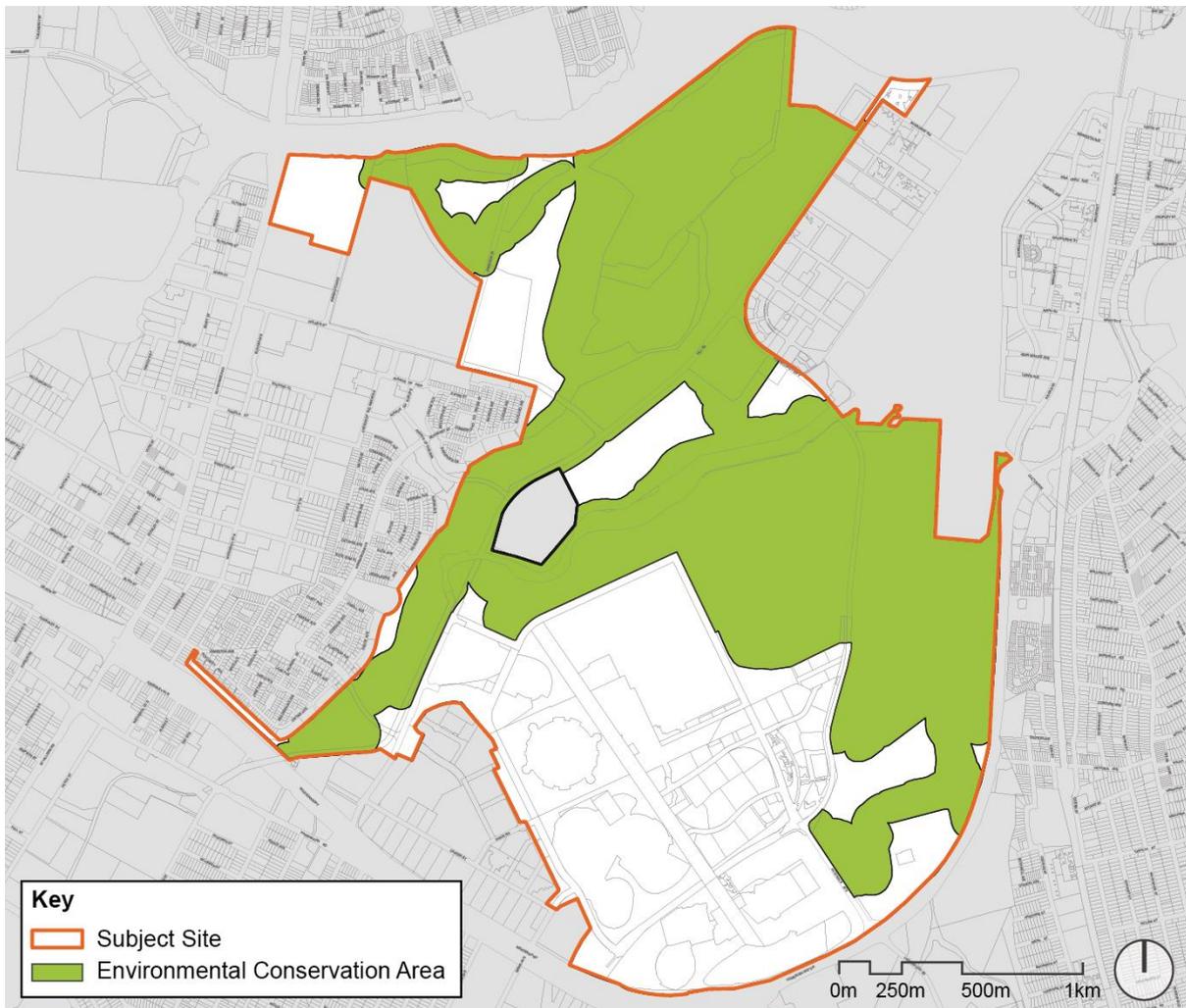


Figure 3.3 The curtilage of the Environmental Conservation Area listed under the SEPP. (Source: SEPP [Precincts—Central River City] 2021 with GML overlay)

3.2.2 Movable heritage collection

Heritage context

Investigation area	Key findings
Current Heritage listings	<p>Hall of Champions (collection):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW State Heritage Register #01295 • Sydney Olympic Park Section 170 Register <p>Statement of significance (as at 12/09/1997):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The largest and most diverse collection of sporting memorabilia held by a museum in the state of New South Wales. It covers approximately 36 different sports, spans the period from the 1880s to the present, relates to many significant Australian athletes and important sporting

Investigation area	Key findings
	<p>events such as the Sydney 2000 Games and the Commonwealth Games.¹</p> <p>History:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established in 1978; includes Roll of Honour; originally housed in Sports House (The Rocks) and moved to State Sports Centre in 1984. <p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The focus of the collection is material associated with Hall of Champions inductees, by donation. Champions are not limited to Olympic honourees, but extend across sporting codes including motor racing, horse racing, rugby league and union, golf, AFL, billiards and cricket. The Honour Roll for the Hall of Champions is located in the Quay Centre (State Sports Centre). There is a companion water sports display at the Aquatic Centre. Collection materials include medals, trophies, ribbons, paper awards and certificates, photographs, uniforms and sporting equipment. Content is themed to honourees and their events. Display rotated regularly and presented in secured cabinets. Visitation is incidental rather than intentional; there are some group tours but the tend to be retirees rather than school-age groups. <p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal display areas (approx. 100–150 items on regular display); storage and display conditions would benefit from expansion and updating. Many items, including paper items, not yet digitised. Conservation works on a case-by-case basis.
<p>Hall of Champions</p>	<p>Historic themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> migration, ethnic influences, Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures, the environmental-cultural landscape, communication, land tenure, labour and education <p>Existing heritage values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> historical significance, research significance and rarity <p>Current conservation policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The collection is guided by a Collection Management Policy and Acquisition Policy (both undated, no author noted). Section 170 movable heritage register not publicly accessible. <p>Recommended conservation principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess: Review existing movable heritage register and confirm asset condition of individual items. Maintain: Understand the collection and develop curatorial protocols based on content and in conjunction with opportunities to connect to special places within Sydney Olympic Park for interpretation and education. Conserve: Understand the collection’s conservation needs and plan for conservation consistent with Burra Charter principles.

Investigation area	Key findings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpret: Understand the collection and develop interpretation themes based on content cognisant of opportunities to connect ephemera to the special places of Sydney Olympic Park, and develop display opportunities within a dedicated location.

Note that there is a large collection of movable heritage items located in Newington Armory that are associated with past military uses and the former abattoir. These are discussed in Section 5.

Opportunities and constraints

Movable Heritage Collection	Opportunities	Constraints
<p>Collection curation and Olympic legacy</p>	<p>Employing the material culture of Australia’s Olympic history to communicate narratives at Sydney Olympic Park provides opportunities to tell contemporary Australian stories through heritage interpretation.</p> <p>A dedicated physical site to locate, store, display, interpret, promote and use as a place of Olympic education would be of substantial benefit to both the collection and to visitor engagement.</p> <p>Connecting this collection of ephemera to selected locations across Sydney Olympic Park where medal events took place would instil a powerful connection to place and history, and potential Olympic heritage.</p> <p>Build on current collection sharing within the Sport Museum Network. Opportunity to connect with Melbourne, Sydney and future Brisbane Olympic narratives.</p> <p>There is also an opportunity to improve funding for the collection’s management and to expand resources that build on current staff expertise for the preparation and renewal of conservation management policy, archival records, maintenance schedules and interpretations policies.</p>	<p>Lack of funding, stand-alone spatial allocation and appetite for promotion.</p> <p>Not part of SOPA’s core business.</p> <p>Collections SHR listing physically locates it at the Quay Centre (former State Sports Centre), which may be misleading as it is a commercial entity rather than a public institution.</p>

Movable Heritage Collection	Opportunities	Constraints
Collection care	There is opportunity to expand the collection to showcase the display as a key part of the Olympic experience.	Condition assessment to be confirmed. Space for display and storage is limited, as are staff resources.
Visitor engagement	<p>Having a physical site to locate, store, display, interpret, promote and use as a place of Olympic education would be of substantial benefit to both the collection and to visitor engagement.</p> <p>Opportunity to enhance access to collection as a key part of SOPA’s educational outreach.</p> <p>Consider outreach to commercial tenants of Sydney 2000 buildings in relation to the potential to host interpretive displays of the collection.</p>	<p>Collection is largely unknown other than to visitors to State Sports Centre (Quay Arena), where there is a selected display (storage of items is unknown). Digital content is on Quay Centre commercial website.</p> <p>Access limited and visitation often incidental.</p>

Draft heritage advice

Hall of Champions Collection	Key findings
Collections policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A collections management plan should be prepared for the collection, existing policies reviewed and updated, and additional policy prepared as needed. Archival records should be prepared for each item. A conservation management plan should address the collection’s variety of materials and specific conservation, maintenance and storage needs. • Provenance for all items should be confirmed and the records of such digitised, tagged and entered in a database for conservation management and display opportunities. • Maintenance guidance should be prepared and resources allocated to appropriately maintaining the collection, as required by heritage legislation. • Digital access to the Hall of Champions collections is a desirable future goal. • The collection’s contents and themes should be incorporated into Sydney Olympic Park’s HIS.
Collection display	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The expansion of the Hall of Champions collection within its original Olympic-era venue at the former State Sports Centre would benefit interpretation of the Olympic experience. Explore opportunities for additional sites for the collection’s display and for education.

Hall of Champions Collection	Key findings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue collaboration with the Sport Museum Network knowledge sharing and display sharing opportunities.
Recommended principles for collections heritage management	<p>Separate to the Master Plan 2050, it is recommended that SOPA implements the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Hall of Champions collection should be managed by agreed conservation policy, and adequately funded to conserve its contents. The Hall of Champions collection should be accessible in both physical and digital locations. All supporting documentation associated in the Hall of Champions collection is to be organised, provenance confirmed, and items and supporting documentation is to be digitised. This should be done in accordance with state records and heritage legislation requirements.

3.2.3 Heritage listings in the vicinity

There are several heritage items, maritime items—predominantly shipwrecks (Figure 3.4)—and heritage conservation areas located in close proximity to Sydney Olympic Park. Table 3.2 and Table 3.3 provide a summary of identified heritage items and conservation areas within the vicinity Sydney Olympic Park.

Table 3.2 Heritage items and heritage conservation areas within the Sydney Olympic Park.

Heritage item	SHR	SEPP (Precincts—Central River City) 2021	Register Dep. of Communities and Justice Section 170 Register	PLEP 2023
Explosive Store	-	-	I291 (local)	
Ermington Wharf	-	-	I168 (local)	
Rose Farm Wharf	-	-	I160 (local)	
Silverwater Bridge	-	-	I159 (local)	
Spurway Street Wharf	-	-	I161 (local)	
Well in George Kendall Reserve	-	-	I160 (local)	
Wetlands	-	-	I11 (local)	

Heritage item	SHR	SEPP (Precincts— Central River City) 2021	Register	PLEP 2023
Silverwater Prison Complex and Locality				
Silverwater Prison Complex Conservation Area	00813	Area No. 4 (Schedule 4) Site No. 2 (Potential Archaeological Site) (Schedule 6)	Yes	Silverwater Prison Complex (State) (Heritage Conservation Area)
Newington House and gardens	-	Item 1 (Schedule 5)	Yes	-
Newington Chapel and grounds	-	-	Yes	-
St Augustine's Chapel	-	Item 2 (Schedule 5)	-	-
Irwin House	-	Item 3 (Schedule 5)	Yes	-
Margaret Catchpole Building	-	Item 4 (Schedule 5)	-	-
Caroline Chisholm Building	-	Item 5 (Schedule 5)	Yes	-
Former Superintendent's Residence	-	Item 6 (Schedule 5)	-	-
Former Ward Block	-	Item 7 (Schedule 5)	-	-
Former Engineer's House	-	Item 8 (Schedule 5)	-	-
Prisoners' Children Cottage	-	-	Yes	-
Silverwater Women's Correctional Centre	-	-	Yes	-

Heritage item	SHR	SEPP (Precincts— Central River City) 2021	Register Dep. of Communities and Justice Section 170 Register	PLEP 2023
Silverwater Women’s Corrections Centre— Blaxland House	-	-	Yes	-

Table 3.3 Maritime heritage listings within the vicinity of Sydney Olympic Park (Figure 3.4).

Heritage Item		Australasian Underwater Cultural Heritage Database	NSW Maritime Heritage Database
Ayrfield shipwreck (screw steamer)	157 (Commonwealth)	1781	
Heroic shipwreck Screw steamer)	847 (Commonwealth)	132	
Karangi HMAS shipwreck (motor vessel)	994 (Commonwealth)	1239	
Mortlake Bank shipwreck (screw steamer)	1282 (Commonwealth)	849	
Homebush Bay Scuttling Yard	-	2304	

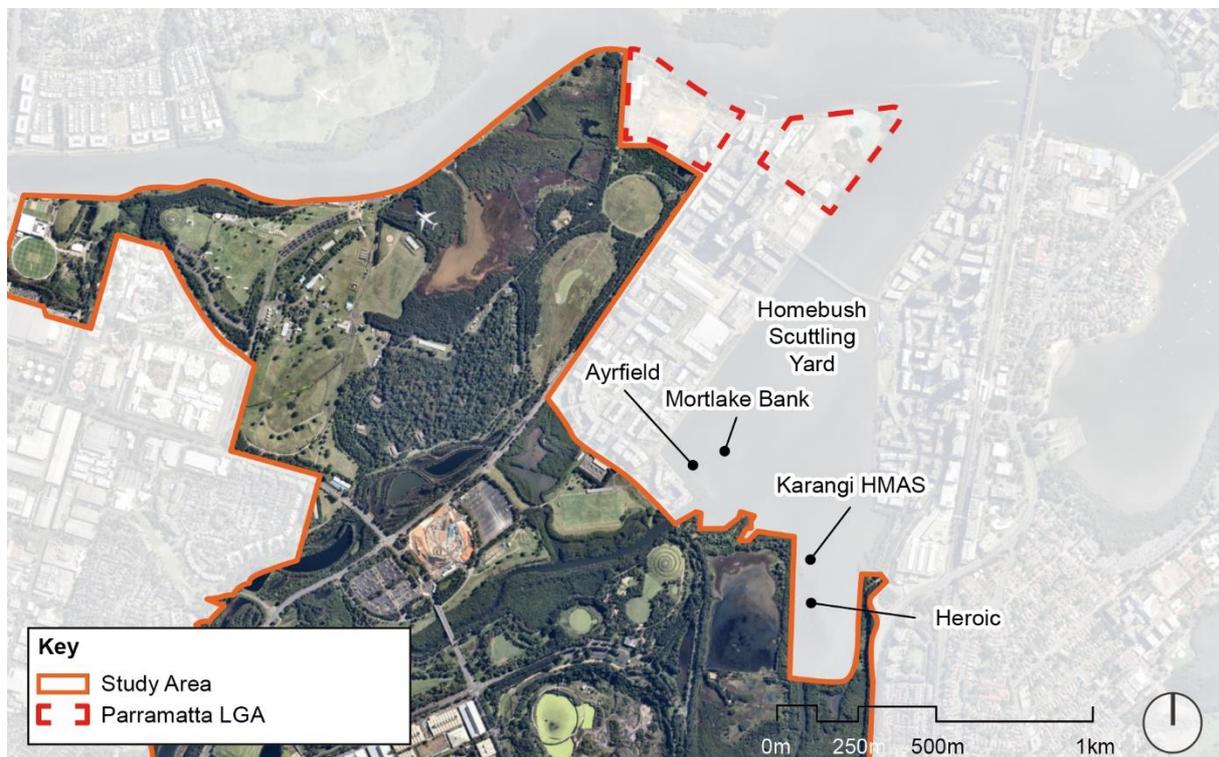


Figure 3.4 Location of shipwrecks and maritime items in the vicinity Sydney Olympic Park. (Source: Nearmap with GML overlay)

3.2.4 Historical archaeology

Sydney Olympic Park has been subject to considerable previous historical archaeological analysis and assessment, including several small-scale archaeological excavations and monitoring programs. Much of this work was undertaken prior to the Sydney 2000 Games or has focussed on individual sites/precincts/projects, and Sydney Olympic Park lacks an up-to-date precinct-wide historical archaeological assessment.

The results of these investigations (where reports were accessible) have been reviewed and consolidated to inform the following high-level assessment of historical archaeological potential for Sydney Olympic Park. An assessment of Aboriginal archaeological potential is outside the scope of this analysis and has been prepared as part of the stand-alone report (GML 2023 ACH).

Previous selected archaeological investigations

Preliminary conservation studies

Initial assessment of the historical archaeological potential of Sydney Olympic Park was undertaken as part of the 'Homebush Bay Conservation Study' by Wendy Thorp (1985)², and Don Godden and Associates (1990)³, as well as part of the State Brickworks and

State Abattoir CMP (1986).⁴ Thorp's assessment was focused on the potential for archaeological evidence associated with the Newington and Homebush estates. The analysis included Silverwater Correctional Centre and Mulawa Correctional Centre, Newington Armory and the Abattoir, and the land immediately surrounding these sites. The report did not assess the Brickworks site. The extant buildings and features (industrial archaeology, as opposed to potential subsurface archaeology) associated with the Newington Armory and the State Abattoirs were detailed in the separate report by Don Godden and Associates. Thorp's assessment found that there was a 'strong probability' for subsurface archaeological deposits, although much of the potential archaeological resource was likely to have been disturbed by later development, including the use of part of the site as a rubbish tip. The areas with the highest probability for extant archaeological evidence were identified as those surrounding the former nuclei of the Newington and Homebush estates.

An assessment of potential archaeological 'sites' and 'relics' was provided in Don Godden and Associates 1986 CMP for the State Brickworks and State Abattoir. Prior to redevelopment for the Sydney 2000 Games, the Brickworks and Abattoir sites retained much of their original layout and design. At both sites, several 'relics' (tools, machines and artefacts) were noted, including the Hoffman kilns, the dome or downdraft kilns, the Brickpit (and associated infrastructure), the rail signal, the rail line, and the original entrance gates of the Abattoir. Additionally, two potential archaeological sites within the former Brickworks were identified. These areas served as the dumping ground for redundant tools and machines. It was recommended that these only be disturbed in the presence of an archaeologist. The document review undertaken for this report has not communicated the status of these sites.

Sydney Olympic Park redevelopment

Prior to (and in preparation of) the Sydney 2000 Games, a historical archaeological assessment of the Olympic site was prepared by Martin Carney and Dana Mider (the original report was unavailable for review). The assessment identified:

... the highest potential and sensitivity [to be] ... located within the Australia Avenue – Fig Tree Avenue circuit ... believed to be the site of the original Homebush House ... The other zone of sensitivity encompasses, the former Powell's Creek line, Wentworth's racecourse and the original 1790s Parramatta Road.⁵

Geotechnical investigations indicated that fill and garbage levels across the Olympic tennis site—the current Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre—ranged from 0 to 3.5 metres, with high levels of contaminated fill evident in these investigations.⁶

Subsequent archaeological test excavations and monitoring were conducted at the potential location of Homebush House (constructed by Wentworth c1819), between Australia Avenue and Figtree Drive, as well as at the site of the former AJC Racecourse,

the current Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre.⁷ The results of the testing program suggest that natural soil profiles had been partially eroded following European settlement and the ground surface was subsequently reformed or replaced in the nineteenth or early twentieth century. Natural soil profiles remained on the east side of the former racecourse site, whereas those of the western side have been stripped to clay and partially levelled by (remediated) fill in recent times. No structural remains associated with either Homebush House or the racecourse were identified during the archaeological investigations, although artefact scatters were exposed at both sites. Artefact scatters were retained in situ at the former racecourse site, suggesting there is potential for pockets of historical archaeological remains to survive within undeveloped areas of Sydney Olympic Park.

Newington Armory and Blaxland Riverside Park

A historical archaeological zoning plan was prepared for the Newington Armory by Cosmos Archaeology for SOPA in 2004 (reissued 2013).⁸ The assessment found that much of the site, particularly land that had been reclaimed or was identified as original land surface, was unlikely to contain relics. There was an identified low potential for structural remains associated with any demolished buildings. Extant buildings and associated features were identified as areas where there were 'likely to be relics', although the buildings themselves were not defined as 'archaeological' and were largely unassessed. The majority of the identified relics were defined by three distinct categories: fences, (buried) drains and roads/rail.⁹ Reclamation fills from the 1890s were defined both as a relic, and yet unlikely to contain relics:

As reclamation commenced at the Newington Armory from the 1890s, the fill that comprises the reclaimed land is a relic under the NSW Heritage Act 1977 ... as there does not appear to have been any known European cultural activity that took place in the mud flats and mangroves of the area prior to reclamation it is unlikely that there are relics under the fill.¹⁰

Cosmos Archaeology also prepared a historical archaeological assessment of the 'Blaxland Common and Newington Armory Wharf' for SOPA in 2005.¹¹ Between the 1960s and 1988, Blaxland Riverside Park (formerly Blaxland Common Landfill) was used as a municipal garbage dump and asbestos disposal site. Remediation of the landfills (up to 13 metres) was undertaken from 1996 to 2000.

The assessment found that relics, particularly archaeological evidence associated with the nineteenth century salt works, were likely to be present within Blaxland Riverside Park. Surviving relics, while potentially intact, would largely be buried under meters of contaminated waste and clean fill.

Site/precinct/project-specific assessments after the Sydney 2000 Games

In the past decade, several site/precinct/project-specific historical archaeological assessments have been undertaken across Sydney Olympic Park (specifically within the Urban Centre, Eastern Neighbourhood and Southern Neighbourhood). These assessments identified an overall nil–low potential for historical archaeological remains in these areas. Reports reviewed are listed in Appendix A.

Assessment of historical archaeological potential

Phase A/B: 1794–1880s—Wentworth’s ‘Homebush’ and Blaxland’s ‘Newington’

Throughout the late eighteenth and into to the nineteenth centuries, land use across much of the Sydney Olympic Park would have been principally characterised by land clearance and cattle/sheep grazing. Parts of the site remained uncleared or largely undisturbed, particularly the marshland within the current Newington Nature Reserve and Woo-la-ra, and around Haslams Creek and Bicentennial Park.

The 2004 (revised 2013) Cosmos Archaeology archaeological assessment of the Newington Armory identified some potential for postholes and other localised remains associated with Blaxland’s estate, as well as evidence for coal-searching in the form of large, backfilled holes. It was determined that activities associated with the Australian Timber Company in the 1850s, which may have extended into Newington, would be unlikely to have left any substantive remains.¹² Relics associated with the nineteenth century salt works are likely to be present within Blaxland Riverside Park, albeit under metres of contaminated waste and clean fill.

Impacts from the twentieth century redevelopment of Sydney Olympic Park—in its use as the site of Newington Armory, the State Abattoirs and Brickworks, as a dumping ground, as well as associated with the Sydney Olympic Park redevelopment ahead of the Sydney 2000 Games—would have likely disturbed, if not entirely removed, archaeological remains associated with the former Newington and Homebush Estate. Ephemeral activities such as land clearance and grazing do not usually result in easily identifiable archaeological features or deposits. There is, therefore, a low potential for the survival of evidence associated with such early land use across Sydney Olympic Park, although deeper subsurface remains may survive. The results of archaeological monitoring suggest there is a low–moderate potential for pockets of historical archaeological remains (relics) associated with this phase within the current Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre site.

Phase C/D/E: 1882–1960s—Newington Armory / the State Abattoirs and Brickworks

The establishment of the Newington Armory (powder magazine) in 1882 required considerable alteration of the existing landscape. The general land clearance, ground excavation, and reclamation works would have likely impacted any earlier (largely

ephemeral) archaeological evidence associated with Newington Estate. Previous archaeological assessment of the Newington Armory identified potential for historical archaeological remains (relics) associated with this period, principally in the form of fences, (buried) drains and roads/rail, with some potential for evidence of large-scale reclamation works undertaken from 1889 and through to World War II.¹³ Extant buildings and associated features were identified as areas where there were 'likely to be relics', although the buildings themselves were not defined as 'archaeological'.

Similarly, the development of the State Abattoirs and Brickworks from 1907 would have required considerable ground disturbance, although much of Sydney Olympic Park remained undeveloped at this time. Previous archaeological assessment identified little potential for historical archaeology associated with the former use of the Abattoir site. Surviving remains, in the form of road alignment or railway tracks, would have little or no archaeological significance.¹⁴

Phase F: 1960–present—decline and closure of the Newington Armory / Sydney Olympic Park redevelopment

Newington Armory saw a gradual decline following World War II, although it remained operational until officially closing in 1999. During this period, multiple World War II-era magazines and stores were demolished and a number of smaller buildings and sheds were removed from the southern portion of the site (to become Newington town centre and residential area) and from some of the northern (remaining) Newington Armory site. Previous archaeological assessment for the Newington Armory identified some potential for remains associated with the demolition of these structures, noting that the location of the magazine/stores were still visible.¹⁵

The State Abattoirs and Brickworks continued to operate until officially closing in 1988. From the 1960s, however, much of the surrounding (undeveloped) land had been used for controlled and uncontrolled landfilling with domestic, building and industrial wastes, and by 1988 there was an estimated 9 million cubic metres of industrial and domestic waste and contaminated soils spread across the proposed Olympic site. Redevelopment of Sydney Olympic Park for the Sydney 2000 Games took the place on the previously demolished State Abattoirs and Brickworks buildings and infrastructure, as well as the construction of sporting and entertainment facilities, housing, new roads, and the remediation and rejuvenation of parklands. Remediation works involved extensive earthworks, including the excavation and redeposition of contaminated soils/building debris across Sydney Olympic Park (Figure 3.5).

The widespread demolition, ground excavation and levelling works required for the redevelopment of Sydney Olympic Park would have disturbed archaeological remains

across much of the site, although pockets of historical archaeological remains (relics), particularly deeper subsurface remains, may survive.

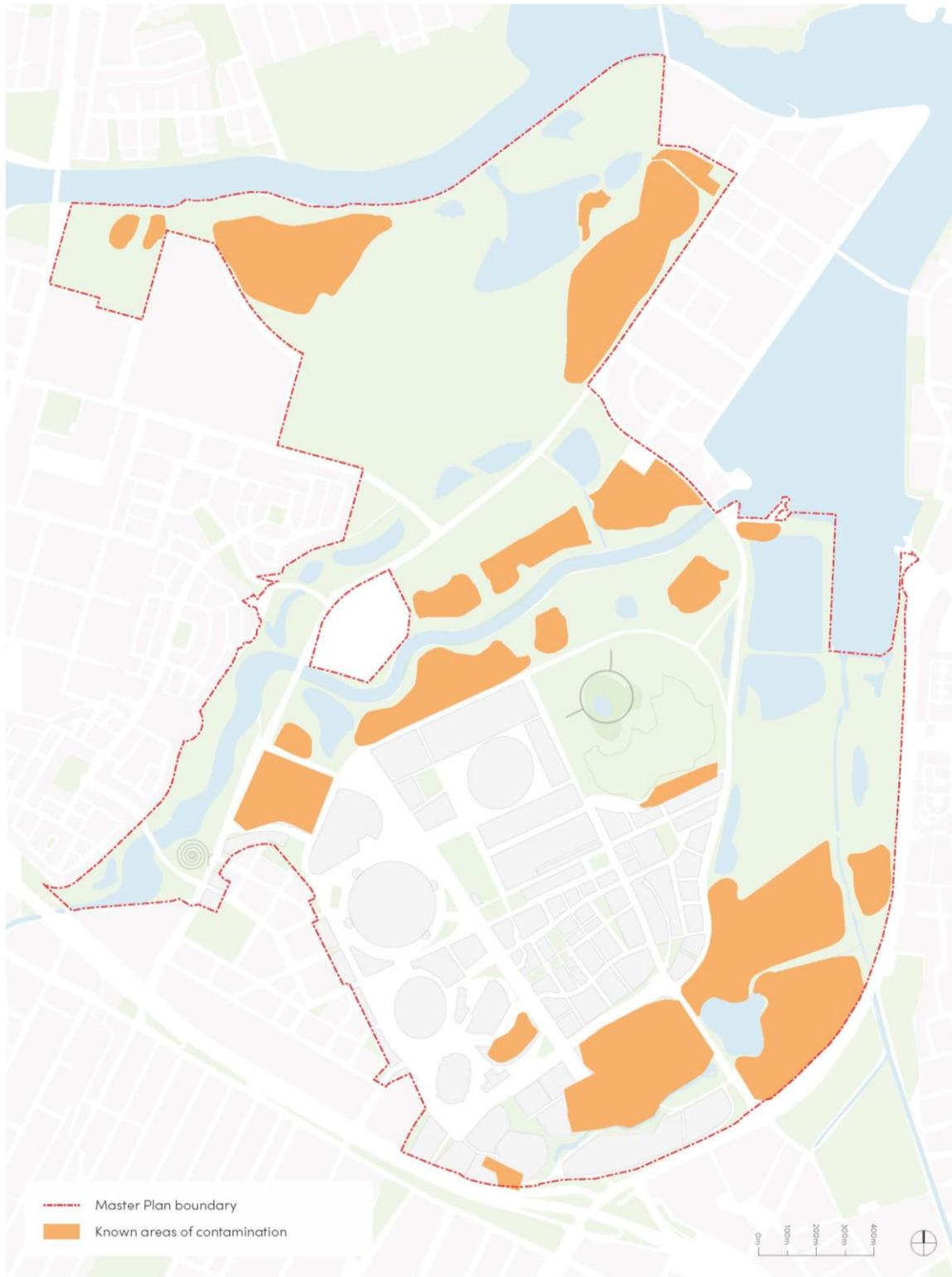


Figure 3.5 Contamination and rehabilitation plan. (Source: SJB, Master Plan 2050)

3.2.5 Unrecognised heritage elements

Although some parts of Sydney Olympic Park are recognised through formal heritage listings, there are elements of the precinct’s industrial past that remain under-recognised. Elements of the site’s industrial past that are recommended for further investigation include:

- the remnant Pippita railway corridor and original stockyard access route; and
- formal landscape plantings associated with Abattoir usage, including:
 - the giant fig on Australia Ave and Murray Rose Avenue;
 - Abattoir-era remnant figs in situ and in relocated positions, subject to further arboricultural mapping;
 - the double row of brush boxes (*Lophostemon confertus*) along Olympic Boulevard and Herb Elliott Avenue, and down Murray Rose Avenue;
 - remnant features of the early twentieth-century Abattoir, part of the landscape masterplan prepared by JH Maiden, then director of the Botanic Gardens; not identified within the 2003 Conservation Management Plan as an item of significance, yet seen as representative of the layering of the cultural landscape, forming an integral component of the value (or ‘values’) associated with the visual experience, which was assessed as being of high significance.
- the extensive and then-innovative remediation of domestic, commercial and industrial waste has been key to the evolution of the site and represents an early example of brownfield development centred on environmental initiatives:
 - Bicentennial Park remediation was undertaken prior to its 1988 opening.
 - Remediation of other areas, involving the recovery, consolidation and on-site containment of waste, began in 1992 and was completed by 2001. This included approximately nine million cubic metres of waste including dredged material, power station ash, asbestos, industrial and putrescible waste, all of which was contained on site. About 160ha of the 760ha site required some degree of remediation. See Section 4.3 for further detail.

3.3 Opportunities and constraints

Sydney Olympic Park	Opportunities	Constraints
General	Sydney Olympic Park (the site) is home to multiple heritage listings, which are inconsistent in scope, boundary, values and evidence, and these would benefit from a strategic	Places, buildings, artwork and landscape with potential Olympic significance may be in conflict with areas identified for change in built form and public domain. Future development should be balanced against retention of key characteristics of Sydney Olympic Park.

Sydney Olympic Park	Opportunities	Constraints
	<p>approach to ensure consistency for the statutory record, and knowledge management to ensure effective heritage conservation.</p> <p>The history of the site is not communicated well and there is opportunity to produce a comprehensive history of Sydney Olympic Park as part of this process.</p> <p>Identify and celebrate potential Olympic significance—the tangible and intangible connections of Australia’s Olympic history to Sydney Olympic Park are sporadically present across the site. There is scope to establish a thematic understanding of this, which can be used to inform strategic heritage interpretation.</p> <p>The site is home to multiple layers of historical occupation and use, identified heritage times, and potential heritage significance. These are not consistently or effectively communicated.</p> <p>Selected aspects of the built environment that were generated by the Sydney 2000 Games are now at the end of their lifecycle, and require renewal and/or rationalisation, within an overall strategic approach to heritage interpretation that engages with potential Olympic heritage values.</p> <p>Recognising key attributes of each neighbourhood would provide distinct identities for each, which would assist in modifying</p>	<p>As it becomes a suburb with a variety of uses, Sydney Olympic Park is moving from a place that is perceived to be in public ownership, to one where commercial interests also inform the built environment. Development controls are a device to recognise and retain Sydney Olympic Park’s key characteristics.</p>

Sydney Olympic Park	Opportunities	Constraints
	the vast scale of the site into an accessible scale.	
Aboriginal cultural heritage	<p>Aboriginal cultural heritage values and archaeology across Sydney Olympic Park are subject to identification and the assignment of planning and Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment pathways.</p> <p>Sydney Olympic Park’s Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity has been comprehensively assessed, with the highly disturbed nature of the entire area meaning Aboriginal archaeological deposits are unlikely. The exception may be the Wanngal Woodland, where Aboriginal objects and areas of Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs) have been identified.</p> <p>There is an opportunity to undertake further research into past and contemporary connections to allow for a more robust assessment of additional ways to portray Aboriginal history, culture and society at Sydney Olympic Park. The investigation and assessment of post-1788 Aboriginal cultural continuity and connection at Sydney Olympic Park is recommended as a particular focus.</p>	<p>Complexity of consultation with registered parties.</p> <p>Aboriginal cultural heritage legislation is mooted to move from NPWS legalisation to stand-alone legalisation soon, with the potential for uncertainty as to its content, nature and timeframes.</p>

3.4 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage direction is recommended for Sydney Olympic Park as a whole:

Objectives

- Manage and protect identified cultural heritage in accordance with statutory requirements and accepted industry standards.

- Ensure the new development safeguards the heritage significance of heritage items, heritage conservation areas, archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance.
- Strengthen Aboriginal cultural connections to Sydney Olympic Park and provide opportunities to access, acknowledge, celebrate and repair Country.
- Ensure that significant Aboriginal cultural heritage is identified, assessed, conserved and presented in partnership with the Aboriginal community.
- Identify and understand co-existing cultural heritage values, particularly where they may conflict with other identified values.
- Ensure that the future management of Sydney Olympic Park maintains, respects and enhances the significant phases of historical use and occupation, including meanings and associations, the original design intent and structure, views, modified landforms and landscapes, and cultural plantings and biodiversity.
- Prepare for climate adaptation to ensure natural and cultural heritage is conserved for current and future generations.
- Foster an understanding of the historical and symbolic values of Sydney Olympic Park through heritage interpretation, learning opportunities, place-based activation and programmes that are culturally diverse and inclusive.

Controls

- 1 Management of Aboriginal cultural heritage values and archaeology—both historical and contemporary—must accord with agreed Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation guidelines and statutory approval pathways.
- 2 Heritage items and heritage conservation areas are to be conserved, including but not limited to historical archaeology, buildings, walls, fences, cultural plantings, gardens, public art areas of natural heritage and similar.
- 3 Development involving heritage items and heritage conservation areas must be:
 - a. managed in accordance with relevant statutory requirements;
 - b. planned and delivered in accordance with the principles of the Burra Charter;
 - c. consistent with existing conservation policies;
 - d. designed to avoid significant impacts to heritage values; and
 - e. accompanied by a relevant heritage management document and assessment of potential heritage impacts.
- 4 Any land with the potential to contain archaeological remains must be subject to assessment to determine the level of archaeological management required. Management may include:
 - a. an unexpected finds procedure;

- b. monitoring during works; and/or
 - c. formal salvage excavation.
- 5 Significant cultural plantings are to be managed in accordance with specialist arboricultural and ecological input and, where appropriate, informed by historical research and First Nations expertise.
 - 6 The significant heritage values of Sydney Olympic Park are to be communicated and comprehended by decision makers and embedded in environmental planning, asset management and operational management.

3.5 Endnotes

- ¹ 'Hall of Champions (collections)', *State Heritage Inventory*, <https://www.hms.heritage.nsw.gov.au/App/Item/ViewItem?itemId=5001039>
- ² Thorp, W 1985, 'Archaeological Assessment and Survey, Homebush Bay'.
- ³ Don Godden and Associates 1986, 'The Industrial Archaeology of the Newington Naval Armament Depot and Homebush State Abattoirs and Other Sites in the Homebush Region'.
- ⁴ Don Godden and Associates 1986, 'State Brickworks State Abattoir Homebush, Conservation Plan'.
- ⁵ AMAC (Carney & Mader), 1996 'Archaeological Assessment & Research Design of Homebush House & the Former Laycock & Wentworth Estates—Site of the 2000 Olympics', cited in AMAC, 1998 'Archaeological Impact Assessment Report, Proposed Olympic Tennis Centre, 2000 Olympic Site, Homebush, NSW'.
- ⁶ AMAC 1998 'Archaeological Impact Assessment Report, Proposed Olympic Tennis Centre, 2000 Olympic Site, Homebush, NSW', p 8.
- ⁷ AMAC 1997 'Test Excavations & Survey, Australia Avenue, Fig Tree Avenue Circuit 2000 Olympic Site, Homebush, NSW', cited in AMAC, 2000 'Archaeological Monitoring Report, Former AJC Racecourse Olympic Tennis Centre, Homebush NSW'.
- ⁸ Cosmos Archaeology 2004 (revised 2013), 'Newington Armory, Historical Archaeological Zoning'
- ⁹ Cosmos Archaeology 2004 (revised 2013), 'Newington Armory, Historical Archaeological Zoning', p 46-47.
- ¹⁰ Cosmos Archaeology 2004 (revised 2013), 'Newington Armory, Historical Archaeological Zoning', p 47.
- ¹¹ Cosmos Archaeology 2005 'Blaxland Common & Newington Armory Wharf: Archaeological Assessment'.
- ¹² Cosmos Archaeology 2004 (revised 2013), 'Newington Armory, Historical Archaeological Zoning', p 44.
- ¹³ Cosmos Archaeology 2004 (revised 2013), 'Newington Armory, Historical Archaeological Zoning', p 46-47.
- ¹⁴ Government Architect's Office, September 2013, 'Abattoir Heritage Precinct, Sydney Olympic Park, Conservation Management Plan, p 29.
- ¹⁵ Cosmos Archaeology 2004 (revised 2013), 'Newington Armory, Historical Archaeological Zoning', p 46.

4 Olympic legacy



4 Olympic legacy

As the second only Olympic Games in Australia and given the scale of public investment in planning and establishing the precinct as a purpose-built designed landscape and built environment for the Sydney 2000 Games, it is important to consider the precinct's Olympic legacy and heritage significance as part of any proposed future master plan.

Identification of heritage values associated with the precinct's Olympic experience are limited to the relocated and re-purposed Olympic Cauldron, and the movable heritage collection housed within the State Sports Centre.

While the Paralympics were not as sizeable in terms of sporting events, athletes, or spectator numbers, they were held at the same venues and consistent with the values. Venues were designed to hold the Paralympics as well as the Olympics, which ensured the designed environment was accessible.

4.1 Sporting excellence and achievement

Sydney Olympic Park received significant public expenditure to transform it from a former industrial precinct to a usable and inhabited place; the Olympic sport origins of the park's existence cannot be over-emphasised. Two current heritage listings on SHR demonstrate Sydney Olympic Park's Olympic and sport heritage values:

- The Olympic Cauldron (SHR 01839), relocated from its original location in the stadium to Cathy Freeman Park and repurposed as public art, is symbolically representative of the commencement of the Sydney 2000 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. The ground surrounding the installation features the inscription of 1,972 Olympic medallists and 2,627 Paralympic medallists recorded on gold, silver and bronze nameplates.
- The Hall of Champions (SHR 01295) collection, located at the State Sports Centre, has many Olympic items as well as a broader collecting remit across all sporting codes, with items directly associated with Hall of Champions honourees.
- Off-site, the Powerhouse Museum (Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences) houses the largest collection of Sydney Olympics objects. These collections are also an important tangible component of the Olympic legacy.

Many of the sporting facilities within Sydney Olympic Park continue their original sporting purpose and are sporting excellence destinations for water sports, track and field athletics, hockey, archery, gymnastics and tennis. The public domain within Sydney Olympic Park recognised and reinforced national sporting excellence, with key streets named for distinguished Olympians: Edwin Flack, Australia's first gold medal winner (Athens 1894); Kevin Coombs, the first indigenous Australian Olympian or Paralympian

and five-time Paralympian (1960–1984); Sarah Durack, first female gold medallist in Olympic swimming (Stockholm 1912); Dawn Fraser, the first female swimmer to win Olympic gold at three consecutive Games (1956, 1960 and 1964); Murray Rose, who won multiple Olympic gold medals in swimming (1956 and 1960); and Betty Cuthbert, who won multiple Olympic gold medals in athletics (1956 and 1964). Many of these individuals competed in the 1956 Melbourne Games (Rose, Fraser and Cuthbert), and Fraser, Cuthbert, Cathy Freeman and Shirley Strickland de la Hunty (1952, 1956) were central to the staging of the opening ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Summer Olympic Games, with their shared role in lighting the flame. Many Olympic sporting venues across Sydney were also named after sporting achievers.

4.2 Environmental and design excellence

Globally, Olympic venues have historically attracted high-profile designers. Examples including Pier Luigi Nervi in Rome (1960) and Kenzō Tange in Tokyo (1964). Although Sydney’s predecessor city, Atlanta, was notable for poor transportation, the relocation of residents and fraud, its successors (Athens, Beijing, London and Rio) have also sought to achieve architectural and engineering excellence in the design of precincts, infrastructure and buildings used for the Olympics.

As a purpose-built sporting and events precinct, designed for in international event with specific functions, Sydney Olympic Park embodies design excellence of the built environment in its architectural, urban design, landscape architecture and services design.

Design excellence was confirmed through innumerable international, national and state-based industry awards of individual-built and public domain projects. The awards variously recognise planning, architecture, landscape design, wayfinding, sustainability, community engagement and the achievement of a ‘place for everyone’, particularly in regard to disability and inclusion. Design excellence was also communicated through the acknowledged success of the Sydney 2000 Games.

The built environment of Sydney Olympic Park provides a late twentieth-century snapshot of prominent designers working to an intensive delivery and operational program and rigorous sustainability commitments.

Awards included:

- The **Olympic Park Railway Station (T7 Railway Station)**, designed by Hassell Architects and one of the first Olympic projects completed, won the prestigious NSW Australian Institute of Architects Sulman Medal for public architecture in 1998. The jury noted the expressive characteristic of its materials, dramatic presence and design excellence as an exemplar of the project team’s design skills.

- The **Ken Rosewall Arena (Sydney International Tennis Centre)**, designed by Lawrence Nield, also won the Sulman Medal in 2000. Nield subsequently designed major buildings for the Athens, Beijing and London Olympics. After modification by Cox Architecture, the Sydney International Tennis Centre also won the Award for Complete Buildings—Sport at the World Architecture Festival in 2021, which recognised the new life that was introduced to the building while honouring its Olympic and architectural legacy.

The games-driven delivery context resulted in the creation of a cultural landscape that is synonymous with the Sydney 2000 Games. The precinct is indelibly associated with sport, community and the emergence of Australia’s modern international identity, reinforced by the suburb’s name. Note that buildings are listed by their original name at the time of the Sydney 2000 Games.

Table 4.1 Places that demonstrate design excellence.

Type	Place	Key information
Public domain	Sydney Olympic Park—public domain	Hargreaves Associates, public domain lead designer, in association in Schaffer Barnsley, Land Thing and New Ground
Public domain	Olympic Boulevard	Designed by GADD/Hargreaves Associates
Public domain	Olympic Plaza	Designed by DCM
Public domain, infrastructure*	Northern Water Feature	Designed by Hargreaves Associates (architects), Sydney Fountains Waterforms and Abigroup Contractors (design and construction); at Haslems Creek, it is a demonstration piece for stormwater capture and environmentally sustainable design (ESD) principles
Public domain	Fig Grove	Designed by Hargreaves Associates; Dawn Fraser Avenue/Olympic Boulevard Incorporates historic landscape, with 10 mature figs relocated from their original role as shade devices in the Abattoir stockyards Incorporates several public artworks: ‘Boral Olympic Dream Pathway’, ‘Fig Grove Fountain’ (marks Sydney Olympic Park’s site high point), ‘Olympic Rings’ ground plane installation (the first time Olympic insignia has been officially incorporated in an Olympic venue) and ‘Relay’ (see public art entry)
Infrastructure	T7 Railway Station	Designed by Hassell Award winner: 1998 Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA; now Australian Institute of Architects) Sir Zelman Coward Award for public architecture and the RAIA NSW Sulman Medal for public architecture

Type	Place	Key information
Infrastructure	Homebush Bay Ferry Terminal	Designed by Alec Tzannes Associates (1999) and located at Wentworth Point
Buildings/precinct	RAS Sydney Showgrounds	Exhibition halls designed by Ancher Mortlock Woolley; Showring (Olympic baseball venue) designed by Cox Richardson, Peddle Thorp and Conybeare Morrison; animal pavilions designed by Scott Carver, Tim Court and SJPH
Building—athletic venue, performance venue	Stadium Australia	Designed by HOK Bligh Lobb and BVN Location of the Sydney 2000 Games opening/closing ceremonies; extension removed post-Olympics; Post-Games host venue for major sporting fixtures (rugby union and league, track and field athletics) and large-scale performance
Building—athletic venue	Superdome	Designed by Cox Richardson and Devine Deflon Yaeger
Building—athletic venue	Sydney International Athletic Centre	Designed by Cox Richardson and Peddle Thorp Games-time athlete warm-up location
Building—athletic venue	Hockey Centre	Designed by Ancher Mortlock Woolley
Building—athletic venue	Tennis Centre	Designed by BVN
Building—athletic venue	Sydney Aquatic Centre	Designed by Cox Richardson and Peddle Thorp
Building—athletic venue	State Sports Centre (Quaycentre)	Designed by Colin Still Pre-dates the Sydney 2000 Games and was the host venue for World Cup fixtures pre-2000
Infrastructure	Boundary Creek Bridge at Tennis Centre	Designed by DCM Bridge at the terminating vista, east end of Olympic Boulevard
Infrastructure*	Lighting Towers	Designed by Tonkin Zulaikha Lighting pylons with roof-mounted photovoltaic solar providing public display of electricity generation; also known as 'Towers of Power'
Public domain	Millennium Parklands—sub-precinct	Designed by Hassell, Peter Walker and Partners, and Bruce Mackenzie Design Large-scale land remediation and Green Games initiative, healing the land of a highly polluted and degraded landscape; departure from picturesque nature of Eurocentric parklands
Public domain	Millennium Markers	Designed by Hassell

Type	Place	Key information
		Includes the Bay Marker at Wentworth Common, Haslams Marker, River Marker at Blaxland Riverside Park, Silverwater Marker, Bicentennial Marker Five markers represent the Olympic rings and reinforce Sydney Olympic Park's Olympic history, echoing the Southern Cross configuration
Building	Archery Park	Designed by Stutchbury and Pape Adjacent to 'Pole Forest', designed by Phoebe Pape
Infrastructure*	Green Games initiatives	Building and public domain sustainability initiatives that provide a collective demonstration, including Australia's first urban water recycling facility
Building	Amenities blocks	Designed by Durbach Block Murcutt and Ancher Mortlock Woolley, and winner of multiple awards
Public domain	Street naming conventions	New streets within the precinct named for Australia's medal-winning Olympic and Paralympic athletes
Public domain	Public art—Games time	'Games Memories' in the Stadium forecourt, Aquatic Centre forecourt, Superdome forecourt; designed by Tony Caro Architecture (architects) in collaboration with Root Projects Australia, Donny Woolagoodja (artist for 3 Poles, including <i>Namarali from Lulim</i>), Emery Vincent Design (graphic design), Wax Sound Media (multimedia programs) 'Gathering' by Kamilaroi artists Alanna Rose and Gavan Flick 'In the Shadows' by Janet Laurence, located under Boundary Creek Bridge (partially decommissioned), interprets and highlights water remediation projects across Sydney Olympic Park 'Osmosis' by Ari Purhonen; colour and surface treatment of Haslam's pier which interprets and echoes ESD principles 'Relay' by Paul Carter and Ruark Lewis; located in the Fig Grove and features poetry and handwriting of notable Australian Olympians engraved into seating elements, interpreting Olympic history '5000 Calls' by David Chesworth and Sonia Leber; located at the Carter Street/Dawn Fraser intersection at the Stadium edge; features eucalypt forest and soundscape (sport, Aboriginal language songs, cattle herding, dancers' breathing and Māori <i>haka</i>) 'Overflow' by Peter Cripps and Terri Bird; sculptural interpretation of remnant bushland from the Abattoir era (now incorporating Cathy Freeman Park and the Olympic Cauldron)

Type	Place	Key information
		<p>'The Attractor' by Imants Tillers and located in Cathy Freeman Park/Overflow</p> <p>'Luminous Thresholds' by James Carpenter and Richard Kress; located on Haslams Creek Bridge and featuring five masts with misting nozzles and a sixth with heliostat and searchlight; the design was modified by Tony Caro Architecture in 2007</p> <p>'Feathers and Skies' by Neal Dawson; located in the Stadium forecourt under the awning and marking Stadium entries; evokes Olympic medals</p> <p>'Discobolus' and sculpture setting by Robert Owen; located in Stockwhip Park and funded by and recognising the Australian-Greek community</p> <p>'Lost and Found' by Elizabeth Gower; located on the interior floor of the Superdome</p> <p>'The Sprinter' by Dominique Sutton and originally located on Dawn Fraser Avenue/Edwin Flack Avenue relocated to M4; one of a set of three figures commercially commissioned by AMP for the AMP Tower during games-time, 'the Sprinter' was the only figure relocated to Sydney Olympic Park (the other two were relocated to the Australian Institute of Sport, Canberra)</p> <p>The Olympic Rings turf sculpture, located on Australia Avenue</p>
Public domain—element	Interpretation and memorials	<p>Munich Memorial, designated 'Towers of Power' on Olympic Boulevard and dedicated pre-games in 1999 to lives lost in the 1972 Munich Olympics terrorism attack; the first permanent memorial to the Munich attacks</p> <p>Olympic Park Foundation Stone, located in parkland adjacent to Aquatic Centre</p> <p>Rivers of Light and Path of Champions, located in the Aquatic Centre forecourt, were installed pre-Games in 1995 and highlight Australian medal-winning contributions at previous games</p> <p>Friend of Tennis NSW Champion Pathway is located at the Tennis Centre, Tennis Museum and includes relocations from White City</p>
Public domain—element	Public art—post-Games	<p>'The Cauldron' by Michael Scott-Mitchell and relocated from Stadium Australia, it is reignited on special occasions such as anniversaries of the commencement of the Sydney 2000 Games; lists all medal winners at the Sydney 2000 games on the ground, per medal type</p> <p>'The Stride', designed by Alec Tzannes Associates, interests Cathy Freeman's gold medal-winning athletic achievements by marking her footfalls on the ground</p>

Type	Place	Key information
		<p>'Thin Blue Line' is a remaining marathon route marker for the Olympics and Paralympics; located at the Aquatic Centre at Olympic Boulevard and Stadium at Dawn Fraser Avenue, with traces in Western Sydney and CBD, connecting Sydney Olympic Park to other games venues</p> <p>'An Eventful Path', designed by Aspect Studios and Feeder Graphic Design and located in the railway station forecourt; celebrates and remembers the intensity of the Sydney 2000 Games, as well as the 2003 Rugby World Cup; coloured glass set into the ground plane serve as a lighted navigational device at night and commemorate major events at Sydney Olympic Park; will be added to in the future</p> <p>'Eight Women' by Imants Tillers; sculpture in the Cathy Freeman Park/Overflow that celebrates the eight women involved in lighting the Olympic flame at the opening ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Games</p> <p>Paralympic Games Patrons Memorial, located in Cathy Freeman Park/Overflow, recognises financial donors to the Paralympic Games; the Paralympics were Australia's second largest ever sporting event after Sydney Olympics (eclipsing the 1956 Melbourne Olympics and 1998 Commonwealth Games)</p>
Infrastructure and buildings*	Athletes Village, Newington	Located beyond Sydney Olympic Park; an award-winning Green Games initiative with separate lots designed by Bruce Eeles design and Mirvac; school by Clare Design
Infrastructure* Public domain*	Brickpit	<p>Former quarry, remnant buildings and miscellaneous movable heritage (dislocated and relocated back); focus area within the biodiversity demonstration precinct of Sydney Olympic Park</p> <p>Brickpit Ring Walk, designed by Durbach Block Architects, Sue Barnsley Design (landscape architect), GMW Urban (construction), David Chesworth and Sonia Leber, WAXSM (soundscape design) and Eskimo Design (interpretive signage design)</p> <p>Winner of the RAIA NSW Llyod Rees Civic Design Award, the Australian Steel Institute Architectural & Engineering Innovation Steel Design Award (NSW), the National Trust Heritage Award for landscape conservation, and the RAIA National Special Jury Award, and was a Venice Biennale feature</p>
Public domain	Shipwreck lookout	Designed post-games by Neeson Murcutt

*Green Games initiative

Note that artworks within or associated with the Abattoir precinct or with Bicentennial Park are not listed here.

4.3

4.3 Green Games initiatives

As the Sydney 2000 Games were located within a large area that had long been occupied for industrial uses, remediation of the site was a key driver and challenge for both design and delivery. In addition to terrestrial uses such as livestock processing and industrial manufacturing, and the resulting unregulated waste resulting from these, the site was also used for controlled and uncontrolled landfilling of municipal, commercial and industrial waste from further afield, and Homebush Bay was a scuttling area for redundant maritime vessels. Accordingly, significant efforts were required to manage pollutants on lands and in waterways.

The Environmental Guidelines produced in 1993 as part of the Sydney Olympics bid including over one hundred commitments, including the conservation and protection of natural ecosystems and endangered species. The International Olympic Committee credited this approach as a key part of Sydney's success in winning the right to stage the games.

The development of Sydney Olympic Park was, in fact, so successful that it influenced the International Olympic Committee's decision to include the environment as the third pillar of 'Olympism', after sport and culture. It also fundamentally influenced the Australian construction industry with the embedding of sustainability requirements into building contracts, leading to environmental initiatives and sustainability practices becoming mainstream in planning and development.

Dedicated initiatives that demonstrated the Green Games remediation and rehabilitation design principles included the following:

- industrial reclamation of the former Brickpit, which was a habitat for the Green and Golden Bell Frog and is a public domain site of industrial and natural heritage interpretation that now includes an industrial movable heritage collection retrieved from Bowral;
- large-scale remediation of 160 hectares of contaminated land;
- restoration of remnant eucalypt forest and estuarine wetlands and the construction of over 90 freshwater ponds and wetlands as habitat for the endangered Green and Golden Bell Frogs (Sydney Olympic Park wetlands and terrestrial habitats support a rich natural environment that includes over 250 native animal species, over 400 native plant species and three endangered ecological communities);
- management and treatment of contaminated soil in situ and within the Millennium Parklands;
- stormwater capture for re-use, and waterway and land remediation;
- in situ capture of contaminated soil within a 'dry tomb' at the Aquatic Centre carpark;
- habitat restoration for endangered or threatened species;
- use of public art to interpret and communicate water and landscape remediation;

- five landscaped mounds—Millennium (or Sydney Olympic Park) Markers—of waste building material, mostly over landfill, sited to resemble the Southern Cross layout and echo the five Olympic rings:
 - Bay Marker at Wentworth Common;
 - Haslam’s Marker at Southern End of Hill Road;
 - River Marker at Blaxland Riverside Park;
 - Silverwater Marker next to Woo-la-ra; and
 - Bicentennial Marker on Australia Avenue.
- passive (thermal, solar, water) design principles at Newington Athletes Village (beyond, but adjacent to, the study area for this report); and
- highly visible solar generation in the Lighting Towers along Olympic Boulevard that acted as both urban design elements to de-scale a massive public space and also to generate, measure, store and show solar output.

Environmental restoration works in Sydney Olympic Park have received multiple awards and are recognised as one of 25 top ecological restoration projects country wide. On World Environment Day in 2000, conservation efforts for the Green and Golden Bell Frog were awarded Australian’s highest environment accolade, the Golder Banksia Award.

Olympic legacy— sustainability initiatives summary

Item	Key sustainability aspects
Land remediation works	Extensive remediation strategies, including the ecological management of past toxic waste in over 160 hectares of land area, designed to consolidate and re-contain waste within Sydney Olympic Park Creation of one of Australia’s largest, at 425 hectares, and most diverse urban parklands Preparation of a previously industrial site to meet standards for building construction Remnant wetlands and forest conserved and enhanced, and conservation habitat created for biodiversity Identified natural heritage values
Ecological restoration	Water Reclamation and Management Scheme (WRAMS, commenced operation in 2000) was Australia's first large-scale urban water treatment scheme Industrial reclamation of the Brickpit former quarry as innovative public open space with heritage interpretation of Sydney Olympic Park’s labour history Creation of a biodiversity habitat for endangered species
Environmental sustainability initiatives in	Lighting Towers solar generation display Millennium Markers WRAMS

Item	Key sustainability aspects
venue and public domain design	Large-scale use of sustainable development principles for major event construction and operation

4.4 Sydney Olympic Park

4.4.1 The heart of the Olympic city

Though Sydney Olympic Park was conceived and delivered as the heart of the Sydney 2000 Games and most Olympic events took place there, there were multiple satellite locations for sporting, social and cultural events during games-time. Some of these locations remain in use and are synonymous with their games-time sporting competition or event, while other Olympic places played a role during the Sydney 2000 Games that was either temporary or that remains only in the living memory of participants and spectators. These places were purposefully and temporarily connected to Sydney Olympic Park during games-time by the city’s transport network but have minimal connection now. In some cases, remnant games-time signage or wayfinding might be the only clue of the role played in September 2000.

These places are not within Sydney Olympic Park but share a common origin and purpose. Participants at these venues during the Sydney 2000 Games were connected to Sydney Olympic Park through ceremonies, the Athletes Village and their role as Sydney Olympians. These places are listed in Appendix B.

4.4.2 Event+Place

During games-time, Sydney was the subject of an extensive transport and infrastructure overlay to manage large numbers of vehicles, participants and spectators. In addition to sporting fixtures, organising authorities requested that places, venues and networks to be designed to support the highly intensive yet temporary nature of the Sydney 2000 Games, and to consider later, less intensive use. Some uses are now barely perceptible. For example, the city was showcased during the Marathon, yet barely any traces of the ‘blue line’ remain today.

Building on the physical places of Sydney Olympic Park, there is scope for consideration of the following:

- Sydney Olympic Park as a gathering place for national memory-making; and
- the Sydney Olympic Park precinct, Olympic Cauldron, Olympic Boulevard, railway station, uniforms and venues.

As a place that is incontrovertibly associated with the Sydney 2000 Summer Games, Sydney Olympic Park is potentially valued by numerous groups who were involved in staging, running and experiencing the Sydney 2000 Games. These include:

- Sydney 2000 Summer Olympic and Paralympic athletes and officials;
- international sports communities;
- Australian sports communities;
- the volunteer and paid workforce;
- the Olympic Family;
- the Paralympic community;
- opening/closing ceremony performers, crew and designers; and
- visitors and spectators.

Design excellence was demonstrated through the artistic program. Ceremonies were showcases for Australian culture, performed and broadcast to an international audience. The Olympic opening ceremony creatively reinterpreted Australian national identity and culture and expressed a unique spirit of place and peoples.

In particular, First Nations culture and storytelling was centred in the performances and evident in the dance, music, narratives and graphics. The ceremony reinterpreted Australian stereotypes with nuance, sophistication, and humour, and also celebrated the diversity and resilience of Australian Indigenous cultures. A key example of this was the *Awakenings* Aboriginal cultural heritage segment of the opening ceremony. Aboriginal culture and history were also communicated to international visitors through a cultural pavilion on-site during games-time.

The communication of First Nations history was most poignant in the international media reach of the Sydney 2000 Games. Arguably, the defining images of the Sydney 2000 Games were of Kuku Yalanji woman Cathy Freeman's central ceremonial role lighting the Olympic flame at the Sydney 2000 Games opening ceremony, drawing an estimated global television audience of 3.5 billion, and her gold medal-winning track and field victory. These cultural touchpoints have the potential to contribute to the Australian and NSW community's understanding and memory of the games, with the recognition of the contribution of a prominent First Nations community member taking place in sync with a carefully curated expression of First Nations culture and creative arts. Understanding the depth of this community-based cultural change can contribute to a better view of Australia's emerging modern identity, and the challenges it has faced and continues to face. This is particularly relevant at Federal level as the Voice to Parliament is navigated. Potential social and representative significance is recommended to be investigated further.

4.4.3 Views

As a precinct with numerous large buildings that are viewed in the round, view corridors to and from the precinct are key to interpreting potential Olympic heritage significance. These buildings illustrate sporting excellence as purpose-built sporting venues intended to attract world-class levels of competition, to showcase design excellence in their landmark qualities and to promote recognition of Sydney Olympic Park as a place where events occurred that were collectively valued by the Australian community as a contributor to national identity. Sydney Olympic Park is also home to large-scale expressions of a modified landscape reflecting historic waste management and disposal practices that were addressed and actively managed. With these collective potential values in mind, the inflated scale of Sydney Olympic Park buildings and the public domain means that consideration of views is particularly important.

Preliminary analysis of views to and from Sydney Olympic Park that represent these qualities indicates that the following warrant investigation:

- the Olympic Cauldron, original Stadium location and, in particular, the view from Newington town centre to the Stadium north end, which was the Sydney 2000 games-time location of the Olympic flame;
- Olympic Boulevard as a key gathering space and navigational axis and, in particular, the terminating vista at the northwest end and the long view in both directions along the landscaped (hoop pines) and built (Lighting Towers) edge;
- short views of the State Abattoir precinct;
- precinct views of distinctive built form, including glimpses from the M4 Freeway, the northern side of Parramatta River and from the high point of Victoria Road, and distant views from regional highpoints, such as Pymble/Gordon;
- the long view of Stadium Australia’s distinctive roof sweep, with the Superdome roof structure adjacent, as well as the view into the forecourt from Olympic Boulevard and from the railway station forecourt;
- the terminating vista of the T7 railway station in the northerly direction from the Olympic Boulevard/Dawn Fraser Ave intersection;
- public domain elements as local and precinct navigational landscape devices:
 - Millennium Markers;
 - Lighting Towers;
 - relocated figs;
 - selected large-scale public art;
 - Bicentennial Park towers; and
 - amenities blocks as lighted beacons.
- temporary views of lit buildings, as well as lit public domain, during large events;
- emerging intra-precinct views from multistorey residential and commercial buildings and long views from Wentworth Point and Rhodes.

The presence of multiple Olympic venues grouped into an intentionally created precinct defines Sydney Olympic Park as a place with potential collective heritage significance. Its potential heritage significance is multi-layered and has resonance with sporting, cultural, social and professional groups.

Identifying, assessing and presenting these potential heritage values as part of the Master Plan vision will support the transformation of Sydney Olympic Park's identity from its Olympic purpose to a thriving mixed-use precinct through an historical narrative that is distinctive within NSW and Australia.

Understanding and communicating these potential heritage values will immeasurably support refinement of Sydney Olympic Park's unique character and special qualities. It can help guide key design principles and future aspirations as a place for everyone.

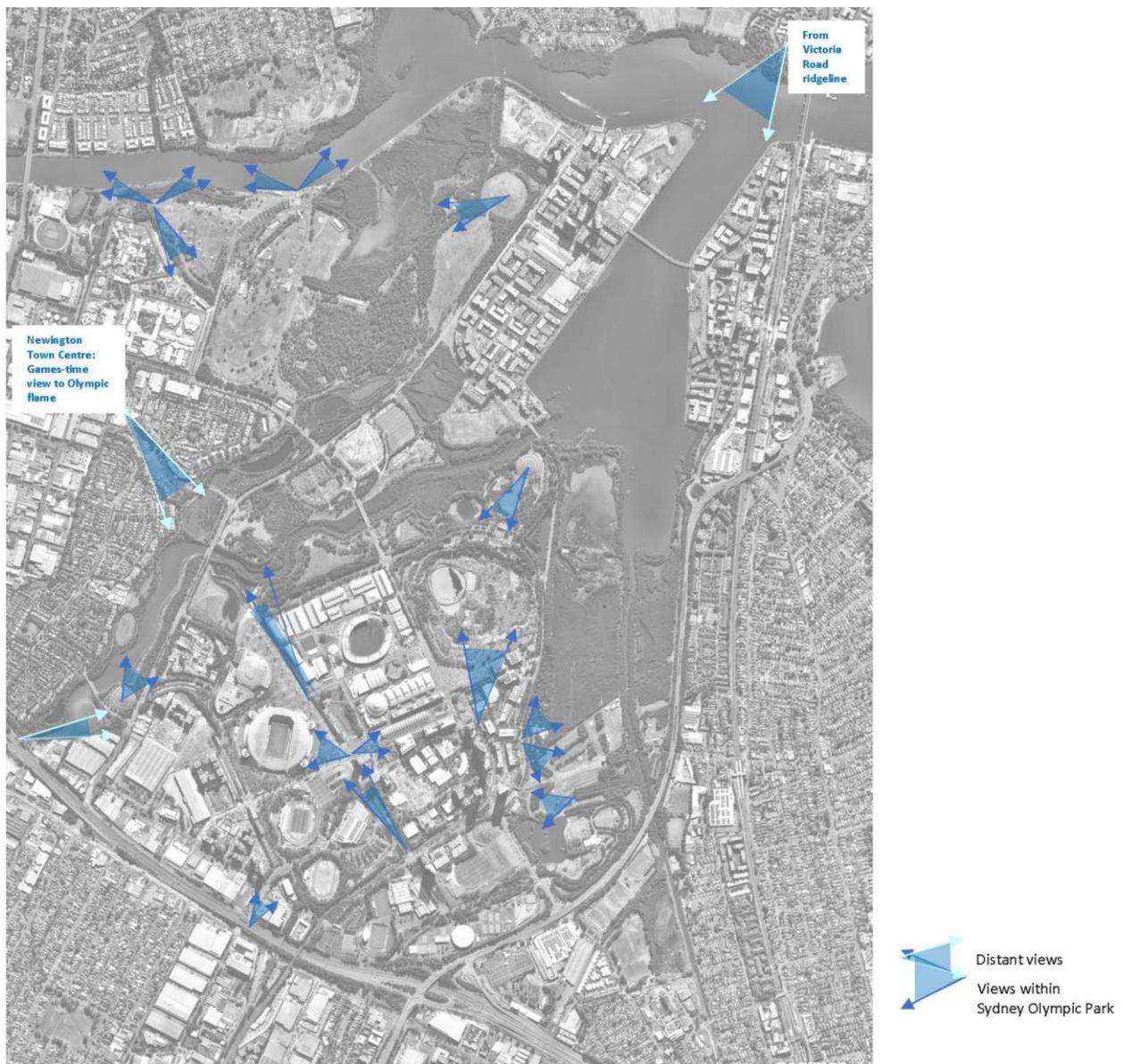


Figure 4.1 Sydney Olympic Park, views analysis. (Source: Nearmap with GML overlay)

4.5 Preliminary heritage assessment

Sydney Olympic Park is a large built and landscape precinct with a variety of active and passive uses, hosting a wealth of individual and collective spaces and places that can be considered for their potential heritage significance. Discrete elements within Sydney Olympic Park, listed for preliminary heritage assessment below, are assessed as having **potential heritage significance**.

Criteria for assessing heritage significance in NSW

Preliminary assessment of heritage Olympic legacy significance:
Sporting excellence and achievement
 Environmental and design excellence

**Criterion (a)
 Historic**

Staging of Sydney 2000

Sydney Olympic Park, and the purpose-built sporting venues within it, are of historic significance in the course and pattern of the state and nation’s history for their ability to evidence the Sydney 2000 Games, which was a defining moment in Australia’s sporting history. Designed and constructed by leading Australian architectural practices and construction firms, the sporting venues—including Stadium Australia and others—are historically significant for their role in supporting the zenith of Australian sporting achievement during the Sydney 2000 Games at Sydney Olympic Park, including gold medal events in swimming, athletics, hockey, taekwondo and tennis. It is the place of the second Olympics held in Australia, and the largest sporting event to date in Australian history. Sydney Olympic Park is also the place where famous Australian Olympic women, including Cathy Freeman, carried the Olympic torch and lit the cauldron, also marking a turning point in the history of reconciliation with First Nations peoples.

The staging of Sydney 2000 represents a watershed moment in the cultural history of Australia; the games were widely recognised as the most beautiful ever seen. The format and design of the opening ceremony, held in Stadium Australia, was a creative spectacle with over 12,000 performers that established a new artistic design vernacular in the presentation of the nation’s history and culture that thematically reflected stories of First Nations people, flora and fauna, colonisation, technology and cultural diversity.

Design of the Sydney 2000 Games public domain and built form

Sydney Olympic Park is a defining moment in the course and pattern of Australian sporting history which was the genesis for outstanding innovation and creative achievement in architectural and landscape design for an internationally renowned sporting event.

The Sydney Olympic Games represents a high point of innovation in the history of Australian architecture and landscape design in response to a large-scale industrial site. The design, construction and operation of the venues required a sophisticated response to Australia’s modern sporting, social and international identity across architecture, landscape architecture and environmental sustainability.

The built environment designed for the Sydney 2000 Games includes a series of iconic individual buildings set within a broader purpose-designed landscape and public domain. At the time of its completion in March 1999, Stadium Australia was the largest Olympic stadiums ever constructed, though sustainably engineered. The Athletes Village at Newington was one of the biggest solar powered suburbs in the world, with the ability to generate around one million kWh of power.

The design for Sydney Olympic Park incorporated groundbreaking large-scale environmental reclamation and remediation design initiatives that were a direct response to the history of industrial degradation within the site, including the creation of dramatic ziggyrads to deal with contaminated solids and the adaptive re-use of former industrial buildings and spaces such as the Brickpit.

The environmental design included the development of the first urban water recycling system in Australia. The significance and esteem of the

Criteria for assessing heritage significance in NSW

Preliminary assessment of heritage Olympic legacy significance:

Sporting excellence and achievement

Environmental and design excellence

design and development is reflected in its innumerable awards, including the United Nations Environment Program’s Global 500 Award for Environmental Excellence.

The environmental planning framework and environmentally sustainable design (ESD) initiatives at Sydney Olympic Park were the largest remediation project in Australia’s history and set new standards in the world’s best practice for water and energy conservation, waste minimisation, and environmental protection and biodiversity at sporting events.

Public infrastructure and public domain elements

The industrial reclamation of the former quarry can be seen as an innovative public open space that includes heritage interpretation of Sydney Olympic Park’s labour history. It also established a biodiversity habitat for endangered species.

**Criterion (b)
Historical
association**

Staging of Sydney 2000

Selected sporting venues within Sydney Olympic Park are associated with the Sydney 2000 Games Olympic gold medal triumphs of Australian sports people including Cathy Freeman (athletics), Ian Thorpe (swimming), Susie O’Neill (swimming) and Lauren Burns (taekwondo), as well as team sports (the Australian women’s water polo team and the Australian men’s swimming team). These were supported by popular and groundbreaking sporting feats, including Burn’s pioneering taekwondo medal, and silver medal wins in athletics and women’s basketball.

Considered to be the Games of the New Millennium, the lighting of the Olympic flame at the opening ceremony is historically associated with the design of Stadium Australia and the select group of elite female Australian Olympic athletes, led by the First Nations athlete Cathy Freeman.

The opening ceremony is historically associated with internationally acclaimed producer and director Ric Birch and artistic director David Atkins, as well as other leading Australian artists, designers, choreographers, singers, musicians, performers and TV personalities including Stephen Page, Rhoda Roberts, Jeffrey Samuels, Meryl Tankard, Jenny Kee, Lisa Ho, Peter Morrissey, Lex Marinos, Nigel Triffitt, Ken Done, John Farnham, Olivia Newton-John, Ignatius Jones, Human Nature, Julie Anthony, James Morrison, Simone Young and Nikki Webster.

Design of the Sydney 2000 Games public domain and built form

The built environment of the Sydney 2000 Games is associated with the sporting, ceremonial and cultural activities of the Sydney 2000 Games.

The design and construction of the built environment is associated with multiple construction industry firms, as well as numerous projects undertaken as collaborative partnerships to deliver a short time frame large-scale works that were designed in the knowledge that they would be part of the internationally-broadcast staging of the games. The public domain, sporting facilities and amenities were designed by notable and award-winning architects.

Criteria for assessing heritage significance in NSW

**Preliminary assessment of heritage Olympic legacy significance:
Sporting excellence and achievement
Environmental and design excellence**

Sydney Olympic Park has an enduring association with the staging of large public events. The purpose-built sporting venues and public domain of Sydney Olympic Park continue to be used for the staging of major sporting events including large annual sporting fixtures and one-off events such as the 2023 FIFA Women’s World Cup.

Public infrastructure and public domain elements

The Brickpit is directly associated with the modification of the Sydney Olympic Park area from industrial production to a place of sporting excellence and public gathering. The conservation of the Green and Golden Bell Frog at the Brickpit was emblematic of this change, and ongoing conservation efforts for the frog at the Brickpit retain and continue this historical association.

**Criterion (c)
Technical**

Staging of Sydney 2000 Games

The opening ceremony was a complicated logistical creative feat which featured over 12,000 human and animal performers, and included intricately choreographed dance and vocal performances, acrobatics, marching bands and interpretations of Australian literary culture. It culminated in the lighting of the Olympic flame. The design of this crucial segment of the ceremony was technically complex and viewed in real time by a capacity crowd at Stadium Australia and broadcast across the globe.

Public infrastructure and public domain elements

Public domain and infrastructure elements demonstrate groundbreaking green engineering and technical solutions to the past industrial uses of the area where Sydney Olympic Park is located. They reveal the tangible result of the sustainability commitments made for the staging of the games. These include the Millennium Markers and the solar generation display of the Lighting Towers.

Public infrastructure and public domain elements

The ecological conservation activities at the Brickpit that were established as part of sustainability initiatives of the games could contribute to understanding of specific biodiversity issues.

Criterion (d) Social

Staging of Sydney 2000 Games

Athletic communities, medal winners of the Sydney 2000 Games, the Olympic family and the volunteer workforce of the Sydney 2000 Games all hold a strong and special attachment to Sydney Olympic Park, having played a role in the expression of the event's identity as part of a diverse community of participants. The staging of the games was also symbolically tied to specific places within Sydney Olympic Park, through victories and notable images and narratives communicated by the media.

The ceremonial, sporting and cultural events at Sydney Olympic Park symbolically represented Sydney and Australia to the international community during a period of intensive media coverage. There is a strong community association and attachment to the opening and closing ceremonies within living memory, and to the creative display of modern Australian culture, creative arts and First Nations culture.

Criteria for assessing heritage significance in NSW

Preliminary assessment of heritage Olympic legacy significance:
Sporting excellence and achievement
 Environmental and design excellence

Design of the Sydney 2000 Games public domain and built form

The environmental design is valued by the community of architects, engineers, environment and sustainability consultants and others that contributed to achieving the high standards of delivery of facilities and the transformation of the landscape through environmentally responsible design practices.

Public infrastructure and public domain elements

Iconic public domain elements such as the Lighting Towers are strongly associated with the games and were key landmarks for the thousands of spectators who attended the Sydney 2000 Games. They remain highly recognisable and useful as landmarks for ongoing large-scale sporting fixtures, such as grand final games and the 2023 FIFA Women’s World Cup.

Criterion (e) Research

Staging of Sydney 2000

The staging of the games has research potential to reveal information about the state of elite sporting performance in 2000, how elite competition is planned for and delivered, and where peak sporting performance fits into Australian societal expectations.

Design of the Sydney 2000 Games public domain and built form

Sustainability initiatives incorporated into buildings, public domain, and infrastructure design and operation have the potential yield research information on ecological restoration initiatives and active environmental management systems such as WRAMS.

Ecological restoration initiatives

Technical solutions—proposed and built—have the potential to contribute to community understanding. These works represent early benchmarks for large-scale ecological remediation. Many of these are visible in the built environment and publicly accessible. WRAMS was the first of its kind in Australia.

Examples include the extensive remediation strategies, including ecological management of past toxic waste that was designed to consolidate and re-contain waste within Sydney Olympic Park, preparation of the contaminated site to meet standards for building construction, remediation of wetlands and forest, and the construction of conservation habitat for biodiversity. The ongoing management of natural heritage values within Sydney Olympic Park has the potential to contribute to a greater understanding of wetlands and terrestrial habitats for a variety of species.

Criterion (g) Representative

Staging of Sydney 2000

Sydney Olympic Park and the places that staged the games represent the pinnacle of internationally recognised sporting excellence in Australia. They are representative of the sporting achievements of the Australian and Olympic community.

Design of the Sydney 2000 Games public domain and built form

Sydney Olympic Park is representative of a purpose-built sporting complex for the highest level of sporting competition in the world. The

Criteria for assessing heritage significance in NSW

Preliminary assessment of heritage Olympic legacy significance:

Sporting excellence and achievement

Environmental and design excellence

design is of an integrated designed landscape that includes buildings, public domain and landscaping that is uniquely representative of the Australian environment and involved the extensive remediation and transformation of a former urban industrial site.

Public infrastructure and public domain elements

The Brickpit is emblematic of sustainability initiatives of the games and was highly visible in media coverage.

4.6 Recommendations

The following recommendations for the Master Plan are made in recognition of Sydney Olympic Park’s Olympic legacy:

- Potential heritage items identified in this report are recommended to be fully assessed for cultural significance in accordance with NSW heritage assessment criteria.
- Conservation management policy is to be prepared to conserve, manage and interpret the items identified as being of local or state heritage significance.
- If items of heritage significance relating to the Olympic legacy are assessed to be of heritage significance, SOPA’S Section 170 heritage and conservation register will be required to be updated to include such items.

For recommended heritage controls pertaining to the Olympic legacy, see the recommended heritage controls under each character area.

5 Newington Armory

NO ENTRY

NO



5 Newington Armory

5.1 Place description

Newington Armory sits within the Riverfront Park character area of Sydney Olympic Park, with Blaxland Riverside Park (a Parkland of Sydney Olympic Park) to Newington's west, and Woo-la-ra to its east (Figure 5.1). Newington Armory is the subject of a heritage listing on the NSW State Heritage Register (SHR 1850), comprising the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve (refer to Section 5.2). It is known as Lots 2 and 3 Deposited Plan 883215, Lot 2005 Deposited Plan 878356 and Part 1 Deposited Plan 883215 (wetland and forest in Newington Nature Reserve), and it is approximately 100 hectares in size.

To the west of Newington Armory, and the south of Blaxland Riverside Park, is Silverwater Correctional Centre. Built around Blaxland's original 1807 land grant, Newington estate, it is bordered by high-security fencing, minimal landscaping and is under active surveillance. To the south of the Armory, across Holker Street, is the suburb of Newington, purpose designed as the Athletes Village of the Sydney 2000 Games from part of the 259 hectare former Newington Armament Depot land. To the west, beyond Woo-la-ra, is Wentworth Point residential area, consisting of recent multi-unit residential tower developments overlooking Homebush Bay, with Rhodes peninsula beyond. The Parramatta River provides a natural landscape border to the Amory along its northern boundary, with low-level mangrove views and the suburb of Ermington beyond.

The subject site sits on the edge of the Parramatta River, falling from a high point at the level of Holker Street to the north. The original extent of military-use lands ran south of Holker Street to the M4 Motorway, at a pre-Olympics size of 259 hectares, with the land south of Holker Street mostly given over for the construction of the Athletes Village for the Sydney 2000 Games, followed by residential use. Two isolated lots south of Holker Street remain from the original landholding within the present-day suburb of Newington: B47 area, south of Holker Street, and B87 area, south of John Ian Wing Parade.

Heritage advice and recommended controls for Newington Armory are listed in the Riverfront Park character area (refer to Section 6.8).

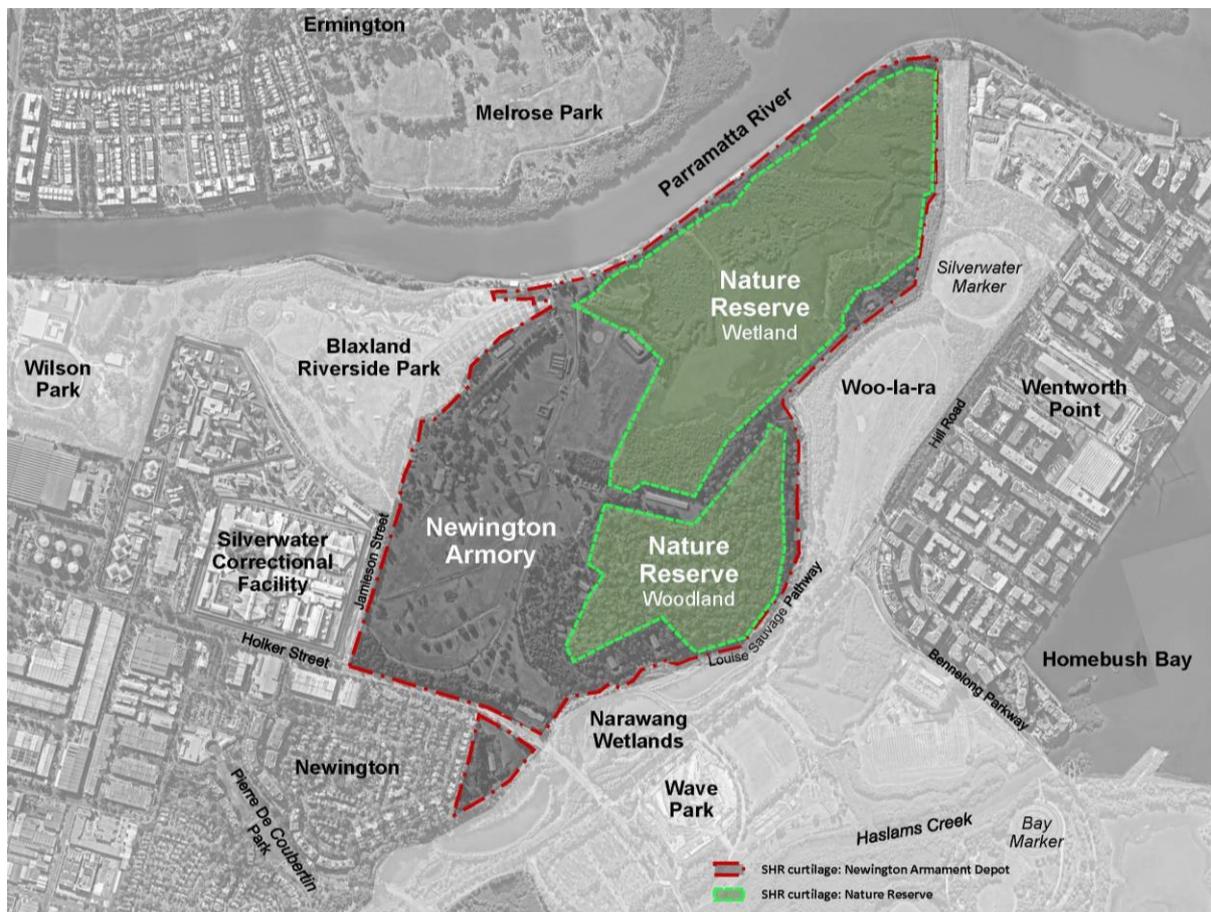


Figure 5.1 Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve SHR listing (01850) within its neighbourhood context. (Source: Nearmap with GML overlay)

5.1.1 Site analysis

- Newington Armory is located on undulating land that falls to the level of Parramatta River with significant modification of landform and vegetation.
- The Armory previously spanned the area from Parramatta River, with access to Sydney Harbour for explosives transport, to the present-day M4 Motorway in the south. Approximately two thirds of the site was re-purposed as the Athletes Village and then suburb of Newington, with the remaining third what is now known as the Armory.
- The Armory is a largely intact cultural landscape that demonstrates its past military use as an explosives depot from 1897 to 1999, with fortified buildings set in a mowed landscape that is mostly devoid of large vegetation. In contrast, administration buildings are modest cottage-scale buildings.
- Newington Armory occupies a 52-hectare site, which contains approximately 100 buildings, 6.7 kilometres of narrow-gauge rail and associated rolling stock (seven battery-powered locomotives and 30 rail wagons), three fixed cranes and movable

heritage items, as well as items of movable heritage on loan from the Department of Defence.

- The site supports the use of the railway as a modestly costed tourism initiative to provide access through the Newington Nature Reserve, including the opportunity to view selected heritage buildings with original military uses interpreted. The rail tour also includes a stop at a specifically curated and extensive armament display, with items on loan from other naval heritage collections.
- Within the Armory site, the Newington Nature Reserve is a 35-hectare wetland containing mangroves, mudflats, and Swamp Oak floodplain Forest and Coastal Saltmarsh. The reserve also includes an area of Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest and is home to a variety of fauna including bats, the Green and Golden Bellfrog, and numerous migratory bird species.
- Existing vegetation within the Armory includes the remnant landscaped avenue leading from the former main gate to wharf-side buildings and dense ecological revegetation along the eastern length of the site, with buffer growth separating mowed land from foreshore bushland and mangroves beyond. The thickness of the mangroves forms a physical and visual barrier to most of the riverfront.
- Access to the site is oriented to the Paramatta River wharf, which is consistent with its original use. Visitors arrive by bus, car, bicycle or on foot.
- Low-level views are concentrated at cleared grassland locations such as the view of and to the wharf looking east from the theatre, with long views from high point around Building 123 to the south, and from Jamieson Street to the Parramatta River and wharf.
- High-level views to the east are from the highpoint of the site, which is at the centrally located administration buildings.
- The site is screened from Holker Street by a bermed landscape buffer, and from Jamieson Street by mature landscape alongside the fence line.
- Site access from Holker Street is unappealing and uninviting, bordered by high-security fencing along the western length of Jamieson Street and with minimal signed to alert the visitor. The remaining entry points have visual appeal for visitors.
- The area has a variety of signage and interpretation devices with varying levels of information and detail. The area would benefit from a consistent approach to communicate key characteristics of built heritage, archaeological Aboriginal cultural heritage and ecological significance.

5.1.2 Site development

An expanded history of the Armory is contained in Section 1.3. Consistent the 2013 conservation management plan, six distinct phases of historical occupation are summarised below:

- Phase A—1788–1807—early land grants:
 - Archaeological evidence indicates that no buildings were established in the southern part of Newington Armory.
 - It is possible that there were informal tracks connecting higher ground with riverfront access.
- Phase B—1807–1880—Blaxland’s land grants:
 - Nearby development of domestic and industrial structures associated with Blaxland’s estate (within present-day Silverwater Correctional Facility).
 - Fence lines and paddocks from the estate era were later resumed with the establishment of early military use (no longer present by the 1890-1991 survey).
 - Archaeological evidence of Blaxland’s estate may remain within the Newington Armory curtilage (likely largely ephemeral).
 - Possible timber cutting by the Australian Timber Company in the 1860s.
- Phase C—1880–1920—site establishment, including the wharf and seawall construction:
 - Alteration to landscape to clear scrub and install fences. Permanent buildings were constructed and mud flats reclaimed.
 - Partial lease of the southern site to the State Abattoirs, c.1915.
- Phase D—1921–1939—expansion of the Newington Armory in 1897:
 - Expansion eastwards of the initial site clustered around wharf and earliest buildings.
 - Excavations to construct buildings on sloping sites; building of storehouse and magazines with bermed traverses.
 - Land reclamation continued.
- Phase E—1939–1960—World War II and maximum expansion:
 - Construction of storehouses and magazines.
 - Land reclamation continued around Building 18; original rail line altered; open drain covered.
 - Wood store demolished.
 - Loop road (main gate to wharf) impacted by the construction of Buildings 144 and 146.
- Phase F—1960–Present—decline and closure of the Newington Armory and establishment of the reserve:
 - World War II era magazines and storehouses in southwestern corner demolished, along with small ancillary buildings.

- Removal of boundary fences and fences around individual buildings in the Newington Armory site.
- Southern portion of site designated for Athletes village for Sydney 2000 Games.
- Site closed 31 December 1999.
- 'Newington Nature Reserve' gazetted 14 September 2000.
- Substantial heritage stabilisation works undertaken to buildings, rail line, and site services in 2001.
- River walk opened in 2003.
- Ongoing adaptive re-use of buildings; instigation of tourist rail loop, 2003-2007.
- Precinct listed on NSW State Heritage Register in 2011.

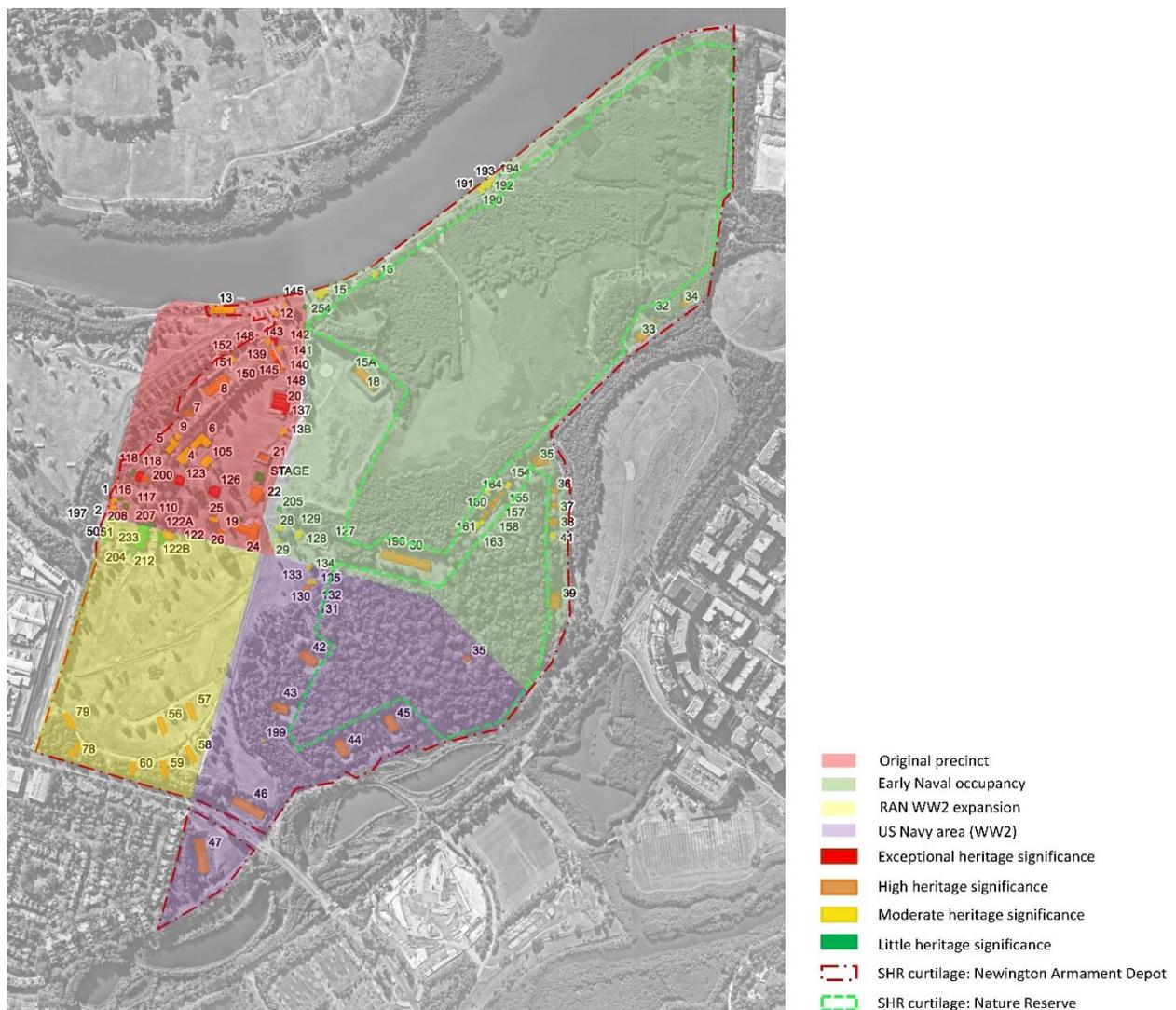


Figure 5.2 Historical phases of development at Newington Armory. (Source: Nearmap with GML overlay)

The site’s phases of usage and available technology influenced the type and nature of buildings and structures built at the Armory (see Figure 5.3). Original buildings were clustered around the wharf, with limited access to vehicles to relocate armaments for storage. Administration buildings were located at a distance, for safe separation and to afford surveillance over the site. With the advent of motorised vehicle use in the military, armaments were able to be relocated deeper within the site and the spread of buildings increased. With the excising of two-thirds of the Amory, to the south and southwest of Holker Street for the Sydney 2000 Games, the site contracted to its current size.

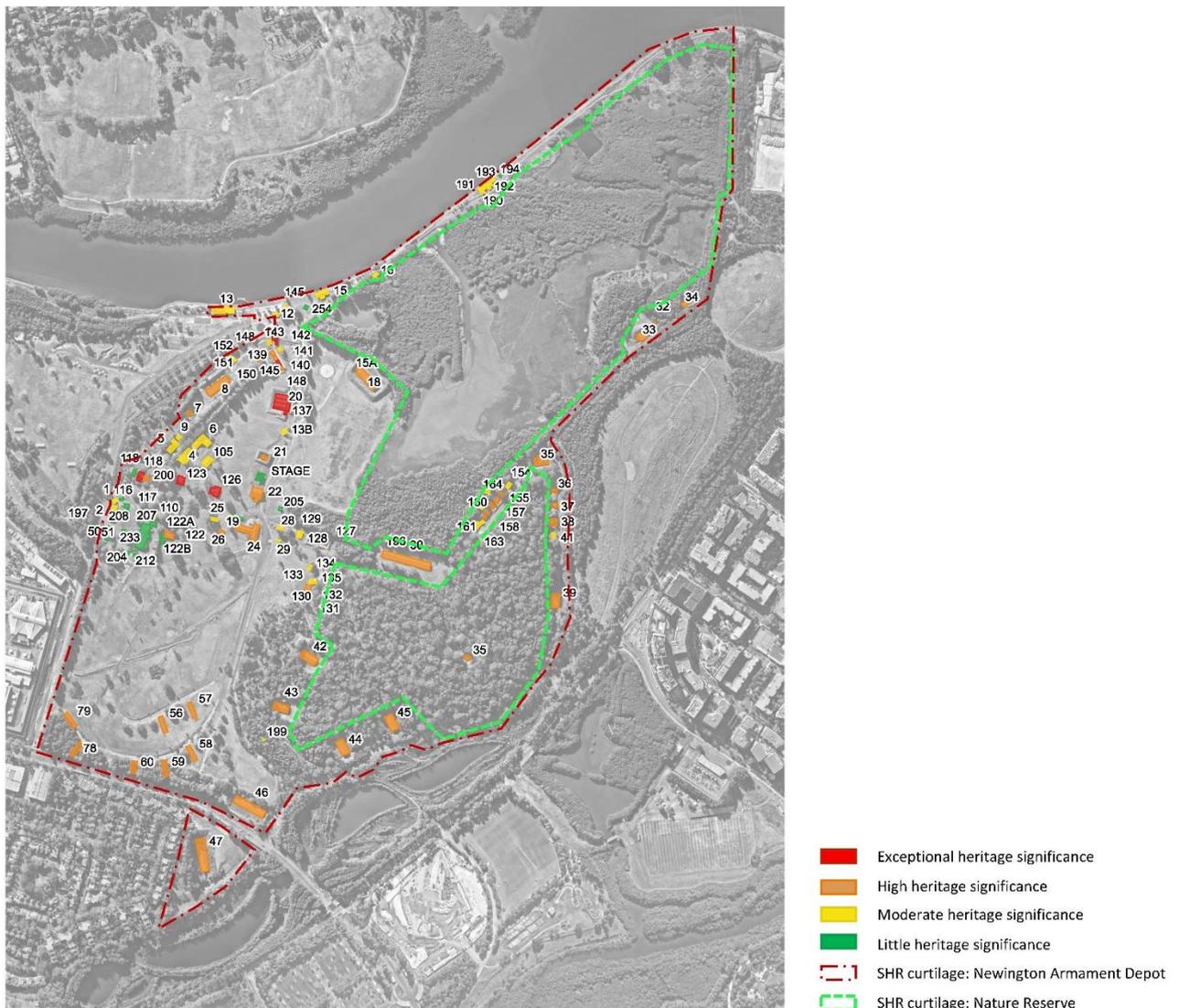


Figure 5.3 Built heritage significance. (Source: Nearmap with GML overlay)

5.1.3 Views analysis

Key views within and around Newington Armory are as follows (refer to Figure 5.6 for further information):

- from the site:
 - High-level views to the east are from the highpoint of the site at the centrally located administration buildings, incorporating the open grassland character of the site's past military use and associated fire risk.
 - Low-level views towards Parramatta River are present between mangroves and mature vegetation, concentrated at cleared locations such as the view of the wharf front looking east from the theatre. Sweeping views are seen from Jamieson Street as land falls to the north on approach to the wharf-front café and Parramatta River.
- from within the site:
 - Views to the southeast from administration buildings, in the direction of Holker Street.
 - Extended views to the north from the Holker Street end of the site.
 - The short view of Building 12/13 is a key marketing view and landmark.
- looking into the site:
 - From nearby multi-storey development, including developments within Sydney Olympic Park.
 - From Woo-la-ra and Silverwater Marker.
- in the vicinity:

Views to Parramatta River from Newington House (subject to interruption from land remediation and mature vegetation in the adjacent park and buffer plantings). Note: fig mounds and landscape were designed to conserve this view as a development control.



Figure 5.4 High-level views to the Rhodes peninsula in the east from the site's central high point, displaying the site's open grassland character.



Figure 5.5 Views to the southeast from administration buildings in the direction of Holker Street.

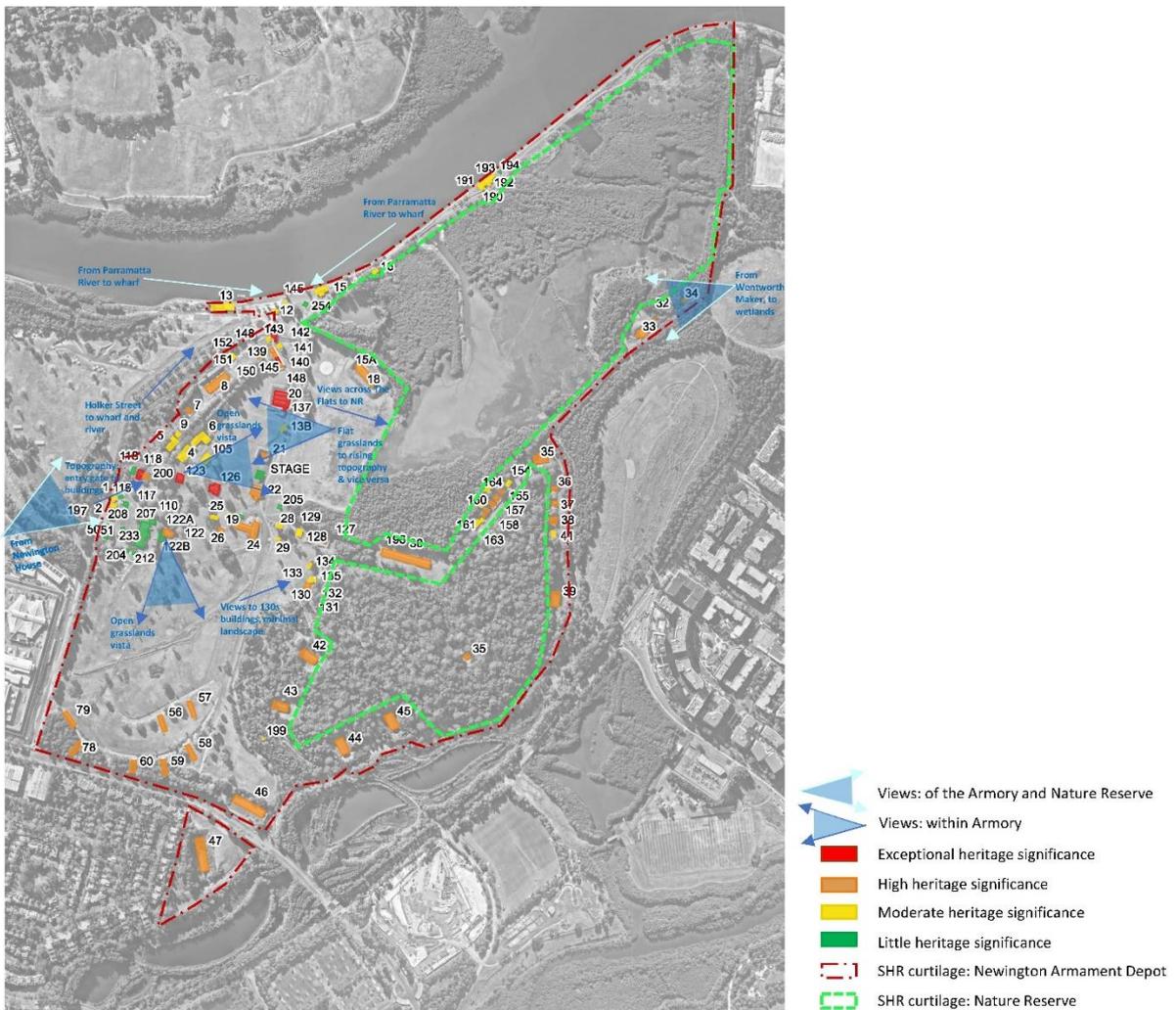


Figure 5.6 Newington Armory views analysis. (Source: Nearmap with GML overlay)

5.2 Heritage context

5.2.1 Statutory listings

Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve is listed on the SHR Inventory (SHR 01850). The listing also includes a plan that defines the boundary or curtilage for the SHR-listed area. The site is the subject of two further statutory heritage listings, of varying curtilages, under the SEPP Precincts—Central River City 2021. It is also listed as a precinct, as well as the individual listing of Building 87, on the SOPA Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register. Refer to Section 3.2.1 for further information.

Newington Nature Reserve is defined under the SOPA Act as part of the Sydney Olympic Park but is gazetted as a nature reserve under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974; and owned and managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

For further discussion on historical archaeology and Aboriginal cultural heritage within Newington Armory, see Sections 3.2.4 and 6.8.

5.2.2 Identified heritage values

From a heritage perspective, the site is predominantly managed through its listing on the NSW State Heritage Register, through minimum standards of repair and maintenance listed in the Heritage Act, standard and site-specific exemptions, Section 170 state agency requirements. With partial site ownership under the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), there is also potential for Aboriginal cultural heritage within that ownership area to trigger formal consultation processes with relevant stakeholders.

Focus area	Key findings
First Nations cultural values	<p>Heritage context: Aboriginal archaeology: <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act</i></p> <p>Identified heritage: Not explicitly identified within SHR/SEPP listing</p> <p>Heritage values: 2013 CMP—Aboriginal values: Aboriginal stone artefact sites identified within the study area are representative of similar Aboriginal sites across Sydney and the rest of NSW. Isolated artefact sites and potential archaeological deposits previously identified within the study area have potential to contain small, relatively undisturbed subsurface archaeological deposits, and have low local significance due to their research potential. Although all Aboriginal heritage sites contain intrinsic cultural significance, MLALC did not identify any further cultural significance for the identified sites in the study area.</p>

Focus area	Key findings
	<p>Potential ACH heritage values:</p> <p>Refer to GML 2023 ACH report.</p>
<p>Military cultural values</p>	<p>Heritage context:</p> <p>NSW State Heritage Register listing: Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve (SHR 01850)</p> <p>Identified heritage:</p> <p>Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve (SHR 01850) statement of significance:</p> <p>The former Royal Australian Navy (RAN) Armament Depot - Newington known as Newington Armament Depot and including the area now known as the Newington Nature Reserve, is potentially of State heritage significance as a place which demonstrates the historical and technical development of systems and regulations of explosives handling and storage from the 1890s to 1999 and also demonstrates the importance of Sydney as a Navy Port.</p> <p>Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve is historically significant as it contains physical evidence demonstrating the history of European occupation through to the end of the 20th century. The site is a valuable tool for research relating to the early settlement and development of the colony of NSW and the development of defence from colonial times.</p> <p>Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve is potentially of State significance as an extensive cultural landscape containing features from all periods of its human occupation as well as regionally rare forest and wetlands. Newington Nature Reserve is reserved under the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 because of its significant ecological values; these extend beyond the boundaries of the Reserve into other parts of the site. The sites estuarine wetland and forest communities are rare remnants of ecological communities that once dominated this region. These provide a valuable resource for research and include a number of rare and endangered ecological communities, flora and fauna including Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest, Coastal Saltmarsh, the Green and Golden Bell Frog, <i>Wilsonia backhousei</i> and the White Fronted Chat. The site supports 144 bird species and ten bat species including the only known maternity roost of the White-striped Freetail bat in the Sydney area. In addition, it supports the only remaining example of a complete zonal succession from eucalypt forest, saltmarsh, mangroves and tidal mudflats on the Parramatta River estuary.</p> <p>Heritage values:</p> <p>The site is listed for historical significance; historical association; aesthetic significance; social significance, rarity, representativeness; intactness.</p> <p>2013 CMP—Cultural values:</p> <p>The cultural landscape of the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve includes evidence of early nineteenth century</p>

Focus area	Key findings
	<p>industrial ventures and the pastoral activities of the Blaxland family.</p> <p>A comprehensive historical archaeological zoning plan has been prepared for the Newington Armory identifying key areas of historical archaeological potential that are likely to contain relics (Cosmos Archaeology Pty Ltd 2005, reissued August 2013). Much of the Newington Armament Depot is assessed as unlikely to contain relics.</p>
Natural heritage values	<p>Heritage context:</p> <p>Sydney Olympic Park Environmental Conservation Area (SEPP Precincts—Central River City 2021)</p> <p>Identified heritage:</p> <p>Refer to 'Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve (SHR 01850) statement of significance' above.</p> <p>Natural heritage values:</p> <p>2013 CMP—Natural values:</p> <p>The wetland and forest areas within and adjoining the Newington Nature Reserve have high natural heritage values because they are rare remnants of ecological communities and ecosystems that once dominated this region.</p> <p>They contain ecological communities and species of high ecological significance that are protected under state and federal environmental legislation.</p>

5.2.3 Conservation policy

Current conservation policy is an endorsed conservation management plan by Tanners Architects (CMP issued 2011; Heritage Council of NSW endorsed 2013). This CMP, while sound and comprehensive, is overdue for review, as are the site-specific exemptions included within it. The SEPP heritage conservation area listing references the 2013 CMP by Graham Brooks and Associates, 'Millenium Parklands Heritage Precinct' (2003). Note: the Millenium Parklands CMP excludes Blaxland Riverside Park.

5.3 Opportunities and constraints

Focus area	Opportunities	Constraints
Newington Armory	This neighbourhood would benefit from the creation of an identity that recognises and communicates its key attributes, including its evolving First Nations and built history, ecological interfaces and recreational opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for conflicting management approaches between identified built heritage, ecological significant areas and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Focus area	Opportunities	Constraints
	<p>Defining a sense of place for the Newington Armory is key to establishing and communicating identified heritage values to the visiting public.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of funding for maintained and adaptive re-use of heritage buildings. • Multiplicity of custodianship: SOPA, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW), Defence (movable heritage collection) and current lessees. <p>Identified in CMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain, conserve and enhance the heritage significance of the place in accordance with accepted conservation principles and practices, including spaces, elements and fabric of the cultural landscape, significant buildings and structures, landscape features, archaeological deposits and moveable heritage. • Regain and interpret aspects of the place that once contributed to the heritage significance of the place, including spaces, elements and fabric. • Ensure that new works, such as alterations and additions and construction of new buildings, and upgrading of the cultural landscape, retain the heritage significance of the place.
Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholders at site interface areas should be identified and involved in the master planning process, for example TfNSW, Parramatta Council, Canada Bay Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacency with the Silverwater Correctional Centre, which is an immediate neighbour. • Northern and eastern site frontages of mangroves, with intermittent view corridors across waterways.
Built heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptive re-use of un-occupied buildings. • Subject to sensitive conservation and management, potential for increased community and commercial use of existing buildings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Per existing conservation policy, exceptionally significant heritage fabric should be excluded from active uses and change. This includes, but is not limited to, buildings, pathways, road networks, fences,

Focus area	Opportunities	Constraints
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptive re-use should be approached on a case-by-case basis and as part of a detailed strategic vision for the Armory. Potential to support education opportunities with more publicly available display of movable heritage items. Adaptive re-use within a broader strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> extant footings, archaeology, infrastructure, landscape and the like. All identified heritage fabric is to be retained and future site development and uses are to be designed so as not to impact heritage significance. <p>Identified in CMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation of buildings should be accompanied by adaptive re-use, which should conserve cultural significance and not detract from it.
Built heritage— wharf and sea wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reactivation of water access would necessitate an assessment of the condition of the timber wharf and constructed seawalls, TfNSW stakeholder engagement on waterway and vessel access and circulation, and ownership clarification and responsibility allocation on industrial heritage items within the wharf precinct (cranes, rail lines and the wharf structure). <p>Identified in CMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance visitor experience at the wharf by exploring water access opportunities, temporary activation of the wharf sub-precinct and reinforcement of the area as an entry point (Policy 62). Recognise the connection of this area with Blaxland Common. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for repairs and maintenance of sea walls and wharf.
Movable heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential to relocate to a more accessible part of the Armory, to encourage visitor engagement and educational access. In addition to heritage items on loan, such as in the naval heritage and explosives buildings display and heritage rail tours, there is a wealth of items in storage. There is significant opportunity to incorporate these items into heritage interpretation and education initiatives. These items are stored in uncontrolled 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moveable heritage should be retained and conserved on site, if it has a relevant connection to the Armory and can be reasonably used to interpret the site’s military past; removal should only be considered for conservation or security purposes.

Focus area	Opportunities	Constraints
	<p>environments and it is strongly recommended that these they are recorded, stored and conserved in accordance with the recommendations in this report, and incorporated strategically into future interpretation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is scope to incorporate electromobiles and flatbeds from the moveable heritage collection into interpretive tours and programmes. 	
Aboriginal cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further research could help develop more comprehensive understanding of the cultural landscape of Sydney Olympic Park before and after 1788, particularly in relation to re-contextualising earlier research and assessing modern connections within the last 20 years. Further research into past and contemporary connections would allow for a more robust assessment of additional ways of portraying Aboriginal history, culture and society at Sydney Olympic Park. • There is opportunity to build on SOPA’s vision for First Nations engagement, and support consultation with registered parties and community representatives, to further a meaningful and ongoing Aboriginal presence at the Armory. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Newington Nature Reserve forest is considered to be archaeologically sensitive for Aboriginal objects. Management practices should reflect this sensitivity. • Impacts to recorded Aboriginal objects in Newington Nature Reserve, as well as PAD areas, should be avoided. • This report recognises past investigations on Aboriginal cultural heritage and historical archaeology. Commentary on the introduction of contemporary Aboriginal cultural leadership is beyond the scope of this report.
Historical archaeology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archaeological analyses could be incorporated into future interpretation within the Armory. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development within the vicinity of known and potential archaeological sites will have a negative impact on the heritage value of the archaeological resources.
Vegetation and ecological significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CMP recommendations for ecology should be revised with expert ecology input, and sensitive areas and buffer zones clearly mapped in statutory documentation and for onsite interpretation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vegetation within the Newington Nature Reserve is classified as critically endangered, and access is limited to avoid further fragmentation, edge impacts and the introduction of pests, diseases and disturbances to wildlife. Management is done by

Focus area	Opportunities	Constraints
		<p>trained and qualified bush regenerators.</p> <p>Identified in CMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and manage the wetland and forest within, and adjoining, the Newington Nature Reserve. • Landscape and plantings should be consistent with policy in the CMP, particularly in relation to retention of views.
Active uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an opportunity to sensitively introduce active uses to the Newington Armory as complementary uses within the broader precinct. • The ecological values within the site suggest greater scope for public educational engagement, potentially in consultation and/or delivery with NPWS, given their partial custodianship. • Given the adjacency to Silverwater Correctional Complex and that it is unlikely to relocate, there is scope to use sensitivity scaled built form to screen the Newington Armory active uses from it and introduce a formalised entry closer to the current Holker Street access. • The introduction of uses that are complementary to the key qualities of Sydney Olympic Park is consistent with existing (the rural/industrial connection of State Abattoir and Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) and potential Olympic heritage values (sporting excellence), suggesting educational and visitor opportunities that link with these. • Connect the site’s naval history to other military sites within Sydney Harbour and beyond, contextualising heritage interpretation. <p>Significance opportunities in CMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find new uses that are consistent and compatible with the heritage significance of the place and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensification of site usage and breaching of carrying capacity may impact heritage significance and ecological values. • Site access is limited by vehicular parking for private access. Future public transport options may take an extended period to deliver. • Access points into the site have reached their limit, with the exception of potential increase from Jamieson Street frontage, close to the intersection with Holker Street.

Focus area	Opportunities	Constraints
	<p>ensure that it is appropriately maintained into the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret its history and heritage significance to visitors and the general community. 	
Fencing and enclosure	<p>There is opportunity for temporary fencing to be used on a temporary basis to identify and delineate special areas, to prevent ingress and protect significant heritage fabric and sensitive ecological zones.</p>	<p>Policy direction and locations identified in the CMP should be followed.</p>
Invitation, access and circulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve activation and access to the neighbourhood, water access should be investigated as an alternative entry to the neighbourhood by reinstating passenger ferry services and pleasure craft access. This would reintroduce the RANAD-era functional connection to Parramatta River and Sydney Harbour and provide alternative views into, and experience of, the neighbourhood. Considering Silverwater Correctional Complex’s requirements, an inviting entry that communicates the precinct’s key attractions would benefit the area. There is an opportunity to create a memorable sense of street address and invitation from Holker Street by installing redundant movable heritage to the Jamieson Street corner of the Amory site, creating a landmark entry with a display that signifies Newington Armory’s military identity. Define the distinctiveness of the Newington Armory and enhance its concealed character by ensuring it continues as a ‘secured and fenced space with intentionally planned access and egress, consistent with endorsed conservation policy’ (Policy 57). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicular access and circulation around the site is restricted to SOPA for active site management and to emergency services. The site is not a vehicular through-route. Restricted access is to be retained to protect natural and built heritage values. Limited water access is available. Future light rail access is yet undetermined.



Figure 5.7 Narrow gauge heritage railway operating in Newington Armory.

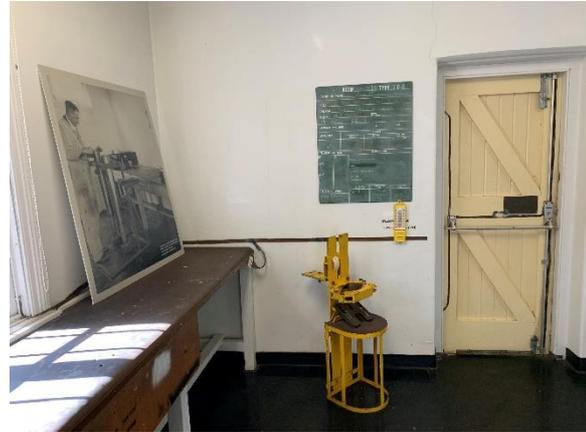


Figure 5.8 Movable heritage display in Building 154, part of heritage railway tour.



Figure 5.9 Naval heritage display, part of heritage railway tour.



Figure 5.10 Open grassland vista, looking towards Rhodes peninsula.

5.3.1 Tolerance for change

Sensitive zones

There are multiple areas within the Newington Armory that have higher sensitivity and, accordingly, a lower capacity for change. Change includes heritage management definitions, as well as consideration of past changes in the context of cumulative impacts to heritage significance. It also includes intensification of usage that may not have been present historically, and which may or may not be able to complement existing and past usages.

Cumulative impacts

- Proposed conservation (avoidance of impacts) of heritage values
- Impacts to heritage values
- Potential effects arising from impacts

Summary

Tolerance for change	Constraints	Opportunities
The degree to which a heritage place can tolerate change without impacting on the significance of a place needs to be considered.	Commercial uses may be limited given the Armory is in public ownership and has identified heritage significance.	Newington Armory is a public asset within the care, control and management of SOPA.
	The setting and registered curtilage are accepted and there is no need for amendment.	Minor modifications, within recommendation to rationalise heritage listings curtilage.
	Key heritage views, particularly within the site, may restrict infill development to cater to user/visitor needs.	Views and vistas analysis will need to be undertaken to determine the extent of adverse impacts on Newington Armament Depot and setting.
	Buildings are aging and have been subjected to minimal upgrades, which limits capacity and usage.	There is an opportunity to explore adaptive re-use, limit infill and update services in line with current practices, ensuring changes are sustainable, and have little adverse impact on the heritage listed property.
	Much of the historic fabric of the Newington Armory is of exceptional or high significance and has limited tolerance for change.	Adaptive re-use and infill development should be explored within areas designated as lesser heritage impact, to provide visitor facilities. These can also support on-site occupation, to offer site surveillance and reduce afterhours risk, and extend the idea of custodianship to the community.
	The carrying capacity of the Newington Armory is limited in its ability to manage large events or groups (access, parking, transport options and amenities).	Consider strategic planning to target a variety of smaller events to minimise heritage impacts. Consider drawing from local community groups over city-wide marketing, planning for temporary delivery of selected services (eg food trucks to designated hardstand areas), planning for adaptive re-use or infill development to

Tolerance for change	Constraints	Opportunities
		ensure permanent provision of amenities with capacity to increase if events scale up, and preparing guidance for applicants that explains capacity limitations.

5.3.2 Climate change and sustainability

Research compiled in the 2013 CMP indicates vulnerability to sea level rise by the next century. Nineteenth century buildings close to the wharf and river frontage are at particular risk, as are the ecological communities within the Nature Reserve wetlands. Both should be mapped and recorded, and their condition monitored. Buildings may be considered for future relocation. There are risks to the broader riverine and maritime environment from flooding and disturbance.

5.3.3 Issues and recommendations

Issue	Recommendations	Timeframe
Inconsistent extent and curtilage for various built heritage listings	Review as part of the CMP review process and commence process with statutory authorities to revise for consistency. Inconsistencies identified between SHR curtilage and SEPP HCA curtilage, and written instruments.	2–5 years
Current CMP to be reviewed for currency and updated to incorporate future SOP vision	2013 CMP is reviewed, updated, and liaison with Heritage Council of NSW/Heritage NSW undertaken as part of the process, to ensure current conservation policy is recognised and incorporated into State Heritage Register listing for the site. A review of the current CMP should include a high-level assessment of it, to confirm changes, condition assessment of built heritage /archaeology/landscape, temporary approvals, and the like. Site specific exemptions should also be reviewed for currency, effectiveness, and consistency with masterplan objectives.	2 years
Aboriginal cultural heritage recognition and listings	Heritage listing, interpretation, site history to reflect accurate recounting of the Aboriginal cultural history and heritage.	1 year

Issue	Recommendations	Timeframe
Variety of ownership and custodianship	Engage in formal consultation with key stakeholders: National Parks and Wildlife Service; TfNSW; traditional owners, registered parties and community representatives.	1 year
Potential for conservation policy and visioning conflicts	Consider and enhance intrinsic qualities of place when proposing a vision for Newington Armory.	Immediate
Future usage intensification	The future balance of active and passive uses requires careful consideration in respect to minimising impacts to the identified heritage fabric and allocating more intensive uses to areas of lesser heritage significance, while also recognising that the site has security vulnerabilities due to its seclusion, vastness and rich opportunities for theft and vandalism.	1 year
Heritage custodianship responsibilities	Guidance should be prepared for custodians that clearly and simply communicates heritage significance, planning pathways and acceptable conservation practices.	1 year
Inconsistent and insufficient heritage interpretation	Investigate and incorporate absent stories into interpretative narratives, such as female and Aboriginal workforce participation at the Newington Armory and the presence of families during the military-use period. Strategically plan heritage interpretation of key heritage values as part of SOPA's park-wide interpretation approach, including static and digital engagement with branding that reflects Newington Armory's distinctive identity, and incorporating movable heritage items to support displays.	1 year
Site access and circulation	Closely review CMP policies on site access and circulation and test alternative and potential heritage impacts.	Immediate
Tourism potential for further investigation	SOPA to advise capacity and appetite for the future active management of educational/tourism programmes that the neighbourhood may support.	2–5 years
Guidance in 2013 CMP for climate change sensitivities	Recognise that the broader context and setting of the Newington Armory	2–5 years

Issue	Recommendations	Timeframe
and planning may be outdated.	<p>is both highly polluted and modified, and that its topography renders it vulnerable to the changing climate.</p> <p>Engage expert technical direction to provide current advice on climate change sensitivities for the Newington Armory.</p> <p>Consider likely risks and develop mitigations for a future plan of management.</p>	

5.4 Key spaces and places

5.4.1 Historical zones and future development

Future development	Constraints	Opportunities
The heritage values of the site, insofar as they are embodied in the buildings and the landscape of the place, represent a constraint to development of the site.	There is limited scope for any new permanent additions to the site, with the exception of in designated areas.	Upgrades to the Armory (for example, for visitor amenities) should be limited to areas of lesser significance, provided development is sympathetic and discrete.
	There is limited opportunity to add to the site without impacting on views into the site, within the site, and from the site.	<p>New development within the Armory is limited; however, there are opportunities for discrete and sympathetic development that does not impact view lines.</p> <p>Temporary structures, including camping facilities, infill amenities blocks and active play areas, may be acceptable but consideration will need to be given to location, reversibility and potential impact on heritage values and fabric.</p>
	Development within the vicinity of identified heritage significance, known and potential archaeological sites and ecological heritage will have a negative impact on heritage values.	Existing interpretation panels should be revised, with relevant stakeholder input, to tell the stories of the area’s First Nations, landscape, built heritage and ecological heritage.

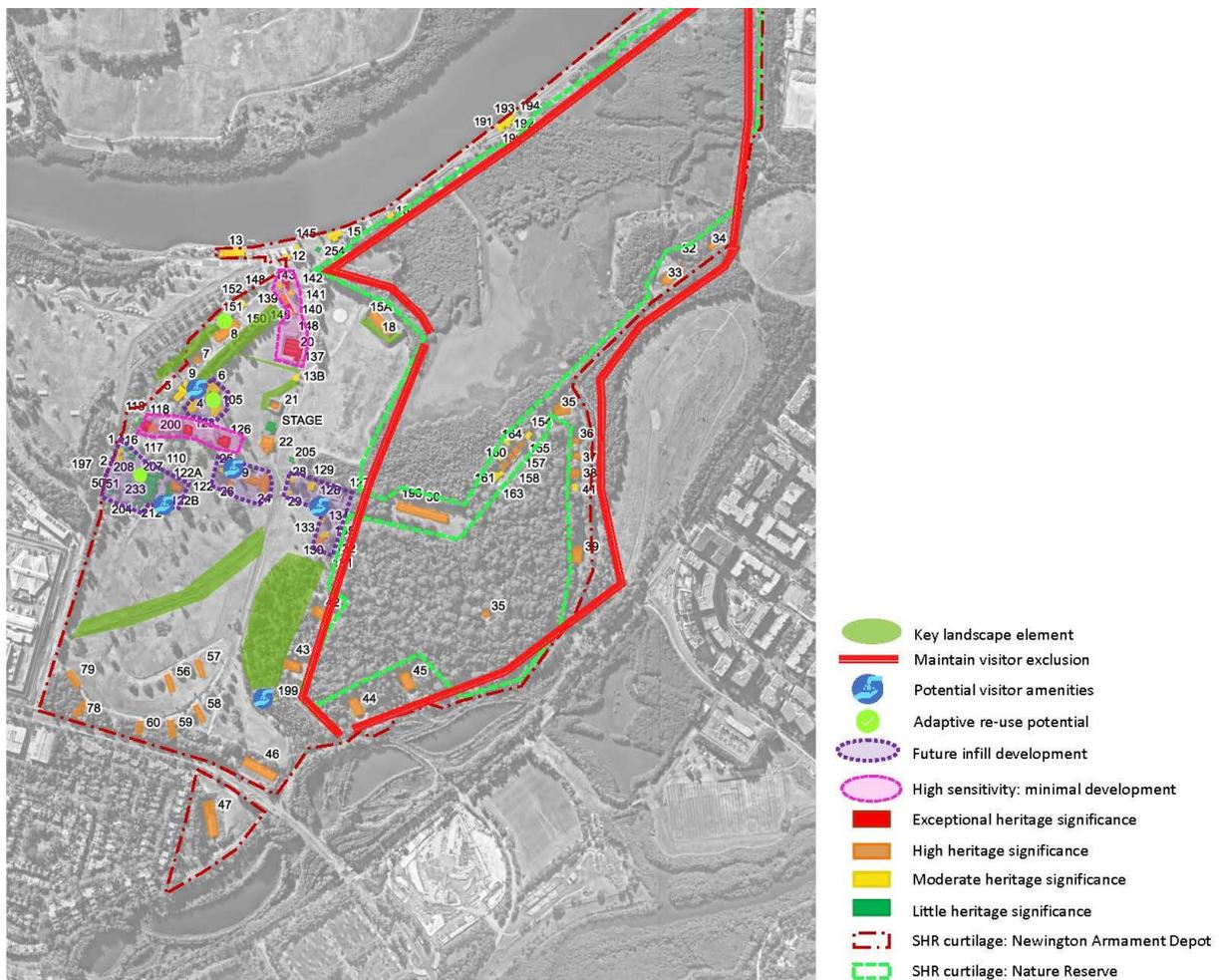


Figure 5.11 Future development opportunities. (Source: Nearmap with GML overlay)

5.4.2 Neighbours

Neighbour	Constraints	Opportunities
Blaxland Riverside Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared entry to park and Newington Armory along narrow, uninviting road. Limited visitor parking opportunities for both sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensify screen planting along Jamieson Street and small-scale infill development of entry area. Temporary structures, such as camping facilities, infill amenities and active play areas may be acceptable, subject to location, reversibility and potential heritage impacts. Sweeping views to Newington Armory wharf from vehicular circulation

Neighbour	Constraints	Opportunities
		<p>around the park could be enhanced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect existing active play areas in Blaxland to future play areas in Newington, with additional daytime access points into Newington.
Silverwater Correctional Complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared entry to park and Newington Armory, along narrow uninviting road. Silverwater Correctional Complex has strict requirements for the physical environment of its perimeter, in respect of sightlines, surveillance and overlook. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silverwater Correctional Complex has adjacency as an immediate neighbour. Northern and eastern site frontages of mangroves, with intermittent views across waterways.
Woo-la-ra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No direct access to Newington Nature Reserve from Woo-la-ra to protect its ecological significance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key pedestrian and cycle circulation interface adjacent to the Newington Nature Reserve. View opportunities from Silverwater Marker over Newington Armory.
Parramatta River/ Homebush Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation with state and local government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with state/local government to consult, design and deliver consistent and accessible active transport links along waterfront.
Newington suburb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newington footprint excised from the main site by Holker Street. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore greater community use and 'ownership' of isolated Newington building, south of Holker Street, through improved active transport connections and signage.

5.4.3 Issues and recommendations

Issue	Recommendations	Timeframe
Works in the vicinity may affect Newington’s heritage significance	SOPA to commence consultation with state and local government on nearby works.	1 year
There are multiple voices on Aboriginal cultural heritage	<p>Establish formal and informal processes for consultation with traditional owners and cultural representatives in accordance with legislative requirements and community expectations to manage legislative responsibilities in relation to cultural heritage and archaeology.</p> <p>Build on past engagement practices and continue to seek culturally appropriate heritage input and advice on Aboriginal cultural heritage content and design for the Armory in its entirety.</p>	1–2 years
Conservation Management Policy	<p>As the designated time for review of the 2013 CMP is now past, it is recommended that it is reviewed for currency, and in line with Heritage NSW current guidance on CMPs.</p> <p>The Millennium Parklands CMP (2003) and the Newington CMP (2013) are both valuable documents. A revised CMP should incorporate content from both and apply holistically to the area, noting discrepancies between the SHR listing and the SEPP listing, as explained within this Heritage Report.</p>	1–2 years



6 Character areas

6 Character areas

6.1 Urban Centre

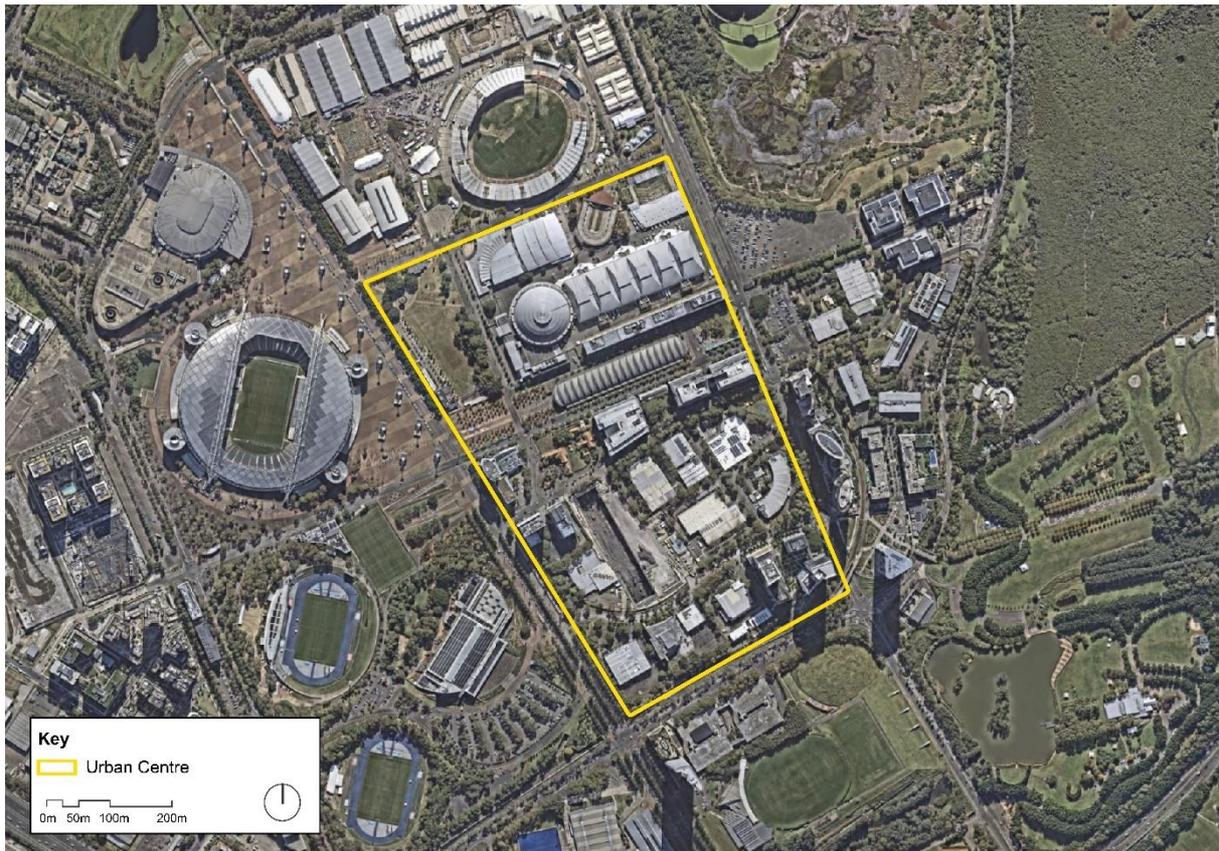


Figure 6.1 The Urban Centre (outlined in yellow). (Source: Nearmaps 2023 with GML additions)

6.1.1 Site analysis

- The Urban Centre is predominantly flat and characterised by its modified landscape: large iconic buildings, often in the round and tree-lined avenues on axial alignments.
- It is bound by Grand Parade (north, within the Royal Agricultural Society precinct), Australia Avenue (east), Sarah Durack Avenue (south), Olympic Boulevard (west).
- The Urban Centre is the public transport heart of Sydney Olympic Park, with arrival to the precinct characterised by the award-winning railway station. To its north are the purpose-designed RAS buildings with the open space of Cathy Freeman Park to their west.
- The remaining Federation-era low scale administration buildings of the State Abattoir present a contrast to the emerging multi-unit residential and/or commercial towers to

their south. The formal garden setting of the Vernon Buildings is also in contrast to the predominantly local vegetation selected for Olympic-era public domain plantings.

- During the period when the State Abattoir operated (1915–1988), this area was a collection of 1–4 storey industrial buildings fringed by a grid of stockyards of varying sizes. Larger stockyards had a large fig shade tree in each.
- Recent multi-unit residential towers are completed or under construction around the southeast fringe of the precinct with views over Bicentennial Park to the Rhodes peninsula.
- The most distinctive feature is the central spine of Olympic Boulevard, its axial alignment accentuated by rows of hoop pines with long views to the northwest, terminating in a water feature.
- To the southeast, at its intersection with Sarah Durack Avenue, is the Janet Laurence site sculpture.
- This neighbourhood contains the Discobolus sculpture and pocket park, which holds value for Greek Australians within the context of the Sydney 2000 Games.
- With planning for the Sydney Olympic Park Metro Station well advanced, there is a proliferation of stakeholders with potentially competing ideas for heritage management.



Figure 6.2 Olympic Cauldron, Cathy Freeman Park.

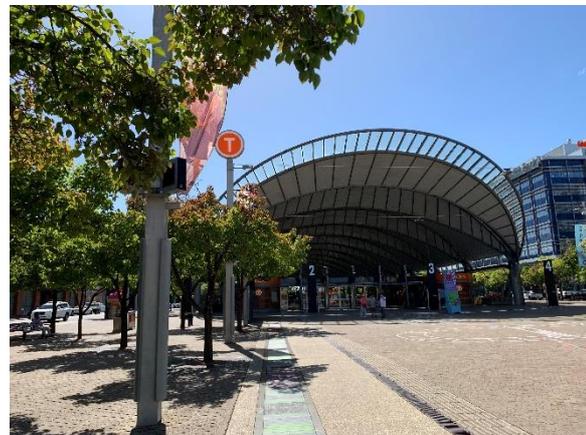


Figure 6.3 T7 Railway Station.



Figure 6.4 Imants Tillers' artwork, Cathy Freeman Park.



Figure 6.5 State Abattoir Heritage Precinct.



Figure 6.6 View north along Olympic Boulevard, from Boundary Creek.



Figure 6.7 Discobolus, Stockroute Park.

6.1.2 Heritage context

Heritage listings

Table 6.1 Heritage listings within the Urban Centre.

Heritage item	State Heritage Register	Schedule 4 Heritage conservation areas, SEPP (Precincts—Central River City) 2021	Schedule 5 Heritage Items, SEPP (Precincts—Central River City) 2021	Sydney Olympic Park Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register	PLEP 2023
Olympic Cauldron					
Olympic Cauldron at Sydney Olympic Park	01839	-	Item C <i>(per Sheet HER_001)</i>	Yes	-
State Abattoir					
Abattoir Heritage Precinct (Heritage Conservation Area)	-	Area No 1	Area A <i>(per Sheet HER_001)</i>	Yes	-
State Abattoir locality					
The Vernon Buildings, the Maiden Gardens and the Railway Garden within the Historic Abattoir Administration Precinct, bounded by Herb Elliott Avenue, Showground Road, Dawn Fraser Avenue and the Railway Garden	-	-	Item 1	-	-
The Avenue of Palms	-	-	Item 2	-	-

Current conservation policy

Listing	Statement of significance	Identified values
<p>State Abattoir Precinct Heritage Conservation Area, SEPP (Precincts—City River City) 2021</p> <p>Current conservation Policy—Government Architects Office CMP, 2013</p>	<p>The Abattoir Heritage Precinct is of State significance as an intact and extant component of the Homebush State Abattoirs, dating from 1913–1988. The State Abattoirs was Australia’s largest and most modern abattoir during this period, responsible for the centralised control of meat slaughtering, sale and distribution in Sydney. As such, the site is extremely rare. The site was also part of an early land grant to D’Arcy Wentworth in 1810, a notable figure in colonial society and politics. The Precinct became an integral part of the activities during the Sydney 2000 Games providing Sydney Olympic Park with an important link to the history of Homebush and the Abattoirs in particular.</p> <p>The complex has local significance for its historical associations with D’Arcy and William Charles Wentworth, Government Architect Walter Liberty Vernon who designed the buildings and Joseph Maiden, Director of Sydney Botanic Gardens and Government Botanist who designed the gardens. The Precinct is also significant for its association with the Sydney 2000 Games and the construction of Sydney Olympic Park, for which the buildings were sympathetically modified and then used as an administration and information centre.</p> <p>The site has aesthetic significance at a local level as an attractive group of Federation era buildings within landscaped gardens and lawns and as a historic landmark within a contemporary urban landscape.</p> <p>The buildings of the complex are representative examples of Federation period architecture, with many elements, materials and details typical of this period. They are also representative of public buildings designed in the Government Architect’s office under Walter Liberty Vernon. The garden within the complex is a good example of Federation period landscaping. The layout, plantations and tree species are representative of public gardens and parks in Sydney in the early 20th century.¹</p>	<p>Themes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • historical; • historical association; • aesthetic/technical; • rarity; and • representativeness.

Listing	Statement of significance	Identified values
<p>Olympic Cauldron NSW State Heritage Register (01839)</p> <p>Current conservation Policy—site specific exemptions, standard exemptions</p>	<p>The Olympic Cauldron at Sydney Olympic Park is of State historic significance as the culmination of the opening ceremony of the Sydney Olympic Games on 15 September 2000 and a reminder of Sydney's success and honour in having hosted the Millennium Games. The opening ceremony is considered to be a triumph of Australian showmanship which was watched by hundreds of millions of people around the world. The Olympic Cauldron is also of State significance for its associations with the Olympic athletes who participated in the Sydney 2000 Games and particularly with the Aboriginal athlete Cathy Freeman, who was chosen to be the final Australian link in the Olympic Torch relay to light the cauldron, thus marking the commencement of the Sydney 2000 Games. The image of the lit cauldron flowing with fire and water as it rose around Freeman is one of the most memorable images of the Sydney Olympic Games. The Olympic Cauldron is of State significance for the esteem in which it is held by Australians proud of the success of the Sydney Olympic Games. It is also of social significance to Sydney Olympic Park visitors for its later role as a popular fountain in the Cathy Freeman Park next to the Olympic Stadium. The Olympic Cauldron is of representative and rarity State significance as the only cauldron designed and built to hold an Olympic flame in NSW (updated 19/05/2014).²</p>	<p>Themes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • historical (Olympic opening ceremony); • historical association (Cathy Freeman, an Aboriginal athlete, final torch bearer of the Olympic Torch relay who had responsibility for lighting the Olympic flame to commence the Sydney 2000 Games and whose image is recognisable worldwide); • social (symbolic focal point of the Sydney 2000 Games); • rare (only Olympic flame cauldron in NSW); and • representative (Australian and NSW representative of Olympic cauldrons internationally).



Figure 6.8 State Abattoir c1960, view to the south. Formal entry and Administration buildings at top-centre of the photograph. (Source: 'State Abattoir, Homebush: A History and Record of the Buildings and Structures', Godden Mackey Pty Ltd, 1990)



Figure 6.9 State Abattoir Administration building, 1913. (Source: State Records, Series NRS 4481, AF0019843)



Figure 6.10 State Abattoir, 1913: Administration building at right, Abattoir buildings in centre, State Brickworks at far left in distance. (Source: State Records, Series NRS 4481, AF0019845)

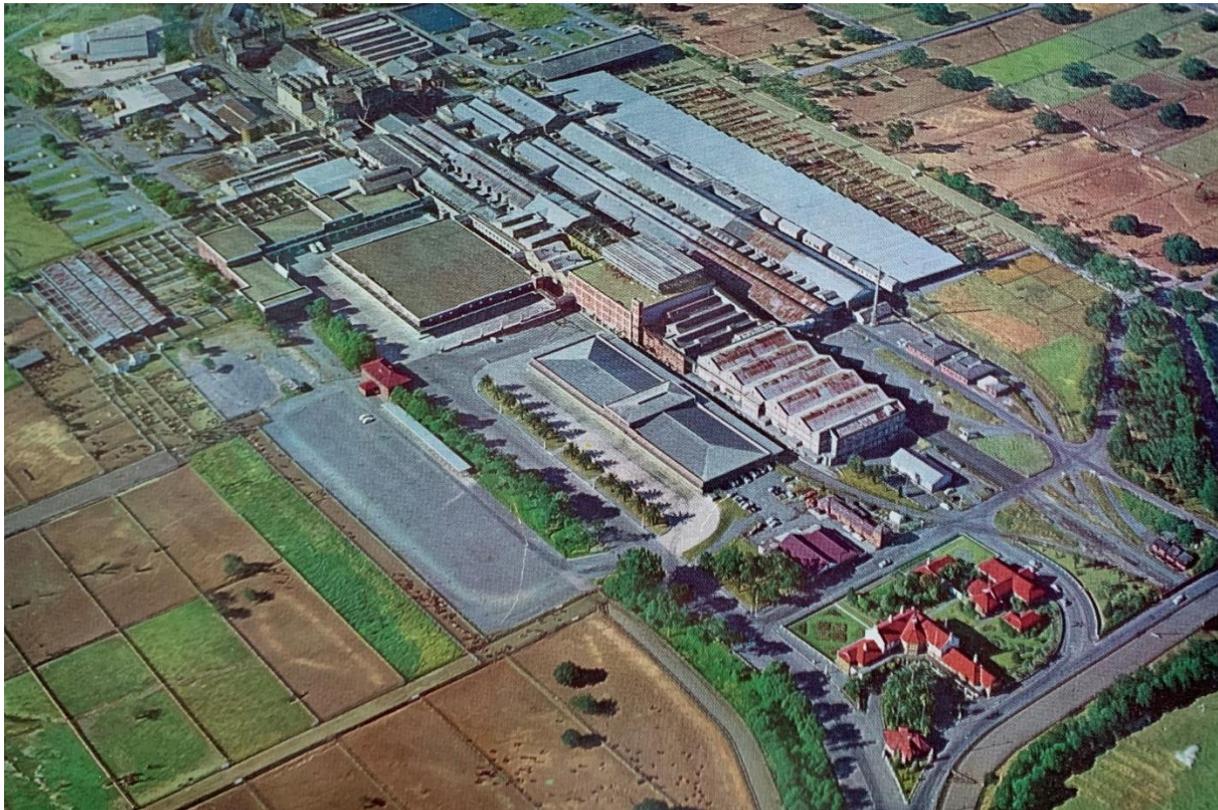


Figure 6.11 State Abattoir c1960, view to the north with Administration buildings and garden setting visible in foreground. (Source: 'State Abattoir, Homebush: A History and Record of the Buildings and Structures', Godden Mackey Pty Ltd, 1990)

Historical archaeology

- Previous assessment has identified an overall low potential for historical archaeological remains (relics) within the Abattoir Heritage Precinct. The Abattoir 2003 and 2013 CMP identified the potential for some limited archaeological evidence associated with the State Abattoir from 1907³, including:
 - industrial archaeology from usage of the State Abattoir, such as cattle grids and remnant railway lines in the adjacent Railway Garden area;
 - evidence of earlier garden edgings and pathways as well as pollens from earlier plant species; and
 - visible evidence of earlier stockyard, such as fence lines and grids.
- Baseline assessment undertaken as part of the Sydney Metro West planning application identified an overall nil–low potential for historical archaeological remains (relics) within the Sydney Olympic metro station construction site.⁴

Aboriginal cultural heritage

- There are no previously recorded Aboriginal sites.
- The contemporary presence of, and connections to, an Aboriginal workforce in industrial activities at Homebush Bay should be investigated, communicated and interpreted.
- The contemporary presence of Aboriginal cultural and sporting achievements should be investigated, communicated and interpreted.

Olympic legacy

Item	Potential heritage significance
Olympic Boulevard	Key gathering space and navigational axis for the Sydney 2000 Games Purpose designed as a major event space DCM-designed bus shelters
T7 railway station	Award winning and landmark design by notable architect
Public art, Sydney 2000 Games	'Overflow' artwork 'The Attractor' artwork 'Discobolus' artwork
Post-games	'An Eventful Path' artwork 'Eight Women' artwork Paralympic Games Patrons Memorial 'The Stride' artwork

6.1.3 Opportunities and constraints

Urban Centre	Opportunities	Constraints
Key public domain spaces— Cathy Freeman Park	Cathy Freeman Park offers the opportunity to assess the current condition of the existing public domain, and plan to maintain and enhance heritage interpretation within the park. Public perception of the park's association with Cathy Freeman should be explored for enhanced heritage interpretation and potential Olympic heritage values.	Coordination and RAS master planning and operational requirements.
State Abattoir-era unrecognised heritage fabric	Retention of the configuration, alignment and vegetation along the State	Existing development controls may impede the retention of the road's alignment.

Urban Centre	Opportunities	Constraints
	<p>Abattoir entry road (within the lot at the corner of Olympic Boulevard and Herb Elliott Avenue) is encouraged, as it is a rare surviving aspect of the site’s labour history and its intensive industrial usage. Eastern Neighbourhood also contains remnant significant plantings.</p>	<p>Should figs need to be relocated as part of future works, they should be relocated with specialist arboricultural expertise and placed in a new location that is suitable for their optimal health.</p>
<p>Future uses of heritage buildings and future development</p>	<p>The identified heritage significance of the buildings and their landscape setting and existing conservation policy should guide change within the precinct, including future uses, modifications to spatial layout, additions to the precinct, and changes to building fabric. Adaptive re-use and infill building strategies may be employed to facilitate future uses, in accordance with existing conservation policy.</p> <p>Given the State Abattoir’s heritage significance and central location, future community uses would facilitate greater public access and appreciation and provide opportunities to communicate the site’s heritage significance.</p>	<p>A balance of community and commercial usage could be explored to ensure public access is balanced with financial benefit to assist heritage maintenance.</p> <p>The Vernon Buildings in the State Abattoir precinct are not to be impacted by overshadowing, and views to and from these buildings should not be impacted by future building heights.</p>
<p>Reconfiguration of existing public open space</p>	<p>Discobolus pocket park is heavily shaded and under-utilised. Relocating the public art to a site with greater amenity could be explored, where its social significance can be better appreciated.</p>	<p>Given the Greek–Australian community’s funding and social ownership of this place, activities should be undertaken in consultation with community representatives, and the Greek–Australian community invited to lead a re-dedication. The upcoming twenty-fifth anniversary of the Sydney 2000 Games offers SOPA a valuable opportunity for outreach.</p>
<p>Olympic legacy</p>	<p>Places and spaces that hold resonance for the Sydney 2000 Games should be assessed for potential Olympic heritage values. See Section 4.5 of this report.</p>	<p>Retention of Olympic-era built environment may limit development options.</p>

Urban Centre	Opportunities	Constraints
Major infrastructure works	Coordination and ongoing collaboration with Transport for NSW/Sydney Metro is recommended to promote consistent understanding of heritage constraints and potential impacts, as well as opportunities for heritage interpretation.	The Metro may impact identified heritage, particularly in respect of public domain planning and heritage interpretation for Miluni Plaza.

6.1.4 Heritage advice

The following heritage advice is recommended for the Urban Centre character area.

Urban Centre	Key findings
Whole character area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A condition assessment of the Olympic-era public domain should be undertaken to inform the master planning process and for future asset management of retained infrastructure and works. This should be informed by a preliminary heritage assessment of potential Olympic heritage values. • Assess built form and landscape character for potential Olympic heritage values. • The introduction of new public art is to be balanced against an assessment and rationalisation of existing public domain features within the context of the assessment of potential Olympic heritage values. • A strategic heritage interpretation approach should guide the installation of new public domain and public art. • Labour history across the site should be investigated for meaningful inclusion within future heritage interpretation.
State Abattoir Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The landscape setting of the State Abattoir buildings should be assessed for intactness and condition, and maintenance planned for. • The heritage significance of the former Avenue of Palms (on SEPP listing) should be investigated, confirmed and any identified heritage listings and policies amended to reflect current plantings and residual significance. • Mature landscape originating from Abattoir-era usage should be mapped, conserved and incorporated into the precinct interpretation strategy. • Potential archaeology resulting from Abattoir-era use should be mapped and communicated. • As recommended by the 2013 CMP, the Abattoir site should be considered for listing on the NSW State Heritage Register, with compatible uses noted as administration, commercial and public uses.

Urban Centre	Key findings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial archaeology and oral, pictorial and documentary history of Abattoir-era usage should form part of the heritage interpretation strategy for this neighbourhood. The Abattoir’s history would be better understood in its relationship to place.
Olympic Cauldron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation policy should be prepared to ensure the heritage significance is maintained and protected. The listing curtilage and its implications should be understood by the site’s custodians, and the site maintained so as to protect identified significance.

6.1.5 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage controls are proposed for the Urban Centre:

- Built form controls, in scale, bulk, materials and the like, shall not impede views to and from identified heritage items, or visually or spatially compromise their curtilage. Identified heritage items means the Olympic Cauldron, the State Abattoir Heritage Precinct and any future items that are listed within environmental planning instruments.
- Access and circulation through the State Abattoir Heritage Precinct should be excluded during significant crowd events.
- Recognise, retain and enhance, where practicable, Sydney Olympic Park’s Olympic-era significance, and interpret its history and materiality as part of a precinct-wide heritage interpretation strategy.
- Retain and enhance the strong visual and axial layout of Olympic Boulevard’s original design, supported by public domain works, traffic management and active transport strategies.
- New development should recognise and visually connect with Olympic public domain initiatives, such as views of landscape interventions and recognisable built forms.
- Retain and enhance the setting of Olympic-era public art and public domain initiatives.
- Remnant heritage fabric related to but not captured in heritage listings, but identified in this report, should be recognised and considered as part of any development process.

6.1.6 Master Plan 2050—proposed future character

Urban Centre	Key findings
Character statement	Designed to highlight its role as geographical and transport heart of Sydney Olympic Park Mix of uses: community, residential, commercial, transport Increased density: towers along Olympic Boulevard and Australia Avenue to border Urban Centre
Layout and land use	Prioritisation of transport links: active transport, existing heavy rail, future Metro and light rail Intensification of commercial uses, aligned to existing and future public transport and RAS precinct (south) Activated streets: outdoor dining, parks, commercial building entries that engage with public domain Selected amalgamation to achieve planned densities

Urban Centre	Key findings
<p>Built form</p>	<p>Significant intensification of density along Olympic Boulevard and Australia Avenue</p> <p>Street edge framing with 4–6 storey built-wall, and towers beyond, introduces significance height difference to heritage precinct</p> <p>Building heights adjacent to State Abattoir precinct design with intent to minimise visual and solar access impacts</p>
<p>Public open space</p>	<p>Restricted vehicular access and circulation to enhance pedestrian amenity and focus on local traffic movement</p> <p>Network on walkable public open spaces, to cater to residents, workforce and visitors</p> <p>Improvements to Cathy Freeman Park</p> <p>Rationalisation of existing public open spaces, including Olympic era public art and interpretation elements</p> <p>Olympic Boulevard reconfiguration into active transport corridor modifies original design intent, with removal of public domain elements, including Olympic era public art, interpretation elements and landscape</p>
<p>Movement</p>	<p>Introduction of increased tree canopy and water-sensitive urban design elements to improve pedestrian amenity</p>

6.2 Eastern Neighbourhood

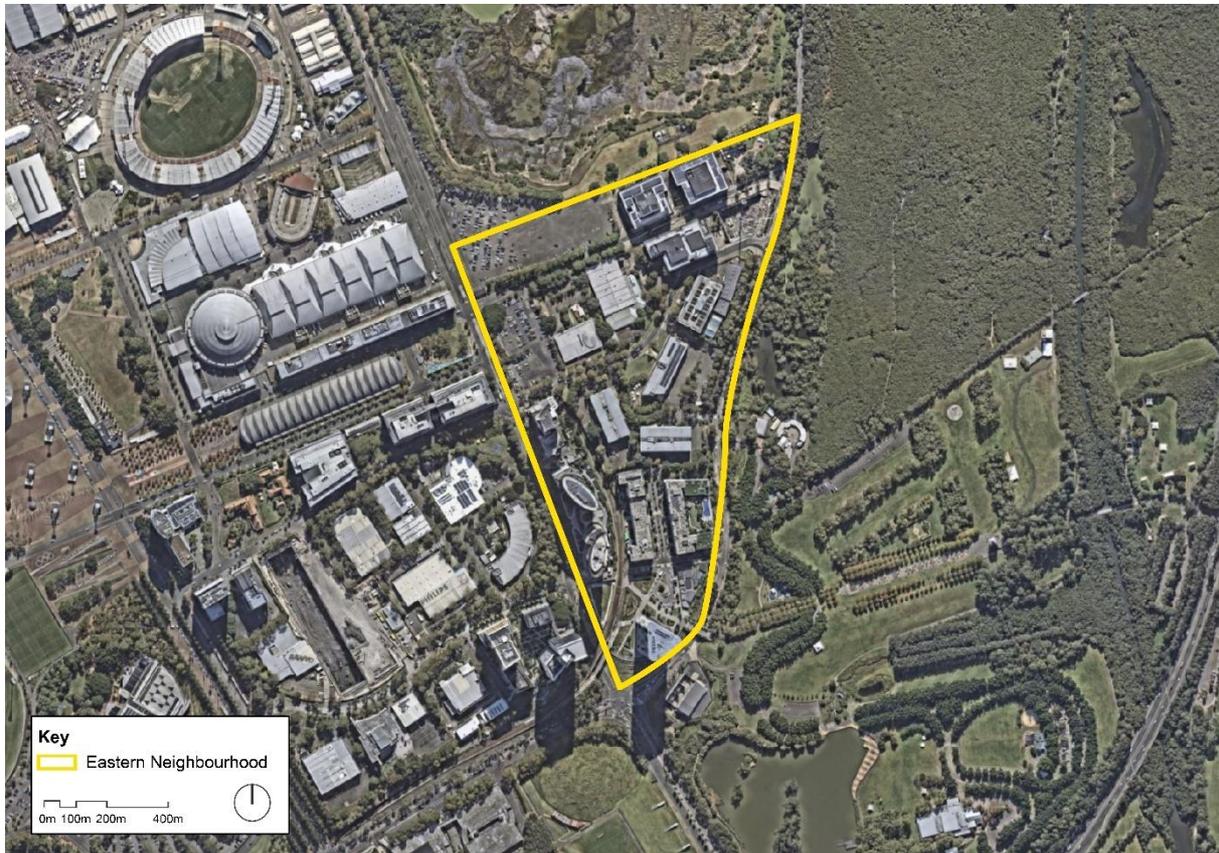


Figure 6.12 The Eastern Neighbourhood (outlined in yellow). (Source: Nearmaps 2023 with GML additions)

6.2.1 Site analysis

- The Eastern Neighbourhood is located to the east of the heart of Sydney Olympic Park.
- The Brickpit is located along the northwestern boundary of this neighbourhood, and its eastern boundary is formed by Bicentennial Park, separated by Bennelong Parkway.
- The site has views over Bicentennial Park and the Badu Mangroves to the east, and the Brickpit to the north.



Figure 6.13 State Abattoir-era fig tree at the corner of Australia Avenue and Murray Rose Avenue.



Figure 6.14 View south along Australia Avenue.

6.2.2 Heritage context

Heritage listings

- No identified heritage significance. However, remnant landscapes associated with the State Abattoir heritage listing in the Urban Centre character area remains within this character area. This includes a very large fig (Figure 6.13), corner of Murra Rose Avenue and Australia Avenue, and an avenue of brush box trees along Murray Rose Avenue.

Historical Archaeology

- Previous assessment has identified nil potential for historical archaeological remains (relics) within selected parts of the Eastern Neighbourhood.⁵

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

- No previously recorded Aboriginal sites.

Olympic legacy

- No identified items.

6.2.3 Opportunities and constraints

Eastern neighbourhood	Opportunities	Constraints
State Abattoir-era unrecognised heritage fabric	Conserve and interpret the existing mature landscape. Retain, recognise and conserve significant Abattoir plantings that remain from the site's intensive industrial usage and that demonstrate the usage of figs as shade trees for stockyards. The brush box avenue also indicates the remaining layout of the State Abattoir. There is opportunity for increased heritage interpretation to recognise this.	The fig at corner of Murray Rose and Australia Avenues and the brush box avenue planting along Murray Rose Avenue require consideration when future design development is undertaken.
Ecological sensitivities	Conserve the existing landscape context for habitat, recognising the adjacency of future development with eastern neighbourhood.	Ecological sensitives in the Brickpit may constrain the residential development footprint. Consideration of potential overshadowing impacts to the Badu Mangroves.

6.2.4 Heritage advice

The following heritage advice is recommended for the Eastern Neighbourhood:

Eastern Neighbourhood	Key findings
Ecological sensitivities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate an exclusion zone along the neighbourhood's northern boundary to act as a buffer to development and residential usage and ensure protection of ecological values. Implement height controls along the eastern portion of this character area, to limit overshadowing of the Badu Mangroves.
Landscaping and vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise, confirm provenance and incorporate existing mature plantings into the heritage interpretation strategy. This includes the fig at the intersection of Murray Rose and Australia Avenues, and the avenue of brush boxes on Murray Rose Avenue. If appropriate, recognise these as landscape heritage elements for their association with the site's industrial history. Ensure existing mature landscape remains protected from residential development, such as impacts on root zones and excessive overshadowing.

Eastern Neighbourhood	Key findings
Brickpit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure access to the Brickpit remains restricted from residential development. • Limit light spill from adjacent residential development to minimize impacts to identified ecological communities within the Brickpit. • Built form is to be designed to avoid overshadowing impacts to the Badu Mangroves. • Incorporate interpretation adjacent to the Eastern Neighbourhood that is visually engaged with the Brickpit, subject to approved ecologically-sensitive setbacks.

6.2.5 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage controls are proposed for the Eastern Neighbourhood:

- Protect (canopy spread, root zone, solar access and the like) mature landscape items, meaning the large fig at the intersection of Murray Rose and Australia Avenues, and the avenue of brush boxes on Murray Rose Avenue, and enhance their settings with public domain works, including heritage interpretation devices. This also includes street tree plantings installed for the Sydney 2000 Games.
- Establish and maintain a buffer zone between residential development and fragile ecological communities within the Brickpit.
- Recognise and implement limits to built form to avoid overshadowing of the Badu Mangroves.
- Remnant heritage fabric related to but not captured in heritage listings, but identified in this report, should be recognised and considered as part of any development process.

6.2.6 Master Plan-proposed future character

Eastern Neighbourhood	Key findings
Character statement	High density residential neighbourhood New primary school within the Eastern Neighbourhood Active transport connection to existing and future public transport options
Layout and land use	Site amalgamation to optimise user amenity within tower developments Street level activation—Parkview Drive Provision of local public open space
Built form	Intensification of density along eastern flank of Sydney Olympic Park’s core built area, with

Eastern Neighbourhood	Key findings
	<p>maximum tower heights along Australia Avenue, and lower scale built form along Bennelong Parkway</p> <p>Existing low-rise development along Murray Rose Avenue to be developed to residential towers, overlooking the Brickpit, with consideration of ecological sensitivities of Brickpit biodiversity populations</p> <p>Hotel uses along Australia Avenue, proximity to transport options</p>
<p>Public open space</p>	<p>New park in centre of Eastern Neighbourhood, within tower cluster</p> <p>New dog park along northern boundary, overlooking the Brickpit</p> <p>Resident’s proximity to the Brickpit and Bicentennial Park for activity</p>
<p>Movement</p>	<p>Active transport links to the open space of the Brickpit, with new pedestrian and cycle circulation, to engage with locality’s key heritage and ecological characteristics</p>

6.3 Southern Neighbourhood

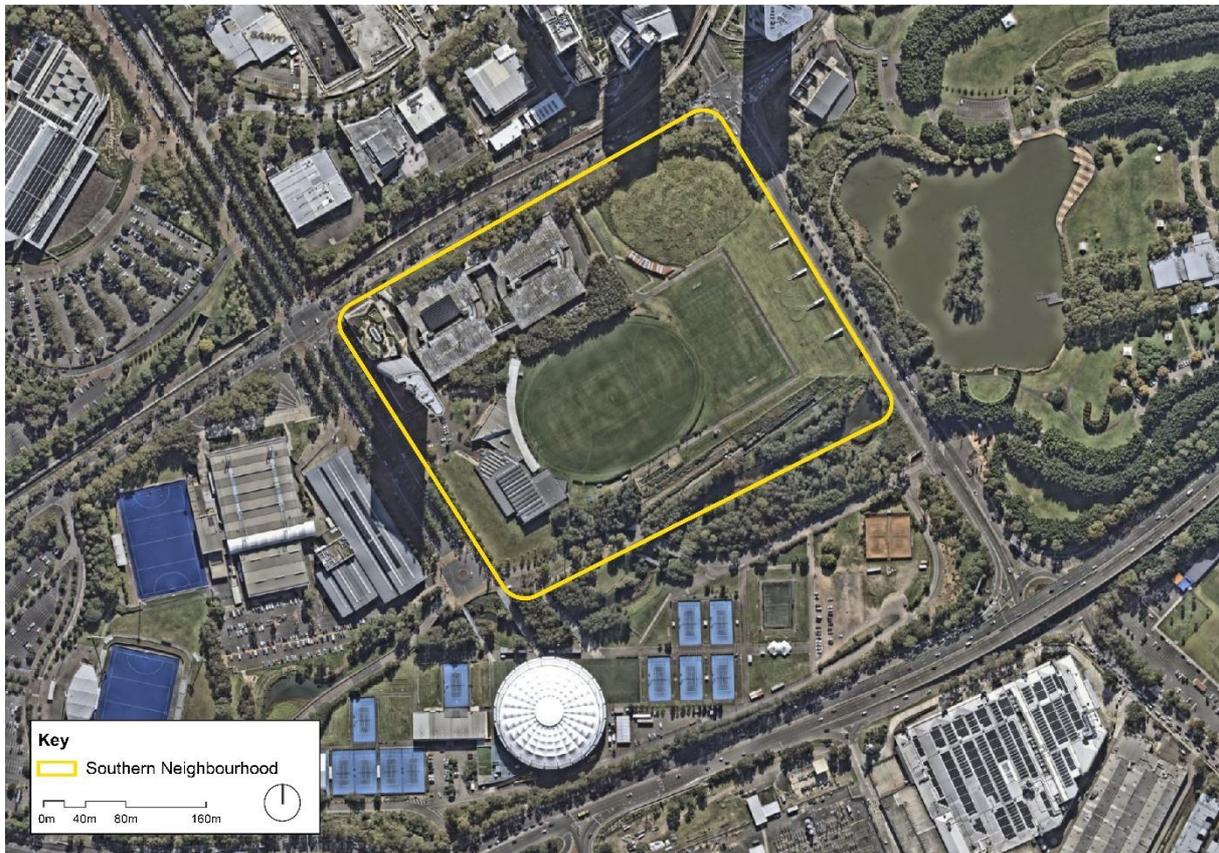


Figure 6.15 The Southern Neighbourhood (outlined in yellow). (Source: Nearmaps 2023 with GML additions)

6.3.1 Site analysis

- Flat landscape with the riparian zone of Boundary Creek that separates active sports uses, including the Tennis Centre, from adjacent football fields.
- Olympic Boulevard retains a strong axial presence through the centre of the site.
- The southern end of Olympic Boulevard terminates in an Olympic-era artwork by Janet Laurance, located within the riparian zone with bridge access over Boundary Creek to sports facilities.



Figure 6.16 Boundary Creek.



Figure 6.17 Boundary Creek bridge, Tennis Centre visible beyond.



Figure 6.18 In the Shadows, artwork by Janey Laurence, Boundary Creek.



Figure 6.19 View northeast, from Boundary Creek bridge.

6.3.2 Heritage context

Heritage listings

- No identified heritage significance.

Historical archaeology

- Previous assessment has identified nil potential for historical archaeological remains (relics) within parts of the Southern Neighbourhood.⁶

Aboriginal cultural heritage

- No previously recorded Aboriginal sites.

Olympic legacy

Item	Potential heritage significance
Olympic Boulevard	Key gathering space and navigational axis for the Sydney 2000 Games Purpose designed as a major event space
Public domain elements	Millennium Markers: Bicentennial Marker, part of set of five markers forming the Olympic rings and echoing Southern Cross (noted for potential removal)

6.3.3 Opportunities and constraints

Southern Neighbourhood	Opportunities	Constraints
Ecological sensitivities	<p>The ecological restoration of Boundary Creek should be communicated within the wider context of Olympic-era site rehabilitation works and the design philosophy of the Sydney 2000 Games.</p> <p>Given that a decisive urban design approach did not provide for the southern terminating vista, there is opportunity to propose an urban design solution to that location, that incorporates Olympic and ecological interpretation.</p>	<p>The Boundary Creek artwork is in compromised condition, suggesting maintenance shortcomings or contextual incompatibility. Ethical consideration should be undertaken as to the restoration or relocation of this artwork.</p>

6.3.4 Heritage advice

The following heritage advice is recommended for this character area.

Southern Neighbourhood	Key findings
Ecological sensitivities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate games-era ecological rehabilitation of Boundary Creek into heritage interpretation.
Public art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Janet Laurence sculpture was a subtle installation at the termination of a strong streetscape axis. With key aspects of the artwork no longer operational, there is opportunity to rationalise the site with a public domain solution that offers a more compelling terminating vista.
Olympic legacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential Olympic significance for preliminary assessment. This includes the Bicentennial Marker. Design ideals of Olympic era development and usage to be considered.

6.3.5 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage controls are proposed for the Southern Neighbourhood:

- Recognise, retain and enhance where practicable Sydney Olympic Park’s Olympic-era significance, and interpret its history and materiality as part of a precinct-wide heritage interpretation strategy.
- Recognise, retain and enhance where practicable Sydney Olympic Park’s Olympic-era significance, and interpret its history and materiality as part of a precinct-wide heritage interpretation strategy.
- Retain and enhance the strong visual and axial layout of Olympic Boulevard’s original design, supported by public domain works, traffic management and active transport strategies.
- New development should recognise and visually connect with Olympic public domain initiatives, such as views of landscape interventions and recognisable built forms.
- Retain and enhance the setting of Olympic-era public art and public domain initiatives.

6.3.6 Master Plan 2050-proposed future character

Southern Neighbourhood	Key findings
Character statement	Extension of the Urban Centre, extending to Boundary Creek Primarily residential with open space, subject to hazardous materials assessment Environmental remediation and rectification works to foundation material critical to future progress
Layout and land use	Residential neighbourhood with local shops, and local open space Riparian repair works to Boundary Creek
Built form	Intensification of residential development, focussed on Australia avenue and Olympic Boulevard New major events car parking and freight transfer hub to service suburb Future residential development subject to contamination assessment, resulting from past site uses
Public open space	Potential new neighbourhood park Proximity and access to natural beauty of Boundary Creek environs

Southern Neighbourhood	Key findings
	<p>Riparian restoration works, with consideration of the future status of existing Olympic era public art</p> <p>Modification of Olympic era design principles of Olympic Boulevard, to improve user amenity and encourage active transport use, ensuring view corridor to the north is retained</p> <p>Southern termination of Olympic Boulevard, at Boundary Creek, to terminate in a new hardstand area</p>
Movement	<p>New grade-separated pedestrian and cycle bridge over Sarah Durack Avenue to access public transport options</p>

6.4 Haslams Neighbourhood

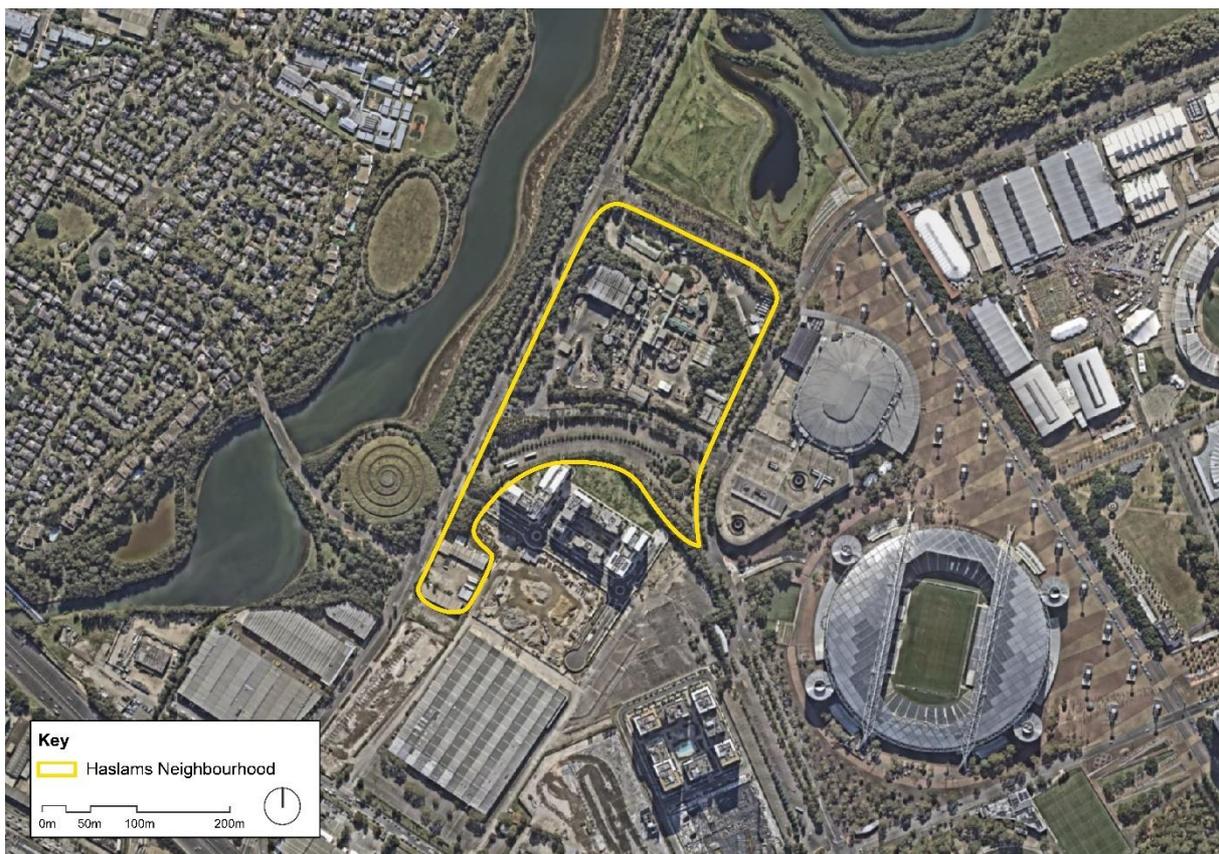


Figure 6.20 Haslams Neighbourhood (outlined in yellow). (Source: Nearmaps 2023 with GML additions)

6.4.1 Site analysis

- Haslams Neighbourhood is located on the eastern edge of Haslams Creek, bounded by Hill Road, Pondage Link, Edwin Flack Avenue and Old Hill Link.
- Currently accommodates a waste disposal/recycling facility and coach parking.
- Haslams Marker is located to the southwest and provides views into this neighbourhood.



Figure 6.21 Haslams Marker.

6.4.2 Heritage context

Heritage listings

- Haslams Neighbourhood has no identified heritage significance.
- There is potential Olympic significance in consideration of the design ideals of Olympic-era development and usage.

Historical archaeology

- There are no known assessments of historical archaeological potential within Haslams Neighbourhood.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

- There are no previously recorded Aboriginal sites.

Olympic legacy

- No identified items.

6.4.3 Opportunities and constraints

Haslams Neighbourhood	Opportunities	Constraints
Natural environment	Connect land art to future residential development.	The extent of contamination.
Olympic legacy	Incorporation of Olympic-era design ideals into heritage interpretation strategy. See Section 4.5 of this report.	Subject to condition assessment.

6.4.4 Heritage advice

The following heritage advice is recommended for Haslams Neighbourhood.

Haslams Neighbourhood	Key findings
Olympic ecological rehabilitation design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate existing ecological significance and potential Olympic ecological significance into heritage interpretation strategy.

6.4.5 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage controls are proposed for Haslams Neighbourhood:

- Recognise, retain and enhance where practicable Sydney Olympic Park’s Olympic-era significance, and interpret its history and materiality as part of a precinct-wide heritage interpretation strategy.
- New development should recognise and visually connect with Olympic public domain initiatives, such as views of landscape interventions and recognisable built forms.

6.4.6 Master Plan—proposed future character

Haslams Neighbourhood	Key findings
Character statement	<p>Compact medium density neighbourhood on the northwestern fringe of Sydney Olympic Park, replacing services infrastructure and parking area</p> <p>Tower overlook to adjacent Haslams Creek parklands and towards Newington</p> <p>Proximity to intensified development in adjacent Carter Street precinct, for resident’s access to open space/retail/commercial options</p>
Layout and land use	<p>Amalgamation sites to support user amenity, with solar access and neighbourhood views of key characteristics</p>
Built form	<p>Variety of residential tower heights, to a maximum of 20 storeys, with overlook to adjacent stadia and parklands</p>
Public open space	<p>Central new public open space and new local park over pedestrian tunnel</p> <p>Street activation with local shops and outdoor dining</p> <p>Proximity to intensified development in Carter Street precinct, for resident’s access to retail/commercial options</p>
Movement	<p>Walkable to public transport options</p>

6.5 Sports and Civic Precinct



Figure 6.22 Sports and Civic Precinct (outlined in yellow). (Source: Nearmaps 2023 with GML additions)

6.5.1 Site analysis

- The Sports and Civic Precinct is located in the southwestern corner of the precinct, this neighbourhood comprises multiple sporting facilities built prior to, and for, the Sydney 2000 Games.
- Sporting facilities are large-scale in landscaped settings. While these are appropriate for major sporting events, they are over-scaled for neighbourhood activities and built form.
- Vehicular circulation is limited.
- Pedestrian circulation along Dawn Fraser Avenue and Olympic Boulevard can be unpleasant due to expanses of hardscaping and heat impacts.
- Boundary Creek borders to the south.



Figure 6.23 View north along Olympic Boulevard.



Figure 6.24 Aquatic Centre forecourt.



Figure 6.25 Multimedia installation within the Aquatic Centre forecourt.



Figure 6.26 View north along Olympic Boulevard western footpath, with Lighting Towers framed by hoop pine avenue.



Figure 6.27 Fig Grove.



Figure 6.28 Olympic foundation stone.

6.5.2 Heritage context

Heritage listings

Table 6.2 Heritage listings within the Sports and Civic Precinct.

Heritage item	State Heritage Register	Sydney Olympic Park Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register
Hall of Champions (collection)	01295	Yes

The Hall of Champions collection is a movable heritage collection located within the State Sport Centre (refer to Section 3.2.2 for further information).

Historical archaeology

- Several assessments, small-scale archaeological excavations and monitoring programs were undertaken prior to (and in preparation of) the Sydney 2000 Games.⁷ The results of archaeological monitoring suggest that there is a low-moderate potential for pockets of historical archaeological remains (relics) associated with this phase within the current Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre site.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

- No previously recorded Aboriginal sites.

Olympic legacy

Item	Potential heritage significance
Olympic Boulevard	Key gathering space and navigational axis for the Sydney 2000 Games Purpose-designed as a major event space DCM-designed bus shelters
Built form	Landmark, purposed-designed sporting facilities for Sydney 2000 Games and key ceremonies Distinctive bulk and roof forms denoting major event purpose Sporting facilities and amenities blocks designed by notable, award-winning architects at varying career stages
Public domain elements	Fig Grove, incorporating relocated State Abattoir-era figs Ecological management of past industrial waste via dry tomb under Aquatic Centre parking
Public art, Sydney 2000 Games	Fig Grove: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Boral Olympic Dream Pathway' • 'Fig Grove Fountain'

Item	Potential heritage significance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Olympic Rings paving' installation • 'Relay' artwork Aquatic Centre forecourt: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Olympic Park Foundation Stone' • 'Rivers of Light and Path of Champions' • Friends of Tennis NSW Champion Pathway

6.5.3 Opportunities and constraints

Sports and Civic Precinct	Opportunities	Constraints
Hall of Champions collection	While the Hall of Champions collection has been located at the State Sports Centre since 1984, it is movable heritage and can therefore be accommodated elsewhere within Sydney Olympic Park.	Funding, location availability and custodianship may impact expansion.
Built environment	The potential expansion of sporting facilities may be accommodated within the landscaped settings of the large sporting facilities with minimal impacts to their form.	Subject to master planning and density targets.
Public domain	The relocated figs in the Fig Grove should be assessed for current condition and relocated if their health permits. Assuming their provenance is associated with State Abattoir usage, a new location should be sought to reinforce this historical connection.	Relocation risks the health of the mature landscape items.

6.5.4 Heritage advice

The following heritage advice is recommended for the Recreational and Civic Precinct.

Sports and Civic Precinct	Key findings
Public domain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Views in this vicinity require further detailed analysis.
Public art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The design ethos and selected discrete design elements (eg the 'Relay' artwork) in Fig Grove should be considered for relocation and reinstallation within Sydney Olympic Park. In particular, the potential social significance of the Boral Olympic Dream Pathway should be either retained in situ or relocated to a publicly accessible location nearby.

Sports and Civic Precinct	Key findings
Olympic legacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is potential Olympic/sporting significance for preliminary assessment. • Design ideals of Olympic-era development and usage to be considered. • Additional displays should be considered to expand heritage interpretation at sporting venues and to take advantage of high visitor numbers at venues and places across the Sports and Civic Precinct and the Urban Centre.

6.5.5 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage controls are proposed for the Sports and Civic Precinct:

- Views along Olympic Boulevard to and from recognisably Olympic built form should not be unreasonably impacted by new built form. This includes the axial layout of Olympic Boulevard, public gathering spaces, and iconic forms and facades of the Stadium Australia and the landscape setting of Olympic Park.
- Recognise, retain and enhance where practicable Sydney Olympic Park’s Olympic-era significance, and interpret its history and materiality as part of a precinct-wide heritage interpretation strategy.
- Retain and enhance the strong visual and axial layout of Olympic Boulevard’s original design, supported by public domain works, traffic management and active transport strategies.
- New development should recognise and visually connect with Olympic public domain initiatives, such as views of landscape interventions and recognisable built forms.
- Retain and enhance the setting of Olympic-era public art and public domain initiatives.

6.5.6 Master Plan 2050—proposed future character

Sports and Civic Precinct	Key findings
Character statement	Continuing use as Olympic-era sport facilities to attract and stage major sporting events New public facilities, including community meeting place and high school, to complement Olympic-era purpose-designed sport facilities
Layout and land use	Enhanced access and circulation network to support major events and regular sporting facilities usage
Built form	New high school for neighbourhood residents New multi-purpose facility to complement existing sporting venues, and provide a community hub for residents

Sports and Civic Precinct	Key findings
Public open space	Improvements to Boundary Creek riparian health, to further Olympic-era ecological restoration initiatives
Movement	Enhanced active transport network to encourage circulation between and around sporting venues, and access to public transport options

6.6 Stadia Precinct

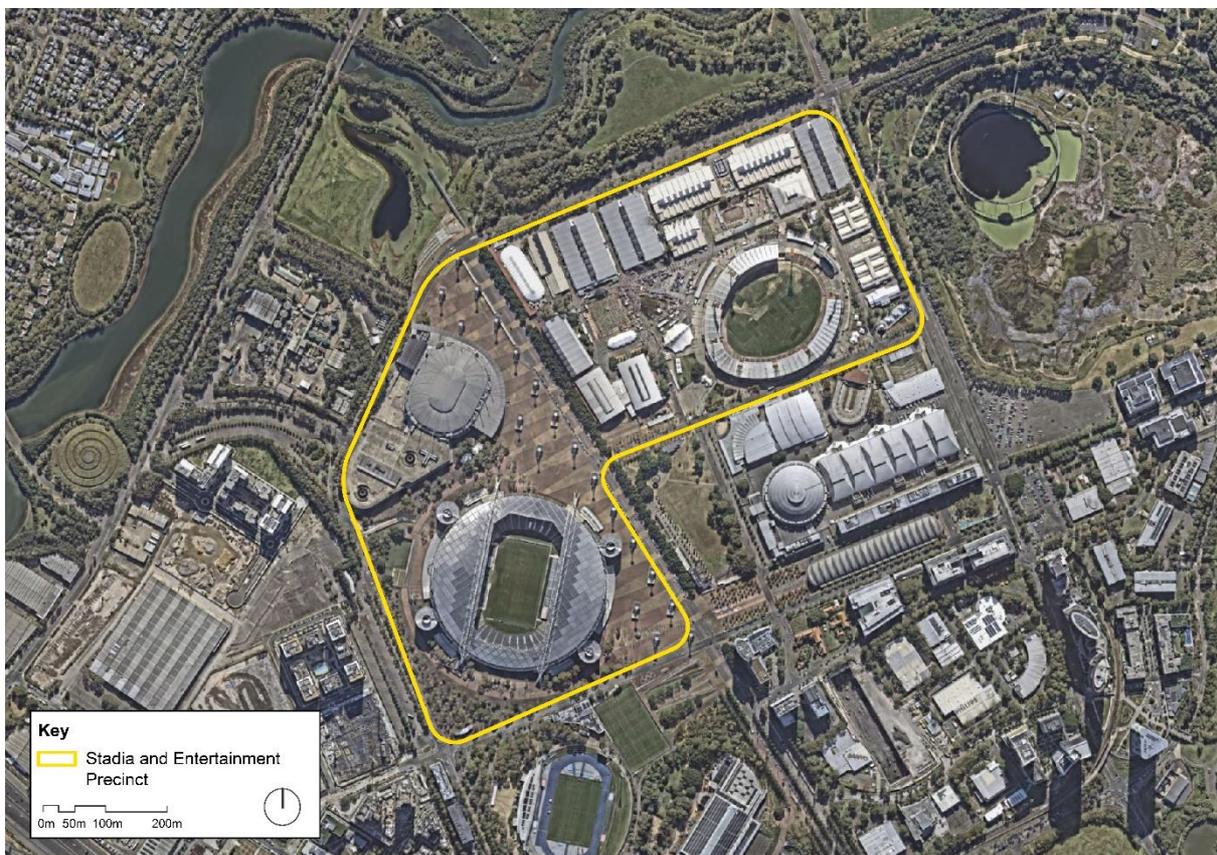


Figure 6.29 Stadia Precinct (outlined in yellow). (Source: Nearmaps 2023 with GML additions)

6.6.1 Site analysis

- Flat site area with large-scale built form—the largest on site. The focal location of the precinct that is set in a large-scale paved and landscaped setting.
- This neighbourhood includes the Olympic-era stadium configuration for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and is part of the Royal Agricultural Society showgrounds.
- Large-scale public domain works characterise this precinct, with a distinctive terminating vista at the northern end of Olympic Boulevard that is representative of the Olympic-era ecological rehabilitation works.

- Artworks that interpret the Olympic experience are present in multiple locations within this neighbourhood.
- The stadium forecourt will be the subject of future works, modifying existing paving and artworks, to create a raised garden.
- Potential future low-rise infill development within plaza expanse, at corner of Edwin Flack Avenue and Dawn Fraser Avenue, for educational purpose. There are anticipated impacts to artwork within this location.
- Key views into Sydney Olympic Park from Newington’s Pierre de Coubertin Park, from which the lit Olympic flame could be seen during games-time; the skyline view is visible from the Pymble/Gordon ridgeline. Current views into the site from the Victoria Road ridgeline descent to Parramatta River are slowly being eroded by increasing multi-storey development within Olympic Park itself.

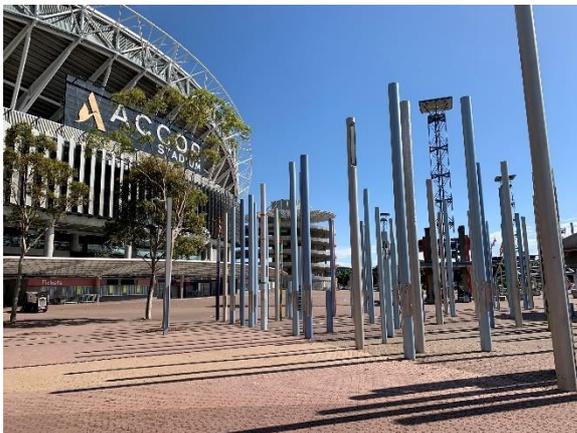


Figure 6.30 Games Memory Poles in stadium forecourt.



Figure 6.31 Lighting Towers at right of stadium.



Figure 6.32 Axial view along Olympic Boulevard, looking north.



Figure 6.33 Northern water feature, Haslams Pier at the northern end of Olympic Boulevard .



Figure 6.34 View west along Dawn Fraser Avenue.



Figure 6.35 View south along Olympic Boulevard, with Superdome at right and stadium in distance.

6.6.2 Heritage context

Heritage listings

- No identified heritage significance.

Historical archaeology

- There are no known assessments of historical archaeological potential within the Stadia Precinct.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

- There are no previously recorded Aboriginal sites.

Olympic legacy

Item	Potential heritage significance
Olympic Boulevard	Key gathering space and navigational axis for the Sydney 2000 Games Purpose designed as a major event space
Built form	Landmark, purposed-designed sporting facilities for Sydney 2000 Games and key ceremonies Distinctive bulk and roof forms denoting major event purpose RAS Sydney Showgrounds—community gathering and event space, modern place that is representative of country to city

Item	Potential heritage significance
Public domain elements	Towers of Power solar structures, 19 pylons with each tower dedicated to a modern Olympics, culminating in Sydney Munich Memorial Northern Water Feature
Public art, Sydney 2000 Games	'Olympic Games Memories' artwork 'Gathering' artwork '5000 calls' artwork 'Luminous Thresholds' artwork 'Feathers and Skies' artwork 'Lost and Found' artwork
Public art, post-games	'Thin Blue Line' artwork

6.6.3 Opportunities and constraints

Stadia precinct	Opportunities	Constraints
RAS interface	Activate southwestern edge of RAS area, with retail/community and community facilities to benefit everyday and special event usage.	The western edge of the RAS showgrounds remains unactivated and would benefit from spatial and visual engagement with purpose-built Olympic-era buildings to its west.
Olympic legacy	Olympic-era artworks would benefit from maintenance and repair works. See Section 4.5 of this report.	Retention of artworks may create potential conflict with increased residential and commercial densities.
Major events	Use heritage interpretation as a public domain device—in concert with increased residential and commercial densities—for wayfinding, to create landmarks and to provide meaningful historical context to residential open space.	Balancing major events usage with everyday usage in this neighbourhood is particularly challenging.

6.6.4 Heritage advice

The following heritage advice is recommended for the Stadia Precinct.

Stadia Precinct	Key findings
Public art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artworks within this neighbourhood should be assessed for their current condition and need for maintenance and repair. The social significance of these artworks is a likely potential outcome of further heritage assessment.
RAS interface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage interpretation of the RAS showgrounds should be considered as part of the overall Sydney Olympic Park heritage interpretation strategy, particularly given the showground’s previous primary production connections through livestock slaughtering.
Olympic legacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design ideals of Olympic-era development and usage to be considered. • The heritage significance ascribed to the Olympic Cauldron on the SHR listing communicates the potential Olympic significance of this location. • This neighbourhood should be assessed for potential Olympic significance. As the heart of Sydney Olympic Park during the Sydney 2000 Games, this precinct’s potential heritage significance lies in its historic and social significance as a place where Sydney was showcased on a world stage. It is potentially significant as a modern gathering place, and as a place where commemorative activities have been formalised through artworks and interpretive devices. • Recognisable Olympic public domain elements should be retained in situ, including the Lighting Towers, firs, the Olympic Cauldron, and works of public art • The Lighting Towers along Olympic Boulevard form a contiguous and complete set that locates the Sydney 2000 Games in the time continuum of the modern Olympic movement, and should be retained in situ. • Relocation of Olympic-era artworks and public domain works with potential social significance should involve assignment to a new site in an equally prominent location. All items that are relocated should be recorded using industry-standard photographic archival methods that are consistent with expectations for recording heritage listed items. Records should be stored by SOPA in accordance with state record keeping requirements.

6.6.5 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage controls are proposed for the Stadia Precinct:

- Recognise, retain and enhance where practicable Sydney Olympic Park’s Olympic-era significance, and interpret its history and materiality as part of a precinct-wide heritage interpretation strategy.
- Retain and enhance the strong visual and axial layout of Olympic Boulevard’s original design, supported by public domain works, traffic management and active transport strategies.
- New development should recognise and visually connect with Olympic public domain initiatives, such as views of landscape interventions and recognisable built forms.
- Retain and enhance the setting of Olympic-era public art and public domain initiatives.
- Reflect this precinct’s rich social, cultural and sporting history alongside contemporary Aboriginal cultural heritage and connections.
- Increased landscape canopy should be located, and species selected, so as to retain view corridors to Olympic-era built form and major public domain works.

6.6.6 Master Plan 2050-proposed future character

Stadia Precinct	Key findings
Character statement	<p>Key location for major events</p> <p>Demonstrates enduring legacy of Olympic Games as host location</p> <p>Design enhancements to RAS Showgrounds provide annual access for multi-scaled event staging</p>
Layout and land use	<p>Activation of Olympic Boulevard with retail, outdoor dining, and accommodation options</p> <p>Modification of purpose-designed RAS built form with increased densities around RAS boundaries buildings to provide activation along Olympic Boulevard and Kevin Coombes Avenue</p>
Built form	<p>Landmark buildings within public domain to be enhanced with public domain redesign</p> <p>Meditation of spatial anomalies between large-scale built form and public domain with the introduction of selected infill buildings</p> <p>Proximity design controls that maintain views to stadia</p>
Public open space	<p>Redesign of stadia forecourts and Olympic Boulevard to introduce a variety of plantings, surface treatments and water elements</p> <p>Activation of RAS precinct and Olympic Boulevard</p>

Stadia Precinct	Key findings
	<p>Reconfiguration of Olympic-era-designed public domain, removing public art, to address heat load and enhance user amenity with increased tree canopy and water elements</p> <p>Renewal or relocation of Olympic-era public elements (street furniture, landscape, public art and the like) removes traces of cohesive and purpose-designed environment</p>
Movement	Car-free location: local traffic focus

6.7 Edwin Flack Neighbourhood

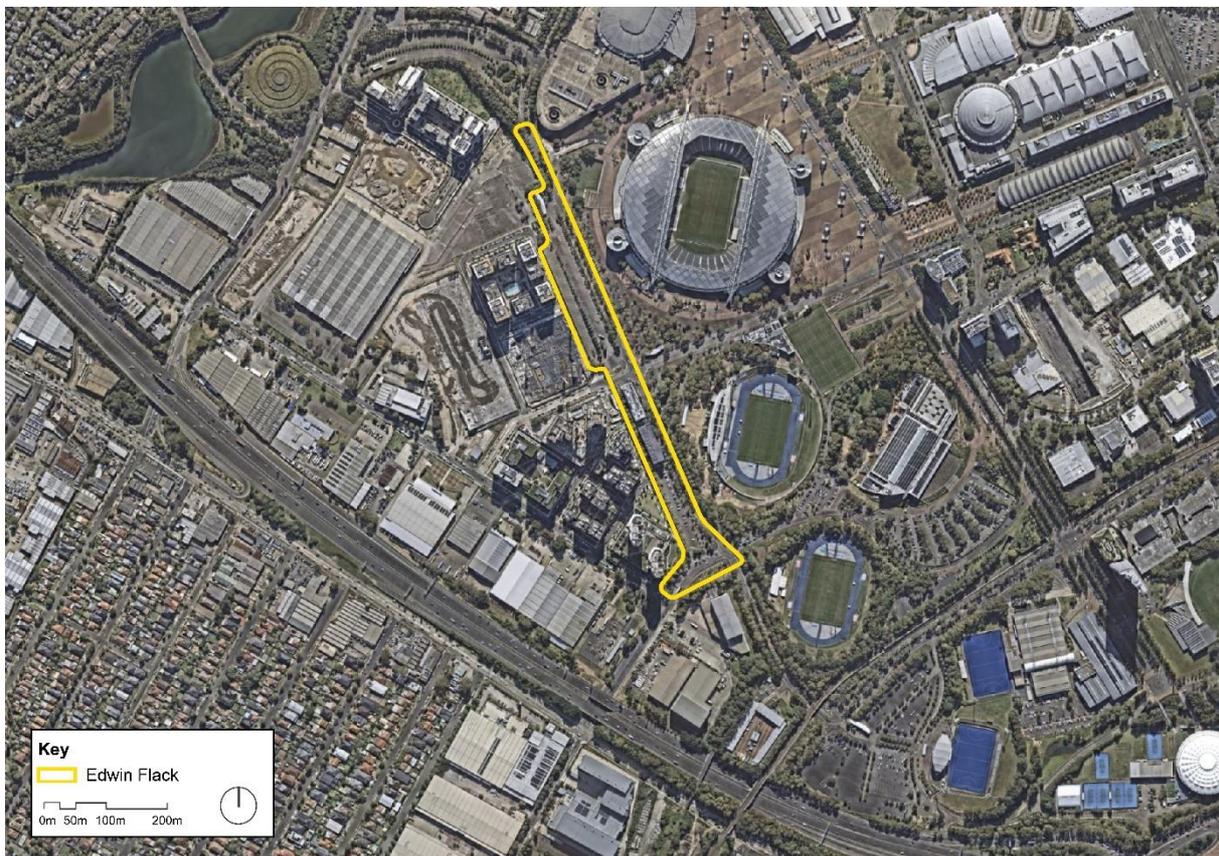


Figure 6.36 Edwin Flack Neighbourhood (outlined in yellow). (Source: Nearmaps 2023 with GML additions)

6.7.1 Site analysis

- Edwin Flack Neighbourhood is centred on Edwin Flack Avenue, from its junction with Old Hill Link to the north, to its junction with Birnie Avenue to the southwest and Shane Gould Avenue to the east.

- It is a second-tier road, running parallel to the primary throughfare of Olympic Boulevard, and forms a backdoor to key Olympic venues in the Stadia precinct. The primary access for the Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Arena and its companion warm-up arena to the south is found on Edwin Flack Avenue.
- The western side of Edwin Flack Avenue through to Carter Street is the site of significant multi-unit residential development (built and under construction). Residents in this area will access public transport (heavy rail, Sydney Metro and light rail) and open space opportunities at Sydney Olympic Park.
- Edwin Flack won Australian’s first gold medal at the first modern-day Olympics in the 1896 Summer Olympics in Athens. He competed in five events, winning the 800m and 1500m athletic race.

6.7.2 Heritage context

Heritage listings

- No identified heritage significance.

Historical archaeology

- There are no known assessments of historical archaeological potential within the Edwin Flack Neighbourhood.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

- There are no previously recorded Aboriginal sites.

Olympic legacy

- Facilities block located within this character area.
- Palm plantings, located at the corner of Edwin Flack Avenue and Birnie Avenue are part of the Sydney 2000 Games public domain design and are for further investigation.

6.7.3 Opportunities and constraints

Edwin Flack Neighbourhood	Opportunities	Constraints
Whole character area	Interpretation of Edwin Flack’s relevance to the Olympic legacy. See Section 4.5 of this report.	

6.7.4 Heritage advice

The following heritage advice is recommended for the Edwin Flack Neighbourhood.

Edwin Flack Neighbourhood	Key findings
Whole character area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate Edwin Flack interpretive plaque into the heritage interpretation strategy.

6.7.5 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage controls are proposed for the Edwin Flack Neighbourhood:

- Recognise, retain and enhance as practicable Sydney Olympic Park’s Olympic-era significance, and interpret its history and materiality as part of a precinct-wide heritage interpretation strategy.

6.7.6 Master Plan 2050—proposed future character

Edwin Flack Neighbourhood	Key findings
Character statement	<p>Western flank of stadia and sporting venues, built for the Sydney 2000 Games</p> <p>New medium-scale built form strip, separating stadia from Carter Street high rise towers</p>
Layout and land use	<p>Provision of a variety of short term and student accommodation, flanking western side of Edwin Flack Avenue, sited for easy access to major events</p> <p>Amalgamation sites to support user amenity, with solar access and neighbourhood views of key characteristics</p> <p>Mix of local shops and outdoor dining options, and access to same uses in adjacent Carter Street precinct, to support local population</p>
Built form	<p>Consistent street setback and 18 storey building height to formalise built form along Edwin Flack Avenue</p> <p>Responds to bulk and scale of stadia and mediates a regular scale transition between stadia and high rise towers of Carter Street</p>
Public open space	<p>Formalisation and improvements to public open space on Edwin Flack Avenue, at intersection with Shale Street and with Birnie Avenue</p>
Movement	<p>Enhancement of access network to public transport options</p>

6.8 Riverfront Park



Figure 6.37 Riverfront Park (outlined in yellow). (Source: Nearmaps 2023 with GML additions)

6.8.1 Site analysis

- This area has been significantly modified over time through changes to landform, riparian networks, landscape and biodiversity.
- Blaxland Riverside park and Woo-la-ra are both remediated landfill sites, located above the Parramatta River plain.
- This area has views across Parramatta River from the wharf to Ermington; intermittent views towards Parramatta River between mangroves and mature vegetation; sweeping views from vehicular circulation on approach to the river; and views from Newington House to Parramatta River that are subject to interruption from land remediation and mature vegetation in the adjacent park and buffer plantings.
- Blaxland Riverside Park includes a remediated landfill site situated above the river plain that functions as an open-turfed recreational space, as well as active play areas interspersed with turfed areas, mature vegetation and passive recreation spaces.

- In the northwestern corner of Riverfront Park, Wilson Park is the site of a former Petroleum and Chemical Corporation Australia Ltd (PACCAL) gas plant. Most of the site has been remediated to be suitable for use as public open space. However, the north-east corner remains closed to public access, and contains two earthen mounds and a wetlands bioremediation treatment system. It is 13 hectares in size and has formal and informal sport grounds, parking and amenities building.
- This character area now includes the isolated Building B47, which was excised from the main portion of the site when the southern site area (south of Holker Street) was dedicated to the establishment of Newington town centre.
- The River Walk, along the Parramatta River foreshore, connects the Wilson Park to Blaxland Riverside Park and Newington Armory.
- The remaining heritage fabric of the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve is across undulating lands that fall to the level of Parramatta River and have undergone significant modification of landform and vegetation.



Figure 6.38 Building 143, Gatehouse and Explosives Workroom.



Figure 6.39 Façade detail, Building 143.



Figure 6.40 Interior, Building 20-Gun Powder Magazine.



Figure 6.41 View south, Building 143, Explosives Workroom.



Figure 6.42 Building 154, adjacent to the railway track.



Figure 6.43 First Nations dance ground, with building 18 in the distance.



Figure 6.44 Blaxland Riverside Park, picnic area and open space.



Figure 6.45 Newington House, within Silverwater Correctional Facility, as seen from Blaxland Riverside Park southern boundary.

6.8.2 Heritage context

Current conservation policy

Listing	Statement of significance	Identified values
<p>Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve</p> <p>NSW State Heritage Register #</p> <p>SEPP (Precincts—Central River City) 2021, Item B</p> <p>Sydney Olympic Park Section 170 Heritage</p>	<p>The former Royal Australian Navy (RAN) Armament Depot - Newington known as Newington Armament Depot and including the area now known as the Newington Nature Reserve, is potentially of State heritage significance as a place which demonstrates the historical and technical development of systems and regulations of explosives handling and</p>	<p>Themes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • historical; • historical association; • aesthetic/technical; • social; • rarity

Listing	Statement of significance	Identified values
<p>and Conservation Register</p> <p>Current conservation Policy—Tanner Architects, CMP, 2013; site specific exemptions, standard exemptions</p>	<p>storage from the 1890s to 1999 and also demonstrates the importance of Sydney as a Navy Port.</p> <p>Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve is historically significant as it contains physical evidence demonstrating the history of European occupation through to the end of the 20th century. The site is a valuable tool for research relating to the early settlement and development of the colony of NSW and the development of defence from colonial times.</p> <p>Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve is potentially of State significance as an extensive cultural landscape containing features from all periods of its human occupation as well as regionally rare forest and wetlands. Newington Nature Reserve is reserved under the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 because of its significant ecological values; these extend beyond the boundaries of the Reserve into other parts of the site. The sites estuarine wetland and forest communities are rare remnants of ecological communities that once dominated this region. These provide a valuable resource for research and include a number of rare and endangered ecological communities, flora and fauna including Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest, Coastal Saltmarsh, the Green and Golden Bell Frog, <i>Wilsonia backhousei</i> and the White Fronted Chat. The site supports 144 bird species and ten bat species including the only known maternity roost of the White-striped Freetail bat in the Sydney area. In addition, it supports the only remaining example of a complete zonal succession from eucalypt forest, saltmarsh, mangroves and tidal mudflats on the Parramatta River estuary.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> representativeness; and intactness <p>2013 CMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal stone artefact sites identified within the study area are representative of similar Aboriginal sites across Sydney and the rest of NSW. Isolated artefact sites and potential archaeological deposits previously identified within the study area have potential to contain small, relatively undisturbed subsurface archaeological deposits, and have low local significance due to their research potential. Although all Aboriginal heritage sites contain intrinsic cultural significance, Metro LALC did not identify any further cultural significance for the identified sites in the study area. The wetland and forest areas within and adjoining the Newington Nature Reserve have high natural heritage values because they are rare remnants of ecological communities and ecosystems that once dominated this region. The cultural landscape of the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve includes evidence of early nineteenth century industrial ventures and the pastoral activities of the Blaxland family.

Historical archaeology

- Previous assessment has identified the potential for historical archaeological remains (relics) within Riverfront Park. The comprehensive historical archaeological zoning plan prepared for the Newington Armory identified key areas of historical archaeological potential that are likely to contain relics.⁸ Potential relics were largely defined by three distinct categories: fences, (buried) drains and roads/rail.⁹ Extant buildings and associated features were identified as areas where there were 'likely to be relics', although the buildings themselves were not defined as 'archaeological' and were largely unassessed.
- A historical archaeological assessment was also prepared for the 'Blaxland Common and Newington Armory Wharf'.¹⁰ This assessment identified the potential for surviving relics, although noting that these remains would largely be buried under meters of contaminated waste and clean fill.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

- There is Aboriginal cultural heritage present within the Riverside Park character area.
- There are five registered AHIMS sites in this precinct, all of which are located either within or adjacent to the Newington Nature Reserve forest. Three are isolated stone artefacts (AHIMS IDs 45-6-2683, 45-6-2684 and 45-6-2685) and two are PADs (AHIMS IDs 45-6-2785 and 45-6-2786). The three isolated artefact sites have also been designated as PADs.
- Scar trees that are present in the area are contemporary and not cultural in origin. These origins are reflected in the AHIMS site 45-6-2683. Any heritage listing, heritage interpretation or history of the site should also reflect this.
- It is recommended that contemporary heritage interpretation and signage in this area be revised to reflect consistency in presentation, voice, research and stakeholder engagement. Heritage interpretation and signage should communicate key characteristics of the area, be culturally appropriate and include a First Nations stakeholder engagement process that ensures the involvement of Aboriginal groups/people with cultural knowledge relevant to Sydney Olympic Park and the surrounding area. The Nature Reserve area was also part of the original military use and was highly modified by that use and subsequent rehabilitation works towards the end of the twentieth century. Heritage interpretation and signage can be used as a wayfinding device to support and encourage visitor engagement and education. It should form part of an overall interpretation strategy and incorporate the history and values associated with the Nature Reserve.

Olympic legacy

Item	Potential heritage significance
Public domain elements	Millennium Markers: River Marker (Blaxland Riverside Park), Silverwater (Woola-ra), part of set of five markers forming the Olympic rings and echoing the Southern Cross.
Green Games initiatives	Remediation and containment of legacy waste; restoration to tidal exchange to Newington Nature Reserve wetland; native landscaping palette using species indigenous to the area; and environmental sustainability initiatives.

6.8.3 Opportunities and constraints

This section considers heritage opportunities and constraints for the whole character area. Detailed analysis of Newington Armory is provided in Section 5.

Riverfront Park	Opportunities	Constraints
Whole character area	This neighbourhood would benefit from the creation of an identity that recognises and communicates its key attributes, which are its evolving First Nations and built history, ecological values and interfaces, naval heritage and recreational opportunities.	Adjacency with the Silverwater Correctional Centre, which is an immediate neighbour. Northern and eastern site frontages of mangroves, with intermittent view corridors across waterways.
Site access and circulation	Water access should be investigated to improve activation and access to the neighbourhood, and to provide an alternative entry by reinstating passenger ferry services and pleasure craft access. This would reintroduce the RANAD-era functional connection to Parramatta River and Sydney Harbour and provide alternative views into, and experience of, the neighbourhood. While considering Silverwater Correctional Facility's requirements, an inviting entry that communicates the precinct's key attractions would benefit the area. Define the distinctiveness of Newington Armory and enhance its concealed	Challenges of multiplicity of custodianship: SOPA, NPWS, TfNSW, ADF (movable heritage collection) and current lessees. Activating water access requires wharf and seawall maintenance/upgrading, security interfaces, and managing increased visitation and usages.

Riverfront Park	Opportunities	Constraints
	<p>character by ensuring it continues as a secured and fenced space with intentionally planned access and egress, consistent with endorsed conservation policy (NADNR CMP Policy 57).</p>	
<p>Activation and uses</p>	<p>The introduction of uses that are complement the key qualities of Sydney Olympic Park and consistent with existing values, such as the rural-industrial connection of the State Abattoir and RAS, and potential Olympic heritage values, such as sporting excellence), while suggesting educational and visitor opportunities that link with these.</p> <p>Connect the site’s naval history to other military sites within Sydney Harbour and beyond, and contextualise this connection in heritage interpretation.</p>	<p>Challenges of balancing ecological conservation and legislative compliance responsibilities with push for increased access and activation.</p> <p>Challenges of multiplicity of custodianship: SOPA, NPWS, TfNSW, ADF (movable heritage collection) and current lessees.</p>
<p>Visitor experience</p>	<p>Enhance visitor experience at the wharf by exploring water access opportunities, temporary activation of the wharf sub-precinct and reinforcement of the area as an entry point (NADNR CMP Policy 62). Recognise the connection of this area with Blaxland Common.</p>	<p>Challenges of multiplicity of custodianship: SOPA, NPWS, TfNSW, ADF (movable heritage collection) and current lessees.</p>

6.8.4 Heritage advice

The following heritage advice is recommended for this character area.

Riverfront Park	Key findings
Whole character area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the practicalities of alternate site access. • Investigate and confirm the heritage asset ownership/custodianship of the wharf, seawalls, waterfront circulation and the movable heritage collection. • The future balance of active and passive uses across the combined sites requires careful consideration in respect to minimising impacts to identified heritage fabric, the protection of natural heritage values and allocating more intensive uses to areas of lesser heritage significance, but also recognising that the site has security vulnerabilities due to its seclusion, vastness, and rich opportunities for theft and vandalism.

6.8.5 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage controls are proposed for this character area, including all controls that apply to Newington Armory presented in Section 5.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

- The presence and provenance of isolated Aboriginal cultural artefacts in the Newington Nature Reserve forest woodlands, raised in earlier studies, should be confirmed, and records relating to this updated, given the likelihood that the items are either no longer extant or have a tenuous connection to the site.
- Aboriginal heritage interpretation and content for wayfinding should communicate key characteristics of the area, be culturally appropriate, and be produced via an agreed Aboriginal stakeholder engagement process.

6.8.6 Master Plan 2050—proposed future character

Riverfront Park	Key findings
Character statement	<p>Enrichment of Aboriginal cultural heritage and contemporary connections to culture and country built on foundational actions within the Armory</p> <p>Enhancement of existing military, natural and Aboriginal cultural heritage qualities</p> <p>Upgrading of wharf will improve visitor access and experience</p> <p>Management of waterways within and around the Armory is subject to expert technical direction and to be informed by existing conservation management policies</p>

Riverfront Park	Key findings
	<p>Change management proposed for the Armory (hardstand areas, circulation paths, plantings and the like) are to be led by existing conservation policy, and are subject to detailed design development</p>
<p>Layout, land use and landscape</p>	<p>Improvements to pedestrian and cycle access and circulation, respecting heritage, setting and connection to water</p> <p>Activation of the wharf area for temporary event uses orients activity to historic waterfront active uses</p> <p>Expansion of Aboriginal cultural spaces within the Armory provides a valuable opportunity for SOPA and traditional owners to meaningfully foster connections with local community representatives and dedicate space to cultural initiatives</p> <p>Naturalisation of the Parramatta River edge is supportable, subject to the retention of heritage-listed seawalls</p> <p>Managed improvements to riparian zones will improve the ecological health of the precinct and support passive recreation</p> <p>Introduction of managed grasslands that maintain the military-era mown character around exceptionally significant heritage buildings and across key vistas, and interweaves it with rewilded grasslands, provides an opportunity to respect past uses in balance with ecological conservation aspirations</p> <p>Extension of low grasslands, consistent with conservation policy, to extend buffer vegetation from the Newington Nature Reserve, in a westerly direction</p> <p>Exploration of educational opportunities at Newington Armory</p>
<p>Built form</p>	<p>Opportunities identified for increased use of heritage buildings to support a variety of uses</p>
<p>Public open space</p>	<p>Public domain improvements within Blaxland Park will enrich visitor experience</p> <p>Provision of additional visitors' amenities within Newington Armory improve visitor experience and support the staging of small-scale events</p> <p>Enhancement of river access to Newington Armory reinstates past use and increased usability and visitor experience</p> <p>Eco-play in Woo-la-ra is a positive addition to open space opportunities, to be balanced with ecological sensitivity and managed access</p>
<p>Movement</p>	<p>The River Walk enhancement provides an opportunity to link and extend nearby waterfront pedestrian improvements</p>

Riverfront Park	Key findings
	<p>Improvements to pedestrian and cycle access and circulation will provide greater visitor satisfaction, subject to detailed design in areas where heritage significance may be compromised</p> <p>Nominated pedestrian and cycle circulation supports Newington Armory’s peaceful character</p> <p>Additional entry off Jamieson Street will improve visitor access and circulation</p> <p>Overflow parking is to be managed to avoid heritage significance impacts, and is subject to detailed design</p> <p>Management of Newington Nature Reserve are to be led by expert biodiversity direction and to be informed by existing conservation management policies, particularly in relation to planting in buffer zones</p>



Figure 6.4626 Newington Armory concept plan. (Source: Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050)

6.9 Haslams Ecopark

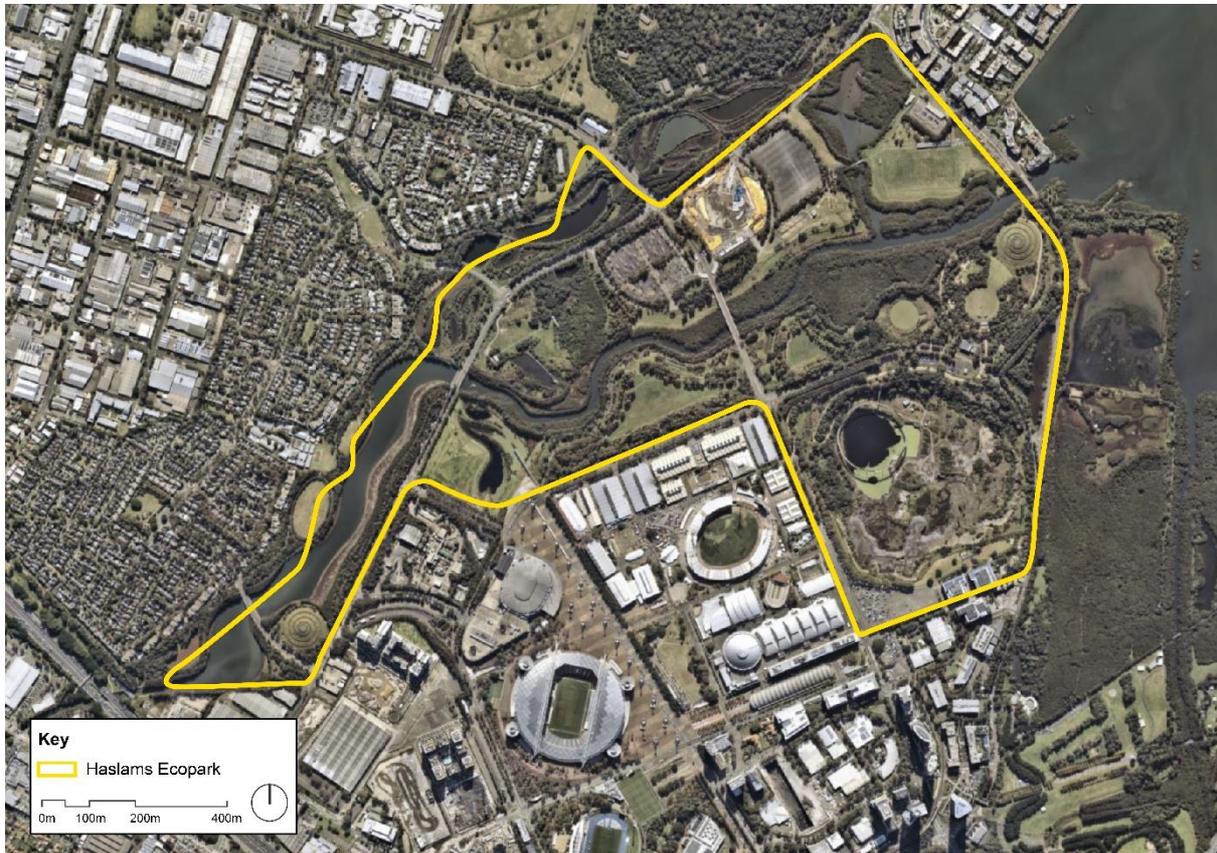


Figure 6.47 Haslams Ecopark (outlined in yellow). (Source: Nearmaps 2023 with GML additions)

6.9.1 Site analysis

- Haslams Park is bordered by Haslams Creek to the north, Bennelong Parkway to the east, the suburb of Newington to the northwest and the built form of Olympic Park to its south.
- Significant ecological restoration areas include the Brickpit Ring Walk, Wentworth Common (including Bay Marker), Kronos Hill, Little Kronos Hill and Haslams Creek (noting that Haslams Creek is partially channelised).
- The Archery Park is located within the north corner of this character area, on the western bank of Haslams Creek as it approaches Homebush Bay.
- This character area also includes Building 87, part of the former RANAD site area, which was excised to form the suburb of Newington as the Athletes Village for the Sydney 2000 Games. Building 87 is the only remaining large storehouse in the British construction style and is not included in the SHR listing for Newington Armory.



Figure 6.48 Brickpit Ring Walk.



Figure 6.49 Brickpit Ring Walk.



Figure 6.50 Interpretation signage at the Brickpit.

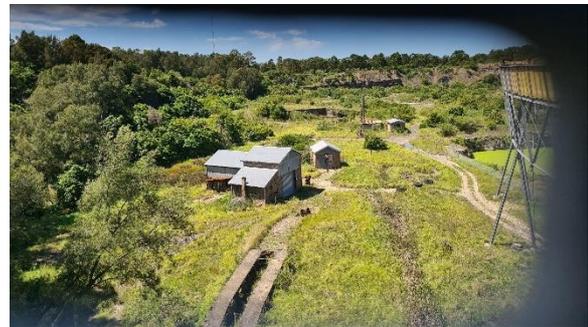


Figure 6.51 Remaining State Brickworks buildings on the quarry floor.



Figure 6.52 Archery Centre.



Figure 6.53 'Pole Forest' artwork by Phoebe Pape.



Figure 6.54 Interpretation signage at top of Bay Marker



Figure 6.55 Bay Marker.

6.9.2 Heritage context

Heritage listings

- Haslams Ecopark falls within the Environmental Conservation Area for Sydney Olympic Park, listed in Schedule 5 of SEPP (Precincts—Central River City) 2021 (see Figure 3.3).

Historical archaeology

- Preliminary assessment undertaken prior to the Sydney 2000 Games identified two archaeological sites of potential significance within the precinct that had been used as the dumping ground for redundant tools and machines within the Brickpit.¹¹ These have likely been removed. Additionally, several ‘relics’ (tools, machines and artefacts) were noted, including: the Hoffman kilns; the dome or downdraft kilns; the Brickpit (and associated infrastructure); the rail signal; the rail line; and the original entrance gates of the abattoirs.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

- There are no previously recorded Aboriginal sites.

Olympic legacy

Item	Potential heritage significance
Built form	Archery Park, purpose-designed an Olympic venue by a notable and award-winning architect

Item	Potential heritage significance
	Brickpit, as a retained and interpreted historic industrial site
Public domain elements	Millennium Markers: Bay Marker (Wentworth Common), Haslams Marker (Haslams Creek), part of set of five markers forming the Olympic rings and echoing Southern Cross. There is also the Pyramid and Northern Water Feature (designed to resemble the Olympic flame), Haslams Pier and 'Osmosis' public art
Green Games initiatives	Remediation of historic landfill sites and containment of waste, de-channelisation of waterways, creation of terrestrial, freshwater and estuarine ecosystems, and demonstration of stormwater capture Extensive construction of terrestrial and aquatic habitats for the Green and Golden Bell Frog across Haslams Ecopark and including the Brickpit
Public art—Sydney 2000 Games	Pole Forest artwork
Public art, post-Games	Brickpit Ring Walk

6.9.3 Opportunities and constraints

Haslams Ecopark	Opportunities	Constraints
Site access and circulation	Build on extensive active transport networks and facilitate gaps in public transport connections. Seek opportunities to incorporate or update heritage interpretation into active transport networks.	There is less access by public transport to this part of Sydney Olympic Park, which is more accessed by either active transport or private vehicular transport.
State Brickworks	The Brickpit should be assessed for potential heritage significance, either as an individual item or within the broader cultural landscape of Sydney Olympic Park, which represents the labour heritage of the site, its human modification and the ecological rehabilitation that was motivated by Olympic-era design ideals.	Existing physical heritage interpretation is at the end of its life and requires renewal and/or redesign. The delicate ecological environment requires careful planning for continued conservation.

Haslams Ecopark	Opportunities	Constraints
	<p>Investigate and interpret former masonry structures that were part of the Brickpit works.</p> <p>Renew life-expired heritage interpretation at the Brickpit.</p>	
<p>Olympic legacy</p>	<p>Incorporate Olympic-era design ideals into the heritage interpretation strategy. Consider restoring and actively managing the archery poles artwork that forms a vegetated forecourt to the Archery Park, prior to repurposing the artwork location. See Section 4.5 of this report.</p> <p>Comprehend the additional value resulting from the continued use of sporting venues, not only for sports, but to support habitat restoration across Sydney Olympic Park. For example, the adaptation of the archery poles for nest-boxes has provided a breeding location of red-rumped parrots, contributing to significant population increase.</p>	<p>Contamination status is to considered in any future development.</p>

6.9.4 Heritage advice

The following heritage advice is recommended for Haslams Ecopark.

Haslams Ecopark	Key findings
<p>Whole character area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance the hidden nature of Haslams Ecopark with improved access, active transport and public transport, taking an ecologically sensitive approach. • Build on existing soundscapes (oral histories and ecology) to enhance visitor experience and consider incorporating a digital interface.
<p>Brickpit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buffer zones to provide protection for items of ecological significance from development impacts should be included within the Master Plan.

Haslams Ecopark	Key findings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial heritage items on the quarry floor, and their context, should be assessed for current condition, provenance, intactness, safety and risk. The potential industrial heritage of the Brickpit should be assessed against NSW heritage criteria for a potential future individual listing, or as part of a broader cultural landscape listing. Policies should be developed to conserve, display, interpret and celebrate the ecological significance and industrial heritage of the area.
Olympic Legacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise, retain and enhance Sydney Olympic Park's Olympic-era significance, and interpret its history and materiality as part of a precinct-wide heritage interpretation strategy. Incorporate existing items of ecological significance, as well as items of potential Olympic ecological significance, into the heritage interpretation strategy. New development should recognise and visually connect with Olympic public domain initiatives, such as views to landscape interventions and recognisable built forms. These include, but are not limited to, Millenium Markers, Haslams Pier, Northern Water Feature and views to the stadia skyline. Should repurposing of purpose-designed built form be considered, initiate archival photographic recording of the current usage, form, and presentation; these should form part of SOPA's digital cultural heritage collection. Initiate preliminary assessment of potential Olympic significance. Design ideals of Olympic-era development and usage to be considered. Retain and enhance Olympic-era artwork as the entry forecourt to the proposed community facility. Recognise additional value in public art adaptation that supports ecological habitat. Relocated Olympic-era built environment with potential heritage significance should be recorded using photographic archival methods that are consistent with expectations for recording heritage listed items. Records should be stored by SOPA in accordance with state record keeping requirements.

6.9.5 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage controls are proposed for this character area:

- Recognise, retain and enhance where practicable, Sydney Olympic Park's Olympic-era significance, and interpret its history and materiality as part of a precinct-wide heritage interpretation strategy.

6.9.6 Master Plan 2050—proposed future character

Haslams Ecopark	Key findings
Character statement	<p>Ecologically sensitive area with key environmental and heritage places</p> <p>Parklands with active and passive recreation uses</p> <p>Provides resident and visitor access to key ecological aspects of Sydney Olympic Park – Haslams Creek Narawang Wetland, the Brickpit, and Wentworth Common</p>
Layout and land use	<p>Rehabilitation of multiple ecological areas, recommended to be under expert direction, continues Olympic era foundational approaches</p> <p>Care for Country that is led by First Nations people is proposed and would benefit from detail; changes to custodianship of ecologically sensitive areas is to be led by existing expertise</p> <p>Ecological management initiatives to be championed in fine grain urban design</p> <p>Enhancement of Archery Park to provide community facilities, while retaining it as a facility for international competition</p> <p>New sporting focus around Haslams Creek, with recently built Wave Park, future BMX course, new sporting fields and support facilities</p>
Built form	<p>Recently built wave park attracts visitors from beyond the local area</p>
Public open space	<p>Showcase location for Olympic era ecological restoration initiatives</p> <p>New park to south edge of Brickpit, subject to ecological and cultural heritage assessment and expert input</p>
Movement	<p>Enhancement of pedestrian and cycle network to access key Sydney Olympic Park characteristics</p> <p>Active and passive recreation to focus on future light rail connection</p> <p>Improvements to circulation along eastern edge of Brickpit and to Bicentennial Park, subject to ecological and cultural heritage assessment and expert input, will benefit interpretation and visitor and educational access to key Sydney Olympic Park characteristics</p>



Figure 6.56 Haslams Ecopark concept design. (Source: Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050)

6.10 Bicentennial Park



Figure 6.57 Bicentennial Park (outlined in yellow). (Source: Nearmaps 2023 with GML additions)

6.10.1 Site analysis

- A rehabilitated and modified landscape, repurposed for recreational use and environmental conservation, that predates Olympic use.
- Bicentennial Park includes the Badu Mangroves and waterbird refuge to its north, noting that this is a largely reconstructed landscape that bears little resemblance to its original form or structure.
- Shipwreck Lookout provides views over Homebush Bay, as well as visual connection and minimal interpretation of marine scuttling activities in the bay.
- The park includes an education centre.



Figure 6.58 Pedestrian and cycle path through Badu Mangroves.



Figure 6.59 Bird Hide, view south over Badu Mangroves.



Figure 6.60 Shipwreck in Homebush Bay.



Figure 6.61 Bird hide.

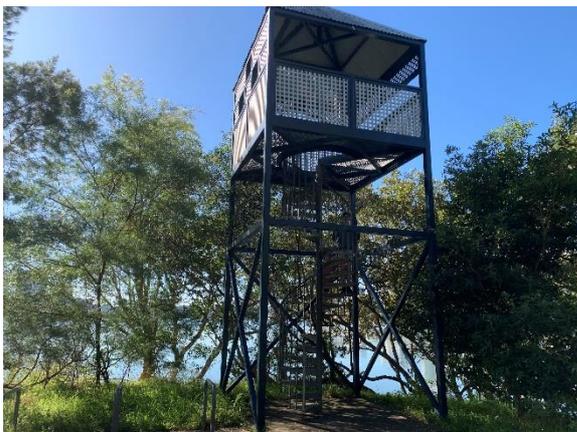


Figure 6.62 Birdwatching tower, Badu Mangroves.



Figure 6.63 View from birdwatching tower, Badu Mangroves.

6.10.2 Heritage context

Heritage listings

- There is no identified heritage significance.
- There is potential Olympic significance for preliminary assessment—ecological rehabilitation and landscape installations should consider design ideals of Olympic-era development and usage. Design and development of this area pre-dated the Olympics and was at the time managed by a different entity.

Historical archaeology

- There are no known assessments of historical archaeological potential within the Bicentennial Park precinct.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

- There are no previously recorded Aboriginal sites.

Olympic legacy

- There are no Olympic-legacy items in this area.

6.10.3 Opportunities and constraints

Bicentennial Park	Opportunities	Constraints
Artworks within the parkland	Coordination of physical and digital interpretation of large-scale land art is recommended, in conjunction with all parklands within Sydney Olympic Park.	Material elements in selected installations are due for renewal. Heritage interpretation of artworks is minimal and graphics inconsistent.
Landscape setting	Bicentennial Park has a distinctive design character and extensive public art . Updated and/or future heritage interpretation should recognise this character and history.	Bicentennial Park has a separate character to other parklands within Sydney Olympic Park. The park opened in 1988 for the Bicentenary celebrations, predating the Sydney 2000 Games.
Homebush Bay scuttling yard	While not under SOPA’s ownership, the scuttled vessels in Homebush Bay are a valued part of the visitor engagement experience along Sydney Olympic Park’s northern	There is lack of clarity on the ownership of, and responsibility for, scuttled vessels in Homebush Bay.

Bicentennial Park	Opportunities	Constraints
	<p>boundary and are listed here to ensure they are captured in future heritage interpretation. Notably, the brick barges in Homebush Bay are directly connected to the State Brickworks and are potentially a rare surviving example of their type.</p> <p>Confirming the ambiguous heritage asset ownership/custodianship of shipwrecks is a desirable goal.</p>	

6.10.4 Heritage advice

The following heritage advice is recommended for Bicentennial Park.

Bicentennial Park	Key findings
<p>Whole character area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate and confirm shipwreck heritage conservation custodianship and responsibility with relevant stakeholders: TfNSW owns the land on which the wrecks have settled on but has not accepted responsibility for custodianship of wrecks themselves. Establish consultation with local and state government on the development of a wayfinding strategy for the waterfront to collaborate on and inform heritage interpretation strategy. Incorporate ecological and landscape elements of Bicentennial Park into the Sydney Olympic Park heritage interpretation strategy via updated and improved signage.

6.10.5 Recommended heritage controls

The following heritage controls are proposed for Bicentennial Park:

- Recognise, enhance and interpret the park’s ecological significance.
- Communicate the park’s historical origins and ecological development by interpretive devices.
- Locate the Badu Mangroves in the broader geographical context as part of the Bicentennial Park’s interpretation.

6.10.6 Master Plan 2050—proposed future character

Bicentennial Park	Key findings
Character statement	<p>Local and regional parkland, for leisure and education</p> <p>Exemplar of international environmental conservation</p> <p>Key open space for Sydney Olympic Park residential population</p>
Layout and land use	<p>First nations-led care for country is proposed, and would benefit from detail</p> <p>Masterplan highlights climate change vulnerabilities</p> <p>Rehabilitation of multiple ecological areas, recommended to be under expert direction, continues foundational approaches</p> <p>Ecological management initiatives to be championed in fine grain urban design, for educational access and ecological interpretation</p>
Built form	Not applicable
Public open space	Not included; see Layout and land use section above
Movement	<p>River Walk link to Badu Mangroves</p> <p>Enhancement of pedestrian and cycle network, to provide access to key Sydney Olympic Park characteristics</p>

6.11 Endnotes

- ¹ Government Architect’s Office, September 2013, ‘Abattoir Heritage Precinct, Sydney Olympic Park, Conservation Management Plan, p 14.
- ² ‘Olympic Cauldron at Sydney Olympic Park’, *State Heritage Inventory*, <https://www.hms.heritage.nsw.gov.au/App/Item/ViewItem?itemId=5061184>
- ³ Graham Brooks and Associates Pty Ltd, June 2003, ‘Abattoir Heritage Precinct, Sydney Olympic Park, Conservation Management Plan, p 45; Government Architect’s Office, September 2013, ‘Abattoir Heritage Precinct, Sydney Olympic Park, Conservation Management Plan, p 68.
- ⁴ Artefact Heritage, April 2020 ‘Sydney Metro West, Technical Paper 3: Non-Aboriginal Heritage’, p 289-291
- ⁵ Artefact Heritage, October 2018 ‘1 & 2 Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Report; Archaeological Survey Report; Historical Archaeological Assessment; Heritage Impact Statement’; Biosis, August 2019 ‘Site 2—Sydney Olympic Park, Historical Archaeological Assessment and Statement Heritage Impact’
- ⁶ Artefact Heritage, March 2016 ‘Site 9, Sydney Olympic Park, Archaeological Assessment’.

- ⁷ AMAC (Carney and Mader) 1996, 'Archaeological Assessment & Research Design of Homebush House & the Former Laycock & Wentworth Estates—Site of the 2000 Olympics'; AMAC 1997, 'Test Excavations & Survey, Australia Avenue, Fig Tree Avenue Circuit 2000 Olympic Site, Homebush, NSW'; AMAC 1998, 'Archaeological Impact Assessment Report, Proposed Olympic Tennis Centre, 2000 Olympic Site, Homebush, NSW'; AMAC 2000, 'Archaeological Monitoring Report, Former AJC Racecourse Olympic Tennis Centre, Homebush NSW'.
- ⁸ Cosmos Archaeology, 2004 (revised 2013), 'Newington Armory, Historical Archaeological Zoning'.
- ⁹ Cosmos Archaeology, 2004 (revised 2013), 'Newington Armory, Historical Archaeological Zoning', p 46-47.
- ¹⁰ Cosmos Archaeology, 2005 'Blaxland Common & Newington Armory Wharf: Archaeological Assessment'.
- ¹¹ Don Godden and Associates, 1986 'State Brickworks State Abattoir Homebush, Conservation Plan', p 43.

7 Recommendations



7 Recommendations

The master planning for Sydney Olympic Park balances increased residential and commercial densities in the future with:

- continuing opportunities for recreation in nature;
- access to local goods and services; and
- the conservation of heritage values.

This Master Plan works towards SOPA’s vision for Sydney Olympic Park as a desirable place to live, work and visit—Sydney’s ‘beating green heart’.

This heritage study will inform the future planning and development for Sydney Olympic Park as part of the longer term implementation of the Master Plan. As part of this, heritage advice and impact assessment will be required to ensure that significant heritage values are sustained through the future processes of change and development at Sydney Olympic Park.

The following are recommendations for **existing heritage items** within Sydney Olympic Park:

- **Newington Armory**
 - Revise and update the conservation management plan to reflect the recommendations in this report in accordance with Heritage NSW guidelines.
 - Ensure that the CMP adopts a user friendly, place-based approach incorporating a whole-of-landscape and assemblage-of-buildings approach to its analysis, including updated gradings of significance, tolerance for change and conservation policies that are easy for SOPA’s workforce to apply.
 - Consider engagement with the Heritage Council of NSW and Heritage NSW to ensure a best practice approach to the CMP.
 - Review the site-specific exemptions under the *Heritage Act 1977* to ensure they support ongoing conservation and use of the item.
 - A condition assessment of built heritage items should be undertaken to evaluate the current physical state of buildings and services and to assess the heritage conservation and maintenance needs, as well as the potential for adaptive re-use and change.
- **State Abattoir**
 - Revise and update the conservation management plan to reflect the recommendations in this report in accordance with Heritage NSW guidelines.
 - Consider engagement with the Heritage Council of NSW and Heritage NSW to ensure a best practice approach to the CMP.

- Investigate the potential discrepancies in the Heritage Conservation Area boundary and prepare documentation for revisions where necessary.
 - A condition assessment of built heritage items should be undertaken to evaluate the current physical state of buildings and services and to assess heritage conservation and maintenance needs, as well as the potential for adaptive re-use and change.
 - Consider inclusion of the remnant State Abattoir plantings of figs (corner of Australia Avenue and Murray Rose Avenue) and the avenue of brush boxes on Murray Rose Avenue in the heritage listing.
 - Clarify the status of the former State Abattoir Avenue of Palms within the Royal Agricultural Society site since replanting and confirm its inclusion in the heritage listing for the State Abattoir.
 - Investigate and clarify the potential heritage significance of the former Pippita railway corridor.
- **Hall of Champions collection**
 - Strategically plan for and deliver expanded display locations for the Hall of Champions collection within Sydney Olympic Park.
 - Ensure the protection of the collection’s heritage significance by providing for its continuing protective care and conservation in accordance with agreed industry practice.
 - Seek sponsorship or government funding for a dedicated location to store, conserve and display the Hall of Champions collection.
 - Current **statutory heritage** listings
 - Engage with the Department of Planning and Environment and Heritage NSW to address inconsistencies between planning instruments and statutory heritage listings as identified in this report.

The following is recommended for **potential heritage items** within Sydney Olympic Park:

- Assess the **Brickpit** and associated buildings under the NSW criteria for heritage significance in respect of its potential heritage listing.

The following is recommended for **Olympic legacy potential heritage items** within Sydney Olympic Park:

- Assess potential items, places and views that are identified in this report against NSW heritage criteria for heritage significance.
- Prepare a conservation management policy to conserve, manage and interpret the items identified as being of local or state heritage significance.
- Update SOPA’S Section 170 heritage and conservation register to include items of heritage significance.

- Where possible, address the above-mentioned items prior to the Master Plan 2050 being adopted.

The following is recommended for **Sydney Olympic Park**:

- Include the development controls for Sydney Olympic Park and its character areas that are presented in this report in the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050 and relevant future planning controls.
- Update listed heritage items and conservation areas in the NSW State Heritage Register, SEPPs and LEPS to ensure that values and assessments are integrated and include landscape, natural heritage, First Nations, industrial uses, military uses and the Olympics purpose.
- Ensure assessments are undertaken by people with the relevant expertise in cultural heritage, historical archaeology, natural heritage and ecology, and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

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8 Appendices



8 Appendices

Appendix A

Gap Analysis

Appendix B

Satellite sites associated with Sydney Olympic Park

Appendix A—Sydney Olympic Park desktop review and gap analysis

The following desktop review provides a summary analysis of documents provided by SOPA, as well as additional reports identified on the Heritage NSW library, and the NSW Archaeology Online: Grey Literature Archive. GML acknowledges that there may be other heritage and archaeological documentation have been prepared for Sydney Olympic Park that have not been reviewed here.

Sydney Olympic Park

Sydney Olympic Park Precinct		
No.	Document	Key findings
1	Colonial History Review Compiled by B J Mooney, November 1953, written in January 1931	A historical review of Auburn LGA written in 1931 and updated in 1953. The history included an outline of the counties and parishes, early settlement, Newington area, local industries, churches, development in Lidcombe and Auburn, local and state hospitals, roads, significant figures, and naming of places. The review is an outdated approach to preparation of European history.
2	Archaeological Assessment and Survey, Homebush Bay Wendy Thorp, 1985	This report provided a thematic history and an assessment of historical archaeological potential for the Newington Armaments Depot, the Homebush Abattoir and land immediately surrounding those sites. It did not include the State Brickworks. The study was particularly focused on the Newington Estate and the Homebush Estate.
3	State Brickworks State Abattoir Homebush, Conservation Plan Don Godden and Associates, 1986	The draft conservation plan was prepared for the abattoir and brickworks. The report provided the historical context of the place, a significance assessment, and an assessment of archaeological potential (prepared by Wendy Thorp, No. 2).
4	The Industrial Archaeology of the Newington Naval Armament Depot and Homebush State Abattoirs and Other Sites in the Homebush Region Godden and Associates, January 1990	This report provided an assessment of the industrial heritage of the SOP, specifically the 185 buildings within the Newington Armaments Depot and the Abattoir site, including elements within the broader SOP. The report briefly identified Fosseys Factory and the State Brickworks as sites that require further investigation.
5	Parklands Plan of Management (2010) Sydney Olympic Park Authority, 2010	The Parklands Plan of Management was reviewed to inform the management of the parklands within SOP. The parklands contain remnant Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark

Sydney Olympic Park Precinct

Forest, rare salt marsh and mangroves, and places of historical, archaeological and natural significance alongside 4 kilometres of water frontage to Parramatta River and Homebush Bay.

The report detailed the public access and land use regime, including play areas and conservation areas. The report considered Newington Nature Reserve Wetland and Newington Nature Reserve Forest as conservation areas. Wentworth Common, the Brickpit, Newington Armory, Blaxland Riverside Park, Woo-la-ra, Bicentennial Park and areas along Haslams Creek were designated as leisure and play areas. Part 3 of the report provided a management framework for the different areas within SOP including priorities for the conservation areas, wetlands and waterways.

This report will be revised and updated following the development of the SOP Master Plan 2050.

6 Fact Sheet—Public Art

Sydney Olympic Park Authority, January 2014

This fact sheet listed the entire collection of large-scale public art installations and urban cultural features within SOP. The installations and features listed relate to the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games and the early industrial uses of the site. There are 47 installations within the study area. Some of the artworks were installed for the Sydney Olympic Games, but others were installed as interpretive devices after the games.

7 Fact Sheet—History

Sydney Olympic Park Authority, January 2015

The fact sheet provided a short history of SOP including the site's Aboriginal ownership, European settlement, the Newington Estate, Home Bush Estate and Racecourse, Newington Armament Depot, the State Abattoir, State Brickworks, landfilling, development from the 1980s, during the Olympic period and until 2015. The fact sheet provided a simple historical outline, and mainly focused on the change of ownership of the site.

8 Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030 (2016 Review) and State Significant Precincts SEPP

Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, 16 November 2016

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) is the custodian for Sydney Showground. RAS reviewed the SOP Master Plan in 2016. This letter included the following recommendations for the previous SOP master plan:

1. That the SOPA Master Plan include, in full, the RAS Sydney Showground Master Plan.
2. That SOPA support RAS' hotel/short term accommodation plans, considered vital to ensure success of expanded leisure and business events within SOP, given existing accommodation constraints.
3. Opportunities for land use value generation, such as those identified by the RAS, are supported and directed to improvements within SOP, notably to support the delivery of the RAS Master Plan.
4. That SOPA increase density in areas that best support densification, including those in close proximity to key transportation routes, retail and community facilities and open space. Notably, this includes around

Sydney Olympic Park Precinct

the Olympic Park Station and the site of the current RAS administration facility.

5. That the NSW Government provide certainty around the timing of delivery of the Parramatta Light Rail project and provide updates on the progress of decision making of the West Metro project.

6. That SOPA allow for further review of its Master Plan if the delivery of major infrastructure to SOP is significantly altered from current plans.

9 Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030 (2018 Review)

Sydney Olympic Park Authority, 2018

The *Master Plan 2030 (2018 Review)* applied to the town centre at SOP area and includes Wentworth Point Precinct. It excluded Newington Armory, Bicentennial Park, the Brickpit, and areas along the creek line. These portions of the site were managed by the Parklands Plan of Management (2010). The plan outlined the guidelines for SOP's transformation from a world sporting event precinct to a residential community.

The plan proposed nine precincts for SOP: Sydney Showground, Parkview, Stadia, Haslams, Central Sports, Southern Sports, Boundary Creek, and Tennis. The plan provided a historical overview, planning context, planning principles, general development controls and controls for each precinct, including controls for site configuration, floor space ratio, land use, height, setbacks and events.

10 Sydney Olympic Park Authority Ownership Boundary 1930 (map)

Sydney Olympic Park Authority, 2019

An orthophoto map of SOP dated 1930, annotated with a contemporary overlay of the SOPA ownership boundary in yellow.

11 Sydney Olympic Park Authority Ownership Boundary 2019 (map)

Sydney Olympic Park Authority, 2019

An orthophoto map of SOP dated 2019, with an overlay of the SOPA ownership boundary in yellow.

12 1943 site map (map)

Sydney Olympic Park Authority, 2019

An orthophoto map of SOP dated 1943, with an overlay of the current site in blue.

13 Sydney Olympic Park Authority Ownership Boundary 1993 (map)

Sydney Olympic Park Authority, 2019

An orthophoto map of SOP dated 1993, with an overlay of the SOPA ownership boundary in yellow.

14 Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030 (Interim Metro Review) 2021

This iteration of the Master Plan 2030 outlined the integration of the metro station and the subsequent changes to the SOP precinct. The changes include:

Sydney Olympic Park Precinct	
<p>Sydney Olympic Park Authority, 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes to land use and planning controls to integrate the Sydney Metro West station into the Central Precinct of SOP; • a new pedestrian plaza linking the metro station to Olympic Boulevard; • a bus interchange on Figtree Drive; • changes to the street network to improve access to the metro station; and • changes to connect the Central Urban Park to the Abattoir Precinct.
<p>15 Heritage Interpretation Strategy Draft—Metro EIS Appendix K Sydney Metro, March 2022</p>	<p>The Draft Heritage Interpretation Strategy is contained in Appendix K of the Metro Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The interpretation strategy identified the thematic framework, analysed the potential interpretive devices, and provided recommendations for interpretation along the metro line and each station. The key interpretive devices proposed for the SOP metro station included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signage, digital media, timelines and toposcopes, selected landscape elements (such as paving, etching and inlays), lighting design and public art. <p>The key recommendation for the SOP metro station was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • future stages of research and content development should include the cultural significance of Newington Armory and women’s places in consultation with Traditional Owners. <p>Appendix 1 provided an historical overview of Sydney Olympic Park.</p>
<p>16 Sydney Olympic Park Vision and Strategy 2050 Sydney Olympic Park Authority, June 2022</p>	<p>The Sydney Olympic Park Vision and Strategy 2050 identified a vision for SOP as Sydney’s Beating Green Heart. The vision provided an identity for SOP as a highly connected diverse neighbourhood for events, attraction, retail, and residential needs. Ten strategic directions are identified in the report, which form five key moves. The five key moves for SOP included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood heart. • Lifestyle enhancing. • Nature positive. • Future resilience. • Living laboratory. <p>The strategy underwent community engagement. The outcomes of the engagement process are contained in <i>Sydney Olympic Park 2050 Engagement—Full Report</i> and <i>Sydney Olympic Park 2050 Engagement—Summary</i>.</p>
<p>17 Sydney Olympic Park 2050: Strategic Place</p>	<p>The Strategic Place Framework forms the basis of the Master Plan 2050. The framework identifies a 30 year vision for the study area that will be developed into precinct controls within the master plan. The framework</p>

Sydney Olympic Park Precinct

Framework (Draft for Discussion)

Sydney Olympic Park Authority, December 2022

builds on the Place Vision and Strategy (June 2022) and creates structure for the draft Master Plan 2050 that will provide guidelines and controls for the SOP precinct.

The structure of the framework includes the context of SOP, re-establishes the vision, identifies 10 big moves, assigns a foundational structure for the precinct (ecological systems, landscape and public domain, movement, community and land use) and outlines future progress. The next steps include:

- lodgement of draft Master Plan 2050 with the NSW DPE;
- public exhibition of the draft Master Plan 2050 and its technical reports;
- stakeholder and community engagement; and
- finalisation of Master Plan 2050.

The framework underwent community engagement. The outcomes of the engagement process are contained in *Sydney Olympic Park 2050 Engagement Report*.

Gap analysis

- The draft Strategic Place Framework and SOP Vision and Strategy provide comprehensive strategic directions for SOP underpinned by thorough community engagement. The heritage items, Aboriginal cultural heritage values and characteristic sites and features have been well considered and implemented into the master plan.
- The Parklands Plan of Management (2010) provides thorough principles and management for the parklands within SOP. This document will be updated following the finalisation of the SOP Master Plan 2050.
- Previous historical archaeological assessment has been site/precinct/project specific. These reports should be consolidated its industrial heritage as the site of the State Abattoir and State Brickworks.
- Despite the breadth of heritage impact assessment documentation, the site's history would benefit from a comprehensive historical analysis.
- Identified heritage items require conservation policy consolidation, condition assessment, and expanded policy to manage maintenance, renewal and/or replacement. These include:
 - The Brickpit Ring interpretation should be audited for maintenance, renewal or replacement.
 - Remnant vegetation that demonstrates Abattoir-era usage is to be reviewed for incorporation into statutory heritage listings.
 - Condition assessment of identified built heritage is recommended to provide a snapshot of cumulative impacts, sensitivity to change, and potential opportunities for change.
- Interpretation is inconsistent across the precinct, in narrative, presentation and materiality. At times, it is non-existent or limited, or in the form of physical installations that have exceeded their asset life. A precinct-wide interpretation strategy will coordinate both in situ and digital interpretation and ensure consistency of material and narrative presentation. For note:
 - The strategic interpretive approach should be reviewed with reference to public art and superseded or obsolete interpretive devices on site.
 - The thematic and storytelling content across the precincts is uneven i.e. Olympic history dominates but is also interpreted through very specific commemorative pieces. Overall it is lacking a cohesive narrative and visitor journey.

Sydney Olympic Park Precinct

- SOPA fact sheets on history and public art are useful tools for public information. A complete and updated history of the SOP precinct should be prepared to guide the development of the master plan. The updated narrative should include more of the social history of the people who worked in the various industries; and the significance of the material exports the political, cultural and economic impacts on Sydney and Australia at large (i.e. Armory—munitions, Abattoir—consumption, Brickpit—construction and built form).
- SOPA fact sheets could benefit from redesign into a map format to provide visitors with pre-arrival information to navigate the site. Some sites included are not public art and are commemorative or signage installations.
- Sydney Metro Interpretation Strategy presents high-level themes and design precedents. Further advice from Sydney Metro is required regarding which stories will be designed and implemented.
- Shipwrecks are a popular co-adjacent heritage attraction with intersecting bike and pedestrian loops. Further design collateral online and on site could provide more information about the wrecks’ significance, and timely collaboration with City of Canada Bay Council on Homebush Bay wayfinding strategy and delivery is recommended.
- Potential Olympic heritage significance should be investigated, identifying tangible and intangible heritage:
 - Each sub-precinct should be analysed and tested against NSW heritage assessment criteria for potential listing, as indicial and/or collective listings, as demonstration of its value to the people of NSW.
 - The precinct, as a whole, should be tested against NSW heritage assessment criteria for its suitability to demonstrate heritage values, as an evolving cultural landscape.

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No.	Document	Key findings
1	State Brickworks & State Abattoir, Homebush—Conservation Plan Don Godden and Associates, 1986	<p>The Conservation Plan 1986 addressed both the State Brickworks and State Abattoir sites and contains two parts. Part 1 provided an executive summary. Part 2 provided a draft conservation plan for the State Abattoir and includes a site analysis, history, Aboriginal and historical archaeological sites, the abattoir buildings and related structures, statements of significance and a significance assessment of the site. The report also provided constraints and requirements and a list of recommendations for conservation works.</p> <p>The buildings and structures recommended for conservation works at the brickworks site were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the main brick manufacturing house to the west of the pit conveyor and including the conveyor; • Patent Kiln No. 5 with attendant coal store and elevator; • Dome Kilns 5–8; • the stacks associated with Hoffmans Kiln 5 and draft Kilns 5–8;

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- the railway signal post; and
- the precinct surrounding and between these structures.

The report also recommended that interpretation be provided for visitors, and conservation plans be prepared for each building.

The buildings recommended for conservation works at the abattoir site were:

- the Administration Block;
- the Gatehouse;
- the Laboratory;
- the Amenities Block;
- the Mutton Tally Room; and
- the surrounding landscaped area.

2 **The State Abattoir Homebush—Recording Project**

Godden Mackay Pty Ltd,
1990

This report was a photographic archival recording of the State Abattoir. The report included film copies of photographs in black and white. The report provided additional colour photographs, a short history and illustrated descriptions of the buildings and structures; however, these sections are not contained in the scan of this report.

This report related to a previous report, *The State Abattoir, Homebush: History, Architecture and Operations* prepared by Godden Mackay in June 1990, which has not been reviewed.

3 **State Abattoir, Homebush Administration Precinct—Conservation Plan**

Rod Howard and Craig
Burton, June 1991

The Conservation Plan 1991 prepared for the administration precinct within the State Abattoir included a comprehensive landscape report by Craig Burton. The report included a history, site analysis, the significance of the precinct, constraints, conservation policies with detailed drawings of the site and recommendations. The significance assessment included gradings of significance (Grades 1–4) by floorplan. Section 2 of the plan provided a summary of conclusions and recommendations for the precinct, including compatible new uses for the buildings, conservation of interiors and restricting carparking within the precinct.

The plan concluded that the landscape setting of the buildings is significant and recommends retention. Landscape items that contribute to the heritage significance of the Abattoir precinct were identified, as well as those that detract. Recommendations were also provided for their conservation.

4 **Abattoir Heritage Precinct—Conservation Management Plan**

Graham Brooks and
Associates, June 2003

The Conservation Management Plan 2003 provided conservation management policies for the Abattoir Heritage Precinct. The report defined the previous curtilage of the precinct including the abattoir buildings (A, B, C, D and E), part of Fraser Avenue and Herb Elliott Avenue in the immediate vicinity of the buildings and a line of large palm trees along the eastern side of Showground Road to the

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intersection with Grand Parade. The plan provided general conservation policies and management guidelines for the precinct, including retention of significance, view enhancement, circulation and accessibility, gardens and outdoor areas, outdoor signage, services, conservation of significant fabric, Building Code of Australia (BCA) compliance, re-use, maintenance and repair, interpretation, development guidelines for adjacent sites, management and tenancy, security and policy review.

5 Proposed Part 3A Development Site—Heritage Impact Statement

Graham Brooks and Associates, January 2007

The Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) assessed the heritage impacts of a Part 3A development on Site 4B, adjacent to the historic Abattoir Heritage Precinct and the Brushbox trees affected by the proposal. The Brushbox trees formed part of the Abattoir Heritage Precinct Heritage Conservation Area, under Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No. 24—Homebush Bay Area (at the time of writing) and later SEPP (Major Projects) 2005. This curved alignment of trees has since been removed from the curtilage. The proposal was for the construction of a seven-storey office block with three levels of basement carparking. The report concluded the works would have a minor impact on views to and from the precinct, but was otherwise acceptable. The following recommendations were provided:

- Initial subsurface works preceding development on the site should be archaeologically monitored. The subsequent discovery of archaeological features should be reported to and assessed by an archaeologist at the time of discovery.
- The four Brushbox trees that are to be retained should be complemented by specimens that will enhance the relationship of this section of the public realm to the adjacent Abattoir Heritage Precinct.
- A comprehensive interpretation strategy and interpretation plan should be prepared, and implemented, following the completion of the works. It was further strongly recommended that the floor of the foyer of the building on Site 4B be laid out in a substantial manner as an interpretation of the former tree-lined, curved entry roadway.
- Recommendations relating to the subject site, as outlined in both the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2002 and the Abattoir Heritage Precinct Conservation Management Plan 2003, should be implemented where practicable.

6 Abattoir Heritage Precinct, Sydney Olympic Park—Conservation Management Plan

Government Architects Office, September 2013

The Conservation Management Plan 2013 (CMP) was reviewed to inform the recommended heritage management for the Abattoir Heritage Precinct. This CMP, an update of the previous CMP 2003, is the current overarching heritage management document for the site. The precinct's curtilage was revised to exclude the line of

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large palm trees along the eastern side of Showground Road to the intersection with Grand Parade.

The plan provided an assessment of significance, an illustrated history, policies and strategies for conservation, updated gradings of significance and a summary of buildings and elements. It included a desktop assessment of historical archaeological potential.

The CMP did not include information on Aboriginal cultural heritage. The Abattoir Heritage Precinct was nominated for listing on the State Heritage Register following completion of the CMP. However, this listing has not proceeded.

- 7 Abattoir Heritage Precinct, Building E—Conservation Management Strategy**
Mark Bullen Architects Pty Ltd, January 2017

The Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) was a supporting document to the CMP 2013. The CMS related to Building E, known as the Gatehouse, within the Abattoir Heritage Precinct. The report provided conservation policies and management guidelines for the Gatehouse building.

- 8 Historic and Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment, 2 Figtree Drive, Sydney Olympic Park**
Urbis, November 2019

This report provided a historical and Aboriginal archaeological assessment, prepared to accompany a development application for proposed development at 2 Figtree Drive (the project area). The assessment determined there was nil potential for Aboriginal or historical archaeological remains (relics) within the project area.

- 9 Sydney Olympic Park Over and Adjacent Station Development Historic Heritage Impact Assessment**
Sydney Metro, July 2022

This report provided a heritage impact assessment for the Sydney Olympic Park Station construction site, Site 47 (bounded by Herb Elliot Avenue to the north, Olympic Boulevard to the west, and Figtree Drive to the south) (the project area). The report was prepared to support a Concept SSDA for proposed commercial, retail and residential development of the Sydney Olympic Park Station construction site. The assessment determined there was no potential for intact or significant archaeological remains (relics) within the Sydney Olympic Park Station construction site.

Gap analysis

- The conservation of the Abattoir Heritage Precinct, its buildings, structures and archaeological sites has been well researched and documented since the 1980s. There have been various iterations of conservation reports that have informed the current CMP (2013) for the site.
- The CMP 2013 does not include any information on Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- A precinct-wide historical archaeological assessment should be undertaken that consolidates available data to clearly identify and assess the historical archaeological potential, significance, and appropriate management of the SOP, particularly its industrial heritage as the site of the State Abattoirs and State Brickworks.
- The CMP 2013 nominated the Abattoir Heritage Precinct for listing on the State Heritage Register. The precinct has not been listed on the register. Future potential formal listing should consider this precinct's identified heritage significance within the entirety of SOP.
- Given that the Abattoir Heritage Precinct will undergo further change with the anticipated metro station construction, it is recommended that conservation policy for this area be

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consolidated and updated as part of this master planning process. This is especially relevant to the landscape setting of the Abattoir buildings, and recognition and potential conservation of remnant Abattoir landscape elements across SOP.

- In addition to adjacent Sydney Metro works, there is scope to integrate and enhance interpretation design and implementation for the Abattoir Heritage Precinct.

Eastern Neighbourhood

Eastern Neighbourhood

No.	Document	Key findings
1	<p>1 & 2 Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Report; Archaeological Survey Report; Historical Archaeological Assessment; Heritage Impact Statement</p> <p>Artefact Heritage, October 2018</p>	<p>A suite of reports prepared as part of the proposed residential development of 1 & 2 Murray Rose Avenue (the project area) (SSD 9403 MOD 1). The assessment determined there was a low potential for Aboriginal archaeological remains, and a nil to low potential for historical archaeological remains (relics) within the project area. It was determined that no heritage items would be visually impacted by the proposed development.</p> <p>It was noted that the project area had a high level of landform modification from the late twentieth-century contamination fills and subsequent urban redevelopment for SOP.</p>
2	<p>Site 2—Sydney Olympic Park, Historical Archaeological Assessment and Statement Heritage Impact</p> <p>Biosis, August 2019</p>	<p>This report provided a historical archaeological assessment and Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI) for the open-air carpark along Australia Avenue (Lot 71 DP 1134933) (the project area). The assessment was prepared as part of the SSD application for proposed development of the project area. The assessment determined there was a low potential for historical archaeological remains (relics) within the project area.</p>

Gap analysis

- Olympic legacy—potential heritage: remnant mature vegetation that demonstrates abattoir-era uses to be investigated for incorporation into updated conservation policy for the Abattoir Heritage Precinct.

Southern Neighbourhood

Southern Neighbourhood

No.	Document	Key findings
1	<p>Site 9, Sydney Olympic Park, Archaeological Assessment</p> <p>Artefact Heritage, March 2016</p>	<p>This report provided an Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal (historical) archaeological as part of the proposed development of Site 9, located on the southeastern corner of Sarah Durack Avenue (the project area). The assessment determined there was nil potential for Aboriginal archaeological remains, and a nil to low potential for historical archaeological remains (relics) within the project area.</p>

Southern Neighbourhood

It was noted that the project area had a high level of landform modification from the late twentieth century contamination fills and subsequent urban redevelopment for SOP.

Gap analysis

- Olympic legacy—potential built heritage: consideration of purpose-designed Olympic-era public domain and infrastructure.

Sports and Civic Precinct

Southern Neighbourhood

No.	Document	Key findings
1	Archaeological Assessment & Research Design of Homebush House & the Former Laycock & Wentworth Estates—Site of the 2000 Olympics AMAC 1996	This report provided an archaeological assessment of the Olympic site prior to its development. It was not able for review. A quote summarising the results of this assessment were reproduced in a later report: ... the highest potential and sensitivity [to be] ... located within the Australia Avenue – Fig Tree Avenue circuit ... believed to be the site of the original Homebush House ... The other zone of sensitivity encompasses, the former Powell's Creek line, Wentworth's racecourse and the original 1790s Parramatta Road
2	Test Excavations & Survey, Australia Avenue, Fig Tree Avenue Circuit 2000 Olympic Site, Homebush, NSW AMAC, 1997	A suite of reports prepared prior to (and in preparation of) the Sydney 2000 Games, including the results of several small-scale archaeological excavations and monitoring programs. The results of the testing program suggest that natural soil profiles had been partially eroded following European settlement and the ground surface was subsequently reformed or replaced in the nineteenth or early twentieth century. Natural soil profiles remained on the east side of the former racecourse site, whereas those of the western side have been stripped to clay and partially levelled by (remediated) fill in recent times. No structural remains associated with either Homebush House or the racecourse were identified during the archaeological investigations, although artefact scatters were exposed at both sites. Artefact scatters were retained in situ at the former racecourse site, suggesting there is potential for pockets of historical archaeological remains to survive within undeveloped areas of Sydney Olympic Park.
3	Archaeological Impact Assessment Report, Proposed Olympic Tennis Centre, 2000 Olympic Site, Homebush, NSW AMAC, 1998	
4	Archaeological Monitoring Report, Former AJC Racecourse Olympic Tennis Centre, Homebush NSW AMAC, 2000	

Gap analysis

- Olympic legacy—potential built heritage: consideration of purpose-designed Olympic-era public domain and infrastructure.

Stadia Precinct

- Nil reports.

Edwin Flack Neighbourhood

- Nil reports.

Riverfront Park

Riverfront Park		
No.	Document	Key findings
1	<p>Conservation Management Sub-Plan— RAN Armaments Depot Newington</p> <p>Schwager Brooks & Partners Architects and Heritage Consultants, 6 July 1995</p>	<p>A draft outline sub-plan contributing to the conservation management plan for the cultural heritage values of the previous defence site at the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) Armaments Depot, Newington. The Royal Australian National Armaments Depot (RANAD) was relocated in 1999 to accommodate the facilities associated with the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000. This purpose of the report was to develop a framework for the protection of the cultural heritage values of the entire RANAD site during the transition of ownership, between 1995 and 1999.</p> <p>The draft report provided a historical background, assessment of significance, and a description of each site precinct, and outlined the management strategies, including implementation and performance indicators, to assess heritage management and security and maintenance.</p> <p>The management objectives for the RANAD site were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that Royal Australian Navy Policy, Objective and Commitments as contained in DI(G) ADMIN 40-1 with regard to the protection of historic heritage are met. • To ensure a smooth and responsible transition to the next phase of use. • To maintain active liaison with all interested parties in an appropriate and timely manner. • To ensure that the heritage characteristics and values of the site are protected during the remaining years of naval management. • To ensure that the protective framework for the heritage characteristics and values of the site are progressively transferred in an orderly and appropriate manner to the relevant NSW Government authority. <p>To maintain the entire collection of buildings, structures, infrastructure, landscape, equipment and items of movable heritage in a serviceable condition and to retard deterioration.</p>

Riverfront Park

2	Heritage Inventory— Newington Armament Depot (Volume 1)	<p>This document provided heritage inventory sheets for the buildings with the previous RAN (Royal Australian Navy) Armament Depot, Newington site at SOP. Volume 1 provided inventory sheets for Building Nos 1 to 121.</p>
	<p>Schwager Brooks & Partners Architects and Heritage Consultants, April 1996</p>	
3	Heritage Inventory— Newington Armament Depot (Volume 2)	<p>This document is Volume 2 of the previous document. It provided heritage inventory sheets for the buildings with the previous RAN (Royal Australian Navy) Armament Depot, Newington site at SOP. Volume 2 provided inventory sheets for Building Nos 122 to 240.</p>
	<p>Schwager Brooks & Partners Architects and Heritage Consultants, April 1996</p>	
4	Heritage Preliminary Concept Framework Millennium Parklands	<p>This framework provided an overview of heritage significance of the themes for future conservation, management and cultural tourism at the former RANAD site.</p>
	<p>Graham Brooks—GBA Heritage, 12 December 2000</p>	<p>It related to the Millennium Parklands Heritage Precinct Conservation Master Plan.</p>
5	Precinct Conservation Plan—Wharf, River Walk and Building 12 Newington Armory	<p>This report was prepared in accordance with the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013 prepared by Tanner Architects. The CMP 2013 required that conservation reports be prepared for groups of buildings within the precinct to guide any proposed works. The report followed the structure recommended in Table 8.4 of the CMP 2013.</p>
	<p>Graham Brooks—GBA Heritage, June 2001</p>	<p>The conservation report established the heritage significance of the buildings, and identified the construction techniques, technological details, signage, fixtures and associated features, chronology of historic function and changes to fabric, and the condition and integrity. It also recommended appropriate policies for the Wharf, River Walk and Building 12 at Newington Armory.</p>
6	Seawall Repairs— Heritage Assessment Impact Report	<p>The Heritage Assessment Impact Report was prepared to accompany a position report on urgent seawall repairs along the Parramatta River frontage of the Millennium Parklands Heritage Precinct. The historic seawall was erected in the mid to late 1890s and was the major civil engineering works of the future Depot.</p>
	<p>Graham Brooks—GBA Heritage, 15 April 2002</p>	<p>Three options were considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-lay existing ballast by dismantling the existing wall and re-laying the salvaged sandstone blocks over a stabilising geotextile fabric layer. • Top the existing wall with 'Riprap', a roughly hewn sandstone, to cap the original wall and retain it. • Replace the existing facing stones with a new layer of facing stones for the entire height of the wall. <p>GBA advised that the first option was the preferred approach, yet that testing of all three options should be</p>

Riverfront Park

undertaken. Option one involved re-use of the existing face stonework and the retention or reconstruction of the character of the existing seawall.

7 Newington Nature Reserve Plan of Management

National Parks and Wildlife Service, 2003

The Newington Nature Reserve Plan of Management (POM) was prepared under the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. The POM provided a description of nature reserves in NSW, and Newington Nature Reserve. The POM also provided management guidelines and outlined the local scheme of operations for Wanngal Wetland and Wanngal Woodland including the use, management issues and management regime required for each environment.

8 Millennium Parklands Heritage Precinct Conservation Master Plan

Graham Brooks and Associates, July 2003

The Millennium Parklands Heritage Precinct Conservation Master Plan outlined the direction for conservation, re-use, interpretation and management for the Millennium Parklands Heritage Precinct (MPHP) heritage conservation area. The MPHP was previously listed under SEPP (Major Projects) 2005 as a heritage conservation area and was nominated for inclusion on the SHR.

The master plan formed six parts (A–F) and included an introduction, thematic history, nature and cultural landscape analysis, identified four historic precincts, heritage significance, opportunities and constraints, including management principles, and provided conservation policies for all aspects of the parklands including Aboriginal and historical archaeology and visitor management. The final part of the master plan provided implementation strategies. Appendix A provided a chronological history.

The four historic precincts were as follows:

- Original Establishment Precinct.
- Early Naval Occupancy Precinct.
- RAN Wartime Expansion Precinct.
- US Navy Utilisation Precinct.

The master plan identified three interpretive historic themes and five sub-themes. These are listed below:

1. First Australians.
2. The Changing Environment.
3. Defence.
 - 3.1 Depot Administration.
 - 3.2 Staff Facilities.
 - 3.3 Armament Storage.
 - 3.4 Inspection & Testing.
 - 3.5 Transportation Infrastructure.

9 GBA Heritage Advice on Potential New Road Entry

GBA prepared heritage advice on the proposed new entry from Holker Street, at Burma Road. GBA advised the proposal would have heritage impacts and would not be consistent with the CMP for the site.

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Graham Brooks—GBA
Heritage, 3 March 2004

10 Newington Armory and Blaxland Common Cultural Tourism Plan Proposal

Graham Brooks—GBA
Heritage, 24 August 2004

In this document, GBA provided advice on how to develop a Cultural Tourism Plan for Newington Armory, Blaxland Common and the adjacent Wanngal wetland and woodlands. The strategies for the cultural tourism plan are detailed below:

- Enhance the communication of the cultural significance of the place to visitors.
- Enhance the visitor experience at the Armory and Blaxland Common.
- Provide direction for the recreational use of the overall precinct as a component of the SOPA parklands.
- Integrate and guide the various planning and development activities under way for the future of the Armory and the adjacent Blaxland Common within the current Parklands framework.
- Protect and conserve the fabric and setting of the former RANAD within a program of managed public access.

The letter addressed the current issues for the Cultural Tourism Plan including presentation of various layers of cultural heritage, integrating the parklands, access and arrival, visitor movement, recreation potential, adaptive re-use, education programs, and the protection of fabric and setting.

11 Blaxland Common & Newington Armory Wharf—Archaeological Assessment

Cosmos Archaeology Pty
Ltd, September 2005

This report identified the historical archaeological potential within the study area. The assessment was prepared as part of the proposed redevelopment of the Newington Armory Wharf Precinct and Blaxland Common, and included the riverbed of Parramatta and River Jamieson Steet. The report also discussed the findings of archaeological monitoring undertaken within the wharf precinct.

It was determined that there was an overall low potential for 'relics' associated with Blaxland's Newington Estate and the Newington Armory within the study area. These remains were of a 'High State' significance.

The report included six general recommendations for the treatment of archaeological relics within the site in accordance with the *Heritage Act 1977*. The proposed development was assessed as having a minor impact on identified relics.

12 Heritage Impact Statement—Proposed Improvements to Blaxland Common and Newington Armory Wharf

Otto Cserhalmi & Partners
Pty Ltd, 7 September 2005

A Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) was prepared to assess the impact of works to the riverfront park (detailed in document No. 2 in this table).

The conclusion provided the following comments:

- The proposed works were acceptable to the site and structures at Blaxland Common and Newington Armory Wharf.

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- The proposal does not alter Buildings 12, 13 and 15 at Newington Armory Wharf. Any future works to these buildings require review by a conservation architect.

The final design and documentation of any new buildings located in the Blaxland Common area, within the view corridor of Silverwater Prison Complex Heritage Conservation Area, should be reviewed by a conservation architect in light of the provisions of Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No. 24—Homebush Bay Area (Part 4, 29 and 30).

13 Newington Armory Buffer Zone—Concept Design Report

Government Architect’s Office, May 2008

Sydney Olympic Park Plan of Management (2003), the Millennium Parklands Heritage Precinct Conservation Master Plan (2003), the Newington Armory and Blaxland Common Master Plan (2005) and Newington Nature Reserve Forest and Buffer Zone Vegetation Management Plan (2007) have set out the principles and a direction for the Buffer Zone in the Newington Armory Precinct.

The Concept Design Report identified five zones within the wetland buffer zone:

1. Parade Ground.
2. Southern Armory (Louise Savage).
3. River Walk.
4. Northern & Southern Woo-la-ra.
5. Woodland—Wetland.

The report provided an analysis of each buffer zone and appropriate landscape elements. A preliminary cost plan for implementation was also provided. The conclusion outlined next steps for the implementation of the plan at 1 year, 2–3 years and 3–5 years.

It is unknown whether the steps have been implemented.

14 Newington Armory Interpretation Strategy

Government Architects Office, 2008

This strategy proposed an integrated interpretive strategy for Newington Armory over a 10-year period.

Stage 1 involved baseline interpretive strategies, including operational signage.

This strategy also provided a summary and recommendations for the key buildings within the site in the appendices.

15 Building 87 and Cadastral boundaries

SOPA, 15 March 2010

An aerial map showing the location of Building 87 in SOP and in relation to cadastral boundaries.

16 Gazettal—Newington Armory and Nature Reserve

Strategic Communications and Government

A Government Gazette relating to the listing of Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve on the SHR. The document listed the site-specific exemptions relating to the listing. The site-specific exemptions related to the extent of alterations and additions, maintenance, landscaping, temporary uses, signage, demolition, ecological works, and filming and photography.

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Advertising, 14 January
2011

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| <p>17 Building 7 & 8 Newington Armory Feasibility Options Report</p> <p>Darlene van der Breggen,
SOPA, 22 March 2011</p> | <p>This report investigated the opportunities and feasibility of alternative uses to Building 7 and 8, including pedestrian and vehicular access to all future uses, within the Newington Armory Precinct.</p> <p>Three site access options were examined and assessed against nine selection criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • building conversion costs; • heritage significance; • accessibility; • flexibility in use; • identity and visual amenity; • environmental impacts; • operational compatibility; • size; and • cost. <p>The report recommended Option 3. Option 3 proposed a shared forecourt/entry plaza to the east of Building 7 & 8, the conservation of the rail tracks and tunnels, and re-use of Buildings 150 and 152.</p> <p>The appendices provided access options, detailed drawings and background information for Option 3 and feasibility costing.</p> |
| <p>18 Historical Archaeological Zoning Plan Newington Armory</p> <p>Cosmos Archaeology Pty
Ltd, September 2004
(reissued August 2013)</p> | <p>The Historical Archaeological Zoning Plan for the Newington Armory identified 436 potential archaeological features and objects identified as relics under the NSW Heritage Act. These archaeological features were input into GIS mapping.</p> <p>The historical archaeological zoning plan should be reviewed every five years.</p> |
| <p>19 Conservation Management Plan—Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve (Volume 1)</p> <p>Tanner Architects, 24
September 2013</p> | <p>The first volume of the CMP for the Newington Armament Depot and adjoining nature reserve. The CMP followed the recommended structure for CMPs and included policies under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings and infrastructure. • Natural landscape. • Cultural landscape. • Aboriginal heritage. • Historical archaeology. • Moveable heritage. • Access and connectivity. • Visitor use and management. • Interpretation guidelines. |
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance management. <p>The CMP was comprehensive, comprising standard and site-specific exemptions and a section on climate change and Aboriginal cultural heritage.</p>
<p>20 Conservation Management Plan—Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve (Volume 2)</p> <p>Tanner Architects, 24 September 2013</p>	<p>The second volume of the CMP for the Newington Armament Depot and adjoining nature reserve, comprising eight appendices, including heritage listing inventory sheets, a Natural Environmental Assessment and Aboriginal Heritage Assessment.</p>
<p>21 Building 15 Concise Conservation Report—Newington Armory</p> <p>Graham Leslie Brooks—GBA Heritage, March 2017</p>	<p>This report was prepared in accordance with the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013 prepared by Tanner Architects. The CMP 2013 required that conservation reports to be prepared for groups of buildings within the precinct to guide any proposed works. The report followed the structure recommended in Table 8.4 of the CMP 2013.</p> <p>The conservation report established the heritage significance of the buildings, and identified the construction techniques, technological details, signage, fixtures and associated features, chronology of historic function and changes to fabric, and the condition and integrity. It also recommended appropriate policies for Building 15 at the Newington Armory.</p>
<p>22 Buildings 46 & 47 Collective Concise Conservation Report—Newington Armory</p> <p>Graham Leslie Brooks—GBA Heritage, 28 March 2017</p>	<p>This report was prepared in accordance with the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013 prepared by Tanner Architects. The CMP 2013 required that conservation reports be prepared for groups of buildings within the precinct to guide any proposed works. The report followed the structure recommended in Table 8.4 of the CMP 2013.</p> <p>The conservation report established the heritage significance of the buildings, and identified the construction techniques, technological details, signage, fixtures and associated features, chronology of historic function and changes to fabric, and the condition and integrity. It also recommended appropriate policies for Buildings 46 and 47 at Newington Armory.</p>
<p>23 Building 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 78 & 79 Concise Conservation Report—Newington Armory</p> <p>Graham Leslie Brooks—GBA Heritage, 29 June 2017</p>	<p>This report was prepared in accordance with the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013 prepared by Tanner Architects. The CMP 2013 required that conservation reports be prepared for groups of buildings within the precinct to guide any proposed works. The report followed the structure recommended in Table 8.4 of the CMP 2013.</p> <p>The conservation report established the heritage significance of the buildings, and identified the construction techniques, technological details, signage, fixtures and associated features, chronology of historic function and</p>

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changes to fabric, and the condition and integrity. It also recommended appropriate policies for Buildings 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 78 & 79 at Newington Armory.

24 Building 139–146 and 148 Concise Collective Conservation Report—Newington Armament Depot

GML Heritage, June 2017

This report was prepared in accordance with the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013 prepared by Tanner Architects. The CMP 2013 required that conservation reports be prepared for groups of buildings within the precinct to guide any proposed works. The report followed the structure recommended in Table 8.4 of the CMP 2013.

The conservation report established the historical background and heritage significance of the buildings, and identified the construction techniques, technological details, signage, fixtures and associated features, chronology of historic function and changes to fabric, and the condition and integrity. It also recommended appropriate policies for Buildings 139–146 and 148 at Newington Armory.

25 Buildings 1, 2, 3, 116, 117, 197 and Car Port Concise Conservation Report—Newington Armory

Graham Leslie Brooks—GBA Heritage, September 2017

This report was prepared in accordance with the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013 prepared by Tanner Architects. The CMP 2013 required that conservation reports be prepared for groups of buildings within the precinct to guide any proposed works. The report followed the structure recommended in Table 8.4 of the CMP 2013.

The conservation report established the heritage significance of the buildings, and identified the construction techniques, technological details, signage, fixtures and associated features, chronology of historic function and changes to fabric, and the condition and integrity. It also recommended appropriate policies for Buildings 1, 2, 3, 116, 117, 197 and the carport at Newington Armory.

26 Buildings 28, 129, 128, 127 Concise Conservation Report—Newington Armory

Graham Leslie Brooks—GBA Heritage, September 2017

This report was prepared in accordance with the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013 prepared by Tanner Architects. The CMP 2013 required that conservation reports be prepared for groups of buildings within the precinct to guide any proposed works. The report followed the structure recommended in Table 8.4 of the CMP 2013.

The conservation report established the heritage significance of the buildings, and identified the construction techniques, technological details, signage, fixtures and associated features, chronology of historic function and changes to fabric, and the condition and integrity. It also recommended appropriate policies for Buildings 28, 129, 128 and 127 at Newington Armory.

27 Historical Archaeological Zoning Plan—Annexure E Australian Archives Search Results Records 1–182

This document provided the search results relating to 'Newington magazine' from the National Archives of Australia.

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| <p>28 Newington Armory Archaeological Potential Map
SOPA, 25 September 2017</p> | <p>An aerial map of Newington Armory, with an overlay showing the location of the Armory area with archaeological potential in blue.</p> |
| <p>29 Building 20 and 137—Concise Conservation Report—Newington Armory
Graham Leslie Brooks—GBA Heritage, 15 November 2017</p> | <p>Similar to the previous document, this report was prepared in accordance with the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013 prepared by Tanner Architects. The CMP 2013 requires that conservation reports be prepared for groups of buildings within the precinct to guide any proposed works. The report followed the structure recommended in Table 8.4 of the CMP 2013.</p> <p>The conservation report established the heritage significance of the buildings, and identified the construction techniques, technological details, signage, fixtures and associated features, chronology of historic function and changes to fabric, and the condition and integrity. It also recommended appropriate policies for Buildings 20 and 137 at Newington Armory.</p> |
| <p>30 Building 19, 25, 26, 83, 198 & 205 Collective Concise Conservation Report—Newington Armory
JCA Architects, December 2017</p> | <p>This report was prepared in accordance with the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013 prepared by Tanner Architects. The CMP 2013 required that conservation reports be prepared for groups of buildings within the precinct to guide any proposed works. The report followed the structure recommended in Table 8.4 of the CMP 2013.</p> <p>The conservation report established the historical background, provided building summaries and recommended appropriate policies for Buildings 19, 25, 26, 83, 198 and 205 at Newington Armory.</p> <p>This report didn't provide the heritage significance of the buildings, the construction techniques, technological details, signage, fixtures and associated features, chronology of historic function and changes to fabric, or the condition and integrity, which differed from the approach taken in conservation reports for the other buildings within the Newington Armory.</p> |
| <p>31 Buildings 130–133 and 135–136—Collective Conservation Plan, Newington Armory
Graham Leslie Brooks—GBA Heritage, August 2020</p> | <p>As above, this report was prepared in accordance with the Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve CMP 2013 prepared by Tanner Architects. The CMP 2013 required that conservation reports be prepared for groups of buildings within the precinct to guide any proposed works. The report followed the structure recommended in Table 8.4 of the CMP 2013.</p> <p>The conservation report established the heritage significance of the buildings, and identified the construction techniques, technological details, signage, fixtures and associated features, chronology of historic function and changes to fabric, and the condition and integrity. It also recommended appropriate policies for Buildings 130–133 and 135–136 at Newington Armory.</p> |

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32 Wharf Heritage Impact Assessment—Wharf piles & decking

GML Heritage, September 2021

GML was engaged to provide advice and prepare a HIS relating to emergency piling works and ongoing decking repairs at Newington Armory Wharf, as proposed in the Wharf Repair Strategy (GHD 2017) and updated in 2021 by HDSA Group.

GML provided recommendations for heritage approvals, piling works, decking works, archaeology and mitigation measures generally.

Gap analysis

- The documentation prepared for Newington Armory is thorough and comprehensive. Close review of this documentation is required to consider all aspects of identified heritage within the Armory Precinct, sensitivity to change and the potential for cumulative impacts.
- Newington Armory Interpretation Strategy is thorough. Its recommendations should be reviewed as part of the master planning process.
- The interpretive historic themes identified in the Millennium Parklands Heritage Precinct Conservation Master Plan are based on heritage infrastructure such as 'staff facilities'. The user needs of this site should be carefully considered in the context of any future interpretation i.e. is its primary use recreational for cycling and not heritage interest groups?

Haslams Ecopark

Haslams Ecopark

No.	Document	Key findings
1	Brickpit Remnant Heritage Assessment Report INHERITage, June 2010	<p>This heritage assessment report was prepared to determine the heritage significance of the remaining buildings within the former brickpit at SOP.</p> <p>The report provided the following key recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The buildings and structures in the brickpit have heritage significance and should be retained and conserved. • The site should be listed as a heritage conservation area (HCA). The HCA listing should include the built fabric remains of the brick manufacturing operations and the Green and Golden Bell Frog habitat. • Preventative maintenance works to the built fabric should be carried out immediately. • The movable heritage items within the buildings should be catalogued and photographed. • Additional heritage interpretation work should be carried out to the sculptures at the two visitors' entrances to the Ring Walk. • An interpretive panel should be developed for the former substation building. • A conservation management strategy should be developed for the site.

Haslams Ecopark

The appendices include a Preliminary Structural Investigation Report, prepared by Secta Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd.

Gap analysis

- Olympic legacy—potential built heritage: consideration of purpose-designed Olympic-era and post-Olympics land art, ecological infrastructure and heritage interpretation. The Brickpit was a key part of the Olympic Games' ecological rehabilitation values and demonstrates ongoing commitment to the precinct's ecological restoration. A consistent conservation approach for this neighbourhood's ecological and industrial heritage values is required to manage values and sensitivities in respect of adjacent future urban development.
- The Brickpit Remnant Heritage Assessment Report (2010) recommends the site should be listed as a heritage conservation area. The heritage conservation area listing should include the built fabric remains of the brick manufacturing operations and the Green and Golden Bell Frog habitat. The site is not currently listed as a heritage conservation area or item however, the SOP Strategic Place Framework (Draft for Discussion) (2022) identifies the Brickpit as a conservation area.
- A Conservation Plan 1986 was prepared for the State Brickpit and State Abattoir combined and is review in Table 2.3. Other heritage reports written on the Brickpit have not been reviewed. The Brickpit is currently identified as park and leisure area within the Parklands Plan of Management (2010).
- An updated assessment of historical archaeological potential for the Brickpit should be undertaken.

Bicentennial Park

- Nil reports.

Appendix B—Satellite sites associated with Sydney Olympic Park

The following list provides a summary of Sydney 2000 Games sporting and ancillary venues that were part of the staging and delivery of the games. These were not located within Sydney Olympic Park but were connected by a transport overlay that operated during the games period. Some of these venues retain an ongoing sport use, and some retain their original Olympic signage. They demonstrate the breadth and depth of change to Sydney, for the purpose of staging the games.

Place	Games-time	Post-Games
Sydney International Regatta Centre, Castlereagh Design: Woods Bagot; Finish Tower Conybeare Morrison & Partners	Rowing venue	International/national sport facility; local sport facility; leisure facility
Penrith Whitewater Stadium Design: GroseBradley	Canoe/kayak venue	International/national sport facility; local sport facility
Sydney International Shooting Centre, Cecil Park Design: Group GSA	Shooting venue	Sport facility; community facility
Dunc Gray Velodrome Design: Ryder/SJPH	Track cycling venue	International/national sport facility; local sport facility
Sydney International Equestrian Centre, Horsley Park Design: Scott Carver, Timothy Court, SJPH	Equestrian venue	International/national sport facility; local sport facility
Darling Harbour precinct Design: Exhibition Centre (Cox Richardson), Convention Centre (John Andrews, since demolished), Convention Centre South (Ancher Mortlock Woolley)	Venue for wrestling, boxing, judo Social gathering location	Mixed-use precinct
Sydney Football Stadium, Moore Park Design: Cox Richardson	Pre-dated Games (1988) Since demolished	Sporting and performance precinct
Shore base, Rushcutters Bay Design: Scott Carver	Sailing venue	Dismantled
Blacktown Olympic Park	Softball venue, baseball and athletics training venue;	International/national sport facility; regional

Place	Games-time	Post-Games
Design: Michael Davies	renamed Blacktown International Sportspark	sport facility; local sport facility
Ryde Aquatic Centre Design: PTW, Donovan Payne	Water polo pool venue Redeveloped for the Sydney 2000 Games ; design architect: Peddle Thorp	Local sports and leisure facility
Lidcombe Media Village Design: Travis McEwen Group, AJC	Temporary accommodation for the large international media contingent; adaptive re-use of Lidcombe Hospital campus, including heritage conservation works and temporary installation of relocatable buildings	Residential subdivision