

Statement of Heritage Impact

CHARLES STREET SQUARE UPGRADE,
38 CHARLES ST, PARRAMATTA



DECEMBER 2019

Prepared for Spackman Mossop Michaels
by Curio Projects
FINAL REPORT

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Executive Summary

Curio Projects Pty Ltd was commissioned by Spackman Mossop Michaels (SMM) on behalf of the City of Parramatta Council (Council) to prepare a Statement of Heritage Impact Report (SoHI) for the Charles St Square Development, located at 38 Charles St, Parramatta, including a portion of the road reserve (the study area).

The purpose of this SoHI is to summarise the heritage impacts for the Charles St Square Development that may occur to:

1. Aboriginal objects that are, or have potential to be, present within the study area, and whether or not the Charles Street Square Development may mitigate harm to Aboriginal objects (if present). If Aboriginal objects are likely to be harmed the proposed activities are likely to require consent in the form of an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) in accordance with Section 90 of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act);
2. Historical archaeological 'relics' that are, or that are likely to be, present within the study area, and whether or not the Charles Street Square Development would be likely to disturb or expose them (if present). If there is a likelihood that potential relics will be disturbed then it may be necessary to seek consent in the form of a Section 140 permit from the Heritage Division, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage; and
3. Any potential impact (visual or physical) to heritage listed items in the vicinity of the development.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The following conclusions are made regarding heritage for the Charles Street Square development:

- The Charles Street Square Stage 1 Renewal development proposes to deliver a substantial upgrade of the existing Charles Street Square, improving amenity, access, legibility and identity at this important gateway to Parramatta City.
- The current study area is located within an area of High Aboriginal Sensitivity (in accordance with the Parramatta Aboriginal Study), and within two Archaeological Management Units (AMUs) (AMUs 3209 and 2936) as per the Parramatta Historical Archaeological Landscape Management Study (PHALMS).
- Historical archaeological assessment of the study area has identified that:
 - There has been almost 200 years of continuous historical occupation of the study area;
 - The study area has potential for historical archaeological resources associated with former historical structures likely to date from the 1820s through to the mid-twentieth century;
 - There is low to moderate potential for historical archaeological resources to survive at the study area, with any potential archaeological remains likely to be associated with the domestic, and possibly commercial, occupation of the site.
 - The potential historical archaeological resources have been assessed, in accordance with the NSW Heritage Significance Criteria, as potentially having State heritage

significance (in the case of Barbers' and Owen's occupation), and Local heritage significance for the remainder of the site; and

- The proposed development would disturb and/or remove portions of potential relics at the study area, and will therefore require historical archaeological mitigation through the course of the proposed development works.
- Aboriginal archaeological assessment of the study area has identified that:
 - The environmental context of the study area suggests that given its proximity to water, its fairly open access, and its deep alluvial deposits (i.e. potential to contain part of the PSB), the site would be a prime location for past Aboriginal use.
 - The study area has been assessed to have moderate to high potential for a Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) associated with the Parramatta Sand Body in this area of the southern foreshore of the Parramatta River.
 - The extent of the Aboriginal PAD within the study area relates to the demonstrated archaeological landscape in the immediate vicinity of the study area- i.e. it is considered to be a potential extension of the archaeological landscape of AHIMS Site 45-6-2648 (Charles/George 1) and Site 45-6-2673 (RTA-G1).
 - Proposed development impacts have potential to encounter the PSB and associated PAD, and therefore will require archaeological mitigation to reduce and/or manage potential impacts to Aboriginal archaeology.
- The study area does not contain any heritage listed items, and therefore will present no physical impact to any heritage fabric. Therefore, potential impacts relate to potential visual and archaeological impacts only.
- The physical nature of the development works are relatively minor and low in scale- relating predominantly to the redevelopment of the public domain and connection to the new Parramatta Wharf.
- Proposed development works do not require excavation of all remnant natural sands within the site and therefore, while the development has the potential to impact some natural sands (with the potential to retain and Aboriginal archaeological deposits), the development will also conserve areas of natural sands beneath the proposed design.

The following recommendations are made regarding heritage for the Charles Street Square Upgrade project.

- The proposed development will have no physical impact to any heritage listed item, and will have a positive visual impact on the Charles Street Weir (the only heritage listed item with a visual connection to the study area).
- An application should be made to the Archaeologists, Department of Premier and Cabinet, for an excavation permit to mitigate the potential impact to historical archaeology, issued under Section 140 of the NSW Heritage Act;
 - This permit should allow for excavation in accordance with an Archaeological Research Design and Excavation Methodology (ARD);

- This assessment Report and the ARD should be submitted in support of the permit application;
- Inclusion of the information generated from investigation of any archaeological resources in other parts of the site could also be considered as part of a public interpretation strategy, which is currently being finalised.
- Rather than registering an additional site with AHIMS for the PAD associated with the Charles Street Square study area, the site card for AHIMS Site 45-6-2648, Charles/George 1 (CG1) should be revised to include the study area within its extent- reflecting the association and distribution of this connected archaeological landscape, and avoiding unnecessary duplication of sites.
- Aboriginal archaeological test excavation under the OEH Code of Practice is not possible at the Charles St Square study area, and therefore a more practical and bespoke test excavation methodology and research design- tailored to the nature of the study area and proposed development- has been developed to investigate the nature of the potential natural soil profiles within the study area.
- An application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Section 90 of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 should be submitted to the Biodiversity and Conservation Division of NSW DPIE for the Charles Street Square Upgrade development.
 - The AHIP Application should allow for potential impact to the Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) associated within AHIMS Site 45-6-2648 (Charles/George 1).
 - The AHIP application should be accompanied by a copy of the ACHAR- once finalised (and the ATR which serves as Appendix C to the ACHAR).
- With regards to Aboriginal intangible heritage values (social and cultural), the Charles Street Square Upgrade project has the opportunity for a positive impact to be achieved via future interpretation initiatives, to celebrate and communicate the significance of the site and landscape to the local Aboriginal community.

1. Introduction

1.1. The Purpose of this Report

Curio Projects Pty Ltd was commissioned by Spackman Mossop Michaels (SMM) on behalf of the City of Parramatta Council (Council) to prepare a Statement of Heritage Impact Report (SoHI) for the Charles St Square Development, located at 38 Charles St, Parramatta, including a portion of the road reserve (the study area).

The purpose of this SoHI is to summarise the heritage impacts for the Charles St Square Development that may occur to:

4. Aboriginal objects that are, or have potential to be, present within the study area, and whether or not the Charles Street Square Development may mitigate harm to Aboriginal objects (if present). If Aboriginal objects are likely to be harmed the proposed activities are likely to require consent in the form of an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) in accordance with Section 90 of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act);
5. Historical archaeological 'relics' that are, or that are likely to be, present within the study area, and whether or not the Charles Street Square Development would be likely to disturb or expose them (if present). If there is a likelihood that potential relics will be disturbed then it may be necessary to seek consent in the form of a Section 140 permit from the Heritage Division, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage; and
6. Any potential impact (visual or physical) to heritage listed items in the vicinity of the development.

This report has been prepared with reference to key client and guideline documentation as detailed below (but not limited to):

- Curio Projects 2019a, *Historical Archaeological Assessment for Charles Street Square Development*, prepared for Spackman Mossop Michaels;
- Curio Projects 2019b, *Charles Street Square- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report*, Report to Spackman Mossop Michaels;
- Curio Projects 2019c, *Charles Street Square- Archaeological Technical Report*, Report to Spackman Mossop Michaels;
- NSW Heritage Branch 2009, *Assessing significance for archaeological sites and 'relics'*;
- NSW Heritage Office 1996, *Heritage Curtilages Heritage Council Guideline*, Dept. of Urban Affairs & Planning.
- NSW Heritage Office/RAIA, 2005, *Design in Context – guidelines for infill development in the Historic Environment*;
- *Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, The Burra Charter, 2013* (Burra Charter); and
- NSW Heritage Office 2001, *Assessing Heritage Significance*.

1.2. Project Background

The Charles Street Square Stage 1 Renewal development proposes to deliver a substantial upgrade of the existing Charles Street Square, improving amenity, access, legibility and identity at this important

gateway to Parramatta City. The project will be delivered in coordination with a major public artwork, and will complement the RMS upgrade of the ferry wharf infrastructure. A high quality river foreshore is a major opportunity identified in the Parramatta 2038 Community Strategic Plan for the Parramatta CBD, supported by the adoption of the Parramatta City River Strategy.

The key components of the project design as per the preferred concept design will include:

- Circulation system of ramps and walkways that provides universal access between the street and the riverfront
- Generous seating terraces and steps that integrate with the ramps and walkways to create more direct access to the riverfront, and also to create a space that can be inhabited for events as well as everyday activities (rest, viewing the river, waiting for the ferry etc)
- Preservation of existing trees, as well as planting of additional trees
- New shade structure integrated with seating terraces
- Preservation of existing means of access to adjacent land uses (driveway to 94 Phillip St, right of carriageway to 36 Charles St)

1.3. Site Identification

The study area is a proposed development located at 38 Charles Street, at the corner of Charles and Phillip Streets in Parramatta (Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2). The study area is comprised of several parcels of land from various allotments, including part of the road reserve. The allotments include: Lot 1 DP 1172250; Lot 2 DP 869816; Lot 2 DP 869820; Lot 1 DP 506760; Lot 2 DP 532539; and Part of the adjacent road reserve of Charles St.

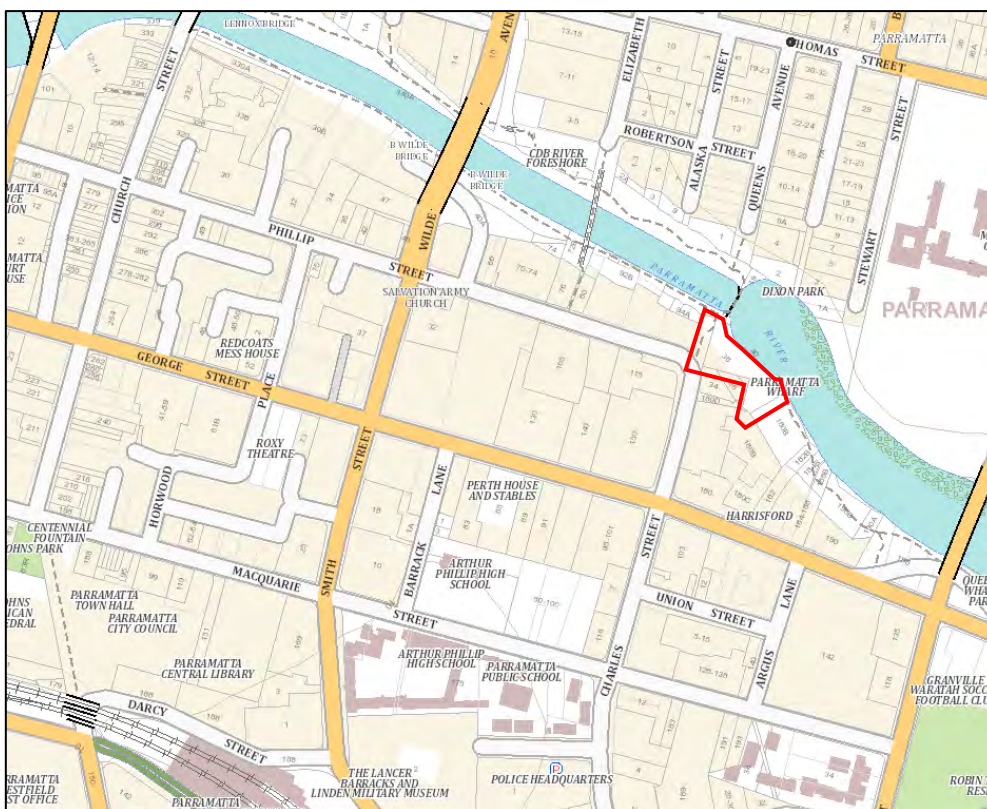


Figure 1.1: General Study Area indicated in red. (Source: Six Maps with Curio Additions 2019)



Figure 1.2: Lot 2 DP 869816 (Study Area) (Source: Curio 2019)

1.4. Limitations and Constraints

This report has been prepared using existing historical data and documentation available for the Charles Street Square study area and surrounds, including relevant management plans, and archaeological reports and assessments.

This report is a desktop assessment of environmental and Aboriginal archaeological context and potential only. The report includes a summary of the assessment of the potential for the site to impact on Aboriginal archaeological objects and/or places. For detailed assessment of the Aboriginal archaeology and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Significance relevant to the study area, the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHAR) report should be referred to (Curio 2019b, Charles Street Square Upgrade—Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report).

For detailed assessment of the historic archaeology likely in the study area the Archaeological Assessment for Charles Street Square should be referred to (Curio 2019a).

This SoHI does not include assessment of any non-heritage related planning controls or requirements.

1.5. Authorship and Acknowledgements

This report has been prepared by Sam Cooling, Cultural Heritage Manager, with assistance from Michelle Richards, Senior Archaeologist, both of Curio Projects. Kieren Watson, Archaeologist, prepared the overlays for the report. It has been reviewed by Natalie Vinton, Director of Curio Projects.

Curio Projects would also like to acknowledge the ongoing assistance of Catherine Dung and Bene Hernandez of SMM and Adam Fowler and Elizabeth Sandoval of City of Parramatta Council, throughout the project.

2. Statutory Context

In NSW, heritage items and known or potential archaeological resources are afforded statutory protection under the:

- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW) (EPA Act);
- *Heritage Act 1977* (NSW) (Heritage Act); and
- *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NSW) (NPW Act).

There are further planning polices and controls that provide a non-statutory role in the protection of environmental heritage. These include Development Control Plans for each local Council area.

This section of the report discusses the local and State planning context for the site with respect to its built heritage values associated with local heritage items in the vicinity of the subject site.

2.1. Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment administers the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 (the EPA Act), which provides the legislative context for environmental planning instruments to be made to legislate and guide and the process of development and land use. Local heritage items, including known archaeological items, identified Aboriginal Places and heritage conservation areas are protected through listings on Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) or Regional Environmental Plans (REPs). The EPA Act also requires that potential Aboriginal and historical archaeological resources are adequately assessed and considered as part of the development process, in accordance with the requirements of the NPW Act and the Heritage Act.

2.1.1. Parramatta Local Environmental Plan 2011

Clause 5.10 of the Parramatta Local Environmental Plan 2011 (PLEP 2011) sets out objective and planning controls for the conservation of heritage in the Parramatta City Council area, including the conservation of built heritage and archaeological sites.

2.1.2. Parramatta Development Control Plan 2011

The Parramatta Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011 is a non-statutory development control plan that provides the detailed design guidelines to support the PLEP 2011. The Parramatta DCP 2011 provides simple guidance on how development may occur, and includes notably, main objectives to ensure that items of environmental heritage are conserved, respected and protected.

Section 3.5.2 of the Parramatta DCP concerns Archaeology and clarifies how Parramatta's archaeological resources are to be managed. Notably, this section specifies that:

For all Development Applications for sites included in the PHALMS [Parramatta Historical Archaeological Landscape Management Study] area, which include excavation, Council requires that applicants refer in their Statement of Environmental Effects to the Recommended Management of the site as set out in the PHALMS. If action is recommended regarding known or potential archaeological resources on the site, applicants shall follow the procedures set out in the Study.⁷

The entire study area and surrounds is included within PHALMS AMUs 3209 and 2936. This is discussed in further detail in the relevant section below.

Section 3.5.3 of the Parramatta DCP concerns Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, with the primary objective:

'To ensure that appropriate consideration is given to the impact of development on known or potential Aboriginal archaeological sites or sites of cultural or historical significance to Aboriginal people in the Parramatta LGA'

Appendix 11 of the DCP provides an Aboriginal Sensitivity Map across the Parramatta LGA. This map designates land across the Parramatta LGA as having No, Low, Medium and High Sensitivity for Aboriginal cultural heritage. Of relevance to the current study area, the design principles state that:

P.4 For properties identified as Medium Sensitivity or High Sensitivity an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment is required.

P.5 For properties within 50m of a known Aboriginal site, the National Parks and Wildlife Service Site Register should be consulted to determine whether the Aboriginal site is located on the property. If the known Aboriginal site is located on the property, the development becomes Integrated Development.

P. 6 Properties within an area of Aboriginal social/historical association will require an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment that investigates the impact of a development proposal in relation to the social/historical association¹

The current study area is located within an area of High Aboriginal Sensitivity.

2.1.3. Parramatta Historical Archaeological Landscape Management Study (PHALMS)

The PHALMS project was undertaken to identify and provide a framework for the management of Parramatta City's finite historical archaeological resources. The land within the area covered by REP 28 was the subject of historical research and archaeological survey to assess its potential to contain significant archaeological relics. For management purposes REP 28 was divided into discrete units designated Archaeological Management Units (AMU's). Datasheets for each AMU are integrated into the SHI to provide information regarding historic land tenure, development episodes, and the significance of potential archaeological relics contained within their boundary.

The current development area falls within AMUs 3209, 3210 and 2936 (see Figure 2.1 to Figure 2.3). Information relevant to the site and contained in the AMU listings are²:

AMU 3209

- This AMU has low potential to contain intact subsurface deposits;
- This AMU has moderate archaeological research potential; and
- Archaeological evidence within this AMU is likely to have been heavily disturbed.

AMU 3210

- Archaeological evidence at this site is likely to be totally removed;
- This AMU has no current archaeological research potential.

¹ Parramatta DCP 2011: 87–88

² Godden Mackay Logan, 2000, Parramatta Historical Archaeological Landscape Management Study 2000 (PHALMS).

AMU 2936

- This AMU has moderate archaeological research potential;
- Archaeological evidence within this AMU is likely to have been heavily disturbed.

Management recommendations for both these AMUs is:

- Test Trench and Reassess.

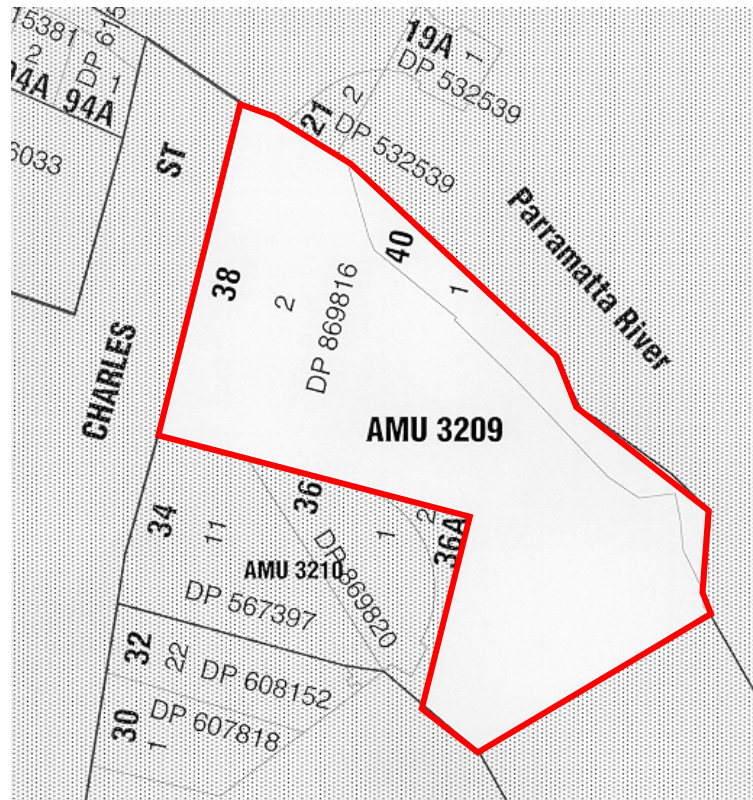


Figure 2.1 Boundary (red line) of PHALMS AMU 3209 which encompasses part of the study area. (Source: NSW Office of Environment and Heritage)

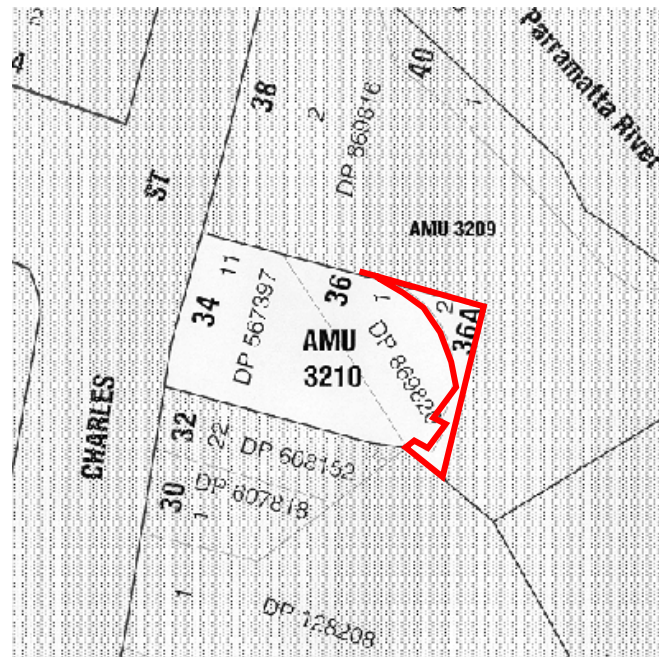


Figure 2.2: Boundary (red line) of PHALMS AMU 3210 which encompasses part of the study area. (Source: NSW Office of Environment and Heritage)

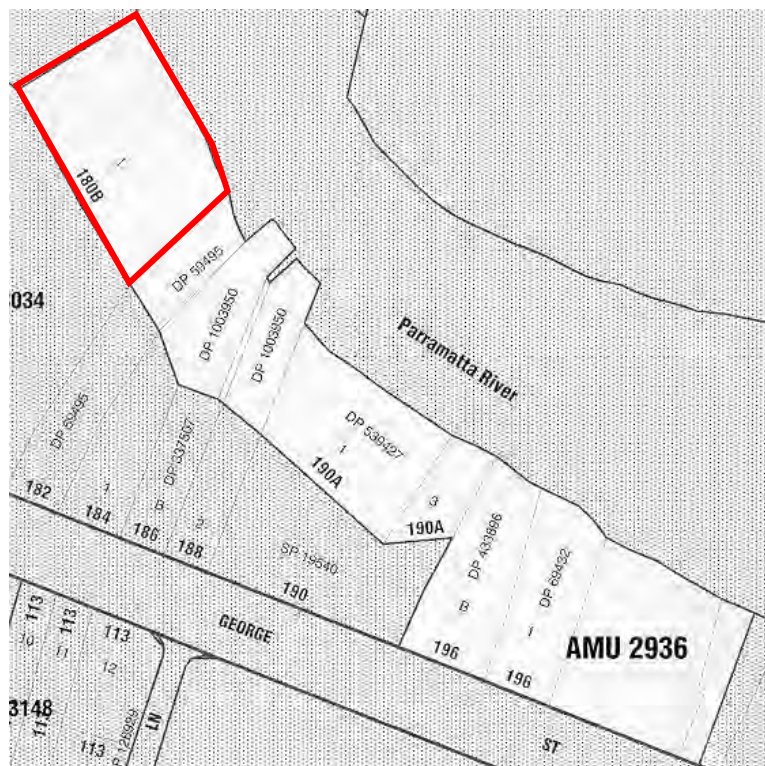


Figure 2.3: Boundary (red line) of the western portion of PHALMS AMU 2936 which encompasses part of the study area. (Source: NSW Office of Environment and Heritage)

2.2. Heritage Legislative Framework

2.2.1. NSW Heritage Act 1977

In NSW, heritage items are afforded statutory protection under the NSW Heritage Act 1977 (the Heritage Act). Heritage places and items of particular importance to the people of New South Wales are listed on the NSW State Heritage Register. The purpose of the NSW Heritage Act 1977 (as amended) (*Heritage Act*) is to conserve the environmental heritage of the State. Environmental heritage is broadly defined under Section 4 of the Heritage Act as consisting of the following items:

'those places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects, and precincts, of State or local heritage significance.'

The *Heritage Act* is responsible for the conservation and regulation of impacts to items of State heritage significance, with 'State Heritage Significance' defined as being of 'significance to the state in relation to the historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item'.

Section 57(1) of the NSW Heritage Act 1977 requires approval to be granted for an item listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR), in order to allow alterations to be made to the item, including to 'alter the building, work, relic or moveable object'. Application for an approval in accordance with Section 57(1) can be sought via a Section 60 Application to the NSW Heritage Division.

Historical Archaeology

The *Heritage Act* protects heritage, but historical archaeological remains are additionally protected from being moved or excavated through the operation of the 'relics' provisions. These protect unidentified 'relics' which may form part of the State's environmental heritage, but which have not been listed on the State Heritage Register or protected by an Interim Heritage Order. An archaeological site is an area of land which is the location of one or more archaeological 'relics'.

Division 9 of the *Heritage Act* is titled 'Protection of certain relics', with Section 139 containing provisions for 'Excavation permit [being] required in certain cases' to 'disturb or excavate land'. Such permits are issued under Sections 140 and 141 of the Act, or under Sections 60 and 63 of the Act, in cases where 'relics' are situated within sites or places listed on the State Heritage Register. Section 139 prohibits the excavating or disturbing of land leading to a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed. To 'excavate and disturb land' in the context of the NSW Heritage Act is an act associated with the activity of digging or unearthing.

Since amendments were made to the Heritage Act made in 2009, a 'relic' has been defined as an archaeological deposit, resource or feature that has heritage significance at a local or State level. (NSW Heritage Branch Department of Planning. 2009. Assessing Significance for Sites and 'Relics').

This significance-based approach to identifying 'relics' is consistent with the way other heritage items such as buildings, works, precincts or landscapes are identified and managed in NSW. The key issue is whether a deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that survives from the past is significant. If it is significant, it will need to be managed under the 'relics' provisions of the Heritage Act. (Heritage Branch, 2009:1). If an historical deposit, artefact, object or material evidence from the past is deemed not to meet the threshold of local or State significance, then it does not need to be managed as a 'relic' under the Heritage Act.

In addition, Section 146 of the Heritage Act relates to the requirement to report the discovery of relics to the Heritage Council. Specially, Section 146 of the Heritage Act states:

146 Notification of discovery of a relic

A person, who is aware or believes that he or she has discovered or located a relic (in any circumstances, and whether or not the person has been issued with a permit) must:

(a) within a reasonable time after he or she first becomes aware or believes that he or she has discovered or located that relic notify the Heritage Council of the location of the relic, unless he or she believes on reasonable grounds that the Heritage Council is aware of the location of the relic, and

(b) within the period required by the Heritage Council furnish the Heritage Council with such information concerning the relic as the Heritage Council may reasonably require.

In accordance with the Section 146 provisions of the Heritage Act, the discovery of relics is generally reported to the Heritage Division, in the form of a post-excavation report or similar, depending on the circumstances in which the discovery was made- and in accordance with any requirements of the Minister.

The site at Charles Street is not listed on the NSW State Heritage Register and any relics present on the site would therefore be subject to the requirements of Section 139 of the Act.

NSW Heritage Division Guidelines

In order to best implement and administer the protection afforded to historical archaeological 'relics' and heritage places as through the NSW Heritage Act, and EP&A Act, the NSW State Government have prepared a series of best practice statutory guidelines with regards to historical archaeology. These guidelines are designed to assist developers, landowners and archaeologists to better understand their statutory obligations with regards to historical archaeology in NSW and implement best practice policies into their investigation of historical archaeological heritage values in relation to their land and/or development.

2.2.2. National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW) (NPW Act)

The *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act), administered by the (former) NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), is the primary legislation that provides statutory protection for all 'Aboriginal objects' (Part 6, Section 90) and 'Aboriginal places' (Part 6, Section 84) within NSW.

An Aboriginal object is defined through the NPW Act 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."

The NPW Act provides the definition of 'harm' to Aboriginal objects and places as:

"...any act or omission that:

(a) destroys, defaces or damages the object or place, or

- (b) *in relation to an object-moves the object from the land on which it had been situated, or*
- (c) *is specified by the regulations, or*
- (d) *causes or permits the object or place to be harmed in a manner referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c),” (NPW Act 1974)*

The NPW Act also establishes penalties for ‘harm’ to Aboriginal objects and declared Aboriginal places, as well as defences and exemptions for harm. One of the main defences against the harming of Aboriginal objects and cultural material is to seek an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Section 90 of the NPW Act, under which disturbance to Aboriginal objects could be undertaken, in accordance with the requirements of an approved AHIP.

In order to best implement and administer the protection afforded to Aboriginal objects and places as through the NPW Act, and EP&A Act, the OEH have prepared a series of best practice statutory guidelines with regards to Aboriginal heritage. These guidelines are designed to assist developers, landowners and archaeologists to better understand their statutory obligations with regards to Aboriginal heritage in NSW, and implement best practice policies into their investigation of Aboriginal heritage values and archaeology in relation to their land and/or development. These guidelines include:

- *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW.*
- *Guide to Investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW.*
- *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales.*
- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010.*
- *Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits, a Guide for Applicants.*

2.2.3. World & National Heritage Listings (Old Government House)

Of relevance to the understanding of heritage significance in Parramatta, is the presence of the World and National Heritage Listed Items of *Old Government House and the Domain, Parramatta*. and in the case of Old Government House and the Domain, the City of Parramatta Council through a signed ‘Conservation Agreement’ under the *EPBC Act*. The Act provides for the listing of natural, historic or Indigenous places of outstanding national heritage value to the Australian nation (National Heritage List) as well as heritage places on Commonwealth Lands and waters or under Australian control (Commonwealth Heritage List). The Act also provides protection for declared World Heritage Properties.

A conservation agreement is an agreement between the Australian Government Environment Minister and another person for the protection and conservation of a biodiversity in an area of land or sea. A conservation agreement (with respect to heritage matters) may provide for activities that promote the protection and conservation of the following:

- the World Heritage values of declared World Heritage properties
- the National Heritage values of National Heritage places

- the Commonwealth Heritage values of Commonwealth Heritage places.³

While the Charles Street Square study area is located over 1.5km to the southeast of Old Government House, this report will still acknowledge the significant views of this World Heritage item, in relation to the current study area.

2.3. Relevant Parramatta City Guidelines/Documents

2.3.1. Parramatta City River Strategy 2015

The purpose of the Parramatta City River Strategy was to produce a plan for revitalising the river foreshore between Gasworks Bridge and Rings Bridge. It serves as an initial vision the City of Parramatta have for the project, for further, more focused plans to then be produced.

The key aims the Strategy puts forward are:

- Improving connections between the river and city
- Create more recreational opportunity for residents, workers and visitors
- This would be in the form of upgrades to walking, cycling and city event spaces.
- Ultimately the goal of the strategy is to make the Parramatta River foreshore a 'vibrant public space for the city and its people'.

The Charles Street Square Stage 1 Renewal development proposes to deliver a substantial upgrade of the existing Charles Street Square, improving amenity, access, legibility and identity at this important gateway to Parramatta City. The project will be delivered in coordination with a major public artwork, and will complement the RMS upgrade of the ferry wharf infrastructure.

2.3.2. Parramatta CBD Foreshore Strategic Archaeological Management Plan 2017

Following from the City River Strategy, Extent Heritage Pty Ltd prepared an Archaeological Management Strategy (AMS) for the Parramatta River CBD Foreshore. This area extended from the Queens Wharf Reserve to Rings Bridge, 'study area'. The purpose of the strategy was to consider the overall archaeological and cultural heritage impacts of the Parramatta City River Strategy.

The AMS divides the Foreshore into 20 different precincts, of which, Charles Street Square is addressed as Precinct 14. The AMS assesses Charles Street Square to have an overall Moderate Archaeological Potential, more specifically as having Moderate Aboriginal and Historical Archaeological Potential, and Low Maritime Archaeological Potential. Part of the Charles Street Square precinct was assessed to have High Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity, due to the moderate distribution of Parramatta Terrace Sand Sheet (aka Parramatta Sand Body (PSB)) within the precinct; low disturbance; location within 200m of a watercourse; and primarily situated on modern floodplain.

The AMS assessed the Charles Street Square to have the following constraints with respect to archaeology:

- Development resulting in ground disturbance may require monitoring or formal salvage excavation.

³ <http://www.environment.gov.au/protection/environment-assessments/conservation-agreements>

- Modifications to structural elements and ground disturbance may require development approval and/or OEH approval.
- The depth of the artefact bearing deposits within the sandsheet in this precinct is unknown. However, based on other studies in the region, these deposits typically represent the upper 1.5-2m below the existing land surface. (Extent 2017, Vol. 2: 91)

The AMS identified the following opportunities for the Charles Street Square:

- Implementation of a coordinated interpretation scheme across the corridor
- Interpretation should consider all aspects of the previous uses, including the Chinese market garden, and the relationship to Parramatta River.
- To determine the extent of the Parramatta Terrace Sand Sheet. (Extent 2017, Vol. 2: 91)

The AMS recommended that any works within the Precinct that will impact potential Aboriginal heritage would require an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, which would be likely to be complex and require sub-surface investigation.

The Conservation Recommendations for the Charles Street Square Precinct 14 state:

- The extent of the Parramatta Terrace Sand Sheet should be investigated and mapped throughout the precinct.
- Further research is required in relation to the previous uses, and the extent of remains within precinct.
- A major development application for the precinct should be accompanied by a Heritage Interpretation Plan with details on implementation. The interpretation plan should include, but not restricted to the following themes:
 - Harrisford, agricultural properties and contribution to the survival of the colony.
 - Parramatta River
 - Aboriginal Local History

Works within this precinct will require the preparation of the following:

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (Extent 2017, Vol. 2: 92)

2.3.3. Charles Street Square Strategy, Urban Design Report (Hassell, 2017)

Charles Street Square (The Square) is an important intersection on the Parramatta River, providing access for pedestrians and cyclists from the river foreshore to the City, and ferry services connecting Parramatta to Sydney's Central City. The Charles Street Square Strategy seeks to support liveability through the revitalisation of the Parramatta Quay precinct and accessible Ferry connections to the CBD, as well as promoting public and active transport to create vibrant precinct with a strong connection to the natural environment. Furthermore, the Strategy intends to support the better integration of the Parramatta Quay to create a distinct arrival space which celebrates the history of the place and supports productivity.

The Charles Street Square Strategy is intended to address the need for the Parramatta River Ferry Service to improve visitor arrival and public convenience while celebrating the historic and contemporary importance river as a gateway to the city.

The overall design principles the strategy adheres to are; that people can make connections, move freely between different modes, and allow for the Square to become a destination in its own right. The strategy recognises the opportunity which could be realised by redevelopment of surrounding properties. This would greatly improve amenity and public space surrounding the Parramatta Ferry Wharf.

Subsequently, the City of Parramatta established the Charles Street Square Renewal project and the developed design for the public domain is outlined in section 7.0 of this report.

3. Historical Overview

This historical summary presented below has been extracted and consolidated from the Historical Archaeological Assessment (AA) (Curio 2019a) and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (Curio 2019b). Sources have been referenced as appropriate.

3.1. Aboriginal Occupation Prior to 1788

Prior to European occupation of the region Aboriginal people had inhabited the Sydney basin for thousands of years. The Darug, the traditional owners of the Parramatta area, are part of a language group that originally extended from the eastern suburbs of Sydney as far south as La Perouse, west as far as Bathurst and north as far as the Hawkesbury River.⁴ The Darug clan group, that occupied modern day Parramatta, were the Barramattagal after whom that place is named.⁵ Much of the evidence of traditional Aboriginal lifestyle and economy was disturbed in the early years of European settlement and much of our information on the local people is based on ethnohistorical sources. The Barramattagal people enjoyed an abundant and uniquely varied food resource created by the convergence of fresh water and salt water within the river. Fresh water species included mullet, crayfish, shell fish and turtles while the salt water species included eels, fish, shell fish and molluscs, creating large shell middens along the majority of the main waterways in the region. Post-1788, Aboriginal shell middens were excavated for a myriad of uses by the Europeans. Much of the disturbance of shell middens occurred early in the post-contact period, particularly in areas of the river close to settlement building activity such as Parramatta and Sydney.

The Parramatta Terrace Sand Body (PSB) is a geomorphological feature concentrated predominantly along the southern bank of the Parramatta River, and is known to contain Aboriginal cultural deposits dating to the Pleistocene period (>10,000 years BP). The Charles Street Square study area's proximity to the Parramatta River also indicates there is a possibility for cultural deposits to exist in the area. However, factors including the erosion of the riverbanks and the historic development and disturbance on the site have decreased the likelihood of Aboriginal cultural deposits remaining undisturbed in the study area.

3.2. Early Contact Period

The local Aboriginal inhabitants of Parramatta would have been some of Australia's first traditional owners to experience the detrimental impacts, social dislocation and disturbance as a result of European arrival.

Parramatta was the second settlement established in New South Wales intended to supply the Sydney settlement with agricultural resources. Soon after the First Fleet reached Sydney Cove in January 1788 it became apparent that the surrounding land was not suitable for agriculture. In addition, the Colonial Marines and convicts were largely untrained in farming, which exacerbated the shortage of both necessary skills and supplies for maintaining the colony. As a result, explorations were made further

⁴ Eades, D, 1976, *The Dharawal and Dharug languages of the New South Wales south coast*, Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, Canberra

⁵ Attenbrow, V, 2002, *Sydney's Aboriginal Past: Investigating the Archaeological and Historical Records*. UNSW Press, Sydney, p.24

inland to locate arable land. Lieutenant Bradley reached at least as far as Duck Creek in February 1788 and Bradley noted the good quality of soil along the Parramatta River by May 1788.

Following the failure to establish successful farming operations in Sydney Cove, the British first arrived in Parramatta in 1788 on the hunt for more appropriate land for agriculture- leading to the establishment of one of the colony's earliest agricultural settlement (along with a military redoubt) at Rose Hill (the original name for Parramatta). Following the arrival of the Second Fleet in 1790, Parramatta was officially founded by Governor Phillip as the second city on the Australian mainland. Following the success of the farming at Rose Hill, the decision was made to expand the settlement, with a town plan being laid out by Phillip in 1790 with High Street (George Street) running from the planned site of Government House, to the wharf at the eastern end of Parramatta (near Harris Street). The initial planning of Parramatta saw wide streets and large land allotments, with the early population of the city predominantly consisting of convicts. The first permanent dwellings and structures in the city were generally focused along the main streets of George, Macquarie and Church Streets. Parramatta was renamed in 1791, after the Aboriginal name for the area (*Burramatta*, which is reported to loosely translate to 'the place where the eels lie down') (MDCA 2003).

Effects of European occupation of Parramatta would have been keenly felt by the local Parramatta population, including loss of access to traditional lands, disease, starvation, inter-tribal conflict and the breakdown of traditional cultural and social practices. Increasing conflict between the local Parramatta people and the new colonists in the early days of Parramatta lead to the establishment of a school for Aboriginal children, known as the Parramatta 'Native Institution', in 1814 (the public gazettal of the 'Rules and Regulations' for the Native Institution date to 10 December 1814), in an effort to extend British ideals of 'civilisation', commerce and Christianity to local Aboriginal people of the Sydney colony (Brook & Kohen, 1991). In reality, there was no intention of returning children to their parents or of maintaining any traditional cultural connections.

The Institute was originally conceptualized by William Shelley (together with his wife Elizabeth), a trader and former London Missionary Society member, who wrote a letter to Governor Macquarie in April 1814 proposing the establishment of the school. Shelley became the appointed superintendent of the Institution (which after his death in 1815, continued to be run by his wife Elizabeth Shelley).

The Parramatta Native Institute was officially opened with the first Aboriginal Annual Feast on 28 December 1814, at the marketplace in Parramatta (site of the current Parramatta Town Hall). While the establishment of the 'Annual Feast' at Parramatta was originally orchestrated with the intention of encouraging Aboriginal families to give their children over to the Institution, it became a significant annual gathering and event in Parramatta from 1814–1835. In its peak the Annual Feast attracted several hundred Aboriginal people from as far as beyond the Blue Mountains, Jervis Bay, Broken Bay and the Monaro district gathering in Parramatta for the annual distribution of food, blankets, clothes, and the feast (Brook & Kohen 1991: 72).



Figure 3.1: 'Annual Meeting Of Native Tribes At Parramatta', Augustus Earle, C. 1825–1827. (Source: NLA, available from <http://Nla.Gov.Au/Nla.Obj-134502097>)



Figure 3.2: Sketch of the Native Institution Site/Buildings. Dated To c.1820 (?) (Source: Royal Australian Historical Society Glass Slide 4636, Reproduced In Kass, Liston & Mccllymont 1996: 105.)

3.3. Convict Period and Initial Settlement of Parramatta

Parramatta was the second settlement established in New South Wales intended to supply the Sydney settlement with agricultural resources. Soon after the First Fleet reached Sydney Cove in January 1788 it became apparent that the surrounding land was not suitable for agriculture. In addition, the Colonial

Marines and convicts were largely untrained in farming, which exacerbated the shortage of both necessary skills and supplies for maintaining the colony. As a result, explorations were made further inland to locate arable land. Lieutenant Bradley reached at least as far as Duck Creek in February 1788 and Bradley noted the good quality of soil along the Parramatta River by May 1788.

The area -initially named as Rose Hill, adjacent to the Parramatta River and approximately 19km from Sydney, was identified as having some potential for farming and a Government Farm was established there in November 1788. The work was undertaken by groups of convicts supervised by the Colonial Marines.

Growing from the experimental farming settlement, Rose Hill developed into the settlement known as Parramatta. Parramatta's population expanded quickly, aided by the successful farming ventures and the increasing numbers of free settlers who received land grants in the area. The growing population of the town in turn necessitated improvements in public services. This resulted in the establishment of many of Parramatta's major public institutions in the first 15 years after 1788. These included a hospital (1790), Government House (c. 1790), The Barracks (1790/91) and the Government Brewery (1804) as well as several churches, stores and pubs.

The regularised configuration of the town plan manifest from the military administrative origin of the settlement, with a long transverse street (High Street, later known as George Street), extending from the Wharf to Government House, lined on both sides by convict huts. In 1790 Lt. William Dawes was sent to Parramatta to survey the town grid and the line of streets, the same arrangement largely survives today (Figure 3.3).

Despite Governor Phillip's early endeavours, the development of Parramatta proceeded in a rather haphazard manner, and the arrival of Governor Macquarie in 1810 saw a new effort to take control of the expansion of the developing town. In December 1810, Macquarie inspected the town with surveyor James Meehan to plan streets and improve the layout of the town. Macquarie returned in 1811 to regularise the streets, changing the name of High Street to George Street, and renamed other streets including those now known as Phillip, Macquarie and Marsden Streets. By 1814 he had expanded the grid layout of the town with new north-south and east-west streets. This included the alignment of Charles Street at the eastern edge of the town (Figure 3.4).

Prior to Macquarie's arrival, town leases had been issued for allotments along George, Church and Macquarie Streets. However, the vast majority of existing occupation was still allowed with little record of ownership, subsequent sale or length of occupation. In 1823, the 14-year leases issued in 1809 were due to expire. In the same year, the Government declared that 21-year leases would be offered to anyone occupying land in Parramatta. These leases could be converted to free hold by the payment of 21 years quit rent or by constructing a building worth at least £1,000. Records from this Government initiative identify the site occupants and leaseholders, including the portions of the three allotments in the Charles Street Square study area (Figure 3.5).



Figure 3.3: 'Flats at the head of Port Jackson & Channel up to Rose Hill', William Bradley 1789 (Source: SLNSW M SAFE/MT4 140/1792/1)



Figure 3.4: "Plan of the Township of Parramatta in New South Wales 1814", showing the newly established street grid with Charles St indicated by the arrow. (Source: ML M M2 811.1301/1814/1)



Figure 3.5: Detail of "Map of the Township of Parramatta", 1823 showing the early allotment boundaries. The allotments that would form part of the current site are 14, 16, and 70. (Source, LPI, CP 1.1022)

3.4. Charles Street Square Study Area

The AA report (Curio 2019a) presents a detailed study of the individual allotments contained within the Charles St Square Upgrade study area, in order to more accurately assess the historical development of the site, particularly in order to gain a better understanding of potential archaeological remains that may be present. A summary of the historical development of the study area is provided below to provide historical context for this SoHI. Direct reference should be made to the AA report for the more detailed historical analysis.

The post 1788 history of the study area has been divided in the AA report into seven distinct historical phases with respect to the historical activities that may have left different archaeological signatures within the landscape. The historical overview for the study area as presented below also uses these general historical phases to present the history of the site, as follows:

- Phase 1**—1788 - 1820 – Convict period and initial colony settlement.
- Phase 2**—1820s – 1840s – Residential leases and development, end of convict period.
- Phase 3**—1850s – 1870s – Establishment of local businesses and commerce.
- Phase 4**—1880s – 1910s – Population growth and residential subdivision.
- Phase 5**—1920s – 1930s – Post WWI to WWII
- Phase 6**—1940s – 1960s – Post WWII migration period, market gardens.
- Phase 7**—1970s – present – Ferry Wharf.

3.4.1. Phase 1 and 2 (1788-1840s) – Early Lot Development

The study area is shown as unoccupied in the 1804 Parramatta Plan before the creation of Smith and Charles Street alignments. By 1810, both Smith and Charles Streets had been formed, and it is possibly shortly after this period that the site is first occupied by colonists. The study area has certainly been occupied by 1823, as shown by a structure near Charles Street on the plan of Parramatta from that year. Phases 1 and 2 of the study area is described according to the three different allotments: Allotment 16, 14 and 70 (allotments indicated on Figure 3.6).

Section 23, Allotment 16

Thomas Barber, formerly of NSW Corps (later the 102nd Regiment) arrived in Australia as a free settler aboard the "Earl Cornwallis" in 1801.⁶ He was discharged from Military Service in 1810 and was granted 100 acres of land in the District of Airs.⁷ Barber is later listed on the 1823 return of allotments in the town of Parramatta as holding four allotments on Phillip, Hunter and Church Streets.⁸ The allotment that is included the Charles Street study area was leased to Barber on 30 June 1823⁹.

Thomas Barber died in June 1838 in the house on the study area, and was buried in St John's Cemetery, Parramatta.¹⁰ The 1844 Brownrigg plan of the area shows the extent of Barber's holdings around the Smith and Charles St intersection where he leased at least three of the allotments (see Figure 3.6).

By 1823, the study area contained a structure near Charles Street, although it is not aligned with the street frontage (Figure 3.5). This (presumably) wooden rectangular building remained on the site as shown on the 1844 Plan of the Town of Parramatta within an allotment leased by 'T. Barber' and granted to 'T. Barber' during the period of leasehold conversion. The nature of the occupation on the allotment at this time was probably mixed mercantile/domestic. Evidence of this is in the obituary for Thomas Barber by his son Samuel which notes that the Barbers kept a business on their allotment in Charles Street. The mixed character of this area of the town is further confirmed by an 1840 sale notice for a nearby lot which contained a slaughter-house and butcher shop.

Section 23, Allotment 14

In 1823, Allotment 14 was leased for 21 years to Hugh Owens. The 1823 plan shows a small structure in the centre of the allotment that was likely a wooden hut (Figure 3.5), which had been removed by 1844 (Figure 3.6). Owens was a soldier in the Veteran's Corp - a group of soldiers formed by Governor Macquarie in 1810 from the outgoing 102 Regiment (NSW Corps). The veterans signed on for additional service in the colony on the strength of the 73rd Regiment, which had accompanied Macquarie to Sydney.¹¹ Owens' life centred around Parramatta but there is little evidence of his dealings on Allotment 14. A newspaper report on the return of a lost mare to Hugh Owens of Smith

⁶ Burns, A and Reid, L, 1996, *The Barbers: A Parramatta Family*, Aristoc Press, Glen Waverley, p39.

⁷ Burns and Reid, op cit, p.51 and Col. Sec, Fiche 3266; 9/2652 p.4

⁸ Colonial Secretary's Papers 1788-1825 [hereafter Col. Sec.] (Fiche 3265; 4/7576 pp.7,9,16).

⁹ CT 4530 f144

¹⁰ Burns and Reid, op cit, p.82.

¹¹ Montague, R.H., 1982, "The Royal Veterans in Australia", *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society*, Vol. 68, [Pt 3], pp 238-246.

Street appeared in the 1833 Sydney Gazette¹². Owens also had legal dealings involving land on Marsden Street that had allegedly been occupied by Samuel Larkin illegally, which he pursued into the 1830s. Allotment 14 was purchased by William Byrnes in 1858 for £3/16/8.¹³



Figure 3.6: 1844 Map of Parramatta Township, centred on study area. Allotments noted. The allotment boundary on Charles Street has been regularised and the 1823 structure appears to remain (Source: ML M4 811, 1301/1844/1)

Section 23, Allotment 70

The 1823 Return lists Walter Lawry, a Methodist missionary, as the holder of Allotment 70 and in 1823 the land was formerly leased to him for 21 years. It is unknown as to whether Lawry ever lived on the allotment, as he was listed as owning a number of properties in the town.¹⁴ The 1823 plan, during the period of Lawry's ownership, shows a small structure on allotment 70 but at the southern end of the allotment and not on the current study area (Figure 3.6).

In 1839, brothers James and William Byrnes had both allotments transferred to them from Lawry for £500.¹⁵ When Brownrigg completes his map of Parramatta in 1844 the small structure that had appeared on allotment 13 has been removed but that on the southern portion of allotment 70 remained. (c.f. Figure 3.5 and Figure 3.6). By 1855 William Byrnes had purchased allotment 70 for £16/1/8. The Byrnes Brothers were the pioneers of the steam ferry transport on the Parramatta River in the 1830s, and were associated with the Lawry through the Methodist Church. The Byrnes brothers were highly esteemed and lucrative businessmen, known for their political careers, their steam

¹² The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, 12 September, 1833, p.4

¹³ Grants Vol 295, 1689

¹⁴ S. G. Cloughton, 'Lawry, Walter (1793–1859)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/lawry-walter-2337/text3045>, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 3 February 2019

¹⁵ LTO Deed, Book O, No 375.

powered flour mill, manufacturing the first tartan cloths in the colony in the 1840s, and building the first Wesleyan church (Methodist) in Parramatta in the 1860s.¹⁶

3.4.2. Phases 3 and 4 (1850s-1910s) – Growth of Parramatta

From the late 1850s the study area was held by two owners, William Byrnes (Lot 70 and 14) and Barber (16). In the 1860s the area could still be said to retain some sense of bucolic calm, despite the proximity of the Byrnes Mill to the east, with a gentle slope down to the river. However, this area was still subject to flooding with catastrophic floods noted in 1864 and 1890¹⁷. The floods reputedly scoured the river banks at this location and required substantial reclamation and filling.¹⁸

Towards the end of the nineteenth century, the eastern end of Charles Street was changing quickly, necessary to accommodate the expanding needs of the growing Parramatta population which was placing more pressure on the land. The site opposite the study area, on the west side of Charles Street, for example was sold in 1876 and subdivided for up to 5 cottages.¹⁹ In 1892, the Council announced that a special water rate would be imposed on rateable properties to construct and maintain reticulated water supplies to a variety of streets that now included Charles Street²⁰ (a process that Council had gradually been introducing to these 'new' areas since 1889).

By the latter part of the 19th Century, the study area is shown as vacant (1893/5 plans- Figure 3.9) and the 1895 Sands Directory only lists Robert Stokes occupying this end of Charles Street.²¹

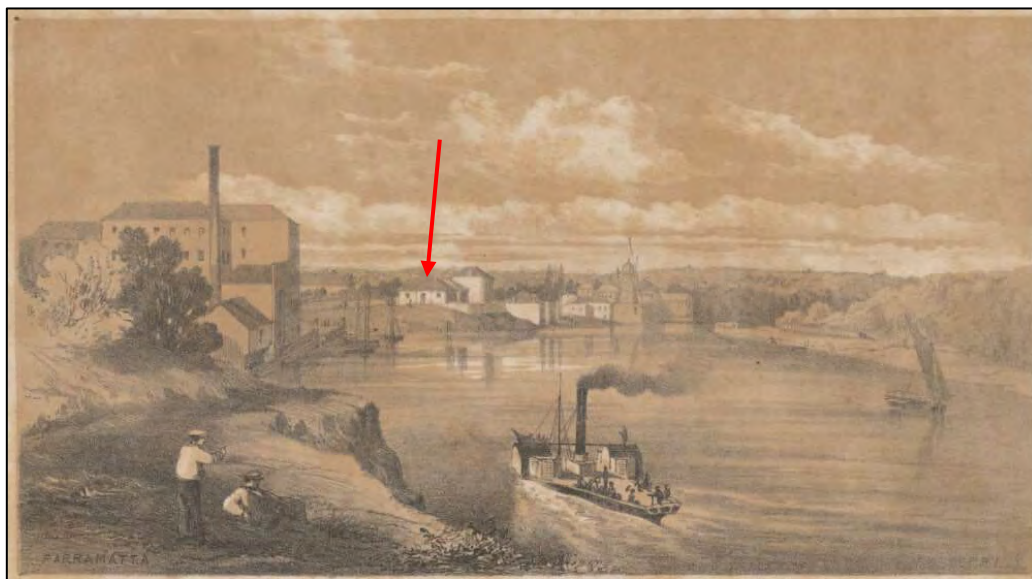


Figure 3.7: Parramatta, c.1860 by F. C Terry showing the southern side of the Parramatta River from Byrnes Mill to Howell's Mill in the distance. Note the structures alongside the river with Barber's House indicated. (Source: NLA PIC Drawer 2614 #S4042)

¹⁶ G. P. Walsh, 'Byrnes, William (1809–1891)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/byrnes-william-3334/text4673>, published first in hardcopy 1969, accessed online 17 June 2019.

¹⁷ For example, *The Empire*, 4 May, 1864, p.5.

¹⁸ See PHALMS AMU 2309.

¹⁹ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 7 October, 1876, p.13.

²⁰ *The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 5 March, 1892, p.2.

²¹ *Sydney Sands Directory*, 1895

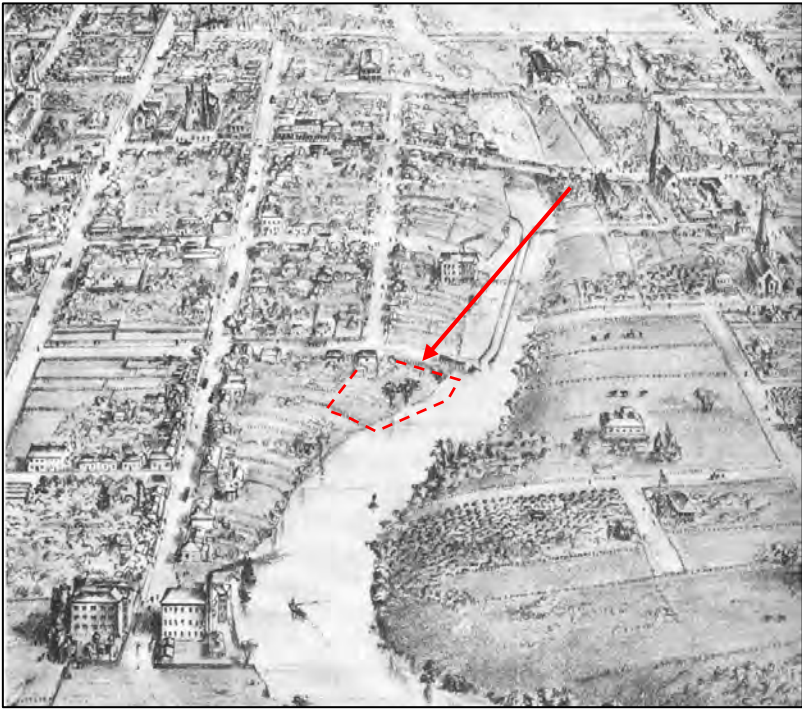


Figure 3.8: Detail of the "Birdseye View of Parramatta", 1870 with the approximate study area indicated, with Barber's house still evident and showing fence lines and gentle slopes down to the river. (Source: ML_XV1B_Parr_01).



Figure 3.9: Detail of sheet 10 of the Parramatta Survey, 1895. Note that the study area is vacant at this stage. (Source: State Library of NSW).

3.4.3. Phases 5 and 6 (1920s-1960s) – Post War, Migration, River Stabilisation

By the 1930s, six small structures are shown fronting Charles Street, consisting of one brick and five weatherboard cottages with yards spaces to the east- of which the two most northern structures are located within the study area (Figure 3.10).

In 1942, substantial works including, concrete bedding and walls along the banks, was undertaken to stabilise and improve the condition of the river between Charles Street and Church Street. These works also included replacing the 1870s structure with the Charles Street weir resulting in the new higher water level at this location of the river.²²

The 1943 aerial photo of the area shows these yard spaces to be extensive vegetable gardens, likely market gardens (Figure 3.11). Market gardens were established in Parramatta as early as the 1890s by many of the Chinese immigrants who had not succeeded in gold digging ventures, and continued to increase as a popular endeavour for this migrant community in Parramatta until it was slowed by the White Australia policy in the 1940s. In the post-war period there were many changes to Parramatta and Sydney's town planning including the expansion of central retail premises and suburban residences that pushed orchards, market gardens and farmlands further out of town.²³

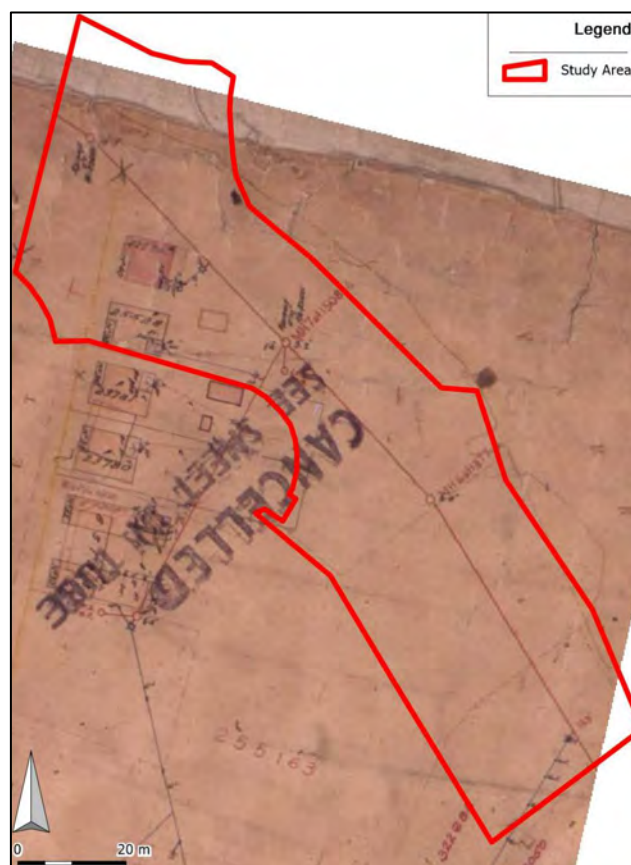


Figure 3.10: Detail of Sheet 10 of Sydney Water Contract 2703, c1932.

The structures shown are one brick (shown in pink) and 5 wooden/weatherboard (shown in buff) cottages with rear yard spaces and attendant outbuildings. (Source Sydney Water Archives).

²² Extent 2017, 30.

²³ Barnes 2017, 64.



Figure 3.11: Detail of the 1943 aerial photo series of Sydney. (Source: Six Maps).

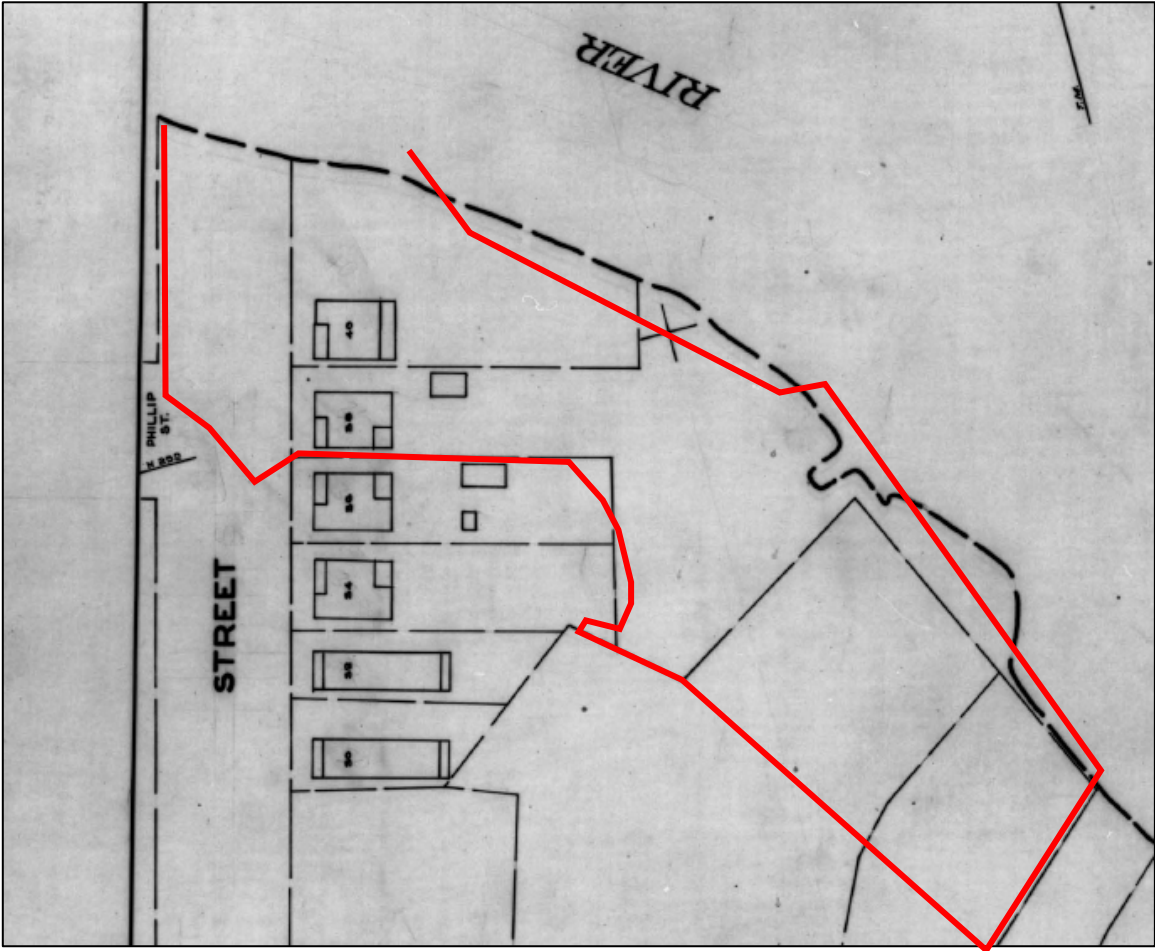


Figure 3.12: Detail of Sheet 2703 Sydney Water poss 1960s. (Source: Sydney Water Archives).

3.4.4. Phase 7 (1970s to Present)- Parramatta Wharf

Following attempts to establish a ferry transport link between Circular Quay and Parramatta from the 1950s to 1970s, the NSW State Government were finally successful in 1988, Parramatta's bicentennial year. At this time the decision was made to establish a fast ferry service close to the CBD at Charles Street (Figure 3.13). As part of this process, the NSW Government financed a programme to dredge the silted river between Charles Street and Silverwater, which involved dredging 20,000 cubic metres of the river bed between Rydalmere and Silverwater and the excavation of a channel 4.6 km to Parramatta.²⁴

The ferry service commenced on 9 December 1993 and was instantly popular. The ferry service fleet comprises seven shallow draft, low wash catamaran ferries, known as 'rivercats', named after famous sportswomen, Betty Cuthbert, Dawn Fraser, Shane Gould, Evonne Goulgong, Marjorie Jackson and Marlene Mathews and Nichole Stevenson.²⁵



Figure 3.13: 1988 Construction of Charles St Ferry Wharf

²⁴ McClymont 2014, 1.

²⁵ McClymont 2014, 1.



Figure 3.14: Detail of the 1994 aerial photo of the site after the Rivercat dredging but before the current developments on the site. (Source: LPI).

3.5. Parramatta River Flood Events

The flood history of the Parramatta River has substantially impacted on the use and development of the study area from European settlement to present day, the most damaging of which appears to be the 1889 flood that caused significant damage to the study area specifically, scouring the river bank. Historic records of the known moderate to severe floods in the study area are summarised as follows:

- **1795** earliest recorded flood in Parramatta, which was severe enough to wash away the first bridge.²⁶
- **1806 and 1809** heavy storms are reported.
- November **1812** extensive flooding particularly along the river flats west of the Church Street Bridge.²⁷
- **1826** flood caused damage to the second bridge.²⁸

²⁶ Lower Parramatta River Flood Study 1986, 13.

²⁷ Sydney Gazette, 28 November 1812, 2.

²⁸ Eagle and Geary 1986, 17.

- June **1864** major flood resulting in damage to numerous properties. Subsequently, flood gates were constructed between Charles Street and Lennox Bridge.²⁹
- May **1889** flood caused substantial damage specifically, scouring the river bank in the study area.³⁰

Other significant flood events that likely affected the study area in the twentieth century were recorded in 1914, 1956, 1961, 1967, 1969, 1974 and 1975,³¹ however none of these floods appear to have been as damaging as the 1889 flood.

²⁹ Extent 2017, 28.

³⁰ Eagle and Geary 1986, 17.

³¹ see Eagle and Geary 1986, 15 and Appendix C.

4. Physical Assessment

4.1. Site Inspection

A site inspection was undertaken by Curio Projects in March 2019 in order to gain a better understanding of physical and landform context of the study area proposed for the development, i.e. the redevelopment of the wharf and surrounding landscape. The site inspection revealed high levels of modern construction and landscaping, mixed with open reserves with moderate landscaping. Both which may have some impact on the subsurface remains, but is likely to have largely protected the alluvial deposits below.

The study area is situated within Council land along the southern foreshore of the Parramatta river, to the north of the Parramatta CBD. The majority of the site is located on Lot 2 DP869816. The site is bounded to the north by the Parramatta River, with the Charles St Weir at its very northern extent. The southwestern corner is located at the intersection of Phillip and Charles Streets, while the southwestern edge bounds the reserve along the southern foreshore.

The study area is approximately 160m in length, running northwest to southeast. The central area of the site is generally characterised by tiered concrete areas connected by stairs, with concrete pathways and access areas (Figure 4.2). There are some areas of vegetation in landscaping, and the existing wharf extends out into the river (Figure 4.3).

The original moderate slope from the present-day road level to the river bank has been formalised in a series of paved and concreted terraces, with concrete retaining walls and connecting stairs and ramps. None of the natural soil profile is evident in this area of the modern site. This is in contrast to the opposing northern bank, where large areas the shale bedrock can be seen, and much of the deposits above this have been eroded (Figure 4.4).

Between terraced area above the immediate foreshore and the paved foreshore area are a number of garden beds. While the majority of the vegetation is introduced, a few specimens, such as the redgums seen in Figure 4.5, may be naturally occurring.

The entire area of the immediate foreshore is paved, and the riverbank itself has been solidified. while this may have cut back and impacted some of the natural soil profile, it will have protected the encased deposits from further erosion (Figure 4.6).

The north-western edge contains a gentle grassed slope showing typical top soil deposits. This may represent remnant historical landforms, but is more likely a modified and landscaped area, with residual natural soils at depth. There is evidence of services, such as storm water (Figure 4.7), which would have likely also impacted the integrity of the natural soil profiles in this location.

The southeast of the site is a landscaped reserve that imitates the descriptions of the natural environment. It is open and grassed, with soil deposits visible at the surface, and trees well-spaced throughout. These trees, which feature many of those described in the natural environment, may represent both planted vegetation and remnant natural vegetation.



Figure 4.1: Plan of the Site Boundary with Key Surrounding Locations (Source: Curio 2019)



Figure 4.2: View of the Site showing the terracing, garden beds and wharf structure (Source: Curio 2019)



Figure 4.3: View of the Site showing the terracing leading to the wharf (Source: Curio 2019)



Figure 4.4: View of the opposing bank showing the exposed shale and minimal overlying deposits

(Source: Curio 2019)

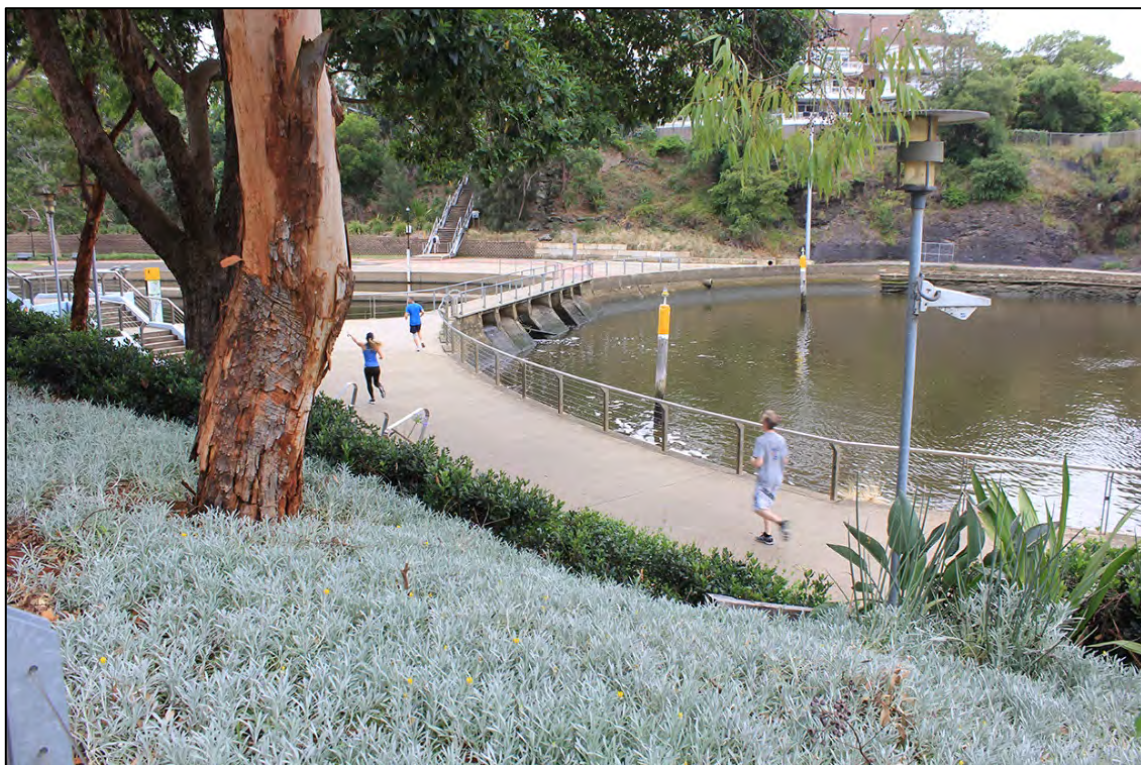


Figure 4.5: View of the Site showing a garden bed showing both introduced vegetation and possible natural red gum

(Source: Curio 2019)



Figure 4.6: View of the Site showing the reinforced riverbank (Source: Curio 2019)



Figure 4.7: View of the Site showing the northwestern grassed slope, with stormwater services evident throughout (Source: Curio 2019)

5. Archaeological Assessment

An Historical Archaeological Assessment (AA) report (Curio Projects 2019a), an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) (Curio Projects 2019b), and an Aboriginal Archaeological Technical Report (ATR) (Curio projects 2019c) have been prepared to assess the historical and Aboriginal archaeological potential of the site. Summaries of the findings of these three reports are presented in the following section. Rather than reproduce the relevant sections from the AA, ACHAR and ATR in their entirety, the key sections and findings are provided below for ease of reference, then to be further elaborated upon in subsequent sections of this report to be specific to the proposed Charles Street Square development impacts.

5.1. Historical Archaeology

The following summary of historical archaeological potential has been summarised from the Historical Archaeological Assessment (AA) report for the study area (Curio 2019a). Direct reference should be made to the AA report for further details regarding the historical archaeological potential of the study area.

The Charles Street Square study area topography and the subsequent modifications that occurred during the historical period, both contribute to the potential survival of archaeological resources. The topography of the study area during the nineteenth and twentieth century is unknown in detail. However, the information available suggests that the study area generally consisted of open space that extended along the northern boundary and gently sloped down to the river, in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Additional historic evidence also identifies that floods and subsequent river scour affected this northern area of the study area in the late nineteenth century. These events may have required the introduction of fills for land reclamation.

The remainder of the site has seen low scale domestic development from at least the 1820s and possibly earlier. The history of the site suggests that structural development was focused on the Charles Street frontage, from the earliest period of demonstrated occupation (i.e. 1823), with the corner of Charles and Phillip Streets an area of particular activity from the early nineteenth through to the mid twentieth centuries. Other domestic structures are evident on historic plans, also along Charles Street, with the rear yard areas of the twentieth century allotments containing small outbuildings/sheds.

Archaeological remains associated with this occupation may potentially be present in the form of building footings, artefact deposits, former surfaces (both internal and external), and deeper subsurface features such as wells, cisterns and cesspits.

An historically attested water main (c. 1920s) is also known to be present, running through the upper level of the site (see Figure 3.10)

5.1.1. Historical Archaeological Potential

The study area had seen low scale domestic occupation and development from the early nineteenth century. The structures associated with both the nineteenth and twentieth century occupation of the allotments in this area were concentrated along the Charles Street frontage at the current corner of Charles and Phillip Streets. In this location, the two primary phases of occupation are:

- 1) Thomas Barber from the early nineteenth century, before 1823 to the 1870s, and
- 2) later phases of occupation from the early- to mid-twentieth century, from the 1920s to the 1950s. There is also potential for 1804-1814 archaeological remains to survive in the south-east portion of the study area where a structure on Allotment 14 was present.

Several flood episodes may have affected the northern riverbanks that bound of the subject area by removing deposits through scouring events during high flow water levels. Following these flood events, it is likely that some filling and reclamation work was required and undertaken, particularly the construction of retaining walls along the river. Evidence of these events has possibly been identified in the borehole investigations. However, there is little information on the extent of the scour events and the degree to which they affected areas away from the immediate river side. To clarify this may require physical investigation. As part of the stabilisation of the riverbank, including the construction of the current wharf, some terracing has been undertaken along the river creating the current study area configuration. It is likely that both the flood events and the subsequent terracing have removed or disturbed potential archaeological deposits in these areas.

As a consequence, it is concluded that in the areas at the corner of Charles and Phillip Streets there is a low to moderate potential for archaeological remains to exist in situ. In addition, based on the current evidence it is concluded that moderate archaeological potential exists in the park land in the east of the study area (Figure 5.1).



Figure 5.1: Overlay of historically known structures on the study area showing the east side of the Charles Street corner is the most likely location for remnant structural remains. (Source: Curio 2019)

5.2. Aboriginal Archaeology

An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) and accompanying Aboriginal Archaeological Technical Report (ATR) have been prepared by Curio Projects in (Curio 2019b and Curio 2019c respectively), which present an assessment of Aboriginal archaeological potential across the study area. The following sections have been extracted from Curio Projects 2019c.

5.2.1. Physical and Environmental Context

The physical setting of the study area, its natural resources, landforms, and wider landscape setting has a significant influence over the nature, location, and form of Aboriginal occupational and use

patterns through their interactions with the land (tangible values and site), while also providing meaningful landscape context for intangible heritage and connection to Country.

Parramatta in general falls within the Cumberland Basin, which is a low-lying plain present within the greater Sydney Basin. The land along the Parramatta River is mostly made up of Bringelly Shale of the Wianamatta Group- which is generally overlaid by alluvial materials derived from Bringelly Shale and other flood event deposits. The study area is located on the Birrong soil landscape that is generally characterised by fluvial deposits marked by high clay content.

The study area is also located within the bounds of the mapped extent of the Parramatta Sand Sheet (PSB) (Figure 5.3)- a Pleistocene era deposit that has been demonstrated to retain significant archaeological, environmental and geological evidence that contributes to the understanding of the Cumberland Basin pre-European settlement. The PSB has been demonstrated to contain stratified Aboriginal archaeological materials (dating to the Pleistocene period, i.e. c.30,000 years BP). Archaeological excavations undertaken on the PSB in recent years have constantly demonstrated that the uppermost levels have been mostly removed due to historical land use activities, truncating the PSB in most locations.

No known sources for stone tool materials are located within the bounds of Parramatta. Therefore, it is assumed that raw materials used by local people for manufacture of stone tools would have been imported from the surrounding area or possibly from St Marys, Marsden Park, or other western areas where silcrete is known to be sourced. Other, less certain, sources of raw material for use in stone tool manufacture including basalt and other volcanic materials may have been sourced from the Toongabbie area.

Located directly along the southern foreshore of the Parramatta River, the study area would have afforded access to significant natural resources of the river, however its proximity to the river also means it would have been (and remains so) to be susceptible to major flooding events. This would have caused significant soil erosion events, particularly prior to the 1970s when flood mitigation strategies were developed.

Historical accounts of the natural environment in proximity to the study area indicate that at the establishment of the NSW colony, it was a slight bank with open grassland containing large trees (species likely to include grey box and forest red gum) that were a considerable distance from each other. The open nature of the area would have enabled Aboriginal people to camp along with easy access to the Parramatta River. There is also potential that the lack of underbrush described may have meant that burning along the banks may have been occurring in the area.

Other vegetation that may have been present would have been mangroves, paperbark and swamp oak along with common reed, however native vegetation along the Parramatta River foreshore was been extensively disturbed during the development of Parramatta CBD. Parramatta would have provided Aboriginal people with access to rich freshwater and saltwater resources such as fish, shellfish, molluscs, eels, ducks, mullet, crayfish and turtles. Faunal resources would have included mammals such as possums, flying foxes, goannas, wallabies and kangaroos.

Modern development in the area has consisted of construction of a ferry stop, adjacent access ways, surrounding building development and infrastructure. This would have impacted directly on the study area at least superficially with potential for deeper deposits to remain intact.

5.2.2. Material Evidence of Aboriginal Land Use

An extensive search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database, administered by OEH, centred on the study area, with a buffer of 1km, was undertaken on the 4th April 2019 and returned 87 results. There were no sites identified directly within the study area, however the closest registered site was located only c.40m to the south, and consisted of an artefact site (#45-6-2648, Charles/George 1).

The most common site types in the area are artefact sites (n=37), followed by Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs) (n=32), and Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs) in relation to a number of other site types (n=14). While two modified trees and one grinding groove were located by this AHIMS search, neither of these sites are in close proximity to the current study area.

The AHIMS sites 45-6-2648 (Charles/George 1) and 45-6-2673 (RTA-G1) are registered as being located c.50m and c.150m south and southeast respectively of the current study area. While these two sites are registered individually, archaeological excavations at both sites (JMcDCHM 2005a; 2005b) has shown that these sites are components of the same archaeological feature- both in relation to the PSB terrace in this location.

The 87 results from the current AHIMS search included 4 different main site types, some in combination with each other. These sites are summarised in Table 5.1, while the locations of these sites can be seen in Figure 5.2 below. The AHIMS search results are discussed in greater detail in the Curio (2019c) ATR report.

Table 5.1: AHIMS Sites in the Vicinity of the Study Area

SITE TYPE	NUMBER OF SITES	PERCENTAGE OF SITES (%)
Artefact	37	42.5
Artefact and Modified Tree	1	1.1
Artefact and Hearth	1	1.1
Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)	32	36.8
Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) and Artefact	14	16.1
Modified Tree	1	1.1
Grinding Groove	1	1.1
TOTAL	87	100

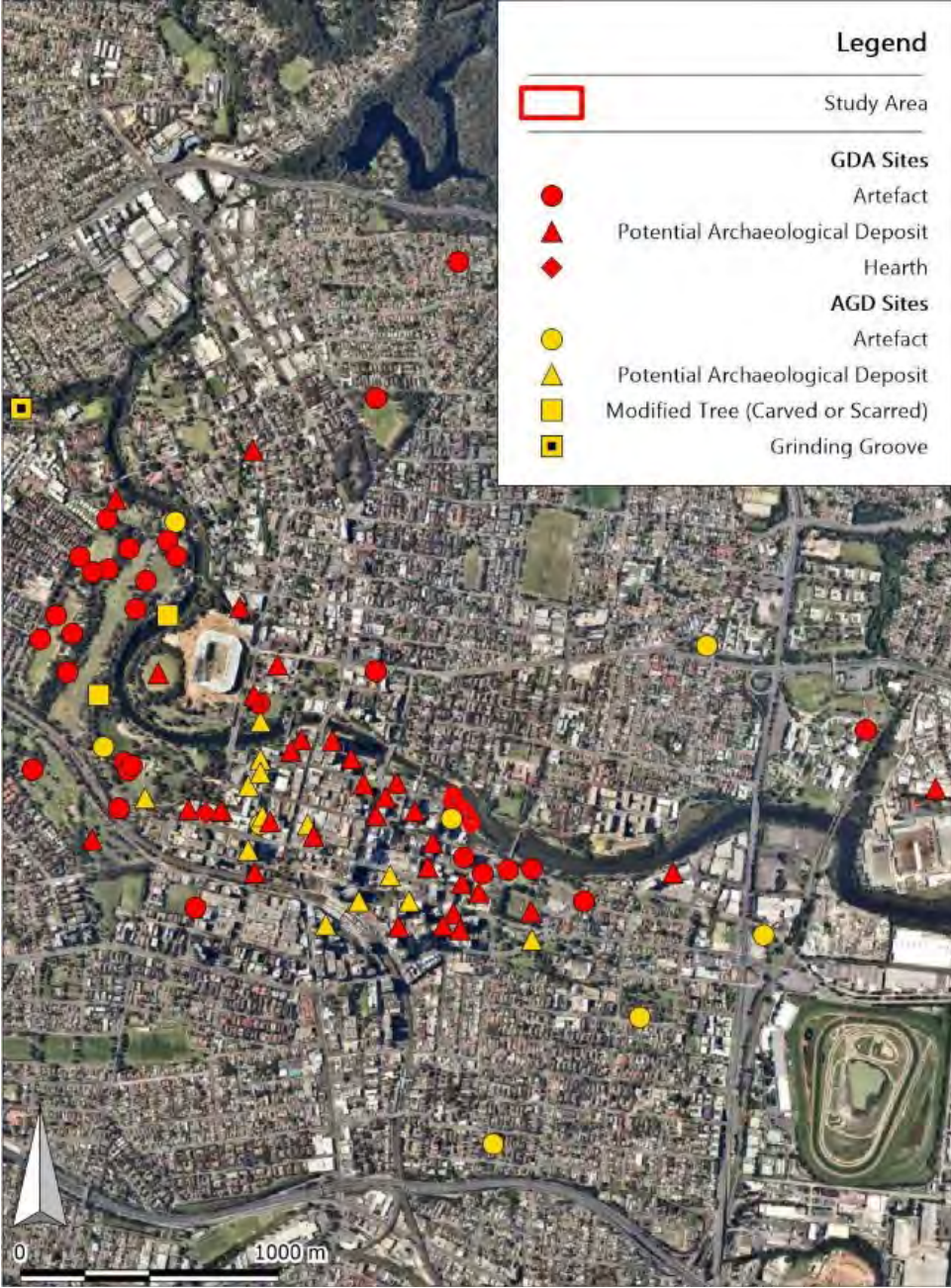


Figure 5.2: AHIMS Sites. Study Area in Red (Source: Curio 2019)

N.B. This figure presents sensitive cultural information, and should be redacted/removed prior to any public circulation of this report.



Figure 5.3: Indicative area of Parramatta Sand Body over Study Area (Source: Curio 2019, based on Mitchell 2007)

5.2.3. Aboriginal Archaeological Context

A literature review of the NSW OEH library along with other relevant reports was undertaken in order to understand the broader archaeological patterning of the Parramatta region. This literature review is presented in detail within the ATR, of which, a summary is provided as follows.

Aboriginal archaeological excavations have often been undertaken in conjunction with historical archaeological excavations across Parramatta. Numerous Aboriginal archaeological excavations have successfully demonstrated that regardless of level of supposed development and ground impact at a site within Parramatta, there often remains the potential for Aboriginal archaeological deposits and stone artefact assemblages to remain intact within remnant natural soil profiles, as well as in a post-contact context.

An Archaeological Management Strategy (AMS) prepared for the Parramatta River CBD Foreshore (Extent 2017) identified Charles Street Square as 'Precinct 14'. The AMS assessed the study area as having an overall moderate archaeological potential, with the part of the study area with the potential to contain part of the PSB assessed as having high Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity. The AMS

recommended that any works within the Precinct that will impact potential Aboriginal heritage would require an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, which would be likely to be complex and require sub-surface investigation.

Several archaeological excavations undertaken by Jo McDonald CHM in 2004 were the first to definitively identify the presence of a complex and significant Aboriginal archaeological deposit within the PSB. Located in very close proximity to the current study area (i.e. the closest being within 50m), these sites represented multiple periods of Aboriginal occupation of the area, from those of considerable antiquity, to more recent deposits.

Over 6,500 artefacts were recovered from archaeological excavation on the PSB at the corner of Charles and George Street (CG-1) with relative dating suggesting that the older assemblage could date to between 10,000 and 20,000 years BP (JMcDCHM 2005a).

Following from the excavation at CG-1, archaeological salvage excavation at the nearby site of RTA-G1 (109-113 George Street) (JMcDCHM 2005b) recovered >6,500 Aboriginal stone artefacts from within the PSB- as well as recovering some of the earliest radiocarbon dates of Aboriginal archaeological deposits in the greater Sydney region- indicating repeated occupation of the PSB in this location from c.30,000 years BP (Pleistocene era). At the time this date was recovered, this more than doubled the previously accepted scientifically dated timeframe for Aboriginal occupation of the Sydney region. The RTA-G1 site was identified as being a continuation of the same archaeological landscape of CG1.

Archaeological test and salvage excavation of 101-110A George Street (CG3) in 2005 (JMcDCHM 2006) encountered further evidence of Aboriginal occupation of the PSB- identified as being a continuation of the archaeological landscape identified at CG-1 and RTA-G1. Archaeological excavation at CG3 recovered <10,000 artefacts, dominated by silcrete and silicified tuff- along with clear evidence for change in preferential use of raw material types and stone tool production technologies over time

While numerous other archaeological investigations of relevance to the study area have been summarised in the ATR, evidence is sufficient to demonstrate that Aboriginal archaeological deposits of varying ages and complexity are located along the Parramatta River- particularly along the southern bank. Aboriginal archaeological sites in the vicinity of the study area have consistently identified the presence of multiple phases of occupation and use of the PSB by Aboriginal people in the region- dating from the Pleistocene (c.30,000 BP) through until the mid to late Holocene (c.2,500 BP). These investigations have been sufficient to allow categorisation of the archaeological evidence recovered from the PSB along the southern side of the Parramatta River as part of the same archaeological landscape- particularly sites in proximity to the study area: e.g. CG1; RTA-G1; CG3; GSP 2013.

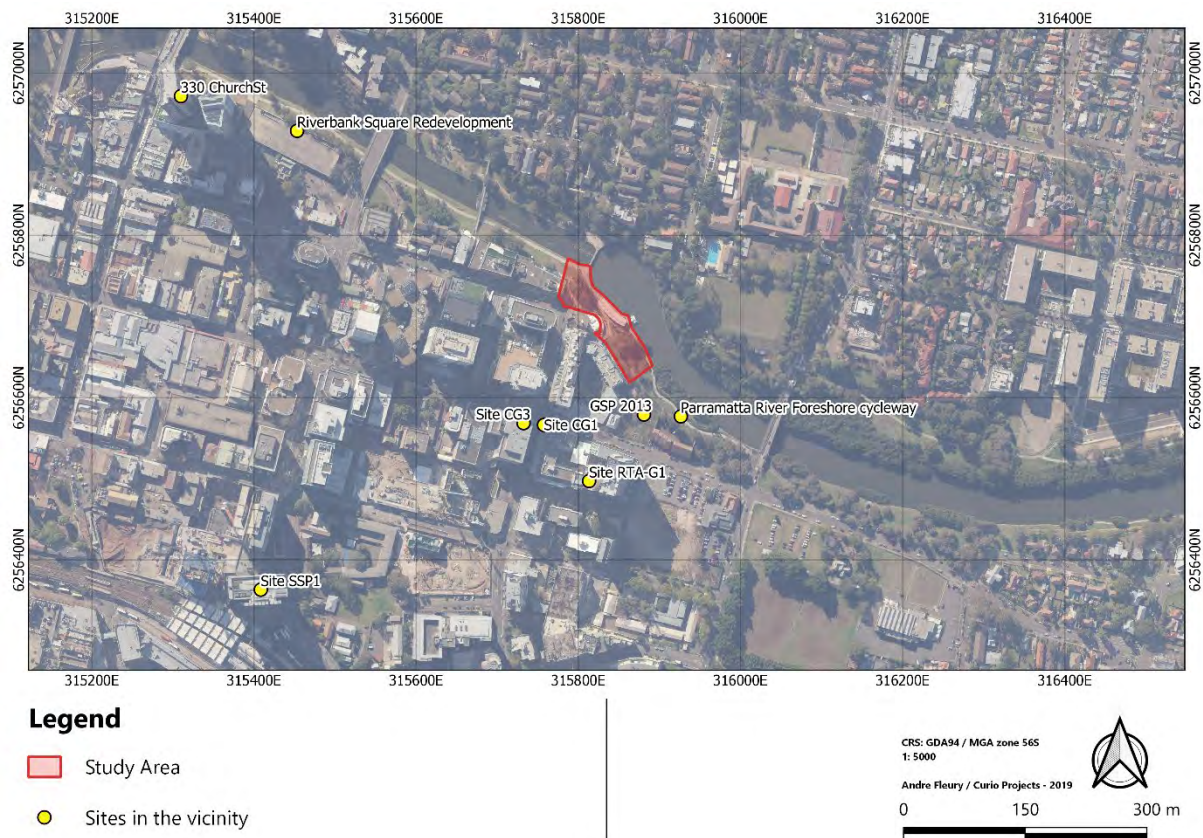


Figure 5.4: Location of Sites referenced Above (Source: Curio 2019)

5.2.4. Aboriginal Archaeological Predictive Model

Aboriginal Predictive Modelling plays an important role in understanding the potential within a study area and thus provides insight into management recommendations. An archaeological predictive model utilises the environmental context, previous historical context and AHIMS to assess the potential for remaining archaeological materials to be present.

In summary, the Charles Street Square Upgrade study area has been assessed as having **moderate to high potential** for Aboriginal objects and archaeological deposits to be present for the following reasons:

- The environmental context suggests that given the proximity of the study area to water, its fairly open access, and its deep alluvial deposits (i.e. potential to contain part of the PSB), the site would be a prime location for past Aboriginal use.
- While it is known that the area would have been frequently impacted by flood events from the Parramatta River, and that this would have caused erosion and scouring, there is no reason to believe that this would have removed all potential archaeological remains.
- Historically the site has been underdeveloped, and prior to the currently wharf’s construction, very little disturbance has occurred. It was the site of a Chinese Market garden and potentially part of the Rosehill settlement during convict and colonial periods. These most likely would have disturbed upper deposits of Aboriginal significance, however modern development is likely to have left deeper Aboriginal deposits intact.

- The AHIMS results indicate that the most common Aboriginal site types in Parramatta are single artefacts, PADs or some combination of the two. There are modified trees and grinding grooves, but these are rare and are located within areas of low development, and so are unlikely to be found within the study area.
- Part of the study area is mapped within the extent of the Parramatta Sand Body (PSB), which is significant on a State level due to its high potential for stratified archaeological material- thought to occur up to depths of 1.5m to 2m below the ground surface.
- Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity have demonstrated the PSB to be present, sometimes containing Aboriginal artefactual material. However, excavations have also indicated that while the PSB was commonly subject to ephemeral occupation by Aboriginal people over the past 20-30,000 years, only very localised areas appear to have been used more intensively- with the majority of excavated sites reflecting a low intensity use of the landscape.
- The extent of the Aboriginal PAD within the study area relates to the demonstrated archaeological landscape in the immediate vicinity of the study area- i.e. it is considered to be a potential extension of the archaeological landscape of nearby AHIMS Site 45-6-2648 (Charles/George 1) and Site 45-6-2673 (RTA-G1).
- Rather than registering an additional site with AHIMS for the PAD associated with the Charles Street Square study area, the site card for AHIMS Site 45-6-2648, Charles/George 1 (CG1) should be revised to include the study area within its extent- reflecting the association and distribution of this connected archaeological landscape, and avoiding unnecessary duplication of sites.

Aboriginal archaeological potential for the study area is generally consistent with the mapping of the PSB, and is depicted in Figure 5.5.



Figure 5.5: Potential for Parramatta Sand Body across study area, with potential to retain Aboriginal archaeological deposit (Source: Curio 2019)

6. Heritage Significance Assessment

The *NSW Heritage Manual Guideline—Assessing Heritage Significance*, prepared by the NSW Heritage Division, provides a framework for assessing significance of sites and heritage items, with the main aim of producing a succinct statement of significance to summarise an item or site’s heritage values. The guidelines are predicated on the five types of cultural heritage value, as presented in The Burra Charter 2013: historical, aesthetic, scientific, social, and spiritual significance. The NSW heritage assessment criteria provides the following criterion for the assessment of heritage significance.

An item will be considered to be of State (or local) heritage significance if, in the opinion of the Heritage Council of NSW, it meets one of more of the following criteria:

- *Criterion (a)—an item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*
- *Criterion (b)—an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the cultural or natural history of NSW (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*
- *Criterion (c)—an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area);*
- *Criterion (d)—an item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;*
- *Criterion (e)—an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*
- *Criterion (f)—an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*
- *Criterion (g)—an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW’s (or a class of the local areas’):*
 - *cultural or natural places; or*
 - *cultural or natural environments.*

6.1. Heritage Listings

6.1.1. World Heritage Listing

Old Government House and Domain, Parramatta is one of 11 sites that, together, make up the ‘Australian Convict Sites World Heritage Listing’ on in UNESCO’s *Memory of the World Register* and the *National Heritage Register*. With respect to Old Government House and Domain, the views and setting are important in demonstrating the place’s role as a centre of colonial administration and contribute to maintaining the integrity of the convict landscape.

The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, in collaboration with NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure, and Parramatta City Council, commissioned a

technical report to provide greater certainty for future development in Parramatta CBD. The report titled, 'Development in Parramatta City and the Impact on Old Government House and Domain's World and National Heritage Listed Values: Technical Report' was prepared by Planisphere (2012) in order to inform planning and decision makers, and provide guidance for developers about where new building.

The Charles Street Square study area is located approximately 1.2km southeast of Old Government House, and c.800m from the World Heritage site boundary, and identified as being 'sensitive' to the OGH (Figure 6.1). 'Sensitive' in this case is defined as:

*Development may have some impact but **not a significant impact** on the World and National Heritage values of the OGH*

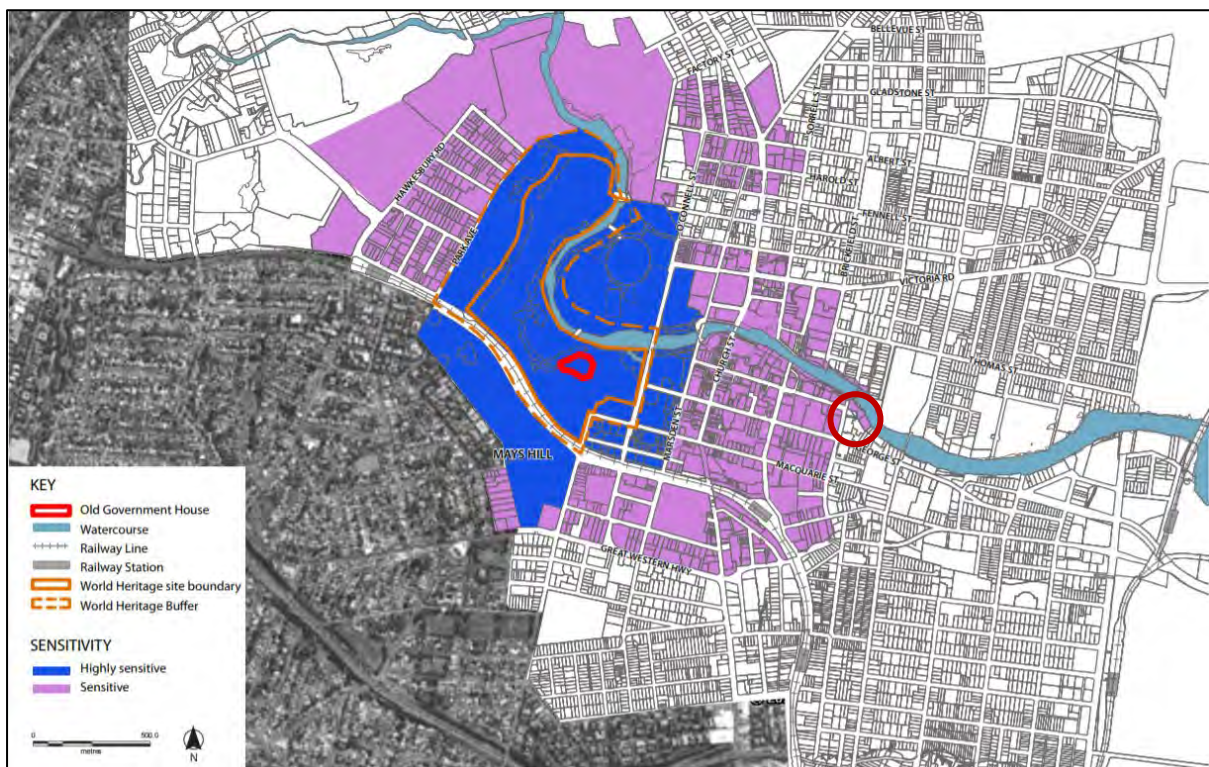


Figure 6.1: Map of Sensitive Areas in relation to Old Government House Site and Domain with study area indicated in red circle (Source: Planisphere 2012: 81)

6.1.2. NSW State Heritage Register

While there are no statutory heritage listings on the State Heritage Register (SHR) within the Charles Street Square study area, there are seventeen (17) SHR listings in proximity (Figure 6.2 and Table 6.1). Most of these listings are built heritage items, while four listings refer to historic archaeology: 1) Harrisford and potential archaeological site; 2) Parramatta District Hospital - Archaeology, Marsden Street (00826); 3) Prince Alfred Square and potential archaeological site (01997); and, 4) Ancient Aboriginal and Early Colonial Landscape, Robin Thomas Reserve, Harris Park (01863).

The closest SHR listing to the subject site is 'Harrisford' house and potential archaeological site, located at 182 George Street, located c.150m southwest. The Statement of Significance for Harrisford states that:

Harrisford, which is located between George Street and the river, is one of the oldest houses remaining in the township of Parramatta. It is an important element at the head of the river, representing the early years of settlement. Site possesses potential to contribute to an understanding early of urban development in Parramatta.³²

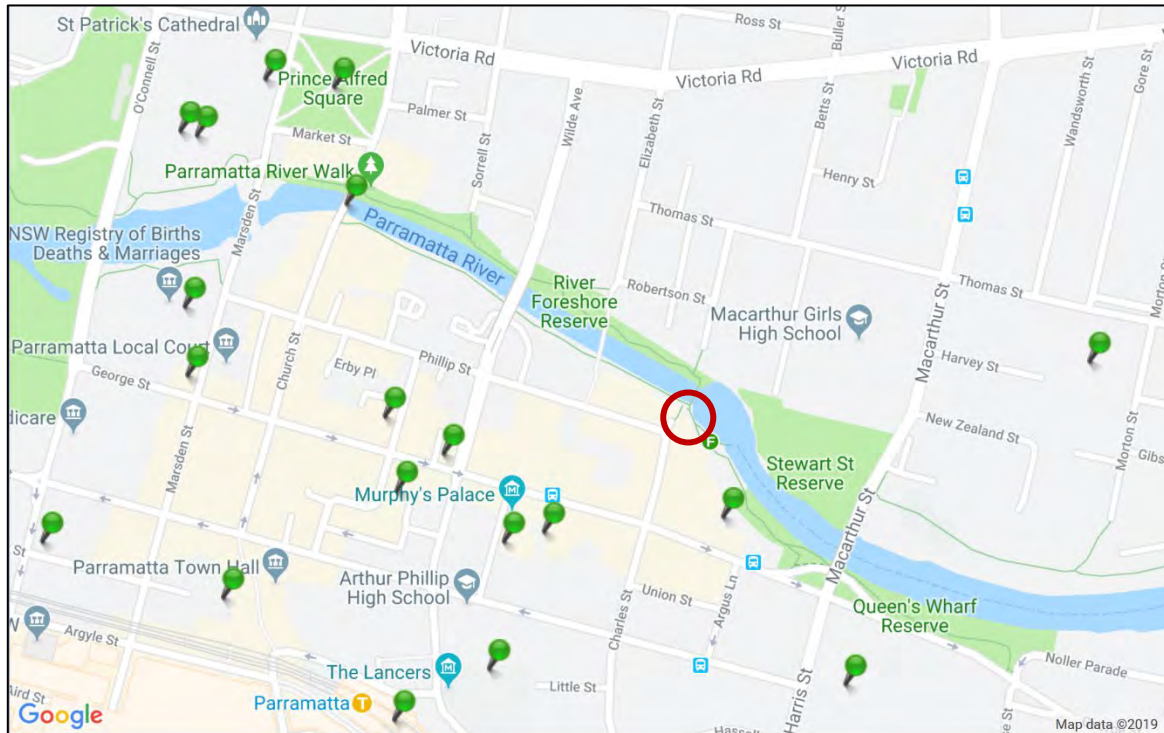


Figure 6.2: State Heritage Register listings in proximity to Charles Street Square study area—indicated in red (see also Table below) (Source: OEH Heritage Division, SHR Map Search, Accessed 18/06/2019 <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/heritagesearch.aspx>).

Table 6.1: SHR Listings in vicinity of study area

HERITAGE ITEM	ADDRESS	SHR NO.	GAZETTE DATE
Harrisford (house) & Potential archaeological site AMU 3034 (State Significant)	182 George Street Parramatta	00248	02/04/1999
Perth House and Stables	85 George Street Parramatta	00155	02/04/1999
Warders Cottages	1 and 3 Barrack Lane Parramatta	00709	02/04/1999
Shop and Office	88-92 George Street Parramatta	00278	02/04/1999
Roxy Theatre	65-69 George Street Parramatta	00711	02/04/1999
Redcoats Mess House	Horwood Place Parramatta	00218	02/04/1999
Lennox Bridge	349-351 (adj) Church Street Parramatta	00750	02/04/1999
Broughton House	43a Thomas Street Parramatta	01302	02/04/1999
St John's Anglican Cathedral	195 Church Street Parramatta	01805	02/04/1999
Traveller's Rest Inn Group	12, 14, 16 O'Connell Street Parramatta	00748	02/04/1999

³² Harrisford SHR Listing, available at: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5051407>

HERITAGE ITEM	ADDRESS	SHR NO.	GAZETTE DATE
Parramatta District Hospital – Brislington and Landscape	10 George Street Parramatta	00059	02/04/1999
Parramatta District Hospital - Archaeology	Marsden Street Parramatta	00828	02/04/1999
Marsden Rehabilitation Centre Group	O'Connell Street Parramatta	00826	02/04/1999
Kings School Group (former)	3 Marist Place Parramatta	00771	02/04/1999
Murphy's House	1 Marist Place Parramatta	00238	02/04/1999
Prince Alfred Square and potential archaeological site	353 Church Street Parramatta	01997	28/08/2017
Ancient Aboriginal and Early Colonial Landscape	Robin Thomas Reserve, Harris Park Parramatta	01863	08/07/2011

6.1.3. Local Heritage Items (Parramatta LEP 2011)

In addition to the SHR, several locally listed heritage items are located in the vicinity of the study area (Parramatta LEP 2011), including:

- Charles Street Weir – Parramatta River (LEP #I733)
- Harrisford (and potential archaeological site) – 182 George Street (LEP #I00248)³³
- Newlands Archaeological Site – 9 Thomas Street (LEP #A3)
- Office (and potential archaeological site) – 68A and 70 Phillip Street (LEP #I740)

While heritage items are located in the vicinity of the study area, and therefore their significance should be considered in relation to any potential visual impact that the proposed development may potentially have, no registered heritage items are located within the study area itself.

The closest locally listed heritage item to the study area is the Charles Street Weir (Figure 6.4), the Statement of Significance for which states that:

*Charles Street Weir has historical, aesthetic, social and scientific significance. The heritage significance of the Charles Street Weir is enhanced by its place within a recreational reserve. For the local community, it holds an important sense of place.*³⁴

³³ Harrisford is listed on both the SHR and LEP

³⁴ State Heritage Inventory, Charles Street Weir, Available at:

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5063021>

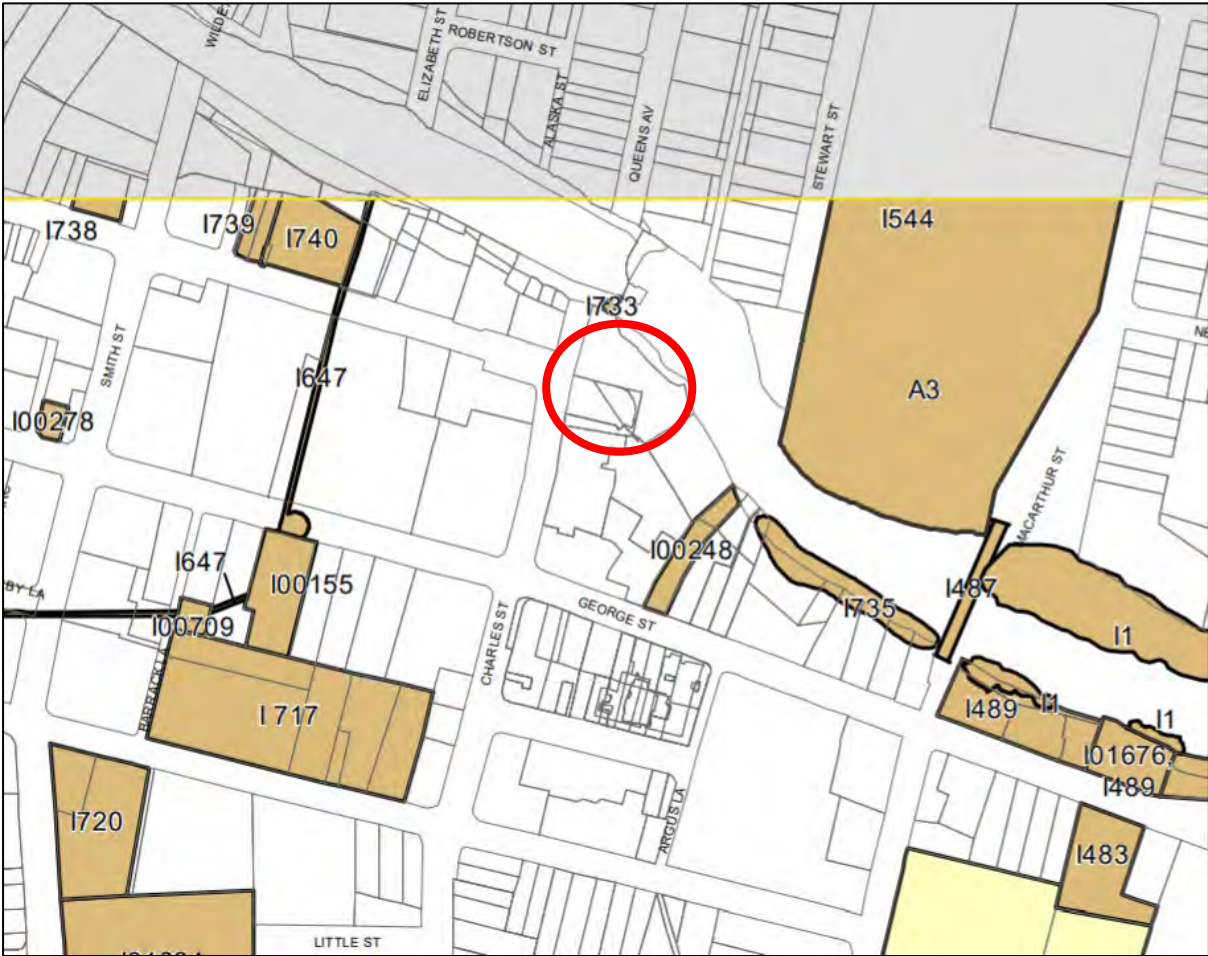


Figure 6.3: Parramatta LEP 2011 Heritage Map 10, Study Area in Red



Figure 6.4: Charles St Weir, View west (Source: Curio 2019)

6.2. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Significance

A formal process of Aboriginal Community Consultation has been undertaken for the Charles Street Square Upgrade project (in accordance with OEH Consultation Guidelines), including the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR, Appendix B to this SoHI), prepared in accordance with OEH Guidelines *Guide to Investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW*.

The ACHAR documents the process of investigation, consultation and assessment with regards to Aboriginal cultural heritage and Aboriginal archaeology, as undertaken for the project. A summary of the process and findings of the ACHAR (Curio Projects 2019b) is presented below.

6.2.1. Aboriginal Community Consultation

The Aboriginal Community Consultation process in accordance with OEH Guidelines consists of four main stages:

Stage 1—Notification of project proposal and registration of interest

Stage 2—Presentation of Information about the Proposal Project

Stage 3—Gathering Information about Cultural Significance

Stage 4—Review of Draft Cultural Heritage Assessment Report

On behalf of Spackman Mossop Michaels (SMM) and Council, Curio Projects initiated a process of Aboriginal Community Consultation in accordance with OEH guidelines in April 2019. In accordance with Stage 1.2 of the consultation guidelines, letters were sent to the relevant statutory bodies on 12th April 2019 (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council, the Registrar Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983, the National Native Title Tribunal, Native Title Services Corporation Limited and City of Parramatta Council), requesting names of Aboriginal people who may have an interest in the proposed project area and hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and places relevant to the Charles Street Square site.

A public notice advertising the Charles Street Square development project was also placed in the Parramatta local newspaper, Parramatta Advertiser on 10th April 2019 (consistent with Stage 1.3 of the Consultation Guidelines), advising of the project location and proposed development, and inviting registration from local Aboriginal people.

All names compiled from Stage 1.2 of the process were then written to via email and/or registered post on 9th May 2019 inviting registration in the process of community consultation for the SFS Redevelopment. Response was requested within 14 days of the date of the letter (i.e. 23rd May 2019)

As a result of Stages 1.2 and 1.3, 17 Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) were identified for the Charles Street Square development project (in alphabetical order):

- A1 Indigenous Services
- Barking Owl Aboriginal Corporation
- Biamanga
- Butucarbin Aboriginal Corporation

- Cullendulla
- Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation (DCAC)
- Des Dyer
- Darug Land Observations (DLO)
- Goobah
- Merrigarn
- Muragadi
- Murramarang
- Phil Boney
- Ryan Johnson
- Widescope
- Yulay Cultural Services

Each project RAP was provided with written details of the proposed project and the draft proposed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment methodology for the project (Stage 2 of the consultation guidelines). This letter was sent to all project RAPs in July 2019. Request was made for comment and/or review within 28 days of provision of the methodology document.

All project RAPs were invited to a site visit and on-site consultation meeting on 20 September 2019, providing an opportunity to visit the site, and to discuss the overall project and proposed methodology. The site visit/meeting was attended by Steve Randall (DLALC), Jamie Eastwood (DACHA), Lana Wedgwood (DCAC), as well as Sam Cooling (Curio Projects), and representatives from the City of Parramatta Council; Elizabeth Sandoval, Paul Graham and Julia Gauci. During the site visit and meeting, Curio Projects presented an overview of the proposed project and results of the due diligence assessment, including a summary of the proposed cultural heritage assessment methodology, after which Elizabeth Sandoval presented more detail about the proposed development via presentation of photomontages and an on-site walkthrough

While an opportunity was made for project RAPs to visit the project site, no archaeological survey was able to be undertaken, due to the nature of the study area as a highly developed and urbanised site, completely covered with existing structures, building, hardstand, landscaping, therefore presenting with no potential for surface artefacts nor landscape/landform features capable of informing Aboriginal archaeological assessment, to be visible.

Key points discussed at the September 2019 site meeting were as follows:

- Opportunities for integration of Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretation initiatives within the development, such as bush tucker within proposed floral displays
- Consideration of songlines integrated within development somehow to share stories/information of the river from Circular Quay to Parramatta Quay
- Use of the new amphitheatre for Burramatta NAIDOC celebrations?
- Amphitheatre could include storyboards for people using the space to look at
- Suggestion for a future accessible link from the eastern part of the River corridor to Parramatta Quay, help connect east and west

- Potential for Council to consider ways to quickly clean the river following flooding events (large amounts of rubbish visible in water around Charles Street Weir)

The draft ACHAR will be provided to all project RAPs for review and comment, with all responses, comments and feedback incorporated into the final ACHAR.

6.2.2. Statement of Aboriginal Heritage Significance

The local Aboriginal community of Parramatta have constantly stated the high cultural and spiritual significance of the Parramatta River. The location of the study area is included within the social significance of the Parramatta River both for its more intangible values, as well as its archaeological evidence for long-enduring and continuous Aboriginal occupation of the river foreshore, and as a key component of the wider Aboriginal landscape of Parramatta.

The study area is therefore considered to have **high social and spiritual significance** to the local Aboriginal community, connected to the significant intangible values associated with the Parramatta River foreshore, as well as part of the wider Darug Aboriginal landscape.

The study area holds **potential to be of historical value and significance** to local Aboriginal people in connection with the wider area in this part of Parramatta associated with early interactions between European colonists and Aboriginal people at the Parramatta settlement.

While the Aboriginal archaeological significance of the study area is not able to be accurately assessed until the results of Aboriginal archaeological investigations are available, the study area has **high research potential** for its location within the mapped extent of the Parramatta Sand Body (PSB), an alluvial terrace formation which is significant on a State level due to its high potential for stratified Aboriginal archaeological material dating back to the Pleistocene (c.30,000 years BP). The study area has potential to contain a chrono-stratified archaeological deposit that would be both rare and representative in the context of Aboriginal occupation in this area of Parramatta.

Should the PSB be present within the study area, and contain a remnant Aboriginal archaeological deposit, the study area may have **high scientific significance** for its ability to contribute knowledge to the archaeological record about Aboriginal occupation of this area of Parramatta and across the PSB itself.

6.3. Historical Archaeological Significance

Archaeological significance refers to the heritage significance of known or potential archaeological remains. Archaeological remains are an integral component of the overall significance of a place and it is therefore necessary to assess the archaeological resources of a site independently from aboveground and other heritage elements. Assessment of archaeological significance is more challenging because the extent and nature of the archaeological features are often unknown, and judgment is usually formulated on the basis of expected or potential attributes. The *Burra Charter* principles and values criteria are important to the assessment, conservation and management of sites and relics, and are necessary for assessing the heritage significance of an archaeological site.

A detailed archaeological significance assessment for the study area has been detailed within the AA report (Curio Projects 2019a). A summary of the site's archaeological significance extracted from the

corresponding report is provided below, however for detailed historical archaeological significance assessment, reference should be made to the AA.

As discussed in Section 2.1.3 above, the historical archaeological potential of the study area has been previously assessed in the 2000 PHALMS report (AMUs 3209 and 2936). Both AMUs were assessed as having moderate archaeological research potential.

The Statement of Significance for AMU 3209 and 2936 is:

This area was part of the early Rose Hill settlement and developed as part of the commercial centre of Parramatta through the convict and colonial periods to the present day. The Parramatta River was a significant feature in the development of Parramatta as a regional commercial and industrial centre. This is currently the site of Parramatta's main ferry wharf.

The physical archaeological evidence within this area may include built landforms, structural features, intact subfloor deposits, open deposits and scatters, ecological samples and individual artefacts which have potential to yield information relating to major historic themes including Convicts, Cultural Sites, Environment, Housing, Land Tenure, Law and Order, Townships and Transport.

Archaeological evidence at this site is likely to have been subject to major disturbance.

The archaeological significance for the Charles Street Square study area has been assessed by taking into consideration the historical overview of the site and surrounds, especially in relation to the comparative analysis of other relevant historical archaeological sites in Sydney and Parramatta. In particular, the identified sites and recommendations from the PHALMS study were reconsidered (as presented in detail within the AA report). This included assessing the nature of potential structural and cultural remains that may exist on site and the occupation periods to which they likely belong. The archaeological significance assessment was prepared in accordance with the *NSW Heritage Criteria for Assessing Significance related to Archaeological Sites and Relics*.

In addition to the significance described according to significance criteria as presented above, the archaeological research potential of a site is generally further informed by three key questions:

- Can the site contribute knowledge that no other resource can?
- Can the site contribute knowledge which no other site can?
- Is this knowledge relevant to general questions about human history or other substantive questions relating to Australian history, or does it contribute to other major research questions?

6.3.1. Statement of Historical Archaeological Significance

The Charles Street Square study area is unlikely to contribute unique historic archaeological knowledge, which other resources can in Parramatta, especially because many similar but more extensive sites have already been archaeologically investigated. The study area will contribute archaeological information that may be compared and contrasted to similar sites in Parramatta. A unique quality of the study area is its proximity to the Parramatta River, which may contribute some knowledge which no other site can in relation to water management and use in the colony. This knowledge may contribute towards answering questions about the initial establishment and

development of Australia's second colony settlement. However, considering the development and flood history of the study area the likelihood of material remains surviving is greatly reduced.

The archaeological evidence relating to the nineteenth century occupation of the study area has the potential to provide information about the study area's development in relation to the historic socio-economic profiles of the occupants. The study area also has some potential to provide information on the nineteenth and early twentieth century water supply, use and management in Parramatta that could be obtained from several wells or cisterns that may survive on the study area.

Cumulatively, the potential archaeological information gathered from the Charles Street Square study area would be able to demonstrate practices relating to lifeway patterns typical of the nineteenth and early twentieth century Parramatta, with potential to supplement the existing knowledge of the local area.

7. Description of Proposed Works

The Charles Street Square Stage 1 Renewal development proposes to deliver a substantial upgrade of the existing Charles Street Square, improving amenity, access, legibility and identity at this important gateway to Parramatta City. The project will be delivered in coordination with a major public artwork, and will complement the RMS upgrade of the ferry wharf infrastructure.

A high quality river foreshore is a major opportunity identified in the Parramatta 2038 Community Strategic Plan for the Parramatta CBD, supported by the adoption of the Parramatta City River Strategy. The completed upgrade will be designed to provide:

- A memorable arrival and departure experience at a key City gateway;
- Inclusive and legible connections between street and river;
- A generous public space with potential to host ancillary activation or informal gatherings with views, shade and trees;
- Integration of wayfinding, visitor information, ticketing and public amenities;
- Continuous level access along the foreshore promenade;
- Reduced visual clutter and vehicular conflict to improve legibility and safety;
- New public artwork and site interpretation; and
- Coordination with the proposed Phillip Street upgrade.

The key components of the project design as per the preferred concept design will include:

- Circulation system of ramps and walkways that provides universal access between the street and the riverfront
- Generous seating terraces and steps that integrate with the ramps and walkways to create more direct access to the riverfront, and also to create a space that can be inhabited for events as well as everyday activities (rest, viewing the river, waiting for the ferry etc)
- Preservation of existing trees, as well as planting of additional trees
- New shade structure integrated with seating terraces
- Preservation of existing means of access to adjacent land uses (driveway to 94 Phillip St, right of carriageway to 36 Charles St)

Development activities associated with the construction of the Upgrade will include:

- Demolition of existing terraces and replacement with new walkways and ramps, installation of new wooden seating terraces and timber seating around existing trees;
- The existing automated toilets will be relocated;
- Construction of several new structures (i.e. new shade structure, new ferry shed shed, mobile visitor information stand etc.);
- Demolition and relocation of several existing elements;
- Cutting and filling to achieve required levels;
- Installation of new traffic bollards at the corner of Charles and Phillip Streets;
- Excavations for new and revised service routes, stormwater lines and pits; and
- Retention of existing trees, planting of new trees and general landscaping.

The inclusion of integrated ramps and walkways has removed the need for a lift, as original recommended in the Charles Street Square Strategy (Hassell, 2017). The majority of the development activities proposed will have a minimal below-ground impact, with the majority of development works

proposed to the current slope towards the river, mainly requiring filling rather than excavation. Where the concept plan proposes cutting of the slope, this impact would be relatively minor, with the preferred concept plans showing cutting in select areas only to a maximum of 500mm below the existing ground level (see Figure 7.9).

A new storeroom is proposed to be constructed, adjacent to the 'Port Bar' (36 Charles Street), beneath an extension of the street level plaza over the existing stairs in that location (new stairs are proposed adjacent) (Figure 7.10). This extension (with store room below) will be a structure above existing levels (i.e. will only require demolition of existing fabric, as opposed to excavation below the ground surface), with the finished floor level of the storeroom to be consistent with the existing survey RL in that location. The storeroom will also provide a more generous space from which to access the upper level of the Port Bar.

In addition to these works outlined within the concept plan, there will also be the introduction of new subsurface services (Figure 7.9) and temporary structures such as site compounds and staging areas. Development activities of this nature also have the potential to impact subsurface (i.e. archaeological) deposits.

The final detail of the design remains under refinement at the time of writing, and may be subject to minor revisions, such as the final detailed design of the terraces, ramps and walkways. However, this has been allowed for within the impact assessment presented in this report (see Section 8 below).

Figure 7.1 to Figure 7.7 presents the concept design for the development, while Figure 7.9 summarises the indicative locations and extent of below ground impacts/excavation required for the development.



Figure 7.1: Preferred Concept Design- Context Plan (SMM 6.9.19)

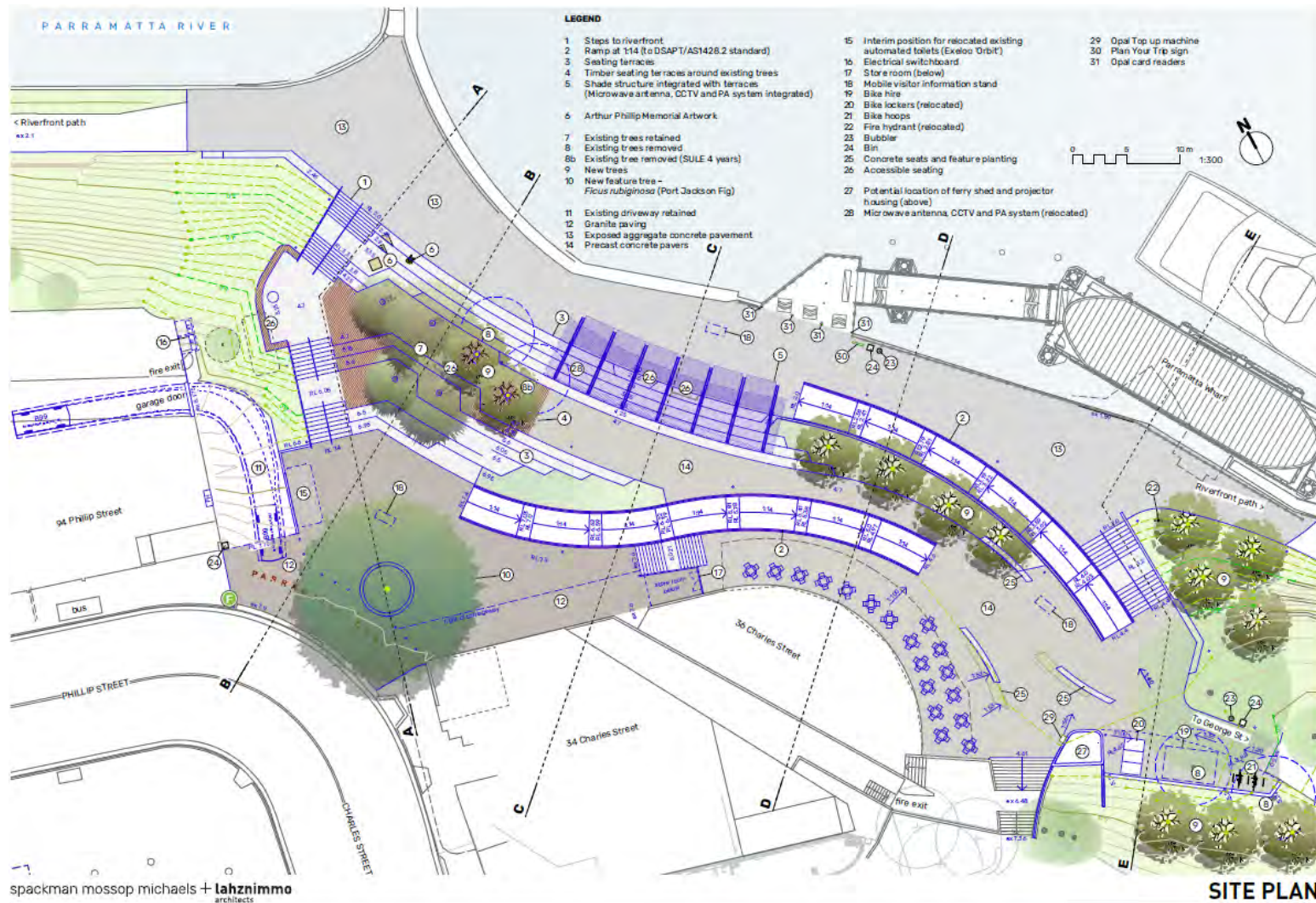


Figure 7.2: Preferred Concept Design- Site Plan (SMM 6.9.19)

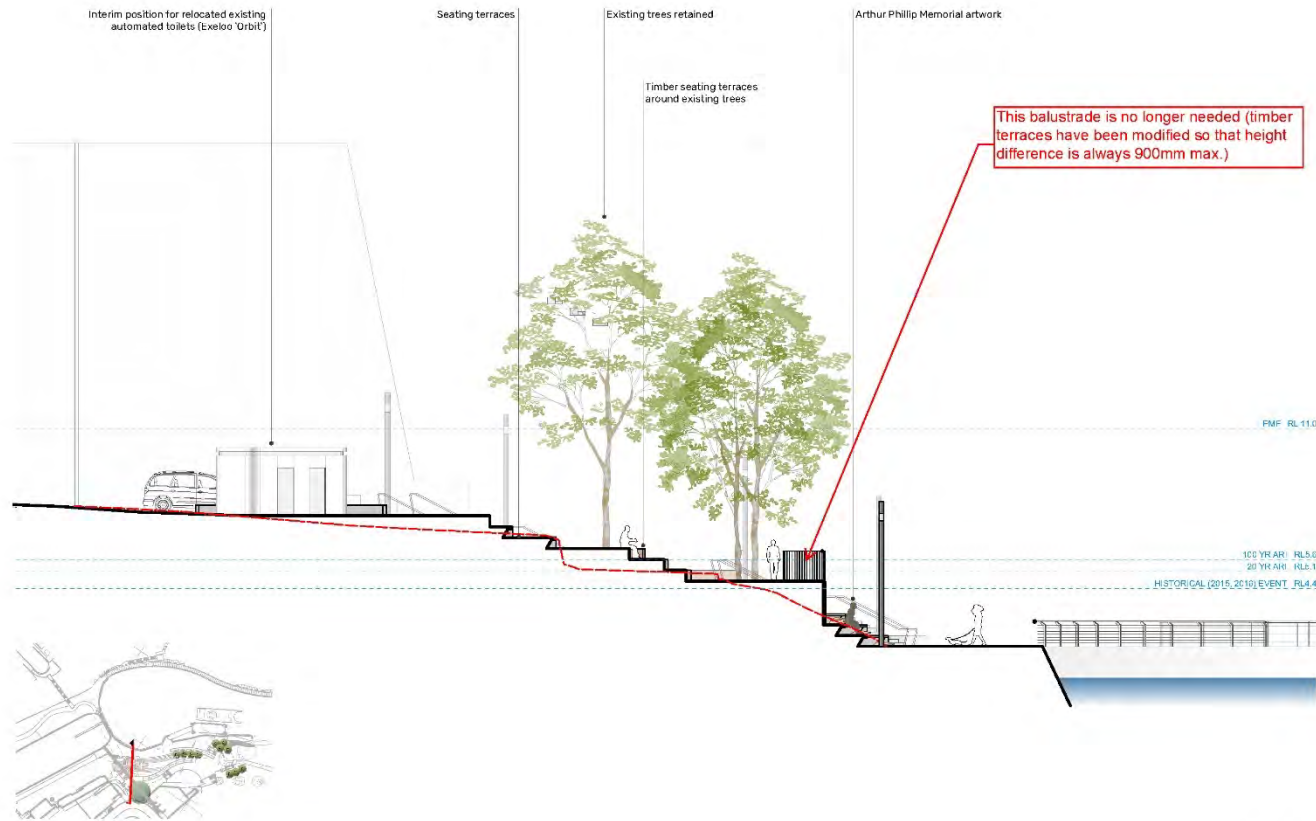
SMM 06/09/2019



spackman mossop michaelis + lahznimmo architects
CHARLES STREET SQUARE | PREFERRED CONCEPT DESIGN | DRAFT

SECTION A-A
 22/08/2019

Figure 7.3: Section A-A (Source: SMM 22.8.19)

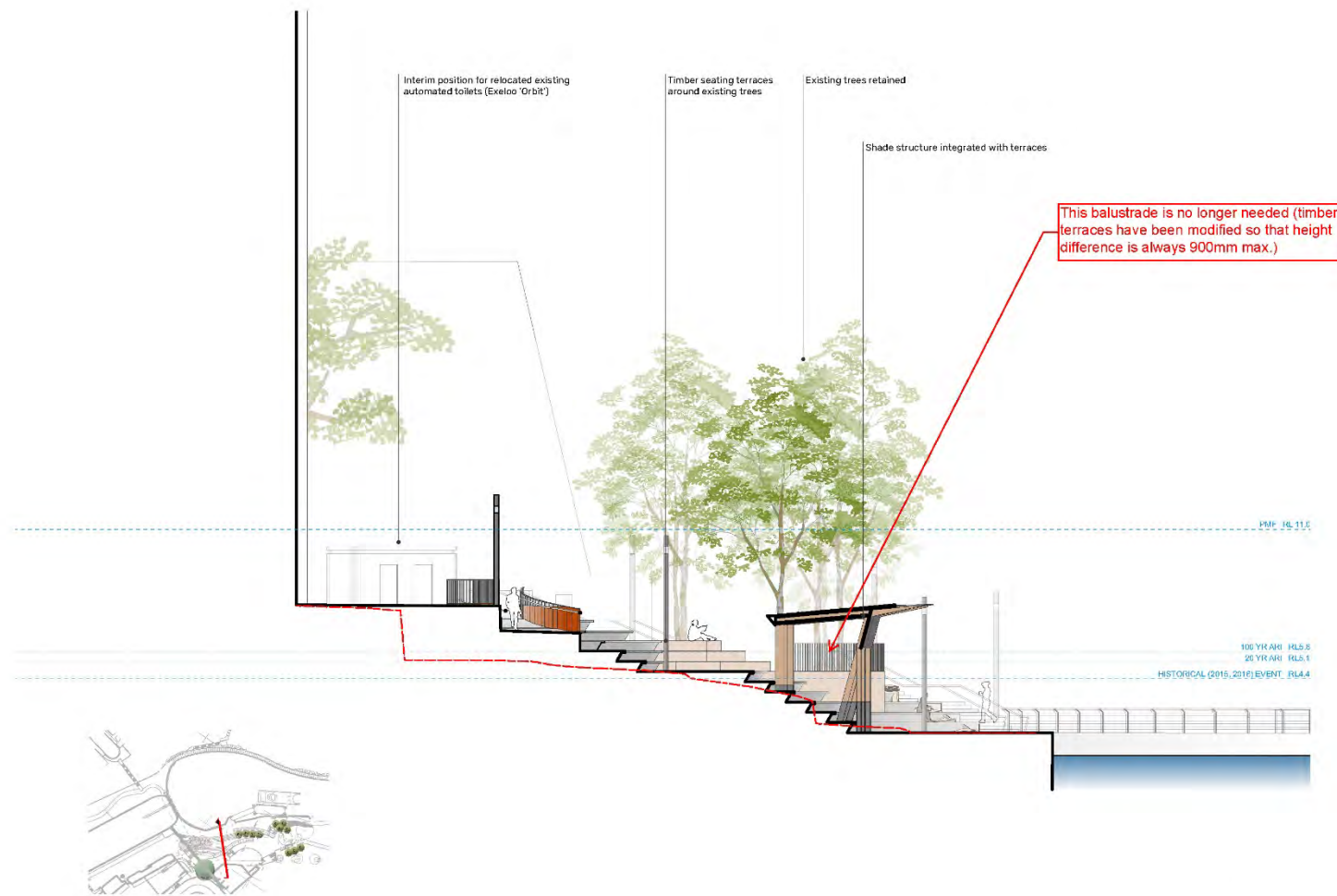


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SECTION B-B

22/08/2019

Figure 7.4: Section B-B (Source: SMM 22.8.19)



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SECTION C-C

22/08/2019

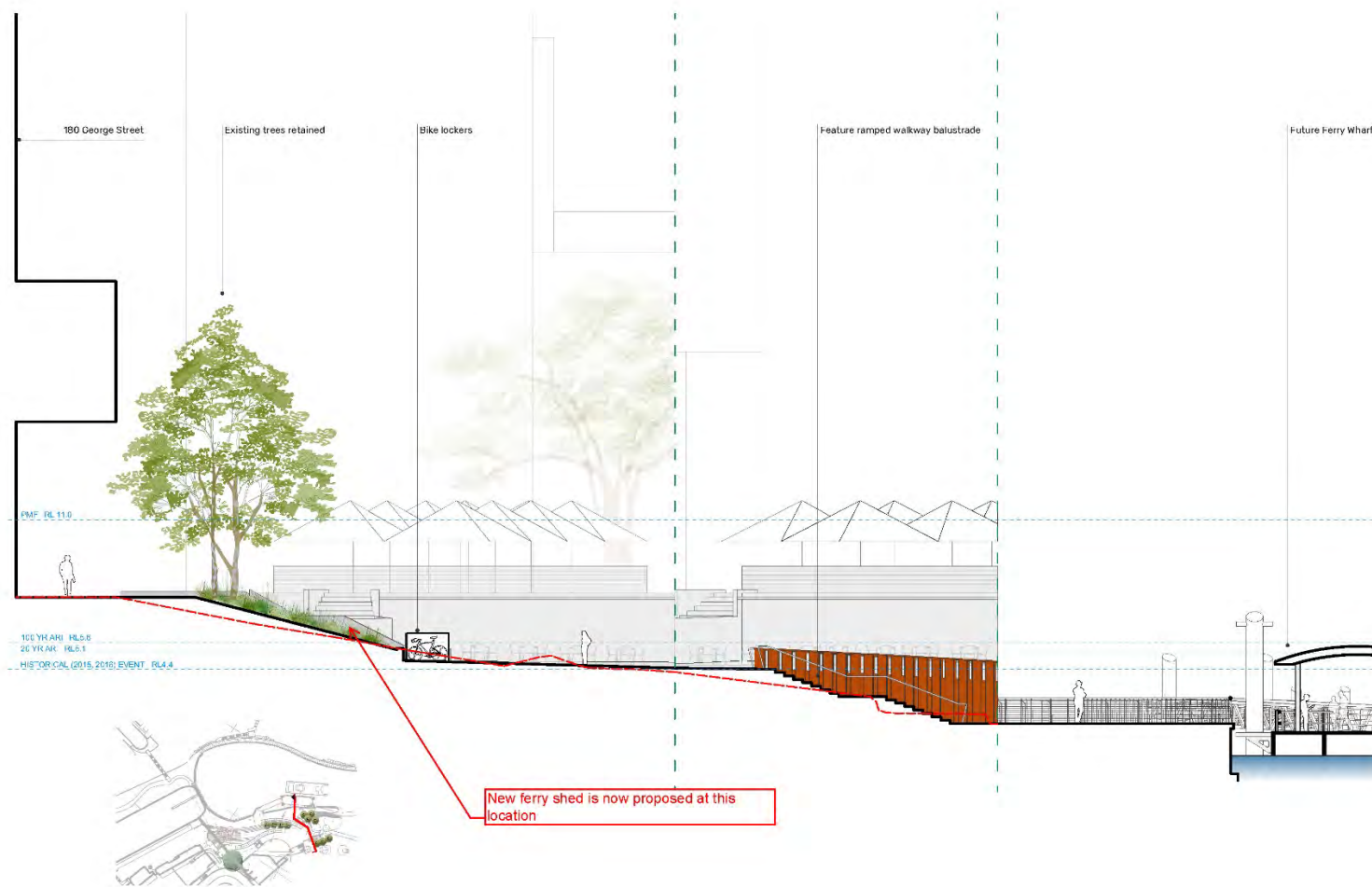
Figure 7.5: Section C-C (Source: SMM 22.8.19)



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SECTION D-D
22/08/2019

Figure 7.6: Section D-D (Source: SMM 22.8.19)



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SECTION E-E

22/08/2019

Figure 7.7: Section E-E (Source: SMM 22.8.19)

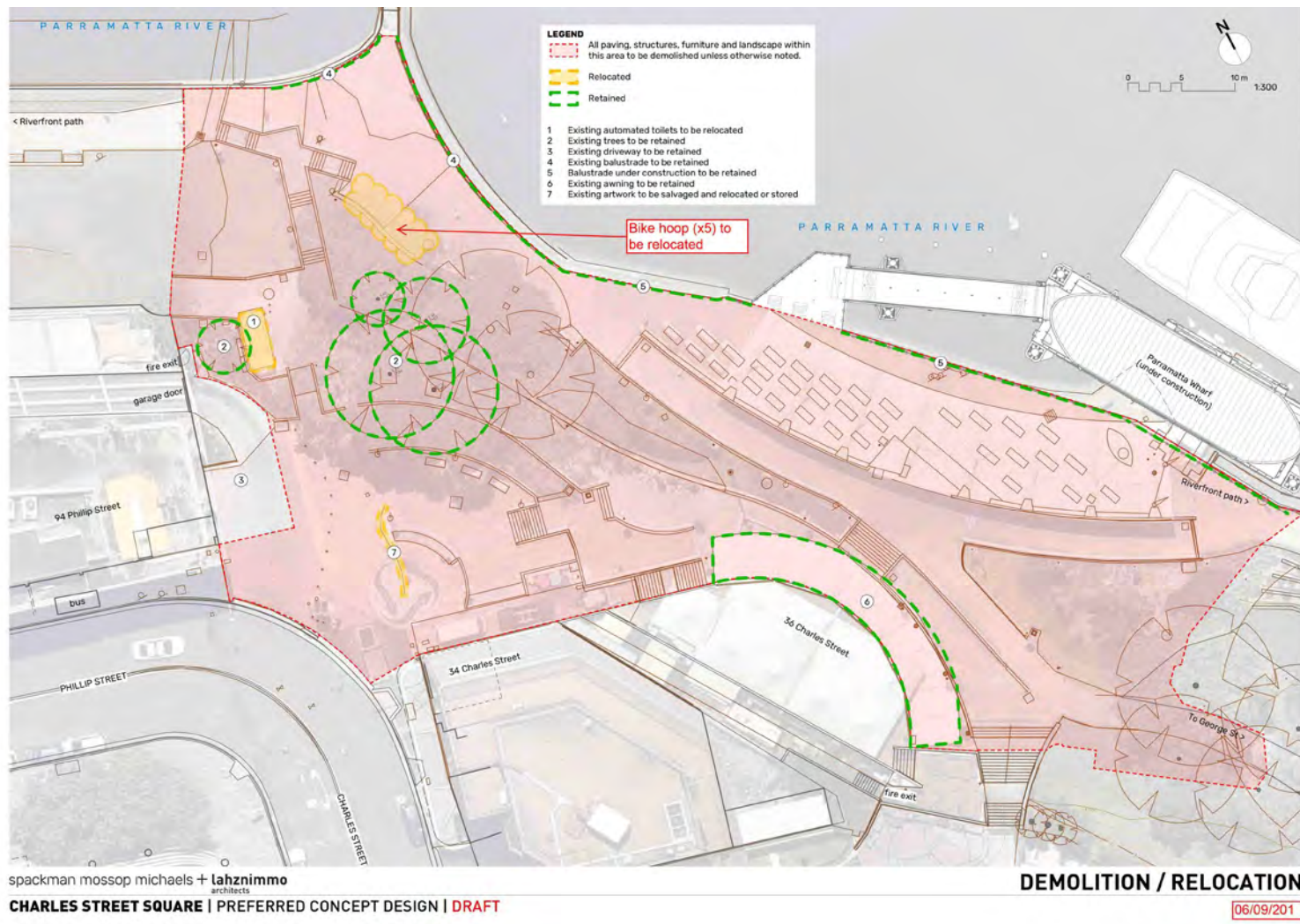


Figure 7.8: Demolition and relocation plan for the project. ((Source: Spackman Mossop Michaels 2019)

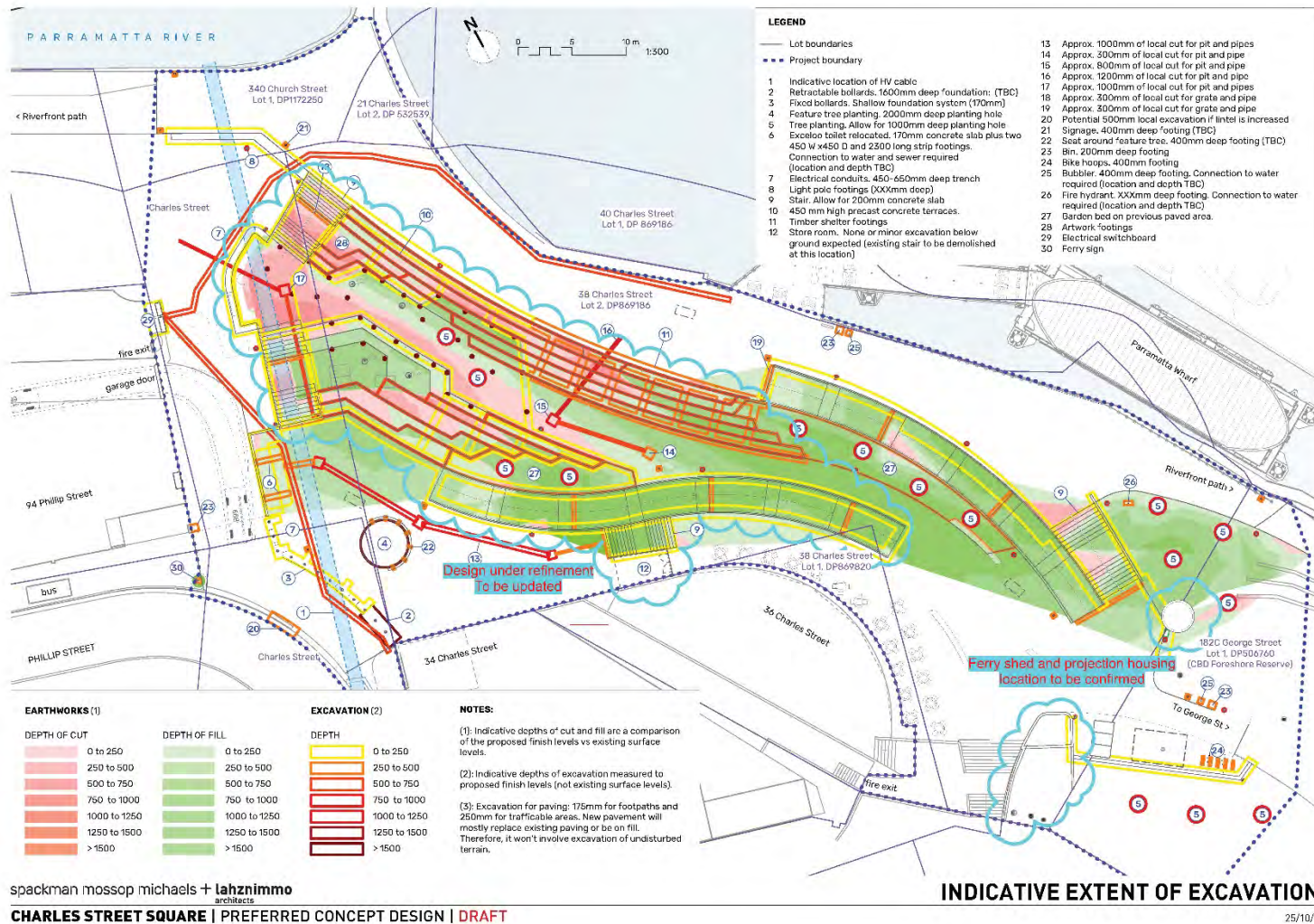


Figure 7.9: Indicative Extent of Excavation, Preferred Concept Design (Source: SMM 25.10.19)



Figure 7.10: Existing Stairs beneath which storeroom is proposed (Source: SMM 2019)

8. Assessment of Heritage Impact

The following section provides an assessment of the potential for the Charles Street Square Upgrade to present any potential heritage impact in its locational context. This assessment has been undertaken both in relation to any potential impact to built heritage items in the vicinity of the site, as well as in relation to potential archaeological impact (both Aboriginal and archaeological), and potential impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage values.

The proposed development relates to the upgrade of the public domain space of the Charles Street Square and link to the Parramatta Wharf. The study area does not contain any heritage items, and therefore will present no physical impact to any heritage fabric. Therefore, potential impacts assessed in the following section relate to visual and archaeological impacts only.

8.1. Visual Impacts

The proposed development consists of a relatively low scale urban upgrade development of the public domain of Charles Street Square and its connection to the newly upgraded Parramatta Wharf. The proposed development does not include construction of any substantial buildings or structures (neither of substantial height, nor bulk) that would present any visual heritage impact in its locational context along the southern bank of the Parramatta River. The low scale development proposed is consistent with the existing surrounds and River foreshore in this location, and will not be visible from the Parramatta Park World Heritage Site, nor from Harrisford House.

The proposed works will serve to enhance the shoreline in this location, both with respect to public access, as well as cohesion and aesthetic improvement of the public domain and its connection to surrounding facilities and existing elements (i.e. Parramatta Wharf, Charles and Philip Streets, Port Bar etc).

The proposed development will maintain and enhance the existing visual (and physical) connection with Charles Street Weir (the closest heritage listed item to the study area), commensurate with existing view lines and character. The improvement of the public domain in this location will in fact facilitate a minor positive impact to the setting of the Charles Street Weir. The proposed new landscaping and gardens along the south/eastern part of the study area will serve to further connect the development into the landscape setting and context of the River foreshore.

Overall, the proposed development will present a positive visual heritage impact, enhancing the setting of the Parramatta River foreshore and landscape in this location, with neutral visual impact to any surrounding heritage items.

8.2. Archaeological Impacts

8.2.1. Historical Archaeology

The Historical AA for the project (Curio Projects 2019a- Appendix A) reviewed the historical archaeological potential for the study area and identified the area generally as having low to moderate archaeological potential. The extent of the physical impacts, as summarised in Section 7 and the accompanying design figures and cross sections, indicates that the areas of proposed cut and excavation works within the study area will be largely focussed in the north-west end of the study area.

An overlay of these areas of cut and the excavation for storm water lines, associated pits, retractable bollards and tree planting indicates that majority of the substantial excavations will avoid the most significant known historical structure (i.e. the house of Barber, c1820s to 1870s). Some small excavation work proposed by the development (i.e. 250mm to 500mm in depth) are likely to impact upon the northern most twentieth century cottage fronting Charles Street. Most other areas with historically indicated structures are generally avoided by areas of excavation as proposed by the development.

However, the installation of the required storm water system for the project does have the potential to intersect with the footprints of the Barber house and the twentieth century structures as shown in Figure 8.1. The particular portion of the stormwater system, just north-east of the corner of Charles and Phillip Streets is noted as “1m of local cut for pit and pipes”. This line runs across the plotted position of the former Barber house.

Therefore, while historical archaeological potential for the site has largely been established as low to moderate, the potential significance of the Barber occupation in this area will warrant a prudent approach to the potential impact in the form of archaeological testing in the area prior to the development works proceeding. The recommendations for historical archaeological mitigation for the study area are discussed and presented further in the following section.

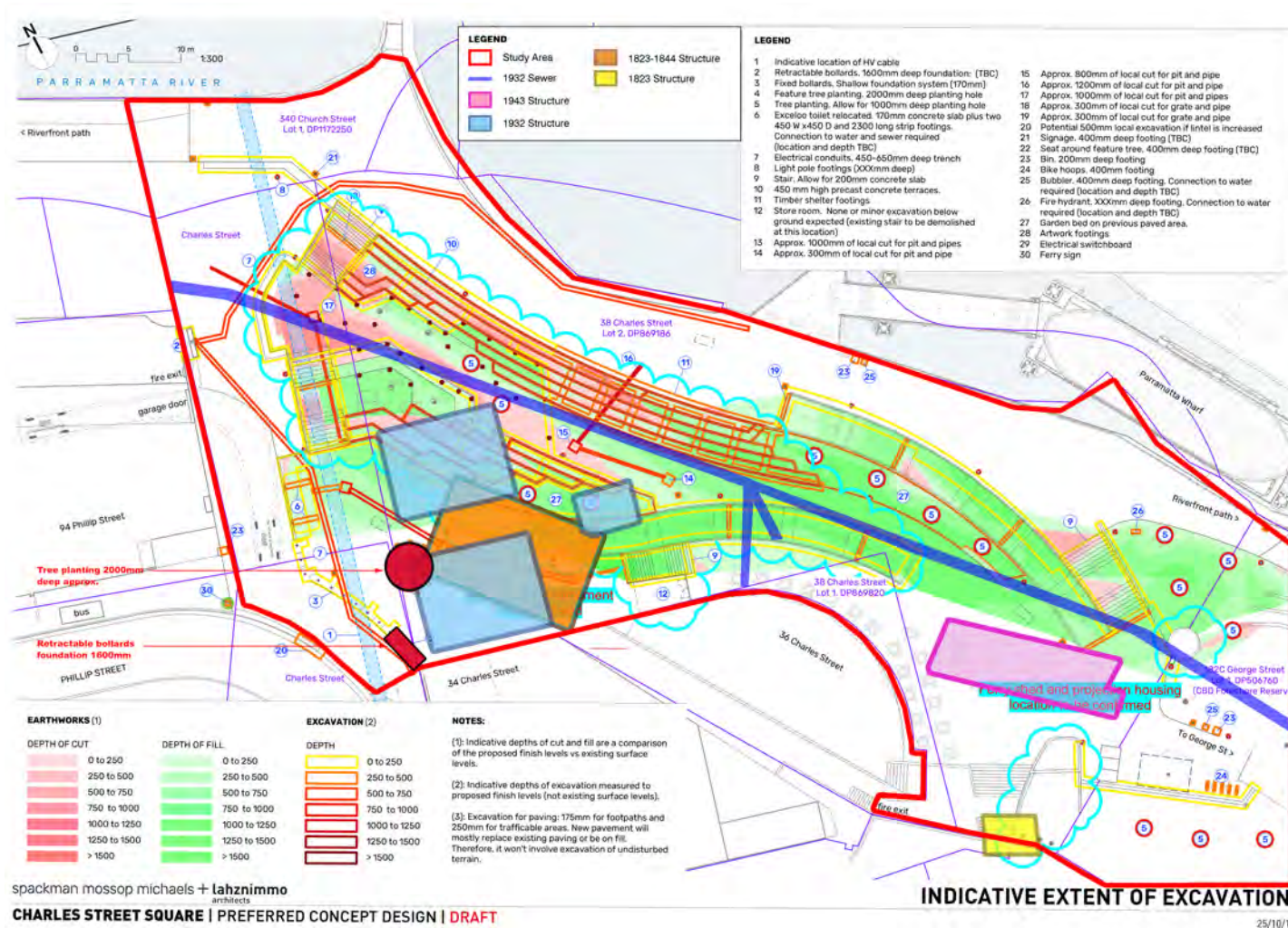


Figure 8.1: Area of excavations with overlay of historic structures. Note the line of stormwater line and pits (arrows) and the large tree planting (red circle) intersecting with the Barber structure (1823-1844) and the 1932 bungalow. (Source: Northrop with Curio additions)

8.2.2. Aboriginal Archaeology

Development activities with the potential to impact Aboriginal sites and/or potential archaeology are those that extend below the ground surface within the zone of mapped Aboriginal archaeological potential. These development impacts include:

- Cutting and filling to achieve required levels;
- Installation of new traffic bollards at the corner of Charles and Phillip Streets;
- Local trenching for new and amended services (e.g. electrical conduits, stormwater lines and pits);
- Other minor excavation for site features such as light pole footings, bike hoops, signage etc; and
- Planting of new trees and general landscaping.

Below ground impacts of the development are generally confined to the western side of the study area, with minimal to no below ground impacts proposed for the southeastern extent of the area (i.e. the southeastern part of the study area consists mainly of new gardens and landscaping with minimal development).

Figure 8.2 presents a sketch of the below ground development impacts with reference to the mapped extent of the PSB within the study area (i.e. the area of potential Aboriginal archaeology).

Archaeological potential within the Charles Street Square study area is directly related to the possible presence of the PSB, and the Aboriginal archaeological potential associated with this feature. Therefore, the archaeological potential within the study area is directly related to that of registered AHIMS sites 45-6-2648 (Charles/George 1) and 45-6-2673 (RTA-G1).

Therefore, below ground impacts for the Charles Street Square Development are considered to have potential to impact on the extent of the PAD associated with AHIMS site 45-6-2648 (Charles/George 1).

Curio Projects have been working closely with SMM and Council through the development of the Concept Plan for the Charles Street Square upgrade in order to provide advice regarding the potential of the development to impact Aboriginal archaeology. Following from this advice, below ground development impacts have been located as much as possible to the north of the study area (i.e. within areas of highly disturbed soils adjacent to the river foreshore with low to no potential to contain Aboriginal archaeological deposits), with the concept design making a concerted effort to reduce impacts within the mapped extent of the PSB.

Therefore, development impacts to the potential area of the PSB have been reduced as much as possible, affording some conservation of potential natural soil profiles and the archaeology that may be contained within them. However, remaining areas of the study area with the potential to contain the PSB that will require impact through the proposed development will require further Aboriginal archaeological management.

Section 5 of the ATR (Curio Projects 2019c) has developed Aboriginal archaeological management and mitigation strategies for the study area, which are summarised in the following sub-section.

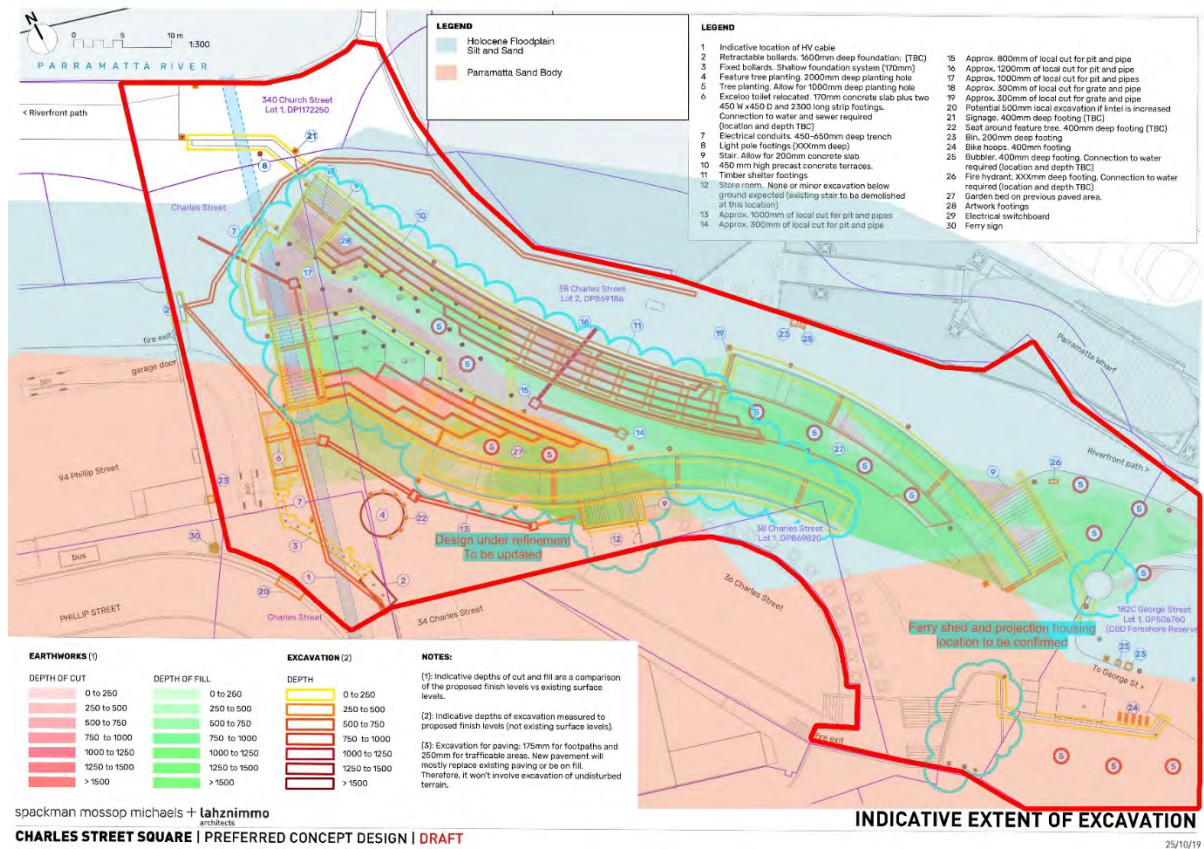


Figure 8.2: Indicative Extent of Excavation with Aboriginal Archaeology (Source: SMM with Curio Additions 2019)

8.3. Summary of Heritage Impacts

The proposed development relates to the upgrade of the public domain space of the Charles Street Square and link to the Parramatta Wharf. The study area does not contain any heritage items, and therefore will present no physical impact to any heritage fabric. Overall, the proposed development will present a positive visual heritage impact, enhancing the setting of the Parramatta River foreshore and landscape in this location, with neutral visual impact to any surrounding heritage items.

The assessment of impact and summary of proposed mitigation strategies with reference to Aboriginal and historical archaeology is discussed in the following sub-sections.

8.3.1. Historical Archaeology

The Historical AA for the Charles Street Upgrade study area has found that:

- There has been almost 200 years of continuous historical occupation of the subject site;
- The locations of former structures have been identified from historic sources. These are likely to date from the 1820s to the mid twentieth century;
- There is low to moderate potential for historical archaeological resources to survive at the subject site;
- The potential archaeological remains are likely to be associated with the domestic, and possibly commercial, occupation of the site;

- The potential historical archaeological resources have been assessed, in accordance with the NSW Heritage Significance Criteria, as potentially having State heritage significance (in the case of Barbers' and Owen's occupation), and Local heritage significance for the remainder of the site;
- Potential archaeological remains are therefore defined as 'relics' in accordance with the Heritage Act 1977;
- The proposed development would disturb and/or remove portions of potential relics at the subject site.

Therefore, the following recommendations are made for the development with respect to historical archaeological potential and management:

- An application should be made to the Archaeologists, Department of Premier and Cabinet, for an excavation permit, issued under Section 140 of the NSW Heritage Act;
- This permit should allow for excavation in accordance with an Archaeological Research Design and Excavation Methodology (ARD);
- This assessment Report (i.e. the AA report for the study area- Appendix A to this SoHI) and the ARD should be submitted in support of the permit application; and
- Inclusion of the information generated from investigation of archaeological resources in other parts of the site could also be considered as part of a public interpretation strategy, which is currently being finalised.

8.3.2. Aboriginal Archaeology

Below ground impacts for the Charles Street Square Development are considered to have potential to impact on the extent of the PAD associated with AHIMS site 45-6-2648 (Charles/George 1) (i.e. the area of the study area consistent with the mapped extent of the PSB that has potential to be encountered through specific below-ground impacts of the development), and therefore will require Aboriginal archaeological mitigation and management.

Section 5.2 of the ATR for the project (Appendix to the ACHAR- Appendix B to this SoHI) develops and presents an Aboriginal archaeological excavation methodology and research design for the study area that has been developed based on the Aboriginal archaeological predictive model, with the aim of investigating the nature and extent of any subsurface Aboriginal archaeological potential within the impact zones of the proposed development

Aboriginal archaeological test excavation under the OEH *Code of Practice* is not possible at the Charles St Square study area for the following reasons:

- The study area is in a highly developed urban environment, covered by a layer of historical fill
- A historical archaeological deposit has the potential to be present across the study area, and would overlay the potential remnant soil profiles with the potential to contain in situ Aboriginal archaeological deposits, and will require investigation/removal in accordance with a S140/S60 consent (NSW Heritage Act), prior to the commencement of any Aboriginal test excavation.
- The nature of the PSB profile provides complications for archaeological excavations- due to the instability of the sands and relative depth at which the PSB extends- making the excavation

methodology as allowed under the *Code of Practice* not able to be applied to the current study area.

Therefore, a methodology and research design for Aboriginal archaeological investigation of the Charles Street Square study area has been developed- presented in detail in Section 5.2 of the ATR - to investigate the nature of the potential natural soil profiles within the study area. Aboriginal archaeological investigation within the study area would be undertaken under an approved AHIP- an application for which should be supported by the ACHAR and the recommendations entailed within.

The aims of Aboriginal archaeological test excavation within the Charles Street Square study area will be to:

- Identify the boundary, extent and intactness of the PSB within the main impact zones of the study area.
- Determine the nature, depth, extent, and significance of any potential Aboriginal archaeological deposits within the study area.
- Identify any locations with Aboriginal stone objects (or other sites) within the study area, for which impact via the proposed works will be unavoidable, and develop management strategies to minimise or mitigate these potential impacts.
- Salvage a reasonable sample of any Aboriginal archaeological deposits that may be present within the footprint of the development impacts, prior to commencement of development works.
- Provide data for the overall archaeological record to help refine future archaeological predictive modelling across the Parramatta region (if possible).

The Aboriginal archaeological sampling strategy for the Charles Street Square study area has been developed, where possible, to be in accordance with the OEH *Code of Practice*, as well as relatively consistent or at least comparable with sampling strategies for previous excavations in the vicinity- in order to facilitate comparative analysis of results.

Aboriginal archaeological investigation of the Charles Street Square study area is proposed to be undertaken in two phases:

1. Initial testing of the Aboriginal archaeological potential of the main impact zones of the study area (Phase 1) with an aim to identify the presence or absence of intact subsurface profiles of the PSB and any associated Aboriginal archaeological deposit that may be present; and
2. Guided by the results of the initial testing (Phase 1), Phase 2 (salvage excavation) is proposed to be undertaken within development impact zones in order to recover the entirety of any Aboriginal archaeological deposit within the study area that requires impact through the proposed development works.

Figure 8.3 presents an indicative layout plan of the possible grid for the Phase 1 Aboriginal archaeological investigation- with exact trench locations and number of test trenches to be finalised in the field subject to some flexibility at the time of excavation as necessary, in order to respond to local landscape features (i.e. stability of the soil profiles encountered, presence of previous disturbance within the study area such as existing services, location in combination with historical archaeological

investigations etc). Phase 1 excavation would include excavation of a maximum of 18 x 1m x 1m test trenches.

For full details of the proposed Aboriginal archaeological investigation methodology, including sampling strategy, field methods and research design, reference should be made to Section 5.2 of the ATR (Appendix C to the ACHAR- which functions as Appendix B to this SoHI).



Figure 8.3: Indicative layout of maximum number of Phase 1 test trenches at 10m spacing.

N.B This plan is NOT a definitive representation of ALL the trenches to be excavated, but a prediction of the maximum number possible/required in relation to the study area size and impact locations. Actual number of trenches to be confirmed in the field.

8.3.3. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values

As discussed through the relevant sections of the ACHAR, intangible Aboriginal heritage values of a site or area are as important to the local Aboriginal community, if not more important than the tangible and physical evidence of Aboriginal life and culture that remains in the landscape. Therefore, it is appropriate to consider the potential impact the proposed development may have to wider intangible cultural heritage values, and, should potential impact be identified, appropriate management strategies should be developed to help mitigate this impact.

Consultation with the project RAPs has provided several relevant comments regarding potential impact to intangible heritage values associated with the study area and surrounds:

- The area is significant to the Darug people due to the connection of sites and evidence for continued occupation
- Other significant connections to the study area in the context of its surrounding landscape, to be further identified through ongoing Aboriginal community consultation through the review of the draft ACHAR.

Potential impact to Aboriginal cultural heritage values are proposed to be mitigated through Aboriginal archaeological investigation (see section above), and Heritage Interpretation initiatives (see following section).

8.4. Heritage Interpretation

Curio Projects have been commissioned to develop a Heritage Interpretation Plan for the Charles Street Square Upgrade project, to be informed by the outcome of the heritage and archaeological assessment and investigations components (as summarised in this SoHI). The Interpretation Plan is currently under development, and will consider rather than duplicate other available research and investigations, including data available in the Archaeological Heritage Interpretation Strategy prepared as part of the Parramatta River CBD Foreshore Archaeological Management Strategy (Extent 2017), prepared with reference to the City of Parramatta Heritage Interpretation Guidelines (2017), and other best practice documents and guidelines for heritage interpretation.

The site interpretation prepared by this consultancy will integrate with the overall design, acknowledging a major artwork has already been commissioned.

8.4.1. Existing Heritage Interpretation & Artwork

A number of existing artworks are present within the study area, including:

- Pebble mosaic and steel sculpture;
- 'Story Walls'; and
- Other existing interpretation panels.

As part of the upgrade of Charles Street Square, the location, form, age, and appropriateness of these existing artworks are under consideration, nevertheless 'Story Walls' will be retained.

The Interpretation Plan for the study area (Curio Projects, in preparation) will consider the wider heritage context of the study area along the Parramatta River foreshore, especially with relation to

existing interpretative elements and artworks outside of the study area, and the historical themes and stories that are already being told in the area. The analysis of existing interpretive elements and artworks will allow future interpretation initiatives within the study area to be relevant and appropriate in their context, contributing but not overlapping with the stories and themes already being communicated in close proximity.

For example, the heritage interpretation plan will consider the location of existing interpretative elements outside of, but in proximity to, the study area such as:

- 'Riverwalk' (Jamie Eastwood, 2000)- Hand painted artwork along the Riverside Walk on the northern side of the Parramatta River foreshore (opposite the study area), tracing the "sometimes challenging history of the Parramatta area from the perspective of the local Burramatta clanspeople of the Darug tribe"
- 'Windmill Shadow' (Greg Stonehouse & Susan Milne, 2009)- artwork incorporated into the pathway just east of the study area on the southern foreshore representing the shadows from the blades of a wind and water mill formerly built on the site by George Howell in 1828.
- 'Sentry Box' (Greg Stonehouse & Susan Milne, 2009)- an 8 metre high artwork near the Gasworks Bridge on the southern foreshore evoking life in Parramatta in the 1790s during its life as a military garrison town.

8.4.2. Proposed Artworks

A major artwork has already been commissioned for the Charles Street Square study area: The Arthur Phillip Memorial Artwork installation (Craig Walsh). In addition, a new memorial is also proposed in the vicinity of the study area (to be located at Queens Wharf Reserve, just east of Gasworks Bridge)- a memorial to indigenous service personnel.

The Arthur Phillip Memorial Artwork will consist of three parts: a stone pedestal; bronze figure; and projection onto the escarpment opposite the Charles Street Square study area. SMM have been working together with the artist to integrate the artwork into the design of the public domain.

8.4.3. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Appropriate heritage interpretation can contribute to the conservation and celebration of the history and cultural heritage of the local Darug people and wider local Aboriginal community, preserving their culture, history and stories within the development for generations to come.

Opportunities for potential Aboriginal heritage interpretation initiatives within the study area as discussed with project RAPs during the September 2019 site visit included:

- Opportunities for integration of Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretation initiatives within the development, such as bush tucker within proposed floral displays
- Consideration of songlines integrated within development somehow to share stories/information of the river from Circular Quay to Parramatta Quay
- Use of the new amphitheatre for Burramatta NAIDOC celebrations
- Amphitheatre could include storyboards for people using the space to look at and interpret.

9. Conclusions and Recommendations

9.1. Conclusions

The following conclusions are made regarding heritage for the Charles Street Square development:

- The Charles Street Square Stage 1 Renewal development proposes to deliver a substantial upgrade of the existing Charles Street Square, improving amenity, access, legibility and identity at this important gateway to Parramatta City.
- The current study area is located within an area of High Aboriginal Sensitivity (in accordance with the Parramatta Aboriginal Study), and within two Archaeological Management Units (AMUs) (AMUs 3209 and 2936) as per the Parramatta Historical Archaeological Landscape Management Study (PHALMS).
- Historical archaeological assessment of the study area has identified that:
 - There has been almost 200 years of continuous historical occupation of the study area;
 - The study area has potential for historical archaeological resources associated with former historical structures likely to date from the 1820s through to the mid-twentieth century;
 - There is low to moderate potential for historical archaeological resources to survive at the study area, with any potential archaeological remains likely to be associated with the domestic, and possibly commercial, occupation of the site.
 - The potential historical archaeological resources have been assessed, in accordance with the NSW Heritage Significance Criteria, as potentially having State heritage significance (in the case of Barbers' and Owen's occupation), and Local heritage significance for the remainder of the site; and
 - The proposed development would disturb and/or remove portions of potential relics at the study area, and will therefore require historical archaeological mitigation through the course of the proposed development works.
- Aboriginal archaeological assessment of the study area has identified that:
 - The environmental context of the study area suggests that given its proximity to water, its fairly open access, and its deep alluvial deposits (i.e. potential to contain part of the PSB), the site would be a prime location for past Aboriginal use.
 - The study area has been assessed to have moderate to high potential for a Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) associated with the Parramatta Sand Body in this area of the southern foreshore of the Parramatta River.
 - The extent of the Aboriginal PAD within the study area relates to the demonstrated archaeological landscape in the immediate vicinity of the study area- i.e. it is considered to be a potential extension of the archaeological landscape of AHIMS Site 45-6-2648 (Charles/George 1) and Site 45-6-2673 (RTA-G1).

- Proposed development impacts have potential to encounter the PSB and associated PAD, and therefore will require archaeological mitigation to reduce and/or manage potential impacts to Aboriginal archaeology.
- The study area does not contain any heritage listed items, and therefore will present no physical impact to any heritage fabric. Therefore, potential impacts relate to potential visual and archaeological impacts only.
- The physical nature of the development works are relatively minor and low in scale- relating predominantly to the redevelopment of the public domain and connection to the new Parramatta Wharf.
- Proposed development works do not require excavation of all remnant natural sands within the site and therefore, while the development has the potential to impact some natural sands (with the potential to retain and Aboriginal archaeological deposits), the development will also conserve areas of natural sands beneath the proposed design.

9.2. Recommendations

The following recommendations are made regarding heritage for the Charles Street Square Upgrade project.

- The proposed development will have no physical impact to any heritage listed item, and will have a positive visual impact on the Charles Street Weir (the only heritage listed item with a visual connection to the study area).
- An application should be made to the Archaeologists, Department of Premier and Cabinet, for an excavation permit to mitigate the potential impact to historical archaeology, issued under Section 140 of the *NSW Heritage Act*;
 - This permit should allow for excavation in accordance with an Archaeological Research Design and Excavation Methodology (ARD);
 - This assessment Report and the ARD should be submitted in support of the permit application;
- Inclusion of the information generated from investigation of any archaeological resources in other parts of the site could also be considered as part of a public interpretation strategy, which is currently being finalised.
- Rather than registering an additional site with AHIMS for the PAD associated with the Charles Street Square study area, the site card for AHIMS Site 45-6-2648, Charles/George 1 (CG1) should be revised to include the study area within its extent- reflecting the association and distribution of this connected archaeological landscape, and avoiding unnecessary duplication of sites.
- Aboriginal archaeological test excavation under the OEH *Code of Practice* is not possible at the Charles St Square study area, and therefore a more practical and bespoke test excavation methodology and research design- tailored to the nature of the study area and proposed development- has been developed to investigate the nature of the potential natural soil profiles within the study area.

- An application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Section 90 of the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* should be submitted to the Biodiversity and Conservation Division of NSW DPIE for the Charles Street Square Upgrade development.
 - The AHIP Application should allow for potential impact to the Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) associated within AHIMS Site 45-6-2648 (Charles/George 1).
 - The AHIP application should be accompanied by a copy of the ACHAR- once finalised (and the ATR which serves as Appendix C to the ACHAR).
- With regards to Aboriginal intangible heritage values (social and cultural), the Charles Street Square Upgrade project has the opportunity for a positive impact to be achieved via future interpretation initiatives, to celebrate and communicate the significance of the site and landscape to the local Aboriginal community.

10. References

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APPENDIX A – Historical Archaeological Assessment Report (Curio Projects 2019)

APPENDIX B – Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (Curio Projects 2019)