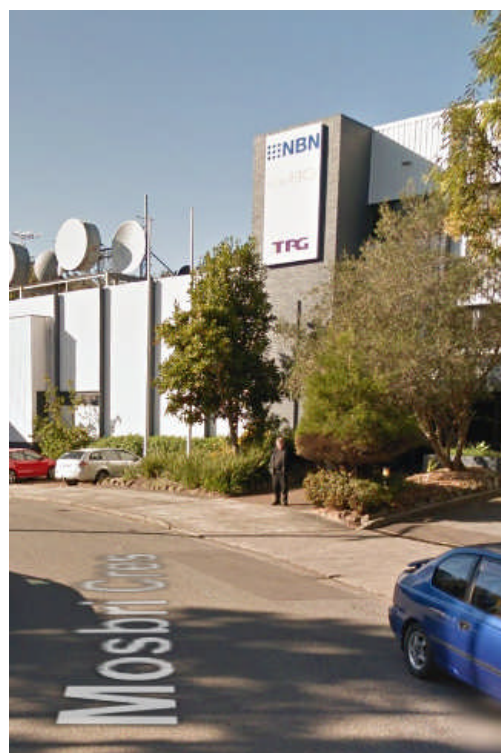


ADDENDUM TO THE STATEMENT OF HERITAGE IMPACT

Crescent Newcastle Pty Ltd

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT 11-17 MOSBRI CRESCENT, THE HILL



Prepared by:

John Carr Heritage Design
Final Report Rev E
25 January, 2022

Cover: *The former NBN Channel 3 Studios in Mosbri Crescent, The Hill.* (Google Maps)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The following report comprises an addendum to the Statement of Heritage Impact Rev F dated 14 January 2019 (hereafter referred to as the 2019 Report) for the proposed housing development at 11-17 Mosbri Crescent, The Hill. This Addendum has been prepared to provide additional information responding to matters raised in the public submissions, and address amendments that have been made following the 2019 Report. This Addendum SOHI should be read in conjunction with the 2019 Report.

The site is shown below in Plate A and B.



Plate A: Aerial view of the subject site highlighted in yellow. (Six Maps accessed 12/10/18)

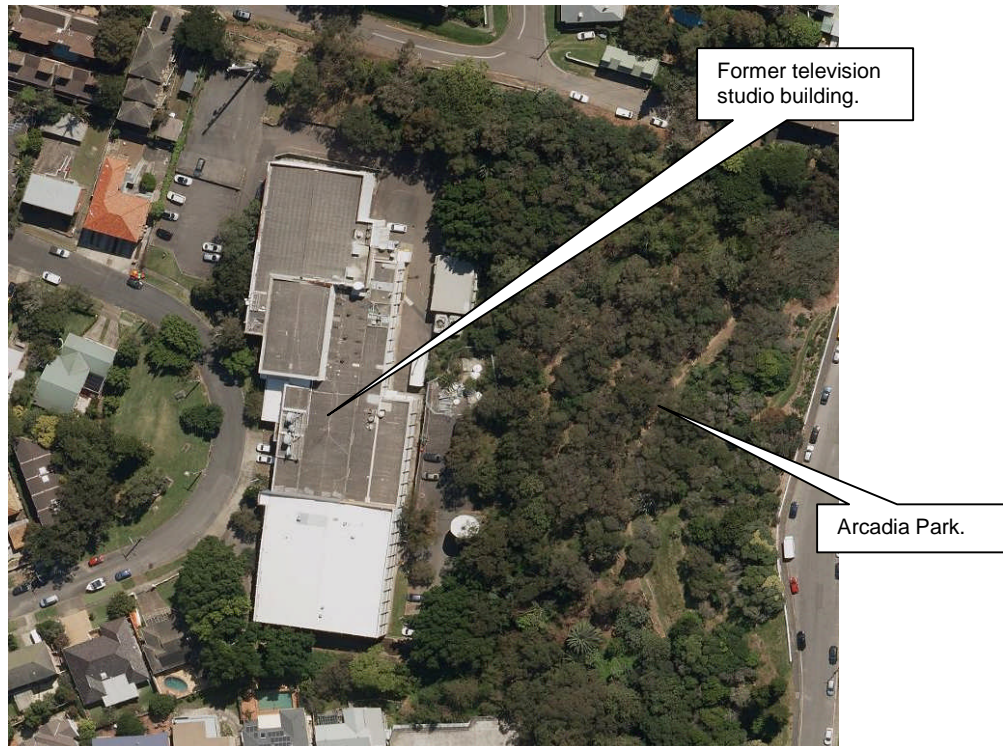


Plate B: Detail of the current building on the site. (Six Maps)

The Amended Application is described as:

- Demolition of all existing structures;
- Earthworks, including mine grouting;
- Construction of residential accommodation comprising 172 dwellings, being eleven (11) two storey townhouse style dwellings fronting Mosbri Crescent, located above a basement car park containing 32 visitor spaces and 13 resident spaces. Three (3) residential flat buildings (Building A, B, and C) containing 161 dwellings, ranging from one to three bedrooms; being:

Building A including a nine (9) storey east wing and six (6) storey west wing;

Building B comprising seven (7) storeys and a roof top communal open space, with (9) town house style dwellings facing the internal courtyard;

Building C comprising five (5) levels;

- Interconnected car parking for Building A, B & C located on the ground floor and first level, containing 3 visitor space and 194 resident spaces;
- Pedestrian path, providing connection from Mosbri Crescent to Kitchener Parade;
- Associated landscaping, communal open space, services and site infrastructure; and
- Strata subdivision (172 lots).

Listing on the State Heritage Register:

The Newcastle Recreation Reserve was listed on the State Heritage Register on 21 May 2021. The listing includes both Lot 7003 (unmade road) and Lot 7004 (Arcadia Park).

The carrying out of a development in or under these areas will trigger the requirement for an approval from Heritage NSW under section 57 of the NSW Heritage Act 1977 as amended, unless an exemption applies.

2.0 ADDITIONAL HERITAGE COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

The following section provides a response to heritage matters raised in the public submissions. The discussion below should be read in conjunction with the 2019 Report, which includes more detailed comments in relation to the proposal.

2.1 Objectors Issue 1

The Proposal is not consistent with the heritage values of the Newcastle Recreation Reserve, King Edward Park, The Hill and Cooks Hill Conservation Area (HCA) and the separately listed Obelisk.

King Edward Park was developed by Newcastle Borough Council from the 1860s and named for the “British monarch of Australia” in the Federation period. The reserve and upper reserve - approx. 38 ha, bounded by The Terrace, the extension of Bingle and Wolfe Streets, Ordnance Street and the coast. Alfred Sharp won a design competition in 1890 to design a picturesque style park centred on the spring-fed watercourse in the steep lower northern gully. The band rotunda, drinking fountain, Bogey Hole and Obelisk are all Heritage items. The Band Rotunda came from Centennial Park, Sydney where it was erected for Duke of York visit in 1900. One panel of the cast iron balustrade is missing. An ornate Victorian drinking fountain of sandstone is located in the park, originally sited outside Newcastle Railway Station.

The heritage values associated with King Edward Park are:

- The Reserve is of state heritage significance for its inclusion of Themeda grasslands, an endangered ecological community.
- The Reserve is of state significance for its convict associations, including the grazing of government stock by convict shepherds; the construction of an early windmill; and the provision of the Bogey Hole and The Horseshoe access path.
- The convict mine workings demonstrate the transition between public sector and private sector operations.
- The Reserve is of state heritage significance for its association with important historical and community events and commemorations, and also for its association with important Federation-era, pre-War and wartime defence installations that demonstrate progress in armaments technology during the Twentieth Century.
- Strongly associated with Major James Thomas Morisset, a figure of importance in the history of NSW, the Reserve is specially associated with Biraban, an Awabakal man, and with Rev. Lancelot Threlkeld, a missionary and scholar.
- The Reserve is of state heritage significance in its setting, which incorporates coastal hills, headlands, gullies and sea cliffs with wide views across the lower Hunter Valley and the ocean.
- It has the principal characteristics of a nineteenth century belvedere park in the Picturesque style, demonstrating Victorian and Edwardian technical achievement.
- Important in providing archaeological and other information as to convict coal workings.¹

Assessment of Impact:

The proposed development is located on the western side of King Edward Park and cannot be seen from the majority of parkland which faces east to the ocean as designed by Sharp. The proposed development is not considered to impact on the heritage significance of King Edward Park due to distance and screening by the topography and design of the park.

Elements such as the Bogey Hole, convict mine workings, the horseshoe access path and the wartime gun emplacements are located on the coastal escarpment or below at sea level and are not in view of the development.

Similarly, the Shepherds Hill Master Gunners Quarters are at some distance from the development site that existing trees within and around the park screen views to the proposed building.

¹ Heritage NSW - Newcastle Recreation Reserve (under consideration) Data Sheet - Statement of significance extracts.

It is therefore considered that the proposed development will have minimal effect on the heritage values and significance of King Edward Park.



Plate C: View from the higher areas of King Edward Park towards the site. (JCHD 6192)

The view from the lower areas of King Edward Park towards the site along Wolfe Street is similarly screened by the existing trees, demonstrated by the Marchese Partners View Analysis Report. The tree growth in Arcadia Park provides extensive screening of the development from the park areas south of Reserve Road.

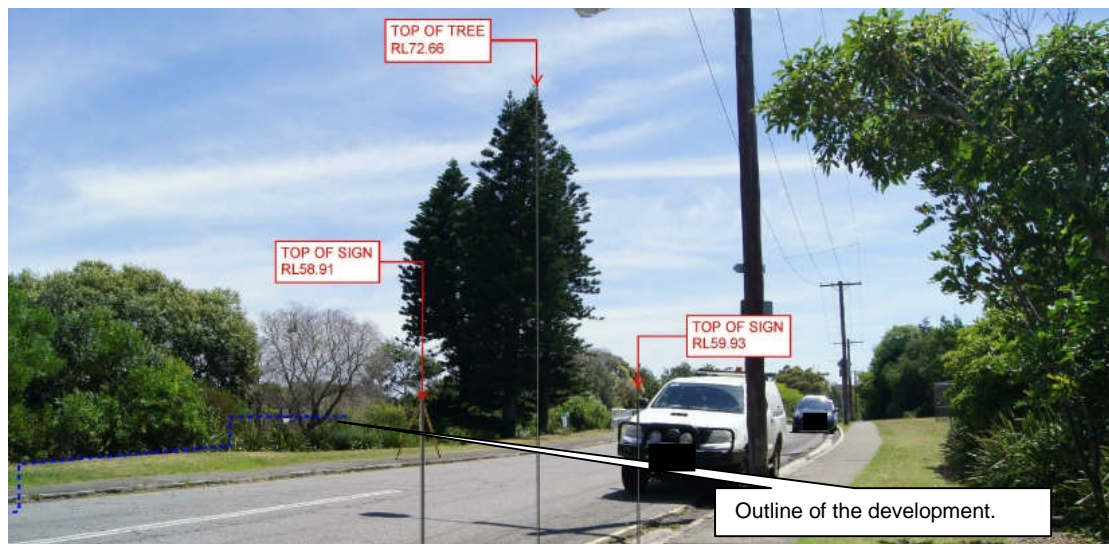


Plate D: View from the northern end of King Edward Park along Wolfe St towards the site. (Marchese)

The Hill HCA

The Hill Residential Precinct is the closest to the subject site and is divided into four areas which are separated by areas of non-residential uses, and sprinkled with non-domestic buildings, are usually considered together. The most 'separate' is the enclave of The Terrace, which is unlike most other urban housing areas because it faces King Edward Park.

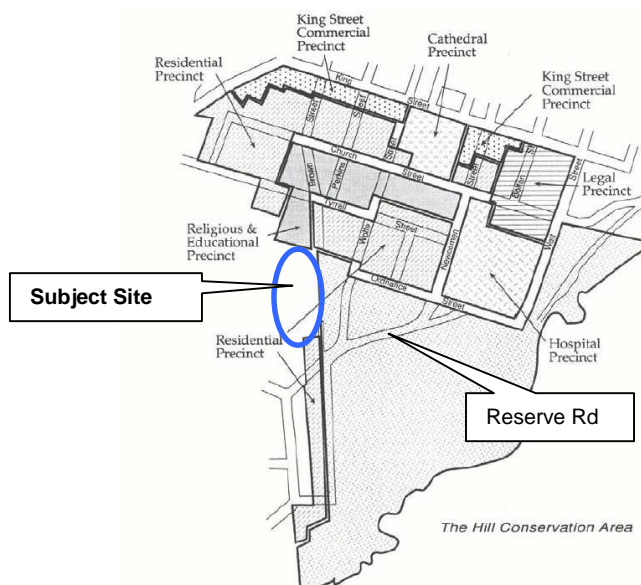
By comparison with the other conservation areas The Hill is more open and expansive. This is because of its elevation, the availability of long views over the harbour and the parkland and along streets and the less intensive nature of development. There are larger houses and public buildings and they are generally surrounded by their individual landscaped space.

The prevailing character is one which expresses Victorian achievement though some significant 20th century buildings are also interspersed. A number of singular late 19th century mansions, villas and terrace rows remain relatively intact and, together with houses of more modest architectural pretensions give the residential precinct good streetscape qualities.

Several houses designed by prominent Newcastle architects are located here, with surviving original detail such as iron palisade fences, iron filigree and cement decorative embellishments.²

The NLEP Heritage Map 004G clearly shows the relationship between the subject site and The Hill HCA (C6) noting that the subject site is adjacent to the HCA which includes the former road reserve but not Kitchener Pde. The relationship of the two sites needs to be considered as does the associated topography. The Newcastle Recreation Reserve which includes King Edward Park, The Obelisk and Arcadia Park each has a different setting in relation to the subject site.

The setting for each is influenced by the local topography with The Obelisk being the highest landform with commanding views across the city and the greater portions of King Edward Park having some of the lowest landforms as it falls eastwards to the ocean. The Hill HCA is similarly influenced by the topography. The Hill HCA falls towards the north from Tyrrell Street and towards the east and north from Wolfe Street.



The Heritage Maps do not show the extension of Wolfe Street or the creation of Reserve Road, a major access road to Watt Street from Merewether.

Plate E: The Hill HCA map in the Heritage Technical Manual. (CoN DCP - Heritage Technical Manual)

One of the notable characteristics of The Hill is its landform, which is effectively enhanced by the presence of landmark buildings as well as by other designed forms such as tree planting. Distant views towards the dominating eminence of the Cathedral site from all directions express this value and of course must be maintained. Views of the City and the Harbour from The Hill are also significant.

The great diversity of architecture in all its aspects has made it desirable in this report to consider the character of The Hill in several identifiable precincts. Each of these precincts has its own values, which ought to be protected.

The Mosbri Crescent area adjoining but outside Hill and Cooks Hill HCAs are a mixed bag of developments of low quality. Mosbri Crescent itself is an example that is typified by 1960s residential dwellings. The proposed development would help to lift architectural quality of the area. This is the possible reason this area is not part of the either HCA as it was assessed as not being architecturally outstanding for its era.

² Newcastle DCP Heritage Technical Manual P10

Other houses directly adjoining the site in Hillview Crescent and Kitchener Parade don't form part of the HCA and act as a screening buffer to the south and west of the site.



Plate F: The Hill Heritage Map does not show Wolf St extended or Reserve Road. (Newcastle LEP - HER 004 G)

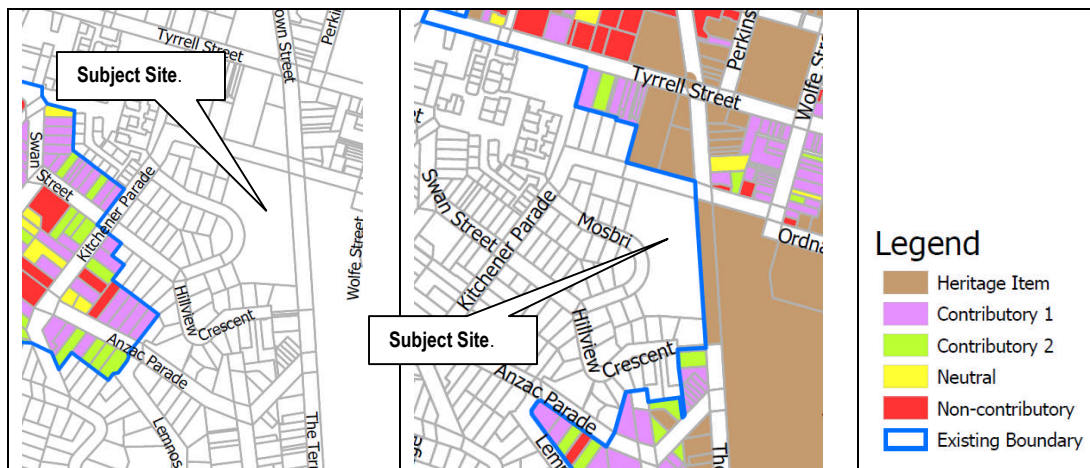


Plate G: The Cooks Hill & The Hill Contributory Buildings Map. (Newcastle DCP - Heritage Tech Manual)

The above maps show that apart from the listed heritage items, there is a range of contributory, neutral and non-contributory buildings in both The Hill and Cooks Hill HCAs. The character of the contributory items, while not worthy of individual listing, help make up the overall aesthetic character of the HCA. The Cooks Hill HCA has no listed items near the eastern edge of the HCA facing the subject site. The Hill HCA has listed heritage items as well as contributory 2, neutral and non-contributory items facing the subject site. There is an inconsistency with these maps showing the former road reserve as a heritage item which differs from the Heritage Map HER 004G in the LEP. The road reserve has been landscaped in a similar manner to Arcadia Park. The recent listing on the SHR includes both Arcadia Park and the former Road Reserve.

Assessment of Impact:

The proposed development is located on the western edge of Arcadia Park with the top floors of the multi-storey buildings being hidden below the tree line when viewed from Wolfe St north. The buildings are primarily seen from Brown St looking south towards The Terrace. These two streets were planned to be linked. The road reserve is described as Lot 7003 in DP 1077043, the site now being covered in flora matching the adjacent Arcadia Park. Heritage NSW has included the former road reserve within the curtilage of the Newcastle Reserve and has been included in the listing on the State Heritage Register.

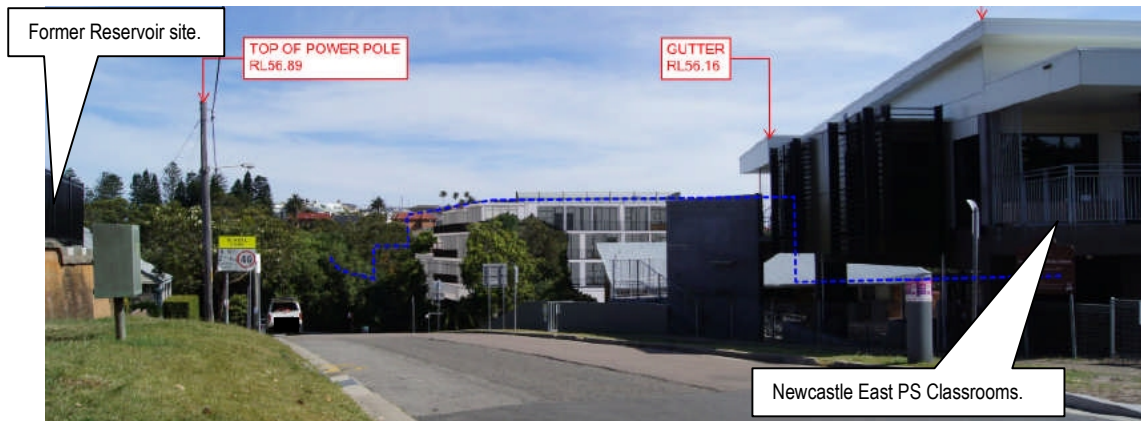


Plate H: The development from Brown St outside the former Reservoir site (view 7). (Marchese Partners)

When the subject site is viewed from Brown St the proposed buildings will in part be screened by vegetation along Kitchener Parade. The site will also have a distant backdrop of mature vegetation such as Norfolk Pines and buildings from the nineteenth and twentieth century.

The proposed development is not considered to impact on the heritage significance of The Hill HCA as it is largely screened from the area by trees in Arcadia Park, does not impact significant views of the City or the harbour or natural landforms of significance or the existing buildings in the area. The Hill HCA itself is also substantially below Tyrrell St on the northern half of the area with views to the harbour. There is little visual link or significant views from Brown Street looking towards The Terrace due to vegetation within the park. Presumably this is why the road reserve was not listed as a heritage item previously but rather as part of the curtilage of the Reserve which has now been listed on the State Heritage Register. Trees removed in Kitchener St road reserve due to public infrastructure improvements will allow more of the eastern elevation of the units to be seen. The extra elevation area that can be observed from Brown Street will have minimal affect on the heritage significance of the reservoir which is underground, the public school which is screened by recent buildings. The removal of trees in Kitchener Street road reserve does not affect Arcadia Park as the tree removal is perpendicular to the park.

The following sites are within The Hill Heritage Conservation Area and are included here to provide further clarification to the original SoHI:

- The reservoir was raised by Heritage NSW as it is a State listed item. The previous SoHI inclusion did not have a current photo that includes a high palisade fence that changes the appearance of the item;
- Newcastle East Public School because the new building has a bulk & scale that appears greater than the proposed building when viewed from Brown St.

The Newcastle Reservoirs Site

This is a State significant site nearby to the proposed development. The site is significant for its historical associations with the Walka and Chichester water supply schemes, respectfully the first and second water supply schemes for the Hunter district. The Walka scheme was the first in Australia to incorporate both filtration at source and fully enclosed water distribution and storage, and led to the formation of the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board, a State entity important in the social and economic development of New South Wales. The Newcastle Reservoirs Site is of state heritage significance in demonstrating the transition from ad-hoc local water sources to centralised reticulated water supply systems characterised

by reliability and freedom from contamination. It is of state heritage significance for its association with several persons important in the history of NSW civil and hydraulic engineering. These include William Clark; Edward Orpen Moriarty; Cecil West Darley; and Robert Rowan Purdon Hickson.³



Plate I: The Brown St Reservoir Site now used for the school's playground. (JCHD 6187)

The site was formally the site of the 1863 Newcastle Public School which was relocated in a new building in 1878 opposite the above site, now known as Newcastle East Public School. Reservoir No. 1 is of state heritage significance in demonstrating the manner in which nineteenth century NSW water supply infrastructure was influenced not only by UK practice but also by that of British India. Reservoir No. 2 is of state heritage significance in demonstrating the use of contemporary design treatments in the introduction of reinforced concrete construction to the NSW urban environment. The majority of the significant aspects of this listed item are underground but can be accessed at restricted times when opened.

Assessment of Impact:

The top four floors of the highest tower will be seen above Kitchener Pde partially screened by existing trees when looking towards the site from Brown St. The development will have minimal impact on the heritage significance of the Reservoir Site due to screening as well as the significance of the listed site is largely centred on the underground structure and technology involved in the pumping of water from Walka and the gravity feed to the City of Newcastle below.

It is noted that the height of the new 'Home Base' building recently constructed on the school site is approved at RL 57.05, and that the highest part of the overall development (Building A) is proposed to have a main roof line of RL 56.9. Accordingly, the proposed bulk and scale will be generally in context with the school and equally not impact reservoir site which is largely underground.

The Newcastle East Public School Site

The assessment in the 2019 SoHI states "The proposed development is sited to the south of the school site and well below it in topography. Recent development of contemporary school buildings will screen the proposed development from this site together with existing trees and natural topography." This assessment is maintained and confirmed by recent photographs below relating to screening of the locally listed heritage site by new buildings.

³ Newcastle Reservoirs Site Data Sheet - Heritage NSW



Plate J: The 2020 school additions now further screen the heritage item from the subject site. (JCHD 6190)



Plate K: The 1874 school now further screened from the subject site. (JCHD 6188)

Assessment of Impact:

Again the bulk and scale of the new "Home Base" building constructed over the existing basket ball court / Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA) is of a similar height to the proposed Building A on the subject site resulting in a contextual link between the two developments. The new school building further screens the 1874 locally listed heritage building from the new development.

Cooks Hill HCA

Cooks Hill contains comparatively dense residential development around the northern edge between Laman and Bull Streets as a result of small lot sizes. This northern section tends to contrast with the larger blocks of land in the southern section and the higher number of free standing houses around Centennial Park.

Cooks Hill is highly regarded by the community for its interesting urban character, visually interesting streetscapes, and the rich mix of historic buildings that unify and give the suburb its special character. The avenues of street trees provide an attractive green canopy that is a unifying visual element. There are numerous building styles ranging from early Victorian era terraces through to post war residential flat buildings.⁴

Assessment of Impact:

The Railway St Residential Precinct and the Darby St Commercial Precinct are the closest areas to the subject site. Railway Street has a distinctive character of two-storey houses, some single storey detached houses, which address each other across a narrow north-south street. The narrowness of the thoroughfare gives it a pleasant linear quality.

⁴ Newcastle DCP Heritage Technical Manual P3

Buildings in the commercial strip of Darby Street tend to be modestly scaled, predominantly one or two-storeys high with some multi level buildings of more recent construction that have upper levels above two storeys set back from the street frontage so as not to be visually assertive.

The distance from the subject site to the Cooks Hill HCA combined with screening by local buildings and street trees minimises any perceived impact on heritage significance by the proposed development. This area of Cooks Hill has had a number of contemporary medium high rise developments in recent decades.

The heritage values of Cooks Hill lies with its range of architectural styles from Victorian to contemporary structures in a dense configuration. The proposed development reflects this by providing a mixture of contemporary designs in a medium density housing project which will have minimal impact on the heritage significance of the Cooks Hill HCA. The significant gap between the Cooks Hill HCA and the subject site is filled with mid to late twentieth century residential buildings including flats and units of several storeys in height.

Arcadia Park

Arcadia Park's recent listing on the State Heritage Register is part of a group of areas within the Newcastle Recreation Reserve. The group consists of the following areas:

- King Edward Park
- Arcadia Park
- The Obelisk Tennis Courts
- Obelisk Reserve
- Shepherds Hill Defence Reserve Military Installations
- Part of the cliffside above South Newcastle Beach

Whilst historically connected, this item does not include the private land of King Edward Headland Reserve.

As a group, King Edward Park, The Obelisk Reserve, Shepherds Hill Defence Reserve Military Installations and the cliffside above South Newcastle Beach including The Bogey Hole are areas of significance to the early development of Newcastle. Of debateable less significance are The Obelisk Tennis Courts and Arcadia Park which are both areas of relatively recent development.

Section 2.5 of this SoHI Addendum discusses the background of Arcadia Park and its relatively recent planting by volunteer local citizens keen to preserve and enhance a section of the Newcastle Recreation Reserve that had been cut-off from the main park areas by road construction and left undeveloped due to its steep topography.

Following development of the NBN Television Studios in the 1960s, local volunteers began a planting regime of the degraded hillside that had previously been quarried for gravel destroying what remained of the Themeda grasslands and coastal heath bushland.

Replanting work to convert Arcadia Park to a littoral rainforest is still underway and brings into question the contribution this area makes to the State significance of the overall Reserve other than its historical link to the original grant area. It is also clear that the original road reserve now added to the park area was not part of the original Newcastle Recreation Reserve grant of land.

Assessment of Impact:

The Arcadia Park has been assessed as being of State heritage significance as part of a group within the boundary of the State listed Newcastle Recreation Reserve. This is based on the assessment that the area was most likely made up originally of Themeda grasslands and coastal heath bushland and has in recent decades been gradually altered to reflect a littoral rainforest.

The continued replanting of Arcadia Park is resulting in a bushland style setting which is difficult to see through. The development will be difficult to see through the park's bush setting plus the additional road reserve now included in the park. Photos from Wolfe St show the building cannot be seen. (Refer to Plate D)

The Obelisk

The Obelisk has local historical significance to Newcastle as it was an important navigational device for the shipping community during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Its location on the same site as the first windmill in Newcastle gives it historical continuity with the development of Newcastle during the early nineteenth century. It has associations with a number of important events in the history of Newcastle, such as the shipping disaster of 1866 and has considerable local aesthetic appeal. The Obelisk is individually recognised in the recent State Heritage Register listing as an item of State significance.



Plate L: The view from The Obelisk towards the harbour and ocean. (JCHD 6180)

The significance of The Obelisk is centred on its location as a high point in Newcastle for a windmill to operate with winds from varying directions. It is also centred on the use of the original windmill as a point of navigation for ships entering Newcastle Harbour. Its original replacement with a stone Obelisk recognises this important aspect of Colonial life. Heritage values primarily relate to views from harbour to obelisk as opposed to views of the Obelisk from the west as shown in image below



Plate M: The range of views from The Obelisk towards the city, harbour and ocean. (KDC Pty Ltd)

The views from The Obelisk are only completely blocked to the north by Jesmond House with all other views relatively free of interference with the exception of trees.

The Obelisk demonstrates early public sector intervention in coastal navigation.⁵



Plate N: The view from The Obelisk towards King Edward Park. (JCHD 6180)



Plate O: The view from The Obelisk towards King Edward Park. (JCHD 6179)

In response to the concerns raised in the public submissions, additional analysis of the view impacts to the Obelisk was undertaken.

The analysis noted that the iconic views from the Obelisk were predominantly the views facing away from the subject site, and accordingly the proposal would not have any impacts in relation to these views. Similarly, the proposal does not impact to harbour/city views experienced from the elevated vantage point. The subject site is within the identified 'cityscape' view catchment, and in this context the analysis concludes that the proposal will not significantly impact on the views from the Obelisk.

Further to this view analysis, to respond to the concerns raised in the submissions relating to the proposed height of the development relative to the land above the site, additional survey levels were measured and provided to Council for reference.

In relation to the view impacts to the Obelisk, the base of the Obelisk is RL 69, with the tree line visible at Wolfe Street having a range of levels (predominantly RL 63.5-64.5), with the road (Wolfe Street) being RL 56. Noting that the main roof line of Building A is at RL 56.9, the proposal will be screened by the existing vegetation in Arcadia Park.

Concerns were raised in the submissions regarding the height of the NBN aerial. As part of this response as noted in the survey plan, the aerial is at RL 64.8, and accordingly, the main roof line of Building A is RL 56.9, some 8 metres lower than this height, which gives further context to the impacts of the proposal, which are expected to be minimal.

Notwithstanding that the view from the Obelisk across the site is cityscape view, wherein various scales and forms of built form exist. The site is considerably lower than the Obelisk, the

⁵ Heritage NSW - Newcastle Recreation Reserve (under consideration) Data Sheet - Statement of significance extracts.

site is not prominent to the visual line of the aspect. It is noted that the iconic and harbour views available to the Obelisk are not impacted by the proposal. An excerpt of the survey details is below

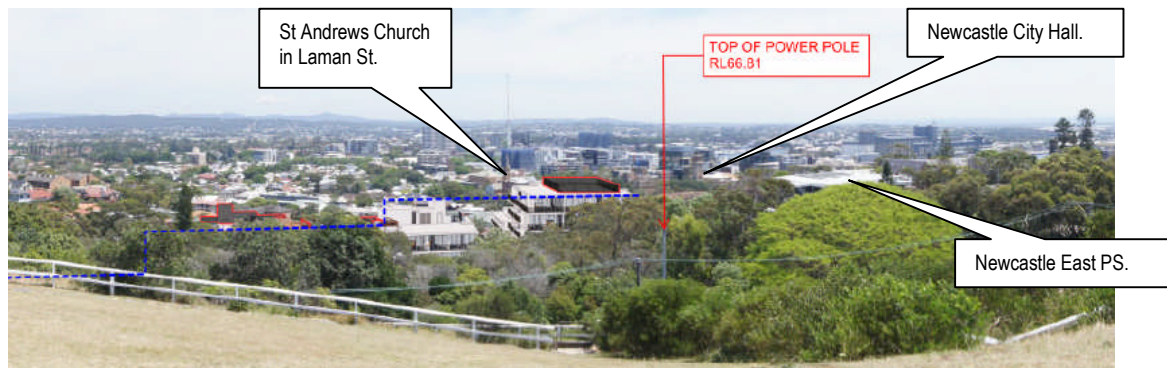


Plate P: Detail from view 3 from the Obelisk shows the top of the development. (Marchese Partners)

The Marchese Partners View Analysis Report confirms that the existing trees in Arcadia Park provide extensive screening of the proposed new buildings when viewed from The Obelisk. Views to the west from The Obelisk will not be obstructed to any great extent and no significant views lost.



Plate Q: The view towards The Obelisk from within Arcadia Park. (JCHD 6184)

The tree cover within Arcadia Park is so effective that it is almost impossible to see The Obelisk when using the walking trails and open grassed areas used for passive recreation.

Assessment of Impact:

The location of the Obelisk results in substantial views across the city as shown in the View Analysis prepared by Marchese Partners. The heritage values associated with the Obelisk relate to the site being seen from the harbour and ocean approaches to Newcastle the primary reason for its significance. The subject site is within the identified 'cityscape' view catchment, and in this context the analysis concludes that the proposal will not significantly impact on the views from the Obelisk.

The heritage values associated with The Obelisk relate to navigation and the proposed development will have minimal impact on the heritage significance and values of this structure

due to the location of the building west of the monument and well below the level of the monument.

Additional commentary in response to matters raised in the submissions:

Issue: The Proposal impacts on the heritage significance of the Newcastle Recreational Reserve, King Edward Park.

The proposal cannot be seen from King Edward Park, a formal designed park facing the sea. Arcadia Park is sited on the western side of Wolfe Street and is undergoing change from native grass & coastal heath to a littoral rainforest.

Issue: The proposal impacts on the heritage significance of Cooks Hill and The Hill heritage conservation areas

The Cooks Hill HCA is screened from the development by existing trees and building within the HCA and between it and Mosbri Crescent. Distance also plays a part in this screening, particularly as new developments occur in and around the Cooks Hill HCA. The Hill HCA is largely on the northern side of Tyrrell St looking north to the harbour. Only small glimpses of the development will be seen from Brown St. Generally The Hill HCA looks to the north and east with the subject site hidden by the topography of The Hill area.

Issue: The proposal impacts on the heritage significance of the separately listed Obelisk.

The heritage significance of the Obelisk is associated with navigation into the river harbour. The development does not impact on that significance. Views from the obelisk remain as they are now.

2.2 Objectors Issue 2

The height of proposed towers A and B will intrude into the skyline when viewed from:

- Arcadia Park;
- Wolfe St; and
- The Obelisk;



Plate R: Views towards the development from Arcadia Park's central footpath. (JCHD 6182)

Views towards the development from within Arcadia Park will be seen depending on the position of the viewer within the park. The existing denseness of the flora is substantial reducing views out of the park and encapsulating the observer within the various trails and open areas.

Assessment of Impact:

The view of the towers from Arcadia Park will largely be screened by the existing trees that fill both Arcadia Park and the adjacent road reserve (Lot 7003). The walking trails through the park provide an atmosphere of dense bushland. No significant cityscape views are

documented in Council's planning scheme, DCP or heritage listing i.e. views of the skyline are not a part of the heritage characteristics of Arcadia park otherwise new planting would have sought to preserve this characteristic.

The Marchese Partners View Analysis Report shows the towers are below the Wolfe St western edge, effectively screened by the existing landscape to Arcadia Park.

The Marchese Partners View Analysis Report shows the upper portions of the two towers can be seen from the Obelisk however the screening by the existing trees in Arcadia Park reduces the visible impact of the buildings.



Plate S: Wolfe St south building massing. (Marchese)



Plate T: Wolfe St north building massing. (Marchese)



Plate U: View west from the Obelisk showing building massing. (Marchese)

Additional commentary in response to matters raised in the submissions:

Issue: The height of proposed towers A and B will intrude into the skyline when viewed from Arcadia Park.

The continued replanting of Arcadia Park is resulting in a bushland style setting which is difficult to see through. The development will be difficult to see through the park's bush setting plus the additional road reserve now included in the park increases the area of the current replanting program to establish a Littoral Rainforest.

Issue: The height of proposed towers A and B will intrude into the skyline when viewed from Wolfe Street.

Photos from Wolfe St show the building cannot be seen (refer to Plates S & T above).

Issue: The height of proposed towers A and B will intrude into the skyline when viewed from The Obelisk

Photos from the Obelisk show the top of the building will be seen amongst a backdrop of the western suburbs of Newcastle and below the horizon (refer to Plate U above).

2.3 Objectors Issue 3

The development will detract from the iconic westward views from the Obelisk, Wolfe St and Arcadia Park (which complement the eastern views) and which have been assessed by the NSW Heritage Council as meeting the criteria for State heritage listing. Views to the Obelisk from the west of the city will also be negatively affected.

Assessment of Impact:

Iconic views are generally looked at as something which is unique such as a view towards The Obelisk. Views westward from The Obelisk are general views across the city and are not considered iconic as they take in a broad spectrum.

The above Plates S, & T taken from the Marchese Partners View Analysis Report shows the western views from Wolfe St are heavily screened by the existing trees in Arcadia Park that have not all reached maturity. Views west from the Wolfe St footpaths are difficult due to the height and density of the existing flora.

The broad western views from the Obelisk are shown retained in Plate U (above) taken from the Marchese Partners View Analysis Report. The views westward from the Obelisk which is wide ranging and includes the horizon and are generally what is expected from a high vantage point overlooking a city. The photomontages confirm these existing views are retained with the building only partially seen amongst the suburban development beyond.

Views to The Obelisk from the western side of the city are generally limited by distance, existing buildings and landscaping. The Obelisk was meant to be viewed from the eastern approaches to the harbour as shown above in *Plate M* because it was constructed as a navigational aid.

2.4 Objectors Issue 4

In breach of Clause 5.10 of the NLEP no visual impact statement has been exhibited which enables an assessment of the intrusion of the buildings into the landscape and the impact on views to enable an assessment of whether the site is suitable for the proposed development and the provisions of the NLEP with regard to heritage.

The view analysis developed by Marchese Partners dated November 2020 clearly shows the building massing from a number of view points and provides a rendered view where the building or a portion of the development can be seen.

Photo montages were set up from 13 locations surrounding the development. Views from the Obelisk highlights the extent of the top of the building seen amongst the trees in the Arcadia Park foreground and to each side. The view taken from Brown St in The Hill HCA shows the top of the building from behind existing trees on Kitchener parade and also the screening by the new classrooms at Newcastle East Public School.

2.5 Objectors Issue 5

Having commissioned a Heritage Impact Statement (John Carr Heritage Design, January 2019) which did not list Arcadia Park (being part of the King Edward Park group) as a nearby heritage item, there has been no assessment of the impact of the development on the heritage values of Arcadia Park.

The land to the east and adjacent to the subject site is comprised of two allotments. The nearest site is a former road reserve described as Lot 7003 in DP 1077043. Immediately east of the road reserve is Arcadia Park described as Lot 7004 in DP 1077043.

The topography in the north western portion of the Reserve did not allow for the completion of Pitt St to join with Wolfe St as indicated in Plate D, nor was The Terrace ever extended to join Brown St due to the steep fall of the landform.

Bingle St was eventually extended into the park to link with Ordnance St and named Reserve Rd in the 1880s. Wolfe St was also extended into the park to join with Reserve Rd.

The residual section of park to the west of Wolfe St was eventually named Arcadia Park named after Newcastle's sister city in the United States of America. The Obelisk site bounded by Ordnance, Reserve Rd and Wolfe St remained as a park with introduced tennis courts.

While The Terrace road reserve is included in The Hill HCA, it is not included in the Newcastle LEP heritage map which includes Lot 7004 but not Lot 7003. Lot 7003 however is included in the SHR listing presently under consideration, as part of the Newcastle Reserve curtilage.

This area of the Reserve remained substantially as grasslands seen in the circa 1958 aerial photo of the Reserve and described as native grass *Themeda australis* (Kangaroo Grass). The majority of Arcadia Park has been revegetated by volunteer groups working with Newcastle City Council to remove weeds and introduced exotic species replacing them with native flora.

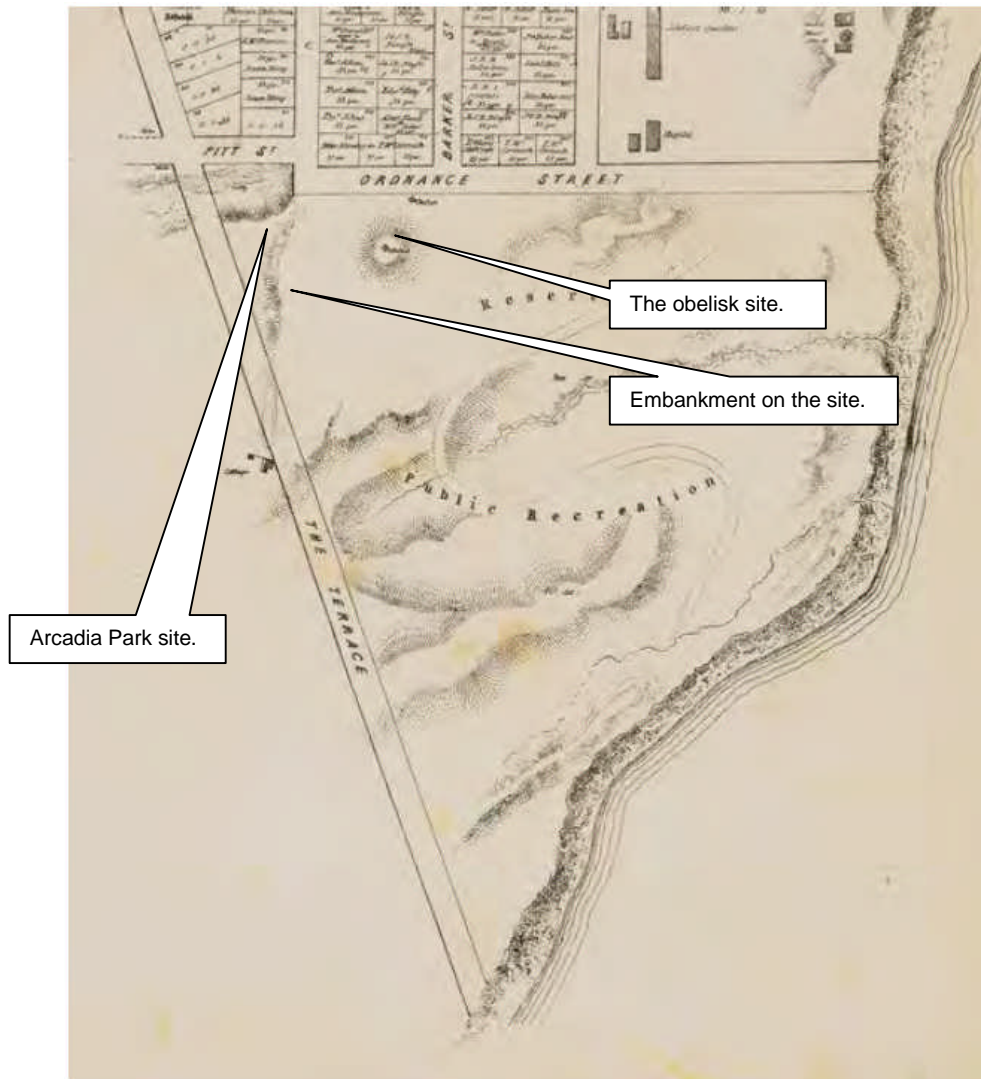


Figure 121: The July 1860 Town Map showed the topography of the Reserve. (Source: SA Map 10188)

Plate V: The Reserve for Public Recreation in 1860. (Shepherds Hill CMP)

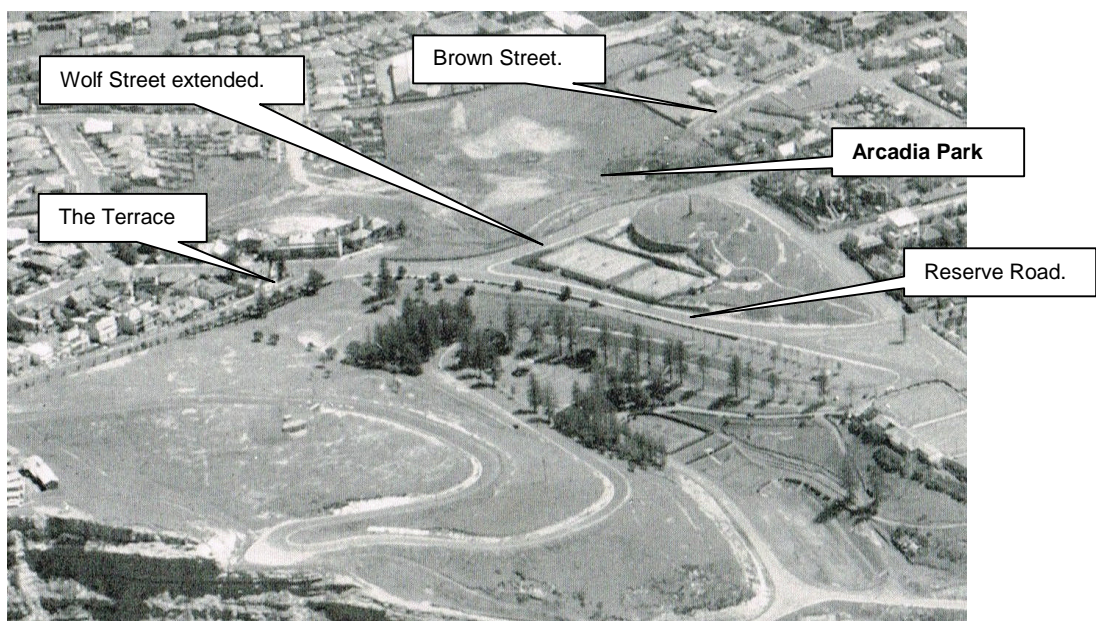


Plate W: Detail from an aerial of Newcastle in the mid 1950s shows the site before Mosbri Crescent was constructed. (Symphony on a City)

Arcadia Park benefits from the now landscaped road reserve (Lot 7003) as additional park area between the proposed development and the exotic and native flora covering the area of Arcadia Park which is currently being replanted as a littoral rainforest.



Plate X: City of Newcastle sign noting the works by volunteers in the park. (JCHD 6183)

In 2017 the City of Newcastle commissioned a report undertaken by Coast Ecology for a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the proposed restoration of Arcadia Park. The following information is taken from that report dated 7 February, 2018.

1.1 BACKGROUND

Over the past 50 years, Arcadia Park has undergone various transformations. Up until the 1970's, the area was described as a wasteland dominated by weeds which was once a disused quarry. In 1977, Newcastle Council allocated funding to the Newcastle Hills Residents Group, for drainage, landscaping, terraces and paths. In 1979, Arcadia Park was opened and named in honour of Newcastle's Sister City in California. The planted native and exotic species have matured to provide the existing vegetated landscape of the park (historical information supplied by Robert Clifton: Obelisk Hill - Arcadia Park Landcare).



Plate Y. Arcadia Park during its development in 1978 (Newcastle Morning Herald, 17 November 1978; photograph supplied by Robert Clifton)

From 2015 to the present, the Obelisk Hill – Arcadia Park Landcare group and Newcastle Ramblers Bushwalking Club (assisted by Newcastle City Council Park Services) have worked at improving the appearance of and restoring native vegetation in the park. Borders of planted areas have been formed up using timber branches from the site, areas have been regularly mowed, there has been extensive weed and undergrowth removal along with mulching and planting of native plants. Species used in plantings are listed in Appendix A of the Vegetation Management Plan (VMP). As NCC expressed interest in restoring Arcadia Park to a Littoral Rainforest community, many of the species selected for re-vegetation works over the past few years are species that naturally occur in Littoral Rainforest.

1.5 OVERVIEW OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

Arcadia Park is approximately 1.5 ha in size and predominantly slopes west and as such, is protected from the salt laden winds coming off the ocean. It is surrounded by urban/commercial development and as recent as 1970's, it was largely devoid of vegetation (**Plate W**).

The canopy consists of approximately 50% native species and 50% exotic species by cover. Some canopy trees are planted while others have generated over time, possibly aided by fauna movement. The middle stratum is largely absent in most areas across the park and consists mostly of planted natives, as the exotic middle stratum has been recently removed as part of bush regeneration works. The lower stratum largely consists of exotic grasses and herbs.

1.6 JUSTIFICATION FOR THE ACTIVITY

Various community groups and NCC have invested considerable time, effort and funding into Arcadia Park over the years. Council would like an overarching document (Vegetation Management Plan) to guide the future management of the park. The VMP includes a 4-year action plan that clearly identifies works required and species suitable for planting in the four zones identified in the VMP.

Without a guiding document, there is the risk that unsuitable species may be planted and/or funding used inefficiently through an *ad hoc* approach to restoration.

1.2 OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the VMP is to restore the vegetation in Arcadia Park to native vegetation communities that may once have occurred in the area and improve the natural biodiversity of the park. Council have indicated that if appropriate, they would like to see the gully areas restored to a littoral rainforest community

More specifically, the following objectives apply:

1. Sensitive removal of exotic tree species and dead native species, avoiding damage to retained native species including recently planted areas.
2. Reuse of felled material on site (i.e. as mulch)
3. Removal of exotic species from the middle and lower stratum
4. Revegetation of Arcadia Park using appropriate species
5. Creation a Littoral Rainforest community in the two gully's and a Coastal Plains Smooth-barked Apple Forest in the higher elevation areas.
6. Allow for the continued use of the park for passive recreation purposes
7. Maintain appropriate environmental safeguards for the duration of the works
8. Improve the biodiversity value of the park by
 - a. increasing the abundance and diversity of native vegetation
 - b. providing more habitat availability for native fauna through the provision of appropriate native feed trees and the installation of nest boxes.
9. Conduct monitoring and maintenance over a minimum 4-year period to suppress invading and emerging weeds and assist in the successful restoration of the area into the future.⁶

4.8 EUROPEAN AND INDIGENOUS HERITAGE

Searches of the State Heritage Inventory for items listed within The Hill indicated that there are no Aboriginal Places listed under the National Parks and Wildlife Act. One item was listed under the NSW Heritage Act: The Hill Heritage Conservation Area.

4.8.1 Indigenous Heritage

Under the generic due diligence process for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, one of the considerations relates to any landscape features that are likely to indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects. Arcadia Park is > 200 m from a water body and it is not on undisturbed land. In addition, it is considered that the potential harm resulting from the proposed restoration works fall under the category of "trivial or negligible" as defined under the Due Diligence Code of Practice. As such, further assessment is not required and an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) is not required.

Efforts since 2015 to recreate on a micro scale (i.e. bushland less than 1ha) a modified version of an urban Littoral Rainforest community are well underway.

⁶ Coastal Ecology - REF for the Proposed Restoration of Arcadia Park, The Hill page 6.



Plate Z: *The NBN Channel 3 Studios under construction circa 1960. (Coffey)*

The photograph above and below (plates Z and ZZ) provide a good indication of the condition of the future Arcadia Park as it was in 1960, showing grassland and coastal heath bushes. There is no indication in these photos of a Littoral Rainforest.



Plate ZZ: *The NBN Channel 3 Studios completed circa 1961. (Coffey)*

The above photographs taken in the late 1950s or early 1960s show the preparation of the subject site for the television studios and the condition of what later became Arcadia Park. While King Edward Park was formally designed and constructed as a park, this portion of the Reserve was cut off from the main Reserve by the construction of Reserve Road and the extension of Wolfe Street. This left the area of Arcadia Park as a steeply inclined area of grass, bush and coastal heath.

Assessment of the Arcadia Park's Cultural Significance:

Assessment of Heritage Value

Arcadia Park has been assessed for heritage significance as part of this SoHI as this area differs in its development from other areas with the Newcastle Recreational Reserve group. The assessment is based on criteria developed by Heritage NSW using the following values:

- Historical significance
- Aesthetic significance
- Research/technical significance
- Social significance

Levels of Significance:

The assessment of significance also requires that the level of significance be determined:

1. *National significance (significant to the people of Australia)*
2. *State significance (significant to the people of NSW)*
3. *Local significance (significant within the local government area)*

Integrity & Grading of Significance:

The integrity of the physical and documentary evidence must be such to enable a sound analysis of the significance of the place. Loss of integrity or condition may diminish significance. Different components of a place may make a different relative contribution to its heritage value.

Grading (significance)	Justification	Status
EXCEPTIONAL	Rare or outstanding element directly contributing to an item's local and State significance.	Fulfils criteria for local and State listing
HIGH	High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of the item's significance. Alterations do not detract from significance.	Fulfils criteria for local and State listing
MODERATE	Altered or modified elements. Elements with little heritage value, but which contribute to the overall significance of the item.	Fulfils criteria for local and State listing
LITTLE	Alterations detract from the significance. Difficult to interpret.	Does not fulfil criteria for local or State listing.
INTRUSIVE	Damaging to the item's heritage significance.	Does not fulfil criteria for local or State listing.

The following analysis of significance uses the criteria identified in the Heritage Act:

(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).

Guidelines for inclusion

- *shows evidence of significant human activity* – Arcadia Park shows evidence of recent human activity in the creation of a littoral rainforest. (Local significance)
- *is associated with significant activity or historical phase* – Arcadia Park was part of the original Newcastle Recreation Reserve. (State significance)
- *maintains or shows the continuity of a historical process or activity* – continuity of volunteers replanting the area in native flora. (Local significance)

Guidelines for exclusion

- *has incidental or unsubstantiated connections with historically important activities or processes* – not applicable.
- *provides evidence of activities or processes that are of dubious historical importance* – not applicable.
- *has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association* – not applicable. The planting of native flora has covered over the earlier Themeda grasslands and coastal heath.

Assessment:

Arcadia Park has **MODERATE** historical significance (**State significance**):

- The park site was formed as left over area from the original land grant of 1856 for the Reserve as a result of road works extending Wolfe St to Reserve Rd in 1880s-1890s.
- Arcadia Park named in the 1970s following voluntary work to re-vegetate the deteriorated hillside.

(b): An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).

Guidelines for inclusion

- *shows evidence of significant human activity* – local volunteer groups. (Local significance)
- *is associated with significant event, person, or group of persons* – does not satisfy these criterion.

Guidelines for exclusion

- *has incidental or unsubstantiated connections with historically important people or events* – not applicable.
- *provides evidence of people or events that are of dubious historical importance* – not applicable.
- *has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association* – not applicable.

Assessment:

The Arcadia Park site is of **LITTLE** historical association (**State significance**):

- *This park does not satisfy these criteria at a State level.*
- *Strong or special association with a group of importance in the local area was found. This area was essentially left over from the extension of Wolf Street and Reserve Road and looked after by a voluntary group of local citizens.*

The Arcadia Park site may be of MODERATE Local significance as it was relatively recently established.

(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).

Guidelines for inclusion

- *shows or is associated with creative or technical innovation or achievement* – not applicable.
- *is the inspiration for a creative or technical innovation or achievement* - not applicable.
- *is aesthetically distinctive* – the character of recent Littoral rainforest is aesthetically distinctive, and recreates a type of fauna lost to this area of Newcastle. (Local significance)
- *has landmark qualities* – the site below the Obelisk has possible landmark qualities from some local areas of observation. (Local significance)
- *exemplifies a particular taste, style, or technology* – not applicable.

Guidelines for exclusion

- *is not a major work by an important designer or artist* - not applicable.
- *has lost its design or technical integrity* - not applicable. The exotic flora is currently being removed and replaced with species found in Littoral rainforests.
- *its positive visual or sensory appeal or landmark and scenic qualities have been more than temporarily degraded* - the earlier Themeda grasslands and coastal heath have been removed.
- *has only a loose association with a creative or technical achievement* - not applicable.

Assessment:

The Arcadia Park site has **LITTLE** aesthetic significance (**State significance**):

- The site has been substantially replanted in a different form than was there from earlier times.
- The site reconfiguration as a Littoral rainforest has the potential to be of Local significance when completed.
- The dense planting of the site restricts views to the west of the city, which can still be seen from The Obelisk site.

(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.

Guidelines for inclusion

- *Is important for its associations with an identifiable group* – the park has been associated local voluntary groups in Newcastle from the 1970s to the present day which has assisted in the preservation of the site. There is a strong level of community interest in Arcadia Park (Local significance)
- *is important to a community's sense of place* – the park area has been used by visiting members of the community, particularly schools for decades. (Local significance)

Guidelines for exclusion

- *is only important to the community for amenity reasons* - not applicable. The community has been involved in the retention of a park on this steep site.
- *is retained only in preference to a proposed alternative* - not applicable

Assessment:

The Arcadia Park has **MODERATE** social significance (**Local significance**):

- *The site has been in continuous repair and replanting by the council and community since the 1970s to the present day.*
- *The park has strong associations in recent decades with the local voluntary Landcare groups under the guidance of the City of Newcastle.*

(e): An item has the 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).

Guidelines for inclusion

- *has the potential to yield new or further substantial scientific and/or archaeological information* – not applicable. The land was quarried for gravel at one stage.
- *is an important benchmark or reference site or type* – not applicable.
- *provides evidence of past human cultures that is unavailable elsewhere* - not applicable.

Guidelines for exclusion

- *the knowledge gained would be irrelevant to research on science, human history or culture* - not applicable
- *has little archaeological or research potential* - once a gravel quarry.
- *only contains information that is readily available from other resources or archaeological sites* - not applicable

Assessment:

The Arcadia Park has **LITTLE** scientific significance (**State significance**):

- The site has been continuously disturbed by planting of flora since the 1970s.

(f): An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the area's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).

Guidelines for inclusion

- *provides evidence of a defunct custom, way of life or process* – not applicable.
- *demonstrates a process, custom or other human activity that is in danger of being lost* - not applicable.
- *shows unusually accurate evidence of significant human activity* - not applicable.
- *is the only example of its type* - not applicable
- *demonstrates designs or techniques of exceptional interest* – not applicable.
- *shows rare evidence of a significant human activity important to a community* – not applicable.

Guidelines for exclusion

- *is not rare* - Arcadia Park is relatively recent and still being planted.
- *is numerous but under threat* - the park is not under threat.

Assessment:

The Arcadia Park site has **LITTLE** rarity value (**State significance**):

- The Arcadia Park site is not rare.
- *This area of park does not satisfy these criteria. The park had been left for decades as an unused former quarry area. Recent Landcare work has occurred over the last few years to change previous re-planting mistakes and species selections.*

(g): An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's

- **cultural or natural places, or**
- **cultural or natural environments.**

(or a class of the local area's

**cultural or natural places, or
cultural or natural environments.)**

Guidelines for inclusion

- *is a fine example of its type* – the Arcadia Park Littoral rainforest currently being developed has the prospect of being a fine example. (Local significance)
- *has the principal characteristics of an important class or group of items* – not applicable.
- *has attributes typical of a particular way of life, philosophy, custom, significant process, design, technique or activity* – not applicable.
- *is a significant variation to a class of items* – not applicable.
- *is part of a group which collectively illustrates a representative type* - not applicable.
- *is outstanding because of its setting, condition or size* – the setting of Arcadia Park on the steep western side of Wolf Street provides a visual softening to the base of The Obelisk when viewed from the nearby residential area. (Local significance)
- *is outstanding because of its integrity or the esteem in which it is held* – not applicable.

Guidelines for exclusion

- *is a poor example of its type* - not applicable.
- *does not include or has lost the range of characteristics of a type* - not applicable.
- *does not represent well the characteristics that make up a significant variation of a type* - not applicable.

Assessment:

The Arcadia Park site has **LITTLE** representative value (**Local significance**):

- *Arcadia Park is not considered to be representative due to its relatively young age and small area as a rainforest plantation.*

Summary of Significance:

The assessment of significance is summarised as follows:

Criteria	Level of significance	Grading of significance
Historical	State	Moderate
Aesthetic	Local	Little
Social	Local	Moderate
Research	Local	Little

Statement of Cultural Significance:

Arcadia Park has been assessed as being of State heritage significance as part of a group within the boundary of the State listed Newcastle Recreation Reserve. The park was formed from a left over area of ground that sloped steeply to the west following the extension of Wolf Street to meet Reserve Road, connecting Watt Street to The Terrace and High Street. The site had been left vacant for decades probably due to the topography and was used at one stage to quarry gravel for local roads. By the 1970s local volunteer groups gradually revitalised the area with both native and exotic flora. The recent re-planting of the park to remove exotic species replacing them with native flora will contribute to the range of flora in the Reserve, which differs from the earlier descriptions of native grasslands and coastal heath.

The park provides a visual definition of the extent of the original dedicated Recreation Reserve before modifications were undertaken.

The former road reserve which was not part of the original land grant of the Newcastle Recreation Reserve, has been added to the area of Arcadia Park providing useful additional area to the original Reserve boundary and the surrounding privately owned and developed suburb.

Assessment of Impact:

The Arcadia Park has been assessed as being of State heritage significance as part of a group within the boundary of the State listed Newcastle Recreation Reserve. This is based on the assessment that the area was most likely made up originally of Themeda grasslands and coastal heath bushland and has in recent decades been gradually altered to reflect a littoral rainforest.

The continued replanting of Arcadia Park is resulting in a bushland style setting which is difficult to see through. The development will be difficult to see through the park's bush setting plus the additional road reserve now included in the park. Photos from Wolfe St show the building cannot be seen.

The impact of the development on the State listed north western boundary area of the Newcastle Recreation Reserve now known as Arcadia Park will be minimal due to the loss and replacement of the original Themeda grasslands and coastal heath bushland with the recently planted (but incomplete) littoral rainforest.

CITY of NEWCASTLE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2012

The following extract is taken from Section 6.02 Heritage Conservation Areas adopted on 23 July 2019, under The Hill HCA.

Desired Future Character Statement

The character of the Hill Heritage Conservation Area is made up of a variety of building styles that date from the late 19th and early decades of the 20th century. The special character of The Hill will be preserved and maintained through the retention of contributory buildings, open space, the existing subdivision pattern, street trees and elements of visual interest and heritage significance such as the many iconic buildings located in The Hill, parks and open space, views and vistas, the unique steep topography and street layout, and the character of the streetscapes including street trees, buildings and the relationship of built elements.

Elements that are to be preserved include:

- the range of contributory and historic buildings, particularly intact or historically significant groupings, heritage items, iconic structures, and the appearance and layout of streets
- sandstone retaining walls, street features such as sandstone kerbing and guttering, and other features of historical interest such as coal chutes, public stairs, lanes, parks, views and vistas
- the eclectic and organic nature of the urban pattern and varying ages of the building stock that demonstrates the gradual urbanisation during the 19th and 20th century of a once indigenous landscape
- the existing appearance of the Hill, views outwards to the coastline and harbour and views into the area from the City, foreshore and Stockton which reveal a tree-lined suburb with a steep topography
- gardens, street trees and public open space and
- existing subdivision pattern and street layout.⁷

Assessment of the development on the character of The Hill HCA

The following Elements are preserved in the proposed development:

- The proposed development does not impact on the range of contributory and historic buildings, listed items appearance or layout of streets as the majority of the development faces away from the HCA. The SoHI 2019 and this Addendum addresses the issues and reasons to support the minimal impact associated with this development.
- Retaining walls and street features are unaffected by the development. Views and vistas have been addressed in this Addendum and found not to affect the HCA.
- The proposed development carries on this urban pattern in the 21st century.
- The views outwards are not affected and this is also addressed in this Addendum.
- The areas gardens, street trees and public open space will remain unaffected by the development.
- The existing subdivision pattern and street layout also remains unaffected by the development.

⁷ City of Newcastle DCP 2012 Section 6.02 Heritage Conservation Areas

2.6 Objectors Issue 6

There has been no consideration of the recreational values of Arcadia Park and how these might be affected by works associated with the development (such as grouting and stormwater drainage works), or from the overlooking of the park users by residents.

Issue: No consideration of the recreational values of Arcadia Park and how grouting or stormwater drainage may affect the park.

The recreational values of Arcadia Park are not considered to be a heritage related issue but rather a park management issue.

There are no grouting or stormwater issues within the park and this is an engineering issue not heritage. Recreational values are therefore not affected.

Issue: Overlooking of the park users by residents.

The photomontages as well as simply walking through the park reveal a density of bushland that will screen the park from overlooking from the building. The building is set back off the park by at least six metres. The topography also restricts the recreation values of the park.

2.7 Objectors Issue 7

Grouting has been indicated to occur under Arcadia Park, i.e. Lot 7004 DP1077043 which is an item of heritage listed on the NLEP. The grouting is part of the erection of a building and therefore development consent is required pursuant to NLEP Clause 5.10(2)(e).

The grouting works under Arcadia Park is not considered to be a heritage related issue. I have no expertise in matters related to engineering issues however I am aware that the development does not propose any surface works to Arcadia Park.

I am also aware that no grouting or stormwater works that may disturb the surface of the park will do so in such a way that they would not result in any impact on the recreational values of the park.

The extension of The Terrace was originally a road reserve on the eastern boundary of the subject site. This road reserve has now been incorporated into Arcadia Park but was originally outside the survey boundary of the Newcastle Recreational Reserve.

The recent listing of Arcadia Park and the added Road Reserve on the State Heritage Register and part of the group known as the Newcastle Recreation Reserve will require an application to Heritage NSW under section 57 of the Heritage Act for any proposed grouting or rock bolting works that may be under the area of the park. (Refer also to the Statement of Environmental Effects for further information on this aspect of the works).

3.0 SUMMARY

The above information and assessments have been provided to supplement the heritage assessment included in the SOHI dated 14 January 2019. This supplementary assessment has provided a response to matters raised in the public submissions and the recent listing of the Newcastle Recreation Reserve on the State Heritage Register.

In general terms the development is substantially screened from heritage conservation areas and individual items by the existing built and natural environment. This has been confirmed by the Marchese Partners View Analysis Report.

An assessment of the natural heritage significance of Arcadia Park is based on the information prepared for the City of Newcastle by Coastal Ecology in their Review of Environmental Factors for the Proposed Restoration of Arcadia Park 2018.

It should be noted that under the definition of The Burra Charter 2013, *restoration* means returning a *place* to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing elements without introducing new material. In the case of Arcadia Park the known earlier state of the area was native grassland and heath. The introduced Littoral rainforest while existing in this region may not have existed in this location.

It is contended that the buildings will blend into the backdrop of the city expanse as it is well below the line of the horizon when viewed from the Obelisk. The views west from the Obelisk are general city wide views and were not the reason behind the construction of the Obelisk which was for navigational reasons when ships were entering the harbour.

Additionally, the continuation of the current re-planting of Arcadia Park to transform it into a littoral rainforest will continue to grow, providing an effective screen to the eastern side of the development.

Yours faithfully,



John Carr
Heritage Architect
B. Sc. (Arch), B. Arch.
(Registered Architect
NSW ARB 4128)

25 January 2022	E	Substitution of recent views
1 June 2021	D	Inclusion of SHR listing
21 April 2021	C	Issue for DA lodgement
13 April 2021	B	Report adjustments.
31 March 2021	A	Issue for discussion.
Date	Rev	Description

(End of Report)