

# Glebe Mid-Rise Development Preliminary Heritage Impact Assessment Planning Proposal Stage1

Prepared for NSW Land and Housing Corporation

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Sydney Melbourne Brisbane Perth

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# Contents

| 1. | Intro                 | Introduction   |    |  |  |
|----|-----------------------|--|----|--|--|
|    | 1.1                   | Project Description  | 1  |  |  |
|    | 1.2                   | Approach and Methodology   | 1  |  |  |
|    | 1.3                   | Limitations  | 2  |  |  |
|    | 1.4                   | Authorship   | 2  |  |  |
|    | 1.5                   | Ownership  | 2  |  |  |
|    | 1.6                   | Terminology  | 2  |  |  |
| 2. | Site                  | Location   | 3  |  |  |
| 3. | Heri                  | Heritage Listings and Controls                                       |    |  |  |
|    | 3.1                   | Heritage Status  | 6  |  |  |
|    | 3.2                   | Heritage Items in the Vicinity                                       | 6  |  |  |
| 4. | Histo                 | orical Context   | 8  |  |  |
| 5. | Phys                  | Physical Description   |    |  |  |
|    | 5.1                   | 17-31 Cowper Street  | 16 |  |  |
|    | 5.2                   | 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road  | 18 |  |  |
|    | 5.3                   | Views and Settings   | 20 |  |  |
| 6. | Heritage Significance |  |    |  |  |
|    | 6.1                   | LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register                              | 22 |  |  |
|    | 6.2                   | St Phillips Conservation Area  | 22 |  |  |
|    | 6.3                   | Gradings of Significance   | 23 |  |  |
| 7. | Prop                  | osal   | 25 |  |  |
| 8. | Preli                 | Preliminary Assessment of Heritage Impact                            |    |  |  |
|    | 8.1                   | Built Heritage   | 43 |  |  |
|    | 8.2                   | Curtilage and Subdivision  | 45 |  |  |
|    | 8.3                   | Views and Settings   | 45 |  |  |
|    | 8.4                   | Heritage Items in the Vicinity                                       | 45 |  |  |
|    | 8.5                   | Historical Archaeological Potential                                  | 46 |  |  |
|    | 8.6                   | Aboriginal Archaeological Potential                                  | 46 |  |  |
| 9. | Stat                  | Statutory Controls   |    |  |  |
|    | 9.1                   | Heritage Act 1977  | 47 |  |  |
|    | 9.2                   | Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979                       | 51 |  |  |
|    | 9.3                   | State Environmental Planning Policy (Affordable Rental Housing) 2009 | 51 |  |  |
|    | 9.4                   | City of Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012                         | 52 |  |  |
|    |                       |  |    |  |  |



|     | 9.5  | Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 | . 52 |
|-----|------|--------------------------------------|------|
| 10. | Conc | lusion and Recommendations           | . 57 |
|     | 10.1 | Conclusion                           | . 57 |
|     | 10.2 | Recommendations                      | . 58 |
| 11. | Refe | rences                               | . 60 |

## 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Project Description

Extent Heritage Pty Ltd (Extent Heritage) has been commissioned by NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) to prepare a Preliminary Heritage Impact Statement for Stage 1 - Planning Proposal for 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road, Glebe.

The purpose of the report is to analyse this Planning Proposal to rezone 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road, Glebe and assess the preliminary impacts to the site. It will also discuss the opportunities and constraints with regards to the site's specific context as a semi-developed inner Sydney block within a conservation area and containing several listed items on a State Agency Heritage and Conservation Register.

## 1.2 Approach and Methodology

The methodology used in the preparation of this report is in accordance with the principles and definitions as set out in the guidelines to *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (the *Burra Charter*) (Australia ICOMOS 2013). This Preliminary Heritage Impact Statement will also review the relevant statutory heritage controls.

In this assessment, the degree of the potential impacts on the site's heritage significance is modelled on ICOMOS's *Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural Work Heritage Properties* (2011). This document supports the evaluation of developmental impacts on the outstanding universal value (OUV) of World Heritage properties, but its definitions and evaluation matrix can be applied when assessing the values of any significant heritage place.

The definitions used in this assessment to grade the impacts are modelled on those provided in Appendix 3B of the ICOMOS guidelines (see Table 1), which provides an 'example guide' for assessing the magnitude of impact to built heritage and historical urban landscapes.

Table 1. Impact gradings (Source: ICOMOS 2011: 16).

| Impact grading      | Built heritage or historical urban landscape attributes   |  |  |
|---------------------|---|--|--|
| Major               | Change to key historic building elements that contribute to OUV, such that the resource is totally altered. Comprehensive changes to the setting.   |  |  |
| Moderate            | Changes to many key historic building elements, such that the resource is significantly modified. Changes to the setting of an historic building, such that it is significantly modified. |  |  |
| Minor               | Change to key historic building elements, such that the asset is slightly different. Change to setting of an historic building, such that it is noticeably changed.                       |  |  |
| Negligible          | Slight changes to historic building elements or setting that hardly affect it.  |  |  |
| No Change/No Impact | No change to fabric or setting.   |  |  |

#### 1.3 Limitations

The site was inspected and photographed by Extent Heritage representatives Anita Yousif and MacLaren North on 29 November 2019. They were accompanied by Fred Chan of NSW Land and Housing Corporation. The inspection was undertaken as a visual study only.

The historical overview provides sufficient historical background to provide an understanding of the place in order to assess the significance and provide relevant recommendations, however, it is not intended as an exhaustive history of the site.

#### 1.4 Authorship

The following staff members at Extent Heritage have prepared this preliminary heritage impact assessment:

- Gabrielle Harrington, Research Assistant, and
- Francesca McMaster, Heritage Advisor.

The report was reviewed by Eleanor Banaag, Senior Heritage Advisor.

#### 1.5 Ownership

The site is owned and managed by NSW Land and Housing Corporation.

## 1.6 Terminology

The terminology in this report follows definitions presented in the *Burra Charter*. Article 1 provides the following definitions:

**Place** means a geographically defined area. It may include elements, objects, spaces and views. Place may have tangible and intangible dimensions.

**Cultural significance** means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations.

Cultural significance is embodied in the *place* itself, its *fabric*, *setting*, *use*, *associations*, *meanings*, records, *related places* and *related objects*.

Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.

**Fabric** means all the physical material of the *place* including elements, fixtures, contents and objects.

**Conservation** means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural* significance.

Maintenance means the continuous protective care of a place, and its setting.

Maintenance is to be distinguished from repair which involves restoration or reconstruction.

**Preservation** means maintaining a *place* in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

**Restoration** means returning a *place* to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing elements without the introduction of new material.

**Reconstruction** means returning a *place* to a known earlier state and is distinguished from *restoration* by the introduction of new material.

**Adaptation** means changing a *place* to suit the existing *use* or a proposed use.

**Use** means the functions of a *place*, including the activities and traditional and customary practices that may occur at the place or are dependent on the place.

**Compatible use** means a *use* which respects the *cultural significance* of a *place*. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.

**Setting** means the immediate and extended environment of a *place* that is part of or contributes to its *cultural significance* and distinctive character.

Related place means a place that contributes to the cultural significance of another place.

## 2. Site Location

The study area is located at 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road is legally defined as Lot 18 DP 244897 and Lot 17 DP 244897 and is located within the City of Sydney's Local Government Area (LGA).

The study area comprises two blocks with Park Lane running between the two. Wentworth Park Road is to the north, Cowper Street to the east, Wentworth street to the south and Mitchell Lane East to the west. The northern block, Lot 18 DP 244897 or 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road, comprises four two-storey terrace houses. The southern block, Lot 17 DP 244897 or 17-31 Cowper Street, comprises a two-storey block of fifteen one-bedroom units.

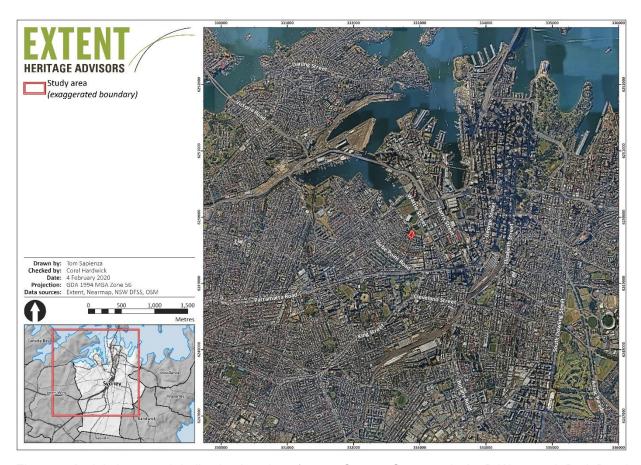


Figure 1. Aerial photograph indicating location of 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road outlined in red. (Source: Nearmap modified by Extent Heritage, February 2020)



Figure 2. Aerial Photograph indicating the location of 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road outlined in red. (Source: Nearmap modified by Extent Heritage, February 2020)

# 3. Heritage Listings and Controls

## 3.1 Heritage Status

The following table outlines the heritage status of both 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Street Road.

| Register/listing                                    | Item listed | Item name                     | Item no. |  |
|---|-------------|-------------------------------|----------|--|
| Statutory registers                                 |             |                               |          |  |
| National Heritage List                              | N/A         | -                             | -        |  |
| Commonwealth Heritage List                          | N/A         | -                             | -        |  |
| State Heritage Register                             | N/A         | -                             | -        |  |
|   | Yes         | 17-31 Cowper Street           | 3620709  |  |
|   |             | 2A Wentworth Park Road        | 3621264  |  |
| LAHC Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register |             | 2B Wentworth Park Road        | 3621265  |  |
| Ochoor valion regiotor                              |             | 2C Wentworth Park Road        | 3621266  |  |
|   |             | 2D Wentworth Park road        | 3621267  |  |
| Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012                | Yes         | St Phillips Conservation Area | C32      |  |
| Non-statutory registers                             |             |                               |          |  |
| Register of the National Trust (NSW)                | ТВА         | -                             | -        |  |

## 3.2 Heritage Items in the Vicinity

There are two heritage items listed on the Sydney LEP 2012 that located within the immediate vicinity of the study area (Figure 3).

- Street trees, (Item No. I670), and
- House Group (Item Nos 1666 and 1667).



Figure 3. Sydney LEP 2012 Heritage Map showing the study area (outlined in green), with locally listed heritage items in brown and conservation areas in red hatching. (Source: Sydney LEP 2012, HER\_008)

## 4. Historical Context

Cadigal are recognised as the traditional owners of the study area. In 1788 the land surrounding the study area consisted of a harbourside mixture of sandy, sandstone slopes and swampy mud and sand where the freshwater Blackwattle Creek emptied into the harbour. The swamp extended as far as the present William Henry Street (Fitzgerald & Golder 1994, 12).

At the onset of European settlement in 1789 the Sydney Glebe lands were granted to the Church of England. This followed a decree by British Authorities to allocate 400 acres in each township to support a Church of England clergyman. This land remained largely unused until 1828 when the Church and School Corporation subdivided Glebe into 28 allotments (Figure 4). Lots 7 and 8 of this subdivision were handed over to the trustees of St Phillip's with the income derived to be used for diocesan purposes. The study area of 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road is located within this 1828 subdivision which became known as St Phillip's Estate subdivision.

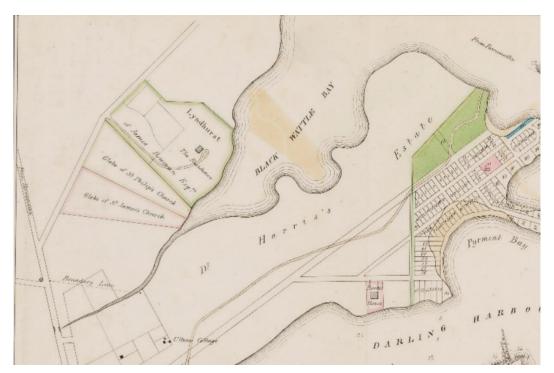


Figure 4. Detail of 1837 Plan of Sydney showing portion of land known as St Phillips. (Source: National Library of Australia, Call No. MAP T 1551)

In 1842 St Phillip's Estate was further subdivided with lots being offered on 28-year leases. Within this subdivision, allotments were leased at low rates on the condition that the lessee built at his own expense a house or houses of substantial character, with not more than two dwellings per allotment and that at the expiration of the lease the property became that of the ground landlord (NSW OEH n.d.). By 1844, sixty cottages had been constructed on the St. Phillips Estate and were likely to be of timber weatherboard construction (Solling 2007, 97). An 1870s photograph of the area does not show any indication of structures being built on the study area (Figure 5).



Figure 5. 1873 photograph overlooking Black Wattle Cove and the Glebe area. (Source: City of Sydney Archives, Town Hall clock tower view 1873.

Between the 1830s and 1860s noxious industries developed along the shore of Black Wattle Cove, including abattoirs and boiling down works. These industries pumped pollution down Blackwattle Creek into the cove beyond. These industries were eventually moved out of Glebe following public petition, however, even after departure the stench from the pollution continued to arise from the water and mud. In 1868 Blackwattle Creek was recorded as an "open sewer" (Thorp 1990, 8), and in 1876 the Sydney Health Board concluded that the streams of filth and sewage that ran down Glebe's lanes near Blackwattle Swamp made the precinct 'positively sickening'. This led to calls for the area to be infilled to remove the pollutants and stench.

By 1873 the Blackwattle Bay Reclamation Act was passed, however, infilling of the creek and head of the swamp did not commence until 1876 (Thorp 1990, 2). By 1880 silt deposits dredged from the harbour bed had been used to fill the swamp, with dykes and seawalls created as part of the process (Thorp 1990, 10). The transformation was incredible, with claims that the once "fertile source of miasmic disease" had taken on a healthy character (Gibbs and Shallard 1882, 35). Varying high water marks across parish and metropolitan plans make it difficult to ascertain the location of the study area in relation to the original shoreline and the 1876-1880 reclamation of Black Wattle Bay. The 1881 plan (Figure 6) suggests the study area sits to the south of the high-water mark, while the 1890 plan (Figure 7) shows the study area partially across the highwater mark. Similarly, estate plans for Lyndhurst and Glebe estates both show the high-water mark in varied positions. The 1840 Glebe detail plan is considered to be a highly reliable historical plan and indicates that the study area sits half below and half above the high-water

mark. Using georeferencing software, an undated plan with measurements (allowing for greater accuracy) was overlaid onto present-day aerials. This map indicated a different high-water mark to the 1840 plan, but together the two plans provide an indicative idea of, firstly, the variance in the historical maps, and secondly the potential location and extent of reclamation.



Figure 6. 1881 map showing the high water mark (orange line) located to the north of the study area (outlined in red. Present-day cadastral overlaid in pink. (Source: SLNSW Mitchell Library, Call No. F981.1/H)

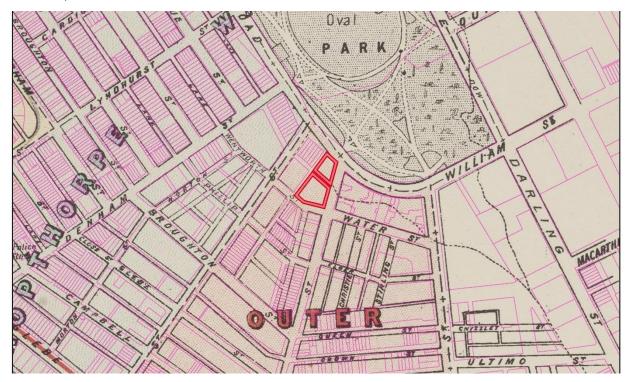


Figure 7. 1890's Glebe showing study area (outlined in red) partially across the high water mark (marked as a dotted line. (Source: SLNSW Mitchell Library, Call No. FL4501717)

In c.1870 St Phillip's Estate was subdivided and redeveloped from the 1842 lease and had a combination of commercial and residential buildings. The next 20 years were the most intensive period of building in which the terrace became the most dominant style of building in the area. In c.1880s the Metropolitan Mutual Permanent Building and Investment Association acquired new leases for fifty-year terms from the Church of England and set out to redevelop St Phillip's Estate including Cowper Street and Park Road (now Wentworth Park Road) (Solling 2007, 102). As a result, between 1877 and 1885 rows of one and two-storey terraces were constructed along Cowper Street and Park Road. These are visible in the 1888 Map of Glebe (Figure 8). In 1892 it appears that a corner store was located at the subject site in the terrace on the corner of Wentworth Park Road and Cowper Street (Solling 2007, 113).

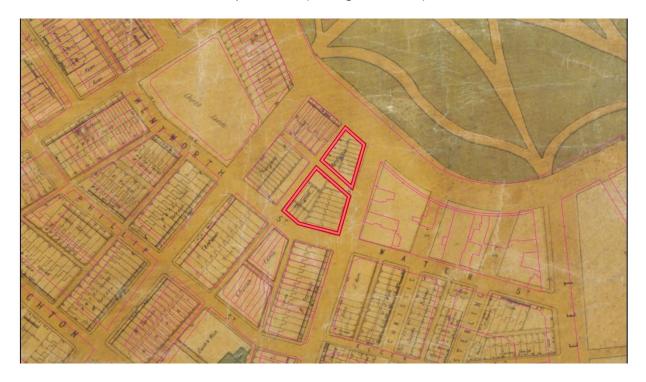


Figure 8. 1888 map of Glebe Municipality showing terraces established within the study area (outlined in red) along Cowper Street. (Source: Historical Atlas of Sydney)

Glebe Council, established in 1859, undertook its own sewerage works in 1886 in response to soaring disease and people leaving the suburb in favour of more sanitary residences. Contractors began laying pipes by 1886, but only 200 houses were connected with cess pits reportedly remaining the main form of sanitation (Solling 2007, 93). By 1901 the suburb had 22.8km of sewerage pipes compared to a mere 5.4km in 1892. Disease, however, continued to be an issue into the 20<sup>th</sup> century with the outbreak of the bubonic plaque in 1900. Middle class families moved to Sydney's newer suburbs, with Glebe increasingly becoming home to people on lower incomes, especially blue-collar workers who had to remain close to the city to pick up work. For the next decade a zone embracing Redfern, Newtown, Surry Hills, Camperdown, Paddington, Glebe, and Balmain became more industrialised and overtly working class in their demographic profile (Solling 2011). This demographic remained relatively unchanged up until the 1950s.

A panoramic image of Wentworth Park dating between c.1910 and 1930 shows rows of terraces, including those at 31 Cowper and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road (Figure 9). The corner store,

noted as present in 1892, is visible in this photograph. The Sands Directory indicates that these terraces were occupied until at least 1933, however, by 1939, mapping shows the study area as vacant (Figure 9). Based on this mapping from the 1930s and aerial photography from the 1940s, many terrace houses built in the area were demolished by this time and the lots were left vacant until further development in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century.

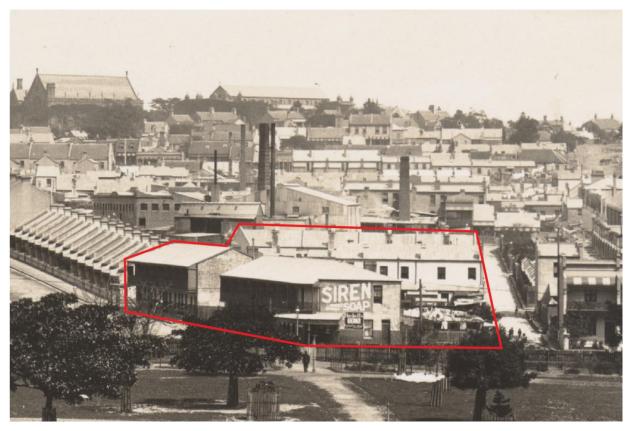


Figure 9. Detail of panoramic photograph of Wentworth Park c. 1910 -1930, terraces are visible within the study area (outlined in red). (Source: State Library of NSW, Call No. DL PX 165, Photograph No. 65-66)

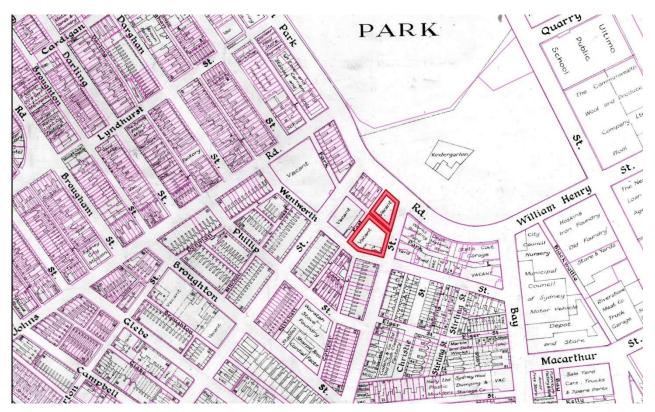


Figure 10. Overlay of present-day structures on 1939 Glebe detail map showing the study area as mostly vacant. (Source: Historical Atlas of Sydney)

Planning street cards for Glebe provide an overview of applications made and actual use of the study area from 1949 onwards (City of Sydney n.d.). These show that from 1952-57 17-31 Cowper Street was predominately used as a storage site for fuel containers, empty fruit containers, and the storage of Machinery for Wall Machinery Pty Ltd (1952). Between 1957-1964 applications were made to use the area as a Service Station for Broadway Motors, however there is no indication these applications were approved. In 1964, lock-up garages were authorised to be built for the Glebe Administration Board, the construction of which is visible in aerial photographs from 1965 (Figure 11). These planning cards further detail that between 1969 and 1972, 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road was used as an off-street parking lot (City of Sydney n.d.). Based on aerial photography, these appear to continue to be used for these purposes until at least 1986 (Figure 12).



Figure 11. Aerial photograph, 1965 with study area outlined in pink. Note the construction of the lock-up garages in progress on the southern lot. (Source: NSW Department of Finance and Spatial Services)



Figure 12. Aerial photograph, 1986 with study area outlined in pink. The lock-up garages remain on the southern lot. (Source: NSW Department of Finance and Spatial Services)

In 1974, the Commonwealth acquired the Glebe Estate from the Church of England to undertake urban renewal of the area. This was a notably large-scale project that retained a tract of land in Glebe inhabited largely by low income families, and was being dubbed the first example of government acquisition of property to rehabilitate rather than redevelop (Solling 2011). Due to

a change in the political environment, this rehabilitation project suffered a series of funding cuts with only 230 of the proposed 710 buildings having been upgraded. A strategy plan was prepared by the Urban Renewal Group, which proposed the that vacant sites would be used for infill accommodation (NSW Department of Housing 1998, 15). A Strategy Plan Report for the Glebe Estate maps the study area as a proposed location for infill housing with new residential development proposed (NSW Department of Housing 1998, 16-17).

The extant terrace style apartments at 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road were constructed as a result of this Glebe Rehabilitation Project with 17-31 Cowper Street completed in 1989 and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road completed in 1990. Presently, the apartments remain in use as private residences.

# 5. Physical Description

Extent Heritage carried out a physical assessment of the exterior of both 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road on 29 November 2019. The analysis involved an investigation into the built form and landscape setting. It does not provide a detailed investigation of all fabric but an overview of the elements of the place to assist in determining significance. The interiors of either building were not inspected as part of this assessment.

The study area is divided into two lots each consisting of a block of apartments that were constructed as infill housing as a part of the Glebe Rehabilitation Project.

#### 5.1 17-31 Cowper Street

17-31 Cowper Street consists of a two-storey late-twentieth century Australian Nostalgia infill apartment block designed in a cloister-like shape around an internal courtyard containing fifteen one-bedroom units. The roof is asymmetrical and consists of both hipped and skillion roof sections and is clad in corrugated metal. The outer face of the building has a verandah with a hipped roof that is separated by several projecting bays which extend from the ground to first floor with hipped roofs and timber lattice screens to the first floor. The verandahs have square timber posts and simple timber brackets. Walls to the building are constructed of face brick and have polychromatic brick string courses. The internal courtyard is paved in brick, consists of a central fountain with timber benches surrounded by paved portico.

Windows to the building are generally double-hung sash windows with some having an arched upper sash. Diamond-shaped, fixed windows, framed by polychromatic brick are visible in the internal courtyard in between each apartment. The main entry to each apartment is located in the internal courtyard and consists of a timber framed door with flyscreen and side lights.

A brick fencing with detailed circular brick posts and aluminium balustrade surrounds the building on all elevations. There is large stone kerbing alongside the elevation to Mitchell Lane East. The landscape consists of two large gum trees and various gardens of native and introduced vegetation.

From a desktop assessment of the building, 17-31 Cowper Street appears to have been altered in c.2015. Modifications include removal and replacement of original timber lattice screens and recladding of the roof.

#### Condition

17-31 Cowper Street is in a good condition.



Figure 13. Overview of 17-31 Cowper Street.



Figure 14. Corner of Wentworth Street and Cowper Street.



Figure 15. View south along Mitchell Lane East.



Figure 16. View north along Mitchell Lane East.



Figure 17. Sandstone kerbing along Mitchell Lane East.



Figure 18. View to internal courtyard at 17-31 Cowper Street.

#### 5.2 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road

2A-2D Wentworth Park Road consists of a group of four late twentieth century Post Modern two-storey semi-detached terraces constructed of rendered brick. It is designed as sensitive infill to match the surrounding historic vernacular landscape. The building features a curved parapet to the façade and rear elevations and is curved in profile to the east and west elevations. The terraces feature a curved brick balcony, curved corrugated steel roof and steel framing. Each terrace has a French door and two double-hung windows arranged symmetrically on the first floor with the same arrangement on the ground floor with the addition of a front door. All windows and doors have flyscreens, and some have security grates. Each terrace is accessed by a set of concrete stairs and has a rendered brick fence with steel railing and metal screen gate.

Circular fixed windows are located on the side elevations to the ground and first floors. To the rear, windows are double hung with curved corrugated metal awnings. The rear is surrounded by a high brick fence with expressed string courses which resembles the front fencing and separates the small rear yard of each terrace. There is large stone kerbing alongside the elevation to Mitchell Lane East and a mature eucalyptus trees to the front of the building along Wentworth Park Road.

#### Condition

2A-2D Wentworth Park Road is generally in a good condition, although the front gate is broken at apartment 2A.



Figure 19. View to façade of 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road.



Figure 20. Entrance to 2A Wentworth Park Road.



Figure 21. View of sandstone kerbing along Mitchell lane East.



Figure 22. Overview of rear of 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road from Cowper Street.



Figure 23. View south along Cowper Street. Note the curved profile of the building.



Figure 24. Rear of 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road.

## 5.3 Views and Settings

The study area is situated within the residential portion of Glebe and comprises of two blocks with Park Lane running between the two. To the north of the study area across Wentworth Park Road is Wentworth Park which is a large open park space with many mature trees, a greyhound racing track, soccer fields and playground. To the east, along the western side of Cowper Street are a row of street trees, that form part of a local heritage item 'Street Trees' which consists of rainforest species including Grevillea robusta, Flindersia australis and Castanospermum australae planted in c.1950. On the eastern side of Cowper Street are high rise apartments, and along western side of Cowper Street to the south of the study area are a row of single-storey terraces. To the west of the study area is another row of two-storey social housing terraces which sit to the north of MJ Doherty Reserve.



Figure 25. View to Wentworth Park from 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road.



Figure 26. View towards Wentworth Park from 17-31 Cowper Street



Figure 27. View to Street trees along Cowper Street.



Figure 28. View north along Mitchell Lane East towards M.J. Doherty Reserve.



Figure 29. View south along Cowper Street.

# 6. Heritage Significance

## 6.1 LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register

The following Statement of heritage significance has been taken from the NSW Land and Housing Corporation's listing sheet for the study area. There are five individual listing sheets, with 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road listed as 4 individual items - 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D Wentworth Park Road. It should be noted that the four listing sheets for 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road have the same significance listed in each listing sheet. For the purposes of this discussion, this report will group the four individually listed terraces at 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road together, as opposed to discussing significance on an individual level.

- The heritage significance of 17-31 Cowper Street Glebe is recognised as: 'Of marginal heritage significance as an example of infill public housing in an older residential area. Records the historic development pattern of Glebe. Representative of last major period of development.'
- The heritage significance of 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road is recognised as: 'Significant as a record of the Glebe Rehabilitation Project and an example of good contextual design in an historic townscape. Representative of late 20<sup>th</sup> century infill.'

## 6.2 St Phillips Conservation Area

The study area is located within the St Phillips Conservation Area. The following Statement of Significance for the has been quoted from the State Heritage Inventory Listing Sheet for 'St Phillips Conservation Area':

St Phillip's Conservation Area has historic significance for its subdivision of St. Phillip's Estate c. 1870, following redevelopment of 1842 leases. The area has a number of important layers: The early retail and commercial developments developed to serve the residential estates of St Phillips; The speculative working class terrace development dating from 1870s; housing development carried out by the church in the Inter - war period; and the extent of public housing on the Glebe Estate dating from the 1970s and 1980s. The speculative working class terrace development by Building Companies dating from 1870s reflect the historic association with important local identities, notably builder David Elphinstone and financer George Wigram Allen.

The post 1974 public housing development and rehabilitation programs reflect the protection of Glebe due to resident action.

St Phillips has aesthetic significance for its predominant Victorian character, supported by several other important historic layers and building types. The area is rare for its extraordinary degree of architectural intactness, and for the survival of early 1870s commercial and residential development so close to the city centre. The high level of integrity reflects the long history of church and government ownership.

## 6.3 Gradings of Significance

The following table has been modelled off the Gradings of Significance table in *Assessing Heritage Significance*, prepared in 2001 by the NSW Office of Heritage. The intention of this table is to provide consistency between significance gradings given to different elements within a place. Different elements within a place contribute to significance by differing degrees.

Table 2. Gradings of significance definitions

| Grading     | Justification   | Status   |
|-------------|---|--|
| Exceptional | Rare or outstanding element directly contributing to an item's local or significance.   | Fulfils criteria for local or 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 or 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 or State listing.         |
| Little      | Alterations which detract from significance, are difficult to interpret or which make little contribution to the significance of the place. | 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. |

#### 6.3.1 17-31 Cowper Street

It is noted that the above Statement of Significance for 17-31 Cowper Street describes the apartment block as having marginal heritage significance for its historic and representative values. Within the LAHC Heritage and Conservation register listing sheet for this site, the site is also noted to have social significance.

The building fabric itself consists of modern infill constructed in a sensitive design that makes reference to the wider Victorian architectural character prevalent in Glebe. The building is considered to be mostly intact with some modifications to the building fabric including replacement of timber lattice screen and replacement of roof cladding. The building fabric does not contribute to the significance of this item.

17-31 Cowper Street is socially significant, constructed as part of the Glebe Rehabilitation Project. This social value is derived from the use of the building by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation and has social value for those who have lived there.

Although 17-31 Cowper Street is a noted to be a representative example of the last major period of development in Glebe, there are other more interesting examples of this style of infill housing in the vicinity such as 2- 18 Mount Vernon Street and 42-58 Catherine Street, Glebe.

The building at 17-31 Cowper Street is considered to have **LITTLE** heritage significance.

#### 6.3.2 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road

It is noted that the above Statement of Significance for 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road describes it as having local heritage significance for its historical, aesthetic, social and representative values.

It should be noted that the aesthetic significance of the terraces is attributed to its overall form which has been designed as a row of semi-detached terraces that make reference to the earlier historic building stock of the Glebe area but also reflect the Post Modern influences of the late twentieth century. It is a representative example of the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century infill built in 1990. Although there appears to be a high degree of original fabric remaining on the building, besides recent repainting of the building, it is the general form and scale of the building rather than the building fabric which contributes to the overall significance of 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road.

2A-2D Wentworth Park Road is also socially significant, constructed as part of the Glebe Rehabilitation Project. This social value is derived from the use of the building by the Land and Housing Corporation and has social value for those who have lived there.

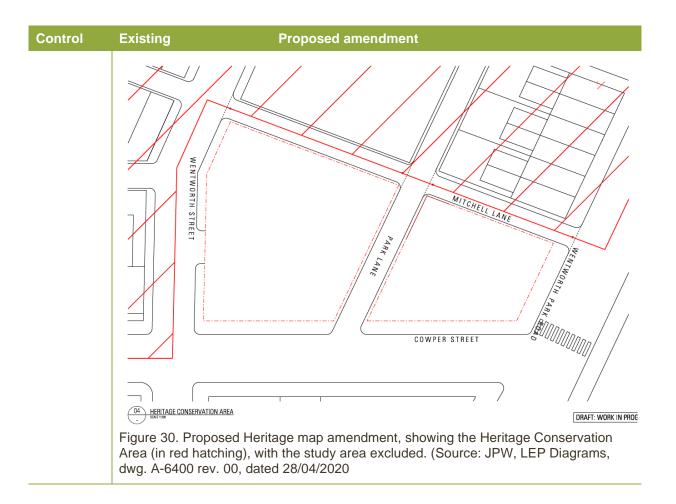
The building at 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road is therefore considered to have **MODERATE** significance.

# 7. Proposal

Presently, the study area is zoned R1 General Residential under City of Sydney LEP 2012 and is subject of a max height of buildings of 9m and a max floor space ratio of 1.25:1.

The Planning Proposal involves the application to City of Sydney Council to make amendments to its environmental planning instrument (Sydney *Local Environmental Plan* 2012) that will support a mid-rise development on this site. More specifically, the planning proposal has drafted a number of amendments to enable additional housing to be delivered on the site. These amendments consist of:

| Control                       | Existing  | Proposed amendment   |                                  |  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|--|
|                               |   | 2A-2D Wentworth Park Rd  | 17-31 Cowper Street              |  |
| Zoning R1 General residential |   | No change  | No change                        |  |
| Height                        | Height 9m RL36 (approx. eight-store)  |  | RL36 (approx. eight-<br>storeys) |  |
| Floor<br>Space<br>Ratio       | 1.25:1  | 4:3:1 3:1:1  |                                  |  |
| Car<br>parking                | Category B  | No change No change  |                                  |  |
|                               | Pending: Draft Affordable Rental Housing Planning Proposal: 3% of residential floor space plus 12% of new residential GFA | Introduce a new site specific provision to Part 6 Division 5 as follows:  (1) This clause applies to 2A-2D Wentworth Point Road (Lot   |                                  |  |
| Affordable<br>Housing         |   | <ul> <li>18, DP244897).</li> <li>(2) The consent authority must not consent to development involving construction of one or more dwellings on land at 2A-2D Wentworth Street Point Road unless it is satisfied that 10% of the residential gross floor area of will be used for the purposes of affordable housing.</li> </ul> |                                  |  |
|                               |   | Note: Under Sydney LEP 2012 affordable housing has the same meaning as in the Act.   |                                  |  |
|                               |   | Introduce a new local provision Part 6 Division 5 as follows:  |                                  |  |
| Design<br>Excellenc           | Clause 6.21 applies requiring a design competition  | (1) This clause applies to 2A-2D Wentworth Point Road (Lot 18 DP244897) and 17-31 Cowper Street, Glebe (Lot 17 DP244897).  |                                  |  |
| е                             |   | (2) Clauses 6.21 (5-7) of this LEP do not apply to land at 2A-2D Wentworth Street Point Road and 17-31 Cowper Street, Glebe.   |                                  |  |
| Heritage                      | The site is within a<br>Heritage Conservation<br>Area   | It is proposed to remove the site from the Heritage Conservation Area, by amending the heritage map.   |                                  |  |



As part of the planning proposal, an illustrative structure plan has been developed to demonstrate a type and look of a building development on the site that would meet the requirements of the amended development.

To meet the requirements of the proposed controls, the illustrative structure plan has indicated a two eight-storey apartment blocks as well as detached row of five terrace-style residences, with the potential to yield approximately 74 new dwellings in total with a mix of social and market housing (FDP Pty Ltd 2019). The apartment block on the southern portion of the site, 17-31 Cowper Street, will have a two-level basement carpark, while 2A-2D Wentworth Street will have only one basement level. This proposed development includes the demolition of all existing structures on site however ensures the retention of the heritage listed 'Street Trees' along Cowper Street.

Figure 31 to Figure 46 show the illustrative structure plan of the proposed development dated 14 April 2020.

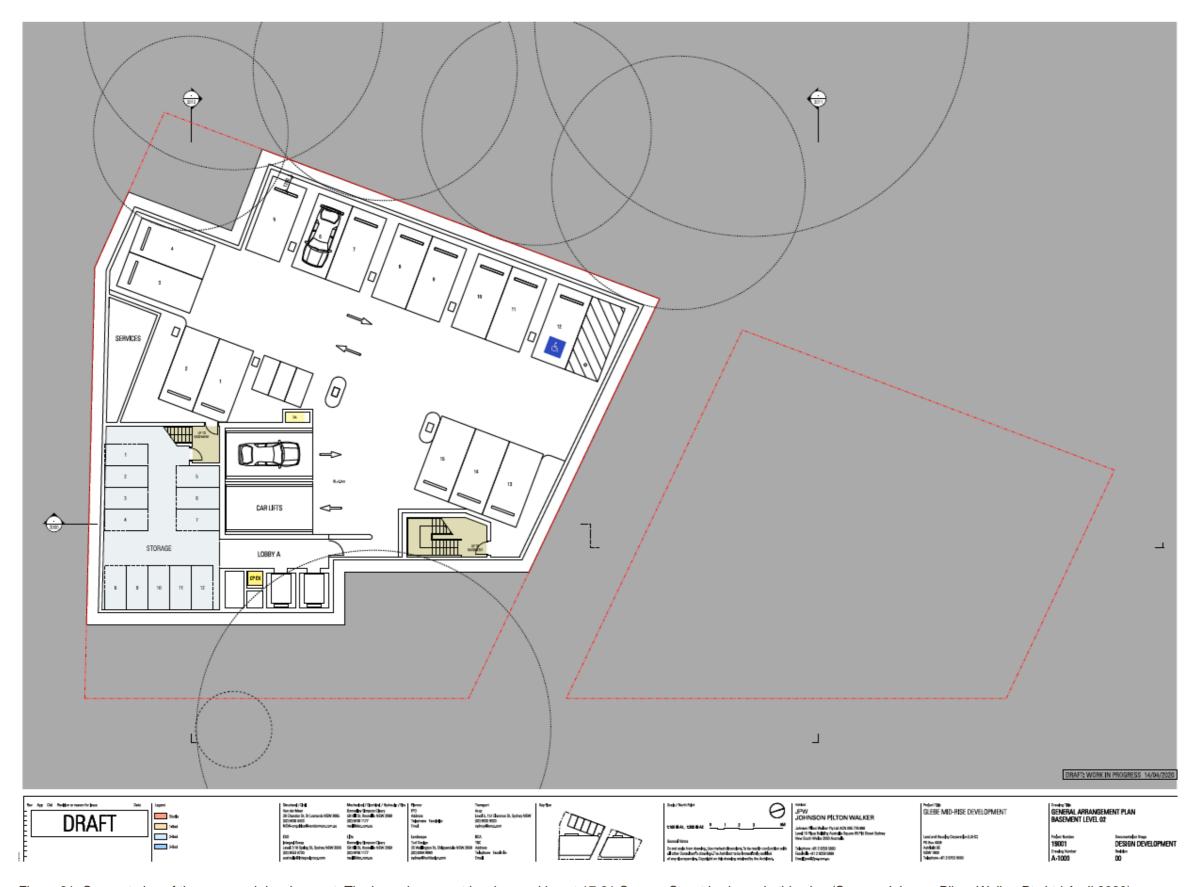


Figure 31. Concept plan of the proposed development. The lower basement level carparking at 17-31 Cowper Street is shown in this plan (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd April 2020).

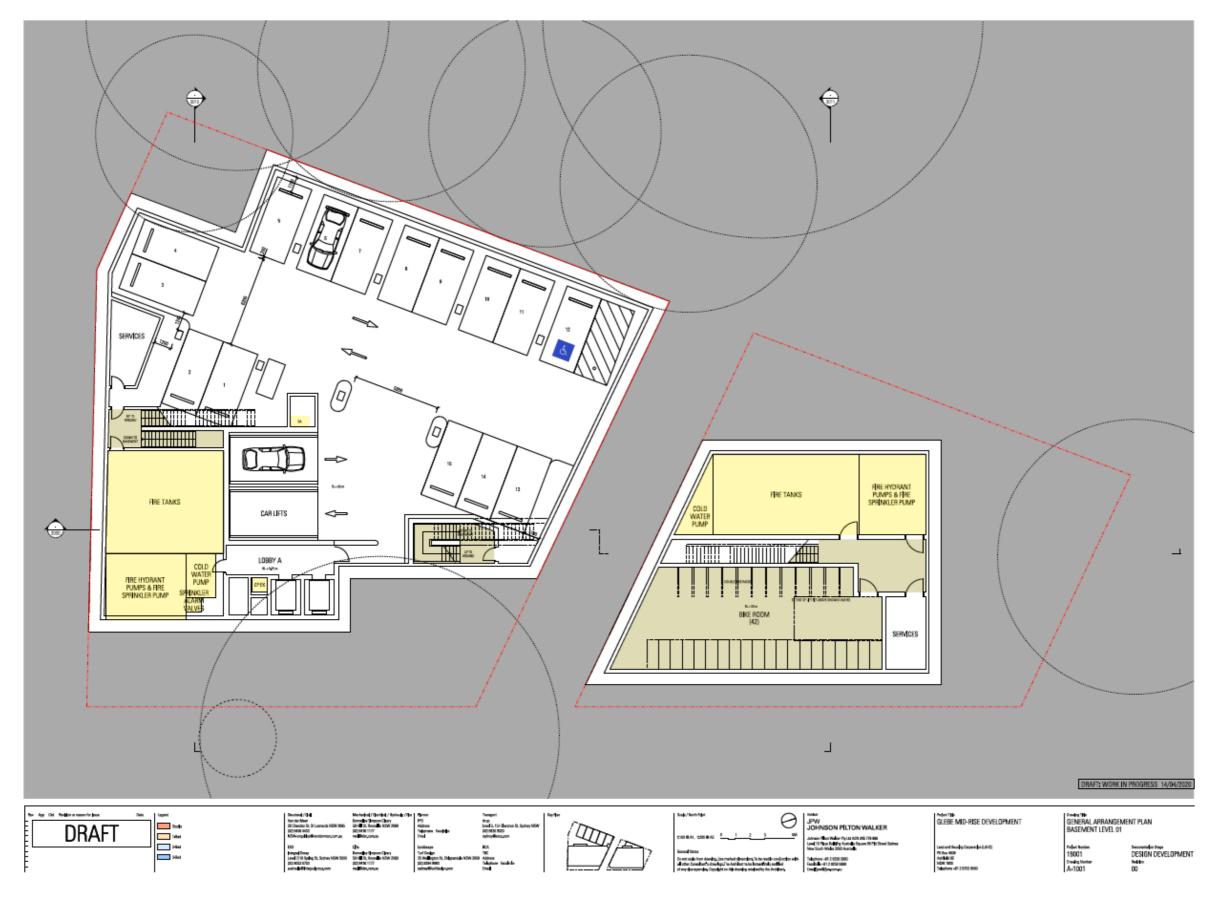


Figure 32. Concept plan of the proposed development. The upper basement level carparking at 17-31 Cowper Street is shown in this plan, as well as the basement level of 2A-2D Wentworth Street Street. (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd April 2020).

Figure 33. Concept plan of the proposed development, Ground floor plan (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

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Figure 34. Concept plan of the proposed development, Level 1 floor plan (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

Figure 35. Concept plan of the proposed development, Level 2 floor plan (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

Figure 36. Concept plan of the proposed development, Level 3 floor plan, roof plan for the five terraces facing Mitchell Lane (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

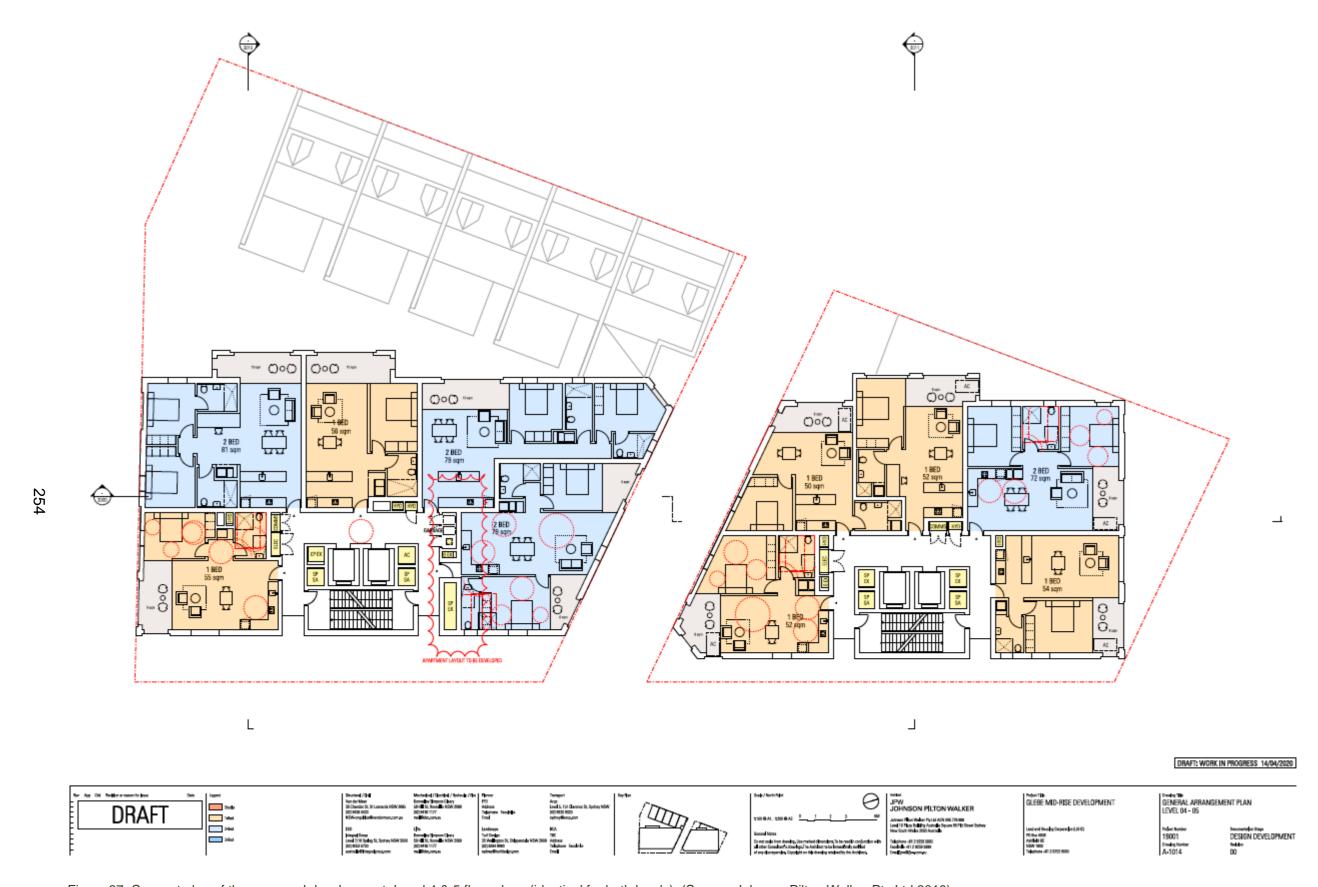


Figure 37. Concept plan of the proposed development, Level 4 & 5 floor plans (identical for both levels). (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

Figure 38. Concept plan of the proposed development, Level 6 floor plan (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

Figure 39. Concept plan of the proposed development, Level 7 floor plan (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

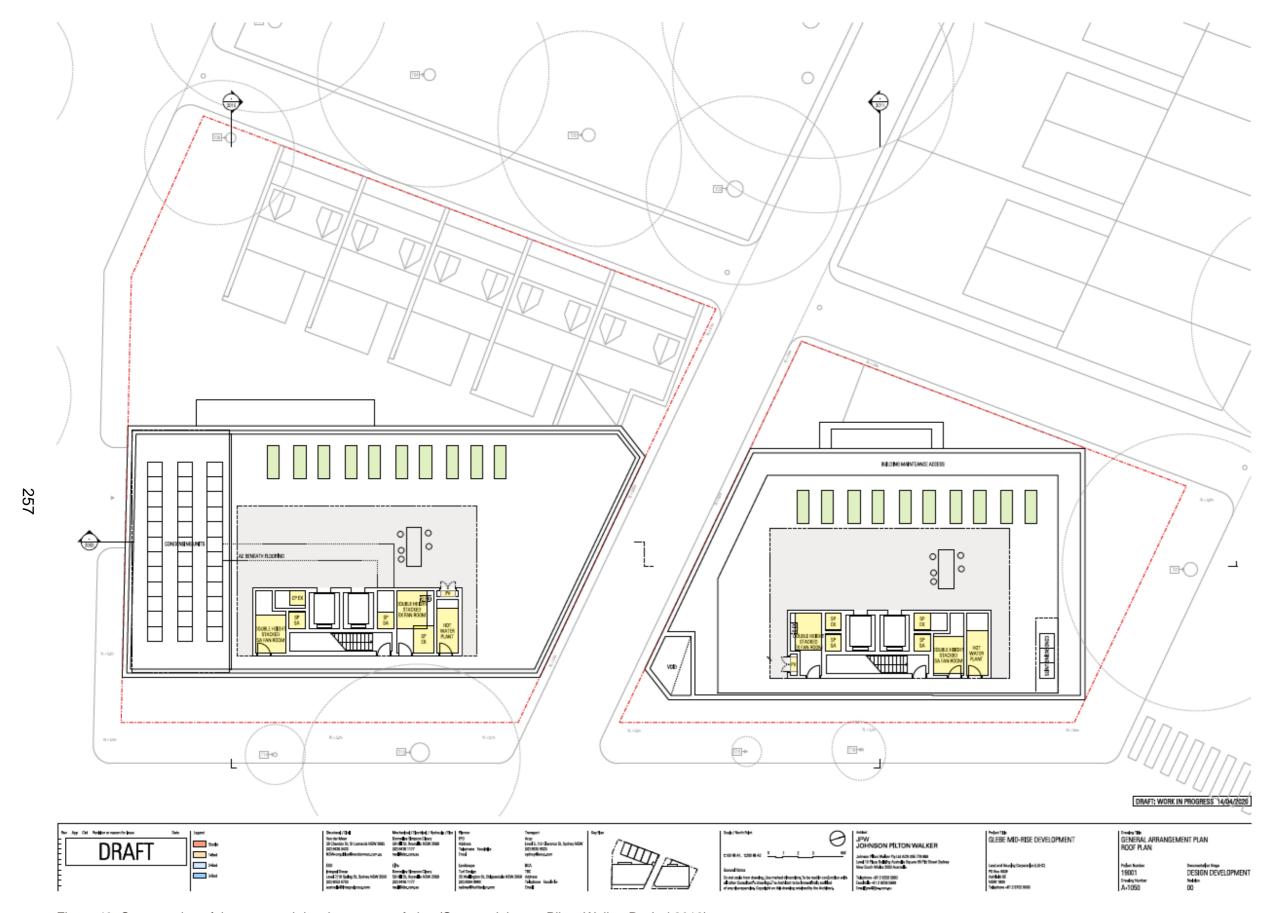


Figure 40. Concept plan of the proposed development, roof plan (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

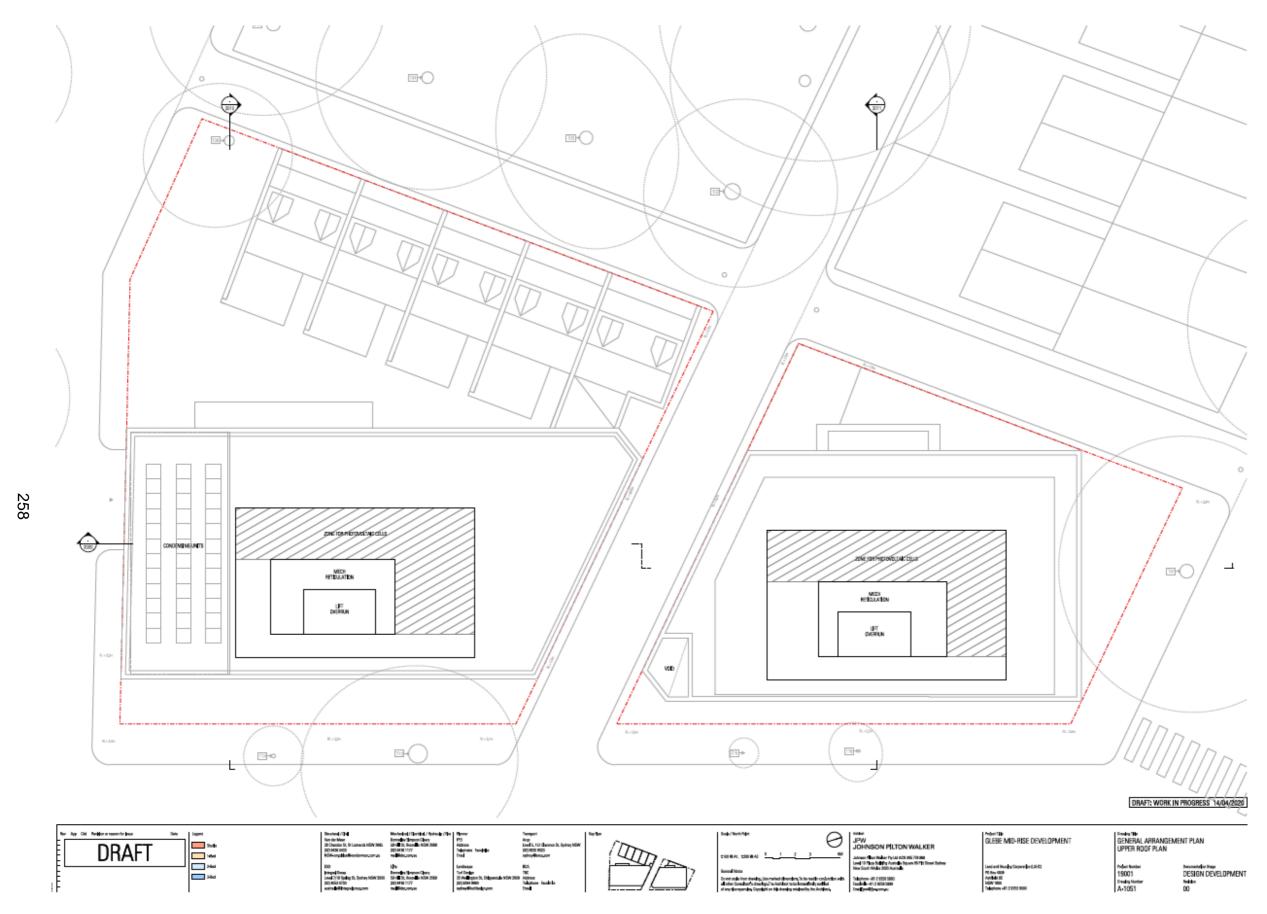


Figure 41. Concept plan of the proposed development, upper roof plan (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

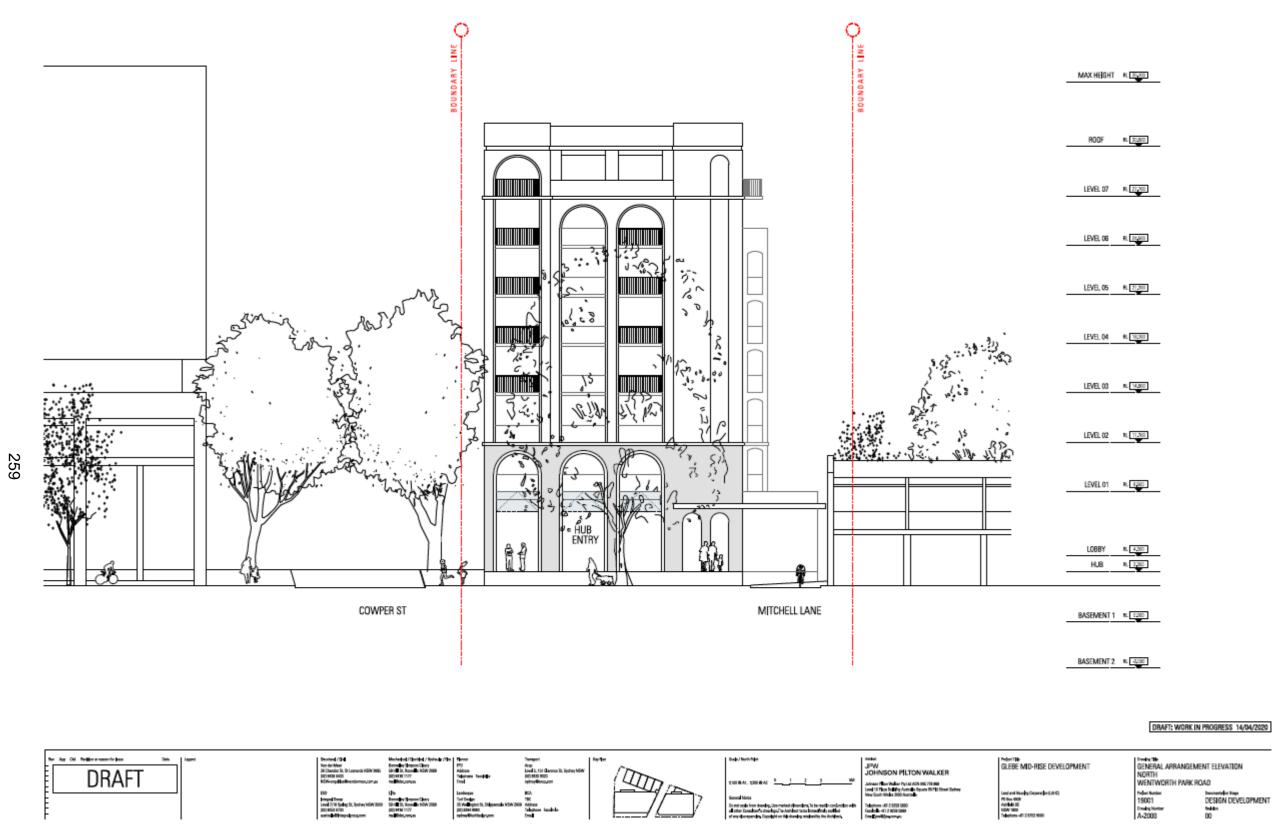


Figure 42. Concept plan of the proposed development, north elevation (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

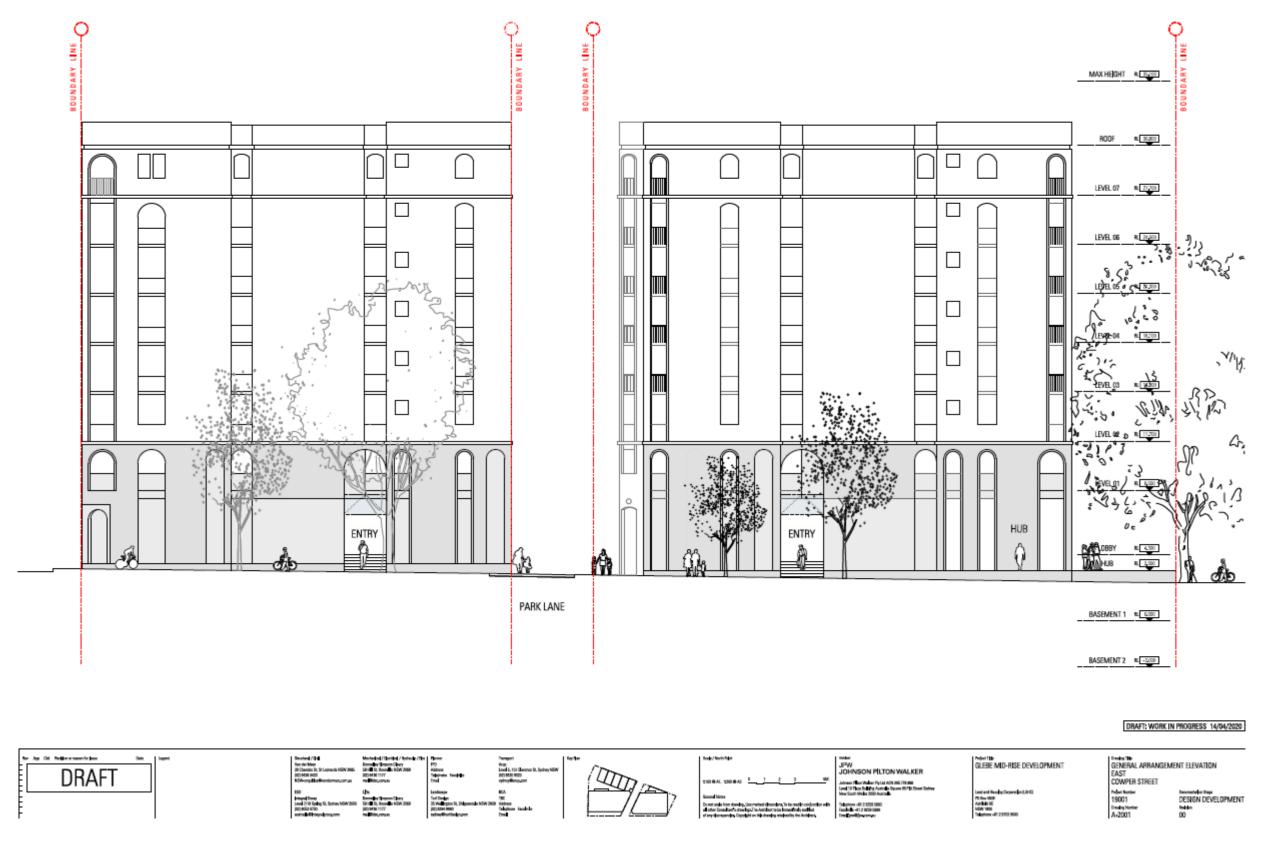


Figure 43. Concept plan of the proposed development, east elevation (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).



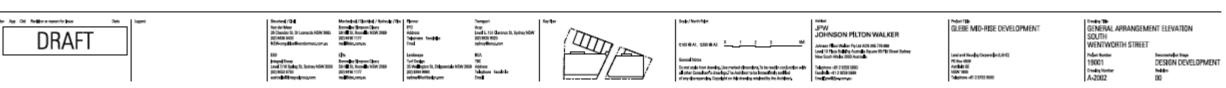
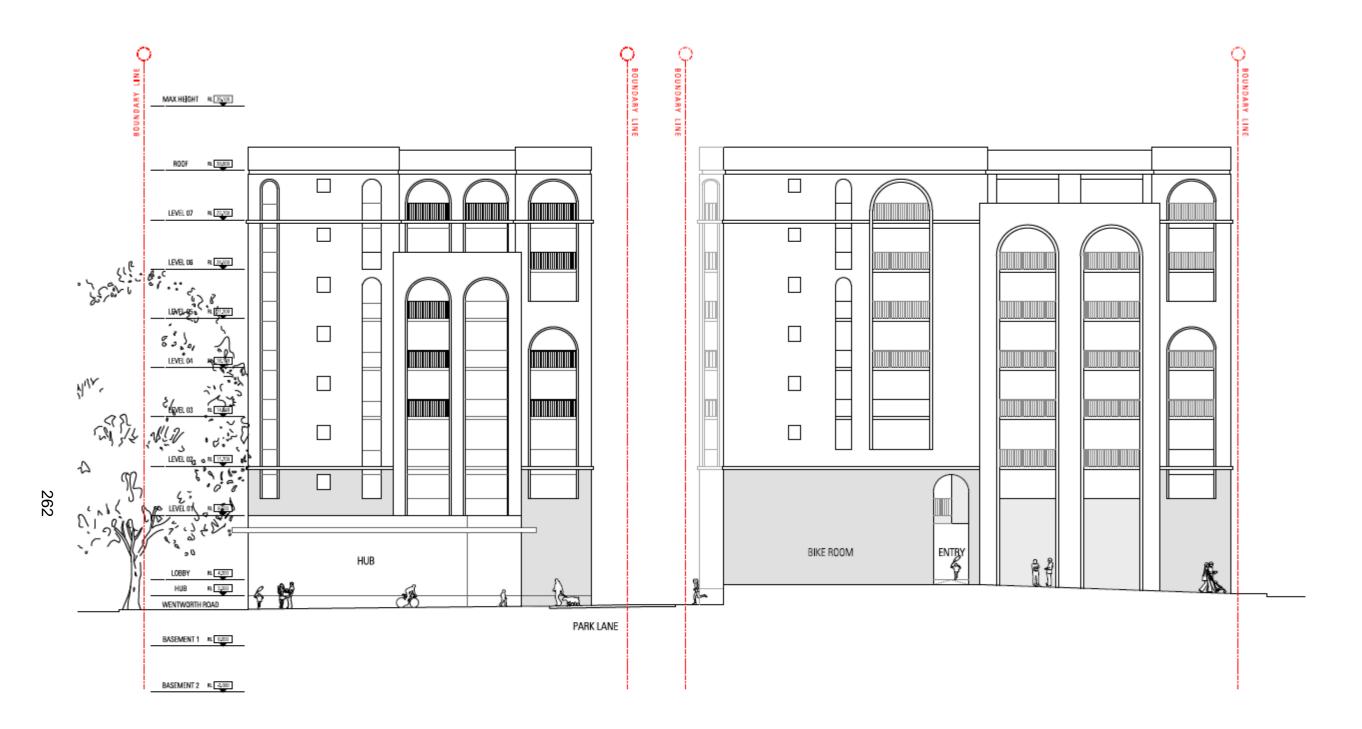


Figure 44. Concept plan of the proposed development, south elevation (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).



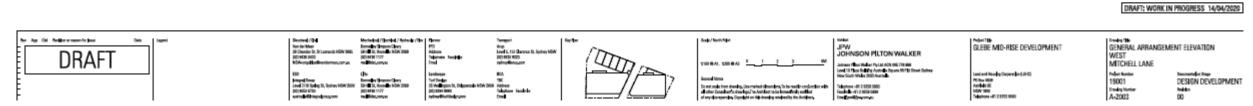


Figure 45. Concept plan of the proposed development, west elevation (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

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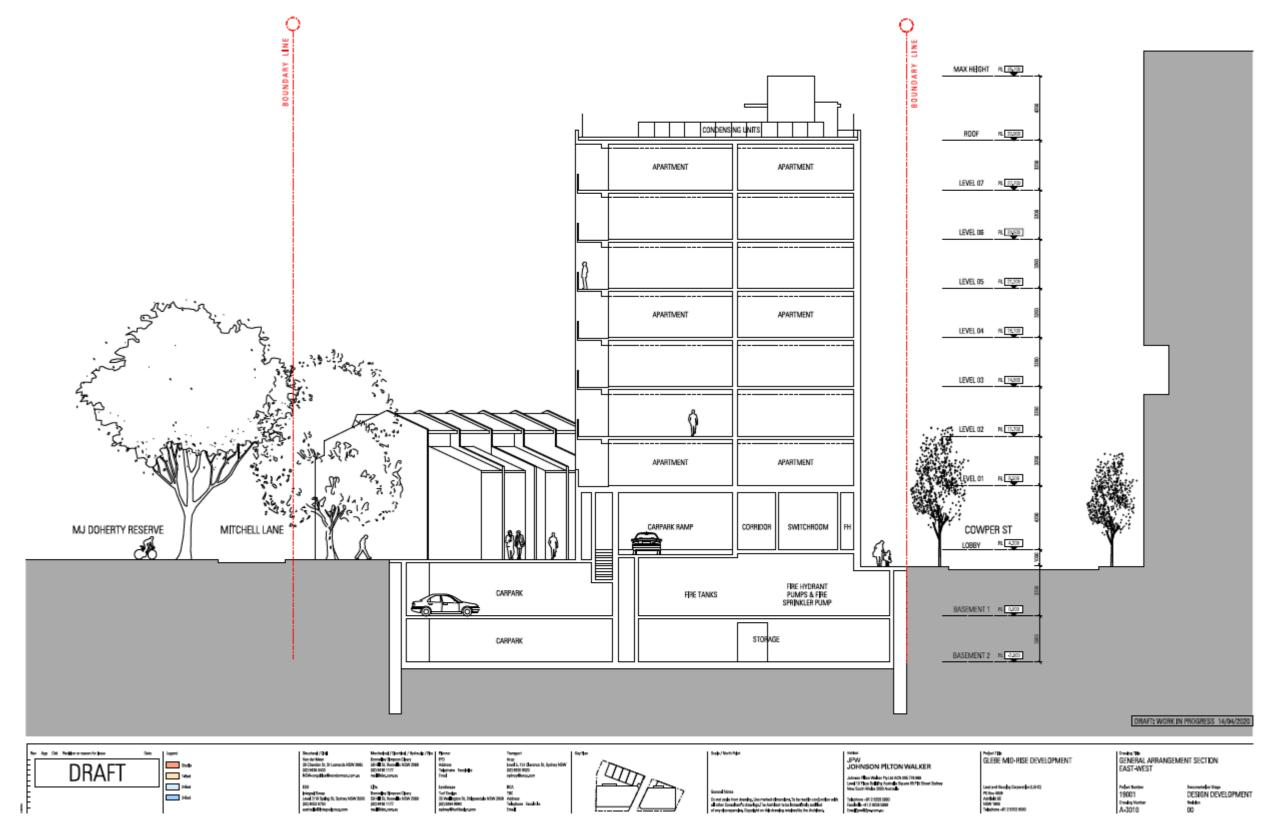


Figure 46. East-west elevation showing its relative height to proposed terraces on Mitchell Lane. (Source: Johnson Pilton Walker Pty Ltd 2019).

## 8. Preliminary Assessment of Heritage Impact

## 8.1 Built Heritage

## Planning Proposal

The planning proposal seeks to amend some controls in the Sydney LEP 2012 which would allow for the redevelopment of the study area with the construction indicatively consisting of two eight-storey apartment blocks and a row of five attached terrace residences, with the potential to yield approximately 74 new dwellings with a mix of social and market housing. The continued use of the original historic function of the site as social housing is a positive outcome of this planning proposal considering the importance of the social heritage significance of the site as social housing. It is important that this fundamental function is retained in any future development.

The planning proposal will allow for a structure that is substantially taller in height to the major significant character of the area, which is dominated by large blocks of low-scale residential housing. Due to this increased height alone, the scale of the development will have some impact on the character of the surrounding area. However, some effort has been made to step the heights of development, with a lower three-storey development facing west towards the centre of the St Phillips Conservation Area. Here, the illustrative scheme emulates the surrounding historic character with the three-storey terraces that front Mitchell Lane, ensuring that area of the development does not overwhelm the opposite block of single-storey Victorian terraces. The illustrative scheme also references a common Victorian-period architectural feature through the arched window and door portal on the façade. The proposed bulk of the development can further be mitigated in the detailed design, which could use lightweight, translucent or transparent materials and finishes so as to no create an overwhelming and 'heavy' presence in its immediate area. In summary, while the impacts of the new building would be substantial in terms of form, bulk and scale, the impacts can be mitigated through materiality and finishes.

The major part of the development, fronting Cowper Street, is opposite an existing, modern seven-storey apartment building as well as several other substantial high-rise apartment buildings in that block. In this respect, from this primary frontage and approach of the new development, the proposal simply compliments this existing urban environment.

The planning proposal to redevelop the study area with mid-rise apartments is consistent already existing development impacts on the opposite site of Cowper Street and throughout other areas of Glebe, and as such will have a **NEGLIGIBLE** impact on the significance of the conservation area.

#### Removal of Study area from the St Phillips Conservation Area

The study area is included within the St Phillips Conservation Area which is representative of the original St Phillips Estate that underwent a major subdivision in the 1870s and contributing to much of the existing characteristic landscape of the suburb of Glebe today. This major subdivision is historically significant as a key event in the developmental history of the suburb, and also in its social significance as a catalyst for speculative workers cottage and terrace

housing, which still dominates the area. Other layers that contribute to the Conservation Areas social significance include inter-war period residences and apartment blocks, to post-1970s modern social housing.

A quality of the character of the St Phillips Conservation Area is through its level of architectural intactness fully maintained within the original street alignments and subdivisions. Portions and allotments that are incohesive with the striking pattern and uniformity of the Conservation Area are the exception to the architectural quality of Conservation Area, rather than commonplace and frequent.

The study area is recognised as contributory buildings to the St Phillip's Conservation Area as evidence of the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century infill that demonstrates the historic development of the area. However, the study area's spatial relationship within the Conservation Area as a whole to its immediately surrounding environment diminishes the contributory quality of the buildings in the study area. The buildings themselves, while marginally sympathetic infill styles, are not exemplary of their type and can potentially confuse interpretation of the mostly Victorian architectural values of the Conservation Area. Spatially, it is located at the outer edges of the Conservation Area where the qualities and architectural values of the Conservation Area are not as evident or as obvious as it would be within the central core. In considering the immediately adjacent landscapes bordering the study area; the open recreational area of Wentworth Park to the north and the modern twenty-first century high-rise apartment buildings to the east, coupled with the study area's modern-style terrace and Australian nostalgia style infill. This pocket of varied architectural styles and densities of development further enforces the fact that interpreting the existing buildings within the study area as cohesive with the values of the Conservation Area are less applicable.

The planning proposal to remove the study area from the St Phillips Conservation Area, given its marginal contribution to the historic and aesthetic values of the conservation Area, is considered to have a **NEGLIGIBLE** impact on the significance of conservation area.

Given this assessment of a negligible impact on significance, the proposal to amend the Sydney LEP Heritage Map to remove the study area from the St Phillips Conservation Area curtilage would be an acceptable heritage outcome.

#### **Demolition**

Both 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road have been individually listed in the LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register.

The planning proposal seeks to demolish all existing structures within the study area. This includes the two LAHC-listed heritage items at 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road. As demonstrated in Section 6.3, the building fabric at 17-31 Cowper Street is considered to have **LITTLE** heritage significance and the building fabric at 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road is considered to have **MODERATE** significance. As part of the heritage conservation area, both buildings are representative examples of sensitive infill demonstrative of the evolution of the historic character of the area.

Based on its existing heritage status, the demolition of both 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Street Street would be considered a major and irreversible change to the building fabric with a moderate adverse impact on the overall heritage value of the place. However, our assessment of significance can be used to demonstrate that these buildings are not exceptional examples of 20<sup>th</sup> Century infill development representative of the values that they are listed for.

Note that there is large stone (sandstone or trachyte) kerbing along Mitchell Lane East that is close to the edge of the current building that would be at risk of damage during demolition activities. This material would also be considered historic fabric within the public domain.

## 8.2 Curtilage and Subdivision

The planning proposal will have no impact on the study area's curtilage or subdivision.

## 8.3 Views and Settings

The study area is located within the St Phillips Conservation Area and fronts Wentworth Park Road, Cowper Street, Wentworth Street and Mitchell Street with Park Lane separating the two Lots. Wentworth Park sits to the north of the site. There are a number of high-rise buildings to the west and one to the east of the study area that have blocked views to and from the area.

The planning proposal seeks to increase the height of the buildings in the area and will therefore have a minor impact on views within the St Phillips Conservation Area. The illustrative scheme is stepped with a lower level of development facing the west, which will ensure the streetscape character and quality of the main part of the Conservation Area is maintained in that direction. Other measures to ensure that the development is sympathetic to the historic character of the area will include sensitive considerations around the materiality of façade finishes.

## 8.4 Heritage Items in the Vicinity

The study area is in the vicinity of several heritage items which are listed on the Sydney LEP 2012 including:

- 'Street trees' (Item No. I670); and
- 'House Group' at 4-24 Broughton Street (Item Nos I666 and I667).

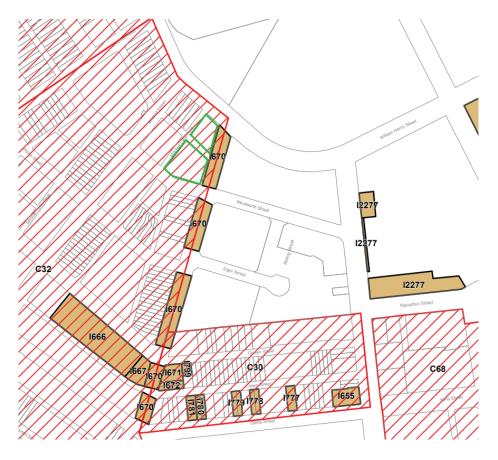


Figure 47. Sydney LEP 2012 Heritage Map showing the study area (outlined in green), with locally listed heritage items in brown and conservation areas in red hatching. (Source: Sydney LEP 2012, HER\_008)

The planning proposal seeks to retain the locally listed 'Street Trees' along Cowper Street and proposes that parking and driveway crossovers will be designed so as to minimise impact on the item.

Overall, the planning proposal has a minor impact on the heritage in the vicinity. It is clear that there is a conscious effort to retain the listed 'Street Trees' in the vicinity.

## 8.5 Historical Archaeological Potential

A Preliminary Historical Archaeological Assessment for the Stage 1 - Planning Proposal has been prepared by Extent Heritage in February 2020. Please refer to this report for an assessment of Historical Archaeology.

## 8.6 Aboriginal Archaeological Potential

A Preliminary Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment for the Stage 1 - Planning Proposal has been prepared in has been prepared by Extent Heritage in February 2020. Please refer to this report for an assessment of Aboriginal Archaeology.

## 9. Statutory Controls

## 9.1 Heritage Act 1977

As none of the structures in the study area are listed on the State Heritage Register, the proposed demolition and redevelopment are not subject to notification and approval by the Heritage Council. However, as the planning proposal seeks to amend statutory controls which will ultimately see the demolition of items listed on the Heritage and Conservation Register, appropriate heritage assessment to works within the Land and Housing Corporation (NSW) Heritage and Conservation Register heritage curtilage is necessary by the government instrumentality responsible in accordance with the management provisions under Section 170A of the Heritage Act 1977.

According to Section 170A(1)(a) of the Act,

A government instrumentality must give the Heritage Council not less than 14 days written notice before the government instrumentality (a) removes any item from its register under section 170.

This notification requirement would therefore apply prior to demolition of the structures at 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road.

Under the provisions of Section 170A (2) of the Heritage Act:

Each governmental instrumentality is responsible for ensuring that the items entered on its register under section 170 and items and land to which a listing on the State Heritage Register applies that are under its care, control or management are maintained with due diligence in accordance with State Owned Heritage Management Principles approved by the Minister on the advice of the Heritage Council and notified by the Minister to government instrumentalities from time to time.

The following sections address the proposal's compliance with the *State-Owned Heritage Management Principles* (SOHMP) and the *State Agency Heritage Guide* (SAHG) in light of the existing heritage listing of the structures on the site. However, should these items be removed from the LAHC Heritage and Conservation register, management in accordance with these guidelines will no longer apply.

## 9.1.1 State-Owned Heritage Management Principles

17-31 Cowper Street, 2A 2B, 2C and 2D Wentworth Park Road are government owned assets listed as having local significance on the LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register. As such, works must be managed and the site maintained in accordance with the SOHMP.

#### Principle No. 4 - Conservation Outcomes

Heritage assets should be conserved to retain their heritage significance to the greatest extent feasible. State agencies should aim to conserve assets for operational purposes or to adaptively reuse assets in preference to alteration or demolition.

#### **Extent Heritage Comment**

The planning proposal seeks to demolish all heritage items within the subject area. The redevelopment of the study area for the purpose of mixed social and market housing is a positive outcome of this planning proposal as this retains the social values of the site. However, as the items are still in use and still heritage-listed, demolition is considered inconsistent with the principles of this heritage and conservation outcome and will be detrimental to the historic and representative values (and aesthetic values for 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road) of the study area.

#### Principle No. 7 - Appropriate Uses

Heritage Assets should, where feasible continue to be maintained in their operational role. Where they are surplus to operational requirements, State agencies should aim to ensure that items are adaptively re-used for a purpose sympathetic to their heritage significance.

#### **Extent Heritage Comment**

While the planning proposal will demolish the existing heritage items within the study area, the continued use of part of this site (limited to development on 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road) for social housing is considered an appropriate use of the study area.

#### Conclusion:

The planning proposal seeks to demolish items of heritage significance and proposed to build two eight-storey mixed social and market housing apartments in replacement. The continued use of the site as a residential area is a positive outcome that retains the social value of the heritage items within its curtilage. However, in order for the planning proposal to proceed, the heritage items located within the study area must be removed from the LAHC Heritage and Conservation register and notification of this removal is made to the NSW Heritage Council.

## 9.1.2 State Agency Heritage Guide

Additionally, the SAHG details the following principles relating to managing change and managing demolition of heritage items. The below principles are applicable to the study area:

| Principle   |   | Extent Heritage Comment   |
|---|---|---|
| 3.19<br>Principles of<br>Managing<br>Change       | Change is undesirable where it reduces heritage significance. The amount of change to a heritage asset should be guided by the heritage significance of the heritage asset, by its heritage management policies, and by its appropriate interpretation. | For the most part, changes proposed will have a moderate/major adverse impact on significance.  The demolition of the building will result in a major impact to building fabric with a moderate adverse impact to significance.  Prior to demolition the site must be appropriately recorded and consideration given towards mitigative measures such as effective interpretation.  Allowance for this should be made in the detailed design. |
| 3.20 Recording an Asset in its Existing Situation | Existing fabric, use, associations and meanings should be adequately recorded before any changes are made to the heritage asset.  | The Concept Design proposes the demolition of heritage assets. In accordance with the <i>SAHG</i> , these assets should be recorded prior to change.  |

| Principle   |  | Extent Heritage Comment  |
|---|--|--|
|   |  | Allowance for this should be made in the detailed design.  |
| 3.21<br>Setting of a<br>Heritage Asset                          | Design and planning decisions should retain an appropriate visual setting, as well as other relationships, such as views and vistas, that contribute to the heritage significance of the heritage asset. New construction, demolition, intrusions or other changes that would adversely affect the setting are not appropriate.  | The site is included within the locally listed St Phillips Conservation Area, which is significant for its Victorian terrace and residential character. As the current late-20 <sup>th</sup> century apartments do not contribute to these aesthetic values, and the surrounding area already demonstrates high-rise developments, the proposal will only have a negligible impact on impact on its immediate setting.   |
| 3.22<br>Contribution to<br>Town or<br>Streetscape               | The context of the heritage asset in terms of its contribution to the townscape and streetscape should be considered in detailed planning.   | The heritage items at 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road have limited contribution to the streetscape as sensitive infill structures within an historic conservation area.  |
| 3.27 Contemporary Design and Design Excellence of New Additions | New additions to heritage assets, including new constructions in the vicinity of heritage significance, should be identifiable as having been designed and built in the present. New additions are to include contemporary design elements and materials as appropriate, as well as being sympathetic to identified heritage values. Designs should be executed with appropriate materials and finishes. | The proposal has been planned so that low-level terrace development facing Mitchell Lane emulates the low-level housing to the west, while the high-rise apartment developments facing Cowper Street are an extension of large blocks of high-rise development east of the study area.  During detailed design, consideration should be made towards the materiality, finishes and bulk of the façade that are sympathetic to heritage significant features of the surrounding area.                     |
| 3.28<br>Reversibility of<br>Works                               | Alterations or extensions which do not contribute to the conservation of a heritage asset should be undertaken is such a way that they are reversible where practical.   | Based on the planning proposal, the proposed works are not reversible as they involve demolition of heritage assets.  As such, appropriate recording in line with 3.20 of this Guideline should be undertaken.   |
| 3.30<br>Removed fabric  | Significant fabric which has been removed from a heritage asset, including contents, fixtures and objects, should be catalogued and protected in accordance with its heritage significance. Where possible, and culturally appropriate, removed significant fabric should be kept at the heritage asset.   | The planning proposal seeks to demolish all heritage items within the study area. As such, the demolition of these heritage items is considered inconsistent with this principle. Adequate recording is required to identify significant fabric with the potential for retention.  It is recommended that prior to the removal of any element as part of this project, the material is appropriately recorded. Finishes and treatments that are identified as significant can be considered for salvage. |
| 3.33  | Heritage values and important fabric should not be compromised by  | The Glebe Mid-Rise Project is a housing project designed by the NSW Land and   |

| Principle  |  | Extent Heritage Comment  |
|--|--|--|
| Inappropriate<br>Short-Term<br>Management                    | short-term decisions which allow inappropriate development, use, maintenance or refurbishment.   | Housing Corporation and The Prince's Trust. Its design process has involved consultation with LAHC and Sydney City Council to achieve the best project outcomes.   |
| 3.55 Establishing Significance                               | A State Agency needs to confirm the heritage significance of an item prior to deciding whether it should be demolished.  | Prior to demolition, LAHC is required to confirm the significance of the place and notify its intent to delist the heritage assets at 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road from the LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register.  |
| 3.56  Demolition and Irreversible Changes to Heritage Assets | Demolition of any heritage asset, or a substantial portion of the asset, should only be considered in exceptional circumstances, and only after establishing there is no prudent or feasible alternative to demolition. This option should be considered as the last resort. The following management options for heritage assets should be considered and demonstrated not to be viable prior to a decision to demolish a heritage asset:  continue use of the asset in it present role;  adaptive re-use by the instrumentality or another public or private sector user;  transfer of the asset to a new owner;  stabilisation and mothballing for future use or conservation;  stabilisation of a building, structure, work or landscape in a safe condition.  This assessment of alternatives should be included in project feasibility, assessment and approval documentation. Note that the Heritage Act places restrictions on the total demolition of a heritage assets listed on the State Heritage Register – refer to section 63 of the Act. | The planning proposal will continue the original use for social housing on part of the site (limited to 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road). This is considered an acceptable heritage outcome.  Prior to progressing the planning proposal involving the demolition of the heritage items at 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road, LAHC must determine to delist these items from the LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register and notify the Heritage Council of its intent to delist the items, prior to demolition. |
| 3.57 Recording Prior to Demolition                           | A State agency should record the asset prior to commencing demolition, in accordance with Heritage Office guidelines (see How  | It is recommended that prior to works commencing, an archival recording is undertaken of the entire study area in order to document the major changes proposed.  |

| Principle |  | Extent Heritage Comment |
|-----------|--|-------------------------|
|           | to Prepare Archives Records of Heritage Items and Guidelines for Photographic Recording of Heritage Sites, Buildings and Structures) and should lodge the record with the State Library and the local council library. |                         |

#### **Extent Heritage Comment:**

Based on the assessment of impacts made above, the proposed demolition and redevelopment of the heritage assets at 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road are inconsistent with the management principles relative to the current recorded heritage significance for the existing buildings. The planning proposal is not in accordance with the conservation management principles set out in the *State-Owned Heritage Management Principles and the State Agency Heritage Guide*. As the structures are currently listed on the LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register, alternative options to demolition must be considered in accordance with principle 3.56 of the *State-Owned Heritage Management Principles and the State Agency Heritage Guide*.

However, the site may be removed from the LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register, providing the notification requirements are met by LAHC in accordance with Section 170A(1)(a) of the Heritage Act. This notification requirement must be undertaken prior to demolition of any structures. Delisting from the LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register will allow for the redevelopment of the site, including demolition of the existing structures, without requirement to meet the principles and guidelines of the *State-Owned Heritage Management Principles and the State Agency Heritage Guide*.

## 9.2 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

For environmental assessment purposes under Part 5 Division 5.1 of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979, Section 5.5 of the Act requires that a determining authority: "examine and take into account to the fullest extent possible all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment" with respect to the proposed works. The Land and Housing Corporation (NSW) is a determining authority under Part 5 of the *EP&A Act* with respect to works for which it is a proponent. The specific requirements of what must be contained in an environmental assessment are set out in Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations* 2000. Heritage matters fall within the scope of 'environment' in relation to this Act.

#### **Extent Heritage Comment:**

This Statement of Heritage Impact complies with the assessment requirements set out in the EP&A Act.

# 9.3 State Environmental Planning Policy (Affordable Rental Housing) 2009

The State Environment Planning Policy (Affordable Rental Housing) (SEPP) provides that certain types of construction activities related to affordable rental housing be undertaken without

development consent, subject to certain conditions. Environmental and/or heritage assessment is still required as a part of the self-determination process under the SEPP.

Clause 40 of the SEPP states that residential development for the Land and Housing Corporation may be carried out without consent applies to:

- b) demolition of dwellings and associated structures, but not if the dwelling or structure is on land that
  - i. contains a heritage item that is identified in an environmental planning instrument or an interim heritage order or on the State Heritage Register, or
  - ii. is identified in an environmental planning instrument as being within a heritage conservation area,

#### **Extent Heritage Comment:**

This proposed works as set out in the Planning Proposal cannot be considered development without consent due to the proposal to demolish buildings that are heritage items, and being within a conservation area. Consent from the City of Sydney will be required for this proposal.

## 9.4 City of Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012

While 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road are not listed on Schedule 5 - Environmental Heritage on the *Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012*, they form a part of the locally listed St Phillips Conservation Area (Item No. C32).

#### **Extent Heritage Comment:**

As the development is contained within land that is identified as a Conservation Area, the requirements for environmental assessment in accordance with the EP&A Act apply. This Preliminary Heritage Impact Statement fulfils that requirement.

## 9.5 Sydney Development Control Plan 2012

The proposed works require assessment against the heritage controls set out in the City of Sydney Development Control Plan (DCP). Because the site is currently included within the St Phillips Conservation Area, the controls and provisions relevant to the conservation area and heritage controls in general have been outlined and considered below, specifically Sections 2.6.9 and 3.9.6 of the DCP. Should the study area be removed from the curtilage of the St Phillips Conservation Area, general controls relating to development adjacent to heritage items and conservation areas will still apply.

This report considers only heritage matters and the development application will still need to comply with the additional relevant sections of the DCP.

#### **Extent Heritage Comment**

Complies Y/N/TBC (pending detailed design)

#### 2.6.9 St Phillips Locality Statement

St Phillips will remain a predominantly residential area with a predominant one to two storey building scale to respect the heritage character of the area. Community, cultural and educational facilities are encouraged in the area with a strengthened neighbourhood node around the intersection of Cowper and Broughton Streets.

The intact townscape, including the building form, scale, architectural elements and relationship to the street is to be retained and enhanced. New development that is introduced is to be sympathetic to its surrounds.

| to its surrounus.   |  |     |
|---|--|-----|
| a. Development must achieve and satisfy the outcomes expressed in the character statement and supporting principles.  | The planning proposal is not consistent with the character statement for the St Phillips Conservation Area which describes residences of a one- to two-storey scale. It is however consistent in use in that it will continue to be used for residential purposes. | TBC |
|   | The detailed design should express consistency with the character statement through sympathetic infill design, materials and finishes.   |     |
| b. Development is to respond to and complement heritage items and contributory buildings within heritage conservation areas, including streetscapes and lanes.          | The proposed new development is higher in scale than the majority of housing in the conservation area.   |     |
|   | The detailed design should respond to and complement the values of the conservation area through sympathetic design, materials and finishes.   | TBC |
| c. The siting, massing and height of<br>new development is to retain the visual<br>prominence of the tree canopy.   | The proposed new development is higher in scale than the majority of housing in the conservation area.   |     |
|   | The detailed design should respond to and complement the visual prominence of the tree canopy through design that is sympathetic in terms of bulk and scale, and complementary materials and finishes with a presence of lightweight or transparency.              | TBC |
| d. Ensure new development is carefully designed to protect the vegetation on the skyline and of natural features including the sandstone cliffs.                        | The planning proposal is designed to protect the street trees in the vicinity of the area and is carefully designed to ensure this.  | Υ   |
| e. Buildings on elevated lots are to be set back or screened by planting to ensure they do not dominate the outlook from public spaces including streets and footpaths, | The proposed new development is not set on an elevated lot and does not need to comply with this provision.  | N/A |
|   | comply with this provision.  |     |

| Provisions and Controls   | Extent Heritage Comment   | Complies Y/N/TBC (pending detailed design) |
|---|---|--|
| f. Retain the vertically proportional facades rhythm characteristic of the narrow terrace form. | The proposed new development is higher in scale than the majority of housing in the conservation area, however there is a small component of the new development consisting of a row of three-storey terrace housing. |  |
|   | This part of the development takes direct cues from the characteristic Victorian terrace form.  | TBC  |
|   | Additional details should respond to and complement the values of the conservation area through sympathetic design, materials and finishes.   |  |

#### 3.9.5 Heritage Items

## (4) Development in the vicinity of a heritage item is to minimise the impact on the setting of the item by:

| b. retaining original or significant landscaping (including plantings with direct links or association with the heritage item); | In the vicinity of the proposed works are<br>'Street Trees' listed as an item on the City<br>of Sydney LEP 2012. The planning<br>proposal will retain these plantings. | Υ |
|---|--|---|
| d. Retaining and respecting significant views to and from the heritage item.  | No significant views will be impacted by the proposed development.   | Υ |

#### 3.9.6 Heritage Conservation Areas

Buildings and sites within heritage conservation areas are identified on the Building contributions map as being contributory, neutral or detracting to the character and heritage significance of the heritage conservation area.

New development in heritage conservation areas must be designed to respect neighbouring buildings and the character of the area, particularly roofscapes and window proportions. Infill development should enhance and complement existing character but not replicate heritage buildings.

## (1) Development within a heritage conservation area is to be compatible with the surrounding built form and urban pattern by addressing the heritage conservation area statement of significance and responding sympathetically to:

| a. Topography and landscape  | The planning proposal is compatible with the topography and landscape.                 | Υ   |
|--|--|-----|
| b. Views to and from the site  | No significant views will be impacted by the proposed development.                     | Υ   |
| c. Significant subdivision patterns and layout, and front and side setbacks      | The planning proposal will not impact any significant subdivision patterns and layout. | Υ   |
| d. The type, siting, form, height, bulk, roofscape, scale, materials and details | The detailed design should respond to and complement the values of the conservation    | TBC |

| Provisions and Controls   | Extent Heritage Comment  | Complies Y/N/TBC (pending detailed design) |
|---|--|--|
| of adjoining or nearby contributory buildings   | area through sympathetic design (siting, bulk, scale), materials and finishes.   |  |
| e. The interface between the public domain and building alignments and property boundaries                  | The detailed design should respond to and complement the values of the conservation area through sympathetic design (siting, bulk, scale), materials and finishes.   | TBC  |
| f. Colour schemes that have a hue and tonal relationship with traditional colour schemes.                   | The detailed design should respond to and complement the values of the conservation area through sympathetic design (siting, bulk, scale), materials and finishes.   | TBC  |
| conservation area are not to be design  | ons and additions to existing buildings ned as a copy or replica of other buildings ir of the heritage conservation area by sy n (1)(a) to (e) above.  | n the area, bu                             |
|   | The new infill buildings appear to be modern in design and architectural style, however take some cues from the Victorian period such as the arched portals. However, further detailed designs would further develop these efforts to complement the character of the conservation area. | Υ  |
|   | The detailed design should respond to and complement the values of the conservation area through sympathetic design (siting, bulk, scale), materials and finishes.   |  |
| (3) New infill development is not to indevelopment where these are not cha                                  | clude garages and car access to the front el   | evation of the                             |
|   | The garage and car access proposed in the planning proposal will not be located on the front elevation of the development.   | Υ  |
| 3.9.8 Neutral and appropriate infill bu   | ildings  |  |
| Neutral buildings are buildings that do no heritage conservation area.                                      | ot contribute nor detract from the significant cha   | aracter of the                             |
| (1) Demolition of neutral buildings wil   | Il only be considered where it can be demor  | strated that:                              |
| a. restoration of the building is not reasonable, and   | The restoration of the building is not being considered as the increased yield of occupancies as a result of full redevelopment will provide a greater amenity to the community.   | Υ  |
| b. the replacement building will not compromise the heritage significance of the heritage conservation area | As the present buildings do not significantly contribute to the significance of the heritage character of the St Phillips Conservation   | Y  |

character of the St Phillips Conservation

Area, the planning proposal should not

of the heritage conservation area.

| Provisions and Controls  | Extent Heritage Comment  | Complies Y/N/TBC (pending detailed design) |
|--|--|--|
|  | compromise the significance of the Conservation Area.  |  |
| (2) Where demolition of a neutral build may be required to be submitted to the   | ding is allowed, a photographic record of the City.  | e building                                 |
|  | It is recommended that prior to works commencing, an archival recording is undertaken of the entire study area in order to document the major changes proposed.                      | TBC  |
| 3.9.10 Building materials for heritage   | items and buildings within heritage conserv  | ation areas                                |
| (7) Solar collector or photovoltaic panels may be located on buildings in a heritage conservation area. Where solar collector or photovoltaic panels are proposed on the principal roof plane of a contributory building in a heritage conservation area, the panels are to be removable, parallel to the pitch of roof and preferably integrated with the roof. The panels must make minimal intrusive change to significant roof fabric. | Extent to provided detail on this element for detailed design, to ensure a methodology with minimal impacts to significant fabric.   | TBC  |
| 3.9.11 Conservation of public domain   | features in heritage conservation areas  |  |
| (1) The following elements of streets, lanes, parks and other areas of the public domain are to be retained if they contribute to the heritage significance of the heritage conservation area:   |  |  |
| b. stone kerbing, guttering and paving;  | There is stone kerbing located along Mitchell Lane East within the study area. This is to be retained it contributes to the heritage significance of the heritage conservation area. | TBC  |

#### Conclusion

As the site is currently included in the St Phillips Conservation Area, any new development needs to consider mitigations that reduce impacts to the historic character of the surrounding area. Mitigations could include the use of sympathetic infill design in terms of bulk, scale, materials and façade presentation.

## 10. Conclusion and Recommendations

### 10.1 Conclusion

This Preliminary Heritage Impact Statement has considered the preliminary impacts to heritage for the Stage 1: Planning Proposal to amend the site development controls around 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road. This planning proposal seeks to amend controls around the FSR, building heights, and the remove the study area from the St Phillips Conservation Area, which will ultimate see all existing buildings within the study area demolished and replaced with two eight-storey apartment blocks and one row of three-storey terraces with the potential to yield approximately 74 new dwellings with a mix of social and market housing.

This report has assessed the Planning Proposal against the heritage significance of 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Street Road which are currently listed on the LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register. We find that the demolition of the structures within the area would be considered a major change to the building fabric with a moderate adverse impact on the overall heritage value of the place. The significance of the buildings themselves, however are considered little/moderate and therefore could be considered for removal from the Heritage and Conservation Register at LAHC's discretion.

Although the illustrative structure plan shows an increase in the scale of buildings in the area, the continued use of the original historic function of part of the site as social housing is a positive outcome of this planning proposal considering the social significance values of the site. It is important that the connection to this social significance values through some continued use of the site for social housing, be maintained in the future development. With further detailing of the planning proposal and consideration of sympathetic design with regards to use of materials and finished, and retention of mature vegetation, the impacts can be mitigated to achieve an acceptable outcome.

The study area is included within St Phillips Conservation Area which holds its significant historic and aesthetic values in its highly intact architectural stock. Our assessment of the contributory value of these buildings to that significant aesthetic considers that the demolition of the buildings will have only a negligible impact on the significance of the Conservation Area. With that in mind, the proposal to remove the study area from the St Phillips Conservation Area curtilage would be an acceptable heritage outcome.

Based on the current heritage listings applied to the site, this assessment has found the works are currently not compliant with the Heritage Act 1977 as it seeks to demolish heritage items listed on the *Land and Housing Corporation (NSW) Heritage and Conservation Register*. In order to be compliant with the Heritage Act 1977, the properties must be removed from the LAHC Heritage and Conservation Register and notification is made to the Heritage Council. The proposal seeks to be compliant with the heritage controls and guidelines outlined in the Sydney *Local Environmental Plan* 2012 and Sydney *Development Control Plan* 2012 through further consideration in the detailed design.

### 10.2 Recommendations

In detailing the Planning Proposal for 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road, we make the following recommendations in regards to the demolition of the structures present within the study area:

- LAHC must determine the significance of the heritage items at 17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road in order to remove the items from the LAHC Heritage and Conservation Area.
- If the determination is to remove the items from the register, notification of the removal must be made to the Heritage Council of NSW, prior to demolition works.
- Prior to the demolition of any structures within the study area, an archival photographic recording should be completed and that effective interpretation is considered to further understand the site.
- Any significant heritage fabric relating to the St Phillip's Conservation area, such as the stone kerbing along Mitchell Lane East should be conserved. Measures should be put in place to protect these significant items.
- Any heritage items in the vicinity, in particular the 'Street Trees' along Cowper Street, should have measures put in place to ensure their retention. This has been addressed in the planning proposal and should be continued through to detailed design.
- With regard to excising the study area from the St Phillips Conservation Area, this assessment can be included to inform any process by which Sydney Council use to determine the proposal and amend their statutory planning instrument (Sydney LEP, 2012, Schedule 5). This will likely involve some community notification, and publication in the NSW Government Gazette.

Following finalisation of the Planning Proposal, new development and detailed design should make consideration of the following opportunities:

- While the illustrative scheme references historic façade elements through the use of brick, integration (where feasible) of other materials and finishes of a lightweight, translucent or transparent nature will reduce the sense of bulk and body to the building so as to not overwhelm and prevail over the character of contributory buildings in the HCA including the row of terraces at 33-61 Cowper Street south of the study area and the terraces at 2C-12 Wentworth Park Road.
- Visual impacts should be reduced to contributory buildings in the St Phillips Conservation Area including more immediate blocks of low-level residential buildings such as the row of terraces at 33-61 Cowper Street south of the study area and the terraces at 2C-12 Wentworth Park Road.
- To provide Extent Heritage with in-depth detailed design including elevations of the proposed new structures to effectively assess the impact of the changes to the heritage

assets on the historic setting of Glebe. We would be happy to contribute any design advice as to how to achieve the most positive heritage outcome including the use of materials, interesting sympathetic building design.

- The new development must be designed to respect the neighbouring buildings and reduce visual impacts to the character of the area, particularly roofscapes, window proportions, setbacks and use of materials.
- The continued use of the original historic function of the site as social housing is a positive outcome of this planning proposal considering the importance of the social heritage significance of the site as social housing. It is important that this function of the place be retained in any future development.
- To develop a Heritage Interpretation Strategy for the Glebe Mid-Rise Project. This will ensure a holistic approach towards to the interpretation implementation so that the significant values of the site, ranging from various themes including natural, Aboriginal, colonial, and twentieth-century heritage, are appropriately represented and enhance each other cohesively. This could further explore the history of social housing in Glebe and would help retain the social values of the site. The Strategy would typically be subject to internal and external consultation to guide the final implementation.

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