



HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NSW

OUT OF SESSION MEETING MINUTES – Approvals Committee

Tuesday, 16 July 2024 | 2:00 PM – 2:55 PM

via teleconference

ATTENDANCE

Members

Mr Ian Clarke	Chair
Mr David Burdon	Member
Mr David McNamara	Member
Mr Bruce Pettman	Member
Mr Frank Howarth AM PSM	Heritage Council Chair / Alternate Member

Apologies

Dr Nicholas Brunton	Deputy Chair
Dr Caitlin Allen	Member
Ms Vanessa Holtham	Member
Dr Danièle Hromek	Member
Ms Julie Marler	Member

Heritage NSW

Mr Tim Smith	Director Heritage Assessments
Ms Katrina Stankowski	A/Senior Manager Major Projects
Ms Elizabeth Thomas	Senior Secretariat Officer

Welcome and formalities

The Chair, Ian Clarke, opened the meeting at 2:00 PM.

- The Chair welcomed attendees.
- Apologies were noted for this meeting.
- It was confirmed that a quorum had been met.

Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest (COI) declared for this meeting.

1. Broadmeadow Precinct Rezoning & Place Strategy

The Committee received a report from Heritage NSW on the Draft Broadmeadow Precinct Rezoning being led by the Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure (DPHI) and the Broadmeadow Precinct Place Strategy being led by the City of Newcastle.

Members noted that:

- there is an Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System listing (AHIMS) listing over the Broadmeadow Depot site which may contain Indigenous artefacts, and
- the SHR listed *Broadmeadow Railway Locomotive Precinct* is located in the southwest portion of the Broadmeadow Precinct with heritage built form and rail infrastructure located across the site, including the Round House, the District Engineers Office, two Turntables one of which is still functioning, as well as remnant railway tracks and signage, and
- all rolling stock has been removed from the site.

The Committee discussed the likely retention of some heritage buildings noting that:

- future uses are yet to be considered and it is unclear how the proposed mixed use medium density with infill of dwellings will overlay and potentially separate heritage elements which would impact the ability to read the heritage site in its entirety
- design guidelines are needed to be able to properly ascertain the potential heritage impacts, and
- other former rail sites provide good examples of heritage interpretation with mixed use development.

Members welcomed the adaptive reuse of the Round House and retention of open space which will enhance the amenity of the site and discussed the opportunity for some rolling stock to be reinstated to the Precinct to enhance the heritage interpretation and visitor experience.

The Committee discussed the next steps in the planning processes and thanked Heritage NSW for the report and for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposal.

Resolution 2024-29

The Heritage Council Approvals Committee resolved to:

1. **Note** the presentation provided by Heritage NSW on the Broadmeadow Precinct Rezoning and Place Strategy.
2. **Provide** the following comments on the Broadmeadow Precinct Rezoning and Place Strategy to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure and the City of Newcastle via the letter provided at Tab 6 of this report to be signed by the Heritage Council Chair:
 - a. The Heritage Council supports, in principle, the activation and celebration of this unique heritage site.
 - b. Future planning for this precinct should involve direct consultation with the Heritage Council of NSW, particularly for works within and directly adjacent to the SHR listed Broadmeadow Railway Precinct.

- c. Design guidelines should be developed prior to finalisation of the SEPP to guide future development and works within Locomotive Heritage Park. These guidelines must consider retention of the rail heritage character and significance of the SHR listed heritage as a priority. The guidelines should be developed by Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, the City of Newcastle and the Transport Asset Holdings Entity in close consultation with the Heritage Council of NSW.
 - d. Proposed development within and near the Broadmeadow Locomotive Precinct must be sensitively designed around the industrial heritage character which includes the Turntables, the Round House and the Engineer's Building as former remains of the industrial use.
 - e. The proposal should be amended to avoid development between the two Turntables to maintain the industrial character of the Precinct so that the heritage elements can be viewed together, in their entirety and provide significant context.
 - f. Development should start from a premise of low form, low rise and with relevant setbacks from the core SHR listed elements. The fabric and materiality of any neighbouring development should respond to the industrial nature of the precinct.
 - g. Retaining the open space is likely to add significant amenity value to the site and complement the development and adaptive reuse of the Round House.
 - h. An interpretation plan should be developed for the Locomotive Heritage Park which outlines cohesive heritage interpretation that responds directly to the identified heritage values of the site with a particular focus on integration and celebration. Consideration should be given to incorporation of moveable heritage rolling stock on permanent display on the site.
 - i. A funding model generated from the residential and commercial uplift of the Locomotive Precinct that provides for ongoing maintenance and repair of the core heritage items should be developed.
 - j. Any future works within the SHR Heritage curtilage will require approval of the Heritage Council of NSW under Section 57 of the *Heritage Act 1977*.
3. **Note** the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System listing (AHIMS) for the Broadmeadow Locomotive Depot which may have potential Indigenous artefacts and **support** the *Connecting with Country* approach across the entire Broadmeadow Precinct.
 4. **Note** other places such as the *Kings Cross Station*, London and the *Locomotive Workshop*, Eveleigh as good examples of development located around heritage and provide a way of reading a place with sensitive incorporation of the rail infrastructure which could be incorporated at Broadmeadow.

Moved by David Burdon and seconded by Bruce Pettman

Meeting Close

There being no further items of business, Ian Clarke, Chair, declared the Approvals Committee meeting closed at 2:55 PM.



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Dr Nicholas Brunton
A/Chair, Heritage Council Approvals Committee
Date: 6 August 2024