

Architectural Projects

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Ref: 1711/JH:dc

13 November 2018

Mr Jorge Van Den Berge
Planning Officer
Independent Planning Commission
Level 3
201 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Van Den Berge

RE: JOB NO. 1711 – Macarthur Memorial Park, Varroville – Response to Letter of Support

This Letter has been prepared to comment on the Potential SHR Boundary Revision.

Architectural Projects have been engaged by CMCT to undertake the conservation works to the farm buildings of historic *Varroville* House. A proposed new cemetery is located on land beyond the current State Heritage Register listed that surrounds the historic *Varroville* House. The cemetery is a highly suitable use to protect and enhance the heritage values of the entire historic estate and retain its sense of open rural pastoral land.

Jennifer Hill is a director of Architectural Projects. Architectural Projects is a design practice with particular emphasis on conservation and adaptive reuse using contemporary solutions. The practice actively encourages architectural discussion through involvement in publications, the presentation of papers both here and overseas, and the participation in, and organisation of, exhibitions within Australia and overseas. Gary O'Reilly and Jennifer Hill have been engaged in lectureships in the field of History, Theory and Urban Design at the University of Technology Sydney, the University of Sydney and the University of NSW. Jennifer Hill is recipient of awards from the University of Sydney, the New South Wales Board of Architects, the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and the University of Technology, Sydney. Jennifer Hill is recipient of the Byera Hadley Travelling Scholarship, Nancy Keesing Fellowship, and Max Kelly Sydney Venice Fellowship 1998. Dux Urban Regeneration Policies International University Venice and RAIA Sisalation Scholarship 2003. She was recipient of the Glasgow 9th IFHP Connecting People and Places Competition 1999 Special Mention Award for her proposal for a redevelopment strategy of Mestre Mainland, Venice. Elizabeth Gibson is a recipient of the Royal Australian Planning Institute Award for Local Government 1996. Architectural Projects has been acknowledged by extensive publications Australia-wide and internationally. The work of the practice has been exhibited in group and solo exhibitions in Australia and overseas.

We have reviewed the URBIS Conservation Management Plan and Heritage Impact Statement for the property and development as part of our role in the consultant team. We have provided advice with regards the retention of the pastoral setting.

I would agree with Dr Rosen's correspondence on 12 November 2018.

The proposal is an extremely positive outcome in terms of on Varroville homestead and views to and from it. Integral to the proposal is a respect for the cultural heritage of the site and a desire to draw that out through interpretation of the site. Further, under the proposal, the general public will have access to the property for the first time since 1810, and the

opportunity to understand the nature of early development in the area in an expansive setting and Section 7, Conclusion and Recommendations of the URBIS Heritage Impact Statement, dates October 2017.

The result is a highly considered proposal that not only retains and conserves but also celebrates the heritage aspects of the place.

The documentation to date ensures the long term protection and management of the heritage significance of the overall site, including *Varroville* House.

The recommended extension of the State Heritage Register listing outwards from Varroville (SHR 00737) over the adjoining and surrounding land may provide inappropriate and unnecessary restrictions in gaining consent for the proposed use.

It is proposed with an equivalent certainly for the permissible use in terms of site specific exceptions. Without site specific exceptions, the proposed extension of curtilage could be used to limit development anticipated by the CMP policies.

Until appropriate site specific exceptions are provided, this submission recommends that the Independent Planning Commission should defer an extension of SHR 00737 curtilage.

Yours faithfully



Jennifer Hill – Registered Architect No.4811
Architectural Projects Pty Limited