

### **3. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

#### **3.1 GROUNDS AND ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS: CAMPERDOWN AND DARLINGTON CAMPUSES**

##### **Overview**

The main campuses of the University of Sydney are an extensive complex of buildings, sport grounds, trees, gardens, lawns, roads, carparks, fences, gates and other features. They comprise the Camperdown and Darlington Campuses, cover 72 hectares and include about 111 buildings, not including the terrace housing in Darlington.

The Camperdown Campus is bounded by Parramatta Road to the north, Victoria Park to the east, City Road and a series of residential colleges associated with the University to the south, and the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and other colleges to the west. The Darlington Campus is located on the south side of City Road, also south of the Camperdown Campus, and is bounded by City Road on its north side, Cleveland Street and Shepherd Street to the east, Abercrombie Street to the south, and Golden Grove Street to the west, not including the current Darlington Primary School on Golden Grove Street.

The topography of the campuses is gently undulating. There is a ridge approximating the line of Eastern Avenue on the Camperdown Campus, and land falls to the east and west away from the ridge. The Darlington Campus slopes generally to the south-east away from City Road. The current route of City Road was diverting away from Darlington Road to avoid the boggy lower ground around the headwaters of Blackwattle Creek through which Darlington Road runs.

The character of the campuses is quite varied reflecting the changing topography, their different histories, the variety of architectural styles and forms of the buildings, and the different landscape treatments and plantings. In addition, the somewhat irregular road system of the Camperdown Campus contributes to the varied, if not confused quality of this campus.

The Camperdown Campus displays the character of its university use since the mid nineteenth century. The Darlington Campus is more mixed, retaining substantial residential, suburban and institutional qualities in addition to later and also substantial University elements.

The cultural landscape of the campus is an eclectic mix of buildings, open spaces, tree-lined avenues and internal streets and ornamental plantings. Major lawn areas include the quadrangles to the east of and within the Main Building, the Botany Lawn, the Hockey Square and the various ovals and other playing fields such as tennis courts. With increasing development of the campus the amount of open space has declined.

The physical layout of the Darlington Campus is still defined by the original street pattern of the suburb, overlain with new institutional buildings that have largely replaced the former residential terraces and commercial buildings, and have subsumed some of the smaller streets. The original suburb boundary on the south and east followed the line of

the main tributary of Blackwattle Creek, which did not conform in all cases with later street alignments. Hence a few of the University buildings are in fact strictly speaking partially within the neighbouring suburb of Newtown (eg Civil Engineering (J05), and the Union Childcare Centre (J08)). Some of the surviving buildings constructed when Darlington was a suburb reflect street alignments now lost—such as the Rose Street Building (J04) which is aligned on the west to the former Rose and on the south to the former Calder Road, and the rear of the Civil Engineering Workshop (J06) which aligns to the former laneway between Rose and Shepherd Streets. The Institute Building (the former Deaf Dumb and Blind Institute) was excluded from the Darlington suburb area when gazetted in 1864, and this exclusion was reinforced by the brick wall that later formed the Institute’s Darlington Road boundary.

The strong influence of the form of Darlington suburb on the current University campus is seen in the remaining streets of Darlington Road and Alma Street (now in part Maze Crescent), Shepherd and Abercrombie Streets, Codrington Street (now in part Butlin Av), Rose Street (west) and its parallel lanes, and is echoed in building alignments or movement corridors along the lines of Rose Street (east), and parts of Raglan Street and Raglan Lane. The surviving suburban-era buildings are the Darlington Road terraces (and streetscape), the former Darlington Public School, and former factory or workshop buildings that are now the Services Building (G12), the Joiners’ Shop (H05), the University Garage (H07), Civil Engineering Workshop (J06), the Rose Street Building (J04), the Institute Building and Caretaker’s Cotage, and the tin Shed gallery (G03). Other reminders of the suburban origins include fences and walls around the Institute Building grounds, the fence, memorial and gateway features adjacent to Darlington School, the curbing treatments on several streets and other small scale vestiges which have yet to be fully documented.

Older parts of the Camperdown Campus are characterised by mature plantings of *Ficus* species, particularly the areas along the Parramatta Road boundary leading up to the Main Building, along the City Road boundary near the Carslaw Building and the Institute, and around the colleges.

Some plantings have a Mediterranean style complementary to their associated buildings. This is particularly evident along the main elevation of the Physics Building with its slender cypresses and box hedging.

Institutional plantings on campus to some extent reflect contemporary horticultural fashions, with extensive use of species such as *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box) and *Populus nigra* ‘Italica’ (Lombardy Poplar) for avenue planting.

The fashion for use of native plant species from the 1960s onwards is evident in the widespread use of casuarinas (eg around the Wilkinson Building and the Seymour Centre), of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Five-veined Paperbark) in the Darlington Campus and of native shrubs around the Edgeworth David Building and the Stephen Roberts Lecture Theatre.

In recent years there has been a trend towards simplification of the palette of species used for amenity planting on campus. Rows of the hardy *Platanus x hybrida* (London Plane) have proliferated, with screen plantings of the ubiquitous *Murraya paniculata* (Orange Jessamine) and masses of *Agapanthus orientalis* (Nile Lily) filling every available garden bed. While this use of a restricted number of species can lead to a consistency of landscape character, it also carries the risks inherent in any monocultures and reduces the

educational value of the plantings for subjects such as Botany, Landscape Architecture, Agriculture and Art.

The University buildings are generally low to medium rise and fall into several broad categories of style/form and these are described in further detail below.

## **Landscape and Plantings**

The University has a diverse range of plantings and landscaping, which is summarised here.

- ***University Avenue plantings***

A roughly triangular area inside the campus, at the southwestern corner of Parramatta Road and University Avenue is planted with an eclectic mix of indigenous and exotic trees underplanted with garden beds and shrubs. Species include a large *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig), several *Pinus halepensis* (Aleppo Pine), *Olea europea* ssp. *africana* (African Olive) and *Acacia dealbata* (Black Wattle). These trees are important as part of a group at one of the key entry points to the University rather than as individual specimens.

The mixed plantings along the boundary between the campus and Victoria Park give way to a significant formal avenue of *Ficus obliqua* (Small-leaved Fig), as University Avenue sweeps up to the major lawn area to the north of the Main Building.

- ***University Place lawns***

These lawns are an important open space, not only providing visual access to the Main Building but also the opportunity for assembly of students and holding of functions and events.

- ***Lawns and plantings south of the Great Hall***

Approaching the intersection of Manning Road and University Place, there are large figs at the southeastern corner of the Main Building. Along the front elevation of the Main Building are shrub plantings of *Camellia* spp. and other shrubs

- ***Main Building quadrangle lawns***

The quadrangle lawns are turfed, with only a single tree in this major open space, a specimen of *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda) planted in the southeast corner.

- ***Vice Chancellors Courtyard***

The Vice Chancellor's Courtyard is a charming enclosed landscape with important historical associations with Professors Leslie Wilkinson and E G Waterhouse.

- ***Eastern Avenue plantings***

Outside Fisher Library is a large specimen of *Melaleuca armillaris* (Bracelet Honey-myrtle).

Between Fisher Library and the Edgeworth David Building and between the Edgeworth David Building and the Stephen Roberts Lecture Theatre are native plantings. Landscaping around the new Lecture Theatre Complex to the west of the Carlsaw Building is mainly limited to turfed courtyard spaces, with the planes along the Eastern Avenue boundary.

Eastern Avenue is lined with planes on its eastern side and Brush Box and eucalypts on its western side, in front of the old Medical School and outside the School of Chemistry. The planting of planes continues on the eastern side to the exit of Eastern Avenue to City Road.

- ***Specimen tree on corner of Fisher and Physics Roads***

The large specimen of *Platanus x hybrida* (London Plane) in this prominent location has some landmark value as well as its aesthetic significance.

- ***Trees in the chemistry courtyard***

The plantings of *Platanus x hybrida* (London Plane) in the Chemistry Building courtyard are important as a group rather than as individual specimens. Between the rear of the Chemistry Lecture Hall and the Biochemistry Building are specimens of *Olea europaea* (Common Olive) and *O. europaea* ssp. *africana* (African Olive), *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel) and *Ficus elastica* (Rubber Tree).

- ***Park at the north end of the Mills Building***

The small park at the northern end of the Mills Building, east of the Squash Courts and the pavilion for the University Tennis Club, is dominated by two significant specimens of native figs, one of *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig) and the other of *F. obliqua* (Small-leaved Fig).

- ***Azalea and gardenia plantings along Physics Road***

The Tennis Courts in Physics Road are edged with plantings of Jacaranda with understorey planting of *Viburnum* sp. and *Agapanthus*. Along the northern side of Physics Road are shrubberies of *Rhododendron* cultivars (azaleas) and *Gardenia* spp. (Gardenia).

At the eastern end of the Physics Building is a large specimen of Jacaranda and along the front (northern elevation) the architecture of the building is complemented by Mediterranean style plantings of *Cupressus sempervirens* 'Italica', with box hedging, *Agapanthus* and some prostrate juniper.

- ***Hockey Square***

The Hockey Square (also referred to as 'hockey ground' and 'the square') is a major open space on the Camperdown Campus, allowing an important vista from Manning Road south to the Physics Building. The vista is glimpsed through *Cupressus sempervirens* (Mediterranean Cypress) at the southeastern corner of Manning House. A further row of the same species lines the eastern side of the Lawn Tennis courts, while the southern boundary is planted with a mix of *Celtis sinensis* (Chinese Nettle Tree) and *Pittosporum undulatum* (Sweet Pittosporum).

- ***Lawns, trees and shrubs along Western Avenue between Carillon Avenue and the laneway to the parking station***

Along Western Avenue in the vicinity of Wesley and St Andrew's Colleges the landscape has more of a rainforest character, with spreading canopies of large native figs, *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box) and *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel), again with extensive use of *Agapanthus* underplanting and *Murraya* hedging. A row of *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig) dominates the western side of Western Avenue, just south of the St Andrew's Principal's Lodge.

- ***Tree bordered lawn south of Bosch Building 1A***

This lawn is bordered with a mix of poplars, both *Populus deltoides* (Cottonwood or American Black Poplar) and *Populus nigra* 'Italica' (Lombardy Poplar). At the edge of the Bosch Building is a stand of *Liquidambar styraciflua* (Liquidamber).

- ***Trees and grass in front of the Blackburn Building***

Along the front of the Blackburn Building are planted shrubs of native species such as *Syzygium* sp. and *Elaeocarpus reticulatus* (Blueberry Ash). Between the Blackburn Building and the Bruce Williams Sports Pavilion are two rows of closely planted *Cupressus* sp. In front of the Blackburn Building is a brick edged garden with shrubby plantings, *Stenotaphrum secundatum* (Buffalo Grass) lawn and two rows of *Platanus* sp. Either side of the steps to the east of the Blackburn Building are native plantings of *Grevillea* sp.

- ***Trees, lawns and shrubs along Western Avenue adjacent to Wesley College***

The area to the north of Wesley College, to the rear of the Physics Building, is planted with a mix of *Populus nigra* 'Italica' (Lombardy Poplar) and *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel). Between Western Avenue and the front of the College the avenue is lined with a mix of native and exotic tree species, including *Ficus microphylla* var. *hillii* (Hill's Fig), *Ulmus parvifolius* (Chinese Elm), *Harpephyllum caffrum* (Kaffir Plum) and *Agonis flexuosa* (Willow Myrtle).

- ***Trees, agapanthus and gardenias along Western Avenue adjacent to Oval 1***

Trees on the edge of Oval No.1, adjoining Western Avenue include an eclectic grouping of *Cupressus torulosa* (Bhutan Cypress), *Podocarpus elatus* (Plum Pine), *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box), *Eucalyptus paniculata* (Grey Ironbark), *Pittosporum undulatum* (Sweet Pittosporum), *Cedrus deodara* (Deodar Cedar), *Acacia baileyana* (Cootamundra Wattle) and *Celtis sinensis* (Chinese Nettle Tree).

Closer to the Avenue on its western side are three large specimens of *Ficus obliqua* (Small-leaved Fig)

- ***The whole of Ovals 1 and 2 and their encircling tree plantings***

The mature mixed tree plantings around the perimeters of Ovals 1 and 2 define the boundaries of these significant recreational open spaces within the campus. An eclectic mix of indigenous and exotic species includes *Casuarina cunninghamiana* (River Oak), *Grevillea robusta* (Silky Oak), *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (River Red Gum), *E. bicostata* (Southern Blue Gum), *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box), *Erythrina x sykesii* (Coral Tree) and *Populus nigra* var. *italica* (Lombardy Poplar).

Closer to Veterinary Science the plantings are dominated by eucalypts, particularly *E. bicostata*, whereas on the Western Avenue side of Oval 2, near Manning Road, there are more exotic species, particularly *Cedrus deodara* (Deodar) and *Cupressus sempervirens* (Mediterranean Cypress)

- ***Araucarias on Western Avenue next to the Chaplaincy***

A group of five of the indigenous species, *Araucaria cunninghamii* (Hoop Pine) are important to this location.

- ***Specimen tree at the corner of Western Avenue and Manning Road***

The large specimen of *Populus deltoides* (American Black Poplar, Cottonwood) on this landmark site is significant for its high aesthetic value.

- ***Plantings to the east of the Teachers College***

East of the Teachers College, adjoining the Lawn Tennis Courts site, is a row of *Celtis sinensis* (Chinese Nettle Tree) and *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box). Within the eastern courtyard of the College are specimens of three palm species, *Howea forsteriana* (Kentia Palm), *Washingtonia filifera* and *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana* (Bangalow Palm). To the south of the College are specimens of *Populus deltoides* (Cottonwood or American Black Poplar), *Liquidambar straciflua* (Liquidamber) and *Platanus x hybrida* (London Plane).

- ***Trees, shrubs and lawns along Science Road***

The mature plantings along Science Road are particularly important in the landscape of the campus. They line one of the major thoroughfares, from the arch between the Main Building and the Botany School in the east, to Western Avenue in the east, and frame the significant buildings along the road. The diverse plantings include indigenous and exotic tree species, with shade-loving underplantings. Garden beds are defined by sandstone kerbs and low walls. Species include numerous mature specimens of *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box) and other Australian rainforest species with a shrub layer of flowering ornamentals.

Plantings near the War Memorial Art Gallery at the eastern end of Science Road include mature specimens of *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* (Hibiscus) cultivars and beds of *Agapanthus* (Nile Lily). Trees include *Gleditsia* sp. and *Cupressus sempervirens* (Mediterranean Cypress). recent underplantings include *Maranta* sp. and *Spathophyllum* sp. , *Acanthus mollis*, near the Macleay Museum and *Abelia x grandiflora* (Glossy Abelia). On the paving outside the bank building are tubs containing standard specimens of *Ficus* sp.

In the garden to the south of the Holme Building are shrubs such as *Abelia*, *Camellia sasanqua* cultivars and trees including *Populus nigra* 'Italica' (Lombardy Poplar) and *Ulmus* sp. (Weeping Elm). The lawn area to the south of the Holme Building is fringed with flowering shrubs including *Camellia japonica* cultivars.

Further west, past Russell Place, Science Road is bordered by *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box) and *Ulmus parvifolius* (Chinese Elm) with dense screen planting of *Murraya paniculata* (Orange Jessamine). Outside the Hayden Lawrence Building, tall Lombardy poplars and stands of *Strelitzia nicolai* (Bird of Paradise Tree) frame the steps. The garden around the building has a rainforest look with dark foliaged trees, camellias and tree ferns.

Outside the Wallace Theatre are Brush Box and *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda) with *Ficus pumila* (Creeping Fig) on the walls of the building. Outside the Watt Building are clipped shrubs either side of the main steps and a Jacaranda overarching the entrance. Underplantings include camellias and azaleas and *Dietes* sp. A mix of dark foliaged shrubs with the lighter tracery of the trees' canopies. Once again, heavy use of Brush Box.

Further down Science Road to its western end, shrubbery planting between the road and the Oval includes *Agapanthus*, *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*, and camellias.

- ***Plantings west of the H K Ward Gym***

Past the Sports Clinic are plantings of *Erythrina x sykesii* (Coral Tree) and around the small pavilion on the edge of the oval near the H K Ward Gymnasium is a stand of *Araucaria* spp.

- ***Lawn and trees around the Round House***

At the corner of City Road and Cleveland Street, outside the round building of International House are *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box) and *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda). To the rear of International House are tall mature casuarinas, with underplanting of tree ferns and *Asplenium* sp. (Bird's Nest Fern).

- ***Trees in front court of the Seymour Centre***

The forecourt of the Seymour Centre, at the corner of Cleveland Street and City Road, is planted with rows of *Platanus x hybrida* (London Plane), contemporary with the construction of the performing arts venue and representative of the widespread use of this low-maintenance, pollution-resistant tree species for amenity planting throughout Sydney.

- ***Melaleucas in lane to the east of the Seymour Centre***

Planting at the rear of the Seymour Centre consists of Brush Box and casuarinas, with *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Five-veined Paperbark) along the eastern side of the building.

- ***Casuarinas to south of the Wilkinson Building***

Around the Wilkinson (Architecture) Building are tall mature casuarinas, consistent with the period of construction and the contemporary popularity of native plantings.

- ***Street trees along the north arm of Maze Crescent***

Maze Crescent in the Darlington Campus is lined with casuarinas, eucalypts and planes, again underplanted with masses of *Agapanthus*. Pollarded ?pears are planted between the car parking bays, supplemented with *Populus nigra* 'Italica' (Lombardy Poplar).

- ***Poplars behind the Art Workshop***

To the rear of the Tin Sheds and other buildings fronting City Road are 'spotty' plantings.

- ***Lawns and trees around the Old Darlington School***

This area is important as the setting for the surviving buildings of the Darlington Public School. The streetscape is dominated by a row of *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box).

- ***Lawn area next to the University Sports Centre***

This is an important open space associated with a newer recreational facility on campus.

- ***Vestigial street trees along Darlington Road***

Darlington Road is lined with *Populus deltoides* (Cottonwood or American Black Poplar). This is a significant streetscape, a remnant of the row housing that once typified the suburb of Darlington.

- ***Plantings in front of the Institute Building***

This visually prominent area, adjacent to City Road, is dominated by plantings of *Ficus microcarpa* var. *hillii* (Hill's Fig) and *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel), with a large and significant specimen of *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig) at the northeastern end.

## Buildings

As noted, the University buildings are generally low to medium rise. They fall into several broad categories of style/form, as follows. This categorisation is not intended to be comprehensive or definitive, rather it provides a broad sense of the style and form of buildings on the campuses. In addition to the buildings which fall into the following categories, there are many other individual buildings which defy such an approach.

Early sandstone buildings	Two or three storey sandstone buildings, usually with tower features and ornate carved decoration (eg the Main Building A14). Although much later, the Madsen Building (F09) continues this form. In formal terms, these early buildings are examples of the Victorian Gothic styles.
Late nineteenth century/early twentieth century brick buildings with sandstone trims	Two to four storey buildings, some domestic in scale, others quite large, dark red brickwork with sandstone trims (eg R D Watt Building A04). Often these buildings reflect the earlier Victorian Gothic sandstone building forms, such as by the use of steeply pitched gables. In formal terms, these buildings are examples of the Victorian/Federation Gothic styles or Federation Free Style.
Early twentieth century painted render/mediterranean	Two to four storey buildings reflecting the Inter War Mediterranean Style (eg Physics Building A28). In some cases these buildings display the use of sandstone trims which gives a sense of continuity with the earliest, fully sandstone buildings and the slightly later brick and sandstone buildings.
Post 1945 temporary/lightweight buildings	Two to three storey buildings with a brick plinth and corrugated asbestos cement sheet walling (eg Ross Street Building A03).
Post 1945 glass curtain wall/exposed aggregate/off form concrete	Four to seven storey buildings reflecting a number of post War architectural styles. However, generally this group displays the use of glass curtain wall construction (eg Chemistry Building F11), pre-cast exposed aggregate panels, or rough off-form concrete (eg Biochemistry Building G08). The formal styles are the Post War and Late Twentieth Century International styles, and Late Twentieth Century Brutalist Style.
Late twentieth century buildings	Two to six storey buildings displaying a variety of materials and forms but with a playful, decorated character (eg Gordon Yu-Hoi Chiu Building J14 and the Education Building and Annex A35/36). These buildings reflect the Late Twentieth Century Late Modern and Post Modern styles.

## **Gateposts, Gates, Fences and Walls**

Photographic, plan and dated gate posts suggest that until the 1880s there were no formal stone of Physics Road, which are dated 1881, and must have been relocated from elsewhere, as Physics Road did not exist at that date.

### ***Gates***

Several styles of stone gate post survive, as follows.

- Cylindrical dome-topped gates with crenulated collars are found at the old Medical School gatehouse entrance off City Road, at the entrance to St Paul's College and at the Ross Street entrance. If the City Road gates are contemporaneous with the adjacent Medical School gatehouse lodge, this style may have originated about 1898. A modified version of this design is also found at the original entrance to St John's College, off Parramatta Road. The current St Paul's gates appear to have been relocated from their original position in City Road near the Medical School gate house. The City Road gates have plain cast-iron palisade gate panels, while those at Ross Street are more elaborate, with wrought iron details and one post made of filigree wrought iron. The latter are similar to the 1940 gate panels at the University Avenue entrance (see below), and the posts may have been relocated to the Ross Street entrance at about that time from another entrance (the old Parramatta Road entrance?).
- Gate-posts with a square base chamfered to an octagonal top, with crenulated collar and a lantern on top are found at the two entrances to Eastern Avenue off City Road. The northern-most of the two sets is dated 1888. The palisade-style gate panels have iron spears with elaborate wrought iron decoration.
- Gate posts with a square base chamfered to an octagonal section, with a simple octagonal domed top, located at three former entrances to Victoria Park off City Road. Photos show one set of these gates, near Gardener's and Messenger's Lodges, with lanterns on top, which are now missing. If contemporaneous with Gardener's lodge, they date to about 1885. The gates at Gardener's lodge and opposite Myrtle Street are incised with the words 'Victoria Park', and the single post remaining at Gardener's Lodge also has the words 'Bowling club players only' carved in it.
- Gate posts with square columns and a lantern on top, at Baxter's Lodge entrance, into University Avenue from Parramatta Road. These are dated 1940, and have palisade gate panels and supporting iron post frames similar to those at the Ross Street entrance. They were designed by Leslie Wilkinson.
- Gate posts with tapered square columns, and scalloped top at the entrance to the Darlington Town Hall site, off Darlington Road (Maze Crescent).
- Gate posts with square columns and moulded tops, with wrought iron pricket gate panels, at the northern side of old Darlington Public School. These gates are a war memorial, with an honour rolls on a tablet on the pillars. The gates look too close to the school building to be in their original position.

### ***Fences and walls***

Fencing has evolved over time. Until the 1880s boundary fencing seems to have been primarily timber picket fencing, which was progressively replaced with iron palisade fencing. a number of styles and fences and walls are now found throughout the campus, the main varieties of which are outlined below.

- A palisade fence of iron spears set in a sandstone base course supported on a low sandstone wall of varying height, runs along the City Road boundary of the University, then between the University and Victoria Park, then west along the Parramatta Road boundary. This fence, or major sections of it, would appear to date to the 1880s and 90s, when the various gates were formalised. This fence has been subsequently renewed in various places. A section of similar palisade fence survives along the City Road boundary of Victoria Park, south of the Gardener's Lodge, but the majority of the fencing around the park has been removed. Sections of iron palisade fencing have also been used within the grounds, such as around the western side of the Old Teacher's College.
- A stone wall with iron palisade fence above, supported at intervals by square-section sandstone pillars, runs along the City Road and Butlin Avenue frontages of the Institute, Sydney University Regiment and Merewether buildings. This fence returns into Darlington Road around the Regiment Building, which occupies the site where the Institute for Adult Deaf once stood.. This fence was built progressively from 1878 to 1883.
- A polychrome brick wall with stone quoins was constructed along Old Newtown Road (now Darlington Road) from 1885. This fence has been modified on the Institute Building side to support the raised ground level within the Institute grounds.
- A variety of timber picket, post and rail, and iron hurdle fencing had been used at earlier times as boundary and internal fencing in the university grounds. No remnant examples of this earlier fencing was found during the study.
- Low stone walls have been used in a number of locations around the campus to demark building curtilages and to support lawn and garden terracing. The process of wall construction has been ongoing, and continues, so that dating each example would require detailed archival and photographic research. A good example is along Science Road, where low sandstone walls supporting garden beds step down the northern side of the street, adding considerable character to the streetscape. Sections of these walls have been added to or rebuilt in recent decades, while other sections appear to date back to the first half of the last century. The formal stone terrace walling on the lawns of University Place date from the latter part of the nineteenth century, associated with the creation of the terraces which was completed in the early 1870s.

### **Other Constructed Features**

There are a range of additional constructed features located about the campuses, as described below.

L.E.F. Neill Memorial	Sandstone and marble column (formerly a fountain?) with carved panels and a cast bronze panel, located on the south side of University Oval No. 1.
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Isabel Fidler Seat

Stone seat with incised lettering from about 1952, located in small park at the junction of Fisher and Manning Roads.

Milestone, Sydney II miles	A square section stone milestone, relocated from elsewhere, with 'Sydney II' on one face and 'Parramatta XIII' on an adjoining face. Located in Science Road outside the Administration building.
Stone Sarcophagus	A stone sarcophagus, being part of the Nicholson Collection, is located on a terrace outside the southern entrance to the Quadrangle.
Fountain	Sandstone fountain with carved head, located on the south side of Science Road
Horse works/wool press(?)	Located southeast of the John Woolley Building (A20).
Two columns and pergola	Located west of the Badham Building (A16). (relocated from an adjacent site between Badham and Woolley buildings after 1976).
Columns adjoining Edward Ford Building	Six columns and wall, with garden bed, in the service area between Edward Ford and Physics Buildings.
Memorial Water Bubbler	Granite pillar and platform with water bubbler mounted on top of pillar adjacent to Old School Building (G15), Darlington. Incised lettering around platform riser.
Perkins Playground Opening Commemorative Stone Plaque	Marble plaque set in sandstone base, located in vegetable garden on south side of north arm of Maze Crescent, Darlington. Associated with opening of a playground in 1948.
Statue of Gilgamesh	A gift to the University from the Sydney Syrian community, 2000, Located between the old Teachers college and the Women's Sports Centre.
Bust of Nikolai Miklouho-Maclay	Located on Science Road garden area outside Macleay Museum.

There is no comprehensive inventory of artworks in the grounds.

### **Memorial Trees**

The grounds contain some memorial or commemorative plantings such as the Jacaranda Tree planted in memory of Dr Ben Teh in about 1998 located in Fisher Road adjacent to the Anderson Stuart Building.

There is no comprehensive inventory of such plantings.

## Visual and Planning Axes

The grounds feature a number of planning, building or landscape axes which give some structure to the form of the campuses. The following table lists major and minor axes, and also a number of relatively short axes which generally relate to the entrances to or design of buildings.

**Table 3.1 Visual and planning axes**

No.	Related View/ Vista	Name of Axis	Description
<b>Major Axes</b>			
A1	V1	University Avenue	Centred on the Main Building (A14) which extends east through University Place, along University Avenue and into Victoria Park, being evidence of the original main entrance road to the University.
A2	None	Main Building North/South	The cross axis of the Main Building (A14) which extends through the War Memorial Bridge.
A3	V3	Eastern Avenue	Along Eastern Avenue from City Road to University Place.
A4	V5	Hockey Square	Another axis which is important, though not easily appreciated in full on the ground, is that which joins St Paul's College, the Physics Building (A28) and the Union Refectory (A09A). This axis is less distinct on the south side of Science Road because of existing plantings which block the view to and from the Refectory. Similarly, there is no longer any visual link between St Paul's and the Physics Building because of mature plantings and more recent buildings.
A7	V11	Science Road	Along Science Road from the J D Stewart building (B01) up though the War Memorial Bridge to University Place.
<b>Minor Axes</b>			
A5	V6	Western Avenue	Western Avenue between Carillon Avenue and the Queen Elizabeth II Research Institute Building (D02), although it is not perceived on ground, this axis continues in plan through the University Ovals 1 and 2, and further north along the short section of Western Avenue which joins Parramatta Road.
A6	V7	Blackburn Building	The axis is centred on the Blackburn Building (D06) and runs through the forecourt east of the building.
A8	V12	J D Stewart Building	The axis relates to the entrance to the J D Stewart Building (B01).
<b>Short Axes</b>			
-	None	McMaster Building	Two short axes to the north and west of the McMaster Building (B14).
-	None	Science Road Buildings	The series of short axes related to the buildings along Science Road such as the R D Watt Building (A04), Heydon-Laurence Building (A08), Holme Building (A09), Badham Building (A16), and the Pharmacy and Bank Building (A15). In general these axes relate to the building entrances.
-	None	Wesley College	Though not within the core study area, the short axis

			related to the entrance to Wesley College has a substantial impact on the University grounds.
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## Views and Vistas

The University campuses provide a number of minor and major views and vistas which have some aesthetic value. These are described in the following table. All of the major and minor axes listed above fall into this category, although not the third category of relatively short axes. In some cases the views or vistas along an axis only extend for part of the length of the axis. Additional comments about the major and minor axes are also provided in the table.

**Table 3.2 Views and Vistas**

No.	Related Axis	Name of Vista	Description
<b>Major Vistas</b>			
V1	Part A1	Views along University Avenue (A14) Axis	The rising land from Victoria Park to the Main Building (A14) emphasises the building on the one view and provides an attractive vista down to the park on the other view. The tree lined University Avenue and path reinforce the axis.
V3	A3	Views along Eastern Avenue Axis	This is a tree lined, rising axis towards University Place.
V5	Part A4	View along Hockey Square Axis	Axial vista from in front to the Physics Building (A28) across Hockey Square along the axis leading to the Union Refectory (A09). The terminal view is obscured by mature plantings.
V11	Part A7	Views along Science Road Axis	The road features an attractive rising/falling character with mature trees lining the road, garden beds of flowering shrubs, a varied urban form created by the way the buildings along the road address it, and an attractive streetscape because of the design quality of most of the buildings.
<b>Minor Vistas</b>			
V2	None	View from terrace adjacent to MacLaurin Hall (part of Main Building (A14))	Provides an elevated view to the southwest towards the Tennis Lawn and Hockey Square. The Squash Courts (A24) detract from the view.
V4	None	View from Tennis Pavilion	Provides an elevated view to the southwest over the Tennis Lawn and towards Hockey Square with the Physics Building (A28) as the backdrop.
V6	Part A5	Views along Western Avenue Axis	Features attractive camellia hedge plantings along the west side of the road for an extended length from Carillon Avenue, along with mature, though discontinuous, tree plantings on both sides.

No.	Related Axis	Name of Vista	Description
V7	A6	View along Blackburn Building (D06) Axis	This short axis has some interest as it runs through the treed forecourt east of the Blackburn Building (D06).
V8	None	Views into University Oval No 1 from Western Avenue	Elevated views into the grassed expanse of the oval, through the trees ringing the oval and with the trees on the far side of the oval as a backdrop.
V9	None	Views into University Oval No 2 from Western Avenue	Elevated views into the grassed expanse of the oval, through the trees ringing the oval and with the trees on the far side of the oval as a backdrop.
V10	None	Manning Road Vista	This is an attractive view from the western end of Manning Road towards the elevated western end of MacLaurin Hall (part of the Main Building (A14)).
V12	A8	View along J D Stewart Building Axis	The axial view of the J D Stewart Building (B01) from Western Avenue.
V13	None	Views towards Old School Building (G15)	Elevated views from a variety of points to the northwest and southwest across the grassed park towards the Old School Building (G15).

## 3.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

### Pre-Colonial Archaeological evidence within the Grounds of Sydney University

No archaeological sites or artefacts relating to Aboriginal occupation have been found in the University grounds.

Given the intensive developments that have taken place within the University grounds over the last 200 years, the possibility of any undisturbed deposits remaining within the grounds seems small. However, several areas of open land within the University grounds were inspected to assess their potential to contain stone artefacts or deposits relating to pre-colonial Aboriginal occupation. Within these areas patches of ground devoid of grass were inspected for the presence of Aboriginal stone artefacts:

- St Johns College sports ground;
- areas around University Ovals No 1 and 2;
- areas adjacent to the boundary fence between the University grounds and Victoria Park; and
- open areas around old Darlington School.

In addition to being open land at present, these are locations which were adjacent to, or not too far distant from, original water sources – streams and swampy areas, and thus areas which were more likely to be the focus of Aboriginal campsites and other activities. However, today, apart from contour changes, there is no clear evidence of the original creeklines or swamps and all areas are principally landscaped – they are well-grassed, with heavily-mulched gardens and intermittent trees.

### ***St Johns College sports ground***

On the north-eastern side of the levelled playing field, and particularly the embankment beneath the relatively dense growth of trees and bushes, visible ground surfaces revealed many places with mixed deposits containing construction material such as bricks, gravel and glass. A water pipeline has been installed along this side of the sports ground. This side of the playing fields would have been nearest the original line of Orphan School Creek.

Although there is potential for Aboriginal archaeological materials to be present in this area, the level of disturbance suggests that it is highly unlikely that any deposits or materials will be *in situ* and undisturbed.

### ***University ovals and Victoria Park boundary***

No areas with the potential to contain undisturbed archaeological deposit were located around:

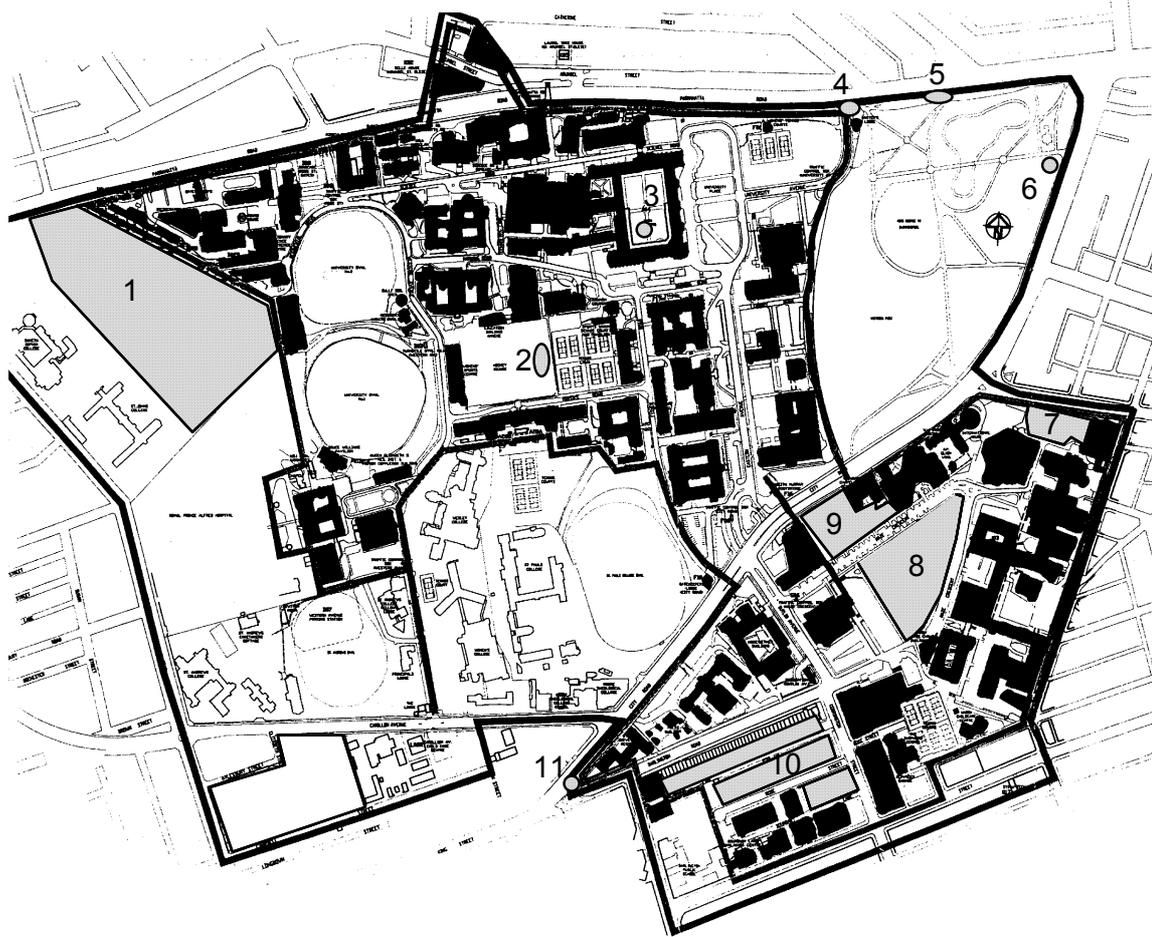
- the university ovals, which have been heavily landscaped to create embankments and the level playing fields; or
- along the Victoria Park boundary fence, where the construction of roadways and parking areas would have completed disturbed the ground.

### ***Around the Old Darlington School***

The early maps show one of the headwater arms of Blackwater Creek beginning in this area. It is considered highly unlikely that any undisturbed surface deposits remain in this area where the Town Hall and many residential buildings of the suburb of Darlington have been demolished. However, there is a possibility that undisturbed buried stone artefacts or archaeological deposits occur in some parts, for example within the surviving foundations of demolished buildings. The rectangular ‘footprint’ of the foundation of a demolished building adjacent to the old school building was clearly visible in the dry conditions that prevailed at the time of inspection. This very clear outline of the foundations suggests that the demolition process did not involve disturbing the foundations or any underlying deposits of some of the buildings. This situation, combined with the fact that many of the early residential terraces and buildings did not have deep footings, supports the prediction that undisturbed sub-surface deposits may be present. Stone artefacts have been found previously in similar situations, e.g. Angel Place in the Sydney CBD, Moores Wharf on Millers Point, and The Market Place at Richmond (Godden Mackay Heritage Consultants 1997; Lampert 1984). However, the existence of undisturbed deposits in such places will also depend on the type of land use that may have occurred before the Darlington buildings were constructed, e.g. the buildings and garden layout of Thomas Shepherd’s *Darling Nursery*.

### ***Darlington Road terraces***

In addition to the foregoing areas, there is also the possibility that undisturbed buried evidence of pre-colonial Aboriginal occupation may be present beneath the surviving terraces in Darlington Road, and possibly in their back gardens. The reasons for this



**University of Sydney grounds - archaeologically sensitive areas**



Sites and areas potentially containing archaeological material

- 1 - Orphan School Creek, site of Convict stockade, garden (north-east corner), and potentially Aboriginal sites. Moderate-low potential
- 2 - Site of Women's Sports Club. Low potential
- 3 - Site of Women's Common Room. Moderate-low potential
- 4 - Original gate house site. Low-nil potential
- 5 - Toll gate site. Low-nil potential
- 6 - Messenger's Lodge site. High potential
- 7 - Possible housing site. Moderate potential
- 8 - Darlington School, Town Hall, terraces site. Moderate potential. Also low potential for Aboriginal sites
- 9 - Housing and commercial building sites. Moderate potential.
- 10 - Terrace housing sites. Moderate potential
- 11 - Toll gate site. Low-nil potential

prediction are the same as those given for the area around the old Darlington Public School. One of the headwater arms of Blackwattle Creek originally extended up to where the present Darlington Public School has been built (this arm is not shown on the early maps, but is visible today in the land contours), and would have run almost parallel to Darlington Road.

### *Summary*

While no Aboriginal artefacts or materials have been found in the University grounds, there are several areas which are relatively undisturbed or may have undisturbed sub-surface deposits which have the potential to contain such evidence. Such deposits, referred to as 'potential archaeological deposits', occur in the St Johns College sports ground, the areas around old Darlington School, and the Darlington Road terraces.

### *Archaeological evidence in areas surrounding Sydney University*

Numerous archaeological sites have been recorded in the district bounded by Port Jackson, the coastline and Botany Bay and east as far as, say, Leichhardt. They include shell middens which line the shores of the estuary, bay and coast; vast artefact concentrations that once existed in the coastal dunes between Port Jackson and Botany Bay; and rock engravings on the sandstone rock platforms (Attenbrow 1991, 1992; Etheridge & Whitelegge 1907; Stanbury & Clegg 1990). The majority of these sites are on Hawkesbury sandstone and Quaternary sediments which overlay that formation. Very few sites have been found on the Wianamatta shales on which the University grounds are located.

The archaeological material found closest to the University is a stone axe (or hatchet) head unearthed in Victoria Park in the 1890s, which was described as a 'tomahawk' –

[a]n elongated pebble of the spotted altered claystone; worn and blunted at both ends; it is very much heavier and large than usual; it was turned up in trenching the ground of Victoria Park, near the University, the soil of which is derived from a patch of the Wianamatta shale. Weight 4 lbs 7 ozs. Dimensions 9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>". (Liversidge 1894:6)

The whereabouts of this object is not known. The only other stone artefacts associated with the Wianamatta shales and thus the Turpentine-Ironbark Forest in the Sydney metropolitan area are a ground-edged hatchet (axe) head found in a cutting behind St Mary's Cathedral (Australian Museum [AM] Reg. No E.5161), and some silcrete artefacts reported to have been seen in Camperdown cemetery (Allen Madden, Metropolitan LALC, pers. comm.).

The only other Aboriginal sites that are not in close proximity to the shorelines or strongly-associated with sandstone bedrock are:

- two isolated flaked stone artefacts found in the sand-hills to the east (AM Registration Nos E.10437 and 26055);
- a 'chopping block' found adjacent to the Tank Stream near Hunter Street in Sydney's CBD during a development in 1913 (AM Registration No. E.22266);

- the recently-discovered artefact concentration adjacent to the Tank Street at Angel Place in Sydney CBD (NPWS Site No 45-6-2581; Godden Mackay Heritage Consultants 1998); and
- a fireplace (hearth) and stone artefacts found during archaeological investigations at the Prince of Wales Hospital at Randwick in 1995 (Godden Mackay Pty Ltd & Austral Archaeology 1997:25–26). A thermoluminescence (TL) date of 8400±800 years BP (BP, before present) and a radiocarbon date of 7860±50 years BP (Beta-87211) indicate the hearth was used around 8000 years ago. A second TL date of 5200±400 years BP indicates a second period of use of the hearth (Laboratory numbers for two dates not available from source).

Current archaeological knowledge suggests that the Turpentine-Ironbark forests on the Wianamatta shales were not frequently inhabited or utilised. However, the environmental evidence suggests these forests had resources that the pre-colonial inhabitants could have used. The absence of archaeological evidence may well be due to its destruction during the very early clearance of the forests in order to use these lands for farming, housing and industrial developments, as well as development of the University itself. The situation is also exacerbated by the low visibility that stone artefacts have in forested countryside, and the fact that such sites are often buried and only exposed through natural or humanly-derived disturbance.

### **Archaeological evidence from the post-European settlement period within the grounds of Sydney University (historical archaeology)**

The potential for important archaeological evidence of the post-European settlement period relates to the pre-university land use of Grose Farm, the suburban development of Darlington, and the early development of the University itself. There has been intensive development of the most of the Camperdown campus over time. There are few areas of land that appear to retain their natural undisturbed ground level, because of substantial disturbance by buildings, road construction, landscaping, creek reclamation, benching and cutting (as described above). The sites of earlier buildings and features are generally built over by the development that replaced them.

There is always the possibility that fragments of undisturbed land containing archaeological relics of earlier buildings or land uses remain near or beneath extant buildings, and will become available for investigation over time, but in the absence of intensive detailed observation and analysis, it is not possible to identify these sites in this report. The assessment of archaeological potential should be part of the planning process for any new building works or demolition on the campus, so the potential and reality of meaningful archaeological evidence can be identified and the sites investigated.

A study of parts of the Darlington campus undertaken in the last two years indicated that the areas of terrace housing occupying those areas had left archaeological material that was likely to have a low to medium level of research potential (Casey & Lowe Associates, nd).

The following map shows the areas where sites and areas with archaeological potential are located. These are:

1. The site of the 1840s convict road gang stockade and garden west of Orphan School Creek, now located in the north-east corner of the St John's College sports

ground, and adjacent to and possibly within the Veterinary Sciences boundary. This area also has potential for Aboriginal sites. The archaeological potential is assessed as moderate to low.

2. Site of the Women's Common Room, which was located in what is now the Quadrangle from the 1990s to about 1917. The tennis courts in this area are not of archaeological interest. The Common Room has low archaeological potential.
3. The original Parramatta Road university gate house site, dating from about the 1870s (as distinct from the 1939 Baxter's lodge, which occupies the same general area). This site was very close to Parramatta road, and is likely to have been destroyed by road widening and footpath construction, so its archaeological potential is low or nil.
4. Toll gate site, circa 1840s. The nature of this site has not been identified, and as it was very close to Parramatta road, it is likely to have been destroyed by road widening and footpath construction, so its archaeological potential is low or nil.
5. Site of the 1898 Lodge on City road, removed in 1940. The stone from the building is said to have been used to construct the new Baxter's lodge at the University Avenue entrance. It has not been determined whether the site was excavated when the building was removed, but if this did not occur the site has moderate to low archaeological potential.
6. Possible housing site on Cleveland Street, north-east of the Seymour Centre. The site has moderate to low archaeological potential.
7. Darlington School, Town Hall, terraces site, on the area surrounding the former Darlington School not yet developed by the University. This area has a moderate to high level of disturbance, and has moderate to low historical archaeological potential. It also has a low potential for Aboriginal sites.
8. Housing and commercial building sites between Maze Crescent and City Road, not yet intensively redeveloped by the University. Like area 7, this has moderate to low archaeological potential.
9. Areas west of Codrington Street previously assessed by Casey and Lowe (nd), being the site of former terrace housing. The area has moderate to low archaeological potential.
10. 1840s Toll gate site. The nature of this site has not been identified, and as it was very close to City/Newtown Road, it is likely to have been destroyed by road widening and footpath construction, so its archaeological potential is low or nil.

### **3.3 EVIDENCE OF SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

#### **Overview of Sources**

A number of sources were researched in an attempt to establish the nature and extent of social value related to the University. These sources included:

- the draft section 170 register of heritage places for the University;

- communities or groups associated with the University, the:
  - University Senate;
  - residential colleges, associated with current students;
  - student unions, general and sporting;
  - Alumni organisations, including residential college associations for former residents;
  - staff union/NTEU;
  - nearby residents:
    - whose views may be reflected in the heritage studies for the South Sydney local government area and Victoria Park;
    - resident action or other resident groups for adjacent suburbs;
    - oral histories;
    - some specific residents;
  - former students, both in Sydney and Canberra;
- artworks;
- media stories;
- publications; and
- event/function usage (weddings, etc).

From some of these sources, the following evidence of social value was obtained. In some cases, the sources proved not to be fruitful.

### **South Sydney Heritage Study**

This study<sup>1</sup> identifies a large number of heritage places in the South Sydney area, including a conservation area, precinct and components related to the University. These are generally noted elsewhere.

With regard to social value, the study findings are provided in the table below.

The study findings are very brief and lack evidence of the research to substantiate the social values identified. Given the date of the study (1995) and its scope, dealing with the whole of the council area, it seems likely the identified social values are not based on what would now be regarded as best practice identification and assessment methods. Accordingly, while the values are recorded below, no further use is made of them in this report.

***Table 3.3 Social Values identified in South Sydney Heritage Study***

<b>UoS facilities reference</b>	<b>Study reference</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Social Value</b>
-	8.16	Sydney University Conservation Area (being the whole of the Camperdown campus including the colleges but excluding the hospital)	Educational facility to service the community.
-	8.17	Sydney University Urban	Educational facility to service the community.

<sup>1</sup> Tropman and Tropman 1995.

		Precinct (being the whole of the Darlington campus)	
G15	8.18	Former Darlington Primary School	Noted as having State-level social value.
H3 and H10, also H2?	8.20	Institute Building	Noted as having State-level social value.
-	8.21	Darling Nursery Estate (part of which overlaps the Darlington campus in the vicinity of Maze Crescent, Cleveland and Shepherd Streets)	Noted as having local-level social value. A local residential focus.

### Communities or Groups associated with the University

Two workshops and several meetings were held with a people belonging to a range of communities or groups associated with the University, including:

- staff;
- former students;
- residential colleges;
- student unions, general and sporting;
- alumni organisations, including residential college associations; and
- the staff union, the University branch of the NTEU.

The places identified by the communities or groups as having social value are listed in the following table.

**Table 3.4 Social Value places identified by Communities or groups associated with the University**

UoS facilities reference	Place	Social Value
-	University of Sydney	Strong association because of the feeling of the University being an island in the city
-	Eastern Avenue lawns	Strong association because of remnant green space and recreational use
-	Sandstone fencing and gates along City Road	Strong association because of the experience of walking along fence
A14	Quad/Main Building/University Place, including Jacaranda Tree and Vice Chancellor's Garden	Strong associations because of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sense of history/link to the past</li> <li>• location of exam results being posted</li> <li>• student protests</li> <li>• recreational use</li> <li>• aesthetic value</li> </ul>
Part of A14	Great Hall	Strong association because of location of exams
Part of A14	MacLaurin Hall	Strong association because of location of exams
-	View down University Avenue axis to Victoria Park	Strong association because of the nice view/aesthetics
UoS	Place	Social Value

facilities reference		
-	Botany lawn (adjacent to the Great Hall)	Strong association because of aesthetic qualities and recreational use
-	Bass sculpture and plantings at main entrance	Strong association because of aesthetic value
-	Science Road precinct	Strong association because of historic and aesthetic qualities
A15-16?	Tunnel	Strong association because of posters and graffiti which provided current information
A23	Manning House	Strong association because of socialising, including the bar
A24	Squash courts	Strong association for squash club members
Tennis courts and A25	Tennis courts and pavilion	Strong association for tennis club members
G15	Fig trees, Post Office/Old Darlington School	Strong association because of aesthetic qualities and recreational use
Ovals No.1 and 2, probably including D1, also Sports Lane	Ovals No.1 and 2 (possibly including the Bruce Williams Pavilion (D1))	Strong associations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• especially for the 7 clubs/sports and their members/players which currently use the ovals;</li> <li>• for the Colleges who use the grounds, especially for the Rawson Cup;</li> <li>• possibly for schools from the surrounding suburbs who use the ovals for sports carnivals and there is a schools sports program run by the SUSU</li> <li>• probably for residents from nearby suburbs who use the ovals for a variety of recreational activities everyday and throughout the day</li> </ul>

### Draft Section 170 Register of Heritage Places for the University

This register<sup>2</sup> includes a large number of heritage places within the University. The register documents social values for areas and components of the University, and these are summarised in the table below.

The register gives no clue as to the research method or evidence used to substantiate the identified social values. It appears that observed continuing use and a professional estimation of social value are the basis for the findings. Assuming this is the case, this method falls short of current best practice. Accordingly, the findings are noted but only used as a secondary source of information about social values.

*Table 3.5 Social Values identified in Draft Section 170 Register*

Reference	Name	Social Value
4726001	University of Sydney	For its continued use as a University. As a Sydney landmark. For its continuing educational role.
4726003	Main Quad/East Range and Great Hall	For its symbolic role, for functions, special events and as the site of graduation ceremonies.

<sup>2</sup> DPWS Heritage Design Services and Otto Cserhalmi & Partners 2000.

Reference	Name	Social Value
4726005	Macleay Museum	Continuing its role as a university museum, a role it has fulfilled since 1891. As a public museum and collection of archival photographs.
4726007	Anderson Stuart Building	For its continued use as a medical school.
4726010	Science Road Bridge	As a War Memorial and Art Gallery. One of a number of public galleries at the University.
4726044	MacLaurin Hall	For its continued use as a university facility. As a venue for special events, talks and university functions such as enrolments.
4726047	Main Quad/South-West Range	As a formal entry into the Main Quad, used regularly by staff and students. Contributing to the atmosphere of campus.
4726049	Vice Chancellor's Quadrangle	Providing an indication of attempts to create pleasant landscaped quadrangles. Its intention and use continue today.
4726052	Main Building and Approaches	The terrace continues to be used for ceremonies and other events (associated with the Great Hall).

## Oral Histories

While oral history sources tend to provide information about the individual stories of people, they can contribute specific confirming instances of broader community or cultural group attitudes. There are a small number of oral histories which were reviewed as part of the project and which are relevant to the campuses. These histories were provided by long term residents from the Chippendale, Darlington and other adjacent areas.<sup>3</sup>

The oral histories reviewed make brief though perhaps significant mention of the University. The main comments being:

- the grounds were used for play by children, especially as there were few other parks available;
- such use included things like bird egg collecting;
- playing in the grounds was sometimes undertaken furtively, and security staff sometimes chased children away;
- antipathy towards the expansion of the University into the surrounding suburbs;
- a perception of the University being separate, and not part of the residential suburbs; and
- a positive attitude to the University run social club, the Settlement, which was operated by the University for the nearby residents.

Another view of the evidence provided by the oral histories undertaken for South Sydney is that many are silent on the University. It seems possible the perceived separateness of the University from the residential suburbs meant the two communities, University and residential, operated largely without much interaction. The absence of many references to the University in the oral histories may reflect this lack of interaction.

The following are some examples of comments related to the University.

'We played in, probably in the university, where we weren't s'posed to be...

<sup>3</sup> South Sydney Social History Project, Sue Rosen and Associates for the South Sydney City Council, 1995-97.

The university has encroached on the neighbourhood. It's bad. They knocked down a hell of a lot of houses and Darlington school where my brothers used to go, that's not there any more. I think that's their music department now.' (Susan Alloway, born 1961, Chippendale, interview of 16 February 1995)

'But you know, we, with the local kids, and my cousin who, she is just about six months older than me, she lived with us when she was six months until she was about ten, so we'd all, we'd go and hang out with the local kids and go and play in the University grounds. Living in sort of inner city Chippendale, there is not a lot of park area and things like that, so, the university was like this huge playground for us, it was wonderful. It was great to go in there, and have adventures and play pirates and things like that. It was great. They've done a lot of re-development in there now. We spent a lot of time in the area that is around the back of the Seymour Centre, and over towards, I think it was the engineering department. And they used to have native Rosemary shrubs everywhere, and so we would go into those, and it would be like travelling around in an old English hedge maze. You would push through a bit, and it would just be empty inside, the shrubs had grown up and formed a room, so we had sort of little cubby houses here and there. We used to spend a lot of time just playing up in amongst, around the Seymour Centre. They used to set up these large metallic sculptures out the front of the Seymour Centre, and they were just great to climb on, you know, being a ten year old kid...

The university staff, they seemed to let us have our way with the place. We tended not to be destructive or anything like that, because we thought, well this is about the only place that there is grass, and places to play, besides Victoria Park, and so we respected the, the campus and things. Occasionally we would have security guards coming up and checking what we were doing and where we were, but generally they would let us stay and play, so that was good...

We weren't allowed up to the main quadrangle of the University. Mum and dad said we weren't allowed up there, that was too far away. We could stay in the University on Chippendale side of City Road, Seymour Centre around that area, up to where the squash court, swimming pool things are, in the Wentworth building. We weren't really allowed to go across there just because it was too far away.' (Colin Bell, interview at Surry Hills, 23 November 1994)

'Spud Murphy and I used to go raiding bird's nests... There were a few trees around the church up at Camperdown, you know and the University was a great place. If you lived in Newtown that was a happy hunting ground. We would get lots of different eggs. You'd get in there of a Sunday and they'd be chasing you, the security. We got into a place one day where they had all these hockey sticks and we were amazed at all this paraphernalia, it was like a gymnasium. The watchman appeared on the scene and he chased us and it was exciting.' (Leo Hannan, born 1923, Newtown)

'There were a fair few kids living in the area. It was mostly residential and just at the top, near Newtown, there was the IXL fruit canning factory, made jams and things like that. And the university was influential 'cause they own most of the property. And you never knew when they were going to take it over. See you

always knew that you could be asked to leave, after a certain time. We just knew it in the background, it was always in the back of your mind. I had hoped to go and study there, but I didn't make it, unfortunately. You weren't allowed to play there. It was a university and they kept outsiders out. We never thought about going over there. You knew it was a university, you didn't go near it.' (Mervyn Jordan, born 1930, Darlington)

'The churches were the social focus, and The Settlement, of course. The Settlement was a big club run by Sydney University for the people in that area to have social activities. They had the Boy Scouts, the Girl Guides, and they used to teach you how to play badminton; some of them were Australian champions. And they had bowls; they had the old people's club of the day time and they had the ladies', mothers' club of a Wednesday night, which went for seventeen years. People from the university used to come down and give us talks on their trips overseas and they would teach us acting, singing, cooking and craft. I started going there from about eleven or twelve. It was very popular.' (Jane Lanyon, born 1920, Chippendale and Redfern. Jane was born at home in February 1920 in Balfour Street, Chippendale. She has lived in the Redfern area since moving there in 1926.)

## Artworks

The use of the University for artistic depiction may provide evidence of community valuing of the place. The University art collection was investigated for this aspect, and information was sought from the Sydney College for the Arts.

The only information forthcoming relates to the University's collection. It has been estimated that the collection has about 20 images of the Camperdown campus.<sup>4</sup> The content of these images has not been reviewed.

This moderate number of images suggests some level of community valuing of the University, and lends support to other evidence of social value.

## Media Stories

The portrayal of the University in media stories can be a reflection of social value. Information was sought from the University's Media Office and from the local community newspaper, the *Chippo News*.

No statistics were available indicating the nature and extent of media stories about the University, in particular those relating to the University campuses. However, information on some particular issues/stories was obtained. These related to the:

- Jacaranda tree in the Main Building quadrangle;
- student housing development in Newtown; and
- demolition of houses in Rose Street, Darlington, for redevelopment.

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<sup>4</sup> Information provided by Sioux Garside, Curator, University of Sydney Collection.

While these stories are in no way representative, they do offer evidence of:

- strong and continuing associations with the Jacaranda tree, as indicator of the passage of time related especially to the University calendar; and
- concern at the expansion of the University into the surrounding suburbs, including the treatment of residents and heritage.

Information obtained about the *Chippo News* suggests the University does not feature in many stories.<sup>5</sup> Those few stories that relate to the University have reported on its expansion into the surrounding suburbs, or the demolition of former suburban housing by the University, such as in the case of Rose Street. In these stories the feeling is conveyed or reflected that the University is not a good neighbour to the residential suburbs.

## **Publications**

The University as a place features either directly or as background in a range of University publications. These portrayals contribute to community associations with the University. However, no details of the nature and extent of either these portrayals or their distribution have been obtained.

## **Event/Function Usage (weddings, etc)**

The University appears to be a popular venue for a range of events and functions. These include conferences and weddings. It is understood that venues which are particularly in demand include the Great Hall, the Quad and other spaces around the Main Building.

No details on the nature, locations and frequency of such function usage have been obtained.

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<sup>5</sup> Information provided by Trevor Davies.