



Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Water Resources

Referral of proposed action

What is a referral?

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) protects matters of national environmental significance (NES), and the environment, in relation to Commonwealth actions, and actions on (or impacting upon) Commonwealth land. The purpose of a referral is to determine whether your proposed action will need formal assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.

Your referral will be the principal basis for the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources' decision as to whether approval is necessary and, if so, the type of assessment that will be taken. These decisions are made within 20 business days.

When do I need to make a referral?

A referral must be made for actions that are likely to have a significant impact on matters protected by Part 3 of the EPBC Act:

- World Heritage (sections 12 and 15A)
- National Heritage places (sections 15B and 15C)
- Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 and 17B)
- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)
- Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)
- Protection of the environment from nuclear actions (sections 21 and 22A)
- Marine environment (sections 23 and 24A)
- Protection of the environment from actions involving Commonwealth land (sections 26 and 27A)
- Protection of the environment from Commonwealth actions (section 28)

OR

- actions that may have a significant impact on the environment of Commonwealth land (even if taken outside Commonwealth land)
- actions taken on Commonwealth land that may have a significant impact on the environment generally
- actions by Commonwealth Authorities that are likely have a significant impact on the environment require approval.

You may still make a referral if you believe your action is not going to have a significant impact, or if you are unsure.

To help you decide whether or not your proposed action requires approval (and, therefore, if you should make a referral), read the following documents, available from the Department web site:

- the Policy Statement titled *Principle Significance Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance*. Additional sectoral guidelines are also available.
- the Policy Statement titled *Principle Significance Guidelines 1.2 - Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies*.
- the interactive map on the web site—enter a location to obtain a report on what matters of NES may occur in that location.

A staged or component action

An action that is a component of a larger action may not be accepted separately and may require referral of the larger action for consideration under the EPBC Act. Refer to *Fact Sheet 6: Staged Developments/Split Referrals*.

If you want to make a referral for a staged or component referral, contact the EPBC Act Referrals Section (1800 803 772).

Permits

Some activities may also require a permit under other sections of the EPBC Act, whether or not approval is required. Information is available on the Department web site.

Completing the referral form

Completing this form will help ensure that you submit the information required by the EPBC Regulations.

All referrals MUST be published on the Department's web site for public comment (the Department will arrange this) and should generally be:

- readily understood by the public
- no longer than 25 A4-sized, single-sided pages
- typed (main text no smaller than 11 points)
- have clearly legible maps and diagrams
- supplied unbound or electronically.

Provide supporting documentation, such as environmental reports or surveys, as attachments. However, the referral form must contain the core information, so that it provides an adequate basis for public comment and decision-making.

Provide coloured maps, figures or photographs to help explain the project and its location. Aerial photographs, in particular, can provide a useful perspective and context. Figures should be good quality as they may be scanned and viewed electronically as black and white documents. Maps should be of a scale that clearly shows the location of the proposed action and any environmental aspects of interest.

Using the MS Word file to enter your information

You can complete your referral by entering your information into this Word file.

Instructions are provided in green text. If you do not see the instructions you need to reveal 'hidden' text. A toolbar with buttons to turn the instructions on and off should be visible when you open the file.

Normally the instruction text will not print. (If you wish to print a copy of the form with the instructions you will need to select the Options button in the Print dialog and select Hidden text.)

Submitting the referral form

By mail to

EPBC Act Referrals Section
Environment Assessment Branch
Department of the Environment and
Water Resources
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

By fax to 02 6274 1789

- Referrals must be of sufficiently clear quality to be scanned into electronic format.
- Address the fax to the mailing address, and clearly mark it as a 'Referral under the EPBC Act'.
- Follow up with a mailed hardcopy including copies of any attachments or supporting reports.

By email to epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au.

- Clearly mark the email as a 'Referral under the EPBC Act'.
- Attach the referral as a Microsoft Word file and, if possible, a PDF file.
- To ensure file sizes are not too large (below two megabytes), enclose maps and figures as separate files if necessary. If unsure, send a question to the email address.
- Follow up with a mailed hardcopy including copies of any attachments or supporting reports.

What happens next?

The Department will write to you at the end of the 20 business day period to advise you of the outcome of your referral and whether or not formal assessment and approval under the EPBC Act is needed. There are three types of decisions about the referral.

The proposed action is NOT LIKELY to be significant and does NOT NEED approval

No further consideration is required under the environmental assessment provisions of the EPBC Act and the action can proceed (subject to any state or local government requirements).

The proposed action is NOT LIKELY to be significant IF undertaken in specified manner

The specified manner in which you must carry out the action will be identified as part of the final decision. You must report your compliance with the specified manner to the Department.

The proposed action is LIKELY to be significant and does NEED approval

The proposed action is subject to a public assessment process before it can be considered for approval. The level of assessment will be decided at the same time. (Further information about the levels of assessment and basis for deciding the approach are available on the web site.)

If the action is likely to be significant it is called a *controlled action* and the particular matters upon which the action may have a significant impact (such as World Heritage or threatened species) are known as the *controlling provisions*.

Compliance audits

The Department may audit your project at any time to ensure that it was completed in accordance with the information provided in the referral or the stated particular manner. If the project changes, such that the degree of significance could vary, you should write to the Department to advise of the changes, and likely significance, or discuss with the EPBC Act Referrals Section (1800 803 772).

For more information

- call the Department of the Environment and Water Resources Community Information Unit on 1800 803 772 or
- visit the web site www.environment.gov.au/epbc

All the information you need to make a referral, including documents referenced in this form, can be accessed from this web page.

Referral of proposed action

Project title	Humanities and Science Campus: Stage 1 and 2
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1 Contacts

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- | | | |
|-----|------------------------|--|
| 1.1 | Referring party | Person, agent or agency who is making the referral
Lindsay Evans
Managing Director Design & Estate
National Capital Authority
GPO Box 373
Canberra ACT 2601
6271 2875, Facsimile: 6273 4427
lindsay.evans@natcap.gov.au |
|-----|------------------------|--|
-
- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|---|
| 1.2 | Responsible party | Person responsible for or who will carry out the proposed action.
If same as 1.1, write 'as above'

As above |
|-----|--------------------------|---|
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- | | | |
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| 1.3 | Proponent | Person responsible for preparing assessment documentation, if approval is required. If same as 1.2, write 'as above'

As above |
|-----|------------------|--|
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2 Summary of proposed action

2.1	Short description	<p>The National Capital Authority (NCA) proposes to undertake development of the Humanities and Science Campus, within the Parliamentary Zone.</p> <p>Stage 1 comprises landscape development of the area including the National Library of Australia (NLA) Forecourt, the pedestrian area north of Questacon through to Mall Road West to create a campus square. Stage 2 comprises development of a loop road linking King Edward Terrace to Parkes Road West around the west and north of the NLA.</p>						
2.2	Latitude and longitude		Latitude (South)			Longitude (East)		
		location point	degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
			35	17	56	149	07	47
2.3	Locality	<p>The project area is within the Parliamentary Triangle of Canberra, ACT. Stage 1 is located between the NLA front steps through to Mall Road West and is the width of the existing NLA Forecourt, running parallel to Reconciliation Place from Parkes Place West to Mall Road West. The Stage 2 project area is the length and width of a new external loop road the west and north of the NLA.</p>						
2.4	Size of the development footprint or work area (hectares)	<p>Project works area for:</p> <p>Stage 1: Humanities and Science Campus Square—approximately 2.96 hectares (29,600 square metres).</p> <p>Stage 2: 11,000 square metres</p>						
2.5	Street address of the site	<p>National Library of Australia, Parkes, Canberra, ACT 2600 National Science and Technology Centre (Questacon), Parkes, Canberra, ACT 2600</p>						
2.6	Lot description	<p>Section 27, 55 and 57, Parkes, Canberra, ACT 2600</p>						
2.7	Local Government Area and Council contact (if known)	<p>Not applicable</p>						
2.8	Project life	<p>Proposed Commencement Date (Stage 1 only): February 2008 Proposed Completion Date (Stage 1 only): March 2009 Stage 2 commencement & completion dates—to be advised</p>						
2.9	Alternatives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No					
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, complete section 3.2					
2.10	State assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No					
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, complete Section 3.5					
2.11	Component of larger action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No					
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, complete Section 3.6					

3 Detailed project description

3.1 Description of proposal

Stage 1 Landscape proposal for Campus Square

The National Capital Authority (NCA) proposes to undertake the development of the Humanities and Science Campus Square. This includes the refurbishment of the NLA Forecourt with a new landscaped 'campus area' to the east, fronting Questacon, over the existing dual carriageway of Enid Lyons Street. The proposal also includes the upgrade of the vehicle access and coach parking on the east side of the Questacon building, accessed from Mall Road West, reducing the vehicular traffic past the NLA.

Proposal for the campus area (area to north of Questacon):

The campus area comprises the full width of the existing NLA Forecourt running parallel to Reconciliation Place from Parkes Place West to Mall Road West. The refurbishment of the NLA Forecourt is an integral part of the scheme as is the broader landscape and road network around the campus area. The road network is divided into two distinct landscape spaces, including a 'Proposed Forecourt' to Questacon and a 'Proposed Park' to the north of Questacon. These two areas are located both sides of the extended Reconciliation Place and involve the removal of Enid Lyons Street.

The central pedestrian access route through Reconciliation Place is defined by two rows of existing plane trees. The removal of the inner row of plane trees opens the east–west axis, allowing for a greater appreciation of this view corridor between the NLA and the National Gallery of Australia. The inner row of trees will be transplanted and re-used to create a formal grid of trees in the proposed forecourt of Questacon. A new screening of the existing car park will be provided by a tall hedge. Seating and street furniture will form an integral part of the space. The north and west face of the Questacon podium will be extended with broad steps, forming a terraced amphitheatre.

The hedge and mass groundcover plantings surrounding the southwestern corner act as a formal design feature as well as a visual and physical screen to the existing car park to the west of Questacon. Removal of several existing trees, including a row of three mature Poplars (*Populus nigra* 'Italica') near the Questacon podium and semi-mature exotic trees (planted c1990) associated with the Questacon carpark is proposed, to accommodate new paving and entrance to the building. The removal of the Poplars will also assist to address the OH&S issue caused by roots lifting the paving in that area and causing damage to the Questacon drainage.

In the 'proposed park' to the north of Reconciliation Place, a weathered steel wall is proposed to enclose the northwest corner along Parkes Place West. This wall creates a protected, semi-enclosed area within the park, with the wall mimicking the height and layout of the NLA Forecourt walls opposite. A range of ground surfaces and treatments are proposed, including mounded lawn areas, informal hedges, massed native groundcover plantings, stone flagging and gravel surfaces, creating varied passive recreation experiences within the campus area. The park provides informal areas for play and recreation with groups of existing and new eucalypts, gravel areas and planting beds within irregular retaining walls.

The proposed park will generally have a more informal theme, with the introduction of native plantings as an understorey beneath the existing and new gum trees. It relates to the NLA Forecourt walls across Parkes Place West, introducing a retaining wall of the same proportions, but constructed from materials that reflect the artworks in Reconciliation Place. The materials selection will be respectful of the language of Reconciliation Place and its artworks.

The area is divided by a 'cross axis', which is set off existing architectural geometries, providing a visual link from Questacon through to Mount Ainslie, and a pedestrian and disabled link to the resurfaced carpark to the north of the campus. Following consultation with the design and construction contractors for the recent artworks, and some of the artists involved with the new sculptures at Reconciliation Place, a group of eucalyptus trees extend to the edge of the Reconciliation Place corridor from the proposed park, breaking the lineal row of plane trees that define the east–west axis

and creating a dialogue with the new sculpture. This is an intended design feature—a juxtaposition of informal native and formal European features, which is also characteristic of the Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery of Australia by Harry Howard and Associates, and the informally landscaped area surrounding the High Court of Australia. This 'Arts and Civic Campus' is currently being redesigned to accommodate the expansion of the National Gallery of Australia and the construction of the new National Portrait Gallery. Overall, the design of the campus area uses a combination of symmetrical and orthogonal devices that are a reflection of the formality of the NLA Forecourt, such as rows of trees and axial corridors and contrasting informal organic components introduced in the proposed park area.

Proposal for the NLA Forecourt:

The original configuration of the NLA Forecourt - the rows of existing poplars, grassed areas, configuration of the retaining walls and the fountain pool - will be retained and refurbished.

The proposal intends for the NLA Forecourt to retain the formal nature, with the existing layout remaining largely unchanged. The exception to this is the introduction of a single broad ramp to the central section (replacing the existing stairs and paved platform) to allow equal access for visitors regardless of mobility. The Poplars along the north and south edges and their surrounding turfed platforms will be retained. The retaining walls (currently in poor condition) will be rebuilt, reclad, and provided with unobtrusive balustrades to comply with current Codes (BCA). The water fountain will be restored to the original design, and its depth will be reduced to comply with current Standards. The new central ramp provides opportunity for a seating bench along the fountain's eastern edge.

Proposed changes to the NLA Forecourt include the:

- removal of the central area—the stairs and the full width of the pebblecrete paving between the grassed areas to the north and south—to be replaced by a broad 1:24 grade disability compliant walkway. The existing pebblecrete paving is to be replaced by high quality paving;
- refurbishment of the fountain pool (retaining the existing coping and the two fountain jets) with a shallower depth to satisfy applicable safety standards. A new facing to the perimeter wall is proposed to match the new facing of the retaining walls;
- addition of a new balustrade around the majority of the NLA Forecourt perimeter. The balustrade returns into the Forecourt and extends along the perimeter of the grassed area to (approximately) RL 563.54 on both sides of the axis. The balustrade is proposed to be glazed panels with a powder coated aluminium handrail, echoing the form of the NLA podium railing. The balustrade is required to satisfy applicable safety standards;
- replacement of the existing retaining walls with reconstructed walls to ensure stability and improved infrastructure for drainage. The retaining walls are proposed to be a material that is complementary to the NLA podium walls;
- removal of existing lighting with new lighting poles to improve lighting and satisfy applicable lighting standards;
- modified entry/ exit to the existing NLA visitor's car park involving the introduction of a roll kerb to define the exit route into a two-way section of the loop road to Parkes Place West. This will have the benefit of reducing the number of cars driving in front of the NLA main steps and providing a safer pedestrian environment. The loop road is to be one-way in front of and to the north of the NLA steps;
- introduction of bus drop-off bays along Parkes Place West will negate the need for buses to use the existing loop road in front of the NLA, improving the vista in and out of the NLA;
- removal of existing car and coach short-term parking strips alongside the NLA Forecourt to reduce visual impact and vehicle frequency on the NLA loop road. This will have the benefit of improving pedestrian safety and vehicle circulation into the visitor's car park; and
- inclusion of new garden beds to the northern and southern side of the retaining walls. This replaces the existing short term car parking to the south, though some short term parking to the

north is retained as the plans indicate. The garden beds will be planted with an exotic ground cover commonly used in Canberra.

Parliament House Vista

The overall structure of the proposed campus square design responds to the existing framework of Canberra in its acknowledgement of the east–west axis through Reconciliation Place and current and future building alignments of the NLA and Questacon. Within this structure a combination of formal and informal elements provides areas for passive recreation, interpretation, picnicking and gatherings. The setting for the sculptures along Reconciliation Place will be improved through an opening up of the view corridor along the east–west axis and the introduction of native plant species.

The proposal will alter the character of the existing landscaping to the north of Questacon, allowing for revitalisation and improvements to the pedestrian thoroughfare and access to the NLA and Questacon. The realignment and setting back of the temporary car park and the widening of the avenue of trees along the Reconciliation Place will help to restore the visual corridor of the east–west axis from the NLA to the High Court and National Gallery of Australia precinct.

Bus Parking, Mall Road West

Enid Lyons St will be removed, better connecting Reconciliation Place with the NLA. Mall Road West will provide access onto a dedicated bus and coach drop-off, bus roundabout and roadside parking for 16 buses (**see Attachment B**). The view to buses parked along Mall Road West from the NLA will largely be screened by planting in the proposed park including new trees, existing mature trees and hedging around the ‘picnic area’. The view to buses parked along Mall Road West from the Land Axis will be largely screened by the existing trees that flank the Land Axis.

Buses will not be permitted to park in the access corridor of the east–west axis along Reconciliation Place. The buses will be minimally visible from areas outside the campus area, but they are not within the major axes or visual corridors of the broader Parliamentary Zone.

Stage 2: proposed loop road in the Humanities and Science Campus

Stage 2 works is limited to the development of an external loop road to the rear of the NLA, connecting King Edward Terrace to Parkes Place West. This is dependant on the removal of Flynn Drive (as shown in the National Capital Plan). The proposal allows improved access to Peace Park, and some off-street parking, giving improved access to the lake edge.

3.2 Alternative locations, time frames or activities that form part of the referred action

No alternative locations, time frames or activities form part of Stage 1 or Stage 2.

3.3 Previously considered alternatives and the 'do nothing' case

Stage 1

A previous scheme for the redevelopment of the NLA forecourt in the development of Campus Square was considered and a referral made under the EBPC Act in April 2006. The proposed works comprised:

- Campus square as a broad elliptical space connecting the existing levels of the NLA forecourt, Questacon, Reconciliation Place and the northern car park, featuring a ramp (with a maximum height of 3.5m), an embankment and a concrete bridge.
- Extensive plantings of eucalypt and exotic trees replacing the existing exotic avenue plantings along Enid Lyons St and the NLA forecourt and lighting and park furniture provided along the perimeter pathway
- A reconstructed Parkes Place West realigned to match the curve of the pathway, including plantings of rows of poplars.
- Relocation of the existing car park entrance to the NLA entrance.
- Replacement of Enid Lyons St with a new pathway, connecting Reconciliation Place with the NLA, surrounded by irrigated grass and passing through a wetland garden.
- Retention of existing Reconciliation Place sculptures.
- Conversion of the car park to the west of Questacon to coach parking.
- Creation of a temporary car park to the north of Questacon, with a new entry from Mall Rd West (the road on the east side of Questacon). Car park to be regraded and resurfaced and up to 14 of the existing 21 eucalypts will be removed (River Red Gum and Ribbon Gum, *E. viminalis*.— part of a double row of surround planting, dating from the mid 1960's). Eucalypts to be retained included are River Red Gum, *E. camaldulensis* and Brittle Gum, *E. mannifera*.

The above proposal was submitted as an action requiring a referral, however it was withdrawn before a decision was handed down. The revised proposal that forms part of this referral was developed as an option with an improved heritage outcome.

The potential heritage issues arising from earlier versions of the development proposal have also been addressed as part of ongoing consultation between the NCA, landscape designers, architects and heritage consultants. Alternatives have been explored by the consultant designers following reviews and heritage assessments in the design development of campus square. The review period occurred between November 2006 and March 2007 with the NCA, Godden Mackay Logan, the Department of the Environment and Water Resources and stakeholder (NLA and Questacon) consultation (**see Attachment E**).

The consequences of a 'do nothing' approach will lead to degradation of the area and the increase of public safety issues.

Stage 2

The traffic report (SMEC, Humanities & Science Campus: Traffic Analysis of Masterplan Options— Final Report, May 2007) examines the alternatives to the loop road proposal and finds that the consequences of the 'do nothing' approach are not considered an option given the traffic flow and safety issues identified in the traffic report and the request from Questacon for improved bus parking.

3.4 Context, planning framework and state/local government requirements

The following (Commonwealth) legislation applies to the proposal:

- the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management Act) Act 1988*;
- the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;

- the *Parliament Act 1974*;
- Building Code of Australia; and
- the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

The relevance of these Acts to the proposed development is outlined below.

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988

The *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988* (ACTPLM Act) was enacted to ensure that Canberra and the ACT are planned and developed in accordance with their national importance. The ACTPLM Act established the NCA as a Commonwealth Government agency, which commenced operation in 1989. The ACTPLM Act provides for the NCA to prepare and administer a National Capital Plan and requires that development on Commonwealth land in the ACT will be subject to advice on consistency with the National Capital Plan. As the proposed works are located in a Designated Area, they are subject to approval from the National Capital Authority (NCA) under section 12 of the Act, where it states that:

No works shall be performed in a Designated Area unless:

- a) the proposal to perform the works has been submitted to the Authority together with such plans and specifications as are required by the Authority;*
- b) the Authority has approved the works in writing; and*
- c) the works are in accordance with the Plan.*

Planning and development of land within the Parliamentary Zone is managed by the NCA, which was created under the Act. The NCA is responsible for preparing and administering the National Capital Plan (NCP). NCP Appendix T.6 Master Plan for the Parliamentary Zone has as its first statement of policy:

Formation of Campuses

Identifiable precincts or campuses should be created ... While the existing buildings will determine the character of the functions and uses of each campus, a court, plaza or garden should provide the focus to their layout. Each building in the campus... should have a pedestrian entry fronting the court... The existing buildings will also influence the architectural and landscape character for each of the campuses. Urban design guidelines addressing aspects such as form, materials, scale and footprint should ensure that successive development contributes to the integrity of the campus... Five campuses are to be formed in the Zone, (including the) 'Humanities and Science' campus built around the NLA and the National Science and Technology Centre (Questacon).

The NCA commissioned Spackman & Mossop Pty Ltd, landscape architects with LahzNimmo Pty Ltd architects to prepare a Development Plan for the Humanities and Science Campus, including a concept design for the Campus Square. Godden Mackay Logan, Heritage Consultants prepared a Heritage Impact Statement (June 2007) addressing the potential impacts of the proposed works to the Commonwealth Heritage values relevant to the Campus Square proposal.

The site is within the Parliament House Vista which is listed on both the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL) and the Register of the National Estate (RNE) (**see Attachment F**). A management plan for the Parliament House Vista is being developed.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

The proposed works are subject to the provisions of the EPBC Act, in particular the provisions relating to places on the Commonwealth Heritage List. A Commonwealth agency must not take an action that has, will have or is likely to have an adverse impact on the Commonwealth Heritage values of a place. The Commonwealth Heritage values of the proposal area, the environmental impacts and their mitigation are discussed in **Section 4.1 and 5.1** respectively.

Parliament Act 1974 (Cwlth)

Under the *Parliament Act 1974 (Cwlth)*, proposed works in the Parliamentary Zone require the approval of both Houses of Federal Parliament. The Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories may inquire into development proposals within the Parliamentary Zone and make recommendations for their approval. Specified works require written approval from Parliament. Generally, works of minor impact, including maintenance works and repairs, are only required to be reported.

Building Code of Australia

The NCA follows the regulations of the Building Code of Australia (BCA). The BCA is the regulatory resource for building construction and provides a nationally accepted and uniform approach to technical requirements for the building industry. It specifies matters relating to building work to achieve health and safety objectives.

Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cwlth)

The NCA must comply with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cwlth). This Act aims to eliminate discrimination against persons on the grounds of disability in the areas of work, access to premises and the provision of goods, facilities and services.

The proposal area falls within the area covered by the Draft Parliament House Vista Management Plan. The policies relevant to the proposal are discussed in **Section 7.1**.

3.5 Environmental impact assessments under Commonwealth, state or territory legislation

Public Consultation

The NCA has undertaken substantial primary stakeholder consultation for the development of the Humanities and Science Campus Square. The stakeholders include Questacon, the NLA, the Department of the Environment and Water Resources and the general public (a list of consultants is included in Appendix A of the Godden Mackay Logan HIS, included in **Attachment E**). The proposal has the support of the primary stakeholders—the NLA, Questacon and the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST)—with their issues and concerns being addressed throughout the consultation process.

Public Survey—Environmetrics, December 2006

In December 2006, the 'underlying principles and directions for the new design' that forms part of the Humanities and Science Campus, the landscape design for the public open space between the National Library and Questacon, were put on public exhibition at Questacon and the National Library.

The community was invited to offer feedback via self-completion surveys at the displays and via an online survey. The Public Consultation for Humanities & Science Campus Redevelopment—Phase 1 report, was prepared in December 2006 by Environmetrics on behalf of National Capital Authority, Spackman + Mossop Landscape Architects and LahzNimmo Architects and summarises the findings from the onsite and online surveys (provided in **Attachment E**).

The surveys recorded three broad types of respondents within the variety of visitors and workers at the National Library and Questacon—workers at the National Library/Questacon/nearby, families with children and older library users.

The report also noted the following main points as identified in the surveys:

- Contrasting views regarding the role of the area (types of activities/casual vs formal use)
- Most respondents were very familiar with the area and had visited multiple times.
- Most visitors arrived by car and parked in the vicinity.
- A high proportion of visitors (especially Questacon visitors) planned to visit the outdoors areas or nearby venues.
- The main outdoor activities included walking, enjoying views/vistas, sitting, picnic/drink/snack, look at artworks, refreshment break (picnic/drink/snack).
- The main features that were widely considered to be important were:
 - poplars/deciduous trees
 - parking for cars and coaches
 - National Library fountain
 - Open space, grassy areas, views/vistas
- Responses to specific suggestions for features and facilities showed unambiguous support for seating, sculptures/artwork, drinking fountains, rubbish bins and bike racks.
- Strong support but some opposition to Australian trees and plants; Picnic + BBQ facilities; Facilities for outdoor activities and events.
- Wide variety of comments regarding 'Objectives and Opportunities' associated with parking, landscaping and proposed renewal of precinct. 'Quite a number of people thought that the area was quite functional and did not need a major re-conceptualisation, just an upgrade.'

3.6 A staged development or component of a larger project

The NCA proposes to undertake development of the Humanities and Science Campus, within the Parliamentary Triangle, Parkes, ACT.

Stage 1 comprises the development of the NLA Forecourt to create the Humanities and Science Campus Square.

Stage 2 comprises the development of the external loop road to the NLA the Humanities and Science Campus.

4 Affected environment

4.1 Matters of national environmental significance

4.1 (a) World Heritage Properties

Not Applicable

4.1 (b) National Heritage Places

Not Applicable

4.1 (c) Wetlands of International Significance (Ramsar)

Not Applicable

4.1 (d) Listed threatened species and ecological communities

Not Applicable

4.1 (e) Listed migratory species

Not Applicable

4.1 (f) Nuclear actions

Not Applicable

4.1 (g) Commonwealth marine areas

Not Applicable

4.2 Important or unique aspects of the environment, if relevant

4.2 (a) Soil and vegetation characteristics

The 1:10,000 Central Canberra Geology Map documents the site as underlain by Silurian age Canberra Formation sedimentary bedrock which includes siltstone, sandstone and shale.

As a result of various earthworks associated with development in the Parliamentary Zone, including both excavation and filling, all natural soils on the site have been buried. Geotechnical drillings undertaken on 3 February 2006 identified fill of various types to 0.5m/1.3m depth, underlain with siltstone bedrock at 1.2m/2.5m depth.

4.2 (b) Water flows, including rivers, creeks and impoundments

Based on topography and elevation, the potential for flooding is considered to be low. The site is approximately 270m from Lake Burley Griffin. All surface runoff from within the precinct is collected in grated pits and piped to the Lake. Geotechnical drillings did not encounter any groundwater.

4.2 (c) Outstanding natural features, including caves

Not Applicable

4.2 (d) Gradient

The landform of the proposed development is a gentle downward slope in a northerly direction, between the 564 and 561m contours. The precinct has been levelled in the past to accommodate roads and structures in accordance with Walter Burley Griffin's design for the development of the Parliamentary Zone, including steps, retaining walls and terraces.

4.2 (e) Buildings or other infrastructure

Buildings

There are two buildings in the project area: the National Library of Australia and surrounds, which is listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL) and the Register of the National Estate (RNE); and the National Science and Technology Building (Questacon), designed by Lawrence Neild + Partners and opened in 1988.

The CHL and RNE citations for the NLA are provided in **Attachment F**.

Sculpture

Five artworks are located in Reconciliation Place, in the east of the Campus Square. The artworks are part of a series of seven commissioned by the National Capital Authority to the west of the Land Axis. Additional sculptures are also located in the area including the 'Two Piece Reclining Figure No 9' by Henry Moore (1969) on the grassed terrace north of the NLA, and a series of 'Olympic Sculptures' designed by Ken Cato in 1989 on the King Edward Terrace frontage of Questacon. All sculptures will be retained.

New artworks will be constructed within Reconciliation Place.

Fountain

The NLA Forecourt fountain, a pond and 2 vertical jets, marks the approach to the NLA. The proposal intends that the water fountain will be restored to the original design, and its depth will be reduced to comply with current Standards. The new central ramp provides opportunity for a seating bench along the fountain's eastern edge.

Views and Vistas

The project area is located within the Parliament House Vista, which is listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL) and the Register of the National Estate (RNE). The CHL and RNE citations for the NLA are provided in Attachment G.

4.2 (f) Marine areas

Not Applicable

4.2 (g) Kinds of fauna

Not Applicable

4.2 (h) Current state of the environment

Vegetation in the project area comprises a variety of introduced tree species that were planted since 1958. The trees were planted as part of planning and landscaping of the area and as such, the site does not contain any naturally occurring vegetation. The central avenues of exotic trees (Plane trees) along Enid Lyons St will be transplanted to the proposed Questacon Forecourt. 3x Poplars and a group of exotics near Questacon planted c1990 will be removed. Retention of existing native species, replanting of exotics and native species forms part of the proposal.

4.2 (i) Commonwealth Heritage Places and places on the Register of the National Estate

The proposed action is by the NCA and is on Commonwealth land. Places entered in the CHL and RNE include:

- National Library of Australia and surrounds, Parkes (Listed Place)
- Parliament House Vista, Anzac Parade, Parkes, ACT, Australia (Listed Place)

In addition to the above listings (citations provided in **Attachment F**), the NLA Forecourt Heritage Assessment prepared by Godden Mackay Logan, August 2006 (**Attachment E**) noted that the NLA Forecourt also has Commonwealth Heritage values and contributes to those of the NLA and the Parliament House Vista.

4.2 (j) Known Indigenous heritage values

Not Applicable

4.2 (k) Other important or unique values of the environment

Not Applicable

4.2 (l) Tenure of the action area (eg freehold, leasehold)

The project area, known as the Humanities and Science Campus (including Campus Square) is owned by the Commonwealth and managed by the NCA.

The NLA is owned by the Commonwealth and managed by the NLA.

4.2 (m) Existing land uses

Land Uses consistent with the National Capital Plan (see **Attachment D**).

4.2 (n) Proposed land uses

Land Uses consistent with the National Capital Plan (see **Attachment D**).

5 Nature and extent of likely impacts

5.1 Likely impacts on matters of national environmental significance (NES)

5.1 (a) Likely impact on the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property

No

5.1 (b) Likely impact on the heritage values of a listed National Heritage place

No

5.1 (c) Likely impact on the ecological character of a declared Ramsar wetland

No

5.1 (d) Likely impact on the members of a listed threatened species or ecological community, or their habitat

No

5.1 (e) Likely impact on the members of a listed migratory species or their habitat

No

5.1 (f) Likely impact on the environment in part of the Commonwealth marine area

No

5.2 Likely impacts for nuclear actions, actions affecting Commonwealth land or actions taken by the Commonwealth

Godden Mackay Logan assessed the potential for heritage impacts on the Commonwealth Heritage values (NLA and the Parliament House Vista) of the Humanities and Science Campus Landscape Proposal.

The Godden Mackay Logan report, on the Humanities and Science Campus Landscape Proposal—Heritage Impact Statement (HIS), Final Report prepared in June 2007, and Appendix B of the HIS (provided in **Attachment E**) provides a summary assessment of the impacts on the Parliament House Vista official values.

Stage 1—Impacts to components of the NLA and Parliament House Vista

Existing trees in the Campus Square area

A number of Plane trees are being transplanted as part of the proposal. There are also three Poplars (very closely spaced and too close to Questacon) and approximately nine Gleditsia's (Gleditsia triacanthos) which were planted in 1989-90 are proposed to be removed. The proposed removal of the Poplars and the removal of the other exotic trees is due to the reconfiguration of the northern edge of the existing Questacon carpark and creation of the forecourt space adjacent to Questacon. The removal of the Poplars has also been identified as necessary for safety reasons because the root system is currently disrupting the surrounding paving and causing drainage problems for Questacon. The retention of these trees is not considered viable.

The trees being removed have not been identified specifically as an important group or as individually significant in the Draft Parliament House Vista Management Plan and are not in key locations related to the heritage values of the Parliament House Vista. Two Plane trees on Parkes Place West are to be removed to allow a new vehicle access to the carpark. While they contribute to the general presence of street trees in the area, their removal will not have a broader impact on the avenue of trees or the Parliament House Vista.

In current horticultural terms, the exotic trees to be removed are not considered appropriate species for the area. They were planted in 1989–90 as part of the Questacon development designed by Foresite Pty Ltd. The original designers do not have any concerns or moral rights issues over the replacement of the landscape near Questacon.

The replanting and replacement of trees does not adversely impact the heritage values of the Parliament House Vista. The gap in the tree canopy created by the removal of poplars and exotic trees will be offset by the introduction of a designed landscape which will make a positive and complementary contribution to the heritage values of the broader Parliament House Vista.

Modifications to the existing road network and axes

The proposal involves modifications to the road network in the study area, including the removal of Enid Lyons Street, a reduction in parking options in front of the NLA and around the NLA Forecourt and changes to Mall Road West for bus parking.

The alteration of parking arrangements in front of the NLA and the removal of Enid Lyons Street will have the designed effect of reducing traffic around the entrance of the two public buildings, and increasing the emphasis on providing enhanced public and pedestrian-friendly entrances to Questacon and the NLA.

The new bus parking locations and a turning loop are proposed in order to meet Questacon's requirements. The road is to be widened by two metres to accommodate the bus parking lanes, and be extended towards Lake Burley Griffin to create the bus loop.

The view from the NLA podium along Reconciliation Place will be improved through the removal of bus parking along Enid Lyons St. The parked buses along Mall Road West will be largely

screened by Questacon and trees in the proposed park. Views of the buses from the Parliament House Vista/Land Axis will largely be screened by the existing trees planted along the Land Axis. Additional trees will be planted along both sides of the Mall Rd West bus loop.

Alternatives to using this area have been explored by the design consultants in consultation with the NCA and Questacon. Mall Road West is considered to be the safest temporary option for bus parking and to minimise visual impact. Until further expansion of Questacon occurs, the only alternative to this proposal would be a purpose-built facility located outside the Parliament House Vista area. However, this is dependant on future funding to Questacon and the results of the Parliamentary Zone traffic study.

The Draft Parliament House Vista Management Plan does not specifically provide policy guidance on the location for bus parking but recommends that 'existing car and bus parking may be maintained or removed if possible. Parking will generally be screened from view, especially in the case of major vistas, and otherwise located outside of major vistas'. It also states that 'there is no net encroachment into parkland areas in the case of new surface parking areas to replace existing areas, and new surface carparks will be screened.'

This assessment concludes that the impact of bus parking on Mall Road West will be minor, will reduce the existing impact, and will not affect the major views of the Parliament House Vista.

Stage 1—Impacts on Identified Heritage Values of the NLA Forecourt

The Horizontal Platform of the NLA Forecourt (a flat area with no other intrusions, such as bollards, fences and flower beds)

The proposed change to the form of the NLA Forecourt, particularly the horizontal platform, will have an impact on it's designed character and, hence, it's heritage values. In the central area of the NLA Forecourt's horizontal platform, the broad stairs will be removed and replaced with a single ramped walkway. This will be in keeping with the simplicity of the original forecourt design. The heritage values of the NLA Forecourt, in its broader setting of the Parliament House Vista, will be retained and largely restored.

Of the options that provide equitable access, the ramped walkway proposed is considered by the design consultants and the NCA as having the least impact on the heritage values of the NLA Forecourt. The NCA, in line with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cmwltth), require equitable access to the NLA and the proposed campus area, and therefore, the consultant designers explored alternatives of other combinations of stairs and ramps throughout the design development periods of November 2006–March 2007. However, the NCA did not consider the retention of stairs and the other design options as being viable or sympathetic to the aims of the Disability Discrimination Act. In addition, other options would have required the introduction additional paving which was considered to be of adverse impact and therefore not pursued. The single ramped walkway is designed in such a way that handrails will not be required, which therefore retains the simplicity afforded by the original 1960's design which does not meet current codes.

The proposed glazed balustrades with metal handrails to the forecourt walls, are a new component being added to the perimeter of the NLA Forecourt, and while they impact on the simplicity of the original design, they will nevertheless reinforce the horizontality of the NLA Forecourt platform. Given the NCA's obligations for meeting building and safety requirements, the proposed balustrades are deemed to be necessary, as a significant portion of the forecourt is greater than 1000mm above the lower ground level. As they are simple elements, they are not likely to impact greatly on the visual experience of the east–west corridor, and are in keeping with the architectural language of the NLA Podium. The proposed balustrades comprise similar design and materials to the balustrade of the NLA and the heritage impact will be minimal.

The Rectangular and Symmetrical Plan of the NLA Forecourt

The landscape proposal retains the rectangular and symmetrical plan of the NLA Forecourt. The integral connection to the NLA is therefore not impacted by the proposal. The rectangular plan has been reflected in the boundary of the proposed campus area.

The Fountain Pool and the Verticality of the Fountain Jets and Poplars of the NLA Forecourt

The vertical elements of the NLA Forecourt have been retained and restored in the proposal, including the poplars and fountain jets. The coping stone is being retained and the double fountain jets will be restored.

The fountain pool is being restored and refurbished as part of this proposal to reduce water loss in this age of water restrictions, to improve operational and maintenance efficiencies. The depth has been reduced to satisfy applicable safety requirements, and the external walls on the eastern side will be exposed due to the slope of the proposed ramp. The exposed walls of the fountain pool will have a relatively minor impact on the heritage values. The new facing to the external walls and the removal of the pebblecrete facing on the interior of the fountain pool will help minimise the impact by blending with the proposed materials of NLA Forecourt refurbishment. The existing coping of the fountain pool will be salvaged and re-laid. The proposed new materials are considered appropriate given that they are intended to be similar to the paving and retaining walls of the NLA podium. They would be of a much higher quality than the existing pebblecrete and more appropriate to a building of national significance.

The East–West Axis and View Corridor to and from the NLA, through the NLA Forecourt to the High Court and National Gallery Footbridge

The east–west axis to and from the NLA across Reconciliation Place will be enhanced in this landscape proposal. The removal of the internal rows of existing plane trees along Enid Lyons Street will allow for a greater appreciation of the vista and therefore the NLA and the attributes of the Parliament House Vista. These attributes relate mainly to the inclusion of recreational spaces, open green spaces combined with patterns and symmetrical characteristics of the road networks and avenues of trees along the terraces, roads and pathways with a mix of exotic and native tree species (refer to Section 2.3.1).

The bus drop-off bays in front (eastern side) of the Forecourt reduce the existing visual impact of coaches on the east–west view corridor to and from the NLA, and given the temporary nature of the bus route and the fact that the drop-off bays are offset from the central corridor, any residual effect would be minimal and ephemeral. Given current bus movements are uncontrolled and buses often park immediately in front of the NLA steps on the loop road for long periods of time, the overall result is an improvement on the current situation in terms of visual impact and pedestrian safety.

The informal, diagonally positioned group of trees in the northern park area has been intentionally created to introduce juxtaposition with the more informal growth of the eucalyptus and the formal landscaped setting. The canopy of the Eucalyptus trees will be taller and less dense than the plane trees, allowing a view through the east–west axis to be gained. Therefore, these trees would cause no additional impact on the view corridor and rather, there would be a net improvement to the visual axis.

Stage 2—Impacts to components of the NLA and Parliament House Vista

In Stage 2 of the proposal, dependant on the future removal of Flynn Place, a loop road behind the NLA linking Parkes Place West and King Edward Terrace is to be constructed. This road will provide parking and improved access to Peace Park. An additional bus path to reduce bus traffic along Parkes Place West and overflow on-street parking will also be provided, assisting increased visitor numbers to the area in the future. The road will be planted with a double row street trees, screening views of the road from the NLA terrace, because existing ground levels will be set well below the NLA—at the level of Lake Burley Griffin. This planting will extend the planting already evident in plan, planted in anticipation of a similar road route in the 1960's

These changes have been endorsed by expert traffic planners and would not have major impact on heritage values.

6 Measures to avoid or reduce impacts

Measures to mitigate the potential impacts include:

- the design process has been conducted in conjunction with heritage values assessment and heritage impact assessment and has responded to these findings to produce a good heritage outcome;
- limiting the extent of the fabric to be removed to only that part necessary for creating the proposed work;
- ceasing work if any archaeological remains are encountered and seeking archaeological advice before proceeding;
- photographic recording and archival records of existing features and views from significant vantage points; and
- entering the changes in the NCA's heritage register.

7 Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

Do you THINK your proposed action is likely to have significant impacts?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No, complete section 7.1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes, complete Section 7.2 |

7.1 Proposed action is NOT LIKELY to have significant impacts

Key reasons

The proposal provides for the revitalisation and potential for greater public appreciation of the area and is not likely to have a significant impact on the Commonwealth Heritage values of the NLA or the Parliament House vista conservation area.

The character of the NLA Forecourt will be partly altered through modifications to its original form but these changes would not alter its symmetry and rectangular plan. While this is a relatively minor heritage impact, the proposed replacement of the existing pebblecrete finishes will help to rejuvenate the NLA Forecourt and enhance its character.

There are many positive attributes of the proposal that complement the broader context of the Parliamentary Zone and Parliament House Vista. The comprehensive landscape design proposal is appropriate within this area, which is generally rundown and potentially unsafe, and in need of rejuvenation. The proposal will allow the NLA Forecourt to be sympathetically upgraded while providing for an improved address and entry to Questacon and a unifying connection with Reconciliation Place. This in turn will have the effect of unifying the entire campus area and creating a characteristic destination for the enjoyment of all users.

Together with the retention of the NLA Forecourt, the proposal is complementary to the heritage values of the Parliament House Vista. The proposal meets the relevant conservation provisions for the landscape (Policy 17) of the Draft Parliament House Vista Management Plan including conserving:

- a landscape design scale appropriate for built elements;
- the complex of gardens, united by landscape design, intimately bound into the architectural structure of the various precincts, and set within the context of the National Triangle Parklands; and

- the balance of formal and informal landscape treatments using Indigenous natural values and cultural values.

The proposal meets the requirements of the Draft Parliament House Vista Management Plan conservation provisions for the NLA (Policy 18), including that:

- there will be sympathetic conservation management of the setting of the NLA, including the formal and symmetrical Forecourt plantings, fountain and road layout, and the open lawn areas to the north.

This assessment concludes that the Humanities and Science Campus Landscape proposal would not result in an adverse impact on the Commonwealth Heritage values of the Parliament House Vista or the NLA.

7.2 Proposed action is **LIKELY** to have significant impacts

Matters likely to be impacted

<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 12 and 15A (World Heritage)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 15B and 15C (National Heritage places)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 16 and 17B (Wetlands of international importance)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 18 and 18A (Listed threatened species and communities)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 20 and 20A (Listed migratory species)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 21 and 22A (Protection of the environment from nuclear actions)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 23 and 24A (Marine environment)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 26 and 27A (Protection of the environment from actions involving Commonwealth land)
<input type="checkbox"/>	section 28 (Protection of the environment from Commonwealth actions)

Key reasons

Not applicable

8 Assessment approach under the EPBC Act

Level of assessment

<input type="checkbox"/>	Bilateral Agreement applies
<input type="checkbox"/>	Accredited assessment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Assessment on referral information
<input type="checkbox"/>	Preliminary information
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Environment Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Impact Statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commission of Inquiry
<input type="checkbox"/>	No comment/Not sure

Key reasons

The proposed action will not have significant impact on the Commonwealth Heritage values of the National Library of Australia (and its Forecourt) or the Parliament House Vista.

9 Environmental history of the responsible party

		Yes	No
9.1	<p>Does the party taking the action have a satisfactory record of responsible environmental management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, provide details 	X	
<p>In accordance with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, the National Capital Authority (NCA) prepared a Heritage Strategy to protect and manage the heritage places owned and or managed by the NCA. This Strategy was supported by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage in March 2006.</p> <p>The NCA is currently implementing the strategy, in particular the preparation of Heritage Assessments and Heritage Management Plans for places such as Lake Burley Griffin, the Parliament House Vista, York Park Oak Plantation, Central Parklands and Old Parliament House Gardens Precinct.</p> <p>The NCA regularly liaises with the Department of Environment and Water Resources and consults widely with the public and stakeholders on many issues including environmental protection and management.</p>			
9.2	<p>Is the party taking the action subject to any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, provide details 		X
9.3	<p>For an action for which a person has applied for a permit under the EPBC Act, is the person making the application subject to any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, provide details 		X
9.4	<p>If the party taking the action is a corporation, will the action be taken in accordance with the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, provide details of environmental policy and planning framework 		X

10 Information sources and attachments

10.1 References

Documents available for public review – see Attachment E

1. Letter of Support from Director of National Library of Australia, Ms Jan Fullerton - 18 June 2007
2. Letter of Support from Secretary of the Department of Science, Education and Training, Ms Lisa Paul - 22 June 2007
3. Godden Mackay Logan, *Humanities and Science Campus Landscape Proposal—Heritage Impact Statement*, June 2007
4. Godden Mackay Logan, *National Library of Australia Forecourt - Heritage Assessment*, August 2006
5. SMEC, *Humanities & Science Campus: Traffic Analysis of Masterplan Options—Final Report*, June 2007
6. Environmetrics, *Report on Public Consultation for Humanities & Science Campus Redevelopment—Phase 1, December 2006*
7. Schedule of participants in Consultation process - June 2007
8. Waterfeatures Australia, *Condition/Upgrade Report for structure, hydraulics and electrical systems associated with the National Library Foureccourt Water Feature, Parkes, ACT*, February 2007

10.2 Reliability of information

There are no uncertainties in the information provided. This referral was prepared by the NCA and the supporting documentation included by the NCA prior to issue.

10.3 Attachments

You must attach	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the project locality (section 2)	X
	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the location of the project in respect to any matters of national environmental significance or important features of the environments (section 4)	X
If relevant, attach	copies of any state or local government approvals and consent conditions (section 3.4)	
	copies of any completed assessments to meet state or local government approvals and outcomes of public consultations, if available (section 3.5)	X
	copies of any flora and fauna investigations and surveys (section 4)	
	technical reports relevant to the assessment of impacts on protected matters and that support the arguments and conclusions in the referral (section 4 and 5)	X
	report(s) on any public consultations undertaken, including with Indigenous Stakeholders (section 4)	X

Attachment A— National Capital Authority, Aerial Photograph of project site, 2006

Attachment B— Spackman & Mossop and Lahz Nimmo – Humanities and Science Campus: Stage 1 &2 Campus Masterplan

Attachment C— Spackman & Mossop and Lahz Nimmo – Humanities and Science Campus: Stage One Campus Square Masterplan

Attachment D—National Capital Authority, National Capital Plan, Figure 5.

Attachment E—Documents available for public review (see Section 10.1 for list)

Attachment F—CHL and RNE Database Reports: National Library of Australia and surrounds and Parliament House Vista, Anzac Parade, Parkes, ACT, Australia (Listed Place)

Attachment G - EPBC Referral – Impact table

11 Signatures and declarations

Project title Humanities and Science Campus: Stage 1 and 2

11.1 **Party who prepared the referral** I declare that the information contained in this form is, to my knowledge, true and not misleading. I request that the person named in 11.2 below (if any) be designated as the proponent for the action.

Signature _____

Date _____

Full name Harriet Spring

11.2 **Party who is responsible for action** I declare that the information contained in this form is, to my knowledge, true and not misleading.

Signature _____

Date _____

Full name Lindsay Evans

11.3 **Proponent (complete only if different from 11.2)** I, being the person nominated in Section 1.3 of this referral form as the nominated proponent (or agent acting on behalf of), agree to be designated as the proponent for the action described above if it is decided that the action requires approval under Part 9 of the EPBC Act.

Signature _____

Date _____

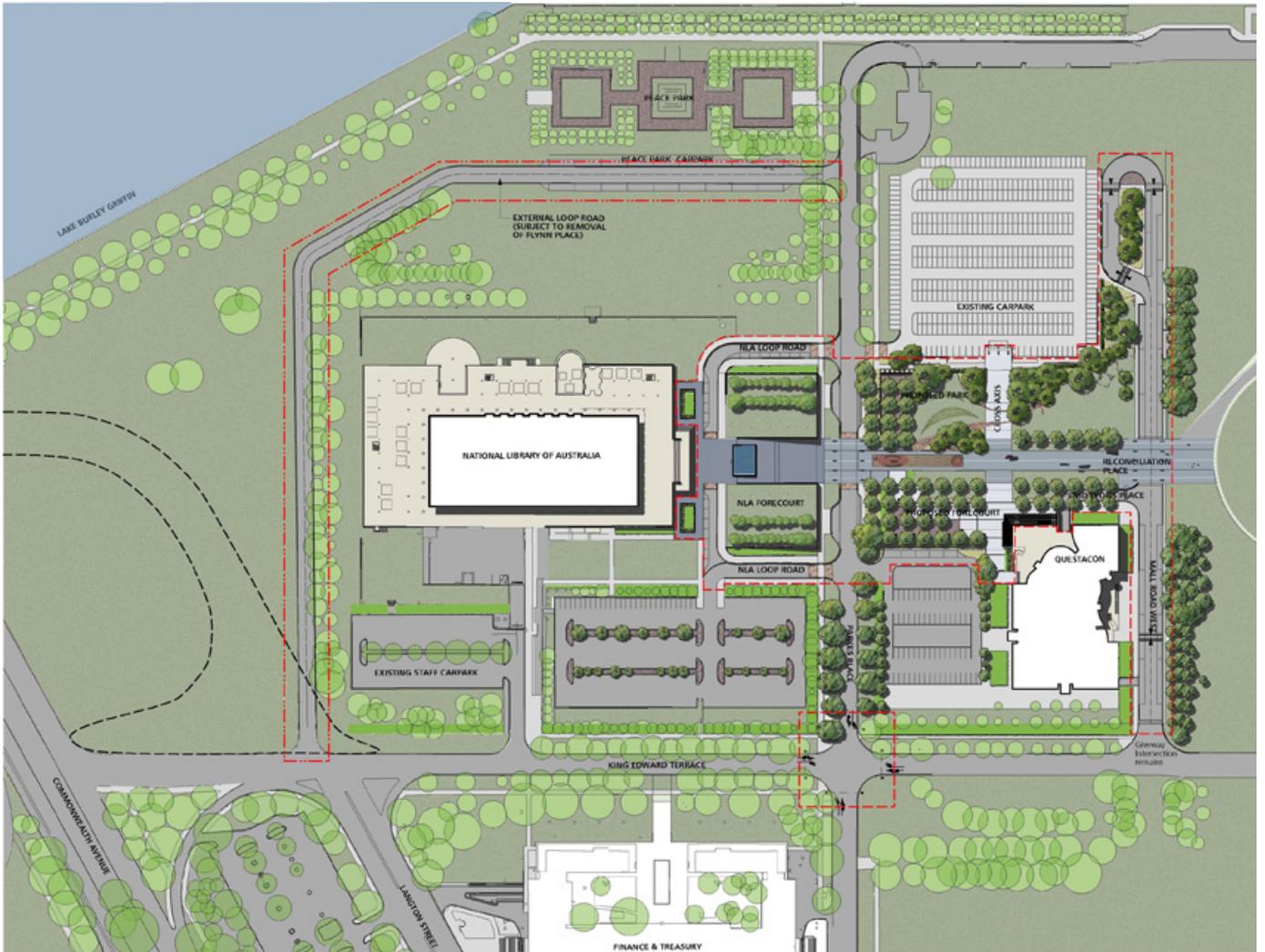
Full Name _____

If the referring party is a small business (fewer than 20 employees), estimate the time, in hours and minutes, to complete this form (include your time reading the instructions, working on the questions and obtaining the information and time spent by all employees in collecting and providing this information).

Hours	Minutes
-------	---------

Attachment A

Spackman & Mossop and Lahz Nimmo – Humanities and Science Campus: Stage 1 & 2 Campus Masterplan



Attachment B

National Capital Authority, Aerial Photograph of project site, 2006



Attachment C

Spackman & Mossop and Lahz Nimmo – Humanities and Science Campus: Stage One Campus Square Masterplan



Attachment D

National Capital Authority, National Capital Plan, Figure 5.

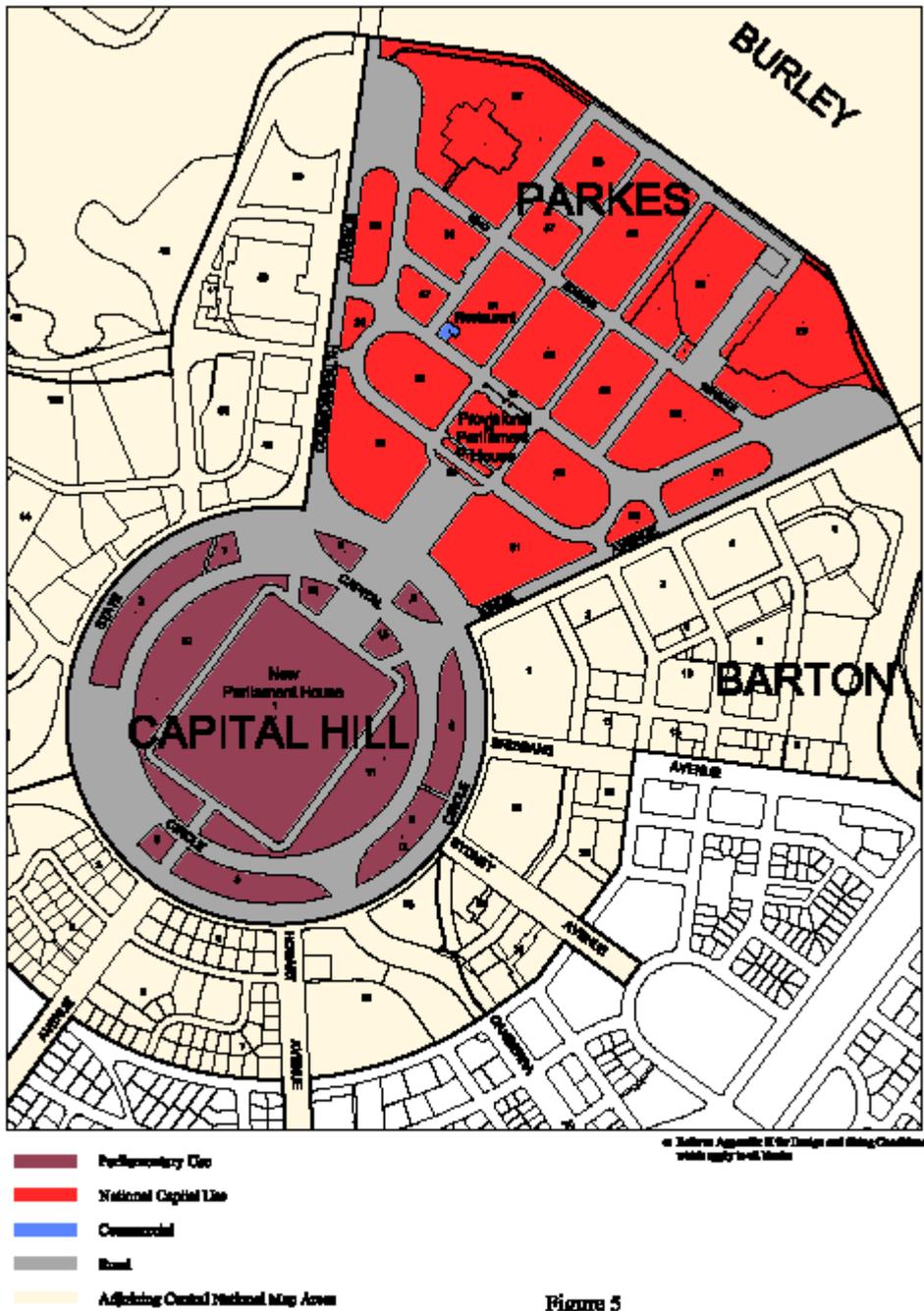


Figure 5
The Central National Area
(The Parliamentary Zone)

Attachment E

Documents available for public review:

1. Letter of Support from Director of National Library of Australia, Ms Jan Fullerton - 18 June 2007
2. Letter of Support from Secretary of the Department of Science, Education and Training, Ms Lisa Paul - 22 June 2007
3. Godden Mackay Logan, *Humanities and Science Campus Landscape Proposal—Heritage Impact Statement*, June 2007
4. Godden Mackay Logan, *National Library of Australia Forecourt - Heritage Assessment*, August 2006
5. SMEC, Humanities & Science Campus: Traffic Analysis of Masterplan Options—Final Report, June 2007
6. Environmetrics, Report on *Public Consultation for Humanities & Science Campus Redevelopment—Phase 1, December 2006*
7. Schedule of participants in Consultation process - June 2007
8. Waterfeatures Australia, *Condition/Upgrade Report for structure, hydraulics and electrical systems associated with the National Library Forecourt Water Feature, Parkes, ACT*, February 2007

Attachment F

CHL and RNE Database Reports: National Library of Australia and surrounds and Parliament House Vista, Anzac Parade, Parkes, ACT, Australia (Listed Place)

Australian Heritage Database

Place Details

[edit search](#) | [new search](#) | [about the Australian Heritage Database](#) | [Heritage home](#) | [Australian Heritage Council home](#)

[Send Feedback](#)

National Library of Australia and Surrounds, Parkes PI, Parkes, ACT, Australia

Photographs:



List: Commonwealth Heritage List

Class: Historic

Legal Status: [Listed place](#) (22/06/2004)

Place ID: 105470

Place File No: 8/01/000/0073

Summary Statement of Significance:

The National Library is part of the significant cultural landscape of the Parliamentary Triangle. It occupies a prominent and strategic location on the western side of the Triangle, making it one of Canberra's landmark features. Its harmonious proportions are accentuated by its reflection in the surface of the lake. Along with several later buildings that front the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin, the National Library contributes to the planned aesthetic qualities of the Parliamentary Triangle (Criteria F.1 and E.1, Australian Historic Theme 8.10.4: Designing and Building Fine Buildings).

The library has a richness of cultural features and is important for housing Australia's valuable book collections, manuscripts, printed materials, films, tape recordings, paintings and other treasures. Fine craftsmanship is evident in the internal and exterior details. Built into the building are major artworks by Tom Bass and Leonard French (Criteria A3 and F1, Australian Historic Theme 8.10.3: Creating literature).

The National Library, constructed during the period 1961-1968, the first of the permanent purpose built buildings in the Parliamentary Triangle, fulfils a Federation goal that commenced in 1901, to house a major national institution (Criterion A4, Australian Historic Theme 4.3: Developing Institutions, 7.4: Federating Australia)

The National Library of Australia is a good example of the Late Twentieth Century Stripped Classical style and one of the few relatively intact Canberra examples. Key features of this style displayed by the building include the symmetrical facade treatment, horizontal skyline, regular bays of vertical proportion, colonnade, use of columns without bases or capitals and the use of a broad horizontal member at the roof line echoing classical entablature (Criterion D.2).

The National Library is highly valued by the community for its cultural use as a library, for its national collections and for its exhibitions (Criterion G1).

The building is regarded as one of the finest works of the Australian architect Walter

Bunning (Criterion H1)

Official Values:**Criteria**

A Processes

Values

The library has a richness of cultural features and is important for housing Australia's valuable book collections, manuscripts, printed materials, films, tape recordings, paintings and other treasures.

The National Library, constructed during the period 1961-1968, the first of the permanent purpose built buildings in the Parliamentary Triangle, fulfils a Federation goal that commenced in 1901, to house a major national institution.

Attributes

The whole building for being the repository of many of Australia's valuable books, its rich collection of cultural features, plus its setting and location within the Parliamentary Triangle.

D Characteristic values

The National Library of Australia is a good example of the Late Twentieth Century Stripped Classical style and one of the few relatively intact Canberra examples. Key features of this style displayed by the building include the symmetrical facade treatment, horizontal skyline, regular bays of vertical proportion, colonnade, use of columns without bases or capitals and the use of a broad horizontal member at the roof line echoing classical entablature.

Attributes

Its Late Twentieth Century Stripped Classical style evidenced in the features outlined above.

E Aesthetic characteristics

The National Library is part of the significant cultural landscape of the Parliamentary Triangle. It occupies a prominent and strategic location on the western side of the Triangle, making it one of Canberra's landmark features. Its harmonious proportions are accentuated by its reflection in the surface of the lake. Along with several later buildings that front the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin, the National Library contributes to the planned aesthetic qualities of the Parliamentary Triangle.

Attributes

Its prominence, location and proportions in the context of the other southern foreshore buildings and in its planned setting within the Parliamentary Triangle adjacent the lake, and as a Canberra landmark.

F Technical achievement

The National Library is part of the significant cultural landscape of the Parliamentary Triangle. It occupies a prominent and strategic location on the western side of the Triangle, making it one of Canberra's landmark features. Its harmonious proportions are accentuated by its reflection in the surface of the lake. Along with several later buildings that front the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin, the National Library contributes to the planned aesthetic qualities of the

Parliamentary Triangle.

Fine craftsmanship is evident in the internal and exterior details. Built into the building are major artworks by Tom Bass and Leonard French.

Attributes

Its fine craftsmanship plus its prominence, location and proportions in the context of the other southern foreshore buildings and in its planned setting within the Parliamentary Triangle adjacent the lake, and as a Canberra landmark.

G Social value

The National Library is highly valued by the community for its cultural use as a library, for its national collections and for its exhibitions

Attributes

Its use as a public library with the particular attributes being the publicly accessible parts of the building.

H Significant people

The building is regarded as one of the finest works of the Australian architect Walter Bunning.

Attributes

The building's architectural design.

Description:

History

The National Library began after the creation of the Commonwealth in 1901 as part of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Library. In 1960 it was created as a statutory body separate from the Parliamentary Library. The National Library of Australia building was designed by Walter Bunning of Bunning and Madden, in association with T E O'Mahoney in 1964-68. The building was opened in 1968 by Sir John Gorton. It cost \$8 million to build and a further \$600,000 to furnish and equip. It was the first of the permanent national buildings within the Parliamentary Triangle and set a high design standard.

The stained glass windows in the lobby are the work of the Melbourne born artist Leonard French. They were commissioned by the National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) and installed in 1967. The inspiration for the work was the planets, to fit in with the overall theme of the foyer which represents the classical elements of water, earth and sky. The Library is the largest in Australia and is an important National cultural institution.

Physical description

The National Library is a prominent feature of the Parliamentary Triangle. This large rectangular building sits on a podium on the western side of the Triangle near the edge of Lake Burley Griffin. It features in views of the Triangle from the Commonwealth Avenue approach and generally in views from the northern shore of the Lake. The approach to the entry of the Library is marked by a paved area with a pond and fountain, all of which is flanked by poplars. The building is marble clad, colonnaded, rectangular in plan and has similarities to the design of the Parthenon in Greece. The podium is clad in rock faced grey trachyte in contrast to the light marble of the building above. The podium contains two basements and the building above has five storeys. The building has a low pitched metal roof. There are forty tonnes of copper in the Library's roof, and the building's exterior is clad with marble, granite, bronze, slate and copper, while its interior has fine Australian timber finishes.

The building is in the Late Twentieth Century Stripped Classical style. Key features of this style displayed by the building include the symmetrical facade treatment, horizontal skyline, regular bays of vertical proportion, colonnade, use of columns without bases or capitals, and the use of a broad horizontal member at the roofline echoing classical entablature.

The National Library building provides a range of facilities including storage areas and reading rooms for a wide range of materials which comprise the Library's collection, a visitor centre, catalogue areas, exhibition spaces, a theatrette, offices, a shop and eating facilities.

The building features a large horizontal copper sculpture by Tom Bass over the public entrance to the Library. The beaten copper bas-relief entrance sculpture represents in cuneiform the words 'ark', 'sun' and 'tree'. In the grounds of the Library is the Henry Moore sculpture Two Piece Reclining Figure Number 9. The stained glass windows are decorative features within the entrance lobby of the Library. There are sixteen windows in total, six pairs of windows and four single windows made from Saint Gobain dalle de verre glass. These 50mm thick glass pieces are each cut to maximise light refraction. Every panel comprises four sections with the dominant images of crosses, stars and mandalas. The panels range through the colours of the spectrum, with blue representing the planet Venus and red the planet Mars. Each window has four 330cm high sections and is 125cm wide. The lobby also features three Aubusson tapestries designed by the French artist, Mathieu Mategot, with woven images of Australian flora and fauna and man made landmarks.

Discussion of significance:

Style

The National Library is an example of the Late Twentieth Century Stripped Classical style. Other notable Canberra examples of this style include the following buildings: Canberra Centre (Monaro Mall) (1963) Law Courts of the ACT (1961) Reserve Bank (1961) ACT Police Headquarters (1961) Blocks F and G, Russell Offices (1966) Hinkler Building (1962) The Law Courts building is a good example of this style displaying many of the same features as the National Library. However, the lightweight columns of the Law Courts building suggests a measure of playfulness in the application of the style. The Law Courts building is relatively intact but the Canberra Centre has been changed externally by a development to one side and internal modifications. In this context the National Library is a good Canberra example of the Late Twentieth Century Stripped Classical style and one of few relatively intact buildings in the style in the national capital. The National Library is part of the significant cultural landscape of the Parliamentary Triangle. It occupies a prominent and strategic location marking the western corner of the Triangle.

The building is of historic and cultural interest as the home of the National Library of Australia. It is a storehouse, a vault and repository for some of the nation's most valuable book collections, manuscripts, printed materials, tape recordings, paintings and other treasures. It is a public building and open to the public 361 days a year. It is valued by the community as a library, for its collections and for its exhibitions.

The two major artworks incorporated in the building, the stained glass windows by Leonard French and the entrance sculpture by Tom Bass, are also of some interest. In particular the windows are the smaller of two monumental installations by French, the larger being at the National Gallery of Victoria. French is regarded as one of the world's

leading early post war glass designers (Zimmer 1984).

Aesthetic Quality

The building is recognised for its harmonious proportions and monumental colonnade. The lakeside location allows reflection of the building on the lake surface, enhancing its grace. Its prominent setting on the lake edge makes it a visual landmark of the city. Along with several later buildings which front the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin, the National Library contributes to the planned aesthetic qualities of the Parliamentary Triangle.

The Parliamentary Triangle has been separately registered and a full description of its values is contained in the Register citation for that place

History: Not Available

Condition and Integrity:

The Library is in generally good condition and the exterior is largely intact. The podium has been extended and modified although these changes are subdued. There have been a number of internal alterations to the building. These have improved access to Library services and enhanced the role as well as significance of the place to clients. They include construction of a restaurant and bookshop, upgraded exhibition gallery and refurbished reading rooms.

(March 2002)

The library is in sound condition.

Location:

Parkes Place and King Edward Terrace, Parkes.

Bibliography:

Cliff, Paul (ed), A different view: the National Library of Australia and its building art. National Library of Australia, 2004.

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Rickard, S (1999) "A Distinguished Building", in National Library of Australia News.

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Parliament House Vista, Anzac Pde, Parkes, ACT, Australia

Photographs:



List: Commonwealth Heritage List

Class: Historic

Legal Status: [Listed place](#) (22/06/2004)

Place ID: 105466

Place File No: 8/01/000/0075

Summary Statement of Significance:

Design Importance

The Parliament House Vista is the central designed landscape of Canberra, that expresses the core of the Walter Burley Griffin design vision for Canberra. It is highly significant for its symbolic representation of the democratic interchange between the people and their elected representatives and its use of the natural landforms to generate a strong planning geometry. It expresses a masterly synthesis and ordering of topographical features and administrative functions to meet the needs of a national capital. The vista landscape embraces the central land axis and part of the water axis and most of the Parliamentary Triangle including the area known as the Parliamentary Zone. The significance incorporates Walter Burley Griffin's vision for the area, as the focus of Commonwealth parliamentary and governmental activity as well as national cultural life. This vision has been partly realised and the place is the setting for major, government, judicial and cultural institutions. The northern extent of the vista of Anzac Parade and the Australian War Memorial, despite differing from the original plan, are significant for memorial purposes developed in response to the needs of the people. Despite being modified to a lesser degree to accommodate the impact of wars on Australians, the Vista now presents as a philosophical concept expressed in urban planning, landscape and architecture, to achieve a grand vision of a symbolic, unified and visually dramatic place (Criterion F.1)

(Australian Historic Themes 7.4 Federating Australia, 8.10 , Pursuing excellence in the arts and sciences)

The Parliament House Vista incorporating the central national area, is the core of the most ambitious and most successful example of twentieth century urban planning in Australia. It is important for its design pattern with large landscape and waterscape spaces with their enframement by treed avenues and at the lake by bridges, the terminal vista features of the Australian War Memorial and Mount Ainslie at the northern end and Parliament House at the southern end, with the Carillon and Captain Cook Jet creating balanced vertical features in the water plane (Criterion F.1).

The spatial setting of the buildings as features in the landscape reflects Beaux Arts planning concepts and the building masses and their careful location complement the significance of the overall landscape pattern. Across the Parliamentary Triangle, the buildings of Old Parliament House, and East and West Blocks provide a distinctive Stripped Classical architectural patterned horizontal band, that contributes to the symmetrical overall patterning of the landscape. At a higher elevation, Parliament House is a significant feature terminating the southern end of the land axis, culminating the classical landmark image of the triangle apex. The John Gorton Building (the former Administrative Building) and the Treasury Building balance the composition on King George Terrace while at the Lake edge the post-war architecture of the National Library of Australia and the High Court - National Gallery Precinct are prominent modern architectural forms and have a significant historical layering effect. The Portal Buildings provide balanced building massing at the southern end of Anzac Parade (Criterion F.1).

Avenues of trees along the terraces, roads and pathways of deciduous, pine, and eucalypt species provide colour, character, and contrast, emphasising the significance of the formal symmetrical design. Lombardy Poplars in groups of four, form sentinels at key locations. Water fountains, and statues also reinforce the significance of the total design pattern of the place. On the northern expanse of the vista the landscape pattern is the wide sweeping avenue space emphasised by red scoria gravel in the central strip and edged by large Blue Gums (Criterion F.1).

The vista landscape is significant for its richness of features. Many places in the Vista area have individual heritage significance for their architectural design and historic importance. These include Old Parliament House and Curtilage, East Block Government Offices, West Block and the Dugout, John Gorton Building, the National Library of Australia, the High Court of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia, Blundells Farmhouse, Slab Outbuildings and Surrounds, the Australian War Memorial, the Portal Buildings, The High Court - National Gallery Precinct, the Carillon, and King George V Memorial (Criteria F.1 and A3).

Within the area are important parklands and gardens enhancing the significance of the landscape setting. These include the Gardens of Old Parliament House (the former Senate and House of Representative Gardens), important for expressing their history in plantings, sports facilities, modest features and layout pattern. Also important is the Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery, a significant native style garden, and the National Rose Gardens. Commonwealth Park, the Peace Park, the Lakeshore Promenade and Kings Park are important landscapes for their design and popular use (Criteria F.1 and A3.)

Adding to the richness of the place is the manner in which Griffin's vision of democracy has also been emphasised, as places within the area have become identified with political protest actions by people, as exemplified in the significant Aboriginal Embassy site (Criteria F.1 and A3).

Historic Importance

The central national area of Canberra is strongly associated with the history of politics and government in Australia and the development of Canberra as the Australian National Capital. It is significant as the home of the Commonwealth Parliament, the focus of the Federal Government since 1927, initially in the Old Parliament House and from 1988 in the new Parliament House. The various government buildings in the area reinforce the association with Australian government and political history, including East and West

Blocks, the Administrative Building, the Treasury Building and the High Court. The latter, being set apart from Parliament House but facing it is symbolic of the judicial role of the High Court as a physical representation of the separation of powers (Criterion A.4, Australian Historic Themes: 7.2 Developing institutions of self-government and democracy).

The central national area has strong links with the planning and development of Canberra as the Australian Capital. The relocation of Parliament to Canberra and the central national area in 1927 was the focus of an intense period of development of the new city and gave purpose to Canberra as the Nation's Capital. Over time this association has been reinforced by the construction of major government buildings in the area, such as the Treasury Building, the Administration Building (now John Gorton Building), the Portal Buildings and latterly the new Parliament House, as well as the construction of major cultural institutions. The area as intended has become the focus of Commonwealth parliamentary and governmental activity as well as, to some extent, national cultural life. (Criterion A.4) (Australian Historic Themes: 4.1 Planning urban settlement, 7.2 Developing institutions of self-government and democracy, 7.3 Federating Australia).

The area has been associated since 1941 with the development of Australian cultural life and national identity through the presence of such institutions as the Australian War Memorial, the National Gallery of Australia, the National Science and Technology Centre and the National Library of Australia. The national cultural institutions reinforce the national character of the area and are an important symbolic group in Australia's national cultural life. The Australian War Memorial and Anzac Parade memorials and, to a lesser extent, the other memorials have and continue to play a very important role in fostering aspects of national identity, in particular the Australian War Memorial through its role as a National Shrine for all Australians (Criterion A.4, Australian Historic Themes 8.8 Remembering the Fallen).

Social Importance

The area has strong and special associations with the broad Australian community because of its social values as a symbol of Australia and Federal Government. The values have developed over many years since Canberra's creation and the relocation of the Parliament in 1927 gave them a special focus. The special association is reflected in the use of the area as the location for national memorials, the number of tourists who have and continue to visit the area, the media portrayal of Canberra and federal politics and the continuing use of the area as the venue for occasional ceremonies and political protests by sections of the community. Memorial features include sculptures, plaques, commemorative trees, water features and gardens. The collection of sculptures, associated art and design which comprise the Anzac Parade Memorials, give expression to key aspects of the history of Australia's armed forces and Australia's war involvement, and possess high social value (Criterion G.1, Australian Historic Themes 8.8 Remembering the fallen, 8.9 Commemorating significant events and people).

The special association for the community is also the use of the area by people demonstrating against government decisions. The central national area, particularly Parkes Place in front of Old Parliament House, has been used for countless demonstrations (Criterion G.1).

The landscape spaces are important for social activities of visitors and Canberra residents and these include Canberra festivals, water events, national events and parades such as Anzac Day Parade and the Dawn Service, and other commemorative services (Criterion G.1).

Aesthetic Value

The place has high aesthetic significance due to the visual impact of the extensive open sweeping vista along the land axis that can be experienced in two directions, the designed axes set within natural features of forested hills, patterns and textures of architectural massing accentuated by planned open spaces, water planes and tree plantings that are arranged across the area. The vista is significant for its visual drama with its ability to engage viewers in the visual perspective of the sweeping vista to the terminal features. The aesthetic significance is also a result of the large scale qualities of the axes, including the open green spaces, combined with patterns and symmetrical characteristics of the road networks and numerous designed smaller attributes. These include the rose gardens, the Old Parliament House Gardens, Commonwealth Park, the street tree plantings, the lake-land interface and the Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery, and many intimate spaces rich in texture, colour, fragrance and in some cases, art works and water features (Criterion E1).

Associational Value

The central national area has a special association with its designer, Walter Burley Griffin. Griffin is an important figure in Australia's cultural history for his overall design of Canberra as the Nation's Capital. The special association between the central national area and Griffin results from the area being the centrepiece of the planning geometry for Canberra and perhaps the only part of his Canberra plan to survive relatively intact. The area has a strong association with Marion Mahoney Griffin who prepared the perspective drawings of the Vista. The Vista area has a strong association with numerous architects and planners, in particular John Smith Murdoch, Chief architect of the Commonwealth Government, and Thomas Charles Weston, Superintendent of Parks, Gardens and Afforestation in Canberra, and notable planners of the National Capital Development Commission such as Sir John Overall, Peter Harrison and Paul Reid (Criterion H.1).

Official Values:

Criteria

A Processes

Values

The central national area of Canberra is strongly associated with the history of politics and government in Australia and the development of Canberra as the Australian National Capital. It is significant as the home of the Commonwealth Parliament, the focus of the Federal Government since 1927, initially in the Old Parliament House and from 1988 in the new Parliament House. The various government buildings in the area reinforce the association with Australian government and political history, including East and West Blocks, the Administrative Building, the Treasury Building and the High Court. The latter, being set apart from Parliament House but facing it is symbolic of the judicial role of the High Court as a physical representation of the separation of powers.

The central national area has strong links with the planning and development of Canberra as the Australian Capital. The relocation of Parliament to Canberra and the central national area in 1927 was the focus of an intense period of development of the new city and gave purpose to Canberra as the Nation's Capital. Over time this association has been reinforced by the construction of major government buildings in the area, such as the Treasury Building, the

Administration Building (now John Gorton Building), the Portal Buildings and latterly the new Parliament House, as well as the construction of major cultural institutions. The area as intended has become the focus of Commonwealth parliamentary and governmental activity as well as, to some extent, national cultural life.

The area has been associated since 1941 with the development of Australian cultural life and national identity through the presence of such institutions as the Australian War Memorial, the National Gallery of Australia, the National Science and Technology Centre and the National Library of Australia. The national cultural institutions reinforce the national character of the area and are an important symbolic group in Australia's national cultural life. The Australian War Memorial and Anzac Parade memorials and, to a lesser extent, the other memorials have and continue to play a very important role in fostering aspects of national identity, in particular the Australian War Memorial through its role as a National Shrine for all Australians.

The vista landscape is significant for its richness of features. Many places in the Vista area have individual heritage significance for their architectural design and historic importance. These include Old Parliament House and Curtilage, East Block Government Offices, West Block and the Dugout, John Gorton Building, the National Library of Australia, the High Court of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia, Blundells Farmhouse, Slab Outbuildings and Surrounds, the Australian War Memorial, the Portal Buildings, The High Court - National Gallery Precinct, the Carillon, and King George V Memorial.

Within the area are important parklands and gardens enhancing the significance of the landscape setting. These include the Gardens of Old Parliament House (the former Senate and House of Representative Gardens) with their surviving layout, the Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery, the National Rose Gardens, Commonwealth Park, the Peace Park, the Lakeshore Promenade and Kings Park .

Adding to the richness of the place is the manner in which Griffin's vision of democracy has also been emphasised, as places within the area have become identified with political protest actions by people, as exemplified in the significant Aboriginal Embassy site.

Attributes

The concentration of buildings, parklands and gardens that support Commonwealth parliamentary and governmental activity as well as, to some extent, national cultural life. These include Old Parliament House and Curtilage, East Block Government Offices, West Block and the Dugout, John Gorton Building, the National Library of Australia, the

High Court of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia, Blundells Farmhouse, Slab Outbuildings and Surrounds, the Australian War Memorial, the Portal Buildings, The High Court - National Gallery Precinct, the Carillon, King George V Memorial, Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery, the National Rose Gardens, Commonwealth Park, the Peace Park, the Lakeshore Promenade and Kings Park and the Aboriginal Embassy site.

- E Aesthetic characteristics The place has high aesthetic significance due to the visual impact of the extensive open sweeping vista along the land axis that can be experienced in two directions, the designed axes set within natural features of forested hills, patterns and textures of architectural massing accentuated by planned open spaces, water planes and tree plantings that are arranged across the area. The vista is significant for its visual drama with its ability to engage viewers in the visual perspective of the sweeping vista to the terminal features. The aesthetic significance is also a result of the large scale qualities of the axes, including the open green spaces, combined with patterns and symmetrical characteristics of the road networks and numerous designed smaller attributes. These include the rose gardens, the Old Parliament House Gardens, Commonwealth Park, the street tree plantings, the lake-land interface and the Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery, and many intimate spaces rich in texture, colour, fragrance and in some cases, art works and water features.

Attributes

The extensive vista along the land axis, the forested hills, patterns and textures of architectural massing accentuated by planned open spaces, water features and tree plantings, art works, the terminal features plus the interplay of scale and texture in the designed landscape.

- F Technical achievement The Parliament House Vista is the central designed landscape of Canberra, that expresses the core of the Walter Burley Griffin design vision for Canberra. It is highly significant for its symbolic representation of the democratic interchange between the people and their elected representatives and its use of the natural landforms to generate a strong planning geometry. It expresses a masterly synthesis and ordering of topographical features and administrative functions to meet the needs of a national capital. The vista landscape embraces the central land axis and part of the water axis and most of the Parliamentary Triangle including the area known as the Parliamentary Zone. The significance incorporates Walter Burley Griffin's vision for the area, as the focus of Commonwealth parliamentary and governmental activity as well as national cultural life. This vision has been partly realised and the place is the setting for major, government, judicial and cultural institutions. The northern extent of the vista of Anzac Parade and the Australian War Memorial, despite differing from the original plan, are significant for memorial purposes

developed in response to the needs of the people. Despite being modified to a lesser degree to accommodate the impact of wars on Australians, the Vista now presents as a philosophical concept expressed in urban planning, landscape and architecture, to achieve a grand vision of a symbolic, unified and visually dramatic place.

The Parliament House Vista incorporating the central national area, is the core of the most ambitious and most successful example of twentieth century urban planning in Australia. It is important for its design pattern with large landscape and waterscape spaces with their enframement by treed avenues and at the lake by bridges, the terminal vista features of the Australian War Memorial and Mount Ainslie at the northern end and Parliament House at the southern end, with the Carillon and Captain Cook Jet creating balanced vertical features in the water plane.

The spatial setting of the buildings as features in the landscape reflects Beaux Arts planning concepts and the building masses and their careful location complement the significance of the overall landscape pattern. Across the Parliamentary Triangle, the buildings of Old Parliament House, and East and West Blocks provide a distinctive Stripped Classical architectural patterned horizontal band, that contributes to the symmetrical overall patterning of the landscape. At a higher elevation, Parliament House is a significant feature terminating the southern end of the land axis, culminating the classical landmark image of the triangle apex. The John Gorton Building (the former Administrative Building) and the Treasury Building balance the composition on King George Terrace while at the Lake edge the post-war architecture of the National Library of Australia and the High Court - National Gallery Precinct are prominent modern architectural forms and have a significant historical layering effect. The Portal Buildings provide balanced building massing at the southern end of Anzac Parade.

Avenues of trees along the terraces, roads and pathways of deciduous, pine, and eucalypt species provide colour, character, and contrast, emphasising the significance of the formal symmetrical design. Lombardy Poplars in groups of four, form sentinels at key locations. Water fountains, and statues also reinforce the significance of the total design pattern of the place. On the northern expanse of the vista the landscape pattern is the wide sweeping avenue space emphasised by red scoria gravel in the central strip and edged by large Blue Gums.

Many places in the Vista area have individual heritage significance for their architectural design and historic importance. These include Old Parliament House and Curtilage, East Block Government Offices, West Block and the Dugout, John Gorton Building, the National Library of

Australia, the High Court of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia, Blundells Farmhouse, Slab Outbuildings and Surrounds, the Australian War Memorial, the Portal Buildings, The High Court - National Gallery Precinct, the Carillon, and King George V Memorial.

Within the area are important parklands and gardens enhancing the significance of the landscape setting that include the Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery, a significant native style garden, and the National Rose Gardens. Commonwealth Park, the Peace Park, the Lakeshore Promenade and Kings Park are important landscapes for their design and popular use.

Adding to the richness of the place is the manner in which Griffin's vision of democracy has also been emphasised, as places within the area have become identified with political protest actions by people, as exemplified in the significant Aboriginal Embassy site.

Attributes

The whole of the vista, including all elements and features contained within it, as well as the natural wooded hills beyond.

G Social value

The area has strong and special associations with the broad Australian community because of its social values as a symbol of Australia and Federal Government. The values have developed over many years since Canberra's creation and the relocation of the Parliament in 1927 gave them a special focus. The special association is reflected in the use of the area as the location for national memorials, the number of tourists who have and continue to visit the area, the media portrayal of Canberra and federal politics and the continuing use of the area as the venue for occasional ceremonies and political protests by sections of the community. Memorial features include sculptures, plaques, commemorative trees, water features and gardens. The collection of sculptures, associated art and design which comprise the Anzac Parade Memorials, give expression to key aspects of the history of Australia's armed forces and Australia's war involvement, and possess high social value.

The special association for the community is also the use of the area by people demonstrating against government decisions. The central national area, particularly Parkes Place in front of Old Parliament House, has been used for countless demonstrations.

The landscape spaces are important for social activities of visitors and Canberra residents and these include Canberra festivals, water events, national events and parades such as Anzac Day Parade and the Dawn Service, and other commemorative services.

Attributes

Memorial features including sculptures, plaques, commemorative trees, water features and gardens. Also, recreational landscape spaces and gathering spaces in which the community may demonstrate.

H Significant people

The central national area has a special association with its designer, Walter Burley Griffin. Griffin is an important figure in Australia's cultural history for his overall design of Canberra as the Nation's Capital. The special association between the central national area and Griffin results from the area being the centrepiece of the planning geometry for Canberra and perhaps the only part of his Canberra plan to survive relatively intact. The area has a strong association with Marion Mahoney Griffin who prepared the perspective drawings of the Vista. The Vista area has a strong association with numerous architects and planners, in particular John Smith Murdoch, Chief architect of the Commonwealth Government, and Thomas Charles Weston, Superintendent of Parks, Gardens and Afforestation in Canberra, and notable planners of the National Capital Development Commission such as Sir John Overall, Peter Harrison and Paul Reid.

Attributes

The whole of the vista, its planned layout, and the view from the top of Mount Ainslie which illustrates the realisation of Marion Mahoney Griffin's perspective drawing.

Description:**HISTORY**

The Australian Constitution left the location of the Capital to be decided by the new Federal Parliament. It declared that Melbourne would be the temporary home for the Federal Parliament and public servants until a new city was built at least 100 miles from Sydney. An agreed territory of 903 square miles included the water catchment of the Cotter River and the river valley of the Molonglo for the setting for the city. The Department of Home Affairs commenced works for services and city planning. In 1910 the Secretary of the Federal Department of Home Affairs, David Miller requested permission of Minister O'Malley to conduct a design competition to elicit ideas for the city.

At the time the Federal Capital area was proclaimed, the river flats of the Molonglo, Mount Ainslie, Camp Hill and Kurrajong Hill had been extensively denuded of vegetation from a long period of clearing and grazing. Some exotic trees were established in parts of the area, around structures such as Blundell's cottage and St Johns Church and graveyard.

The Canberra Plan

Walter Burley Griffin won the competition for the design of Canberra in 1912. The plan was expressed in beautifully rendered illustrations prepared by Griffin's wife Marion Mahoney Griffin as plans, elevations and sections painted on silk.

The order of the city was for a great triangle aligned with the mountains which rose above the site. The triangle was to be defined by tree-lined avenues and spanned the central basin of an impounded lake. The triangle would consist of a series of terraces arranged in the functions of government and representing democracy. It was a synthesis of function and design where the Order of the Site (the natural environment) and the Order of Functions (the needs of the people) are perfectly integrated by specific geometry (Reid 2002). The Capitol was a main feature of the design

In terms of vistas, the Griffin vision was represented in two renderings drawn by Marion Mahony Griffin. In the rendering looking from Mt Ainslie towards the Capitol, the drama of the vista focuses on the Capitol, the building representing the aspirational forces in Australian national life, with the final termination in the mountains beyond. Below the Capitol, the Parliament House and the Government departments are terraced down to the Lake providing a symbol of a transparent democracy in action. The observer is standing at Mt Ainslie, a point representative of the power and influence of nature and the highest point of the vista. Griffin's plan for the ideal city, the philosophical triumvirate of humanity, democracy and nature is iconographed along the land axis which together with the water axis is the ordering geometry of the vista and the city. Griffin envisaged a dense city with a coming together of the population in a Casino (something akin to the recreational city gardens in pre war Berlin, Copenhagen, and Stockholm) and Plaisance descending from the foot of Mt Ainslie. Intersected by a busy commercial street, Constitution Avenue, the Plaisance unfolded to the area designated for cultural activity from which the people could look across the lake (or water axis) to the area of national government that was climaxed by the building symbolic of national achievement and aspiration, the Capitol.

Griffin's 1913 land use plan for the central National area indicates his intentions. Moving from north to south along the land axis, he proposed a park at the northern end of the land axis, public gardens on the north side of the lake, the lake itself (now Lake Burley Griffin), government buildings flanking a central terrace court to the south of the lake, Parliament House on Camp Hill, the Capitol building on Capital Hill flanked by the Governor General's residence to the west and the Prime Minister's residence to the east. The Capitol building was not intended to be the Parliament but rather to be for popular reception and ceremonial activities or for archives or otherwise to commemorate Australian achievements. Griffin's philosophical vision expressed in a remarkable urban planning form has been affected by the realities of Australian political and cultural life as well as by the circumstances and juxtapositions of historic events. Australian planners following Griffin have rearranged the icons to reflect the dominant realities and meanings of Australian life.

Griffin's various plans for the central National area of Canberra all included a basic planning framework, which has been constructed and survives to the present. This framework includes the land axis, joining Capital Hill and Mount Ainslie, the water axis, the radiating avenues from Capital Hill, Commonwealth and Kings Avenues, the arc of Parkes Way, the northern punctuation of the land axis by the Australian War Memorial, the roads encircling Capital Hill, State and Capital Circles and the southern punctuation of the land axis by the Parliament House of 1988. In addition to the alignment of axes and avenues which defined Griffin's city plan the triangle was a basic element on which the whole city was built. In his design Griffin had created three urban centres connected by main avenues. Capital Hill as the government centre, Mt Vernon as the municipal centre and Mt Pleasant as the market centre were integral to the plan. The northern avenue, Constitution Avenue, was the municipal axis.

Griffin prepared a preliminary plan in 1913 and a revised plan in 1918 following which the Official Plan was gazetted in 1925. Griffin left in 1920 leaving development under the control of the Federal Capital Advisory Committee (FCAC) chaired by the planner, John Sulman. The Committee had been appointed to complete sufficient permanent buildings to enable Parliament to move from Melbourne to Canberra.

Development

Tree planting began in the early years of Canberra's development, and by 1921 some 17,000 trees were planted (Hendry). Within the Vista area tree planting commenced

around 1923 in Prospect Parkway, now known as Anzac Parade. Early images show tree planting in a scalloped arrangement along the length of the avenue. For 3 years from 1925, trees were planted in association with the construction of the Provisional Parliament House. The formal structural planting around the House including Cedars, Cypresses and Lombardy Poplars was completed for the opening (Hendry). The planting proposals were finalised by Charles Weston, Superintendent of Parks, Gardens and Afforestation, and from 1926, carried out by his successor Alexander Bruce. The planting design aimed to create through the use of a balanced mix of evergreen and deciduous trees, formally shaped grassed vistas and 'outdoor rooms' in scale with the Provisional Parliament House. The formally arranged groups of Lombardy Poplars to achieve 'sentinel' features at the entrances and the pedestrian reference points in the landscape, is attributed to the involvement of John Smith Murdoch, Chief Architect for the Commonwealth Government, in the design. Cedars were used at right angles to the Land Axis. Most of the trees planted in Parkes Place were exotics with the only eucalypts planted adjacent to the Senate and House of Representatives Gardens (Gray 1995). The first major structure to be placed within the area was the Old Parliament House, then called the Provisional Parliament House. In 1923 the Commonwealth Parliament agreed to the proposed building which was sited in front of Camp Hill, Griffin's intended location of the permanent Parliament House. At the time, Griffin protested recognising that if built, the provisional building would remove any possibility of a permanent Parliament House being built on Camp Hill. Nonetheless the Commonwealth proceeded. In 1925 the Federal Capital Commission (FCC) was established under Sir John Butters. The Commission replaced the FCAC. The FCC was responsible for moving the public service to Canberra and otherwise establishing the city in time for the opening of Parliament House. A number of other significant projects were undertaken at the same time as the construction of (Old) Parliament House, which was designed by John Smith Murdoch and completed in 1927. Either side of the Parliament House, private gardens were established for the use of Members of Parliament. On either side of Camp Hill, two government office buildings were constructed, known as East and West Blocks and these were also completed in 1927. East and West Blocks were also designed by Murdoch in a similar style to Old Parliament House.

In 1926 a delegation of the Empire Parliamentary Association visited the new Parliament House and planted an avenue of 12 commemorative trees, to mark the event of the first use of the House of Representatives. Ten Roman Cypresses (*CUPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS* 'STRICTA') were planted at right angles to the House with each tree planted by a delegate and marked by a brass plaque. To commemorate the opening of Parliament House in 1927, the Duke of York planted a Bunya Pine (*ARUACARIA BIDWILLI*) near Kings Avenue. The Marquis of Salisbury and Mr Arthur Henderson planted the Lombardy poplars in the courtyards of the Provisional Parliament House (Pryor and Banks 1991, Gray 1995).

In 1927 the Canberra National Memorials Committee named the area in front of Parliament House - Parkes Place, to commemorate Sir Henry Parkes. King Edward, King George and Queen Victoria Terraces, and Langton and Walpole Crescents were named for links to the first 50 years of Federation (Gray 1995).

The Gardens designed and constructed as part of the Old Parliament House Complex was conceived by the Federal Capital Advisory Committee in the early 1920s and constructed by the Federal Capital Commission from the mid 1920s in time for the opening of Parliament in May 1927. Formal enclosed gardens were the style of the time and James Orwin of the Sydney office of the Director of Works for NSW prepared sketch plans that were finalised by Murdoch. Most of the trees for the Parliamentary gardens were planted by late 1925. Around the same time road patterns for the Parliamentary area

following Griffin's concepts were prepared.

Formal rose gardens in front of the House were first proposed by Weston in 1924. The idea was finally realised when the National Rose Gardens were established in 1933 by the Canberra Horticultural Society in association with the Department of the Interior. The design was developed by A. Bruce based on the plan of petals of an open bloom with colours arranged from deep red in the central area progressing through yellow, white pink and coppery shades. Rose gardens were also commenced around the same time in the Senate and House of Representatives Gardens. By 1938, these gardens were established with formal garden beds and recreation courts, and surrounded by young cypresses which were later clipped into hedges (Patrick and Wallace).

Following the opening of the Provisional Parliament House by the Duke of York on 9 May 1927, the area in front of the House was used for official ceremonies for Anzac and Remembrance Days with a temporary cenotaph, until the opening of the Australian War Memorial in 1941. Initially this area had simple landscaping treatment of lawns. Rose gardens were added in the 1950s, and the car parking area in the forecourt added in the 1960s.

Weston and Murdoch were both given British Empire Awards in 1927 for their contribution to the nation.

In 1946 a major tree thinning of the Parliamentary Zone was initiated by Lindsay Pryor, Superintendent, Parks and Gardens. All the golden cypresses, white poplars, pin oaks and Lawson's cypress on King George Terrace were removed (Gray 1995).

In order to accommodate other government departments, a competition was held in 1924 for the design of the Administrative building, flanking the land axis in Parkes, which was to house about eight departments. The building was to be the first in the Parliamentary Triangle and its design was considered important because it would influence future buildings in the central National area. In 1924, G Sydney Jones won the competition. Work started in 1927 and the foundations were completed in 1928. However, work was stopped at this point because of the Depression. There were then many delays. The design of the proposed building was modified in 1946, construction started again in 1947 and the new design required the demolition of the original foundations. The building was substantially completed in 1956. The building is claimed to have been the largest Australian office building when completed. It was renamed as the John Gorton Building in 1999.

The major development at the northern end of the land axis was the construction of the Australian War Memorial. The site was agreed in 1923 and in 1928 Griffin expressed the view that the proposed site was suitable for the memorial. Construction began in 1928 but was not completed until 1941.

Although a memorial to King George V was proposed in 1936 it was not until 1941 that the architectural part was constructed but the bronze figure was not developed until after World War II. It was unveiled in 1953 but attracted criticism for blocking the vista to the Australian War Memorial. In 1968 King George Terrace was realigned and the memorial was moved to its current location west of the land axis, on a corner of the western part of the National Rose Garden.

In 1955 a Select Senate Committee of Inquiry urged tree planting and landscape works to be undertaken in Canberra under the direction of the National Capital Development Commission. The Commission sought guidance from landscape designers including Lord William Holford and Dame Sylvia Crowe. Holford recommended that a predominantly Australian character be retained around Lake Burley Griffin with autumn coloured foliage

trees used in a dramatic way. Parliament House was to be built on the lakeside with a great forecourt. In 1968 the lakeshore location was rejected in favour of Camp Hill or Capital Hill. During the 1960s, the landscaping of the Parliamentary Triangle was modified to create more formality in Parkes Place. This included realigning roads, installing the four fountains in the pools in the land axis, paving and the relocation King George V statue.

The National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) Act of 1957 set in motion a significant phase in the development of Canberra with the support of Robert Menzies Liberal government. The report of British Town Planner Sir William Holford stressed the need for 'unified design' for Canberra. This view was supported by the Senate Select Committee which propagated Holford's concept of a 'park like landscape...in the heart of Canberra, in which monumental buildings functioned both as symbols of government and of Australian unity'. The visual design of this landscape, the views along the main axial lines and avenues as well as the grouping of monumental buildings were considered to be the elements upon which the success of Canberra as a city of world standing depended. Holford's recommendations included siting the future houses of parliament on the lakeside and developing two monumental buildings on the municipal axis north of a new road connection, which became Parkes Way. The NCDC's acceptance of the Holford vision set the design context for the completion of Anzac Parade and the construction of the Portal Buildings under the direction of NCDC architects and planners. The Portal Buildings have heritage significance.

After a number of schemes for Canberra's lake, detailed planning of the Lake edges was begun in 1954. Lake Burley Griffin was created in 1964 by the damming of the Molonglo River by Scrivener Dam. It reached its predicted level of 556 metres in the same year. The northern shore of the lake between Commonwealth and Kings Avenues was landscaped from about this time to create Commonwealth and Kings Parks. In 1970, two vertical features were opened in the central basin of the lake. The Carillon, located on Aspen Island in the eastern part of the central basin, was a gift from the British Government to mark the fiftieth Jubilee of the founding of Canberra in 1963. In the western part of the central basin is the Captain Cook Memorial water jet commissioned by the National Capital Development Commission as part of the Cook Bicentenary year. In 1968 a small restaurant was built on a corner of the western part of the National Rose Garden. NCDC architect and landscape architect Gareth Roberts and architect and landscape architect Richard Clough collaborated on the design of Anzac Parade and its architectural elements at this time. The two Portal Buildings, Anzac Park East and Anzac Park West, were completed in 1965 and 1966 respectively. With the establishment of the Australian War Memorial in the 1940s, the surrounding landscape was imbued with an associated symbolic character. This included the creation of Anzac Park and Anzac Parade. Anzac Park became the setting for a series of memorials commemorating Australian involvement and sacrifice in war. Anzac Parade was opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Anzac Day 1965, the fiftieth anniversary of the landing of the Anzacs at Gallipoli. It is the setting for a series of memorials commemorating Australian involvement and sacrifice in war and is the major national venue for the Anzac Day March and other ceremonies to commemorate those who served Australia in times of conflict. It has a deep symbolism for many Australians and its vista, linking the Memorial with Parliament House, adds aesthetic and emotional value to the place, which has become part of one of the major cultural landscapes of Australia. The notion of a ceremonial space of this grandeur is not found elsewhere in Australia.

Over time the spaces flanking the land axis to the south of the Lake have been filled with government buildings of varying character. These include the Treasury Building established 1967-70, the National Library in 1968, the High Court in 1980, National Gallery in 1982 and the National Science and Technology Centre in 1988. Associated with the Gallery is the extensive and significant Sculpture Garden established in 1982.

In 1972 an informal Aboriginal Embassy was established in front of Old Parliament House. The Embassy became the focus of a campaign for land and other rights for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In 1992 the Embassy was re-established.

The most recent major change to the central National area was the construction of a new Parliament House on Capital Hill. In 1974, The site of Capital Hill for Parliament House, was chosen by a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament. An Act of Parliament extended Parliamentary jurisdiction over work in the Parliamentary Triangle, henceforth known as the Parliamentary Zone. Completed in 1988, the building has resulted in a number of significant changes to the area. The relocation of the Parliament to the new building left the Old Parliament House without its original use. The construction of the building also resulted in the levelling of Camp Hill, Griffin's intended location for a Parliament House and its incorporation into the broader formal landscape of the new Federation Mall. Finally, the new Parliament House involved the construction of a large complex of buildings and extensive new landscape areas. The changes affected most of Capital Hill. The winning design, by Mitchell, Giurgola and Thorp Architects, considered the land axis of Canberra as the fundamental gesture of the City, a line around which all other design has evolved in circular and radial directions (Reid 2002).

During 2001-2002 new designed features were constructed across the Land Axis of the Vista landscape. These are Commonwealth Place and Reconciliation Place. In addition, a rotunda with exhibition, called Magna Carta Place is located to the west of the former Senate Garden.

Following the construction of Parliament House, emphasis was placed on the landscape of the Parliament Zone. The development of Federation Mall with its trees and central space was to balance Anzac Parade and to complete the visual Land Axis from Capital Hill to the War Memorial.

Use

By the turn of the century (2000-2001), the area was used for countless public events. These include memorial services such as the Anzac Day March and the Dawn Service, public protest demonstrations, celebration events, sporting activities, water races, art displays, fireworks and large-scale concerts. In addition it is used by people informally for weddings, picnics, and fairs. The area is a popular destination for tourists and schoolchildren.

DESCRIPTION

The central National area of Canberra is an extensive cultural landscape comprising buildings, roads, parks, tree plantings and a lake. The area is designated for Parliamentary and National Capital uses. The major features of the area include: Parliament House with its gardens and paved areas, State Circle Cutting (geological feature), Old Parliament House and curtilage, East Block, West Block and the Dugout, the John Gorton Building, the National Gallery of Australia, the High Court of Australia, the High Court - National Gallery precinct, National Science and Technology Centre, the National Library of Australia, Treasury Building, National Rose Gardens, The Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery, King George V Memorial, Aboriginal Embassy, the Portal Buildings, Australian War Memorial and memorials along Anzac Parade, Aspen Island, the Carillon, Kings Park, HMAS Canberra Memorial, Merchant Navy Memorial, Blundell's Cottage, Commonwealth Park, Kings Park, the Peace Park, Regatta Point Exhibition Building and Restaurant, Captain Cook Memorial Water Jet, the Lakeshore Promenade, and extensive mature plantings and avenues of trees such as those along Anzac Parade. The area also includes fountains, roads, car parks, landscaped areas, a restaurant, kiosk and the residence of the Catholic Archbishop. The spaces, particularly the Land Axis, are

a major feature.

The central National area has a strong sense of symmetry based on the land axis. The Parliament House, Old Parliament House and Australian War Memorial are located on the axis. In addition, the landscape features of Federation Mall, Parkes Place (the landscape feature not the roads) and Anzac Parade are also located on the axis. Other major features in the area are generally balanced about the axis such as: East and West Blocks, the gardens of Old Parliament House, the Portal Buildings, the eastern and western parts of the National Rose Gardens, Administrative and Treasury Buildings, the National Gallery/High Court group and the National Library/National Science and Technology Centre group, as well as the Carillon and Captain Cook Memorial water jet. The road system also generally reflects the symmetrical planning of the area based on the land axis.

The Anzac Parade Memorials comprises two main components, Anzac Parade and Anzac Park. Either side of Anzac Parade is bounded by Anzac Park. Treed sloping grassy strips contain 10 symmetrically placed aprons prepared for national memorials. In 2002 there were 11 memorials on Anzac Parade, tributes to the men and women of the Australian military. These memorials are: (1) the Australian Hellenic Memorial, Limestone Avenue intersection, (2) the Australian Army Memorial, near Currong Street, (3) the Australian National Korean Memorial, near Currong Street, (4) the Australian Vietnam forces National Memorial, opposite Booroondara Street, (5) the Desert Mounted Corps Memorial, opposite Amaroo Street (commonly known as the Light Horse Memorial), (6) the New Zealand Memorial (7) the Rats of Tobruk Memorial, opposite (5), (8) Royal Australian Air Force Memorial, opposite Page Street, (9) the Australian Service Nurses Memorial, (10) the Royal Australian Navy Memorial, and (11) Kemal Atatürk Memorial, Fairbairn Avenue intersection.

The array of mature tree plantings are all regarded as important. Some are classified as notable by Pryor and Banks (1991) and these include *CALOCEDRUS DECURRENS* on King George Terrace planted in 1927, *CUPRESSUS ARIZONICA* planted in 1926 on King George Terrace, *EUCALYPTUS GLOBULUS* at the Australian War Memorial, *E. MAIDENII* group planted c 1927. Commemorative trees in the Parkes area, include the *CUPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS* 'Stricta' planted in 1926 by nine members of the Empire Parliamentary Association, *ARAUCARIA Bidwilli* PLANTED BY THE duke of York in 1927 to commemorate his visit to Canberra to open the first Parliament House and *CUPRESSUS ARIZONICA*, planted by the wife of the then United States President, Mrs Lady Bird Johnson, at the time of their visit to Canberra in 1966. Within Commonwealth Park are a *QUERCUS ROBUR* planted by Princess Marina in 1964, and a *CURRESSUS GLABRA* planted by Mrs Lady Bird Johnson. Within the curtilage of the Australian War Memorial is a *PINUS HALPENSIS* planted by the Duke of Gloucester in 1934, believed to have been raised from seed from a cone collected from Lone Pine Ridge, Gallipoli in 1915. Also in curtilage is a *EUCALYPTUS NICHOLII* to replace the *E. PAUCOFORA* planted by Queen Elizabeth in 1954 to mark the beginning of the Remembrance Driveway to Sydney (Pryor and Banks 1991).

History: Not Available

Condition and Integrity:

The central National area is an extensive cultural landscape with a variety of landscape and building features. Individual elements vary in their condition and integrity. At a general level, the area is in fair to good condition. The values relating to the cultural landscape design and special association with Griffin are degraded by the changes made over time to Griffin's plan. The location of Old Parliament House, removal of Camp Hill, location of the new Parliament House and parts of the road layout as constructed are all variations from Griffin's plan. Given these changes, the area displays only a poor to medium level of

integrity with regard to these values. In 1994 the National Capital Planning Authority released details of the Central National Area Design Study. This includes proposals for significant changes to the area.

Location:

About 260ha, comprising the whole of the area bounded by the northern alignment of State Circle, the western alignment of Kings Avenue, the southern alignment of Parkes Way and the eastern alignment of Commonwealth Avenue, excluding the Archbishops Residence and grounds being Block 1 Section 2 Parkes; the whole of Anzac Parade and Anzac Park and the whole of Section 39, Campbell.

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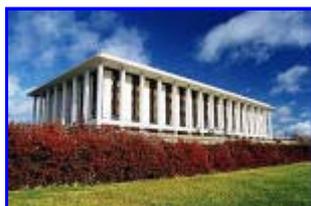
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National Library of Australia and Surrounds, Parkes Pl, Parkes, ACT, Australia

Photographs:



List: Register of the National Estate

Class: Historic

Legal Status: [Registered](#) (11/08/1987)

Place ID: 13369

Place File No: 8/01/000/0073

Statement of Significance:

The National Library is part of the significant cultural landscape of the Parliamentary Triangle. It occupies a prominent and strategic location on the western side of the Triangle, making it one of Canberra's landmark features. Its harmonious proportions are accentuated by its reflection in the surface of the lake. Along with several later buildings that front the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin, the National Library contributes to the planned aesthetic qualities of the Parliamentary Triangle (Criteria F.1 and E.1, Australian Historic Theme 8.10.4: Designing and Building Fine Buildings).

The library has a richness of cultural features and is important for housing Australia's valuable book collections, manuscripts, printed materials, films, tape recordings, paintings and other treasures. Fine craftsmanship is evident in the internal and exterior details. Built into the building are major artworks by Tom Bass and Leonard French (Criteria A3 and F1, Australian Historic Theme 8.10.3: Creating literature).

The National Library, constructed during the period 1961-1968, the first of the permanent purpose built buildings in the Parliamentary Triangle, fulfils a Federation goal that commenced in 1901, to house a major national institution (Criterion A4, Australian Historic Theme 4.3: Developing Institutions, 7.4: Federating Australia)

The National Library of Australia is a good example of the Late Twentieth Century Stripped Classical style and one of the few relatively intact Canberra examples. Key features of this style displayed by the building include the symmetrical facade treatment, horizontal skyline, regular bays of vertical proportion, colonnade, use of columns without bases or capitals and the use of a broad horizontal member at the roof line echoing classical entablature (Criterion D.2).

The National Library is highly valued by the community for its cultural use as a library, for its national collections and for its exhibitions (Criterion G1).

The building is regarded as one of the finest works of the Australian architect Walter

Bunning (Criterion H1)

Official Values: Not Available

Description:

History

The National Library began after the creation of the Commonwealth in 1901 as part of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Library. In 1960 it was created as a statutory body separate from the Parliamentary Library. The National Library of Australia building was designed by Walter Bunning of Bunning and Madden, in association with T E O'Mahoney in 1964-68. The building was opened in 1968 by Sir John Gorton. It cost \$8 million to build and a further \$600,000 to furnish and equip. It was the first of the permanent national buildings within the Parliamentary Triangle and set a high design standard.

The stained glass windows in the lobby are the work of the Melbourne born artist Leonard French. They were commissioned by the National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) and installed in 1967. The inspiration for the work was the planets, to fit in with the overall theme of the foyer which represents the classical elements of water, earth and sky. The Library is the largest in Australia and is an important National cultural institution.

Physical description

The National Library is a prominent feature of the Parliamentary Triangle. This large rectangular building sits on a podium on the western side of the Triangle near the edge of Lake Burley Griffin. It features in views of the Triangle from the Commonwealth Avenue approach and generally in views from the northern shore of the Lake. The approach to the entry of the Library is marked by a paved area with a pond and fountain, all of which is flanked by poplars. The building is marble clad, colonnaded, rectangular in plan and has similarities to the design of the Parthenon in Greece. The podium is clad in rock faced grey trachyte in contrast to the light marble of the building above. The podium contains two basements and the building above has five storeys. The building has a low pitched metal roof. There are forty tonnes of copper in the Library's roof, and the building's exterior is clad with marble, granite, bronze, slate and copper, while its interior has fine Australian timber finishes.

The building is in the Late Twentieth Century Stripped Classical style. Key features of this style displayed by the building include the symmetrical facade treatment, horizontal skyline, regular bays of vertical proportion, colonnade, use of columns without bases or capitals, and the use of a broad horizontal member at the roofline echoing classical entablature.

The National Library building provides a range of facilities including storage areas and reading rooms for a wide range of materials which comprise the Library's collection, a visitor centre, catalogue areas, exhibition spaces, a theatrette, offices, a shop and eating facilities.

The building features a large horizontal copper sculpture by Tom Bass over the public entrance to the Library. The beaten copper bas-relief entrance sculpture represents in cuneiform the words 'ark', 'sun' and 'tree'. In the grounds of the Library is the Henry Moore sculpture Two Piece Reclining Figure Number 9. The stained glass windows are decorative features within the entrance lobby of the Library. There are sixteen windows in total, six pairs of windows and four single windows made from Saint Gobain dalle de verre glass. These 50mm thick glass pieces are each cut to maximise light refraction. Every panel comprises four sections with the dominant images of crosses, stars and mandalas. The panels range through the colours of the spectrum, with blue representing the plant

Venus and red the planet Mars. Each window has four 330cm high sections and is 125cm wide. The lobby also features three Aubusson tapestries designed by the French artist, Mathieu Mategot, with woven images of Australian flora and fauna and man made landmarks.

Discussion of significance:

Style

The National Library is an example of the Late Twentieth Century Stripped Classical style. Other notable Canberra examples of this style include the following buildings: Canberra Centre (Monaro Mall) (1963) Law Courts of the ACT (1961) Reserve Bank (1961) ACT Police Headquarters (1961) Blocks F and G, Russell Offices (1966) Hinkler Building (1962) The Law Courts building is a good example of this style displaying many of the same features as the National Library. However, the lightweight columns of the Law Courts building suggests a measure of playfulness in the application of the style. The Law Courts building is relatively intact but the Canberra Centre has been changed externally by a development to one side and internal modifications. In this context the National Library is a good Canberra example of the Late Twentieth Century Stripped Classical style and one of few relatively intact buildings in the style in the national capital. The National Library is part of the significant cultural landscape of the Parliamentary Triangle. It occupies a prominent and strategic location marking the western corner of the Triangle.

The building is of historic and cultural interest as the home of the National Library of Australia. It is a storehouse, a vault and repository for some of the nation's most valuable book collections, manuscripts, printed materials, films, tape recordings, paintings and other treasures. It is a public building and open to the public 363 days a year. It is valued by the community as a library, for its collections and for its exhibitions.

The two major artworks incorporated in the building, the stained glass windows by Leonard French and the entrance sculpture by Tom Bass, are also of some interest. In particular the windows are the smaller of two monumental installations by French, the larger being at the National Gallery of Victoria. French is regarded as one of the world's leading early post war glass designers (Zimmer 1984).

Aesthetic Quality

The building is recognised for its harmonious proportions and monumental colonnade. The lakeside location allows reflection of the building on the lake surface, enhancing its grace. Its prominent setting on the lake edge makes it a visual landmark of the city. Along with several later buildings which front the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin, the National Library contributes to the planned aesthetic qualities of the Parliamentary Triangle.

The Parliamentary Triangle has been separately registered and a full description of its values is contained in the Register citation for that place

History: Not Available

Condition and Integrity:

The Library is in generally good condition and the exterior is largely intact. The podium has been extended and modified although these changes are subdued. There have been a number of internal alterations to the building. These include the construction of a restaurant and bookshop in the foyer and changes to the ground floor catalogue and reading room areas. (September 1994)

(March 2002)

The library is in sound condition

Location:

Parkes Place and King Edward Terrace, Parkes.

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Parliament House Vista, Anzac Pde, Parkes, ACT, Australia

Photographs:



List: Register of the National Estate

Class: Historic

Legal Status: [Registered](#) (11/08/1987)

Place ID: 13371

Place File No: 8/01/000/0075

Statement of Significance:

Design Importance

The Parliament House Vista is the central designed landscape of Canberra, that expresses the core of the Walter Burley Griffin design vision for Canberra. It is highly significant for its symbolic representation of the democratic interchange between the people and their elected representatives and its use of the natural landforms to generate a strong planning geometry. It expresses a masterly synthesis and ordering of topographical features and administrative functions to meet the needs of a national capital. The vista landscape embraces the central land axis and part of the water axis and most of the Parliamentary Triangle including the area known as the Parliamentary Zone. The significance incorporates Walter Burley Griffin's vision for the area, as the focus of Commonwealth parliamentary and governmental activity as well as national cultural life. This vision has been partly realised and the place is the setting for major, government, judicial and cultural institutions. The northern extent of the vista of Anzac Parade and the Australian War Memorial, despite differing from the original plan, are significant for memorial purposes developed in response to the needs of the people. Despite being modified to a lesser degree to accommodate the impact of wars on Australians, the Vista now presents as a philosophical concept expressed in urban planning, landscape and architecture, to achieve a grand vision of a symbolic, unified and visually dramatic place (Criterion F.1)

(Australian Historic Themes 7.4 Federating Australia, 8.10 , Pursuing excellence in the arts and sciences)

The Parliament House Vista incorporating the central national area, is the core of the most ambitious and most successful example of twentieth century urban planning in Australia. It is important for its design pattern with large landscape and waterscape spaces with their enframement by treed avenues and at the lake by bridges, the terminal vista features of the Australian War Memorial and Mount Ainslie at the northern end and Parliament House at the southern end, with the Carillon and Captain Cook Jet creating balanced vertical features in the water plane (Criterion F.1).

The spatial setting of the buildings as features in the landscape reflects Beaux Arts planning concepts and the building masses and their careful location complement the significance of the overall landscape pattern. Across the Parliamentary Triangle, the buildings of Old Parliament House, and East and West Blocks provide a distinctive Stripped Classical architectural patterned horizontal band, that contributes to the symmetrical overall patterning of the landscape. At a higher elevation, Parliament House is a significant feature terminating the southern end of the land axis, culminating the classical landmark image of the triangle apex. The John Gorton Building (the former Administrative Building) and the Treasury Building balance the composition on King George Terrace while at the Lake edge the post-war architecture of the National Library of Australia and the High Court - National Gallery Precinct are prominent modern architectural forms and have a significant historical layering effect. The Portal Buildings provide balanced building massing at the southern end of Anzac Parade (Criterion F.1).

Avenues of trees along the terraces, roads and pathways of deciduous, pine, and eucalypt species provide colour, character, and contrast, emphasising the significance of the formal symmetrical design. Lombardy Poplars in groups of four, form sentinels at key locations. Water fountains, and statues also reinforce the significance of the total design pattern of the place. On the northern expanse of the vista the landscape pattern is the wide sweeping avenue space emphasised by red scoria gravel in the central strip and edged by large Blue Gums (Criterion F.1).

The vista landscape is significant for its richness of features. Many places in the Vista area have individual heritage significance for their architectural design and historic importance. These include Old Parliament House and Curtilage (RNE 013278) East Block Government Offices (RNE19963), West Block and the Dugout (RNE 100476), John Gorton Building (RNE 019128), the National Library of Australia (RNE 13369), the High Court of Australia (RNE 102823), the National Gallery of Australia (RNE 102824), Blundells Farmhouse, Slab Outbuildings and Surrounds (RNE 13324), the Australian War Memorial (RNE 132 86), the Portal Buildings (RNE 101058), The High Court - National Gallery Precinct (RNE 102721), the Carillon (RNE 018373), and King George V Memorial (RNE 017988)) (Criteria F.1 and A3).

Within the area are important parklands and gardens enhancing the significance of the landscape setting. These include the Gardens of Old Parliament House (the former Senate and House of Representative Gardens), important for expressing their history in plantings, sports facilities, modest features and layout pattern. Also important is the Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery (RNE 18917), a significant native style garden, and the National Rose Gardens (RNE 019119). Commonwealth Park, the Peace Park, the Lakeshore Promenade and Kings Park are important landscapes for their design and popular use (Criteria F.1 and A3.)

Adding to the richness of the place is the manner in which Griffin's vision of democracy has also been emphasised, as places within the area have become identified with political protest actions by people, as exemplified in the significant Aboriginal Embassy site (RNE 018843) (Criteria F.1 and A3).

Historic Importance

The central national area of Canberra is strongly associated with the history of politics and government in Australia and the development of Canberra as the Australian National Capital. It is significant as the home of the Commonwealth Parliament, the focus of the Federal Government since 1927, initially in the Old Parliament House and from 1988 in

the new Parliament House. The various government buildings in the area reinforce the association with Australian government and political history, including East and West Blocks, the Administrative Building, the Treasury Building and the High Court. The latter, being set apart from Parliament House but facing it is symbolic of the judicial role of the High Court as a physical representation of the separation of powers (Criterion A.4, Australian Historic Themes: 7.2 Developing institutions of self-government and democracy).

The central national area has strong links with the planning and development of Canberra as the Australian Capital. The relocation of Parliament to Canberra and the central national area in 1927 was the focus of an intense period of development of the new city and gave purpose to Canberra as the Nation's Capital. Over time this association has been reinforced by the construction of major government buildings in the area, such as the Treasury Building, the Administration Building (now John Gorton Building), the Portal Buildings and latterly the new Parliament House, as well as the construction of major cultural institutions. The area as intended has become the focus of Commonwealth parliamentary and governmental activity as well as, to some extent, national cultural life. (Criterion A.4) (Australian Historic Themes: 4.1 Planning urban settlement, 7.2 Developing institutions of self-government and democracy, 7.3 Federating Australia).

The area has been associated since 1941 with the development of Australian cultural life and national identity through the presence of such institutions as the Australian War Memorial, the National Gallery of Australia, the National Science and Technology Centre and the National Library of Australia. The national cultural institutions reinforce the national character of the area and are an important symbolic group in Australia's national cultural life. The Australian War Memorial and Anzac Parade memorials and, to a lesser extent, the other memorials have and continue to play a very important role in fostering aspects of national identity, in particular the Australian War Memorial through its role as a National Shrine for all Australians (Criterion A.4, Australian Historic Themes 8.8 Remembering the Fallen).

Social Importance

The area has strong and special associations with the broad Australian community because of its social values as a symbol of Australia and Federal Government. The values have developed over many years since Canberra's creation and the relocation of the Parliament in 1927 gave them a special focus. The special association is reflected in the use of the area as the location for national memorials, the number of tourists who have and continue to visit the area, the media portrayal of Canberra and federal politics and the continuing use of the area as the venue for occasional ceremonies and political protests by sections of the community. Memorial features include sculptures, plaques, commemorative trees, water features and gardens. The collection of sculptures, associated art and design which comprise the Anzac Parade Memorials, give expression to key aspects of the history of Australia's armed forces and Australia's war involvement, and possess high social value (Criterion G.1, Australian Historic Themes 8.8 Remembering the fallen, 8.9 Commemorating significant events and people).

The special association for the community is also the use of the area by people demonstrating against government decisions. The central national area, particularly Parkes Place in front of Old Parliament House, has been used for countless demonstrations (Criterion G.1).

The landscape spaces are important for social activities of visitors and Canberra residents and these include Canberra festivals, water events, national events and parades such as

Anzac Day Parade and the Dawn Service, and other commemorative services (Criterion G.1).

Aesthetic Value

The place has high aesthetic significance due to the visual impact of the extensive open sweeping vista along the land axis that can be experienced in two directions, the designed axes set within natural features of forested hills, patterns and textures of architectural massing accentuated by planned open spaces, water planes and tree plantings that are arranged across the area. The vista is significant for its visual drama with its ability to engage viewers in the visual perspective of the sweeping vista to the terminal features. The aesthetic significance is also a result of the large scale qualities of the axes, including the open green spaces, combined with patterns and symmetrical characteristics of the road networks and numerous designed smaller attributes. These include the rose gardens, the Old Parliament House Gardens, Commonwealth Park, the street tree plantings, the lake-land interface and the Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery, and many intimate spaces rich in texture, colour, fragrance and in some cases, art works and water features (Criterion E1).

Associational Value

The central national area has a special association with its designer, Walter Burley Griffin. Griffin is an important figure in Australia's cultural history for his overall design of Canberra as the Nation's Capital. The special association between the central national area and Griffin results from the area being the centrepiece of the planning geometry for Canberra and perhaps the only part of his Canberra plan to survive relatively intact. The area has a strong association with Marion Mahoney Griffin who prepared the perspective drawings of the Vista. The Vista area has a strong association with numerous architects and planners, in particular John Smith Murdoch, Chief architect of the Commonwealth Government, and Thomas Charles Weston, Superintendent of Parks, Gardens and Afforestation in Canberra, and notable planners of the National Capital Development Commission such as Sir John Overall, Peter Harrison and Paul Reid (Criterion H.1).

Official Values: Not Available

Description:

HISTORY

The Australian Constitution left the location of the Capital to be decided by the new Federal Parliament. It declared that Melbourne would be the temporary home for the Federal Parliament and public servants until a new city was built at least 100 miles from Sydney. An agreed territory of 903 square miles included the water catchment of the Cotter River and the river valley of the Molonglo for the setting for the city. The Department of Home Affairs commenced works for services and city planning. In 1910 the Secretary of the Federal Department of Home Affairs, David Miller requested permission of Minister O'Malley to conduct a design competition to elicit ideas for the city. At the time the Federal Capital area was proclaimed, the river flats of the Molonglo, Mount Ainslie, Camp Hill and Kurrajong Hill had been extensively denuded of vegetation from a long period of clearing and grazing. Some exotic trees were established in parts of the area, around structures such as Blundell's cottage and St Johns Church and graveyard.

The Canberra Plan

Walter Burley Griffin won the competition for the design of Canberra in 1912. The plan was expressed in beautifully rendered illustrations prepared by Griffin's wife Marion Mahoney Griffin as plans, elevations and sections painted on silk.

The order of the city was for a great triangle aligned with the mountains which rose above the site. The triangle was to be defined by tree-lined avenues and spanned the central

basin of an impounded lake. The triangle would consist of a series of terraces arranged in the functions of government and representing democracy. It was a synthesis of function and design where the Order of the Site (the natural environment) and the Order of Functions (the needs of the people) are perfectly integrated by specific geometry (Reid 2002). The Capitol was a main feature of the design

In terms of vistas, the Griffin vision was represented in two renderings drawn by Marion Mahony Griffin. In the rendering looking from Mt Ainslie towards the Capitol, the drama of the vista focuses on the Capitol, the building representing the aspirational forces in Australian national life, with the final termination in the mountains beyond. Below the Capitol, the Parliament House and the Government departments are terraced down to the Lake providing a symbol of a transparent democracy in action. The observer is standing at Mt Ainslie, a point representative of the power and influence of nature and the highest point of the vista. Griffin's plan for the ideal city, the philosophical triumvirate of humanity, democracy and nature is iconographed along the land axis which together with the water axis is the ordering geometry of the vista and the city. Griffin envisaged a dense city with a coming together of the population in a Casino (something akin to the recreational city gardens in pre war Berlin, Copenhagen, and Stockholm) and Plaisance descending from the foot of Mt Ainslie. Intersected by a busy commercial street, Constitution Avenue, the Plaisance unfolded to the area designated for cultural activity from which the people could look across the lake (or water axis) to the area of national government that was climaxed by the building symbolic of national achievement and aspiration, the Capitol.

Griffin's 1913 land use plan for the central National area indicates his intentions. Moving from north to south along the land axis, he proposed a park at the northern end of the land axis, public gardens on the north side of the lake, the lake itself (now Lake Burley Griffin), government buildings flanking a central terrace court to the south of the lake, Parliament House on Camp Hill, the Capitol building on Capital Hill flanked by the Governor General's residence to the west and the Prime Minister's residence to the east. The Capitol building was not intended to be the Parliament but rather to be for popular reception and ceremonial activities or for archives or otherwise to commemorate Australian achievements. Griffin's philosophical vision expressed in a remarkable urban planning form has been affected by the realities of Australian political and cultural life as well as by the circumstances and juxtapositions of historic events. Australian planners following Griffin have rearranged the icons to reflect the dominant realities and meanings of Australian life.

Griffin's various plans for the central National area of Canberra all included a basic planning framework, which has been constructed and survives to the present. This framework includes the land axis, joining Capital Hill and Mount Ainslie, the water axis, the radiating avenues from Capital Hill, Commonwealth and Kings Avenues, the arc of Parkes Way, the northern punctuation of the land axis by the Australian War Memorial, the roads encircling Capital Hill, State and Capital Circles and the southern punctuation of the land axis by the Parliament House of 1988. In addition to the alignment of axes and avenues which defined Griffin's city plan the triangle was a basic element on which the whole city was built. In his design Griffin had created three urban centres connected by main avenues. Capital Hill as the government centre, Mt Vernon as the municipal centre and Mt Pleasant as the market centre were integral to the plan. The northern avenue, Constitution Avenue, was the municipal axis.

Griffin prepared a preliminary plan in 1913 and a revised plan in 1918 following which the Official Plan was gazetted in 1925. Griffin left in 1920 leaving development under the control of the Federal Capital Advisory Committee (FCAC) chaired by the planner, John Sulman. The Committee had been appointed to complete sufficient permanent buildings

to enable Parliament to move from Melbourne to Canberra.

Development

Tree planting began in the early years of Canberra's development, and by 1921 some 17,000 trees were planted (Hendry). Within the Vista area tree planting commenced around 1923 in Prospect Parkway, now known as Anzac Parade. Early images show tree planting in a scalloped arrangement along the length of the avenue

For 3 years from 1925, trees were planted in association with the construction of the Provisional Parliament House. The formal structural planting around the House including Cedars, Cypresses and Lombardy Poplars was completed for the opening (Hendry). The planting proposals were finalised by Charles Weston, Superintendent of Parks, Gardens and Afforestation, and from 1926, carried out by his successor Alexander Bruce. The planting design aimed to create through the use of a balanced mix of evergreen and deciduous trees, formally shaped grassed vistas and 'outdoor rooms' in scale with the Provisional Parliament House. The formally arranged groups of Lombardy Poplars to achieve 'sentinel' features at the entrances and the pedestrian reference points in the landscape, is attributed to the involvement of John Smith Murdoch, Chief Architect for the Commonwealth Government, in the design. Cedars were used at right angles to the Land Axis. Most of the trees planted in Parkes Place were exotics with the only eucalypts planted adjacent to the Senate and House of Representatives Gardens (Gray 1995). The first major structure to be placed within the area was the Old Parliament House, then called the Provisional Parliament House (RNE 13278). In 1923 the Commonwealth Parliament agreed to the proposed building which was sited in front of Camp Hill, Griffin's intended location of the permanent Parliament House. At the time, Griffin protested recognising that if built, the provisional building would remove any possibility of a permanent Parliament House being built on Camp Hill. Nonetheless the Commonwealth proceeded. In 1925 the Federal Capital Commission (FCC) was established under Sir John Butters. The Commission replaced the FCAC. The FCC was responsible for moving the public service to Canberra and otherwise establishing the city in time for the opening of Parliament House.

A number of other significant projects were undertaken at the same time as the construction of (Old) Parliament House, which was designed by John Smith Murdoch and completed in 1927. Either side of the Parliament House, private gardens were established for the use of Members of Parliament. On either side of Camp Hill, two government office buildings were constructed, known as East and West Blocks (RNE 19963 and 100476) and these were also completed in 1927. East and West Blocks were also designed by Murdoch in a similar style to Old Parliament House.

In 1926 a delegation of the Empire Parliamentary Association visited the new Parliament House and planted an avenue of 12 commemorative trees, to mark the event of the first use of the House of Representatives. Ten Roman Cypresses (*CUPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS 'STRICTA'*) were planted at right angles to the House with each tree planted by a delegate and marked by a brass plaque. To commemorate the opening of Parliament House in 1927, the Duke of York planted a Bunya Pine (*ARUACARIA BIDWILLI*) near Kings Avenue. The Marquis of Salisbury and Mr Arthur Henderson planted the Lombardy poplars in the courtyards of the Provisional Parliament House (Pryor and Banks 1991, Gray 1995).

In 1927 the Canberra National Memorials Committee named the area in front of Parliament House - Parkes Place, to commemorate Sir Henry Parkes. King Edward, King George and Queen Victoria Terraces, and Langton and Walpole Crescents were named for links to the first 50 years of Federation (Gray 1995).

The Gardens designed and constructed as part of the Old Parliament House Complex

was conceived by the Federal Capital Advisory Committee in the early 1920s and constructed by the Federal Capital Commission from the mid 1920s in time for the opening of Parliament in May 1927. Formal enclosed gardens were the style of the time and James Orwin of the Sydney office of the Director of Works for NSW prepared sketch plans that were finalised by Murdoch. Most of the trees for the Parliamentary gardens were planted by late 1925. Around the same time road patterns for the Parliamentary area following Griffin's concepts were prepared.

Formal rose gardens in front of the House were first proposed by Weston in 1924. The idea was finally realised when the National Rose Gardens were established in 1933 by the Canberra Horticultural Society in association with the Department of the Interior. The design was developed by A. Bruce based on the plan of petals of an open bloom with colours arranged from deep red in the central area progressing through yellow, white pink and coppery shades (refer RNE 19119). Rose gardens were also commenced around the same time in the Senate and House of Representatives Gardens. By 1938, these gardens were established with formal garden beds and recreation courts, and surrounded by young cypresses which were later clipped into hedges (Patrick and Wallace).

Following the opening of the Provisional Parliament House by the Duke of York on 9 May 1927, the area in front of the House was used for official ceremonies for Anzac and Remembrance Days with a temporary cenotaph, until the opening of the Australian War Memorial in 1941. Initially this area had simple landscaping treatment of lawns. Rose gardens were added in the 1950s, and the car parking area in the forecourt added in the 1960s.

Weston and Murdoch were both given British Empire Awards in 1927 for their contribution to the nation.

In 1946 a major tree thinning of the Parliamentary Zone was initiated by Lindsay Pryor, Superintendent, Parks and Gardens. All the golden cypresses, white poplars, pin oaks and Lawson's cypress on King George Terrace were removed (Gray 1995).

In order to accommodate other government departments, a competition was held in 1924 for the design of the Administrative building (RNE 19128), flanking the land axis in Parkes, which was to house about eight departments. The building was to be the first in the Parliamentary Triangle and its design was considered important because it would influence future buildings in the central National area. In 1924, G Sydney Jones won the competition. Work started in 1927 and the foundations were completed in 1928. However, work was stopped at this point because of the Depression. There were then many delays. The design of the proposed building was modified in 1946, construction started again in 1947 and the new design required the demolition of the original foundations. The building was substantially completed in 1956. The building is claimed to have been the largest Australian office building when completed. It was renamed as the John Gorton Building in 1999.

The major development at the northern end of the land axis was the construction of the Australian War Memorial. The site was agreed in 1923 and in 1928 Griffin expressed the view that the proposed site was suitable for the memorial. Construction began in 1928 but was not completed until 1941.

Although a memorial to King George V was proposed in 1936 it was not until 1941 that the architectural part was constructed but the bronze figure was not developed until after World War II. It was unveiled in 1953 but attracted criticism for blocking the vista to the Australian War Memorial. In 1968 King George Terrace was realigned and the memorial (RNE 17988) was moved to its current location west of the land axis, on a corner of the

western part of the National Rose Garden.

In 1955 a Select Senate Committee of Inquiry urged tree planting and landscape works to be undertaken in Canberra under the direction of the National Capital Development Commission. The Commission sought guidance from landscape designers including Lord William Holford and Dame Sylvia Crowe. Holford recommended that a predominantly Australian character be retained around Lake Burley Griffin with autumn coloured foliage trees used in a dramatic way. Parliament House was to be built on the lakeside with a great forecourt. In 1968 the lakeshore location was rejected in favour of Camp Hill or Capital Hill. During the 1960s, the landscaping of the Parliamentary Triangle was modified to create more formality in Parkes Place. This included realigning roads, installing the four fountains in the pools in the land axis, paving and the relocation King George V statue.

The National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) Act of 1957 set in motion a significant phase in the development of Canberra with the support of Robert Menzies Liberal government. The report of British Town Planner Sir William Holford stressed the need for 'unified design' for Canberra. This view was supported by the Senate Select Committee which propagated Holford's concept of a 'park like landscape...in the heart of Canberra, in which monumental buildings functioned both as symbols of government and of Australian unity'. The visual design of this landscape, the views along the main axial lines and avenues as well as the grouping of monumental buildings were considered to be the elements upon which the success of Canberra as a city of world standing depended. Holford's recommendations included siting the future houses of parliament on the lakeside and developing two monumental buildings on the municipal axis north of a new road connection, which became Parkes Way. The NCDC's acceptance of the Holford vision set the design context for the completion of Anzac Parade and the construction of the Portal Buildings under the direction of NCDC architects and planners. The Portal Buildings have heritage significance (RNE 101058).

After a number of schemes for Canberra's lake, detailed planning of the Lake edges was begun in 1954. Lake Burley Griffin (RNE 101595) was created in 1964 by the damming of the Molonglo River by Scrivener Dam. It reached its predicted level of 556 metres in the same year. The northern shore of the lake between Commonwealth and Kings Avenues was landscaped from about this time to create Commonwealth and Kings Parks. In 1970, two vertical features were opened in the central basin of the lake. The Carillon, located on Aspen Island in the eastern part of the central basin, was a gift from the British Government to mark the fiftieth Jubilee of the founding of Canberra in 1963. In the western part of the central basin is the Captain Cook Memorial water jet commissioned by the National Capital Development Commission as part of the Cook Bicentenary year. In 1968 a small restaurant was built on a corner of the western part of the National Rose Garden.

NCDC architect and landscape architect Gareth Roberts and architect and landscape architect Richard Clough collaborated on the design of Anzac Parade and its architectural elements at this time. The two Portal Buildings, Anzac Park East and Anzac Park West, were completed in 1965 and 1966 respectively. With the establishment of the Australian War Memorial in the 1940s, the surrounding landscape was imbued with an associated symbolic character. This included the creation of Anzac Park and Anzac Parade. Anzac Park became the setting for a series of memorials commemorating Australian involvement and sacrifice in war. Anzac Parade was opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Anzac Day 1965, the fiftieth anniversary of the landing of the Anzacs at Gallipoli. It is the setting for a series of memorials commemorating Australian involvement and sacrifice in war and is the major national venue for the Anzac Day March and other ceremonies to commemorate those who served Australia in times of conflict. It has a deep symbolism for many Australians and its vista, linking the Memorial with Parliament House, adds aesthetic and emotional value to the place, which has become part of one of the major

cultural landscapes of Australia. The notion of a ceremonial space of this grandeur is not found elsewhere in Australia.

Over time the spaces flanking the land axis to the south of the Lake have been filled with government buildings of varying character. These include the Treasury Building established 1967-70, the National Library in 1968, the High Court (RNE 102823) in 1980, National Gallery (RNE 102 824) in 1982 and the National Science and Technology Centre in 1988. Associated with the Gallery is the extensive and significant Sculpture Garden (RNE 18917) established in 1982.

In 1972 an informal Aboriginal Embassy was established in front of Old Parliament House. The Embassy became the focus of a campaign for land and other rights for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In 1992 the Embassy was re-established (RNE 18843).

The most recent major change to the central National area was the construction of a new Parliament House on Capital Hill (RNE 17836). In 1974, The site of Capital Hill for Parliament House, was chosen by a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament. An Act of Parliament extended Parliamentary jurisdiction over work in the Parliamentary Triangle, henceforth known as the Parliamentary Zone. Completed in 1988, the building has resulted in a number of significant changes to the area. The relocation of the Parliament to the new building left the Old Parliament House without its original use. The construction of the building also resulted in the levelling of Camp Hill, Griffin's intended location for a Parliament House and its incorporation into the broader formal landscape of the new Federation Mall. Finally, the new Parliament House involved the construction of a large complex of buildings and extensive new landscape areas. The changes affected most of Capital Hill. The winning design, by Mitchell, Giurgola and Thorp Architects, considered the land axis of Canberra as the fundamental gesture of the City, a line around which all other design has evolved in circular and radial directions (Reid 2002).

During 2001-2002 new designed features were constructed across the Land Axis of the Vista landscape. These are Commonwealth Place and Reconciliation Place. In addition, a rotunda with exhibition, called Magna Carta Place is located to the west of the former Senate Garden.

Following the construction of Parliament House, emphasis was placed on the landscape of the Parliament Zone. The development of Federation Mall with its trees and central space was to balance Anzac Parade and to complete the visual Land Axis from Capital Hill to the War Memorial.

Use

By the turn of the century (200-2001), the area was used for countless public events. These include memorial services such as the Anzac Day March and the Dawn Service, public protest demonstrations, celebration events, sporting activities, water races, art displays, fireworks and large-sale concerts. In addition it is used by people informally for weddings, picnics, and fairs. The area is a popular destination for tourists and schoolchildren.

DESCRIPTION

The central National area of Canberra is an extensive cultural landscape comprising buildings, roads, parks, tree plantings and a lake. The area is designated for Parliamentary and National Capital uses. The major features of the area include: Parliament House with its gardens and paved areas, State Circle Cutting (geological feature) (RNE 13321), Old Parliament House and curtilage (RNE 13278), East Block (RNE 19963), West Block and the Dugout (100476), the John Gorton Building (RNE 19128), the National Gallery of Australia (RNE 102824), the High Court of Australia (RNE 102823), the High Court - National Gallery precinct (RNE 102721), National Science and

Technology Centre, the National Library of Australia (RNE 13369), Treasury Building, National Rose Gardens (RNE 19119), The Sculpture Garden of the National Gallery (RNE 18917), King George V Memorial (RNE 17988), Aboriginal Embassy (RNE 18843), the Portal Buildings (RNE 101058), Australian War Memorial (RNE 13286) and memorials along Anzac Parade, Aspen Island, the Carillon (RNE 183730), Kings Park, HMAS Canberra Memorial, Merchant Navy Memorial, Blundell's Cottage (RNE 13324), Commonwealth Park, Kings Park, the Peace Park, Regatta Point Exhibition Building and Restaurant, Captain Cook Memorial Water Jet, the Lakeshore Promenade, and extensive mature plantings and avenues of trees such as those along Anzac Parade. The area also includes fountains, roads, car parks, landscaped areas, a restaurant, kiosk and the residence of the Catholic Archbishop. The spaces, particularly the Land Axis, are a major feature.

The central National area has a strong sense of symmetry based on the land axis. The Parliament House, Old Parliament House and Australian War Memorial are located on the axis. In addition, the landscape features of Federation Mall, Parkes Place (the landscape feature not the roads) and Anzac Parade are also located on the axis. Other major features in the area are generally balanced about the axis such as: East and West Blocks, the gardens of Old Parliament House, the Portal Buildings, the eastern and western parts of the National Rose Gardens, Administrative and Treasury Buildings, the National Gallery/High Court group and the National Library/National Science and Technology Centre group, as well as the Carillon and Captain Cook Memorial water jet. The road system also generally reflects the symmetrical planning of the area based on the land axis.

The Anzac Parade Memorials comprises two main components, Anzac Parade and Anzac Park. Either side of Anzac Parade is bounded by Anzac Park. Treed sloping grassy strips contain 10 symmetrically placed aprons prepared for national memorials. In 2002 there were 11 memorials on Anzac Parade, tributes to the men and women of the Australian military. These memorials are: (1) the Australian Hellenic Memorial, Limestone Avenue intersection, (2) the Australian Army Memorial, near Currong Street, (3) the Australian National Korean Memorial, near Currong Street, (4) the Australian Vietnam forces National Memorial, opposite Booroondara Street, (5) the Desert Mounted Corps Memorial, opposite Amaroo Street (commonly known as the Light Horse Memorial), (6) the New Zealand Memorial (7) the Rats of Tobruk Memorial, opposite (5), (8) Royal Australian Air Force Memorial, opposite Page Street, (9) the Australian Service Nurses Memorial, (10) the Royal Australian Navy Memorial, and (11) Kemal Ataturk Memorial, Fairbairn Avenue intersection.

The array of mature tree plantings are all regarded as important. Some are classified as notable by Pryor and Banks (1991) and these include *CALOCEDRUS DECURRENS* on King George Terrace planted in 1927, *CUPRESSUS ARIZONICA* planted in 1926 on King George Terrace, *EUCALYPTUS GLOBULUS* at the Australian War Memorial, *E. MAIDENII* group planted c 1927. Commemorative trees in the Parkes area, include the *CUPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS* 'Stricta' planted in 1926 by nine members of the Empire Parliamentary Association, *ARAUCARIA Bidwilli* PLANTED BY THE duke of York in 1927 to commemorate his visit to Canberra to open the first Parliament House and *CUPRESSUS ARIZONICA*, planted by the wife of the then United States President, Mrs Lady Bird Johnson, at the time of their visit to Canberra in 1966. Within Commonwealth Park are a *QUERCUS ROBUR* planted by Princess Marina in 1964, and a *CURRESSUS GLABRA* planted by Mrs Lady Bird Johnson. Within the curtilage of the Australian War Memorial is a *PINUS HALPENSIS* planted by the Duke of Gloucester in 1934, believed to have been raised from seed from a cone collected from Lone Pine Ridge, Gallipoli in 1915. Also in curtilage is a *EUCALYPTUS NICHOLII* to replace the *E. PAUCOFORA*

planted by Queen Elizabeth in 1954 to mark the beginning of the Remembrance Driveway to Sydney (Pryor and Banks 1991).

History: Not Available

Condition and Integrity:

The central National area is an extensive cultural landscape with a variety of landscape and building features. Individual elements vary in their condition and integrity. At a general level, the area is in fair to good condition. The values relating to the cultural landscape design and special association with Griffin are degraded by the changes made over time to Griffin's plan. The location of Old Parliament House, removal of Camp Hill, location of the new Parliament House and parts of the road layout as constructed are all variations from Griffin's plan. Given these changes, the area displays only a poor to medium level of integrity with regard to these values. In 1994 the National Capital Planning Authority released details of the Central National Area Design Study. This includes proposals for significant changes to the area.

Location:

The whole of the area bounded by the northern alignment of State Circle, the western alignment of Kings Avenue, the southern alignment of Parkes Way and the eastern alignment of Commonwealth Avenue; the whole of Anzac Parade and Anzac Park and the whole of Section 39, Campbell.

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Attachment G

EPBC referral – impact table

Table 1 - The following table includes significance criteria taken from the DEH guidelines¹. It provides a comprehensive summary of the potential impact on the official Commonwealth Heritage values of the Parliament House Vista.

Impacts on heritage:	Yes / No	Comments
Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will:		
Permanently destroy, remove or substantially alter the fabric (physical material including structural elements and other components, fixtures, contents and object s) of a heritage place.	No	Alteration will occur to an area within the PHV through the landscape proposal; however, the PHV heritage values of the place will not be impacted. The proposed ramp through the NLA Forecourt will permanently involve the removal of fabric. The reason is for equitable access within a public space.
Involve extension, renovation or substantial alteration of a heritage place in a manner which is inconsistent with the heritage values of the place	Yes	The proposed ramp through the NLA Forecourt will permanently involve the removal of fabric. The reason is for equitable access within a public space.
Involve the erection of the buildings or other structures adjacent to, or within important sightlines of, a heritage place which are inconsistent with the heritage values of the place;	No	Alteration will occur to an area within the PHV; however, there will be no impact on the Land Axis of the PHV. The proposed landscape of Stage 1 will improve the sightlines from the National Library of Australia to the National Gallery of Australia/ High Court Precinct (east-west visual corridor).
Substantially diminish the heritage value of a heritage place for a community or group for which it is significant;	No	The Stage 1 proposal will not diminish the heritage value of the PHV. Enhancement of the National Library of Australia Forecourt heritage values will largely be achieved. Improved public access and anew to Questacon will be achieved
Substantially alter the setting of a heritage place in a manner which is inconsistent with the heritage values of the place; or	No	The proposal will alter a small area of the PHV conservation area. However, the alteration does not impact on the 'setting' of the PHV. The proposal is consistent with the Commonwealth heritage values of the place.
Substantially restrict or inhibit the existing use of a heritage place as a cultural or ceremonial site?	No	The Stage 1 proposal will allow for improved public access to the major institutions (NLA and Questacon) in the PHV- campus area.

¹ EPBC Act Policy Statement 1.2 Significant Impact Guidelines, DEH May 2006