

Central Precinct Renewal Program

Aboriginal Heritage Study
Addendum

August 2023

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Acknowledgement of Country

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Central Precinct, the Gadigal and recognise the importance of the place to Aboriginal people and their continuing connection to Country and culture. We pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

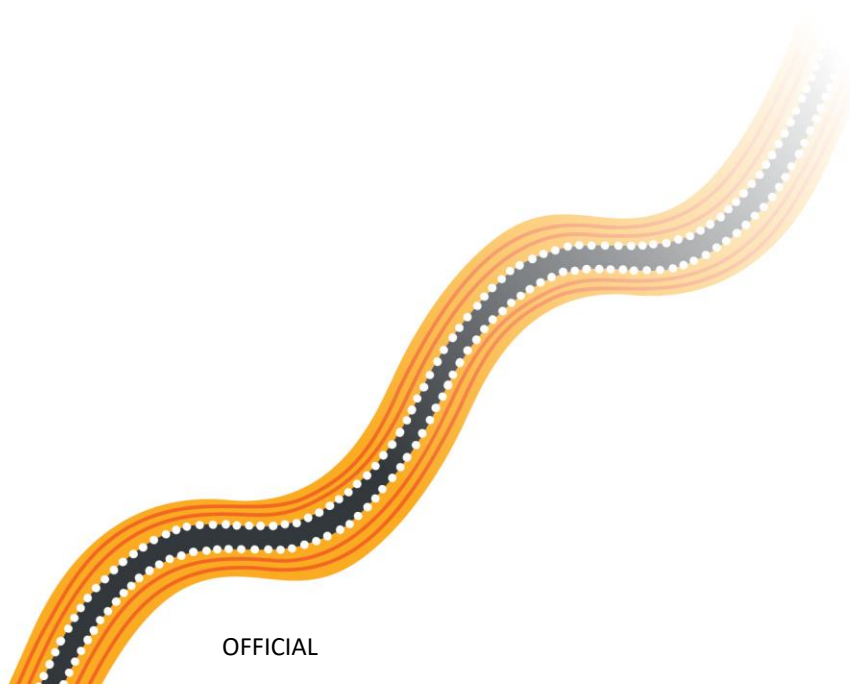


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Versions

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1	Minor amendments as per TfNSW review of Preliminary Draft
2	Final draft
3	Final

1. Introduction

The purpose of this Addendum is to

- Summarise feedback received from the public exhibition of SSP Study, specifically relating the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study
- Respond to key technical matters raised during the public exhibition to inform the Response to Submissions Report for Central Precinct
- Assess the proposed changes to the revised scheme for Central Precinct relating to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study
- Provide additional recommendations for the proposed planning framework for Central Precinct, relating to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study

This Addendum is intended to be read in conjunction with the exhibited Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study. It is noted that updates have also been made to the Connecting with Country framework to specifically respond to comments received in relation to Aboriginal values, embedding Country, community, and culture into the precinct.

2. The exhibited SSP Study

The Central SSP Study and supporting documents were made available for public comment from 22 August to 4 October 2022. During the exhibition period, community members and stakeholders were invited to provide their comments and feedback on the rezoning proposal.

2.1 The exhibited proposal

The exhibited rezoning proposal included a Place Strategy, Urban Design Framework, Public Domain Strategy, draft Design Guide, Explanation of Intended Effect and supporting technical studies, which seek to enable the delivery of:

- approximately 269,500 square metres of commercial gross floor area GFA.
- approximately 22,850 square metres of retail GFA
- approximately 47,250 square metres of education/ tech GFA
- approximately 14,300 square metres of community/cultural GFA
- approximately 84,900 square metres of residential GFA
- approximately 53,600 square metres of hotel GFA.
- approximately 22,500 square metres of student accommodation GFA.
- 15% of new dwellings to be provided as affordable housing
- over two hectares of new and improved publicly accessible spaces, including:
 - Central Square, a new approximately 7,000 square metre publicly accessible square located at the George Street and Pitt Street junction
 - Central Green, a new approximately 6,000 square metre publicly accessible park located immediately south of the Sydney Terminal building
 - Mortuary Station Plaza, an approximately 4,470 square metre publicly accessible plaza (excluding the Mortuary Station building) located at Mortuary Station
 - Sydney Terminal building western rooftop, a 970 square metre publicly accessible space above the Terminal building roof
 - upgrades to Eddy Avenue Plaza and Ibero-American Plaza.
- an integrated network of streets, laneways and other movement corridors, including:
 - Central Avenue, as Central Precinct's new main street
 - Devonshire Link, as Central Precinct's main east-west linking street
 - a north-south link as an intimately scaled, active laneway
 - a supporting network of other open-to-the-sky laneways generally running east-west through the Precinct
 - a number of through-block links to provide further permeability for pedestrians
 - an eastern colonnade having a generous, double-storey height
 - three new active transport over-rail bridges
 - a revitalised Goods Line.

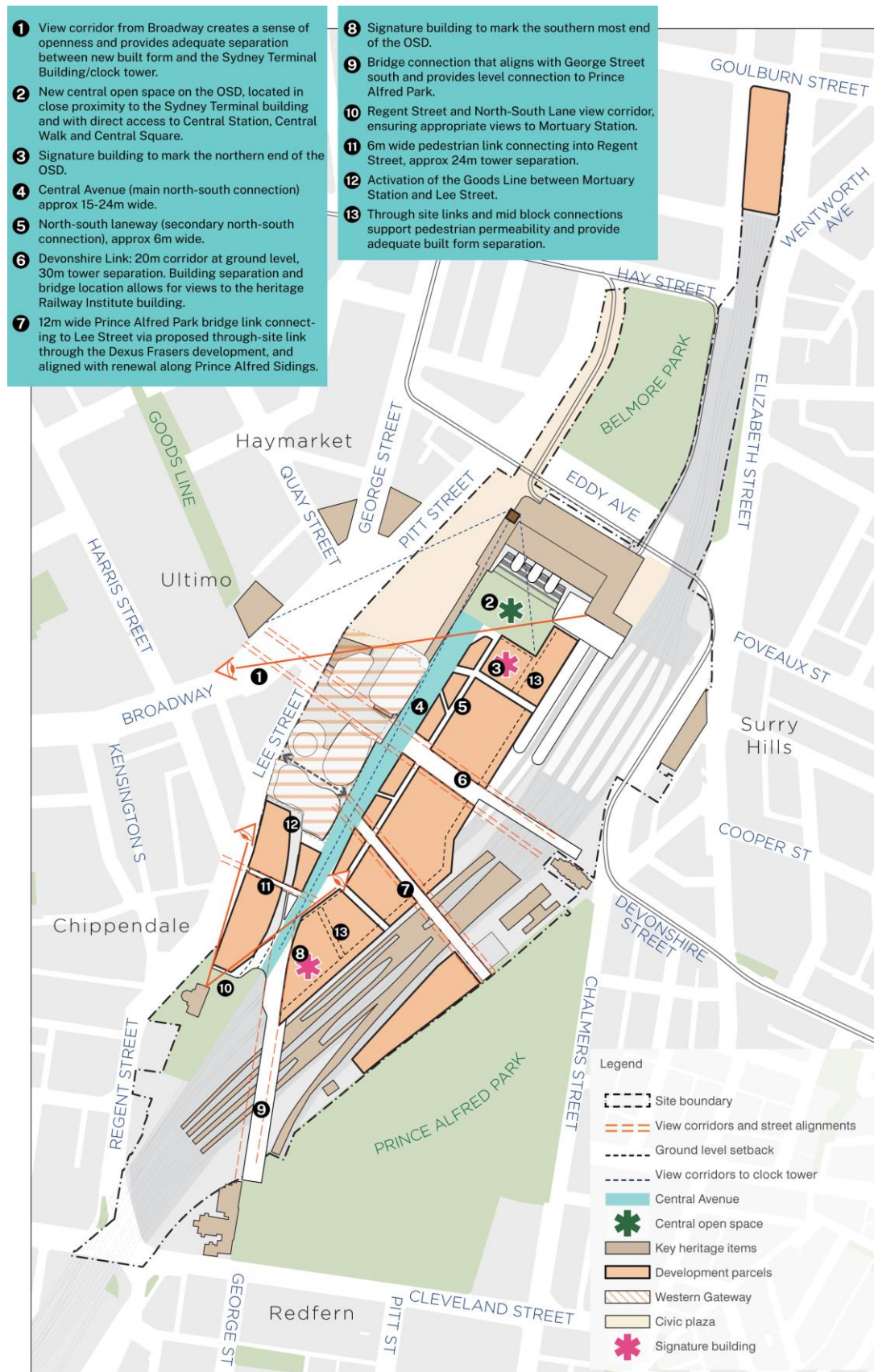


Figure 1: Exhibited Urban Design Framework (Source: Architectus, 2022)

3. Feedback relating to Aboriginal heritage received during exhibition

A total of 368 submissions were received from individuals, local council, government agencies, industry bodies, non-government organisations, and interest groups. The tables below provide an overview of the feedback submissions from key stakeholders, industry experts and community relating to Aboriginal heritage, and Artefact Heritage’s response to these submissions.

3.1 Agency submissions

Table 1: Summary of feedback from public exhibition relating to Aboriginal heritage from agencies.

Submission	Artefact Heritage Response
<p><i>The City of Sydney</i></p> <p><i>The proposed approach to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage is commendable, especially the recommendations contained within the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study. In particular, the following recommendations are particularly useful to guide the management of Aboriginal heritage significance within the precinct:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>- Inclusion of Aboriginal expertise within architectural/design teams in co-design roles</i><i>- Ongoing consultation with Aboriginal knowledge holders and establishment of an Aboriginal reference group during and for future planning for development</i><i>- Adoption of the Connecting with Country framework (Balarinji 2022)</i>	<p>Noted.</p>

<p>Submission 331001 (Heritage Council of NSW)</p> <p><i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage</i></p> <p><i>The identification of Aboriginal cultural heritage values and consultation with Aboriginal people should be guided by the procedures outlined in the ACHS, CPDG, Central Precinct Renewal Program – Aboriginal Engagement Strategy, and the following documents:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW;</i> • <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010; and</i> • <i>Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW.</i> <p><i>If additional significant Aboriginal cultural heritage values are identified, options to avoid impact to these values need to be explored, for example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Where the significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage values has been assessed as high, conservation and avoidance of these values in precinct design should always be the first option; and</i> <p><i>If impact cannot be avoided or if the values have been assessed as moderate, appropriate mitigation measures should be negotiated with the registered Aboriginal parties.</i></p>	<p>The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study has been guided by these key documents (see Section 4.2 and Section 5 of the ACHS)</p> <p>We recommend an additional provision in the Design Guidelines to cover the possibility that Botany sand sheet is identified outside the area marked as high archaeological potential and to trigger the requirement for further Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment if this occurs. The following should be added to Design Guidelines Section 11.4 Archaeology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where grey sands demonstrated to represent the former intact dune surface are located during construction in areas of low archaeological potential, further assessment and investigation would be required in order to manage and mitigate impacts to Aboriginal objects. If archaeological investigation is recommended it would be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project. <p>It should be noted that as the Light Rail archaeological program (which extended across the Botany sand sheet from Central to Randwick) and archaeological excavations undertaken at Central to date have demonstrated – the presence of sand does not automatically mean moderate or high archaeological potential. Intact landforms within the Botany sand sheet which include the former dune surface may have potential if in the vicinity of watercourses or swamps but in general the presence of dune surfaces away from resource features or truncated dunes do not have archaeological potential.</p>
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3.2 Community submissions

Table 2: Summary of feedback from public exhibition relating to Aboriginal heritage from community submissions

Submission	Response
<p>SUBMISSION 331116</p> <p>While we welcome the renewal of Central Station proper to accommodate an anticipated increase in public transport users, we believe greater consideration of the proposal's housing, heritage, and morphological impact is required. The scale of the proposed structures will undoubtedly impact their surroundings: particularly the low-rise, finer grain housing and existing buildings in the neighbouring suburbs of Chippendale, Surry Hills and Redfern, as well as important heritage sites such as Mortuary Station.</p> <p>With regard to the proposal's heritage components, we also note the significance of the Central Precinct to Aboriginal communities, whose history is closely entwined with that of the station and its surrounds. We believe that in addition to heritage interpretation on the site, this history could be honoured through the provision of dedicated Aboriginal-owned and managed affordable housing.</p> <p>Beyond this, further consideration of the amount of community/cultural space to be created is necessary to ensure this is commensurate with the proposed number of new dwellings: the 14,300m2 currently proposed is not adequate to provide sufficient amenity, nor is the proposed allotment of public open space.</p>	<p>The significance of Country in this location has been the focus of consultations with Aboriginal knowledge holders, community members and Registered Aboriginal Parties over a two year period, and recommendations to honour and explore cultural connections have been addressed by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study (Section 14), and the Heritage Interpretation Strategy (Section 17) and specifically in the Connecting with Country Framework for this project.</p> <p>See Connecting with Country Framework for response to comments about space allocations.</p>

<p>SUBMISSION 331696</p> <p>Such an ambitious project has the potential to speak to the Australian public and our visitors in a different way – a way that recognises our First Nations people and their culture as our own – a culture to be proud of and to celebrate. In collaboration with the people of the Eora Nation, stories can be shared and brought to the fore as stories that belong to all of us. Co-design must be a key element of all aspects of the redevelopment. We continue to hope for some tangible recognition of First Australian's use of important elements. The current language on recognition of the pre-colonial history of this area is dismissive at best.</p> <p>Recommendation 1 – Co-design this precinct with First Nations people, appropriately recognising First Nations' cultural connections to the area.</p>	<p>The Connecting with Country Framework recognises and foregrounds First Nations cultural connections to Country (see Connecting with Country Framework, Balarinji, 2023). Both the ACHS and the Connecting with Country Framework promote a co-design process. The ACHS (Section 14) recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Aboriginal expertise should be included in specific roles within architectural/design teams in a co-design process for future development within the Central SSP, aligned with the recommendations in the site-specific Connecting with Country framework</i> - <i>Sustained consultation with Aboriginal knowledge holders should be continued during future planning for development within the Central SSP.</i> - <i>Consultation with RAPs should be undertaken in accordance with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010) during future planning for development within the Central SSP. RAPs should participate in any archaeological management.</i> - <i>Consider the establishment of an Aboriginal reference group to guide the design and interpretation for future planning approvals within the Central SSP.</i> <p>The Heritage Interpretation Strategy (Section 17) also recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ensure early engagement with Aboriginal communities/knowledge holders through a structured ongoing engagement strategy.</i> - <i>Establish an Aboriginal reference group for TfNSW works to inform planning.</i> - <i>Develop and implement a site specific Connecting with Country framework and a co-design process to establish cultural design principles, based on respectful and collaborative engagement throughout all the planning, development, and construction stages.</i> - <i>Ensure an appreciation by project teams of the concept of Aboriginal inter-connectedness with Country, supported by a cultural awareness training program. Include Aboriginal expertise in specific roles within the architectural/design team</i> - <i>Ensure Aboriginal spatial designers are involved in the design of Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretive elements</i> - <i>Engage Aboriginal artists/designers, with appropriate permissions and intellectual property rights in place, to work with the design team (also linked to the Public Art Strategy, 2023).</i> - <i>Ensure future development is connected to and cohesive with neighbouring precincts with strong Aboriginal cultural values, such as Redfern Station and the Redfern North Eveleigh State Significant Precinct.</i>
<p>SUBMISSION 331817</p> <p><i>The Aboriginal Heritage section of the SSP report advises that only one registered AHIMS site (AHIMS ID 45-6-3654) (CRS AS01) located adjacent to Devonshire Street Creek was identified. (p126 + Fig 60). CRS AS01 comprises aboriginal artefacts found within the intact natural sands. The proposed urban design framework does not propose to impact this location. It is concluded that 'due to the disruption and fragmentation of soils as a result of ongoing development of Central Precinct since the 19th century, there would not be a significant adverse archaeological impact'. (p 126)</i></p>	<p>Cross-section of platforms 1-13 taken from Geotech studies show that the sand is a thin lens north of the baggage tunnel before becoming deeper near the concourse building. That deeper section of sand was not encountered during CSM – only clay north of baggage tunnel.</p> <p>South of the identified extent of AHIMS ID 45-6-3654 geotech and previous excavations have mainly encountered fill, clay, and bedrock – not sand. The</p>

<p><i>It is possible that Aboriginal archaeological potential may have been underassessed. The possibility of deeper deposits remaining below the level of Central Station and Sydney Yard cannot be discounted. Geotechnical evidence of the soil profile along the rail corridor at Central Station shows that a significant (up to 3 metres) sand layer (Botany Sands) may be substantially intact below rail ballast and backfill. To date, only limited impacts have encountered this layer. Greater impacts may encounter more Aboriginal archaeology.</i></p>	<p>deepest part of the profile is within AHIMS ID 45-6-3654.</p> <p>Hand excavation has been undertaken in the upper, Holocene, portion of the sand profile. Push tube investigation was undertaken for CSM – no artefacts were identified in the deeper, Pleistocene sands.</p> <p>It should be noted that as the Light Rail archaeological program (which extended across the Botany sand sheet from Central to Randwick) and archaeological excavations undertaken at Central to date have demonstrated – the presence of sand does not automatically mean moderate or high archaeological potential. Intact landforms within the Botany sand sheet which include the former dune surface may have potential if in the vicinity of watercourses or swamps but in general the presence of dune surfaces away from resource features or truncated dunes do not have archaeological potential.</p>
<p>SUBMISSION 332481</p> <p>Tokenistic incorporation of Aboriginal Culture</p> <p>It is noted that although there appears to be an effort to link with indigenous groups the juggernaut of high-rise development is marching on with this proposal. A statement from the Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group person Phil Khan (Kadibulla Khan) in part states “the process of development is destructive to our rich cultural heritage....”. The implications of this are not dwelt upon and here is more open space being proposed for city blocks. The real issue of returning land is not negotiable and instead the NSW Government will consider opportunities to ensure Aboriginal history, arts and cultural heritage are a key part of any future plans for the area. This is all very superficial and the upshot is further overdevelopment of Aboriginal land and once again the real agenda is more intense development.</p>	<p>Extensive consultation with Aboriginal knowledge holders, community members and Registered Aboriginal Parties has occurred as part of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study, the Connecting with Country Framework and the Heritage Interpretation Strategy for this project. Recommendations relating to incorporation of Aboriginal culture into the design and planning for this project are included in these studies.</p>

4. Responses to key issues raised

This Addendum assesses the potential heritage impacts to the Aboriginal archaeology, and intangible and social values that would result from the proposed changes in the masterplan design, dated April 2023. It also highlights additional impact assessments in response to submissions received.

These comments are limited to the proposed changes to the masterplan design only. Further Aboriginal heritage impact assessments would be required in future design development stages of the project.

Response to masterplan revisions

The proposed changes to the masterplan do not alter the heritage impact assessment and recommendations from the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study. The increase in public space afforded by the proposed changes to the masterplan in Sub-precinct 3: Northern OSD (Devonshire Square, Southern Plaza) and Sub-precinct 5: Regent Street Sidings (Mortuary Station surrounds) provide increased opportunities to implement the recommendation from the Aboriginal Heritage Study that states:

- Planning for all future developments with the Central SSP should address the recommendations of the site-specific Connecting with Country framework (Balarinji 2023), the Aboriginal interpretation recommendations of the Central SSP HIS (Artefact Heritage, 2023) and the recommendations in relation to Aboriginal-led public art of the Central SSP Public Art Strategy (Cultural Capital, 2023)

Response to submissions

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study, based on the masterplan design which went to Public Exhibition in June 2022, summarised the impacts as per below. Additional impacts, in response to submissions received, have been added in italics:

Table 3. Summary of impacts to Aboriginal heriatge

impact type	Assessment	Summary
Archaeological	Generally, the Central SSP site has a low archaeological potential and low significance', however some areas within the site are noted to have high archaeological potential for the presence of Aboriginal objects. Any works occurring within the areas of high potential are likely to impact Aboriginal objects.	The likelihood of impact to Aboriginal objects will not be known until detailed investigations are undertaken as part of any future proposed excavations. <i>Impacts to Aboriginal objects are unlikely outside the extent of AHIMS ID 45-6-3654, however in areas outside the registered site where Aboriginal archaeological potential is assessed to be low there may be impacts to localised areas of buried Botany Sands. The potential for Aboriginal objects to be located in the remnant sands away from the former creek line (within AHIMS ID 45-6-3654) is low but due to the rarity of the deposit in the urban environment further archaeological assessment and investigation would be</i>

		<i>undertaken if the former dune surface (grey sands) were located during construction within area of low archaeological potential. This investigation would aim to minimise any impacts to Aboriginal objects that may be located in the areas of low archaeological potential.</i>
Cumulative	The Central SSP renewal would result in a further reduction in the archaeological potential of the region and subsequently result in a cumulative impact.	The nature of the cumulative impact would be dependent on the scientific and cultural significance of any Aboriginal objects identified.
Intangible and social	Opportunities for positive impacts are identified in the planning, design development, construction and operation of the Central SSP, subject to the adoption of recommendations identified in the Connecting with Country Framework, Heritage Interpretation Strategy and Public Art Strategy, as well as recommendations for empowering Aboriginal communities and provisions for culture inclusion in the planning documents for the precinct development..	Positive impact (if recommendations from the Aboriginal Heritage Study are followed)

A new recommendation related to archaeology, in addition to those listed in Section 14.3 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study (pages 72-73) , should be added:

- Where grey sands demonstrated to represent the former intact dune surface are located during construction in areas of low archaeological potential, further assessment and investigation would be required in order to manage and mitigate impacts to Aboriginal objects. If archaeological investigation is recommended it would be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project.

The submissions related to the extent of involvement and connectedness to Country further highlight the importance of adhering to the existing recommendations from the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study (Section 14.3), such as:

- Aboriginal expertise should be included in specific roles within architectural/design teams in a co-design process for future development within the Central SSP, aligned with the recommendations in the site-specific Connecting with Country framework
- Sustained consultation with Aboriginal knowledge holders should be continued during future planning for development within the Central SSP.
- Consultation with RAPs should be undertaken in accordance with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (2010) during future planning for development within the Central SSP. RAPs should participate in any archaeological management.

- Consider the establishment of an Aboriginal reference group to guide the design and interpretation for future planning approvals within the Central SSP.

Changes to Design Guidelines.

It is recommended that a further point be added to the Design Guidelines, Section 11.4: Archaeology, in response to submissions, which states:

- Where grey sands demonstrated to represent the former intact dune surface are located during construction in areas of low archaeological potential, further assessment and investigation would be required in order to manage and mitigate impacts to Aboriginal objects. If archaeological investigation is recommended it would be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project.

5. The revised proposal

Based on the feedback received during the public exhibition of the Central Precinct rezoning proposal, a revised proposal has been prepared for DPIE's consideration as part of its assessment. The revised proposal includes an updated Urban Design Framework and Public Domain Strategy, which establishes the updated Reference Masterplan and has informed updates to the proposed planning framework for Central Precinct. The updated Reference Masterplan comprises:

- approximately 263,000 square metres of commercial gross floor area (GFA).
- approximately 24,450 square metres of retail GFA
- approximately 46,000 square metres of education/ tech GFA
- approximately 14,800 square metres of community/ cultural GFA
- approximately 82,350 square metres of residential GFA
- approximately 53,000 square metres of hotel GFA.
- approximately 20,700 square metres of student accommodation GFA.
- 30% of new dwellings to be provided as affordable housing
- over two hectares of new and improved publicly accessible spaces, including:
 - Central Square, a new approximately 7,000 square metre publicly accessible open space located at the junction of George Street and Pitt Streets at street level
 - Central Green, a new approximately 6,200 square metre publicly accessible open space located immediately south of the Sydney Terminal building at deck level, including the Sydney Terminal building western rooftop
 - Devonshire Square, an approximately 3,700 square metre publicly accessible plaza at the junction of Central Avenue and the Devonshire link
 - Southern Plaza, an approximately 4700 square metre publicly accessible plaza at the junction of Central Avenue and the George Street Bridge
 - Mortuary Station Plaza, an approximately 6,500 square metre (excluding the Mortuary Station building) publicly accessible plaza located at street level at the junction of the Mortuary Station and the Goods Line
 - upgrades to Eddy Avenue Plaza and Ibero-American Plaza.
- an integrated network of streets, laneways and other movement corridors, including:
 - Central Avenue, as Central Precinct's new main street
 - Devonshire Link, as Central Precinct's main east-west sequence
 - a north-south link as an intimately scaled, active laneway
 - a supporting network of other open-to-the-sky laneways generally running east-west through the Precinct
 - through-block links to provide further permeability for pedestrians
 - three active transport over-rail bridges
 - a revitalised Goods Line as an active transport corridor.

The key features of the updated Reference Masterplan, include:

- A network of new and enhanced public spaces linked together by green connections. This will include:

- A new Central Square that will deliver on the vision for a new public square at Central Station, as one of three major public spaces within the Sydney CBD connected by a people-friendly spine along George Street
- A Central Green (Dune Gardens) at the north of Central Precinct will create a new civic park extension of the Sydney Terminal building and a new vantage point for Central Sydney
- A new civic space (Devonshire Square) at the proposed entry/exit point to Central Walk from the OSD, giving access to all platforms within Central Station.
- Mortuary Station Plaza at Mortuary Station will be a key public domain interface between Chippendale and the over-station development and a public link to the Goods Line
- A reconfigured Southern Square at the southern end of the OSD deck will provide a new arrival and meeting space when coming from Redfern and a key connection to Redfern when coming from the city
- Henry Deane Plaza which will prioritise the pedestrian experience, improving connectivity and pedestrian legibility within the Western Gateway sub-precinct and provide clear, direct links to and from Central Station and its surrounds
- Eddy Avenue Plaza will transform into a more civic environment with improved amenity and an enhanced interface with the Sydney Terminal building.
- A new network of circulation spaces that are legible and provide for public access and use of the place. This will include:
 - Central Avenue, with a consistent minimum width of 18 metres located to provide long views of the Sydney Terminal Building clocktower. Central Avenue will be a place for people to dwell and move through while linking together a sequence of publicly accessible spaces on the OSD deck, including the Central Green, Devonshire Square and the Southern Plaza
 - A minimum 6-metre wide north-south laneway providing an additional intimate and active link between the sequence of publicly accessible spaces on the OSD deck, and opportunities for smaller courtyard experiences
 - Three new over-rail connections to enhance pedestrian and bicycle access to and from Surry Hills, Prince Alfred Park, Redfern and Chippendale and circulation to and through the Central Precinct
 - The extension of public access along the Goods Line offering a new connection to Darling Harbour from Mortuary Station Plaza
 - New vertical transportation locations throughout the precinct provide accessible vertical connections to the OSD.

The revised proposed land allocation for Central Precinct is described in **Table 4** below.

Table 4: Breakdown of allocation of land within Central Precinct

Land allocation	Proposed
Open-air rail corridor (Infrastructure)	89,781 sqm
Western Gateway	16,638 sqm
Developable area (Total)	131,593 sqm
Public Space (Including open space, squares, plazas, movement zones, streets and links)	71,603 sqm / 54.4 % of Developable area
Building area	59,990 sqm / 45.6 % of Developable area

Land allocation	Proposed
Central SSP total area	238,012 sqm (23.8 ha)

The revised Indicative Reference Master Plan for Central Precinct is illustrated in **Figure 2** below.

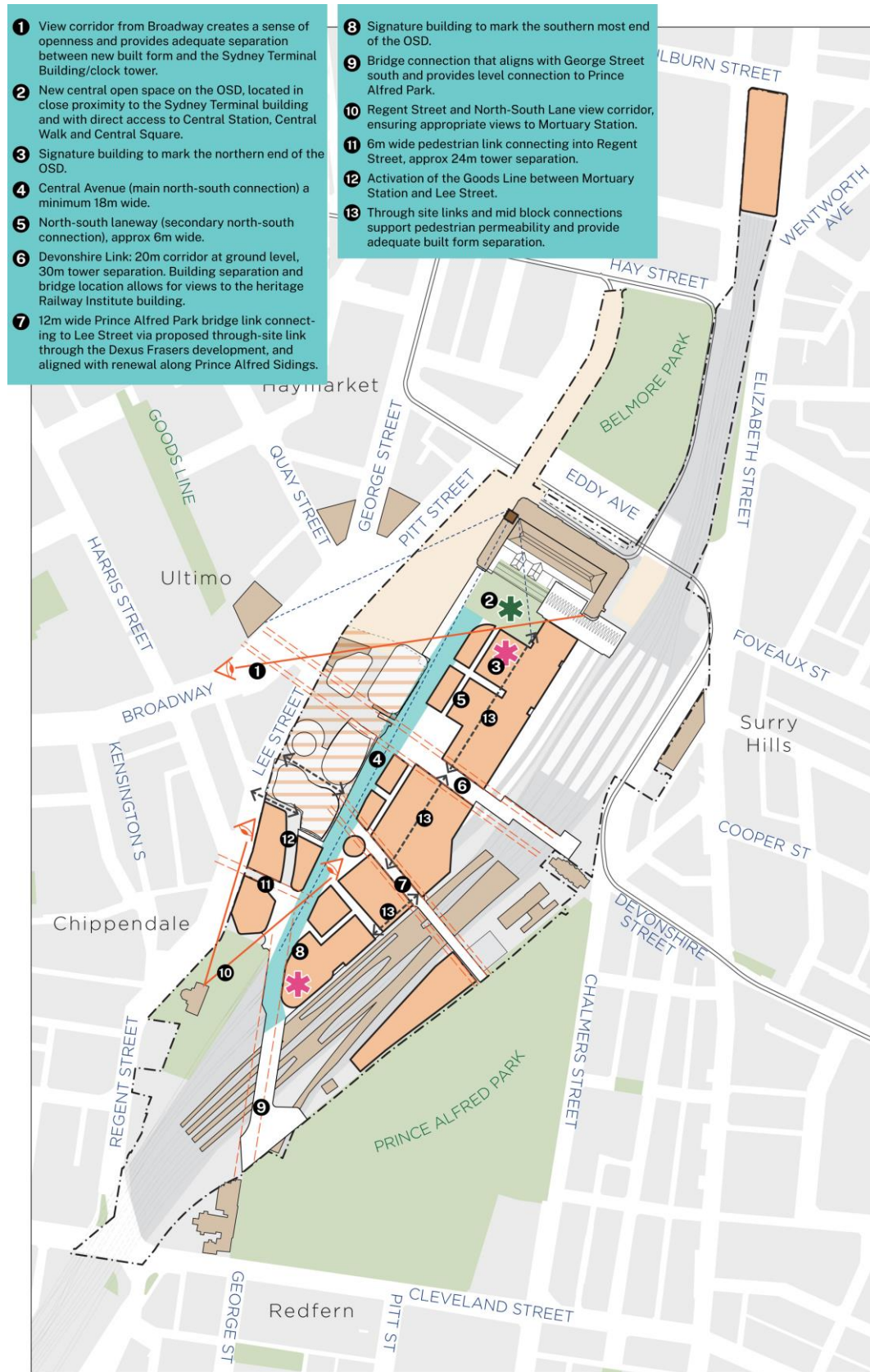


Figure 2: Revised Urban Design Framework (Source: Architectus, 2023)

5.1 Key changes from the exhibited proposal

The feedback on the exhibited rezoning proposal has informed subsequent amendments to the Reference Masterplan. A summary of the key changes adopted as part of the revised Reference Masterplan are described below:

- **Improved interface between Terminal and OSD:** The interface relationship between the OSD deck and the Terminal Building has been further rationalised to improve the function of the station as a major interchange and better respect the heritage of Central Railway Station. The following changes have been made:
 - a reduced spatial extent of the stairs between the OSD deck and the Terminal to now be a consolidated vertical connection (stairs, lift and escalators) to the north-eastern edge of Central Green
 - an expanded concourse level with greater access to daylight and new opportunities for landscaping that will improve the passenger experience on the platforms and in the concourse, compared to the exhibited proposal
 - incorporating an interpretation of the platform canopies to deliver a heritage-responsive and weather-protected connection.
- **Consistent 18-metre-wide Central Avenue:** A consistent width of 18 metres has been provided for Central Avenue. The future role and function of this link has been revised from an avenue between the north and south of the OSD deck to now becoming a connector of a sequence of public spaces on the OSD deck.
- **Additional mid-block through-site links:** The introduction of additional mid-block connections to reinforce breaking up the podiums on the OSD deck level into interconnected smaller building forms.
- **Removal of the Eastern Colonnade:** The eastern colonnade has been removed from the revised Reference Masterplan.
- **Reconfiguration of Central Green:** The layout of Central Green has been adjusted to be a squarer geometry compared to the exhibited proposal. The primary movement path through Central Green is now focused toward the southern and eastern edges of this open space. The indicative design of Central Green has also been adjusted to improve its relationship with the Terminal Building through the incorporation of seating and greater landscaping at the northern edge of the park.
- **An enlarged Mortuary Station Plaza:** The reduction of the podium building envelope of the Regent Street Sidings building brought about through changes to the bus layover and basement entry /exit pathways provide for an enlarged public space at Mortuary Station Plaza by 2,030 square metres to a total area of 6,500 square metres. The increase in the size of this public space also presents the opportunity to retain the existing fig tree at Mortuary Station and provide a new playground that is accessible to the broader community.
- **Devonshire Square:** A new square of approximately 2,700 square metres has been included into the revised Reference masterplan at the junction of Central Avenue and the Devonshire link, which will provide a new civic space at the entry point to the proposed extended Central Walk. (Central Walk will provide access to all of the rail platforms in Central).
- **Southern Plaza:** A new reconfigured civic space of approximately 4,700 square metres at the southern end of Central Avenue, providing a new arrival and meeting space when coming from the south. Within the Southern Plaza, there is the potential for a marker building that is designed with a Connecting with Country focus.
- **Regent Street Sidings:** The podium envelope at Regent Street Sidings has been further rationalised to improve the integration between the OSD deck level and Regent Street

Sidings, the Goods Line and Mortuary Station Plaza. This has been through the following changes:

- undergrounding the bus layover into the basement to enable the reduction of the podium footprint
 - consolidating basement entry/exit into a single location for loading, residential parking and bus layover
 - locating basement entry/exit at a signalised intersection
 - increase the opportunity to activate the Goods Line and Mortuary Station Plaza
 - extending the OSD deck level to integrate with the podium rooftop of Regent Street Sidings.
- **Increased green cover:** An increase to the overall green cover in the precinct has been adopted as part of the revised Reference Masterplan.
 - **Enhanced east-west view lines:** The indicative building envelopes on the OSD deck have been refined in location and shape to increase the separation of tower forms and enhance east-west view lines.
 - **Reduction in overall GFA:** Based on refinements to the Reference Masterplan, the overall proposed GFA of Central Precinct has reduced by approximately 10,600 square metres.

6. Assessment

Based on an assessment of the responses received, one further recommendation related to further archaeological assessment should be added to the exhibited Aboriginal Heritage Study Section 14.3 and to the Design Guidelines Section 11.4 Archaeology (See Section 7).

Based on an assessment of the revised masterplan, no other mitigation measures are required beyond those identified in the exhibited Aboriginal Heritage Study. Positively, the increased public space afforded by the introduction of an expanded Mortuary Station Plaza, a new Devonshire Square and a new Southern Plaza allow for an increase in opportunities for integrating Aboriginal heritage interpretation and Connecting with Country initiatives within the public realm.

It is noted that updates have also been made to the Connecting with Country framework to specifically respond to comments received in relation to Aboriginal values, embedding Country, community, and culture into the precinct.

7. Recommendations

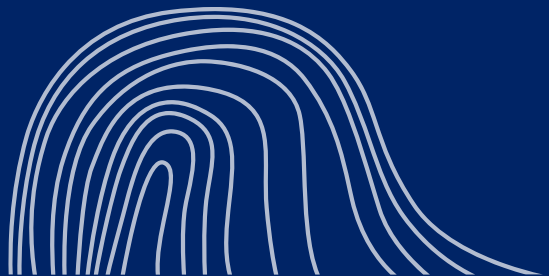
Based on the assessment of the revised masterplan framework and the submissions received, it is recommended that:

- An additional recommendation related to archaeology be added to the exhibited Aboriginal Heritage Study, Section 14.3:

Where grey sands demonstrated to represent the former intact dune surface are located during construction in areas of low archaeological potential, further assessment and investigation would be required in order to manage and mitigate impacts to Aboriginal objects. If archaeological investigation is recommended it would be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project.

- An additional point be added to the Design Guidelines, Section 11.4 Archaeology:

Where grey sands demonstrated to represent the former intact dune surface are located during construction in areas of low archaeological potential, further assessment and investigation would be required in order to manage and mitigate impacts to Aboriginal objects. If archaeological investigation is recommended it would be undertaken in consultation with the RAPs for the project.



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