



URBIS

# CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Great Synagogue, 187A  
Elizabeth Street, Sydney

Prepared for  
**THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE**  
15 September 2023



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Conservation Management Plan (CMP) was prepared for The Great Synagogue to manage the significance of The Great Synagogue located at 187A Elizabeth Street, Sydney. The purpose of this CMP is to guide the conservation and management of the significant elements of the site. It is also intended to assist the property owners and occupiers to manage maintenance and new works to the site. The CMP provides a careful analysis of the site in terms of heritage significance and context. Based on this analysis, conservation policies appropriate to the subject site have been provided. It is understood that this CMP will accompany an application to the City of Sydney for a Heritage Floor Space award.

## WHAT IS THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SITE?

The Great Synagogue is the earliest surviving synagogue within the Sydney metropolitan area and one of the earliest surviving synagogues within New South Wales. The Great Synagogue has been the centre of Jewish worship and culture in Sydney since its consecration in 1878. The prominent position of The Great Synagogue, its architectural grandeur and collection of important Hebrew and other religious artefacts embodies and demonstrates the early development and importance of the Jewish faith and culture in New South Wales during the nineteenth century.

The Great Synagogue is a major landmark of Sydney and represents one of the most elaborately decorated Victorian Free Gothic style buildings internally and externally. The Great Synagogue is associated with the prominent architect Thomas Rowe who designed many other landmark buildings in Sydney and is an example of one of his finest surviving works. It is the only Synagogue of its style and age within Australia and is one of a number of exemplary international synagogues designed in a similar style. It contains excellent examples of the best quality work of moulded plaster, carved stone, decorative tiling and stained glass from Australia, United Kingdom and America and is associated with builder Aaron Loveridge and notable contractors and suppliers such as Lyon and Cottier and P.N. Russell.

## HOW SHOULD THE SITE BE CONSERVED?

Sections 8 and 9 of this CMP provide an overview of heritage opportunities and constraints specific to the place, as well as conservation policies and guidelines to assist in the management of the site's heritage values. The property is of high significance, and any proposed modifications must take into consideration the identified significance and must have regard for the total resource.

Change should also be considered with a goal of conserving and enhancing the identified heritage values of the place, wherever possible. The minimum standards of maintenance and repair under Section 118 of the *Heritage Act 1977*, and as specified in Section 7.1.3 of this report, must be adhered to in order to ensure the long-term conservation of The Great Synagogue.

When undertaking works to the site, assessment under relevant legislation (Section 7) should consider whether the works are likely to impact on the site's heritage significance and/or significant fabric as identified in this CMP. Reference should be made to the site's statement of significance (Section 6.2). A heritage impact statement or archaeological assessment should be prepared by a suitably qualified consultant in accordance with guidelines of Heritage NSW.

To assist the property owners in managing the heritage significance of the place, as well as its functional requirements, a cyclical maintenance plan is provided in Section 10.



# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. BRIEF

This Conservation Management Plan (CMP) was prepared for The Great Synagogue to manage the significance of The Great Synagogue located at 187A Elizabeth Street, Sydney as part of a Heritage Floor Space (HFS) Application.

The purpose of this CMP is to assess the significance of The Great Synagogue and submit to Council as part of an application for Heritage Floor Space. The CMP provides a careful analysis of why the item is significant, polices on how to retain its significance, and conservation strategies to ensure its long-term viability.

## 1.2. SITE LOCATION

The subject site, known as The Great Synagogue, is located at 187A Elizabeth Street, Sydney and is legally described as Lot 1 or Deposited Plan 52572. The Great Synagogue is located within the centre of the Sydney Central Business District (CBD), opposite Hyde Park. The site has two frontages, one to Elizabeth Street to the east and Castlereagh Street to the west.

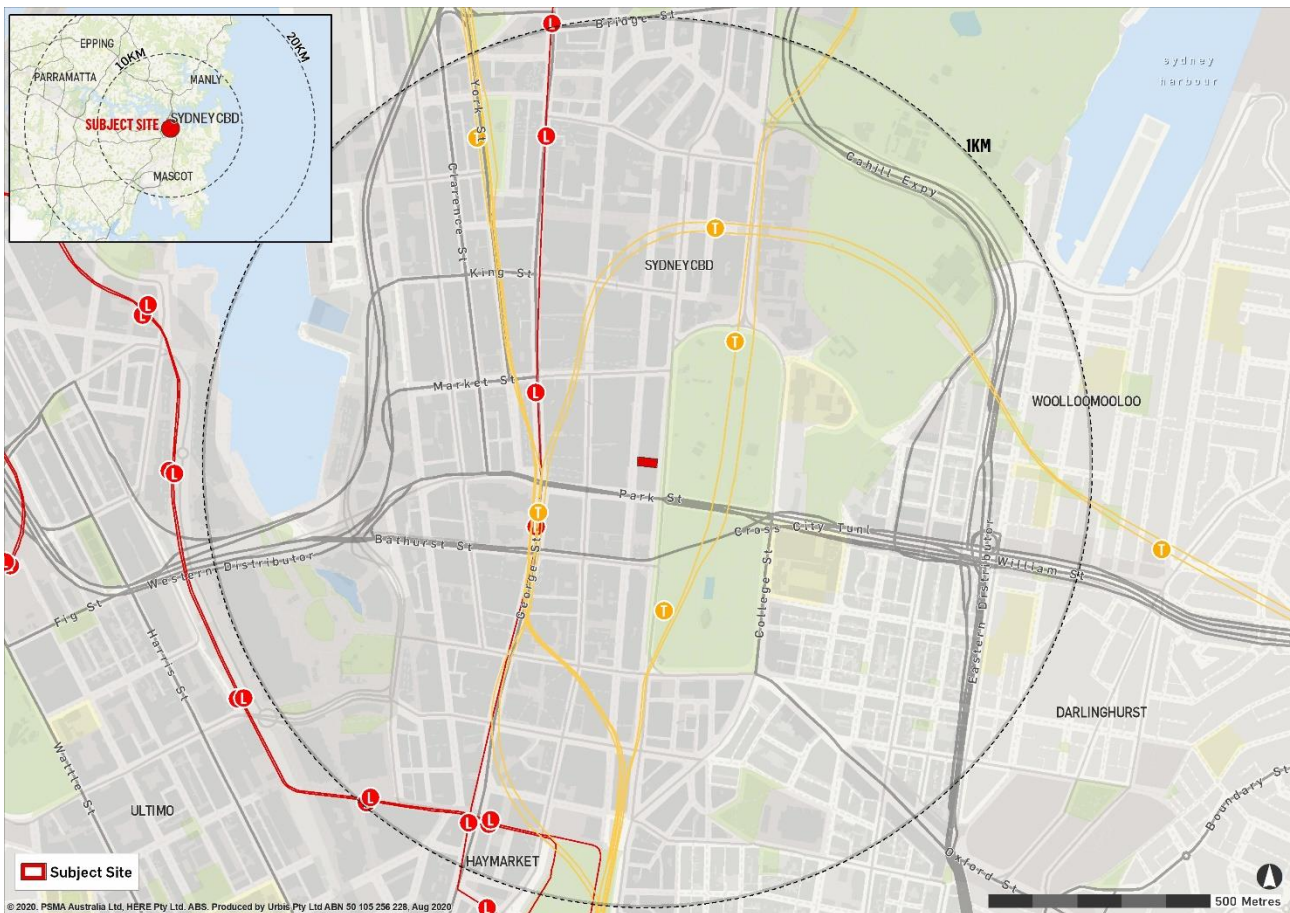


Figure 1 – Location plan with The Great Synagogue outlined in red.

## 1.3. METHODOLOGY

This Conservation Management Plan has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Heritage Manual (1996), the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter (2013) and The Conservation Plan by James Semple Kerr (2000). This CMP has been prepared with reference to (and supersedes) the following reports:

- Orwell & Peter Phillips Architects, *Conservation Management Plan, The Great Synagogue Sydney* (July 2007)
- Orwell & Peter Phillips Architects, *Conservation Management Plan, The Great Synagogue* (January 2000)

This CMP is structured as follows:

Table 1 - Report Structure

Section	Subsection
<b>1. Introduction</b>	Project brief, methodology, limitation, author identification and acknowledgements.
<b>2. Site Description</b>	Site location, asset and site description, use and curtilage.
<b>3. Historical Overview</b>	Historical overview of the heritage item and relevant historical themes.
<b>4. Archaeological Assessment</b>	Preliminary assessment of Aboriginal and historical archaeological constraints for the site.
<b>6. Comparative Analysis</b>	Comparative assessment of the subject site in relation to the works of Thomas Rowe and Synagogues of Australia and internationally.
<b>7. Heritage Significance</b>	Assessment and statement of heritage significance, identification of significant elements.
<b>8. Heritage Listing and Statutory Obligations</b>	Statutory heritage listings, obligations under relevant legislation.
<b>9. Opportunities &amp; Constraints</b>	Constraints and obligations as part of the process for developing conservation policies.
<b>10. Conservation Policies</b>	Policies to manage the item's significance and implementation strategies for the policies.
<b>11. Cyclical Maintenance Plan</b>	Cyclical Maintenance Plan for guidance for the ongoing maintenance to maintain the condition of the building.
<b>12. Bibliography</b>	Bibliography of all reference referred to throughout report.
<b>Appendices</b>	<p>Appendix A     Burra Charter</p> <p>Appendix B     Standard Exemptions for Works Requiring Heritage Council Approval</p> <p>Appendix C     Minimum Standards of Maintenance and Repair</p> <p>Appendix D     Heritage Listing Forms</p>

## 1.4. LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

This report notes the potential for original fabric and finishes that were not able to be investigated as part of the brief for the provision of the CMP, for example foundations, roof cavities or floor structures, or areas not provided access to. This report follows a site inspection conducted on 15 July 2020. The inspection were general and non-invasive. This CMP makes recommendations with regard to the management of original fabric.

## 1.5. AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The following report has been prepared by Keira Kucharska (Heritage Consultant). Jonathan Bryant (Director, Heritage) has reviewed and endorsed its content. The archaeological assessment and information relating to archaeology in this CMP have been prepared by Alexandra Ribeny (Consultant Archaeologist) and Meggan Walker (Consultant Archaeologist) and has been reviewed by Balazs Hansel (Associate Director, Archaeology).

Unless otherwise stated, all drawings, illustrations and photographs are the work of Urbis.

The authors would like to thank the following people for their assistance with the compilation of information for this report:

- Daniel Abbott, Board Member, The Great Synagogue Board
- Justice Stephen Rothman AM, Past President, The Great Synagogue Board
- David Lewis, President, The Great Synagogue Board
- David Newman, Newman Consulting

## 1.6. ABBREVIATIONS & DEFINITIONS

Common abbreviations and definitions used throughout the report are provided in the table below:

Table 2 - Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
BCA	Building Code of Australia.
CMP	Conservation Management Plan.
EMP	Environmental Management Plan.
LEP	Local Environmental Plan.
HAMS	Heritage Asset Management Strategy.
HIS	Heritage Impact Assessment.
HMF	Heritage Management Framework.
NCC	National Construction Code.
REF	Review of Environmental Factors.



RNE	Register of the National Estate.
S170R	Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register (under the Heritage Act 1977).
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy.
SHR	State Heritage Register of New South Wales (under the Heritage Act 1977).
TAMP	Total Asset Management Plan.

Table 3 - Terms & Definitions

Abbreviation	Definition
Aboriginal object	A statutory term meaning any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.
Aboriginal place	A statutory term meaning any place declared to be an Aboriginal place (under s.84 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974) by the Minister administering the NPW Act, because the Minister is of the opinion that the place is or was of special significance with respect to Aboriginal culture; it may or may not contain Aboriginal objects.
Almemmar (or bimah)	Reading desk.
Archaeological assessment	A study undertaken to establish the archaeological significance (research potential) of a particular site and to identify appropriate management actions.
Archaeological potential	The degree of physical evidence present at an archaeological site, usually assessed on the basis of physical evaluation and historical research.
Archaeology	The study of past human cultures, behaviours and activities through the recording and excavation of archaeological sites and the analysis of physical evidence.
Ark	Repository within the sanctuary for the <i>Torah</i> scrolls.
Australia ICOMOS	The national committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites.
Bimah (or Almemmar)	Reading desk.
Burra Charter	Charter adopted by Australia ICOMOS, which establishes the nationally accepted principles for the conservation of places of cultural significance; Although the Burra Charter is not cited formally in an Act, it is nationally recognised as a document that shapes the policies of the Heritage Council of NSW.
Chanukah	Festival of Lights, usually in December.
Conservation	All the processes of looking after an item so as to retain its cultural significance; it includes maintenance and may, according to circumstances, include preservation,

	restoration, reconstruction and adaptation, and will be commonly a combination of more than one of these.
Conservation Management Plan	A document explaining the significance of a heritage item, including a heritage conservation area, and proposing policies to retain that significance; it can include guidelines for additional development or maintenance of the place.
Conservation policy	A proposal to conserve a heritage item arising out of the opportunities and constraints presented by the statement of heritage significance and other considerations.
Context	The specific character, quality, physical, historical and social characteristics of a building's setting; depending on the nature of the proposal, the context could be as small as a road or entire suburb.
Curtilage	The geographical area that provides the physical context for an item, and which contributes to its heritage significance; land title boundaries do not necessarily coincide.
Halacha	Jewish law or custom.
Heritage and Conservation Registers	A register of heritage assets owned, occupied or controlled by a State agency, prepared in accordance with Section 170 of the Heritage Act 1977.
Heritage assets	Items of heritage significance identified in a State Government Agency's Heritage and Conservation Register, including items of cultural and natural significance.
Heritage Asset Management Strategy	A strategy prepared by a State Government Agency to document how the principles and guidelines outlined in the Management of Heritage Assets by NSW Government Agencies will be implemented in the management of heritage assets.
Heritage item	A landscape, place, building, structure, relic or other work of heritage significance.
Heritage significance	Of aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, natural or aesthetic value for past, present or future generations.
Heritage value	Often used interchangeably with the term 'heritage significance'; there are four nature of significance values used in heritage assessments (historical, aesthetic, social and technical/research) and two comparative significance values (representative and rarity).
High Holy Days (high festivals)	The period of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.
Integrity	A heritage item is said to have integrity if its assessment and statement of significance is supported by sound research and analysis, and its fabric and curtilage and still largely intact.
Interpretation	Interpretation explains the heritage significance of a place to the users and the community; the need to interpret heritage significance is likely to drive the design of new elements and the layout or planning of the place.
Kol Nidre	Evening service for the Day of Atonement.

Maintenance	Continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place; to be distinguished from repair; repair involves restoration or reconstruction.
Omer	The counting of days between the festivals of Pesach and Shavuoth.
Pesach	Festival of Passover, usually March or April.
Relics	Relic is defined under the Heritage Act 1977 (NSW) as any deposit, object or material evidence which relates to the settlement of the area that comprises NSW, not being Aboriginal settlement, and is of state or local heritage significance.
Rosh Hashanah	Jewish New Year, usually in September.
Scar trees	Scarred trees have scars where a section of bark was removed by Aboriginal people in order to make canoes, shields or baskets; footsteps were also cut into the tree trunk to gain access to possums or honey in tree tops; scar trees are different to carved trees.
Setting	The area around a heritage place or item that contributes to its heritage significance, which may include views to and from the heritage item; the listing boundary or curtilage of a heritage place does not always include the whole of its setting.
Shabbat	Jewish sabbath, from sunset on Friday to sunset on Saturday.
Shavuoth	Festival of Pentecost.
Shell middens	Term is referred to in Australia as an archaeological deposit in which shells are the predominant visible cultural items; shells are principally the remains of past meals; some middens also consist of bones, stone and other artefacts.
succah	Open-air area or room used for the celebration of <i>Succoth</i> .
Succoth	Festival of Tabernacles, 15 days after New Year.
Torah	The five books of Moses (or mor widely, the whole body of religious law).
Use	Means the functions of a place, as well, as the activities and the practices that may occur at the place; a compatible use respects the cultural significance of a place.
Yom Kippur	Day of Atonement, 10 days after New Year.

## 2. SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1. SITE LOCATION & SETTING

The subject site, known as The Great Synagogue, is located at 187A Elizabeth Street, Sydney and is legally described as Lot 1 or Deposited Plan 52572 (Figure 2). The Great Synagogue is located within the eastern portion of the Sydney CBD, directly to the west of the Hyde Park along Elizabeth Street. The area in which The Great Synagogue is situated is centred around Hyde Park which forms a boundary between the commercial developments of the CBD and the residential areas located to the east.

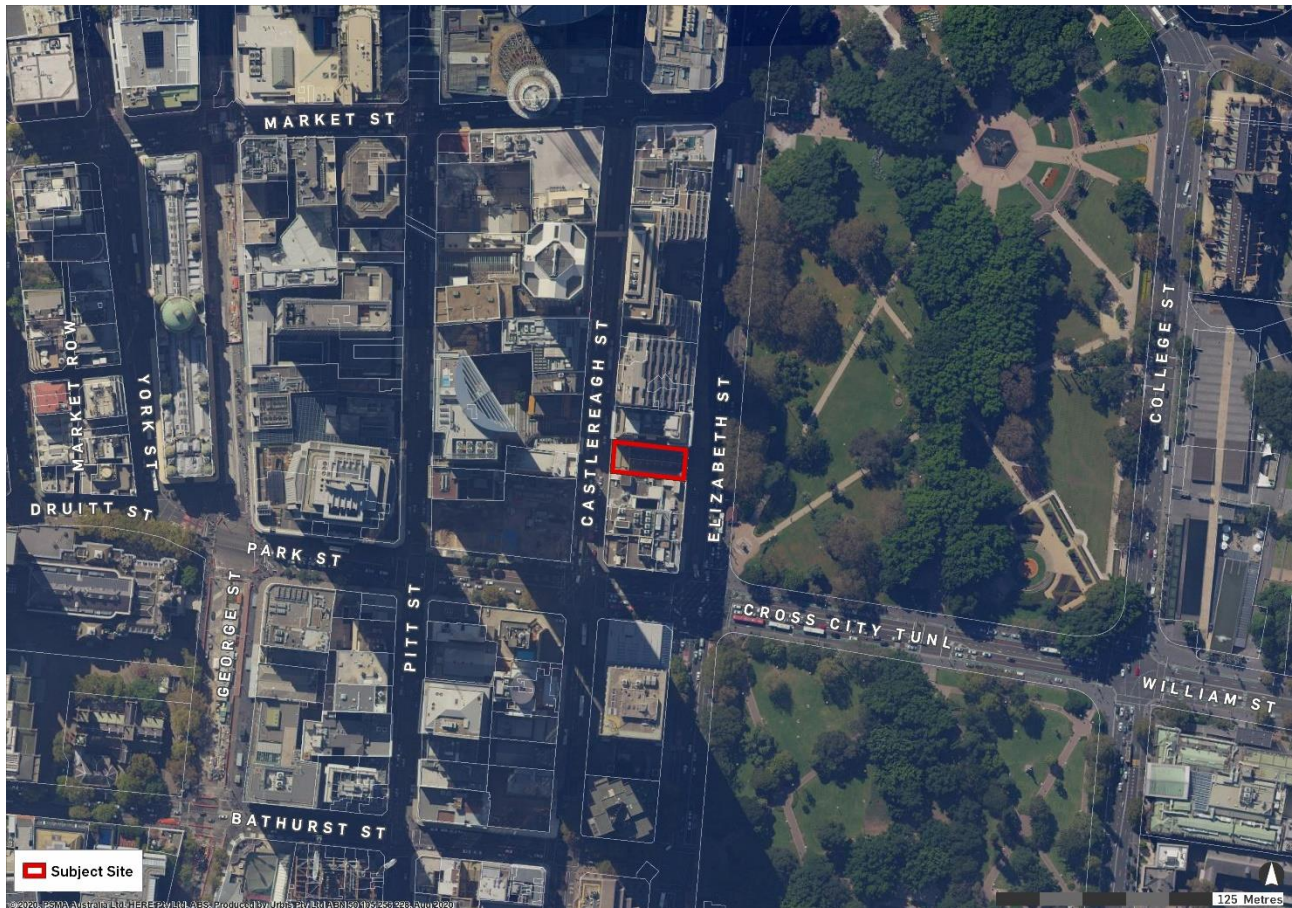


Figure 2 – Aerial image with subject site outlined in red.

The western and southern edge of Hyde Park, in which The Great Synagogue is situated, is predominated by commercial development of a large scale with strong street alignments creating a sense of enclosure to Hyde Park. The eastern and northern edge of the Hyde Park is predominated by institutional free-standing sandstone buildings and public open spaces dating from the early nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. The Great Synagogue, at its Elizabeth Street frontage dating to 1878, bears closer connection historically and architecturally with the sandstone buildings located along these northern and eastern edges of Hyde Park than its immediate surrounds. Deciduous street trees also line either side of Elizabeth Street along the length of Hyde Park.

The Great Synagogue is situated in between two modified eleven and twelve-storey early twentieth century Commercial Palazzo sandstone buildings, the former Manchester Unity Building to the north (154-158 Elizabeth Street) and the former Australian Consolidated Press building to the south (189-197 Elizabeth Street). The other buildings located along Elizabeth Street between Market and Park Street are primarily similarly sized commercial and hotel buildings dating from the mid to late twentieth century which increase in height toward their rear facades at Castlereagh Street.





Figure 3 – View from corner of Elizabeth and Park Streets.



Figure 4 – Looking south along Elizabeth Street.



Figure 5 – View from Hyde Park.

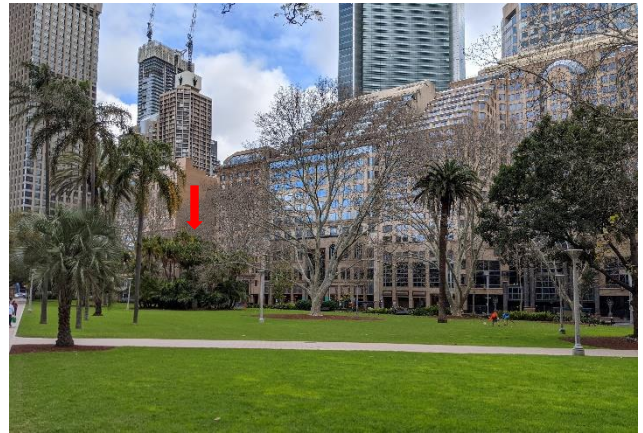


Figure 6 – View from Hyde Park.

The secondary frontage of The Great Synagogue is situated at Castlereagh Street. The buildings located along the extent of Castlereagh Street between Market Street and Park Street are primarily commercial and hotel building of a minimum of twelve storeys in height, dating from the mid twentieth century to the present day. A few early twentieth century building are located directly opposite the Castlereagh Street rear Great Synagogue frontage. These include the NSW Masonic Club (169-173 Castlereagh Street) a twelve storey Inter War Commercial Palazzo building; the former Legion House (161-163 Castlereagh Street) a four-storey Federation Free style building; and the rear of the Australian Consolidated Press building and former Manchester Unity building. Directly to the south-west of the site is an existing dig site for the future Pitt Street North Metro Station entrance set for completion in 2024.



Figure 7 – Looking north along Castlereagh Street from Former Legion House, with the rear of the Australian Consolidated Press building at the right.

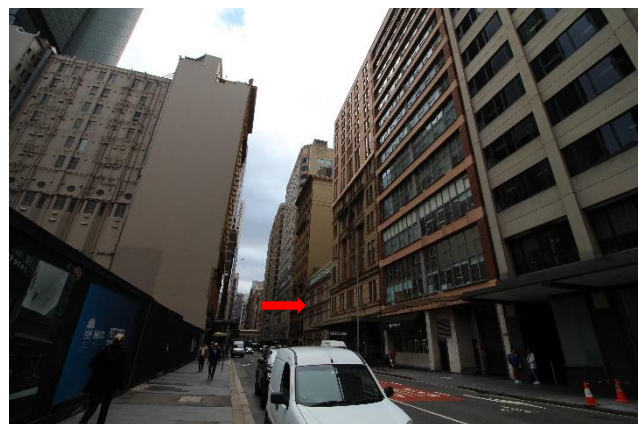


Figure 8 – Looking north along Castlereagh Street from its intersection with Park Street, with the Pitt Street North Metro Station at the left.



## 2.2. VIEWS

The Great Synagogue, noted earlier, has two frontages to both Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street. The Great Synagogue is, however, the smallest development located within the block bound by Castlereagh, Market, Elizabeth and Park Streets and is situated in between two eleven and twelve storey buildings. The buildings existing context within these larger scale developments substantially constrains the visual catchment of The Great Synagogue to its immediate surrounds.

Views to The Great Synagogue at its Elizabeth Street frontage are contained to Elizabeth and Park Streets and from within Hyde Park. However, due to the location of two deciduous street trees located directly in front of the Elizabeth Street façade, views to the building are substantially constrained during the warmer months of the year. The most prominent views to The Great Synagogue are from Elizabeth Street (View 1, Figure 10) and Hyde Park (View 2, Figure 11). Some oblique views also exist from Park Street (View 3, Figure 12). The location of these views are illustrated below in Figure 2.

Views to the rear frontage of The Great Synagogue at Castlereagh Street are again, limited due to the relatively small scale of the building in comparison to the surrounding development, coupled with all developments being constructed with no setbacks to the street. Views of the Castlereagh Street façade are visible within the immediate proximity of the site within the street (View 4, Figure 13).

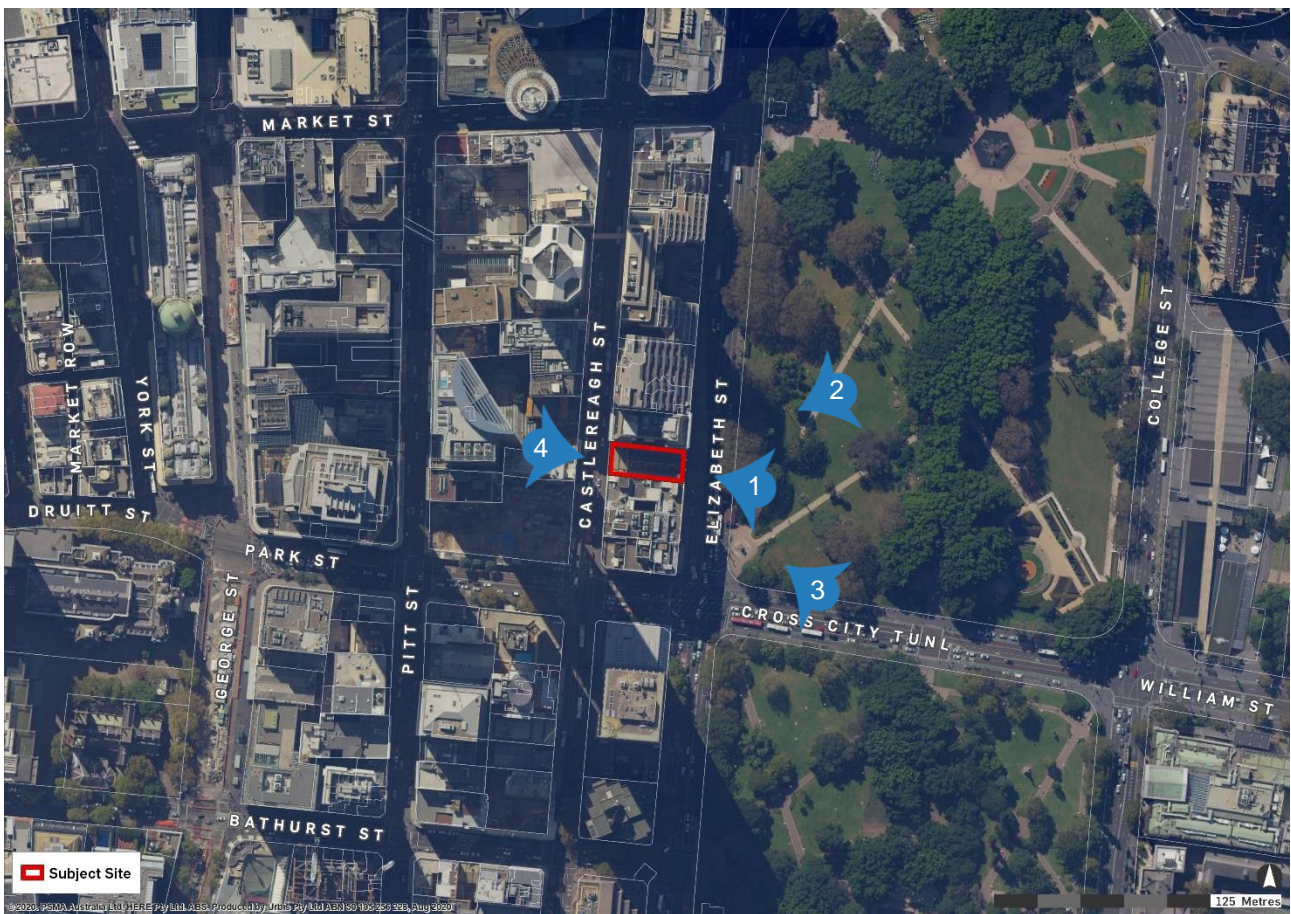


Figure 9 – Views to The Great Synagogue





Figure 10 – View 1 – View from Elizabeth Street directly opposite The Great Synagogue.



Figure 11 – View 2 – View from within Hyde Park.



Figure 12 – View 3 – View from Park Street, across Hyde Park.



Figure 13 – View 4 – View from Castlereagh Street.

## 2.3. THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE

The Great Synagogue is divided into two main components: the eastern portion consisting of the original Sanctuary at Elizabeth Street, and the western portion consisting of a five storey contemporary commercial building, known as the Education Centre, which lies behind the original façade of the former Beadle’s residence. An additional basement level also lies underneath the Sanctuary which houses the Israel Green Auditorium.

The defined heritage curtilage of The Great Synagogue aligns with the lot boundaries of the site.

Access to The Great Synagogue is provided through entrances located at Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street. The main entrance to The Great Synagogue is located on Elizabeth Street, via the porch. The porch gives access both through to the Sanctuary via the two vestibules and access to the staircases which are located in the north and south towers. Access to the Education Centre is located at Castlereagh Street via an entrance at the south-west corner of the building.



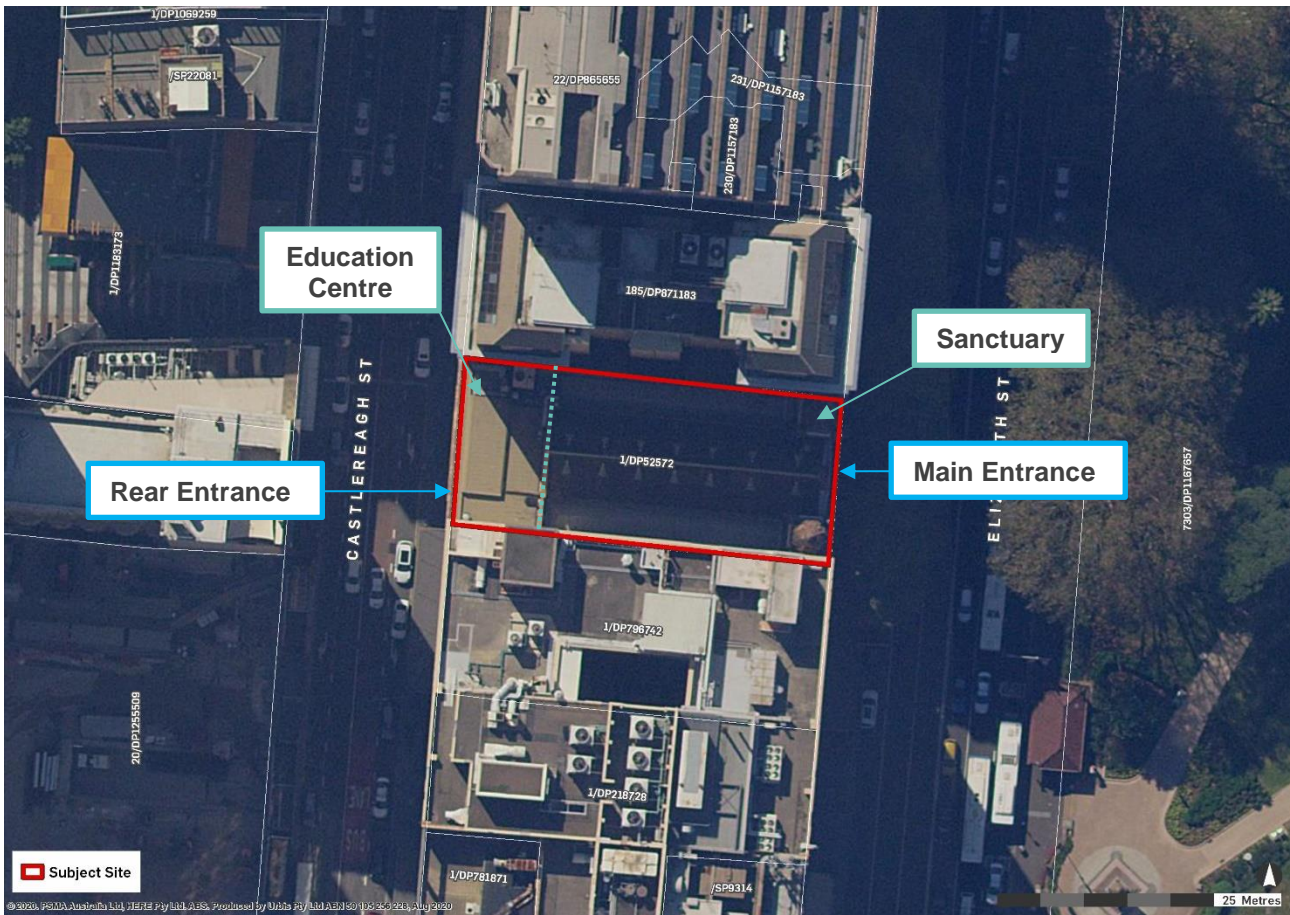


Figure 14 – Aerial image with subject site outlined in red, with components and main access points indicated.

### 2.3.1. Exterior

The Sanctuary portion of The Great Synagogue located at Elizabeth Street remains largely in its original condition. The Great Synagogue is a Victorian Free Gothic style completed in 1878 to the design of Thomas Rowe. The Elizabeth Street elevation features two square towers with sandstone domes that flank the central gable form with large rose window and elaborate carvings, all constructed from Pyrmont sandstone. A large porch is located in the central of the ground floor, supported by elaborately carved sandstone arches and columns and featuring encaustic floor tiles and a painted timber boarded ceiling. Detailed iron gates enclose the front of the porch from Elizabeth Street. The original Star of David finial has been placed at the entrance to the Synagogue. Leadlight windows adorn every opening of the Elizabeth Street façade, from the paired arched windows of the towers, to the leadlight windows of the porch. The Elizabeth Street façade remains in its original condition, apart from the addition of fire doors at the ground level of the two towers.

The remainder of the structure of the Sanctuary, beyond the Elizabeth Street frontage, is constructed of brick with cast iron columns and timber floors. The roof over the Sanctuary features a gabled roof clad with slate roof tiles with hooded vents, while the roofs of the galleries feature hipped roof forms clad with later aluminium cladding. At the northern elevation of the Sanctuary clerestory roof are the remains of iron-brackets which original supported an awning that has since been removed.

The Castlereagh Street façade features the original façade of the Beadle’s residence. The façade features sandstone at the ground level and rendered brickwork at the first and second storeys. The third storey elevation features a glazed mansard roof which was added as part of the Education Centre in the early 1980s. At each level of the façade are two sets of three arched windows with sandstone or plaster string courses and detailing. At the southern end is a modified opening which provide entrance through to the Education Centre and Israel Green Auditorium.





Figure 15 – Elizabeth Street elevation.



Figure 16 – Detail of roof.

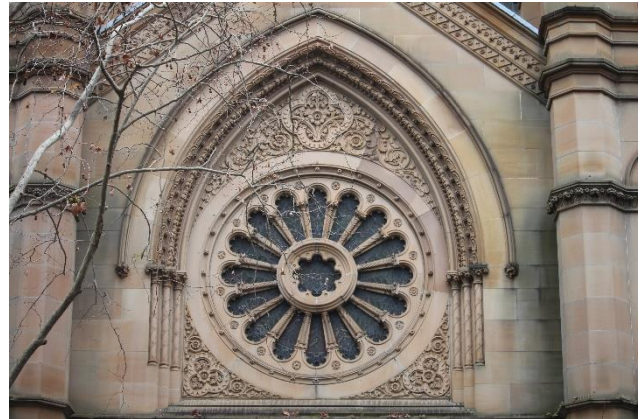


Figure 17 – View 4 – Detail of rose window.



Figure 18 – Detail of sandstone tower dome.



Figure 19 – Ground level at Elizabeth Street with original iron gates.





Figure 20 – Detail of northern tower.



Figure 21 – Detail of columns to portico.



Figure 22– Elizabeth Street porch, south

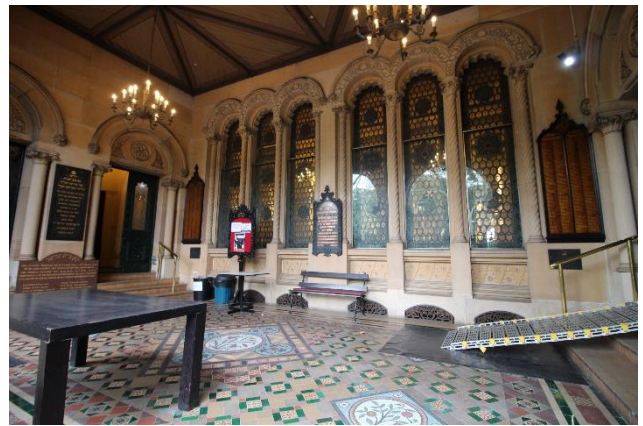


Figure 23– Elizabeth Street porch, west





Figure 24 – Castlereagh Street elevation.



Figure 25 – Detail of ground floor windows with carved sandstone detailing.



Figure 26 – Entrance at Castlereagh Street

## 2.3.2. Interior

The interior of The Great Synagogue is divided into three main areas, including the Sanctuary, accessed on Elizabeth Street, and the Education Centre and Israel Green Auditorium accessed off Castlereagh Street. The building is divided into seven (7) levels

### 2.3.2.1. The Sanctuary

The Sanctuary is set across two levels, at ground floor (Mens Gallery) and a gallery level (Ladies Gallery), both with raked timber floors. The Sanctuary is accessed via two vestibules located to the north and south of the Elizabeth Street porch, with the upper gallery being accessed via the vestibule and stair located in the



two towers. The timber staircases within each tower have strongly carved balustrades, and soffits in alternating cedar and pine boards. Sets of double lead timber doors with intricate etched glass provided entrance to the Sanctuary. At the centre of the ground floor at its western end is the Ark, with bimah set at the front of the arch on a timber platform which has been placed over the original steps to the Ark. The original location of the bimah was at the centre of the ground floor, which is surrounded by encaustic tiles similar to those of the porch. The former location of the bimah is covered with timber floorboards. The interior of the sanctuary is elaborately decorated throughout, with moulded plaster, carved timber and leadlight windows adorning the interiors. All walls and detailing are painted with gold leaf highlighting many of the intricacies of the Sanctuary. Electric gasoliers (converted from the original gas) are featured through the space with pendant, standard and wall mounted gasoliers.



Figure 27 – Sanctuary viewed from the Ladies Gallery.

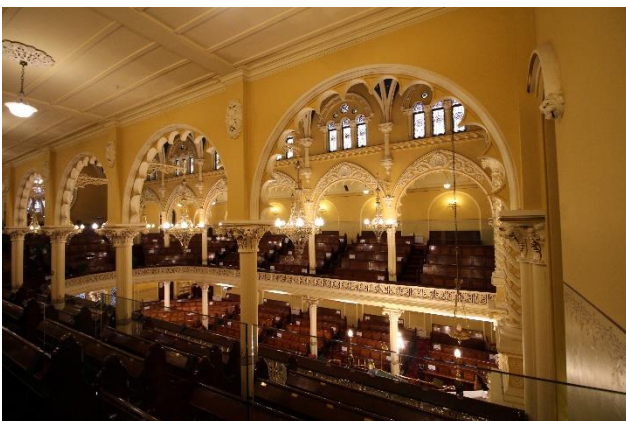


Figure 28 – View from Ladies Gallery.

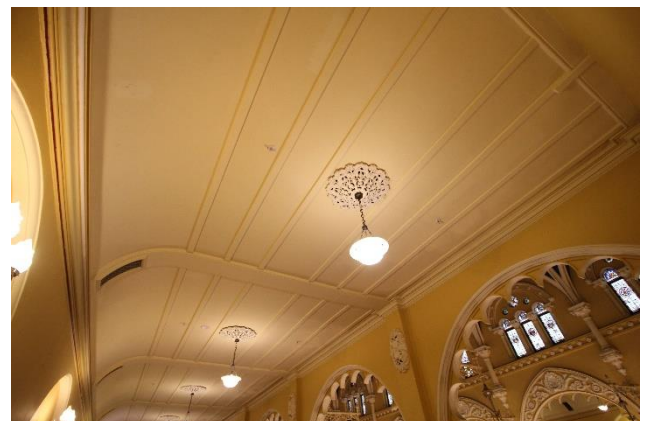


Figure 29 – Curved timber and plaster ceilings at the Ladies Gallery.





Figure 30 – Wall mounted gasoliers in Ladies Gallery.



Figure 31 – Detail of leadlight clerestory windows.



Figure 32 – Original timber pews in Ladies Gallery.



Figure 33 – Ark, steps and bimah.

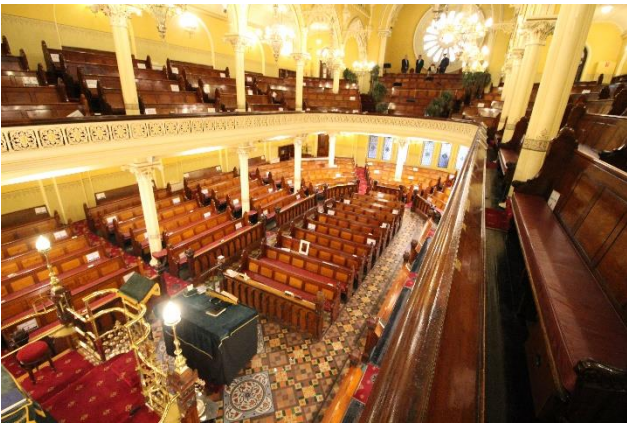


Figure 34 – View of Mens Gallery from Ladies Gallery.

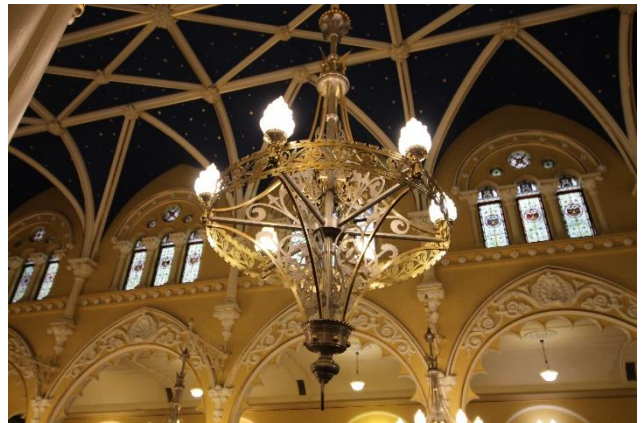


Figure 35 – Pendant gasolier.





Figure 36 – Mens Gallery



Figure 37 – Leadlight windows in Mens Gallery to porch.

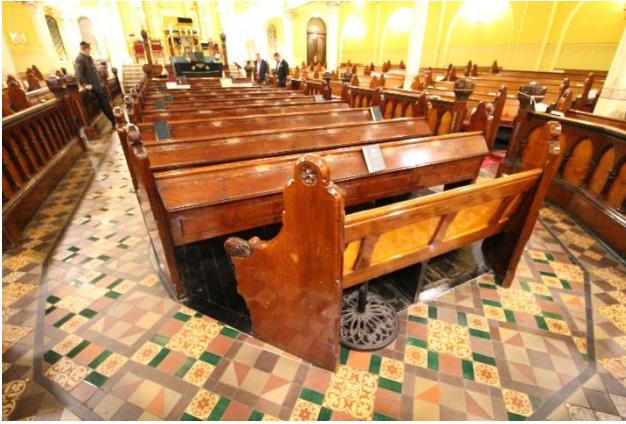


Figure 38 – Centre pews in Mens Gallery in original location of bimah.

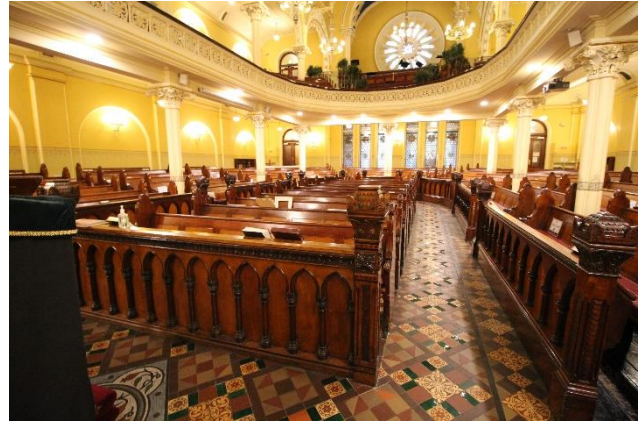


Figure 39 – Centre pews in Mens Gallery.



Figure 40 – Original stairs to Ark located under bimah.



Figure 41 – Choir gallery located on top of Ark.





Figure 42 – Staircase in tower.



Figure 43 – Vestibule off Ladies Gallery.

### 2.3.2.2. Israel Green Auditorium

The basement underneath the Sanctuary contains the Israel Green Auditorium, which is divided into several space accessed of the central auditorium and stage. At the upper level (Level 2) is the A.M. Rosenblum Museum and Rabbi Falk Library, Mezzanine and toilets. The Museum contains a collection of numerous Jewish artefacts including textiles, ritual silver paintings, sacred scrolls and religious artefacts. The museum periodically host new exhibitions within the place. The Rabbi Falk Library houses a collection of old and rare books and is used as a reference library. At the lower level (Level 1) are kitchens, storerooms and an office. The interiors of the Israel Green Auditorium primarily date to the 1950s and was redecorated in the 1980s. Some elements from the original Beadle's residence have reused in the Israel Green Auditorium, included timber balustrade from the former wester staircase, and timber framed doors with etched glass panels at the mezzanine.



Figure 44 – Foyer to Auditorium and Museum.



Figure 45 – Salvaged balustrade from former Beadles residence.





Figure 46 – Israel Green Auditorium.



Figure 47 – Israel Green Auditorium looking west toward the mezzanine.



Figure 48 – Mezzanine.



Figure 49 – Rabbi Falk Library.



Figure 50 – A.M. Rosenblum Museum



Figure 51 – A.M. Rosenblum Museum

### 2.3.2.3. Education Centre

The Education Centre, located behind the original façade of the Beadle’s residence at Castlereagh Street, houses five levels for various cultural, social and educational activities including offices, meetings rooms, classrooms and shop together with and fire stairs. At the top floor is the succah which features a sliding roof. All throughout, the Education Centre contains fabric dating to its construction in the 1980s. The contemporary stained glass windows at the third floor (Level 5) were designed by Louis Kahan of Melbourne.



Figure 52 – Succah with roof open.



Figure 53 – Classroom at Level 5, with contemporary stain-glass windows.



Figure 54 – Fire stairs in Education Centre.



Figure 55 – Foyer of Education Centre at Level 2.



Figure 56 – Office space at Level 2.



Figure 57 – Hallway at Level 3 to classrooms and offices.

### 2.3.3. Existing layout

The following floor plans and elevations of The Great Synagogue reflect the layout of The Great Synagogue in 1991. No major changes have been undertaken to The Great Synagogue since this time, apart from a small modifications at Level 2 in the location of the noted President room, at the south-eastern corner of the Education Centre building, for the introduction of extra security door openings.



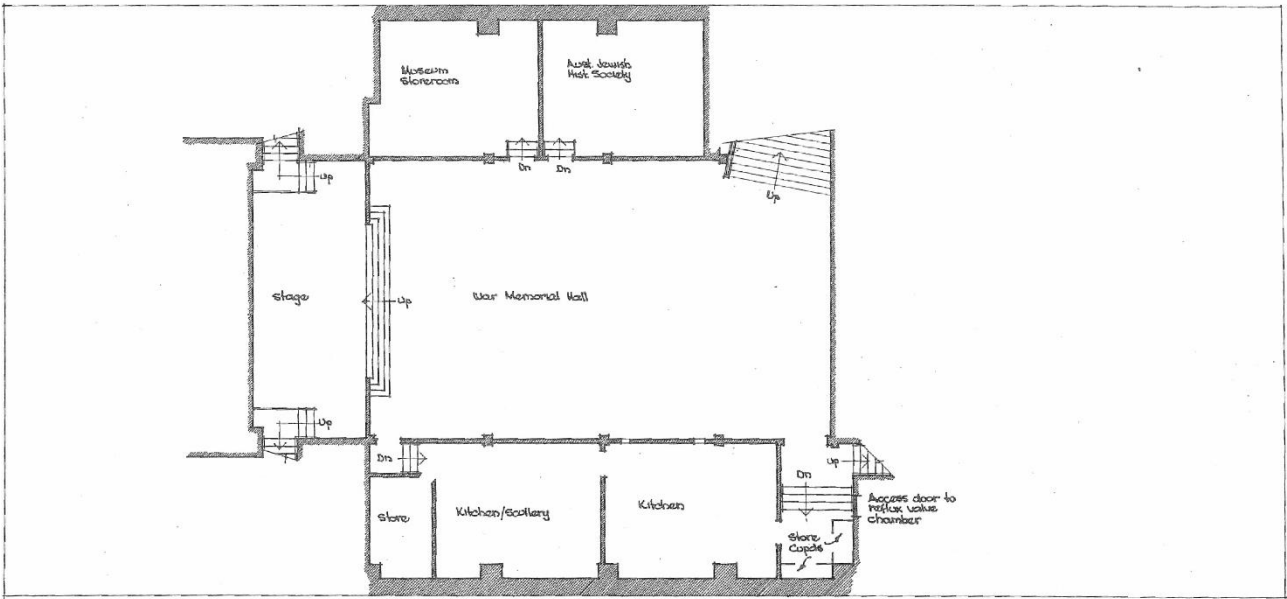


Figure 58 – Level 1 plan

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.

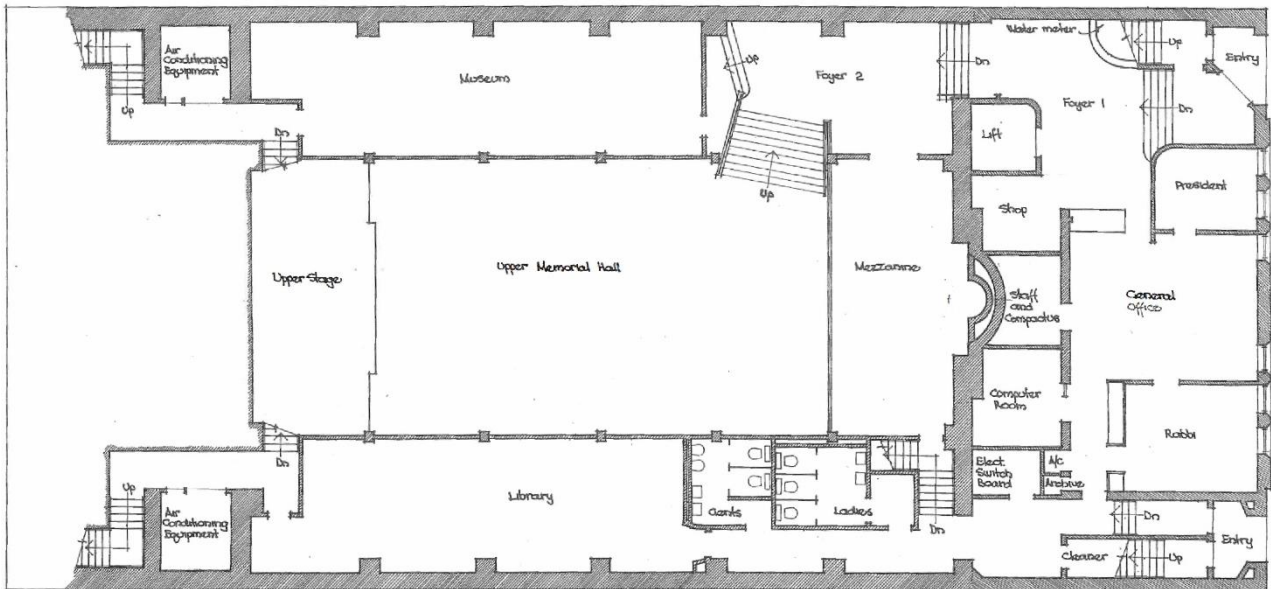


Figure 59 – Level 2 plan

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.

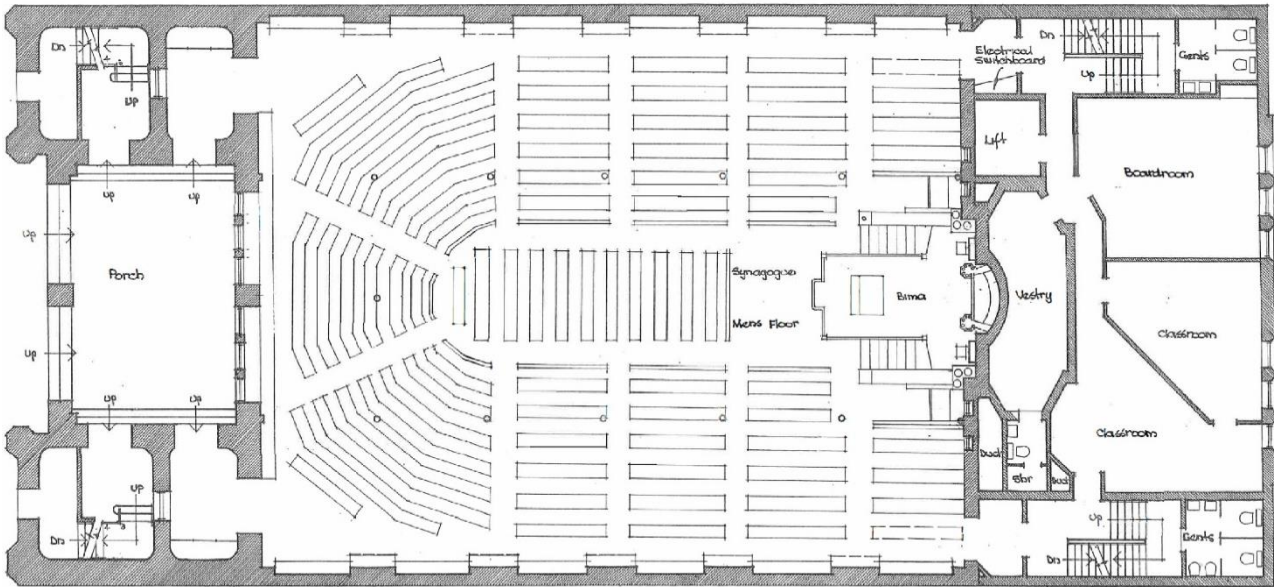


Figure 60 – Level 3 plan

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.

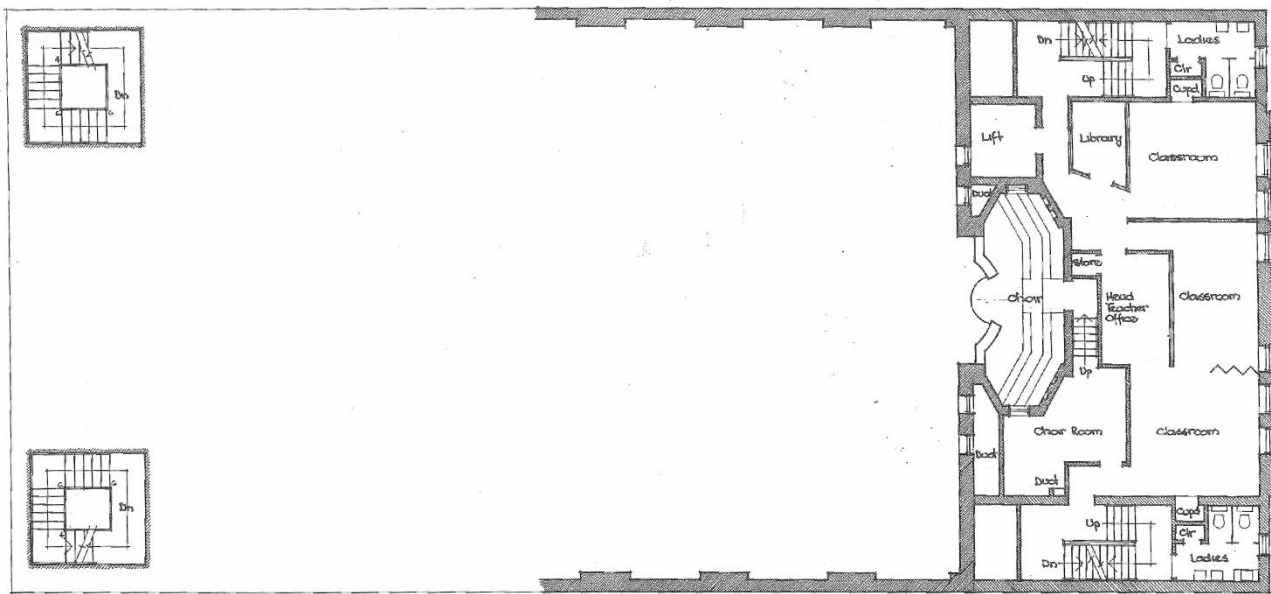


Figure 61 – Level 4 plan

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.

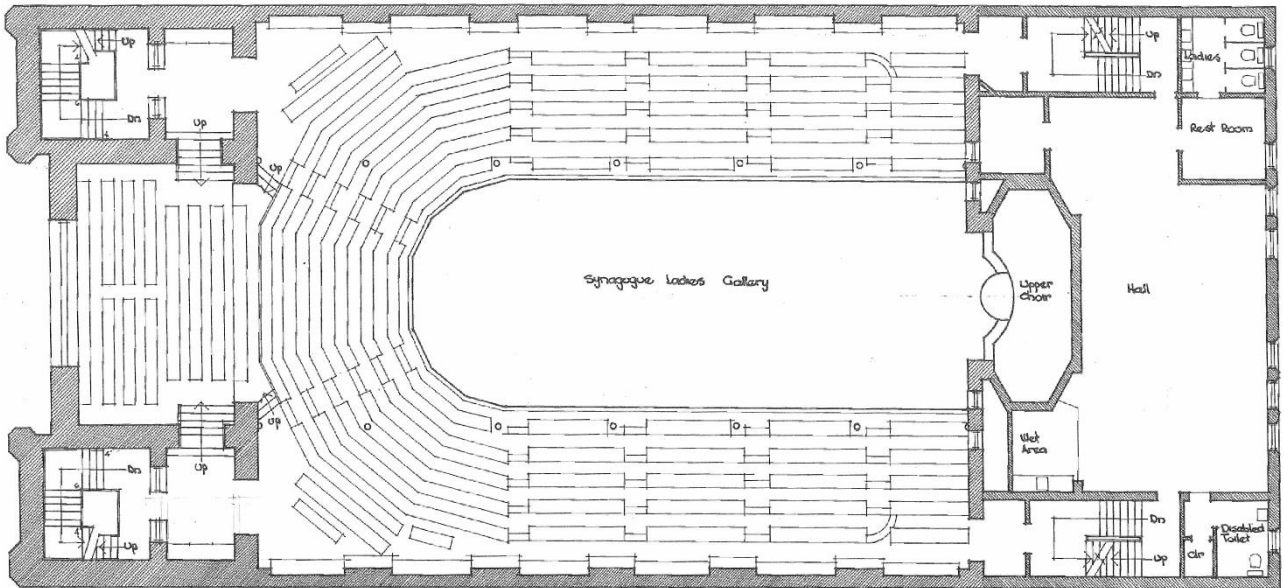


Figure 62 – Level 5 plan

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.

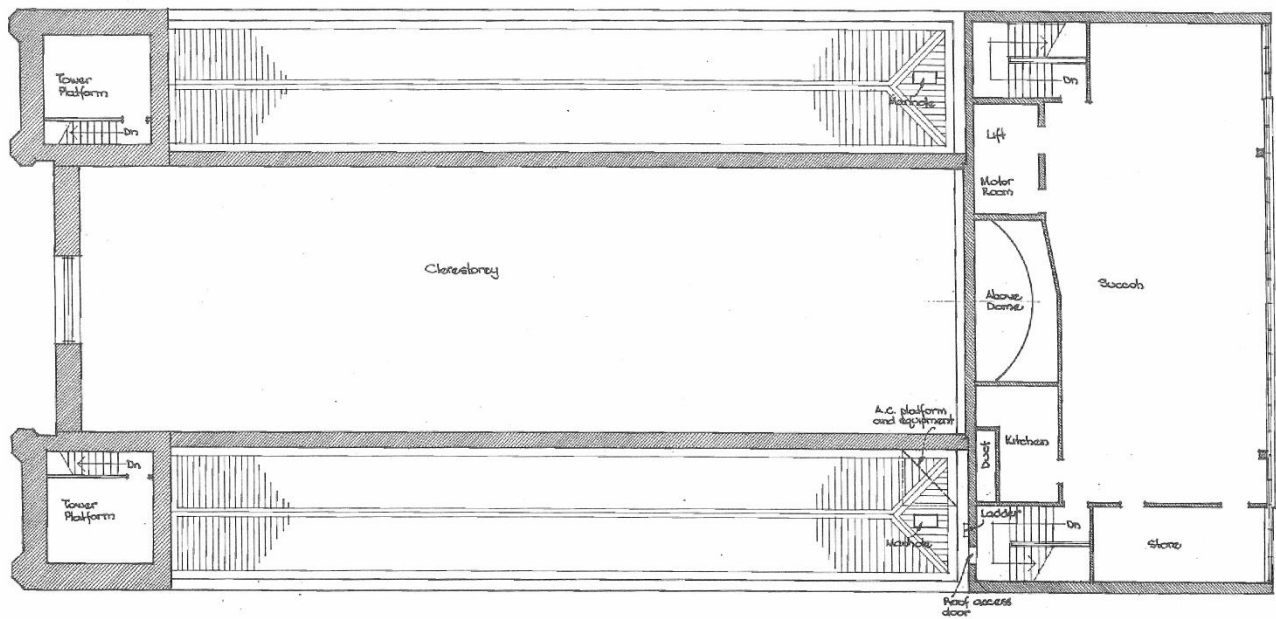


Figure 63 – Level 6 plan

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.



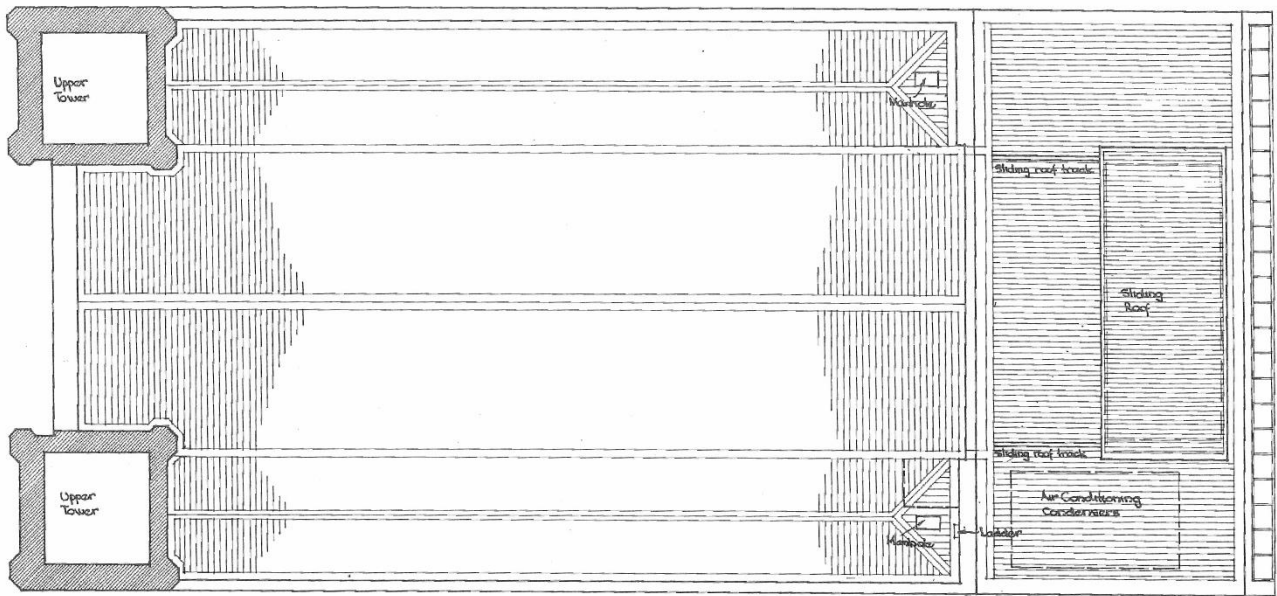
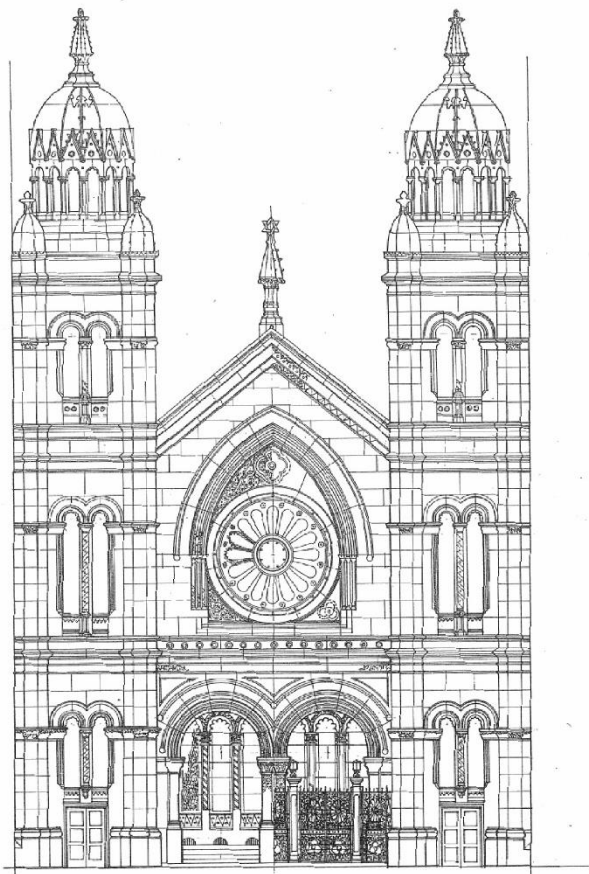
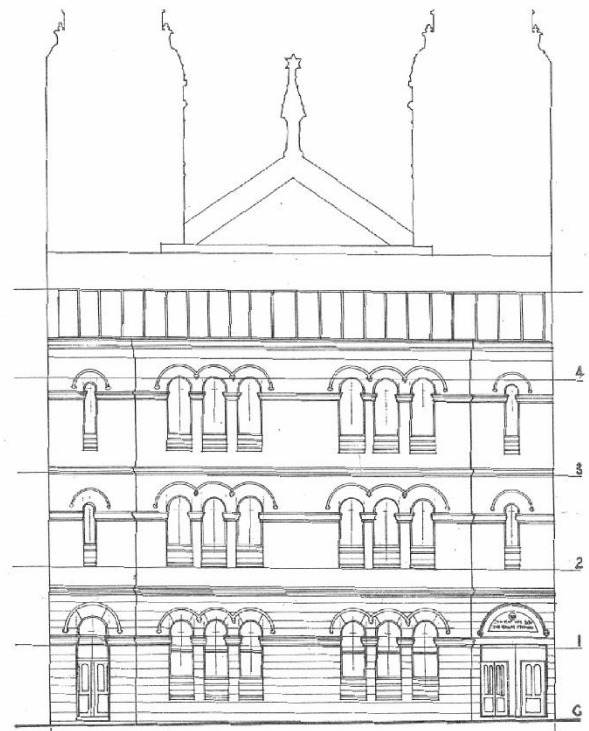


Figure 64 – Level 7 plan

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.



**Elizabeth Street (East)**



**Castlereagh Street (West)**

Figure 65 – Elevations

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.





Since the preparation of this Condition Assessment, The Great Synagogue engaged Shreeji Consultant Structural Civil Engineers to undertake further inspection of the north tower. Shreeji Consultant Structural Civil Engineers inspected the north tower and confirms the stone identified as being dislodged was not dislodged and was in place as built, and is common practice for the backs of stones (not visible to the façade) to be undressed or unfinished.

In addition, and in accordance the recommendations from Mott Macdonald (2020), a further inspection has been undertaken by AC Been Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd in May 2023. This updated report has concluded that generally, the observable defects in structural fabric of the building is as outlined in the Mott MacDonald report (2020). The updated report also noted some additional defects and recommended actions, however no urgent or critical repairs were noted.

The 2023 report has been attached at Appendix G for reference.

## 3. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

### 3.1. HISTORICAL SOURCES

This section of the report is adapted from the history provided in the CMP prepared by Orwell and Peter Phillips in 2007, which in turn was based on the 2000 CMP for The Great Synagogue. The histories in these CMP's were further based on the Advanced Study Report of *The Building of The Great Synagogue* by Peter Phillips.<sup>1</sup> The Aboriginal Cultural History has been developed by Urbis.

### 3.2. HISTORY OF THE PLACE

#### 3.2.1. Aboriginal Cultural History

Aboriginal people have inhabited the Sydney Basin region since at least 30,735+ BP, with some evidence of potential occupation as early as 40,000 years ago.<sup>2</sup> The Aboriginal population around Sydney at time of first contact has been estimated at between 2000 and 3000 people, with the greater Sydney region estimated at somewhere between 4000 and 8000. The social structure of Aboriginal groups is well documented, with the division of tribes into two moieties within which intermarriage is common.<sup>3</sup> Clan descent is usually patrilineal. Marriages were not restricted to monogamous relationships, with polyamory common. An observation from Collins acknowledges both the occurrence of polyamory and the intermarriage between different groups. Collins describes Bennelong, of the Wanegal Clan, as married to both a woman of Kameraigal descent and a woman of Gweagal descent simultaneously.<sup>4</sup>

Prior to European colonisation and development, the lands of the Gadigal people were abundant in resources. The Kangaroo Grounds (around present-day Summer Hill) were on the western border of their land, a border shared with the Wanegal. This was a hunting ground abundant with macropods, which could be used not only for food but also for their hides.<sup>5</sup> To the east, north and south of the Gadigal lands is the coastline. Not only were the rivers and streams which provided freshwater critical to Aboriginal groups, but the edible resources of these watercourses, including the sea, were of high importance. The diet of the Gadigal people comprised primarily of fish, shellfish and other aquatic animals. They also sourced roots and foraged for food within the Lachlan Swamplands, now Centennial Park.<sup>6</sup> The importance of aquatic resources is attested to in the archaeological record, with middens providing evidence of dietary practices located along the coast and streams.

Prior to settlement, the subject site was occupied by swampy marshes that extended from Market Street to Park Street (north and south) and Pitt Street into Hyde Park (west and east). These marshes were known as duck hunting grounds for local Aboriginal groups. These swamps were part of the Tank Stream catchment.<sup>7</sup> The Tank Stream was one of the most significant water sources for Aboriginal people in the Sydney region, and the catchment area and swamps would have provided an excellent opportunity for resource extraction, not only providing fresh water but also all the terrestrial and aquatic animals this sustains, and a variety of floral resources capable of being used for sustenance and medicine.

#### 3.2.2. Previous history of The Great Synagogue site from 1839

The land on which the Synagogue now stands was granted to Thomas Taber in July 1839,<sup>8</sup> but evidence suggests that he had already been occupying the site for some ten years at that time. By 1840 there were four cottages on the site, in pairs fronting Elizabeth and Castlereagh Streets. Taber, the fourth schoolmaster in the Colony, lived in one of the houses on Castlereagh Street until his death in 1842. His son, Thomas

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<sup>1</sup> Peter Phillips, *The Building of The Great Synagogue, Advanced Study Report (Barch)*, University of Sydney, (1975).

<sup>2</sup> Jo McDonald Cultural Heritage Management, 2005. *Archaeological testing and salvage excavation at Discovery Point, Site #45-5-2737, in the former grounds of Tempe House.*

<sup>3</sup> Howitt, A. W. 1996. *The Native Tribes of South-East Australia*. Aboriginal Studies Press, Canberra: Australia.

<sup>4</sup> Collins, D. 1798 in Fletcher, Cadell and Davies, 1975. *An Account of the English Colony New South Wales, Vol 1. The Strand, London: England.*

<sup>5</sup> Ashfield & District Historical Society, 1996. 'A Short Walk Through Ashfield's Past', booklet.

<sup>6</sup> Tench, W. 1789. *A Narrative of the Expedition to Botany Bay*, p. 53. Cited in Flannery, 2012. *Watkin Tench: 1788, The Text Publishing Company, Melbourne: Australia.*

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> Certificate of Title



Junior, lived on in his father's house until his own death in 1869. The ownership of the property passed to his brothers, who sold it two years later to John Solomon.<sup>9</sup> In 1873, one of the cottages on the Elizabeth Street frontage was still occupied by Humphrey Jones, Tailor,<sup>10</sup> but by the end of the year all of the buildings on the site had been demolished to make way for the new Synagogue.

### 3.2.3. The Sydney Jewish Community before 1864

Communal Jewish worship in Sydney began around 1828, in the house of Mr. Phillip Joseph Cohen. The standard of Service improved in 1830 with the arrival of the Rev. Aaron Levi, and "*in the year 1832 all the members of the Hebrew faith, resident in the Colony, formed themselves into one Society, selected a Committee to manage their secular affairs, and appointed J.B. Montefiore, Esq., their president. ... Upon the foundation of the Society it was found necessary to engage a larger place for worship ...*"<sup>11</sup> A warehouse in Bridge Street was converted for the purpose, but in eight years' time this building in turn became too small to house Community now numbering 600.

In 1840 application was made to the Government for a grant of a suitable site on which to build a new Synagogue. The minutes of a meeting, on 5 January 1841, of the Committee of the Sydney Synagogue, record that the Governor had offered a site in Kent Street for the erection of a Synagogue. This offer was not accepted (apparently because the land in question was not considered suitable), and early in that year a site in York Street was bought at auction by Mr Moses Joseph on behalf of the congregation.<sup>12</sup>

James Hume was engaged to design the new Synagogue, and the Sydney Synagogue Committee met at Bridge Street on 12 May 1841, "*for the purpose of receiving the Plans and Specifications of the intended New Synagogue Building*".<sup>13</sup> It was completed in 1844 at a cost of £3,600, and consecrated on 2 April 1844. At the time it was described as a "*chaste and classic edifice*",<sup>14</sup> and a "*handsome structure*",<sup>15</sup> but later critics were less impressed. The Illustrated Sydney News of 20 April 1878 referred to "*the very plain and unpretending structure in York Street*", and more recently Morton Herman has called it a "*frightful building*".<sup>16</sup> Nevertheless, it served the Sydney congregation well enough for some twenty years afterwards.

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<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Sand Directory, 1873.

<sup>11</sup> Fowles, J. Sydney in 1848. Facsimile Edition. Ure Smith, 1973.

<sup>12</sup> Fowles (op. cit.) gives the date of purchase of the site as 3 November 1841, which seems unlikely in view of the Committee Minutes of 12 May 1841. As this point is incidental to the report it has not been investigated further.

<sup>13</sup> Minutes of Sydney Synagogue

<sup>14</sup> Fowles, J. Sydney in 1848. Facsimile Edition. Ure Smith, 1973.

<sup>15</sup> Braim, TH. *A History of New South Wales from its Settlement to the Close of the Year 1844*.

<sup>16</sup> Herman, M. *The Early Australian Architects and their Work*. Revised Edition. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1970.



Figure 67 – The Sydney Synagogue, York Street, 1870.

Source: State Library of NSW, Pickering, Charles Percy. *Synagogue, York Street, Sydney, 1870*, SPF/99.

The congregation increased steadily in numbers and influence. In 1855 Moses Moss (afterwards to play a large part in the building of The Great Synagogue) was elected a Member of the Board of Management of the Sydney Synagogue.<sup>17</sup> Three years later the prevailing harmony in the community was disrupted, culminating in the secession of some of the most active and observant members in March 1859. They established the Sydney New Synagogue in a former Baptist Chapel in Macquarie Street. Dissatisfied with the undue reverence accorded to the clergy, this congregation asserted “*its right to decide upon all affairs which may concern themselves on their own responsibility, and without reference to any clerical authority whatever, and although they will at all times be most happy to listen to the advice of eminent men learned in our holy Religion, still whether upon a religious or any other subject, the decision of the congregation properly assembled must be considered decisive and acted upon*”.<sup>18</sup>

Such was the character of the leaders of the Jewish community at that time. They were moderately rich and influential men, whose success had come from a combination of ability and hard grind, coupled with a very good idea of their own importance. Most had come from England as young men and had built up strong businesses profiting from the increasing prosperity of a country recently made rich by the discovery of gold.

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<sup>17</sup> This Board of Management was created to replace the Managing Committee when the laws of the Sydney Synagogue were reviewed in 1851.

<sup>18</sup> Preamble to the Rules of the Sydney New Synagogue, 18 July 1861, quoted in Rabbi FL Cohen’s Jubilee History of The Great Synagogue. Sydney, 1934.



They had come largely from the middle-class Jewish communities of Greater London and the commercial cities of the English Midlands and retained close ties with these communities. They tended to live and work amongst themselves, as Jews all over the world still did at that time. Most lived in the vicinity of Lower George Street and the Rocks, then an area of large urban houses, within convenient walking distance of the Synagogue.

In 1862 the Rev. A.B. Davis arrived in Sydney, as the minister of the York Street congregation. Under his ministry the drooping York Street congregation revived and flourished. The building itself had to be renovated, and Thomas Rowe was requested “*to invite tenders for repairing the drainage of the Synagogue and for painting and whitewashing the vestry and adjacent buildings*”.<sup>19</sup> It was apparent, however, that the building had become incapable of accommodating a community now numbering over 1000. It was remembered that in 1841 the Governor had offered to grant the congregation a site in Kent Street for the erection of a Synagogue and, on 3 May 1863, the Secretary of the Board was “*instructed to ascertain whether any grant had issued*”.<sup>20</sup> In the meantime, short-term accommodation was urgently required; on 2 August 1863 “*a Specification and Estimate as to the erection of a New Gallery in the Synagogue accompanying a plan of the proposed alterations (laid before the Board) by W. Rowe ... was read*”.<sup>21</sup>

### 3.2.4. Initial efforts towards a new synagogue 1864-1870

On 3 January 1864, the Secretary reported to the Sydney Synagogue Board of Management, that he “*had ascertained from Chief Clerk in Surveyor General’s Office that the land in Clarence St. [sic] appropriated some years since for the erection of a Synagogue had by some mistake been granted to the Roman Catholics, and that the Government were as yet uncertain what allotment in the city they would have at their disposal to substitute in its stead*”.<sup>22</sup> The Surveyor-General then offered “*to appropriate as a site for a Synagogue any vacant allotment of land in the city of Sydney at the disposal of the Government*”.<sup>23</sup> A number of such sites were investigated and found to be unsuitable. Attempts were then made to purchase the land adjacent to the Synagogue, which was owned by Moses Joseph (who had in 1841 bought for the Congregation the York Street site itself). The object presumably was to enlarge the existing building on the adjacent site, or to demolish it and build a larger Synagogue on the combined site. However, Mr Joseph (now living in Bedford Square, London) advised the Board in April 1865 “*that the land adjoining the Synagogue in York Street was intended for a charitable purpose and was not for sale*”.<sup>24</sup> Earlier that year, Louis Phillips had been elected to the Board, and in the following year Sigmond Hoffnung became President, and Moses Moss Treasurer.

On 5 August 1866, a Special General Meeting of the members of the Sydney Synagogue was requisitioned by one John Solomon “*to take into consideration the advisability of purchasing with a view to the erection of a new Synagogue certain allotments of land fronting Elizabeth and Castlereagh Streets about to be sold by the Government*”.<sup>25</sup> Mr Solomon described that land as “*admirably adapted*” for the erection of a Synagogue; moreover, there was “*no other available land in the city*”. However, the meeting decided that the Macquarie Street property already owned by the congregation was more suitable, and there was no need to buy another site. All agreed on “*the advisability of at once erecting a New Synagogue*” and appointed a Committee to investigate.

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<sup>19</sup> Minutes of Sydney Synagogue Board Meeting, 1 February 1863. These Minutes refer to “W. Rowe” as the architect. However, the tender advertisement subsequently appearing in the Sydney Morning Herald on 4 March 1863 read “TO BUILDERS - TENDERS will be received up to the 6th instant, for Drainage, Flagging and sundry repairs required to the York Street Synagogue. For particulars apply to Mr. THOMAS ROWE, Architect, 438 George Street”. Rowe was also engaged in November 1866, to design a Mortuary Building for the Jewish Cemetery at Haslem’s Creek (now Rookwood), some eight years before the design competition for The Great Synagogue. This building, after a number of design revisions, was erected in 1867 at a cost of £360. The drawing, signed by Rowe, is now in the Mitchell Library. Rowe was also asked in 1868 to advise the Synagogue concerning a party wall about to be built on the edge of a site in Macquarie Street owned by the Congregation. It does not appear, however, that this association had any effect on the choice of Rowe as the architect for The Great Synagogue, as M Berry (A History of Colonel Thomas Rowe, 1829-1899. BArch Thesis, University of Sydney, 1969) and JL Stevenson (Colonel Thomas Rowe, 1829-1899. BArch Thesis, University of Sydney, 1972) suggest, although it may have earned him an invitation to the design competition.

<sup>20</sup> Minutes of Sydney Synagogue Board Meeting, 3 May 1863.

<sup>21</sup> Minutes of Sydney Synagogue Board Meeting, 2 August 1863.

<sup>22</sup> Minutes of Sydney Synagogue Committee, 3 January 1864.

<sup>23</sup> Minutes of Sydney Synagogue Committee, 7 February 1864.

<sup>24</sup> Minutes of Sydney Synagogue Committee, 2 April 1864.

<sup>25</sup> It is unlikely that this was the site on which The Great Synagogue now stands.

Three days later, another general meeting was told that the Macquarie Street site was “*not sufficiently large for the erection of a new Synagogue thereon*”. The meeting rejected its previous decision, and it was proposed “*that it is desirable to secure the land at a cost of £30 per foot for the Elizabeth Street frontage*”. It was then suggested that before the Resolution was put it would be advisable to ascertain if sufficient funds would be subscribed for the purpose. Unfortunately, subscriptions proved to be inadequate, and so nothing more could be done.

The matter lapsed for some three years, during which time another unsuccessful request was made to Moses Joseph for the land adjoining the York Street Synagogue. Also, in 1867, George Myers (later the first President of The Great Synagogue) joined the Board of the York Street Synagogue. In December 1868, the President of the Board waited on the Minister for Lands “*with a view to obtaining compensation for land in Kent Street granted for the erection of a Synagogue and otherwise appropriated*”.<sup>26</sup> A letter was dispatched claiming £1,000 compensation, or another suitable site in lieu of the original grant. In May 1869, before a reply had been received, a site at the corner of Liverpool and Elizabeth Streets was offered for sale. This land was inspected and found to be suitable, but the price realised (£2,900) considerably exceeded what the congregation could afford.<sup>27</sup>

In October, 1869, the Department of Lands advised that the Minister “*had recommended that the sum of £1,078 be placed on the Estimates by way of compensation for or in lieu of an allotment of land on Kent Street promised as a site for a Synagogue*”.<sup>28</sup> Seven months later the money had not yet arrived, and the York Street congregation requested the Government to hand it over to Trustees for investment. The Department of Lands replied that Mr L.W. Levy, on behalf of the Macquarie Street Synagogue, had asked for a portion of the compensation money; but that “*the Honble. The Acting Secretary for Lands had decided that only one Synagogue could be provided for*”. He proposed that joint Trustees be nominated from both Synagogues to look after the money.

This was not to be borne. The York Street Board’s reaction is worth quoting in full, for the indication it gives of the rivalry between the two congregations. “*The Secretary was directed to reply directing the attention of the Minister to the fact that the land in question was exclusively promised, and had the Grant issued would absolutely have belonged to this the only Synagogue then (in 1840) in this colony, the other Synagogue that in Macquarie Street (a private property) being only brought into existence about Eight years back, and then by a few Members who on private grounds separated themselves from this Congregation; and therefore requesting that the money would be paid as requested by letter on the 9th May addressed to the Chief Secretary and as yet unanswered*.”<sup>29</sup>

The Government quite properly refused to take sides in the matter, and stuck to its original proposal. Both Congregations were obliged to agree to the conditions if they were to receive the money at all, and consequently in October 1870, there were five trustees appointed, two from Macquarie Street and three from York Street. This enforced collaboration probably helped to reunite the two congregations, although it appears that a combination of the excellence of the Rev. A.B. Davis, and the magnificence of the new Synagogue which the York Street congregation subsequently built, induced the Macquarie Street congregation to rejoin what was obviously the principal community. Mr Davis’ constant efforts to achieve unity have rightly been praised (Cohen, 1934, and Glass, 1956) but it appears unlikely that these efforts were the sole cause of the reunion.<sup>30</sup>

### 3.2.5. A site is chosen 1871-2

On 8 February 1871, the York Street Board of Management met to consider “*the advisability of purchasing land advertised for sale in Elizabeth Street*”. They resolved to purchase the land, providing that it did not cost more than £2,000, and provided also that the Trustees of the Government grant were willing to hand over the

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<sup>26</sup> Minutes of the Board of the Sydney Synagogue, 6 December 1868.

<sup>27</sup> Minutes of the Board of the Sydney Synagogue, 5 May 1869.

<sup>28</sup> Minutes of the Board of the Sydney Synagogue, 3 October 1869.

<sup>29</sup> Minutes of the Board of the Sydney Synagogue, 3 July 1870.

<sup>30</sup> It is doubtful whether the Macquarie Street congregation could have survived in any case, because a series of disagreements within that congregation during 1873 and 1874 resulted in a severe shortage of funds. There were consequent difficulties in retaining the services of a minister, and maintaining membership in what had always been a small congregation. The new Great Synagogue would obviously have been a powerful attraction. After struggling on for another two years, the Macquarie Street Synagogue was closed in February 1877, “in consequence of the Want of Funds and Paucity of Attendance.”

money to help pay the purchase price. A week later, John Solomon bought the land for £2,000 on behalf of the Board, and a public meeting of the whole Sydney Jewish Community was convened.

This meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, York Street, on 13 March 1871. The Rev. A. B. Davis spoke of the need “to raise up another and more commodious and more suitable edifice for them to assemble in for public worship - a new building more creditable to the position they had been called upon to occupy in Sydney and in New South Wales”.<sup>31</sup> He expressed a wish that the two Sydney congregations might become united, and ended by proposing “That having regard to the largely increasing number of the Jewish Community of N.S.W., it is desirable that a new and commodious place of worship be erected on the land recently purchased in Elizabeth and Castlereagh Streets, and that subscriptions and donations be at once invited and collected for such purpose”. This was unanimously resolved, and a Building Committee was formed to put the resolution into effect. Its members were Moses Moss (Chairman), the Rev. A. B. Davis, David L. Levy, Saul Samuel M.L.A., S. A. Joseph, Maurice Alexander, M.L.A., John Isaacs, Louis Phillips, John Solomon, George Myers, Sigmond Hoffnung, and Abraham Cohen. Subscriptions totalling £2,259.10.0 were announced by the Chairman, a far more encouraging response than in 1866.

Members of the Building Committee met a fortnight later, and were told that the Macquarie Street congregation was still claiming part of the Government compensation grant. They decided to seek Counsel’s opinion. Meantime, it was resolved “that Circulars be printed annexing a report of the Meeting at the Masonic Hall, and distributed generally to all members of the Jewish Faith, accompanied by a photograph of the Synagogue in Portland Street, London, as the style in which it is proposed to erect the New Synagogue” (Figure 68). The circular read:

*NEW SYNAGOGUE, ELIZABETH STREET, HYDE PARK, SYDNEY.  
Committee Room, York Street,  
Sydney, 3rd April, 1871.*

*The Jewish community of New South Wales having during the last few years suffered great inconvenience from the insufficient accommodation afforded them for Public Worship have recently purchased an Eligible Site conveniently situated on Elizabeth Street whereon it is proposed to erect a Commodious Synagogue suitable for the requirements of the largely increasing community, and capable of giving sufficient accommodation to members living in the interior who visit the Metropolis at the high festivals.*

*In order to carry out these objects a public meeting of the Jews of Sydney was convened on the 13th March 1871 and subscriptions were then collected amounting to £2,460.16.0. A full report of the resolutions then passed and the amounts contributed are hereunto annexed.*

*Having in view the Erection of a handsome building filled with all the appliances of modern Synagogues as now prevailing in Europe and America a sum of from £10,000 to £15,000 will be required and your liberal assistance is solicited in aiding the Committee to raise the necessary funds.*

*The general desire of our people of the House of Israel to take part in the Erection of Edifices wherein to worship and adore the God of our Fathers leads the Committee to hope that you will subscribe as largely as is commensurate with the means wherewith you are blessed to raise a structure in our midst that shall be an honor to our name, suitable to the*

*Position we occupy in the colony, and calculated by the architectural beauties to Educate the Eye, and thereby promote reference, purify the Heart, and Elevate the thoughts in solemn communing to the throne of Heaven.*

*As the Expenditure will probably extend over three years, you are invited to contribute if more convenient to yourself, in the following manner say by remitting at your earliest convenience one fourth of your subscription to cheque or Bank Bill and the balance in three equal sums by your Promissory Notes at one two and three years in favour of Messrs S.A. Joseph and John Solomon the Honorary Treasurers.*

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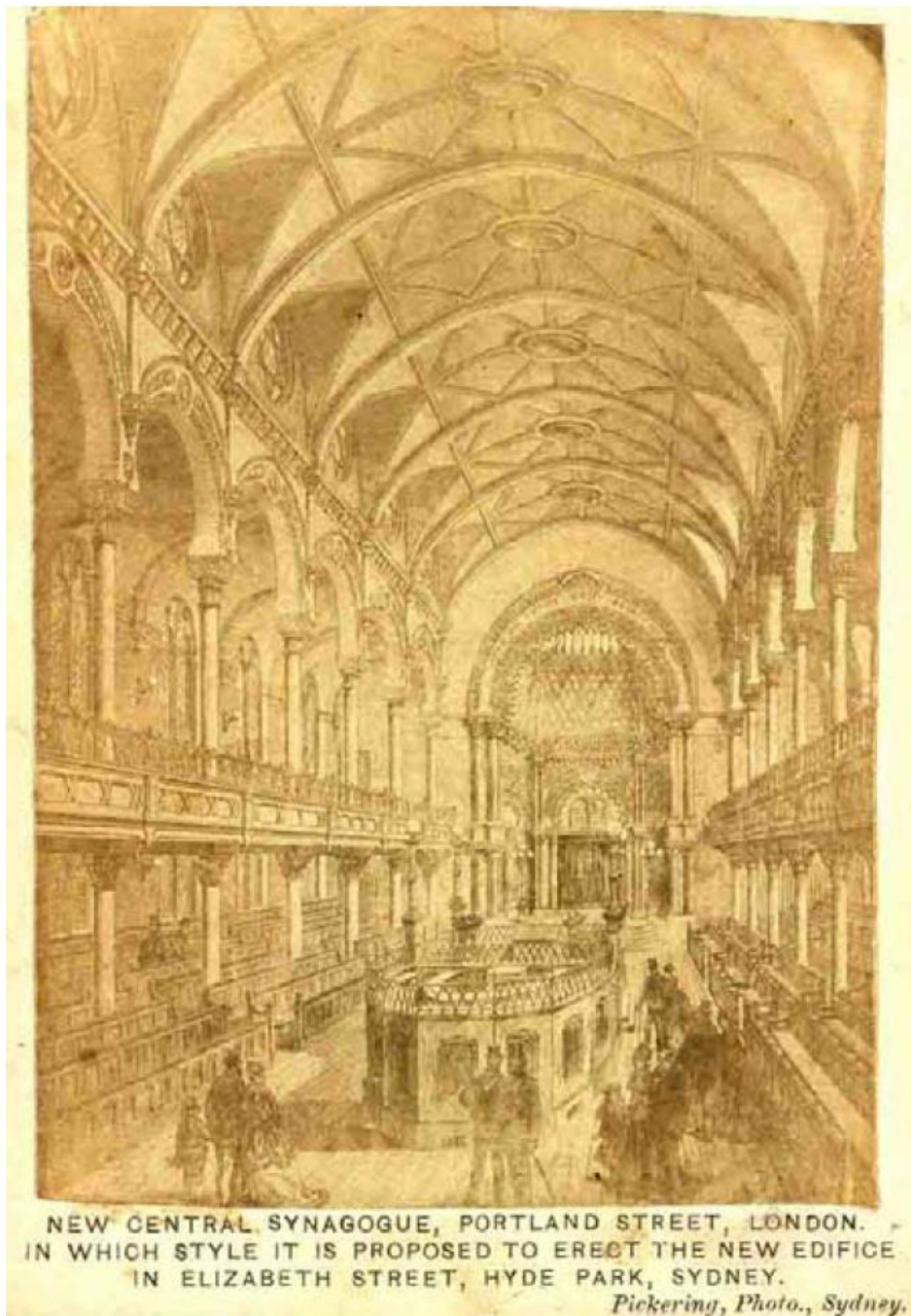
<sup>31</sup> Glass, SB. “The Foundations of The Great Synagogue.” *Journal of the Australian Historical Society*, Vol IV, No. 4, 1956.



*Assured from past experience that no strong appeal is requisite to awaken your generous aid towards so noble a work as that of building a house for the worship of Almighty God, the Committee are confident that you will respond with alacrity and pleasure and that you will consider it a sacred duty to contribute as liberally as you are able.*

*As it is impossible for the Committee to be acquainted with every member of our faith you will oblige by kindly using your influence with any who have not been appealed to direct, and endeavour to forward their subscription with your own.*

*I am,  
Yours faithfully  
Moses Moss, Chairman*



NEW CENTRAL SYNAGOGUE, PORTLAND STREET, LONDON. -  
IN WHICH STYLE IT IS PROPOSED TO ERECT THE NEW EDIFICE  
IN ELIZABETH STREET, HYDE PARK, SYDNEY.  
*Pickering, Photo., Sydney.*

Figure 68 – Interior of New Central Synagogue, London.

Source: State Library of NSW, Louis Phillips papers, 1844-1920, Series 07: Plans and sketches, Vol. 64.

The rest of 1871 and the first half of 1872 were apparently occupied with the preparation of a private Bill which would enable the congregation to sell all the sites which currently belonged to them, and use the proceeds to build the new Synagogue. These sites were a block of land on Church Hill, at the corner of Charlotte Place and Princes Street, which had been granted in May 1850 for the purpose of erecting a Jewish School (a project which never eventuated), the York Street property itself, and a site in Macquarie Street which had been bequeathed to the Synagogue by Simon Lear, who had died in 1847. In August 1872, the Chairman of the Building Committee reported “that the Synagogue and Schools Bill had been passed through Parliament and assented to by the Governor”. This Bill appears in the Parliamentary records as The Jewish Synagogue and Schools Act of 1872. All three properties were later sold, the Church Hill site for £1,054, the Macquarie Street land for £2,448, and the York Street Synagogue for £6,500. Richardson and Wrench, who sold the first two properties at auction, refused their customary commission,<sup>32</sup> and the money so saved was recorded as a grant to the Building Fund in their name.

Being thus assured of sufficient finance, the Building Committee felt able to turn to the selection of a design. On 8 September 1872, the Secretary was instructed “to write to Mr. J.L. Montefiore now in London to procure the plans of the Synagogue in Portland Street, London”. This Synagogue (a photograph of which accompanied Moses Moss’ circular of 1871) had obviously impressed somebody on the Committee, possibly Sigmond Hoffnung who had recently returned from overseas.

### 3.2.6. Selecting the architect 1872-3

On 13 October 1872, the Building Committee resolved “*that the following architects, viz Messrs T. Rowe, G. Allen Mansfield and B. Backhouse be invited to prepare plans for a new Synagogue to be erected on the land in Elizabeth and Castlereagh Streets fronting Elizabeth Street at a cost of ten thousand pounds “10,000 inclusive of internal decorations and fittings”*”. A week later the Committee held a meeting with all three architects, and the following particulars and conditions were agreed to:

*- Particulars -*

*The Building is to be erected on land situated in Elizabeth and Castlereagh*

*Streets being 64 feet wide and 146 feet deep.*

*The front is to be of stone facing Elizabeth Street.*

*It is proposed to accommodate from 500 to 600 sittings on the ground floor.*

*A vestry room and Ladies’ and Gentlemens’ retiring rooms are required in the Building.*

*A separate building is required for a messenger containing 6 rooms and kitchen.*

*The cost is not to exceed £10,000 inclusive of internal decorations and fittings.*

*- Conditions -*

*The Competition is to be limited to the following gentlemen viz. Thos. Rowe, G. Allen Mansfield and B. Backhouse Esquires.*

*Each competitor is to be at liberty to submit one or more designs as he may think fit to be inked or coloured at the option of the competitor.*

*All letters, circulars, testimonials etc. are to be excluded so as not to be laid before the adjudicators.*

*All (designs) drawings to be on an uniform scale of 8 feet to the inch.*

*The designs to be sent in addressed to the Hony. Secretary, New Synagogue Fund, not later than the 31st December next.*

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<sup>32</sup> Letter to John Solomon from Messrs Richardson & Wrench, 20 August 1872.

*The Author of the successful design shall be invited to superintend the erection of the Building at the usual Commission of 5% on the cost and the unsuccessful competitors will be remunerated in the sum of £25 each.<sup>33</sup>*

The terms of these particulars and conditions seem to indicate that the building Committee was more interested in discovering the stylistic approaches of the architects, than in obtaining fully resolved designs. The brief is extremely sketchy, although we may suppose that the meeting discussed the requirements for the building in more detail than the records suggest. It may be seen that the successful architect stood to gain around £500, whereas the unsuccessful competitors were assured of only £25 each. Although the supervisory stage of the architect's engagement was much more important in the 1870s than it is today (much of the detailed design being in fact done in co-operation with the builder as the work proceeded), this does not altogether account for the considerable discrepancy in fees. Later evidence of design refinements also supports the notion that only sketch design proposals were called for.

The Committee met again on 15 January 1873, to inspect the competition designs. Rowe had forwarded three different schemes, and Mansfield and Backhouse had sent one each. (None of these drawings seems to have survived.) Rose had omitted to state the estimated cost of his designs, and was asked to do so. The Committee met twice more in the next fortnight to attempt to select a design, during which time Mr John Solomon (a member of the Committee who practised, among other things, as a builder) had apparently prepared his own design for the interior. Abraham Cohen was in favour of choosing Rowe's design No. 1, whereas Louis Phillips preferred Mansfield's exterior combined with John Solomon's interior design. After much discussion it was decided that none of the designs was "exactly suitable to the requirements of the Congregation", and the Architects were asked to amend them - although in what respect is not recorded. The amended designs were to be submitted by 28 February 1873.

On 2 March 1873, the Building Committee met once more. Abraham Cohen was still enamoured of Rowe's design No. 1, albeit with reservations; and when Sigmond Hoffnung proposed that Rowe's design No. 2 be adopted, Cohen withdrew his own proposal and supported Hoffnung. However, there was still no general agreement, and the meeting adjourned for a week "with the understanding that the matter be then finally disposed of".

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 1873, indicate that committees today are no worse than those of a century ago. Mr Hoffnung's proposal was still before the meeting, but "Mr. S.A. Joseph moved...as an amendment that the plans submitted by Mr. G. Allen Mansfield be selected but that such selection shall not imply a literal adherence to such plan but that such alterations and improvements shall be made by the Architect as the Committee may agree upon". Possibly he too had John Solomon's interior in mind.

*A Further amendment was proposed by Mr. G. Myers...that Mr. B. Backhouse be selected as the Architect for the preparation of the plans and the superintendence of the erection of the building. Mr. George Myer's amendment ... was lost in division Ayes 2, Noes 11.*

*Mr. Joseph's amendment was then put and the show of hands resulted in Ayes 6 Noes 6, Mr. George Myers and the Chairman not recording their vote. Upon attention being called to this fact, Mr. George Myers announced that it was intentional on his part, but the Chairman intimated that he would have recorded his vote had he been aware that he was entitled to a vote irrespective of his casting vote. Mr. Hoffnung then objected to the decision being considered final and after discussion it was resolved on a division of 6 Ayes to 6 Noes and the Chairman making the majority with his casting vote for the Ayes that the question be re-opened. The right of the Chairman having a vote besides his casting vote was then decided in the affirmative Ayes 4 Noes.*

*Mr. Joseph's amendment was again put to the Meeting and was lost on a division of Ayes 6 Noes 7. The original resolution of Mr. Hoffnung was then carried on a division of Ayes 7 Noes 6. Mr. Thos. Rowe was then declared elected as Architect to superintend the erection of the building and preparing the plans of the New Synagogue in Elizabeth Street.<sup>34</sup>*

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<sup>33</sup> Minutes of Building Committee Meeting, 21 October 1872.

<sup>34</sup> Minutes of Building Committee Meeting, 9 March 1873.



### 3.2.7. The life and work of Thomas Rowe

The chosen architect was one of a handful who divide amongst themselves most of the important building work in New South Wales. “At that time the principal practising Architects in Sydney were Mr. Mansfield, Mr. Rowe, dear old Mr. Blackett, Mr. Horbury Hunt, Mr. Albert Bond, and Mr. Backhouse, who had recently come from Queensland.”<sup>35</sup> Rowe had begun his association with building as a speculative builder in partnership with his brother, Richard, in 1853. Four years later he set up on his own as an architect, and in 1857 he went into brief partnership with W.B. Field, followed by an even shorter association with Sydney Green early in 1858. At the end of this year, Rowe began his highly profitable connection with the Methodist Church, and had completed seven churches for them by 1865. Commissions from other denominations followed, numbering some twenty churches by 1873. His works to this date also included various houses, stores, schools, factories and public buildings, some of which were competition-winning designs. His practice was among the largest (in terms of volume of work) in Sydney at the time. Rowe’s offices were in Vickery’s Chambers in Pitt Street, a building which he had designed (Figure 69).

Freeland has criticised Rowe for weakness of character: “he was always liked but never respected”.<sup>36</sup> Contemporary accounts do not seem to give much support for less from the excellence of his design (which was, however, well regarded at the time), than from his “ambition and boundless energy”.<sup>37</sup> Certainly he seems to have had little idea about the cost of his buildings (which got him into trouble more than once), but it appears that in most cases his diplomacy and amiability served to rescue him from strife. His place in the profession had been gained partly by luck and partly by hard work, in a city where architects of any description were not plentiful. Modern critics agree that he was not a great Australian architect (of the stature of James Barnet, for example) but during his lifetime he was admired both as an architect and as a person.



Figure 69 – Vickery’s Chambers, Pitt Street, Sydney. Thomas Rowe’s offices were on the first floor.

Source: State Library of NSW, Charles Pickering (1871), SPF/498.

<sup>35</sup> Kent, HC. “Reminiscences of Building Methods in the Seventies under John Young.” *Architecture*, November, 1924.

<sup>36</sup> Freeland, JM. *Architect Extraordinary: The Life and Work of John Horbury Hunt, 1838-1904*. Cassell, 1970.

<sup>37</sup> Stevenson, JL. *Colonel Thomas Rowe, 1829-1899*. BArch Thesis, University of Sydney, 1972.

### 3.2.8. Designs and estimates 1873

Rowe now set to and began to develop his design. In this he seems to have laboured under considerable restriction from the Synagogue Building Committee, who had their own ideas of what the new building should look like. On 29 May 1873, the Committee decided “*that Mr. Rowe’s plans and elevations as now submitted be approved of, with the introduction of the alterations suggested this evening, and that the interior plan of the Portland Street Synagogue be adhered to as nearly as possible*”. Figure 68 and Figure 81 indicate that there exists a marked similarity between the two designs.

On 28 August 1873, “*the Plans of the New Synagogue were laid upon the table by the Architect, together with the full specification,*” but the Committee was still not satisfied. The main fly in the ointment was John Solomon, who seems to have been a man of great enthusiasm which led him to be interfering, often objectionably so. At this meeting he suggested that the tower columns be lengthened a foot (which was agreed to) and that the double arch dividing the Committee room be abolished (which was not).<sup>38</sup>

However, despite the further criticisms the Committee resolved to adopt the design, and “*Mr. Rowe was directed to call for Tenders, it being agreed that for the present tenders be obtained only for the Excavation, Drainage, Masonry and Brickwork*”. Rowe informed the Committee “*that the cost of the building should not exceed Thirteen Thousand Pounds*”. Although this was 30% more than the upper cost limit originally set by the Committee, they appear to have raised no objection, presumably persuaded by Rowe that the extra cost was justified.

The Committee received a rude shock when the Tenders arrived. They were as follows:<sup>39</sup>

Name	Masonry/Brickwork	Finishing Trades	The whole of the works
A. Kerr			£21,675.12.6
John Noble	£10,550		
John Sharp	£10,600		
R&M McCredie	£11,357	£10,900	£22,257.0.0
Thos. Moon	£8,350		
W. Coleman		£8,492	
Armytage & Harri		£9,885	
George Hall	£9,790		
N. Eyles	£16,187	£9,199	£25,386.0.0
N. Leggo		£7,545	

Although the builders had had only a fortnight to submit tenders, these prices were greatly in excess of Rowe’s estimate. The Committee asked Rowe to see what alterations he could suggest to reduce the cost, and on 8 October “*it was resolved that the alterations and deductions as suggested by Mr. Rowe and shown in the photograph and plans laid before the Committee this evening be adopted*”. A sub-committee of three was appointed to deal with the day-to-day running of the project consisting of Messrs Solomon, Hoffnung and Phillips. Rather than employ a single contractor for the whole of the works, it was decided to let separate contracts for each stage of the work, with the architect acting as project supervisor; this was apparently quite a common practice. Rowe was to be paid £150 on account of commission as soon as the first tender had

<sup>38</sup> This alteration was later agreed to and carried out.

<sup>39</sup> Minutes of Building Committee Meeting, 17 September 1873.

been let, and was to receive no further money until work to the value of £3,000 had been completed. Messrs Mansfield and Backhouse were to receive £25 each as previously agreed.

### 3.2.9. The origins of the design

As previously indicated, the Building Committee was of the view that the new Synagogue should closely resemble the New Central Synagogue in Great Portland Street in London. This synagogue was designed by N. S. Joseph and completed in 1870. A modern description of the building indicates that the likeness was marked: it “had a traditional layout with central bimah, was Moorish in detail, Gothic in feeling (for it had a soaring vaulted nave), and employed cast iron columns, a form of industrialised construction, to carry the galleries and roof. It cost £24,000 and seated 860, the largest number yet, men and women in almost equal numbers, and was not without problems of hearing and vision”.<sup>40</sup> Rowe’s use of raked floors would have helped to reduce these problems in The Great Synagogue.

However, the New London Synagogue was not a unique example. Numerous parallels for both the exterior and the interior designs may be found in the architecture of synagogues in England, France, Germany and the United States of America. Examples which show a marked similarity include the Prince’s Road Synagogue (photographs of which were found in the Phillips papers); the Rue de la Victoire Synagogue in Paris, built in 1874; the Oranienburgerstrasse Synagogue in Berlin, completed in 1866; and the Plum Street Temple in Cincinnati, Ohio, also of 1866. Each of these buildings had features which can also be seen in the architecture of The Great Synagogue.

It is highly unlikely that Rowe could have visited any of these buildings, but it seems probable that members of the Building Committee may have seen them or others like them. In any case it is evident that the design of the Synagogue was not a Rowe inspiration, but followed the stylistic traditions of its antecedents in Europe and the United States of America. The synagogue architecture there at that time reflected the general architecture of the latter half of the nineteenth century, which lacked any single coherent style of its own and tended towards a variety of styles loosely based on one or more styles of previous centuries. Gothic revival never really found favour with the Jews because of its almost exclusive associations with Christianity, and the Moorish style (perhaps because of its affinity to the golden age of Spanish Jewry) was preferred. However, Gothic and Romanesque influences were still to be found. In architecture, as in most other things, the Jewish community of Sydney carried on the practices of its parent communities overseas.

The origins of the Synagogue design may also be seen in the earlier work of Thomas Rowe, particularly the Goulburn Wesleyan Church which was completed around 1870. This was a departure from traditional church design and featured a raked floor, an amphitheatre arrangement of pews, and an unusual entrance porch with Romanesque style arches. It is perhaps natural that when Rowe was asked three years later to design a building with similar requirements, he would have adapted and improved on his earlier design. Some of his other buildings show decorative details which can be seen repeated in The Great Synagogue.

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<sup>40</sup> Jamilly, E. “Synagogue Art and Architecture.” *A Century of Anglo-Jewish Life*. United Synagogue, London, 1970.



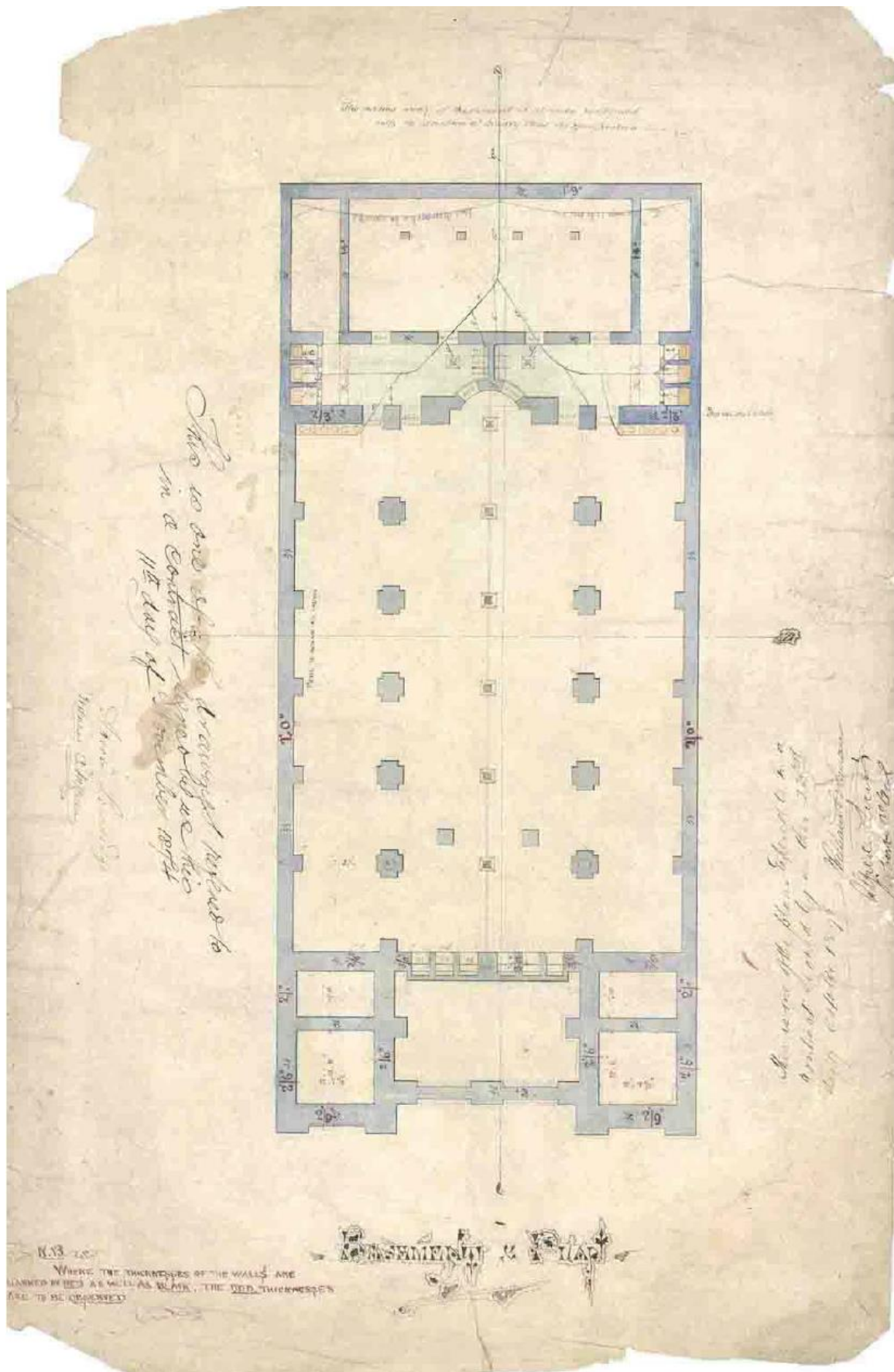


Figure 70 – Contract Drawing for The Great Synagogue, Basement Plan.

Source: State Library of NSW, Thomas Rowe, PXD 62/vol. 1

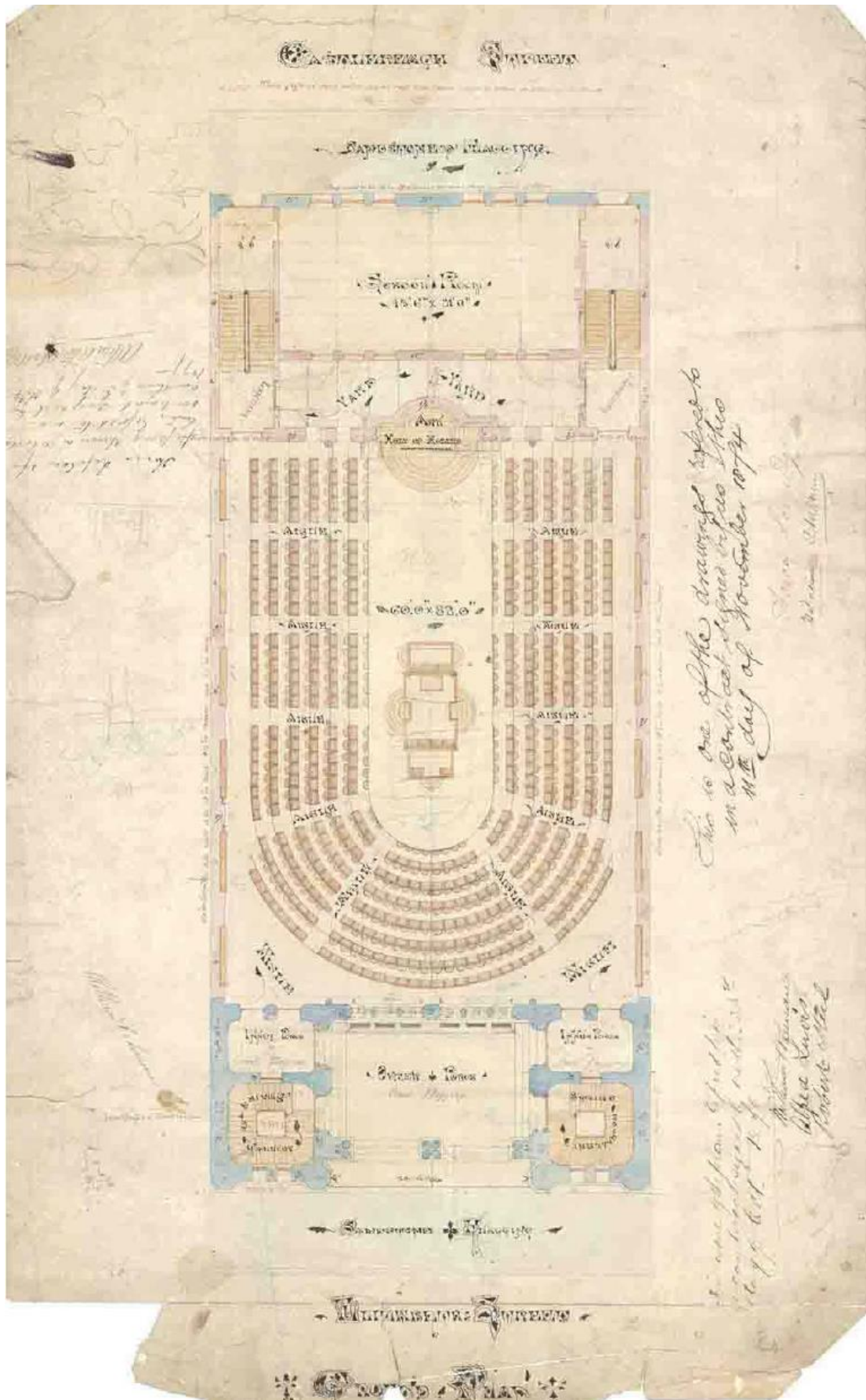


Figure 71 – Contract Drawing for The Great Synagogue, Ground Floor Plan.

Source: State Library of NSW, Thomas Rowe, PXD 62/vol. 1



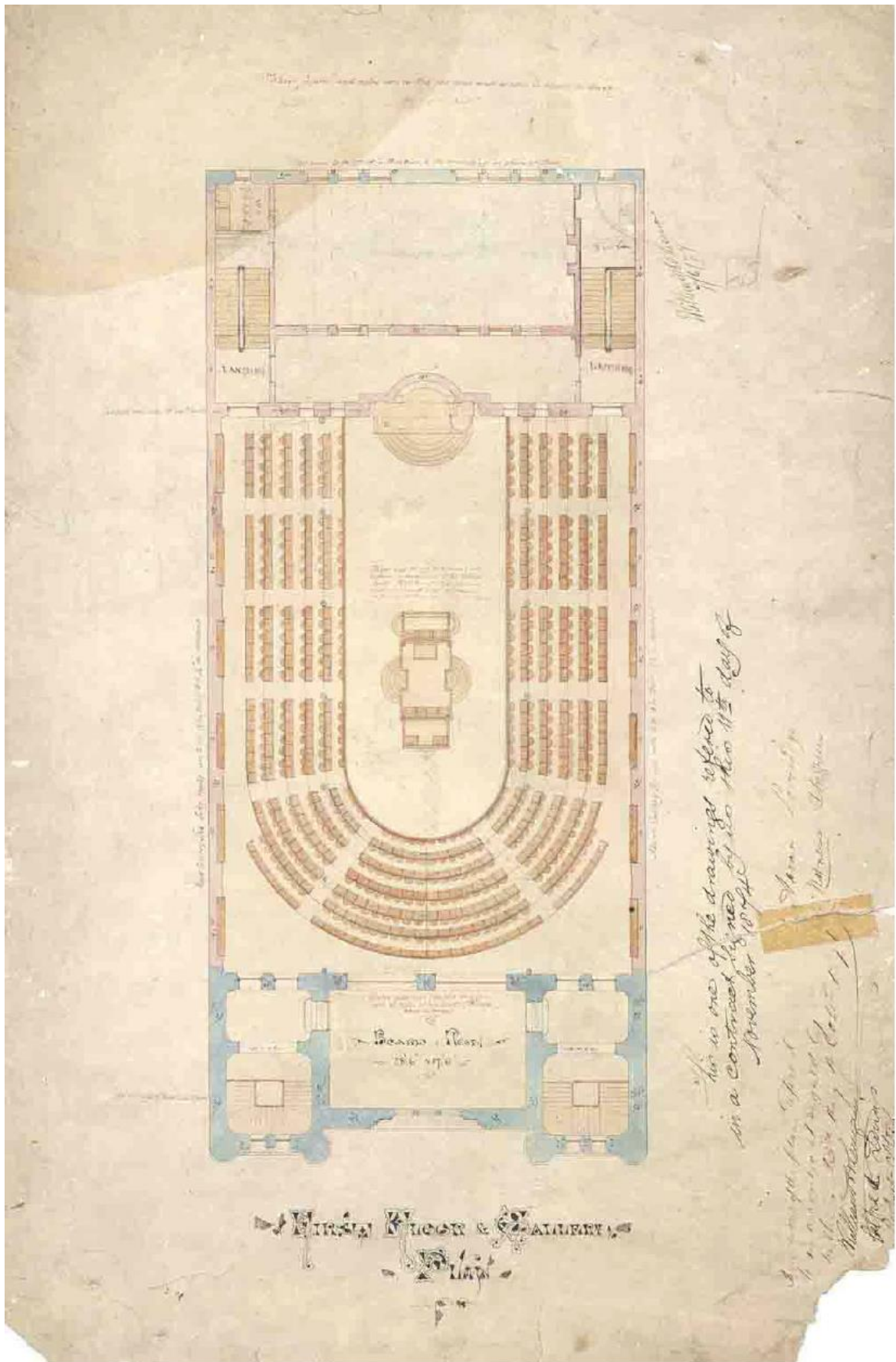


Figure 72 – Contract Drawing for The Great Synagogue, First Floor Plan.

Source: State Library of NSW, Thomas Rowe, PXD 62/vol. 1



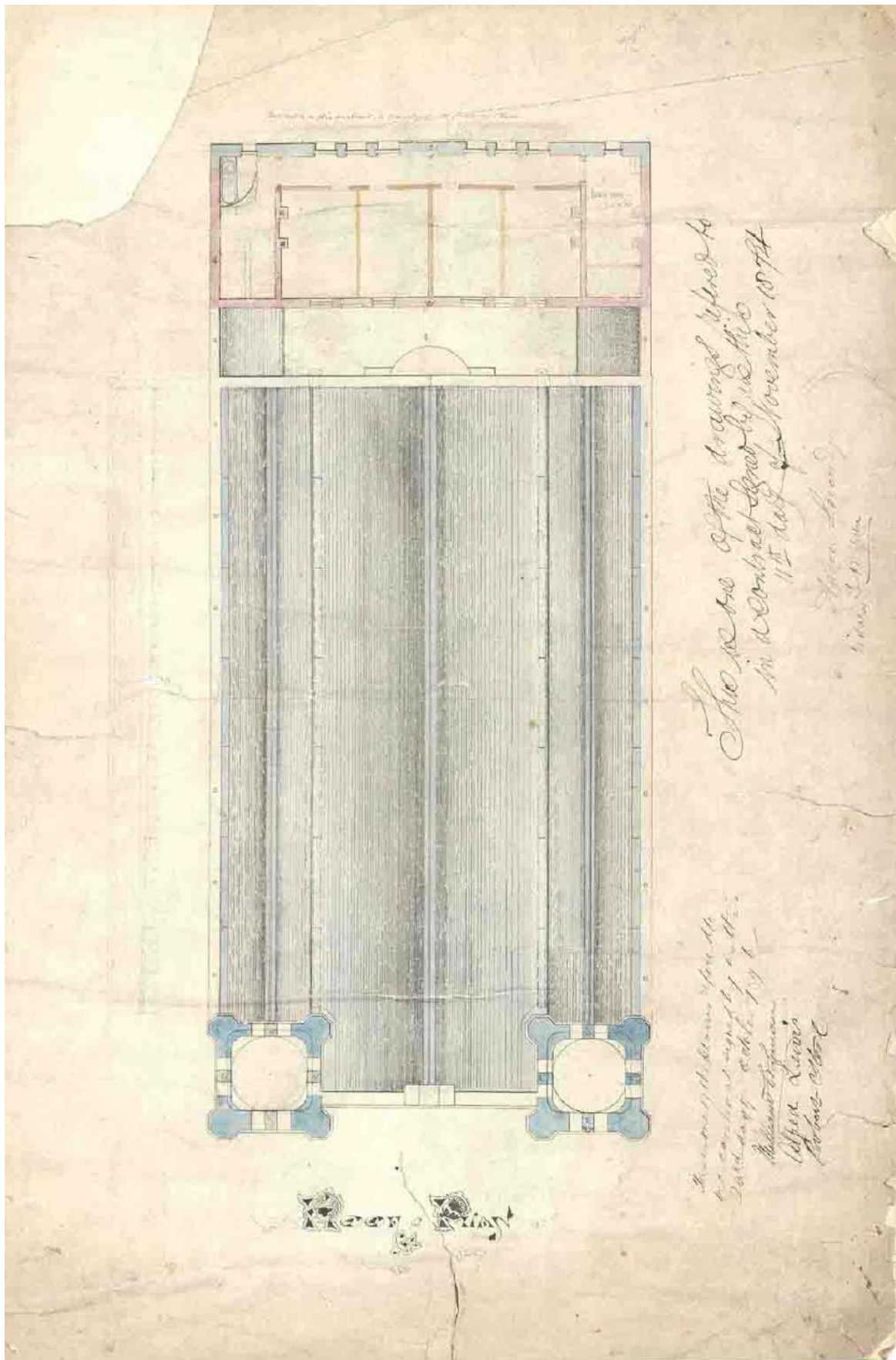


Figure 73 – Contract Drawing for The Great Synagogue, Roof Plan.

Source: State Library of NSW, Thomas Rowe, PXD 62/vol. 1

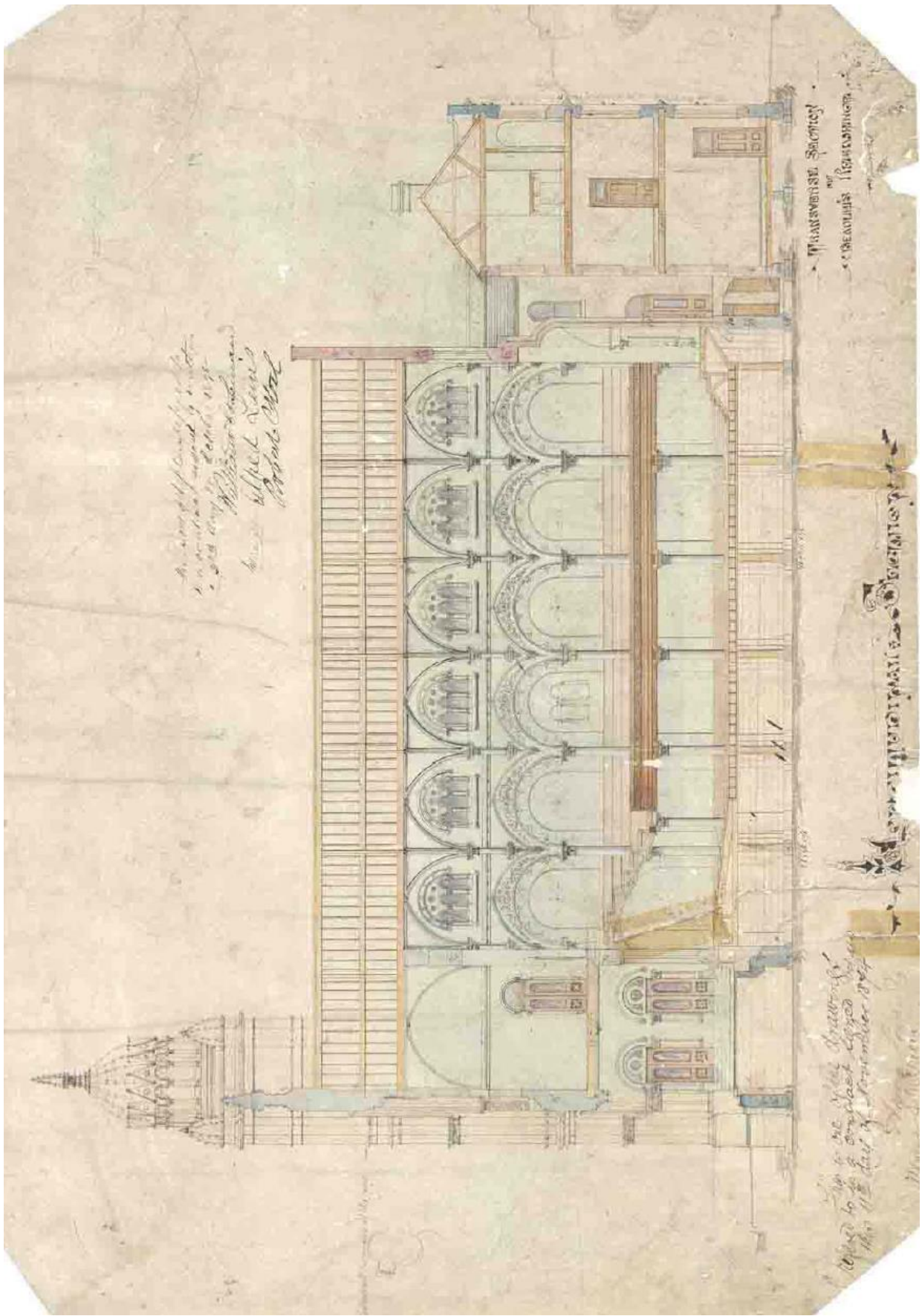


Figure 74 – Contract Drawing for The Great Synagogue, Longitudinal Section.

Source: State Library of NSW, Thomas Rowe, PXD 62/vol. 1



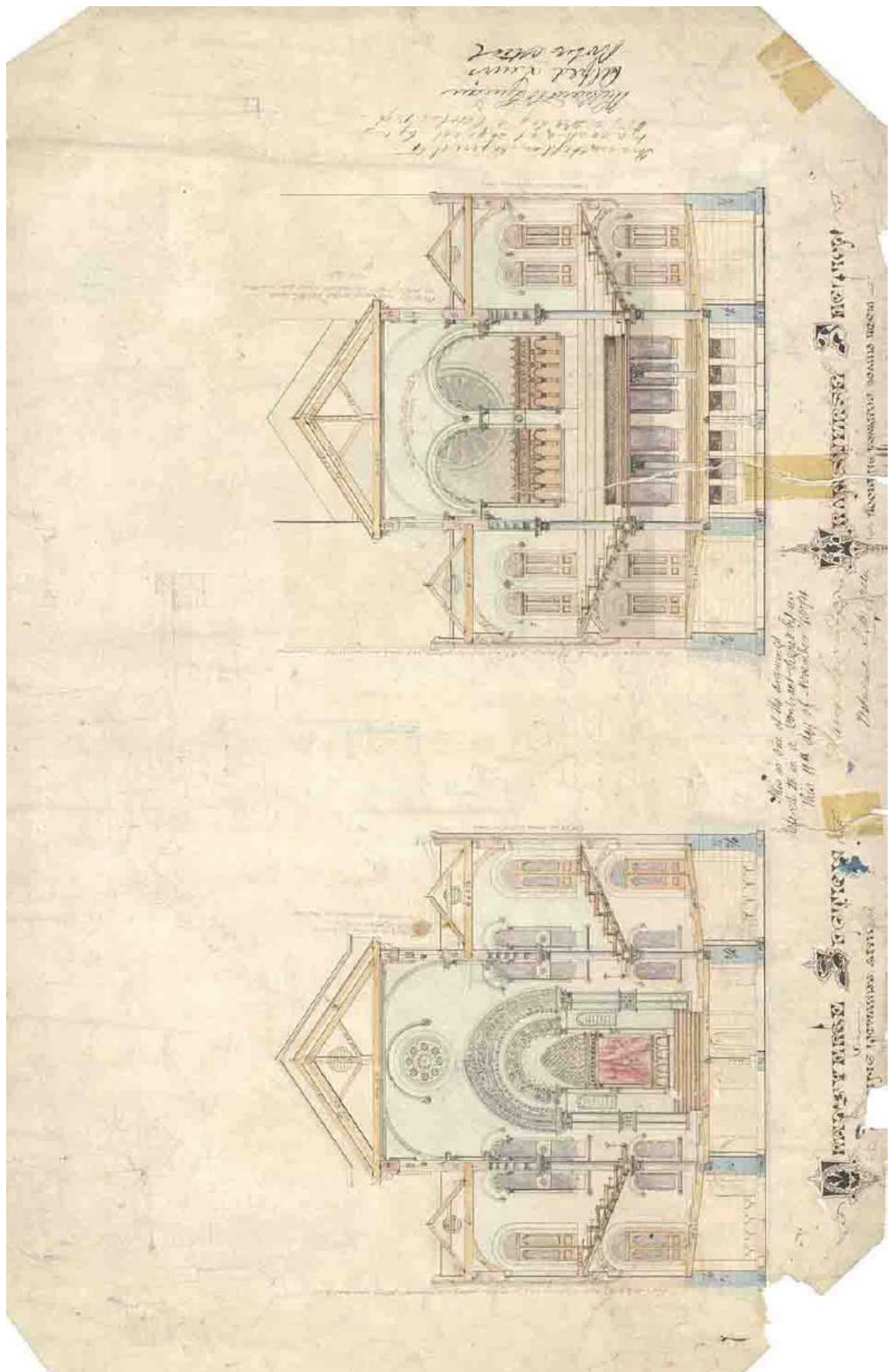


Figure 75 – Contract Drawing for The Great Synagogue, Cross Sections.

Source: State Library of NSW, Thomas Rowe, PXD 62/vol. 1



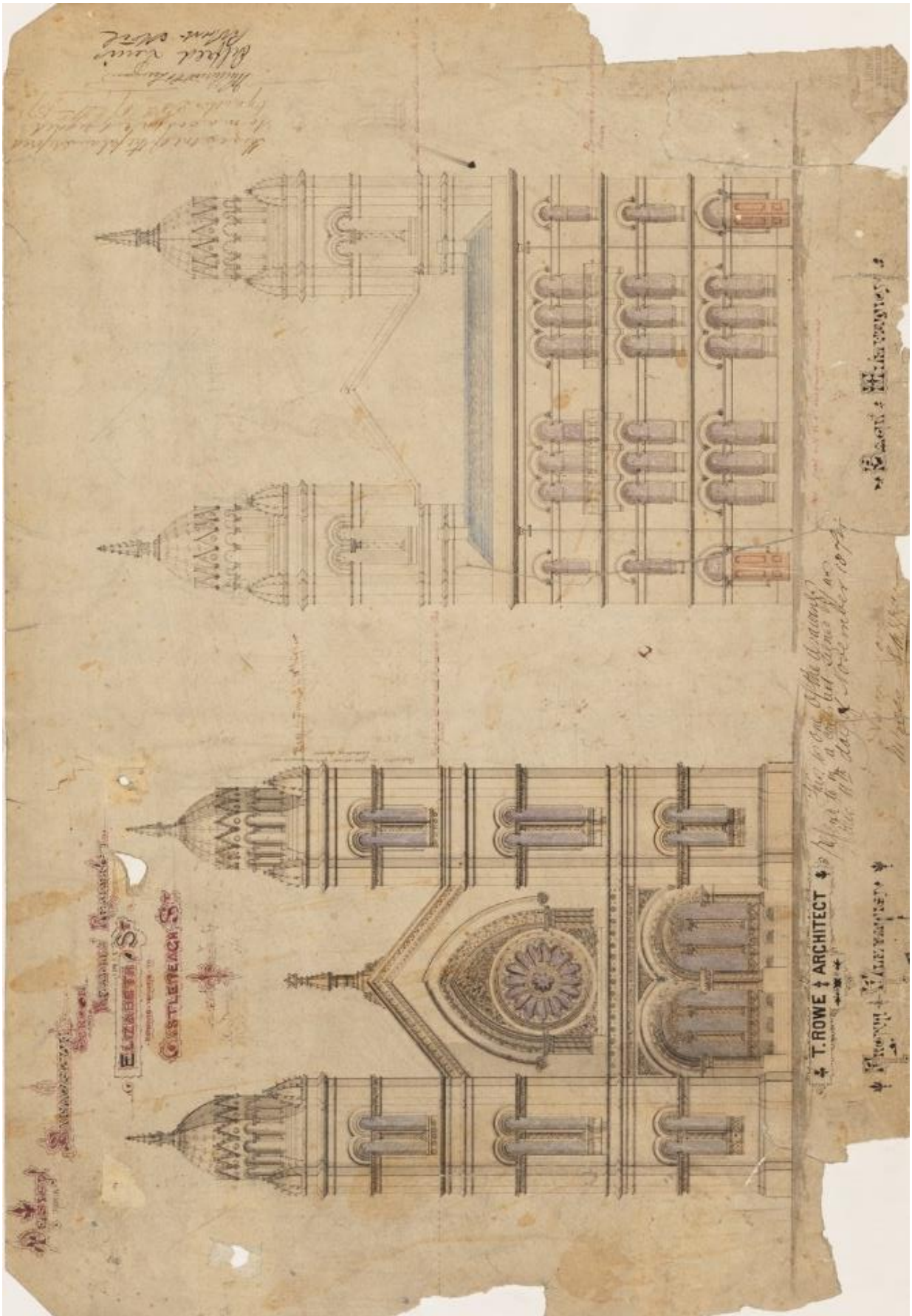


Figure 76 – Contract Drawing for The Great Synagogue, Elevation.

Source: State Library of NSW, Thomas Rowe, PXD 62/vol. 1

### 3.2.10. Works begins 1874

By January 1874, the site had been surveyed by Mr Reuss,<sup>41</sup> and the first contract, for excavation, had been let to Messrs John Fay and Robert Barnes, for the sum of £53. On 1 February, the Sub-committee reported that excavation had been completed, and *“that a further contract for £1,000 for the Foundations to the building had commenced and was proceeding satisfactorily”*. The Contractor was Thomas Moon. On 10 February 1874, Rowe wrote to the Honorary Treasurers of the Synagogue requesting payment of £10 to a Mr J.C. Flood *“for permission to remove all encroachments along the southern side or line of New Synagogue ... in order to build the wall of the said Synagogue ... in a straight line, and close up to the northern boundary of Mr. Flood’s property”*. A possible explanation of this is that the southern boundary line was not straight, and that it was necessary to resume a small sliver of Mr Flood’s land (and probably re-align his fence), for which compensation would be required. By 24 March over half the work on the “Foundations” (apparently referring to the building work below ground level) had been completed, as evidenced by progress payments to the contractor.

On 25 June, the Building Committee wrote to Rowe complaining about work done by Moon, and questioning Rowe’s progress certificate. He replied (Figure 77):

To  
The Building Committee for New Synagogue

Gentlemen,

*In reference to your letter of the 25th complaining about the work of the front portion of wall to Castlereagh Street, in answer to same I see nothing to complain of considering the contractor was not working under any specification, that portion of the work referred to will be eventually colored.*

*The second clause of the letter referring to chamfer of door, the original design having been altered by request, I was asked to use my own judgement on the matter and this I claim as your Architect.*

*With reference to the conversation in my office and my Certificate being challenged which I feel very sore about, in looking over the matter I find I am quite correct. In squaring the figures in your presence, I took 1’3” x 1’6” in place of 1’4” x 1’6”. I have visited the work and measured the base in four places and find the same to be 16” high and 18” deep and backed off.*

*Moon has done several things at my request not shown and specified amounting to some pounds, in consideration I could not justly deduct for second stone of piers not supplied by him, the at most value would be 12/-.*

*I consider that I have upheld the interest of your Committee to the uttermost and cannot therefore alter my Certificate in any form whatever.*

*I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Yours obediently  
Thos. Rowe  
Architect*

---

<sup>41</sup> This was probably F.H. Reuss, a Sydney Surveyor and architect, who was one of the foundation members (along with Rowe and others) of the NSW Society for the Promotion of Architecture and Fine Art, formed in 1871, a fore-runner of the Royal Institute of Architects of NSW.



Dickens Chambers  
June 27<sup>th</sup> 1874

To  
The Building Committee for  
New Synagogue

Dear Sir,

In reference to your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> complaining about the work of the front portion of wall to face Breagh Street. in answer to same I do nothing to complain of considering the Contractor was not working under any specification that portion of the work referred to will be eventually colored.

The second clause of the letter referring to changes of door the original design having been altered by request I wash as my own judgment in the matter and this I claim as your Architect

With reference to the conversation in my office and my Certificate being challenged which I feel very sore about in looking over the matter I find I am quite correct. In squaring the figures in your presence I took  $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{6}$  in place of  $\frac{1}{4}$  x  $\frac{1}{6}$ . I have visited the work and measured

the base in four places and find the same to be 16" thick and 18" deep and backed off

Moon has done several things at my request not shown and specified amounting to some pounds, in consideration I could not justly deduct for second stone of piers not supplied by him the at most value would be 10/-

I consider that I have upheld the interest of your Committee to the uttermost and cannot therefore alter my Certificate in any form whatever

Measurements of Base

1.6	63.6
1.44	2.0
1.6	127.0
2.0	12.9
2.0	139.9

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Yours Obediently  
The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Architect  
Curt

Figure 77 – Letter from Thomas Rowe to the Building Committee, 27 June, 1874.

Source: State Library of NSW, Louis Phillips papers, 1844-1920, Vol. 37

Volume 36 of the Papers of Louis Phillips contains all of Rowe’s progress certificates, as well as detailed invoices for all of the materials used in the construction. It is evident that at least some of the materials were paid for directly by the Building Committee, as indicated in Rowe’s estimate of 3 March 1876.

On 22 August 1874, the Illustrated Sydney News reported that the building was “already in a very forward condition, the basement contract having been finished some time since and tenders received for the main work of erecting the building”. Moon was paid £82 over his original contract sum for extra work. On 4 November, “Louis Phillips announced to the Committee the receipt of several tenders”. A note from Rowe, dated that same day, states that the lowest tender for work “up to 2nd floor or note in red line on plan” was that of Sharp Brothers, for £6,188. (Rowe estimated the total cost of completing the main fabric of the building, omitting external towers and domes, as £8,035.) However, on 15 November, Louis Phillips “announced the acceptance of Mr. Aaron Loveridge’s tender for the Masonry and Brickwork of the New Building for the sum of Six Thousand and Fifty pounds”.<sup>42</sup>

Three weeks later, for reasons that remain a mystery, the Sub-committee reported “that the works were not progressing as favourably as they might in consequence of the inattention of the architect (Mr. Rowe) to his duties in connection therewith.” Mincing no words, the Committee decided that they were “of opinion that the duties of Mr. Rowe as Architect to the New Synagogue are neglected to the serious injury of the Community

<sup>42</sup> This tender was presumably for the same work described in Sharp Brothers’ tenders, i.e. excluding the towers and domes on the Elizabeth Street facade. The drawings show that Loveridge, a forerunner of the modern firm of Loveridge and Hudson, signed the contract on 11 November 1874.



and the retardation of the progress of the Structure,” and wrote to Rowe “requesting him either to give his attention to the requirements of the Building Committee or to resign his position as Architect”. How Rowe came to provoke this stern rebuke is unknown, but it is possible that he was in the interior of New South Wales attending to various commissions he received in the Bathurst area about this time, and this prevented Loveridge from starting work straight away. Late in December a further alteration in design was suggested, “to raise the centre piers a sufficient height to bring the level with the outer walls giving a level floor in place of a raised one,” but this alteration never eventuated.

### 3.2.11. Further work and fundraising 1875-6

Early in 1875, John Bennett, the lessee of the Victoria Theatre, offered to “undertake the management of an entertainment in aid of the funds of the New Synagogue”. The Committee accepted his offer, but despite reports of negotiations in March with the Opera Company, it seems that no such event occurred. On 26 January, the foundation stone of the building (the base stone of the central arches on the Elizabeth Street facade) was laid by the Hon. Saul Samuel, C.M.G, M.L.C., who was at that time Post Master General of New South Wales (No fewer than three of the Building Committee, whose names were recorded on a parchment deposited beneath the stone, were Members of the Legislative Assembly, indicating the political influence of the Jewish Community at that time.) The description of the building given by The Sydney Morning Herald, which gave a full report of the ceremony the following day, follows closely that given by The Illustrated Sydney News the previous August. This suggests that the architect and Building Committee had a prepared “press release” for use on such occasions. It is also of interest to note Saul Samuel’s statement that “the cost will be nearly £20,000 - this is considerably more than the last recorded estimate of £13,000, but possibly includes the cost of such items as the site; and also the Rev. A.B. Davis’ remark that “the sum of eight thousand pounds for the present contracts will more than drain the exchequer”. Since Loveridge’s contract was only for £6,050, it seems that other contracts must have been let - or that Mr Davis’ zeal to elicit donations led him to bend the truth a little. His appeal for funds was not unsuccessful - donations amounting to over £1,500 were received at the foundation stone ceremony. Furthermore, the article in the Herald contains the first mention of the name “Great Synagogue” - it does not appear in Louis Phillips’ accounts until July 1875; and in the Building Committee Minutes not until October 1877.

In February 1875, Rowe again had occasion to write to the Building Committee:

*Vickery's Chambers,  
Pitt Street  
February 19th, 1875*

*To the Building Committee of the New Synagogue in Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street.*

*Gentlemen,*

*I beg to enclose for your approval a tracing copy of proposed alterations of Ark end of Synagogue.*

*I also enclose a copy of the approach to first floor school room which is now through your instructions to be one room 13 feet high.*

*I require to know if the place [?fireplace] is to be altered to centre of room and the approach to said room to be through W.C.*

*I don't think it a desirable arrangement - it is best as shewn in plan. If a passage is made as shewn in pencil the W.C. will then be too small for the comfort of the Ladies and will not suit position of window.*

*As constant alterations are being made, I think it desirable to obtain for approval from time to time in writing.*

*I also think it desirable that in future contracts should be entered into for everything connected with the works. I have been grossly insulted and defamed by Mr. Solomans in the presence of my young men and two Contractors, one of which told me if he tendered for any of the works he should put it on to meet the interference of Mr. S. In fact I shall not be able to obtain tenders for its completion if it gets abroad that I am interfered with and insulted in the performance of my duty.*

*I have the honor, Gentlemen*

*To Remain Yours  
Obediently  
Thos. Rowe  
Architect<sup>43</sup>*

This letter, taken with other indications in the documents, suggests that the Building Committee, in an effort to save money, were taking an active part in building operations themselves. Possibly John Solomon (who seems to be Rowe's "Mr Solomans") was a constant visitor to the site and, being a builder himself, he was probably over-critical of the work being done, and may even have given orders to Loveridge's workmen. Naturally, as a member of the Building Committee, he would have been technically within his rights in doing so, but equally naturally the Architect and builder would have resented his interference especially as it was unlikely that he was at all tactful about it. The Synagogue Building Committee does not seem to have been the most congenial of clients.

Meanwhile, the New Synagogue Fund was beginning to run low. In August 1875, the Board of the York Street Synagogue (many of whose members were also members of the Building Committee) made a further donation of £700 to the Fund, but more was urgently required. The women of the congregation decided to hold a Fancy Fair to raise money for the New Synagogue. Under the Patronage of the Governor of New South Wales (Sir Hercules Robinson), the Committee of the Hebrew Ladies' Bazaar of Sydney, led by Mrs A.B. Davis, collected gifts from all parts of the world. The Bazaar opened on 14 December 1875, on a site in Martin Place now occupied by Challis House. It ran day and night for a week, and raised over £4,400, after paying expenses of less than £400.

Work on the masonry was presumably proceeding well, as no more is recorded in the accounts than the periodical payments to the Contractor. On 7 November 1875, Loveridge's tender to complete "the third storey of the Towers with the Cupolas at a cost of £1,547.0.0" was accepted, "reserving the right of adding the Domes at a further cost of £800". By 31 December, Loveridge had been paid well over £4,000, indicating that the masonry of the main structure was almost threequarters complete. Earlier in December, the land adjacent to the Synagogue site on the south side (probably still owned by Mr. Flood) came on the market, and the Building Committee (for reasons unknown) proposed to purchase it, but found the title to be "defective".

On 2 January 1876, apparently heartened by the success of the Bazaar, the Building Committee resolved "to complete the present contract in its entirety according to Mr. Loveridge's original contract for £8,397.0.0" (that is, to add the domes to complete the Elizabeth Street facade). Evidently about this time, contracts were also entered into with P.N. Russell & Co. for the supply of the cast iron columns (£608.16.3), and with William Coleman for the roof (£1,569.0.0). Both these contracts are listed in a letter from Rowe to the Building Committee dated 3 March 1876:<sup>44</sup>

*To the Building Committee for the erection of Synagogue School House and Beadle's Residence Elizabeth and Castlereagh Street.*

*Gentlemen,*

*I herewith forward a statement of contracts completed, contracts in course of completion, together with an estimate for the entire completion of the whole. Also sundry detail items for your consideration.*

*No. 1. Detail plans shewing the arrangement of Ark steps, together with Treasurer and Presidents seats, also a reading desk and candelabra.*

*I would recommend the steps and risers to be formed with mosaic tiles cut (see detail). Design to be selected from books forwarded.*

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<sup>43</sup> Papers of Louis Phillips, Vol 37 (Mitchell Library).

<sup>44</sup> Papers of Louis Phillips, Vol 37 (Mitchell Library).

No. 2. Detail plan is simply intended to shew the position to be tiled. Design to be selected from Pattern Books. Cost. See detailed list.

No. 3. Detail plan is a design for enclosing front with iron work, with gates.

For cost see detail list.

No. 4. Is a design for the same thing with ground plan (but different in design).

No. 5. Design for Iron and wood work of Gallery, for cost see detail list.

No. 6. Design shewing Ark end as altered from original plan.

No. 7. Various sketches shewing decoration of iron columns.

[Here follow the cost statements and estimates]

	£	s	s
Excavation	52	0	0
Moon	1,082	0	0
Loverage [sic]	6,050	0	0
Loverage etc.	2,347	0	0
Russell & Co.	608	1	3
		6	
Coleman	1,569	0	0
To Complete (say)	6,600	0	0
Total	£18,308	0	0

Timber to be supplied Committee not taken into consideration

- Detailed Estimate -

	£	s	s
Iron railing and Iron Gates	340	0	0
do Iron work to Gallery front	140	0	0
Mosaic tiling for Entrance porches	200	0	0
Body of Synagogue	126	0	0
Do Ark Steps etc.	175	0	0
Plastering	1,500	0	0
Plumbing	75	0	0
Gas fittings	350	0	0
Painting, varnishing and polishing	200	0	0
Ornamental glazing	300	0	0
Common glazing	65	0	0
Fittings inside of Synagogue (132 seats at £6.0.0)	792	0	0
Ark	150	0	0
Joiners Work	1,050	0	0
Carpenters Work	600	0	0
Recess fittings	40	0	0
Gilding etc.	150	0	0



28 Capitals	100	0	0
Iron Gratings etc.	35	0	0
Screen	60	0	0
Sundries	100	0	0
	£6,548	0	0

These estimates were approved by the Building Committee when it met on 6 March 1876. It will be noted that the last recorded estimate of the cost of the building was £13,000, made by Rowe in August 1873, apart from Saul Samuel's "estimate" of £20,000 in January 1875 (for which no evidence appears in the accounts). It therefore seems likely that revised estimates between 1873 and 1876 were of the order of £18,000 for the completed cost of the building itself, or that, if they were less, the Committee nevertheless felt that their fund-raising activities would enable them to cover the increased cost.

ESTABLISHED 1840.

LONDON MINTON & CO. 50, Cannon St. Registered. MANCHESTER, Bridge-street, 1st Class. 1st Class.

MEDALS AWARDED

Mr. Messrs:  
48 Inverness Terrace  
Raypwater  
London

Patent Tile Works,  
Stoke upon Trent  
November. 20 1876

*Bo. of Minton, Hollins & Co.*

PACKAGES NOT RETURNABLE.

No. of Packages	Quantity	Size	Color	Price	L	s	d
M.M. 119			Ultimate Carriage Paid to London				
1.	224	315 4 7/16	Buff & Red Thin				
	1960	03	Buff thin granulated Buff green				
	1930	13	Plain Red Thin				
	90	16	" " " " E.H. No 1 Imp Carb.				
2.	100	315 4 7/16	Buff & Red " "				
	44	0 1/2	Plain " " " "				
	1650	0	Plain " " " "				
	380	1/2 4	" " " "				
3.	210	312 4 7/16	Black on Buff " "				
	52	054 6x6	" " " "				
	840	1/2 9	Plain " " " "				
	154	2 6x6	" " " "				
	960	6x6	" " " "				
4.	840	1/2 9	Buff thin granulated Buff green				
	360	6x6	" " " "				
	180	6x6	" " " "				
	420	9	Plain Red Thin				
5.	840	1/2 9	" " " " " " do				
	156	054 6x6	Black on Buff thin				
	116	057 8x6	Plain " " " "				
	264	0	Plain " " " "				
	164	12 6x6	" " " "				
			Amount forward				£ 314

Figure 78 – Invoice for floor tiles from Minton, Hollins & Co.

Source: State Library of NSW, Louis Phillips papers, 1844-1920, Vol. 36.

The building operations continued during 1876, although not without interruption. On 24 July, a Mr A.H. McCulloch, Solicitor, wrote to Rowe on behalf of his client, Mr A. L. Beyers, to complain that “the addition to the chimney of his premises in Elizabeth Street which you have had erected against the wall of the New Synagogue does not serve his purpose for which it was intended”. Since the Oddfellows Building (the original two-storey building, on the site of the present Oddfellows Building which adjoins the northern side of the Synagogue) had been completed in 1873, it would appear that Mr Beyers was now the owner of the property formerly occupied by Mr Flood - a small two-storey terrace house, which would probably have had a chimney on the boundary wall, as was common. The building of a high wall adjacent to the chimney would have prevented the chimney drawing properly, and Rowe apparently erected a makeshift chimney (possibly an iron pipe) attached to the Synagogue wall - but evidently his solution was less than successful. Nevertheless, he advised the Building Committee that Beyers had no claim, and he appears to have arranged matters with good result, as no more is recorded about the complaint.

The interim statement of accounts dated 21 August shows that much of the “mosaic flooring” had been paid for - the encaustic tiles were bought from Minton, Hollins and Co. of Stoke-on-Trent, in England. At this state, about half of the tender amount for the roof, and most of the masonry contract sum, had also been paid. It seems probable that by the end of 1876 the roof had been completed, and the tiles ordered from England had arrived or were well on their way. The iron window frames were probably in place, although not yet glazed.

### 3.2.12. Finishing and decorating 1877

On 4 February 1877, “Mr. Hoffnung reported that from some misunderstanding between the Building Committee, the works were likely to be delayed or additional expense occurred in the completion of the Contract”. What the trouble was is unknown, but the following day John Solomon resigned from the Building Committee, so it seems likely that he had something to do with it. At this meeting of 5 February, drawings of “the Windows tendered for” (presumably the designs for ornamental glazing) were produced. A.A. Marshall’s tender for laying on gas pipes (£80.0.0) was accepted, and the Committee resolved “that the Architect be instructed to prepare a plan of the Gas Fittings and that Mr. Hoffnung be requested to select them during his visit to America and Europe”.

Despite the delay, it was evident that the York Street Synagogue would not be required for much longer, and it was put up for sale. On 5 March, Moses Moss announced to the Board of the York Street Synagogue that it had been sold for £6,500 to the Industrial and Benefit Building Society. Two thousand pounds deposit was paid to the Synagogue at the time of sale, with the balance to be paid when the building was handed over on 16 October 1877. The deposit was promptly handed over to the Treasurers of the New Synagogue Fund.

On 21 May, Rowe presented Louis Phillips with a summary of the current contracts for the works

*Statement of contracts entered into and paid on account of New Jewish Synagogue, Elizabeth and Castlereagh Streets.*

<i>Coleman’s Contract (2<sup>nd</sup>)</i>	<i>£2,397.0.0</i>	<i>paid on a/c £950.0.0</i>
<i>Lewis &amp; Steel</i>	<i>1,626.0.0</i>	<i>paid on a/c £950.0.0</i>
<i>Fletcher Bros. (gates)</i>	<i>340.0.0</i>	
<i>Lyon &amp; Cottier (glazing)</i>	<i>800.0.0</i>	
<i>Fletcher Bros. (gallery front)</i>	<i>78.0.0</i>	
<i>Livingstone (caps of columns)</i>	<i>168.0.0</i>	
<i>Layt (for tiling)</i>	<i>100.0.0</i>	
<i>Marshall (gas fittings)</i>	<i>80.0.0</i>	
<i>Marshall (brackets)</i>	<i>80.0.0</i>	<i>ditto £60.0.0</i>

*Contracts to be entered into:*

*Seating*

*Decorating*

*Gas Fittings (to be imported)*

These amounts were all in excess of those Rowe had estimated in March 1876, some considerably so (for example he had estimated the cost of ornamental glazing as £300, whereas the contract let to Lyon and Cottier was for more than twice this sum). However, the Building Committee again seems to have raised no objections, and probably for the same reasons as before: namely, that the funds at their disposal were estimated to be sufficient to cover the increased cost. The statement indicates that the finishing trades were well into their stride at this stage. Most of the firms with whom contracts had been placed were leading members of their respective trades at that time. Coleman's second contract was for carpentry and joinery work to complete the structure of the interior, but excluded the decorative timber work of seating and Ark. Lewis & Steel was the firm employed for the plaster work. Marshall's second tender for fittings was probably for lighting the Beadle's residence and schoolroom.

On 24 May, tenders for the Ark and seating were received:

<i>J. Thomas</i>	£3,900.0.0
<i>W. Coleman</i>	£3,785.0.0
<i>W. Leggo</i>	£3,655.0.0

These prices were far in excess of what the Committee had been prepared for (Rowe's estimate a year before had been £942 for this work.) It was suggested that the cost might be reduced "*by utilising the old seating at present in the York Street Building*"; but this suggestion was dropped, and instead the scale of ornamentation of seating was reduced. Fresh tenders were called separately for Ark and seating and were received on 3 June.

<i>J. Thomas</i>	<i>Ark</i>	£585.0.0	<i>in all £3,050.0.0</i>
	<i>Seating</i>	2,455.0.0	
<i>W. Coleman</i>	<i>Ark</i>	405.0.0	<i>in all £2,769.10.0</i>
	<i>Seating</i>	2,364.10.0	
<i>W. Leggo</i>	<i>Ark</i>	420.0.0	<i>in all £2,857.0.0</i>
	<i>Seating</i>	2,437.0.0	

Apparently the Committee prevailed on Coleman to reduce his tender for the seating, because the following day "it was resolved to accept the Tender of Mr. Coleman for the seating at £1,939.0.0 and the Ark at £405.0.0, and such amount as may be necessary to erect the reading desk. The amount set down for Front Enclosure of the seats and the Partition Screen in the Board Room to be accepted conditionally, to be carried out on the completion of the accepted contract or not as the Committee decides".

The Committee seems to have decided at this point that costs were starting to get out of hand, and that funds were beginning to be exhausted. An attempt was made to obtain the balance of the purchase money for the York Street property before the due date, at interest of 7% p.a. - in effect, a loan from the Industrial and Benefit Building Society. The Society, however, declined to lend the money, and an overdraft for the amount (£4,500) was sought and obtained from the City Bank. The amount for the reading desk was not of any concern to the Committee, because a member of the congregation, David Barnett, had offered to meet the cost of this item as a memorial to his wife, who had died in 1876. It was plain that the new building would not be ready by the time the York Street building would have to be handed over, and accordingly the Secretary of the York Street Synagogue wrote to the Trustees of the Macquarie Street Synagogue in August 1877, "*asking for the use of that Building for the purpose of holding Divine Service from the 16th October next until such time as the new building in Elizabeth Street was ready for occupation*".<sup>45</sup>

<sup>45</sup> It will be recalled that the Macquarie Street Synagogue had ceased to function in February 1877.



Philadelphia, <sup>1875</sup> Sep. 3 1877

Mrs. S. Hoffnung  
 Sydney, New South Wales  
 Bought of CORNELIUS & CO.,  
 MANUFACTURERS OF  
 GAS FIXTURES,  
 No. 821 Cherry Street.

MANUFACTORY: 821 Cherry Street.  
 SALESROOMS: 1332 Chestnut Street. OPPOSITE U. S. MINT.

14	1/2 Lt. Candelabras C 121	Nichell Gilt	32.0	
1	Sanctuary Lamp C 122	Ref. Brass	60	
10	2 1/2 Lt. Candelabras C 123	Ref. Stuffed Gilt	100.0	
1	3 1/2 " "	" "	150	
14	2 Lt. B. Lts. a 124	" "	162	
15	3 " "	" "	225	
2	Globe Lamps C 125	Venetian	56	
1	3 Lt. Grand C 126	Ref. Stuffed Gilt	75	
10	4 " " Lamps	" "	140	
4	Vestibule " C 127	" "	60	
		Brass Gilt	40	2305

"Duplicate"

Figure 79 – Invoice for suspended and wall-mounted gasoliers.

Source: State Library of NSW, Louis Phillips papers, 1844-1920, Vol. 36.

On 2 September, a letter was received from Sigmond Hoffnung, in America, enclosing a tender he had accepted for the Gas Fittings from Messrs Cornelius and Co. of Philadelphia, for the sum of \$2,268.00. The amount of £495.11.4 is entered in the accounts against this item, indicating a current rate of exchange of around US\$4.50 to the pound. At the end of September, the York Street congregation removed the Ark and reading desk from their building and put the rest of the internal fittings up for auction, to be sold on 10 October. By this time the Building Committee felt that funds were sufficient for them to accept the remainder of Coleman's contract for the front screens of the seats on the ground floor.

On 8 October, a General Meeting of "Subscribers to the Fund for the Erection of The Great Synagogue" was held, and the Synagogue's first Board of Management was elected, as follows:

President:	George Myers
Treasurer:	Louis Phillips
Secretary:	David Cohen
Members:	Hon. H.E. Cohen, M.P.
	S.A. Joseph
	John Isaacs
	D.L. Levy
	Montague Levey
	Moses Moss
	David Marks
	Hon. Saul Samuel, C.M.G.

At the end of 1877, Louis Phillips prepared a balance sheet showing that The Great Synagogue Fund was some £1,200 to the good, despite the cost increases during the year. In addition to those mentioned above, Lewis & Steel had been paid over £2,000, as against their original contract for £1,626. Nevertheless, the Treasurers reported "that it would require about £1,500 to complete the building".

### 3.2.13. Completion and consecration 1878

On 27 January 1878, just three years after the laying of the foundation stone, the Building Committee met for what was to be its last recorded meeting as such. (Henceforth The Great Synagogue Board of Management appears to have taken over.) At that meeting, the Committee received the Treasurer's report for the year 1877, mentioned above. They also decided to erect the screen separating the Board Room (at the east end of the Synagogue) from the Synagogue proper, and called for designs and estimates for a marble pulpit (which was never built). "Monday 4th March was appointed the day for opening and consecrating the New Building for Divine Worship", and an orchestra and additional choir members were engaged for the occasion.

The New Carpet and Furnishing Warehouse submitted tenders on 6 February for the supply of fittings for the Ark, President's and Treasurer's seats, reading stand, and for carpet and other floor coverings throughout the building. However, the accounts indicate that these items were in fact supplied by David Jones & Co. According to the accounts, the platform and reading stand (the bimah) were carpeted with "best Brussels carpet ... with handsome stair rods" and that the aisles and passages between the seats were covered with "linoleum of the best quality and of approved design", including borders at the entrances to pews, except for the stepped aisles in the gallery which were covered in matting. David Jones & Co advised that they had "provided for the supply of a superior matting suitable for Church purposes as the linoleum is not adapted for turning over the steps".<sup>46</sup> Only the Honorary Officers' seats appear to have been equipped with cushions. The Committee Room (under the rose window) was also carpeted.

On 4 March 1878, the consecration ceremony was held, and reported at length in the Sydney Morning Herald the following day, and in the Illustrated Sydney News of 20 April of that year. The latter report read as follows:

#### THE OPENING OF THE NEW JEWISH SYNAGOGUE

*The engraving on page four represents the imposing ceremony of opening the Jewish Synagogue on Monday, the 4th of March. Long before the hour appointed, the interior was thronged, many persons finding it impossible even to obtain comfortable standing room. For many years past the Hebrew Congregation have been wont to assemble in the very plain and unpretending structure in York Street, but now they can boast of a place of worship which, for lavish adornment and superb finish, has no equal in the City of Sydney. It is now about seven years since the first steps were taken towards erecting the present building in Elizabeth Street, but owing to a variety of causes the foundations were not laid till the year 1875. There was considerable competition amongst architects for the design, and after much deliberation, that of Mr. Thomas Rowe, of Vickery's Buildings, was approved of and adopted. We understand that no less than £30,000 have been expended on this magnificent structure, which is, without exception, "our holy and beautiful house."*

*It has a frontage of sixty-four feet and extends back one hundred and forty feet, embracing the whole of the intervening space between Castlereagh and Elizabeth Streets. The style is composite - the Byzantine prevailing, the Gothic being here and there introduced. The Front of the edifice is built of freestone from the Pymont quarries. Two square towers flank the central compartment, terminating in domes, and the entire facade is elaborately carved. The magnificent wheel window is a feature in the front which strikes every eye. Passing through the principal entrance in Elizabeth Street, under a spacious porch supported with columns with richly carved caps, the visitor finds himself in the interior, which impresses him with a sense of ornate embellishment approaching the profuse; although we have heard it stated that the decorations are somewhat less elaborate than the architect originally intended. The seats face north and south, leaving a space in the centre unoccupied throughout. At the western end of the nave, under a splendidly embellished arch, is the Ark, the floor being richly inlaid with Mosaic work - the steps ascending towards the Ark having massive marble balustrading on each side. The columns in the nave supporting the clerestory are twenty-seven feet three inches high, and are surmounted by cusped arches with pointed labels, the spandrills of which are decorated with scroll foliage springing from the centre. The ceilings are semi-groined and panelled, with carved bosses at the intersections. The windows throughout are glazed with coloured glass in chaste designs in keeping the contour of the entire building. Seat accommodation is provided for nine hundred worshippers, but some four or five hundred more*

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<sup>46</sup> Papers of Louis Phillips, Vol 36 (Mitchell Library).

may be admitted on special occasions. Altogether it is a most imposing structure; and our artist has succeeded in giving a faithful view of the interior as it appeared during the ceremony of the dedication.

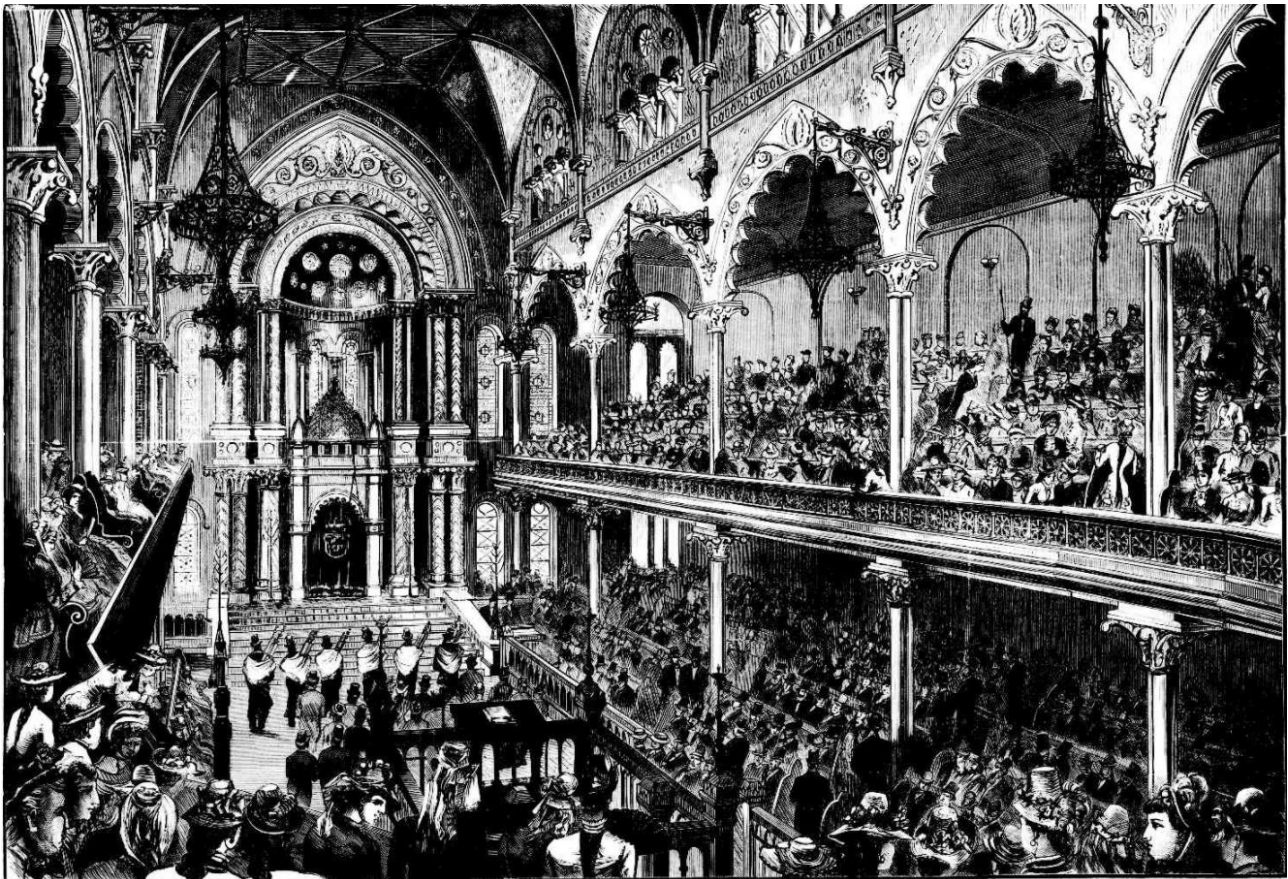


Figure 80 – Opening of the new Synagogue.

Source: *Illustrated News and New South Wales Agriculturalist and Grazier*, 20 April 1878, p. 4.

In the first Annual Report of The Great Synagogue, dated 1 September 1878, the final statement of account was presented:

*The Hon. TREASURERS in account with  
the GREAT SYNAGOGUE Building Fund*

*RECEIPTS*

	£	s	s
To Rents of Cottages, Elizabeth Street	443	4	6
“ Proceeds of sale and do	33	2	0
“ ” ” ” land	4,688	13	0
“ “ “ “ York St. Synagogue	6,500	0	0
“ “ “ “ Bazaar	4,227	7	6
“ Donations	7,919	16	0
“ Interest on Investments	818	10	0
“ Treasurer, York St. Synagogue	1,287	0	0
“ Treasurer, Great Synagogue	884	10	7
	£26,802	4	4

*Timber to be supplied Committee not taken into consideration*



EXPENDITURE

	£	s	s
<i>By Cost of Land, Elizabeth Street</i>	2,004	12	9
<i>“ Cost of Act of Parliament, etc.</i>	190	15	8
<i>“ Flood for use of Wall</i>	10	0	0
<i>“ Taxes on Cottages</i>	43	19	0
<i>“ Insurance</i>	12	0	0
<i>“ Premium to Architects</i>	50	0	0
<i>“ Excavation</i>	53	0	0
<i>“ Foundation</i>	1,082	10	0
<i>“ Masonry</i>	8,110	0	2
<i>“ Bricks</i>	640	5	5
<i>“ Roofing</i>	1,518	6	0
<i>“ Finishing Trades</i>	5,257	17	0
<i>“ “</i>	1,108	14	0
<i>“ Plastering</i>	2,263	7	2
<i>“ Tiles and Tiling</i>	444	1	4
<i>“ Gas Fixtures</i>	495	11	4
<i>“ Gas Fitting</i>	375	7	2
<i>“ Ironwork, including Gates</i>	418	0	0
<i>“ Glazing</i>	856	18	0
<i>“ Decorating</i>	226	10	0
<i>“ Upholstering, etc.</i>	292	4	1
<i>“ Charges, Insurance, etc</i>	232	7	6
<i>“ Architect’s Commission</i>	1,133	17	9
	£26,802	4	4

Deducting from this the appropriate items, it may be seen that the total construction cost was £23,124.7.8, approximately the amount estimated in the initial tenders of September 1873.



Figure 81 – Interior of The Great Synagogue shortly after construction.

Source: State Library of VIC, Charles Bayliss, H26430.





Figure 82 – Exterior of The Great Synagogue shortly after construction.

Source: *State Library of NSW, Charles Bayliss, FL1231362.*





Figure 83 – Exterior of The Great Synagogue shortly after construction.

Source: *State Library of NSW, Tronier, Album of photographic views of Sydney c. 1879-1884, FL1023814.*

### 3.2.14. The original design and construction

The basement work carried out by Thomas Moon involved the construction of foundation walls and column bases in sandstone. The lowest floor of the building was a composition of tar and blue metal laid directly on the levelled ground. Most of the space beneath the building was used as a children's playground, lit through gratings in the front porch and by the substantial open space behind the apse which served also as a light well for the upper storeys. This area also contained the lavatories. The ground floor, of timber, was supported by large timber beams which spanned between basement piers and some additional central timber posts. The floor was slightly raked around the outside to give a clear view of the central reading desk. The circular arrangement of seats at the East end, shown on the plan, was later altered to a more angular design which allowed seats to be constructed in straight lines, which would probably have been cheaper to build.

The eastern (Elizabeth Street) facade was constructed of "freestone" (sandstone), which (according to the late Mr Arnold, of F. Arnold & Sons who operated the sandstone quarry in Paddington) came from the "Paradise" quarry (one of three Saunders quarries at Pymont - the other two were called "Purgatory" and "Hellhole"). The stonework was self supporting (a double wall flanked by two towers), and would probably have been built in a similar manner to that described by H.C. Kent:

*In the days of which I am speaking every stone building was ... surrounded externally and internally with framed scaffolding carrying travelling beams and a crown carriage....It was, of course, erected in tiers as the walls rose, and was constructed with cross-braced framing for the first tier..., and later with trussed and cross-braced framing for the upper tier. On top of the scaffolding ran the traveller formed with a pair of trussed beams with pulley wheels and crank handles worked from a hanging platform by a man at each end for travelling longitudinally and surmounted by a crown carriage for working transversely, that is by three top men for lifting each stone.*

*The erection of the upper tier of such scaffolding, especially the first sections, as you can well imagine, was rather anxious work, and was generally a job for Ship's Carpenters.*

*The scaffolding in the interior of the building had to be set out so as to interfere as little as possible with the internal walls, iron girders, etc. and as the building rose, had to be replaced where necessary with struts and braces from walls and girders.<sup>47</sup>*

All other walls were built of brick, plastered internally and cement-rendered on the western (Castlereagh Street) exterior face. The side walls had ventilation flues built into them to carry away the fumes from the gas lights.

The gallery is supported on cast iron columns, which originally sat on stone piers, and these also support the clerestory walls which are carried on brick arches. The columns are the only feature of note in the structure, being at that time a recent innovation in construction technique. The gallery itself is constructed of timber beams, probably hardwood, which span between the columns, and from columns to walls with a steep rake. The schoolroom and house at the Castlereagh Street end were of standard domestic construction of the period.

The roof construction over the centre has a heavy timber king-post truss, which spans between the clerestory walls. Beneath this, a semi-vaulted ceiling with a flat central portion has been constructed in timber. Conventional timber roofing has elsewhere been used. All roofs were originally covered with slate. Beneath the roofs and floors, conventional lath-and-plaster ceilings have been used, except above the porch where timber lining is preferred. Along the side walls of the interior, large curved cornices have been formed in timber and plaster, with ventilation openings.

The stairs are wholly of timber, mostly cedar, which is richly carved. Those at the western end (removed in 1981) spanned between half-landings with no intermediate support, and were carried on remarkably shallow stringers, considering the very high peak loads they were called upon to support. Windows in the main body of the Synagogue have iron frames, and are glazed with small decorative panes; those in the Castlereagh Street building have the conventional large panes of glass in timber frames. Doors throughout the main

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<sup>47</sup> Kent, HC. Reminiscences of Building Methods in the Seventies under John Young. Architecture, November 1924. Kent served as the Synagogue's architect around the turn of the century, and was responsible for the reworking of the western end of the Sanctuary in 1911.

building are of cedar, with brass fittings and acid-etched glass panels, with semi-circular fanlights above, similarly glazed.

The decoration of the interior is accomplished by a combination of elaborate plaster moulding and timber carving, variously painted and gilded, which has been described above. The gallery balustrade consists of iron panels (manufactured by Fletcher Bros., who also supplied the front gates), topped by a generous cedar rail. The column capitals beneath the gallery and clerestory arches show six different, though similar, designs. The seats throughout are of cedar, with infill panels of Huon pine. The gas corona lights from America, eleven in number, are of steel and brass, supported by brackets of cast iron which according to the accounts were provided by the local firm that installed them. Additional wallmounted gas lights are positioned around the walls at the rear of the seats on both levels. As well as the ornamental glazing previously described, mention should be made of the semi-dome above the apse, which contains small circular lights glazed with coloured glass.

The bimah was originally in the centre of the ground floor, and had a balustrade of timber with a Gothic arched design, similar to that along the front of the pews. The steps were at the eastern end, and may have been semi-circular in plan. The pulpit was a separate brass structure which sat on the steps to the Ark. The Ark itself had timber (probably sliding) doors externally.

### 3.2.15. Redecoration 1882-1894

There is evidence that the painted decoration of the interior of the Synagogue was not completed at the time of its consecration in 1878. The 5th annual report of the Board for 1882 reports that funds were sought “for repairing, painting and decorating the Synagogue Buildings which it will be necessary to undertake almost immediately”. The annual accounts for that year also recorded that £5/10/0 was spent on “altering and numbering seats”.

The following year, the Board reported that there were “liabilities still to be met to a considerable amount arising out of the contract for the decorations and repairs to the Synagogue”. The annual report added:

*The Board having, as intimated in the last Report, decided to have the interior of the Synagogue decorated and all the necessary painting and repairs to the building done, called for tenders for the performance of the works and accepted that of Mr W G Hibble, who has now completed his contract, and your Board trusts that although the expenditure amounts to about £1,300, yet the excellent manner in which the contractor has carried out the designs will stimulate the Congregation to liberally provide for this outlay.<sup>48</sup>*

Hibble’s work was reported in The Sydney Morning Herald:

*The decoration of the Jewish Synagogue, in Elizabeth Street, has just been completed by Mr. W.G. Hibble, of Newtown, and the effect has been to considerably enhance the beauty of the architectural design of the building. When the erection of the synagogue was completed, the interior was merely plainly plastered, and remained in that condition until a few months ago, when the work of decoration was placed in the hands of Mr. Hibble, who has carried out his task to the satisfaction of the committee and the architect, Mr. Thomas Rowe. The style of decoration of exceedingly chaste and beautiful, and thoroughly in keeping with the character of the edifice. Sea green, cinnamon, and white are the only tints used in the building, with the exception of the dadoes along the gallery walls. The architectural ornamentation is neatly displayed by gilding, and everywhere the colours used are light, the result being an entire absence of gaudy effect. Nearly the whole of the work has been hand painting, and in some cases, particularly along the ceiling, this has been done under considerable difficulties, expensive scaffolding having to be erected. Gilding forms an important feature in the decoration, between £200 and £300 worth of English goldleaf having been used. The galleries have undergone a complete change, hand-painted dadoes and chastely ornamented ceilings having taken the place of bare white walls. This is one of the largest works in decoration that has been carried out in the colony, and Mr. Hibble may be congratulated on the manner in which he has performed his work.<sup>49</sup>*

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<sup>48</sup> 6th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1883.

<sup>49</sup> Newspaper clipping from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 1883, reproduced in *Australian Jewish Historical Society Newsletter*, No 33 (March 1995).



The Synagogue was regularly redecorated throughout the 20th century. The 26<sup>th</sup> annual report in 1903 advised:

*The need for decorating and painting the Synagogue building is daily growing more imperative and cannot be much longer delayed. As the cost will be considerable it may be necessary to make a special appeal to the liberality of the Community. In view of the necessity for this expenditure a sum has been reserved from general funds towards meeting it.*

The balance sheet for the year showed this sum to be £300. The Board reported the following year, however, that the cost exceeded this amount.

*As foreshadowed in the last report, extensive repairs and decorations have been carried out in the Synagogue at a cost of £910/10/4. Upon their completion a Special Choral Consecration Service was held at which donations amounting to £517/16/3 were announced ...<sup>50</sup>*

The redecoration carried out in 1904 was reported in the Journal of Decorative Art, reproducing a report in the Sydney Daily Telegraph:

#### REDECORATION OF THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE, SYDNEY

*The Great Synagogue, Elizabeth Street, Sydney, has just been redecorated by A.J. Wellesley Drayton, of Woollahra, under the direction of the well-known architects Messrs. Kent & Budden, who were asked to submit a scheme of decoration, which was adopted by the committee in charge of the matter, and the work has been carried out in a highly creditable manner. The clerestory walls have been painted in two shades of cream, and the labels of the arch mouldings and windows have been picked out in vermilion and blue, the corbel shafts being painted a full biscuit colour, the caps a lighter shade, the background being picked out in vermilion, and the whole etched with gold.*

*The columns are painted a deep biscuit colour, caps a cream tone, the background being picked out in vermilion, and the heavy moulded caps relieved with gold.*

*The gallery ceilings have been formed into panels, the panels being painted a light cream tint, with soft grey-green stripes, with lines of dull azure blue, soft brown, and red.*

*The side walls are painted cream colour, with a soft brown dado, with a dado-rail in a soft green tint, with an ornament in a deeper tone of blue green and a soft leather brown, with lines of deep brown, red, and old gold colour, the dado being varnished with a high gloss, while the recesses of the walls are painted a fuller tone of cream, and finished with Wilkinson, Heywood, and Clark's dead encaustic varnish.*

*The panels of the roof have been painted a light cream colour, and the heavy mouldings have been painted a darker tint, picked out with one small moulding of blue and gilded.*

*The west end, which is architecturally most elaborate, being the location of the ark, is treated most tastefully with colours graduated from light cream to deep biscuit colour, the labels of the mouldings being picked out in vermilion and blue, and the whole being picked out in gold. The Ten Commandments are written over the ark, the door of which is polished cedar, and the curtains a rich tone of green and old gold.*

*The pulpit, which is a beautiful specimen of its kind, is solid brass.*

*The effect of the whole is very soft and rich, and will have the effect of giving more light to the synagogue, which was much desired.*

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<sup>50</sup> 27th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1904.

*The porches and staircases have been painted and varnished, and the outside has been treated with szerelmey. The one great object in view was to get more light in the building, which object has been effected. This building seats about 1,300 people.<sup>51</sup>*

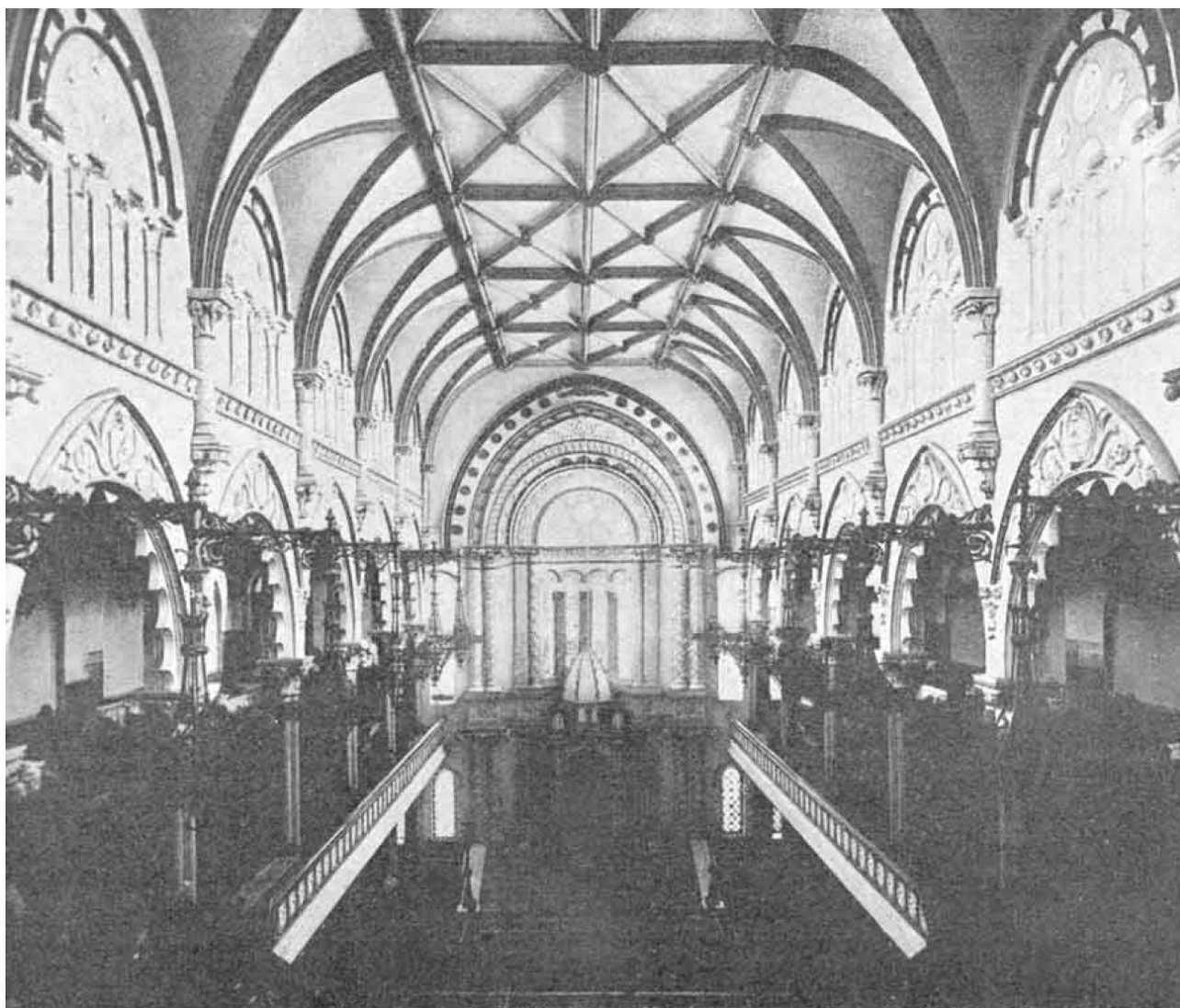


Figure 84 – The Synagogue as decorated by A J Wellesley Drayton, Woollahra.

Source: *Caroline Simpson Collection, Journal of Decorative Art, September 1904, p. 270.*

In 1923 a sum of £235 was expended “in laying new linoleum throughout the Synagogue”.<sup>52</sup> The 47th annual report in 1924 announced:

*After an interval of twenty-one years the repainting and decorating of the interior of the Synagogue became imperative and has now been carried out.*

Complete redecoration then seems not to have been undertaken until the 1950s (see below), although in 1930 the Board reported that it had “given serious consideration to a comprehensive scheme for beautifying the interior of the Synagogue but the matter has been deferred pending more favourable economic conditions”.<sup>53</sup> In 1935 the Ladies’ lavatories were remodelled “at considerable expense”, the Almemar was re-carpeted, and “Mr H Don kindly re-upholstered the seats on the Almemar”.<sup>54</sup>

<sup>51</sup> The *Journal of Decorative Art*, September 1904, p. 270.

<sup>52</sup> 46th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1923.

<sup>53</sup> 53rd Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1930.

<sup>54</sup> 58th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1935

### 3.2.16. Increasing the accommodation 1885-1907

The original Synagogue followed the pattern of its European antecedents and had the reading desk centrally located, and the Ark at the western end. There were early suggestions to relocate the reading desk:

*The Board has under consideration the removal of the present Almemmar, and the substitution of a smaller one in front of the Ark, but being assured that such change would not have been acceptable to the congregation, the idea has been abandoned for the present.<sup>55</sup>*

These suggestions were implemented in the early 20th century. The Board reported in its 29th annual report (1906):

*For a long time past it has been apparent to the Board that increased sitting accommodation would have to be provided for ladies and gentlemen. The sub-committee appointed to consider the question submitted proposals for the removal of the reading desk from the centre of the building to the Ark steps and for the erection of 64 additional seats on the ground floor and 25 in the gallery with many minor alterations. [The Board acknowledges] the valuable assistance of Rabbi Cohen and Messrs. Kent and Budden, Architects. The estimated cost is £350. Your Board considers that the general appearance of the interior of the Synagogue as well as its acoustic properties and ventilation will be materially improved. A view of the Reading Desk and Pulpit will be afforded to a larger number of congregants, whose interest in the services should be considerably augmented.*

These alterations were carried out in 1907:

*The alterations in the interior of the Synagogue referred to in the last report, having been completed, the Board ... is confident the members are highly satisfied with them.*

The balance sheet for the year shows that the cost of alterations was £388/19/0.<sup>53</sup>

However, there was still a need for further seating accommodation in the gallery.

*The demand for additional seating accommodation for ladies has been so persistent that the Board appointed a sub-committee to consider a suggestion by Rabbi Cohen toward that end. After consultation with Messrs Kent and Budden, Architects, they reported on the advisability of removing the choir from their present position and locating them over the Ministers' retiring room. This necessitated considerable alteration to the building and the work is being proceeded with. The alteration will provide about 40 extra seats in the gallery the revenue from which should in a few years more than reimburse the total outlay estimated at about £600.<sup>56</sup>*

Accordingly, plans by architects Kent and Budden were lodged with the City Council in 1911, for alterations to the west end of the Synagogue behind the Ark. The original semi-circular apse was enlarged to form a rectangular choir gallery accessed from the schoolroom behind. The original apse windows were reused at the sides of the new gallery. The seating originally occupied by the choir (at the front of the eastern end of the Ladies' gallery) was then available for congregants. The cost of the alterations was given in the 1912 annual accounts as £787/17/6.

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<sup>55</sup> 8th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1885.

<sup>56</sup> 34th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1911



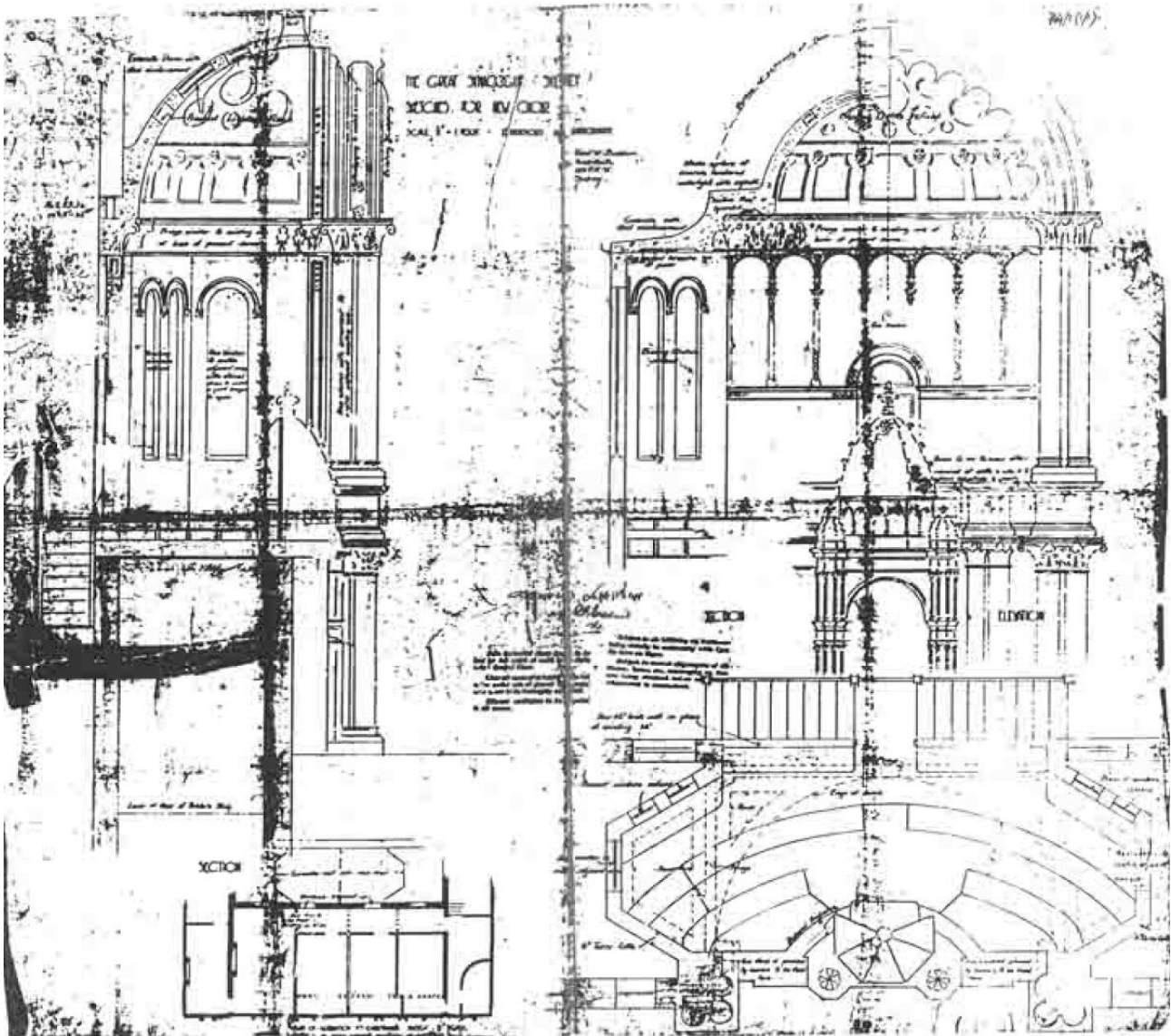


Figure 85 – Building application drawing for new choir gallery, 1991, by Kent & Budden.

Source: City of Sydney Archives.

A further change was carried out in the 1920s. The original Board Room was behind the wheel window at the eastern end of the Synagogue gallery, separated from the sanctuary by a decorative screen. This appears to have been converted to additional seating in 1928:

*A permanent extension of the Eastern Gallery has been erected which will provide additional seating accommodation on the chief Holydays.<sup>57</sup>*

The previous year, 26 additional gallery seats had been installed and let and 13 old seats remodelled.<sup>58</sup>

### 3.2.17. Lighting and ventilation improvement 1901-35

In 1901 the Board appointed a sub-committee “to enquire into the ventilation and lighting of the Synagogue”.<sup>59</sup> They approached architects Kent and Budden, who wrote to J. J. Cohen on 21 June 1901 confirming that the clerestory window operation could be improved, and also recommending that additional openings be made in the northern wall above the roof of the adjoining Oddfellows Building, and that ridge

<sup>57</sup> 51st Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1928.

<sup>58</sup> 50th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1927.

<sup>59</sup> 24th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1901.

ventilators be installed above the side roofs over the galleries.<sup>60</sup> They estimated the total cost of this work at £103. The following year, alterations were made to the windows, and the Board reported:

*The sum of £106/1/0 has been expended in improving the light and ventilation of the Synagogue with very satisfactory results which will be much appreciated in the warmer months of the year.*<sup>61</sup>

In view of subsequent correspondence in 1922 regarding the construction of the new Oddfellows Building, it is unclear whether any new openings were made in the northern wall in 1901.

In June 1904, the Brush Electrical Engineering Co Ltd tendered for the supply and erection of electric light installation at the Synagogue, including 16 twin-light wall brackets. They submitted an alternative tender in July for two-light cord pendants with opal shades, at a cost of £46 including switchboard and wiring. On 13 June the Electrical Engineer's Office of the Municipal Council, Sydney, wrote to Mr A. E. Goldstein at the Synagogue:

*Dear Sir*

*In reply to your inquiry for the supply of electricity, I have the honour to state that in the event of your sending in your application immediately, we will do our utmost to give you a supply of electricity during the month of July. It may not, however, be a continuous night and day supply until August, when I think there is every reason for you to expect a continuous service.*<sup>62</sup>

This suggests that the present pendant fittings over and under the galleries along both sides of the Synagogue were installed in about 1904, to supplement the existing gas lighting.

A further improvement to ventilation was carried out in 1911:

*It has also been arranged to improve the ventilation of the Synagogue by altering the wheel window at the Eastern end.*<sup>63</sup>

In 1918 the Board resolved to install electric light throughout the Synagogue "when funds shall become available by voluntary contribution".<sup>64</sup> A committee was appointed the following year, and a further year later the Board reported:

*The installation of Electric Lighting in the Synagogue Building has been completed in accordance with the resolution passed at the General Meeting in 1918. The donations received did not cover the cost incurred and the sum of about £212 had to be provided out of the General Funds.*<sup>65</sup>

This installation presumably included the conversion to electric light of the main suspended gasoliers and the candelabras on the Ark steps. The wall brackets were not electrified until 1935.

In 1922 another opportunity arose to increase the natural lighting and ventilation of the building with the redevelopment of the Manchester Unity building on the northern side:

*The Board desires to record its appreciation of the honorary services of its Architect, Mr G.S. Keesing, who has devoted considerable attention to safeguarding the interests of The Great Synagogue in connection with the demolition and erection of the Manchester Unity Building adjoining our premises. When the new building is completed the Synagogue will be enabled to place a series of stained glass windows along the dividing wall, thus improving the existing lighting and ventilation facilities.*<sup>66</sup>

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<sup>60</sup> Correspondence from Papers of Louis Phillips, Vol 37 (Mitchell Library).

<sup>61</sup> 25th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1902.

<sup>62</sup> Correspondence from Papers of Louis Phillips, Vol 37 (Mitchell Library).

<sup>63</sup> 34th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1911.

<sup>64</sup> 41st Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1918.

<sup>65</sup> 43rd Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1920.

<sup>66</sup> 45th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1922.

However, despite arranging with the Trustees of the Manchester Unity building for the right to place windows in the northern wall, the Board evidently decided not to proceed. The outside of the wall was however plastered at this time.<sup>67</sup>

In 1935 the installation of electric lighting was completed:

*The interior lighting of the Synagogue has been considerably improved by the electrification of the groups of wall lights throughout the building. Congregants were invited by Mr John Goulston, President, to defray the cost of the brackets which were dedicated to the memory of deceased relatives. A small "In Memoriam" tablet is attached to each fitting. The entire scheme was carried out without expense to the Synagogue. Panic lights connected directly with the electric mains have been installed at the eight exits to the Synagogue.*<sup>68</sup>

### **3.2.18. The Castlereagh Street building 1908-1937**

The 31st annual report (1908) announced:

*It having been found necessary to provide further accommodation for the convenient discharge of the Ministerial and other Official duties the Board decided upon the erection of a room between the Synagogue and the premises used for School purposes. The tender of Messrs. Maston and Yates for the completion of the work at a cost of £225 has been accepted, under the advice of Messrs. Kent and Budden, Architects.*

In 1923, the Board advised:

*Rev. and Mrs L. A. Falk having been invited to take up their residence at Synagogue Chambers, the residential premises have been remodelled for their accommodation at a cost of approximately £400.*<sup>69</sup>

This presumably refers to the residential accommodation in the Castlereagh Street building, originally intended for the use of the Beadle. The following year, further alterations were made to the building:

*With the consent of the Board of Jewish Education a portion of the lower schoolroom has been partitioned off for the Secretary's office and is now directly accessible from Castlereagh St.*<sup>70</sup>

In 1937, alterations were made to the schoolrooms themselves:

*Structural alterations to the Schoolrooms were carried out jointly by your Board and the NSW Board of Jewish Education. Soundproof windows were installed to eliminate the noise of street traffic. The upper schoolroom has been partitioned off to provide two class rooms and all rooms were repainted.*<sup>71</sup>

### **3.2.19. Façade repairs and wartime works 1939-42**

In 1939 it became apparent that the Elizabeth Street façade was in need of major repairs:

After 62 years, the facade has become severely weatherworn. Following several falls of small sections of masonry from the Elizabeth Street frontage a thorough examination of the general condition of the stonework was made by Mr G. S. Keesing, architect, who reported that a considerable portion of the stonework, as well as sections of the turrets, must be replaced. Immediate steps were taken for the protection of the public and all loose stonework was removed. ... After mature consideration, the Board is of the opinion that, despite the heavy cost involved (approximately £2,500), it will prove more economical to do all that is required at once, and has accordingly decided that the work be carried out.<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>67</sup> 47th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1924.

<sup>68</sup> 58th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1935.

<sup>69</sup> 46th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1923

<sup>70</sup> 47th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1924.

<sup>71</sup> 60th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1937.

<sup>72</sup> 62nd Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1939.



In 1942, the Board must have become concerned about possible dangers to the fabric and the congregants from bombardment:

*The electric lighting system throughout the building is being overhauled and modernised and the ceiling of the Gallery has been strengthened. ARP equipment has been installed and notices displayed directing worshippers in the event of air-raids.<sup>73</sup>*

It was presumably also at about this time that the reinforced concrete interior strengthening was added to the inside of the wheel window to Elizabeth Street.

### 3.2.20. Repairs and maintenance 1882-1948

Apart from the major items described above, the annual accounts record many smaller items of expenditure on the building over the years. These are set out in the following table:

Year	Item	Amount
1882	Alteration and numbering seats	£5/10/0
1885	Painting doors and windows New water service – plumbing New staircase to do Ventilators	£5/5/0 £57/18/10 £29/10/0 £10/18/6
1886	Linoleum New doors to Synagogue	£12/12/- £160
1887	Painting doors etc. Lining walls etc.	£19/11/0 £22/13/0
1888	Expenses repairing roof and water pipes	£258/13/4
1889	Repairing doors etc	£29/2/10
1890	Repairing tower Alememma carpet	£29/2/10 £18/2/0
1891	Drainage and sanitary works	£415/4/1
1893	Damage caused by fire in temporary structure attached to the Synagogue used as a Succah	£140 (paid by insurance)
1895	Architect and plumber Repairing roof	£5/0/0 £9/14/0
1896	Architect and plumber Painting gates	£6/6/6 £11
1897	Painting and renovating Synagogue	£356/2/3
1898	H.C. Kent, architect's fees Premises connected with telephone system	£24/2/0
1899	Repairs	£8/18/0
1900	Repair	£61/3/10
1901	Repairing gates Carpet	£4/10/0 £8/2/6
1909	Alteration of stairs to gallery	£127
1910	Repairs, painting and architects Roofing	£90/16/3 £22/2/6
1912	Extermination of white ants	£20

<sup>73</sup> 65th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1942.

1914	Painting choir gallery	£95/14/3
1915	Alterations and repairs	£173/3/4
1916	Alteration, painting Synagogue and gates Altering windows	£137/14/0 £9
1917	Expenses – alterations etc	£68/4/5
1918	Expenses: repairs and alterations	£107/4/11
1919	Altering doors	£5/6/0
1920	Carpets	£33/1/3
1921	Repairs and renovations	£84/13/3
1922	Repairs and renovations Linoleum	£84/13/3 £652/8/7
1923	Repairs and renovations	£669/17/6
1924	Repairs and renovations	ca. £2,000
1925	Necessary repairs and renovations to Synagogue and Schoolrooms	ca. £2,000
1945	Furniture fixtures and fittings	£125/6/8
1946	Furniture fixtures and fittings	£88/10/3
1947	Furniture fixtures and fittings	£392/14/9
1948	Repairs etc Furniture fixtures and fittings	£551/17/6 £146/8/0

### 3.2.21. The War Memorial Hall 1944-54

Even before the end of the War, the Board was directing its mind towards enlarging the Synagogue complex. The 1944 Annual Report included a detailed summary of a bold proposal for new construction:

*For some time the Board has recognised the necessity for an extensive reconstruction of The Great Synagogue premises. The ever-growing activities of the congregation make demands which cannot be met in present conditions.*

*An illustrated brochure commemorating the Centenary and embodying the proposals of the Board was prepared by Mr. Frank Goldberg, and the Board greatly appreciates his services.*

*Briefly, the scope of the proposed alterations are:*

- 1. The complete demolition of the Castlereagh Street portion of The Great Synagogue and the erection of a building of six or seven floors. This will give the rear portion of the premises a spaciousness and dignity commensurate with the Elizabeth Street frontage.*
- 2. The building of an Assembly Hall under the Synagogue itself to be used for Auxiliary Services on High Festivals, and as a place for congregational meetings.*
- 3. The creation of a Hall of Remembrance, in which a suitable Honour Roll will perpetuate the names of New South Wales Jews who have served the Empire in the present war, and serve as a memorial to those who have made the supreme sacrifice. It is also proposed to provide the opportunity to commemorate the names of departed members of the community.*
- 4. At least one floor of the new building will be devoted to the sons and daughters of the congregation. This will provide a suitable centre for the social and cultural activities of youth.*

*It will be possible to give every opportunity to the youth groups for expansion, as it is realised that youth groups are playing, and will play, a most important part in the future.*

5. A Congregational Succoh will be erected on the roof of the new Centenary Building.

6. In addition, it is proposed that provision be made for ministers' rooms, modern Synagogue administrative offices, library, school rooms, committee and reception rooms, kitchens, etc.

*General Improvements:*

*It is not intended to alter the architecture of the interior of The Great Synagogue itself, but throughout the new building and the Synagogue, it is contemplated to install the latest air-conditioning plant and sound proofing in order to exclude traffic noises. No building operations can be undertaken until the return of peace, but in the meantime, the closest consideration will be given to every detail.*

The Centenary referred to was presumably that of the York Street Synagogue, completed in 1844, which had been the origin of The Great Synagogue congregation. The occasion was evidently the catalyst for a new fundraising drive, as in the following year the Board reported:

*Centenary Re-building Fund:*

*Promised contributions to the Centenary Re-building Fund total £34,020/19/11 to 30th June, 1945, of which £18,883/7/11 is already to hand. An additional sum of at least £21,000, approximately, is still required towards the objective of £55,000, and further donations will be greatly appreciated.*

*It is anticipated that building restrictions will prevent structural alterations being carried out until the war is over. The Board's ultimate plans will, however, be submitted for the approval of members before the work is undertaken in accordance with the following minute:-*

*RESOLVED that the Centenary Re-building Fund be allocated for-*

*(a) such remodelling, extension of or improvements to The Great Synagogue and its buildings on their present sites and the furnishing thereof as the Board of Management may decide; or*

*(b) The purchase of other lands and the erection thereon of a new synagogue and buildings to plans and specifications to be decided upon by the Board of Management, and the furnishings of such synagogue and buildings.*

*The Board of Management shall submit its recommendation of such plans and specifications to members to the body corporate at a General Meeting convened for the purpose of approving such recommendation.<sup>74</sup>*

The Board evidently had great difficulty in coming to agreement on how to proceed. The following extracts from the Annual Reports of 1946 to 1953 reflect their deliberations:

*Consideration has been given to the proposed rebuilding of the Castlereagh St frontage in order to provide adequate accommodation for our social, educational and administrative requirements.*

*Alternative proposals are also being considered, viz.:(1) to rebuild the Synagogue on its present site, with additional accommodation above the edifice for the abovementioned purposes, and (2) to rebuild the Synagogue on a centrally situated site, if such be procurable.<sup>75</sup>*

*While much consideration has been given to various rebuilding schemes, the Board is not yet prepared to make a specific recommendation to congregants.<sup>76</sup>*

*Although the Board is still not yet in a position to place any specific proposal before the congregation, the question of re-building either on the present site or on a new location has*

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<sup>74</sup> 68th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1945.

<sup>75</sup> 69th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1946.

<sup>76</sup> 70th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1947.



*received its constant attention. Several sites have been investigated, but it is felt that any rebuilding or reconstruction scheme will have to be carried out on the present site, and the matter will continue to have its earnest consideration.<sup>77</sup>*

*While prevailing economic conditions prevent the implementation of rebuilding proposals considerable thought has been given to the matter. When current building restrictions are lifted a comprehensive scheme will be submitted to Congregants for their approval.<sup>78</sup>*

*Further consideration has been given to the Centenary Rebuilding Scheme and it is anticipated that during the coming year a report will be submitted to the Congregation.<sup>79</sup>*

The Board has given deep consideration to various proposals in connection with the Centenary Rebuilding Fund, but in view of the enormous cost entailed, which greatly exceeds the funds in hand, the original scheme is now considered to be impractical. The Board hopes to be in a position to outline an alternative proposal at the Annual Meeting.<sup>80</sup>

The Board and its Sub-Committee in conjunction with its architect have devoted much time and thought to the question of rebuilding plans and now feel that they are approaching a solution of what has undoubtedly been a problem of the greatest architectural complexity. The plan will provide a large hall with accommodation and facilities for social and cultural activities both for adults and youth, as well as a library and school rooms. The new scheme, when complete, will be submitted to members for approval.<sup>81</sup>

However, in 1954 the Board was ready to put its proposal to the congregation. The Government meanwhile had introduced tax concessions for buildings constructed as War Memorials, by allowing tax deductions for donations to building projects so designated. The Synagogue took advantage of this to assist in financing the construction of its new project, which was illustrated in the Annual Report and described as follows:

*Undoubtedly the most important aspect of its work has been in connection with the Rebuilding Scheme, and it is most gratifying to report that in this regard great strides have been made. Plans for the commencement of building operations are ready; it is no longer a dream of the distant future.*

*In October last the Board appointed Mr. O. E. Phillips, A.R.A.I.A., as Architect for the Rebuilding Scheme.*

*Mr S Lipson, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.A.I.A., M.T.C.P.I., who had made his valuable experience available to the Board in the formative period of the various proposals, was thanked for his great assistance. This appreciation was recorded and conveyed in writing to Mr. Lipson.*

*Mr. Phillips has used every endeavour to provide maximum possible facilities and full measure of accommodation to meet the needs of all sections of the congregation for many years to come.*

*Providing, as it does a main hall and gallery capable of holding more than three hundred people, we are confident that the additional amenities will give considerable stimulus to the affairs of the Congregation. Within the scheme is also envisaged accommodation for the Rabbi Cohen and Rabbi Falk Libraries, Class Rooms, a Board Room, a comfortable Lounge, a well-equipped Stage, a Succah, G.S.Y. [Great Synagogue Youth] Club Rooms and a modern Kitchen. The planning and excavation necessary for such a major project have called for highest skill and great foresight. The Board is certain that the results of these labours will more than justify the immense amount of work and deliberation that have gone into the manifold arrangements of the Rebuilding Scheme.*

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<sup>77</sup> 71st Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1948.

<sup>78</sup> 72nd Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1949.

<sup>79</sup> 74th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1951.

<sup>80</sup> 75th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1952.

<sup>81</sup> 76th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1953.

*This 77th Annual Meeting is indeed a momentous occasion, particularly as so much of the time of the meeting will be devoted to the final approval and authorisation of the Rebuilding plans.*

*The Centenary Rebuilding Fund Balance Sheet shows the sum of £3162 10s. as donations promised for the Fund, which are still outstanding.*

*We are happy to record that The Great Synagogue Youth set the Centenary Rebuilding as its charitable objective for 1952 and 1953. The Youth collected the excellent sum of £417 13s.*

*It will, of course, be necessary to increase considerably the available funds if the Rebuilding Scheme is to be undertaken to its fullest extent.*

*Another task recently undertaken by the Rebuilding Committee is the rebuilding of the permanent wall seats referred to earlier in the Report.<sup>82</sup>*

*[Permanent seating replaced the benches along the side walls of the Men's and Women's floors, used to increase capacity during the High Holy Days.]*

The Annual Report the following year included an account of the Service, Reception and Dinner held to celebrate the laying of the foundation stone of the new Great Synagogue War Memorial Centre by the Governor, Sir John Northcott. The report of the Building Committee described the works in progress:

*The building operations of the War Memorial Centre started in January and impressive progress has been made. The major work of excavation and the underpinning of the whole of the Synagogue structure is almost complete. It was found necessary to go considerably deeper than at first anticipated to reach rock bottom. This has been achieved without disturbance to the main building.*



Figure 86 – Building Workmen cutting away the stone piers in the basement for the new centre, 1955.

Source: State Library of NSW, photograph album in Great Synagogue Records, 1932-1970.

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<sup>82</sup> 77th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1954

*Already the reinforced steel columns replacing the original stone supports, and descending twice as deep, have been placed in position, also the cross beams supporting the floor of the Synagogue. It is now possible to envisage the size of the main Memorial hall and gallery as well as the various rooms on two levels on either side.*

*The Succah, occupying the top floor of the Castlereagh Street Building is well advanced and should be ready for use in time for the coming Festival. It will be a wonderful improvement for congregants to go immediately from the service to the Succah by means of an easy stairway, in contrast with journeying to the Maccabean Hall. It will be fitted with a sliding roof to provide against the contingency of bad weather, and arrangements will be worked into the decorative glassware and crockery from the kitchens adjoining the main hall. For the rest of the year this large area will be available to G.S.Y. as a games room.*

*The immense amount of work in planning, down to the smallest detail, has made great demands on the time of the Building Committee. They have consulted members of the Women's Auxiliary regarding the Succah, on questions involving facilities for catering and servicing and will further consult them, as the work progresses, on all matters where the woman's point of view is important.*

*The Board is deeply conscious of the great responsibility attaching to the decisions of the Building Committee, as well as the magnitude of its task. On behalf of the whole Congregation, it records its unqualified appreciation to the Committee, Mr. Simon Green (on leave), Dr. H.M. Owen (Acting Chairman), Messrs. H.M. Bloom, H. B. Newman, and O.E. Phillips.*

*The advantages of the Succah and the G.S.Y. Games Room have already been set out. Far beyond this, the new building will provide every facility required for a great Congregational Centre. The additions, which will be fully air-conditioned, will be approached by a handsome entrance and foyer, and the interior furnishings and decorations will be carried out in accordance with the most modern standards of comfort and beauty. The main hall, complete with stage and gallery, will accommodate approximately 350 people. It will be used for Auxiliary Services on the High Festivals, for concerts and dramatic presentations, and for congregational and social functions of all kinds. It will be serviced by a modern kitchen adequate in size and equipment to meet all occasions. In addition there will be a library to house the Rabbi Cohen and Rabbi Falk Libraries. This will be equipped under the guidance of leading professional librarians and will be available for the use of the whole Jewish community, as well as to theological students of other denominations.*

*There will also be several other rooms of various sizes to be used as meeting rooms or for smaller social and cultural gatherings, class rooms for religious instruction, a study for the Chief Minister, modern office accommodation for the Secretary and his staff, plus toilets and powder rooms in handy locations.*

*A further part of the programme will be the extensive repair and renovation of the roof of the main building, and the repainting and decorating of the interior of the Synagogue. Enquiries are also being made as to the most suitable system for heating the entire Synagogue during the winter months.*

*The total sum estimated to finance the rebuilding, furnishing and decorating programme is £90,000.<sup>83</sup>*

The structural engineer for the new building was Alec Morrison, of Morrison and Little. The project required the excavation of the basement into rock, and the support of the internal columns and floor structure of the Sanctuary on steel portal frames in place of the original stone and timber piers.

The new basement required a number of other changes to the building. Air conditioning was introduced, with ducts installed in the Elizabeth Street towers from basement level to louvred openings in the rear (west) of the towers above the roof. New fire exit doors were provided in the eastern facade (to Elizabeth Street) at the base of the towers, and a new entrance was constructed at the southern end of the western facade in

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<sup>83</sup> 78th Annual Report of the Board of Management of The Great Synagogue, 1955.



Castlereagh Street. The project also included replacing the side roofs over the galleries of the main building in aluminium. The slates recovered were presumably used to repair the main roof.

The Hall was later renamed the Israel Green Auditorium, in honour of the then President of the Board who had given a considerable amount towards its construction. The completed War Memorial Centre was opened on 22 July 1956 by the Governor-General, Sir William Slim.



Figure 87 – The Israel Green auditorium set for a banquet in 1957, looking west from the stage.

Source: *State Library of NSW, Redshaw, Ken (photographer). Reception Hall of The Great Synagogue 1957.*

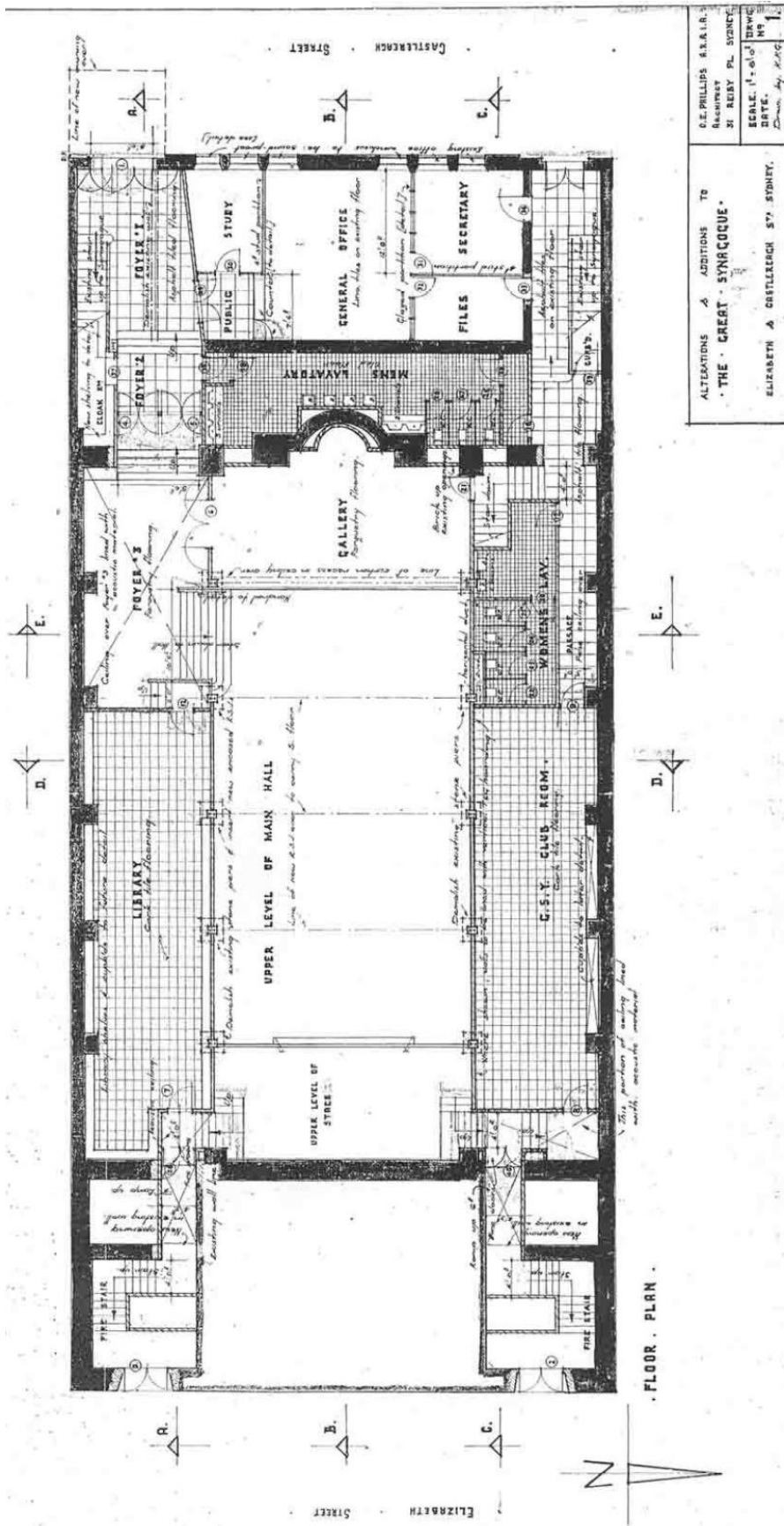


Figure 88 – Contact drawings for the War Memorial Centre, 1954 ground floor plan.

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.

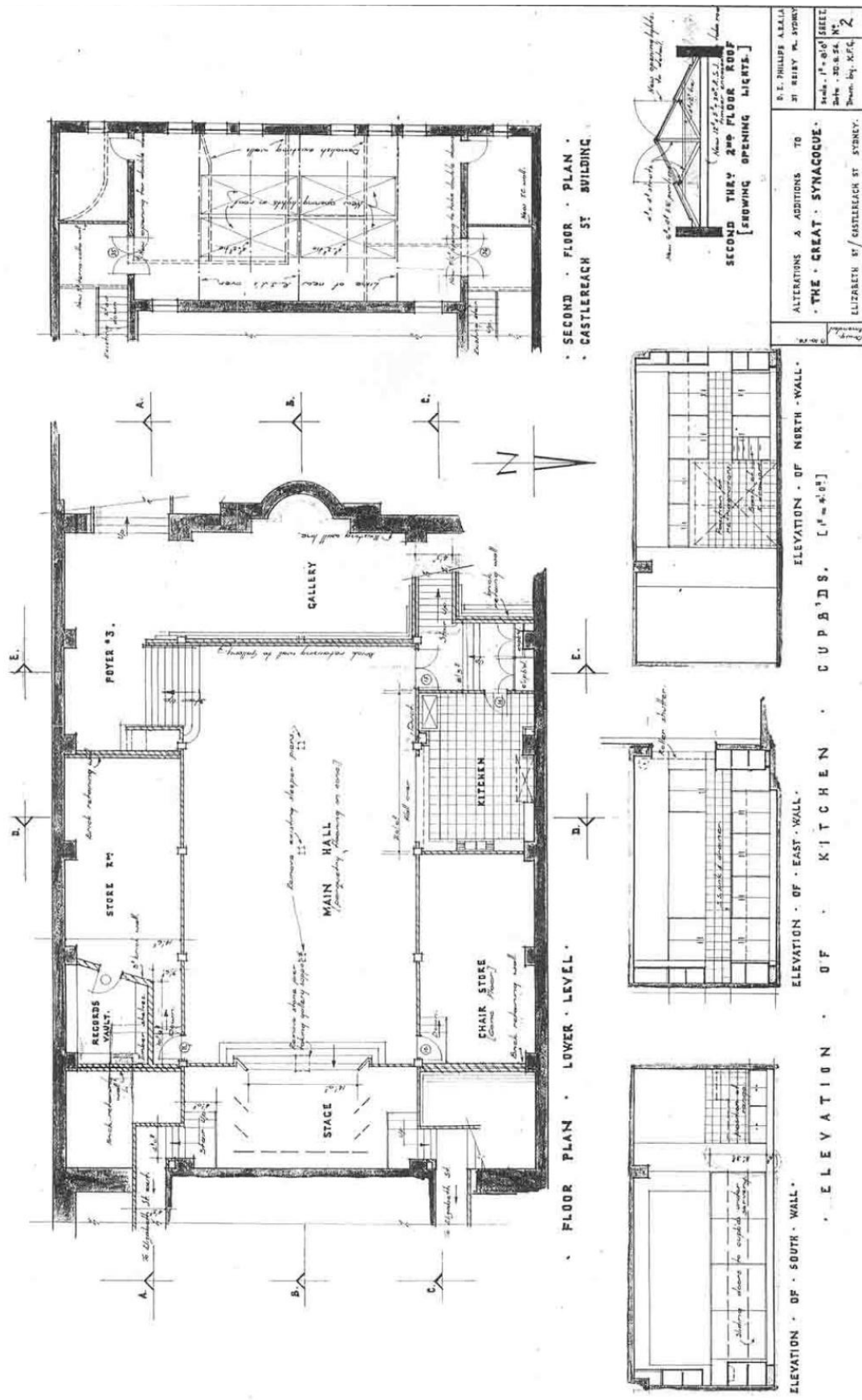


Figure 89 – Contact drawings for the War Memorial Centre, 1954; lower floor plans.

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.



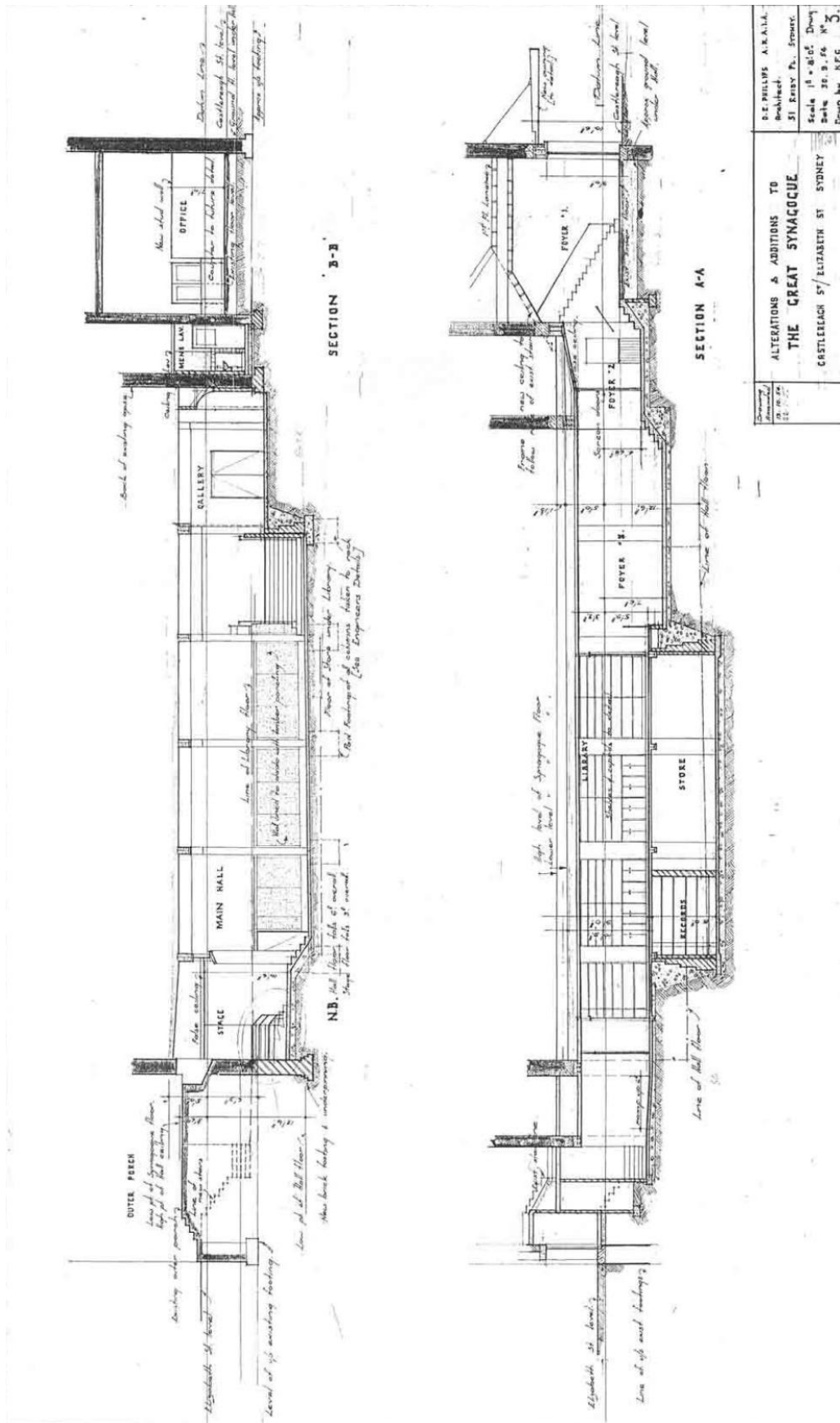


Figure 90 – Contact drawings for the War Memorial Centre, 1954: sections AA and BB.

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.

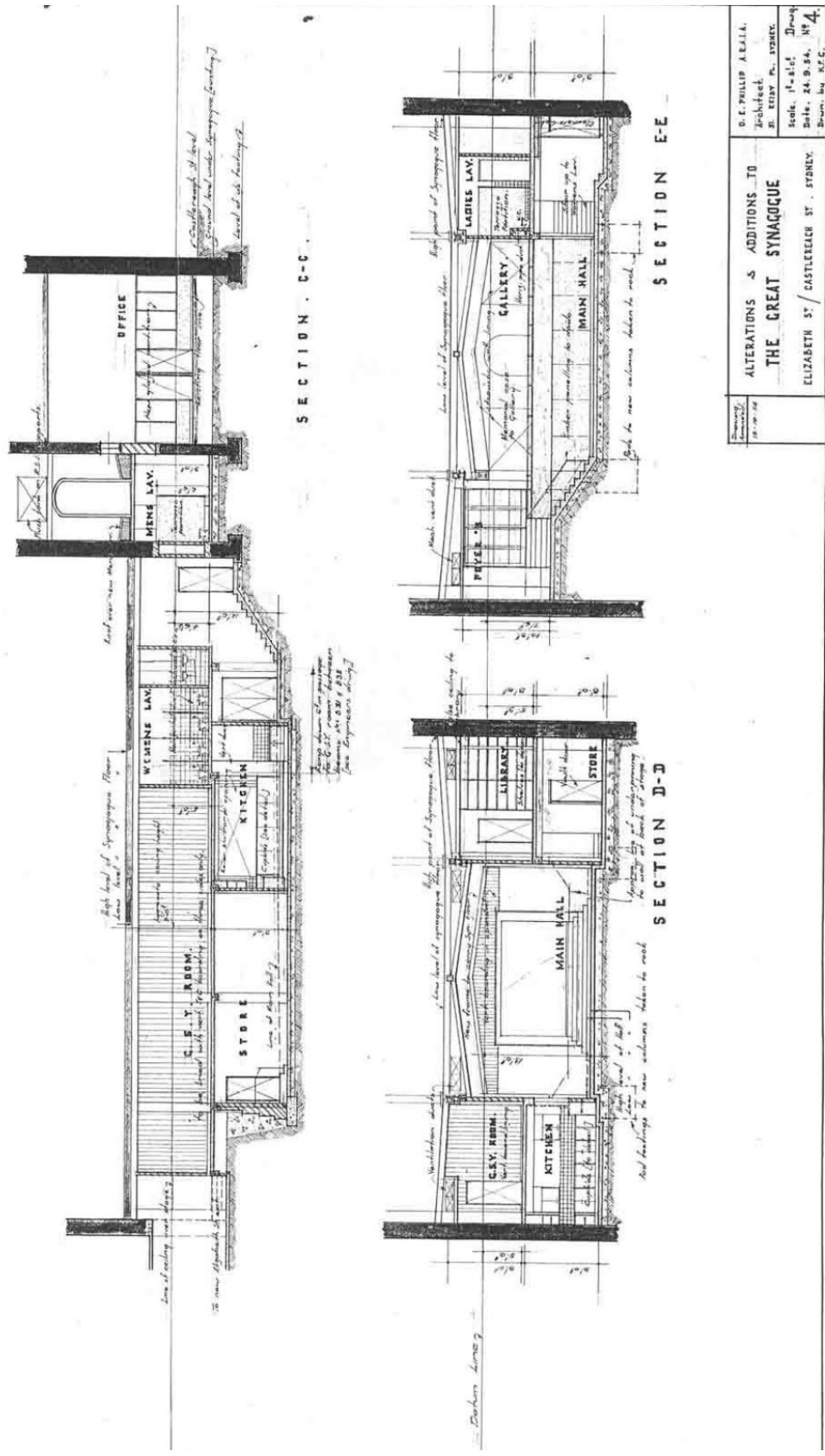


Figure 91 – Contact drawings for the War Memorial Centre, 1954: section CC and EE.

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips.





On 24 July 1956, The Sydney Morning Herald reported the opening:

#### *£65,000 JEWISH WAR MEMORIAL CENTRE IN HEART OF SYDNEY*

*Built under The Great Synagogue in Elizabeth Street, a £65,000 war memorial centre was opened by the Governor-General, Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, last Sunday. It includes a hall, library, youth centre, kitchen, stores, and toilets. The hall is directly under the nave of The Great Synagogue - a site formerly occupied by a basement. The basement was only 8ft high. It had large stone piers to support the nave colonnade. Timber posts supported the floor. The new building involved excavations to a depth of 20 feet below Castlereagh Street. The stone piers were replaced with steel stanchions taken down to the new floor level, and seated on concrete footings carried down to rock. The posts were replaced with bent beams, supporting the synagogue floor at their apex in the centre. Room was left under the floor at each side for the air-conditioning ducts. The hall has a stage at one end, and a gallery at the other. It can seat about 320. It will be used for meetings, services, and social functions. The gallery can be closed off and used as a meeting room when the hall is not in use.*

*A feature of the hall is the lighting. The main lighting is by incandescent fittings which have been specially designed to throw the least possible light on the ceiling. The ceiling, a deep blue, is scattered with small recessed light points in a random pattern. Acoustical problems have been given special conditions. To isolate noise from the synagogue above, the ceiling joists have been seated on felt cushions, and sheeted on top with caneite. For the additional sound absorption required inside the hall, acoustic panels have been applied to the walls at certain points. Panelling about seven feet in height has been used to deal with sound in the low frequencies. The panelling is carried out in Queensland maple, polished natural colour. Most of the other woodwork is also in Queensland maple. Part of the walls of the youth centre is lined with vertical V-jointed cypress pine boarding, stained and varnished. The library has been designed to house an invaluable collection of Jewish books recently made available to the Synagogue.*

*The floors are mainly in tallowwood parquetry. In the main entrance foyer in Castlereagh Street, the floor is in terrazzo tiles. The walls above the natural maple panelling are painted lavender. The main structural frames are lime, and the ceiling a dark blue. To comply with City Council by-laws, new fire isolated exits have been constructed, leading into Elizabeth Street. As part of the scheme, extensive alterations have also been made to the Castlereagh Street end of the building - virtually a separate structure from the Synagogue proper. During the yearly festival of Succoth, a room is required which is open to the sky. This has been provided on the top floor of the Castlereagh Street portion, formerly a caretaker's flat. The opening, 16 feet by 11 feet, is fitted with a cover built out of aluminium-sheeted plywood, which slides back over the roof. When not required for the eight-day festival this area will be used as a youth recreation room.*

*The Castlereagh Street middle floor, formerly a meeting-room, now becomes two modern classrooms, with storage cupboards and locker fittings for the Synagogue choir. The Synagogue offices are still on the ground floor in Castlereagh Street. They have been entirely replanned and renovated.*

*The architect was O.E. Phillips; builders, Kell and Rigby Pty. Ltd.; structural consultants, Morrison and Little; mechanical and electrical consultants, L.J. Reynolds and Son; and acoustical consultant, R.O. Phillips.*

### **3.2.22. Internal redecoration 1976**

In 1976, the Sanctuary was again redecorated to a scheme prepared by Mrs Pamela Healey, Dulux Commercial colour consultant, in consultation with the Honorary Architect, Orwell Phillips. This appears to be the time at which the dark blue ceiling with gold leaf stars was introduced (the Princes Road Synagogue in

Liverpool, England, has a similar ceiling). The contractors for the redecoration were Donaldson Bros. Pty Ltd.<sup>84</sup>

### 3.2.23. The Synagogue Centenary and the Education Centre 1978-81

The former Beadle's residence and schoolroom at the Castlereagh Street end of the building had long served as administration offices for the Synagogue and classrooms for the Hebrew school. Despite the alterations of the 1950s, by the 1970s these areas were becoming seriously overcrowded. The Board accordingly began looking into ways of providing more space. The approaching centenary of the consecration of The Great Synagogue seemed a fitting time for such a project.

The centenary celebrations were held in March 1978, and the service and official ceremony were televised. One unfortunate consequence of this was the painting of all the polished joinery with a clear epoxy, done (without the knowledge or approval of the Honorary Architect, Orwell Phillips) in an attempt to smarten up the timber work for the television cameras. Possibly at the same time, the cast iron brackets which divided the pews into seats were removed, and the individual seat cushions replaced with new cushions extending the full length of each pew.

A more beneficial outcome of the centenary was the opening of the A. M. Rosenblum Museum.

After considering a number of proposals for the Education Centre, including one which revived an earlier concept of constructing a tall new building (with extra lettable commercial area) that extended partly over the sanctuary at the Castlereagh Street end, the Board accepted a proposal for a new building which replaced the Castlereagh Street schoolrooms and the light wells but retained the facade. The Education Centre was constructed by Alcova Holding Pty Ltd whose managing director was David Newman, a future board member and President (Figure 93). It provided five floors of offices and classrooms behind the three storey facade, including a function room on the top floor with an opening roof to serve as a succah. The building also included a lift. The new design was developed and documented by David Nathan and Orwell Phillips as architects in association, and completed in 1981. Some of the joinery salvaged from the demolition of the western stairs was reused within the Israel Green Auditorium, which was redecorated at the same time.



Figure 93 – Contact execution for the Education Centre by The Great Synagogue President Mr Rodney Rosenblum (right) and Mr David Newman (left), c 1981.

Source: *David Newman, personal photograph*

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<sup>84</sup> "Repaint gives added beauty to Great Synagogue", photocopy of undated article in unnamed trade newspaper, c1976 (Great Synagogue building files).

### **3.2.24. Conservation and other works 1986-91**

In 1985, the Board received a grant from the Federal Government through the Australian Bicentennial Authority for conservation of the stonework of the Elizabeth Street facade. The works were carried out by Gosford Quarries and completed in 1987, and used a combination of natural stone and synthetic stone. Works were completed up to the base of the cupolas on the two towers.

During the building boom of the 1980s, the National Trust and others became greatly concerned at the number of historic buildings in the City of Sydney being demolished for redevelopment. The main reason for this was the planning code which controlled the development of city buildings largely by prescribing maximum floor space ratios (the ratio of the total floor area of a building to the area of the site). Most old buildings had floor space ratios considerably less than the maximum permitted, especially when adjoining sites were being amalgamated. One of the ways found by the City Council to reduce development pressure on such buildings was the concept of transferable floor space, allowing the owners of historic buildings to sell some of the development potential of their sites to owners of other sites on condition that the historic buildings were properly conserved. A formula was developed for the amount of floor space permitted to be transferred, which was based partly on the development potential of the site and partly on the cost of conservation works undertaken.

The Board of The Great Synagogue took advantage of this scheme, and carried out various conservation works to the building in 1989 including the installation of a sprinkler system, restoration of the tiled floors (formerly covered by carpet), spray painting of the main gasoliers (as a temporary measure pending full conservation) and reconstruction of stencilled decorations to the columns. Other painted decorations were introduced at the same time. The bimah had previously been extended forward to allow more level space in front of the Ark, with a temporary timber platform and steps placed over the original steps on each side. The side steps were now replaced in concrete with tiling matching the original, using some tiles salvaged from the original steps beneath the bimah.

Subsequent works included the installation of new recessed lights around the edges of the soffit to the gallery, and security glass to the windows of the Elizabeth Street porch.

### **3.2.25. Conservation works 2000-2005**

By 1997 it was becoming apparent that the stonework at the top of the towers was in urgent need of repair. Inspections were carried out with George Proudman, master mason, who had been instrumental in the NSW Government Stonework Program. The Board agreed to further repairs, and a search was begun for suitable stone.

In the middle of 1998, the Commonwealth Government announced the Centenary of Federation grants program. The Synagogue applied for and received funding under this program to compete the stonework to the towers. At about the same time, the NSW Public Works Department concluded negotiations with Lend Lease Pty Ltd, the company redeveloping the former CSR Refinery site at Pyrmont, for the extraction of a quantity of Pyrmont yellow block sandstone. The Synagogue approached the Minister for Public Works and succeeded in purchasing a quantity of this stone for the repair works. The stone repairs were completed in December 2001 at a cost of approximately \$1.65 million. The contractor for these works was F B Ottway & Sons and David Newman was the project manager of the stone restoration, on behalf of the Synagogue.

During the repairs, it was discovered that the two domes had been reinforced when constructed with a wrought iron strap in the form of a ring embedded in the stone at the base of the domes, combined with timber ties across the base to restrain the strap.



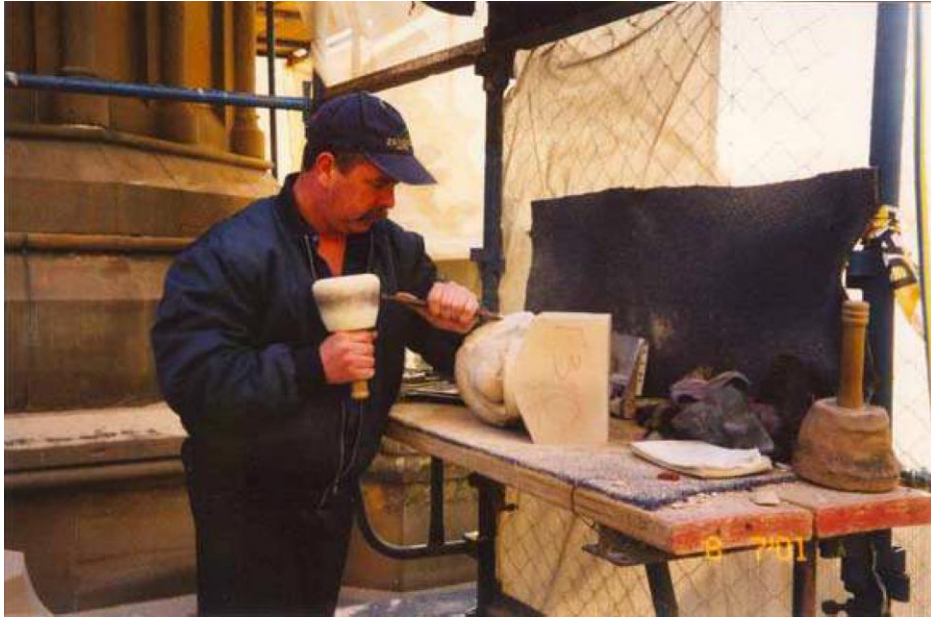


Figure 94 – Carving one of the replacement stone bosses on site, July 2001

Source: *Orwell & Peter Phillips*

In 2003, the Board decide to embark on further conservation works, and launched an appeal to fund them. The NSW State Government contributed \$500,000 to initiate the appeal, and a number of other substantial donations were made. The works commenced in 2004 with the conservation of brasswork on the bimah, and the completion of a photographic archival record in early 2005. In July and August 2005, the interior of the sanctuary was scaffolded, and the interior was repainted in the 1976 and 1989 colour scheme. The opportunity was taken to reconstruct a number of missing pieces of decorative plaster and cast iron balustrade, rewire the main light fittings, and conserve the polished brass Eternal Light above the bimah, all of which required scaffold access. The redecoration was carried out by Programmed Maintenance Services, with specialist plasterer Mark Goodchild and stencilled and gilt decoration by The Painted Image.

Further works carried out include the repair of decorative tiling on the floor of the sanctuary and porch, the replacement of the carpet, and the construction of new pews to replace unsightly seating at the eastern end of the Ladies' Gallery.

In 2006, the Synagogue successfully applied for a Commonwealth grant to complete the refinishing of the original gas light fittings and reintroduce natural ventilation to the sanctuary.

### 3.2.26. Maintenance and Conservation works 2006-2023

Since the preparation of the previous Conservation Management Plan by Orwell and Peter Phillips in 2007, The Great Synagogue has not undergone any major modifications. Instead, since this time, a series of repairs and maintenance works have been undertaken. In addition, since the preparation of a draft version of this CMP in 2020, The Great Synagogue has also followed the ongoing maintenance plan and schedule detailed at section 10 of this report.

These repair and maintenance works that have been undertaken between 2006-2023 are summarised below:

Date	Repairs and Maintenance works
2007	Order replacement tessellated tiles from UK. Replace where required in Synagogue Sanctuary
2007	Remove, refurbish and rewire suspended chandeliers
2008	Refurbish brass candelabra at steps and surrounding reading desk

2008	Installation of mechanical ventilation
2009	Replacement of lift
2015 - 2022	Security upgrade to Castlereagh Street entry
2016	Periodic slate roof repairs and anti-bird protection
2017	Install footpath flood lights requested by City of Sydney Council
2018	Install glass balustrading to ladies' gallery
2018	Installation of door closers, unable to have 1870 closers re-made in UK
2018	Replace cooling tower fan and motor
2018	Refurbish Rabbi Falk library
2016-2020	Periodic guttering repairs, damp proofing and paint maintenance
2019	Replace all exit and emergency lights and general lighting with LED fittings
2019	Internal and external major security upgrade
2019	Roof safety upgrade
2019	Installation of additional fire and security doors. Connect to systems
2018-2022	Restoration of the TGS Gates on Elizabeth Street.  The works included the rewiring of all electrics and the complete replication of the iron gates (which took 18 months). These works were undertaken by John Toner – Scobie McIntosh, specialist heritage metal worker and restorer.
2020	Upgrade to CCTV security systems.
2020	Replace reticulated water supply from meter
2020	Installation of glass security screen to portico (DA 2020/611). Works to commence late October 2020.
2020-2022	Continual slate roof repairs and anti-bird protection
2020-2023	Continual guttering repairs, damp proofing and paint maintenance.
2020-2023	Cooling Tower inspections and certifications.
2020-2023	Fire Certification – many safety upgrades that have taken place of the last couple of years. This includes replacement of fire dampers, hydrant pressure testing and replacement and integration of all egress requirements for security airlock and exit doors to Castlereagh Street entrance.
2021	Installation of stage 1 disability lift at the Castlereagh Street Entrance.

2021	Office reconfiguration and rebuild of Rabbi's Office.
2021-2022	Installation of refurbished internal green doors within the portico. Reversed opening (to open out) and new electronic roller shutters. All exit doors are equipped with panic bars and roller shutters, connected to the fire and security systems and integrated with the roller shutters. Handrails installed in portico.
2022	Repairs to leadlight panels North & South towers.
2023	Commissioning of access controls including emergency buttons within the Portico.



### 3.3. HISTORICAL TIMELINE

The following table contains a chronology of the significant events in the history of The Great Synagogue and its site as summarised from Section 3.2. The development of The Great Synagogue can generally be separated into five (5) stages of development, which reflect the various stages of minor and major alterations and additions to The Great Synagogue as well as period of general repairs and maintenance:

1. Original and Early Great Synagogue                      1874 – 1883
2. Late Nineteenth & Early Twentieth Century      1884 – 1918
3. Mid Twentieth Century    1919 - 1943
4. Israel Green Auditorium    1944 - 1980
5. Late Twentieth to Twenty-First Century              1981    Present

Table 4 - Historical Timeline

Date	Description
1840	Four cottages on site owned by Thomas Taber
1844	York Street Synagogue completed
1859	Macquarie Street Synagogue established
1862	Rev. A.B. Davis arrives in Sydney
1871	Elizabeth street site bought by John Solomon
1872	Architectural competition held for design
1873	Thomas Rowe selected as architect. Tenders called.
<b>Phase 1 – Original and Early Great Synagogue (1874-1883)</b>	
1874	Work begins on site. Aaron Loveridge appointed as masonry contractor
1875	Foundation stone laid. Hebrew Ladies' Bazaar held to raise funds
1876	Roof probably completed
1878	Great Synagogue opened and consecrated
1883	Decoration completed
<b>Phase 2 - Late Nineteenth &amp; Early Twentieth Century (1884 – 1918)</b>	
1901	Australian Federation. Ventilation improvements
1904	Sanctuary redecorated. First electric light installed
1907	Reading desk relocated to Ark steps, centre seats installed
1911	Apse enlarged for relocation of choir gallery, additional seating added to former location of choir gallery, and opening sash in rose window

1918	Suspended gasoliers and candelabra converted to electricity
<b>Phase 3 - Mid Twentieth Century (1919 – 1943)</b>	
1922	Manchester Unity building constructed to the north
1923	Castlereagh Street building adapted as Rabbi's residence. Linoleum laid throughout the Synagogue. Interiors of Synagogue repainted and decorated.
1924	Interior of Synagogue redecorated
1928	Seating extended into eastern gallery (Board Room relocated)
1935	Installation of all electric lights completed including wall-mounted gasoliers. Ladies lavatories remodelled. Almemmar and seat recarpeted and re-upholstered.
1937	Alterations undertaken to schoolrooms including soundproof windows
1939	Façade stonework repaired
1942	Concrete support to rose window constructed, and Gallery ceilings strengthened. Electric lighting system updated.
<b>Phase 4 - Israel Green Auditorium (1944 – 1980)</b>	
1944	Centenary Rebuilding Fund established
1954	War Memorial Hall (Israel Green Auditorium) constructed including new fire exist doors to the Elizabeth Street frontage and new entrance at southern end of Castlereagh Street frontage. Side roof over galleries replaced with aluminium sheeting.
1955	Roofs over side galleries replaced
1956	Opening of the Israel Green Auditorium on 22 July
1976	Sanctuary redecorated in new colour scheme by Pamela Healey (including introduction of dark blue ceiling with gold leaf stars)
1978	Great Synagogue Centenary celebrations
<b>Phase 5 - Late Twentieth to Twenty-First Century (1981- Present)</b>	
1981	Education Centre completed including retention of original façade and construction of five floors of offices and classrooms with top floor function room and opening roof. Israel Green Auditorium redecorated and reused joinery from demolition of western stairs
1987	Bicentennial stonework conservation works completed
1989	Sprinklers installed, tiled floors in Sanctuary restored, main gasoliers spray painted (temporary measure), reconstruction of stencilled decorations added and other internal painting undertaken
1990	Steps to Ark altered and original tiles salvaged and reinstated

1999	Conservation management plan prepared
2000-2001	Centenary Federation conservation of tower stonework completed
2004	Brasswork to bimah conserved and photographic archival recording undertaken.
2005	Interior of Sanctuary redecorated, included reconstruction of missing pieces of decorative plaster and cast iron balustrades, rewire main light fittings and conserved polished brass Eternal Light above bimah
2007	Conservation Management Plan updated
2007	Ordered replacement tessellated tiles from UK. Replace where required in Synagogue Sanctuary
2007	Remove, refurbish and rewire suspended gasoliers
2008	Refurbish brass candelabra at steps and surrounding reading desk
2008	Installation of mechanical ventilation
2009	Replacement of lift
2015 - 2016	Security upgrade to Castlereagh Street entry including modifications at Level 2
2016	Periodic slate roof repairs and anti-bird protection
2017	Install footpath flood lights requested by City of Sydney Council
2018	Install glass balustrading to Ladies' Gallery
2018	Installation of door closers, unable to have 1870 closers re-made in UK
2018	Replace cooling tower fan and motor
2018	Refurbish Rabbi Falk library
2016-2020	Periodic guttering repairs, damp proofing and paint maintenance
2019	Replace all exit and emergency lights and general lighting with LED fittings
2019	Internal and external major security upgrade
2019	Roof safety upgrade
2019	Installation of additional fire and security doors. Connect to systems
2020	Replace reticulated water supply from meter
2020-23	Conservation Management Plan updated



### 3.4. HISTORICAL THEMES

Historical themes can be used to understand the context of a place, such as what influences have shaped that place over time. The Heritage Council of NSW established 35 historical themes relevant to the State of New South Wales. These themes correlate with National and Local historical themes. Historical themes at each level that are relevant to the place are provided in Table 5.

Table 5 - Historical Themes

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme	Discussion
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Religion	Activities associated with particular systems of faith and worship	The Great Synagogue is associated with the first Jewish congregation in Sydney which was first established during the 1820s. The Great Synagogue has been the centre of Jewish worship and culture in Sydney since its erection in 1878 and is associated with many leading citizens and families of the Jewish faith.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Creative endeavour	Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities	The Great Synagogue is associated with the prominent architect Thomas Rowe who designed many other landmark buildings in Sydney. The Great Synagogue is an example of one of his finest surviving works. The Great Synagogue is also associated with the builder Aaron Loveridge and other notable contractors and suppliers such as Lyon and Cottier and P.N. Russell.
9 Marking the phases of life	Persons	Activities of, and associations with, identifiable individuals, families and communal groups	<p>The Great Synagogue has been the venue for events marking the phases of life for the Jewish community in Sydney since its consecration in 1878. Events include Brit Milahs, baby naming, Pidyon Habens, bar and bat mitzvah's, engagements and weddings and funerals.</p> <p>The Israel Green Auditorium, originally the Jewish War Memorial Centre, located in the basement of The Great Synagogue was opened in 1956. The auditorium contains memorials to those who served during WWI and WWII. The auditorium is dedicated to the memory of Israel Green who was the President of The Great Synagogue Board and who had given considerable amount towards its construction.</p> <p>The Rabbi Falk Library, opened in 1957, is named after Rabbi LA Falk who served the congregation of The Great Synagogue from 1923-1956. A variety of other memorial plaques and boards exist throughout The Great Synagogue are dedicated to past and present members of the congregation.</p>

# 4. BASELINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

## 4.1. INTRODUCTION

This section presents a preliminary assessment of Aboriginal and historical archaeological constraints for the subject site. Please note that the following assessment is limited to desktop level and does not include invasive, on-site investigation of archaeological resources that may be present within the subject site.

## 4.2. ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

This section outlines the following:

- Extensive search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) to confirm the presence or absence of recorded Aboriginal objects and/or places.
- Analysis of the Aboriginal archaeological context including previous assessments within and in proximity to the subject site.
- High-level analysis of landscape features within the subject site in line with the *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*<sup>85</sup> ('Due Diligence Code'); and
- High-level analysis of the soil landscapes within the subject site.

### 4.2.1. Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) Search

A search of the AHIMS database was undertaken on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020 for an area of approximately 5 km by 5 km with 0 buffer (Eastings : 329398 - 337746, Northings : 6245477 – 6252509) under Client Service ID 529821.

A summary of all previously registered Aboriginal sites within the extensive search area is provided in Table 6 and the basic and extensive AHIMS search results are included in Appendix E.

The AHIMS search identified no Aboriginal objects and/or places within, or in close proximity to, the subject site.

Aboriginal objects are the official terminology in AHIMS for Aboriginal archaeological sites. Henceforth, we will use the term of 'Aboriginal site(s)', 'AHIMS site(s)', 'archaeological site(s)' or 'sites' to refer and to describe the nature and spatial distribution of archaeological resources in relation to the subject area.

The AHIMS search identified 71 registered Aboriginal objects in total within the search area. The status of 5 of these registered sites have since been updated to be 'not a site', and one was identified as a duplicate recording. These have been excluded from the analysis, bringing the total to 65.

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<sup>85</sup> Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water. 2010. *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*

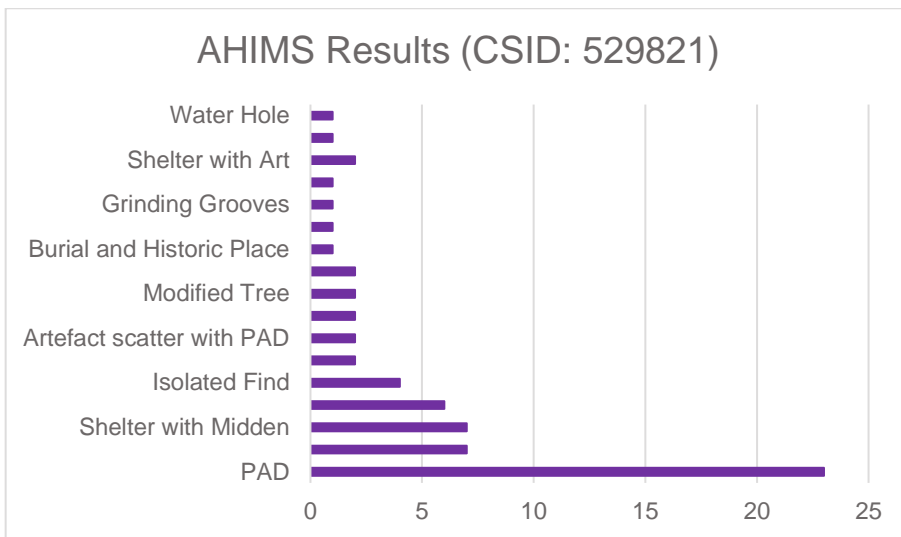


Figure 95 – AHIMS search results graph

Table 6 – AHIMS search results table (CSID: 529821)

Site Type	Context	Count	Percentage
Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)	Open	23	35.38%
Artefact Scatter	Open	7	10.77%
Shelter with Midden	Closed	7	10.77%
Shell Midden	Open	6	9.23%
Isolated Find	Open	4	6.13%
Aboriginal Gathering	Open	2	3.08%
Artefact scatter with PAD	Open	2	3.08%
Midden	Open	2	3.08%
Modified Tree	Open	2	3.08%
Rock Engraving	Open	2	3.08%
Shelter with Art	Close	2	3.08%
Burial and Historic Place	Open	1	1.54%
Contact site	Open	1	1.54%
Grinding Grooves	Open	1	1.54%
Shell Midden with PAD	Open	1	1.54%
Shelter with PAD	Closed	1	1.54%
Water Hole	Open	1	1.54%
<b>Total</b>	n/a	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>

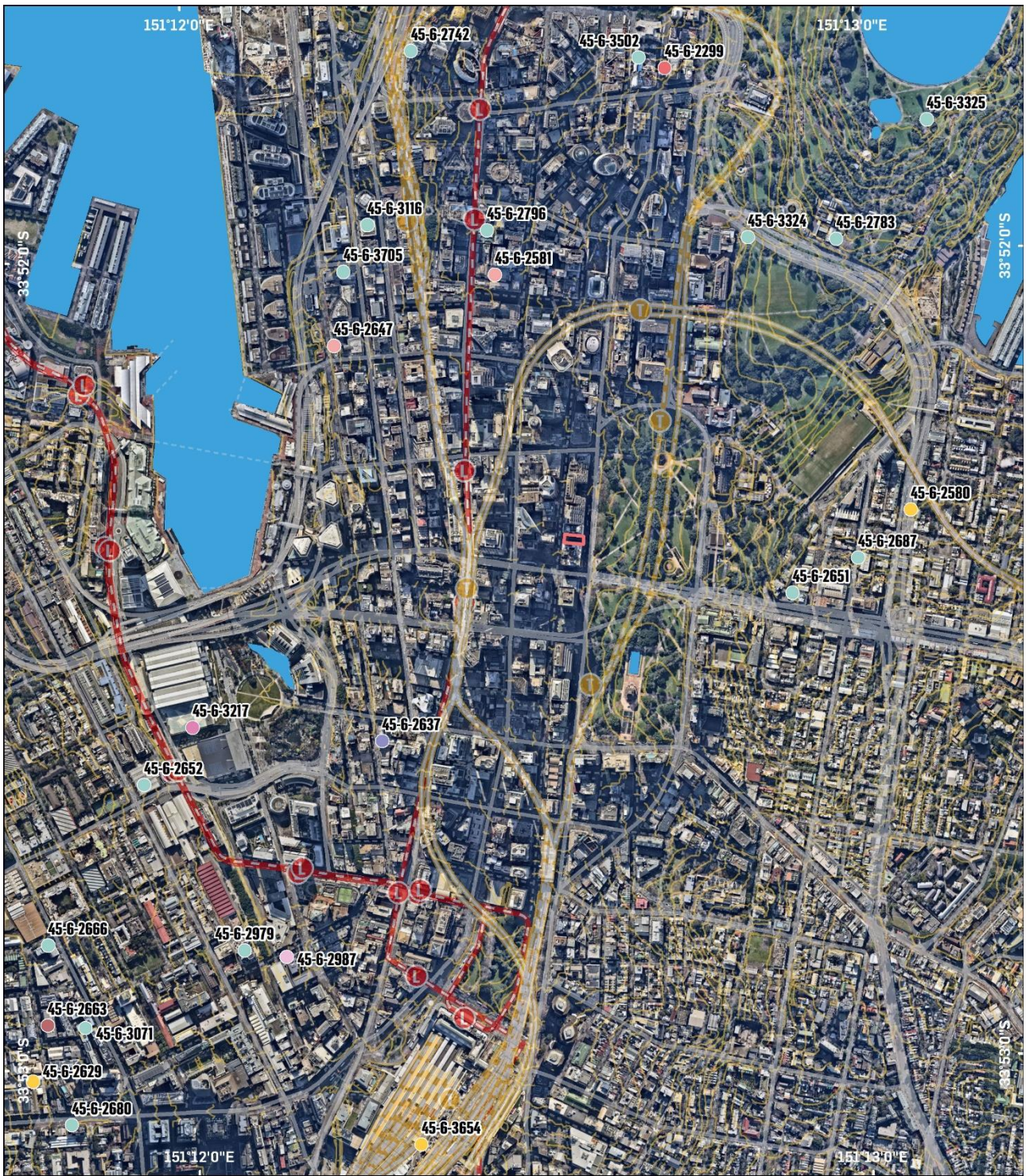


Identified sites in the extensive search area include both open context (85% n=55) and closed context such as shelter sites (15% n=10), consistent with the varied landforms across the search area. The most common site types identified in the search are potential archaeological deposits (PADs), which represent 42% (n=27) of search results, and sites containing artefacts, which represent 32% (n=21) of search results. The high proportion of PADs is consistent with an urban environment, in which early development occurred on top of areas that may have been previously utilised by Aboriginal people. The large number of PADs reflect on the approach by the increasing number of archaeological investigations for intensifying development of the area in the last decade. PADs are generally designated by archaeologists within areas where there is no surface visibility to assess archaeological potential, but the results of background research, including spatial distribution of archaeological resources within the region, presence of landscape features and soils with potential for archaeological resources, and certain level of historical land use and disturbance suggest potential for archaeological resources to survive in sub-surface context. The relatively low to moderate ground disturbance associated with such early development may have acted to preserve underlying archaeological deposits. The densities of the artefact scatters vary from small scatters of as few as two objects to large scatters of hundreds of objects.

Outcroppings of sandstone are uncommon within the central Sydney region, although common along the coastline. Sites which occur on sandstone including grinding grooves and shelters comprised 22% (n=14) of search results. Spatially, these are most common in coastal areas. The same is true for sites containing shell, which comprised 25% (n=16) of the search results.

Within the context of the subject site, no sandstone outcrops are present and the presence of a basement which extends to bedrock level across the majority of the site has likely removed natural soils in these areas. Where this is the case, it is unlikely for any of the above identified site types to occur. However, on the Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street frontages, this basement does not extend to bedrock depth, and there is some potential for the retention of natural soils and therefore archaeological potential in these areas.





GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56

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## ABORIGINAL HERITAGE CONSTRAINTS

The Great Synagogue  
The Board of the Great Synagogue

- Subject Area
- Artefact Scatter
- Contact Site
- PAD
- Contours
- Artefact Scatter with PAD
- Isolated Find
- Shell Midden with PAD
- Hydrology
- Burial and Historic Place
- Midden

Figure 96 – AHIMS search results



## **4.2.2. Local Aboriginal Archaeological Context**

No previous Aboriginal archaeological assessments have been identified for the subject site or the immediate surrounds. A summary of the regional Aboriginal archaeological context is provided in Section 4.2.3.

## **4.2.3. Regional Aboriginal Archaeological Context**

The following assessments have been identified as relevant to the subject site, for the reasons listed in Table 10.



Table 7 – Regional Aboriginal Archaeological Context

Assessment	Summary	Relevance
<p>Urbis, 2016, <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report: Wanda – 1 Alfred Street, Sydney</i></p>	<p>Archaeological assessment on the western side of Circular Quay. This assessment identified that while the footprint of the existing building was unlikely to contain Aboriginal objects due to disturbance, the heritage status of Gold Fields House has resulted in minimal subsequent impacts to the ground surface outside of the building footprint. Thus, archaeological potential remains in portions of the subject area which have been minimally disturbed. This assessment also acknowledged the importance of the tank stream to local Aboriginal people. Urbis emphasised that the proximity of the tank stream increases archaeological potential. They recommended that both historic and Aboriginal excavation be undertaken concurrently</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 1km north-west of subject area.</li> <li>▪ Acknowledged that disturbance within the building footprint decreases potential, but that outside of the building footprint disturbance would be minimal.</li> <li>▪ Recommended concurrent historic and Aboriginal excavation.</li> </ul>
<p>GML, 2014, <i>200 George Street, Sydney: Aboriginal Archaeological Excavation</i></p>	<p>Excavation report for test excavation undertaken on an area of identified PAD at 200 George Street. No Aboriginal objects or sites were identified during test excavation. This is suggested to be the result of unsuitable original landscape and environmental conditions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 1km north-west of subject area.</li> <li>▪ While intact natural soils may be present within urban environments, that does not mean that they will necessarily contain Aboriginal archaeological objects, with environmental and landscape factors playing a decisive role in Aboriginal utilisation of the land prior to European occupation.</li> </ul>
<p>Biosis, 2012, <i>The Quay Project, Haymarket: Archaeological Report</i></p>	<p>Assessment of the above site resulting from the identification of intact topsoil during historic salvage excavations. Test excavation was undertaken, resulting in the identification of no artefacts and the confirmation of low archaeological potential of the area. One stone artefact was identified during the historic salvage excavation, in highly disturbed context.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 1.1km south-west of subject area.</li> <li>▪ Suggests that disturbance related to previous development does not entirely remove the potential for Aboriginal objects to be present in sub-surface context.</li> </ul>
<p>Comber, J. 2009, <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment: Sydney Metro</i></p>	<p>Archaeological assessment in relation to Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage on the Stage 1 Sydney light rail alignment. No Aboriginal sites, places or objects were identified, nor were any areas of potential, with specific reference to the impact of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encompassing approximately 25km, commencing approximately 1km south of the subject area.</li> </ul>

Assessment	Summary	Relevance
<i>Network Stage 2 (Central – Westmead)</i>	disturbance and development on the capacity to identify archaeological materials through survey.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Suggests Aboriginal occupation would most likely intensify around the creeks and rivers in the region.</li> </ul>
Jo McDonald Cultural Heritage Management, 2006, <i>Sydney University Campus 2010: Test Excavations at the University of Sydney, Central Site, Darlington Campus</i>	Archaeological assessment involving test excavation on the Darlington campus of the University of Sydney. Determined that natural soils were buried under imported fill across the majority of the subject area. Resulted in the identification of one silcrete stone artefact, and no other archaeological materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 2.5km south-west of subject area.</li> <li>▪ Suggests that disturbance related to previous development does not entirely remove the potential for Aboriginal objects to be present in sub-surface context.</li> <li>▪ Determined heavy development reduced archaeological potential.</li> </ul>
Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology, 2006, <i>Final Aboriginal Archaeological Excavation Report. The KENS Site</i>	KENS site excavation report. Details the finds of the excavations investigating the sub-surface potential in highly disturbed context. A number of Aboriginal objects were recovered during excavation despite high levels of disturbance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 1.5km north-west of subject area.</li> <li>▪ Suggests that disturbance related to previous development does not entirely remove the potential for Aboriginal objects to be present in sub-surface context</li> </ul>
Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology, 2002, <i>Salvage Excavation of a Potential Aboriginal Site, 589-593 George Street, Sydney</i>	Salvage excavation report for a potential midden site, AHIMS #45-6-2637. No associated Aboriginal archaeological features were found with the shell; and as such they were determined not to be of Aboriginal origin but to reflect European use of the site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 620m south-west of subject area.</li> <li>▪ Provides precedent for determining origin of potential midden sites – concludes lack of correlated Aboriginal objects suggests non-Aboriginal origins for shell deposits.</li> </ul>
Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology, 2002, <i>Aboriginal Archaeological</i>	Evaluation of the likelihood for Aboriginal archaeological deposits to be present within Kent, Erskine, Napoleon and Sussex Streets (KENS site). Conclude that the area would likely have been utilised by Indigenous people prior to European occupation. Historical land use and consequent development may limit the potential for intact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 800m north-west of subject area.</li> <li>▪ Suggests that disturbance related to previous development does not entirely remove the</li> </ul>

Assessment	Summary	Relevance
<i>Assessment Report: The KENS Site, Sydney</i>	Aboriginal materials to be located on the surface. However, below imported fill associated with this occupation and development, sub-surface evidence of Aboriginal utilisation of the area may occur.	potential for Aboriginal objects to be present in sub-surface context.
Godden Mackay Heritage Consultants, 1997. <i>Angel Place Project 1997</i>	Test excavation report for the excavation of AHIMS ID#45-5-2581, an open camp site identified adjacent to the central Sydney Tank Stream, containing fifty-four flaked stone artefacts recovered through excavation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 600m north-west of subject area.</li> <li>▪ Suggests that disturbance related to previous development does not entirely remove the potential for Aboriginal objects to be present in sub-surface context.</li> <li>▪ The soil landscapes at this site are considerably different to the subject area and the proximity to Tank Stream also alters the archaeological potential for this site.</li> </ul>
Attenbrow, 1990. <i>The Port Jackson Archaeological Project, Report on Stage 1</i>	<p>The focus of the project was to record and assess archaeological potential of Aboriginal sites within the Port Jackson Catchment. The main aim of the study was to re-locate and re-record previously identified sites which were not adequately recorded.</p> <p>Attenbrow's assessment resulted in the correct recording of 369 sites with midden or deposit within the Port Jackson Catchment. 126 of these are open middens, 203 are middens in rock shelters, 6 are open middens with small shelters, 27 are deposits in shelters and 7 are open deposits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 4.5km north-east of subject area</li> <li>▪ Contextual information on Aboriginal sites that are most likely to be more prevalent closer to the Sydney Harbour foreshore and associated water courses.</li> <li>▪ Provided a clear and detailed analysis of the Port Jackson Catchment Area and Aboriginal archaeological sites within.</li> <li>▪ Established criteria for the recording of Aboriginal sites and the identification of separate sites (i.e.: midden materials separated by a naturally occurring drainage line are identified as two separate middens).</li> </ul>



Assessment	Summary	Relevance
<p>Attenbrow, 1990, <i>The Port Jackson Archaeological Project, Report on Stage 2</i></p>	<p>Stage 2 of the Port Jackson Archaeological Project involved the excavation of select sites cross the study area. Test excavation was undertaken at two rock shelters with middens – AHIMS ID#45-6-0560 &amp; AHIMS ID #45-6-1045. Materials excavated from the deposit at AHIMS ID#45-6-0560 included shell, stone artefacts, animal bones and human skeletal materials. Materials excavated from AHIMS ID #45-6-1045 included primarily shell with one stone artefact and modern refuse including rusted metals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 4.5km north-east of subject area</li> <li>▪ Example of disturbed context with European material and Aboriginal archaeological potential.</li> <li>▪ Example of contact sites within the wider Sydney region.</li> </ul>

## 4.2.4. Summary

Archaeological assessments in the surrounding area have resulted in the following general conclusions for this region:

- Disturbance resulting from European occupation reduces the likelihood for intact soil deposits to occur, due to the disruption and removal of natural soils. The removal of natural soils could result in the complete or partial removal of archaeological resources, particularly in shallow soil profiles.
- However, historical land use and disturbance do not always result in the complete loss of archaeological potential. Where natural soils are retained, archaeological potential remains.
- Aboriginal occupation, and archaeological evidence of this occupation, intensifies around rivers and creeks.
- Dominant site types in the region include artefact scatters, PADs and isolated find sites, with Midden and sandstone-dependent sites also common in the more coastal regions.

## 4.2.5. Topography

The subject site occupies a generally flat stretch of land on the midslopes of the hill which peaks towards Woolloomooloo in the east and runs down towards Darling Harbour in the south. The site is on a gradual slope to the west, with difference in levels between Castlereagh and Elizabeth Streets. The original topography has been significantly impacted by the construction of buildings, roads and associated infrastructure.

As is evident from the section drawing (see Figure 97), the Elizabeth Street frontage is significantly higher than the Castlereagh Street frontage. The construction of the building accounts for this topography, and will likely have involved levelling through excavation and filling. The basement level extends to bedrock across the majority of the centre of the site, but on the eastern and westernmost sides ( the Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street frontages), the basement is configured to account for the topography. On the Elizabeth street frontage this is such that below the porch, there basement is stepped, leading to the deepest section which cuts into bedrock in the centre. On the Castlereagh Street frontage, the basement extent is far shallower, with no real basement present until the Mezzanine. This then steps much deeper to the central basement, the War Memorial Hall, cut into the bedrock.

## 4.2.6. Soil Landscapes

There is one soil landscape present across the subject site, the Lucas Heights (lh) residual soil landscape (see Figure 99).

The Lucas Heights soil landscape is described as present on extensively or completely cleared dry sclerophyll low forest and woodland, on the Mittagong formation (alternating bands of shale and fine-grained sandstone), with rock outcrop absent. The geology of this landscape is relatively shallow. Soils are described as moderately deep (50-150cm), hardsetting yellow podzolic soils and yellow soloths, with yellow earths on outer edges. Dominant soil materials include loose, yellowish-brown sandy loam; bleached, stony, hardsetting clay loam; earth, yellowish-brown sandy clay loam and; pedal, yellowish-brown clay.

The depth of natural soils is relevant to the potential for archaeological materials to be present, especially in areas where disturbance is high. In general as disturbance increases, archaeological potential decreases. Historic land use activities are discussed in Section 4.3.1 of this assessment. However, in general, disturbance is determined to be high across the majority of the subject area primarily associated with the continuous development of the area.

There is a basement present in The Great Synagogue building currently, which extends to bedrock. The basement was extended in 1956 to a depth of 20 feet below Castlereagh Street, as noted in contemporary newspapers.<sup>86</sup> Current plans show that the basement level extends well below street level across the majority of the site, likely removing the entire soil profile in these areas (see Figure 97). There are two areas, on the Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street frontages, where the basement does not extend entirely to bedrock. Should natural soils be encountered in these areas, archaeological potential may be retained. This

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<sup>86</sup> The Sydney Morning Herald, 24 July 1956. *Jewish War Memorial Centre in Heart of Sydney*.

is particularly the case for the Castlereagh Street frontage, where there is virtually no basement until the Mezzanine due to the topography of the site.

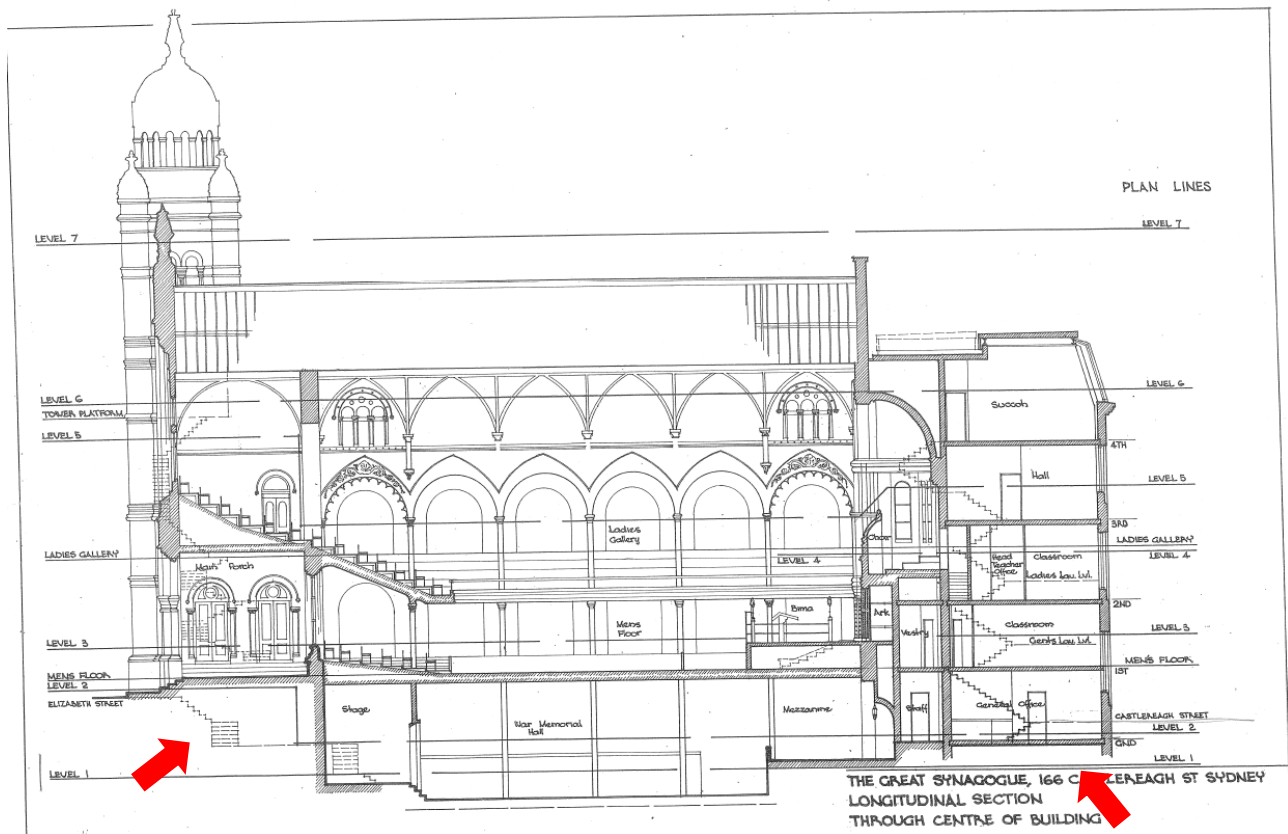


Figure 97 – Longitudinal Section of the building, with the extent of the basement below ground level on each street frontage demonstrated. Areas without deep basement levels are indicated by the arrows. Note the Castlereagh street frontage basement is much shallower than that of the Elizabeth Street frontage due to the topography.

Source: Orwell & Peter Phillips, 2007

## 4.2.7. Hydrology

The subject site is not currently located in close proximity to any waterways or streams. The Tank Stream, the major waterway which ran from what is now Circular Quay, is shown on historic maps as ending approximately 460m to the north west of the current site, at King Street between George and Pitt Streets (see Figure 98). Other descriptions identify that the Tank Stream extended further south to Bathurst Street.<sup>87</sup>

Prior to settlement, the subject site was occupied by swampy marshes that extended from Market Street to Park Street (north and south) and Pitt Street into Hyde Park (west and east). These marshes were known as duck hunting grounds for local Aboriginal groups. These swamps were part of the Tank Stream catchment.<sup>88</sup>

<sup>87</sup> Heritage Inventory Sheet, 2011. *Hyde Park*.

<https://apps.environment.nsw.gov.au/dpcheritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5060189>

<sup>88</sup> *Ibid.*



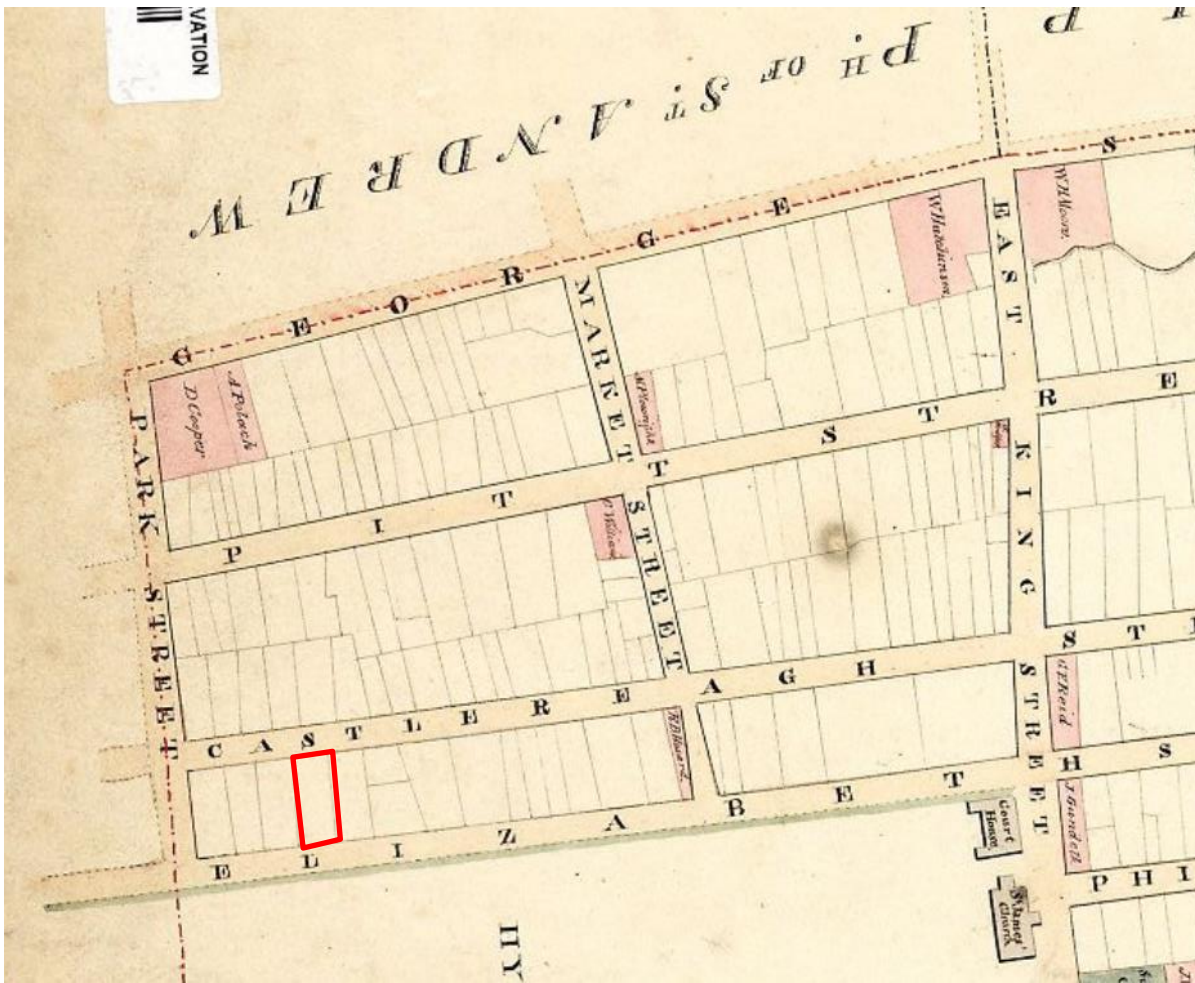


Figure 98 – Historic parish map, undated, Parish of St James. Approximate location of the subject site identified in red. Source: Historic Land Records Viewer (HLRV), PMAPMN05/14074201

#### 4.2.8. Landscape Feature Potential Analysis

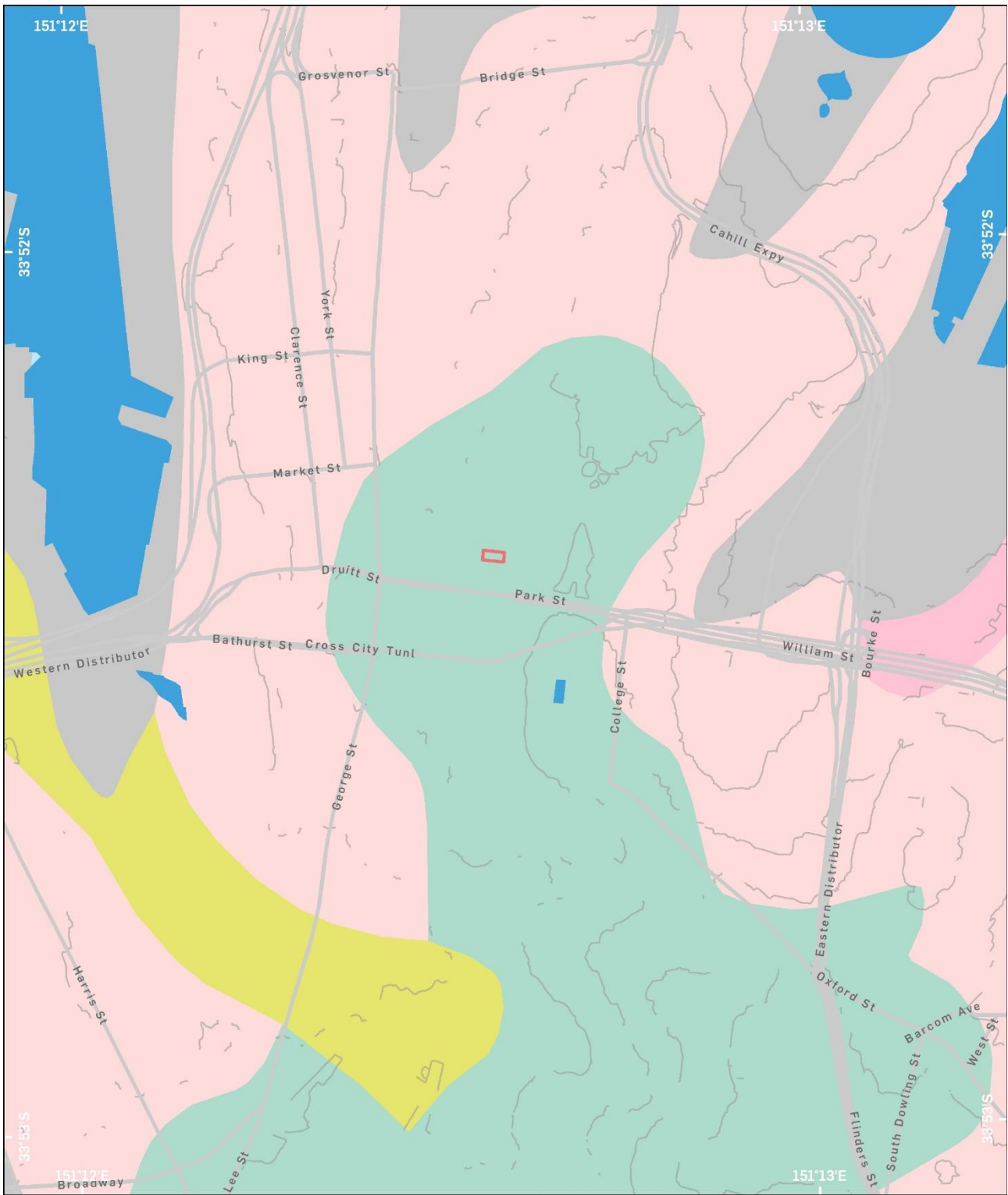
The *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*<sup>89</sup> (Due Diligence Code) identifies certain landscape features that have the potential to contain Aboriginal objects in a sub-surface context, including:

- within 200 m of waters including freshwater and the high tide mark of shorelines; or
- located within a sand dune system; or
- located on a ridge top, ridge line or headland; or
- located within 200 m below or above a cliff face; or
- within 20 m of or in a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth.

There are no landscape features present on or around the site which are identified in the Due Diligence Code as having the potential to contain objects in a sub-surface context.

The subject site is not located within 200m of any waterways currently, although prior to settlement this area formed the swampy catchments of the Tank Stream. The site is situated on a gentle mid-slope, with no outcrops of sandstone present and with moderately deep soil profile present (0.5-1.5m).

<sup>89</sup> DECCW, 2010.



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1 KM

Project No: P0024961

Project Manager: Keira Kucharska

## SOIL LANDSCAPES AND HYDROLOGY

The Great Synagogue

The Board of the Great Synagogue

- Subject Area
- Alluvial (ALdc)
- Disturbed Terrain (DTxx)
- Residual (REbt)
- Water
- Hydrology
- Colluvial (COha)
- Erosional (ERgy)
- Residual (RElh)
- Hydrology 200m Buffer
- Contours

Figure 99 – Soil and Hydrology

## 4.2.9. Summary of Aboriginal Archaeological Context

The results of the AHIMS search and previous Aboriginal archaeological investigations have been analysed and the following conclusions regarding the subject site have been made:

- There are no Aboriginal objects and/or places registered on AHIMS within or in close proximity of the subject site.
- The subject site formed part of the Tank Stream catchment area prior to European Settlement and was occupied by swampland.
- The soil landscape present across the site is the Lucas Heights soil landscape, 0.5-1.5m in depth.
- Regionally, disturbance decreases the potential for Aboriginal archaeological materials to survive in disturbed context or in situ.
- The subject site has been heavily disturbed in association with the current building which has a basement level, extended and modified in the 1950s. This basement level extends across the majority of the centre of the site. However, on both the Elizabeth and Castlereagh Street frontages, the basement is shallower, particularly on Castlereagh Street. While the disturbance associated with the central basement level will likely have removed all natural soils across this portion of the site, soils may remain intact under the Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street frontages.
- It is considered unlikely that Aboriginal archaeological materials will occur within the subject site due to the heavy disturbance associated with the current building. In areas where the basement does not extend to bedrock level, natural soils may be retained and have low potential for aboriginal objects. This should be investigated further through geotechnical analysis and additional assessment in case of any future development and associated subsurface impact.
- Should natural soils be confirmed through geotechnical analysis, archaeological potential may need to be investigated further prior to any works within this portion of the site.



## 4.3. HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

This section outlines the results of the preliminary historical archaeological assessment for the subject site. A detailed historical overview is presented in Section 0 of this CMP. This section will summarise this overview and provide a simple understanding of phases of European occupation, utilisation of the land and apply a preliminary archaeological significance assessment. It will also include an analysis of previous archaeological works within and in the vicinity of the subject site. The assessment of historical archaeological potential can be found in Section 4.3.7.

### 4.3.1. Brief History of the Subject site

The following section provides an historical summary of the subject site (Table 8) as a means of identifying historical archaeological potential.

Table 8 – Historical summary of subject site and related historical archaeological potential

Phase	Summary	Potential Archaeological Resource
<b>Early settlement, 1788-1839</b>	Prior to settlement and in the early days of the Colony of Sydney, the subject site fell within the swamplands of the Tank Stream catchment. These swamp areas were reclaimed quickly following settlement and by the early 1800s, the site was formed.	Associated with the original environment of the subject site and evidence of the draining of the swamp land reclamation efforts.
<b>Early land grants, 1839-1871</b>	The site originally formed part of a grant to Thomas Taber in 1839, who had occupied the site prior to the grant. By the 1840s, four cottages were on the site, with two fronting Elizabeth Street and the other two fronting Castlereagh Street. The buildings were demolished in 1873 to accommodate the Synagogue.	Associated with the early land grant on the site include the structural remains of the four cottages and associated domestic deposits.
<b>Construction of The Great Synagogue, 1871- 1878</b>	In 1866, the site fronting Elizabeth and Castlereagh Streets was first recommended for consideration as the site of the new Sydney Synagogue. In 1871 the decision was taken that the new Synagogue be erected on the site. The architect (Thomas Rowe) was selected between 1872-73, and designs formulated in 1873. In 1875 the foundation stone was laid, with the Synagogue completed and consecrated in 1878. The basement was constructed through the use of foundation walls and column bases in sandstone, with tar and blue metal laid directly on the levelled ground. The ground floor was of timber construction.	Associated with the original Great Synagogue building include demolition debris from pre-existing structures, and materials deposited during construction phases. The construction methods of the basement floor reduce the potential for pre-construction deposits to be present.
<b>Alterations and Additions, 1885-1980s</b>	Alterations and additions were undertaken to the site over the late 19 <sup>th</sup> and early-mid 20 <sup>th</sup> century. This involved, in some cases, the expansion of the site with the enlargement of the semi-circular apse and, in 1922, the redevelopment of the Manchester Unity building on the northern side of the site.  Major alterations were proposed in 1944 to enlarge the complex. In 1955 the works were commenced on the new Great Synagogue War Memorial Centre, involving the excavation and underpinning of the whole Synagogue structure. The excavation was noted in Annual Reports to extend to bedrock.	The works associated with the construction of the War Memorial Centre in the 1950s will have greatly impacted any previously accumulated archaeological materials across the majority of site. These works involved excavation beneath the entire structure to bedrock depth. Future, more detailed investigation should concentrate of assessing the spatial

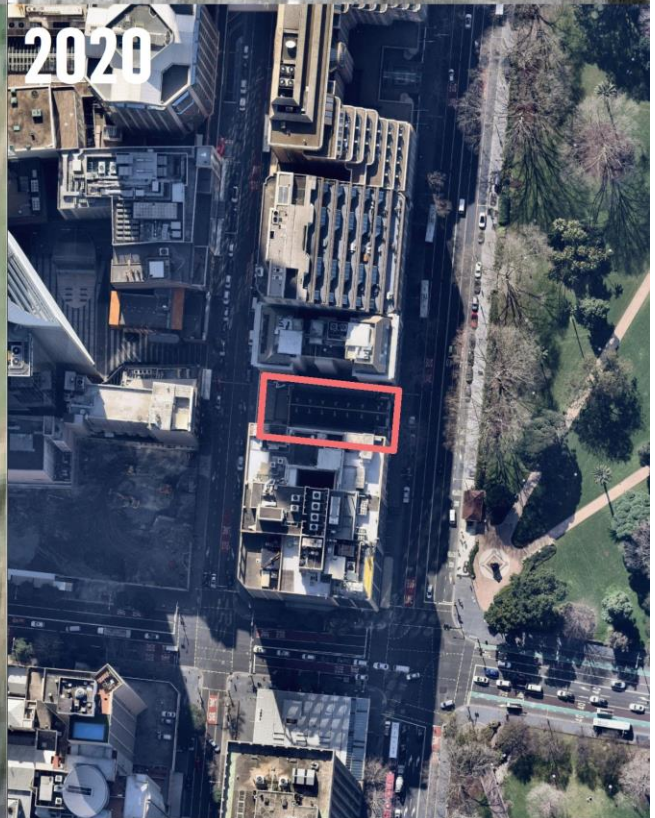
Phase	Summary	Potential Archaeological Resource
	In the 1980s, the school rooms which occupied the Castlereagh Street frontage were replaced with a five storey building, although the original façade was retained.	and vertical extent and impact of these works.
<b>The Great Synagogue, 1980s-present.</b>	No further works have been undertaken to The Great Synagogue which would result in any potential archaeological resources.  Works undertaken during this period have primarily include internal alterations and conservation works to the stone façade at Elizabeth Street.	No archaeological resources are anticipated to occur associated with this phase.

### 4.3.2. Historic Aerial Photographs Analysis

The development of facilities within the subject site has caused substantial levels of ground disturbance. This is demonstrated through the analysis of historic aerals. Historic aerial images from 1930, 1961, 1990 and 2020 were analysed to develop an understanding of disturbance (see Figure 100). A summary of this analysis is included in Table 9.

Table 9 – Analysis of historical aerals

Year	Observation
1930	By this date, a number of alterations and additions had been undertaken, including the enlargement of the semi-circular apse. The Manchester Unity building to the north of the subject site had also been redeveloped. Unfortunately, the quality of this image is prohibitive and there is little that can be ascertained in relation to the composition of the subject site at this time.  Hyde Park, immediately to the east of the subject site, had been established 120 years earlier and had undergone various changes by this date. The radial path network which today characterises the park, can already be observed. It is likely that Elizabeth and Castlereagh Streets were overlayed with bitumen by this time, with bitumen having become widely available by this date.
1943	The built character of the subject site and its surrounds appears to have undergone few changes during this period.
1980	Excavation and underpinning of the whole Synagogue structure had been undertaken by this date. Although the surrounding built character had remained largely unchanged, Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Streets had been further landscaped, reflecting the growth of the post-war years.
2020	By this date a 5-storey building had been erected at the Castlereagh Street frontage. This is indicated by a pitched roof located along the north-western boundary of the subject site. The landscaping and paths within Hyde Park have remained true to the original design.



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Project No: P0024961

Project Manager: Keira Kucharska

 Subject Area

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**HISTORICAL AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS**  
 The Great Synagogue  
 The Board of the Great Synagogue

Figure 100 – Historic aerial analysis.



### 4.3.3. Local Historical Archaeological Context

There has been no previous archaeological assessments of the subject site. The previous Conservation Management Plans (CMPs) have not considered archaeology in any detail. The previous CMPs has the following to say regarding the archaeological potential of the site:

#### **Orwell & Peter Phillips Architects, 2007. Conservation Management Plan, The Great Synagogue.**

*“Although there is little likelihood that archaeological remains survive below ground, except possibly beneath the front porch, there remains some potential for above-ground archaeology within early building cavities such as floor-ceiling spaces, although many of these too have been disturbed for the introduction of new services over the years...”*

*Because of the excavation of virtually the whole site in the past, the archaeological resource is likely to be small or non-existent”<sup>90</sup>*

It is unclear what this conclusion is based upon, given that no formal assessment of archaeological potential is included in this report.

The following previous assessments have been selected due to their proximity to the subject site.

#### **Orwell & Peter Phillips Architects, 2000. Conservation Management Plan, The Great Synagogue.**

*Because of the excavation of virtually the whole site in the past, the archaeological resource is likely to be small or non-existent”<sup>91</sup>*

It is unclear what this conclusion is based upon, given that no formal assessment of archaeological potential is included in this report.

#### **Bairstow, D. & Wilson, G. 1990. 271-273 Pitt Street, Sydney: Historical Archaeological Excavation**

This report details an historical archaeological investigation undertaken at 271-273 Pitt Street on behalf of Crone & Associates Architects and Planning Consultants and Kumagai (NSW) Pty Limited.

Shortly before the excavation commenced, Lot 18 had contained structures dating to 1840-80 and it was therefore determined that the remains of structures which predated them, as well as culturally significant deposits, were likely to have survived.

In relation to Lot 9, however, an earlier assessment had determined that it was:

*‘...so disturbed by late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century reconstruction and service lines that it was unlikely to yield information of sufficient value to justify archaeological investigation within the limits of the constraints imposed upon developers by the NSW Heritage Act.’*

This assessment was, however, rejected by the Archaeological Advisory Panel subcommittee and both lots were incorporated within the site.

Kumagai Pt Ltd subsequently embraced the research design which the Committee had formulated for the site. In general terms, the research design sought ‘to find out how two families, one convict, the other free, lived through crucial years in Australia’s development.’ The excavations exposed archaeological resources evidencing almost 2 centuries of domestic occupation, including:

- Chinese Porcelain
- Stoneware bottles
- Tobacco Pipes

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<sup>90</sup> Orwell & Peter Phillips, Architects, 2007. *Conservation Management Plan, The Great Synagogue*

<sup>91</sup> Orwell & Peter Phillips, Architects, 2000. *Conservation Management Plan, The Great Synagogue*

- Glassware
- Metalwork, including nails, a harpoon head, buttons and Post Office seals
- Evidence of currying
- Structural remains including:
  - footings and post holes of original pre-1823 Hill Cottage and evidence of later improvements;
  - foundations of hammer-dressed sandstone Wyatt complex of buildings erected in 1840s; and
  - foundations of brick and concrete structure erected 1900-1923.

These findings are of relevance to the present assessment for a number of reasons. The site is located approximately 140 metres south-west of the subject site and within a similar built environment. The site was also located within proximity of swampland, today occupied by Hyde Park, and is therefore likely to have been subject to similar land management processes in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. This is was confirmed by historical research which revealed that subsequent earthworks and reclamation had obscured the original topography of the site.

Lot 18 of the Pitt Street site was unusual within the context of the Sydney CBD on the grounds that it was subject to no development after the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. It is therefore offered a uniquely intact archaeological record of the earliest occupation of the area.

The degree of later disturbance at the subject site is far greater, where mid-20<sup>th</sup> century excavations to the level of bedrock are likely to have removed or disturbed earlier sub-surface deposits. It should be noted, however, that a high number of archaeological resources were also recovered from Lot 9, many of which had high research value, despite the site having been identified as highly disturbed.

#### **4.3.4. Regional Historical Archaeological Context**

The following assessments have been identified as relevant to the subject site, for the reasons listed in Table 10.

Table 10 – Regional Historical Archaeological Context

Assessment	Summary	Relevance
<p>Urbis, 2015, <i>Aboriginal and Historic Archaeological Assessment, 1 Macquarie Place, Sydney</i></p>	<p>Aboriginal and historical archaeological assessment at 1 Macquarie Place. This assessment concluded the Jessie Street Gardens site has the potential to contain limited archaeological remains which, dependent on their nature, degree of intactness, and identifiability, may be of local or state significance.</p> <p>The archaeological potential was divided into potential for pre and post 1860s material, with low potential for pre-1860s and moderate potential for post 1860s material. Urbis noted here that excavations in the vicinity have identified at least 1-2m of fill across the area. The extent and depth of this fill reduces the likelihood that minor works would impact archaeological values, with the assertion that if archaeological material does occur it will be at depth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 1km north of the subject site</li> <li>▪ Acknowledges that much of the area is covered by 1-2m of fill, which reduces the potential for archaeological materials to be impacted by minor works.</li> <li>▪ Identified the potential for pre-1860s archaeological material as low, but post-1860s archaeological material as moderate.</li> <li>▪ Identified potential archaeological remains as of local or state significance.</li> </ul>
<p>Casey and Lowe, 2013, <i>Non-Indigenous Archaeological Assessment &amp; Testing, Macquarie Place, Sydney</i></p>	<p>Assessment involving test excavation at Macquarie Place to the south west of the subject area. Casey and Lowe identified areas of low-moderate potential, and areas of no potential due to disturbance from the substation and services.</p> <p>Casey and Lowe identified that potential archaeological remains were likely to be associated with the early days of the colony at Sydney Cove, with remains also associated with the original layout of Macquarie Place likely to be encountered. They identified limited potential for the archaeological remains of the c.1820 Doric fountain from the southern portion of the site.</p> <p>In general, Casey and Lowe assessed that archaeological materials are likely to be of local heritage significance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 1km north of the subject site</li> <li>▪ Potential archaeological remains in the region are anticipated to be associated with early days of settlement.</li> <li>▪ Archaeological materials associated with early settlement likely to be of high significance on at least a local level dependent of integrity.</li> </ul>
<p>Bickford, A. 1997. <i>Archaeological assessment</i></p>	<p>This archaeological assessment considered the proposed demolition of two terrace houses at 382b-384 Pitt Street (located approximately 170m to the southeast of the subject area) and excavation for a new below-ground car park approximately 4 metres below existing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 400m south-west of the subject site</li> </ul>



Assessment	Summary	Relevance
<p><i>of two terraces: 382b-384 Pitt Street, Sydney</i></p>	<p>ground level as part of the Civic Hotel redevelopment. Research revealed that there were buildings near the site from at least 1823; that there was a building on the site from before 1830, and that this was altered, or superseded, by a cottage with stables, other outbuildings and a yard, from prior to 1865. The two terraces which replaced these from about 1903 have no basements and therefore it is likely that archaeological remains lie under the terraces.</p> <p>382b-384 Pitt Street was assessed as having high potential of intact archaeological remains and potentially of high (State) significance, if archaeological deposits dating early colonial occupation of the subject area still exist under the terraces. Recommendations included obtaining an excavation permit for test trenching, followed by possible archaeological excavation depending on the results of the test investigation program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Similar built environment to subject site</li> <li>▪ Potential to contain State-significant archaeological relics relating to the earliest European occupation of the site</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>
<p>Thorpe, W. 1997 <i>Archaeological Assessment Former YMCA Buildings 323-327 Pitt Street, 90-100 Bathurst Street, Sydney</i></p>	<p>The former YMCA site is located approximately 200 m to the north of the subject area. The site was identified in the City of Sydney Archaeological Management Plan as having high archaeological potential although likely to be partly disturbed along the Bathurst Street frontage. This assessment identified that the subject area had likely been in use for residential purposes as early as 1802, with later residences having been the homes of reasonably affluent middle-class tradesmen.</p> <p>The potential archaeological resource identified ranged from environmental data, to historic fill deposits (“accumulation of debris that has derived from demolition and rebuilding processes of the early to mid-nineteenth century”), structural evidence of domestic and commercial buildings and outbuildings, to artefacts relevant to both commercial and domestic occupation. An archaeological monitoring and recording program was recommended. As it is anticipated that a similar archaeological resource would be identified at the subject area, a similar management strategy is considered appropriate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 200m south-west of the subject site</li> <li>▪ Similar built environment to subject site</li> <li>▪ Similar history of domestic occupation to subject site</li> <li>▪ Identified high potential for archaeological deposits relating to two centuries of domestic and commercial occupation</li> </ul>
<p>Thorp, W. 1995. <i>Customs House, Sydney, Archaeological Assessment</i></p>	<p>Archaeological assessment which identified anticipated potential archaeological resources. Thorp defined each likely resource by the period with which they would be associated. This included:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 1km north of the subject site</li> </ul>

Assessment	Summary	Relevance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Huts and sheds that were present in portions of the site c.1788-1802</li> <li>▪ Structural evidence of Macquarie era wall defining the edge of the government domain</li> <li>▪ Maritime relics associated with the foreshore area</li> <li>▪ European fill introduced c. 1830s-40s as part of land reclamation efforts.</li> <li>▪ Lewis-era cellar likely to be in the sub-floor area of the central block of the structure.</li> <li>▪ Basecourse of the Queen's warehouse</li> <li>▪ Fragmentary evidence of out-buildings from the Lewis era</li> <li>▪ Drains and sewers from all phases of occupation</li> <li>▪ Vernon wing structural evidence anticipated to occur within the centre of the site;</li> <li>▪ Consolidated fill associated with the Barnet phase beneath the central building</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ High potential for archaeological resources relating to multiple phases of the sites historical development</li> </ul>
<p>Burritt, P. 1980. <i>Old Sydney Gaol: The 1979 Rescue Excavation.</i></p>	<p>Excavation at Old Sydney Gaol (located on George Street approximately 2km north of the current subject area) which can provide a comparison of artefacts with the potential to be present. Burritt identified artefacts from three separate trenches across the Gaol. The dominant material identified was ceramics, with glazed earthenware comprising 70% of ceramic finds, stoneware 23% and porcelain 7%. Burritt's excavations also unearthed bricks, clay pipes and glass, with the majority of the glass consisting of bottle fragments with no coloured glass identified. Metal artefacts included corroded iron artefacts and well-preserved bronze and silver coins. Of the coins where dates were observable, the dates ranged between 1799-1907. The excavations also identified a large amount of bone, all animal, some ceramic disks and a group of slate pegs. Burritt concluded that the majority of the evidence was from the post-gaol phases of occupation at the site and thus the remains of the Gaol had been disturbed by subsequent development. Burritt did however acknowledge that</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 1km south-east of the subject site</li> </ul>

Assessment	Summary	Relevance
	the foundations of new buildings on the site may be from old Gaol buildings, and that the well (excavated from Trench 1) may have been from the gaol period.	



### 4.3.5. Summary

The above publications relate to sites which were located within 1 kilometre of the subject site and within a similar built environment.

The above publications reveal the extent to which the topography has been altered over two centuries of urban development. They further reveal the potential for introduced fill associated with later development to protect earlier subsurface deposits.

Those sites which have been subject to intensive programs of excavation (Burritt 1980, Bairstow & Wilson 1990) have yielded large quantities of archaeological resources which have the potential to address complex research questions relating to the historical development of the Sydney colony.

### 4.3.6. Central Sydney Archaeological Zoning Plan

The Central Sydney Archaeological Zoning Plan (CSAZP) outlines and documents the survey and assessment of the archaeological potential of the city of Sydney.<sup>92</sup>

The report describes the methodology, criteria and results of the archaeological assessment and lists all identified areas with archaeological potential. The work was carried out in accordance with the principles of the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (*The Burra Charter*) and the Heritage Act (as amended). Although the CSAZP does not include assessment criteria against the possibility of Aboriginal archaeological remains, the possibility of surviving Aboriginal archaeological resources or 'contact archaeology' remains cannot be entirely discounted.

The subject site is listed under the CSAZP as '164-166 Castlereagh Street'. The site is listed as an area of archaeological potential (AAP). This is defined as follows:

*An allotment of land or feature that has been identified in the field survey as being an area of high archaeological potential due to limited physical disturbance (usually due to the most recent building development). This category includes both above and below ground archaeological features such as remnant structures, significant fabric of extant buildings / structures, as well as below ground sites. Most areas identified will contain sites of former occupations / activity and buildings. These sites may be known through historic documentation (not undertaken as part of this project), or may become evident during the fieldwork. An example of the latter is within currently vacant allotments (generally development sites and car parks), where the shadows or outlines of the most recently demolished structures are evident on the walls of adjoining buildings.*

*Areas of Archaeological Potential are indicated by dark grey shading on the field survey plan. Where specific above ground features have been identified, they have been noted as part of the building allotment / street on which they are located in the schedule of sites.*<sup>93</sup>

It is likely that the CSAZP lists the subject site as an area of archaeological potential due to the small portions of the site, on the Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street frontages, where the basement does not extend to bedrock. Where the basement level does extend to bedrock, archaeological materials are extremely unlikely to be present. However, where the basement level does not extend to bedrock, archaeological potential is retained.

### 4.3.7. Assessment of Historical Archaeological Potential

Historical archaeological potential is defined as:

*The degree of physical evidence present on an archaeological site, usually assessed on the basis of physical evaluation and historical research.*<sup>94</sup>

Archaeological research potential of a site is the extent to which further study of relics likely to be found is expected to contribute to improved knowledge about NSW history which is not demonstrated by other sites,

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<sup>92</sup> City of Sydney, 1997. *Central Sydney Archaeological Zoning Plan*.

<sup>93</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>94</sup> Department of Urban Affairs and Planning, 1996.

archaeological resources or available historical evidence. The archaeological potential of the subject area is assessed based on the background information presented in Section 4.3 and graded as per:

- **Nil Potential:** the land use history demonstrates that high levels of ground disturbance have occurred that would have completely destroyed any archaeological remains. Alternatively, archaeological excavation has already occurred, and removed any potential resource.
- **Low Potential:** the land use history suggests limited development or use, or there is likely to be high impacts in these areas, however deeper sub-surface features such as wells, cesspits and their artefact-bearing deposits may survive.
- **Moderate Potential:** the land use history suggests limited phases of low-moderate development intensity, or that there are impacts in this area. A variety of archaeological remains are likely to survive, including building footings and shallower remains, as well as deeper sub-surface features.
- **High Potential:** substantially intact archaeological deposits could survive in these areas.

The potential for archaeological relics to survive in a particular place is significantly affected by land use activities that may have caused ground disturbance. These processes include the physical development of the site (for example, phases of building construction) and the activities that occurred there. The following definitions are used to consider levels of disturbance:

- **Low Disturbance:** the area or feature has been subject to activities that may have had a minor effect on the integrity and survival of archaeological remains.
- **Moderate Disturbance:** the area or feature has been subject to activities that may have affected the integrity and survival of archaeological remains. Archaeological evidence may be present; however, it may be disturbed.
- **High Disturbance:** the area or feature has been subject to activities that would have had a major effect on the integrity and survival of archaeological remains. Archaeological evidence may be greatly disturbed or destroyed.

Table 11 – Assessment of historical archaeological potential

Phase	Potential resource	Integrity	Potential
Early settlement, 1788-1839	Evidence of the original environment including archaeobotanical evidence and physical signs of land reclamation efforts of the draining of the swamps..	Likely to be highly disturbed if present due to subsequent disturbance. However, in areas of less disturbance, especially on both street frontage, resources might have survived in reasonably good integrity.	Low
Early land grants, 1839-1871	Structural remains of the four cottages, cess pits, rubbish pits, wells and associated domestic deposits.	Likely to be highly disturbed if present due to subsequent disturbance. However, in areas of less disturbance, especially on both street frontage, resources might have survived in reasonably good integrity. Wells and deeper sections of rubbish and cess pits might have survived the impact of historical land use.	Low to Moderate
Construction of The Great Synagogue, 1871- 1878	Demolition debris and construction fill associated with the levelling of the site for the basement floor.	Likely to be highly disturbed if present due to subsequent disturbance. However, in areas of less disturbance, especially on both street frontage,	Low to Moderate

Phase	Potential resource	Integrity	Potential
		resources might have survived in reasonably good integrity.	
Alterations and Additions, 1885-1980s	Construction fill associated with works to the site.	It is anticipated that the excavation of the basement level to bedrock will have removed or heavily impacted the integrity of any previously accumulated deposits. However, in areas of less disturbance, especially on both street frontage, resources might have survived in reasonably good integrity.	Low
The Great Synagogue, 1980s-present.	No archaeological resources are anticipated to occur associated with this phase.	It is anticipated that the excavation of the basement level to bedrock in the previous phase will have removed or heavily impacted the integrity of any previously accumulated deposits. However, in areas of less disturbance, especially on both street frontage, resources of earlier stages might have survived in reasonably good integrity.	Nil

In general, a large portion of the site has been highly disturbed resulting from the extension of the basement to bedrock level in the 1950s across the centre of the site. It is anticipated that this activity will have removed or heavily impacted any archaeological materials associated with previous activities on the site which may have been present.

However, where the basement does not extend to bedrock level, below the Elizabeth and Castlereagh Street frontages, archaeological potential is retained. This includes the potential for structural materials associated with early cottages demolished for The Great Synagogue, as well as occupational and demolition deposits from these cottages.

#### 4.3.8. Summary of Historical Archaeological Context

The following observations have been made in relation to the historical archaeological potential of the subject area:

- The site has been occupied by The Great Synagogue since the 1870s, with minimal earlier land use. The only documented previous uses of the site were the draining of the swamplands which occupied this area prior to settlement and 4 cottages present on the site through the 1840s-1870s which were demolished to make way for the Synagogue.
- The original flooring of the basement of The Great Synagogue did not allow for the deposition of underfloor deposits.
- The excavation of the basement level in the 1950s to bedrock across the central portion of the site is anticipated to have removed or heavily impacted any previously accumulated archaeological materials in this area. However, on the Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street frontages where the basement is shallower due to the topography of the site and the design of the War Memorial Hall, archaeological potential is retained.

## 4.4. CONCLUSION

### Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Regarding the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the subject site it is considered that:

- There are no Aboriginal objects and/or places registered on AHIMS within or in close proximity of the subject site.
- The subject site formed part of the Tank Stream catchment area prior to European Settlement and was occupied by swampland.
- The soil landscape present across the site is the Lucas Heights soil landscape, 0.5-1.5m in depth.
- The subject site has been heavily disturbed in association with the current building which has a basement level, extended and modified in the 1950s. This basement level extends across the majority of the centre of the site. However, on both the Elizabeth and Castlereagh Street frontages, the basement is shallower, particularly on Castlereagh Street. While the disturbance associated with the central basement level will likely have removed all natural soils across this portion of the site, soils may remain intact under the Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street frontages.
- It is considered unlikely that Aboriginal archaeological materials will occur within the subject site due to the heavy disturbance associated with the current building. In areas where the basement does not extend to bedrock level, natural soils may be retained and have low potential for aboriginal objects. This should be investigated further through geotechnical analysis and additional assessment in case of any future development and associated subsurface impact.
- Should natural soils be confirmed through geotechnical analysis, archaeological potential may need to be investigated further prior to any works within this portion of the site.
- The Aboriginal archaeological potential of the subject site is generally low.

For information in relation to the management and protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage resources within the subject area, reference should be made to Section 9.9.1 of this CMP.

### Historical Archaeology

Regarding the historical archaeological potential of the subject site it is considered that:

- The site has been occupied by The Great Synagogue since the 1870s, with minimal earlier land use. The only documented previous uses of the site were the draining of the swamplands which occupied this area prior to settlement and 4 cottages present on the site through the 1840s-1870s which were demolished to make way for the Synagogue.
- The original flooring of the basement of The Great Synagogue did not allow for the deposition of underfloor deposits.
- The excavation of the basement level in the 1950s to bedrock across the central portion of the site is anticipated to have removed or heavily impacted any previously accumulated archaeological materials in this area. However, on the Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street frontages where the basement is shallower due to the topography of the site and the design of the War Memorial Hall, archaeological potential is retained.
- The historical archaeological potential of the subject site is generally low-moderate.

For information in relation to the management and protection of historical archaeological resources within the subject area, reference should be made to Section 9.9.2 of this CMP.



## 5. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

The following comparative analysis of The Great Synagogue has been undertaken through an investigation of the works of Thomas Rowe, and Synagogues located within New South Wales and Australia.

The information contained within the comparative analysis tables has been gathered from the relevant State Heritage Inventory forms, where sites are listed as heritage items, or from relevant online sources, where sites are not listed as heritage items or have since been demolished.

### 5.1. THOMAS ROWE

The following information has been sourced The Encyclopedia of Australian Architecture.<sup>95</sup>

Colonel Thomas Rowe (1829-1899) headed one of the most prolific architectural practices in NSW in the second half of the nineteenth century. He was born on 20 July 1829 in Penzance, Cornwall, England, and at the age of 15 entered his father's building business as a draftsman. He arrived in Sydney in 1848, commenced private practice in 1856 and in 1858 was commissioned by the Methodist Church to design a school house in Woolloomooloo, NSW. This began Rowe's association with the Methodist Church as its chief architect, resulting in dozens of Rowe-designed Wesleyan churches in Sydney's suburbs and country NSW. Rowe also designed places of worship for the other denominations and in 1873 won the commission for The Great Synagogue in Sydney (opened in 1878). Unlike his Gothic Revival churches, which were typically a simple form in rough course sandstone with carved trimmings around doors and windows, The Great Synagogue was an exuberant synthesis of Romanesque, Gothic and Byzantine stylistic influences.

In the 1870s and 1880s Rowe produced a wide range of work including residential dwellings, offices, factories, warehouses, hotels and school buildings. His design for the Newington College in Stanmore (1881), a Wesleyan school for boys and theological students, is an impressive example of a scholastic Gothic Revival architecture. Three of Sydney's nineteenth century arcades were designed by Rowe and his office assistants: Sydney Arcade (1881, demolished 1954), Royal Arcade (1882, demolished 1969) and Imperial Arcade (1891, demolished 1961). Each of these fine examples of Thomas Rowe's works, however, have all since been demolished. His professional reputation fell under the shadow in the early 1890s due to an accusation of underquoting within his plans for the new Sydney Hospital (opened in 1894), leading to his removal as the architect.

Some of Rowe's best known work include the Presbyterian Church, Bathurst (1871), Sydney Arcade and Vickey's Building (1874, demolished 1927), warehouses for Hoffnung & Co in Charlotte Street, Brisbane (1879, demolished 1980s) and Pitt Street, Sydney (1881, demolished 1939).


Although the work of Thomas Rowe was prolific during the second half of the nineteenth century, the majority of Thomas Rowe's exemplar works have since been demolished, as detailed above. The best examples of Rowe's works that remain are limited to St Stephen Presbyterian Church in Bathurst, Newington College in Stanmore and The Great Synagogue.


The Great Synagogue is an entirely unique example of Rowe's work. While the design of the Synagogue drew from the International examples of Synagogues in Europe and the United States of America (refer to Section 3.2.9 and 5.2 of discussion) and built upon Rowe's previous designs for places of worship, The Great Synagogue is one of the finest remaining examples of Rowe's work and represents one of the most elaborately decorated Victorian buildings in Sydney, both internally and externally.

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<sup>95</sup> Information relating to Thomas Rowe has been adapted from the entry for Thomas Rowe from the Philip Goad and Julie Wells (ed.) *The Encyclopedia of Australian Architecture* (2012) pp. 607-8.

Table 12 – Comparative Analysis: Thomas Rowe

St Stephens Presbyterian Church, Bathurst	
<b>Address</b>	72 George Street, Bathurst
<b>Date Established</b>	1890
<b>Architect</b>	Thomas Rowe
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Bathurst LEP 2015 (Item no. I17)
	
<p>Source: Flickr</p>	
<b>Description / Statement of Significance</b>	
<p><i>An important group of religious buildings, in an important streetscape element with both historical and cultural significance. The Church addresses the corner well.</i></p>	

Newington College, Stanmore	
<b>Address</b>	244 Stanmore Road, Stanmore
<b>Date Established</b>	1880
<b>Architect</b>	Thomas Rowe
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Marrickville LEP 2011 (Item no. I264)
	
<p>Source: Newington College</p>	
<b>Description / Statement of Significance</b>	
<p><i>Newington College is a major private school and many of its pupils have gone on to become leading professional and business men. It forms an important site for historical, social and aesthetic reasons.</i></p>	

## Methodist Church, Goulburn

<b>Address</b>	43-51 Goldsmith Street, Goulburn
<b>Date Established</b>	1869-1871
<b>Architect</b>	Thomas Rowe
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Goulburn Mulwaree LEP 2009 (Item no. I175)



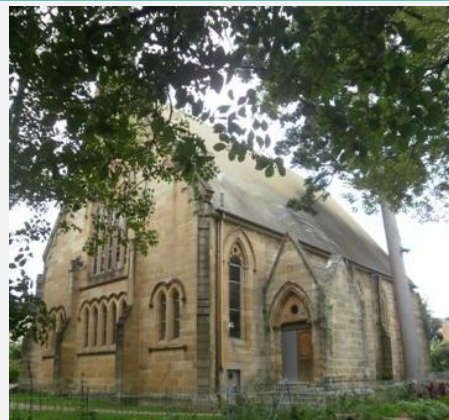
Source: churchhistories.net

### Statement of Significance

*Methodist [Uniting] Church, the rectory and the original church now used as a church hall are highly significant locally for their association with the spread of religion in country areas. It is particularly important for its association with William Woolls Rutledge. In 1891 he was appointed to Goulburn where he found full scope for his preaching and administration. His influence extended beyond the bounds of his own and his musical talent gave him an enlarged sphere of service. Rutledge's eloquence and evangelical thought attracted large numbers to his ministry.*

## Former Church "The Abbey", Glebe

<b>Address</b>	156-158 Bridge Road, Glebe
<b>Date Established</b>	1876-1881
<b>Architect</b>	Thomas Rowe
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Sydney LEP 2012 (item no. I661A)



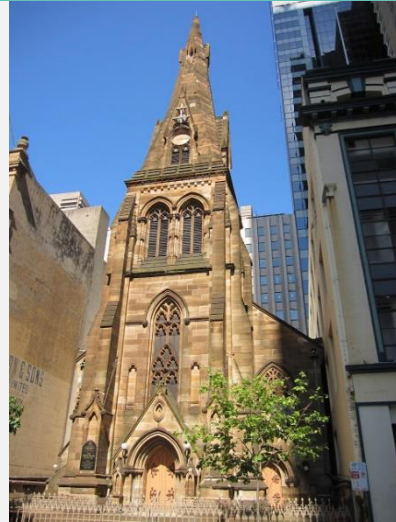
Source: Heritage NSW, NSW Heritage Database, Former Church "The Abbey"

### Statement of Significance

*The Abbey is historically significant as the Glebe Presbyterian Church which was originally constructed at the corner of Glebe Point Road and Broadway in 1879 and then relocated to Bridge Road in 1927. It served the same parish for over 90 years until its adaptation for use as a restaurant in the 1970s. The Abbey is a good representative example of the Victorian Academic Gothic style ecclesiastical building which was designed by the prominent architect Thomas Rowe. With its distinctive sandstone spire it is a local landmark. The generous landscaped setback of the building, together with that of adjoining houses, contributes to the landmark qualities of the site as an open landscaped precinct. The Abbey is an unusual example of the relocation and multiple adaptation of a historic masonry building.*

## St George's Church, Sydney

<b>Address</b>	201A Castlereagh Street, Sydney
<b>Date Established</b>	1858
<b>Architect</b>	Thomas Rowe and Field
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Sydney LEP 2012 (item no. I1701A)



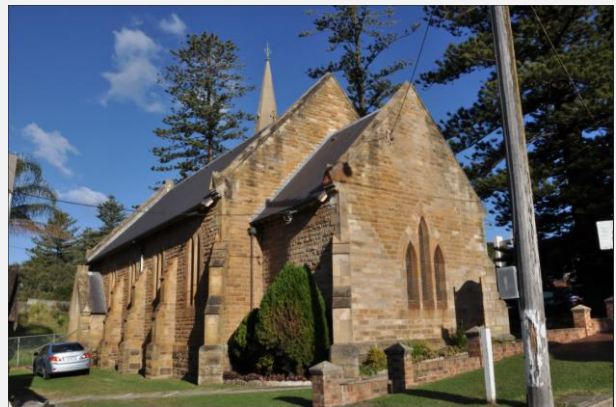
Source: Heritage NSW, NSW Heritage Database, Former Church "The Abbey"

### Statement of Significance

*St George's Church is historically and socially significant as the only Free Presbyterian church remaining within metropolitan Sydney. It was the site a meeting of the Synod of Eastern Australia on 15 November 1864 which passed a motion that eventually led to the dissolution of the ecclesiastical connections with the Presbyterian Churches in Scotland, and allowed for the formation of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales. St George's Church is aesthetically significant as a fine example of the ecclesiastical work of the architectural firm of Field & Rowe.*

## Scots Presbyterian Church, Kiama

<b>Address</b>	Shoalhaven Street, Kiama
<b>Date Established</b>	1860-1863
<b>Architect</b>	Thomas Rowe
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Kiama LEP 2011 (Item no. I138) State Heritage Register (SHR No. 00120)



Source: Flickr

### Description / Statement of Significance

*It occupies a highly visible aspect in the Kiama Central Business District. It is a major component in the streetscape and is an unmodified example of the 19 Neo Gothic style of its architect / designer using local materials and featuring pleasing proportions in a location of significance and impact.*



## 5.2. SYNAGOGUES

The following information has been sourced The Encyclopedia of Australian Architecture and Rabbi Dr Benjamin Elton's "The Architecture of The Great Synagogue, Sydney".<sup>96</sup>

The synagogue has always been the place of assembly for prayer and study. Because of the insecurities of the Jewish experience, grand synagogues generally only stood in major cities in Australia, where Jewish life came to appreciate some permanence, while other places, often country communities, had small, sometimes makeshift *shtiebel*s.

Hobart has the oldest synagogue building in Australia consecrated in 1845. The Egyptian Revival style synagogue was designed by James Alexander Thomson. Other Egyptian style synagogues were also constructed in Launceston in 1846, Adelaide in 1850 and in Sydney in 1844 (the pre-cursor to The Great Synagogue). The Egyptian Revival style of architecture for synagogues during this time was adopted for several reasons. Napoleon's campaigns in Egypt had brought the style to the European attention from the turn of the eighteenth century, and high-status houses even in Australia has included Egyptian elements in their design during the early eighteenth century. The Egyptian Revival style also recommended itself for synagogue architect because it as 'eastern' and also led itself for the fact that Jewish history essentially began with the Exodus from Egypt. The style soon fell out of fashion with the later eighteenth century design favouring more classical styles, however no specific style was used for all synagogues across Australia. Three well-established synagogues emerged in Melbourne. The Melbourne Hebrew Congregation (1844), the East Melbourne Hebrew Congregation (1857) and the St Kilda Hebrew congregation (1871). The first synagogues in Brisbane was constructed in 1886 and in Fremantle in 1902.

While Jews had their own liturgical requirements, synagogues in Australia differed little from nonconformist Christian churches, as they were otherwise culturally British in their immediate origins and their architects tended not to be Jewish. While earlier buildings held allegiance to the Renaissance, or specific classical precedents, the present East Melbourne synagogue, designed by Crouch & Wilson (1877), in an eclectic Renaissance Revival style.

However, the design of The Great Synagogue was heavily influenced by international examples of Synagogues located in the United Kingdom, United States of America and Europe. The Great Synagogue was designed to closely resemble the New Central Synagogue constructed in Portland Street in London which had been completed in 1870. The style of the New Central Synagogue followed the predominate style of Synagogues for the mid nineteenth to the early twentieth century, the Moorish style with a Gothic feel. The New Central Synagogue was thus not unique in its example with many interior and exterior details of the both The Great Synagogue and the New Central Synagogue being present in international examples. Examples include the Prince's Road Synagogue, the Rue de la Victoire Synagogue in Paris, built in 1874; the Oranienburgerstrasse Synagogue in Berlin, completed in 1866; and the Plum Street Temple in Cincinnati, Ohio, also of 1866 and the Central Synagogue in Manhattan, completed in 1872. Each of these buildings had features which can also be seen in the architecture of The Great Synagogue. Unlike the New Central Synagogue, which was destroyed by bombing in 1941, The Great Synagogue survives today and retains a high degree of integrity.

The Great Synagogue was also the only functioning synagogue in Sydney for 35 years from its consecration in 1878. The next synagogue within the Sydney metropolitan area was not established until 1913 in Bankstown. While other synagogues were developed elsewhere in NSW, no other synagogue within New South Wales possess the grandeur of The Great Synagogue. Even in comparison with other Synagogues from the nineteenth century throughout Australia, The Great Synagogue is a unique and rare example of a Synagogue designed in a Victorian Free Gothic style. The Great Synagogue is thus more comparable to international examples and is a rare exemplar example of its type, particularly in consideration that many of The Great Synagogue's comparable buildings were destroyed during World War II.

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<sup>96</sup> Information relating to Synagogues with Australia has been adapted from the entry for the architecture of Judaism in Australia Synagogues from the Philip Goad and Jullie Wells (ed.) *The Encyclopedia of Australian Architecture* (2012) pp. 500-1 and Rabbi Dr Benjamin Elton's "The Architecture of The Great Synagogue, Sydney" (August 2018)





Figure 101 – Prince's Road Synagogue, exterior.

Source: Wikimedia.



Figure 102 – Prince's Road Synagogue, interior.

Source: Wikimedia.



Figure 103 – Oranienburgerstrasse Synagogue, exterior.

Source: Freie Universitat, Berlin.



Figure 104 – Rue de la Victoire Synagogue, interior.

Source: lepoint.fr

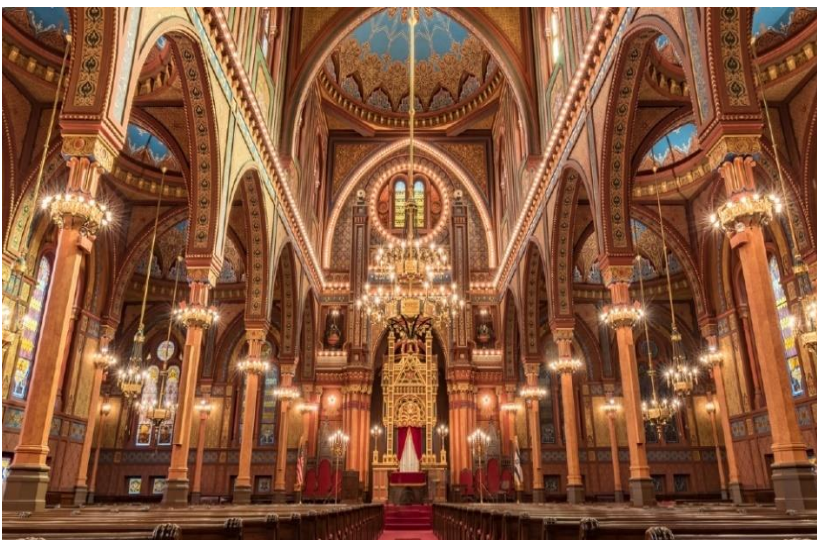


Figure 105 – Plum Street Temple, Cincinnati, Interior.

Source: Cincinnati Refined.

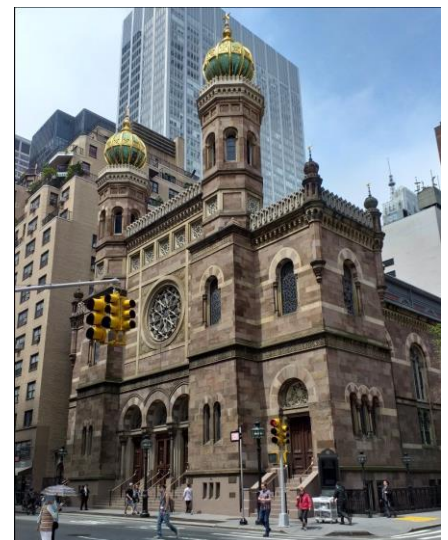


Figure 106 – Central Synagogue, Manhattan.

Source: Tripadvisor.



## Former Broken Hill Synagogue

<b>Address</b>	165 Wolfram Street, Broken Hill
<b>Date Established</b>	1910
<b>Architect</b>	Unknown
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Broken Hill LEP 2013 (Item no. I30) State Heritage Register (SHR No. 00675)



Source: Synagogue of the Outback Museum

### Description

The Broken Hill Synagogue was one of only three purpose-built synagogues in rural New South Wales. The Synagogue at Broken Hill was established by primarily eastern European Jews who settled in Broken Hill from the 1880s. The Synagogue begun constructed in 1910 and were consecrated on 26 February 1911. The Synagogue was regularly used until about 1942 after which it was intermittently used until 1962 when it officially closed. The former Synagogue has since been converted in a museum for the Broken Hill Historical Society during the 1990s.

## Newcastle Synagogue

<b>Address</b>	122 Tyrrell Street, Newcastle
<b>Date Established</b>	1927-1928
<b>Architect</b>	Pepper & Jeater
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Newcastle LEP 2012 (Item no. I608)



Source: Churches Australia

### Statement of Significance

*The Jewish Synagogue located in Tyrrell Street, Newcastle is significant historically for its associations with the development of the Jewish faith in Newcastle. The building is a significant contributor to the condensed streetscape in this part of Tyrrell Street, and is believed to be highly valued by the contemporary Jewish community. Although of typical Romanesque style, the Synagogue should be considered rare on a local level for its historical and social values.*

## Maitland Synagogue

<b>Address</b>	47 Church Street, Maitland
<b>Date Established</b>	1879
<b>Architect</b>	John W Pender
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Maitland LEP 2011 (Item no. I134) State Heritage Register (SHR No. 00376675)



Source: [J-wire.com.au](http://J-wire.com.au)

### Description

*The Maitland Synagogue is of historic significance in its associations with the strong Jewish community in the area and their contribution to the success and importance of Maitland as a trading centre in the latter half of the 19th century. The Synagogue is an important element in the streetscape of Church Street.*

## Hobart Synagogue

<b>Address</b>	59 Argyle Street, Hobart
<b>Date Established</b>	1845
<b>Architect</b>	James Alexander Thomson
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Tasmanian Heritage Register (No. 2,150)



Source: [Hobartsynagogue.org](http://Hobartsynagogue.org)

### Description

The Hobart Synagogue is the oldest synagogue building in Australia built and consecrated 1845 and is a rare example of the Egyptian Revival style of synagogue architecture designed by architect James Alexander Thomson.



## Launceston Synagogue

<b>Address</b>	126 St John Street, Launceston
<b>Date Established</b>	1844
<b>Architect</b>	Richard Peter Lambeth
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Tasmanian Heritage Register (No. 4,567)



Source: monissa.com

### Description

The Launceston Synagogue is the second oldest synagogue buildings in Australia. Built from 1844 and consecrated in 1846, the Launceston Synagogue is a rare example of the Egyptian Revival style of designed by Richard Peter Lambeth and built by Tasmanian builders Barton and Bennell.

## Brisbane Synagogue

<b>Address</b>	98 Margaret Street, Brisbane City
<b>Date Established</b>	1885-1886
<b>Architect</b>	Arthur Morry
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Queensland State Heritage Register (No. 600127)



Source: Queensland Government Heritage Register

### Statement of Significance

*The Brisbane Synagogue is Brisbane's first purpose built Synagogue, and is significant as an important development in nineteenth century Jewish worship in the city. The building reflects the development of Jewish settlement in the city during the 1880s. The addition of windows are a rare Brisbane memorial to Jewish people who died in the Second World War. Located within the foundation stone cavity are artefacts and memorabilia which have the potential for yielding information about the Jewish community in the 1880s. The Brisbane Synagogue is significant as an example of the design work of Arthur Morry, prominent Brisbane architect, and of Arthur Midson, local building contractor. As an example of Australian-Jewish places of worship, the Brisbane Synagogue typifies the customs and liturgical practices of the Hebrew community. As a free-standing element with an entry porch, the building contributes to the streetscape of Margaret Street. The adaption in its design of both circular and octagonal elements to a traditional plan form to create a style suitable for an inner-city Synagogue. The building also has special significance to Brisbane's Hebrew community.*

## Former Fremantle Synagogue

<b>Address</b>	92 South Terrace, Fremantle
<b>Date Established</b>	1902
<b>Architect</b>	Oldham and Eales
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	State Register of Heritage Places (WA) (No. 1010)



Source: perthnow.com.au

### Statement of Significance

*It is the first synagogue built in Western Australia. It is closely associated with Jewish community leaders and merchants in Fremantle at the turn of the century. It is an important component in a group of loosely spaced, contemporary buildings of considerable townscape importance, which define the south west boundary of Fremantle's West End precinct. Its subsequent alteration and uses demonstrates the change and continuity of community development over time in the use of buildings, which is characteristic of Fremantle's development as a merchant city.*

## East Melbourne Synagogue

<b>Address</b>	494-500 Albert Street East Melbourne, Melbourne City
<b>Date Established</b>	1877
<b>Architect</b>	Crouch & Wilson
<b>Heritage Listing</b>	Victoria Heritage Register (No. H0495)



Source: Google Street View

### Statement of Significance

*The East Melbourne Synagogue is historically significant as the oldest and largest functioning Synagogue in Victoria. It is a replica (internally) of Melbourne's first (since demolished) synagogue in Bourke Street.*

*The East Melbourne Synagogue is socially significant for its associations with the Jewish community in East Melbourne, and particularly as an early focal point for religious worship in East Melbourne. The Synagogue is of social significance to the Mikvah Yisrael congregation, who split away from the Melbourne congregation in Bourke Street in 1857. They were without a permanent meeting place for twenty years until the consecration of the new building on 5th September 1877.*

*The East Melbourne Synagogue is architecturally significant for being representative of the fine work of noted Melbourne architects Crouch and Wilson. It is also significant for its conventional but imposing Renaissance Revival facade with the unusual addition of the two octagonal domes flanking the central pediment; the survival of an intact bema and tabernacle, and the unusual arrangement of impost blocks over the cast iron columns of the gallery.*

## 6. HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Before making decisions to change a heritage item, an item within a heritage conservation area, or an item located in proximity to a heritage listed item, it is important to understand its values and the values of its context. This leads to decisions that will retain these values in the future. Statements of heritage significance summarise the heritage values of a place; why it is important, why a statutory listing was made to protect these values.

### 6.1. BUILT HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

The Heritage Council of NSW has developed a set of seven (7) criteria for assessing heritage significance, which can be used to make decisions about the heritage value of a place or item. The following assessment of heritage significance has been prepared in accordance with the former NSW Heritage Division's 'Assessing Heritage Significance' guidelines and with reference to the existing statements of significance for The Great Synagogue.

Table 13 - Assessment of Heritage Significance

Criteria	Significance Assessment
<p><b>A – Historical Significance</b></p> <p><i>An item is important in the course or pattern of the local area's cultural or natural history.</i></p>	<p>The Great Synagogue was the second synagogue constructed within the Sydney metropolitan area, after the York Street Synagogue in 1844. Consecrated in 1878, The Great Synagogue is the earliest servicing synagogue within the Sydney metropolitan area and one of earliest surviving synagogues within New South Wales. The Great Synagogue has been the centre of Jewish worship and culture in Sydney since its construction.</p> <p>The collection of important Hebrew and other religious artefacts contained in The Great Synagogue and as part of the A.M. Rosenblum Museum embodies and demonstrates the early development and importance of the Jewish faith and culture in New South Wales during the nineteenth century.</p> <p>The Great Synagogue had historic significance at a state level.</p>
<p><u>Guidelines for Inclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ shows evidence of a significant human activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is associated with a significant activity or historical phase <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ maintains or shows the continuity of a historical process or activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><u>Guidelines for Exclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ has incidental or unsubstantiated connections with historically important activities or processes <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ provides evidence of activities or processes that are of dubious historical importance <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>B – Associative Significance</b></p>	<p>The Great Synagogue is associated with the first Jewish congregation in Sydney which was first established during the 1820s. The Great Synagogue has been the centre of Jewish worship and culture in Sydney since its</p>



<p><i>An item has strong or special associations with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the local area's cultural or natural history.</i></p>	<p>erection in 1878 and is associated with many leading citizens and families of the Jewish faith.</p> <p>The Great Synagogue is associated with the prominent architect Thomas Rowe who designed many other landmark buildings in Sydney. The Great Synagogue is an example of one of his finest surviving works. The Great Synagogue is also associated with the builder Aaron Loveridge and other notable contractors and supplies such as Lyon and Cottier and P.N. Russell.</p> <p>The Great Synagogue has historic significance at a state level.</p>
<p><u>Guidelines for Inclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ shows evidence of a significant human occupation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is associated with a significant event, person, or group of persons <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><u>Guidelines for Exclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ has incidental or unsubstantiated connections with historically important people or events <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ provides evidence of people or events that are of dubious historical importance <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>C – Aesthetic Significance</b></p> <p><i>An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in the local area.</i></p>	<p>The Great Synagogue is a major landmark of Sydney and represent of the most elaborately decorated Victorian Free Gothic style building internally and externally. It is the only Synagogue of its style and age within Australia. It contains excellent examples of the best quality work of moulded plaster, carved stone, decorative tiling and stained glass from Australia, United Kingdom and America.</p> <p>The Great Synagogue is one of the finest remaining examples of Thomas Rowe's work. The design of The Great Synagogue was based off the New Central London Synagogue and followed the general style of Synagogues across Europe and America of the nineteenth century employing Moorish designs. The Great Synagogue is one of few exemplary international synagogues designed in a similar style and of its age.</p> <p>The Great Synagogue has aesthetic significance at a National level.</p>
<p><u>Guidelines for Inclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ shows or is associated with, creative or technical innovation or achievement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is the inspiration for a creative or technical innovation or achievement <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><u>Guidelines for Exclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is not a major work by an important designer or artist <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ has lost its design or technical integrity <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is aesthetically distinctive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ has landmark qualities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ exemplifies a particular taste, style or technology <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ its positive visual or sensory appeal or landmark and scenic qualities have been more than temporarily degraded <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ has only a loose association with a creative or technical achievement <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>D – Social Significance</b></p> <p><i>An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in the local area for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.</i></p>	<p>The Great Synagogue has strong association with the current congregation, a number of whom are descendants of the original or former congregants.</p> <p>The Great Synagogue is central to the Jewish community’s sense of place and embodies the traditions of Jewish worship in NSW.</p> <p>The Great Synagogue has social significance at a State level.</p>
<p><u>Guidelines for Inclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is important for its associations with an identifiable group <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is important to a community’s sense of place <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><u>Guidelines for Exclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is only important to the community for amenity reasons <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is retained only in preference to a proposed alternative <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>E – Research Potential</b></p> <p><i>An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the local area’s cultural or natural history.</i></p>	<p>The construction techniques employed in The Great Synagogue were common at the time of the various stages of development of the building. However, it does contain excellent examples of the best quality work of moulded plaster, carved stone, decorative tiles and stained glass for its time. There is also potential to further explore the details of the architectural styles used in the Synagogue, how they reflect wider trends in nineteenth century synagogue design and how The Great Synagogue is a unique expression of Jewish sacred architecture.</p> <p>The A.M. Rosenblum Museum and Rabbi Falk Library contains a collection of numerous Jewish artefacts including textiles, ritual silver paintings, sacred scrolls, religious artefacts and old and rare books which provide considerable research and education potential.</p> <p>An archaeological assessment undertaken has revealed that The Great Synagogue site represents low-moderate historical archaeological potential at the Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street frontages where the basement is shallower due to the topography of the site and the design of the War Memorial Hall. The Aboriginal archaeological potential is generally low too due the site being heavily disturbed since the 1840s.</p>

	<p>The Great Synagogue has research potential at a local level</p>
<p><u>Guidelines for Inclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ has the potential to yield new or further substantial scientific and/or archaeological information <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is an important benchmark or reference site or type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ provides evidence of past human cultures that is unavailable elsewhere <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><u>Guidelines for Exclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the knowledge gained would be irrelevant to research on science, human history or culture <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ has little archaeological or research potential <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ only contains information that is readily available from other resources or archaeological sites <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>F – Rarity</b></p> <p><i>An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the local area’s cultural or natural history.</i></p>	<p>The Great Synagogue is the only Victorian Free Gothic style synagogue within Australia and is the earliest surviving synagogues which has remained in continuous use within the Sydney metropolitan area. The Great Synagogue is one of a few surviving exemplary synagogues designed in a similar Moorish style located in Europe and the United States of America.</p> <p>The Great Synagogue is rare at a National level.</p>
<p><u>Guidelines for Inclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ provides evidence of a defunct custom, way of life or process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ demonstrates a process, custom or other human activity that is in danger of being lost <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ shows unusually accurate evidence of a significant human activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is the only example of its type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ demonstrates designs or techniques of exceptional interest <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ shows rare evidence of a significant human activity important to a community <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><u>Guidelines for Exclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is not rare <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is numerous but under threat <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>G – Representative</b></p> <p><i>An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSWs (or the local area’s):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>cultural or natural places; or</i></li> <li>▪ <i>cultural or natural environments.</i></li> </ul>	<p>The Great Synagogue is a rare, exemplar example of a Victorian Free Gothic style synagogue influenced by the predominant Moorish style of synagogues in Europe and the United States of America during the nineteenth century.</p> <p>The Great Synagogue is representative at a State level.</p>

<b>Guidelines for Inclusion</b>	<u>Guidelines for Exclusion</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is a fine example of its type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ has the principal characteristics of an important class or group of items <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ has attributes typical of a particular way of life, philosophy, custom, significant process, design, technique or activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is a significant variation to a class of items <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is part of a group which collectively illustrates a representative type <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is outstanding because of its setting, condition or size <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ is outstanding because of its integrity or the esteem in which it is held <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is a poor example of its type <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ does not include or has lost the range of characteristics of a type <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>▪ does not represent well the characteristics that make up a significant variation of a type <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>

## 6.2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### 6.2.1. Statement of Significance - 2007 CMP

*The Great Synagogue is historically and socially significant as the earliest synagogue in NSW still in use and the only High Victorian synagogue in Australia. It is the home of the so-called mother congregation of Australian Jewry, founded in the 1820s, and has been the focus of Orthodox Jewish worship and culture in central Sydney since the 1870s. Its aesthetic and scientific significance derive from the remarkable richness and originality of its decoration in carved sandstone and timber, moulded plaster, metalwork and tiling, and for the degree of craftsmanship exhibited in its fabric by leading decorative firms of the High Victorian period from Australia, Great Britain and the United States of America. It is also one of the finest works of architect Thomas Rowe. The building contains significant collections of Judaica, including religious artefacts and publications.*

### 6.2.2. Statement of Significance - State Heritage Register

The following statement of significance for The Great Synagogue has been extracted from the State Heritage Inventory form for The Great Synagogue for its listing on the State Heritage Register under the *Heritage Act 1977*.

*The Great Synagogue is of state and potentially national significance as the earliest surviving synagogue in NSW still in use, which has represented the centre of Jewish worship and culture in central Sydney since the 1870s. The Great Synagogue is associated with the Mother Congregation of Australian Jewry, together with many subsequent leading members and families of the Jewish faith. By its prominent situation and presence in Central Sydney, its magnificent architectural grandeur, its rich symbolism, and its important collection of Hebrew documents and other religious artefacts, The Great Synagogue also embodies and demonstrates the early development and importance of the Jewish faith and culture in New South Wales during the 19th Century.*

*The Great Synagogue is a major landmark of Sydney. It is the only high Victorian style Synagogue in Australia and represents one of the most elaborately decorated Victorian buildings in Sydney, internally and externally. The building also represents one of the finest works of the leading NSW architect, Thomas Rowe. It contains excellent examples of the best*



*quality decorative work in moulded plaster, carved sandstone and timber, metalwork, tiling and stained glass that is remarkable for its richness, originality and the degree of craftsmanship by leading decorative firms of the High Victorian period from Australia, Great Britain and the United States. Apart from its architectural excellence, The Great Synagogue provides a rich townscape aspect to Hyde Park and is an iconic building of Elizabeth and Castlereagh Streets.*

### **6.2.3. Statement of Significance - Sydney LEP 2012**

The following statement of significance for The Great Synagogue has been extracted from the State Heritage Inventory form for The Great Synagogues listing under Schedule 5 of the *Sydney LEP 2012*.

*The Great Synagogue has a long ecclesiastical history, and is historically and socially significant as the mother congregation of Australian Jewry, and the focus of Jewish worship and culture in central Sydney since the 1870s. Its aesthetic and scientific significance derive from the remarkable richness and originality of its decoration in sandstone, carved timber, moulded plaster, metalwork and tiling, and for the degree of craftsmanship exhibited in its fabric by leading decorative firms of the High Victorian period from Australia, Britain and the United States. It is one of the finest works of architect Thomas Rowe.*

### **6.2.4. Statement of Significance - Urbis**

The following Statement of Significance has been prepared by Urbis following an assessment of its heritage significance in Section 6.1:

The Great Synagogue is the earliest surviving synagogue within the Sydney metropolitan area and one of the earliest surviving synagogues within New South Wales. The Great Synagogue has been the centre of Jewish worship and culture in Sydney since its consecration in 1878. The prominent position of The Great Synagogue, its architectural grandeur and collection of important Hebrew and other religious artefacts embodies and demonstrates the early development and importance of the Jewish faith and culture in New South Wales during the nineteenth century.

The Great Synagogue is a major landmark of Sydney and represents one of the most elaborately decorated Victorian Free Gothic style buildings internally and externally. The Great Synagogue is associated with the prominent architect Thomas Rowe who designed many other landmark buildings in Sydney and is an example of one of his finest surviving works. It is the only Synagogue of its style and age within Australia and is one of a few exemplary international synagogues designed in a similar style. It contains excellent examples of the best quality work of moulded plaster, carved stone, decorative tiling and stained glass from Australia, United Kingdom and America and is associated with builder Aaron Loveridge and notable contractors and suppliers such as Lyon and Cottier and P.N. Russell.

### 6.3. SIGNIFICANT VIEWS AND VISTAS

Significant views to The Great Synagogue have been identified previously in Section 2.2. Table 14 and the reference map below provides a summary of the views to The Great Synagogue.

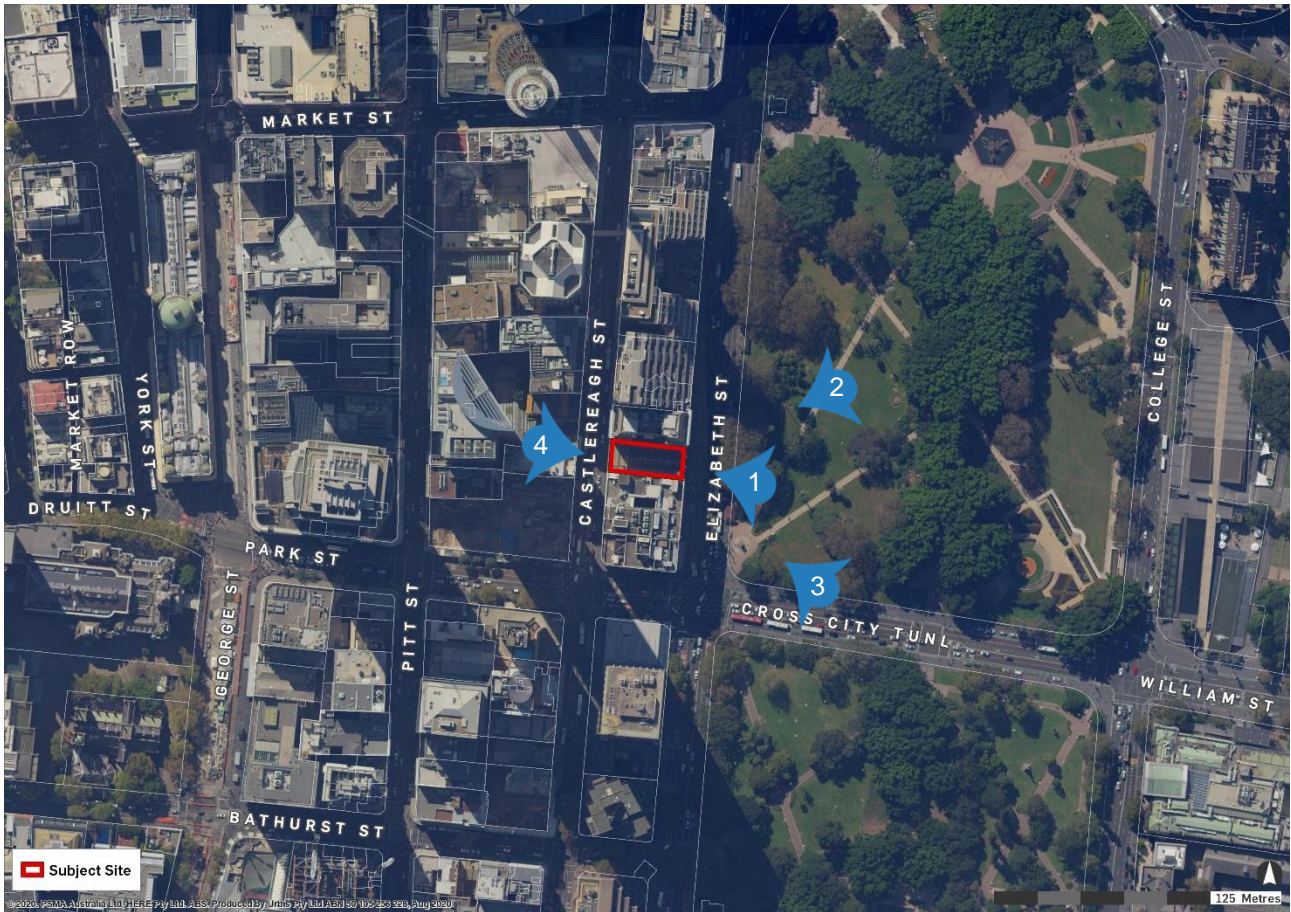






Figure 107 – Views to The Great Synagogue.

Table 14 – Summary of significant views to The Great Synagogue

View No	Location & Direction	Significance	Image
1	View west from directly opposite Great Synagogue on Elizabeth Street  The most significant views of The Great Synagogue are appreciated from within close proximity of The Great Synagogue along Elizabeth Street.	High	 <p>Figure 108 – View 1 to Great Synagogue from Elizabeth Street.</p>



View No	Location & Direction	Significance	Image
2	<p>View west from within Hyde Park</p> <p>Obscured views to The Great Synagogue are appreciated primarily during the cooler months when foliage of deciduous trees have fallen. Views are obscured to a large extent and reduced to pocket views during the warmer months.</p>	Moderate	 <p>Figure 109 – View 2 to Great Synagogue from Hyde Park.</p>
3	<p>View north-west from Park Street</p> <p>Oblique views of The Great Synagogue are visible across the corner of Hyde Park from Park Street. Views are generally obscured the further travelled east of the intersection with Elizabeth Street.</p>	Moderate	 <p>Figure 110 – View 3 to Great Synagogue from Park Street.</p>
4	<p>View east from directly opposite the rear façade on Castlereagh Street</p> <p>Full views of the rear façade at Castlereagh Street are appreciated from within close proximity of The Great Synagogue along Castlereagh Street.</p>	Moderate	 <p>Figure 111 – View 4 to Great Synagogue rear façade from Castlereagh Street.</p>

## 6.4. LEVELS & GRADINGS

The Heritage Council of NSW recognises four (4) levels of heritage significance in NSW: Local, State, National and World. The level indicates the context in which a heritage place is important (for example, local heritage significance means the place is important to the local area or region). Heritage places that are rare, exceptional or outstanding beyond the local area or region may be of state or national significance.

In most cases, the level of heritage significance for a place has a corresponding statutory heritage listing and responsible authority for conserving them.

Different components of a place may contribute in different ways to its heritage value. The gradings of significance adopted for this CMP are based on those definitions as developed by the Heritage Council of NSW, and have been modified as follows:

Table 15 - Gradings of Significance

Grading	Justification	Status
Exceptional	Rare or outstanding element directly contributing to an item's local and State significance.	Fulfils criteria for local or state listing
High	High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of the item's significance.	Fulfils criteria for local or state listing
Moderate	Altered or modified elements. Elements with little heritage value but which contribute to the overall significance of the item.	Fulfils criteria for local listing
Little	Alterations detract from significance. Difficult to interpret.	Does not fulfil criteria for local or state listing
Neutral	Elements do not add or detract from the site's overall heritage significance; change allowed	Does not fulfil criteria local or state listing
Intrusive	Damaging to the items heritage significance.	Does not fulfil criteria for local or state listing

Each element's significance has been graded having specific regard to its contribution to the overall significance of the place, its period of construction and its condition. We have identified the corresponding stages of development for elements as follows:

Table 16 – Stages of Development

Stage	Description	Date
Stage 1	Original and Early Great Synagogue	1874 – 1883
Stage 2	Late Nineteenth & Early Twentieth Century	1884 – 1918
Stage 3	Mid Twentieth Century	1919 - 1943
Stage 4	Israel Green Auditorium	1944 - 1980
Stage 5	Late Twentieth to Twenty-First Century	1981 Present



## 6.5. SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT ELEMENTS

Various elements of The Great Synagogue have been graded below in relation to their contribution to the overall heritage significance of the place. Elements include buildings, structures and other elements that are located within the curtilage of the place.

This schedule of significant elements does not include a comprehensive list of movable heritage items located within The Great Synagogue. This includes items such as the seventeen Torah scrolls which are stored in the Ark together with their vestments and silver decorations. Many other items are contained with the A.M. Rosenblum Museum and the Rabbi L.A. Falk Memorial Library. Moveable heritage items contained within the below schedule are primarily limited to furniture, plaques, and architectural items.

Table 17 – Schedule of Significant Elements

Element	Description	Phase	Grading
<b>External Elements</b>			
<b>Overall form and configuration</b>			
Principal form	Overall form, massing, scale and architectural character of the building Great Synagogue and Castlereagh Street facade	1	Exceptional
	Overall form, massing and scale of the Education Centre building (excluding Castlereagh Street facade)	5	Little
<b>Roof</b>			
Overall roof form	Main roof structure over Sanctuary and galleries	1	High
	Sandstone octagonal turrets with domed stone roofs	1	Exceptional
	Roof structure include sliding roof over Education Centre	5	Neutral
Roof accessories	Hooded timber vents over Sanctuary	1	High
	Roof cowls to gallery roofs	5	Little
Cladding	Slate roof tiles	1	High
	Aluminium cladding to gallery roofs	5	Little
	Corrugated metal sheeting to Education Centre building	5	Neutral
	All services	2-5	Intrusive
<b>Elizabeth Street (East) Elevation</b>			
	Original sandstone elevation form and details including towers	1	Exceptional
	All leadlight windows	1	Exceptional
	Later timber fire doors at base of towers	4	Little
	Cast iron gates to Elizabeth Street	1	Exceptional

Element	Description	Phase	Grading
<b>Castlereagh Street (West) Elevation</b>	Original stone and rendered brick elevation form and details	1	High
	Later glass mansard elevation to Level 6	5	Neutral
	Main entrance at south	4	Little
	Altered ground floor window openings	5	Neutral
	Double-sash timber windows Levels 5 and 6	1-4?	Moderate
<b>North Elevation</b>	Overall original elevation form and details	1	High
	Wrought iron brackets to former awning	1	Moderate
<b>South Elevation</b>	Overall original elevation form and details	1	High
<b>Internal Elements</b>			
<b>Level 1</b>			
<b>Israel Green Auditorium</b>	Overall space of Israel Green Auditorium including walls, fixtures and fittings relating to this time	4	Moderate
<b>Ancillary rooms to Israel Green Auditorium</b>	All spaces ancillary to Israel Green Auditorium including Museum storeroom, Australian Jewish Historical Society Room, Kitchens, and stage.	4	Little
<b>Level 2</b>			
<b>Education Centre</b>	All internal fabric contained with the Education Centre across this level	5	Little
<b>Israel Green Auditorium Mezzanine</b>	Overall space of War Memorial Mezzanine include all fixtures and fittings relating to this time	4	Moderate
	Relocated timber balustrades from demolished western stair	1	High
	Relocated timber and etched glass doors	1	High
<b>Ancillary rooms to Israel Green Auditorium</b>	All spaces ancillary to Israel Green Auditorium including Museum, Library stage, bathrooms and air conditioning equipment rooms	4	Little
<b>Level 3</b>			
<b>Porch</b>			
Space	Overall space	1	Exceptional
Floor	Floor tiles to porch	1	Exceptional
	Floor tiles to steps	5?	Little

Element	Description	Phase	Grading
Walls	All sandstone walls	1	Exceptional
Ceilings	Painted timber ceiling	1	Exceptional
Doors	Timber and etched glass doors and top lights	1	Exceptional
Windows	Leadlight windows	1	Exceptional
Other Elements	Cast iron vents to basement	1	Exceptional
	Brass handrails	4/5?	Little
	Chandeliers	1	Exceptional
	Star of David finial	1	Exceptional
Security Glass	Security Glass across the Elizabeth Street entrance.	5	Neutral
<b>Vestibules</b>			
Spaces	Overall space	1	High
Floor	Floor tiles	1	High
Walls	Plastered stone walls	1	Exceptional
Ceilings	Lath and plaster ceilings	1	High
Doors	Timber and etched glass doors and top lights	1	Exceptional
<b>Sanctuary – Mens Floor</b>			
Space	Overall space	1	Exceptional
Floor	Timber floors (excluding centre)	1	Exceptional
	Timber floors in centre	2	Moderate
	Marble and tiles floors and steps (excluding altered steps to Ark)	1	Exceptional
	Carpet	4/5	Little
Walls	Plastered brick and stone walls (excluding around apse)	1	Exceptional
Ceilings	Lath and plaster and timber ceilings	1	Exceptional
Doors	Timber and etched glass doors and top lights	1	Exceptional
Windows	Leadlight windows	1	Exceptional
	Security glazing to leadlight windows to porch	5	Little

Element	Description	Phase	Grading
Architectural elements	Carved timber and moulded plaster decoration	1	Exceptional
	Cast iron columns	1	Exceptional
	Ventilation grills in floor and side walls	1	Exceptional
Ark & Bimah	Bimah and Pulpit (excluding brass rails)	1	Exceptional
	Brass rails to bimah	1	Little
	Later reading lights on bimah	2	Moderate
	Altered steps to Ark	2	Little
	Roller shutter and curtains to Ark	4/5	Little
Lighting	Pendant, standard and wall mounted gasoliers	1	Exceptional
	Recessed lights in ceiling	5	Little
Furniture	Original polished timber pews	1	Exceptional
	Polished timber pews in centre	2	Moderate
	Later timber pews along walls	5	Little
Colour Scheme	Remnant colour scheme in vestibule cupboards, eastern wall	1	Exceptional
	Existing colour scheme	4	Moderate
<b>Towers (north and south) Levels 2-6</b>			
Space	Overall space	1	High
Floor	Carpet	4/5	Little
Walls	Plastered brick and stone walls	1	Exceptional
Ceilings	Lath and plaster and timber ceilings	1	High
Doors	Timber and etched glass doors and top lights	1	High
Windows	Leadlight windows	1	Exceptional
Joinery	Polished timber staircases	1	High
Other Elements	Redundant plant equipment in southern tower	1	Moderate
<b>Level 4</b>			
<b>Choir Gallery</b>			
Space	Overall space	2	Moderate



Element	Description	Phase	Grading
Floor	Carpet	4/5	Little
Walls	Plastered brick walls around altered apse	2	Moderate
Windows	Original relocated leadlight windows	1	Exceptional
	Later leadlight windows to north and south of apse walls	2	Moderate
Other elements	Polished timber pews	2	Moderate
	Carved timber and moulded plaster decoration	2	Moderate
<b>Education Centre</b>	All internal fabric contained with the Education Centre across this level	5	Little
<b>Level 5</b>			
<b>Sanctuary – Ladies Gallery</b>			
Space	Overall space	1	Exceptional
	Altered space below rose window	2	High
Floor	Timber floors	1	Exceptional
	Carpet	4/5	Little
Walls	Plastered brick and stone walls (excluding around apse)	1	Exceptional
Ceilings	Lath and plaster and timber ceilings	1	Exceptional
Doors	Timber and etched glass doors and top lights	1	Exceptional
Windows	Leadlight windows	1	Exceptional
	Clerestory window opening mechanism	1	Exceptional
	Security glazing to rose window	3	Little
Architectural elements	Cast iron columns	1	Exceptional
	Carved timber and moulded plaster decoration	1	Exceptional
	Cast iron panels to gallery balustrade and timber handrail	1	Exceptional
	Brass rails at east end of gallery	1	Exceptional
Lighting	Pendant, standard and wall mounted gasoliers	1	Exceptional
Furniture	Polished timber pews	1	Exceptional
	Later timber pews along walls	5	Little
Colour Scheme	Existing colour scheme	4	Moderate

Element	Description	Phase	Grading
<b>Vestibules</b>			
Spaces	Overall space	1	High
Floor	Carpet	4/5?	Little
Walls	Plastered stone walls	1	Exceptional
Ceilings	Lath and plaster ceilings	1	High
Doors	Timber and etched glass doors and top lights	1	Exceptional
Joinery	Polished timber cupboards	2/3?	Moderate
<b>Education Centre</b>	All internal fabric contained with the Education Centre across this level	5	Little
<b>Level 6</b>			
<b>Education Centre</b>	All internal fabric contained with the Education Centre across this level	5	Little

## 6.6. DIAGRAMS OF SIGNIFICANT ELEMENTS

The following plans identify and grade the significant elements of The Great Synagogue. Please note the following diagrams of significant elements are to be read in conjunction with the Schedule of Significant Elements provided above in Section 6.5. The grading of elements in the following diagrams refer to the overall form, structure and spaces. Refer to Section 6.5 for further detail.

# SIGNIFICANCE RANKING

## Level 1



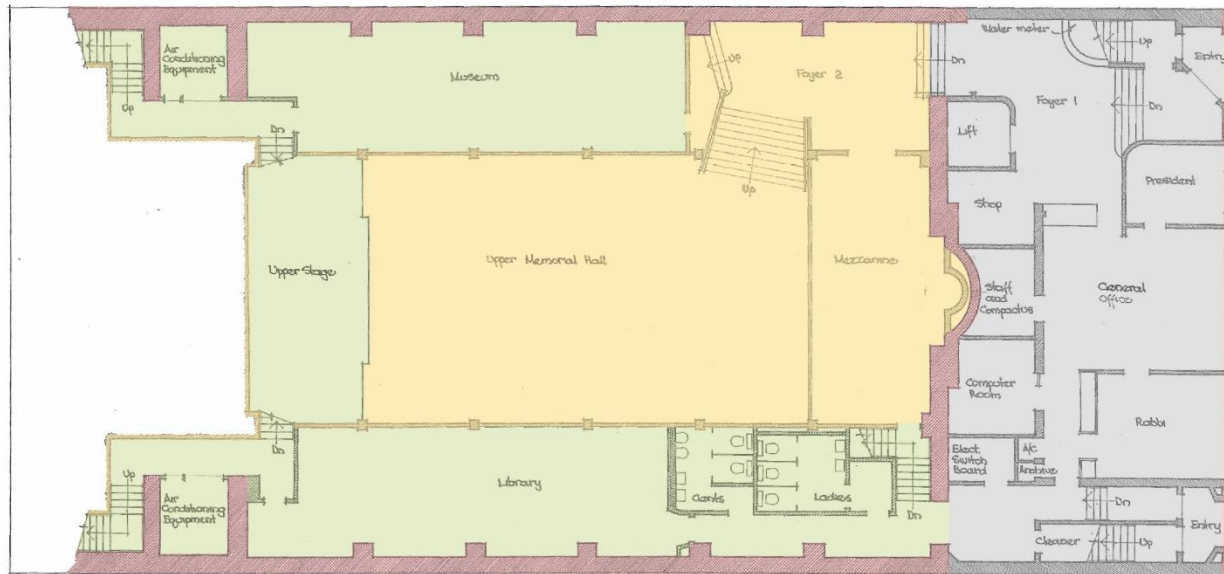
Grading refers to the significance of the overall heritage value structure and spaces. For significance rankings of individual elements and further detail, refer to the Schedule of Significant Elements in Section 6.5.

- Key**
- Exceptional
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Little
  - Neutral
  - Intrusive

Figure 112 – Level 1 Significance Ranking.

# SIGNIFICANCE RANKING

## Level 2



Grading refers to the significance of the overall heritage value structure and spaces. For significance rankings of individual elements and further detail, refer to the Schedule of Significant Elements in Section 6.5.

- Key**
- Exceptional
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Little
  - Neutral
  - Intrusive

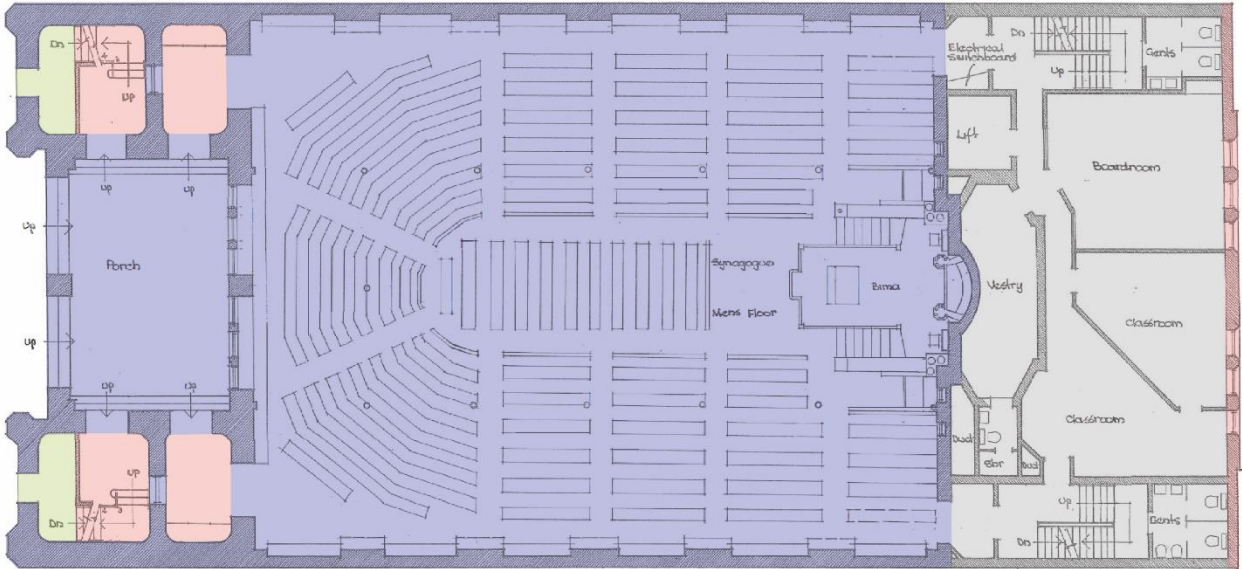


Figure 113 – Level 2 Significance Ranking.



# SIGNIFICANCE RANKING

## Level 3



Grading refers to the significance of the overall heritage value structure and spaces. For significance rankings of individual elements and further detail, refer to the Schedule of Significant Elements in Section 6.5.

- Key**
- Exceptional
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Little
  - Neutral
  - Intrusive



Figure 114 – Level 3 Significance Ranking.

# SIGNIFICANCE RANKING

## Level 4

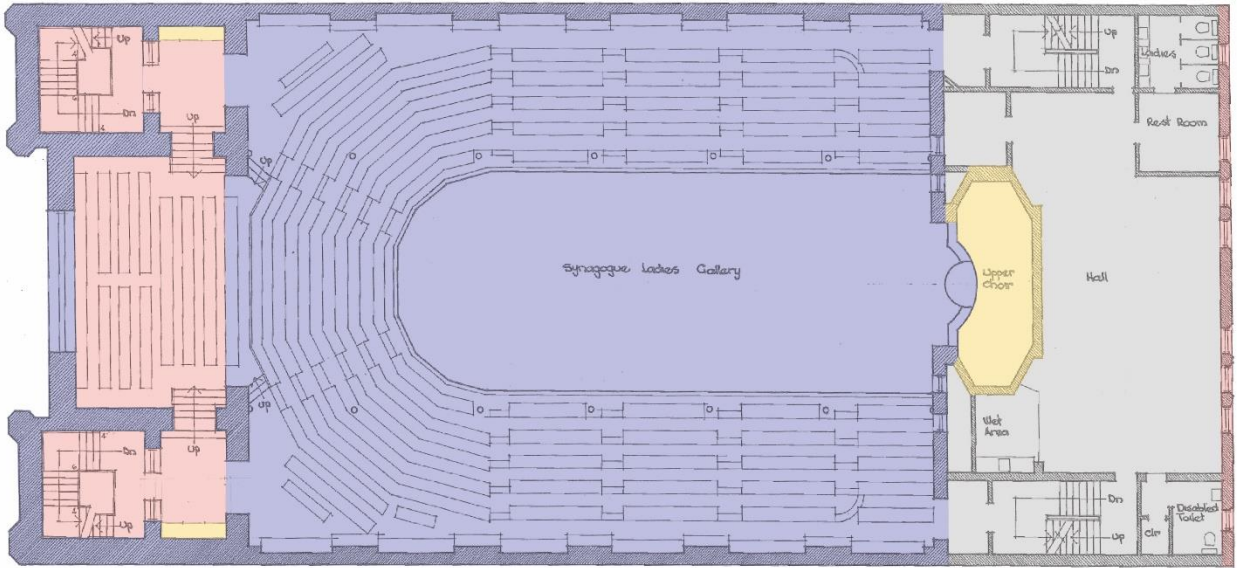


Grading refers to the significance of the overall heritage value structure and spaces. For significance rankings of individual elements and further detail, refer to the Schedule of Significant Elements in Section 6.5.

- Key**
- Exceptional
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Little
  - Neutral
  - Intrusive

Figure 115 – Level 4 Significance Ranking.

**SIGNIFICANCE RANKING**  
**Level 5**



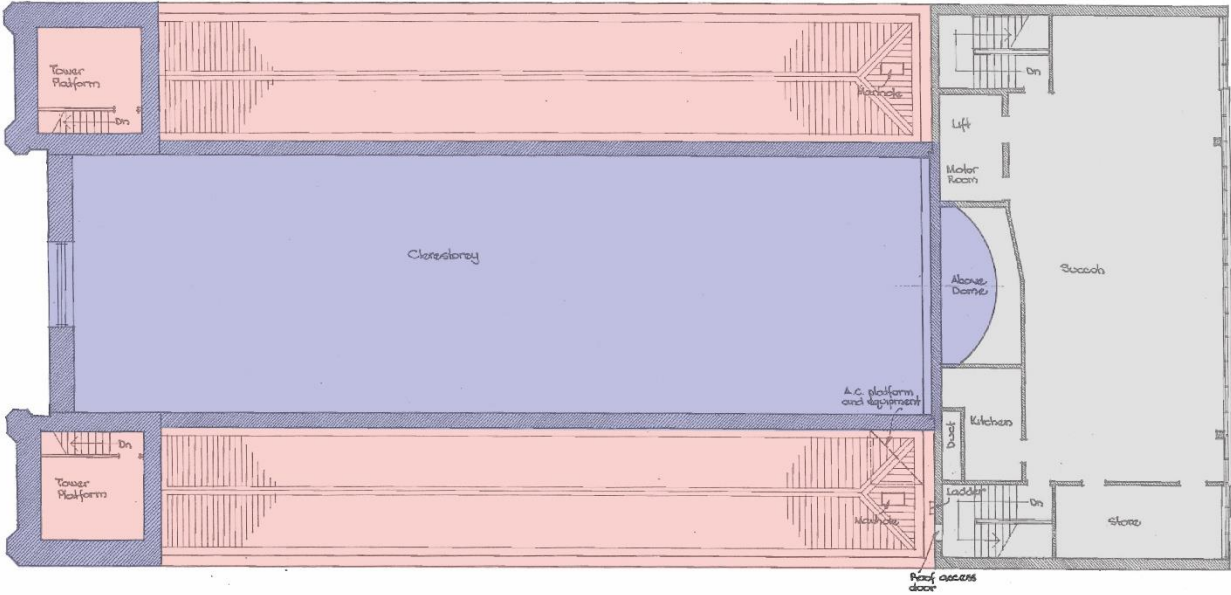
*Grading refers to the significance of the overall heritage value structure and spaces. For significance rankings of individual elements and further detail, refer to the Schedule of Significant Elements in Section 6.5.*

- Key**
- Exceptional
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Little
  - Neutral
  - Intrusive

Figure 116 – Level 5 Significance Ranking.

# SIGNIFICANCE RANKING

## Level 6



Grading refers to the significance of the overall heritage value structure and spaces. For significance rankings of individual elements and further detail, refer to the Schedule of Significant Elements in Section 6.5.

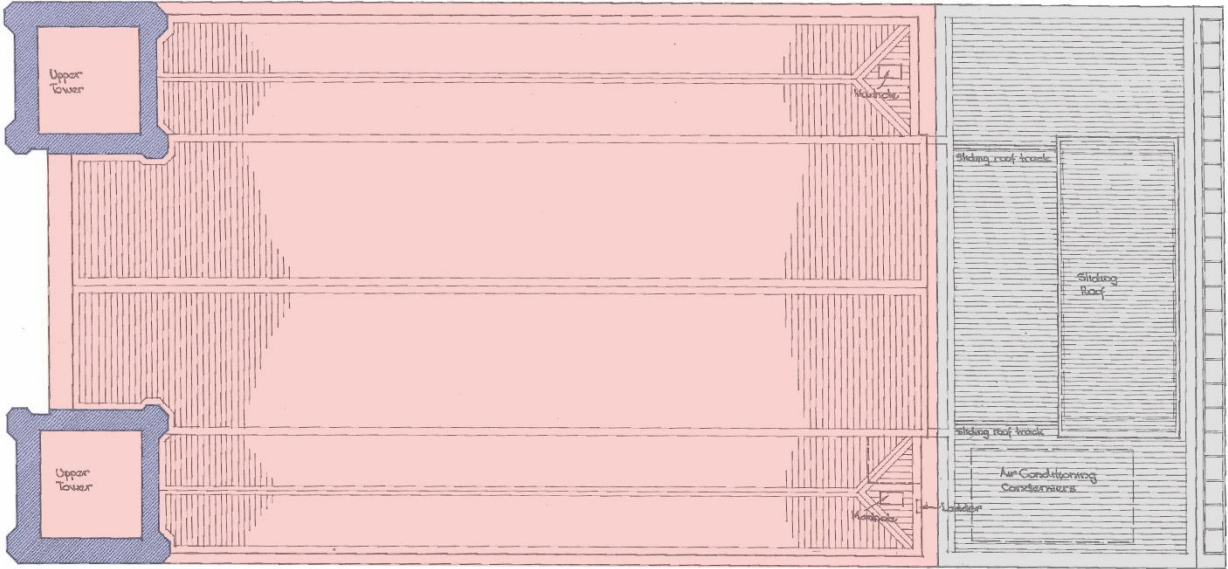
- Key**
- Exceptional
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Little
  - Neutral
  - Intrusive

Figure 117 – Level 6 Significance Ranking.



# SIGNIFICANCE RANKING

## Level 7

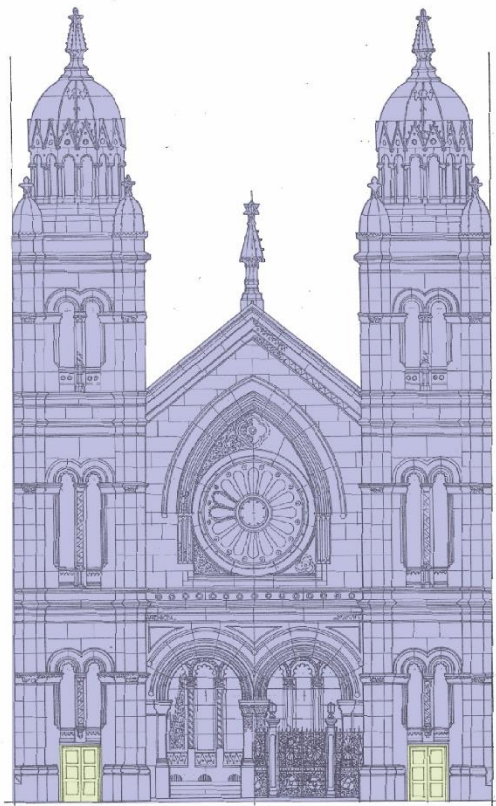


Grading refers to the significance of the overall heritage value structure and spaces. For significance rankings of individual elements and further detail, refer to the Schedule of Significant Elements in Section 6.5.

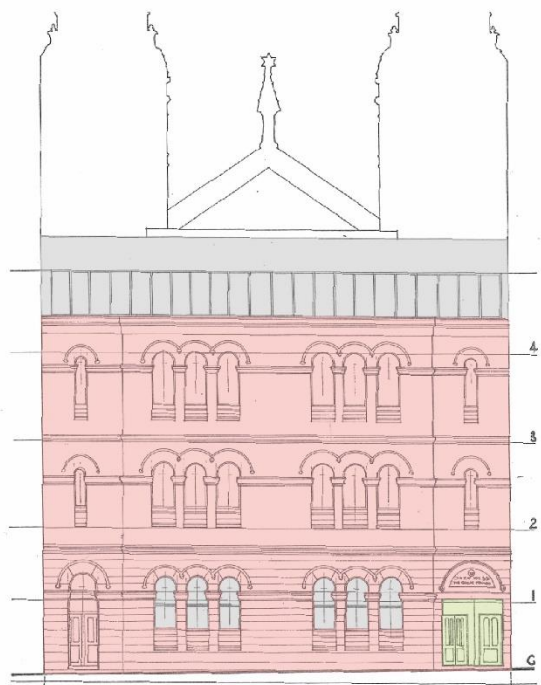
- Key**
- Exceptional
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Little
  - Neutral
  - Intrusive



Figure 118 – Level 7 Significance Ranking.



**Elizabeth Street (East)**



**Castlereagh Street (West)**

## SIGNIFICANCE RANKING Elevations

*Grading refers to the significance of the overall heritage value structure and spaces. For significance rankings of individual elements and further detail, refer to the Schedule of Significant Elements in Section 6.5.*

- Key**
- Exceptional
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Little
  - Neutral
  - Intrusive

Figure 119 – Elevations Significance Ranking.

# 7. HERITAGE LISTINGS & STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

## 7.1. HERITAGE LISTINGS

### 7.1.1. General Heritage Listings

The following tables summaries the relevant heritage listings, statutory and non-statutory, applicable to The Great Synagogue

Table 18 - Heritage Listings

Type of Listing	Name of Item
<p><b>World Heritage List</b></p> <p>Under the World Heritage Convention</p> <p>(places of outstanding universal values)</p>	Not listed
<p><b>National Heritage List</b></p> <p>Under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i></p> <p>(natural and cultural places of outstanding value to the nation)</p>	Not listed
<p><b>Indigenous Heritage</b></p> <p>Under the <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i></p> <p>(places that hold great meaning and significance to Indigenous people)</p>	Not listed
<p><b>Commonwealth Heritage Listing</b></p> <p>under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i></p> <p>(natural, Indigenous and historic heritage places on Commonwealth lands and waters or under Australian Government control)</p>	Not listed
<p><b>State Heritage Register (SHR)</b></p> <p>Under the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i></p> <p>(items of state significance)</p>	<p><i>Great Synagogue</i></p> <p>SHR No. 01710</p>
<p><b>Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012</b></p> <p>Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage, Part 1 Heritage items</p> <p>(items of local significance)</p>	<p><i>The Great Synagogue Including Interior</i></p> <p>LEP Item No. I1750</p>

<p><b>Movable Cultural Heritage</b></p> <p>under the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986</p> <p>(objects that people create/collect that forms an important part of Australia's nation's identity)</p>	Not listed
<p><b>Register of the National Estate (not operational)</b></p> <p>Under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</p> <p>(items of local, state or national significance)</p>	<p><i>The Great Synagogue</i></p> <p>Place ID 1802</p>
<p><b>National Trust of Australia</b></p> <p>(items of local, state or national significance)</p>	<p><i>Great Synagogue</i></p> <p>6178</p>
<p><b>Australian Institute of Architects Register of Significant Architecture</b></p>	Not listed
<p><b>Institution of Engineers Australia</b></p> <p>(no official register by informal list of buildings that have heritage value)</p>	Not listed
<p><b>Sydney Development Control Plan 2012</b></p>	Located in College Street/Hyde Park Special Character Area

In addition, The Great Synagogue is also located adjacent to and in close proximity of a number of other heritage items under the Sydney LEP 2012 and the *Heritage Act 1977*.



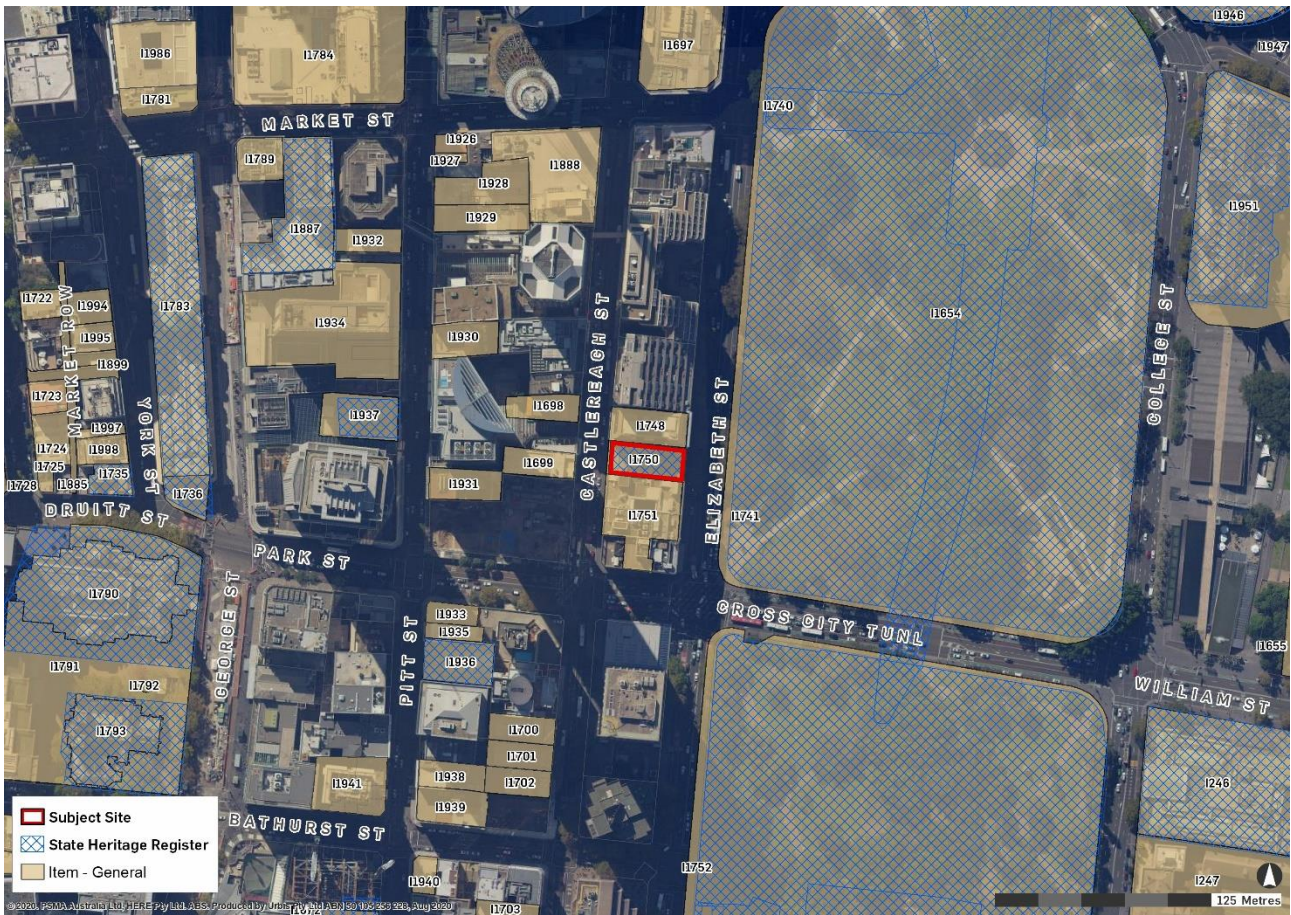


Figure 120 – Existing heritage listings under the *Sydney LEP 2012* and the State Heritage Register.

## 7.1.2. Commonwealth Government Legislation & Policies

### Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) is the Australian Government's environment and heritage legislation. This act is triggered by developments or actions that will have a significant impact on matters of National environmental significance, including world heritage areas, Commonwealth marine areas, nationally threatened species and communities and migratory birds. The EPBC Act includes a process for assessment of proposed actions that have, or are likely to have, a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance. These actions require approval from the Commonwealth Minister, Environment and Heritage.

The Register of the National Estate (RNE) was previously a statutory heritage register under the EPBC Act. The RNE is a list of natural, Indigenous and historic heritage places throughout Australia. It was established under the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975* and in 2004 the responsibility for maintaining the Register shifted to the Australian Heritage Council under the *Australian Heritage Council Act 2003* (AHC Act).

Following amendments to the AHC Act, the RNE was frozen in February 2007, which means that no new places can be added or removed. It continued to function as a statutory register until February 2012. The RNE is maintained on a non-statutory basis as a publicly available archive.

A new national heritage system was established in January 2004 under the EPBC Act. This led to the introduction of the National Heritage List, which recognises and protects places of outstanding heritage to the Nation, and the Commonwealth Heritage List, which includes Commonwealth owned or leased places of significant heritage value.

The Great Synagogue is not listed on the National and/or Commonwealth Heritage Lists.

## National Construction Code / Building Code of Australia

The National Construction Code (NCC), incorporating the Building Code of Australia (BCA), is a national set of building regulations with some state-specific variations. The performance requirements of the BCA are mandatory, although the introductory sections of the Code make clear that not all requirements will apply to a given case. The Code also includes 'deemed-to-satisfy' requirements which are accepted as meeting the performance requirements. However, the Code also makes provision for alternative solutions to meet the performance requirements, subject to satisfactory verification.

Under the *NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment (EP&A) Regulation 2000*, all new building work must be carried out in accordance with the BCA. In the case of an existing building, there is generally no requirement to comply with the BCA unless works are being carried out. However, where works (in particular alterations or additions) are proposed to the place, the building will need to comply on completion with the relevant [performance] requirements of the Building Code of Australia (EP&A Regulation Clause 145). In addition, where an existing building has a change of use, the structural capacity and fire safety of the building must be appropriate for the new use, while for a building which undergoes alterations without a change of use, the structural capacity and fire safety of the building must not be reduced by the work (EP&A Act Regulation Clause 143).

In certain circumstances, exemption can be obtained from the requirements of the BCA under Clause 187 of the EP&A Regulation. Because in most cases there will be an acceptable alternative solution to satisfy the performance requirements of the BCA, applications for exemption are sought rarely. If such an application is contemplated, it should be sought at development application stage. The Fire, Access and Services Advisory Panel of the Heritage Council of NSW may be able to assist in resolving conflicts between heritage and regulatory requirements.

### 7.1.3. State Government Legislation & Policies

#### Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EPA Act) governs strategic planning and development assessment processes undertaken by State and Local Government in NSW. Development approval for works may be required under Part 3A, Part 4 or Part 5 of the Act.

It is necessary in most cases to submit a development application to the relevant Local Council for permission to erect or alter a building, demolish a building or change the use of an existing building. This does not apply to a building proposal defined as an 'Exempt Development'. Six categories of development are defined by the new legislation: Exempt Development, Complying Development, Local Development, Integrated Development, Designated Development or State Significant Development.

Approval is required under this Act for alterations and additions to The Great Synagogue. A Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) is prepared in most instances to address relevant approvals and consultation requirements under the EPA Act. Independent heritage advice or assessment may be required if works are likely to impact on the overall heritage significance of the place or elements identified in this report as being of exceptional or high significance. A heritage impact statement is generally required to accompany development applications for works to a heritage item to assess the likely impact of the works on the heritage significance of the item.

#### Heritage Act 1977

The *Heritage Act 1977* is administered by Heritage NSW, the Department of Premier and Cabinet. The purpose of the *Heritage Act 1977* is to ensure cultural heritage in NSW is adequately identified and conserved. Items of significance to the State of NSW are listed on the NSW State Heritage Register (SHR) under the Act.

The Great Synagogue is listed as a heritage item of State significance (SHR No. 01710).

#### *Minimum Standards of Maintenance and Repair*

Under Section 118 of the *Heritage Act 1977*, the agency has the power to impose minimum standards with respect to the maintenance and repair of buildings, works and relics that are listed on the State Heritage Register or within a precinct that is listed on that Register. The minimum standards include:

- Yearly Inspections by a suitably qualified person;

- Provision of Weather Protection;
- Fire Protection (and additional fire protection for unoccupied buildings);
- Security (and additional security for unoccupied buildings);
- Essential maintenance and repair; and
- The preparation of a Conservation Management Plan.

An endorsed Conservation Management Plan can impose additional standards of maintenance and repair.

### **Historical Archaeology**

In New South Wales, historical archaeological sites are protected under the *Heritage Act 1977*. The purpose of the *Heritage Act 1977* (as amended) is to conserve the environmental heritage of the State. Environmental heritage is broadly defined under Section 4 of the *Heritage Act 1977* as consisting of the following items: 'those places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects, and precincts, of State or local heritage significance.'

Amendments to the *Heritage Act 1977* made in 2009 have changed the definition of an archaeological 'relic' under the Act. A relic is now an archaeological deposit, resource or feature that has heritage significance at a local or State level. The definition is no longer based on age. This significance based approach to identifying 'relics' is consistent with the way other heritage items such as buildings, works, precincts or landscapes are identified and managed in NSW.

The *Heritage Act 1977* requires that historical archaeological sites and 'relics' are managed in accordance with permits issued by the Heritage Council of NSW. The consent of the Heritage Council is required before any archaeological 'relics' are disturbed. An archaeological site is an area which contains one or more archaeological 'relics'.

### **Permits to Excavate or Disturb Land**

Under the *Heritage Act 1977* (as amended), an application needs to be made to the NSW Heritage Council in the event that it is proposed to disturb or excavate any land in NSW that is likely to contain archaeological remains.

As The Great Synagogue is listed on the State Heritage Register, under the *Heritage Act 1977*, a Section 60 application would be required for works to the building. A Section 140 application is required to obtain a permit to excavate.

### **Archaeological Exceptions/Exemptions**

In some circumstances a full excavation permit as listed above may not be required when excavating land in NSW. Usually this is where works are only minor in nature and will have minimal impact on the heritage significance of the place.

In such instances, an application for an exemption under s57 of the *Heritage Act 1977* may be appropriate. This is to be determined by a suitably qualified archaeologist, and will depend upon the nature, scale and location of the works proposed.

### **National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974**

The *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NSW) (the 'NPW Act') is the primary piece of legislation for the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage in New South Wales. The Department of Energy and Environment administers the NPW Act. The NPW Act provides statutory protection for Aboriginal objects by making it illegal to harm Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places, and by providing two tiers of offence against which individuals or corporations who harm Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places can be prosecuted. The NPW Act defines Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places:

*Aboriginal object means any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.*

*Aboriginal place means any place declared to be an Aboriginal place under Section 84. The highest tier offences are reserved for knowledgeable harm of Aboriginal objects or*

*knowledgeable desecration of Aboriginal places. Second tier offences are strict liability offences—that is, offences regardless of whether or not the offender knows they are harming an Aboriginal object or desecrating an Aboriginal place—against which defences may be established under the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009 (NSW) (the ‘NPW Regulation’).*

Section 87 of the NPW Act establishes defences against prosecution under Section 86 (1), (2) or (4). The defences are as follows:

- An Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) authorising the harm (s87(1)); and
- Exercising due diligence to establish Aboriginal objects will not be harmed (s87(2)).
- Due diligence may be achieved by compliance with requirements set out in the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009 (the NPW Regulation) or a code of practice adopted or prescribed by the NPW Regulation (s87(3)).

## **State Environmental Planning Policies**

State environmental planning policies (SEPPs) deal with issues to the state and people of New South Wales. Various SEPPs may apply to development at the site.

## **7.1.4. Local Government Legislation & Policies**

### **Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012**

A Local Environmental Plan (LEP) is the principal legal document for controlling development and guiding planning decisions made by Council. *Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 (Sydney LEP 2012)* commenced on 14 December 2012 and is the current local environmental plan. Schedule 5 Environmental heritage of the planning instrument lists heritage items and heritage conservation areas within the local government area.

The Great Synagogue (item no. I1750) is listed under Schedule 5 of the *Sydney LEP 2012*.

The *Sydney LEP 2012* requires consent for certain types of development (including development affecting heritage items) and the consent authority, in considering any proposed development, must have regard to the relevant aims, strategies and principles contained in this plan. Heritage provisions for the City of Sydney Council area are incorporated under Part 5 Miscellaneous Provisions, Clause 5.10 Heritage Conservation of the instrument. Sub-clause (2) details consent required for certain development as outlined below:

Development consent is required for any of the following:

*(2) Requirement for consent*

*(a) demolishing or moving any of the following or altering the exterior of any of the following (including, in the case of a building, making changes to its detail, fabric, finish or appearance):*

*(i) a heritage item,*

*(ii) an Aboriginal object,*

*(iii) a building, work, relic or tree within a heritage conservation area,*

*(b) altering a heritage item that is a building by making structural changes to its interior or by making changes to anything inside the item that is specified in Schedule 5 in relation to the item,*

*(c) disturbing or excavating an archaeological site while knowing, or having reasonable cause to suspect, that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed,*

*(d) disturbing or excavating an Aboriginal place of heritage significance,*

*(e) erecting a building on land:*



- (i) on which a heritage item is located or that is within a heritage conservation area, or
- (ii) on which an Aboriginal object is located or that is within an Aboriginal place of heritage significance,
- (f) subdividing land:
  - (i) on which a heritage item is located or that is within a heritage conservation area, or
  - (ii) on which an Aboriginal object is located or that is within an Aboriginal place of heritage significance.

### **Heritage Floor Space**

Clause 6.10 of the *Sydney LEP 2012* allows Council to award heritage floor space in order to provide an incentive for the conservation and on-going maintenance of heritage buildings within Central Sydney.

- (2) *Creation of heritage floor space* The Council may record in the register an amount of heritage floor space in respect of a person if—
- (a) the person is the owner or the nominee of the owner of a building that is a heritage item shown marked “\*” in Schedule 5 (a heritage building), and
  - (b) the heritage building is on land in Zone B8 Metropolitan Centre, and
  - (c) conservation works have been carried out on the heritage building and have been completed in accordance with a heritage conservation management plan approved for the building by the consent authority, and
  - (d) a covenant is registered that prevents development that increases the total gross floor area of all buildings on the site on which the heritage building is located or that increases the height of the heritage building, and
  - (e) an amount of heritage floor space has not been recorded in the previous 25 years (under this clause or under a similar scheme in force before the commencement of this Plan) in respect of the heritage building, and
  - (f) no other building has utilised floor space that was available to it only because, at the time the floor space was utilised, the building was on a site that included the heritage building or that included part of the site occupied by the heritage building.

The Great Synagogue is listed as heritage item I1750\* under Schedule 5 under Schedule 5 of the *Sydney LEP 2012* and is also located in the B8 Metropolitan Centre Zone. The Great Synagogue satisfies the requirements and is eligible to be awarded HFS.

### **Sydney Development Control Plan 2012**

A *Sydney Development Control Plan (DCP) 2012* is a non-statutory document that supports the LEP with more detailed planning and design guidelines.

The purpose of the *Sydney DCP 2012* is to supplement the *Sydney LEP 2012* and provides more detailed provisions to guide development. The DCP has been made in accordance with Section 74C of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 and must be read in conjunction with the provisions of *Sydney LEP 2012*.

Heritage item provisions are predominantly considered in the general provisions of the DCP in Section 3, and specifically Section 3.9 Heritage (although this is not exhaustive). The DCP acknowledges that heritage conservation does not preclude change but rather responds to different constraints and opportunities. The DCP aims to ensure that the significant elements of the past are appropriately managed and respected by new development, with the underlying principles being that:

- Change should be based on an understanding of heritage significance; and

- The level of change should respect the heritage significance of the item or area.

The intention of these provisions is to ensure that decisions about change are made with due regard to heritage significance, and that opportunities to improve the understanding and appreciation of this significance are taken.

In summary, where new works or uses are proposed to the building, specific provisions within the DCP should be considered including, but not limited to, the provisions for heritage items in Section 3.9.1-3.9.5.

This report lists the provisions at the time of preparing this CMP and reference should be made to the current instrument in conjunction with any proposed works.

Section 2.1 of the DCP provides a number of “Special Character Areas” within Central Sydney. The Great Synagogue is located within the “College Street/Hyde Park Special Character Area” identified in the DCP under Section 2.1.2. The principles for the management of the area is as follows:

### **Principles**

*(a) Development must achieve and satisfy the outcomes expressed in the character statement and supporting principles.*

*(b) Recognise the institutional area east of College Street as one of Sydney’s pre-eminent public areas characterised by a concentration of heritage items which house activities of State and National significance.*

*(c) Reinforce the urban character and scale of College Street by requiring new buildings to be integrated with the form of existing buildings and generally limiting the height of new buildings to the prevailing height of existing buildings, and to maintain the sense of openness east of Hyde Park.*

*(d) Enhance and reinforce the precinct’s role as a major gateway to the City from the east, particularly from William Street to Park Street, by ensuring that development does not adversely affect the views when approaching the City.*

*(e) Maintain and strengthen the sense of enclosure provided by the buildings to the west and south of Hyde Park, by requiring new buildings to be built to street alignment, to have street frontage heights consistent with the existing development and to have adequate setbacks above those street frontage heights.*

*(f) Maintain and enhance views to and through the Park and along College Street to landmark buildings such as St Mary’s Cathedral east and Centre Point Tower west.*

*(g) Maintain and enhance the role of the precinct as a major recreational open space for Sydney’s workers and residents.*

*(h) Protect and extend mid-winter lunchtime sun access to Hyde Park and other open spaces in this Special Character Area.*

Section 5.1.9 of the DCP provides details on the award and allocation of heritage floor space. The objective of this section of the DCP is to provide the formulae and other procedures for the efficient, transparent and equitable operation of the Heritage Floor Space scheme established in the LEP. Provisions are outlined in relation to eligibility of heritage buildings to be awarded heritage floor space, pre-requisites for the award or heritage floor space, calculating heritage floor space to be awarded and allocated, staged awards, changes of ownerships, procedures and administration and penalties.

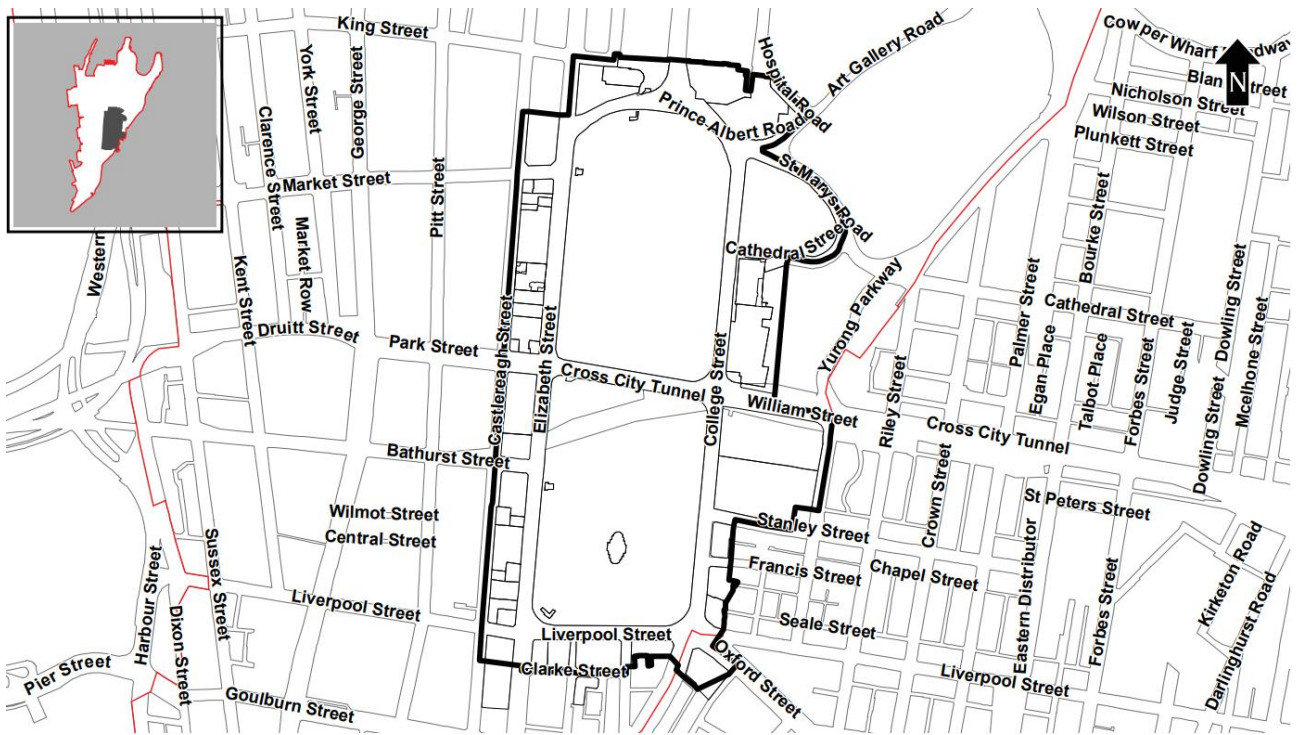


Figure 121 - College Street/Hyde Park Special Character Area with the subject site outlined in blue.

Source: Sydney DCP 2012, Section 2.1.2

## 7.2. MANAGEMENT PLANS & GUIDELINES

The Sydney LEP 2012 and Sydney DCP 2012 require the preparation of a recent Conservation Management Plan before applications for major change are considered or lodged for statutory approval. This Conservation Management Plan sets out policy recommendations (refer to Section 9) to conserve the significant values associated with the subject site.

In addition to a CMP most heritage legislation requires the preparation on an assessment of heritage impact to accompany development applications and notifications associated with exempted works. Policies have also been included in this document concerning heritage impact statements.

This Conservation Management Plan revises and supersedes the previously prepared reports for the site. The historical Conservation Management Plans for the site have been detailed in the table below:

Table 19 - Conservation Management Plans relating to the site

Date	Author	Title
July 2007	Orwell & Peter Phillips	Conservation Management Plan, The Great Synagogue Sydney
January 2000	Orwell & Peter Phillips	Conservation Management Plan, The Great Synagogue Sydney

## 7.3. APPROVAL AND CONSENT

### 7.3.1. Approval for Works

Approvals and consent for works are required from the City of Sydney and the NSW Heritage Council.

#### **Council of City of Sydney**

Approval is required from the City of Sydney for any proposed works to state listed heritage items. Part 3 Exempt and Complying development under the *Sydney LEP 2012* does not apply to State listed heritage items.

#### **NSW Heritage Council**

Approvals are required for works to State listed heritage items, except where works are exempt under either standard or site-specific exemptions or where conservation works are in accordance with a Heritage Agreement. The purpose of an exemption is to streamline approvals processes for sympathetic works. Two types of exemptions can apply to an item listed on the State Heritage Register: standard exemptions or site-specific exemptions.

Standard exemptions (under Section 57(2) of the Heritage Act) apply to all items on the State Heritage Register and currently apply to the subject site. Activities that are typically exempt under the standard exemption include building maintenance, minor repairs, alterations to certain interior areas and change of use. Standard exemptions are subject to self-assessment and do not require notification to Heritage NSW.

Site specific exemptions are developed for state listed heritage items on a case-by-case basis. Site specific exemptions can be developed for a site and approved by the Minister on the recommendation of the Heritage Council. These site-specific exemptions would then be gazetted under Section 57 of the Heritage Act. No site-specific exemptions currently exist for the Great Synagogue.

### 7.3.2. Types of Applications

#### **Integrated Development**

Under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, the process of Integrated Development requires applicants to use the following process for SHR listed properties:

- The City of Sydney will refer the application to Heritage NSW (and other State agencies if required).
- If approval is granted by Heritage NSW, this approval will be included in the City of Sydney development consent conditions.

This section only applies to works where development consent of the City of Sydney and Heritage Council approval is required.

#### **City of Sydney Council**

The following provisions from Clause 5.10 of the LEP 2012 necessitate consent for works from City of Sydney Council.

##### (1) Objectives

*The objectives of this clause are as follows:*

- (a) to conserve the environmental heritage of the City of Sydney,*
- (b) to conserve the heritage significance of heritage items and heritage conservation areas, including associated fabric, settings and views,*
- (c) to conserve archaeological sites,*
- (d) to conserve Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places of heritage significance.*

##### (2) Requirement for Consent



Development consent is required for any of the following:

(a) demolishing or moving any of the following or altering the exterior of any of the following (including, in the case of a building, making changes to its detail, fabric, finish or appearance):

- (i) a heritage item,
- (ii) an Aboriginal object,
- (iii) a building, work, relic or tree within a heritage conservation area,

(b) altering a heritage item that is a building by making structural changes to its interior or by making changes to anything inside the item that is specified in Schedule 5 in relation to the item,

(c) disturbing or excavating an archaeological site while knowing, or having reasonable cause to suspect, that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed,

(d) disturbing or excavating an Aboriginal place of heritage significance,

(e) erecting a building on land:

- (i) on which a heritage item is located or that is within a heritage conservation area, or
- (ii) on which an Aboriginal object is located or that is within an Aboriginal place of heritage significance,

(f) subdividing land:

- (i) on which a heritage item is located or that is within a heritage conservation area, or
- (ii) on which an Aboriginal object is located or that is within an Aboriginal place of heritage significance.

### (3) When consent not required

However, development consent under this clause is not required if:

(a) the applicant has notified the consent authority of the proposed development and the consent authority has advised the applicant in writing before any work is carried out that it is satisfied that the proposed development:

- (i) is of a minor nature or is for the maintenance of the heritage item, Aboriginal object, Aboriginal place of heritage significance or archaeological site or a building, work, relic, tree or place within the heritage conservation area, and
- (ii) would not adversely affect the heritage significance of the heritage item, Aboriginal object, Aboriginal place, archaeological site or heritage conservation area.

## **NSW Heritage Council**

Prior to commencement of any works, assessment of works is to be completed. All work falls into one of the two below categories:

- Exempt and requiring no notification to the Director, Heritage NSW (repairs and maintenance). Advice from a Heritage Professional must be provided to confirm works that are exempt from formal assessment and approval under the *Heritage Act 1977*. Note that there are no Site-Specific Exemptions granted for The Great Synagogue. Minor works however can be considered and assessed by a Heritage professional under the Standard Exemptions.

- Requiring a Section 60 application to be submitted to Heritage NSW (major works).

Any major works proposed for SHR items need to be assessed and approved by the Heritage Council via a Section 60 application to ensure that the heritage significance of the item will not be adversely affected.

However, if the works have been assessed by a Heritage professional to be for specific maintenance, minor in nature, covered under the Minimum Standards Order and have been assessed to have no impact on the heritage significance of the place, works can be undertaken under a Standard Exemption. More information on Standard Exemptions can be found following this link:

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/heritage/apply-for-heritage-approvals-and-permits/state-heritage-register-items/standard-exemptions>

## 7.4. THE BURRA CHARTER

The *Burra Charter* (the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance) contains principles on conservation of significant places. The *Burra Charter* provides nationally accepted principles for the conservation of places of cultural significance.

The ICOMOS Burra Charter 2013 adopted by Australia ICOMOS establishes the nationally accepted principles for the conservation of places of cultural significance. Although the Burra Charter is not cited formally in an Act, it is nationally recognised as a document that shapes the policies of the Heritage Council of NSW. The document provides the underlying methodology by works to heritage items of all levels of significance and provides the guidelines for the management of heritage items. The Great Synagogue is of demonstrated cultural significance. Therefore, procedures for managing changes and activities at the site should be in accordance with the recognised conservation methodology of the Burra Charter.

A copy of the *Burra Charter* is attached at Appendix A, or is available via the following link:

<http://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Burra-Charter-2013-Adopted-31.10.2013.pdf>

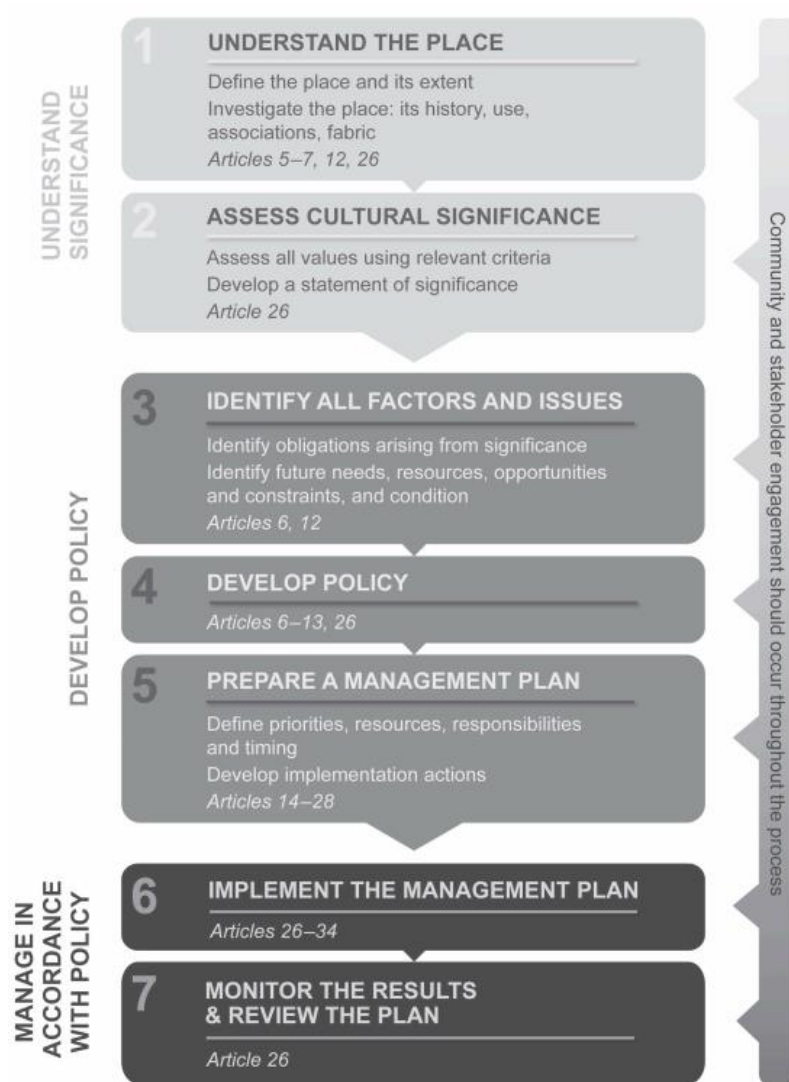


Figure 122 - The Burra Charter Process (flow chart showing the steps in planning for and managing a place of cultural significance, with key articles relevant to each step shown in the boxes).

Source: *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance*, 2013.

# 8. OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS

## 8.1. INTRODUCTION

The conservation planning process established by the *Burra Charter* (the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance) requires that relevant constraints be identified for developing conservation policies for places of significance. These constraints include:

- Obligations arising from the cultural significance of the place;
- Physical constraints of the place, including environmental factors and the physical condition of the fabric;
- Relevant statutory and non-statutory controls;
- Owner's needs, resources and other external constraints; and
- Obligations involved in undertaking research, maintaining records and communicating the heritage values of the place.

The assessment of the following specific constraints and opportunities will result in appropriate policies for The Great Synagogue.

## 8.2. OBLIGATIONS ARISING FROM STATUTORY AND NON-STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Approvals for works to the site may be required under the *EP&A Act* or the *Heritage Act 1977* as outlined above in Section 7.1.3. This section should be referred to prior to undertaking any works. Any future proposed changes to the site must be undertaken in accordance with the relevant planning legislation, the Heritage Division provisions, the best practice principles of the *Burra Charter* and with reference to the provisions of this CMP.

As The Great Synagogue is listed on the SHR it is required to be maintained in accordance with the *Minimum Standards of Maintenance and Repair* under Section 118 of the *Heritage Act 1977* and the *Heritage Regulation 2012*.

Where new works are proposed, compliance with the Building Code of Australia / National Construction Code and Australian Standard AS1428 (Universal Access) may also be required as outlined in Section 7.1.2. Any strategies or solutions to ensure that components of the subject the place comply with the BCA/ NCC or AS1428 should be driven by the cultural significance of the place. Where necessary, alternative solutions and performance based outcomes should be pursued to ensure the intent of the code is met without adversely impacting on significant fabric. Professional advice should always be obtained by a suitably qualified heritage practitioner and BCA consultant. Due to the complex nature of heritage sites, 'deemed to comply' design solution approved by BCA or access consultants may be used to satisfy the intent of the Standard.

## 8.3. OBLIGATIONS ARISING FROM HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE & INTEGRITY OF FABRIC

This CMP provides an analysis of the significance of the subject site in its present form. It has been determined that the subject site is significant at a state level for its historic, aesthetic, associative, social, rarity and representative values (refer to Section 6.2).

This places an obligation on the owners, occupiers and users of the place and any other stakeholders responsible for or involved in the maintenance and management of the building, to conserve this identified significance. This includes internal and external fabric, elements and structures of the place identified in Sections 6.5 and 6.6.

Any future proposed changes to the place must be undertaken in accordance with the Sydney LEP and DCP, the *Burra Charter* and with reference to the policy recommendations of this CMP. Future change should seek to retain and enhance the places significance and character. The significance of the site is summarised in Section 6.2.



Specific policies for the treatment of fabric have been set out below in Section 9. However, general constraints in relation to the elements, fabric and spaces of heritage significance and setting include:

- The Statement of Significance embodies the core heritage values of the building. All future decisions and works to the building must be guided by the Statement of Significance and the identified significant spaces, fabric and building elements identified in this CMP, together with any additional detailed research and assessment. The significance is defined in Section 6.5 of this report with a Schedule of Significant Elements provided in Section 6.6. Fabric and spaces of Exceptional, High or Moderate significance should generally be retained and conserved, with consideration for policies herein.
- Management and maintenance of the asset should aim to conserve its heritage significance whilst facilitating appropriate ongoing use. The place should be maintained according to the minimum standards of maintenance and repair under Section 118 of the *Heritage Act 1977* and as specified in the *Heritage Regulations 2012* and in accordance with the cyclical maintenance plan included in Section 9. If any future major works are proposed, a Schedule of Conservation Works should be prepared.
- Works should be undertaken in accordance with the principles of the Australia ICOMOS, the *Burra Charter*.
- The contribution that the building makes to Elizabeth Street, Castlereagh Street and the Hyde Park area.
- Works to achieve compliance or environmental performance standards should be carefully considered in conjunction with heritage advice.

## **8.4. OBLIGATIONS ARISING FROM THE CONDITION AND INTEGRITY OF FABRIC AND PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**

The separate document *Great Synagogue Condition Assessment* (June 2020) by Mott Macdonald provides a brief analysis of the condition of the building in its present form. Generally, it has been determined that the building was overall in a very good condition. (see Section 2.4 and Appendix F). A schedule of defects is also included within the report. All defects noted within the report require general monitoring and do not require any immediate works. The only defect noted that did require further investigation is in the north tower to check the condition of the top stones and the severity of dislodgement. This has since been inspected by Shreeji Consultant Structural Civil Engineers in October 2020. The dislodged stones were noted to not warrant any further action.

In addition, and in accordance the recommendations from Mott Macdonald (2020), a further inspection has been undertaken by AC Been Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd in May 2023. This updated report has concluded that generally, the observable defects in structural fabric of the building is as outlined in the Mott MacDonald report (2020). The updated report also noted some additional defects and recommended actions, however no urgent or critical repairs were noted.

The 2023 report has been attached at Appendix G for reference.

## **8.5. OWNERS REQUIREMENTS**

Urbis has been engaged by The Great Synagogue to prepare this Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for The Great Synagogue as part of a Heritage Floor Space Application. In this CMP, Urbis has confirmed a number of conservation and reconstruction works were undertaken since 1989 and the last award of heritage floor space (refer to Section 3.2.24 to 3.2.26 for information on these works).

This CMP has been prepared to protect the identified heritage significance of the place, to guide future change to the building and to inform an application of the award of HFS. The Great Synagogue is not proposed to change from its existing use in the near future. The objective of the Board of The Great Synagogue is to maintain the building as a place of Jewish worship and culture.

# 9. CONSERVATION POLICIES

## 9.1. WHAT IS A CONSERVATION POLICY?

A conservation policy explains the principles to be followed to retain, conserve, restore or reveal the heritage significance of a place, and how that significance can be enhanced and maintained. This relies on a full understanding of the significance of the place, and a review of the constraints and opportunities arising from that significance.

## 9.2. ADOPTION, IMPLEMENTATION & REVIEW

### 9.2.1. Adoption of Conservation Management Plan

#### Guidelines

- This CMP should be adopted by present and future owners and lessees and used as a guide for the management, conservation and maintenance of the place.
- If ownership of the property or lease of the property is transferred, a copy of the CMP should be provided to the new owner or lessee. Copies of the completed CMP should also be provided to any lessees of the place.
- All persons responsible for the management and maintenance of the place should be familiar with the significance of the place and the conservation policies in this CMP.
- Conservation works undertaken in accordance with the CMP should only be undertaken in consultation with experienced heritage and conservation professionals.

#### Policy

- Policy 1. This conservation management plan should be adopted by present and future owners of the place, and used as a guide for management and conservation, and in conjunction with any proposals for future development or adaptive re-use of the place.
- Policy 2. A copy of this conservation management plan should be provided with the sale of the place and retained on-site at all times, for the use by those responsible for the management and conservation of the place.
- Policy 3. A copy of the CMP should be submitted to NSW Heritage, Department of Premier & Cabinet for reference purposes.
- Policy 4. The policies in this CMP are not to be read in isolation but rather in conjunction with any comprehensive guides to the conservation management of the place.

### 9.2.2. Statutory Obligations

#### Background

Various legislation applies to the management of the site (refer to Section 7). The Great Synagogue is listed as an item of state heritage significance. Approvals required for the works to the heritage item and exemptions may be required for maintenance or minor works. Approval may also be required for works in the vicinity of the site.

Any works to the property should comply with appropriate legislation, policies and guidelines, as amended from time to time, including but not limited to, the *Heritage Act 1977*, the Building Code of Australia (including the National Construction Code), the *Australia ICOMOS The Burra Charter* (revised 2013) and relevant environmental planning documentation of the City of Sydney LEP and DCP as outlined in Section 7 of this document.

#### Guidelines

Approval is required for development works to the heritage item from the City of Sydney and the NSW Heritage, Department of Premier & Cabinet. Reference should be made to this CMP and the requirements set out in the *Sydney LEP 2012* to determine the appropriate approvals required for any proposed works.

Future proposed changes to the building need to be undertaken in accordance with the relevant LEP and DCP. A heritage impact statement may be required to assess any works to the place.

Any works to have the place comply with National Construction Code (NCC) requirements should be guided by the heritage significance of the place.

Any works to the place for Building Code of Australia (BCA) / National Construction Code (NCC) compliance purposes may require a heritage impact statement in accordance with the former NSW OEH Heritage Division guidelines and deemed-to-comply solutions may be appropriate. Works should be cognisant of the significance of the place.

## Policy

- Policy 5. Any future proposed changes to the site need to be assessed in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Sydney Local Environment Plan 2012* and *Sydney Development Control Plan 2012*, the policies of this Conservation Management Plan, and the *Heritage Act 1977*. An archaeological assessment may be required to assess any subsurface works to the site.
- Policy 6. This CMP should be submitted to the City of Sydney Council and NSW Heritage, Department of Premier & Cabinet as part of any application for new development proposals. Where appropriate or requested, it should be accompanied by a heritage impact statement that assesses the specific impacts of the proposal against relevant legislation and policies in this CMP.

## 9.2.3. Review of Conservation Management Plan

### Background

The CMP should be subject to periodic review to ensure that the document remains relevant to ongoing change and use of the place, and statutory compliance and to incorporate updated information.

### Guidelines

- This CMP should be reviewed and updated every 5-10 years, or alternatively in conjunction with any major adaptive re-use or development proposal, to remain relevant to ongoing change, use of the place and statutory compliance. Prior to the review, if substantial change in the management or use of the place is proposed that is not covered by policies in this CMP, then the policy section should be updated following review.
- Reviews of the CMP should be based on *The Burra Charter* and other guidelines by the former NSW OEH Heritage Division. Reviews should also take into account any other relevant legislation, planning frameworks and widely recognised conservation practices and procedures.
- Reviews should be undertaken by experienced heritage practitioners in conjunction with relevant ownership and management representatives.

## Policy

- Policy 7. This CMP should be reviewed and updated every 5-10 years, to remain relevant to ongoing change, use of the place and statutory compliance or if substantial alterations and additions are proposed. Irrespective of the requirement to review the document every 5-10 years, the CMP should continue to be used for on-going heritage management until such reviews are completed.
- Policy 8. The current NSW State Heritage Register inventory should be updated to reflect the Historical Overview (Section 0), Statement of Significance (Section 6.2) and Conservation Policies (Section 9) in this CMP.

## 9.3. MANAGING HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

### 9.3.1. Statement of Cultural Significance

#### Background

The Statement of Significance included at Section 6.2 embodies the core heritage values of the place. All future decisions and works to the property must be guided by the statement of cultural significance and the identified significant spaces, fabric, views, landscape and built elements identified in this CMP, together with any additional detailed research and assessment.

#### Guidelines

- Owners, lessees, occupiers and stakeholders responsible for and involved in the maintenance and management of the place should be aware of the identified significance and aim to conserve and enhance this significance as well as identified significant internal and external fabric and spaces.

#### Policy

Policy 9. The Statement of Significance set out in this report is to be accepted as the basis for future conservation of the fabric and values of the place (Section 6.2). All future works to the place should be cognisant of the significant built elements, fabric, spaces, views and archaeological resource identified in this CMP, together with any additional detailed research and assessment.

Policy 10. Elements of **exceptional** significance are rare or outstanding elements that directly contribute to the place's overall heritage significance; they retain a high degree of integrity and intactness in fabric or use; any change is to be minimal and retain significant values or fabric.

Elements of **high** significance have a high degree of original fabric; they demonstrate a key aspect of the place's overall heritage significance and must be retained and conserved; retention should be considered in-situ; minor change is allowed so long as significant values and fabric are retained and conserved.

Elements of **moderate** significance have been altered or modified or do not demonstrate a key aspect of the significance of the place; they contribute to the place's overall heritage significance. Change is allowed so long as it does not adversely affect values and fabric of exceptional or high significance.

Elements of **little** significance do not substantially add to the significance of the place in a positive way, though neither do they detract from its overall significance. Elements of little significance may also reflect fabric that is reproduction or may have been substantially altered or modified or may reflect non-significant phases of development. Changes are allowed so long as it does not adversely affect values and fabric of exceptional or high significance.

**Intrusive** elements are damaging to the place's overall heritage significance; they should be considered for removal or alteration.

Policy 11. A suitably qualified heritage consultant/architect should be engaged to guide and provide advice on any proposed works to the building.

Policy 12. All repair, conservation and reconstruction works to significant elements must be undertaken with appropriate supervision by a suitably qualified heritage specialist or relevant materials specialist or conservator, with reference to historical documentation, and in accordance with any relevant legislative or statutory constraints.

Policy 13. Unless otherwise stated in these policies, surviving original and early elements and fabric identified as exceptional or high must be retained intact, and conserved.

Policy 14. Elements of exceptional or high significance must not be obscured by new works, structures or services where possible, and must be clearly visible and interpreted as part of any new works.

Policy 15. Where elements of exceptional or high significance have been damaged, they are to be repaired with sympathetic materials in preference to replacement. Significant elements should be repaired in-situ wherever possible.



- Policy 16. If changes to elements of exceptional or high significance are required, they should be carefully considered and the approach should be one of minimal intervention; as much as necessary, as little as possible.
- Policy 17. Intervention for purposes other than conservation of the fabric is to occur in areas of lower rather than higher significance.
- Policy 18. Any elements of significance proposed for demolition, removal or alteration, should be subject to archival photographic recording, copies of which should be retained on site and provided to the relevant consent authorities (the local Council and NSW Heritage). This should include photography and / or measured drawings as deemed necessary. Archival recordings should be undertaken in accordance with the former NSW OEH Heritage Division's Guidelines for 'Photographic Recording of Heritage Items Using Film or Digital Capture'.

### 9.3.2. Best Practice Heritage Management (*The Burra Charter*)

#### Background

Article 3 of *The Burra Charter* (revised 2013) indicates that conservation is based on a respect for the existing fabric of a place and should, therefore, involve the least possible physical intervention to prevent distortion of the evidence provided by the fabric. One of the key objectives of contemporary conservation practice is to retain as much of the significant original fabric as possible in order to preserve the essential integrity of the heritage resource.

#### Guidelines

- Management of the place should generally follow the principles and conservation methodology of *The Burra Charter* (revised 2013). The document provides the methodology under which works to significant places should be undertaken and provides the guidelines for the management of heritage significance.
- All personnel engaged in works with the potential to have an impact on the heritage values of the place should generally have proven experience and qualifications in the relevant field of heritage conservation. This includes both professionals and tradespeople.
- Fabric of exceptional and high significance must be retained, conserved and maintained in accordance with *The Burra Charter*.

#### Policy

- Policy 19. The future conservation and management of the place should be carried out in accordance with the principles of *The Burra Charter*. *The Burra Charter* advocates a cautious approach to change: *do as much as necessary to care for the place and to make it useable, but otherwise change it as little as possible so that its cultural significance is retained.*
- Policy 20. All contractors, consultants and project managers engaged to work on the place should have appropriate conservation skills, experience and techniques appropriate to the trade, fabric or services, and should work within the guidelines of this CMP.
- Policy 21. A heritage impact statement and / or archaeological assessment should be prepared for all proposals for new development within the property. Where relevant, the HIS and/or archaeological assessment should assess impacts on the setting, views, built elements and potential archaeological resource as appropriate.

## 9.4. USE

#### Background

The ongoing use of The Great Synagogue is vital to the retention of heritage significance and maintenance of the item. Ongoing sustainable and viable uses would encourage and facilitate the conservation and maintenance of The Great Synagogue, and new uses should be considered with a goal to conserve and enhance the identified heritage values of the property whilst providing for those uses. Uses that require substantial changes, alteration or intervention are not appropriate.

#### Guidelines

It is preferable that the use of the site continue to be used as a centre of Orthodox Anglo-Jewish worship and culture.

## Policy

- Policy 22. The Great Synagogue should continue to be used as a centre of Orthodox Anglo-Jewish worship and culture. Changes to the fabric and space that arise from liturgical or halachic requirements should be made with due regard to the significance of the existing fabric and spaces.
- Policy 23. Any proposed use of The Great Synagogue should be compatible with the identified heritage values and significance of the building. Uses which require an unacceptable degree of intervention for upgrade to legislative compliance would not be acceptable.
- Policy 24. Any future adaptation of the interior to suit new uses should be reversible. Alterations should not involve fabric of exceptional or high significant fabric of The Great Synagogue as identified in Sections 6.5 and 6.6.
- Policy 25. New and future uses should respect the original division of spaces and levels of The Great Synagogue which are identified as being of exceptional and high significance as identified in Section 6.5 and 6.6.
- Policy 26. New and future uses should avoid any floor to ceiling partitioning of the principal significant spaces as identified in Section 6.5 and 6.6.
- Policy 27. New internal fitouts to the Education Centre and Israel Green Auditorium are acceptable provided the identified heritage values and significance of The Great Synagogue are maintained or enhanced.
- Policy 28. Uses should enhance the appreciation of the site's heritage values and significance, ensure the conservation of the identified significant building elements, fabric and context, and accommodate the activities, services and fittings which are essential to the use without damaging significant elements and fabric.
- Policy 29. New services (eg fire safety provisions, lift, air conditioning, toilets etc) required for upgrades or new use should avoid damage, destroy or compromise the buildings or any interior spaces, element and fabric of significance.
- Policy 30. Services associated with any proposed food and beverage uses (eg kitchens and bathrooms) should be restricted to areas currently provided for that use and/or areas of little significance. This does not preclude the installation of reversible stand-alone fit-outs, which can be demonstrated to have little intervention on significant fabric.

## 9.5. MANAGING CHANGE: ALTERATIONS, ADAPTATION & NEW WORK

### 9.5.1. Managing Change: Basis of Approach

#### Background

Any proposed modifications to The Great Synagogue must take into consideration the identified heritage significance and must have regard to the total resource. New works should ensure that the significance is not eroded but considers opportunities to reinstate and interpret lost elements and character.

#### Guidelines

- Article 15, 22 and 27 of *The Burra Charter* establish the principles and processes for managing significance in the event of change and new work. The impact of proposed changes, should be assessed with reference to the statement of significance and policy for managing change. Existing fabric, use, associations and meanings should be adequately recorded prior to making any change. New work should respect and enhance, rather than distort or obscure, significance. Changes which reduce significance should be reversible. *The Burra Charter*, Articles 16 to 21 inclusive, establish the conservation processes to significant fabric and spaces, whether it be maintenance, preservation, restoration, reconstruction or adaptation. Refer to Appendix A for a copy of *The Burra Charter*.

- Any major works to the building, particularly to the exterior, should be based upon investigation including further physical analysis. The results of such investigations and analysis, along with changes made to the building, need to be recorded and added to the existing archive on the place or incorporated into a report as appropriate.

## Policy

### Use of *The Burra Charter*

- Policy 31. The future conservation and development of the place should be carried out in accordance with the principles of the Australia ICOMOS *The Burra Charter*.
- Policy 32. While recognising the need for change, the approach to exceptional and high significant fabric should be a cautious one of minimal intervention. New work should respect and enhance significance, rather than distort or obscure significance. Changes which reduce significance should be reversible (*The Burra Charter*, Article 3).
- Policy 33. Intervention for purposes other than the conservation of building fabric should occur in areas of Moderate, Little, or Intrusive significance.

### Further investigation and recording

- Policy 34. Any major works to the building need to be based on the results of further investigation including:
- Further physical analysis to determine the extent of original or early fabric and finishes, obscured or covered over;
  - Further physical analysis to identify original fabric, including but not limited to, windows, doors, ceilings and floor structures;
  - Further physical analysis and identification of reconstructed fabric suitable for required intervention in preference to original components; and
  - Any relevant condition assessments.
- Policy 35. The results of further analysis and all new evidence uncovered during works to the place should be recorded to provide an on-going resource for reconstruction, repair and maintenance. This should be added to the existing archive on the place or incorporated into a report or addendum to this Conservation Management Plan, as appropriate.
- Policy 36. Reconstruction is appropriate only where there is sufficient evidence to reproduce fabric to an original state. Reconstruction should be identifiable on close inspection or through additional interpretation and include date stamping where appropriate (*The Burra Charter*, Article 20).

### Recording future changes

- Policy 37. All changes to the building should be carefully recorded in report format and/or incorporated as an addendum to this Conservation Management Plan, as appropriate.

## 9.5.2. External Alterations and Additions

### Guidelines

- Sections 6.5 and 6.6 of this report set out the gradings of significance of the exterior elements and fabric and should form the basis of the approach for future works.
- The existing external envelope of the Sanctuary of The Great Synagogue is to be retained, conserved and interpreted. The original character of The Great Synagogue through its various stages of development, is to be retained and conserved with exposure of significant fabric.
- Unsympathetic alterations and additions that dominate the heritage character of the building or obscure the principal elevations are discouraged. Removal of intrusive fabric (as identified in the CMP) is encouraged.
- Proposed alterations should consider the impact upon heritage items in the vicinity, as well as the College Street/Hyde Park Special Character Area and the streetscape setting.

- Modifications to the building may be subject to approval under the *Sydney LEP 2012* and the *Heritage Act 1977* and may be subject to preparing a heritage impact statement in accordance with the former Office of Environment and Heritage Guidelines.
- This CMP has been prepared to accompany an application for Heritage Floor Space. The award of Heritage Floor Space constricts opportunities for any additions to the scale, footprint or any major development of the site. Therefore, policies regarding additions to the building's footprint or vertical additions have been excluded from this document. Should circumstances change then this CMP should be updated to address potential for additions or extensions.

## Policy

### General

Policy 38. New works should enhance the interpretation of the significant former use of the building, and its character through conservation works, exposure of significant fabric and through interpretative design. New works should enhance the interpretation of associations with the historical use and development of The Great Synagogue.

### Elevations

Policy 39. The form, scale, general configuration and principal elevations of the place identified as exceptional and high should be retained and conserved. Modifications to the Education Centre (excluding the Castlereagh Street facade) is permitted, provided that any new design complements the architectural character of The Great Synagogue

Policy 40. The primary elevations of The Great Synagogue (Elizabeth and Castlereagh Streets) are highly intact. Unless reinstating original and early openings, there should be no further openings to the original elevations graded as having exceptional or high significance.

Policy 41. Any alterations and additions are to be designed and constructed in a way that conserves, maintains and interprets the property. This will require detailed consideration of the location, form, height and scale, colours and material proposed. Works should minimise impact on the existing place and building fabric in terms of its significance, fabric changes and use.

Policy 42. If changes are proposed to fabric of exceptional or high significance, they are to be carefully considered to minimise negative impact.

Policy 43. The existing fenestration should be maintained and conserved. This includes make good works to the frames of existing doors and windows.

### Roofs

Policy 44. The gable and hipped roofs of the Sanctuary and galleries should be maintained. No further additions should occur on these portions of the roof.

Policy 45. The roof structure of the Education Centre may be replaced or modified, provided that any new design is sympathetic to the overall form, bulk scale and materiality of The Great Synagogue.

Policy 46. The wrought iron brackets and framing for the former awning over the northern clerestory windows should preferably be preserved and maintained for interpretation. However, if found to have deteriorated beyond repair, they may be removed and should be stored on site.

Policy 47. New works to the roofs are to:

- Ensure new roof coverings and roof plumbing (eg. flashings, guttering and rainwater heads and downpipes) are adequately designed and maintained to effectively dispose of water;
- Ensure the pattern of new downpipes and rainwater heads are based on physical or documentary evidence including patterns typical of the relevant period; and
- Ensure materiality of replacement roof fabric is sympathetic, incorporating like-for-like replacement where required.

### Services (Exterior)

Policy 48. New services should be sympathetically located to mitigate heritage impacts.



- Policy 49. Reuse existing service runs where possible to minimise intervention into significant fabric.
- Policy 50. New services are not to be chased into significant fabric as identified in Section 6.5 and 6.6. New services are to be surface mounted, where required.
- Policy 51. Any required new roof plant should be minimal and be designed to avoid any adverse impacts on the significant elevations of the building.

#### Security

- Policy 52. The Great Synagogue and its congregation have particular security needs that progressively need to be updated. Any proposed security measures to be installed at The Great Synagogue should be informed by a heritage consultant to determine solutions that will minimise impact of significant fabric. Any new security measures should be reversible and involve little or no intervention to significant fabric.
- Policy 53. Should Security requirements for the site change in the future, opportunities to remove security elements should be considered. In addition, opportunities to replace or upgrade existing security elements with more discreet, or appropriate elements should also be investigated.

#### Signage and Lighting

- Policy 54. Any future proposed signage for The Great Synagogue should be developed as a holistic signage strategy that is sympathetic to the overall significance and existing use of the building.
- Policy 55. Original or early signs should be retained in situ.
- Policy 56. Lighting strategies should consider the City of Sydney lighting policy. External lighting should be inconspicuous and sympathetic to the heritage character of the elevations and reuse existing/original services, where possible. The qualities of the primary elevations should be emphasised through a co-ordinated lighting strategy.

#### Paint Schemes and Finishes

- Policy 57. Existing unpainted surfaces of exceptional and high significance should remain unpainted. New finishes should be avoided to surfaces of exceptional and high significance, unless applied for conservation reasons.
- Policy 58. Where repainting is proposed, painted external surfaces should continue to be painted in a traditional colour scheme and should consider investigation of original finishes through investigative sampling of painted surfaces (where possible).
- Policy 59. When Sanctuary is due to be repainting, prior to repainting an investigation of the early and original schemes should be investigated. Any new colour schemes should be informed by these findings.

### 9.5.3. Internal Alterations and Additions

#### Guidelines

- Sections 6.5 and 6.6 and of this report provides a schedule of significant internal elements and fabric that should form the basis of approach for all works.
- There is potential for original fabric and finishes to be reinstated within previously altered areas. Any substantial development proposal should include a comprehensive investigation of the interior of the building to identify and recover significant fabric whilst sympathetically adapting the building. Where new works are proposed, the character of the interiors should be recovered and remnant significant elements and finishes retained, conserved and preferably exposed.
- Modifications to the building may be subject to approvals under the *Sydney LEP 2012* and *Heritage Act 1977* and may be subject to preparing a heritage impact statement in accordance with the former Office of Environment and Heritage Guidelines (refer to Section 7).
- The Great Synagogue is currently not air-conditioned. Should this be considered in the future, this must undergo close and detailed heritage assessment and advice to ensure an appropriate methodology is proposed. The methodology must consider impacts to significant fabric and spaces and any cumulative impacts to the site generally.

## Policy

### General

- Policy 60. New work is to:
- Enhance the character of the interiors through the exposure of significant original fabric and spaces: and
  - Retain/conservate elements identified to be of exceptional or high significance within the building.
- Policy 61. Intrusive elements as identified in this CMP may obscure highly significant fabric. Intrusive elements should preferably be removed to expose original fabric and structure, where these elements survive.
- Policy 62. The original internal walls that divide the significant spaces should be retained. This does not preclude sympathetically designed new openings. Where possible, new openings should utilise existing openings and should ensure that the presentation of the spaces of The Great Synagogue is maintained.
- Policy 63. Any new openings proposed to original internal walls should retain either a bulkhead and/or nibs to ensure such openings are legible as a new intervention.
- Policy 64. All original details associated with The Great Synagogue should be retained and conserved.
- Policy 65. All details associated with The Great Synagogue that have been altered or reconstructed should, in the first instance, be retained and conserved. Modifications to these elements are permissible, provided that the works respect the architectural styles of The Great Synagogue and maintains or enhances its identified heritage significance.
- Policy 66. The spaces of the Sanctuary should generally be retained in its current configuration. Any proposed changes, such as returning the bimah to its original location or the relocation of the choir gallery is appropriate provided that the works are consistent with the style, materials and design of the Sanctuary.
- Policy 67. Proposed changes to the spaces of exceptional and high significance may be appropriate where such changes are required due to changes worship practices of the congregation. These changes must undergo detailed heritage assessment and must be informed by advice from appropriate heritage consultants. Consideration should be made of the cumulative impact on significant fabric and spaces.
- Policy 68. The spaces of the Education Centre and Israel Green Auditorium may be reconfigured.

### Services

- Policy 69. The upgrading of services within the building is to comply with the following approach:
- Minimise impact on significant fabric, by maximising the exposure of heritage fabric and minimising penetration through fixings and to heritage fabric, utilising existing penetrations where feasible;
  - New services including sprinkler valves, electrical rooms, plant, ductwork, distribution boards, fire panels, electrical boards etc. should be located in areas of lesser significance, in areas that are not visible, have been previously modified or in the area of existing services (including stairs, lift core, lift motor room and/ or WCs) where possible;
  - Not conflict with window and door openings;
  - Be complimentary to the interiors; and
  - Minimise the extent of services required by enhancing natural ventilation and natural light, where permissible.
- Policy 70. Proposed new services must undergo close and detailed Heritage Assessment by a qualified Heritage Consultant to ensure methodology for installation and operation are appropriate.

## 9.5.4. Compliance with Building Regulations

### Background

In any major upgrade of the buildings, new works will need to comply with the BCA/ NCC and Australian Standards under Section 94 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000*. To minimise adverse interventions and to assist in maximising the exposure of significant heritage fabric, alternate solutions to the deemed to satisfy provisions of the BCA should be derived from performance based assessments particularly in relation to structural provisions, fire resistance and stability, fire separation, provisions for access and egress, sound transmission and isolation and energy efficiency. Professional advice should always be obtained. Should conflicts arise between compliance and cultural significance the Heritage Council of NSW is able to provide advice and assistance in seeking appropriate compliance solutions through its Technical Committee.

### Guidelines

- Any modification to significant fabric or spaces in the building for BCA/ NCC compliance purposes may be subject to undertaking a heritage impact statement in accordance with the former Office of Environment and Heritage Guidelines.
- New works should aim to reduce the environmental impact of new construction and building fit outs.
- Works to achieve sustainability outcomes should consider conservation objectives and may not be supported where required modifications might detrimentally impact on identified significant fabric or finishes.

### Policy

Policy 71. To minimise adverse interventions and to assist in maximising the exposure of significant heritage fabric, alternate solutions deemed to satisfy provisions of the BCA/ NCC should be derived from performance based assessments particularly in relation to structural provisions, fire resistance and stability, fire separation, provisions for access and egress, sound transmission and isolation, and energy efficiency.

### Equitable Access

*The Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)* makes it unlawful to discriminate against people on the grounds of disability. Section 23 of the Act requires equal access to premises which the public, or a section of the public, is entitled or allowed to use.

Policy 72. Prior to designing any new equitable access solutions, investigate best international practice solutions to improve the accessibility of the building for all, while retaining heritage significance in a manner that minimises impact.

Policy 73. Alteration of fabric to facilitate universal access is appropriate, but only after investigation of alternative strategies. Adaptation should be located in spaces of lower significance, minimise damage to fabric identified to be conserved and provide for the removal of the alterations without further damage to retained fabric.

Policy 74. Where compliance with the DDA is likely to have an adverse heritage impact on significant fabric, formal advice on alternative means of compliance shall be sought from expert consultants. Site specific performance-based solutions may be appropriate. Where there is a conflict between the DDA and the heritage significance of the building (particularly the retention of exceptional or high significance), alternative options to achieve compliance should be investigated and dispensation options explored prior to any intervention.

### Fire Separation

*The National Construction Code (NCC)*, incorporating the *Building Code of Australia (BCA)* is a national set of building regulations with some state-specific variations. The performance requirements of the BCA are mandatory, although the introductory sections of the Code make clear that not all requirements will apply to a given case. The Code also includes 'deemed-to-satisfy' requirements which are accepted as meeting the performance requirements. However, the Code also makes provision for alternative solutions to meet the performance requirements, subject to satisfactory verification.

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment (EP&A) Regulation 2000*, all new building work must be carried out in accordance with the *Building Code of Australia*. In the case of an existing building, there is generally no requirement to comply with the BCA unless works are being carried out. However, where works (in particular alterations or additions) are proposed to the place, the building will need to comply on completion with the relevant [performance] requirements of the *Building Code of Australia* (EP&A Act Regulation Clause 145). Where an existing building has a change of use, the structural capacity and fire safety of the building must be appropriate for the new use. For a building which undergoes alterations without a change of use, the structural capacity and fire safety of the building must not be reduced by the work (EP&A Act Regulation Clause 143).

In certain circumstances, exemption can be obtained from the requirements of the BCA under Clause 187 of the EP&A Regulation. Because, in most cases, there will be an acceptable alternative solution to satisfy the performance requirements of the BCA, applications for exemption are sought rarely. If such an application is contemplated, it should be sought at development application stage. The Fire, Access and Services Advisory Panel of the Heritage Council of NSW may be able to assist in resolving conflicts between heritage and regulatory requirements. The building is not to be used for any purpose for which compliance with building regulations would adversely affect its significance. This policy is not intended to rule out, for example, the sympathetic installation of fire safety equipment to enable a building to continue to be used.

Compliance with building regulations is to be achieved using their objectives and performance requirements rather than deemed-to-satisfy provisions. The Building Code of Australia permits alternatives to its deemed-to-satisfy requirements provided that these can be demonstrated to achieve at least the same level of compliance with its performance requirements.

Policy 75. Changes to achieve fire safety may be acceptable provided they occur in areas of lower heritage significance.

## **9.6. CONSERVATION & MAINTENANCE**

### **Background**

Conservation and maintenance aim to conserve and enhance the identified heritage values of the asset wherever possible. Change should be considered with a goal of conserving and enhancing the identified heritage values of the asset, wherever possible, while accommodating its continued and ongoing use.

The Great Synagogue is currently in a very good condition. Regular maintenance and scheduled conservation works are required to be implemented to conserve the heritage significance and identified significant fabric of the place. Ongoing maintenance should be undertaken in accordance with a cyclical maintenance plan.

### **Guidelines**

- Maintenance should aim to conserve and enhance the identified heritage values of the place.
- Fabric identified as having exceptional and high significance is to have priority works undertaken when required. Impact on significant fabric is to be considered and the appropriate approvals sought.
- Maintenance work should be prioritised according to the heritage significance and vulnerability to deterioration of individual elements and fabric.
- Management and maintenance of the place should aim to conserve its heritage significance. Works are to be sympathetic to exceptional and high significant fabric. Repairs are to be undertaken instead of replacement, where possible.
- The minimum standards of maintenance and repair under Section 118 of the *Heritage Act 1977* and as specified in the Heritage Regulations 2012, are recommended to be applied to the place to ensure its long-term conservation. The minimum standards refer to weatherproofing, fire protection, security and essential maintenance, to ensure the significance of the place is retained.
- A Cyclical Maintenance Plan has been prepared in Section 9 of this report to guide the conservation of the fabric of The Great Synagogue. The plan should be adopted as a minimum requirement for maintenance works. It is noted that this schedule will need to be supplemented by further physical investigation into the fabric to identify additional required works and latent conditions.



- Any repair, conservation or reconstruction works to significant elements or facades are to be undertaken with appropriate supervision by a suitably qualified heritage consultant /architect, or relevant materials specialist/s or conservator and with reference to historical documentation.
- Maintenance works to the buildings should be undertaken on a regular basis to avoid the need for substantive conservation works.

## Policy

- Policy 76. Maintenance works and minor repairs should be undertaken in compliance with the minimum standards of maintenance and repair under Section 118 of the *Heritage Act 1977* as specified in the *Heritage Regulations 2012*, and the Standard Exemptions under Section 57(2) of the *Heritage Act 1977*. Advice of a heritage consultant should be sought to establish what constitutes minor work for Standard Exemptions.
- Policy 77. The Cyclical Maintenance Plan (Section 9) should be adopted and implemented as part of the ongoing management and maintenance of the property.
- Policy 78. Any reconstruction or restoration works should be based on historical documentation rather than speculation.
- Policy 79. Materials used for repair and reconstruction should preferably be traditional materials used in the construction of the place. Missing or damaged fabric will be replaced observing the 'like for like' principle. For example, replace with similar fabric (eg timber with same species timber) or replace with new fabric of similar appearance, or replace with different fabric of similar profile and dimensions (whilst remaining apparent as new work).

## Skills and experience

- Policy 80. An experienced heritage consultant/architect should be engaged to guide and provide advice on any proposed works to The Great Synagogue.
- Policy 81. Professional and trade skills with heritage experience appropriate to the site or building's fabric and significance are to be employed to carry out maintenance and conservation works. This is particularly pertinent for any maintenance and conservation works to elements identified to be of high or exceptional significance (Sections 6.5 and 6.6). This is essential to ensure protection of heritage fabric and values as well as optimal use of funding to carry out works.

## Sandstone and Masonry

- Policy 82. Retain and maintain all original and reconstructed sandstone and masonry. Unpainted sandstone and masonry must remain unpainted.
- Policy 83. Where repairs are required to sandstone elements, repair rather than replace, where possible. If new stone is required, use a durable sandstone of similar colour and texture. Do not use sealants on sandstone that prevent the stone from breathing.
- Policy 84. Where brick repairs are required, repair rather than replace, where possible. Any new bricks must match size, shape and colour of the original.
- Policy 85. Retain original mortar and pointing where possible, where replacement or repairs to mortar are required;
- Do not rake joints unless absolutely necessary; retain as much original pointing as possible.
  - Do not widen existing masonry joints under any circumstances.
  - Mortar is to match in appearance including colour and joint profile, strength and composition as the original adjacent.
  - Where previous cement mortar or other inappropriate repairs have been made these should be removed and replaced with lime-rich mortar to match original in accordance with the above.
- Policy 86. Where necessary to reduce rainwater penetration and prolong the life of the stone, masonry features may be capped with lead.

- Policy 87. Elements of the carved stonework which have been replaced by materials other than carved stone, or by carved stonework which poorly replicates the original, should be replaced with indents or whole stones to match the original carved stones as closely as possible, based on the best surviving evidence of the original stonework.
- Policy 88. The existing carved stones should be left in situ for as long as possible. A strategy should be developed to monitor any deterioration. Deteriorated stone should be carefully removed and replaced with new stone as described above. Stones which have been cracked through, but are otherwise sound, should where possible be repaired and continue in use.
- Policy 89. Representative samples of the deteriorated carved stones removed from their original location on the building should be stored on site as part of the record of the original stone carvings.

### **Doors and windows**

- Policy 90. Original doors and windows are to be retained and repaired in preference to removal and/or replacement. Where replacement is unavoidable, any new elements should be date stamped.
- Policy 91. Repaint, varnish or polish timber windows and/or doors in accordance with their original finishes.
- Policy 92. Early window glass should be preserved and re-used wherever possible.
- Policy 93. All original and early leadlight windows should be maintained and conserved.
- Policy 94. The contemporary leadlight windows at Level 5 of the Education Centre may be replaced if required. However, they should be retained on site for future interpretation.

### **Roofing**

- Policy 95. The slate roof of the Sanctuary should be retained and conserved. If slates are required to be replaced, they should be replaced with slate of the same size and similar colour.
- Policy 96. The aluminium roof cladding of the gallery roofs may be replaced, if required with an appropriate material. If the opportunity presents, the roofs can be re-clad with slate to match the original slates of the Sanctuary roof.
- Policy 97. Original and early members of the roof structure on the early building should be preserved and repaired rather than replaced. Slating battens should not be removed.
- Policy 98. Replace gutters, downpipes and rainwater heads using profiles and sizes appropriate to the architectural style of the building where required by condition and based on documentary and on-site evidence.
- Policy 99. Where downpipes are required to be removed, any previous impact to brickwork or sandstone must be repaired, or new downpipes located in the existing position.
- Policy 100. Installation of new downpipes and rainwater heads should not alter fabric of exceptional or high heritage significance (i.e. cut out sections of brickwork or sandstone).

### **Floors**

- Policy 101. The encaustic tiles in the entrance porch and Sanctuary must be maintained and conserved. If the bimah is relocated to its original centre position, the original Ark steps should be re-clad with original tiles. If additional tiles are needed, they should closely match the original tiles.
- Policy 102. The original timber floorboards in the Sanctuary must be retained and conserved. The centre timber floorboards may be removed if it is determined to relocate the bimah to its original location.
- Policy 103. Floor finishes throughout the building should, where appropriate to functional requirements, interpret original or early finishes.
- Policy 104. The existing carpet within the Sanctuary may be replaced, if required with appropriately colours and patterns that interpret original or early finishes.

### **Staircases and balustrades**

- Policy 105. The staircase located in north and south towers should be retained and conserved. This includes the masonry walls, timber stairs, balustrades and soffits, timber windows and architraves.
- Policy 106. Any alterations to the staircases located in the north and south towers and the balustrades of the Ladies Gallery should be justified by a performance-based risk assessment that takes into account the location and use of these elements. Any remedial works should involve the addition of unobtrusive components fixed in a reversible manner with minimal damage to significant fabric. The original fabric should preferably remain unaltered.
- Policy 107. The repurposed balustrade located in the mezzanine of the Israel Green Auditorium should be retained and conserved. If it is proposed to be removed it should be retained on site for future reinstatement

### **Painting**

- Policy 108. All exterior and interior unpainted surfaces originally intended to be unpainted, notably sandstone, should remain unpainted.
- Policy 109. Exposed surfaces originally intended to be unpainted which have subsequently been painted should when practicable be returned to their original state.
- Policy 110. Exposed surfaces which were previously painted and originally intended for painting as a preservative measure should be repainted when needed, bearing in mind, technical and heritage requirements. Original gold leaf decoration should be conserved.
- Policy 111. Original painted surfaces such as the timber ceiling to the Elizabeth Street porch should preferably not be repainted unless the finish or substrate is deteriorating.

### **Signage**

- Policy 112. Various signs and plaques exist throughout The Great Synagogue. Some signage is located in areas of exceptional and high significance, such as those in the Elizabeth Street porch and within the Sanctuary. Any future signage to be located within these significant areas should be developed in tandem with a signage strategy or co-originated signage design to ensure consistency.

## **9.7. MOVEABLE HERITAGE**

### **Background**

The Synagogue contains many valuable moveable items, in particular the seventeen Torah scrolls which are stored in the Ark, together with their vestments and silver decorations. Other items include the chairs on the bimah which appear to have been specially made to match original carvings. Many other items are stored in the A. M. Rosenblum Museum collection and the Rabbi Falk Library.

### **Policy**

- Policy 113. Moveable heritage items should be kept in use wherever possible and preserved in accordance with the best available artefact conservation practice. Any artefacts which become too fragile to be used should remain on site and be conserved in museum conditions.
- Policy 114. New moveable items should be carefully selected to complement and not compete with original items.
- Policy 115. Movable items should continue to be catalogues, cared for and stored by the Museum Curator in accordance with its Collections Policy

## **9.8. CURTILAGE, SETTING AND VIEWS**

### **Background**

The Great Synagogue is identified as a State significant heritage item under the *NSW Heritage Act 1977*, and a heritage item under Schedule 5 of the *Sydney LEP 2012*. The defined heritage curtilage of The Great Synagogue aligns with the lot boundaries of the site.

The Great Synagogue occupies a prominent position on the western side of Hyde Park. The building's visual catchment has been reduced over the twentieth and twenty-first century due new developments, resulting in The Great Synagogue being the smallest building located within its block. Views to The Great Synagogue at its Elizabeth Street frontage are contained to Elizabeth and Park Streets and from within Hyde Park. However, due to the location of two deciduous street trees located directly in front of the Elizabeth Street façade, views to the building are substantially constrained during the warmer months of the year. Views to the Castlereagh Street façade are limited to within the street.

No future works should be undertaken either at the place, or surrounding the place, which would have a substantial and detrimental impact on its relationship the identified significant views to or from The Great Synagogue.

## Policy

Policy 116. The significant facades, overall form and landmark quality of The Great Synagogue should be respected and retained.

Policy 117. The significant visual and associative relationship between the Great Synagogue, the streetscape, Hyde Park and visual relationship with other heritage items within the immediate area should be retained, conserved and interpreted.

Policy 118. Proposed alterations to The Great Synagogue should consider the potential impact on heritage items in the vicinity and the character of the streetscape.

Policy 119. All works to The Great Synagogue should enhance the setting of the site.

Policy 120. Development in the vicinity of The Great Synagogue should enhance the setting of the site, particularly within Hyde Park.

Policy 121. New development should not detract from, or obscure, the significant elevations and overall form of the building. Any proximate redevelopment should be of an appropriate scale to enhance, and not dominate, the setting of The Great Synagogue.

Policy 122. The existing curtilage defined by the *Sydney LEP 2012* and SHR should be retained.

Policy 123. The following significant views should be conserved (refer to Figure 123):

- View 1: View west from directly opposite Great Synagogue on Elizabeth Street.
- View 2: View west from within Hyde Park.
- View 3: View north-west from Park Street.
- View 4: View east from Castlereagh Street.



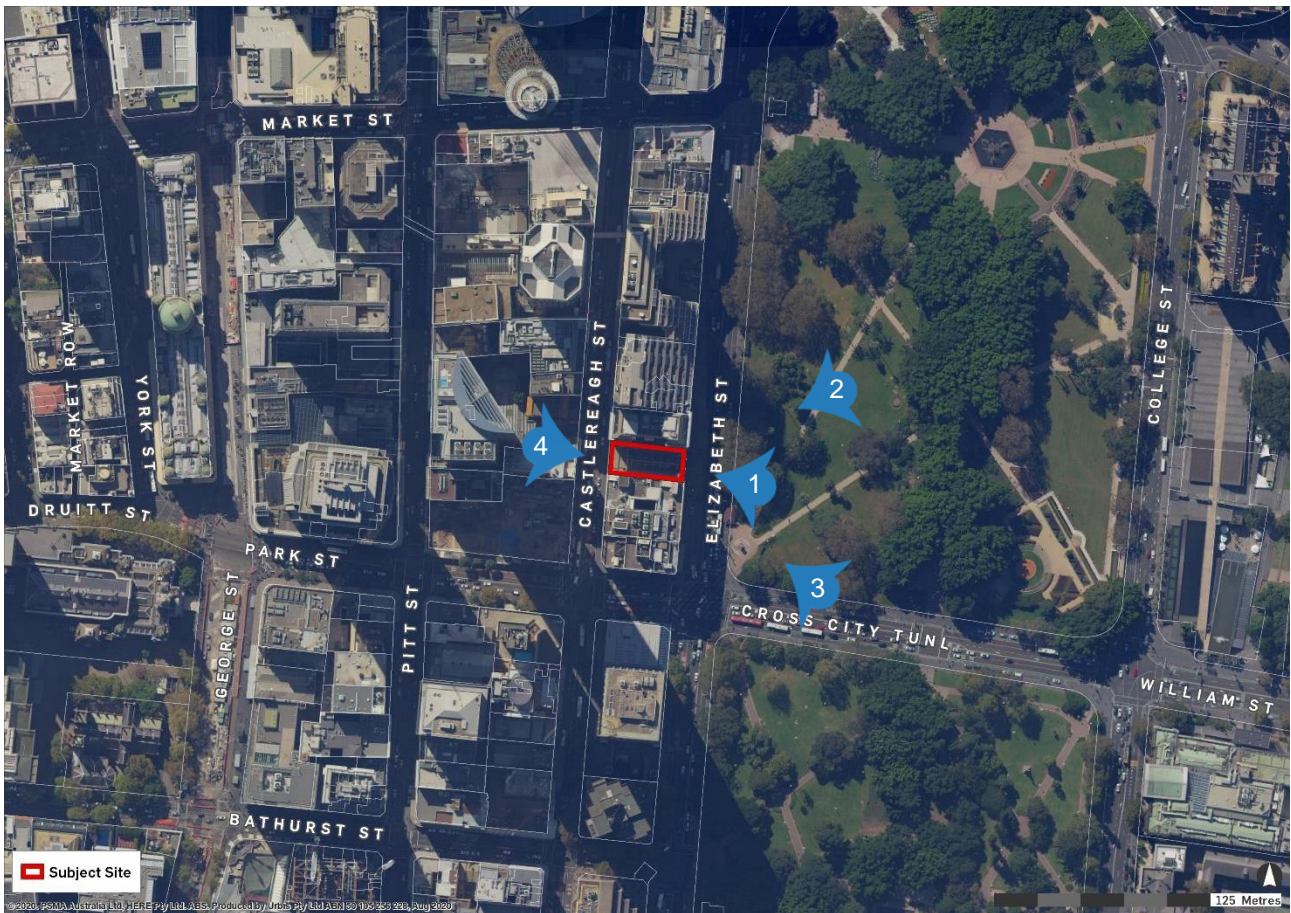


Figure 123 – Views To The Great Synagogue

## 9.9. ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION & MANAGEMENT

### 9.9.1. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

- Policy 124. Prior to undertaking any excavation works as part of development applications within the subject site, geotechnical analysis should be undertaken within the areas where the basement does not extend to bedrock depth to ascertain the presence of absence of natural soils.
- Policy 125. Should geotechnical analysis confirm the presence of natural soil deposits, an Aboriginal Due Diligence (ADD) assessment should be prepared in line with the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (DECCW, 2010) by a suitably qualified archaeologist which identifies the potential for the proposal to impact Aboriginal objects and/or places.
- Policy 126. Should the ADD identify a potential impact – directly or indirectly – to Aboriginal objects and/or places, an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) should be prepared in consultation with the relevant Aboriginal stakeholders and in compliance with the relevant guidelines under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act). As part of the ACHA, an application might be necessary for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Section 90 of the NPW Act.

### 9.9.2. Historical Archaeology

- Policy 127. Prior to undertaking any excavation works as part of a development application within the subject site, a full Historical Archaeological Assessment (HAA) should be prepared by a qualified archaeologist. This will further inform an understanding of the archaeological potential of the site, specifically in relation to areas where the basement does not extend to bedrock and archaeological potential is retained. The HAA should also assess the significance of any identified archaeological resource.

## 9.10. INTERPRETATION & FURTHER INVESTIGATION

### Background

Interpretation is an essential part of the conservation process. A variety of methods may be used to interpret the significant values and associations of The Great Synagogue and identified in the Historical Themes and Assessment of Significance section of this CMP. Methods of interpretation may include conserving original features and fabric, reconstructing missing or damaged elements based on documentary and/or archaeological evidence, introducing interpretative devices (such as discreet labelling), the use of historic photographs, preserving evidence of original finished and fabric (e.g. a cleaned patch of original wall colour), facilitating access for specialist study and/or presentation in publications and websites.

The heritage values of The Great Synagogue should continue to be interpreted for public education and understanding. The history, as outlined in Section 0, and the significant features, as identified in Section 6.5 and 6.6, should form the basis of this interpretation.

The Great Synagogue has rich resources that already interprets the history and significance of the building and the Jewish Community. This includes, the A.M. Rosenblum Museum which contains many valuable items within its collection of numerous Jewish artefacts including textiles, ritual silver paintings, sacred scrolls and religious artefacts. The museum periodically hosts new exhibitions, with the current exhibition entitled *Building: The Great Synagogue in Sydney since 1878*. Which explores the history and architectural significance of the building which has become a heritage landmark and a symbol of the Jewish community's history. The Great Synagogue also includes information on the history of The Great Synagogue and the congregation on their website.

Schools and interest groups are also welcome to books tours of The Great Synagogue. Tours are available Mondays and Tuesdays each week and can be booked via the website (<https://www.greatsynagogue.org.au/information/tours>). The Great Synagogue has also participated in the Sydney Living Museum Sydney Open and should continue to play a part in these annual events.

The Great Synagogue also hold recorded conversations and interviews with their congregation which would serve as a rich resource for future interpretation. This resource should be considered to inform future or additional heritage interpretation elements however should only be used under strict consultation with the Great Synagogue staff and congregation.

### Guidelines

Interpretation should be consistent with the NSW Heritage Manual, the former NSW Heritage Division's *Interpreting Heritage Places and Items: Guidelines* (August 2005) and the NSW Heritage Council's *Heritage Interpretation Policy* (endorsed by the Heritage Council August 2005).

### Policy

- Policy 128. A Heritage Interpretation Plan should be developed for The Great Synagogue as an addendum to this CMP and its recommendations should be undertaken and implemented as soon as practical.
- Policy 129. Interpretation of The Great Synagogue should be included as part of any future development. Interpretation of The Great Synagogue should consider the historical evolution of The Great Synagogue and the Jewish congregation of Sydney and Jewish life and history generally.
- Policy 130. The highest form of interpretation is the retention and conservation of significant fabric, spaces and relationships and accordingly, significant elements should be retained, exposed and interpreted in accordance with their grading of significance.
- Policy 131. Preservation, restoration and reconstruction of key significant elements, areas and fabric are the preferred method of interpreting important attributes and associations of the place. Where adaptation is part of the conservation work, measures should be incorporated to show the location, character and/or role of removed or altered elements, where appropriate.
- Policy 132. Appropriate measures to interpret the history and significance of the site as a whole should be incorporated into any new work. Interpretation measures may include physical site elements

which reflect past features as well as signage incorporating historic photographs and historical accounts.

Policy 133. Archaeological remains should be retained in situ where possible, to assist in interpreting the chronology of the site and the significant values. Any display or storage of archaeological material should be subject to further advice or be in conjunction with future archaeological assessment.

## 9.11. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

The following table lists strategies for implementing the conservation policies for the place. The strategies have been cross-referenced to conservation policies above and prioritised as follows:

- high priority works should be undertaken within the next twelve months;
- medium priority works should be undertaken within the next two to four years; and
- low priority works should be undertaken within the next five years.

Table 20 – Implementation strategies for conservation policies

Strategy	Conservation Policy	Priority
Adopt CMP to guide management of the place	Policy 1	High – From finalisation of report
Implement the Cyclical Maintenance Plan	Policy 77	High – Ongoing and regular process
Provide copies of the CMP to the consent authorities	Policy 3	Upon finalisation of CMP
Prepare and implement Heritage Interpretation Plan	Policy 128	Medium – prepare as part of any major new works
Undertake CMP review	Policy 7	As required/within 5-10 years of subsequent to major adaptive reuse of development proposal
Heritage advice should be obtained from appropriately qualified and experienced conservation consultants for decisions affecting the significant fabric of the site.	Policy 11	High – ongoing

## 10. CYCLICAL MAINTENANCE PLAN

This Cyclical Maintenance Plan was prepared to provide guidance for the ongoing maintenance and management of heritage fabric at the property. Minimum standards of maintenance and repair under Section 118 of the *Heritage Act 1977* and as specified in the *Heritage Regulations 2012*, must be applied to the subject site to ensure its long-term conservation, particularly in relation to neighbouring properties and the overall maintenance standards of the conservation area/precinct. The minimum standards refer to water tightness, fire protection, security and essential maintenance, to ensure that the good condition of the property is maintained. It is also intended to protect the neighbouring heritage listed properties from any damage or adverse impacts associated with a lack of adequate maintenance at the subject site.

This Cyclical Maintenance Plan outlines the following information:

- Current condition and immediate works;
- Required ongoing maintenance; and
- Monitoring and maintenance requirements and recording.

To prepare this maintenance plan a building survey was carried out internally and externally by Mott MacDonald on 10 June 2020 to identify the current condition. Refer to Appendix F for the condition assessment. Further analysis was also undertaken by Shreeji Consultant Structural Civil Engineers Maintenance. Defects that are identified as existing as backlogged are outlined under the schedule as existing.

In addition, and in accordance the recommendations from Mott Macdonald (2020), a further inspection has been undertaken by AC Been Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd in May 2023. This updated report has concluded that generally, the observable defects in structural fabric of the building is as outlined in the Mott MacDonald report (2020). The updated report also noted some additional defects and recommended actions, however no urgent or critical repairs were noted.

The 2023 report with an addition schedule of defects has been attached at Appendix G for reference. Both reports by Mott MacDonald(2020) and AC Been (2023) should be referred to.

### 10.1. MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

This Cyclical Maintenance Plan should inform an ongoing plan of maintenance for the place which should be implemented by a nominated manager to maintain the condition of the building. It is noted that an existing maintenance schedule for buildings services is maintained, however, further details as outlined in this cyclical maintenance plan should be adopted to ensure a whole of site approach.

The responsibilities of a nominated manager are outlined as below:

- Ensure the continuous protective care of The Great Synagogue is carried out in accordance with the cyclical maintenance plan;
- Ensuring responsible and competent trades people experienced in heritage work and traditional materials and methods carry out maintenance on the site;
- Maintaining an up to date trade persons register;
- Ensuring all maintenance work carried out, including description of the work, date of completion, estimated and actual cost, contractor and warranties have been properly recorded in a "Maintenance Log Book";
- Recording reported defects, emergency corrective maintenance and expenses;
- Ensuring all periodic inspection surveys have been done in accordance with the Maintenance Plan;
- Ensuring all work to be carried out does not detrimentally affect the significant fabric of The Great Synagogue (significant elements have been identified in Section 6.5 of this CMP);
- Programming and coordinating maintenance work involving a number of interrelated works to be carried out in appropriate order and working hours;



- Ensuring maintenance works to be carried out do not disturb and/or conflict with the requirements of the occupants and the users of the building. Note that some work may need to be carried out “out of hours”;
- Ensuring documentation (e.g. drawings and samples of workmanship, materials or components) of the maintenance and repair works, as appropriate for the job, have been done by specialists where necessary; and
- Maintaining samples for future identification and usage as reference.

## 10.2. CURRENT CONDITION AND IMMEDIATE WORKS

The Great Synagogue is currently in a very good condition. The separate document *Great Synagogue Condition Assessment* (June 2020) by Mott Macdonald provides a brief analysis of the condition of the building in its present form. Generally, it has been determined that the building was overall in a very good condition. (see Section 2.4 and Appendix F). A schedule of defects is also included within the report. All defects noted within the report require general monitoring and do not require any immediate works. The only defect noted that did require further investigation is in the north tower to check the condition of the top stones and the severity of dislodgement. This has since been inspected by Shreeji Consultant Structural Engineers in a Sandstone Inspection Report in October 2020. The dislodged stones were noted to not warrant any further action.

In addition, and in accordance the recommendations from Mott Macdonald (2020), a further inspection has been undertaken by AC Been Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd in May 2023. This updated report has concluded that generally, the observable defects in structural fabric of the building is as outlined in the Mott MacDonald report (2020). The updated report also noted some additional defects and recommended actions, however no urgent or critical repairs were noted.

The 2023 report has been attached at Appendix G for reference.

Future routine maintenance works noted in in these reports have also been incorporated into (Table 22 – Cyclical Maintenance Plan).

## 10.3. FUTURE EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

Emergency maintenance and repairs due to accidental, unforeseen or storm damage should be repaired as soon as possible to prevent further damage or degradation to the item. Any short-term emergency, temporary or short term repairs should be reversible and not damage or remove significant fabric.

Table 21 – Emergency Maintenance and Repairs

Item	Frequency
Blocked or broken stormwater or sewer lines	Repair as they occur as soon as possible
Clearing of blocked gutters or downpipes	Repair as they occur as soon as possible
Broken water supply lines	Repair as they occur as soon as possible
Damaged or defective light fittings	Repair as they occur as soon as possible
Vandalism that allows access to the building	Repair immediately with temporary measure eg screw fixed ply sheeting to broken window.
Storm damage to external fabric	Repair as they occur as soon as possible
Breaking of defective security including locks latches and alarms	Repair as they occur as soon as possible

## 10.4. MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

Avoid the following:

### Roofing

- Walking on roof sheeting.
- Combing dissimilar metals (e.g. Copper surfaces draining onto galvanised roof sheeting, gutters or downpipes).
- Replacing original roof coverings, unless approved by Heritage Architect.
- Cement mortar repairs.
- Hosing leaves into downpipes.
- Placing ladders or leaning objects onto soft copper or stainless-steel gutters or ridges.
- Replacing roofing in part with roofing of alternate material, design or colour.
- If replacing 100% of roof, advice must be sought from heritage consultant on suitable replacement, as existing may be detracting.

### Masonry (brickwork, stone and terracotta)

- Covering wall vents and damp-proof courses with garden beds, soil or structure.
- Applying anti-graffiti or protective coatings to stonework unless specifically tested and approved for stone and approved by a heritage architect or consultant.
- Inappropriate cleaning including, water jets or pressure washers, wire brushes or chemical detergents that may damage masonry or mortar.

### Joinery

- Replacing original hardware unless necessary and preferably approved by heritage architect or consultant.
- Removing original hardware, keep in place and install new adjacent.
- Installing or replacing hardware with new not in keeping with the building.
- Installing one way or different coloured glass when replacing glazing.
- Replacing original joinery, patch repair where required.
- Using difference timber species to repair joinery where possible.

### Paint

- Painting surfaces not previously painted such as face brick, stone works and terracotta details.
- Using inappropriate colours.
- Stripping paint surfaces back to substrate without heritage advice (evidence of existing colour schemes must be retained).

Table 22 – Cyclical Maintenance Plan

Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
<b>External</b>					
<b>General</b> Cleaning		Clean external painted masonry surfaces (including painted surfaces). Clean down with water to remove built up dust and pollutants. Do not use acid or abrasive blasting. Use only low-medium pressure water (maximum 100psi) and weak surfactants.  Clean other surfaces (e.g. painted timber): Blowvac, vacuum, brush down only or use low pressure water only.			
<b>Generally</b> Pest Control		Termite inspection and report by suitably qualified pest inspector.			
<b>Paint Generally</b> External	Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.		Previously painted surfaces. Prepare and paint in approved colours.	Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare	

Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
	Inspection including; flaking or chalking that may indicate damp.		Including Painted metal (i.e. the TGS gates).	repair and maintenance report.	
<b>Timber joinery</b>  <b>External</b>  Window details, doors, timber boarded ceiling to porch etc.	Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.  Inspection including; rotting, damage, loose or damaged mouldings, parting beads and stop beads, binding sashes, weather tight door fit, cracked or broken glass, weathered sills, decay, broken sash cords, hardware and locks are in working order.		Previously painted surfaces. Prepare and paint in approved colours	Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.	
<b>Masonry</b>  <b>(stone and brickwork)</b>  Walls, sills, parapets, footings	Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel as soon as possible.  Inspection including; vegetation growth, cracking, delamination, crumbling, missing or flaking pointing, evidence of surface salt, damp proof			Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.	Clean as necessary. Determine appropriate cleaning method in consultation with the heritage consultant to avoid damage to masonry. Abrasive methods must be avoided.



Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
	courses and water egress and shedding.				<p>Do not apply any surface treatments unless required to solve specific issues.</p> <p>Determine treatments in consultation with heritage consultants and manufacturer.</p> <p>Where necessary, repair or replace deteriorated material with new material that matches the original. Determine appropriate material in consultation with heritage consultant. Works to be undertaken by an experienced stonemason.</p> <p>If repointing is required, only repoint joints where there is evidence of deterioration. Determine appropriate composition, colour and striking in consultation with the heritage consultant.</p>

Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
<p><b>Rainwater goods</b></p> <p>Gutters, rainwater heads, downpipes, support bracket etc.</p>	<p>Inspection, condition &amp; repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.</p> <p>Gutter and downpipes:</p> <p>Inspect gutters and downpipes on a <u>quarterly</u> basis to ensure they are clear any debris and ensure they are free flowing.</p> <p>Check brackets are all secure, and are draining effectively.</p>	<p>Inspection, condition &amp; repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.</p> <p>Inspection including; damage, weathering, deterioration, corrosion, blockages, water ingress, fall of gutters, brackets downpipes, sumps and rainwater heads.</p>	<p>If previously painted:</p> <p>Prepare and paint in approved colours</p>	<p>Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.</p>	
<p><b>Lead Weathering's</b></p>		<p>Inspection, condition &amp; repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.</p> <p>Inspect joints, drips etc.</p>		<p>Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.</p>	<p>Any works to be undertaken by experienced leadwork contractor.</p> <p>Traditional methods to be applied for laying and fixing.</p>

Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
<b>Roofing</b>  <b>Corrugated iron and metal</b>  Roof sheeting, ridge capping, vents, fixings etc.		Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.  Inspection including;  Damage, weathering, rust stains around fixings, deterioration, corrosion, dissimilar metals, capping  Repairs as required in report.		Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.  Complete unscheduled maintenance and conservation repairs as required in report.	
<b>Roofing</b>  Slate	Ensure that the roof materials provide a weather tight covering for the structure.	Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.  Inspection including;  Tiles that have slipped, cracked, broken or become porous. Inspect for timber shingles that have slipped, cracked, decayed or badly formed		Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.	Any deteriorated slate roofing should be replaced with that which matches the original. This should be chosen in consultation with the heritage consultant.
<b>Roofing</b>			Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.	Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare	

Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
Flashings and capping's.  Over, & under flashings,			Inspection including; Loose, raised, lifted, slipped deteriorated lifting and missing flashings. Also check bedding is secure/ Check for dissimilar metals.	repair and maintenance report.	
<b>Glass</b>	Surface cleaning using water and detergent (as required).				If replacement glazing is required match the new glazing to the existing glazing in the respective window/door.  Determine appropriate type in consultation with the heritage consultant.  Do not use reflective films over glass.
<b>Metal Work</b>			High level Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel		Clean as necessary with method determined in consultation with heritage consultant and manufacturer. Cleaning methods must not alter colour or texture of metal.
<b>Structure (general)</b>			Investigate structural members and systems for		



Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
			<p>weakened points. Inspection, condition &amp; repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.</p> <p>Inspection including;</p> <p>Sub-floor, walls and roof structure for termites, dry rot, wet rot, ant caps, unapproved penetrations, sagging and subsidence.</p> <p>Termite &amp; Pest Inspection and Report by Specialist</p>		
<b>Security</b>	<p>Inspect walls, roof and other building elements, doors, windows and other closures, glazing, locking and latching mechanisms. Inspect electronic surveillance and alarm systems and any other security components</p>				
<b>Internal</b>					

Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
<b>Paint Generally</b>		<p>Inspection, condition &amp; repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.</p> <p>Inspection including; flaking or chalking that may indicate damp.</p>		<p>Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.</p> <p>Previously painted surfaces. Prepare and paint in approved colours</p>	
<b>Walls</b>	Surface clean with damp cloth	<p>Inspection, condition &amp; repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.</p> <p>Inspection including; checking for cracks indicating structural movement (if substantial structural engineer to inspect)</p> <p>Repair to match existing as required.</p>	<p>Inspection, condition &amp; repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.</p> <p>Inspection including; plaster and tiled surfaces and finishes for cracking, drummy and failing plaster, evidence of rising or falling damp</p> <p>Repair to match existing as required.</p>	<p>Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.</p> <p>Complete unscheduled maintenance and conservation repairs as required in report.</p> <p>Previously painted surfaces. Prepare and paint in approved colours</p>	

Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
<b>Floors (general)</b>	Vacuum as required  Clean spillages as they occur.		Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.  Inspection including;  Loose seams and unsecured edges.		
<b>Timber joinery</b>  <b>Internal</b>  Windows, doors, balustrades and handrails etc.		Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel. Repairs as required in report.  Inspection including; rotting, damage, loose or damaged mouldings, parting beads and stop beads, binding sashes, weather tight door fit, cracked or broken glass, weathered sills, decay, broken sash cords, hardware and locks are in working order.	Inspect condition of surface finish for defective or failing finish. If repainting or refinishing is required within the next five years schedule.	Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report. Complete unscheduled maintenance and conservation repairs as required in report.  If previously painted, prepare and paint in approved colours. Alternate finishes: Inspect for condition and refinish if required.	
<b>Ceilings</b>		Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel. Inspection including;		Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare	

Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
		<p>checking for cracks indicating structural roof movement, sagging ceilings and water damage (if substantial structural engineer to inspect)</p> <p>Repair to match existing as required.</p>		<p>repair and maintenance report.</p> <p>Prepare and paint in approved colours</p>	
<b>Ventilation</b>					
<b>Sub Floor</b>		<p>Check sub floor ventilation is clear of obstructions and debris and functioning correctly.</p> <p>Check sub floor for signs of damp and sub floor walls for signs of rising damp.</p>		<p>Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.</p> <p>Complete unscheduled maintenance and conservation repairs as required in report.</p>	
<b>Walls</b> Internal	Surface clean with damp cloth	Check wall vents are functioning free from obstructions paint build up and operating correctly if mechanical.		Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare	



Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
				repair and maintenance report.	
<b>Roof space</b>		Check vents are functioning free from obstructions paint build up and operating correctly if mechanical.		Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.	
<b>Services</b>					
<b>Services</b> Fire services	<p>Inspection, condition &amp; repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.</p> <p>Inspection including; fire services and fixtures including sprinkler and hydrant line, exits signs, smoke detectors and controls, fire control room, fire doors etc. in accordance with Australian Standards and regulations.</p> <p>Repair or upgrade as required in report.</p>			Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and fire consultant and prepare repair and maintenance report.	

Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
<b>Services</b>  Stormwater, water and sewage	Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.  Inspection including; dish drains and sumps for blockages, internal and external taps for leaks and drips.			Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.	
<b>Services</b>  Electricity	Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel.  Inspection including; all electrical appliances and systems are in safe working order approved by a qualified electrician.			Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and prepare repair and maintenance report.	
<b>Services</b>  Air Conditioning	Inspection, condition & repair/maintenance report by appropriate personnel and air conditioning contractor.  Repairs as required in report			Detailed inspection by Heritage Consultant / Architect with appropriate personnel and air conditioning specialist and prepare repair and maintenance report.	

Item	Frequency				Further Comments
	12 Months or less	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
<b>Plaques/interpretation</b>	Wipe with lint free soft cloth as required				Do not clean with abrasive agents

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This report has been prepared with due care and diligence by Urbis and the statements and opinions given by Urbis in this report are given in good faith and in the reasonable belief that they are correct and not misleading, subject to the limitations above.

**APPENDIX A**

**BURRA CHARTER**

# THE BURRA CHARTER

The Australia ICOMOS Charter for  
Places of Cultural Significance 2013



Australia ICOMOS Incorporated  
International Council on Monuments and Sites

## **ICOMOS**

ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) is a non-governmental professional organisation formed in 1965, with headquarters in Paris. ICOMOS is primarily concerned with the philosophy, terminology, methodology and techniques of cultural heritage conservation. It is closely linked to UNESCO, particularly in its role under the World Heritage Convention 1972 as UNESCO's principal adviser on cultural matters related to World Heritage. The 11,000 members of ICOMOS include architects, town planners, demographers, archaeologists, geographers, historians, conservators, anthropologists, scientists, engineers and heritage administrators. Members in the 103 countries belonging to ICOMOS are formed into National Committees and participate in a range of conservation projects, research work, intercultural exchanges and cooperative activities. ICOMOS also has 27 International Scientific Committees that focus on particular aspects of the conservation field. ICOMOS members meet triennially in a General Assembly.

## **Australia ICOMOS**

The Australian National Committee of ICOMOS (Australia ICOMOS) was formed in 1976. It elects an Executive Committee of 15 members, which is responsible for carrying out national programs and participating in decisions of ICOMOS as an international organisation. It provides expert advice as required by ICOMOS, especially in its relationship with the World Heritage Committee. Australia ICOMOS acts as a national and international link between public authorities, institutions and individuals involved in the study and conservation of all places of cultural significance. Australia ICOMOS members participate in a range of conservation activities including site visits, training, conferences and meetings.

## **Revision of the Burra Charter**

The Burra Charter was first adopted in 1979 at the historic South Australian mining town of Burra. Minor revisions were made in 1981 and 1988, with more substantial changes in 1999.

Following a review this version was adopted by Australia ICOMOS in October 2013.

The review process included replacement of the 1988 Guidelines to the Burra Charter with Practice Notes which are available at: [australia.icomos.org](http://australia.icomos.org)

Australia ICOMOS documents are periodically reviewed and we welcome any comments.

## **Citing the Burra Charter**

The full reference is *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013*. Initial textual references should be in the form of the *Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, 2013* and later references in the short form (*Burra Charter*).

## **© Australia ICOMOS Incorporated 2013**

The Burra Charter consists of the Preamble, Articles, Explanatory Notes and the flow chart.

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Cover photograph by Ian Stapleton.

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# The Burra Charter

(The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013)

## Preamble

Considering the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1964), and the Resolutions of the 5th General Assembly of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) (Moscow 1978), the Burra Charter was adopted by Australia ICOMOS (the Australian National Committee of ICOMOS) on 19 August 1979 at Burra, South Australia. Revisions were adopted on 23 February 1981, 23 April 1988, 26 November 1999 and 31 October 2013.

The Burra Charter provides guidance for the conservation and management of places of cultural significance (cultural heritage places), and is based on the knowledge and experience of Australia ICOMOS members.

Conservation is an integral part of the management of places of cultural significance and is an ongoing responsibility.

### Who is the Charter for?

The Charter sets a standard of practice for those who provide advice, make decisions about, or undertake works to places of cultural significance, including owners, managers and custodians.

### Using the Charter

The Charter should be read as a whole. Many articles are interdependent.

The Charter consists of:

- Definitions Article 1
- Conservation Principles Articles 2–13
- Conservation Processes Articles 14–25
- Conservation Practices Articles 26–34
- The Burra Charter Process flow chart.

The key concepts are included in the Conservation Principles section and these are further developed in the Conservation Processes and Conservation Practice sections. The flow chart explains the Burra Charter Process (Article 6) and is an integral part of

the Charter. Explanatory Notes also form part of the Charter.

The Charter is self-contained, but aspects of its use and application are further explained, in a series of Australia ICOMOS Practice Notes, in *The Illustrated Burra Charter*, and in other guiding documents available from the Australia ICOMOS web site: [australia.icomos.org](http://australia.icomos.org).

### What places does the Charter apply to?

The Charter can be applied to all types of places of cultural significance including natural, Indigenous and historic places with cultural values.

The standards of other organisations may also be relevant. These include the *Australian Natural Heritage Charter*, *Ask First: a guide to respecting Indigenous heritage places and values* and *Significance 2.0: a guide to assessing the significance of collections*.

National and international charters and other doctrine may be relevant. See [australia.icomos.org](http://australia.icomos.org).

### Why conserve?

Places of cultural significance enrich people's lives, often providing a deep and inspirational sense of connection to community and landscape, to the past and to lived experiences. They are historical records, that are important expressions of Australian identity and experience. Places of cultural significance reflect the diversity of our communities, telling us about who we are and the past that has formed us and the Australian landscape. They are irreplaceable and precious.

These places of cultural significance must be conserved for present and future generations in accordance with the principle of inter-generational equity.

The Burra Charter advocates a cautious approach to change: do as much as necessary to care for the place and to make it useable, but otherwise change it as little as possible so that its cultural significance is retained.



## Articles

### Article 1. Definitions

For the purposes of this Charter:

- 1.1 *Place* means a geographically defined area. It may include elements, objects, spaces and views. Place may have tangible and intangible dimensions.
- 1.2 *Cultural significance* means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations.  
  
Cultural significance is embodied in the *place* itself, its *fabric*, *setting*, *use*, *associations*, *meanings*, *records*, *related places* and *related objects*.  
  
Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.
- 1.3 *Fabric* means all the physical material of the *place* including elements, fixtures, contents and objects.
- 1.4 *Conservation* means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural significance*.
- 1.5 *Maintenance* means the continuous protective care of a *place*, and its *setting*.  
  
Maintenance is to be distinguished from repair which involves *restoration* or *reconstruction*.
- 1.6 *Preservation* means maintaining a *place* in its existing state and retarding deterioration.
- 1.7 *Restoration* means returning a *place* to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing elements without the introduction of new material.
- 1.8 *Reconstruction* means returning a *place* to a known earlier state and is distinguished from *restoration* by the introduction of new material.
- 1.9 *Adaptation* means changing a *place* to suit the existing *use* or a proposed use.
- 1.10 *Use* means the functions of a *place*, including the activities and traditional and customary practices that may occur at the place or are dependent on the place.

## Explanatory Notes

Place has a broad scope and includes natural and cultural features. Place can be large or small: for example, a memorial, a tree, an individual building or group of buildings, the location of an historical event, an urban area or town, a cultural landscape, a garden, an industrial plant, a shipwreck, a site with in situ remains, a stone arrangement, a road or travel route, a community meeting place, a site with spiritual or religious connections.

The term cultural significance is synonymous with cultural heritage significance and cultural heritage value.

Cultural significance may change over time and with use.

Understanding of cultural significance may change as a result of new information.

Fabric includes building interiors and sub-surface remains, as well as excavated material.

Natural elements of a place may also constitute fabric. For example the rocks that signify a Dreaming place.

Fabric may define spaces and views and these may be part of the significance of the place.

See also Article 14.

Examples of protective care include:

- maintenance – regular inspection and cleaning of a place, e.g. mowing and pruning in a garden;
- repair involving restoration – returning dislodged or relocated fabric to its original location e.g. loose roof gutters on a building or displaced rocks in a stone bora ring;
- repair involving reconstruction – replacing decayed fabric with new fabric

It is recognised that all places and their elements change over time at varying rates.

New material may include recycled material salvaged from other places. This should not be to the detriment of any place of cultural significance.

Use includes for example cultural practices commonly associated with Indigenous peoples such as ceremonies, hunting and fishing, and fulfillment of traditional obligations. Exercising a right of access may be a use.

## Articles

- 1.11 *Compatible use* means a *use* which respects the *cultural significance* of a *place*. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.
- 1.12 *Setting* means the immediate and extended environment of a *place* that is part of or contributes to its *cultural significance* and distinctive character.
- 1.13 *Related place* means a *place* that contributes to the *cultural significance* of another place.
- 1.14 *Related object* means an object that contributes to the *cultural significance* of a *place* but is not at the place.
- 1.15 *Associations* mean the connections that exist between people and a *place*.
- 1.16 *Meanings* denote what a *place* signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses to people.
- 1.17 *Interpretation* means all the ways of presenting the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

# Conservation Principles

## Article 2. Conservation and management

- 2.1 *Places of cultural significance* should be conserved.
- 2.2 The aim of *conservation* is to retain the *cultural significance* of a *place*.
- 2.3 *Conservation* is an integral part of good management of *places of cultural significance*.
- 2.4 *Places of cultural significance* should be safeguarded and not put at risk or left in a vulnerable state.

## Article 3. Cautious approach

- 3.1 *Conservation* is based on a respect for the existing *fabric, use, associations* and *meanings*. It requires a cautious approach of changing as much as necessary but as little as possible.
- 3.2 Changes to a *place* should not distort the physical or other evidence it provides, nor be based on conjecture.

## Article 4. Knowledge, skills and techniques

- 4.1 *Conservation* should make use of all the knowledge, skills and disciplines which can contribute to the study and care of the *place*.

## Explanatory Notes

Setting may include: structures, spaces, land, water and sky; the visual setting including views to and from the place, and along a cultural route; and other sensory aspects of the setting such as smells and sounds. Setting may also include historical and contemporary relationships, such as use and activities, social and spiritual practices, and relationships with other places, both tangible and intangible.

Objects at a place are encompassed by the definition of place, and may or may not contribute to its cultural significance.

Associations may include social or spiritual values and cultural responsibilities for a place.

Meanings generally relate to intangible dimensions such as symbolic qualities and memories.

Interpretation may be a combination of the treatment of the fabric (e.g. maintenance, restoration, reconstruction); the use of and activities at the place; and the use of introduced explanatory material.

The traces of additions, alterations and earlier treatments to the fabric of a place are evidence of its history and uses which may be part of its significance. Conservation action should assist and not impede their understanding.

## Articles

4.2 Traditional techniques and materials are preferred for the *conservation* of significant *fabric*. In some circumstances modern techniques and materials which offer substantial conservation benefits may be appropriate.

### Article 5. Values

5.1 *Conservation* of a *place* should identify and take into consideration all aspects of cultural and natural significance without unwarranted emphasis on any one value at the expense of others.

5.2 Relative degrees of *cultural significance* may lead to different *conservation* actions at a place.

### Article 6. Burra Charter Process

6.1 The *cultural significance* of a *place* and other issues affecting its future are best understood by a sequence of collecting and analysing information before making decisions. Understanding cultural significance comes first, then development of policy and finally management of the place in accordance with the policy. This is the Burra Charter Process.

6.2 Policy for managing a *place* must be based on an understanding of its *cultural significance*.

6.3 Policy development should also include consideration of other factors affecting the future of a *place* such as the owner's needs, resources, external constraints and its physical condition.

6.4 In developing an effective policy, different ways to retain *cultural significance* and address other factors may need to be explored.

6.5 Changes in circumstances, or new information or perspectives, may require reiteration of part or all of the Burra Charter Process.

### Article 7. Use

7.1 Where the *use* of a *place* is of *cultural significance* it should be retained.

7.2 A *place* should have a *compatible use*.

## Explanatory Notes

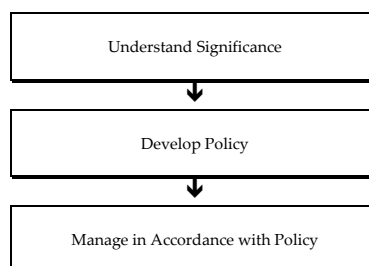
The use of modern materials and techniques must be supported by firm scientific evidence or by a body of experience.

Conservation of places with natural significance is explained in the Australian Natural Heritage Charter. This Charter defines natural significance to mean the importance of ecosystems, biodiversity and geodiversity for their existence value or for present or future generations, in terms of their scientific, social, aesthetic and life-support value.

In some cultures, natural and cultural values are indivisible.

A cautious approach is needed, as understanding of cultural significance may change. This article should not be used to justify actions which do not retain cultural significance.

The Burra Charter Process, or sequence of investigations, decisions and actions, is illustrated below and in more detail in the accompanying flow chart which forms part of the Charter.



Options considered may include a range of uses and changes (e.g. adaptation) to a place.

The policy should identify a use or combination of uses or constraints on uses that retain the cultural significance of the place. New use of a place should involve minimal change to significant fabric and use; should respect associations and meanings; and where appropriate should provide for continuation of activities and practices which contribute to the cultural significance of the place.

## Articles

### Article 8. Setting

*Conservation* requires the retention of an appropriate *setting*. This includes retention of the visual and sensory setting, as well as the retention of spiritual and other cultural relationships that contribute to the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

New construction, demolition, intrusions or other changes which would adversely affect the setting or relationships are not appropriate.

### Article 9. Location

- 9.1 The physical location of a *place* is part of its *cultural significance*. A building, work or other element of a place should remain in its historical location. Relocation is generally unacceptable unless this is the sole practical means of ensuring its survival.
- 9.2 Some buildings, works or other elements of *places* were designed to be readily removable or already have a history of relocation. Provided such buildings, works or other elements do not have significant links with their present location, removal may be appropriate.
- 9.3 If any building, work or other element is moved, it should be moved to an appropriate location and given an appropriate *use*. Such action should not be to the detriment of any *place* of *cultural significance*.

### Article 10. Contents

Contents, fixtures and objects which contribute to the *cultural significance* of a *place* should be retained at that place. Their removal is unacceptable unless it is: the sole means of ensuring their security and *preservation*; on a temporary basis for treatment or exhibition; for cultural reasons; for health and safety; or to protect the place. Such contents, fixtures and objects should be returned where circumstances permit and it is culturally appropriate.

### Article 11. Related places and objects

The contribution which *related places* and *related objects* make to the *cultural significance* of the *place* should be retained.

### Article 12. Participation

*Conservation*, *interpretation* and management of a *place* should provide for the participation of people for whom the place has significant *associations* and *meanings*, or who have social, spiritual or other cultural responsibilities for the place.

### Article 13. Co-existence of cultural values

Co-existence of cultural values should always be recognised, respected and encouraged. This is especially important in cases where they conflict.

## Explanatory Notes

Setting is explained in Article 1.12.

For example, the repatriation (returning) of an object or element to a place may be important to Indigenous cultures, and may be essential to the retention of its cultural significance.

Article 28 covers the circumstances where significant fabric might be disturbed, for example, during archaeological excavation.

Article 33 deals with significant fabric that has been removed from a place.

For some places, conflicting cultural values may affect policy development and management decisions. In Article 13, the term cultural values refers to those beliefs which are important to a cultural group, including but not limited to political, religious, spiritual and moral beliefs. This is broader than values associated with cultural significance.

# Conservation Processes

## Article 14. Conservation processes

*Conservation* may, according to circumstance, include the processes of: retention or reintroduction of a *use*; retention of *associations* and *meanings*; *maintenance*, *preservation*, *restoration*, *reconstruction*, *adaptation* and *interpretation*; and will commonly include a combination of more than one of these. Conservation may also include retention of the contribution that *related places* and *related objects* make to the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

## Article 15. Change

15.1 Change may be necessary to retain *cultural significance*, but is undesirable where it reduces cultural significance. The amount of change to a *place* and its *use* should be guided by the *cultural significance* of the place and its appropriate *interpretation*.

15.2 Changes which reduce *cultural significance* should be reversible, and be reversed when circumstances permit.

15.3 Demolition of significant *fabric* of a *place* is generally not acceptable. However, in some cases minor demolition may be appropriate as part of *conservation*. Removed significant fabric should be reinstated when circumstances permit.

15.4 The contributions of all aspects of *cultural significance* of a *place* should be respected. If a place includes *fabric*, *uses*, *associations* or *meanings* of different periods, or different aspects of cultural significance, emphasising or interpreting one period or aspect at the expense of another can only be justified when what is left out, removed or diminished is of slight cultural significance and that which is emphasised or interpreted is of much greater cultural significance.

## Article 16. Maintenance

*Maintenance* is fundamental to *conservation*. Maintenance should be undertaken where *fabric* is of *cultural significance* and its maintenance is necessary to retain that *cultural significance*.

## Article 17. Preservation

*Preservation* is appropriate where the existing *fabric* or its condition constitutes evidence of *cultural significance*, or where insufficient evidence is available to allow other *conservation* processes to be carried out.

Conservation normally seeks to slow deterioration unless the significance of the place dictates otherwise. There may be circumstances where no action is required to achieve conservation.

When change is being considered, including for a temporary use, a range of options should be explored to seek the option which minimises any reduction to its cultural significance.

It may be appropriate to change a place where this reflects a change in cultural meanings or practices at the place, but the significance of the place should always be respected.

Reversible changes should be considered temporary. Non-reversible change should only be used as a last resort and should not prevent future conservation action.

Maintaining a place may be important to the fulfilment of traditional laws and customs in some Indigenous communities and other cultural groups.

Preservation protects fabric without obscuring evidence of its construction and use. The process should always be applied:

- where the evidence of the fabric is of such significance that it should not be altered; or
- where insufficient investigation has been carried out to permit policy decisions to be taken in accord with Articles 26 to 28.

New work (e.g. stabilisation) may be carried out in association with preservation when its purpose is the physical protection of the fabric and when it is consistent with Article 22.



## Articles

### Article 18. Restoration and reconstruction

*Restoration and reconstruction* should reveal culturally significant aspects of the *place*.

### Article 19. Restoration

*Restoration* is appropriate only if there is sufficient evidence of an earlier state of the *fabric*.

### Article 20. Reconstruction

20.1 *Reconstruction* is appropriate only where a *place* is incomplete through damage or alteration, and only where there is sufficient evidence to reproduce an earlier state of the *fabric*. In some cases, reconstruction may also be appropriate as part of a *use* or practice that retains the *cultural significance* of the place.

20.2 *Reconstruction* should be identifiable on close inspection or through additional *interpretation*.

### Article 21. Adaptation

21.1 *Adaptation* is acceptable only where the adaptation has minimal impact on the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

21.2 *Adaptation* should involve minimal change to significant *fabric*, achieved only after considering alternatives.

### Article 22. New work

22.1 New work such as additions or other changes to the *place* may be acceptable where it respects and does not distort or obscure the *cultural significance* of the place, or detract from its *interpretation* and appreciation.

22.2 New work should be readily identifiable as such, but must respect and have minimal impact on the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

### Article 23. Retaining or reintroducing use

Retaining, modifying or reintroducing a significant *use* may be appropriate and preferred forms of *conservation*.

### Article 24. Retaining associations and meanings

24.1 Significant *associations* between people and a *place* should be respected, retained and not obscured. Opportunities for the *interpretation*, commemoration and celebration of these associations should be investigated and implemented.

24.2 Significant *meanings*, including spiritual values, of a *place* should be respected. Opportunities for the continuation or revival of these meanings should be investigated and implemented.

## Explanatory Notes

Places with social or spiritual value may warrant reconstruction, even though very little may remain (e.g. only building footings or tree stumps following fire, flood or storm). The requirement for sufficient evidence to reproduce an earlier state still applies.

Adaptation may involve additions to the place, the introduction of new services, or a new use, or changes to safeguard the place. Adaptation of a place for a new use is often referred to as 'adaptive re-use' and should be consistent with Article 7.2.

New work should respect the significance of a place through consideration of its siting, bulk, form, scale, character, colour, texture and material. Imitation should generally be avoided.

New work should be consistent with Articles 3, 5, 8, 15, 21 and 22.1.

These may require changes to significant fabric but they should be minimised. In some cases, continuing a significant use, activity or practice may involve substantial new work.

For many places associations will be linked to aspects of use, including activities and practices.

Some associations and meanings may not be apparent and will require research.

## Articles

### Article 25. Interpretation

The *cultural significance* of many *places* is not readily apparent, and should be explained by *interpretation*. Interpretation should enhance understanding and engagement, and be culturally appropriate.

## Conservation Practice

### Article 26. Applying the Burra Charter Process

26.1 Work on a *place* should be preceded by studies to understand the place which should include analysis of physical, documentary, oral and other evidence, drawing on appropriate knowledge, skills and disciplines.

26.2 Written statements of *cultural significance* and policy for the *place* should be prepared, justified and accompanied by supporting evidence. The statements of significance and policy should be incorporated into a management plan for the place.

26.3 Groups and individuals with *associations* with the *place* as well as those involved in its management should be provided with opportunities to contribute to and participate in identifying and understanding the *cultural significance* of the place. Where appropriate they should also have opportunities to participate in its *conservation* and management.

26.4 Statements of *cultural significance* and policy for the *place* should be periodically reviewed, and actions and their consequences monitored to ensure continuing appropriateness and effectiveness.

### Article 27. Managing change

27.1 The impact of proposed changes, including incremental changes, on the *cultural significance* of a *place* should be assessed with reference to the statement of significance and the policy for managing the place. It may be necessary to modify proposed changes to better retain cultural significance.

27.2 Existing *fabric*, *use*, *associations* and *meanings* should be adequately recorded before and after any changes are made to the *place*.

### Article 28. Disturbance of fabric

28.1 Disturbance of significant *fabric* for study, or to obtain evidence, should be minimised. Study of a *place* by any disturbance of the fabric, including archaeological excavation, should only be undertaken to provide data essential for decisions on the *conservation* of the place, or to obtain important evidence about to be lost or made inaccessible.

## Explanatory Notes

In some circumstances any form of interpretation may be culturally inappropriate.

The results of studies should be kept up to date, regularly reviewed and revised as necessary.

Policy should address all relevant issues, e.g. use, interpretation, management and change.

A management plan is a useful document for recording the Burra Charter Process, i.e. the steps in planning for and managing a place of cultural significance (Article 6.1 and flow chart). Such plans are often called conservation management plans and sometimes have other names.

The management plan may deal with other matters related to the management of the place.

Monitor actions taken in case there are also unintended consequences.

## Articles

28.2 Investigation of a *place* which requires disturbance of the *fabric*, apart from that necessary to make decisions, may be appropriate provided that it is consistent with the policy for the place. Such investigation should be based on important research questions which have potential to substantially add to knowledge, which cannot be answered in other ways and which minimises disturbance of significant fabric.

### Article 29. Responsibility

The organisations and individuals responsible for management and decisions should be named and specific responsibility taken for each decision.

### Article 30. Direction, supervision and implementation

Competent direction and supervision should be maintained at all stages, and any changes should be implemented by people with appropriate knowledge and skills.

### Article 31. Keeping a log

New evidence may come to light while implementing policy or a plan for a *place*. Other factors may arise and require new decisions. A log of new evidence and additional decisions should be kept.

### Article 32. Records

32.1 The records associated with the *conservation* of a *place* should be placed in a permanent archive and made publicly available, subject to requirements of security and privacy, and where this is culturally appropriate.

32.2 Records about the history of a *place* should be protected and made publicly available, subject to requirements of security and privacy, and where this is culturally appropriate.

### Article 33. Removed fabric

Significant *fabric* which has been removed from a *place* including contents, fixtures and objects, should be catalogued, and protected in accordance with its *cultural significance*.

Where possible and culturally appropriate, removed significant fabric including contents, fixtures and objects, should be kept at the place.

### Article 34. Resources

Adequate resources should be provided for *conservation*.

*Words in italics are defined in Article 1.*

## Explanatory Notes

New decisions should respect and have minimal impact on the cultural significance of the place.

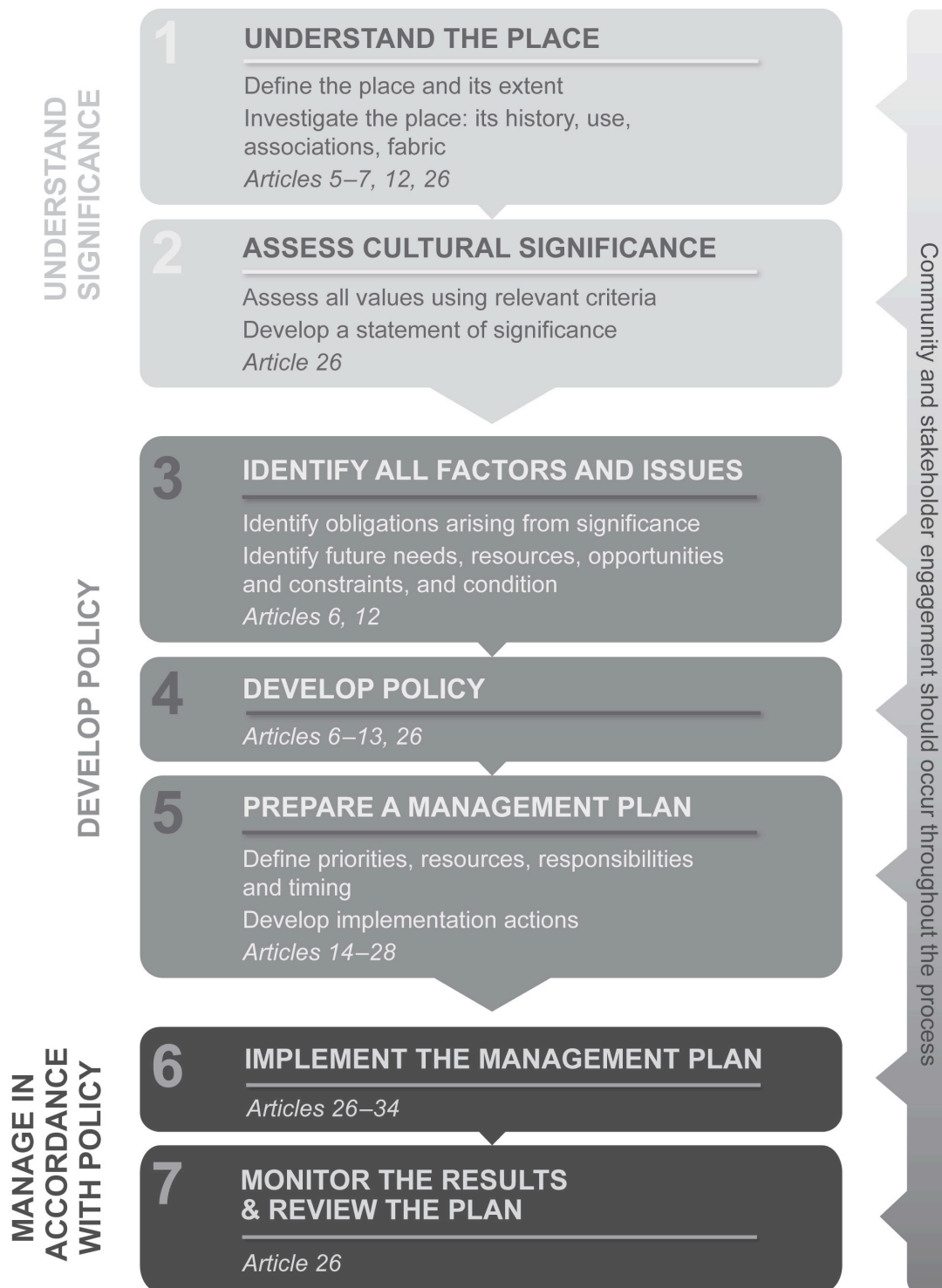
The best conservation often involves the least work and can be inexpensive.

# The Burra Charter Process

## Steps in planning for and managing a place of cultural significance

The Burra Charter should be read as a whole.

Key articles relevant to each step are shown in the boxes. Article 6 summarises the Burra Charter Process.



## **APPENDIX B**

# **STANDARD EXEMPTIONS FOR WORKS REQUIRING HERITAGE COUNCIL APPROVAL**

Refer to <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/heritage/apply-for-heritage-approvals-and-permits/state-heritage-register-items/standard-exemptions>



## **APPENDIX C**

# **MINIMUM STANDARDS OF MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR**

Refer to <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/heritage/manage-heritage-items/minimum-standards-maintenance-repair-for-heritage-items>

**APPENDIX D**

**HERITAGE LISTING FORMS**

# Item details

## Name of item:

The Great Synagogue Including Interior

## Other name/s:

The Great Synagogue

## Type of item:

Built

## Group/Collection:

Religion

## Category:

Synagogue

## Location:

Lat: -33.8741399976712 Long: 151.208444408391

## Primary address:

187A Elizabeth Street, Sydney, NSW 2000

## Local govt. area:

Sydney

## All addresses

Street Address	Suburb/town	LGA	Parish	County	Type
187A Elizabeth Street	Sydney	Sydney			Primary Address

## Statement of significance:

The Great Synagogue has a long ecclesiastical history, and is historically and socially significant as the mother congregation of Australian Jewry, and the focus of Jewish worship and culture in central Sydney since the 1870s. Its aesthetic and scientific significance derive from the remarkable richness and originality of its decoration in sandstone, carved timber, moulded plaster, metalwork and tiling, and for the degree of craftsmanship exhibited in its fabric by leading decorative firms of the High Victorian period from Australia, Britain and the United States. It is one of the finest works of architect Thomas Rowe.

**Date significance updated:** 03 Jan 06

*Note: The State Heritage Inventory provides information about heritage items listed by local and State government agencies. The State Heritage Inventory is continually being updated by local and State agencies as new*

information becomes available. Read the *Department of Premier and Cabinet* [copyright](#) and [disclaimer](#).

## Description

### **Designer/Maker:**

Thomas Rowe

### **Builder/Maker:**

Aaron Loveridge

### **Construction years:**

1878-1878

### **Physical description:**

The Great Synagogue consists of two main sections; the original synagogue (with gallery and basement) and a five-storey modern section at the Castlereagh Street end behind the facade of the former Beadle's residence. Lightwells between these two sections have been filled in. The Elizabeth Street frontage and towers are of Pyrmont stone, and the remainder of the early structure is brick, with cast iron columns and timber floors. The interior is elaborately decorated with moulded plaster and carved timber. Walls and ceilings are painted with gold leaf highlights, and the furniture is mostly of polished timber and brass. Timber floors are raked at both ground and gallery levels, and the centre sections of the ground floor and Ark steps are elaborately tiled. The basement consists of a hall constructed in the 1950s, which has steel portal frames supporting the floor above. The modern section houses offices, classrooms and meeting rooms, and has a top floor with an operable roof.

Category:Individual Building. Style:Victorian Free Gothic. Storeys:3.

Facade:Stone & stained glass windows (front), rendered brick & timber windows (rear). Side/Rear Walls:Brick. Internal Walls:Brick, plastered. Roof Cladding:Slate, steel sheeting. Internal Structure:Cast iron columns, timber beams (front); reinforced concrete (rear). Floor:Timber joists & boards, carpet/tiles (front); reinforced concrete slab, carpet. Roof:Timber (front); Ceilings:Lath-and-plaster (front); set plaster (rear). Stairs:Timber, carved balustrades (front); reinforced concrete, steel/aluminium balustrade (rear). Fire Stairs:Rear stairs only. Sprinkler System:Yes. Lifts:1, modern.

### **Physical condition and/or**

### **Archaeological potential:**

Much of the original fabric remains visible, including painted timber ceiling to the front porch. Internal alterations to the Synagogue proper and the eastern end have left most original fabric intact. The present interior decoration is a modern scheme which reproduces some decorative elements from earlier schemes, such as the stencil patterns on columns..AirConditioned:Yes FireStairs:Rear stairs only

**Date condition updated:**07 Dec 05

**Modifications and dates:**

1878

**Further information:**

High Significance:Surviving elements of original configuration and form of the place. Original stone facades in particular the stone carvings, brick side and internal walls, timber structure and joinery, glass, plaster, tiling and metalwork, early paint and decorative finishes, moveable heritage including scrolls and religious artefacts. Medium Significance:Castlereagh Street façade, original interior elements reused in different locations (eg timber balustrades to hall), 1950s hall. Low Significance:Structure (except stone façade) and interiors of 1981 rebuilding of western end except façade and reused original façade elements; modern decorative elements and furnishings. Was a heritage item in 1989 and remains so to the present.

Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.

**Current use:**

Synagogue

**Former use:**

Synagogue



# History

## Historical notes:

The "Eora people" was the name given to the coastal Aborigines around Sydney. Central Sydney is therefore often referred to as "Eora Country". Within the City of Sydney local government area, the traditional owners are the Cadigal and Wangal bands of the Eora. There is no written record of the name of the language spoken and currently there are debates as whether the coastal peoples spoke a separate language "Eora" or whether this was actually a dialect of the Dharug language. Remnant bushland in places like Blackwattle Bay retain elements of traditional plant, bird and animal life, including fish and rock oysters.

With the invasion of the Sydney region, the Cadigal and Wangal people were decimated but there are descendants still living in Sydney today. All cities include many immigrants in their population. Aboriginal people from across the state have been attracted to suburbs such as Pyrmont, Balmain, Rozelle, Glebe and Redfern since the 1930s. Changes in government legislation in the 1960s provided freedom of movement enabling more Aboriginal people to choose to live in Sydney.

(Information sourced from Anita Heiss, "Aboriginal People and Place", Barani: Indigenous History of Sydney City  
<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/barani> )

The Great Synagogue was built to unite two Jewish congregations in Sydney which worshipped at the time in synagogues in York and Macquarie Streets. The first moves were made in 1864 towards obtaining a suitable site, and the present site was acquired in 1871. An appeal was launched to fund the new building, accompanied by a photograph of the New London Synagogue (later destroyed in 1941) which was intended to serve as the model for the Sydney building. The architect, Thomas Rowe, was selected in 1872 by means of a limited competition, the other competitors being G A Mansfield and Benjamin Backhouse. Rowe acted also as the construction manager for the new building, which commenced on site in late 1873. The principal contractor for stonework was Aaron Loveridge, founder of the firm Loveridge and Hudson, and other notable firms connected with the work were William Coleman (carpentry & joinery), Fletcher Brothers (decorative cast iron), Lewis & Steel

(decorative plaster) and Lyon & Cottier (stained and etched glass). The Synagogue was consecrated in 1878.

## Assessment of significance

### **SHR Criteria a)**

[Historical significance]

The Great Synagogue is the earliest surviving synagogue in Sydney. It is associated with the "mother congregation" of Australian Jewry, and with many leading citizens. It is also associated with architect Thomas Rowe, and is considered to be one of the finest examples of his work.

### **SHR Criteria c)**

[Aesthetic significance]

Archaeological deposits on the site may reveal information about early life in Sydney. The building reveals information about Victorian building technology. Cultural: It is one of the most elaborately decorated Victorian buildings in Sydney. It contains examples of the work of many leading decorative firms of the late nineteenth century, including Lyon and Cottier.

### **SHR Criteria d)**

[Social significance]


Since construction the Great Synagogue has been the centre of Jewish communal worship and culture in central Sydney. It is one of the most elaborately decorated Victorian buildings in Sydney. It contains examples of the work of many leading decorative firms of the late nineteenth century, including Lyon and Cottier.

### **SHR Criteria f)**

[Rarity]

It is the only Synagogue in the city of Sydney, and one of the most elaborately decorated Victorian buildings.

### **Assessment criteria:**

Items are assessed against the  [State Heritage Register \(SHR\) Criteria](#) to determine the level of significance. Refer to the Listings below for the level of statutory protection.

## Recommended management:

General: The Great Synagogue should be conserved largely in its existing form and scale, and should continue in its existing use. A conservation plan should be prepared prior to any major changes to the place. Features of high significance, especially those dating from 1878 should be

conserved, and those which have been damaged or concealed by later work should preferably be restored or reconstructed. Surfaces never intended for painting, notably face brickwork and sandstone should remain unpainted, while surfaces such as stucco and timber which were originally painted should continue to be painted in appropriate colours. Exterior: Minor modifications to the building, for example to facilitate disabled access or security, could be contemplated provided that no further loss of original fabric is entailed. The original colour scheme should be preserved where it survives. Interior: The interiors of the 1887 section could be subject to some further alteration in the future to assist the continuing use of the place for its original purpose, provided that surviving significant fabric is preserved. The interiors of the 1981 section may be subject to future alteration. Unsympathetic finishes such as clear timber coatings should over time be replaced with traditional finishes. The building should be retained and conserved. A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement, or a Conservation Management Plan, should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken. There shall be no vertical additions to the building and no alterations to the façade of the building other than to reinstate original features. The principal room layout and planning configuration as well as significant internal original features including ceilings, cornices, joinery, flooring and fireplaces should be retained and conserved. Any additions and alterations should be confined to the rear in areas of less significance, should not be visibly prominent and shall be in accordance with the relevant planning controls.

## Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Local Environmental Plan	Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012	11750	14 Dec 12		
Heritage study					

## References, internet links & images

Type	Author	Year	Title	Internet Links
Written	Anita Heiss		Aboriginal People and Place, Barani: Indigenous History of Sydney City	

Written	O. P. Phillips	1975	The Building of the Great Synagogue	
Written	Orwell & Peter Phillips Architects.	2000	The Great Synagogue, Sydney : conservation management plan by Orwell & Peter Phillips Architects. The Great Synagogue, Sydney : conservation management plan by Orwell & Peter Phillips Architects.	

Note: internet links may be to web pages, documents or images.



**(Click on thumbnail for full size image and image details)**

## Data source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

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**Database number:**

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# Item details

**Name of item:**

Great Synagogue

**Other name/s:**

The Great Synagogue

**Type of item:**

Built

**Group/Collection:**

Religion

**Category:**

Synagogue

**Location:**

Lat: -33.8725521971 Long: 151.2096003380

**Primary address:**

187A Elizabeth Street, Sydney, NSW 2000

**Parish:**

St James

**County:**

Cumberland

**Local govt. area:**

Sydney

**Local Aboriginal Land Council:**

Metropolitan

**Property description**

Lot/Volume Code	Lot/Volume Number	Section Number	Plan/Folio Code	Plan/Folio Number
LOT	1		DP	52572

**All addresses**

Street Address	Suburb/town	LGA	Parish	County	Type
187A Elizabeth Street	Sydney	Sydney	St James	Cumberland	Primary Address
166 Castlereagh Street	Sydney	Sydney			Alternate Address

## Owner/s

Organisation Name	Owner Category	Date Ownership Updated
The Great Synagogue	Religious Organisation	

## Statement of significance:



The Great Synagogue is of state and potentially national significance as the earliest surviving synagogue in NSW still in use, which has represented the centre of Jewish worship and culture in central Sydney since the 1870s. The Great Synagogue is associated with the Mother Congregation of Australian Jewry, together with many subsequent leading members and families of the Jewish faith. By its prominent situation and presence in Central Sydney, its magnificent architectural grandeur, its rich symbolism, and its important collection of Hebrew documents and other religious artefacts, the Great Synagogue also embodies and demonstrates the early development and importance of the Jewish faith and culture in New South Wales during the 19th Century.

The Great Synagogue is a major landmark of Sydney. It is the only high Victorian style Synagogue in Australia and represents one of the most elaborately decorated Victorian buildings in Sydney, internally and externally. The building also represents one of the finest works of the leading NSW architect, Thomas Rowe. It contains excellent examples of the best quality decorative work in moulded plaster, carved sandstone and timber, metalwork, tiling and stained glass that is remarkable for its richness, originality and the degree of craftsmanship by leading decorative firms of the High Victorian period from Australia, Great Britain and the United States. Apart from its architectural excellence, the Great Synagogue provides a rich townscape aspect to Hyde Park and is an iconic building of Elizabeth and Castlereagh Streets. (Phillips 2000 & HO 2004)

**Date significance updated:** 12 Aug 04

*Note: The State Heritage Inventory provides information about heritage items listed by local and State government agencies. The State Heritage Inventory is continually being updated by local and State agencies as new information becomes available. Read the Department of Premier and Cabinet [copyright](#) and [disclaimer](#).*

## Description

**Designer/Maker:**

Thomas Rowe

**Builder/Maker:**

Aaron Loveridge (stonework)

**Construction years:**

1874-1878

### **Physical description:**

The Great Synagogue consists of two main sections: the original synagogue (house of worship) with ladies' gallery, at the Elizabeth Street end, and a five storey modern section at the Castlereagh Street end behind the facade of the original Beadle's residence. The original eclectic design in Victorian Free Gothic style was described at the time of consecration as Byzantine interspersed with Gothic elements. The Elizabeth Street frontage and towers are of Pyrmont stone, and the remainder of the early structure is brick with cast-iron columns and timber floors, and a slate roof. The Castlereagh Street facade is stone at ground floor level, with rendered brickwork above. The interior is elaborately decorated with moulded plaster, carved timber and stained glass, all embellished with abstract patterns to avoid representation of living forms. Surviving timber stairs at the Elizabeth Street end have strongly carved balustrades. Walls are painted with gold leaf highlights, and the furniture is mostly of polished timber and brass. Some original colour schemes survive, notably on the ceiling of the Elizabeth Street porch, while the midnight blue ceiling with gold leaf stars has been repainted to the original design several times. Timber floors are raked at both ground and gallery levels, and the centre section of the ground floor and Ark steps, like the porch, are ornately tiled in tessellated and mosaic work. The basement contains a hall which has steel portal frames supporting the columns and floor above, and also contains the A M Rosenblum Museum and Rabbi Falk Library. The modern section, constructed of reinforced concrete, contains offices, classrooms and meeting rooms, together with a lift and fire stairs, and has a top floor with an openable roof. The modern stained glass windows in the Castlereagh Street facade were designed by Louis Kahan of Melbourne. The building contains notable examples of venerable sacred scrolls and religious artefacts, including a menorah (nine-branched candelabrum) made by Rabbi L A Falk. (Phillips 1975)

### **Physical condition and/or**

### **Archaeological potential:**

The condition of the building is generally good, although the upper sections of stonework require maintenance (1997). There is unlikely to be much archaeological potential owing to the excavations for new sections of the building in the 1950s and 1980s.

**Date condition updated:**22 Aug 01

**Modifications and dates:**

1911 - choir gallery moved from east to west end, western semi-circular apse made square, reading desk moved from centre to western end and rebuilt to incorporate pulpit, and extra seats installed in centre block. Architects Kent & Budden. Little intrusion, although some impact on original, highly traditional synagogue plan.

1910s - gasoliers converted to electric light. Little intrusion.

1940s - eastern wheel window strengthened internally with reinforced concrete. Some intrusion internally.

1957 - basement deepened and reconstructed as War Memorial Hall.

Architect Orwell Phillips. Some intrusion, although the previous basement area appears to have been of little significance.

1981 - western section rebuilt behind original facade as Education Centre. Architects Orwell Phillips and David Nathan. Some intrusion mostly in less significant areas, except for the replacement of original timber stairs with concrete fire stairs.

1987 - stonework conserved and interiors decorated with stencilling, some based on early patterns found. Sprinkler system installed. Minimal intrusion.

**Further information:**

One of the the State significant items used at the launch of the State Heritage Inventory.

6/2006: more than \$310,000 approved to assist works to the interior - The project includes: restoration works to the interior of the building, reintroduction of natural ventilation, and conservation work to the suspended and wall-mounted gasoliers.

([www.deh.gov.au/minister/env/2006/mr22jun06.html](http://www.deh.gov.au/minister/env/2006/mr22jun06.html))

**Current use:**

Synagogue

**Former use:**

Synagogue

## History

**Historical notes:**

The Great Synagogue was built to unite two Jewish congregations in Sydney which worshipped at the time in synagogues in York Street and

Macquarie Street. (The York Street Synagogue had been designed in the Egyptian style by James Hume and built in 1844.) The first moves were made in 1864 towards obtaining a suitable site for a new, larger synagogue. In 1871 a meeting was held at York Street to discuss buying land available in Elizabeth Street. It was suggested a meeting be held with the Macquarie Street Synagogue to unite in purchasing the land for a synagogue to serve the whole community. John Solomon, a builder, purchased the land at auction for 2000 pounds in 1871 and held it until the congregation could raise sufficient funds. The proposal was for a synagogue and educational facilities for the less wealthy members of the congregation. The money was to be raised by sale of land in Kent Street which had been granted for a Jewish school but never used. Further money was raised by the sale of the York and Macquarie Street properties. An appeal was also launched to fund the new building, accompanied by a photograph of the New London Synagogue (subsequently destroyed by bombing in 1941) which was intended to serve as the model for the Sydney building. The architect, Thomas Rowe, was selected in 1872 by means of a limited competition, the other competitors being G A Mansfield and Benjamin Backhouse. Rowe also acted as the construction manager for the new building. The building of the synagogue was also partly supervised by the Princes Road Synagogue, Liverpool and the New West End Synagogue, London. The foundation stone was laid in January 1875 by Saul Samuel, Postmaster General, later to be the first Jewish minister of the Crown in the British Empire. A huge bazaar was held in December 1875 to raise extra funds.

The principal contractor for stonework was Aaron Loveridge, founder of the modern firm of Loveridge & Hudson. The contract drawings by Rowe, and signed by Loveridge, are held by Sydney's Mitchell Library. Other notable firms connected with the work were William Coleman (carpentry and joinery), Fletcher Brothers (decorative cast iron), Lewis and Steel (decorative plaster), Cornelius and Co of Philadelphia (gas fixtures), Minton Hollins & Co (tiles), P N Russell & Co (cast iron columns), and Lyon & Cottier (stained and etched glass).

The synagogue was consecrated on 4 March 1878, but its decoration was not completed until 1883. (Phillips 1975) (Bersten 1995) . At the time of completion the synagogue was the most imposing building in Elizabeth

Street and was one of the first large Victorian buildings erected in Sydney and reflected civic pride and prosperity. The Great Synagogue is the mother church of Australian Jewry and still maintains a register of all births, marriages and deaths which have taken place since the first entry was made on 1 November 1826. It also houses a museum which attracts much interest as does the library. The synagogue is involved with festivals in Sydney including the Festival of Sydney and the 1986 'Music on the Move' program. In 1988 the Bicentennial Council of NSW recognised the importance of the building and recommended a significant grant for restoration work on the Elizabeth Street facade. Each year many tourists visit the synagogue which features prominently in guidebooks as well as special interest groups, especially schools. (DC Application)

## Historic themes

Australian theme (abbrev)	New South Wales theme	Local theme
2. Peopling-Peopling the continent	Ethnic influences-Activities associated with common cultural traditions and peoples of shared descent, and with exchanges between such traditions and peoples.	(none)-
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Religion-Activities associated with particular systems of faith and worship	(none)-

## Assessment of significance

### SHR Criteria a)

[Historical significance]

The Great Synagogue is the earliest surviving synagogue in NSW still in use, and according to some, the earliest surviving synagogue building. (A small building in Goulburn, possibly used as a synagogue, was built some years earlier.) The Great Synagogue has considerable ecclesiastical and historic importance as it represents the Mother Congregation of Australian Jewry, which saw the merger of two separate congregations to build the present synagogue, and represents the centre of Jewish worship and culture in central Sydney since the 1870s.

### SHR Criteria b)

[Associative significance]

The Great Synagogue is associated with with the mother congregation of Australian Jewry, and many leading citizens and families of the Jewish faith. It is also associated with the prominent architect Thomas Rowe, who



designed several other landmark buildings in Sydney of which perhaps the best known is Sydney Hospital in Macquarie Street.

### **SHR Criteria c)**

[Aesthetic significance]

The Great Synagogue is a major landmark of Sydney and represents one of the most elaborately decorated Victorian buildings in Sydney, internally and externally. It contains excellent examples of the best quality work in moulded plaster, carved stone, decorative tiling and stained glass.

According to George Proudman, former master mason with the NSW Public Works Department, the Synagogue has some of the finest stone carving in all of Sydney. The form and construction of the building exemplify the traditional 19th century pattern of Orthodox Anglo-Jewish worship.

The building represents one of the finest works of the leading NSW architect, Thomas Rowe, in association with the architect W.L. Vernon (then in private practice) reputed to have partly supervised Thomas Rowe in the design. The design is reputed to be inspired by the Princes Road Synagogue in Liverpool and the New West End Synagogue in London - a composite Renaissance style, mainly Byzantine but with Gothic overtones, particularly apparent for the main window.

### **SHR Criteria d)**

[Social significance]

The Great Synagogue is socially significant because it continues to be the focus of Jewish communal worship and culture in central Sydney, as it has been since its construction.

### **SHR Criteria e)**

[Research potential]

The Great Synagogue has technical and research significance as a living museum of decorative embellishment in 19th century buildings, which contains examples of the work of many leading practitioners of the time. It also contains a number of religious scrolls, books and artefacts. The form and construction of the building exemplify the traditional 19th century pattern of Orthodox Anglo-Jewish worship.

### **SHR Criteria f)**

[Rarity]

The Great Synagogue is remarkable for its richness and originality of decoration, coupled with the excellence of the craftsmanship. It is rare in

NSW as the earliest surviving synagogue in NSW still in use, and according to some, the earliest surviving synagogue building.

### **SHR Criteria g)**


[Representativeness]

By its prominent situation and presence in Central Sydney, its magnificent architectural grandeur, its rich symbolism, and its important collection of Hebrew documents and other religious artefacts, the Great Synagogue also embodies and demonstrates the early development and importance of the Jewish faith and culture in New South Wales during the 19th Century. The Great Synagogue has represented the centre of Jewish worship and culture in Sydney (and arguably the State) since its construction in the 1870s. Architecturally, the Great Synagogue represents one of the finest works of the leading NSW architect, Thomas Rowe, and the most elaborately decorated Victorian building in Sydney.

### **Integrity/Intactness:**

The Great Synagogue is generally intact both externally and internally in the older section fronting Elizabeth Street.

### **Assessment criteria:**

Items are assessed against the  [State Heritage Register \(SHR\) Criteria](#) to determine the level of significance. Refer to the Listings below for the level of statutory protection.


## Recommended management:

Preparation of a conservation plan, taking account of the significance of the building fabric as well as the need for the Synagogue to continue to provide an appropriate setting for Jewish worship, culture and learning.

## Procedures /Exemptions

Section of act	Description	Title	Comments	Action date
57(2)	Exemption to allow work	Standard Exemptions	SCHEDULE OF STANDARD EXEMPTIONS HERITAGE ACT 1977 Notice of Order Under Section 57 (2) of the Heritage Act 1977  I, the Minister for Planning, pursuant to subsection 57(2) of the Heritage Act 1977, on the recommendation of the Heritage Council of New South Wales, do by this Order:	Sep 5 2008

		<p>1. revoke the Schedule of Exemptions to subsection 57(1) of the Heritage Act made under subsection 57(2) and published in the Government Gazette on 22 February 2008; and</p> <p>2. grant standard exemptions from subsection 57(1) of the Heritage Act 1977, described in the Schedule attached.</p> <p>FRANK SARTOR Minister for Planning Sydney, 11 July 2008</p> <p>To view the schedule click on the Standard Exemptions for Works Requiring Heritage Council Approval link below.</p>
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 [Standard exemptions](#) for works requiring Heritage Council approval

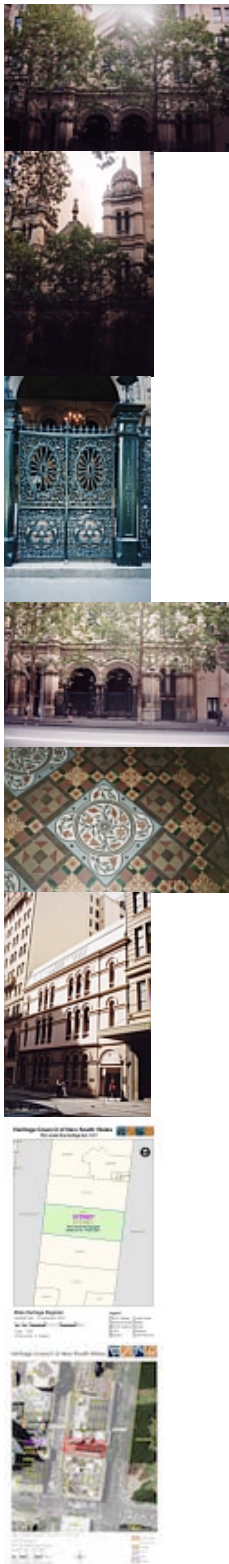
## Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Heritage Act - State Heritage Register		01710	10 Sep 04	143	7510
Heritage Act - Icons Project Nomination for SHR listing			02 Jun 04		
Local Environmental Plan	CSH Local Environmental Plan 1		07 Apr 00		
National Trust of Australia register					
Register of the National Estate			21 Mar 78		

## References, internet links & images

Type	Author	Year	Title	Internet Links
Tourism	Attraction Homepage	2007	Great Synagogue	<a href="#">View detail</a>
Written	Orwell & Peter Phillips Architects	2000	Conservation Management Plan The Great Synagogue Sydney	
Written	Raymond Apple ; with members of the congregation	2008	The Great Synagogue : a history of Sydney's big Shule	
Written	The National Trust of Australia (NSW)	1975	Classification Card for the Great Synagogue	
Tourism	Tourism NSW	2007	Great Synagogue And Am Rosenblum Jewish Museum	<a href="#">View detail</a>

Note: internet links may be to web pages, documents or images.



**(Click on thumbnail for full size image and image details)**

## Data source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

**Name:**

Heritage Office

**Database number:**

5051584

**File number:**

H00/00591,S90/06045

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Every effort has been made to ensure that information contained in the State Heritage Inventory is correct. If you find any errors or omissions please send your comments to the [Database Manager](#).

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**APPENDIX E**

**AHIMS SEARCH RESULTS**

Urbis Pty Ltd - Angel Place L8 123 Pitt Street

Date: 24 August 2020

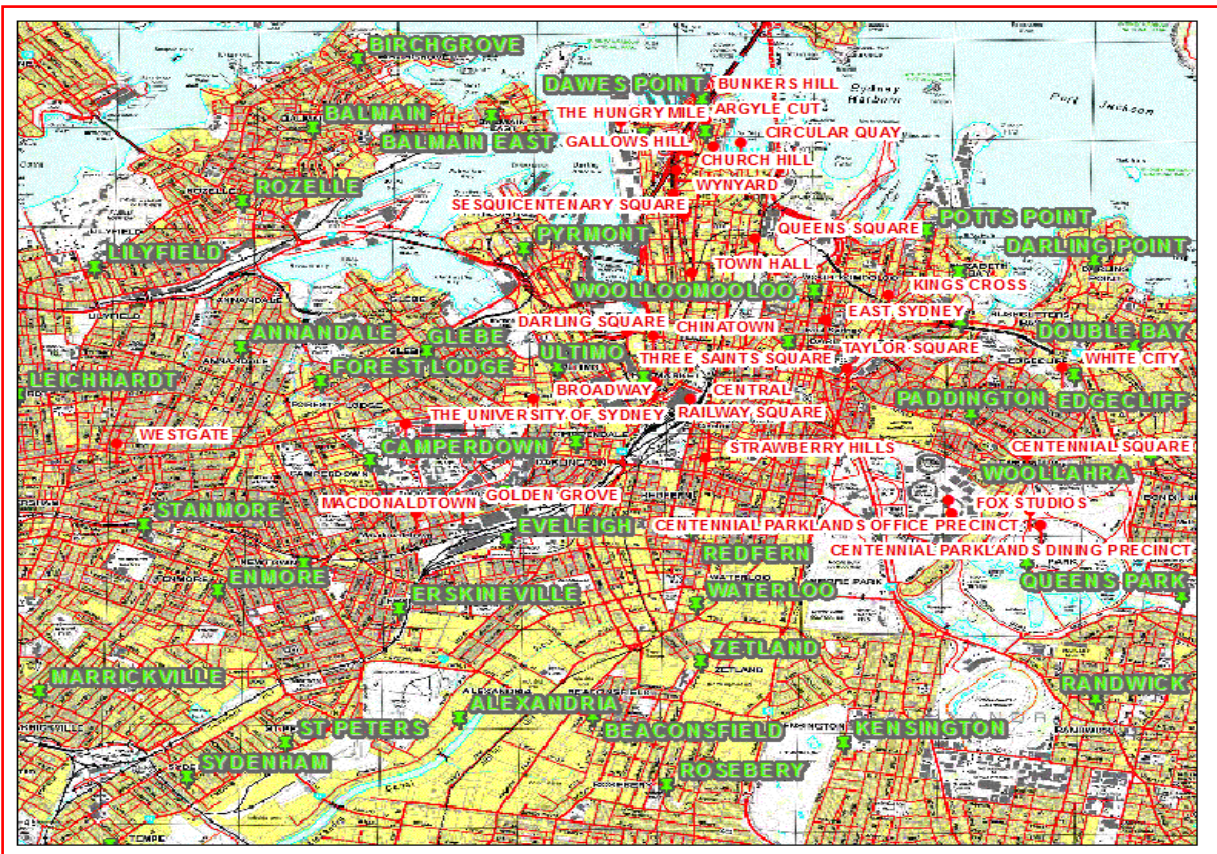
Level 8 123 Angel Street  
Sydney New South Wales 2000

Attention: Alexandra Ribeny

Dear Sir or Madam:

AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 329398 - 337746, Northings : 6245477 - 6252509 with a Buffer of 0 meters, conducted by Alexandra Ribeny on 24 August 2020.

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.



A search of the Office of the Environment and Heritage AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

<b>71</b>	<b>Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location. *</b>

### **If your search shows Aboriginal sites or places what should you do?**

- You must do an extensive search if AHIMS has shown that there are Aboriginal sites or places recorded in the search area.
- If you are checking AHIMS as a part of your due diligence, refer to the next steps of the Due Diligence Code of practice.
- You can get further information about Aboriginal places by looking at the gazettal notice that declared it. Aboriginal places gazetted after 2001 are available on the [NSW Government Gazette \(http://www.nsw.gov.au/gazette\)](http://www.nsw.gov.au/gazette) website. Gazettal notices published prior to 2001 can be obtained from Office of Environment and Heritage's Aboriginal Heritage Information Unit upon request

### **Important information about your AHIMS search**

- The information derived from the AHIMS search is only to be used for the purpose for which it was requested. It is not be made available to the public.
- AHIMS records information about Aboriginal sites that have been provided to Office of Environment and Heritage and Aboriginal places that have been declared by the Minister;
- Information recorded on AHIMS may vary in its accuracy and may not be up to date .Location details are recorded as grid references and it is important to note that there may be errors or omissions in these recordings,
- Some parts of New South Wales have not been investigated in detail and there may be fewer records of Aboriginal sites in those areas. These areas may contain Aboriginal sites which are not recorded on AHIMS.
- Aboriginal objects are protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 even if they are not recorded as a site on AHIMS.
- This search can form part of your due diligence and remains valid for 12 months.

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
45-6-2597	Wynyard St Midden	AGD	56	333469	6247920	Open site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Midden	102494,10276 3,102765
	<b>Contact</b>									
45-6-2278	Lilyfield Cave	GDA	56	330433	6250467	Closed site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -	Shelter with Midden	102201
	<b>Contact</b>									
45-6-2299	First Government House	GDA	56	334612	6251612	Open site	Valid	Burial : -, Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming : -, Artefact :-	Burial/s, Historic Place	102494,10276 3,102765
	<b>Contact</b>									
45-6-2651	William St PAD	AGD	56	334800	6250220	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -	4552	102494,10276 3,102765
	<b>Contact</b>									
45-6-2647	KENS Site 1	AGD	56	333750	6250785	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		99857,100494, 102494,10276 3,102765
	<b>Contact</b>									
45-6-2676	Johnstons Creek	AGD	56	331100	6249100	Closed site	Valid	Art (Pigment or Engraved) : 2, Artefact : 5		102142,10276 3
	<b>Contact</b>									
45-6-2666	Wattle Street PAD 1	GDA	56	333200	6249602	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<b>Contact</b>									
45-6-2663	Mountain Street Ultimo	GDA	56	333199	6249418	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,10276 3,102765
	<b>Contact</b>									
45-6-2680	Broadway Picture Theatre PAD 1	AGD	56	333150	6249000	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102142,10249 4,102763,1027 65
	<b>Contact</b>									
45-6-2843	Canada Bay Midden	AGD	56	329550	6251900	Closed site	Valid	Shell : -		100436
	<b>Contact</b>									
	T Russell									
	<b>Contact</b>									

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 24/08/2020 for Alexandra Ribeny for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 329398 - 337746, Northings : 6245477 - 6252509 with a Buffer of 0 meters. Additional Info : archaeological report. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 71

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SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
45-6-2838	420 George Street PAD	AGD	56	334080	6250670	Open site	Not a Site	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-		102494,10276 3,102765
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	2654
45-6-2960	Jackson Landing Shelter	GDA	56	332442	6250870	Closed site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-		102494,10276 3,102765
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	
45-6-2979	UTS PAD 1 14-28 Ultimo Rd Syd	GDA	56	333650	6249590	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-		102494,10276 3,102765
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	3458
45-6-3727	POWH-ASB-HTH	GDA	56	337029	6245641	Open site	Valid	Hearth :-		
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	
45-6-3728	UNSW B22 Area of Sensitivity	GDA	56	336715	6245720	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-		
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	
45-6-3729	UNSW Sand Body Area of Sensitivity	GDA	56	336190	6245480	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-		
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	4568
45-6-3704	Tay Reserve Artefact	GDA	56	335723	6247268	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	
45-6-3705	Kent and Erskine St PAD	GDA	56	333876	6251145	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-		
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	
45-6-3693	Callan Park Scared Tree	GDA	56	330004	6251406	Open site	Valid	Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred) :-		
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	
45-6-3694	Callan Park Waterhole	GDA	56	330060	6251377	Open site	Valid	Water Hole :-		
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	
45-6-3695	Callan Park Grinding Groove (possible)	GDA	56	330080	6251407	Open site	Valid	Grinding Groove :-		
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	
45-6-3696	Callan Park Cultural Tree	GDA	56	330061	6251398	Open site	Valid	Aboriginal Resource and Gathering :-		
	<b>Contact</b>								<b>Permits</b>	

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 24/08/2020 for Alexandra Ribeny for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 329398 - 337746, Northings : 6245477 - 6252509 with a Buffer of 0 meters. Additional Info : archaeological report. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 71

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SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
45-6-3762	Harrington IFS01	GDA	56	334178	6251888	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : 1		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	AMAC Group P/L,Mr.Benjamin Streat							
45-6-0519	Moores Wharf	AGD	56	333600	6252200	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	808
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	R Lampert							
45-6-0283	Rozelle Hospital 1;Rozelle Ho5555;	AGD	56	329760	6251360	Closed site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Shelter with Midden	
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Val Attenbrow							
45-6-1481	Rozelle Hospital 3	AGD	56	329902	6251129	Open site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Midden	
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Val Attenbrow,Michael Guider							
45-6-0618	Rozelle Hospital 2, Rozelle Hospital 1	AGD	56	329650	6251330	Open site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -, Art (Pigment or Engraved) : -	Midden,Rock Engraving	
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Val Attenbrow,Michael Guider							
45-6-0647	Centennial Park	AGD	56	336273	6247961	Open site	Valid	Art (Pigment or Engraved) : -	Rock Engraving	
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	ASRSYS							
45-6-2580	Junction Lane	AGD	56	335070	6250410	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	102494,102763,102765
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Helen Brayshaw							
45-6-2581	Angel Place	GDA	56	334223	6251138	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	97963,102494,102763,102765
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting							
45-6-1935	Sisters Bay Cave	AGD	56	329350	6251930	Closed site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Shelter with Midden	
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Michael Guider							
45-6-1939	MSB Tower;	GDA	56	333640	6252227	Open site	Destroyed	Art (Pigment or Engraved) : -	Rock Engraving	102763
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Michael Guider							
45-6-1615	Bennelong Point	AGD	56	334800	6252100	Open site	Destroyed	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Midden	102763
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	ASRSYS							
45-6-1496	Shea's Creek	AGD	56	331697	6245597	Open site	Not a Site	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Midden	30,591,940
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	ASRSYS							
45-6-1954	Sisters Bay Cave 2	AGD	56	329510	6251920	Closed site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Shelter with Midden	
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Michael Guider							
45-6-1955	Sisters Bay 3;	AGD	56	329370	6251750	Closed site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Shelter with Midden	

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SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Michael Guider					<b>Permits</b>	3653,3690	
45-6-1971	Rozelle Hospital 5, Rozelle Hospital 3	AGD	56	329740	6251360	Closed site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Shelter with Midden	
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Val Attenbrow,Michael Guider					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-1972	Rozelle Hospital 4	AGD	56	329690	6251360	Closed site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Shelter with Midden	
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Val Attenbrow,Michael Guider					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-1853	Lilyvale	AGD	56	333950	6251600	Open site	Valid	Shell : -, Artefact : -	Midden	102763
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Val Attenbrow,Andrew Ross					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-2652	Ultimo PAD 1	GDA	56	333419	6249969	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,102763,102765
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Jim Wheeler,Mr.Matthew Kelleher,Kelleher Nightingale Consulting Pty Ltd (Generic					<b>Permits</b>	1598	
45-6-2654	Fraser Park PAD	AGD	56	330100	6245800	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		98669,104256,104257
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Navin Officer Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd					<b>Permits</b>	1639	
45-6-2687	Crown Street PAD 1	AGD	56	334950	6250300	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,102763,102765
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting					<b>Permits</b>	2017	
45-6-2742	171-193 Gloucester Street PAD	AGD	56	333926	6251461	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102763
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Jim Wheeler					<b>Permits</b>	2143,2342,2766	
45-6-2745	University of Sydney Law Building PAD	AGD	56	332350	6248740	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102201,102494,102763,102765
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Doctor.Jo McDonald					<b>Permits</b>	2153,2320,2443	
45-6-2934	Yurong Cave	GDA	56	335595	6251900	Closed site	Valid	Art (Pigment or Engraved) : -		102763
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Michael Guider,Mr.Paul Irish					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-2935	Yurong 1	GDA	56	335555	6252020	Open site	Valid	Shell : 6		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Michael Guider,Mr.Paul Irish					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-3071	445-473 Wattle Street PAD	GDA	56	333285	6249412	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Biosis Pty Ltd - Sydney					<b>Permits</b>		

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SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
45-6-3081	200 George Street	GDA	56	334237	6251637	Open site	Not a Site	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		103114
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Ms.Sally MacLennan					<b>Permits</b>	3577,3934,4239	
45-6-2987	Poultry Market 1	GDA	56	333746	6249575	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 1		102494,102763
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Ms.Samantha Higgs,Biosis Pty Ltd - Canberra					<b>Permits</b>	3506	
45-6-3064	445-473 WATTLE ST PAD	GDA	56	333285	6249412	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		102763
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Biosis Pty Ltd - Sydney					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-3155	Moore Park AS1	GDA	56	335613	6247909	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Artefact - Cultural Heritage Management - Pyrmont,Artefact - Cultural Heritage Ma					<b>Permits</b>	4019	
45-6-3502	Loftus PAD 01	GDA	56	334551	6251635	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Artefact - Cultural Heritage Management - Pyrmont,Artefact - Cultural Heritage Ma					<b>Permits</b>	4292	
45-6-3645	SFS-PAD	GDA	56	335846	6248721	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Miss.Sam Cooling,Curio Projects Pty Ltd					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-3552	Smith Hogan and Spindlers Park Midden	GDA	56	331309	6249791	Open site	Not a Site	Shell : -, Burial : -		104371
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Mr.Mark Simon					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-3654	CRS AS 01 (Central Railway Station Artefact scatter 01)	GDA	56	334055	6249146	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Artefact - Cultural Heritage Management - Pyrmont,Ms.Jennifer Norfolk					<b>Permits</b>	4639	
45-6-3446	71 Macquarie Street PAD	GDA	56	334663	6251783	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	GML Heritage Pty Ltd + Context - Surry Hills,Ms.Jodi Cameron					<b>Permits</b>	4285	
45-6-2629	Broadway 1	AGD	56	333060	6249100	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		102494,102763,102765
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting					<b>Permits</b>	1299	
45-6-2637	George street 1	AGD	56	333860	6249880	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		98238,102494,102763,102765
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Dominic Steele Archaeological Consulting					<b>Permits</b>	1369	
45-6-2783	PAD Central Royal Botanic Gardens	AGD	56	334900	6251030	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -		102494,102763,102765

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 24/08/2020 for Alexandra Ribeny for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 329398 - 337746, Northings : 6245477 - 6252509 with a Buffer of 0 meters. Additional Info : archaeological report. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 71

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SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
	<b>Contact</b> T Russell	<b>Recorders</b> Haglund and Associates						<b>Permits</b>	2364	
45-6-2767	Tent Embassy	AGD	56	332680	6248680	Open site	Valid	Aboriginal Resource and Gathering : 1		102494,102763,102765
	<b>Contact</b> T Russell	<b>Recorders</b> Bill Lord						<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-2796	320-328 George St PAD	AGD	56	334100	6251050	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-		102494,102763,102765
	<b>Contact</b> T Russell	<b>Recorders</b> Mr.Dominic Steele						<b>Permits</b>	2415	
45-6-2822	USYD: Central	AGD	56	332750	6248550	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		100302,102494,102763,102765
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b> Jo McDonald Cultural Heritage Management see GML						<b>Permits</b>	2554	
45-6-3152	168-190 Day Street, Sydney PAD	GDA	56	333877	6250257	Open site	Not a Site	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b> Mr.Josh Symons,Mr.Alex Timms						<b>Permits</b>	3789	
45-6-3116	Wynyard Walk PAD	GDA	56	333931	6251252	Open site	Destroyed	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b> GML Heritage Pty Ltd + Context - Surry Hills,GML Heritage Pty Ltd + Context - Surry						<b>Permits</b>	3670	
45-6-3217	Darling Central Midden	GDA	56	333530	6250101	Open site	Valid	Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming : 1, Artefact : 1, Shell : 1		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b> Comber Consultants Pty Limited,Ms.Tory Stening						<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-3324	RBG PAD 1	GDA	56	334802	6251224	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b> AMAC Group P/L,Mr.Benjamin Streat						<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-3325	RBG PAD 2	GDA	56	335212	6251494	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b> AMAC Group P/L,Mr.Benjamin Streat						<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-3327	RBG PAD 3	GDA	56	334957	6251832	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 1		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b> AMAC Group P/L,Mr.Benjamin Streat						<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-3245	DoncasterAve PAD	GDA	56	336037	6246916	Open site	Destroyed	Hearth : -, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-		
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b> GML Heritage Pty Ltd + Context - Surry Hills,GML Heritage Pty Ltd + Context - Surry						<b>Permits</b>	4188	

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 24/08/2020 for Alexandra Ribeny for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 329398 - 337746, Northings : 6245477 - 6252509 with a Buffer of 0 meters. Additional Info : archaeological report. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 71

This information is not guaranteed to be free from error omission. Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) and its employees disclaim liability for any act done or omission made on the information and consequences of such acts or omission.

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports	
45-6-3338	The Bays Precinct PAD02	GDA	56	332354	6250885	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-			
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Artefact - Cultural Heritage Management - Pymont,Mr.Michael Lever						<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-3339	The Bays Precinct PAD01	GDA	56	332779	6250555	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) :-			
	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Recorders</b>	Artefact - Cultural Heritage Management - Pymont,Artefact - Cultural Heritage Ma						<b>Permits</b>		

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 24/08/2020 for Alexandra Ribeny for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 329398 - 337746, Northings : 6245477 - 6252509 with a Buffer of 0 meters. Additional Info : archaeological report. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 71

This information is not guaranteed to be free from error omission. Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) and its employees disclaim liability for any act done or omission made on the information and consequences of such acts or omission.



**APPENDIX F**

**CONDITION ASSESSMENT AND  
REVIEW - 2020**



# **Great Synagogue**

Condition Assessment

June 2020



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# Great Synagogue

## Condition Assessment

June 2020





# Issue and Revision Record

Revision	Date	Originator	Checker	Approver	Description
1	10/06/20	A.McElveney	A.Naimo	A.Naimo	For Information

**Document reference:** 399302GG | 1 | A

**Information class:** Standard

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# Contents

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1.2	Findings and Discussion	1
2	Schedule of Defects	3
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B.	Defect Photos	19

# 1 Introduction

Mott MacDonald has been commissioned by Ethos Urban to carry out a condition assessment of the Great Synagogue, opposite Hyde Park in Sydney. The purpose of this report is to document the current state of the building, noting any relevant structural defects and whether they require further analysis, strengthening, or repair. Structural engineers Alison Naimo and Annemarie McElveney inspected the building on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2020. The inspection was visual only and no access was provided to inspect the roof, kitchen or archive rooms.

## 1.1 Building Description

Construction of the Great Synagogue was completed in 1878, fronting Elizabeth and Castlereagh Street. It is of state heritage significance as the earliest surviving synagogue in NSW still in use and is one of the most elaborately decorated Victorian buildings in Sydney. The Great Synagogue consists of two main sections: the original synagogue at the Elizabeth Street end, and a five storey extension at the Castlereagh Street end behind the façade of the original Beadle's residence. The Elizabeth frontage and towers are of Pyrmont stone, and the remainder of the original structure is of brick with cast-iron columns and timber floors with a slate roof. The 1980's modern addition, is of reinforced concrete construction, housing offices, classrooms, meeting rooms, toilets, lifts and fire stairs.

## 1.2 Findings and Discussion

At the time of inspection, the building was overall in very good condition with some very minor cracking and water ingress. The cracking found throughout the building indicates some movement has occurred, however, these cracks are common in buildings of this age and do not present any immediate structural issues.

Rainwater goods were observed to be in varying condition around the building. Some downpipes are embedded within the masonry, some penetrate through masonry walls and some are fixed to the face of the walls. Poor rainwater goods can contribute to building degradation including fretting of brickwork and decay of timber. If water is not directed away from the building it can also cause ground softening and settlement issues.

Evidence of water ingress has been found along the northern and southern edges, possibly due to blockages in the box gutters. The gutters should be regularly cleaned to prevent water backing up. If leakages continue, further investigations should be undertaken to confirm the source of leaks.

From the northern tower platform, it appears that stones may be dislodged towards the top. Further investigations should be undertaken with access higher up the tower, to closely inspect the condition of the stones and severity of dislodgement. If the stones are considered to be at risk of falling, seek the advice of a structural engineer on the safe removal and replacement.

External photographs are provided in Figure 1 and Figure 2 on the following page. A schedule of the defects can be found in Section 2, with associated defect location plans and defect photos in Appendix A and B respectively.



**Figure 1: The Great Synagogue External Photo, Elizabeth Street**



**Figure 2: The Great Synagogue External Photo, Castlereagh Street**

## 2 Schedule of Defects

Table 2-1 below summarises the defects found on the day of the inspection.

Where “N/A” is noted in the “Action Required” column, this indicates that the defect is not structurally significant and that no remediation action is enquire at this time.

Where “Monitor” is noted in the “Action Required” column, the defect should be monitored every 2 years to check whether the defect has worsened, and if so, at what rate. If any defects are found to worsen rapidly, investigations should be undertaken to determine the cause, and a structural engineer consulted to determine the structural implications.



**Table 2-1: Defects Summary**

Defect No.	Location	Defect Description	Discussion	Action Required
1	Castlereagh Street façade, second storey southern window	Minor cracking beside and above window opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cracks do not appear to be active, and have been there for quite some time</li> </ul>	Monitor
2	Castlereagh Street façade, third storey southern window	Minor cracking above window arch		Monitor
3	Castlereagh Street façade, second and third storey northern windows	Minor cracking above window arches		Monitor
4	Elizabeth Street façade stone arch entrance	Minor spalling of stone at top of arch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spalling seems to have been there for quite some time and offers no imminent threat to the structural integrity of the arch.</li> </ul>	N/A
5 Typical photo provided	Synagogue Men's Floor south side	Paint bubbling above archways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paint bubbling is very minor and appears to have formed over a long period of time.</li> <li>Mostly likely a result of water ingress from blockages in the box gutters above.</li> <li>Ground movement and/or general ageing of the building could also have formed cracks which would have increased water ingress.</li> </ul>	Monitor, ensure box gutters cleared regularly
6 Typical photo provided	Synagogue Men's Floor north side	Paint bubbling above archways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussions with the building manager indicate the gutters are regularly cleared and maintained.</li> </ul>	Monitor, ensure box gutters cleared regularly

Defect No.	Location	Defect Description	Discussion	Action Required
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor water ingress of this nature does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building. If paint bubbling worsens rapidly, investigations should be undertaken to confirm the source of the leak.</li> </ul>	
7	Fire stairs from the Museum up to Elizabeth Street	Minor spalling of concrete and cracking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cracks appear to have formed over a long period of time, and do not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor
8	Fire stairs from the Museum up to Elizabeth Street	Minor cracking		Monitor
9	Museum wall pier	Hairline cracking in wall pier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very minor crack which appears to have formed over a long period of time, and does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	N/A
10	Along windowsill in the Succah	Minor spalling of render	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spalling is very localised. Most likely caused by water tracking under the sills</li> <li>Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	N/A
11	Along windowsill in the Succah	Minor spalling of render		N/A
12	Ladies Gallery Southern wall between first and second arch	Bubbling of paint and minor decay of timber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most likely a result of water ingress. This may be caused from blockages in the box gutters above.</li> <li>Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor, ensure box gutters cleared regularly
13	Ladies Gallery Western wall	Bubbling of paint and minor decay of timber		Monitor, ensure box gutters cleared regularly

Defect No.	Location	Defect Description	Discussion	Action Required
14	Ladies Gallery Southern Wall third archway	Minor spalling of cornice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spalling seems to be fairly recent but is quite localised.</li> <li>Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the cornice.</li> </ul>	N/A
15	Ladies Gallery corner of Southern and Eastern walls	Minor cracking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most likely a result of water ingress. This may be caused from blockages in the box gutters above.</li> <li>Cracks may also relate to the junction between main building and towers.</li> <li>Cracks appear to have formed over a long period of time, and do not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor
16	Ladies Gallery Northern Wall	Hairline cracks from air vent to ceiling rose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cracks appear to be active, but have formed over a long period of time, and do not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> <li>Cracks may be formed from differential settlement between the northern brick wall and the timber framing of the gallery</li> </ul>	Monitor
17	Ladies Gallery Northern Wall	Hairline cracks from air vent to ceiling rose		Monitor
18	Ladies Gallery Northern Wall	Hairline cracks from air vent to ceiling rose		Monitor
19	Ladies Gallery northern side, western door	Minor cracking at top of doorway arch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cracks do not appear to be active, and have been there for quite some time</li> <li>Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor

Defect No.	Location	Defect Description	Discussion	Action Required
20	Stairway up to Tower Platform, Southern side	Moderate cracking in exposed stone wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cracks appear to be active, but have been growing slowly over quite a prolonged period of time</li> <li>● Possibly due to localised settlement as a result of ground movement and/or the weight of the towers</li> <li>● The cracks do not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor
21	End of first flight of stairs down from the Ladies Gallery, Southern tower	Moderate cracking in rendered stone wall, crack extends from the Ladies Gallery level up to the tower platform (over 3m long)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cracks appear to be active, as they appear to have worsened since it was last painted</li> <li>● Possibly due to localised settlement or as a result of ground movement and/or the weight of the towers</li> <li>● The cracks do not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building, but should be monitored</li> </ul>	Monitor
22	Southern tower, Ladies Gallery	Minor cracking in top of archway above door	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cracks do not appear to be active, and have been there for quite some time</li> <li>● Possibly a result of ground movement and/or localised settlement or as a result of ground movement and/or the weight of the towers</li> <li>● Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	N/A

Defect No.	Location	Defect Description	Discussion	Action Required
23	Ladies Gallery, below Eastern Rose window	Minor cracking below window	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cracks do not appear to be active, and have been there for quite some time</li> <li>• Possibly a result of changes to the original design loads with the addition of reinforced concrete beams for blast protection</li> <li>• Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	N/A
24	Southern tower, stairs up from Men's Floor, beside stain glass window	Minor horizontal crack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crack does not appear to be active, and has been there for quite some time</li> <li>• Possibly a result of ground movement, which is expected in buildings of this age</li> <li>• Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor
25	Southern Tower, Ladies Gallery	Paint bubbling above doorway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paint bubbling appears to have formed over a long period of time.</li> <li>• Mostly likely a result of water ingress from blockages in the box gutters above or internal pipes.</li> <li>• Discussions with the building manager indicate the gutters are regularly cleared.</li> <li>• Minor water ingress of this nature does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building. If paint bubbling worsens rapidly, investigations should be undertaken to confirm the source of the leak.</li> </ul>	Monitor, investigate source of leakage

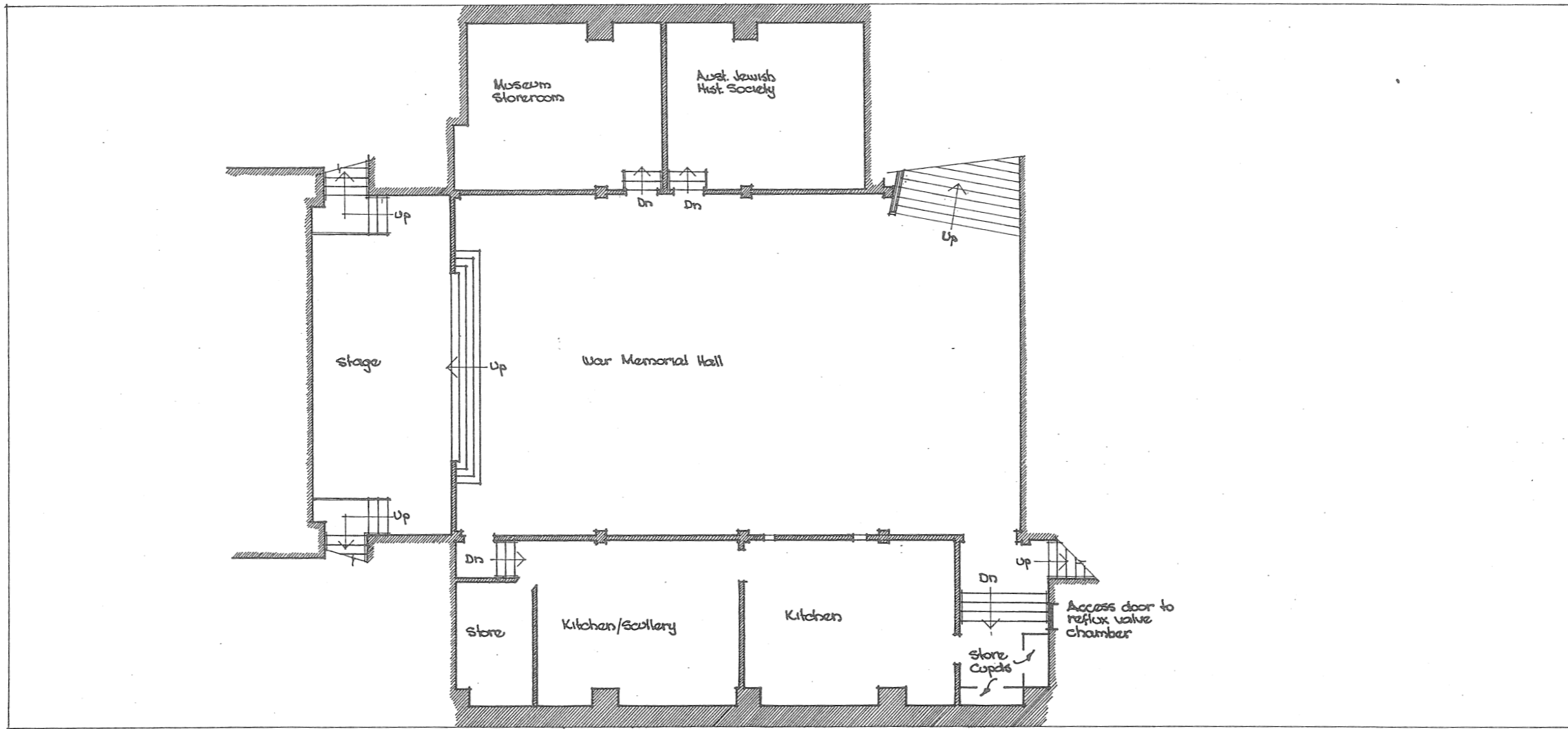


Defect No.	Location	Defect Description	Discussion	Action Required
26	Northern Tower, doorway into Ladies Gallery	Moderate crack from top of arch to ceiling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crack does not appear to be active, and has been there for quite some time</li> <li>Possibly a result of ground movement</li> <li>Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor
27	Northern Tower, entryway into Ladies Gallery	Minor cracking in ceiling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cracks do not appear to be active, and have been there for quite some time</li> <li>Possibly a result of ground movement and/or localised settlement or as a result of ground movement and/or the weight of the towers.</li> <li>Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor
28	Northern Tower, single stain glass window	Minor cracking at top of window	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cracks do not appear to be active, and have been there for quite some time</li> <li>Possibly a result of ground movement and/or the weight of the towers</li> <li>Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor
29	Northern Tower pair of stain glass windows	Minor cracking at top of one window		Monitor
30	Stairway up to Tower Platform, Northern side	Minor cracking in exposed stone wall		Monitor
31	Tower Platform, Northern side	Stones dislodged Water ingress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water ingress appears to have been occurring for quite some time, and a tarp has been placed on the tower platform to capture water.</li> <li>Stones at the top of the tower appear to have shifted out of place, though appears to be stable at this time, this should be further investigated</li> </ul>	<p>Access the top of the tower space to check the condition of the top stones and the severity of the dislodgement.</p> <p>If the stones are considered to be at risk of falling, consult structural engineer on the safe removal and replacement</p>

Defect No.	Location	Defect Description	Discussion	Action Required
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficult to ascertain the severity of the stone displacement without having access higher up the tower.</li> <li>• Water ingress can cause timber decay and mortar erosion etc. over time</li> </ul>	
32	Classroom on Choir Level	Minor cracking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cracks do not appear to be active, and have been there for quite some time</li> </ul>	Monitor
33	Wall outside Vestry, facing the boardroom	Minor cracking in top of wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most likely due to movement at the building joint between the original building and the extension</li> </ul>	Monitor
34	Wall outside Vestry, facing the classroom	Minor horizontal cracking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor
35	Elizabeth Street Façade, Stone around Rose window	Evidence of stone slipping out of alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stone movement does not appear to be active and has been set in its current position for quite some time.</li> <li>• Possibly a result of changes to the original design loads with the addition of reinforced concrete beams for blast protection</li> <li>• Does not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the building</li> </ul>	Monitor

## **A. Defect Reference Plans**

LEGEND  
 (X) DEFECT NUMBER



THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE, 166 CASTLEREACH ST SYDNEY  
 LEVEL 1  
 HALL

Scale 1:100

For accurate dimensions  
 measure on site

Drawn Checked

At

ORWELL & PETER PHILLIPS  
 ARCHITECTS

SUITE 401 ROMA HOUSE  
 541 GEORGE STREET SYDNEY 2000  
 TEL 261 3733 FAX 283 1930

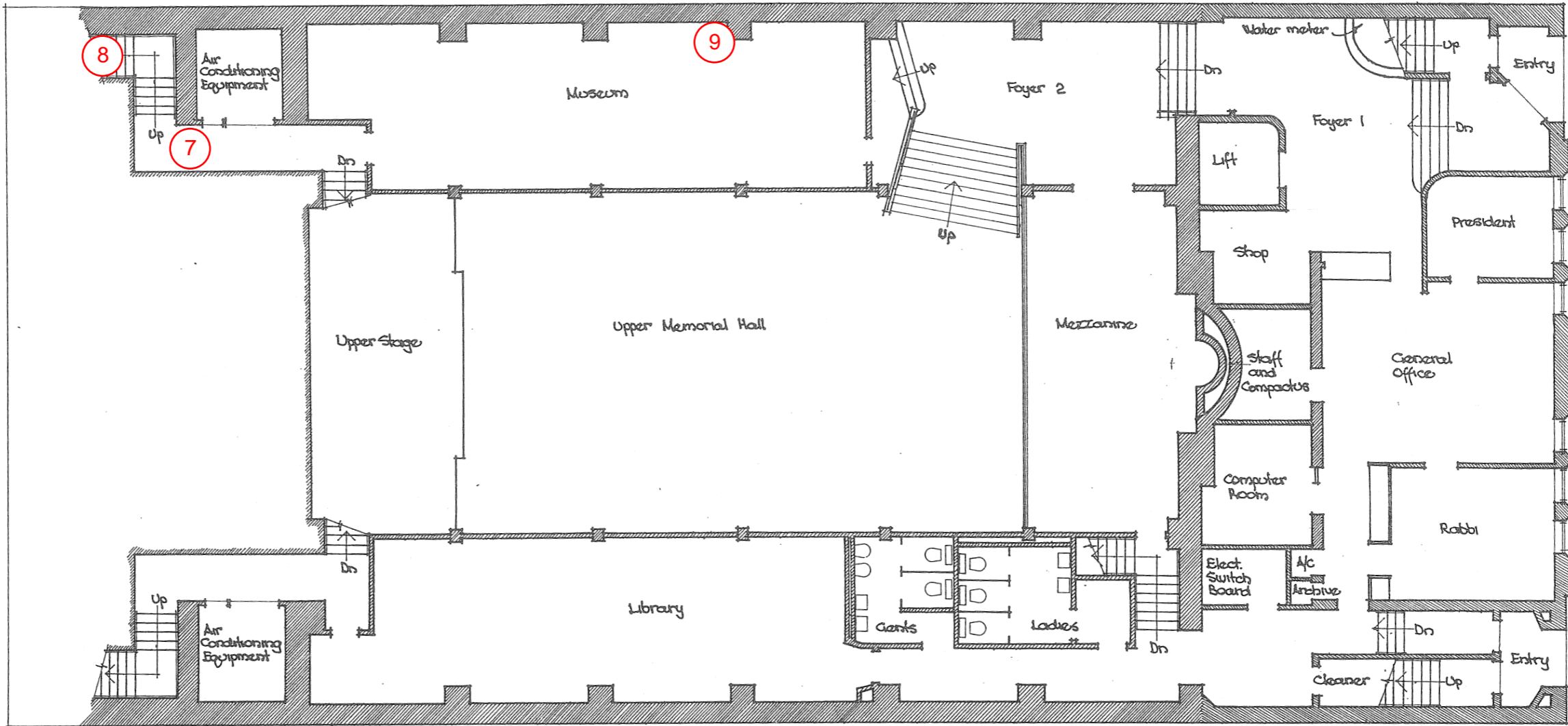
Date August 1989

Job No. 8917

Dwg No.

1

LEGEND  
 (X) DEFECT NUMBER



ELIZABETH STREET

CASTLEREACH STREET



THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE, 166 CASTLEREACH ST SYDNEY  
 LEVEL 2  
 UPPER HALL & CASTLEREACH ST ENTRANCE

Scale 1:100  
 For accurate dimensions measure on site  
 Drawn AH  
 Checked  
 Date August 1989  
 Job No. 8917  
 Dwg No. 2

ORWELL & PETER PHILLIPS  
 ARCHITECTS  
 SUITE 401 ROMA HOUSE  
 541 GEORGE STREET SYDNEY 2000  
 TEL 261 3733 FAX 283 1930

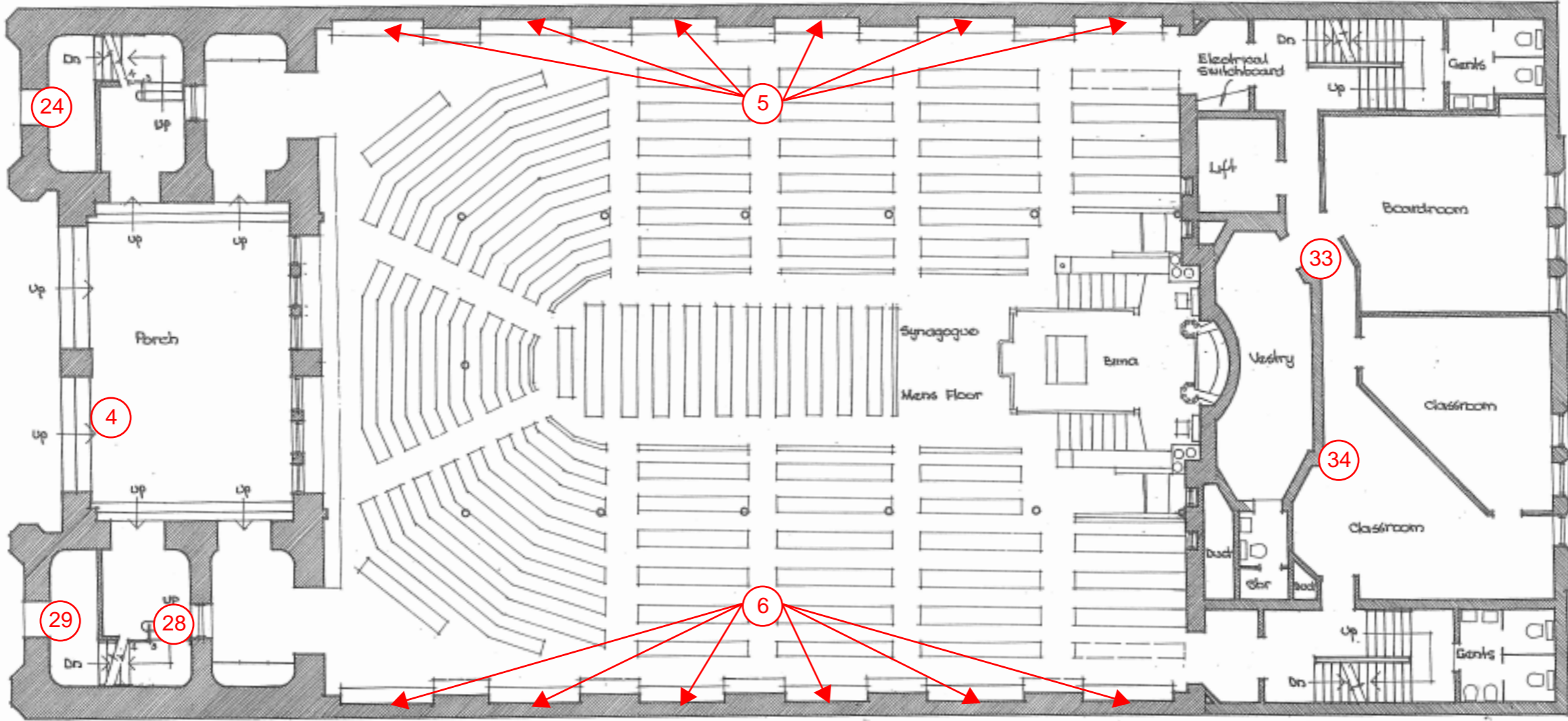
No. Date Amendment/Issue By



LEGEND  
 (X) DEFECT NUMBER

ELIZABETH STREET

CASTLEREACH STREET



THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE, 166 CASTLEREACH ST SYDNEY  
 LEVEL 3  
 MEN'S FLOOR & ELIZABETH ST ENTRANCE

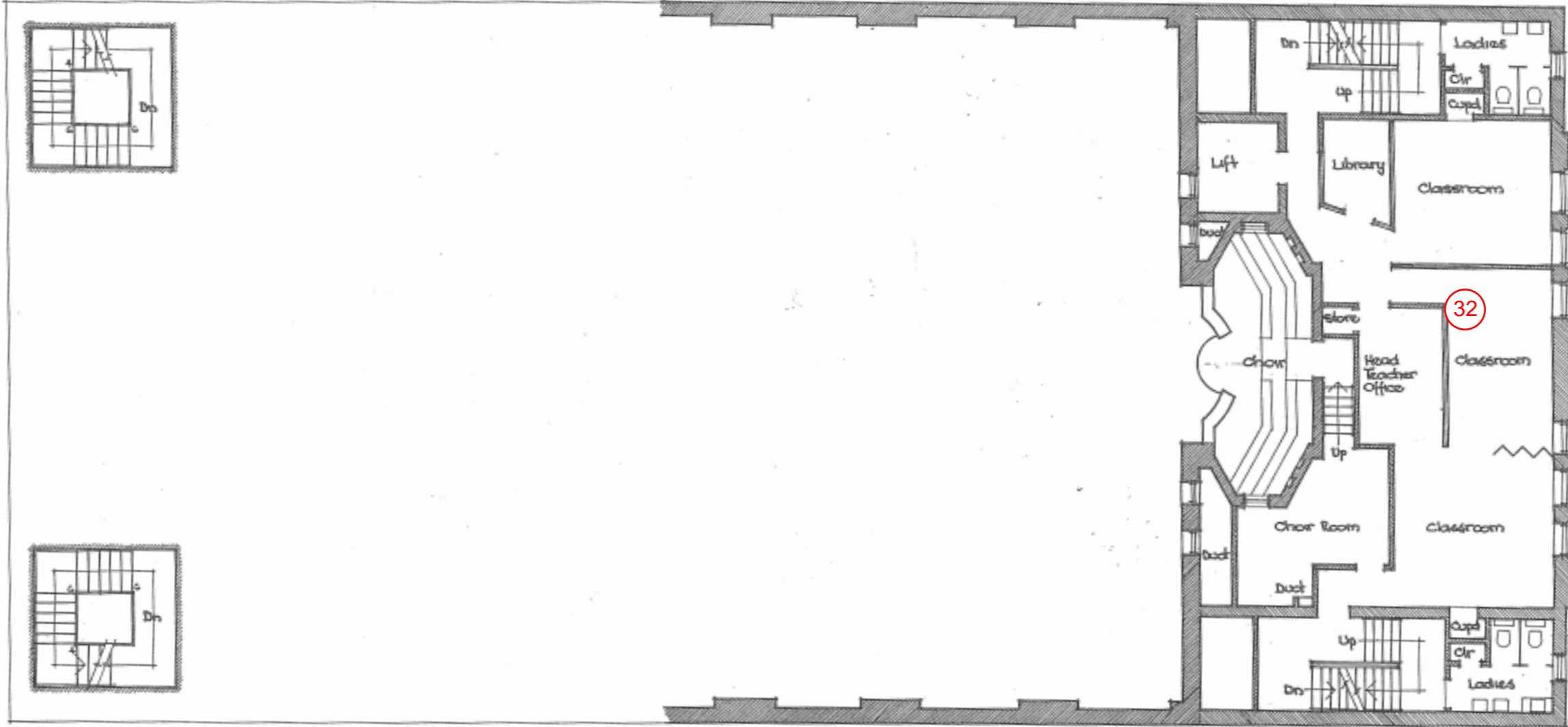
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 For accurate dimensions measure on site  
 Drawn: AH  
 Checked:  
 Date: August 1989  
 Job No: 8917  
 Dwg No: 3  
 ORWELL & PETER PHILLIPS ARCHITECTS  
 SUITE 401 ROMA HOUSE  
 541 GEORGE STREET SYDNEY 2000  
 TEL 261 3733 FAX 283 1930

No.	Date	Amendment/Issue	By

	LEGEND
(X)	DEFECT NUMBER

ELIZABETH STREET

CASTLEREAGH STREET



**THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE, 166 CASTLEREAGH ST SYDNEY  
LEVEL 4  
SECOND FLOOR PLAN**

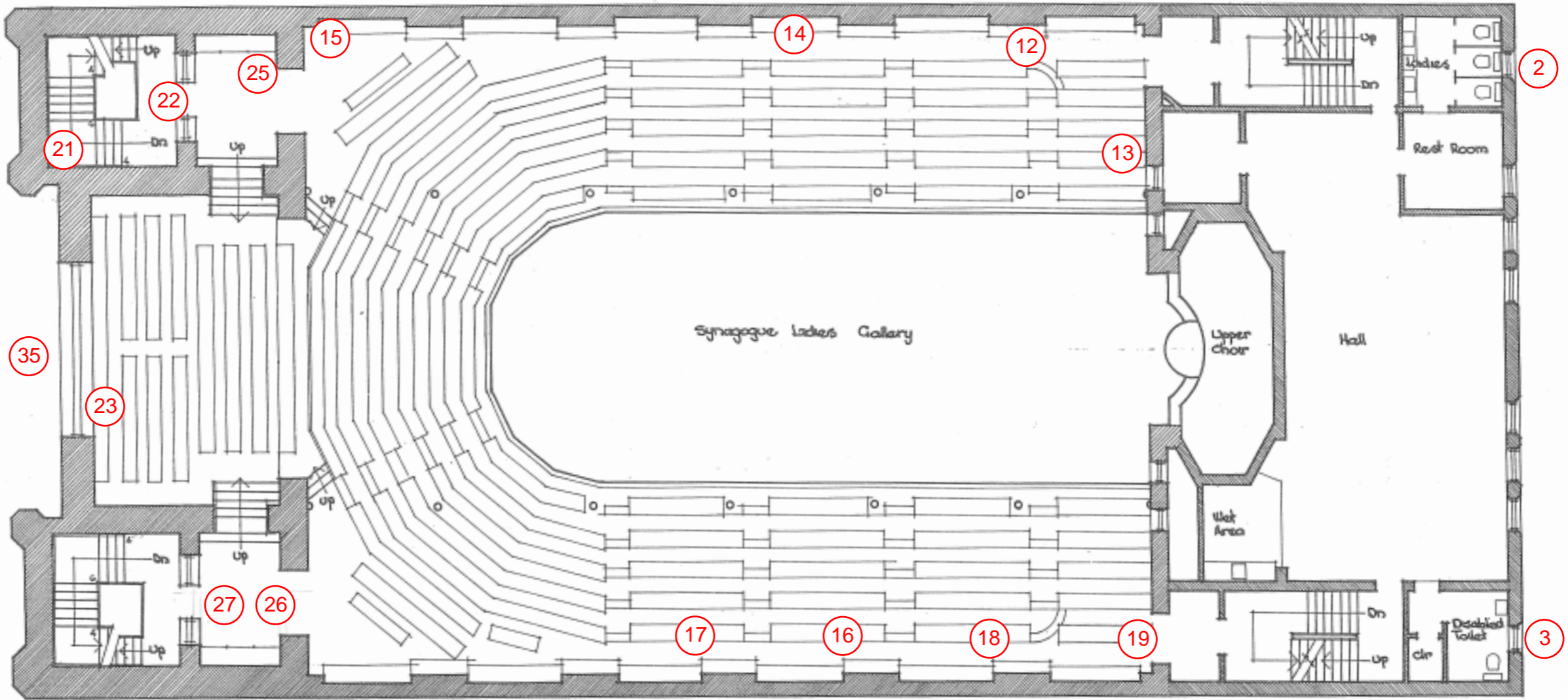
Scale	1:100	Date	August 1989
For accurate dimensions measure on site.		ORWELL & PETER PHILLIPS ARCHITECTS	Job No. 8917
Drawn	Checked	SUITE 401 ROMA HOUSE 541 GEORGE STREET SYDNEY 2000	Dwg No. 4
AI		TEL 261 3733 FAX 283 1930	

No.	Date	Amendment/Issue	By
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LEGEND  
 (X) DEFECT NUMBER

ELIZABETH STREET



CASTLEREAGH STREET

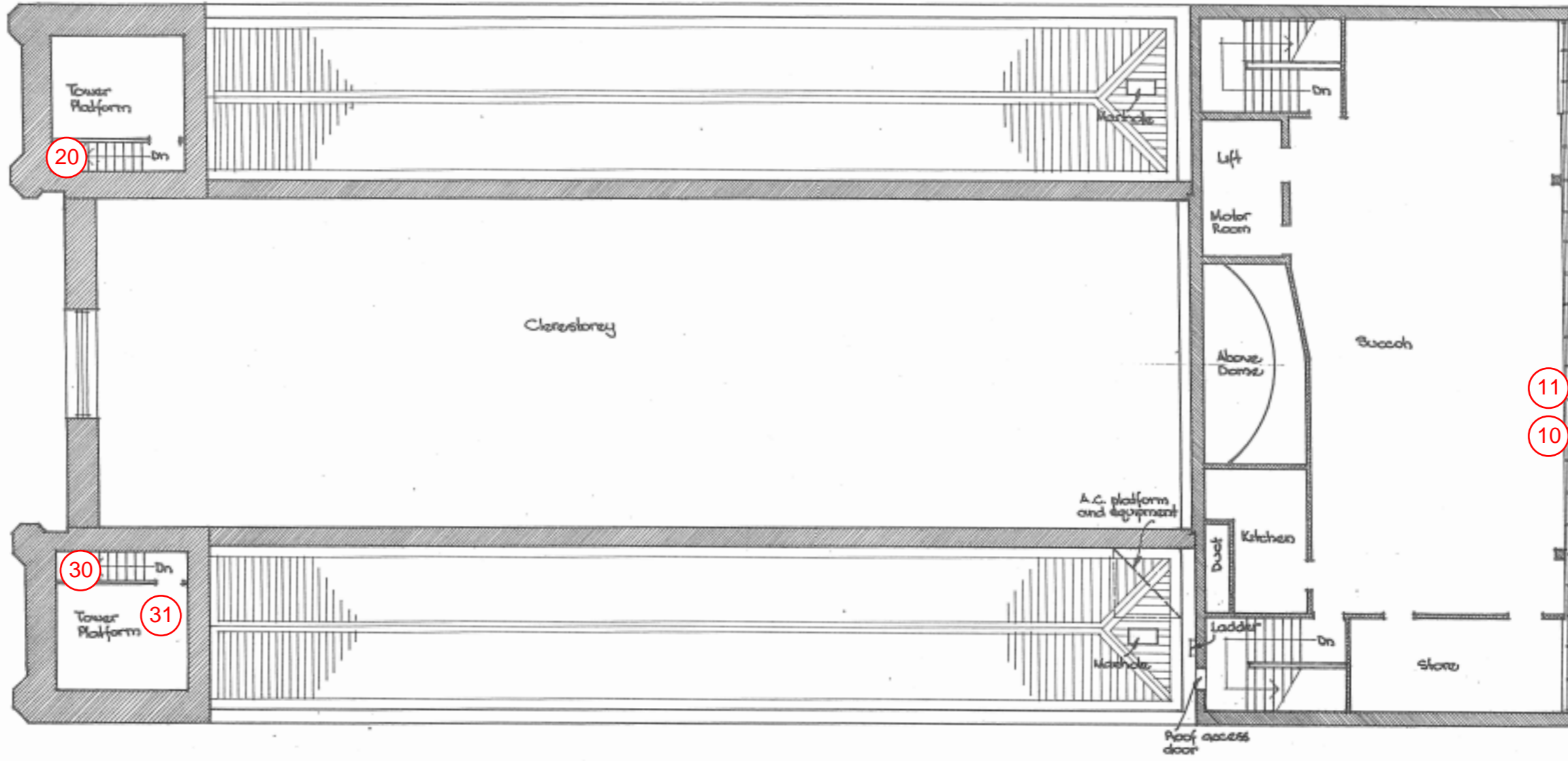


THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE, 166 CASTLEREAGH ST SYDNEY  
 LEVEL 5  
 LADIES GALLERY

Scale: 1:100	Date: August 1985
For accurate dimensions measure on site	Job No. 8917
Drawn: AH	Dwg No. 5
Checked:	
ORWELL & PETER PHILLIPS ARCHITECTS SUITE 401 ROMA HOUSE 541 GEORGE STREET SYDNEY 2000 TEL 261 3733 FAX 283 1930	

LEGEND  
 (X) DEFECT NUMBER

ELIZABETH STREET



CASTLEREAGH STREET



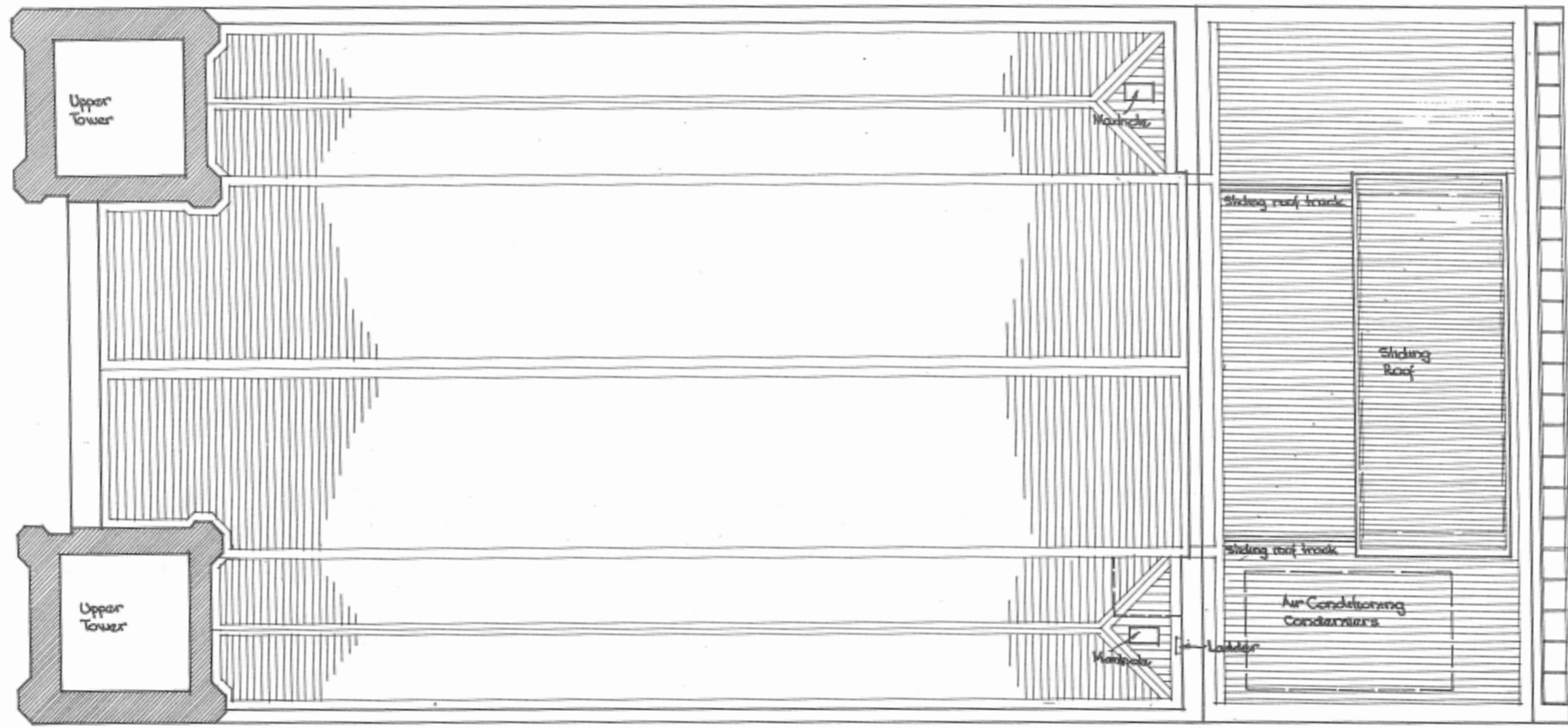
THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE, 166 CASTLEREAGH ST SYDNEY  
 LEVEL 6  
 CLERESTOREY & FOURTH FLOOR

Scale: 1:100	ORWELL & PETER PHILLIPS ARCHITECTS	Date: August 1989
For accurate dimensions measure on site	SUITE 401 ROMA HOUSE	Job No. 8917
Drawn: [blank] Checked: [blank]	541 GEORGE STREET SYDNEY 2000	Dwg No. 6
	TEL 261 3733 FAX 283 1930	



LEGEND  
 (X) DEFECT NUMBER

ELIZABETH STREET



CASTLEREAGH STREET



THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE, 166 CASTLEREAGH ST SYDNEY  
 LEVEL 7  
 ROOF PLAN

Scale	1:100	Date	August 1989
For accurate dimensions measure on site		Job No.	8917
Drawn	Checked	Dwg No.	7
AI		ORWELL & PETER PHILLIPS ARCHITECTS SUITE 401 ROMA HOUSE 541 GEORGE STREET SYDNEY 2000 TEL 261 3733 FAX 283 1930	



## B. Defect Photos

### Defect 1



Source: Mott MacDonald

### Defect 2



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 3**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 4**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 5**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 6**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 7**



Source: Mott MacDonald

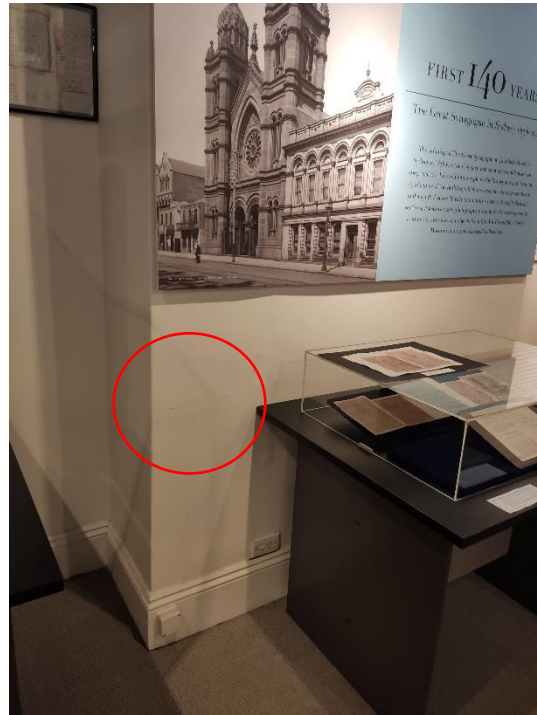
**Defect 8**



Source: Mott MacDonald



**Defect 9**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 10**



Source: Mott MacDonald



**Defect 11**



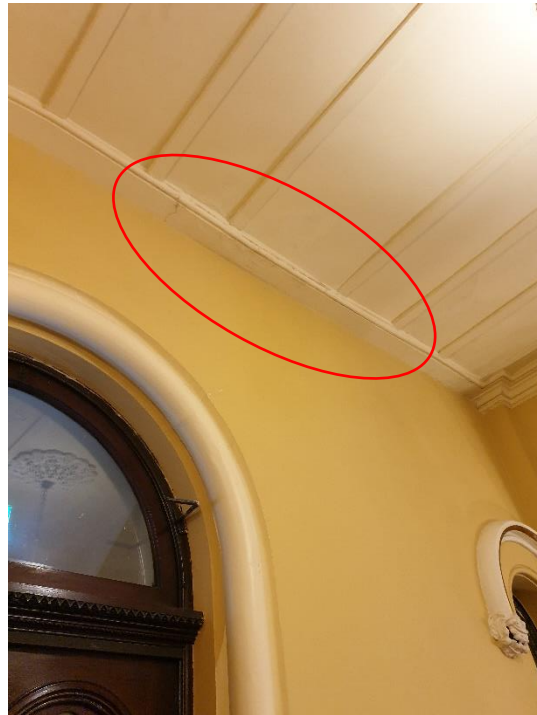
**Source: Mott MacDonald**

**Defect 12**



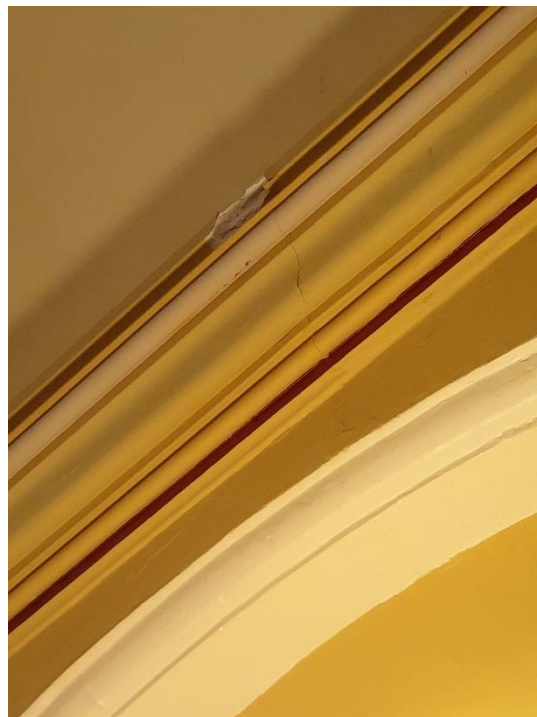
**Source: Mott MacDonald**

**Defect 13**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 14**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 15**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 16**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 17**



**Source: Mott MacDonald**

**Defect 18**



**Source: Mott MacDonald**

**Defect 19**



**Source: Mott MacDonald**

**Defect 20**



**Source: Mott MacDonald**



**Defect 21**



**Source: Mott MacDonald**

**Defect 22**



**Source: Mott MacDonald**

**Defect 23**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 24**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 25**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 26**



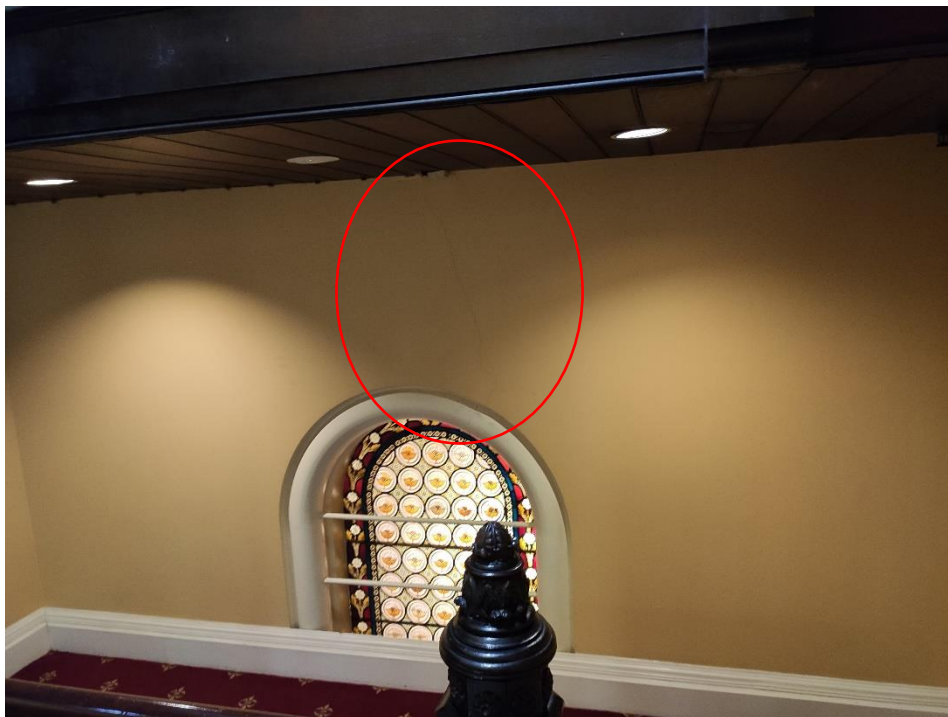
Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 27**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 28**



Source: Mott MacDonald



**Defect 29**



**Source: Mott MacDonald**

**Defect 30**



**Source: Mott MacDonald**



**Defect 31**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 32**



Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 33**



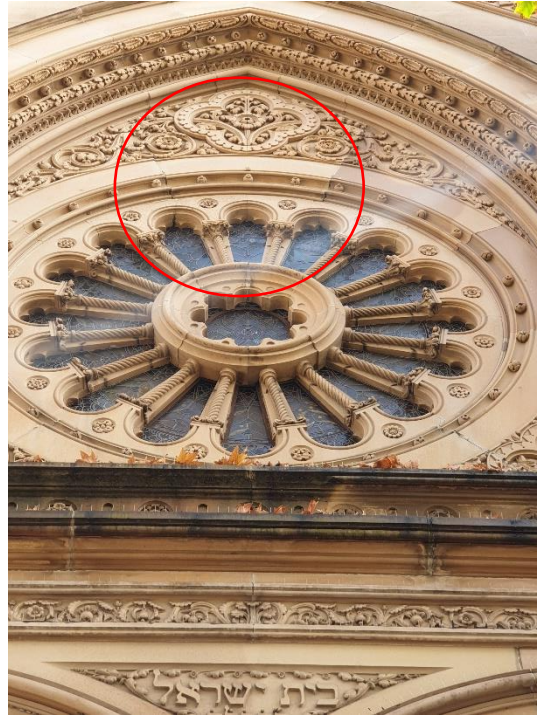
Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 34**



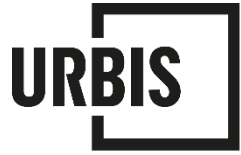
Source: Mott MacDonald

**Defect 35**



**Source: Mott MacDonald**





## **APPENDIX G**

## **CONDITION ASSESSMENT REVIEW - 2023**



Ethos Urban  
173 Sussex St  
Sydney NSW 2000

Attn: Costa Dimitriadis

6<sup>th</sup> July 2023

## **GREAT SYNAGOGUE – REVIEW OF PREVIOUS CONDITION ASSESSMENT**

We report the findings from our recent site inspection.

### **1.0 DETAILS OF INSPECTION**

- 1.1 Date of inspection:** 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023
- 1.2 Inspected by:** Alex Been – structural engineer for AC Been Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd
- 1.3 Purpose:** To compare the condition of the building to the previous condition assessment completed by Mott MacDonald and dated June 2020

### **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

We confirm the extent of observable defects in structural fabric of the building is generally as outlined in the Mott MacDonald report. Additional defects observed during our inspection, or changes in condition of defects previously observed are noted in the following table.

Defects listed in brackets for example (Defect 21) are defects previously listed in the Mott MacDonald report that appear to have altered since that condition assessment.

Photos included in the photo schedule that are not listed in the table are of defects that were previously noted by Mott MacDonald that have not substantially changed since that assessment.

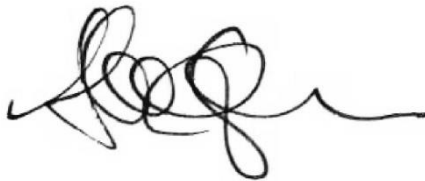
## 3.0 ADDITIONAL DEFECTS

Photo	Location	Defect Description	Discussion	Actions Required
P03	Succah north wall	Diagonal crack	Minor. Painted over.	N/A
P04	Succah west wall below windows	Diagonal crack	Minor. Painted over.	N/A
P05	Succah ceiling	Water penetration, stained ceiling	Potential roof leaking	Consider tracing leak to roof and re-sealing
P06	North stair	Water penetration, stained ceiling	Potential roof leaking	Consider tracing leak to roof and re-sealing
P07	Succah kitchen	Water penetration, stained ceiling	Potential roof leaking	Consider tracing leak to roof and re-sealing
P08	South stair SW corner wall	Crack	Minor defect	N/A
P09	South stair roof	Water penetration, stained ceiling	Potential roof leaking	Consider tracing leak to roof and re-sealing
P10	North stair L3 NW corner	Cracking in masonry wall common, hairline	Painted over, re-opened	Monitor
P11, P13 (Defect 12)		Bubbling paint and timber decay extends to west wall and in ceiling and along full south wall		
P18	Ladies Gallery eastern door	Minor cracking at top of doorway arch	Minor	Monitor
P19	Ladies Gallery, eastern wall and ceiling	Bubbling paint, water penetration	Roof leaks	Consider tracing leak to roof and re-sealing
P22	North tower east wall	Peeling paint	Water penetration	Monitor. Consider a programme of façade remediation
P25	South tower stair up from Men's floor	Vertical crack above stained-glass arch	Minor	Monitor
P26	South tower stair up from Men's floor	Vertical crack above stained-glass arch	Minor	Monitor

Photo	Location	Defect Description	Discussion	Actions Required
P27 (Defect 21)			Worsening	
P28 (Defect 22)			Worsening	
P30	South tower stairs	Upper stained-glass windows	Mould, spalling render	Weatherproof windows
P31	Choir level hallway	Cracking in wall	Minor	Monitor
P32	Choir level NW corner wall	Various hairline cracks	Minor	Monitor
P33, P34	Choir level locker room	Various hairline cracks	Minor	Monitor
P35	Men's floor ceiling, north side	Cracking in ceiling plaster	Minor	Monitor
P36	Basement stairs	Cracking in brick walls	Minor	Monitor
P39	Entry arch, Castlereagh St	Vertical crack in stone	Minor	Monitor
P40	Castlereagh St facade	Shrinkage cracking in render across façade, and water penetration	Likely to worsen over time	Monitor. Consider a programme of façade remediation
P41, P42, P43, P44	Elizabeth St facade	Mortar loss, fretting stone	Minor	Monitor. Consider a programme of façade remediation

We trust that the foregoing is of assistance. Please contact the undersigned for any further information.

Yours faithfully



**AC Been Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd**

**ALEX BEEN**

**DIRECTOR**

BE, MHERITCONS, CPENG, NER



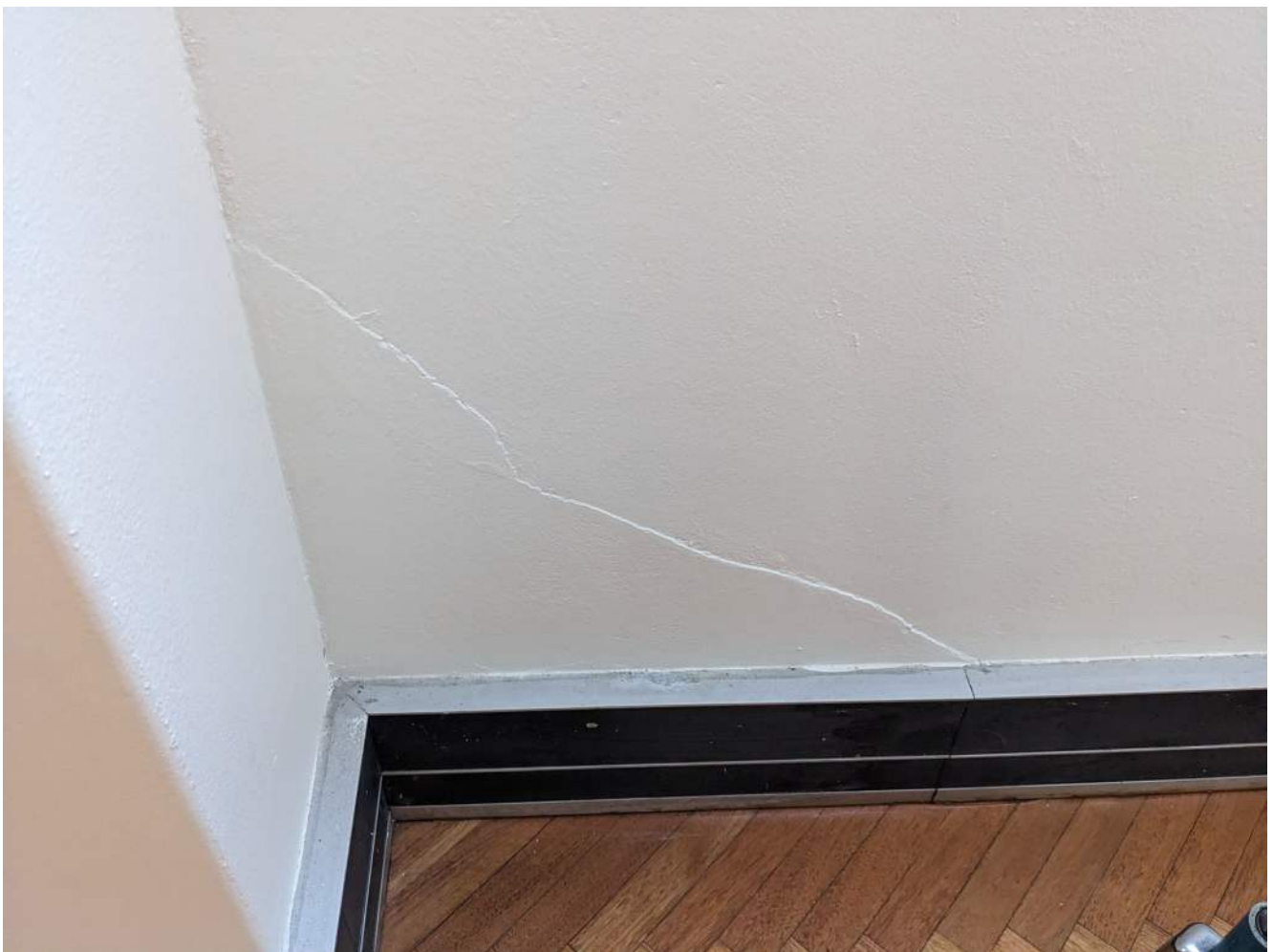
P01



P02



P03



P04





P05



P06



P07



P08



P09



P10



P11



P12



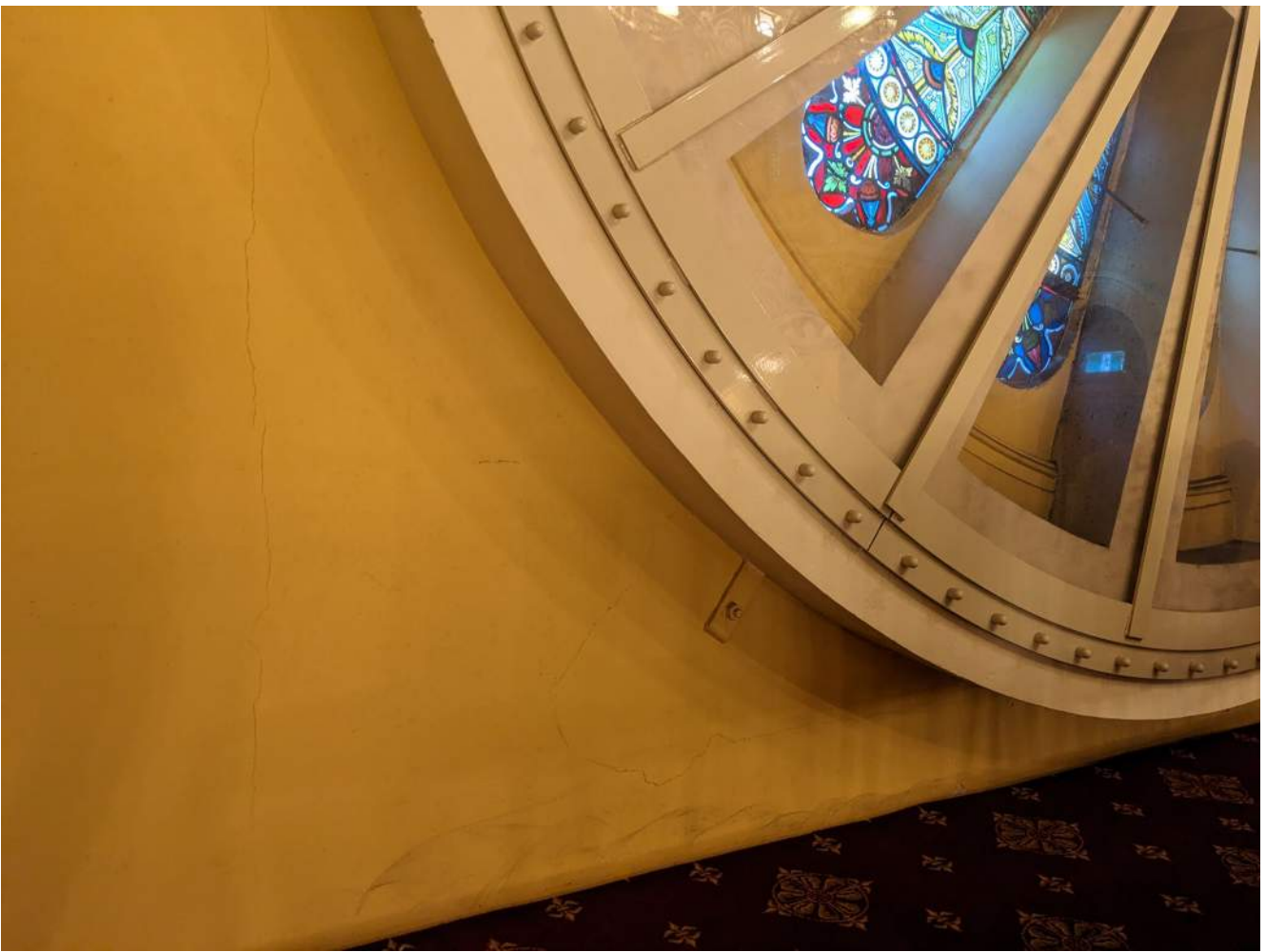


P13



P14





P15



P16



P17



P18



P19



P20





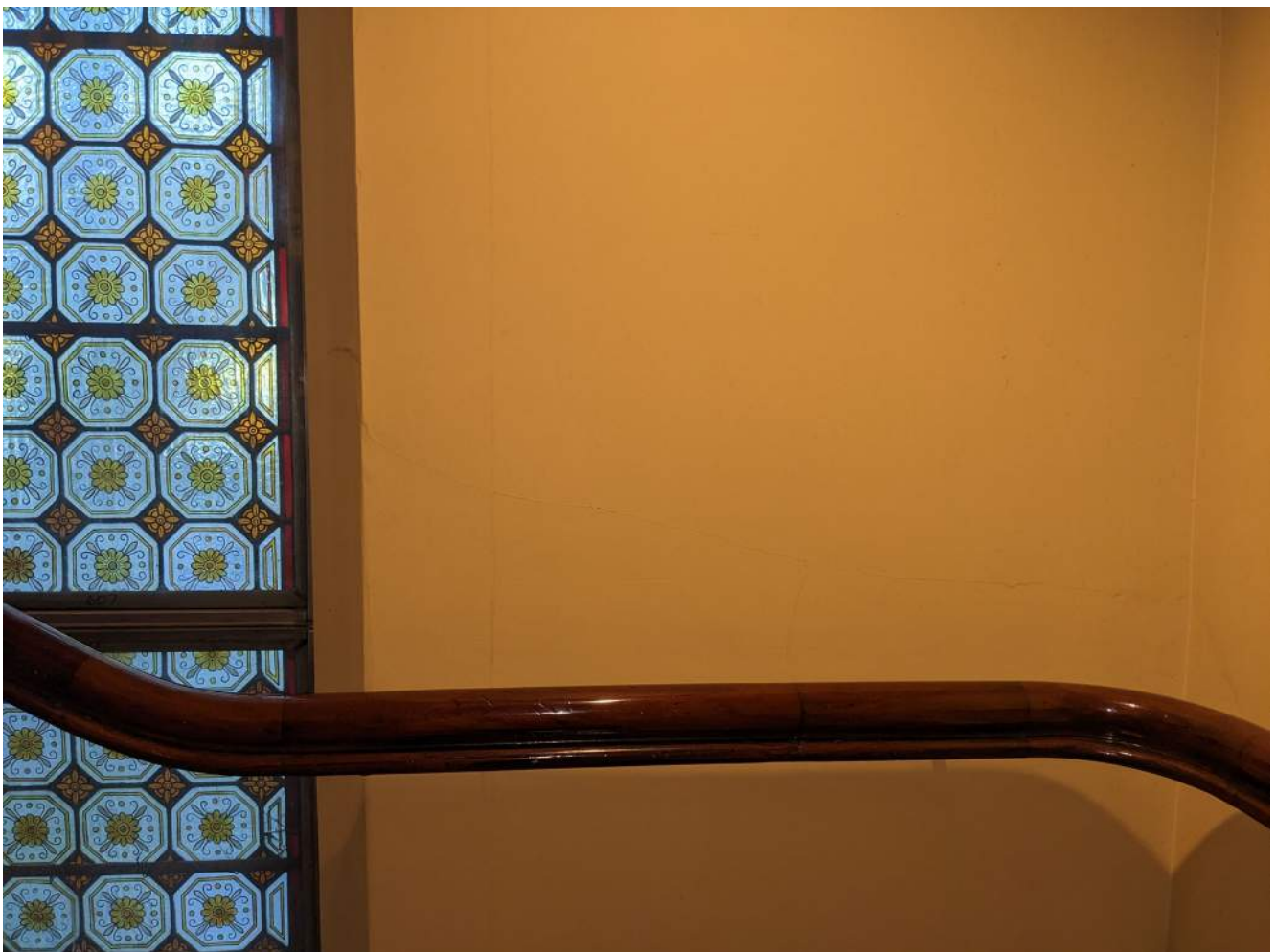
P21



P22

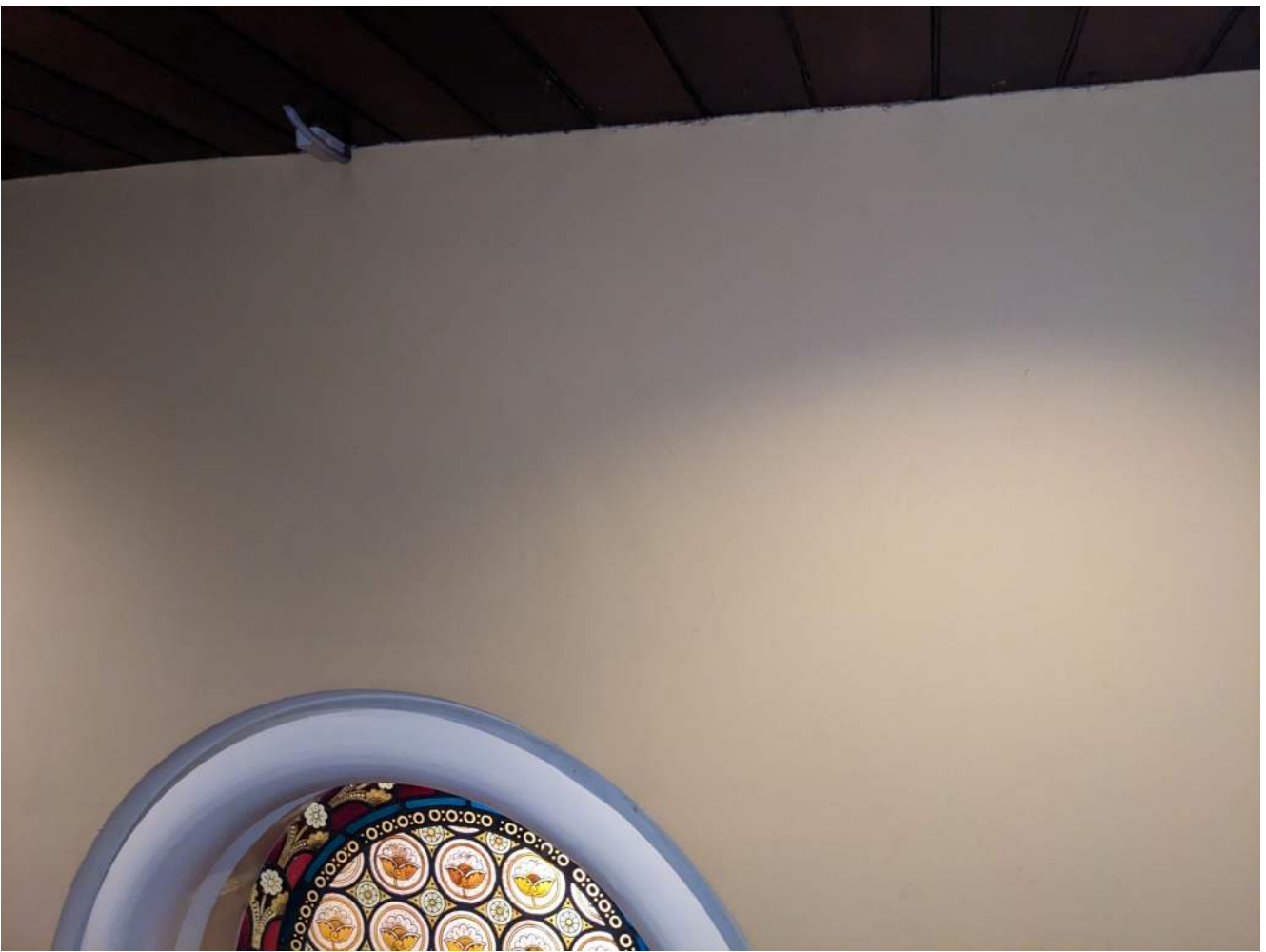


P23



P24





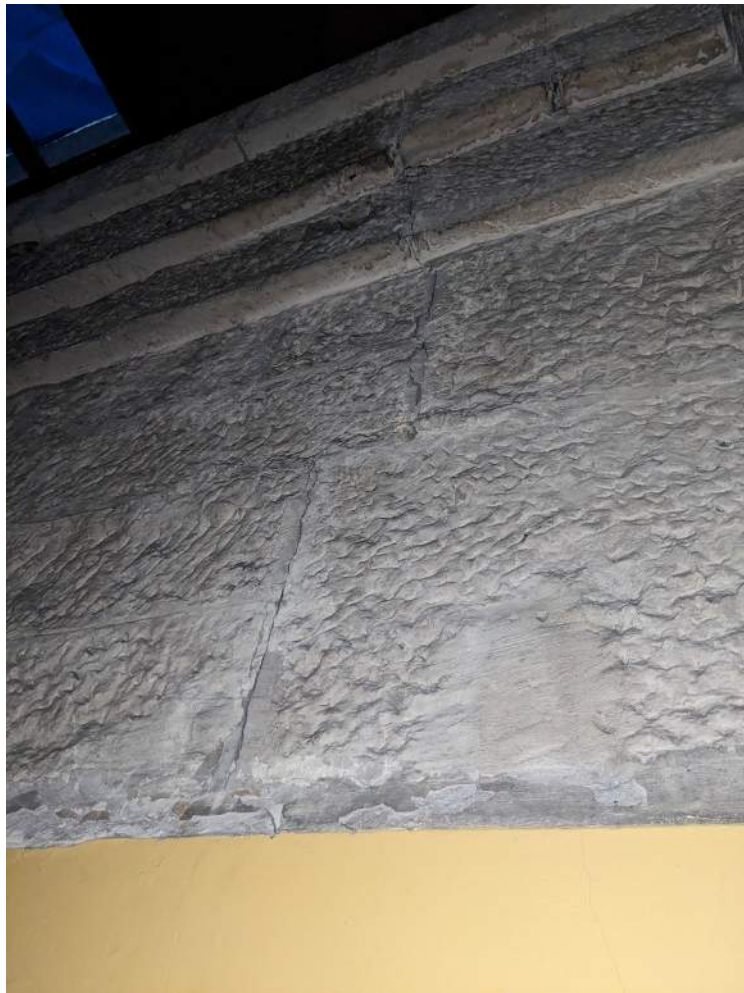
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P26



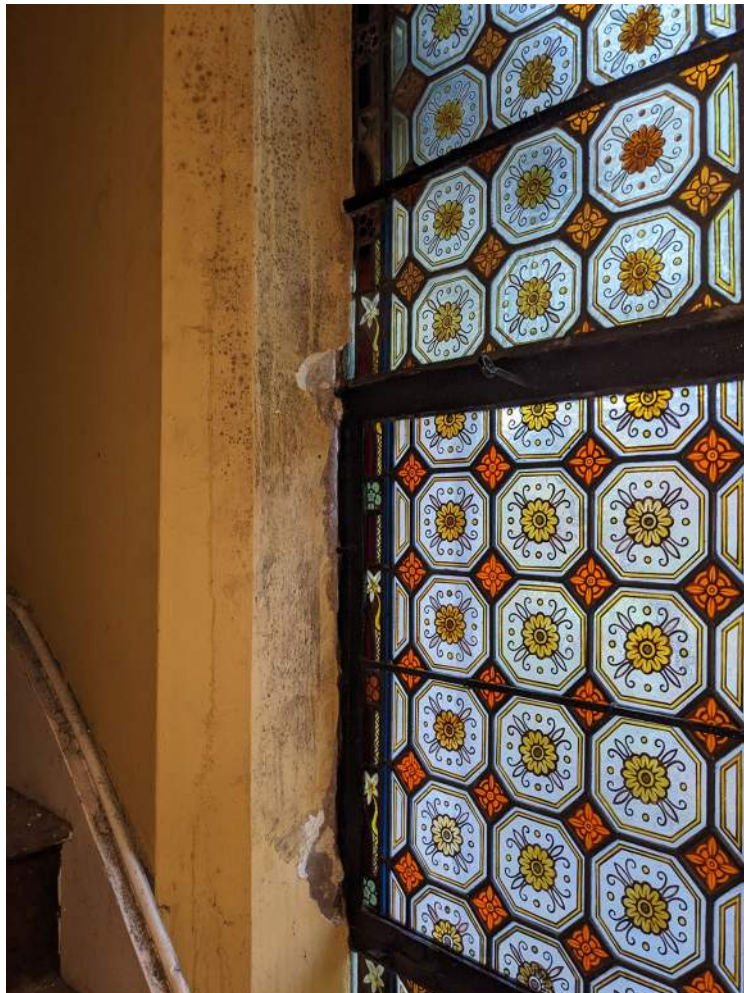
P27



P28



P29

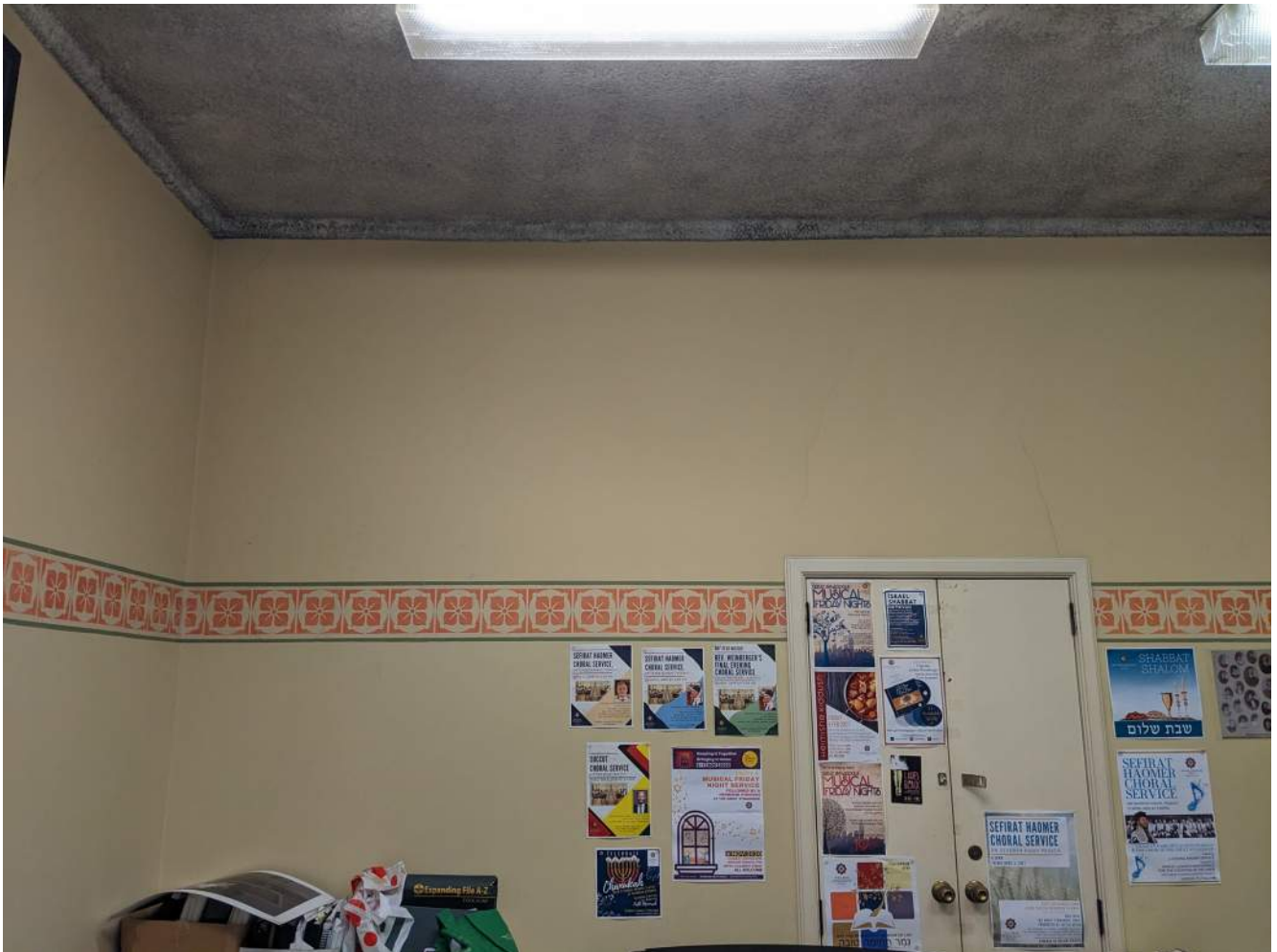


P30





P31



P32



P33



P34

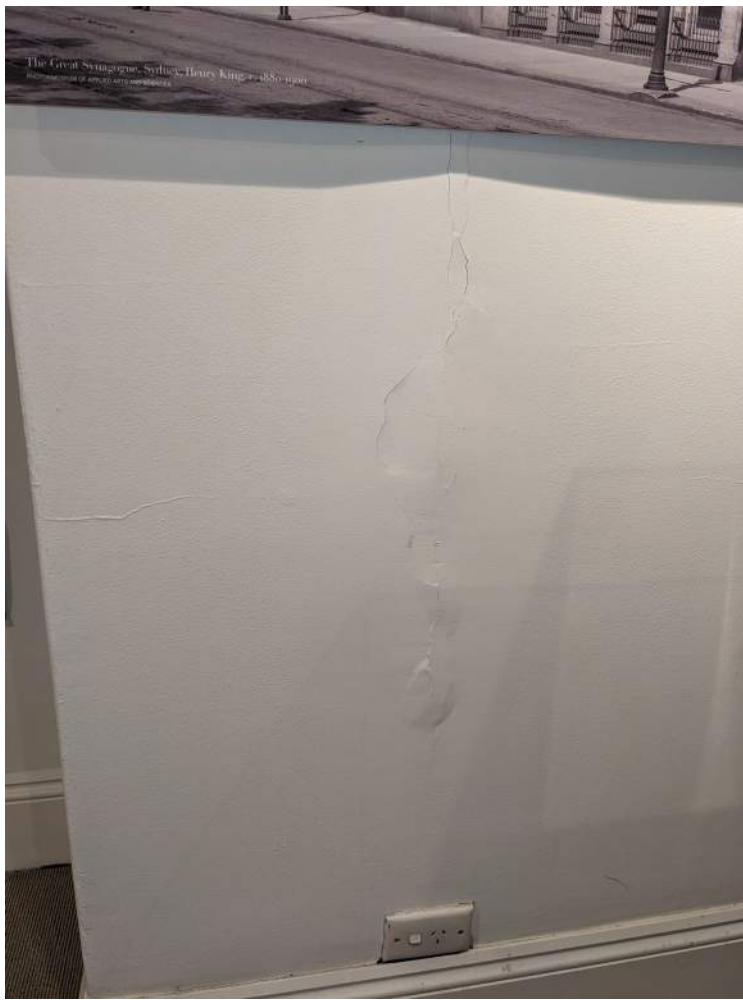




P35



P36



P37



P38





P39



P40





P41



P42





P43



P44