



PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM
Our Place, Our Stories

Heritage Conservation Management Plan

Port Macquarie Museum

**22 Clarence Street
Lot 1 DP 744652
Port Macquarie NSW**

**SECOND EDITION
Incorporating an
Archaeological Management Plan**

*Prepared by
Eureka Heritage*

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>1</u>	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	OVERVIEW	1
1.2	COMMISSION AND OBJECTIVES	1
1.3	PROJECT PROCESS	2
1.4	FUNDING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	2
1.5	AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION	2
1.6	REFERENCE DOCUMENTS, GUIDELINES AND RELATED REPORTS	2
1.7	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	2
1.8	THE MUSEUM SITE	2
<u>2</u>	UNDERSTANDING THE PLACE	9
2.1	INTRODUCTION	9
2.2	TRADITIONAL OWNERS	9
2.3	HISTORICAL OVERVIEW	9
2.4	A PLACE OF SECONDARY PUNISHMENT	10
2.5	AN OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION	10
2.6	A NEW STREET PLAN	11
2.7	LANDFORM AND SUBSOILS	12
2.8	FREE SETTLEMENT	12
2.9	TIMELINE SUMMARY	13
2.10	LOT 1 PORTION 5 COUNTY MACQUARIE PARISH MACQUARIE	13
2.11	THE STOREKEEPERS	14
2.12	ANALYSIS OF MATERIAL AND DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE	18
2.13	PORT MACQUARIE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (PMHS)	20
2.14	UNDERSTANDING THE SITE TODAY	21
2.15	CHANGES TO EXTERNAL FORM AND FABRIC	23
2.16	CHANGES TO INTERNAL FORM AND FABRIC	25
2.17	INVENTORY OF HERITAGE FABRIC/PRECINCTS	25
2.18	INVENTORY SHEETS	27
2.19	PHYSICAL CONDITION	36
<u>3</u>	ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT	38
3.1	AIMS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT	38
3.2	POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES	38
3.3	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT	38
3.4	CURTILAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ZONING	39
3.5	FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE POTENTIAL FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES	41
3.6	SCALE FOR ASSESSMENT OF DISTURBANCE	42
3.7	ANTICIPATED RELICS AND POTENTIAL FOR SIGNIFICANCE	42
3.8	ANTICIPATED ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES	43
<u>4</u>	ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE	47
4.1	INTRODUCTION	47
4.2	EXISTING ASSESSMENTS	47
4.3	HERITAGE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	47

4.4	ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE (REVISED)	49
4.5	ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE	50
4.6	STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE	50
4.7	HISTORICAL THEMES	51
5	CONSERVATION POLICY	52
5.1	INTRODUCTION	52
5.2	OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS	52
5.3	STATUTORY CONTROLS	53
5.4	BASIS OF APPROACH AND THE BURRA CHARTER	54
5.5	CONSERVATION POLICIES	55
5.6	POLICY IMPLEMENTATION	57
6	BIBLIOGRAPHY	59
6.1	PUBLICATIONS	59
6.2	INTERNET	59

FIGURES

FIGURE 1 – REGIONAL LOCATION PLAN	3
FIGURE 2 – LOCATION PLAN - PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM LOT 1 DP 744552	3
FIGURE 3 – AERIAL LOCATION PLAN.....	4
FIGURE 4 – PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM AND CLARENCE STREET CONTEXT LOOKING SOUTH WEST.....	5
FIGURE 5 – ELEVATED VIEW OF THE PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM COMPLEX CIRCA 2005	5
FIGURE 6 – SITE PLAN SHOWING FOOTPRINT OF MUSEUM BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY BOUNDARY	6
FIGURE 7 - GROUND FLOOR PLAN SHOWING HERITAGE FABRIC/PRECINCTS.....	7
FIGURE 8 - FIRST FLOOR PLAN SHOWING HERITAGE FABRIC/PRECINCTS.....	7
FIGURE 9 – FOREST KOALA COURTYARD LOCATED ON THE EASTERN ELEVATION OF THE MUSEUM.	8
FIGURE 10 – ILLUSTRATIVE PLAN OF PORT MACQUARIE 1831	11
FIGURE 11 – OVERLAY OF ORIGINAL STREET PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT WITH 1830 REALIGNMENT.....	12
FIGURE 12 – PLAN OF PORT MACQUARIE 1836 HIGHLIGHTING MUSEUM SITE IN RED	14
FIGURE 13 – PLAN OF PORT MACQUARIE CIRCA 1842 SHOWING BUILDING FOOTPRINTS AND STOKES' STORE	15
FIGURE 14 – CLARENCE STREET CIRCA 1870, LOOKING SOUTHERLY.	17
FIGURE 15 – SOUTHERN ELEVATION OF THE MUSEUM BUILDING CIRCA 1960.....	18
FIGURE 16 – POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION PHASES OVERLAYED ON CIRCA 1895 PHOTOGRAPH.	19
FIGURE 17 – VIEW OF MUSEUM WITHIN ITS HISTORICAL STREETScape CIRCA 1950 OR SLIGHTLY EARLIER.....	19
FIGURE 18 – THE FORMER STORE THEN BOARDING HOUSE NOW DERELICT ABOUT 1950.....	20
FIGURE 19 – HASTINGS DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM SHORTLY AFTER OPENING CIRCA 1960.....	21
FIGURE 20 – EVIDENCE OF GROUND DISTURBANCE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FOOTINGS 1966.....	22
FIGURE 21 – DETAIL OF FOOTING CONSTRUCTION CIRCA 1960	22
FIGURE 22 – VIEW OF FIRST STAGE OF MUSEUM ADDITIONS NEARING COMPLETION CIRCA 1960	23
FIGURE 23 – INVASION OF TREE ROOTS ALONG BASE OF EASTERN ELEVATION IN 2016.....	24
FIGURE 24 – VIEW OF THE EASTERN ELEVATION OF THE HERITAGE BUILDING IN 2016	24
FIGURE 25 – SHINGLES OF ORIGINAL ROOF TREATMENT	25
FIGURE 26 - ZONES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	40
FIGURE 27 – SITE PLAN SHOWING FOOTPRINT OF CIRCA 1830S STRUCTURES.....	46

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1 – CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT & OCCUPATION
TABLE 2 – ASSESSMENT OF CONDITION SCALE
TABLE 3 – ASSESSMENT OF INTEGRITY SCALE
TABLE 4 – GRADING OF SIGNIFICANCE
TABLE 5 - SUMMARY OF STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT (AFTER ROBERTS, 2017)
TABLE 6 – ANALYSIS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL
TABLE 7 – SUMMARY – HERITAGE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
TABLE 8 – ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE (REVISED)
TABLE 9 – SUMMARY ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE
TABLE 10 – HISTORICAL THEMES
TABLE 11 – STATUTORY CONTROLS
TABLE 12 – GRADING OF SIGNIFICANCE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS
TABLE 13 – PRIORITY LEVELS FOR POLICY IMPLEMENTATION
TABLE 14 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

APPENDICES

1	PROJECT BRIEF.
2	SEVENTH EDITION AUSTRALIA /COMOS BURRA CHARTER 2013.
3	STATE HERITAGE INVENTORY SHEET & LEP HERITAGE MAPPING.
4	STRUCTURAL CONDITION REPORTS.

TERMINOLOGY & ABBREVIATIONS

Adaptation: means modifying a place to suit proposed compatible use.

AMP: Archaeological Management Plan.

Archaeological Assessment: a study carried out to make an assessment of the archaeological significance of a site in order to formulate appropriate management strategies.

Archaeological Monitoring: excavation works that are supervised by an archaeologist in order to identify any archaeological evidence exposed in the process. The archaeologist has the authority to direct and to suspend work should relics be discovered. In the instance that relics are discovered, further assessment and management may be required including an application for an excavation permit.

Archaeological Potential: the assessment of the archaeological resources to contribute meaningful information to historical knowledge.

Archaeological Resource: the archaeological features (or reasonably anticipated archaeological features) contained within a defined area.

Archaeological Significance: within the heritage assessment process, archaeological significance is the scientific (or research) value of a site to contribute meaningful information to that already known.

Archaeological Site: a place that contains one or more relics and/or works.

Artefact: an object or item that has been produced by human activity. Artefacts are typically contained within an occupation deposit.

Assessment of Potential Archaeological Resources: a measure of the likelihood of archaeological resources to exist within the precinct.

CMP: Conservation Management Plan.

Curtilage: a curtilage is a piece of land attached to a building that provides a sense of enclosure. Curtilage can be an elusive concept in consideration of changing contexts such as land subdivision, changes in ownership, demolition and/or redevelopment. Generally, a curtilage is that area of land surrounding an item, or area of archaeological significance, which is essential for retaining and interpreting this significance.

Compatible use: a use which respects the cultural significance of a place. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.

Conservation: means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural setting and significance.

Development: the continued, evolutionary growth of a place or site to meet changing needs. This can refer to historical development and is not necessarily used in a negative sense.

Environmental Heritage: is defined by the NSW Heritage Act 1977 as 'those places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects, and precincts, of State or local heritage significance.'

Fabric: means the physical material of a place that is the product of human technology and activity. It can include components, fixtures, contents and objects.

Heritage Item: a building, work, place, relic, tree, object or archaeological site.

Heritage Management Document: a heritage conservation management plan, or a heritage impact statement, or any other document that provides guidelines for the ongoing management and conservation of a heritage item.

Heritage Significance: historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value assessed under the guidelines of the NSW Heritage Council.

ICOMOS: International Council on Monuments and Sites. Australia ICOMOS is a non-government, not-for-profit organisation of cultural heritage professionals formed as a national committee of ICOMOS in 1976. Australia ICOMOS' mission is to lead cultural heritage conservation in Australia by raising standards, encouraging debate and generating innovative ideas.

Maintenance: means the continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or reconstruction.

OEH: Office of Environment and Heritage.

PMHS: Port Macquarie Historical Society.

Preservation: means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

Reconstruction: means returning a place to an earlier state and is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of new material into the fabric.

Relic: an archaeological deposit, resource or feature that has heritage significance at a local or State level.

Section 4 of the NSW Heritage Act 1977 defines a *relic* as:

any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

- (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and*
- (b) is of State or local heritage significance.*

Research Design: a set of questions which can be investigated by an archaeologist using archaeological evidence and a methodology for addressing them. The purpose of a research design is to ensure that archaeological investigations focus on genuine research needs. It is an essential tool to ensure that when archaeological resources are unavoidably disturbed or destroyed by excavation, the information they hold may be preserved in other formats for public access.

Research Themes: broad research areas which set guidelines for further investigation of an archaeological site. Themes should be relevant to the improved understanding of the history of the site, the wider locality, the State or Australia.

Restoration: means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

Work: in the definition of environmental heritage contained in the Heritage Act 1977, a *work* is not defined, but dictionary definitions are adopted such that a *work* is taken to mean '*an engineering structure, such as a building, bridge, dock, etc.*'. This definition would extend to cover abandoned road formation and *works* such as drains, bridges and culverts and structures that are considered road infrastructure.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 OVERVIEW

The Port Macquarie Museum is recognised as a site of State Heritage Significance. The building fronting Clarence Street was constructed in the early 1830s and served as a store and residence. The museum comprises a complex of structures but it is the street-front building that attracts State heritage significance. The Port Macquarie Historical Society (PMHS) has been utilising the building, and the complex of modern extensions to the rear of the heritage building, as a local history museum since 1960.

The first edition of the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the Port Macquarie Historical Museum was prepared by Suters Architects in 2000. The purpose of this second edition is to review and update the existing Conservation Management Plan with a view to the heritage significance of the site, and the ongoing use of the complex as a local historical museum and tourist attraction. As the first edition was not available electronically, this second edition has required some reproduction and reformatting of information contained within the first edition.

Port Macquarie Historical Society was formed in 1956, initially as the Hastings District Historical Society. The Port Macquarie Historical Museum opened in other premises in 1957, and from 1960 has been located in its historic building and additions at 22 Clarence Street, Port Macquarie. The property was purchased by the society in 1962 by private treaty. The Museum changed its trading name to the Port Macquarie Museum in July 2014 with a rebranding program with the aim of remaining relevant and current to the present-day community.

1.2 COMMISSION AND OBJECTIVES

This second edition of the Conservation Management Plan was commissioned by the Port Macquarie Historical Society in 2017 with the following objectives:

- a) To review the established setting of the site in its historical context and review its importance to Port Macquarie and the state of New South Wales;
- b) To review the significance of the place and to prepare an updated statement of significance;
- c) To incorporate an archaeological assessment and archaeological management plan;
- d) To determine the current opportunities for, and constraints on, the place;
- e) To develop updated policies to guide the management, use, interpretation and maintenance of the place; and
- f) To advise on continuing conservation and maintenance issues.

As the site is a functioning and evolving museum, a local historical repository with a growing collection of records and artefacts, and a major tourist attraction and information centre in the Port Macquarie central business district, it is necessary to clarify that this plan addresses the structural fabric of the heritage building and its associated structural elements. The collection and exhibitions within the heritage building are a discrete museum collection not related to the specific history of the site. Museum items are subject to discrete Collections Management by the Port Macquarie Historical Society.

The Project Brief, prepared by the Port Macquarie Historical Society, is included as **Appendix 1**.

1.3 PROJECT PROCESS

The preparation of this CMP followed the general process for the preparation of conservation plans of European Cultural Significance as set out by J S Kerr, *The Conservation Plan (7th Edition)*. While the CMP of 2000 was used as a reference, additional research was able to inform a review of heritage significance and has also informed the archaeological assessment.

Assessment of Heritage Significance complied with the guideline by Department of Planning, NSW Heritage Office, *Assessing Heritage significance (2001)*. Archaeological assessment was carried out in compliance with guidelines by Department of Planning NSW Heritage Branch, *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics' (2009)*. The archaeological management plan followed the *Guidelines for the preparation of Archaeological Management Plans (2009)*.

1.4 FUNDING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project has been proudly funded by the NSW Government in association with the Heritage Council of New South Wales, Port Macquarie-Hastings Council and the Copland Foundation.

1.5 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

This Second Edition Conservation Management Plan was prepared and written by Sue Singleton of Eureka Heritage. Specialist Heritage Engineer, Graeme Roberts of G R Consulting, carried out a structural condition report in December 2017 in order to provide an updated condition report to that previously carried out by Walsh and Roberts in 2007. Unless otherwise specified, site photographs by Eureka Heritage.

1.6 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS, GUIDELINES AND RELATED REPORTS

The primary reference documents used in the preparation of the Conservation Management Plan are listed below with additional references provided in the bibliography.

- *Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter) 7th Edition (partly revised) 2013*. Included as **Appendix 2**.
- *Guidelines for Conservation Management Documents and Other Management Documents, revised 2002, of the NSW Heritage Office. (now OEH Heritage Division)*.
- *Port Macquarie Historical Museum, Port Macquarie, NSW – Conservation Management Plan, 2000*.
- *Port Macquarie Archaeological Management Plan*
- *Port Macquarie Historical Society Incorporated Strategic Plan 2017-2019*.
- *Port Macquarie – Former Government House Ruins. Conservation Management Plan, 2003*.
- *Port Macquarie – A History to 1850*

1.7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Conservation Management Plan has been prepared in conjunction with members of the Port Macquarie Historical Society. Particular thanks are directed to member Debbie Sommers for her support.

Archaeological investigations and subsequent reports by Edward Higginbotham on neighbouring sites have been invaluable in the preparation of this report, particularly with reference to historical mapping, and due acknowledgement is extended.

1.8 THE MUSEUM SITE

The Port Macquarie Museum is located in the business district of the regional city of Port Macquarie, governed by the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council. Port Macquarie is a coastal settlement located on the

Mid North Coast of New South Wales, about 390 km north of Sydney, and 570 km south of Brisbane. Location plans are provided in **Figure 1.** and **Figure 2** and **Figure 3.**

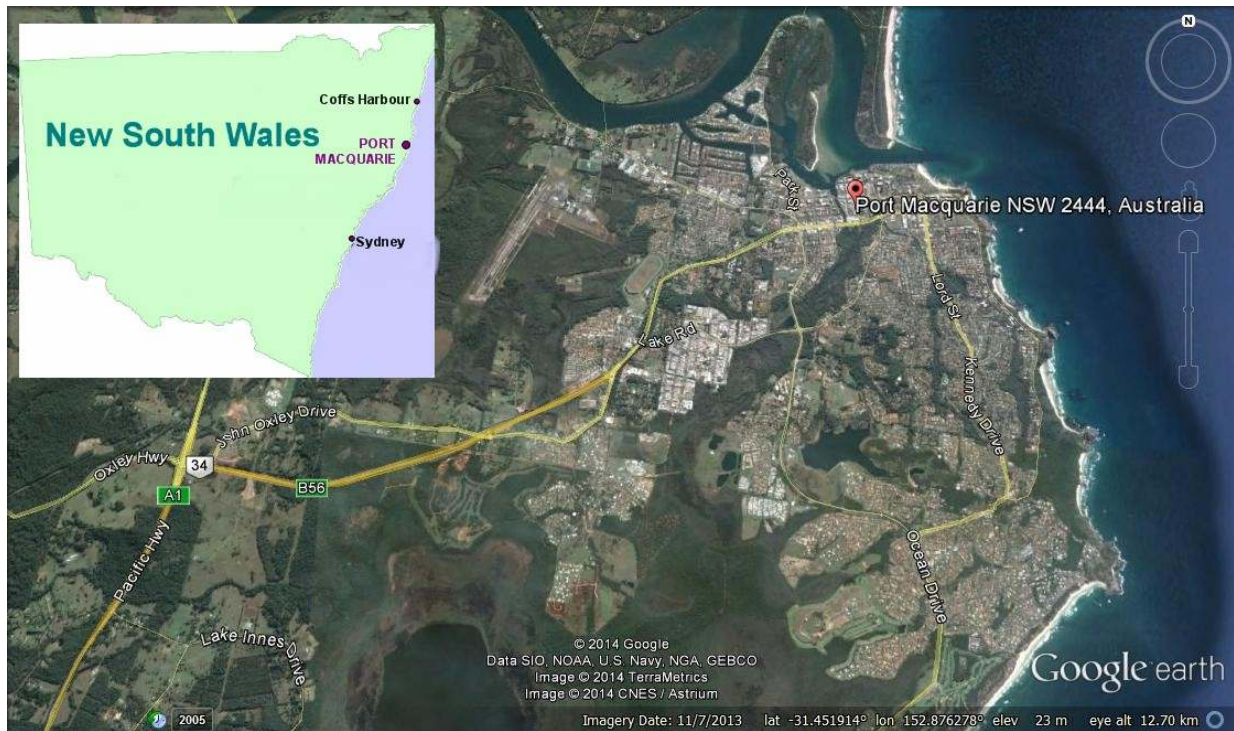


FIGURE 1 – REGIONAL LOCATION PLAN

Source: Google Earth

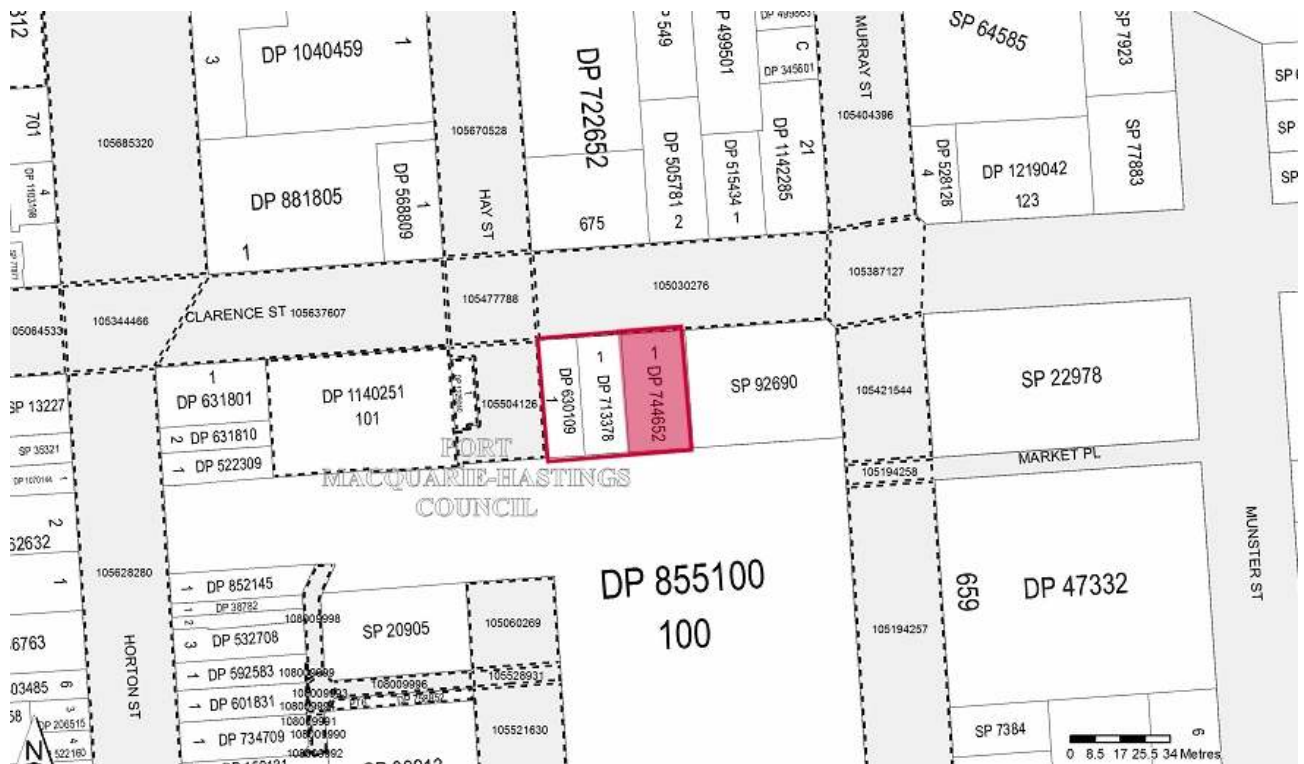


FIGURE 2 - LOCATION PLAN - PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM LOT 1 DP 744552

Source: NSW Land Registry Service



FIGURE 3 – AERIAL LOCATION PLAN

Source: Google Earth 2018

In overview, the historical precinct of the museum complex sits proudly fronting Clarence Street (shown in **Figure 4**), and consists of a two-storey brick building, with a ground floor verandah annexe along the rear elevation, and an underground cistern (water storage tank) also located at the rear of the heritage building. The Museum site is a complex of inter-connected buildings, the footprint of which extends from north to south within the property boundary (see **Figure 5** and **Figure 6**).

The public entry point to the museum is through the eastern doorway of the historical building. This building houses two floors of museum exhibits within a readily identifiable historical precinct (see **Figure 7** and **Figure 8**).

A recent installation in 2016 was the Forest Courtyard, a public space with seating and pergola, and a Forestry interpretation panel. The space features “Forest Koala” and is located on the eastern elevation of the historical building (see **Figure 9**). The Hello Koala Sculpture Trail project was designed to promote cultural tourism and environmental sustainability across the Port Macquarie Hastings region. It comprised 50 large scale fiberglass koala sculptures each one featuring a unique artistic design contributed by regional or national artists.

To the rear of the historical building a complex of inter-connected brick extensions, modifications and infill has occurred dating from the 1960s. These extensions house exhibitions, the museum archives and storage space, administration and meeting areas and a library. These ‘modern’ elements are not specifically considered within this CMP. However, the way in which they interact and/or impact with the historical building and heritage fabric has been considered.

In the coming years, the historical society wish to expand the existing storage space and plan to update their administration offices. These plans do not propose any modification or adaptation to the heritage precincts.



FIGURE 4 – PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM AND CLARENCE STREET CONTEXT LOOKING SOUTH WEST
NORFOLK ISLAND PINES FORM PART OF THE HISTORICAL STREETSCAPE. COUNCIL PLANTINGS OF ORNAMENTAL TREES IN THIS PRECINCT COULD BE CONSIDERED A DETRIMENTAL ELEMENT TO THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT.



FIGURE 5 – ELEVATED VIEW OF THE PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM COMPLEX CIRCA 2005
LOOKING NORTH-WEST AND SHOWING MODERN BRICK EXTENSIONS TO THE REAR OF THE HERITAGE BUILDING
AND BRICK INFILL OF THE FORMER TIMBER VERANDAH ANNEXE.

Source: Port Macquarie Museum

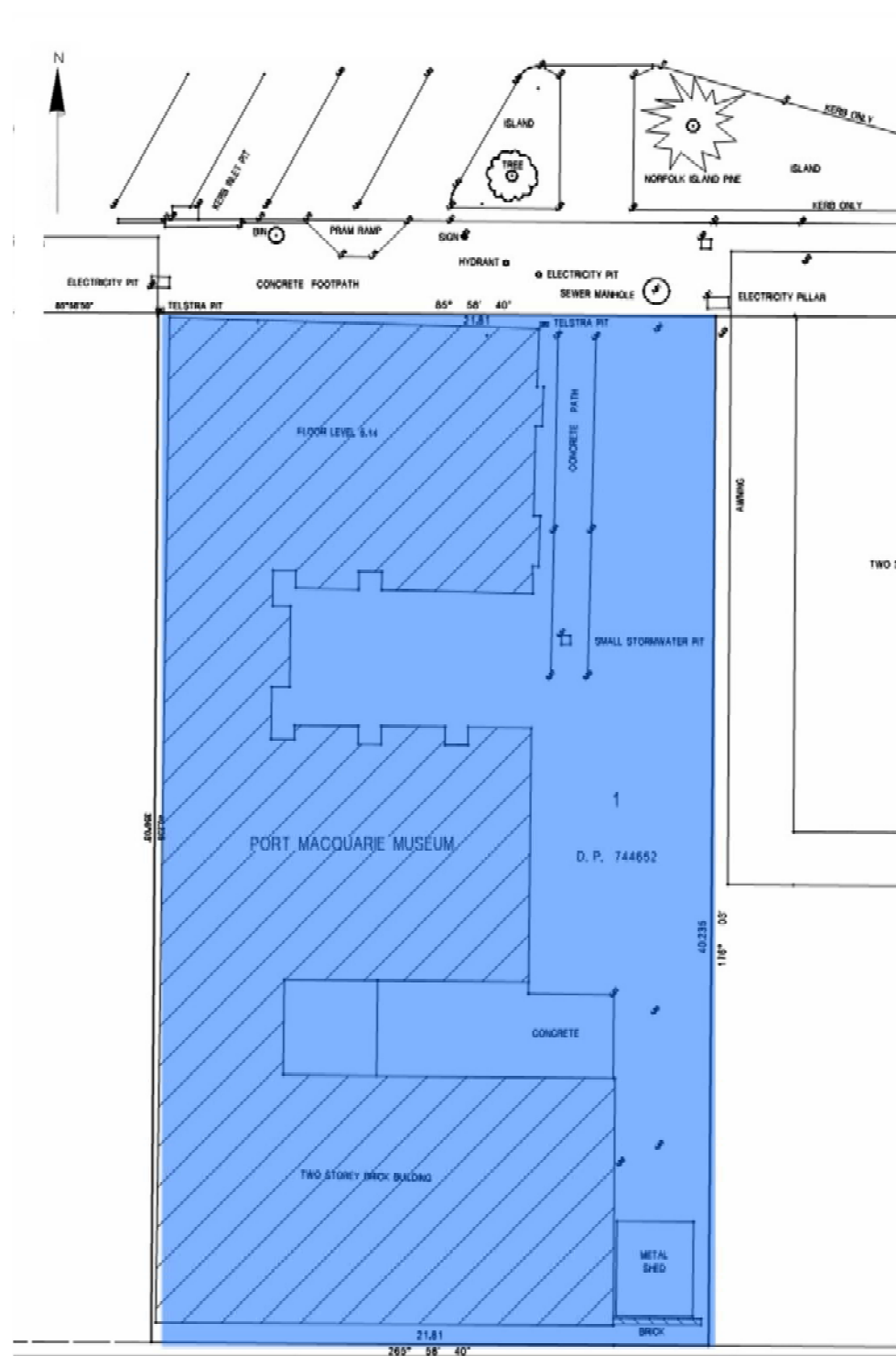


FIGURE 6 - SITE PLAN SHOWING FOOTPRINT OF MUSEUM BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY BOUNDARY

Source: Port Macquarie Museum

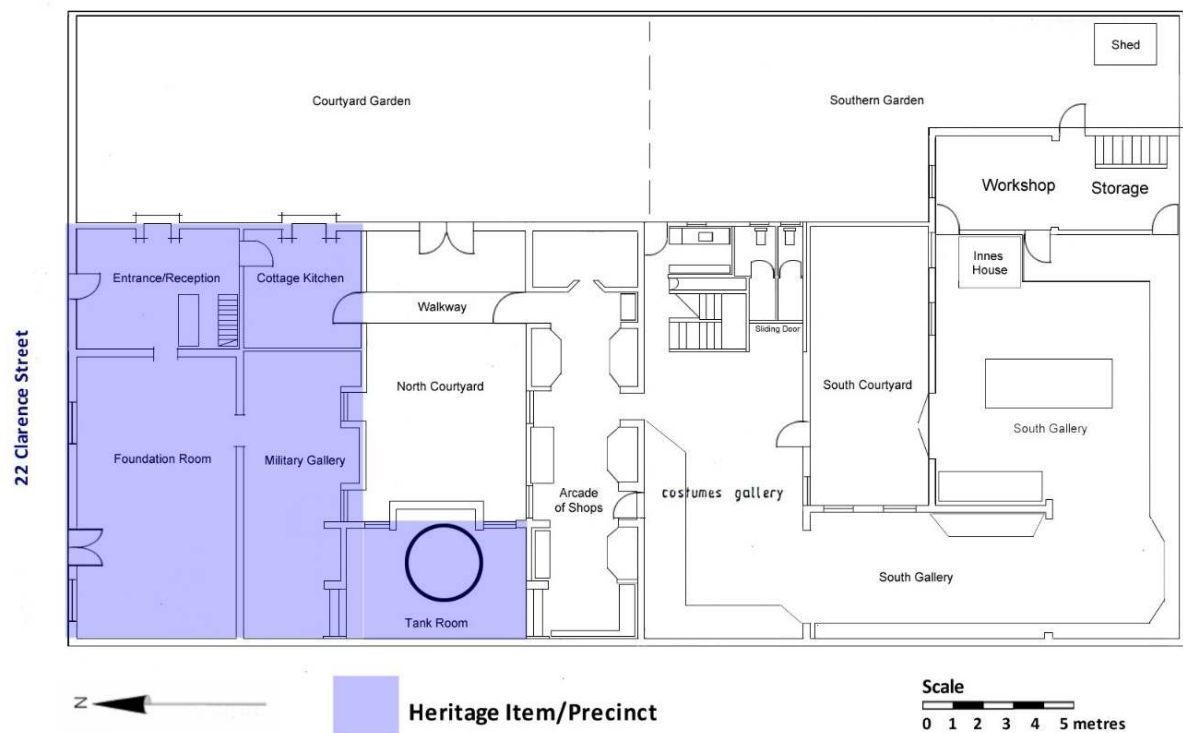


FIGURE 7 - GROUND FLOOR PLAN SHOWING HERITAGE FABRIC/PRECINCTS

Source: Port Macquarie Museum

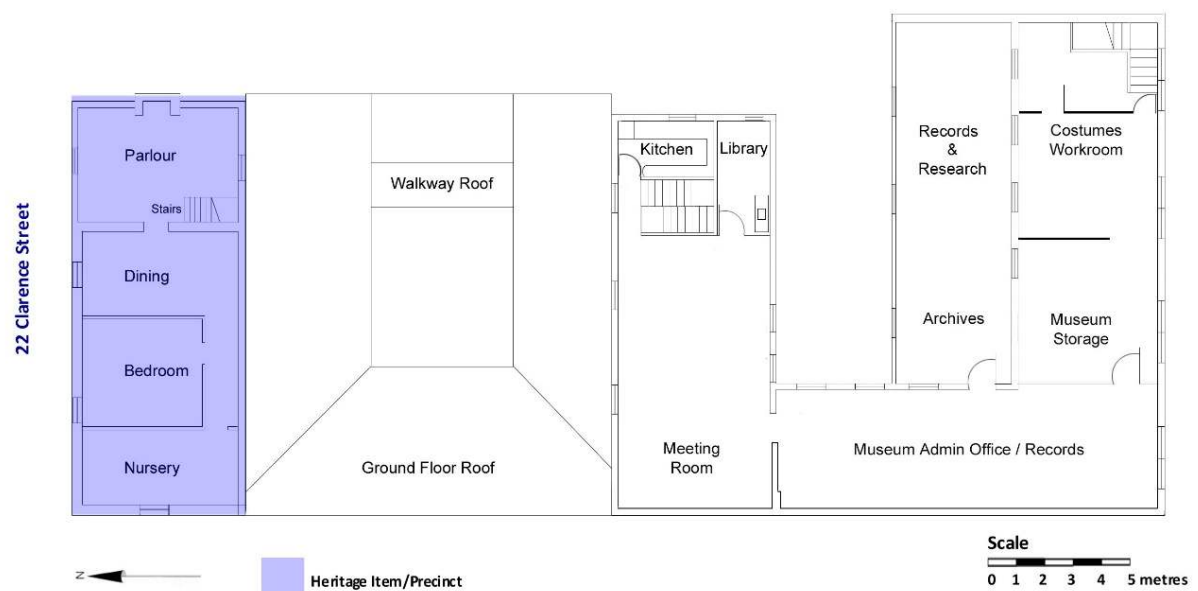


FIGURE 8 - FIRST FLOOR PLAN SHOWING HERITAGE FABRIC/PRECINCTS

Source: Port Macquarie Museum



FIGURE 9 – FOREST KOALA COURTYARD LOCATED ON THE EASTERN ELEVATION OF THE MUSEUM.

2 UNDERSTANDING THE PLACE

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Cultural significance is a simple concept with the primary purpose to help identify and assess the attributes which make a place of value to us and to our society. An understanding of the place is therefore basic to any planning process. Once the significance of a place is understood, informed policy decisions can be made which will enable that significance to be retained, revealed or, at least, impaired as little as possible. A clear understanding of the nature and level of the significance of a place will not only suggest constraints on future action, it will also introduce flexibility by identifying areas which can be adapted or developed with greater freedom (Burra Charter, 2013).

The following sections provide a historical context for the Port Macquarie Museum, former store and residence across the era of its development when Port Macquarie was in transition from penal settlement to free settlement.

2.2 TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Traditional Owners of the land of the Mid North Coast region comprised three main tribal groups who occupied territory with divisions marked by the river valleys. The *Birpai* occupied the Manning Valley, the *Ngaku* occupied the Hastings River valley and the *Ngamba* the Macleay River valley. Food and other resources were plentiful throughout the coastal river valleys allowing a number of tribal groups to live in relatively close proximity.

When John Oxley and his exploration party travelled down the Hastings Valley in 1818, Oxley recorded that smoke was observed from many native fires and calculated that there must be about 700 Aboriginal inhabitants living the area. In the early years of the convict settlement there was apparently at least some harmony between the local Aboriginals and the colony. However, the cedar getters and the tribes more distant from the settlement clashed and lives were lost to both.

In 1822 Captain Francis Allman, the first commandant of Port Macquarie, had established relatively good relations with the tribes living around the settlement and had proclaimed *Monnunggal* as the Chief of the Port Macquarie Aboriginals. As was common practice at the time, Allman presented *Monnunggal* with a breastplate clarifying his status among the community. A number of Aboriginal men were employed as “black police” and their tracking skills were utilised to capture any convicts who attempted escape.

By the turn of the 19th Century, the Traditional Owners of the Mid North Coast had been largely disposed of their lands and dwelled on the fringes of the settlement. By 1911, acting upon the objections of the settlers on their presence, the last of the Aboriginal inhabitants were forced onto reserves located away from the main settlement.

2.3 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The non-indigenous history of early Port Macquarie is comprehensively covered in a multitude of readily available resources. The history of the Port Macquarie Museum is enveloped within the historical context of the settlement and development of Port Macquarie as a place of secondary punishment from 1821 but more specifically to the period of free settlement from 1831. Should additional historical detail be sought on the very early history of Port Macquarie, please refer to the following recommended historical resources:

- *Place of Banishment – Port Macquarie 1818-1832* by Iain McLachlan (1988);
- *Port Macquarie, A History to 1850* edited by Frank Rogers (1982);
- *Annabella Boswell's Journal: An account of early Port Macquarie* (1981).

2.4 A PLACE OF SECONDARY PUNISHMENT

Port Macquarie was occupied in 1821 as a place of secondary punishment, to receive and hold convicts who had transgressed the law for a second time after arriving in New South Wales to serve sentences handed down in England. The settlement was originally laid out in 1821 by Surveyor James Meehan. Its convict population peaked in 1825, but was then progressively reduced until 1830, when the Hastings Valley was opened up to free settlement. A government establishment remained until 1847, housing "specials" in a newly built gaol, forming a focus point for public works in the district.

The early settlement grew around the goal site and the surrounding array of houses, shed and gardens. The street plan comprised an irregular grid of streets. The settlement was often referred to as "The Camp" as most of the buildings were simply temporary structures, many only bark huts.

2.5 AN OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

An official proclamation of 30 July 1830 announced that on 13 August the settlement would be thrown open to private settlement, although the town remained a settlement for convicts (Turner, nd). After 1831 land was sold by auction having been advertised for one month in the Government Gazette as being disposable at the expiration of three months. The street plan was changed by Governor Darling in 1831 in anticipation of the arrival of free settlers.

Thus, in 1830, Port Macquarie was officially opened to free settlement but it was not until 1832 that it finally closed as a place of secondary punishment. In the meantime, a town plan on a grid design was imposed over the rudimentary street plan of the penal settlement. From 1832 until 1847 Port Macquarie was both a town open to free settlement and a convict depot for specials, the sick, infirm and insane. Administration of the town and convict depot passed to the civil authorities, in the person of the resident Police Magistrate, although a military detachment remained to guard the convicts. During the 1830s much of the government land surrounding the gaol was sold or auctioned off, for example the former Settlement Farm was disposed of by Government Auction in 1837 (Rogers, 1982).

The Illustrative Plan of Port Macquarie of the first edition CMP shows an overlay of the development associated with the penal settlement from 1821 to 1830 against the survey of the new town alignment in 1831. This illustrative plan is reproduced as **Figure 10** which has been marked up to show the boundary of Portion 5 within the new township layout, but where allotment boundaries are not yet shown. This plan also indicates the swampy nature of the landform and is annotated "Tee Tree Swamp". The approximate boundary of Lot 1 is shown in blue outline and clearly shows that no development associated with the penal settlement, other than the line of the road, had taken place prior to the 1831 realignment survey.

The natural drainage line is shown from the swampy land and running north to the Hastings River. This drainage is now enclosed by a substantial brick barrel drain. A section of the drain was exposed beneath Clarence Street in 1978 during Council roadworks, with a further network of brick barrel drains exposed in subsequent archaeological investigations across other sites (Higginbotham, 2008; 2009).

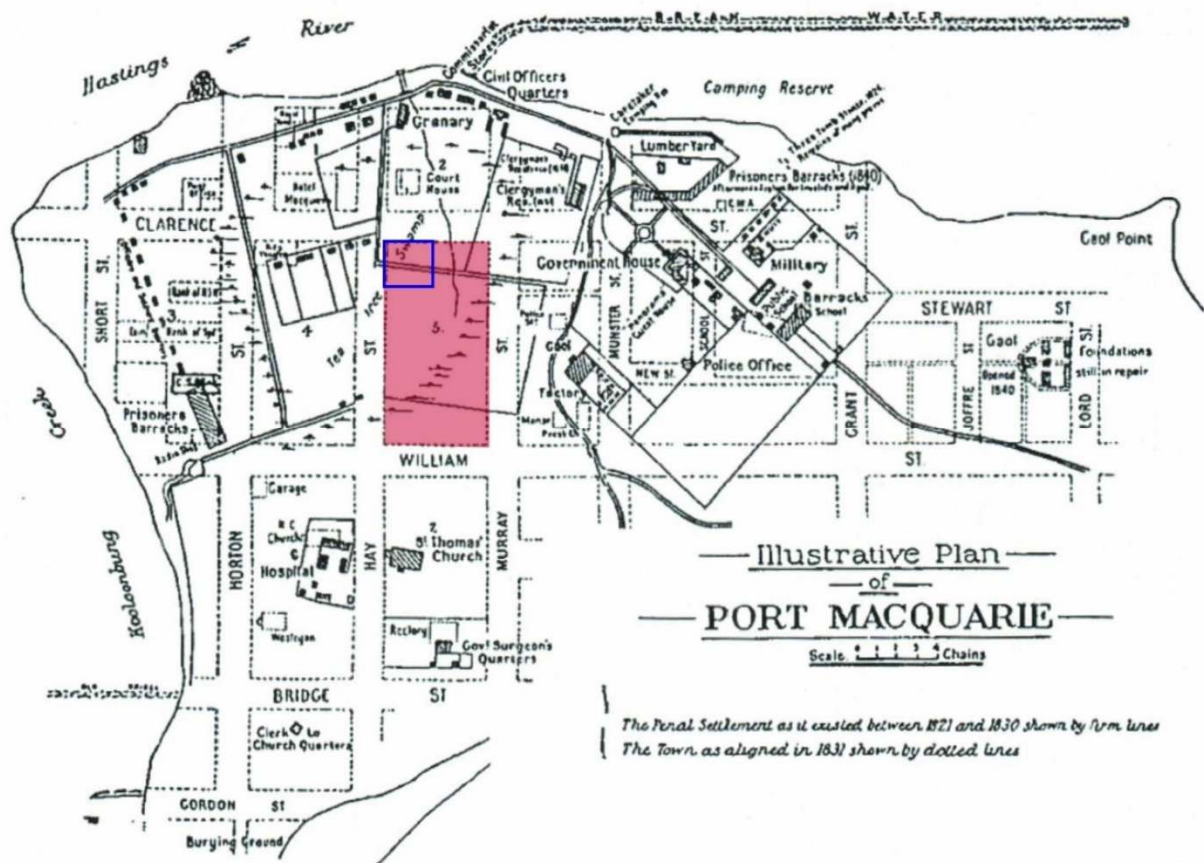


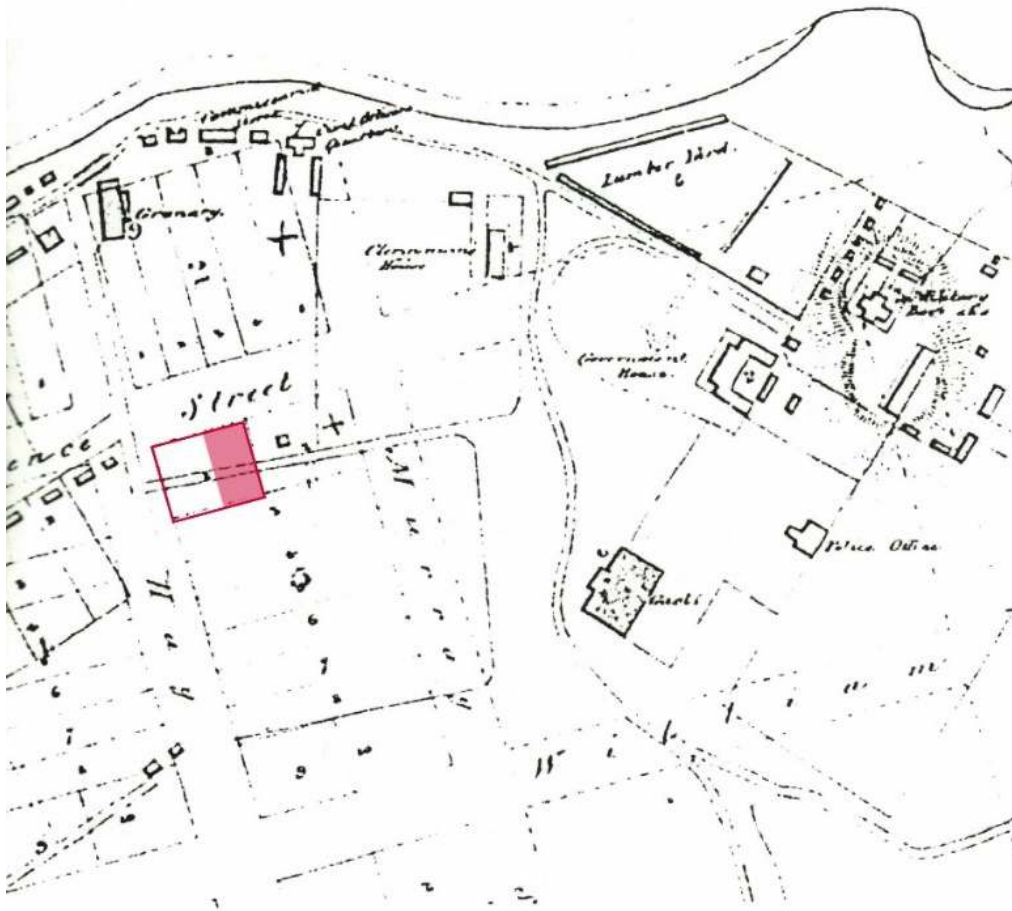
FIGURE 10 – ILLUSTRATIVE PLAN OF PORT MACQUARIE 1831

Source: First Edition CMP, The History of Port Macquarie, Suters, 2000.

2.6 A NEW STREET PLAN

Governor Darling ordered a new street plan to be laid out on a new and regular alignment (see Refer **Figure 11**). This plan survives intact to the present day. The new street pattern swept away many of the buildings of the former penal establishment (Higginbotham, 1994). Darling required that any building that conflicted with the new plan be removed (Rogers, 1982). Re-development of recent years has resulted in the discovery of remnants of this earlier settlement and these sites have been the subject of archaeological investigation. For detailed information on some of the archaeological resources relevant to the site of the Port Macquarie Museum, please refer to:

- *Report on the Archaeological Excavation of the Todd Holden Site 18-20 Clarence Street, Port Macquarie, NSW* (2009).
- *Report on the Archaeological Excavations of the Glasshouse, Clarence and Hay Streets, Port Macquarie, NSW. Volumes 1 to 3.* (2008).
- *Port Macquarie Former Government House Ruins Conservation Management Plan* (2003).
- *Historical and Archaeological Assessment Report for Civic Centre, Clarence Street, Port Macquarie, NSW* (2003).



**FIGURE 11 – OVERLAY OF ORIGINAL STREET PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT WITH 1830 REALIGNMENT
SHOWING STREET PLAN, PORTIONS AND ALLOTMENTS.
STUDY SITE SHOWN IN RED. NOTE LINE OF ABANDONED ROADWAY THAT TRAVERSES THE SITE.**
Source: NSW State Archives Map 3682.

2.7 LANDFORM AND SUBSOILS

Prior to historical settlement, the low-lying part of the historical town centre was sandy and swampy (Higginbotham, 2009). Natural drainage lines provided a fresh water supply and wells were easily constructed for the purpose of water supply.

The results from those investigations suggest that the Museum building has been constructed on foundation soils expected to comprise of sands of variable density. Some loose and wet sand layers may also be present along with old fill within the upper profile of the foundation soils. It is expected however that the building footings are founded on sand (Walch & Roberts, 2007).

2.8 FREE SETTLEMENT

In the early 1840s the assignment of convict labour and their transportation to New South Wales was phased out. This combined with the severe economic depression of the time and the gold rushes that occurred elsewhere in New South Wales during the 1850s, caused the early settlers of the district to struggle to survive, and the area languished for some time.

It was not until the 1880s that significant development did occur, including the incorporation of the town in 1887. The lack of land-based transportation routes had always been a hindrance to development at Port Macquarie. In addition, Port Macquarie had a notorious sand bar at the river mouth and it claimed many

an unwary vessel. Further, only small vessels with shallow draft could negotiate the Hastings and Wilson Rivers and this limited opportunities for the transport of goods and trade.

After the withdrawal of the convicts, the town suffered a depressed period. Hence, most of the significant buildings in the town date from the later eras of prosperity during the 1880s, 1920s and 1930s.

2.9 TIMELINE SUMMARY

Table 1 has been excerpted from the first edition CMP with additional information inserted. This table provides a chronological timeline of the creation, development and occupation of the museum site. The sections following expand on the historical research of the first edition with some clarification of dates.

**Table 1 – Chronological Summary of Development & Occupation:
22 Clarence Street, Port Macquarie**

Date	Detail/Occupant
1818-1830	Convict settlement - undeveloped low-lying swampy land with road traversing site.
1830	Lot 1 Portion 5 surveyed as part of overall realignment creating Portions and Allotments for sale to free settlers.
1831	Lot 1 Portion 5 purchased by Edward McRoberts.
Pre 1836	McRoberts constructed "Garrison" Building in the north-western of Lot 1.
Circa 1836	McRoberts sold to William Stokes. Stokes constructed the first stage of the two-storey museum building as a store and residence. Stokes likely extended the store and residence to the east soon after (the second stage of construction).
1843	Stokes sold to Elizabeth Cohen (wife of former convict Henry Cohen). Son Samuel and wife Eliza take over business until 1853.
1853	William (or John) Killion purchased store.
1868	James H Young purchased store.
1881	Francis and Christiana Marchmont purchased store. – added eastern-most extension.
1924	Donald Marchmont sold to Albert Percy Hayward (converted to a residence/boarding house).
1928	Leased to Mrs Kilmurray as boarding house.
1958	Building now abandoned. Hastings District Historical Society formed and renovation and restoration to building commenced.
1959	Leased to Raymond Dick and Ronald Howell on behalf of Hastings District Historical Society for use as a museum.
1962	Purchased by Hastings District Historical Society.

2.10 LOT 1 PORTION 5 COUNTY MACQUARIE PARISH MACQUARIE

The land on which the Port Macquarie Museum sits is identified as Lot 1, Portion 5, County Macquarie, Parish Macquarie, and was first offered for sale following survey and the realignment of the street layout upon the proclamation of free settlement in Port Macquarie circa 1830. The allotment was first purchased by E McRoberts, the purchase being registered on 1 August 1831 (refer **Figure 12**).

Edward McRoberts, an army veteran, arrived in the settlement in January 1826 to take charge of the school in the Port Macquarie settlement, succeeding Gamaliel Farrell (Rogers, 1982, McLachlan, 1988). As was common at the time, McRoberts wife Jane assisted him with the school and they stayed at that post until February 1828 when Benjamin Reed took charge.

In 1832 records provide that McRoberts received a grant of land under the new regulations for the leasing of Crown land. This land grant was situated at the junction of the Hastings and Maria Rivers, beyond the bounds of the township. The Crown specified that these granted lands were disposable after three months and McRoberts quickly sold his land grant to Captain George Jobling who reportedly built the first stone house in the district (Rogers, 1982).

The plan of 1836 shows the footprint of buildings in the north western corner of Lot 1 with a long narrow structure to the east and further again to the east, a symbol that appears to indicate a well to the south of the buildings (refer **Figure 12**) but this is more than likely a survey mark.

It appears from this plan that McRoberts did not construct any buildings on the present site of the museum (shown highlighted in red in **Figure 12**).



FIGURE 12 – PLAN OF PORT MACQUARIE 1836 HIGHLIGHTING MUSEUM SITE IN RED

Source: NSW State Archives Map 3677

2.11 THE STOREKEEPERS

The first edition of the CMP focused very much upon the historical era of occupation by the Marchmont Family in the late 19th Century and early 20th Century. The Marchmont era of ownership is well interpreted within the museum setting, and in documentary evidence. However, during historical research in the course of preparation of this second edition CMP it became evident that there were a number of storekeepers who occupied the site prior to the 1880s, and that this earlier period of initial development and occupation has not been well researched, understood or interpreted to date.

- **William Stokes circa 1836 to 1843**

A historical plan of 1842 shows Lot 1 Section 5 in the ownership of William Stokes (refer **Figure 13**) and the plan also indicates the footprint of a building at 22 Clarence Street with an outbuilding on the southern side contained within the boundary of the present-day museum complex (NSW STATE ARCHIVES Map 3673).

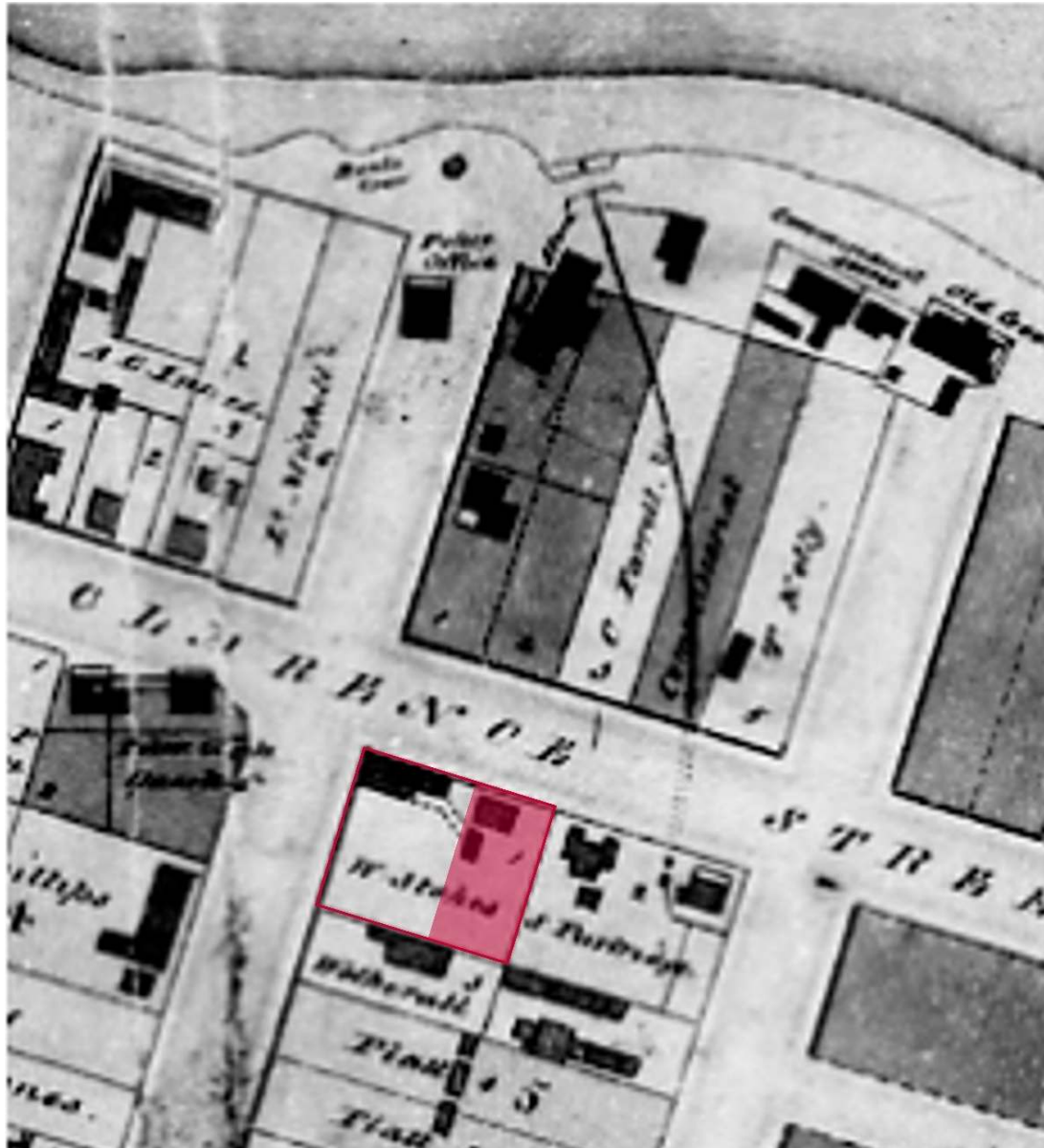


FIGURE 13 – PLAN OF PORT MACQUARIE CIRCA 1842 SHOWING BUILDING FOOTPRINTS AND STOKES' STORE MUSEUM SITE HIGHLIGHTED IN RED. NOTE THE OFFSET ALIGNMENT OF THE "POLICE CLERK'S QUARTERS" – STILL REFLECTING THE ORIGINAL STREET LAYOUT. NOTE ALSO THE NOW ENCLOSED DRAIN (BRICK BARREL DRAIN) SHOWN RUNNING ACROSS CLARENCE STREET FROM LOT 2 (PARTRIDGE) TO THE RIVER. THIS PLAN CLEARLY SHOWS THE CONNECTION BETWEEN STOKES STORE ON THE CORNER OF HAY AND CLARENCE STREETS AND THE SITE OF THE PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM.

Source: NSW State Archives Map 3673.

An article in the Government Gazette of 1843 mentions that Williams Stokes was carrying out a business as storekeeper in partnership with A. B, Smith & Co., under the 'style' or firm of William Stokes (New South Wales Government Gazette, Saturday 15 April 1843). Also in the year of 1843, Stokes placed an advertisement in the Sydney Morning Herald announcing that the business was for sale, perhaps as a result of the depressed times, although the advertisement claims otherwise.

Stokes engaged Samuel Lyon to sell by private contract in the first instance, and if not sold within 14 days, to sell by auction the property advertised as “An old established store at Port Macquarie”. The advertisement in the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) on 1 May 1843 provides a description of a “remarkably well-built brick store”. The advertisement declares that Mr William Stokes has been the occupant for the past seven years, thus providing the year 1836 as the likely time at which Edward McRoberts disposed of his holding to Stokes. Although speculative, it is also likely that it is Williams Stokes who constructed the first, and possibly second phase of the present-day museum building.

The advertisement in the SMH on 1 May 1843 provides the following information on the form of development of the site at the time:

- *The main building or shopfront comprised a structure 24 feet by 22 feet.*
- *A room was located at the rear the shopfront, also 24 feet wide and 17 feet in length.*
- *A lofty room over the shop and backroom was fitted with shelves for the storage of dry goods.*
- *In the rear of the above is a strong brick-built store 30 feet by 18 feet intended solely for the storage of iron, the walls purposely built very substantially.*
- *The dwelling house, a boarded and brick nogged building containing one room 20 feet by 10 feet and four bed-rooms and a slabbed kitchen detached.*
- *The garden adjoining the buildings is in excellent condition.*

It is clear, however, that the shopfront description does not fit that of the building at 22 Clarence Street. It is more likely that this shopfront description better fits the footprint of the building shown on the corner of Clarence and Hay Streets (refer **Figure 13**), now known as the 'Garrison Building'. However, the footprint of other structures is shown on the Clarence Street frontage, with a pathway/track linking the two complexes, and quite possibly it is these structures (the current museum building) that formed the "The Dwelling House" of the advertisement.

If so, the dwelling in 1843 comprised a boarded and brick nogged building of one room 20 feet (six metres) by 10 feet (three metres) with four bedrooms and a slabbed kitchen detached. This would indicate that Stokes had constructed the dwelling sometime between 1836 and 1843.

This advertisement does not mention the source of a water supply, such as a well or underground cistern for water storage, although with the inclusion of a garden 'in excellent condition', it is reasonable to presume that a supply of fresh water was readily available for this purpose along with household and store use.

At time of his death in 1849 (GG, 6 July 1849), William Stokes owned a 5.5 acre portion of Henry Fancourt White's "Clifton" and was operating the vineyard established in earlier years by White (Rogers, 1982), an indication that William Stokes had profited well from his Port Macquarie business enterprises and land holdings.

• **Elizabeth Cohen & Samuel and Eliza Cohen – circa 1840s to circa 1853**

Samuel Cohen was the first son of former convict Henry Cohen. Henry Cohen was born in London, England, c1790 and by 1811 described himself as a "slop seller". In June 1821 Henry was described as a Salesman of 3 Rosemary Lane (by the Tower of London). In December 1822 he is described as a clothes salesman of 4 Sharpe's Buildings Rosemary Lane. In November 1824 he is described as a clothes salesman of 111 Edgeware Road, Marylebone.

On 18 March 1833, in exchange for some goods from his shop, Henry accepted four Glastonbury bank promissory notes to a value of £30. On 20 March he went to Masterman & Co, agents for the Glastonbury bank, to cash the notes. Apparently, the notes had been stolen and after some investigations Henry was detained and eventually charged and, at 43 years of age, he was tried at the Old Bailey, 14–16 May 1833, with receiving the promissory notes 'well knowing them to have been stolen.'

Part of Henry's written defence states: ...

Gentlemen, I have taken these notes in my business, and I am entirely innocent of any guilty knowledge; if I had I would not have gone to Messrs. Masterman and Co. where I must have been well known, having paid at that house monies at different times to a large amount, for bills of exchange accepted by me. I have been in business upwards of twenty years; during that time I never let a bill go unpaid, and up to this present day my credit in the City of London is unlimited;

...

Regardless, Henry was found guilty and sentenced to transportation for fourteen years. Henry's wife and family travelled to Australia with Henry bringing with them a large sum of money. Henry arrived at Port

Macquarie, and on 17 January 1834 he was requested as an assigned servant by Major Archibald Clunes Innes. Henry apparently remained assigned to Archibald Innes until granted his Ticket of Leave on 14 February 1840.

The 'large sum' the family brought with them would have had to be put to work. As a convict Henry, of course, was barred from carrying on commercial pursuits or owning property in his own name. In his stead, Elizabeth kept a shop, and for some years later, after Henry and Elizabeth had removed to Sydney, the eldest son, Samuel Henry, remained active in business in Port Macquarie. Samuel Cohen (c1821-1899) was born in London and travelled to Australia with his family in 1834. He married Eliza Hyams, on 8 April 1840. By the early 1850s 'the family' had two schooners, Elizabeth Cohen and Eliza, plying between Sydney and Port Macquarie.

Seven of Samuel and Eliza's children were born in Port Macquarie but their last son, Henry, was born in 1865 in Sydney showing that they had left Port Macquarie by this time.

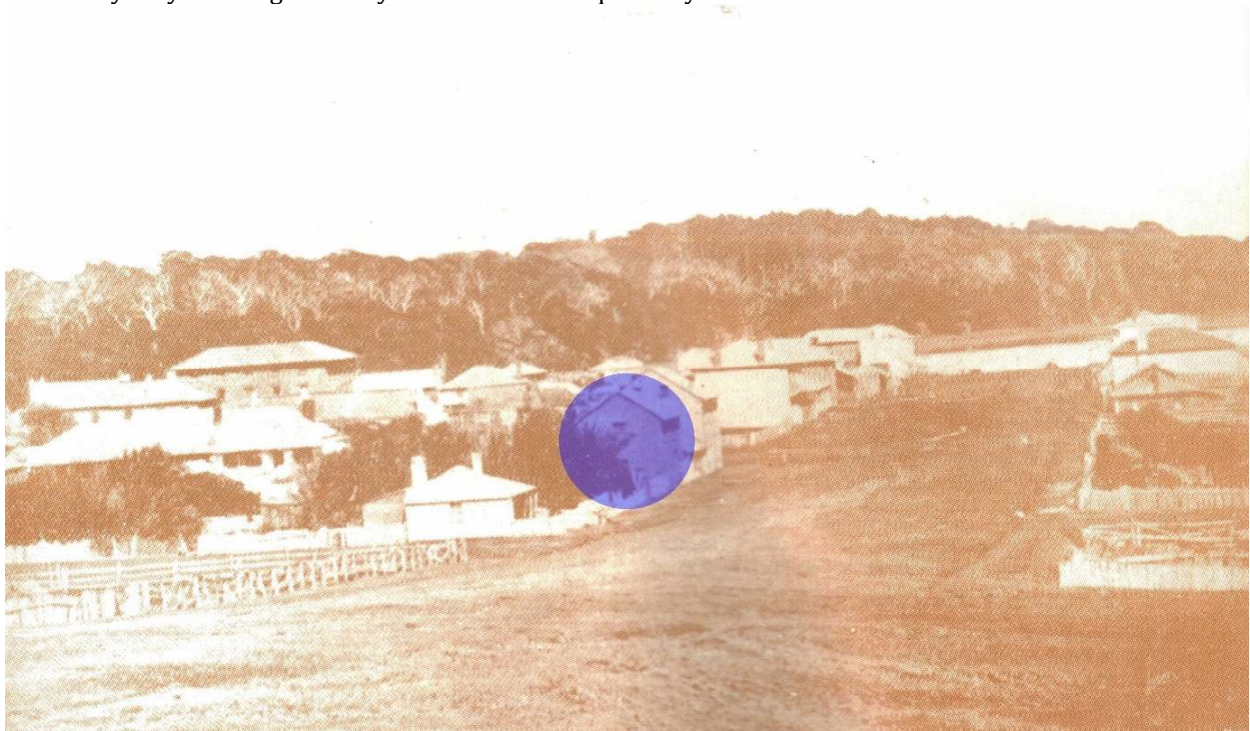


FIGURE 14 – CLARENCE STREET CIRCA 1870, LOOKING SOUTHERLY. SHOWING PRESENT-DAY MUSEUM SITE HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE. THIS VIEW SHOWS A WINDOW ON THE EASTERN ELEVATION OF THE BUILDING IDENTIFIED AS THE PRESENT-DAY MUSEUM BUILDING. THIS WOULD INDICATE THAT THE THIRD STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION HAD NOT YET OCCURRED AND THIS CONCURS WITH HISTORICAL RECORDS.

Source: Pictures from the Past, Recollections of early life in the Hastings, 2001.

- **John Killion (William Killon) circa 1853**

Previously thought to have been 'William Killon', Rogers (1982) records storekeeper, John Killion, conducting his business in the present-day museum building although no other information is provided.

- **James and Ellen Young**

James and Ellen Young are listed as storekeepers at 22 Clarence Street on the interpretation panel in the foyer of the museum. However, documentary research to date has failed to reveal further information on their occupation of the site.

- **Francis and Christina Marchmont circa 1880 to 1925**

Of all the shopkeepers to occupy 22 Clarence Street, it is the Marchmont family upon which there is much focus. Of particular note is a photograph of the family on the street frontage of the store regularly cited as

circa 1880 (see **Figure 16**). However, the presence of at least six of the Marchment children in the photograph indicates that this photograph is more accurately dated to the 1890s.

Francis and Christiana had seven children born between 1885 and 1897 in Port Macquarie (NSW Register BDM). The Marchment's who likely carried out the third phase of construction on the eastern extreme of the building, in all likelihood to create space for a large family. At this time, it is likely a detached kitchen still existed to the rear of the store and it is further likely that the Marchment's constructed the timber annexe and masonry kitchen chimney along the southern elevation of the building at the time they extended the main building.

There is no documentary evidence to date the construction of the underground cistern for water storage although its location is likely to be indicative of the approximate location of a detached kitchen, the footprint of which may be that shown in **Figure 13**. Given the low-lying land and high water-table, a well is likely to have been in existence within the property boundary from the time William Stokes constructed the first store and when the museum building was the Stokes' residence. However, underground cisterns of this style are known elsewhere in New South to date from about the 1860s to the 1880s.



**FIGURE 15 – SOUTHERN ELEVATION OF THE MUSEUM BUILDING CIRCA 1960
SHOWING ENCLOSED ANNEXE AND VERANDAH THAT MOST LIKELY DATES TO THE 1880S.
THE BUGGY MAY HAVE BEEN STRATEGICALLY PLACED OVER THE UNDERGROUND CISTERN FOR SAFETY.**
Source: Port Macquarie Museum

2.12 ANALYSIS OF MATERIAL AND DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Based on an analysis of the material evidence, it is quite likely that development of the museum building occurred in three phases (refer **Figure 16**) and that the building was originally the residence of William Stokes or his manager during the time that Stokes was operating his store (refer **Figure 13**). William Stokes is likely to have constructed the first two stages in fairly quick succession. The first phase is that of the western extreme consisting of a narrow building of two storeys; the second phase is the central section but based on styles of the windows and patina of the brickwork, likely constructed soon after the first phase.

The third phase of construction is attributed to Frances Marchment and likely marks the time when the detached kitchen at the rear was abandoned, and the easternmost extension of the residence was constructed including the two brick chimneys and the enclosed timber annexe with verandah extending along the entire rear elevation of the brick building. The final phase of construction would have done away

with the original staircase and created the internal stairway. Whether the original stairway was internal or external is difficult to deduce as there is no definitive structural evidence that remains for interpretation.

The store was sold in 1925 by Donald Marchment to Albert Percy Hayward who appears to have converted the building into a residence and boarding house. It appears that it was during this time that the eastern ground floor window was converted to a doorway (compare **Figure 16** and **Figure 17**).



FIGURE 16 – POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION PHASES OVERLAYED ON CIRCA 1895 PHOTOGRAPH. IN THIS VIEW THE MARCHMENT FAMILY IS POSING IN FRONT OF THEIR STORE. FIRST CONSTRUCTION PHASE SHOWN AT RIGHT, SECOND PHASE IN CENTRE AND FINAL PHASE AT LEFT. NOTE THE EASTERNMOST WINDOW (AT LEFT) ON THE GROUND FLOOR WHICH WAS CONVERTED TO A DOORWAY IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY.

Photograph Source: Port Macquarie Museum



FIGURE 17 – VIEW OF MUSEUM WITHIN ITS HISTORICAL STREETSCAPE CIRCA 1950 OR SLIGHTLY EARLIER. NOTE THE SIZE AND LOCATION OF THE NORFOLK ISLAND PINE STREET TREES.

Source: Port Macquarie Museum

2.13 PORT MACQUARIE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (PMHS)

Leased by Port Macquarie Historical Society (previously known as Hastings Historical Society) in 1958 and owned by the Society since 1962, the building has seen a number of renovations, restoration and extension works.

The building was derelict when first leased by the Society (see **Figure 18**). Restoration work for the 1960 opening included new flooring to the ground floor, a new staircase (since replaced), paintwork, installation of new guttering and erection of the rear annexe (see **Figure 19**). Work was conducted by voluntary labour, mostly Society members, as well as local Service Clubs. A number of extensions to accommodate the needs of the Society and Museum have been made over the years since.

In October 1968 an extension incorporating the 'Arcade of Shops' and 'Costume Gallery' was opened and following this, the back-gallery museum extension was opened in March 1977. The back-gallery extension was built by Society members as owner builders. The Howell Room was added in March 1988. An awning between the Costume and back galleries was added in September 2009 to protect the historic sugar crushing mill installed there.

A Cultural Heritage Tourism Plan, developed in May 2014, made a number of recommendations about the building façade, the entry, and the use of the garden, with a view to significantly improving visitor numbers and experience. In 2015, the Management Committee drew up a list of development needs to inform and guide the future development of the Museum's buildings and facilities. In partnership with Forestry Corporation of NSW a new architect designed space showcasing local forest hardwoods 'The Forest Courtyard' opened in the Museum's front garden in 2016 and incorporated Forest, the Koala sculpture, an artistic initiative for the promotion of cultural tourism across the Port Macquarie-Hastings region.

The detailed history of the Port Macquarie Historical Society, and the establishment and development of the museum is available in *22 Clarence Street – The History of a Society and a Museum* by Connie Jones (2008).



FIGURE 18 – THE FORMER STORE THEN BOARDING HOUSE NOW DERELICT ABOUT 1950.

Source: Port Macquarie Museum



FIGURE 19 – HASTINGS DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM SHORTLY AFTER OPENING CIRCA 1960.

Source: Port Macquarie Museum

2.14 UNDERSTANDING THE SITE TODAY

The SHR Inventory Sheet (see **Appendix 3**) provides the description below, with annotations for additional information and clarification in brackets:

The architectural style is Old Colonial Georgian. It is a simple two-storey building of painted brick construction (hand-made bricks) with hipped iron roof over the original shingles and two chimneys.

The roof was formerly gable but changed when a 13ft extension was made to the eastern end of the building in the late nineteenth century. This extension involved the removal of an internal [should read external] staircase attached to the eastern wall [and the inclusion of an internal staircase. (This may mean to reference an external staircase?)]

A skillion kitchen formerly extended along the southern wall of the building [likely constructed in the 1880s during Marchmont ownership and operation of the site as a store].

Ceilings and upstairs internal walls are boarded.

The building was derelict when leased by the Hastings District Historical Society in 1959. Restoration included new flooring to the ground floor, new staircase, paintwork and guttering, replacement of fireplace surrounds, and erection of an annexe.

*Major extensions were made on the south side in 1968 (see **Figure 20**, **Figure 21** and **Figure 22**) and in 1977. There were further extensions to the rear of the building in 1988 (Suters Architects Snell, 1991).*



**FIGURE 20 – EVIDENCE OF GROUND DISTURBANCE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FOOTINGS 1966
SHOWING THE TIMBER ANNEXE AT REAR OF THE BRICK BUILDING AT LEFT OF VIEW.**

Source: Port Macquarie Museum



**FIGURE 21 – DETAIL OF FOOTING CONSTRUCTION CIRCA 1960
DEMONSTRATING THE EXTENT OF GROUND DISTURBANCE FOR FOOTINGS. THIS AREA IS NOW PAVED
COURTYARD AND ENCLOSED DISPLAY AREA.**

Source: Port Macquarie Museum



**FIGURE 22 – VIEW OF FIRST STAGE OF MUSEUM ADDITIONS NEARING COMPLETION CIRCA 1960
THIS VIEW IS LOOKING SOUTHERLY -WITH BRICK CHIMNEY OF KITCHEN ANNEXE VISIBLE AT RIGHT. THE SECTION
OF ENCLOSED VERANDAH (CENTRE OF VIEW) HAS NOW BEEN DEMOLISHED. THIS AREA NOW COMPRISES PART OF
THE WALKWAY AND COURTYARD.**

Source: Port Macquarie Museum

2.15 CHANGES TO EXTERNAL FORM AND FABRIC

Initially the heritage building was painted white, and then cream with green, but at the time of writing the building sports a coat of deep maroon. The colour scheme was approved by Council's Heritage Advisor, the objective being to stand out against the modern infill development that now surrounds and almost consumes. The coat of paint has merit in protecting the brickwork from deterioration although it now obscures the character of the original brickwork.

The street frontage of the former store is all but obscured by a Council street tree. While the tree is decorative and provides shade, the root system is invasive and put at risk the integrity of the building foundations (see **Figure 23** and refer **Appendix 4**). The installation of the Forest Courtyard in 2016 presented an opportunity to remove the invasive roots. However, the street tree was not removed and without installation of a root guard, the potential for impact to the heritage building through future root invasion remains.

On the eastern elevation, the maroon paintwork disguises the infill brickwork of the kitchen annexe although a distinct difference between the historical and the infill brickwork can be seen on careful observation (see **Figure 24**). With the exception of the late 19th Century eastern extension, timber shingles remain on the roof of the building, obscured from view but protected by a relatively new corrugated iron roof (**Figure 25**).



**FIGURE 23 – INVASION OF TREE ROOTS ALONG BASE OF EASTERN ELEVATION IN 2016
PRIOR TO THE INSTALLATION OF THE FOREST COURTYARD**

Source: Port Macquarie Museum



**FIGURE 24 – VIEW OF THE EASTERN ELEVATION OF THE HERITAGE BUILDING IN 2016
FOLLOWING REMEDIATION OF ROOT INVASION AND PRIOR TO INSTALLATION OF FOREST KOALA.**

Source: Port Macquarie Museum



**FIGURE 25 – SHINGLES OF ORIGINAL ROOF TREATMENT
EXPOSED BENEATH CORRUGATED IRON ROOFING DURING ROOF REPLACEMENT WORKS.**
Source: Port Macquarie Museum

2.16 CHANGES TO INTERNAL FORM AND FABRIC

The building is typical of many earlier commercial buildings in that the lower floors were used for the shop and the business with the upper floors utilised for the residential area. The eastern most extension dating to the 1880s appears to have been utilised only for domestic use by the Marchmont's although conclusive evidence for accurate interpretation of the internal layout has been lost through modification.

The ground floor comprises a large display area named the *Foundation Room* within the museum setting and is thought to have been the former shop floor. Two display windows and a wide doorway with French doors to allow entry support this notion. The first floor has been arranged for museum displays which interpret a household layout that might be considered a little above the comfort levels of that enjoyed by past occupants. It is possible that the internal walls of the upper floor were reconfigured in the early 20th Century when the building was converted to a boarding house.

The creation of additional external and internal doorways on the lower floor appears to have been carried out in the post-store era. The original rear door of the eastern extension is now sealed over to accommodate the recently installed internal staircase, a new doorway having been created for access to the kitchen. Evidence of the former portal locations remains in the brickwork.

2.17 INVENTORY OF HERITAGE FABRIC/PRECINCTS

This section replaces the Inventory Datasheets of the first edition. The inventory tables have been prepared from the first edition CMP with information updated as appropriate. In order to support an assessment of significance, an item's key attributes must retain a discernible degree of condition and integrity. That is, a work or relic must retain material associated with the historical development that has remained largely unchanged and/or undisturbed over time.

The condition and integrity of the heritage resources and/or individual elements that have been identified during this study have been assessed on a five-stage scale as defined in **Table 2** and **Table 3** below. Significance is based on the grading scale defined in the guidelines of the NSW Heritage Council as presented in **Table 4**.

Table 2 – Assessment of Condition Scale

Condition	Definition
Intact	where the material evidence allows a complete recording of the resource without hypothesis.
Substantially intact	where the material evidence is incomplete but the recording of material evidence will be sufficient to allow an accurate reconstruction, with hypotheses based on the historical record only.
Standing ruin	where the material evidence is incomplete and the recording of material evidence will be sufficient to define the footprint of the resource and some of its elevations and features but will be insufficient to allow an accurate reconstruction of the resource without hypotheses based on the historical/archaeological record and on a range of outside sources.
Ruin	where the material evidence is incomplete and the recording of material evidence may be sufficient to define part, or the whole, of the footprint of the resource but will be insufficient to allow a reconstruction of the resource/its features, perhaps spatially and certainly vertically, without hypotheses based on the historical/archaeological record and on a range of outside sources, and in circumstances where the validation of the reconstruction cannot be assured.
Archaeological site	implying a mostly sub-surface residue, where the material evidence suggests the former presence of a sub-surface resource that cannot be defined without sub-surface investigation.

Table 3 – Assessment of Integrity Scale

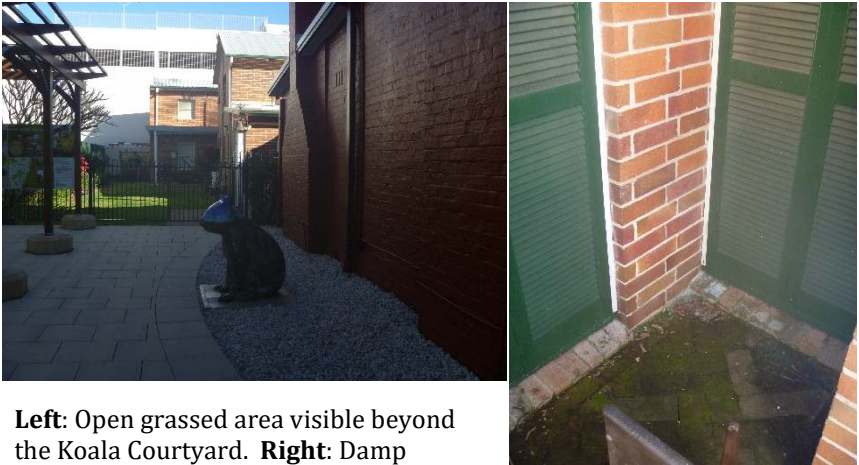
Integrity	Definition
Intact	where the resource has remained virtually unchanged its form and/or design and/or function can be totally discerned from the material evidence.
Minor Modification	where the resource has been modified or deteriorated cosmetically and/or in a manner that does not inhibit the discernment of its form and/or design and/or function by historical interpretation of the material evidence.
Material Modification	where the resource has been modified so that its form and/or design and/or function can be discerned only by historical interpretation and with reference to external sources.
Major Modification	where the resource has been so modified that attempted discernment of its form and/or design and/or function cannot be achieved by historical interpretation of the material evidence and requires a heavy reliance on external sources and in circumstances where discernment of one or more elements may be ambiguous.
None	where the integrity of the resource has been completely destroyed and the evidence for its form and/or design and/or function is totally external.

Table 4 – Grading of Significance



Grading	Justification	Status
Exceptional	Rare or outstanding elements directly contributing to an item's local or state significance.	Fulfil criteria for local or state listing.
High	High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of the item's significance. Alterations do not detract from significance.	Fulfil 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 or site.	Fulfil criteria for local or state listing.
Little	Alterations detract from significance. Difficult to interpret.	Does not fulfil criteria for local or state listing.
Intrusive	Damaging to the item's heritage significance.	Does not fulfil criteria for local or state listing.

2.18 INVENTORY SHEETS


INVENTORY SHEET - Landscape

Description	The museum landscape has been considered a separate item to that of the Clarence Street streetscape (see Streetscape inventory below) The internal landscape of the museum is comprised of three distinct zones. A covered and paved courtyard, or inner courtyard, comprises one zone, the open grassed area with gardens along the eastern property boundary comprises the second zone and the recently installed Forest Courtyard on the street front and immediate eastern elevation of the heritage building comprises the third landscape zone.
Modifications	Any remnants of historical plantings or gardens within the property boundary have been lost with the exception of the underground cistern which is the subject of a discrete inventory listing below.
Condition	The inner courtyard appears to be a dark and damp area where drainage may be poor and brick pavers exhibit mossy growth. There are obvious signs of water retention and that may raise potential conservation issues for the footings of the heritage building. The open garden area is well presented and well maintained and the Forest Courtyard has been well designed as an above ground construction with minimal subsurface intrusion and its construction has removed the existing tree roots and enabled documentation of the tree root intrusion along the eastern footings of the heritage building (refer Figure 23).
Integrity	Major Modification to open yard and gardens.
Significance	Little significance due to reduced condition and integrity or due to construction of modern elements.
Recommendations	Garden beds and/or potted plants should be kept away from the base of the heritage building to avoid the intrusion of water around the heritage footings. The limited open space available limits the opportunity to interpret a historical garden. However, should additional historical photographs come to light, further interpretation could be incorporated in an external display within the museum environment.
Image	 <p>Left: Open grassed area visible beyond the Koala Courtyard. Right: Damp corner where water collects in the covered courtyard.</p>


INVENTORY SHEET - Streetscape

Description	<p>Although now interrupted and surrounded by modern development, the museum is located within a historical streetscape and within close proximity to other heritage listed items (refer Appendix 3 for LEP Heritage Map). Norfolk Island Pines comprise a significant element of the streetscape (refer to cover photograph) and appear in many of the historical photographs in varying stages of growth.</p> <p>Examination of historical photographs indicate that The Norfolk Island Pines were planted around the turn of 20th Century.</p>
Modifications	Redevelopment and infill, loss of road reserve set back.
Condition	NA
Integrity	NA
Significance	The Norfolk Island Pine street trees are assessed as highly significant. Other street trees are assessed as intrusive due to the way in which the street view of the site is obscured, in direct contrast to the historical streetscape.
Recommendations	Remove any intrusive elements such as the council street tree. Consider artistic interpretation of the historical streetscape.
Images	<div>   </div> <p>Comparison of street views from approximately the same location: left circa 1950 and right 2017.</p>


INVENTORY SHEET - Street Elevation (North Elevation)

Description	Simply detailed Colonial Georgian style architecture. Painted masonry brickwork laid in English Bond with asymmetrical openings. Concrete pedestrian footpath abuts building footprint.
Modifications	The road reserve has expanded considerably and the concrete pedestrian footpath now abutts the heritage building. Various paint colours on external masonry. The eastern doorway is a modified window opening. Original windows have been replaced.
Condition	Substantially Intact.
Integrity	Minor Modification.
Significance	High but in danger of being consumed by surrounding re-development, the scale of which is not sympathetic to the remnant heritage buildings.
Recommendations	Maintain painted masonry as required. Monitor for rising damp. Monitor for corrosion on metal lintels. Consider interpretation of the building on the street frontage. Avoid any building workw that would result in the reduction of the existing condition and integrity. Maintain a degree of separation from surrounding infill development. Refer to Structural Integrity Report (Appendix 4) for additional specific recommendations.
Image	 <p>Looking south-westerly.</p> <p>Looking north-easterly along Clarence Street.</p>


INVENTORY SHEET - Rear Elevation (South Elevation)

Description	The rear of the heritage building, the former timber annexe, is now enclosed and inter-connected to 1960s museum extensions. It is now exhibition space. The enclosed courtyard and "Well Room" adjoins.
Modifications	Substantial modification to circa 1840 development for which there is little structural evidence remaining. Circa 1880 rear annexe also highly modified but footprint still discernible. New timber floor installed. Open verandah now enclosed for use as museum exhibition space. Loss of open context of rear yard.
Condition	Ruin as the material evidence is incomplete.
Integrity	Major modification.
Significance	Moderate.
Recommendations	Avoid structural modifications to the southern elevation of the heritage building. Monitor masonry for rising damp. Avoid disturbance to the sub-floor context to avoid the destruction of any archaeological resources.
Image	 <p>Looking easterly along southern wall of heritage building towards kitchen.</p> <p>Looking westerly along southern wall of heritage building showing doorway created in original wall.</p>


INVENTORY SHEET - Roofing

Description	Corrugated iron sheeting, likely first installed in the 1880s at the time of the third phase of construction. Re-roofing in 2016 revealed timber shingles over the first and second phases of development. However, shingle battens were not present in the roofing framework over the eastern extension.
Modifications	Possibly modified from gable to hip. New corrugated iron sheeting installed in 2016. Timber shingles remain in place beneath new sheeting with the exception of the eastern-most extension.
Condition	Substantially intact.
Integrity	Minor Modification.
Significance	High.
Recommendations	Monitor and maintain condition of the timber framework and timber shingles through visual inspection on a regular yearly basis. Any maintenance or structural works carried out on the roof structure should carefully consider the way in which the timber shingles may be impacted. Refer
Image	 <p>Exposure of timber shingles during re-roofing showing the absence of shingle battens on the circa 1880 eastern extension. Note the intrusion of the exotic street tree.</p>


INVENTORY SHEET - Foundation Room (Ground Floor)

Description	Originally the lower floor of Stokes' residence and converted to a store circa 1840s. Now open area museum exhibition space. Windows covered with an opaque decorative covering and the double door is closed for the purpose of the museum setting and to control light and heat infiltration to reduce potential damage to museum items.
Modifications	Internal fittings of former store lost to modification for boarding house and museum. Steel bracing installed to support first floor bearers. New floor installed with access portal to subfloor. Ventilation installed in sub-floor.
Condition	Substantially intact.
Integrity	Material modification.
Significance	High.
Recommendations	Monitor internal masonry for rising damp and for accumulation of brick dust indicating erosion of masonry from first floor movement. Avoid disturbance to sub-floor deposits which may contain archaeological relics.
Images	  <p>Displays in Foundation Room showing steel girders supporting floor (above) and sub-floor access portal.</p>

INVENTORY SHEET - Kitchen

Description	Rear annexe containing brick cooking hearth exhibited as a kitchen within the museum setting.
Modifications	Originally enclosed with timber cladding but modified during the 1970s museum works and alterations when the timber was replaced with brick. Original doorway of southern wall of main building sealed and a new doorway installed.
Condition	Substantially intact.
Integrity	Minor modification.
Significance	High.
Recommendations	Monitor masonry of fireplace for rising damp. Refer to Structural Condition Reports, Appendix 4, for specific recommendations.
Images	 <p>Kitchen hearth (left) and southern elevation of heritage building showing re-located internal doorway (right).</p>


INVENTORY SHEET - Entry Foyer

Description	Part of easternmost extension where entry door was originally a window. Point of entry from Clarence Street into museum. Contains fireplace and stairs to upper level.
Modifications	Connecting doorway to Foundation Room. Replacement of stairs. Doorway to kitchen relocated.
Condition	Substantially intact.
Integrity	Minor modification.
Significance	High.
Recommendations	Moving the primary museum entry through the garden to the modern extensions would reduce wear and tear on building fabric of the heritage building.
Image	 <p>Fireplace in foyer, part of the circa 1880 extension.</p>

INVENTORY SHEET - Underground Cistern (The Well Room)

Description	Underground cistern located to the rear of the heritage building which appears to be positioned in the approximate location of the detached kitchen of circa 1840 (see Figure 7). It is possible that the cistern formed part of the additions and renovations carried out by Francis Marchment in the 1880s, and that the tank was used to store water caught from the roof surfaces, which had been upgraded from timber shingles to corrugated iron.
Modifications	It is likely that the cistern was enclosed by a cover in its original form but this fabric is now lost. The decorative brickwork and timber flooring was installed circa 1970s to improve the museum space. Historical landscape context is lost due to enclosure by museum buildings.
Condition	Substantially intact.
Integrity	Minor-material modification.
Significance	High.
Recommendations	Improve museum interpretation to more accurately explain the history of the structure and the difference between a “well” and a “cistern”.
Image	 <p>Above: The Well Room, 2017. Below: During refurbishment circa 1970.</p> 

INVENTORY SHEET - First Floor

Description	The first floor comprises museum exhibition space designed to replicate a historical era home of with <i>parlour</i> , <i>dining room</i> , <i>bedroom</i> and <i>nursery</i> . Household exhibition items are displayed in each of the rooms. Access is via the stair way from the foyer. Internal walls are timber lined partitions.	
Modifications	Internal configuration likely modified in circa 1880 when the extension was carried out and perhaps again modified for a boarding house in about 1925. Partition walls may be original although some have been covered with wallpaper. Fireplace surround of parlour display is not original, installed by the museum. Phases of construction may be evidenced in the ceiling fabric and skirting finishes. Exhibition items are not known to have any association with heritage building or to have provenance related to those that occupied the building, and therefore are not considered items of moveable heritage for the purpose of this CMP.	
Condition	Substantially intact.	
Integrity	Minor-moderate modification.	
Significance	High.	
Recommendations	Avoid structural modification unless unavoidable for the purposes of structural integrity. Carry out works to support the floor in the parlour, easternmost extension. Maintain timber components with regular inspections for deterioration and presence of pests (termites).	
Image		<p>Hallway of first floor, from nursery looking easterly to display of ceramics in dining room, demonstrating timber walls and different skirting.</p>

2.19 PHYSICAL CONDITION

This second edition CMP has commissioned an up-to-date structural condition report of the historical building for reference in the development of conservation policy. A structural condition report was prepared by Graeme Roberts in December 2017 and this document is included as **Appendix 4**. A summary of the assessment findings along with identified/potential structural issues and recommended actions is presented in **Table 5**.

Table 5 – Summary of Structural Assessment (after Roberts, 2017)

Item/Feature	Detail	Potential Structural Issues	Recommended Actions
External Walls	Constructed in cavity masonry, painted and in generally good condition. Lower walls are double skin internally with single out skin. Upper walls are single skin outside the cavity. There is no evidence of significant cracking. Minor cracking and previous brickwork repairs observed. The form of ties (if any) between internal and external masonry is unknown. Walls are likely supported on brick footings at depth.	If steel wire was used as to tie the external skin to the internal skin, it is likely that they are now in poor condition. Bowing of masonry walls is an indicator that walls require stabilisation and monitoring for this indicator should form part of the conservation plan.	Regularly monitor for bowing of masonry walls in the short term (ideally each month). Engage an expert to stabilise masonry walls at the earliest sign of bowing. Seek funding to engage a specialist in the field to make a further assessment for the need for stabilisation works and seek further funding to carry out any such works. Regularly monitor previous masonry repairs for any signs of change or deterioration.
Interior Face	The interior face of the masonry walls is rendered/plastered and painted and is in generally good condition.	Masonry dust accumulation along lower level walls may indicate movement occurring between the floor joists and supporting masonry of upper floor and may indicate erosion of masonry.	Further investigate the origin of the masonry dust through assessment of the upper floor joists and take any necessary action to rectify structural issues. This might be carried out under emergency works and emergency funding.
Lintels	Flat steel bar supports external masonry over windows in the northern wall.	Corrosion of steel lintels poses a risk to supporting masonry as the steel swells as it corrodes.	Regular monitoring (ideally monthly) of steel lintels over windows and fireplace.
Damp-course	The presence of a damp-course barrier is unknown but is unlikely to have been installed given the early era of construction.	Generally no signs of rising damp observed with the exception of a small area at the base of the kitchen fireplace.	Regular monitoring (ideally monthly) for signs of rising damp such as discolouration and staining of internal masonry. If required, engage a specialist to assess and treat.
Door Sills	The western sill is unprotected and exhibits signs of weathering. The eastern sill is also unprotected but is in reasonable condition.	Weathering and deterioration of timber should be monitored and treated when required.	Engage a specialist to carry out conservation measures to halt the deterioration of the timber door sills and monitor regularly to assess the need for ongoing conservation treatment.
Lower Level Timber Floor	Original timber flooring replaced in 1959. The floor appears in good condition with little noticeable spring under foot. Sub-floor space dry with an electric fan used for ventilation.	Size and span of existing floor framing appears domestic in size with live loading of 1.5kPa. Australian Standards specify 4kPa for museum floors. Possible settlement of floor relative to eastern wall.	Seek funding in order to engage an appropriate specialist to investigate the need for the upgrade of the sub-floor structure. Seek further funding for any required works.
Upper Level Timber Floor	Upper floor support on three timber bearers spanning northern and southern walls. 200PFC steel beams have been installed to strengthen the timber bearers.	Considerable spring in floor noted in easternmost room (Parlour). Floor joists in eastern extension considered undersized for the span and design loading.	Seek funding to engage an appropriate specialist to investigate an upgrade of the upper floor joists. Take emergency measures to ensure public safety in areas where there is spring in the floor, and investigate a long-term solution. Seek additional funding for required works.

Table 5 – Summary of Structural Assessment (after Roberts, 2017) - (cont)

Item/Feature	Detail	Potential Structural Issues	Recommended Actions
Upper Level Internal Walls	Internal walls are partitions installed on the timber floor and lined with timber boards. The partitions form the bedrooms and hallway. Internal walls do not support the roof framing. Wallpaper lines the walls of eastern extension.	None.	Regular inspection of walls for any indicators of change or issues, such as insect pests in wallpaper. Keep light infiltration low to avoid fading of wallpaper.
Roof Framing	Conventionally framed with hardwood. Likely modified from a gable end to current hip roof. Western hip not well supported. Timber shingles remain in place at the western end and are not present at the eastern end. Insulation batts obstructed inspection of ceiling framework.	There did not appear to be a north-south ceiling joist to prevent spread at the tops of the walls. The structural adequacy of the roof structure is questionable.	Seek funding to investigate the need to upgrade the roof structure, particularly the need for the installation of a north-south ceiling joist. Seek additional funding for works.
Kitchen Fireplace	Constructed at the time of the eastern extension circa 1880s. Masonry over the internal arch is supported by a steel flat bar. A new damp course and new damp course were installed in 2008.	Heavily corroded steel bar causing visible damage to masonry. Brickwork at base exhibits possible signs of rising damp within the masonry. Monitor for signs of instability in masonry.	Seek funding to investigate the need for preservation works or replacement of the steel bar of fireplace. Monitor rising damp and investigate options for improvement of the rear courtyard drainage (see item below).
Paving Rear Courtyard	The brick paved courtyard abuts the rear or southern elevation of the heritage building.	The paving is poorly graded with no formal surface drainage to piped stormwater drainage. Evidence suggests that water may lay in this area for extended periods. This may result in wetting of the sub-floor spaces of the adjacent heritage fabric.	Seek funding to engage a professional tradesperson to assess the drainage issues of the rear courtyard and propose an upgrade to improve drainage and increase ventilation in areas adjacent to the heritage building.

Photographs that form part of the engineering assessment report (**Appendix 4**) provide a record of the current state of repair of specific building features and elements in December 2017. This is useful for comparison in future assessments and for reference during any future works on the building. This may assist in prioritising a schedule for repair and maintenance works should a particular issue appear to be escalating.

Based on the engineering condition assessment by Roberts, 2017, the following recommendations have been formulated and are taken forward to Policy for Implementation:

- Seek funding to engage appropriate specialists to carry out the assessment of specific issues (refer **Table 5**), and seek further funding for emergency maintenance works, drainage upgrade works and structural stabilisation works accordingly:
- Regularly monitor identified issues (refer **Table 5**) for deterioration of building fabric, particularly those issues that might affect public safety. Keep a photographic record of any apparent change and/or escalation of issues; and
- Seek funding to meet the costs of specific building conservation, repair and maintenance works including initial professional assessment and the engagement of specialist tradespersons.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

3.1 AIMS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

The main aim of an archaeological significance assessment is to identify whether an archaeological resource, deposit, site or feature is of heritage value. The assessment should result in a succinct statement of archaeological significance that summarises the values of the place, site, resource, deposit or feature.

For archaeological sites that have been assessed as containing 'relics', understanding the significant values is critical, because these sites are a non-renewable resource. Like other environmental resources, they must be managed for both the present and the future. The identified values (the heritage significance) of the site, or 'relics,' will help determine the most appropriate management options.

Archaeological significance assessment is carried out within the broader framework of heritage significance assessment (refer **Section 2**). The NSW heritage assessment process is guided by criteria endorsed by the Heritage Council of NSW. This assessment process forms an integral part of the conservation and management of Environmental Heritage across NSW.

An assessment of archaeological significance is undertaken to explain why a particular site or item is important, and to enable appropriate management to be determined. Considerations in the assessment process include whether a site, or the fabric contained within a site, contributes knowledge in addition to that already known and/or well established, or has the potential to do so.

The main aim of an archaeological significance assessment is to identify whether an archaeological resource is of value through as assessment of the potential for significant archaeological resources to occur, or whether or not, it is reasonable to conclude otherwise. It is useful to examine the evidence for potential archaeological resources by anticipating the nature and extent of any such resources based on the established historical context of the site.

3.2 POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

A potential archaeological resource is defined as the material evidence that is anticipated to exist below the ground surface. This can include evidence such as building foundations, buried occupation deposits, features and artefacts. In some circumstances, archaeological potential is also contained within above ground structures that are intact or ruined, or landform features such as building platforms or drainage lines.

Potential archaeological resources are identified through the synthesis of the archaeological, historical and physical contexts of a study area with consideration given to recent development, occupation and/or use of the site.

Archaeological sites are generally more difficult to assess than above ground heritage items because any such assessment will be reliant upon predicted, rather than known attributes. The fact that relics and other components of an archaeological site are below-ground and therefore not visible may pose a challenge to accurate assessment. In addition to the available historical information and any evidence gathered during site inspection, archaeological potential and its significance is often also based on experience of similar sites.

3.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

While the potential for archaeological resources may exist in an area, it is the potential of these resources to contribute to historical and archaeological records that must be assessed in order to inform heritage management strategies. The main aim of an archaeological significance assessment is to identify whether an archaeological resource, deposit, site or feature is of cultural value – a relic. For archaeological sites that contain relics, understanding the significant values is critical as these sites are a non-renewable resource.

Archaeological significance may be linked to other significance categories especially where sites were created as a result of a specific historic event or decision, or when sites have been the actual location of particular incidents, events or occupancies.

Three questions may be applied in order to assess whether any anticipated archaeological resources are of significance. Can/does the resource have the potential to contribute knowledge that:

- *No other resource can?*
- *That no other site can?*
- *Is the resource relevant to general questions about human history, Australian history or other major research questions?*

The emphasis in these three questions is on the need for archaeological research to add to the knowledge of the past in an important way, rather than merely duplicating known information or information readily available from other historical sources.

A scale to clarify the potential for archaeological resources to occur at a site has been developed as follows:

- Nil** – there is no reasonable likelihood to expect archaeological resources at this site. This is usually the result of a site which, by its nature, would not create archaeological remains or where the extent of site disturbance has already removed the potential for archaeological resources. It does not mean, however, that the site does not attract a level of heritage significance which contributes to the overall significance of the site.
- Unlikely** – the potential for artefacts to remain in the sub surface cannot be entirely discounted. However, it is reasonable to conclude that either the formation of archaeological resources is unlikely or that any possible resources have now been lost or consumed beneath other development.
- Possible** – the potential for archaeological resources is possible given the understanding of the history and occupational use of the site.
- Likely** – based on an understanding of the history, development and occupational use of the site, in addition to indicators observed at site inspection, the presence of archaeological resources is considered likely.
- Confirmed** – based on information obtained at site inspection, the presence of archaeological resources is known.

3.4 CURTILAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ZONING

The NSW Heritage Act 1977 defines the term curtilage as:

The area of land (including land covered by water) surrounding an item or area of heritage significance which is essential for retaining and interpreting its heritage significance (DUAP, 1996:3).

The integration of the archaeological, historical and physical contexts has allowed the definition of an appropriate curtilage for the historical use of some items in the inventory. This has been necessary where property boundaries have changed, subdivisions have occurred or where development has expanded or intruded. Where relevant, the zoning of areas within an item's boundary reflects the assessed archaeological potential.

In order to define zones for particular management strategies, the study area has been zoned into areas of archaeological potential graduated from *high* through *moderate* to *low*. These zones are defined as follows:

A zone of ***high potential*** is determined as an area likely to contain direct evidence of the history of development and/or structural and occupational use of the study area. Such zones are therefore defined

around the apparent location of elements known or determined to have occupied the study area, represented in its archaeological and historical context and in historical mapping and plans.

A zone of ***moderate potential*** is determined about locations peripheral to a zone of high potential, as probably containing ephemeral artefactual material relating to the use and occupation of the study area. These zones are defined using evidence identified during the study of the archaeological and historical context and/or in historical mapping and plans.

A zone of ***low potential*** is determined as an area apparently having little or no demonstrated or determinable capacity to contribute to a better understanding of the history of the development or structural and occupational use of the study area. In a study area containing zone(s) of higher potential, this zone will comprise the remainder of the study area outside the zones of *high* and *moderate potential*.

Limitations: This exercise effectively produces a predictive model for potential subsurface material. However, it must be stressed that this plan is theoretical and is based on a preliminary understanding and interpretation of available information. The plan does not negate the need for rigorous and comprehensive archaeological investigation and discrete assessment relevant to any proposed works at the site. The zones of archaeological potential are presented in **Figure 26** where four zones have been mapped. Additional analysis of the archaeological zones is provided **Table 6** with reference to factors that contribute to the potential for archaeological resources to be present on a site, and with consideration to the levels of post depositional disturbance that may have occurred.



**FIGURE 26 - ZONES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL
SHOWING BEST APPROXIMATION OF OVERLAY OF 1830 ROADWAY ALIGNMENT.**

3.5 FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE POTENTIAL FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

ISOLATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The relative isolation of Port Macquarie, ideal for a convict settlement, has meant that a number of historic and heritage listed buildings have survived, and a number of archaeological sites discovered, within a relatively well-defined historical precinct. Isolation often results in limitations to the speed and scale of development and/or redevelopment in comparison to that that has occurred elsewhere in New South Wales. Therefore, isolation can be a contributing factor in the potential for archaeological resources to have accumulated and to have survived relatively undisturbed to the present day.

Where redevelopment has occurred, or where structures have deteriorated beyond reasonable use, it is often the case that demolition to ground level has occurred. Where sites have been redeveloped, older footings and archaeological deposits remain below. Where no development has occurred and a site remains vacant, occupational relics still survive below the surface without any obvious surface evidence. Previous structures and site use are often unknown to the present-day community and/or planning authorities. At the risk of stating the obvious, adjacent or surrounding historical structures may indicate the potential for other historical structure to have existed.

HISTORICAL GARBAGE DISPOSAL

A consideration in the assessment of archaeological potential, particularly over a large precinct, is the era of development and occupation in relation to the introduction of organized garbage disposal. In the early days household garbage was generally discarded on site, in the absence of alternative options. In some instances, a garbage pit was constructed, or a local drainage line utilised.

Higginbotham, 2011, postulated that as a general rule, sites developed before the 1870s, prior to the era of organised garbage disposal, are more likely to retain an occupation deposit consisting of disposal items. These items may contribute information on the lifeways of the time through their ability to reflect food choices, the type of household utensils in use, and the nature of disposed items.

Higginbotham's 2011 timeline for garbage disposal is relevant to the assessment of archaeological potential for different eras in the history of the Port Macquarie Museum as follows:

- **Pre 1870s:** on site garbage disposal. Potential for meaningful contribution to historical knowledge through artefact assemblages in addition to structural remains. Archaeological evidence of this early era would attain a high level of significance - lifeways
- **1870s to 1900:** trend towards off site garbage disposal. Potential for meaningful contribution from artefact assemblages lessened by the introduction of garbage disposal systems. Structural remains still retain potential to contribute to historical understanding.
- **Post 1900:** off-site garbage disposal, potential for meaningful contribution from artefact assemblages from individual sites much reduced. Potential for isolated artefacts and structural evidence to make meaningful contribution cannot be entirely discounted unless supported by investigation.

3.6 SCALE FOR ASSESSMENT OF DISTURBANCE

Relevant to the assessment of potential for archaeological resources to occur is the level of disturbance that has taken place. A three-level scale has been developed for this purpose, defined as follows:

- **Low (Low)** - no disturbance, or relatively little disturbance, from development, re-development or demolition known or observed. It was therefore considered reasonable to anticipate that there is potential for archaeological resources from an earlier era to be retained on site. A site of low disturbance is considered to have high archaeological potential.
- **Moderate (Mod)** – some disturbance from development, re-development or demolition observed or known from documentary evidence. It was therefore considered reasonable to anticipate that some archaeological resources from an earlier era may remain on site. Such resources may have been disturbed or partially destroyed. A site of moderate disturbance is considered to have moderate archaeological potential.
- **High (High)** – considerable and significant disturbance from re-development or demolition observed or known through historical records and/or natural event such as inundation by flood waters. Based on the nature of disturbance, it is reasonable to consider it unlikely for archaeological resources from an earlier era to remain on site and/or in their original context. Although other factors may indicate that archaeological resources cannot be entirely discounted, a site of high disturbance is considered to have little, if any, archaeological potential.

3.7 ANTICIPATED RELICS AND POTENTIAL FOR SIGNIFICANCE

Based on an understanding of the historical development and occupation of the site with reference to the level of disturbance that has occurred through development and re-development, it is reasonable to anticipate the nature and extent of relics that might occur within the site. For example, outbuildings such as privies and stables associated with public buildings and commercial premises such as Hotels, or wells and external kitchen buildings associated with residential occupation. In some instances, the presence of everyday artefacts such as bottles and household items may be reasonably expected. In particular, abandoned water wells or underground cisterns have the potential to provide a wealth of archaeological information in the structural fabric, and for the stratified artefacts that have been deposited during the life of well, and disposal of items deposited at the time of abandonment when filled and sealed.

Experience of the author on similar sites has demonstrated that there are often remnants of earlier life-ways on such sites, particularly remnants of outbuildings such as stables or detached kitchens. On occasion evidence is associated with the construction phase of development whereby items are discarded into foundation trenches or used in backfill. These items are usually comprised of bottles, brick fragments, metal fragments and ceramics. The survival of these resources relies upon a small scale of site disturbance and often occurs at sites where earlier structures have been demolished, foundations filled and a new structure constructed on the same footprint.

These remnants would consist of items that survive sub-surface conditions and/or weather disturbance well. Such items might be of metal; such as horse shoes, nails, tools, pieces of unidentifiable discarded metal/equipment, elements of farm machinery such as plough feet or discs. None of which are particularly good at enhancing information already known through historical records. Often there are bottles, whole and in fragments that indicate the preferred beverage of the time.

Subsurface structures such as wells and cellars often survive intact as they are filled and sealed at the time of abandonment, and often survive below more recently constructed buildings. Footings and foundations of earlier buildings, such as stables and detached kitchens, are often exposed upon excavation for redevelopment. In past eras, it was easier to leave demolition material on-site as foundation for the new structure, or as fill to raise the ground level, and this has facilitated the survival of many archaeological resources.

3.8 ANTICIPATED ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This section explores and discusses the potential for archaeological resources to exist within the lot boundary of the Port Macquarie Museum, 22 Clarence Street, Port Macquarie.

The roadway, built before 1824, was a thoroughfare used during the lifetime of the Penal Establishment circa 1821-1830. The roadway was subsumed within lot boundaries when the new Port Macquarie street plan was devised in 1830 (refer **Figure 11**). Cobbled roadways were excavated near the former Surgeon's Quarters on the corner of Clarence and Munster Streets during archaeological investigations there (Higginbotham, 2009). It is possible that a cobbled road surface may still be present within the lot boundary of the Port Macquarie Museum but museum extensions of the 1970s have seen construction of buildings across the footprint of most of the former roadway.

While no known development or use of the site is known prior to the sale of the land to Edward McRoberts, the presence of the original road transecting the rear third of the site does present the potential for artefacts to have been lost or discarded by those who travelled the road. However, items such as horse shoes, while interesting, only confirm the presence of horses, the primary mode of transport until around the 1930s when the motor vehicle and motor transport took over from horse power.

One of the earliest built features of the late 1830s, during the era of William Stokes ownership, a detached slabbed kitchen building, is now consumed beneath infill development of the museum although the underground cistern is likely to have been located in close proximity (refer **Figure 27**).

Table 5 below provides an analysis of the archaeological potential of the site with reference to the factors that influence the formation and disturbance of archaeological resources (refer **Figure 26**).

Table 5 – Analysis of Archaeological Potential By Zone

Zone #	Anticipated nature of Archaeological Relics	Assessment of Disturbance	Likelihood of presence of relics, or otherwise	Anticipated Archaeological Significance
Zone 1: Low Clarence Street Footpath – northern curtilage of historical development	Occupational artefacts that can be associated with an early 19 th Century store and residence. Relics are more likely to be associated with the late 19 th Century development during the occupation of the Marchmont family although the potential for relics of an earlier era to be present cannot be discounted. Artefacts that might be expected in this zone could include: ceramics, glass ware, metals such as nails, horse shoes. Personal items that have been discarded or lost are often present in public zones such as shopfronts, including coins, smoking pipes. Evidence of earlier informal drainage associated with Clarence Street may be present but there is no evidence to indicate the potential for any other structural remains.	Moderate due to road widening, installation of drainage and services, invasion by tree roots, and sealing of pedestrian footpath with concrete immediately adjacent to the heritage building.	The presence of relics within this zone cannot be discounted entirely but the level of disturbance within this precinct is indicative that any relics are likely to have suffered disturbance and therefore may have been lost. At the minimum any relics are unlikely to exist within their original depositional context. For these reasons the potential for archaeological resources to exist in Zone 1 is assessed as unlikely .	It is unlikely that anticipated relics within this zone would contribute new and meaningful information to that already known of the site. For this reason, anticipated archaeological significance would attain a level of local significance at best.

Table 5 – Analysis of Archaeological Potential (cont)

Zone #	Anticipated nature of Archaeological Relics	Assessment of Disturbance	Likelihood of presence of relics, or otherwise	Anticipated Archaeological Significance
Zone 2: High Footprint former store and residence	Sub-surface structural elements associated with the different stages of development of the site including the footprint of the detached slabbed kitchen and the underground cistern for water supply. Associated moveable artefacts of construction era such as back fill of footings, and household artefacts of occupation of the site as a residence and commercial store. Includes the immediate curtilage on the eastern and southern elevations of the heritage building.	The majority of this zone exists beneath the current building footprint and any relics present of the historical development of the site would be largely undisturbed. The time of demolition of the detached slabbed kitchen is not known from historical records but any relics or remains are likely to be present in the sub-surface of the paved area of the North Courtyard or beneath the floor of the Military Gallery. Zone 2 includes the Forest Koala Courtyard and open garden area. The overall assessment of disturbance in this zone is low to moderate considering that most of the zone lies beneath the historical building.	The likelihood for the survival of relics in this zone is assessed as high based on the date of development and (with the exception of the final phase of construction in the 1880s/1890s) the absence of re-development during historical eras. More recent redevelopment of the site for a museum has caused minimal disturbance in this zone further strengthening the assessment of high archaeological potential. While the potential for structural remains of the slabbed kitchen is low, associated artefacts consisting of household items of glass, ceramic and metal all survive well in the sub-surface. For these reasons the potential for archaeological resources to exist in Zone 2 is assessed as likley .	It is highly likely that any archaeological relics of the earliest era of development of the site and historical occupation could contribute meaningful information to the historical record of the site and of lifeways and commercial enterprise of the town of Port Macquarie. For this reason any archaeological relics present in this zone could be reasonably assessed as attaining Local Significance and possibly State significance in line with assessed significance of the site.
Zone 3: Low Southern Curtilage of Historical development	This zone lies adjacent to the zone of high archaeological potential and the nature of any archaeological is likely to be related to occupation of the site in the late 19 th and early 20 th Centuries whereby items have been discarded within the area and/or have been disturbed from the zone of high potential and transported to this zone. Most of this zone lies beneath the footprint of the modern museum building with a portion consisting of lawn and garden. Zone 3 includes the line of the pre-1830s roadway alignment (see separate analysis below).	Redevelopment of this precinct of the site for museum buildings circa 1960s has resulted in a high level of disturbance of the sub-surface for construction of footings and trenching for services and drainage. For this reason disturbance has been assessed as moderate to high.	The presence of relics within Zone 3 cannot be discounted entirely but the level of disturbance within this precinct is indicative that any relics are likely to have suffered disturbance and therefore may have been lost. At the minimum any relics are unlikely to exist within their original depositional context. For these reasons the potential for archaeological resources to exist in Zone 3 is assessed as unlikley .	It is unlikely that anticipated relics within this zone would contribute new and meaningful information to that already known of the site. For this reason, anticipated archaeological significance would attain a level of local significance at best.

Table 5 – Analysis of Archaeological Potential (cont)

Zone #	Anticipated nature of Archaeological Relics	Assessment of Disturbance	Likelihood of presence of relics, or otherwise	Anticipated Archaeological Significance
Zone 4: Low Museum development 1960s/1970s	Zone 4 is the balance of the site beyond the zones of high and moderate archaeological potential located at the rear of the site. No known historical development occurred in this zone and therefore it is unlikely that archaeological resources are present. However, it is possible that isolated artefacts have been transported to this zone or that a rubbish dump may have existed in this area prior to the 1870s when organised garbage disposal was introduced. Zone 4 includes the line of the pre-1830s roadway alignment (see separate analysis below).	Redevelopment of this precinct of the site for museum buildings circa 1970s has resulted in a high level of disturbance of the sub-surface for construction of footings and trenching for services and drainage. For this reason disturbance has been assessed as moderate to high.	The presence of relics within Zone 4 cannot be discounted entirely but the level of disturbance within this precinct is indicative that any relics are likely to have suffered disturbance and therefore may have been lost. At the minimum any relics are unlikely to exist within their original depositional context. For these reasons the potential for archaeological resources to exist in Zone 4 is assessed as unlikely .	It is unlikely that anticipated relics within this zone would contribute new and meaningful information to that already known of the site. For this reason, anticipated archaeological significance would attain a level of local significance at best.
Pre-1830 roadway: Low	The location of the pre 1830 roadway alignment has been overlayed on the zoning plan for context. The portion of roadway transverses the rear of the lot with most of the alignment now consumed beneath museum buildings constructed in the 1960s and 1970s. A portion of former roadway occurs beneath lawn and garden to the east of the building elevations. It is possible that cobbled road formation similar to that excavated on neighbouring sites is still present in the sub-surface on this site.	Redevelopment of this precinct of the site for museum buildings circa 1960s and 1970s has resulted in a high level of disturbance of the sub-surface for construction of footings and trenching for services and drainage. For this reason disturbance of the former roadway alignment has been assessed as moderate to high.	The level of disturbance for building construction has likely resulted in the loss of identifiable sub-surface evidence of the road formation. There is a low likelihood that some evidence, perhaps as isolated cobble formation, remains in the sub-surface of the lawn and garden area. For these reasons the potential for archaeological resources of the former roadway formation to be present across Zone 3 and Zone 4 is assessed as unlikely .	It is unlikely that any relics of the former roadway would contribute new and meaningful information to that already known of the site, other than to confirm the alignment of the roadway which is already confirmed from neighbouring sites. For this reason, anticipated archaeological significance would attain a level of local significance.



FIGURE 27 – SITE PLAN SHOWING FOOTPRINT OF CIRCA 1830S STRUCTURES OVERLAYED IN RED ON THE FOOTPRINT OF THE PRESENT-DAY MUSEUM COMPLEX

4 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The general approach to assessing the nature of the significance of the Port Macquarie Museum and its site relies on an understanding of the physical attributes and use of the building, its relationship with the setting and of the associations with and attitudes to both building and site.

There are two aspects of significance addressed in this second edition CMP:

- Heritage Significance; and
- Archaeological Significance.

4.2 EXISTING ASSESSMENTS

The 2000 Suters Conservation Management Plan provides the following statement of significance:

The Port Macquarie Historical Museum and its surrounding site is significant for its associations with the layered history of Port Macquarie. The site has potential to yield archaeological evidence of the convict and Government use of the site from 1821. It is located in an historic precinct that includes other significant buildings from the 1830s, associated with the opening of the region and town to free settlement. The building records this later phase of the development of Port Macquarie as it was built as a store by William Stokes c1834 to 1853. It is significant in its continuous operation as a store or shop until 1925, and its long association with the Marchmont family from 1881 until that time. From Port Macquarie, the Marchmont family traded and bartered along the Hastings River. This store is a representative and rare example of a river port store and is particularly significant as an early example of this type.

The State Heritage Inventory Listing provides the following statement of significance:

The museum building demonstrates the form scale and style of development which took place when free settlement was permitted in Port Macquarie. One of the only surviving early commercial and residential buildings in Port Macquarie. Located near other historic buildings such as the Courthouse and The Garrison. As a museum it continues to provide a focus for historical research and heritage within the community (Suters Architects Snell, 1991). Updated 23 October 1997.

4.3 HERITAGE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The NSW heritage assessment criterion encompasses the four values of the Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) Burra Charter and these four broad values are used to assess the heritage significance of an item. It is important for items to be assessed against these values to ensure consistency across the State. While all four values should be referred to during an assessment, in most cases items will be significant under only one or two values. The four values are:

- historic significance;
- aesthetic significance;
- scientific significance; and
- social significance.

In order to apply a standardised approach to the assessment of these four values relative to items and individual elements within or contributing to items, the NSW Heritage Office (2001:9) has defined a series of seven criteria that will be used by the Heritage Council of NSW as an assessment format within NSW. To be assessed as having heritage significance, an item must meet at least one of the criteria as summarised in **Table 6** below.

Table 6 – Summary - Heritage Assessment Criteria

Historical significance SHR criteria (a)	the importance of an item in the course or pattern of the cultural or natural history of NSW or a local area.
Historical association Significance SHR criteria (b)	the existence of a strong or special association between an item and the life or works of a person or group of persons important in NSW or a local area.
Aesthetic significance (SHR criteria (c)	the importance of an item in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW or a local area.
Social significance SHR criteria (d)	the existence of a strong or special association between an item and the social, cultural or spiritual essence of a particular community or cultural group within NSW or a local area.
Technical/Research significance SHR criteria (e)	the potential of an item to provide information that will contribute to an understanding of the cultural or natural history of NSW or a local area.
Rarity SHR criteria (f)	the quality of an item to possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the cultural or natural history of NSW or a local area.
Representativeness SHR criteria (g)	the demonstration by an item of the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural place, or cultural or natural environment, within NSW or a local area.

Another aspect of assessment of significance is the level of significance of an item. Level is assessable in two classifications pursuant to NSW Heritage Office (2001) depending upon the breadth of its identifiable cultural, community, historical or geographical context.

Local level identifies the item as being significant within an identifiable local and/or regional cultural and/or community group and/or historical/geographical heritage context,

State level identifies the item as being significant within an identifiable State-wide cultural and/or community group and/or historical/geographical heritage context.

4.4 ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE (REVISED)

Table 7 below presents a revision of the existing assessment of heritage significance for the site.

Table 7 – Assessment of Heritage Significance (Revised)

Criteria	Application
Historical significance SHR criteria (a) the importance of an item in the course or pattern of the cultural or natural history of NSW or a local area.	<p>The Port Macquarie Historical Museum is situated in a significant historical precinct associated with the establishment of Port Macquarie in 1821 as a government town and penal settlement. The precinct includes the area bounded by Hay, Clarence, William and Murray Streets and includes a number of other significant historic buildings.</p> <p>The site is part of Governor Darling's town survey of 1831, which realigned the streets to create building allotments and reorganised the street pattern to that of today.</p> <p>The building is associated with the development of the town and the opening of the region to free settlers in the 1830s. The building is able to demonstrate the development of trade and reflects the era of river merchants when transport of goods and people was predominantly by ship in the absence of reliable land transport routes.</p>
Historical association Significance SHR criteria (b) the existence of a strong or special association between an item and the life or works of a person or group of persons important in NSW or a local area.	<p>Although thought to have been first constructed as a residence by William Stokes, there is demonstrated association with a number of subsequent pioneering river merchants who occupied and operated the site as a store from the earliest phase of free settlement in Port Macquarie.</p>
Aesthetic significance (SHR criteria (c) the importance of an item in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW or a local area.	<p>Is a significant landmark building within a group of buildings that forms a historical and archaeological precinct set within modern infill development of the riverfront business district of Port Macquarie. Construction features demonstrate principal characteristics of building technology used in the historical era of settlement at Port Macquarie during the transition from penal settlement to free settlement.</p> <p>The building remains largely intact, particularly the earliest phase of construction circa 1830s, as an excellent example of its type and for its ability to demonstrate construction characteristics used at Port Macquarie, which may be compared and contrasted with the practices used in other districts that were opened to settlement following the cessation of the convict era.</p>
Social significance SHR criteria (d) the existence of a strong or special association between an item and the social, cultural or spiritual essence of a particular community or cultural group within NSW or a local area.	<p>The site has been and continues to be held in high esteem by the Port Macquarie community from the inception of Port Macquarie Historical Society for the express purpose of protecting and interpreting the history of the area to the present day museum and publicly accessible complex run entirely by volunteers. The Port Macquarie Museum is well respected across the museum sector for its professional standards and for its ongoing advocacy on the importance of preserving local history.</p>
Technical/Research significance SHR criteria (e) the potential of an item to provide information that will contribute to an understanding of the cultural or natural history of NSW or a local area.	<p>The site is likely to have some archaeological potential although there is no known development pre 1831, other than a section of cobbled road, within the property boundary of the museum complex. The significance of any archaeological remains is likely to reach the local level at best and any such archaeological evidence is unlikely to contribute new and meaningful information to that already known of the site and/or the history of Port Macquarie.</p>
Rarity SHR criteria (f) the quality of an item to possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the cultural or natural history of NSW or a local area.	<p>The standing structure of the former 1830s store and residence must be considered rare within the local Hasting-Port Macquarie LGA and rare within the state of New South Wales given its relatively complete and intact condition.</p>
Representativeness SHR criteria (g) the demonstration by an item of the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural place, or cultural or natural environment, within NSW or a local area.	<p>Not applicable given the assessment of rare (criterion f).</p>

4.5 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The three defining questions of archaeological significance (refer **Section 3.2**) are applied to the Port Macquarie Museum site in order to assess whether any anticipated archaeological resources may be of significance. To reiterate, the emphasis in these three questions is on the need for archaeological research to add to the knowledge of the past in an important way, rather than merely duplicating known information or information readily available from other historical or archaeological sources. **Table 4.3** provides a summary of the assessment of archaeological significance formulation in **Section 3**.

- *Can/does the resource have the potential to contribute knowledge that **no other resource can?***

Contemporary archaeological sites within the Port Macquarie town centre have provided general and comparative knowledge on building construction, drainage, the early cobbled roadway, lifeways and the way in which early buildings were adapted, altered and re-used during the early era of free settlement and the establishment of a commercial and administrative centre.

However, the site of the Port Macquarie Museum has the potential to contribute knowledge specific to those early merchants and families who were associated with the site from its initial development in the 1830s through to 1925 when the building ceased to trade as a store after almost 100 years of continued occupation for that purpose.

- *Can/does the resource have the potential to contribute knowledge that **no other site can?***

There is little potential for the site of the Port Macquarie Museum to contribute knowledge that no other contemporary sites can within the Hastings - Port Macquarie local government area and/or other contemporary sites in pioneering settlements beyond the bounds of Sydney, such as Newcastle and Maitland.

- *Can/does the resource have the potential to contribute knowledge that is **relevant to general questions about human history, Australian history or other major research questions?***

It is unlikely that any archaeological resource contained within the site of the Port Macquarie Museum have the potential to contribute additional information to the knowledge base of general research questions about human history, Australian History or other major research questions.

Table 8 – Summary Assessment of Archaeological Significance (refer Figure 26 and Table 5)

Zone #	Assessment of Significance
Zone 1 – Clarence Street footpath	Local
Zone 2 – Footprint former Store and Residence	Local - potentially State
Zone 3 – Southern curtilage	Local
Zone 4 – Museum Buildings	Local
Pre-1830s roadway alignment	Local

4.6 STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The Port Macquarie Museum building, a former early 19th Century residence and store, is significant for a demonstrated association with the layered history of Port Macquarie. The site has some potential to yield archaeological evidence of the earliest era of occupation circa 1821 in the form of an early road formation and associated drainage. It is located in an historic precinct that includes other significant buildings of the 1830s that have known associations with the opening of the region to free settlement, and the establishment of the town, government administration and free trade in the region.

The museum building demonstrates the form of an early residence converted and expanded into a commercial premises with attached residence. Evidence suggests that the building evolved as the town and trade evolved, and likely comprised three phases of construction. A series of Shopkeepers are known to have resided at and operated a store at the site from about 1840, the most recent and last to operate the store being the Marchmont Family from circa 1881 to circa 1925.

The building is an excellent example of its type, representative of the style of housing constructed by free settlers following the cessation of the convict era. Aside from the structural fabric of the building, there is little other evidence of pre-museum occupation. The known history and use of the site as a residence and store in the early 19th Century could be considered representative of the thriving riverport trade necessary for the advancement of free settlement of Port Macquarie. The conversion of the building to a boarding house in the early 20th Century marks a change in historical era for the town, and reflects the decline in riverport trade. As such, the site represents an important aspect in the local history of Port Macquarie which is relevant in the wider history of New South Wales during the era of expansion by free settlement beyond the bounds of Sydney and Newcastle, and the transition of such settlements into the 20th Century.

4.7 HISTORICAL THEMES

The State historical themes that can be reasonably demonstrated by the town of Port Macquarie are:

- Aboriginal contact;
- Exploration;
- Convict;
- Environment;
- Townships;
- Transport; and
- Agriculture.

In the first edition CMP Suters (2000) identified historical themes specific to the assessment of the museum site as:

- Local historical themes: *Convict, Free Settlement, Riverport*
- State historical themes: *Townships*.

Table 9 updates and expands on the identified themes according to guidelines for Thematic Histories of the NSW Heritage Council, and shows the correlation between National, State and Local themes.

Table 9 – Historical Themes

National Theme	State Theme	Local theme
3. Economy-Developing local, regional and national economies	Commerce-Activities relating to buying, selling and exchanging goods and services	The establishment of a supply store in association with the river trade of the region and ready access to a riverport.
4. Settlement-Building settlements, towns and cities	Accommodation-Activities associated with the provision of accommodation, and particular types of accommodation – does not include architectural styles.	Example of early residence associated with a commercial supply store in the formative years of free settlement in Port Macquarie.
	Towns, suburbs and villages-Activities associated with creating, planning and managing urban functions, landscapes and lifestyles in towns, suburbs and villages	Indicator of early town planning in the creation of town allotments and the disposition of Indigenous people within the emerging settlement and township. The creation of new street patterns which saw the demise of the old and demolition of early structures.
	Land tenure-Activities and processes for identifying forms of ownership and occupancy of land and water, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal	Expressing lines of early allotments released for sale to free settlers which followed with the dispossession of the local Aboriginal population.
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Leisure-Activities associated with recreation and relaxation	Adaptive re-use as a local history museum and repository of local history records and artefacts.

5 CONSERVATION POLICY

5.1 INTRODUCTION

A conservation policy explains the principles to be followed to retain or reveal an item's significance. The aim is to show how heritage significance can be enhanced and maintained. The purpose of the conservation policy is to provide a succinct guide to the care and use of the place. It should be sufficiently flexible to recognise constraints and requirements on the site, accommodate compatible future development and, at the same time, enable the significance of the place to be retained and, where possible, partly recovered. Finally, conservation policy should be a positive set of guidelines – not a set of restrictive rules.

5.2 OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS

- **Listing on the State Heritage Register**

The Port Macquarie Museum is identified as an item of State significance under the NSW Heritage Act and is listed on the NSW State Heritage Register and on Schedule 5 of the Port Macquarie-Hastings LEP 2012. A number of activities in relation to items listed on the State Heritage Register are controlled under Section 57 of the Act. The approval body for controlled activities is the NSW Heritage Council. Standard Exemptions apply for certain works under Section 57 of the Act.

- **Development Controls**

The site is subject to the Port Macquarie-Hastings LEP 2011 and to the Port Macquarie-Hastings DCP 2013 (refer **Table 5.1**).

- **Ownership**

The site is in the private ownership of the Port Macquarie Historical Society. The costs of any requirements arising from the inclusion on the State Heritage Register will have to be met by the owner. Any requirement to protect and preserve the archaeological remains during future work on the site and to devise effective methods of achieving this will have considerable cost implications for the site's owner.

- **Restriction of future development**

There is little room for manoeuvre in designing any new development on a site with such little open space. The site is bounded and dominated on the eastern and southern boundaries by recent and substantial commercial development, a smaller commercial shopfront is located on the western boundary, and the northern boundary comprises the Clarence Street road reserve.

Future extensions to the museum complex would be restricted to “vertical” additions, that is the addition of another level or levels above that existing to the rear of the site. It must be emphasised that the design of future additions must be restricted to the rear of the site within the footprint of the circa 1960 and circa 1970 extensions, thereby avoiding immediate impact upon the heritage building and/or upon the heritage values of site.

Vertical building additions have the effect of avoiding any ground disturbance and therefore there is no potential for the exposure of archaeological relics within the museum grounds. However, all future development at the site must be carried out with a due diligence approach in order not to inadvertently cause negative impact to structural fabric or heritage significance and should consider ways in which impact to streetscape can be minimised.

- **Grant Funding**

Items listed on the SHR are eligible for grant funding from state government bodies and include programs such as NSW Heritage Grants and NSW Heritage Emergency Works. With the increase in competition for the government funding bucket, there are a plethora of philanthropic organisations that consider funding heritage works for items of state significance.

- **Collections Management Policy**

Port Macquarie Museum currently has a Collection Management Policy according to the museum industry's best practice guidelines and standards for the management of all the museum's collection items. The issue of long-term artefact storage and management of additional archaeological collections of local and state significance relating to the Port Macquarie-Hastings Region is beyond the current scope of the museum due to lack of storage space, expertise and funding to carry out such tasks with a best practice approach.

However, a future opportunity and role for the Port Macquarie Museum to act as a repository for collections of local archaeological artefacts is recognised. This would require formulation of specific policies, the support of appropriate museum and heritage organisations, and sourcing appropriate resources and adequate funding.

- **Archaeological Investigation**

The opportunity for dedicated archaeological investigation across the site, in order to provide clarity to the development history, would generally apply in any circumstance where archaeological investigation was feasible/unavoidable during re-development of the site. However, formal archaeological investigation is not likely to eventuate given any proposed building works would be restricted to the addition of floors over the modern structure at the rear of the site. It would likely only be the result of a catastrophic disaster, such as fire or storm damage/destruction, that would create an opportunity for the sub-surface of the heritage building to be opened to investigation.

5.3 STATUTORY CONTROLS

The relevant statutory controls are presented in **Table 10** below.

Table 10 – Statutory Controls

Act	Heritage Provisions
Local Environmental Plans and Development Control Plans	<p>Clause 5.10 – Heritage Conservation - of the Port Macquarie-Hastings LEP 2011 provides the framework for heritage conservation in the Port Macquarie-Hastings LGA. The objectives of Clause 5.10 are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) to conserve the environmental heritage of Port Macquarie-Hastings, 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. <p>Clause 5.10 of the LEP provides the requirements for development consent for items listed in Schedule 5 of the LEP.</p> <p>Port Macquarie-Hastings DCP 2013 defers to Clause 5.10 of the LEP for overarching heritage management. However, Chapter 2.5 Section 2.5.3.10 address development requirements for the Redevelopment of Heritage Items. Consideration of impact to heritage and archaeological sites are embedded into many of the environmental development controls.</p>

Table 10 – Statutory Controls (cont)

Act	Heritage Provisions
The <i>NSW Heritage Act, 1977</i> (the Act)	<p>The Heritage Act provides automatic statutory protection for relics in Sections 139 to 145 of the Act. The Act provides for the protection of historic heritage and provides the process and criteria for listing of heritage deposits and/or relics that are of State significance on the State Heritage Register and those that are of Local significance on the State Heritage Inventory. Archaeological sensitivity and the potential for heritage value may be indicated by historical research and/or site-based archaeological study. Where historical research and/or archaeological study indicates sensitivity, the discovery of relics is highly likely if the ground surface is disturbed. Pursuant to amendments to the Heritage Act that were proclaimed 16 October 2009, a relic is defined as:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>... any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>(a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>(b) is of State or local heritage significance.</i></p> <p>The Act further provides statutory protection from disturbance/destruction of sites and relics. In particular, it provides that no disturbance or excavation may proceed that may expose or discover relics except with an Excavation Permit and that an excavation permit is required, if a relic is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listed on the State Heritage Register, pursuant to s60; and • not listed on the State Heritage Register, pursuant to s140. <p>In circumstances where there is little likelihood that relics exist or are unlikely to have heritage value, and/or that disturbance will result in a minor impact and/or where excavation involves removal of fill only, the act makes provision for the granting of an exemption for items on the SHR and an exception for items on the SHI to an excavation permit under s57(2) or s139 (4) respectively.</p> <p>There are standard exemptions for works requiring Heritage Council approval that apply to all items on the SHR under 57(2) of the Act. Typical activities that are exempted include building maintenance, minor repairs, alterations to certain interiors or areas and change of use. Site specific exemptions for a particular heritage item can be approved by the Minister on the recommendation of the Heritage Council.</p> <p>The NSW Heritage Act 1977 and most up-to-date guidelines for exemptions are readily available online.</p>
The <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> (NSW)	contains similar protective measures to those contained in the <i>Heritage Act</i> . The act also provides for sites to be in Local and Regional Environmental Plans, as sites in development control plans or subject to development controls and/or as subject to planning controls or additional conservation provisions.

5.4 BASIS OF APPROACH AND THE BURRA CHARTER

The *Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter)* is a useful general guide to the conservation of places such as the Port Macquarie Museum. The Charter provides a philosophical framework that is reasonably flexible and recognises the need for continued use and compatible development in order to maintain the value of the site within the community of the present time.

Obligations arising from the *Burra Charter* specified in the First Edition CMP remain current (with some minor revisions and the addition of comments) as follows:

- *The cultural significance of the site should be retained and provisions made for its security, maintenance and future.*

This has been achieved for the foreseeable future in the use of the site as a local history museum, prominent tourist attraction and presence as an advocate for the preservation of other items of significance to the Port Macquarie-Hastings region.

- *All conservation work should be based on a respect for the existing fabric and should involve minimum physical intervention.*

This has been achieved through consultation with the CMP 2000, Port Macquarie-Hastings Council and Council's appointed Heritage Advisor. The issues of safety and compliance with regard to the current Building Code of Australia must be balanced with the need to retain heritage values.

- *An appropriate visual setting (streetscape) should be maintained. No new construction, demolition or modification which would adversely affect the setting should be allowed.*
- *The removal of elements which form part of the significance of the place is not acceptable unless it is the sole means of ensuring their security and preservation. Such items should be returned in the event that circumstances allow.*
- *Preservation is limited to the protection, maintenance and, where necessary, the stabilisation of the existing fabric but without the distortion of its significance.*
- *Restoration is appropriate only if there is sufficient evidence of an earlier state of the fabric and only if restoration enhances significance.*
- *Restoration should aim to respect the physical and documentary evidence only to the extent that conjecture begins.*
- *Restoration is limited to the reinstatement of displaced or missing components, or removal of accretions.*
- *The various historical eras of a place must be respected and careful consideration given to the question of significance in the interpretation of one era over another.*
- *Reconstruction is limited to the reproduction of fabric, the form of which is known from physical and/or documentary evidence. It should be identifiable on close inspection as being new work (if feasible, date stamped)*
- *Adaptation is acceptable where it does not substantially detract from significance.*
- *Existing fabric should be recorded before any intervention, adaptation or restoration is commenced.*
- *All records of repairs, maintenance, preservation and/or restoration should be placed in a permanent repository such as the museum archives and public library for public access in the present time and for the future management of the site.*

5.5 CONSERVATION POLICIES

In addition to the general policy statements above, the following specific conservation policies have been formulated to guide the management, use, interpretation and maintenance of heritage fabric and heritage components that comprise part of the site of the Port Macquarie Museum. In addition, the policies address management for potential archaeological resources. Where additional information is necessary to inform appropriate management, additional notes have been included beneath the policy statement.

Policy 1: *The future conservation and any proposed development or redevelopment at the Port Macquarie Museum should be carried out in accordance with the principles of the latest edition of the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter).*

Policy 2: *All work on the site should conform to the principles of the Burra Charter, should exemplify best practice in heritage conservation and management and should be carried out by suitably qualified and experienced specialists.*

Policy 3: *The grading of significance for heritage elements identified the inventory sheet of **Section 2** should form the basis for any conservation actions, future development or adaptation of building fabric for museum exhibition space. The individual rankings should be considered in conjunction with the rankings of adjacent areas or items. Care should be exercised with items of high and moderate significance (refer **Table 11**).*

Table 11 – Grading of Significance and Policy Implications

Grading	Policy Implication
Exceptional	Preserve, restore and maintain all items and record relevant processes. If adaptation is necessary for the continued function and use of the place, minimise intervention, removal and/or the obstruction of significant fabric. All intervention should be reversible and archivally recorded.
High	Aim to preserve, restore and maintain all items and record relevant processes. Explore the opportunity for adaptive reuse to preserve the ongoing viability of the place provided that significance is retained or revealed, All intervention should be archivally recorded.
Moderate	Aim to preserve, restore and maintain most items and record relevant processes. There is opportunity for adaptive reuse or removal may be permitted to preserve ongoing viability of the place, particularly if it reveals significance of a higher level.
Little	Retain, adapt, and add compatible new elements and/or removal as necessary for adaptive reuse, ongoing viability or in order to reveal significance of a higher level.
Intrusive	Remove or adapt, in long term, to reduce adverse impact.

Policy 4: *The physical fabric, setting and meaning of the heritage components, together with its interpretation, should all be considered as component parts in the preservation, maintenance and enhancement of the site as a functioning museum.*

Policy 5: *Any change, including intrusive maintenance procedures, to any items of high and/or moderate significance should not proceed without prior reference to the Conservation Management Plan. If the Plan does not adequately address an issue, seek appropriate specialist heritage advice before proceeding with any work.*

Policy 6: *Notwithstanding the standard exemptions that apply under the s57(2) of the NSW Heritage Act to the Port Macquarie Museum, obtain all necessary statutory approvals to carry out works on the site, including development applications before proceeding with the works.*

Policy 7: *Planning for future works or installations at the site should avoid ground disturbance where possible.*

Policy 8: *In the event of any future excavation on the site that is likely to expose archaeological remnants, mitigation measures should comprise protection and management of any resources in accordance with the recommendations of the Conservation Assessment, the assessment of significance of the resources by a qualified and experienced archaeologist and within the Relics Provisions of the NSW Heritage Act 1977.*

- **Depending upon the nature and extent of proposed works, a Statement of Archaeological Impact and/or Statement of Heritage Impact may be required within the development application process to clarify the need, or otherwise, for a statutory permit under section 60 or exemption for a statutory permit under section 57 of the NSW Heritage Act 1977.**

Policy 9: *Any archaeological remains exposed as a result of approved ground works should ideally be conserved in-situ with the application of appropriate preservation measures and interpretation for public viewing. This work should be carried out by an appropriately qualified specialist.*

Policy 10: *The more significant a concept, fabric, relationship, space or vista, the more care should be exercised in preparing proposals and undertaking work that may affect the place – the objective being to ensure that the work will not reduce, and will ideally reinforce, the identified significance.*

Policy 11: *Proposals for the use of the heritage building and associated components should recognise the importance of past and present uses of the place in determining what future uses and treatment will be compatible with the retention of reinforcement of its significance.*

Policy 12: *Proposals for development in the non-heritage precincts of the complex should carefully consider any impact upon heritage fabric, historical context, potential archaeological resources and heritage values. Such proposals should be subject to appropriate professional advice and review prior to approval.*

Policy 13: *The conservation management plan should be considered a living document, amended as required and reviewed on a regular basis, not exceeding a ten-year period, in order to take into consideration any new information or opportunity as it becomes available.*

Policy 14: *A program of conservation works dedicated to addressing the structural issues identified during the preparation of this plan should be developed (refer **Section 2.19** and **Table 5**) and should include the tasks necessary to seek funding for such works and the carrying out of works by appropriate specialists. These works should include:*

- i. *Assessment and structural upgrade of the first floor supporting framework;*
- ii. *Assessment and upgrade of the roof structure;*
- iii. *Assessment and upgrade of drainage and ventilation in rear courtyard;*
- iv. *Assessment of rising damp and the application of any conservation measures required;*
- v. *Assessment of corrosion caused by steel window and fireplace lintels, and the application of appropriate conservation measures if required; and*
- vi. *A regular monitoring program of the building fabric, to be carried out by volunteers with appropriate training to assess when deterioration or escalation of an issue requires the input of a specialist.*

5.6 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

This section sets out actions for implementing conservation management policies at the Port Macquarie Museum within a hierarchy of priority levels as defined in **Table 12** and specific implementation tasks as set out in **Table 13**.

Table 12 - Priority Levels for Policy Implementation

Priority Level	Timing	Actions
High	<12 months	Actions needed to rectify problems that could cause imminent risk of damage, loss or detriment to significant fabric, areas or infrastructure.
Medium	1-5 years	Actions that should be planned and implemented within 1 to 5 years in order to reduce the risk of damage, loss or detriment to significant fabric, areas or infrastructure.
Low	5-10 years	Actions forming part of a longer-term management or maintenance strategy, to maintain and enhance significance and/or to incorporate proposed development/redevelopment.
Ongoing	Ongoing	Actions to be commenced and/or a regular monitoring program established as soon as is practicable.

Table 13 – Implementation Plan

Action	Priority
PMHS to adopt CMP and AMP for ongoing management of the heritage listed building and overall site.	High
Submit CMP/AMP to the Office of Environment and Heritage for endorsement.	High
Review CMP/AMP at regular intervals as deemed appropriate by museum management committee, but not exceeding 10 years, and/or when a major change is proposed to the site, including change in ownership or use, whichever occurs sooner.	Ongoing
Provide information to Office of Environment and Heritage and to Port Macquarie-Hastings Council on revised heritage values and additional understanding of the history of the place to enable correction and update of the current SHR and LEP listings.	High
Approach Council to remove street tree at museum entry and/or develop control and maintenance plan with Council to prevent root intrusion to museum footings and manage the accumulation of fallen leaves and fruit within the Clarence Street curtilage of the museum property.	High
<p>A program of conservation works should be formulated and appropriate funding sources investigated to achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An assessment and structural upgrade of the first floor supporting framework; • An assessment and upgrade of the roof structure; • An assessment and upgrade of drainage and ventilation in the rear courtyard; • The assessment of rising damp and the application of any conservation measures required; and • The assessment of corrosion caused by steel window and fireplace lintels, and the application of appropriate conservation measures if required. 	<p>High</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
A regular monitoring program should be formulated, to be carried out by trained museum volunteers who will, when deemed justified, engage an appropriate specialist for the assessment and/works to address structural issues such as rising damp, any changes or movement/bowing in the masonry, corrosion of steel lintels of the heritage building as per Table 5 and Appendix 4 , and/or any other structural issues that might arise within and directly adjacent to the heritage building.	Ongoing
Ensure that any future modification and/or extensions to the non-heritage precinct carefully considers and assesses the potential for impact upon the heritage precinct.	Ongoing
Make the contents of the CMP publicly available through submission to the local history section of the Port Macquarie- Hastings Regional Library and any other appropriate local repositories.	High
Record any conservation measures, structural modifications or adaptations to heritage fabric in documentary form and by digital photography. These records should be stored and maintained by the Port Macquarie Museum for future reference and attached to the current CMP.	Ongoing
The exposure of unexpected heritage fabric during any works to the structure or the grounds should be immediately referred to an appropriate specialist for assessment. Work must be suspended until approval is obtained to continue.	Ongoing
Consider whether proposed works fall within the framework of Standard Exemptions or whether a Section 57(2) Exemption Permit is appropriate. It may be necessary to seek professional advice in this regard.	Ongoing

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