



ACT Heritage Council

Conservation Management Plan Approval

Under Section 61K of the *Heritage Act 2004*

TO: Doma Group

Alex Moulis

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Heritage Reference: Yarralumla-S102-B1

Contact Officer: GC

Received by Council: 1 March 2022

Block:	Section:	Division / District:	Heritage Place:
1	102	Yarralumla	Yarralumla Brickworks
7	102	Yarralumla	Yarralumla Brickworks Railway Remnants

Status of Place: Registered Heritage Place

Report Details: *"Interpretation Strategy, Yarralumla Brickworks Precinct"* (Lovell Chen, 2022)

Council Advice provided by: A/g Secretary / ACT Heritage Director

Pursuant to Section 61K of the *Heritage Act 2004*, the ACT Heritage Council advises that:

- ☒ **The Conservation Management Addendum Plan is approved, with conditions** as set out below, on the basis that it ensures the conservation and responsible management of the Yarralumla Brickworks and the Yarralumla Brickworks Railway Remnants.
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Background:

On 1 March 2022, Doma Group made an application to the ACT Heritage Council (the Council) for approval of an Addendum to a Conservation Management Plan (CMP), for the Canberra Brickworks Precinct (which consists of the Yarralumla Brickworks and the Yarralumla Brickworks Railway Remnants).

The Addendum *"Interpretation Strategy, Yarralumla Brickworks Precinct"* (Lovell Chen 2022) (the Strategy) sets out interpretation opportunities within the Precinct, with reference to the approved CMP (GML Heritage, 2021) for the Precinct, as well as previous research, and the archaeological investigations carried out by GML Heritage in 2021. It considers the potential audience and a range of strategies for installations to commemorate the various layers of heritage at the site, which include geological elements as well as the Aboriginal heritage and the different phases of use of the place as a Brickworks.

The Strategy contains high level strategic aims for interpretation opportunities as potential models for types of interpretive activity at the Brickworks, providing examples of strategies that have been successful in similar redevelopment scenarios. It makes recommendations for four main potential interpretive sites, being the Arrivals Forecourt, the Brickyard, the Quarry and the Railway Remnants; and a "supplementary sequence

of interpretive deliverables”. It also provides recommendations for interpretive media at these sites, which reflect the character and core objectives for each site as set out in the Strategy.

It does not include detailed descriptions of the actual interpretive activities to be installed within the Precinct, as these will be included in future development applications for the Precinct.

On review, the Council considers that the Strategy contains a framework for high quality interpretive outcomes, as well as a diverse and interesting approach on how to achieve these. It notes that further detail is needed on how this will be practicably achieved. The Council has queried the interpretation journey as leading into the brickyard, when a historic chronology would start at the quarry. It accepts, however that this approach is based on the primary entry point and movement of visitors on site, noting that the temporal sequence of brickmaking could still be interpreted using signage, and or modelling which incorporated signals as to the phase of works at the various parts of the site.

The Council identifies some elements which would lend themselves to additional interpretation opportunities, such as experimental plant, and machinery which is still *in situ*, as well as the smaller movable material such as wheelbarrows which can be used to show parts of the story of the place (such as hand labour).

Finally, the Council notes that the Strategy includes assessment and recommendations on the outcomes and implications of the archaeological investigations. The Conservation Policies as set out in the approved CMP promote the approach that heritage elements should be conserved if possible, whether ‘Core elements’ or ‘Supporting elements’, The Council expects all measures to conserve the new discoveries *in situ* to be considered for feasibility before considering an interpretive solution.

Decision and Conditions:

Following review, the Council is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the plan ensures the conservation and responsible management of the Canberra Brickworks Precinct. On this basis, the Council approves the Strategy subject to the following conditions:

1. Further consideration is to be given to the *in situ* conservation and interpretation of BWR8, and this is to be delivered as part of the redevelopment unless it is demonstrated to the Council’s satisfaction that this outcome is not reasonably practicable;
2. Detailed information on interpretive outcomes is to be described as part of future development applications for the Precinct;
3. The Council will make further comment on the designs for interpretive installations for the sites as these are presented; and
4. The CMP Addendum is approved until 30 August 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MRussell'.

Meaghan Russell
**A/g Director (as delegate for),
ACT Heritage Council**

9 September 2022