

DOC23/622610

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NSW
State Heritage Register Committee Meeting
Tuesday, 1 August 2023
Item 5 – Preliminary Assessment of SHR Nominations

PURPOSE

For the State Heritage Register Committee (SHRC) to undertake its preliminary assessment of new State Heritage Register (SHR) nominations to determine if they should be progressed to a full assessment for potential listing, in accordance with its *Preliminary Assessment of New SHR Nominations Process* (supplied for reference at **Tab 5C**).

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the SHRC:

- [REDACTED]
2. **Considers** that the Synagogue and Former Sydney Talmudical College Premises Building Including Interiors, Bondi may be of State heritage significance and **advises** whether the nomination should be progressed to a full assessment.

ATTACHMENTS

- Tab 5A [REDACTED]
Tab 5B SHR Nomination – Synagogue and Former Sydney Talmudical College Premises
Tab 5C SHRC Preliminary Assessment of SHR Nominations Process

APPROVALS

Prepared by:	Dr Aleisha Buckler, Listings Coordinator, Heritage Programs Coordination	13/7/23
Reviewed by:	Barrina South, Manager, Heritage Programs Coordination	14/7/23
Approved by:	Anna London, A/Director, Heritage Programs	23/7/23

2.0 SYNAGOGUE AND FORMER SYDNEY TALMUDICAL COLLEGE PREMISES BUILDING INCLUDING INTERIORS, BONDI

The nomination form and any other documents submitted with the form are provided at **Tab 5B**.

Background Information	
Aboriginal Nation, Language or Group (Horton AIATSIS 1996)	Eora
Date received	29/6/2023
Nominator type	Local council
Owner type	Business
Owner position on nomination	Unknown (unlikely to support given known planning matters – see below)
Existing heritage protection	There is a local council interim heritage order (IHO) over the site until 10 February 2024.
Previous HC/SHRC decisions	N/A
Known planning matters	<p>Waverley Council made an IHO over the site in early 2022 to investigate its potential heritage significance, following the lodgement of a proposal for land rezoning which it also rejected. Council commissioned a detailed heritage assessment in May 2023 by Hector Abrahams Architects which found that the item is of both local and State heritage significance.</p> <p>At its meeting on 6 June 2023, Waverley Council (Council) resolved to forward a planning proposal seeking to list the site as a local heritage item in the Waverley Local Environmental Plan 2012 (LEP) to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) for Gateway determination for the purposes of public exhibition. Council estimates that this amendment would be completed by October 2023.</p> <p>Council also resolved to write to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces in respect of the rezoning, seeking an urgent meeting for the Mayor and senior Council officers to request that the rezoning be refused by DPE or should the decision be to finalise rezoning, that the LEP amendment includes a site-specific provision to protect existing community/educational/religious facilities at basement and ground levels as per the advice of the Sydney Eastern City Planning Panel and in consultation with Council officers.</p> <p>At this meeting Council also resolved to submit this SHR nomination and to write to the Minister seeking support for listing.</p> <p>Heritage NSW understands that an appeal has been lodged against the IHO in the Land and Environment Court with proceedings to commence in August 2023.</p>
Any other information for the SHRC to consider	The matter has been the subject of media attention, see for example articles in the <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> in October 2022 and February 2023 .

	<p>While it is mentioned within the thematic heritage study of Seidler’s work by Hericon Consulting for the Heritage Council in 2017, the Synagogue was not selected as one of the places recommended in that report for further assessment for potential SHR listing.</p> <p>This report and any existing nominations for Seidler’s architecture was reviewed by the SHRC and its subject matter expert working group in 2019 to identify a representative sample of Seidler’s work to prioritise for SHR listing assessment. The Synagogue was not selected during this process.</p>
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Preliminary Assessment	HNSW comment
Q1. May it meet the threshold for State heritage significance?	Yes
Q2. Does it fit a current HC priority area?	No
Q3. Does it present a current strategic or important opportunity for listing?	No, as the SHRC has previously chosen other Seidler works to prioritise for assessment/SHR listing, and there is likely to be strong owner objection. However it would broaden the representativeness of the SHR. For SHRC consideration and discussion.
Q4. Has it been nominated by or with the support of the owner?	No
Q5. Is there an unmitigated threat to the item’s conservation?	No, as the site is currently protected by an IHO, however that only offers interim protection. For SHRC consideration and discussion.