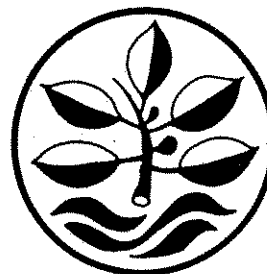
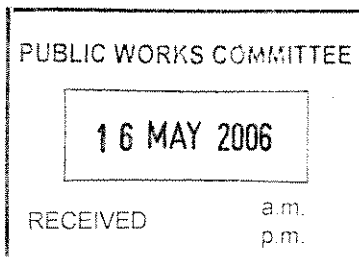


Sydney Harbour and Foreshores Committee



The Secretary
Public Works Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



SUBMISSION6

Australian Institute of Police Management Redevelopment, North Head, Manly NSW

The Sydney Harbour and Foreshores Committee was founded in August 1979, to work for the protection and enhancement of Sydney Harbour. Its ambit of interest includes Port Jackson, Middle Harbour and the Parramatta River. Membership includes a range of waterside Councils, community organisations, and individuals.

The written Statement of Evidence of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) dated March 2006 does not include precise information as to the extent of the proposed increase in accommodation, whether by numbers or area. Accordingly, we have referred to the drawings in order to inform our views on the proposal.

It appears that the proposal looks to increase the numbers of people accommodated on the site by some 75%, and the residential building bulk by something in excess of 150%. That seems to us to be rather too much intensification of activity, especially having regard to the highly valued heritage status of the site that was confirmed in the Commonwealth Government's 12 May 2006 announcement of its placement on the National Heritage List.

The heritage character of the site will be directly compromised by the increased bulk of buildings from their present single storey structures to two- and three-storeys. That will remove the concordance of the site buildings with the original Quarantine Station development on-site and inject a visually discordant note in comparisons with the remaining stock of buildings at the Quarantine Station site itself.

The significant increase in intensity of activity envisaged in the proposal will have a direct impact on the wildlife that remains on and near the site. Of particular interest is the local population of bandicoots, which seem likely to be seriously and adversely impacted by higher rates of vehicle and personal activity within and close to their range. Although the area of grassland on the site will generally be retained, the area of prime bandicoot foraging areas will be reduced; in the larger scheme of things, even a small reduction of prime foraging area will affect the bandicoot population adversely.

We hope the Committee's examination of the proposal will identify opportunities for provision of adequate facilities for the Institute purposes without incurring the environmental penalties and disadvantages we have noted above.

Michael Rolfe, Secretary
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13 May 2006

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