



Major John Gallagher
RAAN Museum
North Fort, Scenic Drive
Manly NSW 2095

Bld 28 Best Ave off Suakin Drive
Mosman NSW 2088
PO Box 607 Mosman NSW 2088
ph 02 8969 2100
fax 02 8969 2120
tty 02 8969 2152
web www.harbourtrust.gov.au
ABN 14 178 614 905

23 July 2010

Dear Major Gallagher,

**EXHIBITION OF AMENDED NORTH HEAD MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR EPBC ACT COMPLIANCE**

The Sydney Harbour Federation Trust is currently amending its existing Management Plans to comply with requirements of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and the *Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Act 2001* (SHFT Act).

The Trust has prepared a draft amendment to the Former School of Artillery, North Head Management Plan in accordance with the heritage management principles and requirements for management plans for National and Commonwealth Heritage places – section 324S and 341S of the EPBC Act. The Draft Plan has been renamed the "North Head Sanctuary Management Plan" and applies to the former School of Artillery and North Fort, both of which are managed by the Trust.

The amendments relate to the protection and management of the National and Commonwealth heritage values of the place and do not affect the Outcomes of the Plan.

The amended Management Plan for the North Head Sanctuary will be placed on public exhibition from **28 July 2010 to 24 August 2010** and can be viewed during office hours at:

- Harbour Trust Offices, Building 28 Best Avenue, off Suakin Drive, Mosman
- North Head Sanctuary, Gatehouse Visitors Centre, off Scenic Drive, North Head
- Manly Council, 1 Belgrave Street, Manly
- Manly Library, Market Place, Manly

The Draft Plan is also available electronically at www.harbourtrust.gov.au or by telephoning the Trust on 02 8969 2100.

Submissions are invited until **5pm, 24 August 2010**. All submissions received will be treated as public documents. Submissions can be emailed to consulttrust@harbourtrust.gov.au

RCC 95/96

For further information please do not hesitate in contacting me on (02) 8969 2126.

Yours sincerely,

Kathryn Werner
Acting Manager, Planning and Special Projects

upgrade of security,
relevance of exhibits to
- Air Power
- all Gars from old 20 11 11

content relevant to the Sanctuary and / or North Head, meeting rooms, community uses, educational or training facilities and refreshment facilities,

The water tower presents an opportunity to provide a viewing platform in an unobtrusive way.



A number of buildings in this area (12, 35, 36, 50 and 74) are considered to be important historical structures related to their wartime function, such as the plotting room or miniature range. Due to their small scale and purpose built nature, they will be repaired, conserved and mostly suited for interpretation purposes in association with the other military installations within North Fort and Sydney Harbour National Park (see Policies 42-47).

Public Domain

The back of house and workshop uses of this area require the retention of some of the extensive paved areas. There will be additional landscaping, however, to improve the amenity of the access routes, particularly along North Fort Road and around the Gun Shed and the Gun Park, to make the access between North Fort Road and the walking track more attractive and inviting.

Due to the proximity of these buildings to the bushland some of the buildings may be removed or re-modelled. Issues such as noise, light spillage, bushfire management and traffic generation will be important considerations in the retention and selection of appropriate uses.

Third Quarantine Cemetery

The third quarantine station cemetery is one of the most intact of its type in Australia and is recognised on the National Heritage List. The cemetery is located to the west of the North Fort Precinct, in an elevated position to the north of North Head Scenic Drive, but obscured from the road by ESBS.

Careful management of the cemetery will be required to restore existing graves and grave markers, restore the natural landscape and facilitate managed access to the cemetery for groups and individuals. Removal of noxious weeds, invasive grasses and trees and shrubs that are undermining graves, and replacement of the current unattractive boundary fence by one more sympathetic to the Cemetery, will assist in the preservation of this important remnant of North Head's role in Australia's quarantine history.

The North Fort Precinct

Visitors to North Head are naturally drawn to its southern end, the culmination of the headland with sweeping views over the entrance to the harbour, along the coastline and towards the city. This group of built facilities is therefore in an ideal position to cater for and enhance the visitor experience of North Head. North Fort is at the point

or convergence for many of the themes of North Head – the topography, geology and the views, observation point for major harbour events and the migration of whales, the flora and fauna and the quarantine heritage (with the third Quarantine Cemetery and some of the stone walls). It embodies features from the earliest attempts to open up the headland as a public park, and it is the culmination of the fortification of Sydney Harbour.



North Fort is therefore a major public entry point to the Sanctuary and it should allow for the paths on the headland to converge at the magnificent lookout points, such as the Fairfax Lookout.

The continuation of a Museum at North Fort fits in with this role, subject to opening up the site to general public access and

the focus of the museum being the Defence of Sydney Harbour, particularly, the fortifications system of North Head. The opportunity exists to link Defence facilities between the North Fort complex and the former Artillery School complex with the pathway network (including the Avenue of Honour and Memorial Walkway) and interpretation programs that draw upon the expertise and enthusiasm of the Volunteers.

add history of SoFA.

Adaptive re-use

A number of buildings and structures located around the entrance to this complex (201, 202, 203, 205, 206, 207, and 208) are considered to be important historical structures related to their wartime function. They are well suited for uses related to the public appreciation of the Sanctuary, the defence of Sydney, the site's views and natural features, certain events or functions and other uses that encourage or support public access such as refreshment facilities, public amenities and visitor information / orientation for North Head.

*statement
leg*

The built fabric will be conserved and their former, Defence use interpreted. The unity of design of these buildings will be retained and subject to the requirements of the new uses, altered details (such as the former timber windows) will be restored. Any additions or alterations of the buildings are to be designed in a manner that does not adversely affect their unity and historical significance.

Although robust and functional, the metal sheds that were erected since 1990 are considered to be highly visible and intrusive, They may be removed or altered to fit more sympathetically with the heritage values of North Fort, take advantage of views, make the site more welcoming and provide uses that encourage greater public access and appreciation of the site.

Public Domain

Improvements will take the form of landscaping near the entrance to make it more open and welcoming, particularly around the café and the precinct entry. The landscaping will be designed to help control the quality and quantity of water run-off