

Museum

HASTINGS DISTRICT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

SCHEMATIC DESIGN REPORT FOR

PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM

PREPARED FOR THE PORT MACQUARIE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY BTB ARCHITECTURE STUDIO

OCTOBER 2019

PROUDLY FUNDED BY THE NSW GOVERNMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH PORT MACQUARIE - HASTINGS COUNCIL
AND PORT MACQUARIE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.



ISSUE CONTROL

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A	11/10/19	SCHEMATIC DESIGN REPORT



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Port Macquarie Museum was established in 1958, in an historic building built by William Stokes, c1835-1840, as a commercial store with attached residence. The building, at 22 Clarence St, was located close to the landing place and wharf on the Hastings River, for the easy movement of goods to and from the store. Port Macquarie was founded as a penal settlement in 1821 and evolved as a river port serving the developing agricultural communities along the Hasting River. The store building marks the transition of Port Macquarie from a penal colony and place of secondary punishment to a free settlement. Other significant sites and buildings in the immediate precinct include the 1821 landing place on the Hastings River, and the adjacent Royal Hotel, originally built in 1841 and rebuilt in 1880s. Opposite the museum is the 1869 historic courthouse designed by James Barnet, and the Garrison building at 26 Clarence St.

The c.1835 store is the entry and foundation building for Port Macquarie Museum. It consists of a two-storey brick store and residence building with a ground floor veranda annex along the rear elevation, and an underground cistern (water storage tank) located at the rear of the heritage building. Built in a vernacular Georgian style, the two shop display windows that remain are notable elements of the building's street front. The museum is one of the few surviving early commercial and residential buildings in Port Macquarie and was used as a store until well into the 20th century.

This report traces the approach to and process of masterplanning and schematic design of the proposed, major transformation of the Port Macquarie Museum.

The end goal of the project is to create an exemplary regional museum, able to accommodate and celebrate one of the largest and most significant regional collections in NSW. The new facility will appropriately exhibit the collection but also expand the ways in which the stories contained therein are told to all visitors, be they locals or tourists. The museum's State Heritage-listed store building is to be retained to continue to form part of the fabric of the museum and part of its collection.

The current facility is too small and no longer fit for purpose in meeting changing visitor expectations, wide visitor demographics and the curatorial needs of a significant and increasing collection.

The Masterplanning and Schematic Design processes have involved detailed consultation between BTB Architecture Studio, the Executive and Committee of the Port Macquarie Historical Society, museum design consultants and early discussions with key Council officers. The process will continue to be strongly guided and shaped by client consultation with the Port Macquarie Historical Society, as well as Heritage advice and Archeological investigation.

The Stage 1 - Masterplanning and Stage 2 - Schematic Design phases are the first in a process that will progress through Heritage and Development Approval, Developed Design and Construction Documentation and on to construction. Concurrent with and integrated into these subsequent stages, will be curatorial and exhibition design consultant input, as well as specialised structural, mechanical, electrical and lighting design. The process, as documented in this report, has reached a hold point with the development of the preferred masterplan strategy into a resolved schematic design.



IMAGE: SITE MEETING

1. Project Objectives

The museum transformation project's key objectives are:

- Design a contemporary 21st century museum and cultural landmark for Port Macquarie.
- Create a welcoming museum that is accessible to all, one that will be a new meeting place in Port Macquarie, attracting visitors and residents with beautiful and functional spaces for discovery, conversations, activities and exhibitions.
- Design a new museum with high visibility in the town and from the street and a sympathetic interface with the State Heritage listed historic Store building.
- Conserve and interpret the c.1835 historic Store ensuring it continues to function as an integral part of the museum and as a heritage landmark in the precinct.
- Prompt the development and form part of an important cultural and heritage precinct, in the historic town centre of Port Macquarie.

2. Design Principles

The museum transformation project's key design principles are:

- A welcoming, universally accessible contemporary museum with a sense of place.
- A building for people of all ages and abilities, one that fosters conversations and social connections.
- Highly visible entry and street frontage that helps define Port Macquarie's cultural and heritage precinct.
- Light-filled spaces, with appropriate UV and environmental controls.
- Clear and legible circulation.
- A sustainable energy efficient building, with robust finishes, using proven technologies and materials, with low maintenance requirements consistent with a maritime environment.
- Flexible spaces for exhibitions and public programs and back of house.
- A respectful interface with the museum's historic Store Building.
- Consideration of current and likely future impacts of climate change, especially higher temperatures and flood risk.



IMAGE: BTB, PM HISTORICAL SOCIETY EXECUTIVES, DESIGN CONSULTANTS OUTSIDE THE 'STORE' BUILDING

3. Preliminary Descriptive Functional / Spatial Brief

The museum site, of approximately 850 m2, comprises a series of buildings and garden space. Only retention of the heritage listed store building is a requirement of the design, along with the cistern.
Subject to further refinement, the museum transformation will provide for the following functions, facilities and opportunities:

Heritage Store Building:

Ground Floor: A community access exhibition space + reading room cum education space.

First Floor: Interpretative exhibition spaces within the existing rooms. Options for improved accessibility and intuitive connection to the museum circulation diagram are to be explored.

Foyer/Front-of-House/Admin: A welcoming entrance to draw visitors into the building. Welcome to country, a sense of place, and a meeting place with seating. The foyer should draw visitors and groups into the building and readily move them into adjacent spaces. It could contain major public art commissions, potentially lit and visible at night from the street.

Visitor orientation; front desk for welcoming, ticketing, information and retail sales.
Front of House Staff: small staff room with lockers, meeting table and kitchenette.

Exhibition Galleries: Organised and designed to promote unique, enjoyable and memorable visitor experiences including AR, VR and other interactive and experiential activities. This should include flexible, well-proportioned exhibition and interpretation spaces.

Collection Management/ Conservation/ Research/ Library – Archives and Photograph: Ideally contiguous with archives and photographs collections storage. Must include a curator’s office, 6 workstations, 3 moveable/height adjustable work benches, area for digitisation/camera set up, interim storage area, small research room including library. Include adjacent meeting space.

Archives & Photographs Collection Storage: A highly efficient, secure and safe collections facility – fittings will include some compact shelving and plan cabinets
Collection Management/ Conservation – Objects: Ideally contiguous with objects collection storage. Must include 3 large work benches/tables, 2 workstations, interim storage area.

Objects Collection Storage: A highly efficient, secure and safe collections facility – mostly shelving, with room to store furniture and larger objects (Could include some display storage areas).

Education/ Activities: Flexible, adaptable and easy to use learning, workshop and presentation space or spaces, able to accommodate 100 plus people in theatre style seating plus accompanying break-out spaces and supporting facilities. Adjacent cupboard areas to store seating and other equipment, able to be divided into separate use areas.

Exhibition Prep & Storage: Exhibition prep and wet conservation area, including freezer and sink, large bench and work table, work station, storage for plinths, panels and mannequins, crate storage from touring exhibitions, deliveries/despatch holding area need to be on ground floor.

Cleaning Storage/ Waste: Cleaning equipment and chemicals store, waste disposal/bin storage.

4. Preliminary Numerical Functional / Spatial Brief

Function	Existing (m ²)	*Proposed (m ²)
Foyer/ Front of House/Admin		200
Collection management, conservation – archives, photographs, library, research		50
Collection management, conservation – objects		50
Collections storage – archives, photographs		100
Collections storage – objects		300
Exhibition galleries		800
Education/ Public Programs/ functions		150
Exhibition prep, conservation, wet area, exhibitionary storage & crate storage		50
Cleaning storage/ Waste		20
Total	850	1720

- * Indicative space allocations (for further discussion during design development).
- Areas don't include space in the historic Store.



IMAGE: SITE MEETING

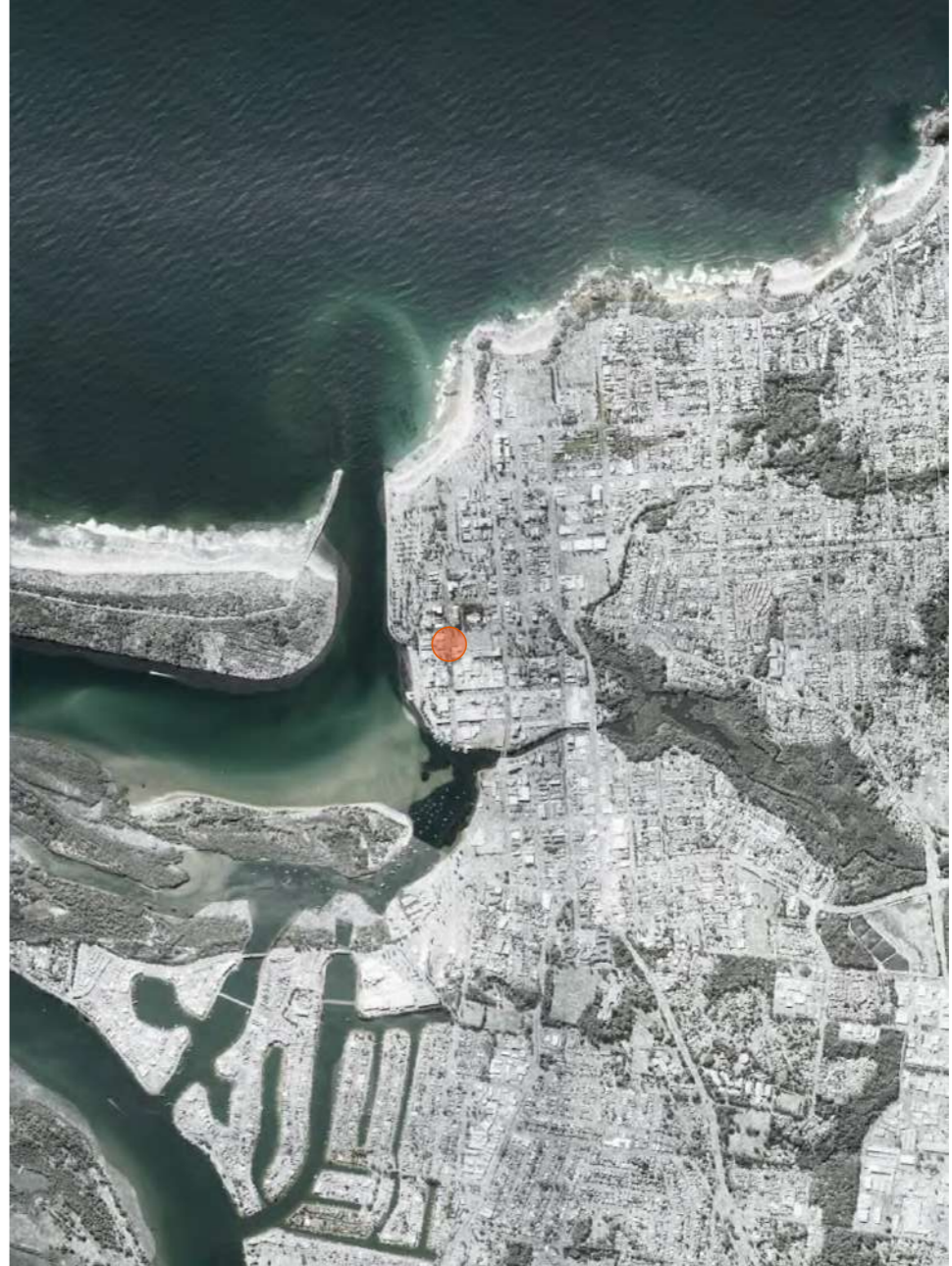
THE SITE

SITE | REGIONAL



SOURCE: SIXMAPS

SITE | TOWN



SOURCE: SIXMAPS

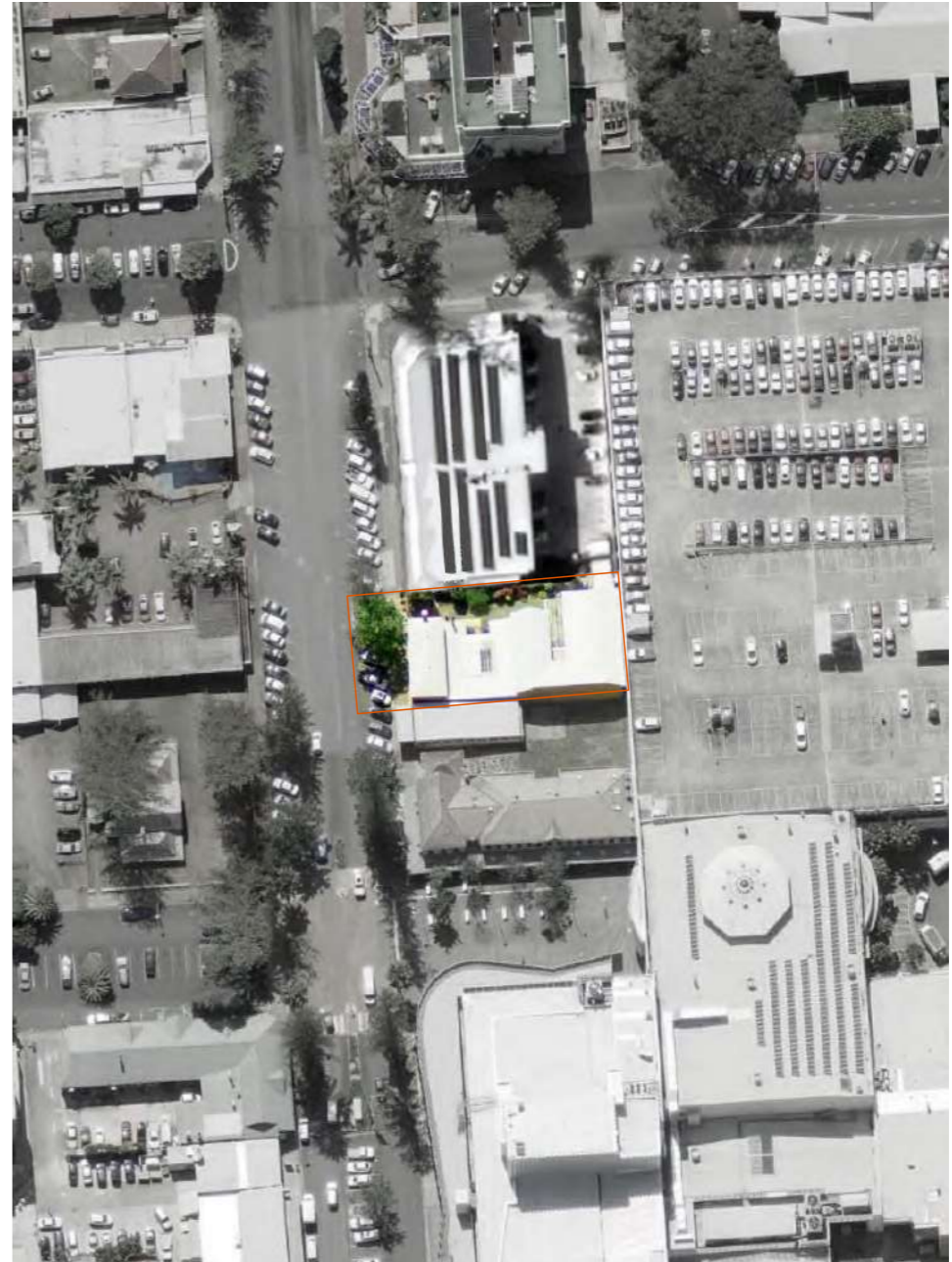


SITE | SURROUND



SOURCE: SIXMAPS

SITE | PRECINCT



SOURCE: SIXMAPS



SITE | CONTEXT



SOURCE: SNAZZY MAPS

SITE | PRECINCT



SOURCE: SNAZZY MAPS



SITE | PLAN



SCALE: 1:500
SOURCE: BTB



LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN

The Port Macquarie-Hastings Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011 is a local planning tool, that provides a legal framework for all developments within the LGA. The LEP is comprised of two sections; one written and the other a series of maps.

LAND ZONING

The subject site is zoned as 'B3 Commercial Core'.

FLOOR SPACE RATIO

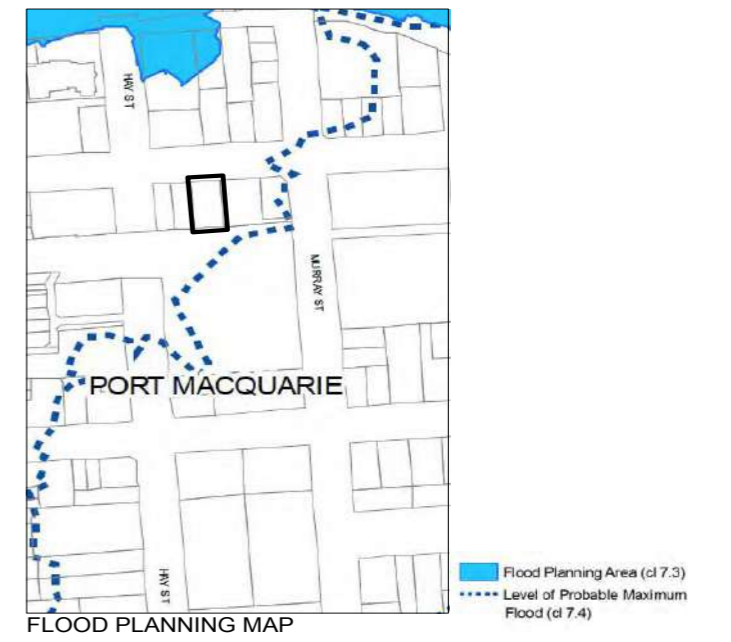
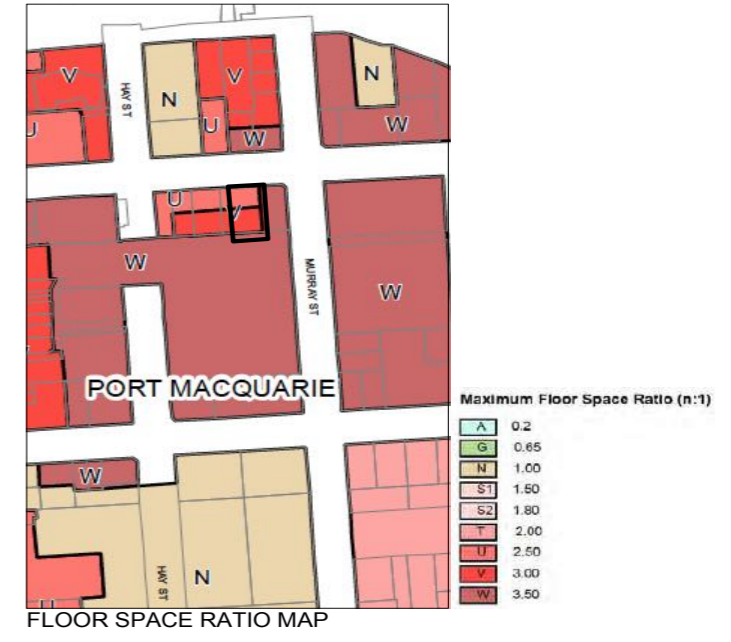
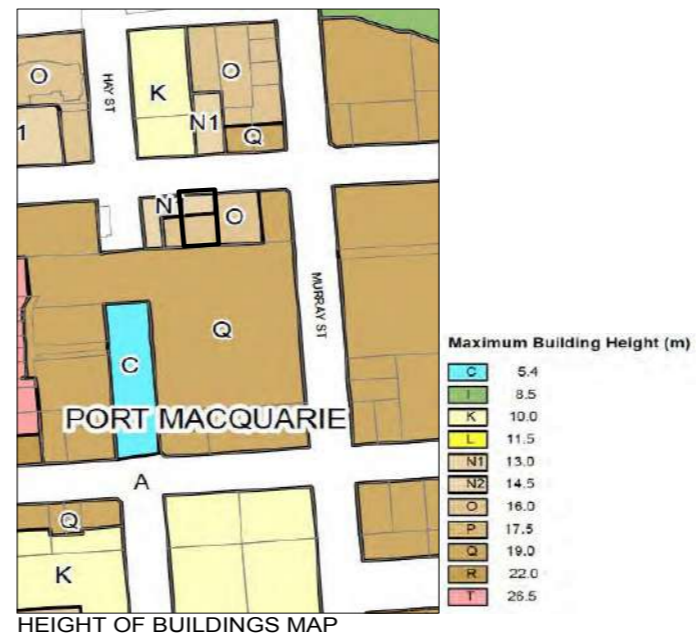
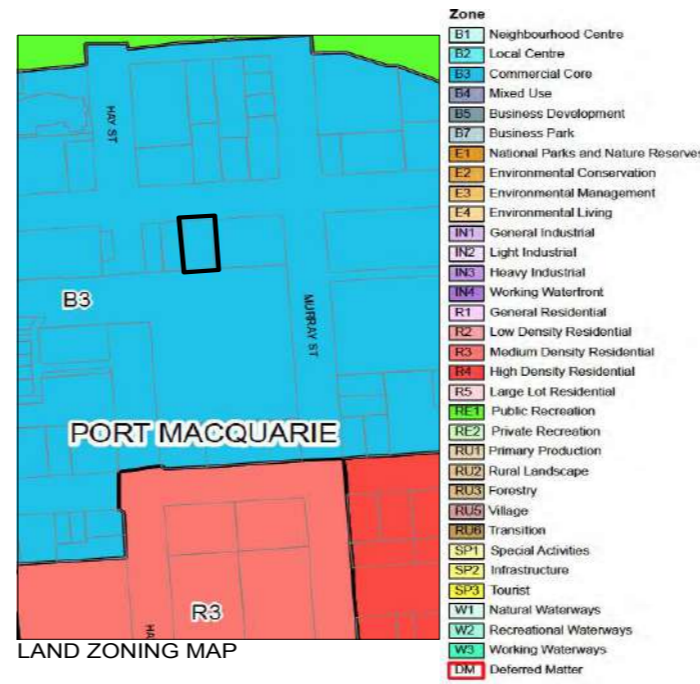
The subject site is zoned in two zones; the front third of the site is within zone U, allowing a floor space ratio of 2.5:1, and the rear two thirds is within zone V, allowing a floor space ratio of 3:1.

HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS

The subject site is zoned in two zones; the front third of the site is within zone N1, allowing for a maximum building height of 13m, and the rear two thirds is within zone O, allowing a maximum building height of 16m.

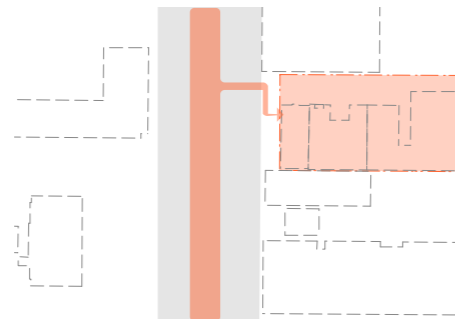
FLOOD PLANNING

The subject site is situated within the Level of Probable Maximum Flood zone (cl 7.4).

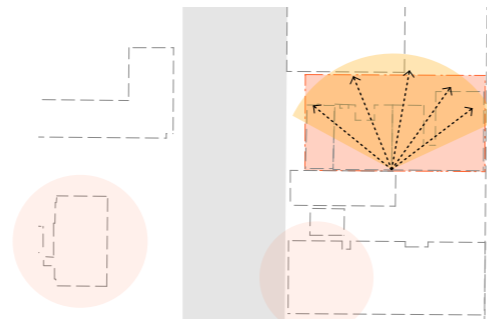


SOURCE: PORT MACQUARIE HASTINGS COUNCIL LEP 2011

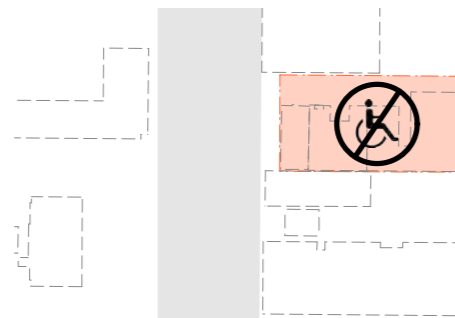
SITE ISSUES



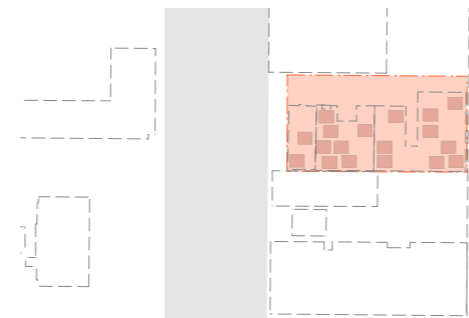
POOR ENTRY
Museum entry is unsubstantial and has poor visibility.



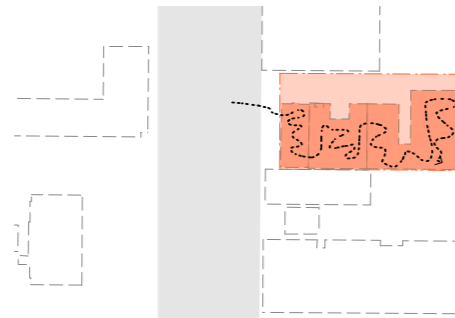
POOR CONNECTION WITH HISTORICAL PRECINCT
The significance of 'The Store' has not been explored and the relationship it has with nearby historical landmarks is weak.



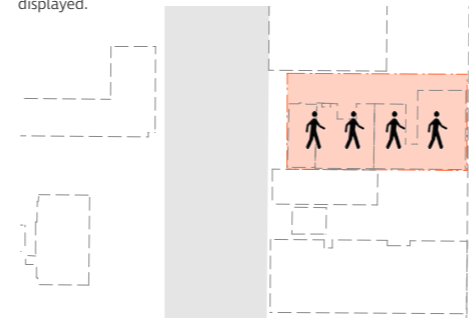
NOT ACCESSIBLE
The current buildings do not meet modern Accessibility requirements or BCA compliance.



POOR EXHIBITION SPACES
Small, non-functional exhibition spaces only allow for approximately 10% of the Museum's goods to be displayed.

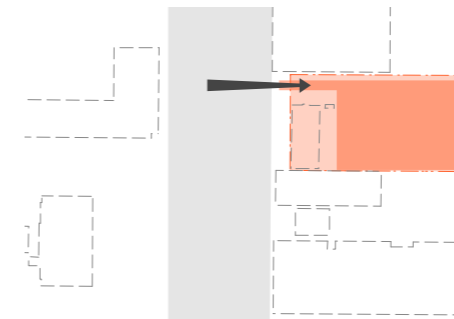


POOR CIRCULATION + WAYFINDING
The current Museum has a confusing layout, resulting in visitors becoming overwhelmed and missing exhibitions.

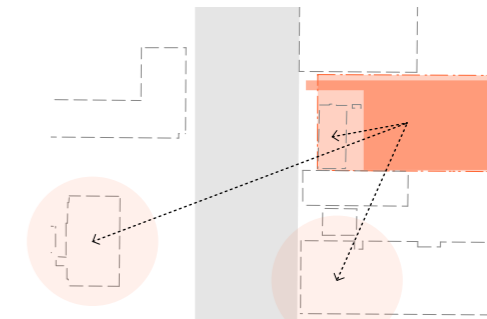


POOR STAFF AMENITIES
The staff facilities currently do not provide the team with sufficient amenity.

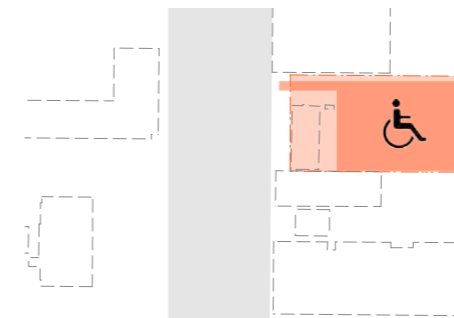
SITE OPPORTUNITIES



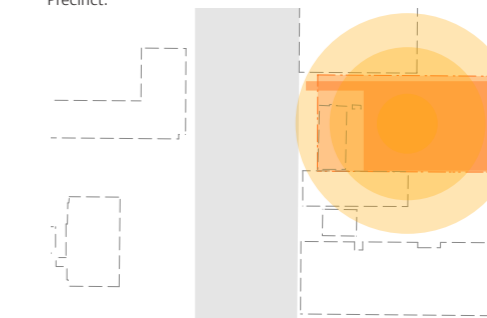
CONNECTION TO STREET
A landmark entry for the Museum's visibility and a strong engagement with Clarence Street.



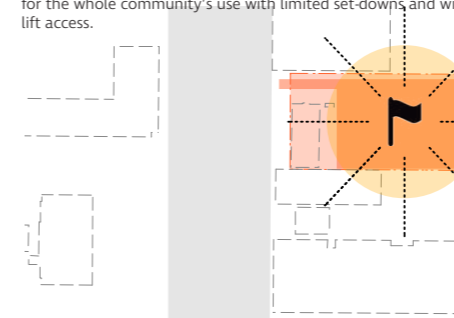
CONNECTION TO HISTORICAL PRECINCT
Highlight the historical significance of 'The Store' and open up a dialogue between historical buildings of the Clarence Street Precinct.



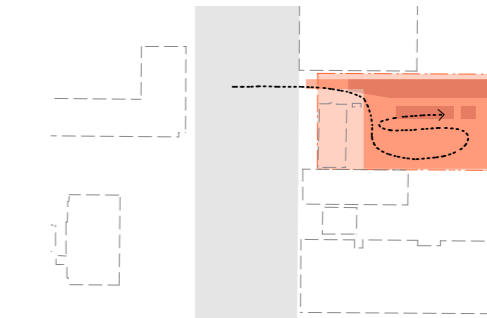
ACCESS + CIRCULATION
Clear, flexible and simple circulation to aid visitor's in navigating through the exhibitions. Provide accessible spaces and amenities for the whole community's use with limited set-downs and with lift access.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Create public spaces to encourage community engagement for both locals and tourists.



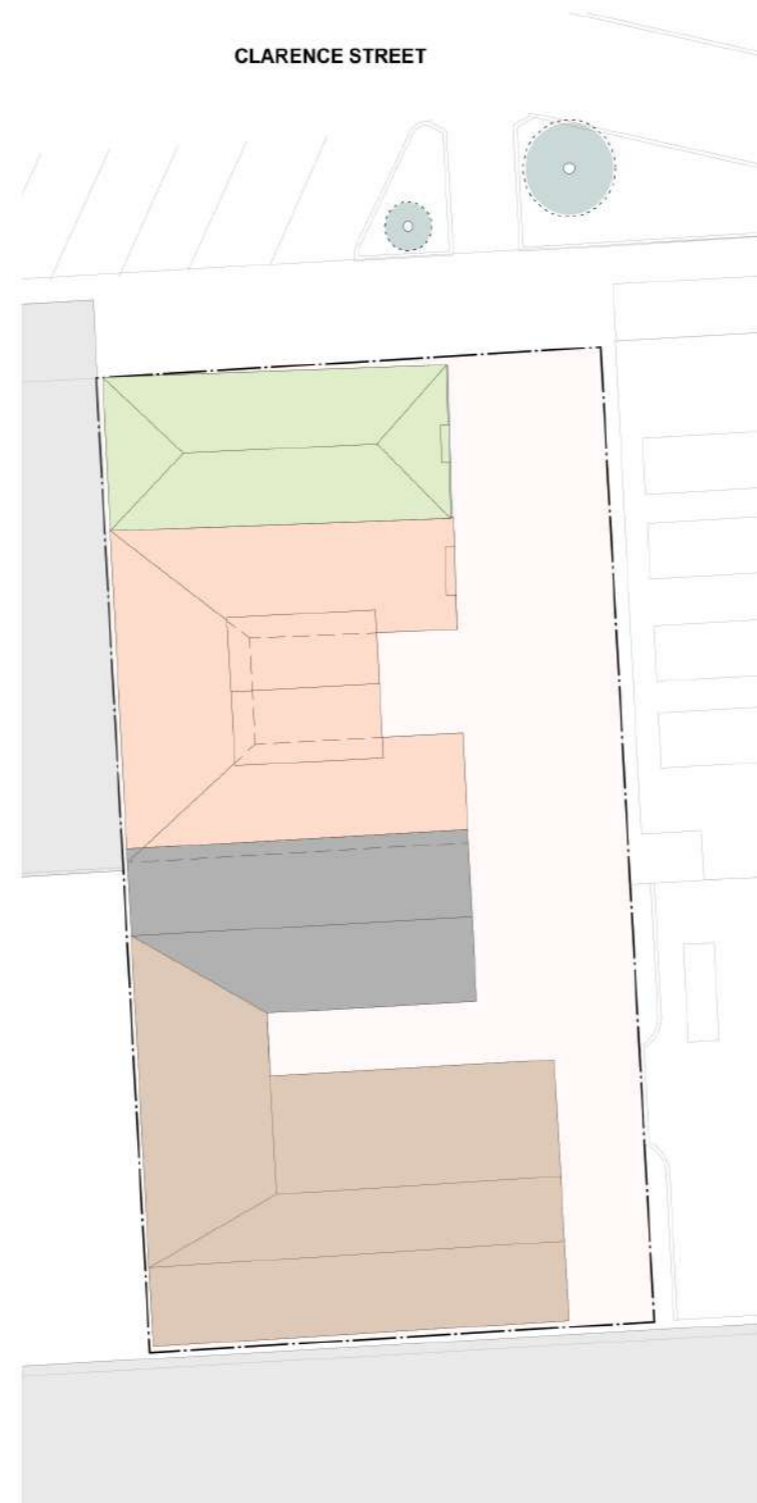
ARCHITECTURAL LANDMARK
To create a modern, architectural landmark to attract visitors to Port Macquarie and it's surrounding region.



CLEAR CIRCULATION + WAYFINDING
Organised galleries with clear signage which is designed to promote unique, memorable and enjoyable visitor experiences.

SOURCE: BTB

SITE | TIMELINE



1835-1840

THE STORE
ORIGINAL BUILDING BUILT

1958
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OBTAINS
ORIGINAL BUILDING

1960s
MUSEUM ADDITIONS BUILT
SOCIETY PURCHASES ORIGINAL
BUILDING WITH ASSISTANCE FROM
COUNCIL

1977
FURTHER EXTENSION ADDED

1988
FINAL EXTENSION
CARRIED OUT



ORIGINAL STORE BUILDING | PHOTO CIRCA 1960



REAR OF STORE BUILDING 1950S

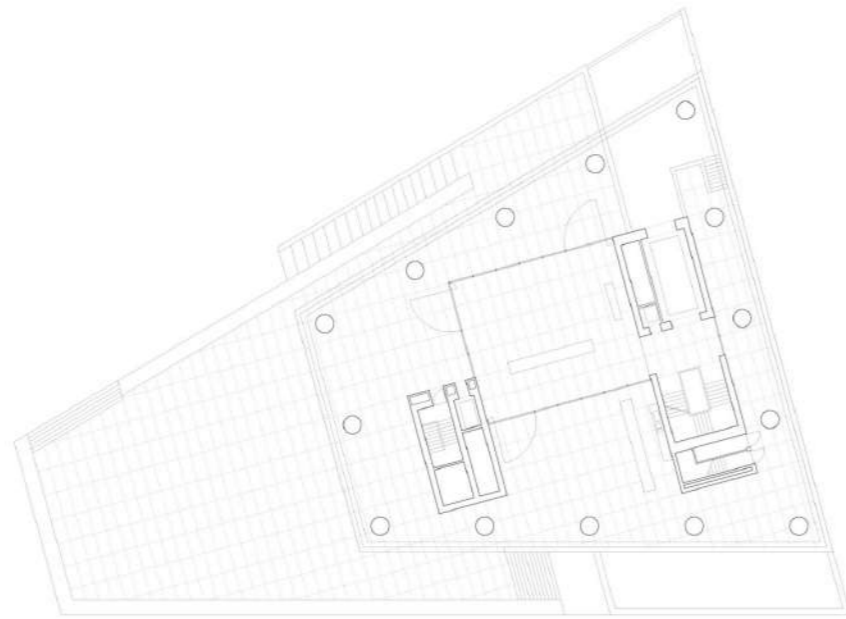


MUSEUM ADDITIONS 1968

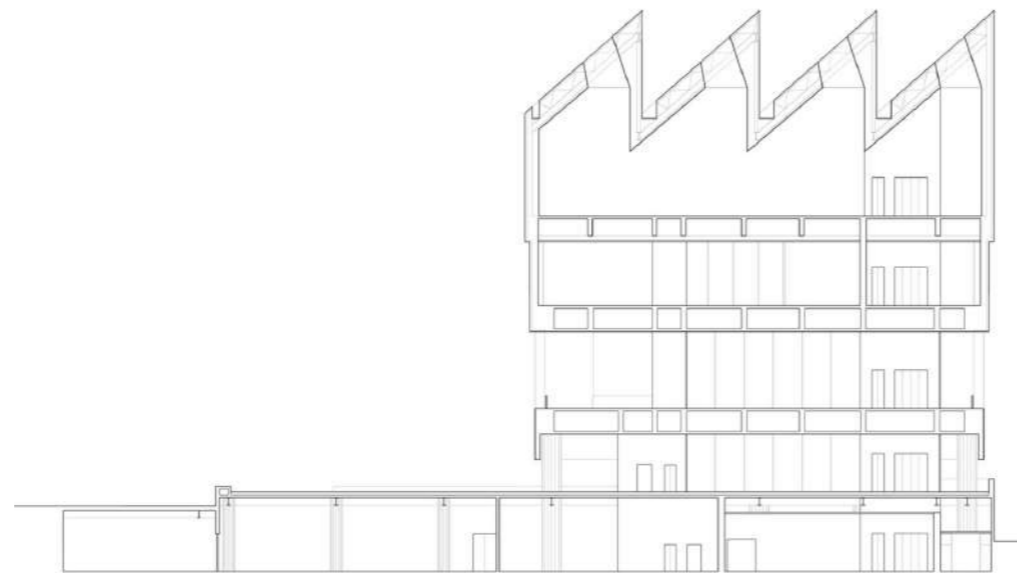
SOURCE: PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM ARCHIVES

PRECEDENTS

MUSEO JUMEX | DAVID CHIPPERFIELD



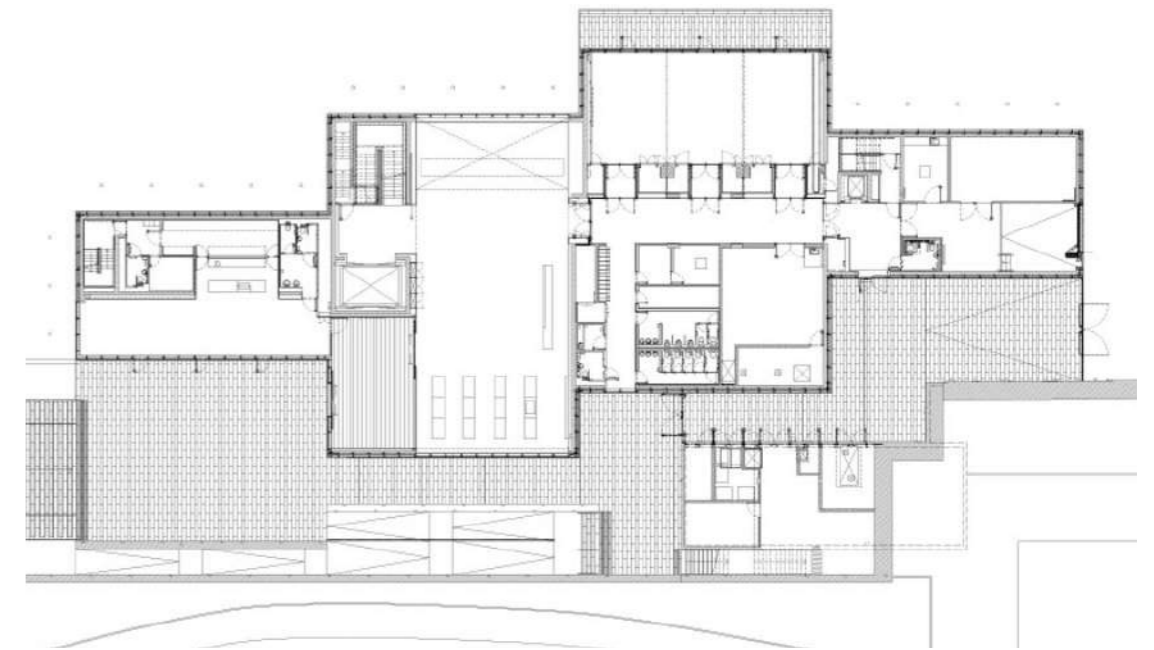
Plan - Ground



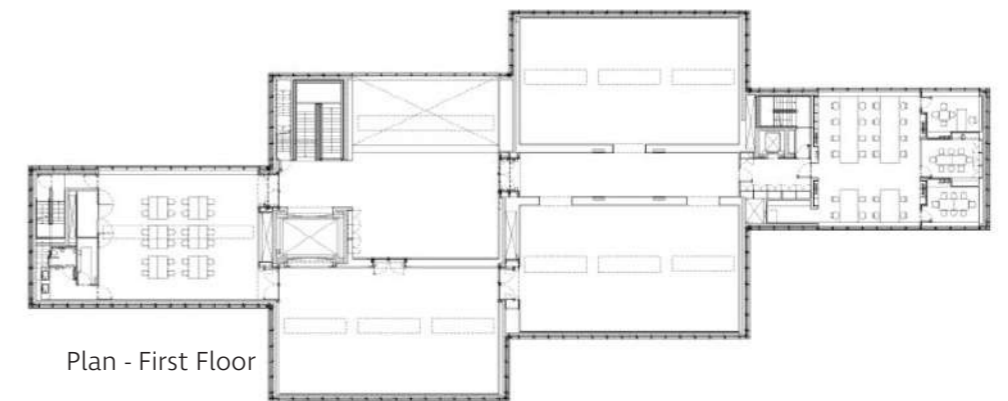
Section

SOURCE: ARCHDAILY

TURNER GALLERY | DAVID CHIPPERFIELD



Plan - Ground



Plan - First Floor

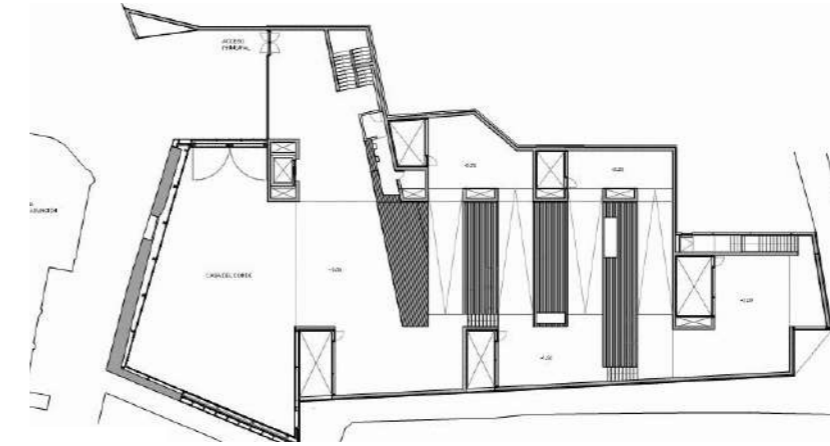


SOURCE:

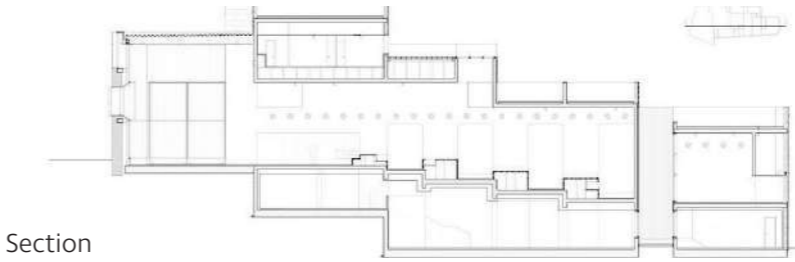
ARCHDAILY



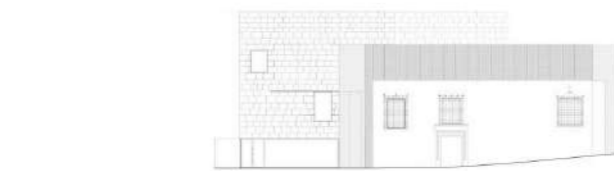
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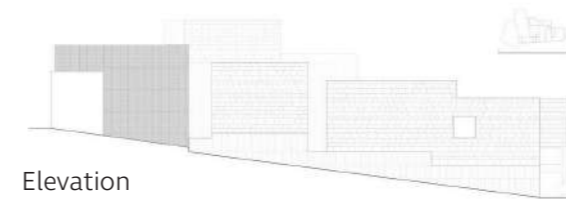
Plan - Ground



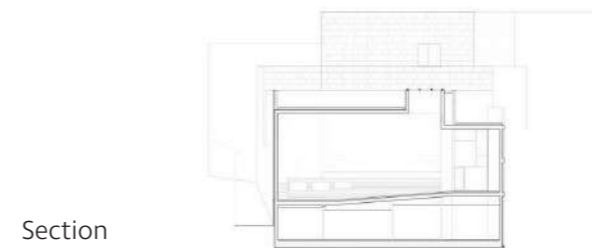
Section



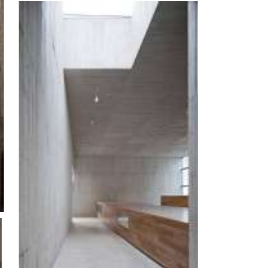
Elevation



Elevation



Section



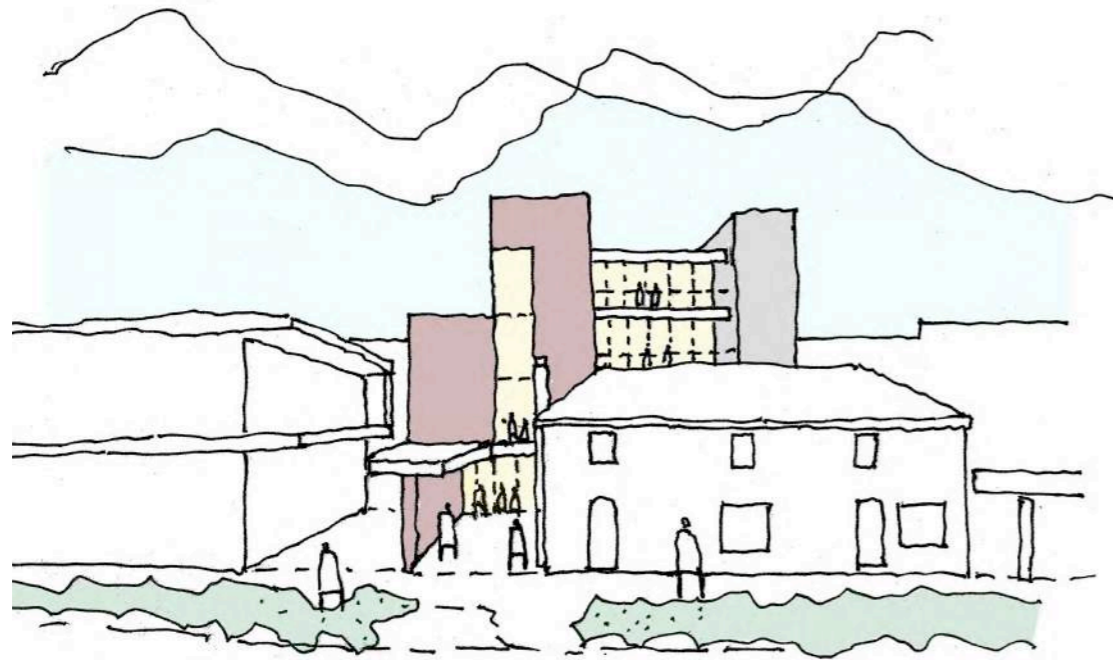
SOURCE: ARCHDAILY

MASTERPLAN CONCEPT DESIGN OPTIONS

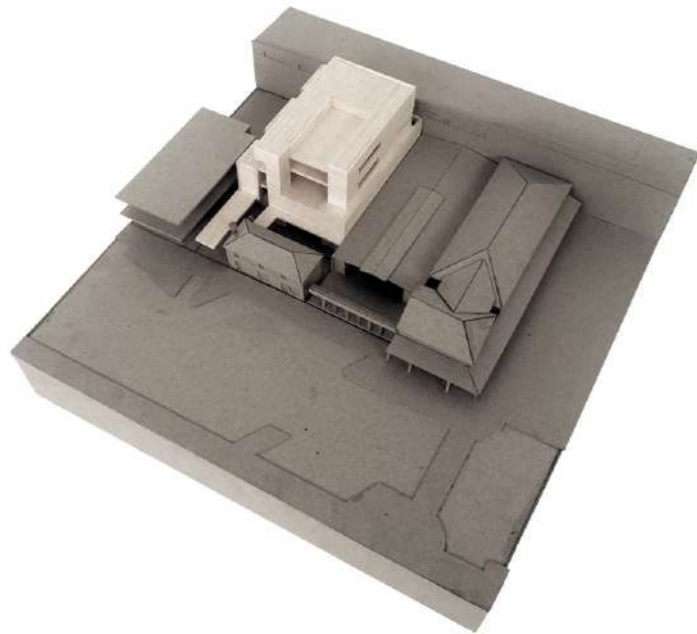
MASTERPLAN WORKSHOP - 2 JULY 2019

BTB Architecture Studio presented three, broad-brush museum masterplan options at the Masterplan Workshop, held onsite at the Museum on 2 July 2019. Consulting Architect, Lionel Glendenning, and Museum Consultant, Kylie Winkworth, provided comment and feedback on each, along with the Museum Executive Committee and a substantial number of interested members.

The intent was to seek a general consensus on a preferred, underlying plan diagram and array, represented by one or a combination of the options. The first steps into schematic design were then to be based on the outcome.



VIEW TO ENTRY



MASTERPLAN WORKSHOP 13 AUGUST 2019 - COMMENTS:
OPTION ONE

The main critique of this option was the distribution of exhibition spaces over four levels, driven by large voids through the section. This, in turn, compressed the area allocated to public program and education functions. It was acknowledged that exhibition spaces should ideally be contained to one level above and below the entry level, to optimise visitors ability to readily read and navigate the full extent of the collection on display.

The underlying complexity of the option was commented on. Note was made that the changes to the plan diagram, represented by Option 3, resolved much of this without any real downside.

The general distribution of functions was largely supported, with the exception of exhibition space on the second floor. The potential for a public program/education space on the second floor, to access views to the wider context of town, river port site and courthouse was positively received.



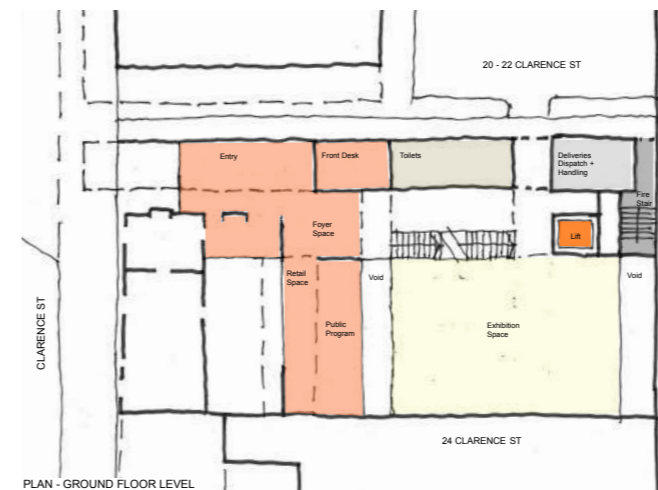
PLAN - THIRD FLOOR LEVEL



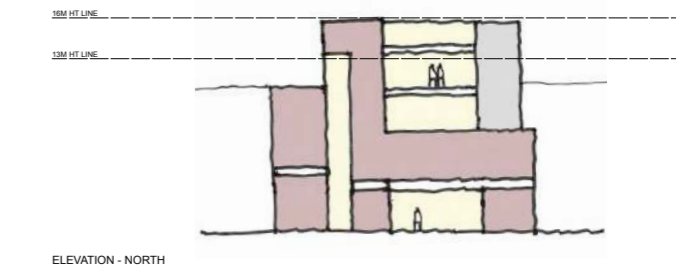
PLAN - SECOND FLOOR LEVEL



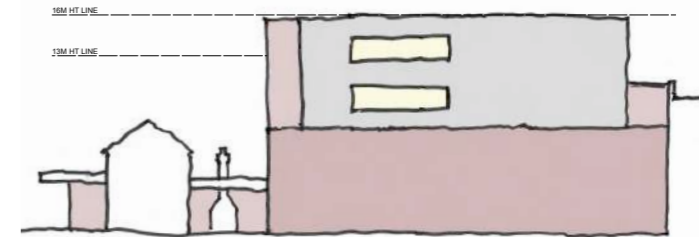
PLAN - FIRST FLOOR LEVEL



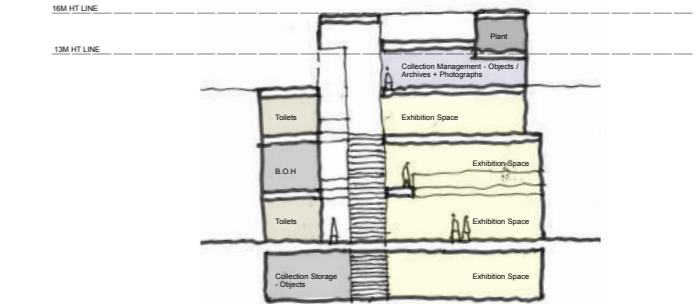
PLAN - GROUND FLOOR LEVEL



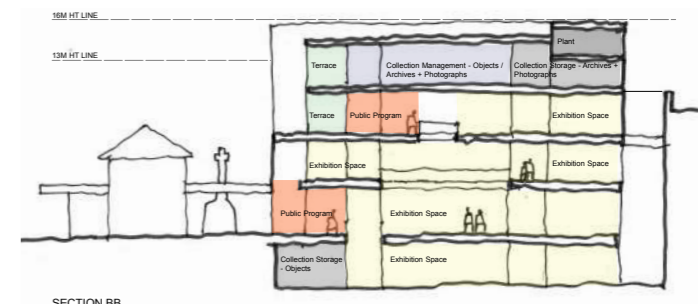
ELEVATION - NORTH



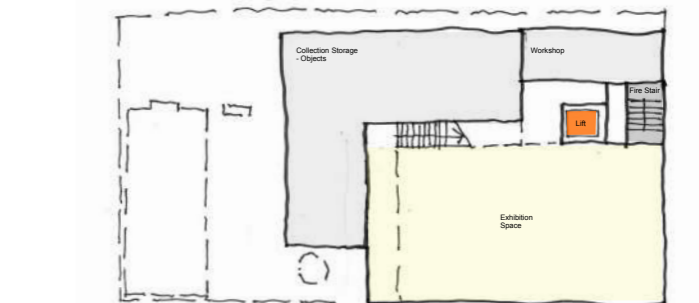
ELEVATION - WEST



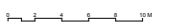
SECTION - AA

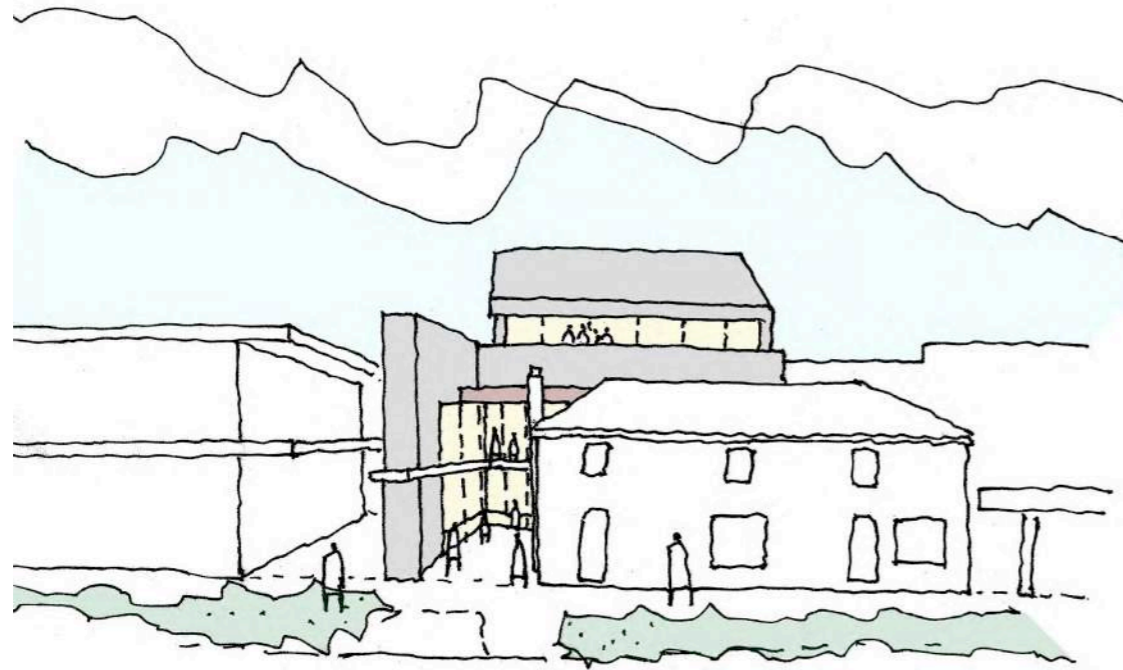


SECTION BB

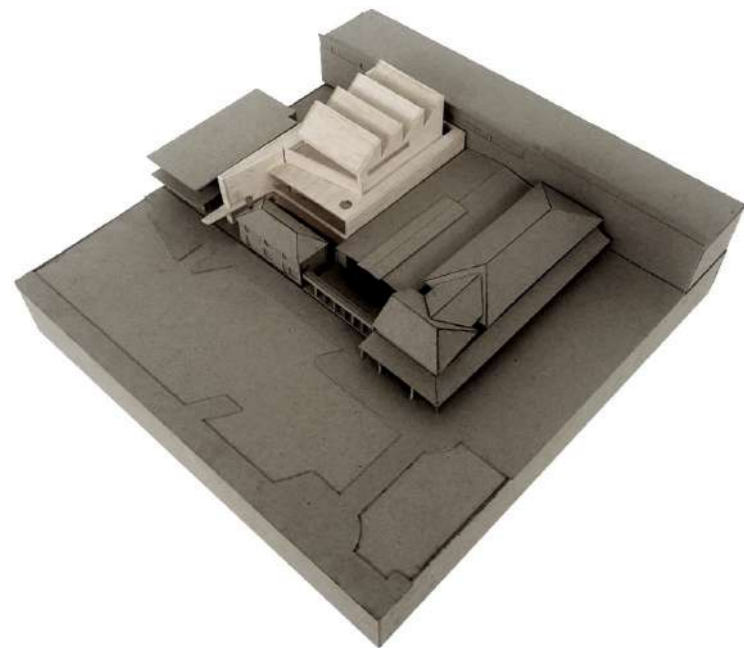


PLAN - BASEMENT LEVEL





VIEW TO ENTRY



MASTERPLAN WORKSHOP 13 AUGUST 2019 - COMMENTS:
OPTION TWO

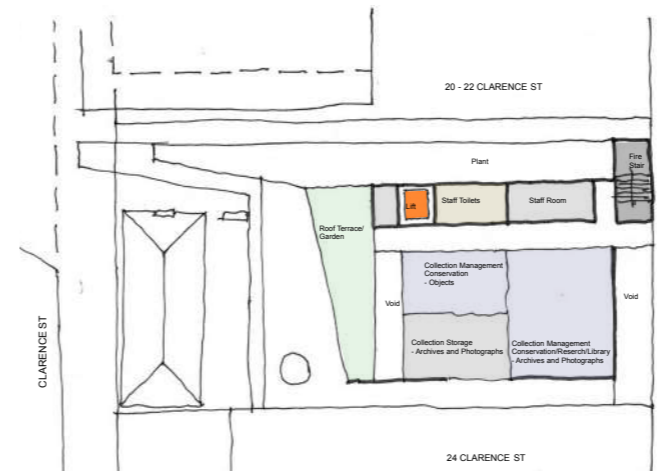
This option was acknowledged as a plausible alternative diagram, distinct from the communalities between Options 1 and 3. The dynamic of the main stair circulation in the entry space was favourably noted as was the clear, orientating view for visitors into the below-ground exhibition space.

Overall, this was the least favoured option, the main critique being of the relatively compressed and somewhat functionally compromised provision of public program and education space. In addition, the areas identified for these functions also lacked the potential, visual connection to the surrounding context of town and river.

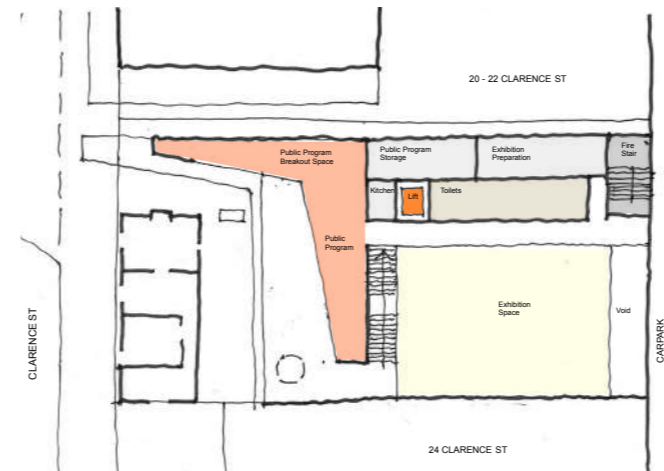
In addition, the external expression and language, illustrated for this option, was unfavourably commented upon. BTB noted that this alone should not rule out the option, as these aspects of a sketch masterplan design could be appropriately resolved in future.

While it is the most compact and, therefore, most economical of the master plan options, the resulting, relative shortfall in key briefed areas was a cause for concern. The potential of the underlying visitor circulation diagram was noted but the more direct, linear entry, orientation and circulation ideas in option 1 and 2 were preferred.

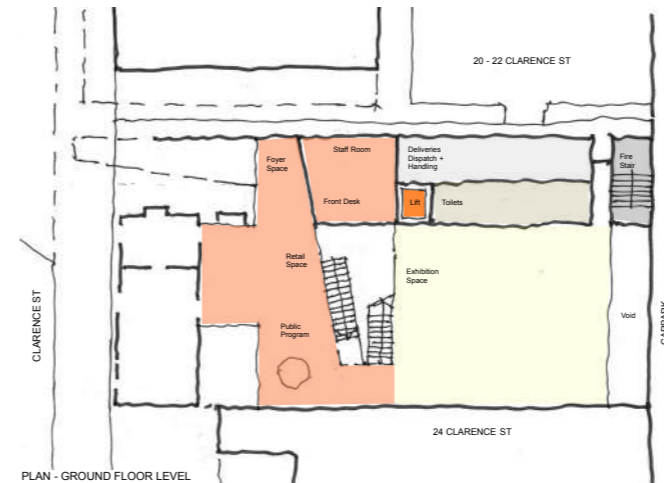
SCHEME | OPTION TWO



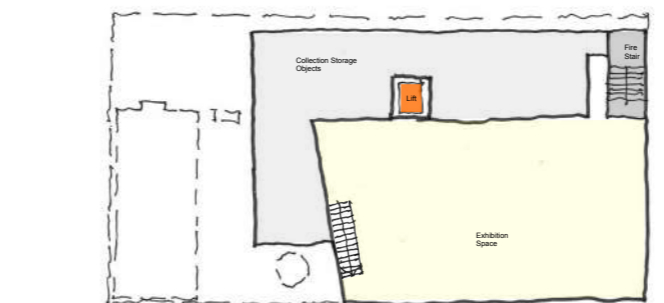
PLAN - SECOND FLOOR LEVEL



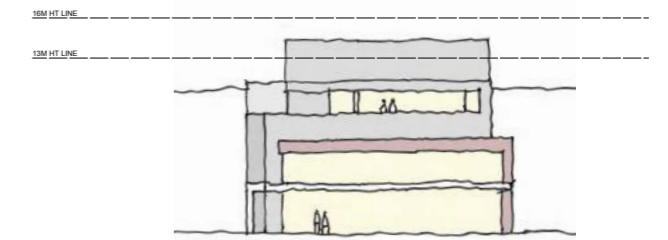
PLAN - FIRST FLOOR LEVEL



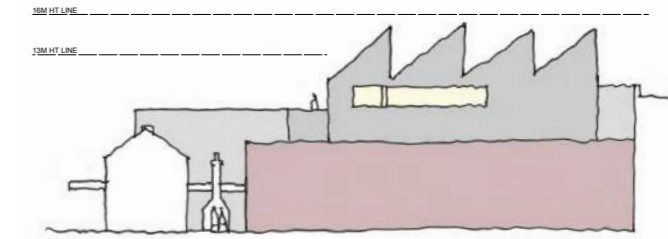
PLAN - GROUND FLOOR LEVEL



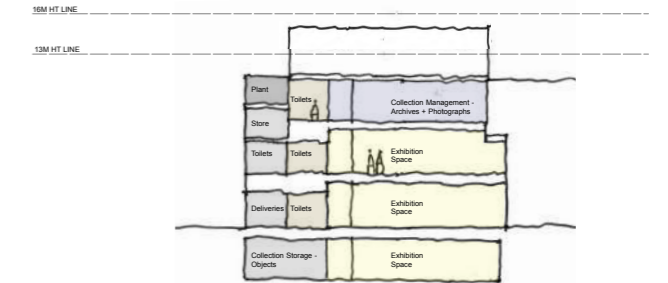
PLAN - BASEMENT LEVEL



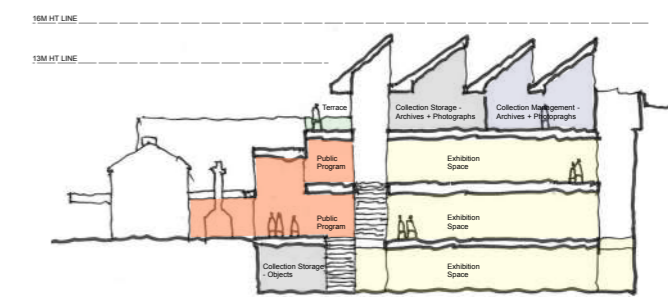
ELEVATION - NORTH



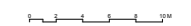
ELEVATION - WEST

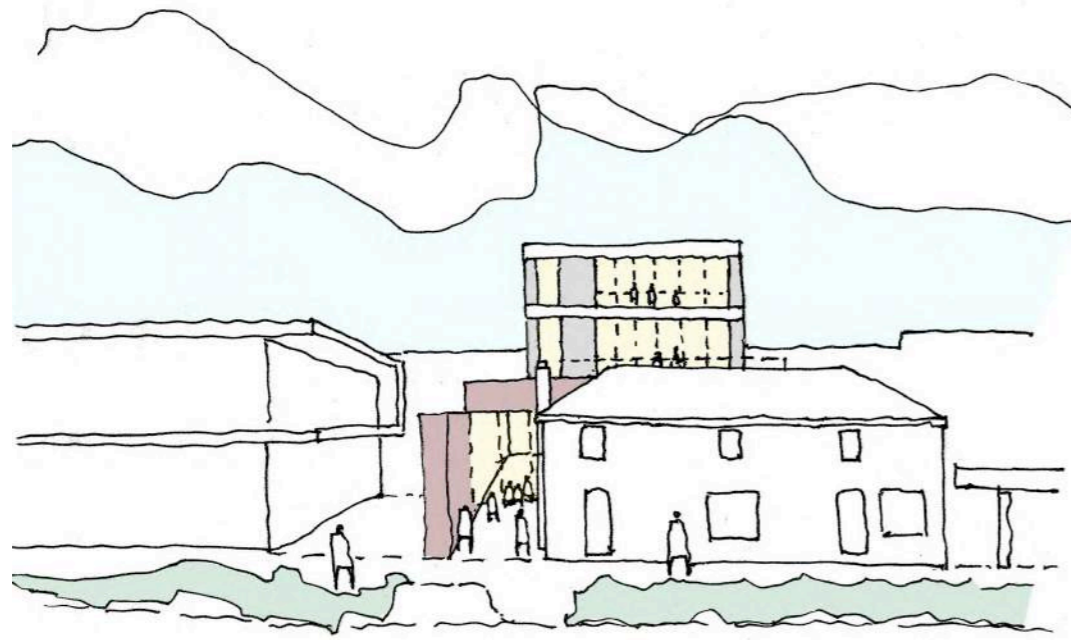


SECTION - AA



SECTION BB





VIEW TO ENTRY

MASTERPLAN WORKSHOP 13 AUGUST 2019 - COMMENTS:
OPTION THREE

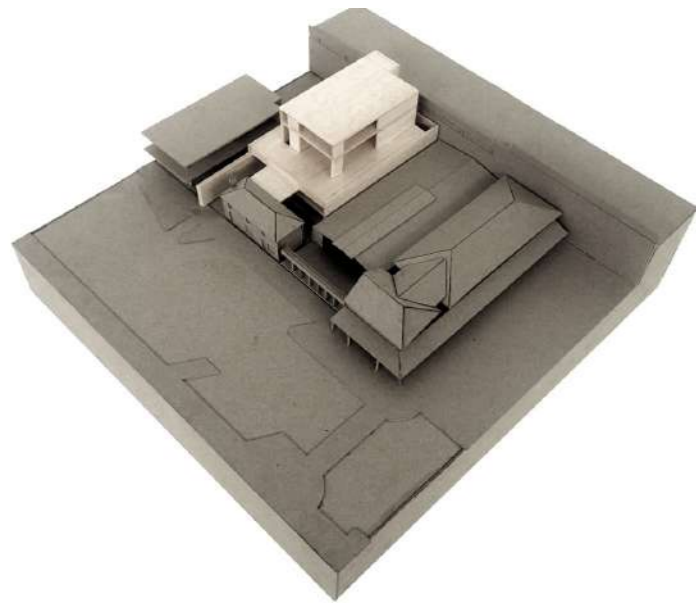
Significant potential was seen in many elements of this option, not least in the basic massing diagram represented. Similarly, the general functional arrangement was supported, most notably the location of the public program and education functions on the second floor, with access to an outdoor terrace and views to the broader context of town and river.

However, similar to the critique of Option 1, it was acknowledged that exhibition spaces should, ideally, be contained to one level above and below the entry level, to optimise visitors ability to readily read and navigate the full extent of the collection on display.

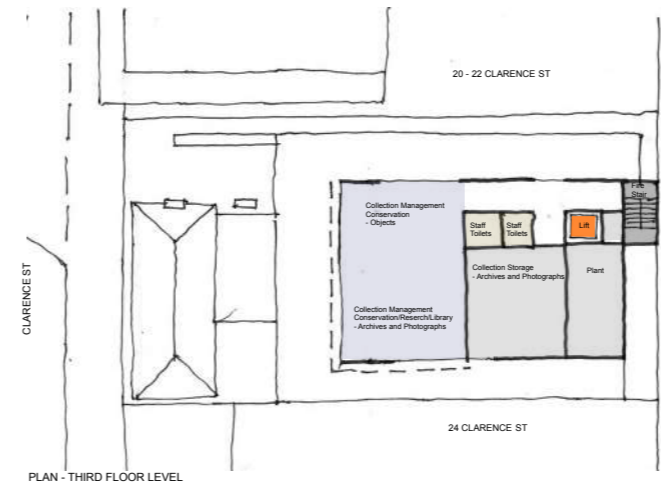
In comparison to Option 1, there was more support for the plan move of locating the services "core" as a divider between the entry and exhibition spaces, rather than the services being located along the East boundary. There was widespread support for the potential of the "thick" wall, shown along the East boundary in this option, to support exhibition, large scale graphics and act as a strong 'marker' for the museum where it pushes towards the street.

The complexity created in section, in an attempt to provide level, bridging access to the first floor of the Store Building was not supported, nor was the resulting 6m high ground floor exhibition space. BTB will continue to assess options to provide complying disabled access to the first floor of the heritage building, as the Museum regards this as an important consideration.

Similar to both other options, the nature, extent and expression of the built connection to the rear of the Store Building was widely discussed in relation to Option 3. This aspect of the design remains the least agreed-upon element in all three options but all agree on its architectural importance as a link between the old building and the new.



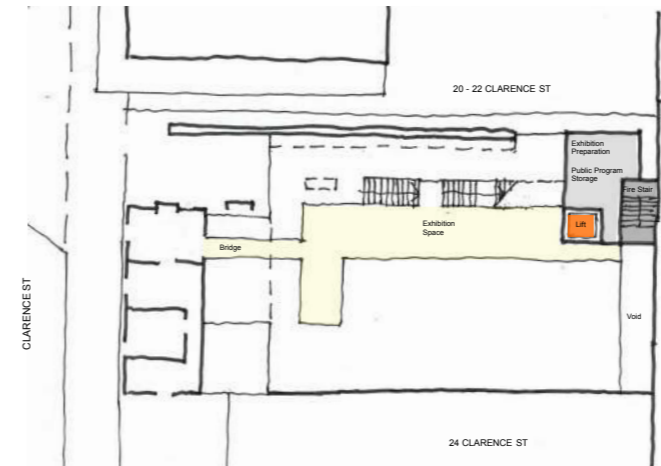
SCHEME | OPTION THREE



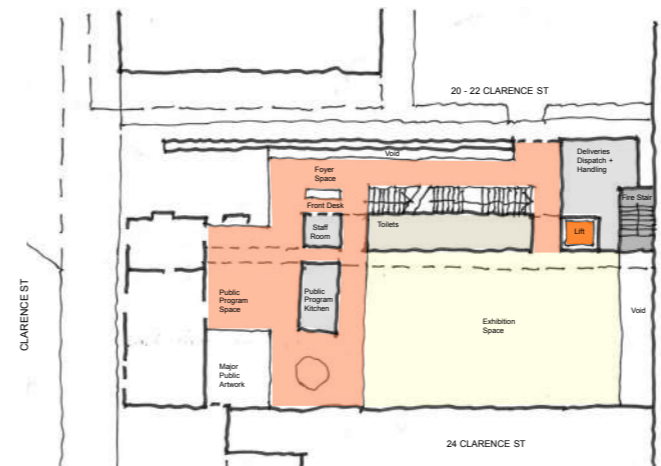
PLAN - THIRD FLOOR LEVEL



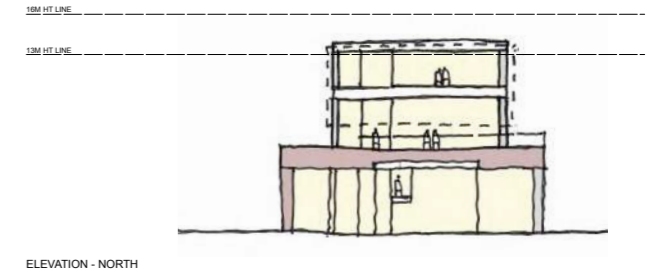
PLAN - SECOND FLOOR LEVEL



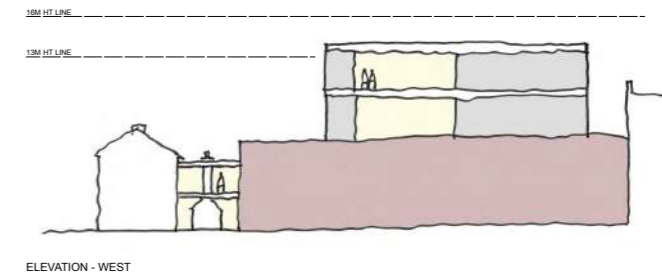
PLAN - FIRST FLOOR LEVEL



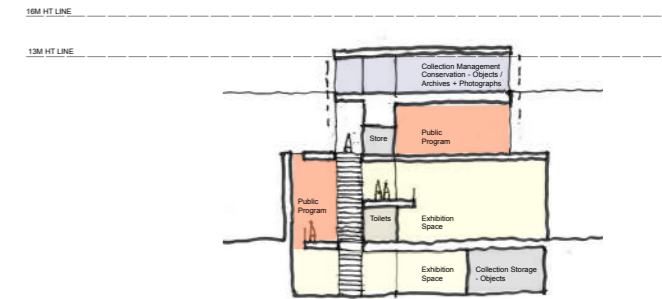
PLAN - GROUND FLOOR LEVEL



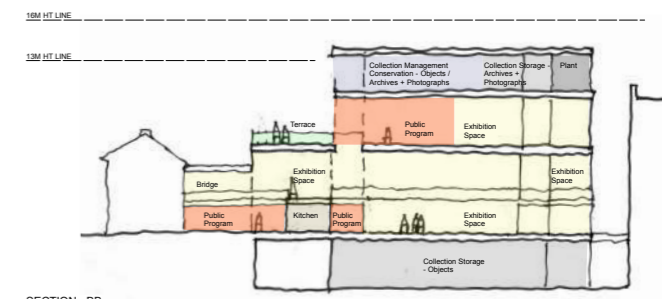
ELEVATION - NORTH



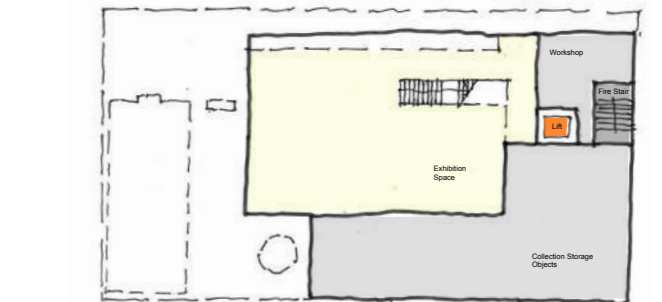
ELEVATION - WEST



SECTION - AA



SECTION - BB



PLAN - BASEMENT LEVEL



PREFERRED MASTERPLAN

Masterplan Workshop Outcome

The general consensus, at the conclusion of the masterplan workshop, was preference for the underlying plan diagram and array represented in masterplan Option 3. It was agreed that the first steps into schematic design be based on this but hybridised with some aspects of Option 1.

The sectional idea in Option 3, attempting to provide level, bridging access to the first floor of the Store Building was to be abandoned, in favour of a simpler, clearer and higher scale in the ground level exhibition space. Like Option 1, the first floor was to be devoted solely to a large-scale exhibition function, albeit most likely with a smaller vertical scale than the ground floor.

This would then leave the second floor as a more open, flexible public education space that could take advantage of access to a visual connection to the wider context of town, river port site and courthouse. This was seen as important as a link between the museum as an institution and the town it represents as well as increasing the ambient appeal of the space for a wider range of uses.

The nature, extent and expression of the built connection to the rear of the Store Building remained the least agreed-upon element in all masterplan options. In general, the need for a lower scaled and well-detailed element, lightly connected to the rear of the heritage structure, was agreed. The design of this element of the building continued to evolve and be discussed during the schematic design phase, as did the strategies in regard to access to the first floor of the Store Building.

CONTEXTUAL MASTERPLAN - DEFINITION OF A HERITAGE PRECINCT

The town centre area around the Port Macquarie Museum site comprises the very oldest area of built European settlement in Port Macquarie, clustered around the original River Port. Unfortunately, most has been lost. Further, the urban design consideration of new built components, in both the public and private realms, has been piecemeal, poorly conceived and often inappropriate in their relationship to the remaining heritage elements.

Notably, in the immediate precinct on Clarence Street, between Hay and Murray Streets, three important heritage components remain in close proximity; the former Courthouse with its formal civic presence and open curtilage, the former Store, now the Port Macquarie Museum, and the "Garrison" building on the corner of Clarence and Hay Streets. These remaining items are listed as having State Significance, warranting a coordinated, strategic approach to reinforcing the heritage integrity and values of the group.

The street edge of the museum site, at 22 Clarence Street, sits on the base of a triangle formed by these heritage items. It forms an edge to what should be identified and designed as a cohesive, heritage-based urban precinct, within the greater town centre, rather than as a collection of individual, stand-alone sites that fail to reference important aspects of their surroundings.

As such, future upgrades to the public realm and new development on other sites within the precinct should be wholistically considered and guided, to ensure sensitive, contemporarily designed elements and street edges, referencing the scale of and setbacks to heritage items and employing appropriate Architectural language.

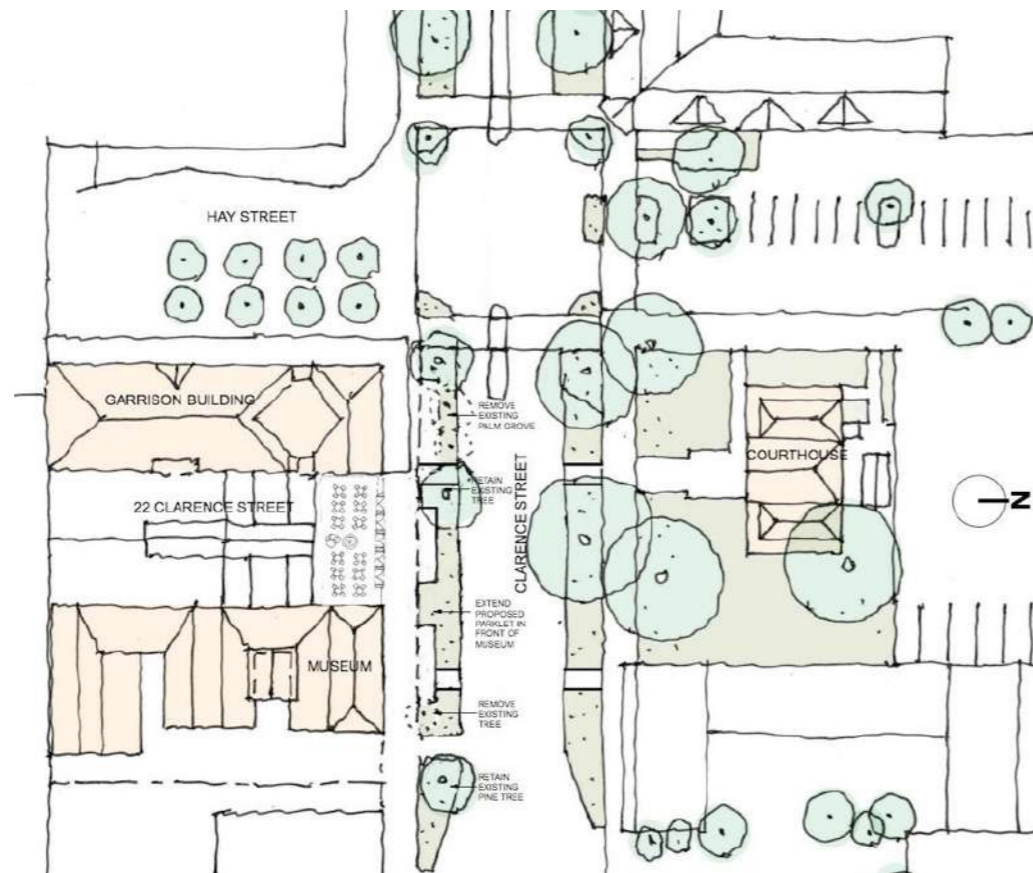


Figure 1. Future Clarence Street Heritage Precinct – sketch plan and proposed design principles.

This Heritage Precinct strategy responds to the following;

- The street presences of the Museum, Garrison building and Courthouse are significantly obscured by the current street carparking arrangements. A 'parklet' should be extended in front of the Museum and the site at 24 Clarence St. However, semi-privatised outdoor seating areas servicing adjacent food-serving premises should be avoided and, instead, be designed with a mix of low scale planting, seating and pedestrian access as a foreground to the buildings behind.



Figure 2. Photo showing current visual impact of parked cars on reading of the museum building.



Figure 3. Photo showing current visual impact of parked cars on reading of heritage buildings

- The Museum and Garrison buildings are significantly obscured by inappropriate street planting. The garrison building is obscured by an ill-conceived grove of palms. The Museum is obscured by a mature tree, adjacent to the entry, which is also already doing considerable root damage to the original museum structure.



Figure 4. Photo showing inappropriate planting of palms obscuring the Garrison building.

Selective removal and replacement of inappropriate planting will not only reveal the key heritage items but also re-emphasise the order and importance of the long-standing Norfolk Island Pine avenue planting.

KEY HERITAGE PRECINCT CONTROLS

1. 22 Clarence Street Site -East Boundary Setback

The site at No.22 Clarence Street and the Museum site are located on 'Block 12' as defined in the Area Based Provisions of the Port Macquarie-Hastings DCP 2011.

Reference to the B12 'Block Plans', illustrate a 3m setback from the West wall of the significant heritage component of the museum building.



Figure 5. B12 Block Plans – extracted from PM-H DCP 2011.

In heritage conservation/maintenance and urban design terms, the intent of this control is crucial in this case and should be complied with. Any proposal to construct new work on the adjoining site, in close proximity to the heritage fabric of the Museum building, is inappropriate and unnecessary. This is particularly due to;

a. Heritage Conservation and Maintenance

Substantial conservation works have been carried out to the Museum structure over time, to stabilise the walls and to ensure rising damp is kept in check. To ensure the integrity of this important part of Port Macquarie's history can be maintained into the future, the capacity to have periodic access to the West wall should be maintained. Further, there is legitimate concern that damage may arise during the construction work at 22 Clarence Street, as a result of the proximity to the Museum and Garrison buildings.

b. Heritage Urban Design

Part of the intent of the East side setback control on the site is, evidently, an acknowledgement of the importance of the museum building and its long-term history as an 'object building' in its context.



Figure 6. Port Macquarie Museum building, cottage at 24 Clarence St and Garrison Bldg circa.1940's.

Adherence to the control acknowledges this historic condition and avoids a clumsy junction with the adjoining heritage items. Revealing the side wall of the museum building is crucial in heritage and urban design terms and, in fact, will also be an asset to the front setback courtyard of any new work on the site at 24 Clarence Street.

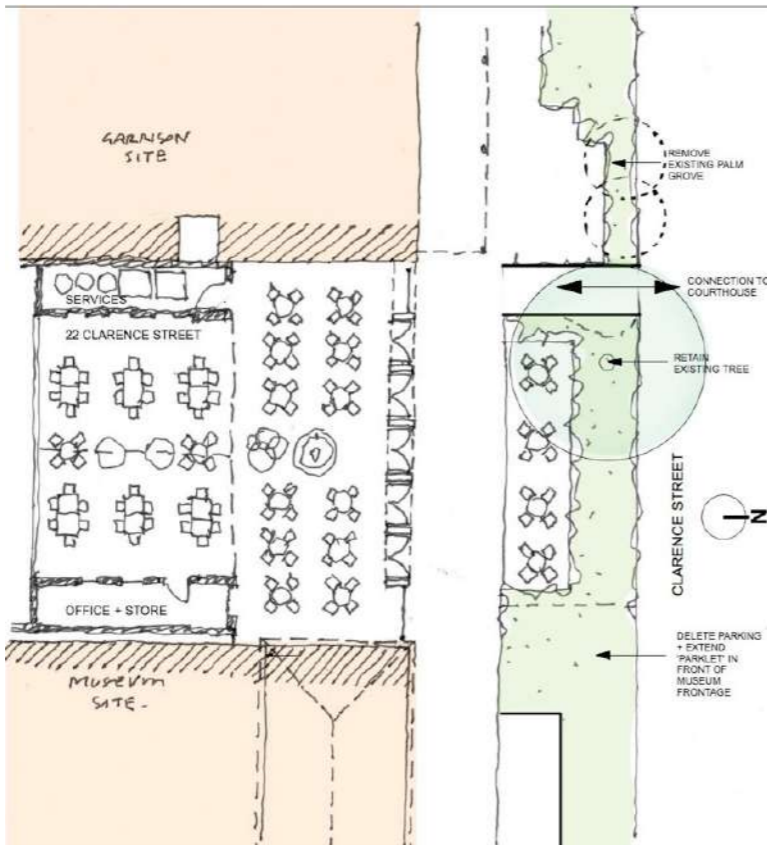


Figure 7. 24 Clarence Street – Suggested sketch plan of street setback.

This control pays due respect to the key, historic components of both the Museum and Garrison buildings, permits periodic maintenance/conservation access and limits excavation adjacent to the historic structures and possible archaeological remains.

2. Architectural Language

The proposed precinct comprises Port Macquarie's most important, remaining heritage context. There is an onus on any proposal within the precinct to respond with appropriate Architectural language and contextual presence.

An altered street edge should, at least, pick up established datums from the context, in a contemporary form that recognises the inherent simplicity of the Colonial Georgian Museum and Garrison buildings;

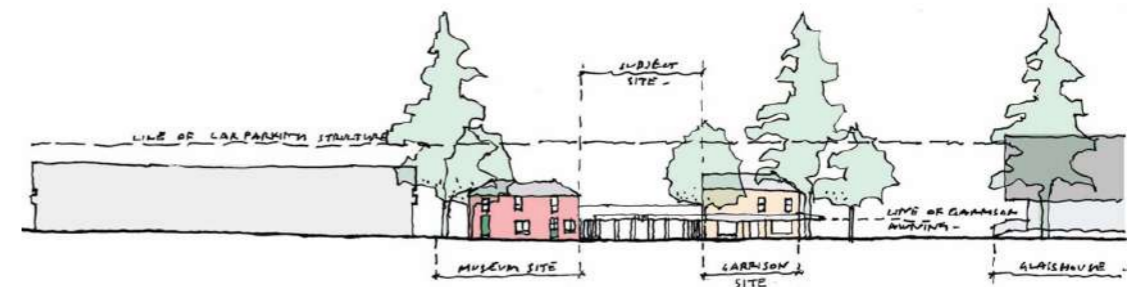


Figure 8. Clarence Street – Suggested street edge design in established streetscape

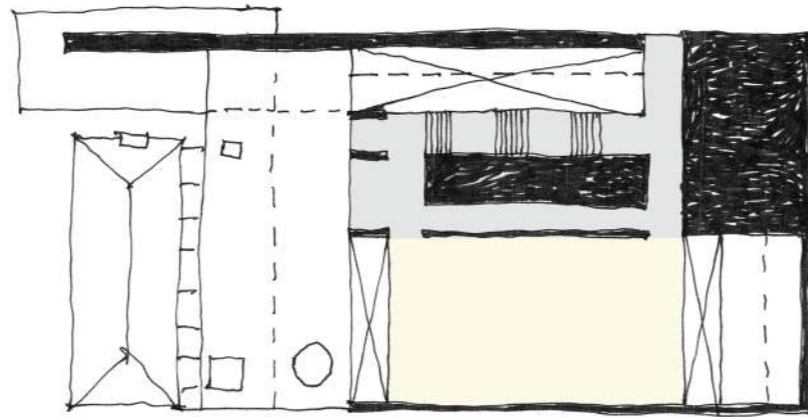
However, faux-historic detail and proportions are not appropriate. At the street edges within the precinct, new proposals should reference the scale, proportions, form and fenestration pattern of the Museum, Garrison and Courtyard buildings, as appropriate. The importance of an elegantly simple, recessive street edges and setbacks, in this heritage context, far outweighs superficial, applied reference to generic, "historical" detail, motifs and materials.



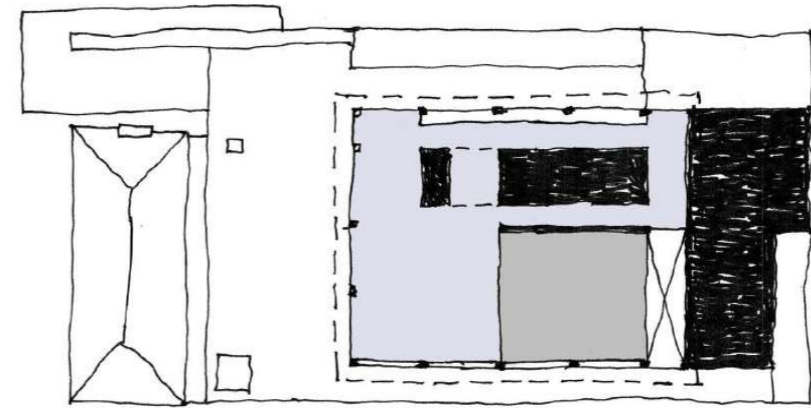
Figure 9. 24 Clarence Street – Sketch perspective of suggested street edge design.

PREFERRED MUSEUM MASTERPLAN

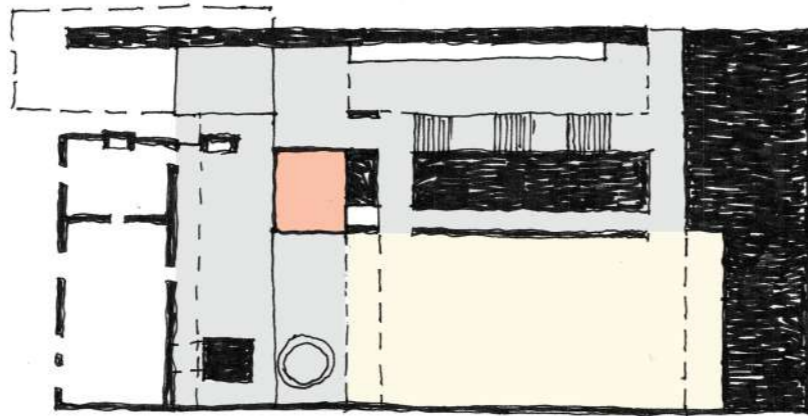
SPATIAL DIAGRAMMING



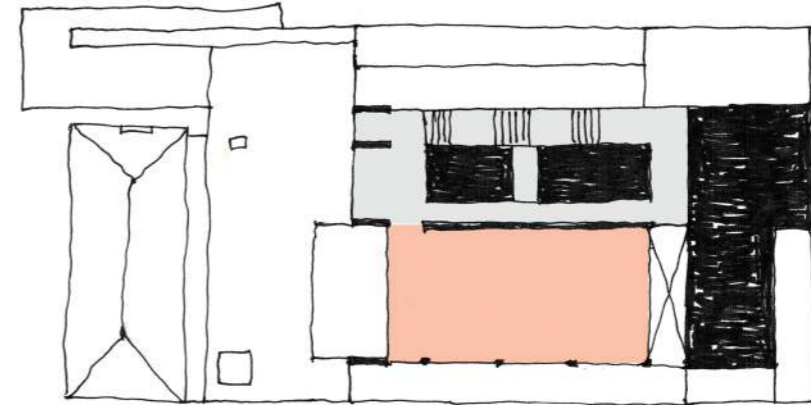
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



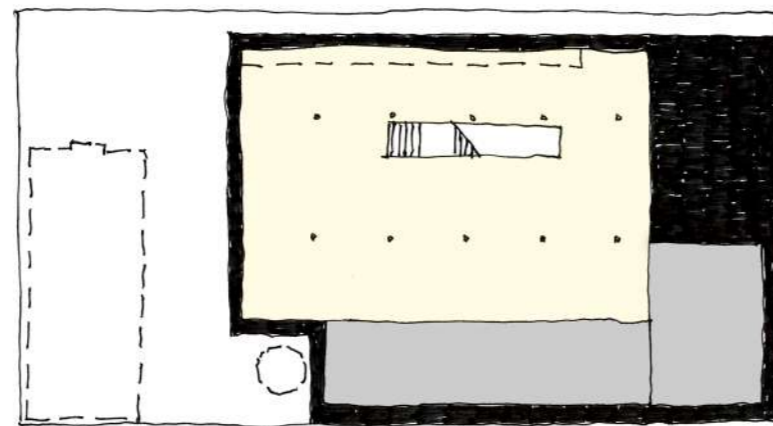
THIRD FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

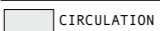

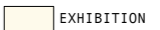

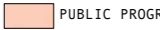

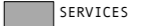



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



BASEMENT LEVEL PLAN

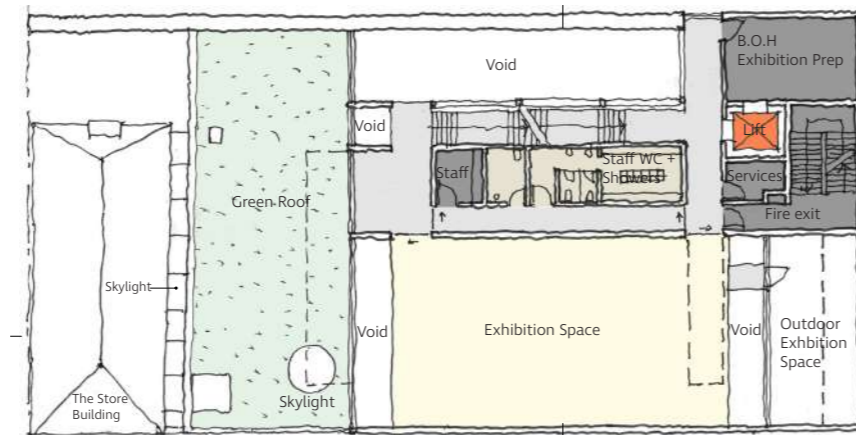
KEY

	CIRCULATION		STORAGE
	EXHIBITION		TOILETS
	PUBLIC PROGRAM		STAFF
	SERVICES		TERRACE

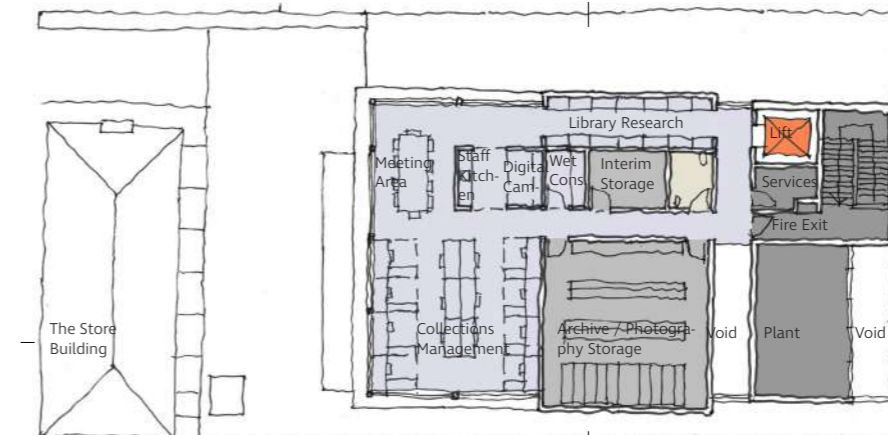


PRELIMINARY SCHEMATIC

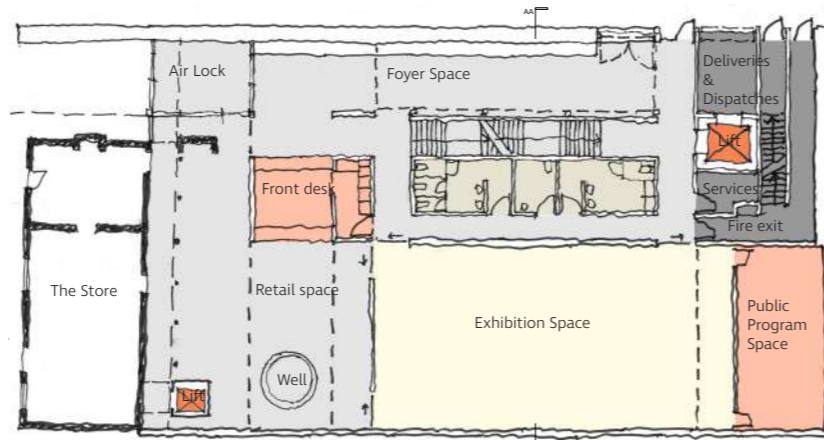
JULY 2019



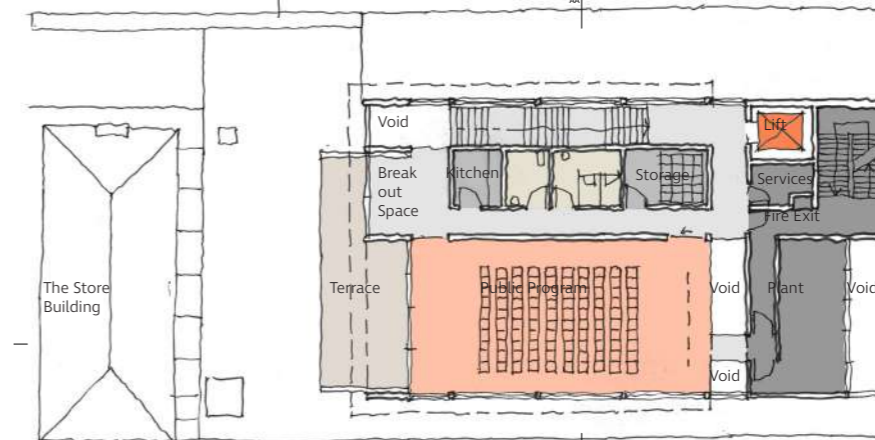
FIRST FLOOR PLAN - INDICATIVE



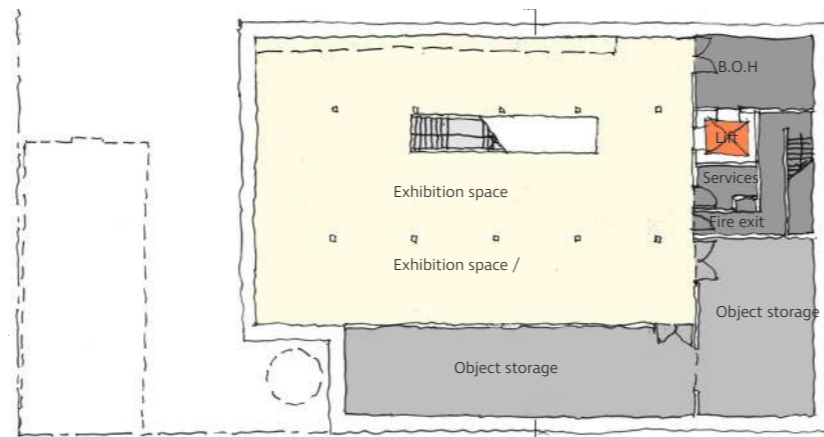
THIRD FLOOR PLAN - INDICATIVE



GROUND FLOOR PLAN - INDICATIVE



SECOND FLOOR PLAN - INDICATIVE



BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN - INDICATIVE

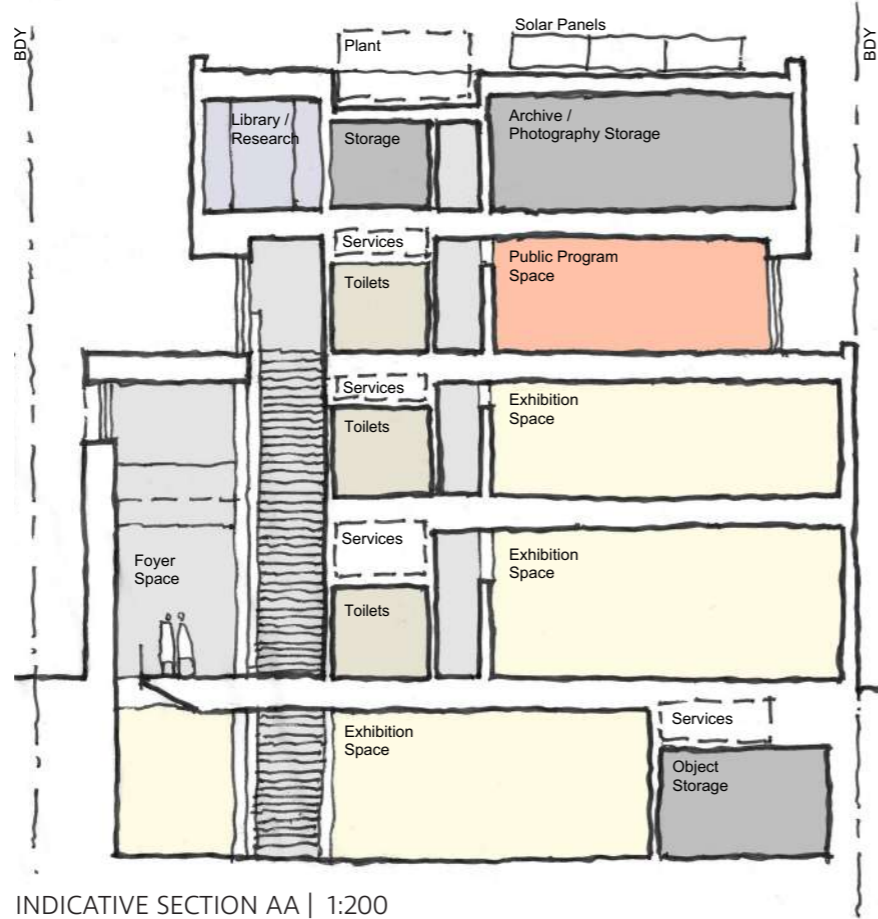
KEY

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	EXHIBITION		TOILETS
	PUBLIC PROGRAM		STAFF
	SERVICES		TERRACE

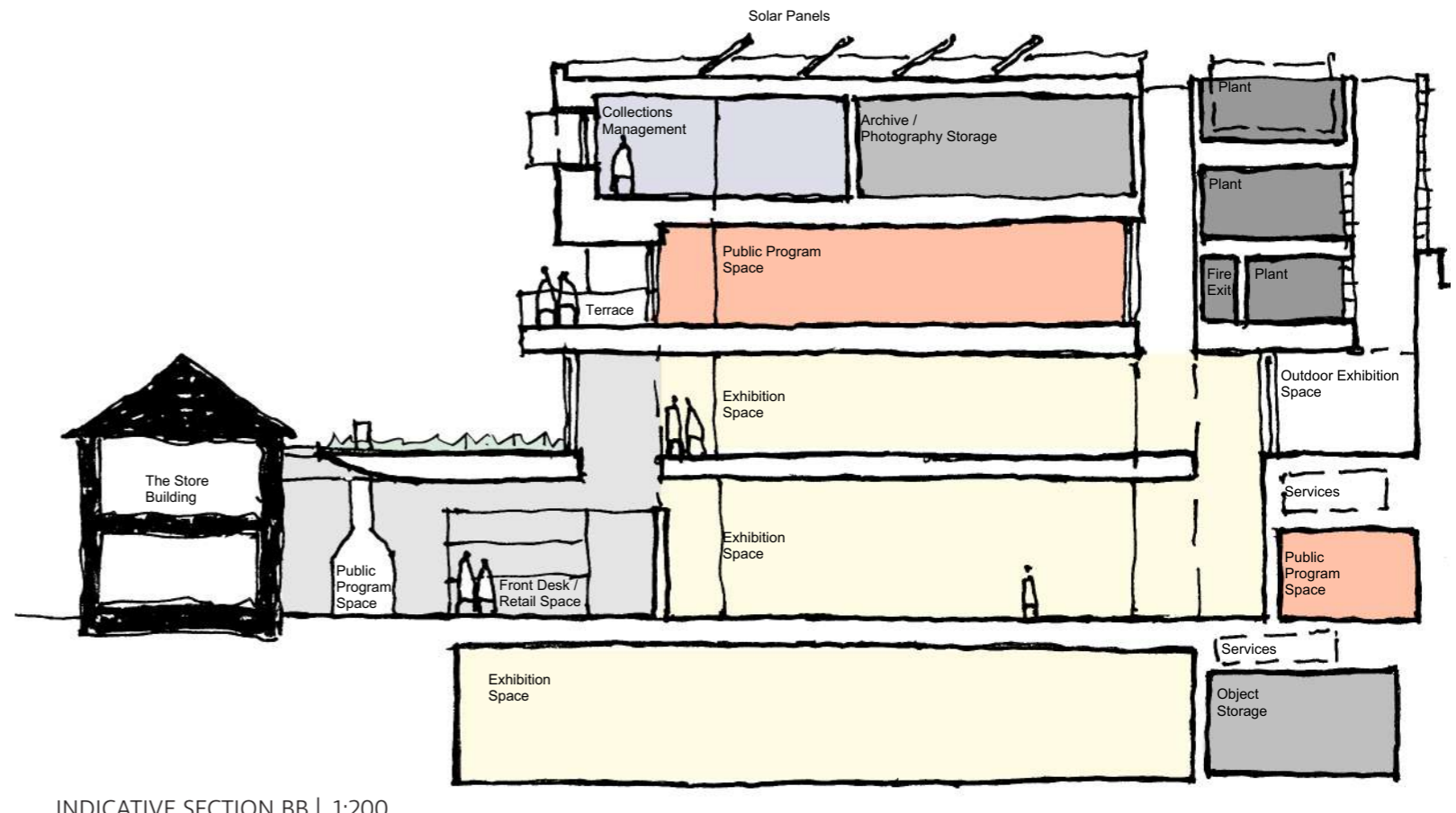


PRELIMINARY SCHEMATIC

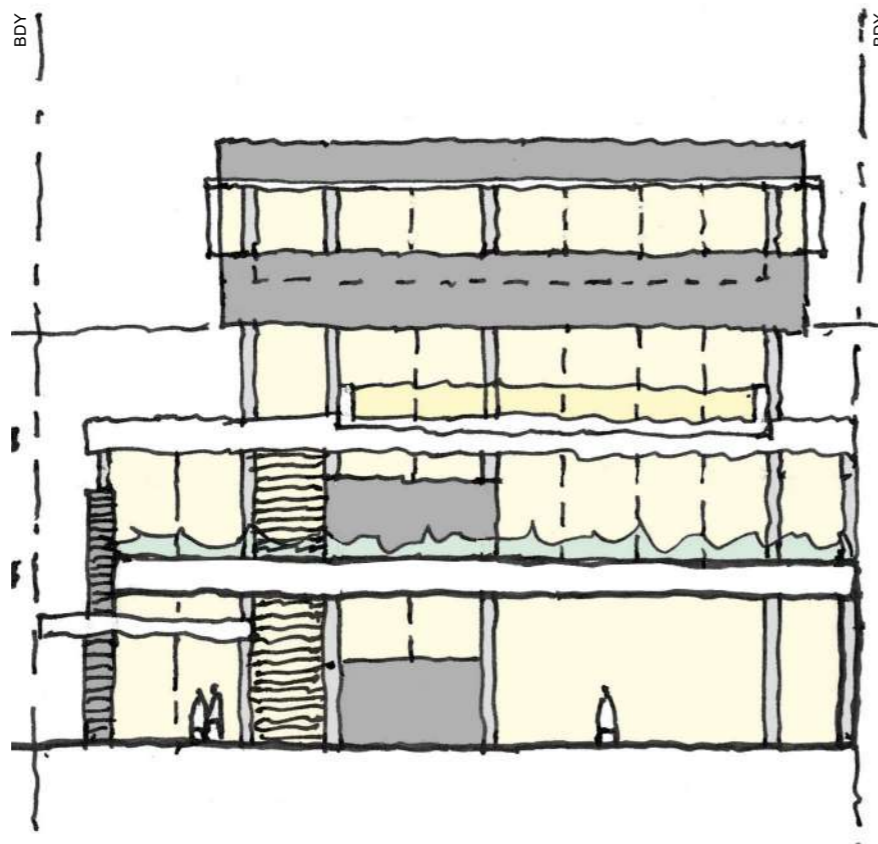
JULY 2019



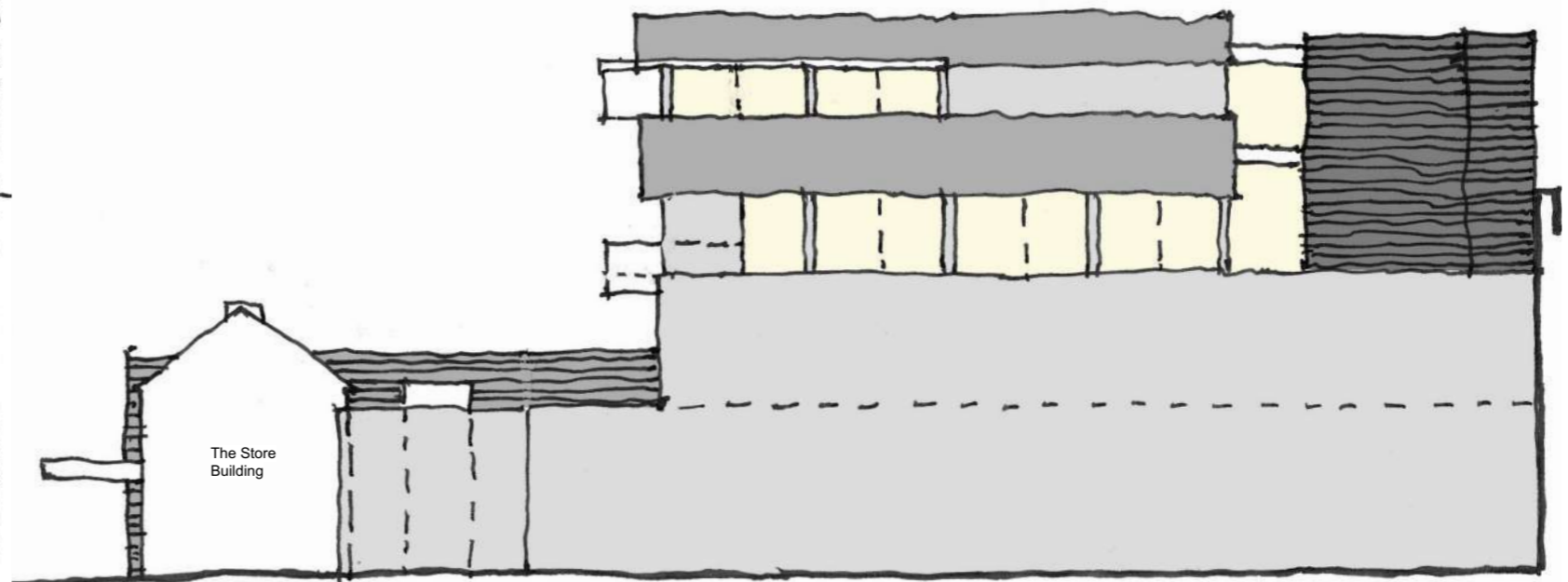
INDICATIVE SECTION AA | 1:200



INDICATIVE SECTION BB | 1:200



INDICATIVE ELEVATION - NORTH | 1:200



INDICATIVE ELEVATION - WEST | 1:200

KEY

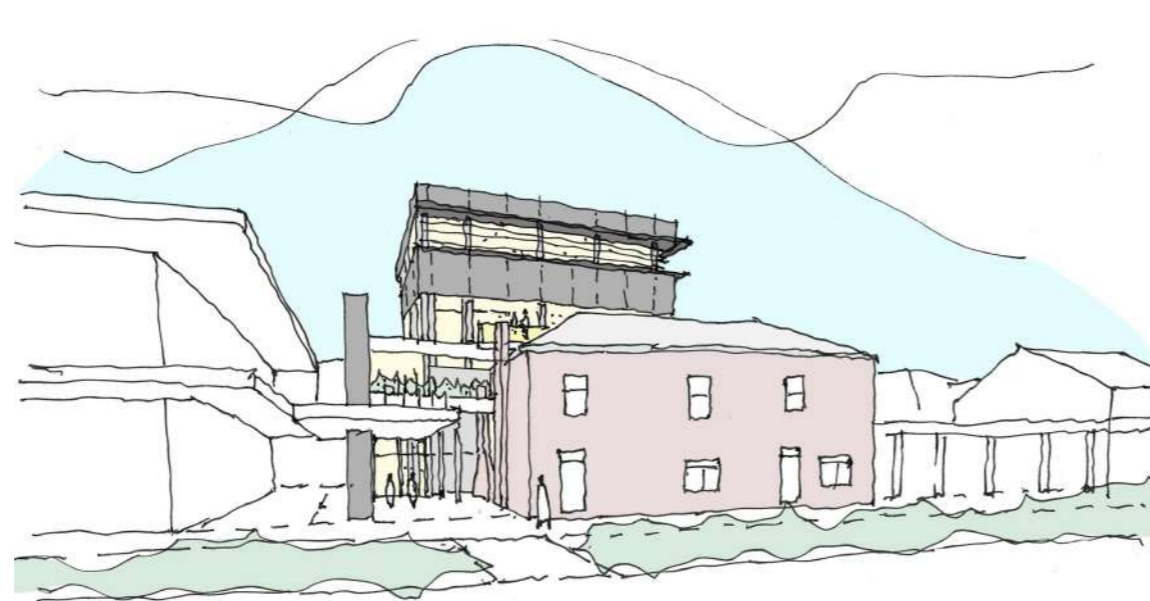
	CIRCULATION		STORAGE
	EXHIBITION		TOILETS
	PUBLIC PROGRAM		STAFF
	SERVICES		TERRACE

PRELIMINARY SCHEMATIC

JULY 2019



CLARENCE STREET ELEVATION | 1:200



EXTERNAL PERSPECTIVE - VIEW FROM ENTRY



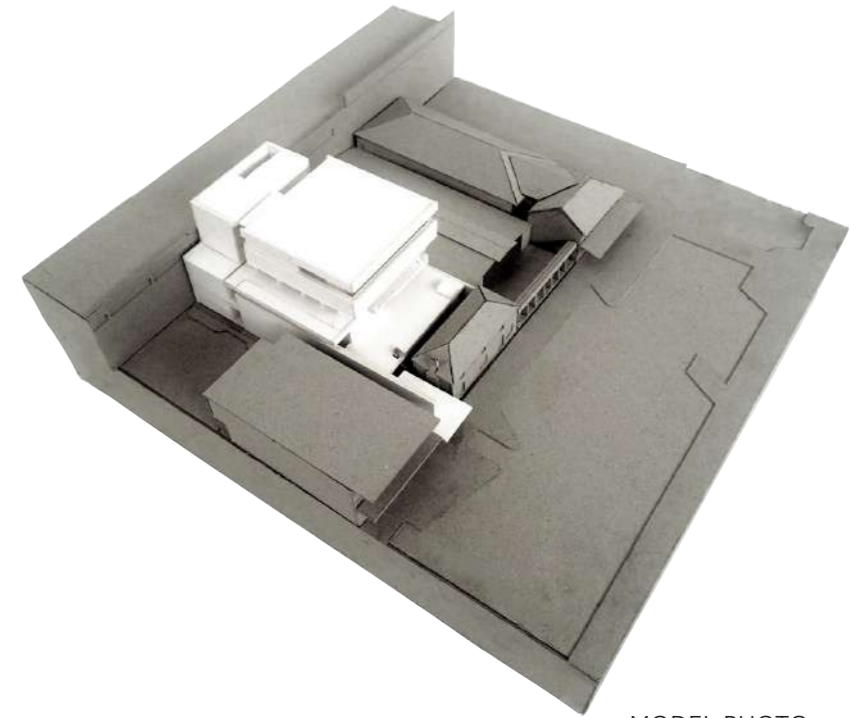
EXTERNAL PERSPECTIVE - VIEW FROM CORNER OF CLARENCE ST + HAY ST

PRELIMINARY SCHEMATIC

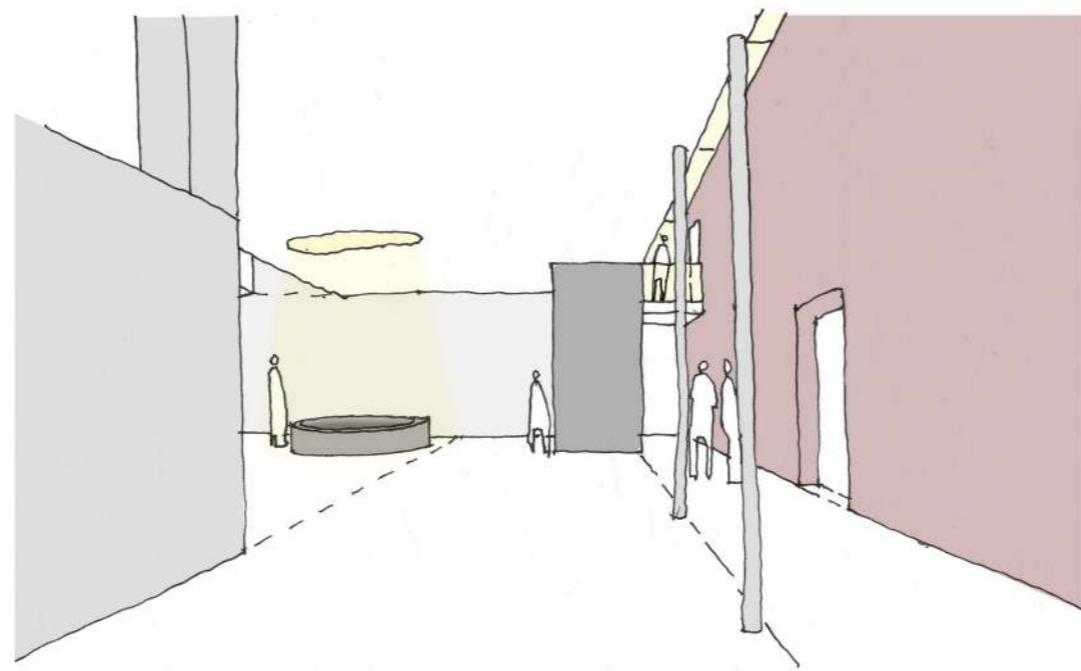
JULY 2019



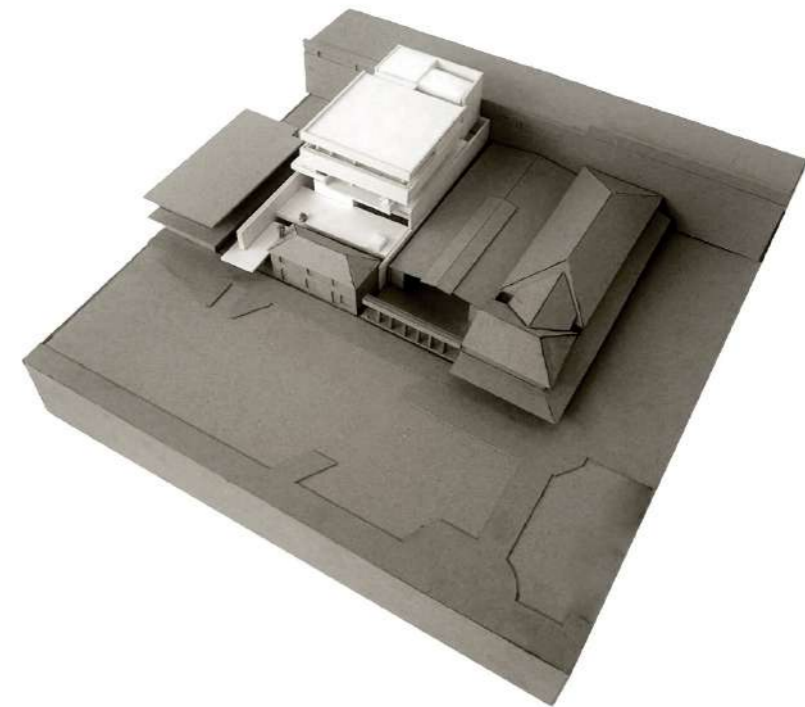
INTERNAL PERSPECTIVE - GROUND FLOOR FOYER SPACE



MODEL PHOTO



INTERNAL PERSPECTIVE - GROUND FLOOR PUBLIC PROGRAM SPACE



MODEL PHOTO

PRELIMINARY SCHEMATIC

BRIEF AREA ANALYSIS JULY 2019

Function	Briefed Area	Masterplan Scheme Area - Basement	Masterplan Scheme Area - Ground Level	Masterplan Scheme Area - Level 1	Masterplan Scheme Area - Level 2	Masterplan Scheme Area - Level 3	Masterplan Scheme Area - Total
Foyer / Front of House / Admin	200m ²		195m ² (inc. retail)				195m ²
Collection management, conservation - archives, photographs, library, research	50m ²					136m ² (inc. kitchen, meeting room, digitisation area, library)	136m ²
Collection management, conservation - objects	50m ²	25m ² (incorporated in collection store)					25m ²
Collections storage - archives, photographs	100m ²					82m ²	82m ²
Collections storage - objects	300m ²	200m ²		26m ² (art store)			226m ²
Exhibition Galleries	800m ²	200m ²	255m ²	190m ²			645m ² (excl. store building and foyer)
Education / Public Programs / Functions	150m ²		35m ²		135m ² (inc. kitchen and breakout space)		170m ²
Exhibition prep, conservation, exhibitionary storage, crate storage	50m ²	20m ²	12m ² (delivery area)		12m ²		44m ²
Cleaning storage / waste	20m ²			20m ²			20m ²
Total (<i>briefed</i>) Net Area	1720m²	445m²	497m²	236m²	150m²	218m²	1546m²
Total Gross Area		502m²	665m²	380m² (excl. voids)	315m² (excl. voids)	330m² (excl. voids)	2190m² (excl. store building)

SCHEMATIC DESIGN

OCTOBER 2019

SCHEMATIC DESIGN STATEMENT

The town centre area around the site comprises the very oldest area of European settlement in Port Macquarie, clustered around the original river port. Unfortunately, most has been lost and the key, historic axial connection between the port and the church buildings above the town cut by the construction of the Port Central mall over Hay Street. However, in the immediate precinct on Clarence Street, between Hay and Murray Streets, three important heritage components remain; the former Courthouse with its formal civic presence and open curtilage, the "Garrison" building on the corner of Clarence and Hay Street and the former Store, now the Port Macquarie Museum.

Particular note is made of the intrinsic heritage and cultural significance of the original portion of the museum. Dating from circa. 1836, the building was constructed as a store and is the oldest commercial building in Port Macquarie. The building is listed as having State Significance and, as such, warrants careful analysis of, and sensitive response to, potential impacts on its heritage integrity and values. The scale and relationship to the Museum of the relatively new commercial building at 18-20 Clarence Street and, worse still, the looming background wall of the Port Central carpark behind, shows that this has not been a genuine consideration in recent times. As a result, there is an imperative to consider the masterplanning for the Museum conservation and upgrade works, as part of a significant, heritage-based urban precinct, rather than as a stand-alone site that fails to reference important aspects of its surroundings. Therefore, key to the museum masterplan proposal is maintaining the scale and visual primacy of the Store Building at the street edge. At the same time, a major shortcoming of the current museum, in its context, is the lack of urban presence of the institution itself. This diminishes it as a visitor drawcard and underplays the significance of the collection and its role as part of the community. In response, the proposal utilises the opportunity offered by the existing side setback to pull 'signalling' elements of the building out to the street, define and form the museum entrance and clearly reveal an enticing snapshot of the what the museum offers beyond. While four storeys in height, the taller portion of the proposal is visually detached from the rear of the Store Building and 15m from the street edge boundary.

The new museum building is ordered such that;

- An open void space forms the entry, drawing visitors into the museum and allowing them to clearly 'read' the building and orientate themselves within it.
- A variety of exhibition spaces are provided with different characters, scales and degrees of enclosure, openness and orientation.
- A public program level offers the opportunity for visitors to reflect on the place of the museum in its context, with views over the store building, across to the Courthouse and beyond to the site of the original port on the Hastings River.
- Constant reference is made back to the Store Building from the public spaces, reinforcing its importance as an artifact itself, its place in the town and its ongoing role as part of the museum.
- The main staff accommodation and facilities are located on the uppermost floor, with access to natural light, ventilation and key views to the town and environment that the Museum represents. This recognises the volunteer basis of the Museum management and staffing and the need to provide an appealing environment to attract and retain volunteers, foster social interaction and encourage inspiration.



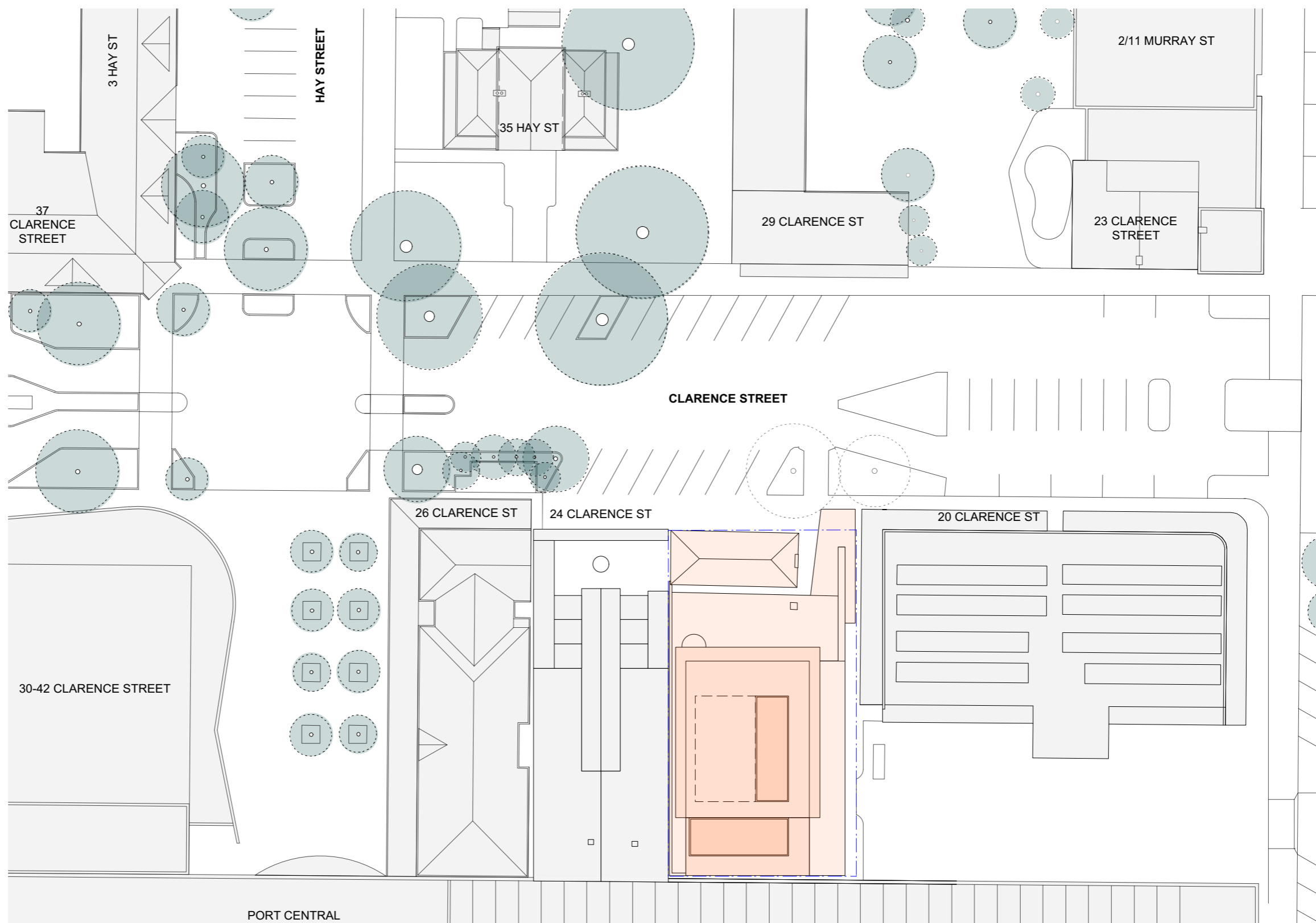
IMAGE: DESIGN DISCUSSION



IMAGE: DESIGN DISCUSSION

SCHEMATIC DESIGN

OCTOBER 2019



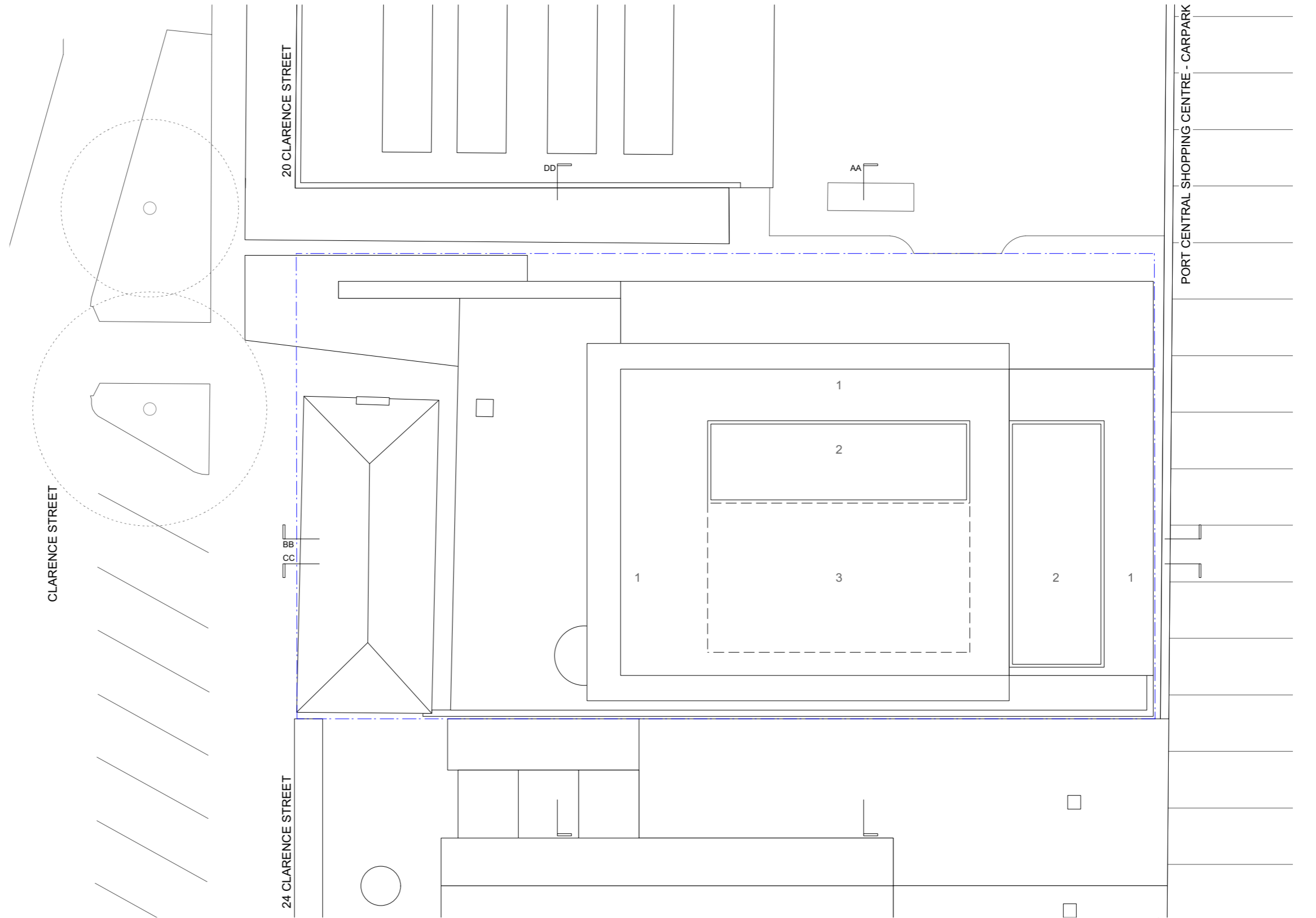
SITE PLAN | 1:500

0 1 2 3 4 5 M

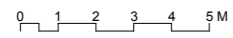


SCHEMATIC DESIGN

OCTOBER 2019



SITE + ROOF PLAN | 1:200



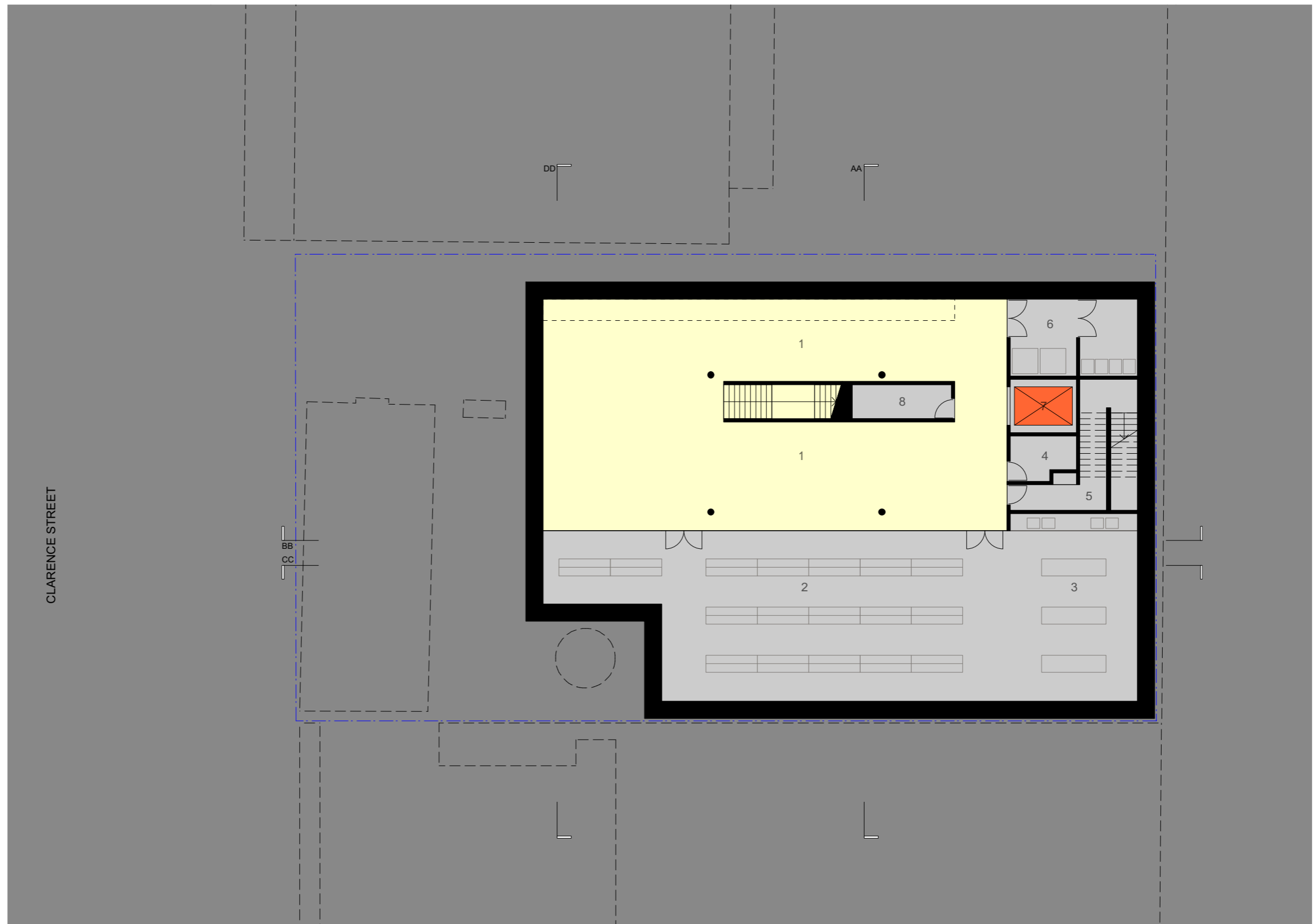
KEY

- 1 ROOF
- 2 PLANT
- 3 ZONE FOR SOLAR PV PANELS (DOTTED)

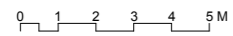


SCHEMATIC DESIGN

OCTOBER 2019



BASEMENT LEVEL PLAN | 1:200



KEY

- 1 EXHIBITION SPACE
- 2 OBJECT STORAGE
- 3 CONSERVATION WET AREA
- 4 SERVICES
- 5 FIRE STAIR / EXIT
- 6 BIN / CRATE STORAGE
- 7 LIFT
- 8 STORAGE

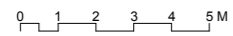


SCHEMATIC DESIGN

OCTOBER 2019



GROUND FLOOR PLAN | 1:200

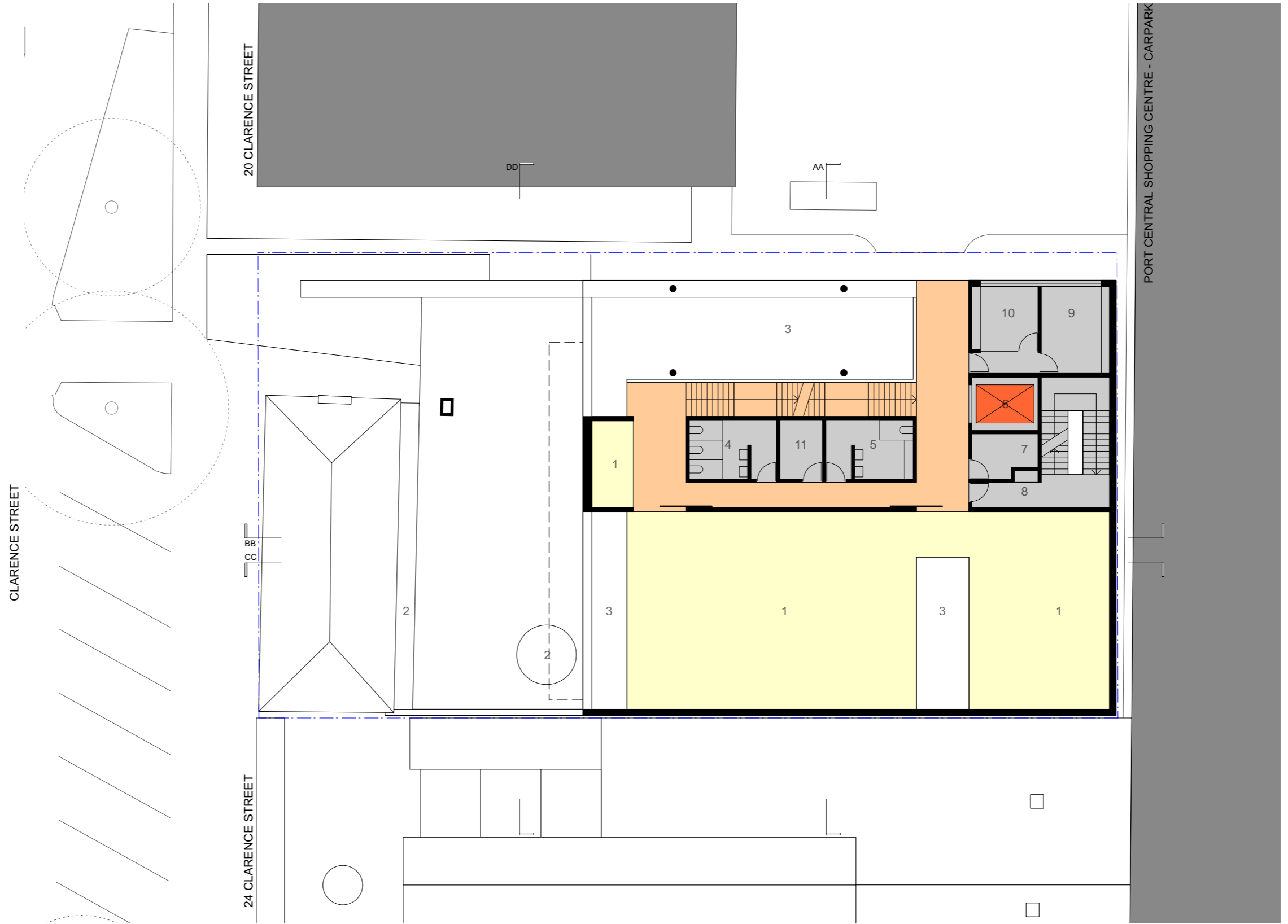


KEY	
1	AIR LOCK
2	FOYER SPACE
3	VOID
4	FRONT DESK
5	STAFF ROOM
6	RETAIL SPACE
7	GATHERING SPACE
8	WELL
9	COMMUNITY ACCESS GALLERY
10	LIFT
11	SERVICES
12	FIRE STAIR / EXIT
13	EXHIBITION SPACE
14	DELIVERIES + DISPATCHES
15	FEMALE WC
16	ACCESS WC
17	MALE WC
18	PARENTS WC
19	THEATRETTE
20	THEATRETTE STORE
21	BAG STORE
22	SWITCH ROOM

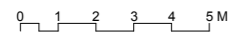


SCHEMATIC DESIGN

OCTOBER 2019



FIRST FLOOR PLAN | 1:200



KEY

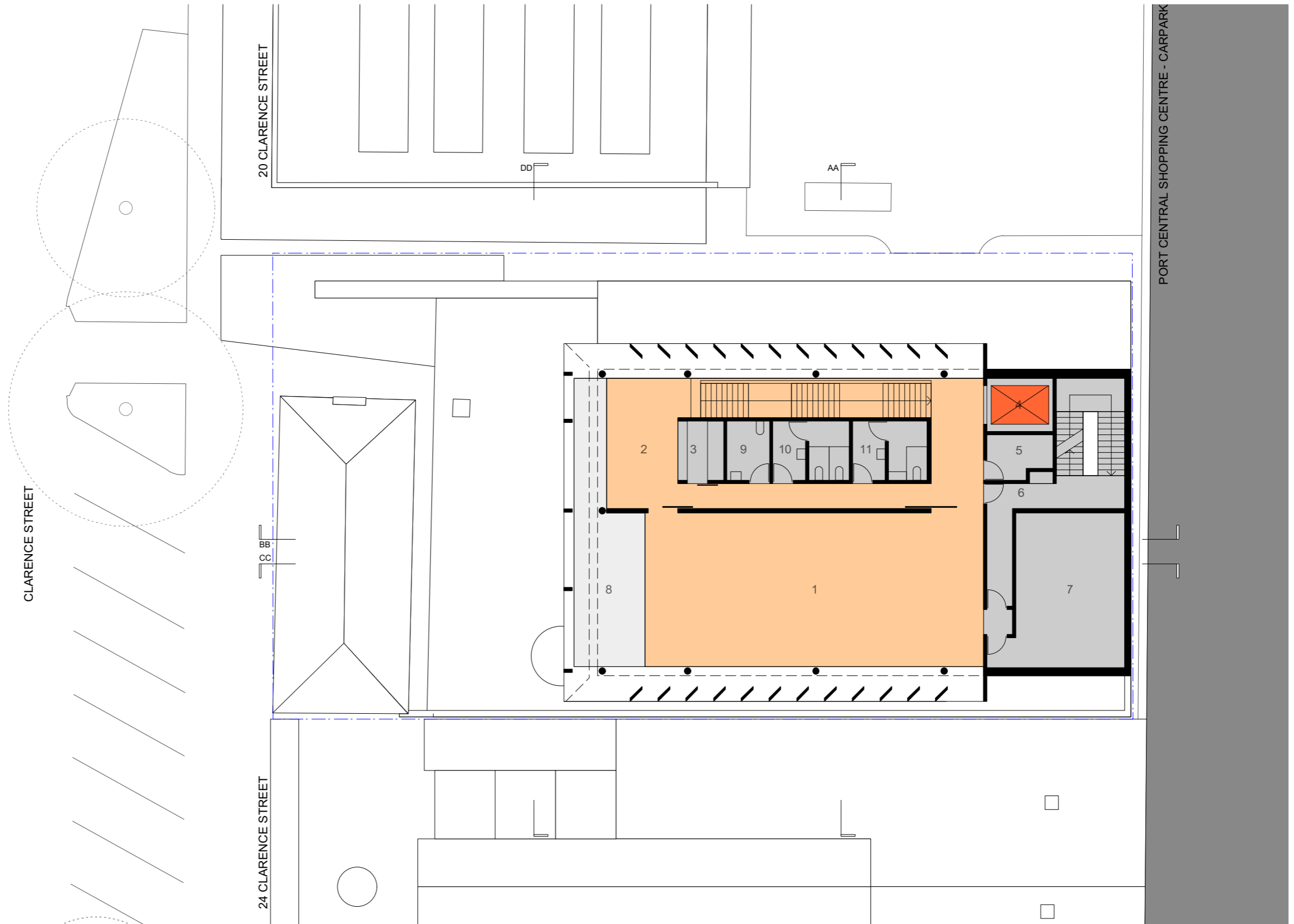
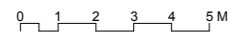
- | | | | |
|---|------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1 | EXHIBITION SPACE | 5 | MALE TOILETS |
| 2 | SKYLIGHT | 6 | LIFT |
| 3 | VOID | 7 | SERVICES |
| 4 | FEMALE TOILETS | 8 | FIRE STAIR / EXIT |
| | | 9 | CURATOR'S OFFICE |
| | | 10 | PUBLIC PROGRAMS OFFICE |
| | | 11 | CLEANER'S ROOM |



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SECOND FLOOR PLAN | 1:200



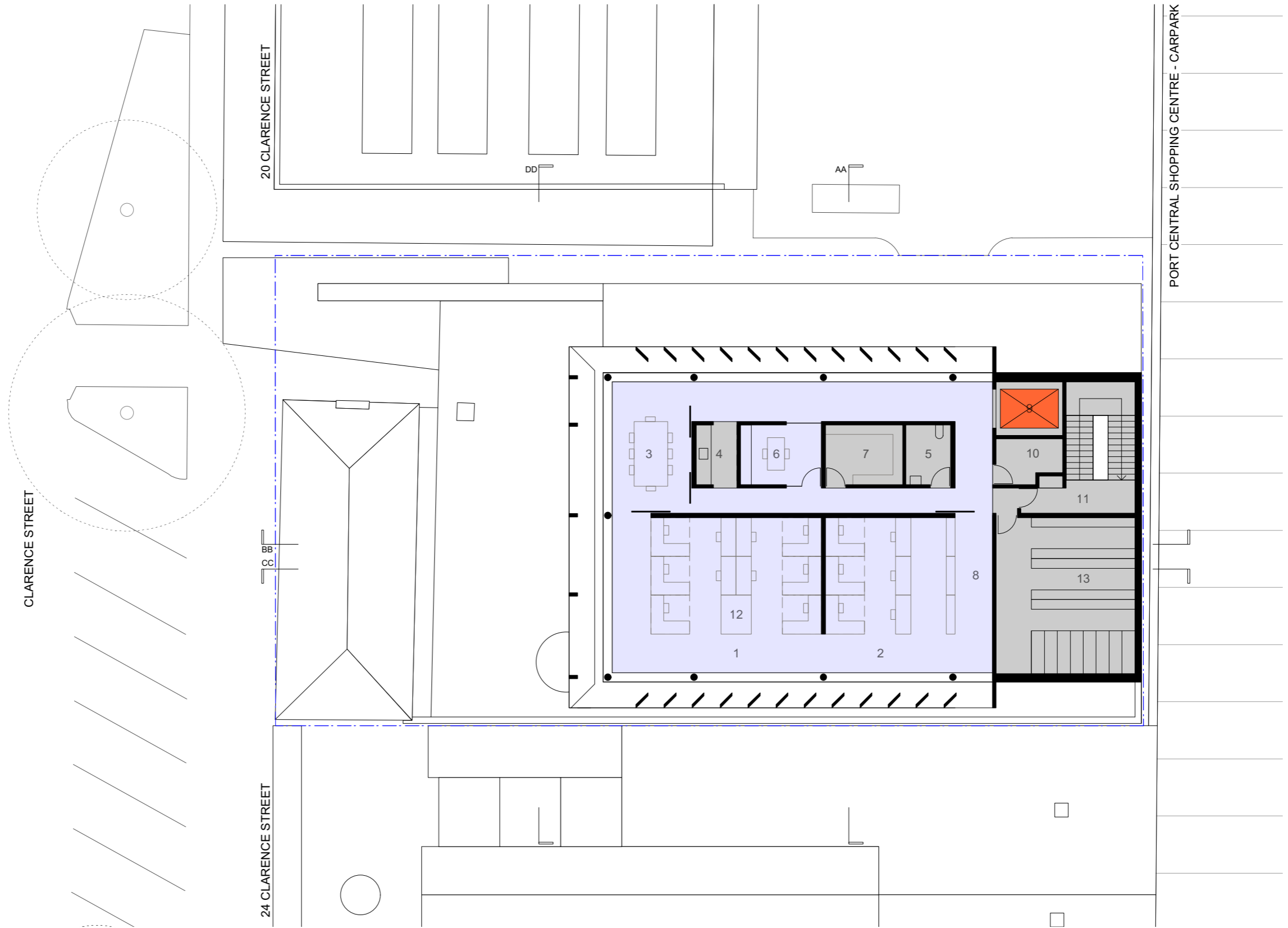
KEY

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | PUBLIC PROGRAM SPACE | 5 | SERVICES |
| 2 | BREAK OUT SPACE | 6 | FIRE STAIR / EXIT |
| 3 | KITCHEN | 7 | STORAGE |
| 4 | LIFT | 8 | TERRACE |
| | | 9 | ACCESS WC |
| | | 10 | FEMALE TOILETS |
| | | 11 | MALE TOILETS |

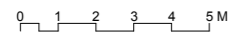


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THIRD FLOOR PLAN | 1:200



KEY

1	COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT - ARCHIVES	5	STAFF WC	10	SERVICES
2	COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT - OBJECTS	6	MUSEUM MANAGERS OFFICE	11	FIRE STAIR / EXIT
3	MEETING AREA	7	INTERIM STORAGE	12	DIGITAL CAMERA AREA
4	STAFF KITCHEN	8	LIBRARY / RESEARCH	13	ARCHIVE / PHOTOGRAPHY STORAGE
		9	LIFT		



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CLARENCE STREET ELEVATION | 1:500

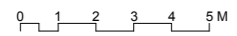
0 1 2 3 4 5 M

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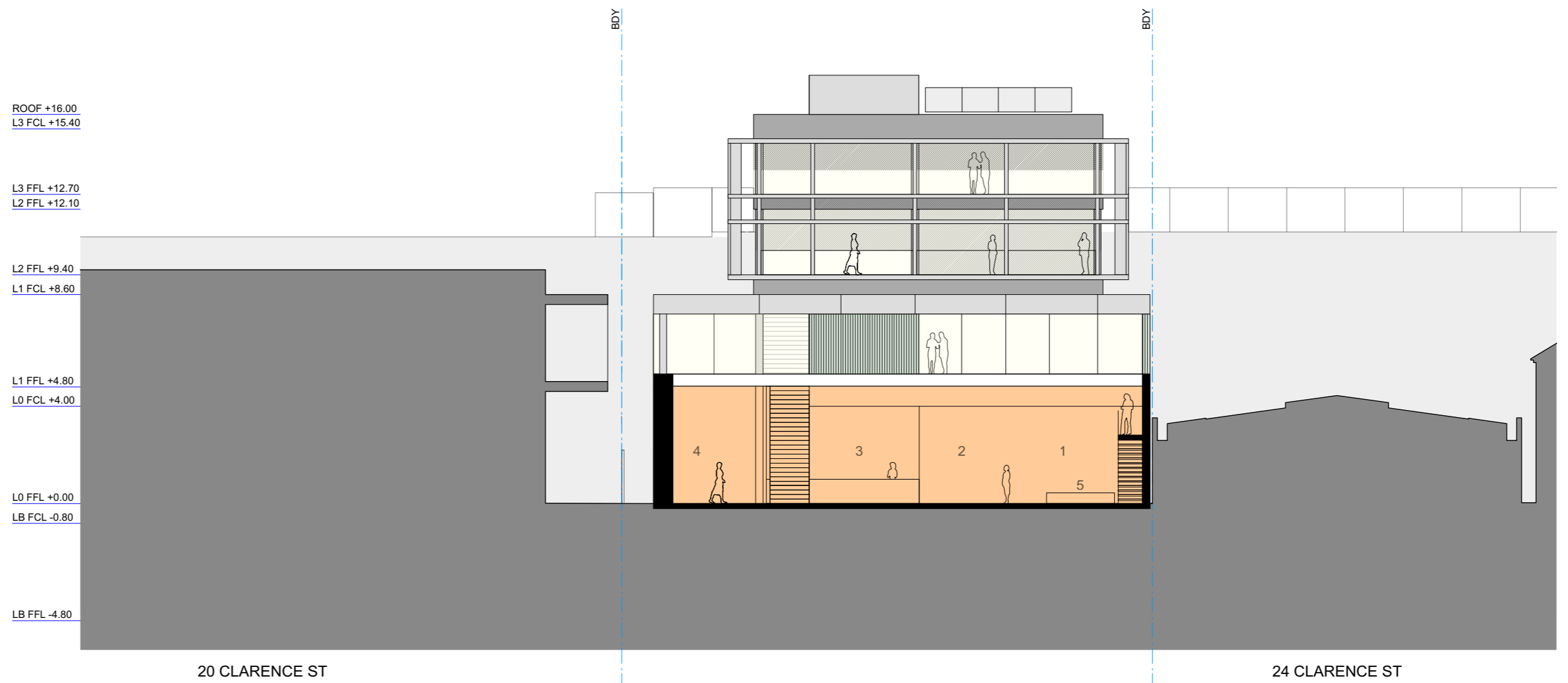


NORTH ELEVATION | STREET | 1:200

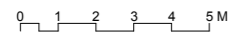


SCHEMATIC DESIGN

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NORTH ELEVATION | 1:200



KEY	ELEVATION NORTH
1	EXHIBITION SPACE
2	RETAIL SPACE
3	FRONT DESK
4	FOYER SPACE
5	WELL

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ROOF +16.00
L3 FCL +15.40

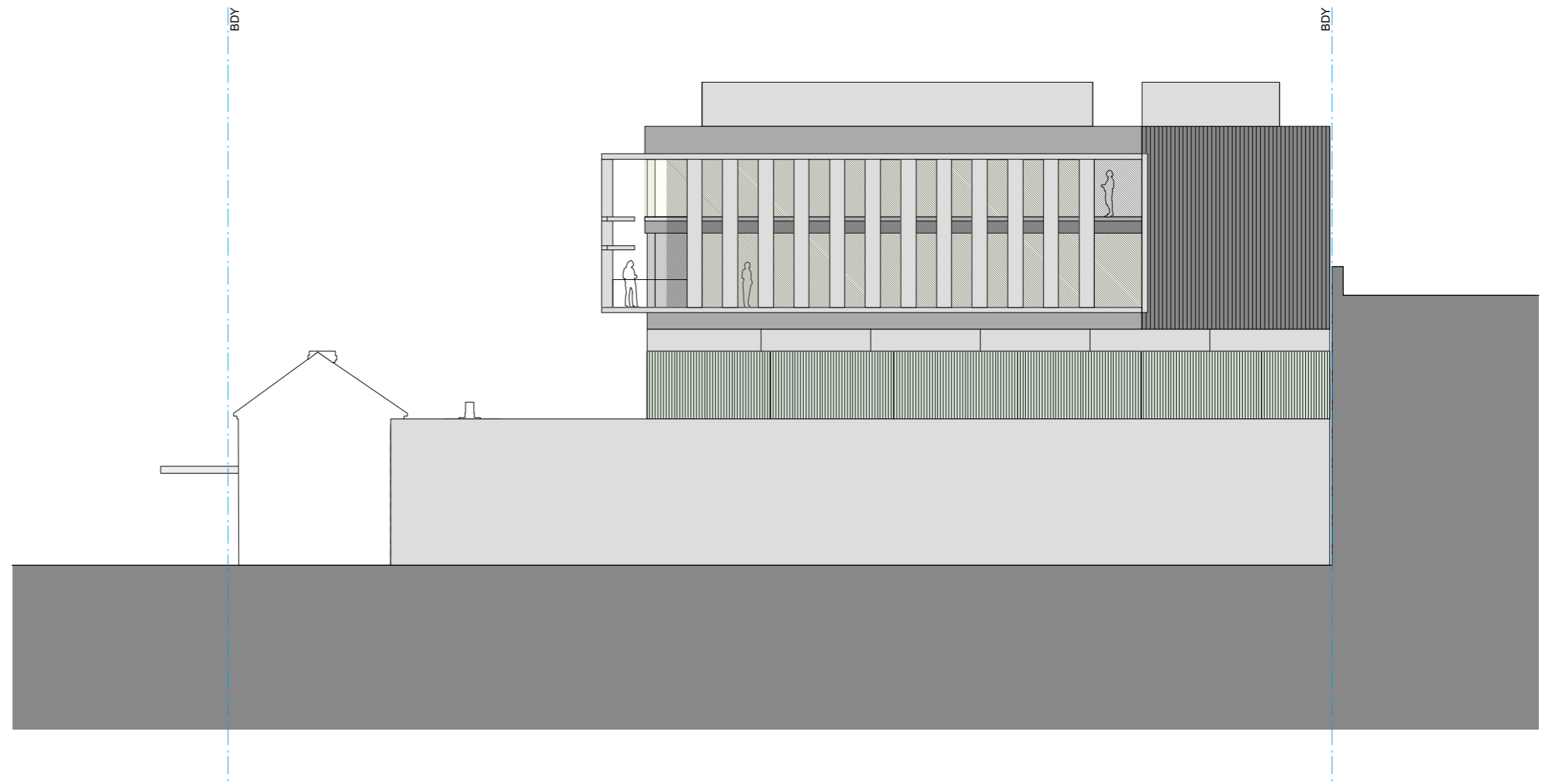
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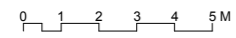
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L0 FCL +4.00

L0 FFL +0.00
LB FCL -0.80

LB FFL -4.80



WEST ELEVATION | 1:200



SCHEMATIC DESIGN

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L3 FCL +15.40

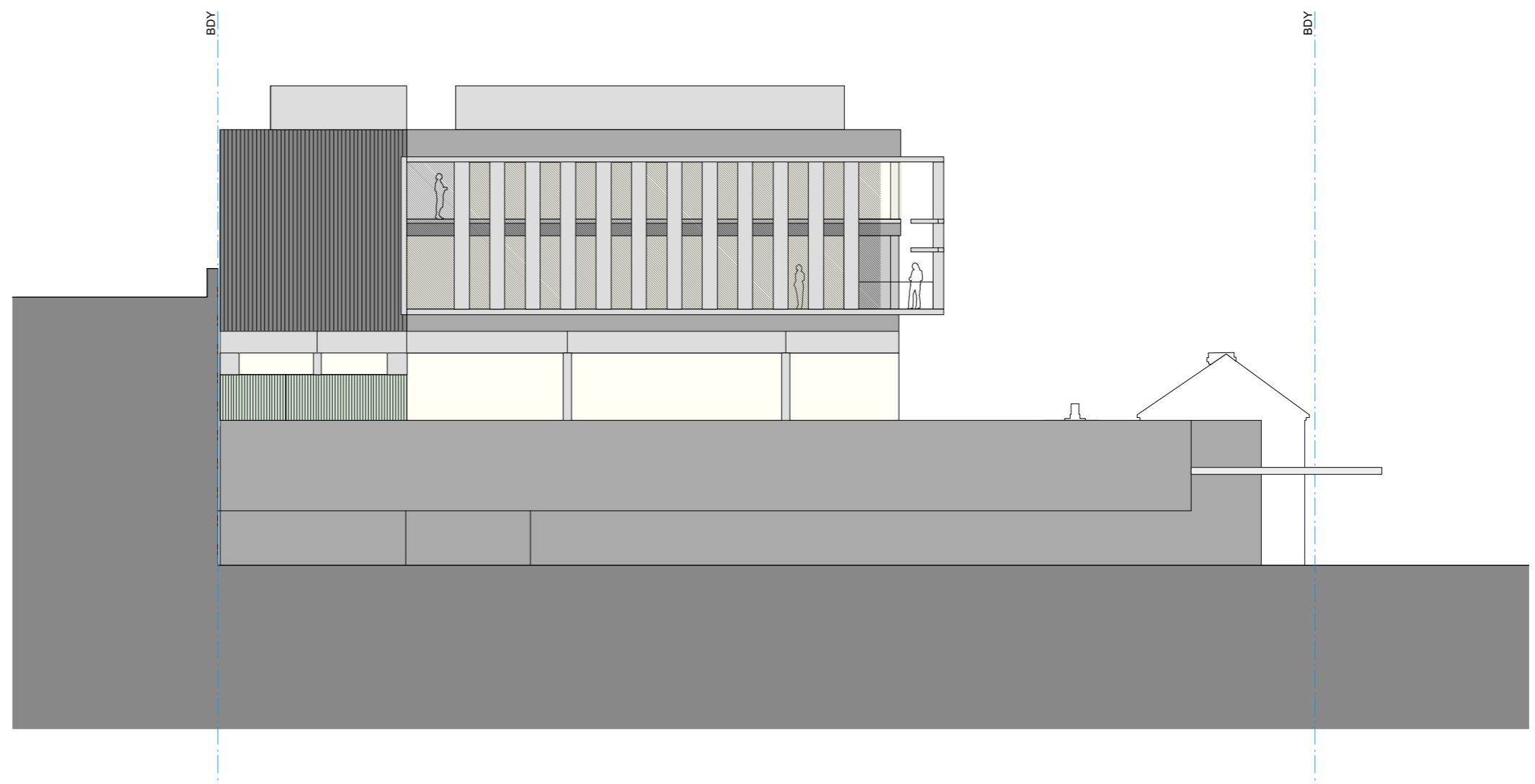
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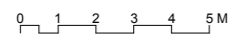
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LB FFL -4.80

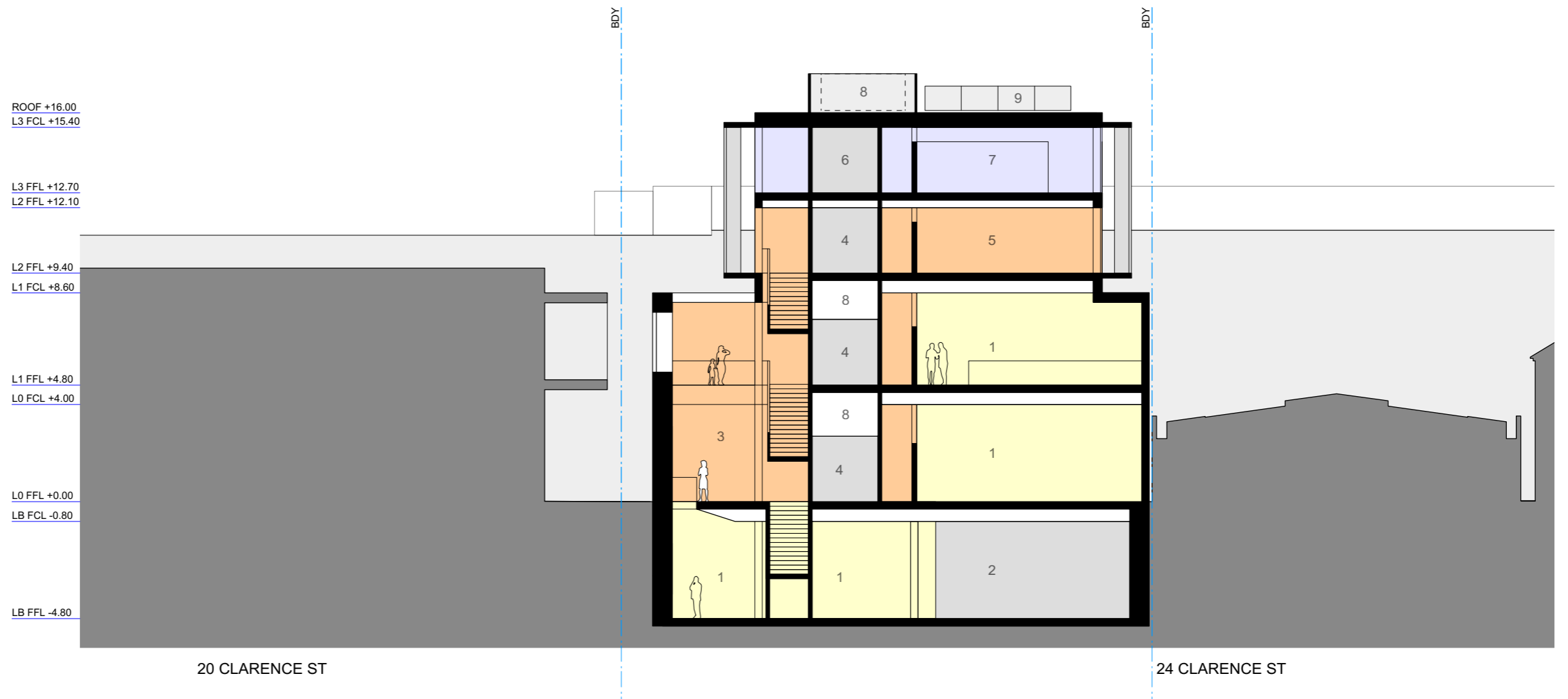


EAST ELEVATION | 1:200



SCHEMATIC DESIGN

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SECTION AA | 1:200
 0 1 2 3 4 5 M

KEY

1	EXHIBITION SPACE
2	OBJECT STORAGE
3	FOYER SPACE
4	TOILETS
5	PUBLIC PROGRAM SPACE
6	INTERIM STORAGE
7	COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT
8	PLANT
9	SOLAR PANELS

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ROOF +16.00
L3 FCL +15.40

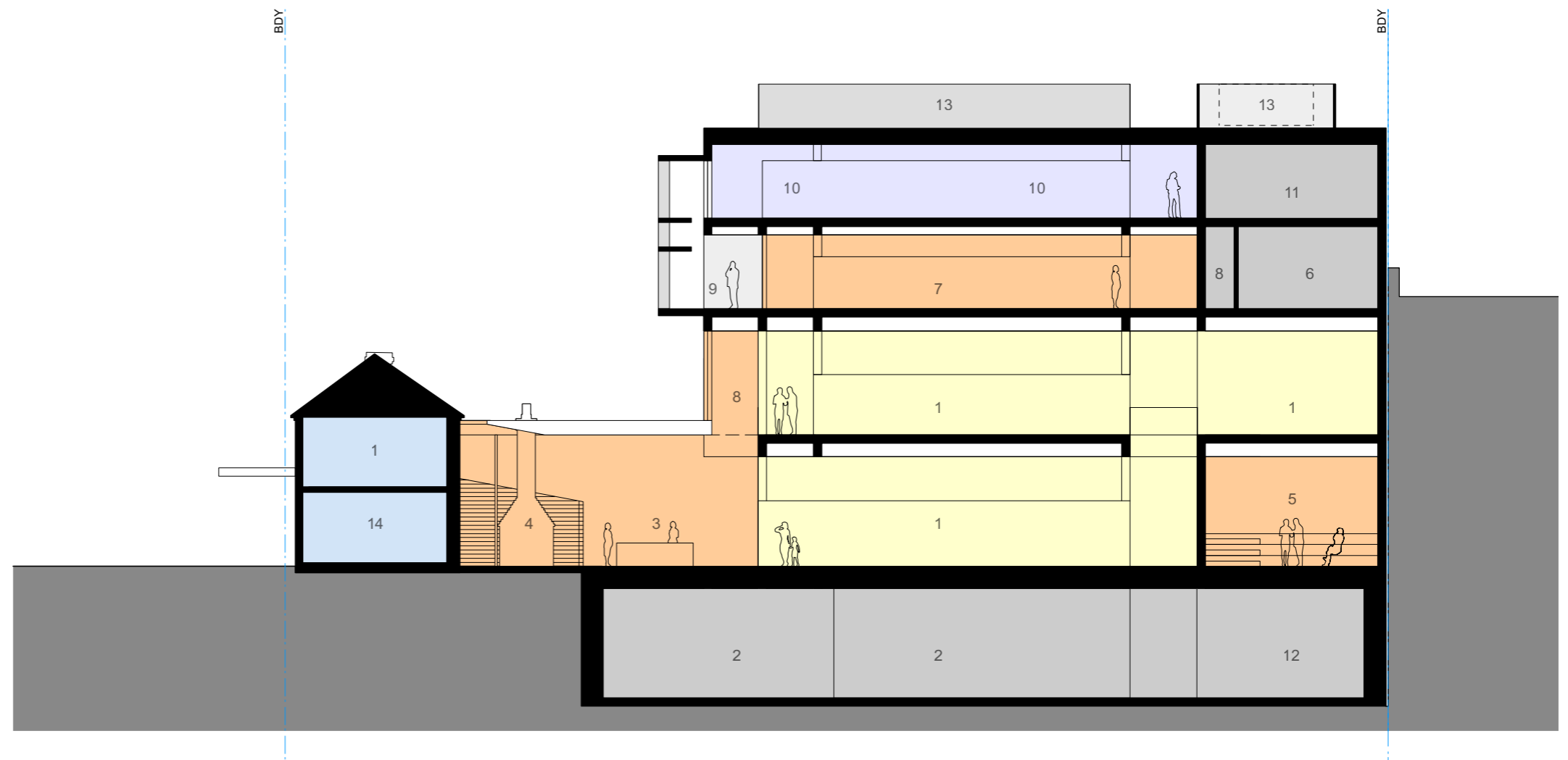
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L2 FFL +9.40
L1 FCL +8.60

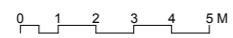
L1 FFL +4.80
L0 FCL +4.00

L0 FFL +0.00
LB FCL -0.80

LB FFL -4.80



SECTION BB | 1:200



KEY		SECTION BB	
1	EXHIBITION SPACE	10	COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT
2	OBJECT STORAGE	11	ARCHIVE/ PHOTOGRAPHY STORAGE
3	FRONT DESK	12	CONSERVATION WET AREA
4	GATHERING SPACE	13	PLANT
5	THEATRETTE	14	COMMUNITY / ACCESS GALLERY
6	VOID		
7	PUBLIC PROGRAM SPACE		
8	FIRE EXIT		
9	TERRACE		

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ROOF +16.00
L3 FCL +15.40

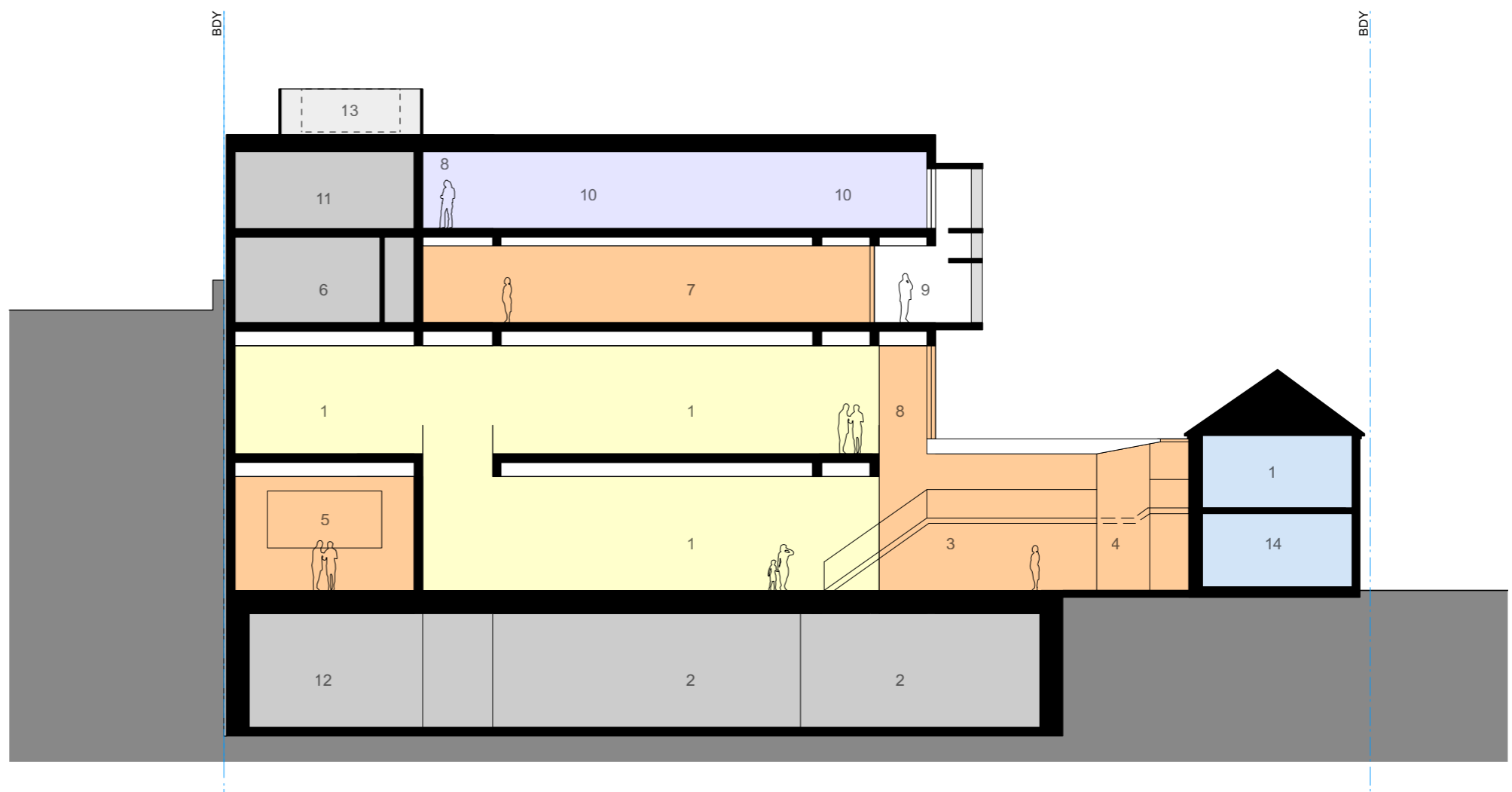
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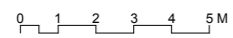
L1 FFL +4.80
L0 FCL +4.00

L0 FFL +0.00
LB FCL -0.80

LB FFL -4.80



SECTION CC | 1:200



KEY	SECTION CC		
1	EXHIBITION SPACE	10	COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT
2	OBJECT STORAGE	11	ARCHIVE/ PHOTOGRAPHY STORAGE
3	RETAIL SPACE	12	CONSERVATION WET AREA
4	GATHERING SPACE	13	PLANT
5	THEATRETTE	14	COMMUNITY / ACCESS GALLERY
6	STORAGE		
7	PUBLIC PROGRAM SPACE		
8	LIBRARY / RESEARCH		
9	TERRACE		

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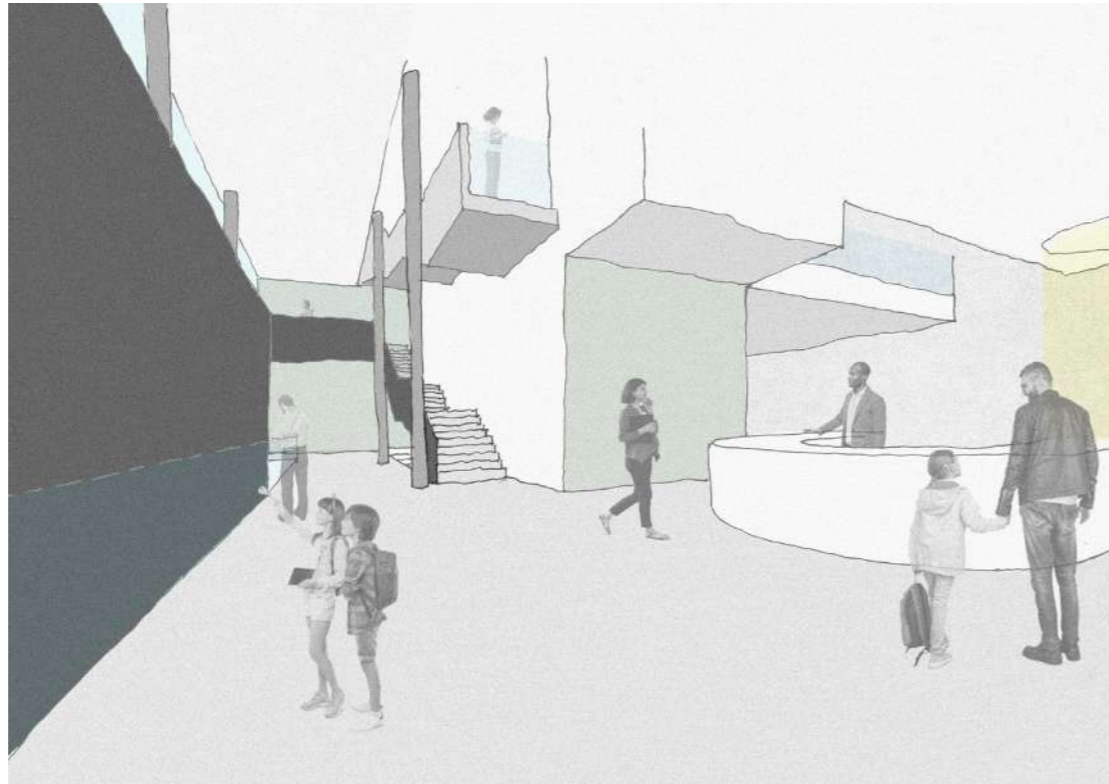
EXTERNAL PERSPECTIVE - ENTRY VIEW



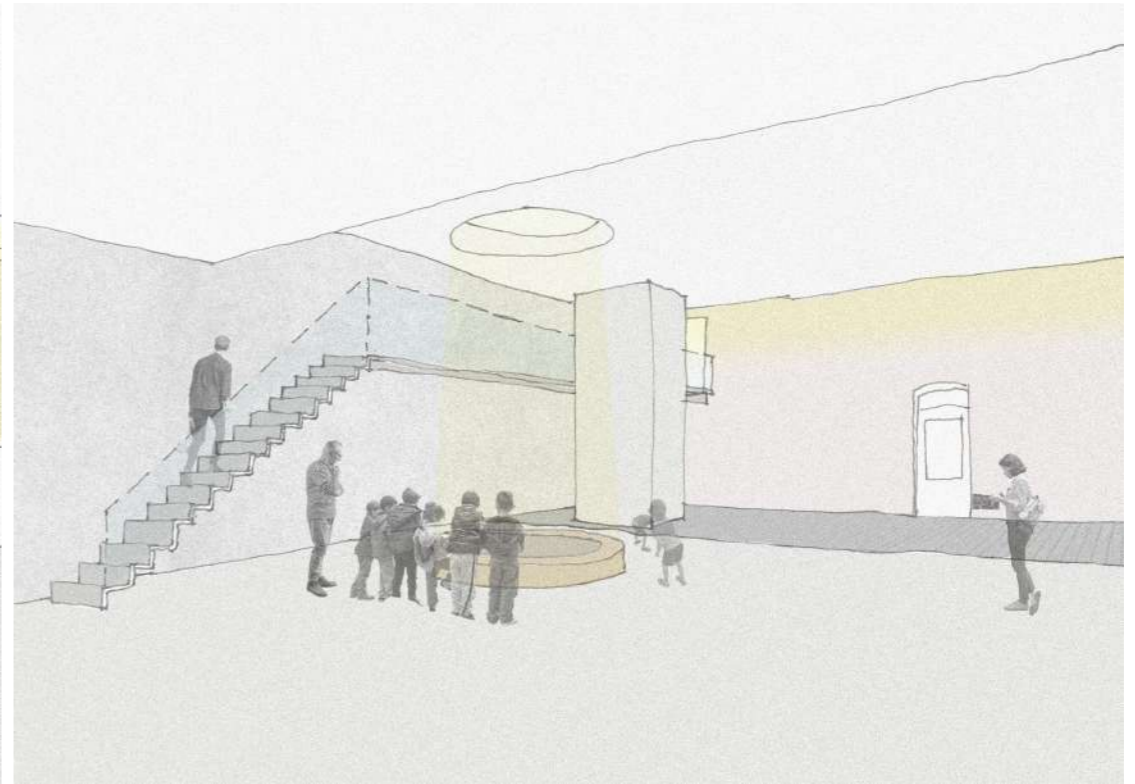
EXTERNAL PERSPECTIVE - VIEW FROM HISTORIC COURTHOUSE FORECOURT

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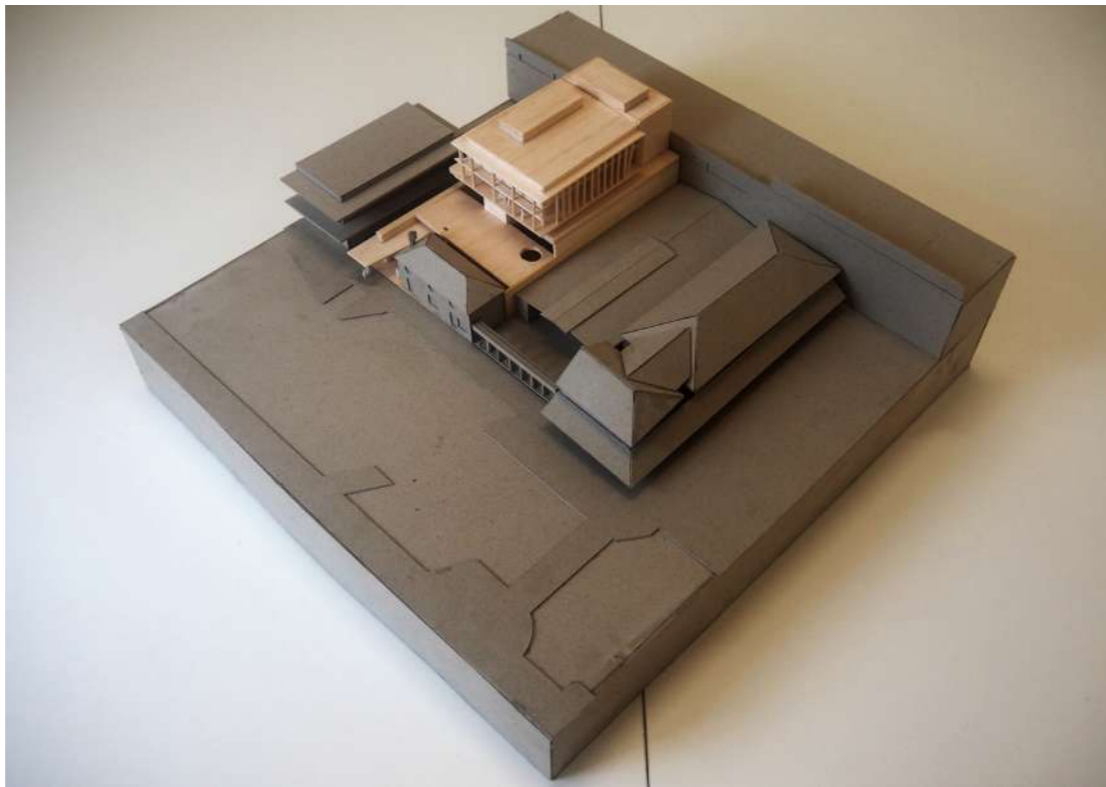
INTERNAL PERSPECTIVE - FOYER SPACE



INTERNAL PERSPECTIVE - GROUND FLOOR GATHERING SPACE

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MODEL PHOTO



MODEL PHOTO

SCHEMATIC DESIGN

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BRIEF AREA ANALYSIS

Function	Briefed Area	Schematic Scheme Area - Basement	Schematic Scheme Area - Ground Level	Schematic Scheme Area - Level 1	Schematic Scheme Area - Level 2	Schematic Scheme Area - Level 3	Schematic Scheme Area - Total	Notes
Foyer / Front of House / Admin	200m ²		241m ² (inc. retail, gathering space, staff room)	26m ² (offices)		10m ² (office)	277m ²	Includes provisions for exhibition space.
Collection management, conservation - archives, photographs, library, research,	50m ²					121m ² (inc. kitchen, meeting room, digitisation area, library, interim storage)	121m ²	
Collection management, conservation - objects	50m ²					41m ²	41m ²	
Collections storage - archives, photographs	100m ²					57m ²	57m ²	Additional archive storage possible on Level 2.
Collections storage - objects	300m ²	149m ²					149m ²	
Exhibition Galleries	800m ²	214m ²	202m ²	200m ²			616m ² (excl. store building and foyer)	Foyer and Front of House includes provisions for exhibitions. Level 2 Public Program space can be used for visiting exhibitions.
Education / Public Programs / Functions	150m ²				142m ² (inc. kitchen and breakout space)		142m ²	
Exhibition prep, conservation, exhibitionary storage, crate storage	50m ²	63m ²	13m ² (inc. delivery area, theatre storage)		39m ² (public program storage)		115m ²	Some of this area could be utilised for archive storage.
Cleaning storage / waste	20m ²	10m ² (bin storage)		6m ²			16m ²	
Total (briefed) Net Area	1720m²	436m²	456m²	232m²	181m²	229m²	1534m²	
Total Gross Area		497m²	621m² (excl. voids)	379m² (excl. voids)	349m² (excl. voids)	329m² (excl. voids)	2175m² (excl. store building)	

NEXT STEPS

Port Macquarie Museum Masterplanning and Schematic Design – Next Steps

This report outlines the Stage 1 Masterplanning and Stage 2 Schematic Design process and approach to the major transformation of the Port Macquarie Museum.

BTB Architecture Studio have collaborated with the Executive and Committee of the Port Macquarie Historical Society, consulting Architect Lionel Glendenning and museum planner Kylie Winkworth, to develop the preferred master plan scheme into a detailed, schematic design. During this stage, specialised mechanical, electrical, lighting design and construction cost consultants have provided early input into the design and documentation process.

This report marks a hold point at which the outcomes of the Schematic Design phase form part of the case for community and funding support for the realisation of the project. Once this support has been secured, the process will progress through Heritage and Development Approval, to Developed Design and Construction Documentation and on to construction. Integral to these subsequent stages, will be curatorial and exhibition design consultant input, as well as specialised structural, mechanical, electrical and lighting design.

The process will continue to be strongly guided and shaped by client consultation with the Port Macquarie Historical Society and Council and informed by Heritage advice and Archeological Investigation.

Precinct Masterplanning - Recommendations and Next Steps

This report also seeks to start wider dialogue with Council and the Community about the Museum transformation and its place and role within the heritage precinct in the Port Macquarie town centre.

In the immediate precinct on Clarence Street, between Hay and Murray Streets, three important heritage components remain in close proximity; the former Courthouse with its formal civic presence and open curtilage, the former Store, now the Port Macquarie Museum, and the "Garrison" building on the corner of Clarence and Hay Streets. Future upgrades to the public realm and new development on other sites within the precinct should be holistically considered and guided, to ensure sensitive, contemporarily designed elements and street edges, referencing the scale of and setbacks to heritage items and employing appropriate Architectural language.

Particular urban design recommendations for the definition of the precinct include;

- Current street carparking arrangements obscure the street presences of the Museum, Garrison building and Courthouse. A 'parklet' should be extended in front of the Museum and the site at 24 Clarence St. Semi-privatised outdoor seating areas servicing adjacent food-serving premises should be avoided and, instead, be designed with a mix of low scale planting, seating and pedestrian access as a foreground to the buildings behind.

- The Museum and Garrison buildings are significantly obscured by inappropriate street planting. The garrison building is obscured by an ill-conceived grove of palms. The Museum is obscured by a mature tree, adjacent to the entry, which is also already doing considerable root damage to the original museum structure. Selective removal and replacement of inappropriate planting will not only reveal the key heritage items but also re-emphasise the order and importance of the long-standing Norfolk Island Pine avenue planting.

- Any proposal within the precinct should respond with appropriate Architectural language and contextual presence. An altered street edge should, at least, pick up established datums from the context, in a contemporary form that recognises the inherent simplicity of the Colonial Georgian Museum and Garrison buildings. Faux-historic detail and proportions are not appropriate. At the street edges within the precinct, new proposals should reference the scale, proportions, form and fenestration pattern of the Museum, Garrison and Courtyard buildings, as appropriate.

The Museum and its team of consultants would welcome the opportunity to work further with Council to design the controls and implement the appropriate built outcomes necessary to define and celebrate the character and heritage of this important historic precinct.