GML HERITAGE

Campbell Section 38
Former CSIRO Headquarters

Heritage Assessment

Report prepared for DOMA Group

December 2016

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Report Register

The following report register documents the development and issue of the report entitled Campbell Section 38 Former CSIRO Headquarters undertaken by GML Heritage Pty Ltd in accordance with its quality management system.

Job No.	Issue No.	Notes/Description	Issue Date
16-0344	1	Draft Report	28 November 2016
16-0344	2	Final Report	9 December 2016

Quality Assurance

GML Heritage Pty Ltd operates under a quality management system which has been certified as complying with the Australian/New Zealand Standard for quality management systems AS/NZS ISO 9001:2008.

The report has been reviewed and approved for issue in accordance with the GML quality assurance policy and procedures.

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Date:	9 December 2016	**Date:**	9 December 2016

Cover Image: CSIRO Headquarters, Limestone Avenue, Canberra. (Source: CSIRO <scienceimage.csiro.au>)

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Executive Summary

Campbell Section 38 is the site of the former Commonwealth Science and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Headquarters located in Canberra's central north. In 2016, developer DOMA Group (DOMA) purchased the site with the intention to develop it into a residential precinct. The CSIRO Headquarters, discussed in this report, comprise three buildings related to CSIRO operations including two office buildings and a combined lobby and conference centre.

The first two structures (the purpose-built office building and conference centre) were constructed on the site in 1970 to designs prepared by architectural firm McConnel, Smith & Johnson (now MSJ Group), with the third building constructed in the early 1980s to a design by the Department of Housing and Construction.

DOMA commissioned GML Heritage Pty Ltd (GML) to prepare a heritage assessment of the extant buildings as a condition of a Development Control Plan (DCP) (16/01).

This report provides an understanding of the place to inform the heritage assessment, including the historical context, description of the site its buildings, current condition and integrity, and a comparative analysis with other buildings constructed during the same period of development and by McConnel, Smith & Johnson.

The assessment of the buildings at Campbell Section 38 against the ACT Heritage criteria of the *Heritage Act 2004* (ACT) identifies that they meet the threshold for listing against three criteria—for their historic, representative characteristics, and associative values.

Recommendations have been provided in this report to guide DOMA in the next stages of the development and how to manage the identified heritage values, including:

- submitting this heritage assessment report to the NCA for advice regarding the identification of heritage values;
- consulting with the NCA to confirm the process for managing the values during the development of the site (including if the report should be submitted to ACT Heritage, as per the recommendations in the DCP);

- if required by the authorities, preparing an archival record of the buildings prior to demolition works that includes a photographic recording and compilation of architectural documentation; and
- advising MSJ Group as the moral rights holders of the design of the former CSIRO Headquarters, about the proposed works.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

In June 2016, DOMA Group (DOMA) purchased the site known as Campbell Section 38 of the former Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Headquarters, (referred to in this report as the site, or former CSIRO Headquarters). The National Capital Authority (NCA) has provided a Development Control Plan (DCP) 16/01 for Blocks 4 and 5, Section 38 Campbell, May 2016, which provides the framework for DOMA's development on the site; it includes a requirement to undertake a heritage assessment of the buildings.

GML Heritage Pty Ltd (GML) has been commissioned to assess the potential heritage significance of the buildings, comprising a five-storey office building (the main headquarters building—Building 1), an adjoining single level lobby and double-octagonal roofed conference centre (Building 2), and a separate two-storey office building (Building 3).

The buildings were not assessed for potential heritage significance by CSIRO prior to disposal from Commonwealth ownership. A desktop cultural heritage assessment was prepared for the site by Biosis in 2013, however it did not assess the historic heritage values of the landscape setting or of the buildings on the site, instead focusing on the European archaeological potential and Aboriginal values.

1.2 Site Identification

Campbell Section 38 is located on Limestone Avenue in the inner north suburb of Campbell in Canberra, north of Reid. The 40,107square metre site is approximately two kilometres from the city centre and one kilometre from the Australian War Memorial (AWM).

The site is bordered by Campbell High School to the south, Ainslie Argyle Housing to the east, the suburb of Ainslie to the north, and Limestone Avenue to the west. Refer to Figures 1.1 and 1.2.

1.3 Heritage Status

The site and the buildings at Campbell Section 38 were not for their heritage significance against the Commonwealth heritage criteria prior to disposal from Commonwealth ownership. Neither the site, nor the buildings are listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL) nor the ACT Heritage Register.

1.4 Methodology

As the site is no longer owned by the Commonwealth Government, this heritage assessment comprises an evaluation of the three buildings against ACT Heritage criteria of the *Heritage Act 2004* (ACT). Reference has also been made to the ACT Government's *Heritage Assessment Policy*, dated February 2015, which guides the nomination, assessment and decision making process about heritage places and objects against the criteria.

1.4.1 Relevant Documentation and Sources

Information regarding the history, description and development of the site is not readily available. Limited historic research has been undertaken for the preparation of this assessment including from the following secondary documentary sources:

- CSIRO Site—Block 4 & 5 Section 38 Campbell—Desktop review European and Aboriginal Heritage, prepared by Biosis for Purdon Associates, 25 October 2013;
- Taylor, J 2007, P*eter Johnson and the Architecture of McConnel Smith and Johnson; the First Forty Years*, published in Architecture Australia, MSJ Special Issue;
- Taylor, J 1990, *Australian Architecture Since 1960*, Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA);
- Connor, J R 1970*, A Guide to Canberra Buildings*, Angus and Robertson in association with The Royal Institute of Architects;
- communication with the buildings' architects McConnel, Smith & Johnson (now MSJ Group);
- newspaper articles from 1969; and
- resources from local repositories such as the ACT Heritage Library.

1.4.2 Burra Charter Principles

This assessment was prepared in accordance with *The Burra Charter, The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013* (the Burra Charter) and its practice notes.

The term 'cultural significance' used in the Burra Charter is synonymous with the term 'heritage significance' or 'heritage values'. This report uses the term 'heritage significance'. The Burra Charter's definition of cultural significance is as follows:

> *Cultural significance means aesthetic historic scientific social or spiritual value for past, present and future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric and setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects.*

1.5 Limitations

The following tasks were not included in the brief and therefore not undertaken:

- public consultation for a social values assessment;
- detailed structural condition assessment;
- assessment of natural heritage values; nor
- research into Indigenous heritage values or survey of Aboriginal sites.

1.6 Authorship and Acknowledgements

This report was prepared by a GML project team including Sarah Webeck, Senior Heritage Consultant; Hannah Griffiths, Heritage Consultant; and Rachel Jackson, Principal.

GML wishes to acknowledge the assistance of the following people in this project:

- David Carey, DOMA Group;
- Sam Toole, DOMA Group;

- Louise Cox, Secretary/Treasurer Docomomo Australia, former Director of MSJ Group, who provided information on the architectural history of the buildings; and
- Mark Willett, Director, MSJ Group, who provided information on the architectural history of the buildings.

Figure 1.1 Location of Campbell Section 38 (red border) within the context of Canberra, showing the proximity to the AWM, Campbell High School and the City Centre. (Source: Google Maps with GML overlay)

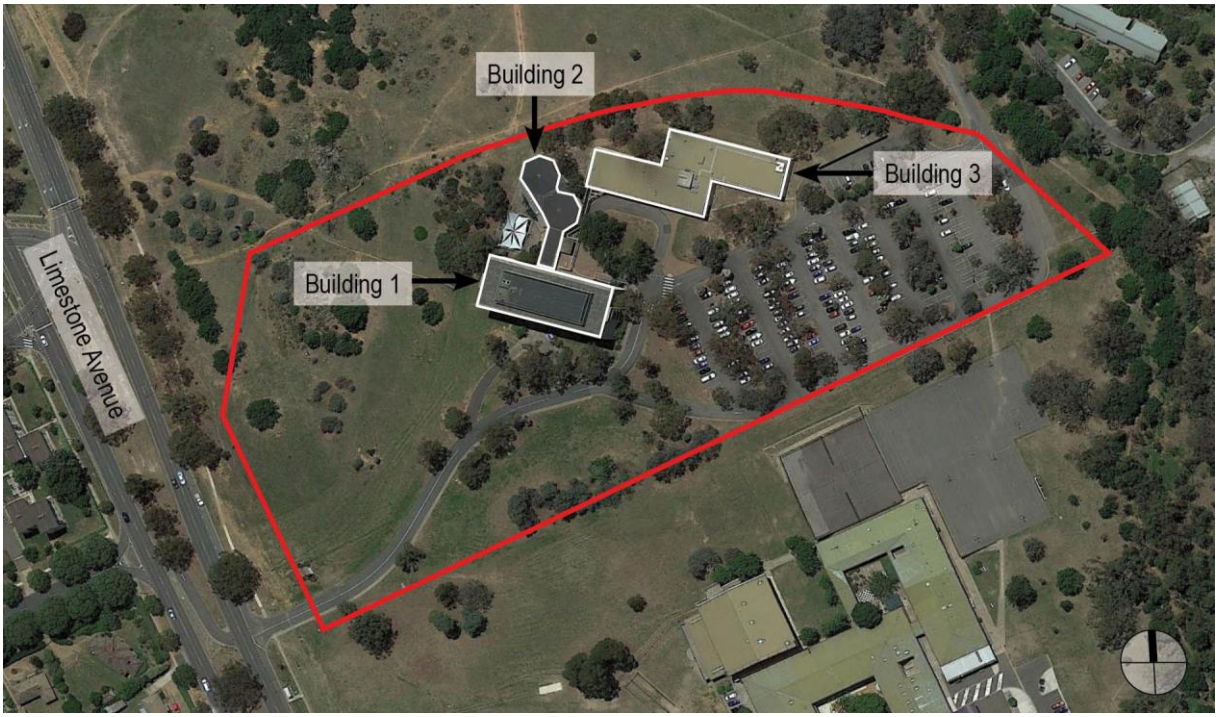

Figure 1.2 Campbell Section 38, showing the layout and setback of the three buildings on site. (Source: Google Maps with GML overlay)

2.0 Understanding the Place

2.1 Introduction

This section provides a summary history and context of Campbell Section 38 to inform the assessment of significance.

2.2 Historical Context

2.2.1 Early History of the Canberra Region

Before European settlement in the region, Aboriginal people occupied the hills and plains of the Molonglo Valley for over 20 000 years. The Canberra landscape and its relationship to Aboriginal people formed an integral part of the Aboriginal lifestyle and belief system and was related to the seasonal cyclic and episodic movement of people across the land seeking food, fibre sources and for trade and ceremonial purposes. The hills and valleys of the Canberra area not only provided resources but also formed navigational markers. Mount Ainslie, Mount Pleasant and Black Mountain were primary navigational sites and markers in relation to the many trails and tracks, which early explorers and settlers noted as they traversed and investigated the land.

The 2013 Biosis report indicates that ten Aboriginal sites are located within three kilometres of the site, however most are located on the slopes of Mount Ainslie and none fell within the site boundary.[1]

The earliest known exploration of the Canberra region by Europeans took place in 1820 lead by Charles Throsby. This began an interest in the area and the land around the Molonglo River became available for land grants. By the mid-to-late 1800s, the region's farming and pastoral activity was centred around the Molonglo River flood plain (now the area of Lake Burley Griffin).

2.2.2 Establishment of the National Capital

The proclamation of the Commonwealth of Australia in 1900 and the establishment of its first Parliament in 1901 necessitated the founding of a capital as a physical manifestation of the act of Federation. After much debate and conflicting opinions of where such a city should be set, the Molonglo district was chosen as the most probable site for the Federal Capital. Charles Robert Scrivener, district surveyor to the new Federal Government, recommended the site be confirmed for the Federal Capital which was accepted by the Parliament in 1909.

In 1911 the Commonwealth Government launched an international competition for the design of the Federal Capital which was won by Chicago architect Walter Burley Griffin.

In March 1913 Lady Denman, wife of the Governor-General, officially named the city 'Canberra' and the building of the city started in earnest.

2.2.3 National Capital Development Commission

The National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) was the principal planning body in the ACT from 1958 until 1989, formed under the Commonwealth *National Capital Development Commission Act* passed in August 1957. The role of the NCDC was to 'plan, develop and construct Canberra as Australia's National Capital'.[2]

After a long period of stagnating development of the national capital during the war years, the NCDC played an important and influential role in Canberra's planning and architectural development. It facilitated the transfer of public servants from Melbourne and Sydney and was responsible for the physical growth of the city to accommodate Commonwealth services and its new residents.

There was rapid growth in Canberra during 1960s and 1970s, with the early years of the NCDC focused toward meeting the immediate needs of office accommodation, serviced residential land, houses and schools.

2.2.4 Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)

The organisation began as the Advisory Council of Science and Industry in 1916 as an initiative of Prime Minister Billy Hughes, which evolved to become the Institute for Science and Industry in 1920 under an Act of Federal Parliament.[3] The headquarters were established at 314 Albert Street East Melbourne.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) was formed by the Commonwealth in 1926 to support scientific research, following a revision of the *Science and Industry Research Act* by Prime Minister Stanley Bruce, which included an increase of funding. In 1949 the *Science and Industry Research Act* was changed again, to establish the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), which continues to function to this day.[4]

Today, the scientific research organisation employs over 5,380 members of staff and occupies 56 sites across Australia and internationally.[5] They operate from several sites in Canberra including Black Mountain, Crace, Yarralumla, Acton, Ginninderra and Tidbinbilla. The headquarters for the organisation are now based at the Black Mountain site, having relocated from Campbell Section 38 on Limestone Avenue in early 2016.

It is a significant scientific organisation which has advanced Australia with a range of inventions and innovations that have had significant positive impact on the lives of people around the world.[6] It is Australia's largest patent holder with more than 1800 patents, and contribute significantly to the Australian economy through the numerous research and development projects.

2.2.5 McConnel Smith & Johnson Architects

McConnel, Smith & Johnson (now MSJ Group) is a Sydney-based architectural practice established in 1955. Originally formed in 1949 by architect Kenneth McConnel, whose designs had been recognised before World War II with the presentation of Sulman Award when he was a partner of Fowell, McConnel & Mansfield.[7]

McConnel's practice grew in the early 1950s, with Stan Smith joining in 1950 and RN (Peter) Johnson joining in 1951. Smith, a modernist and admirer of Walter Gropius's idea of collaboration within an architect's office, encouraged a team based approach to practice and this was adopted. As Jennifer Taylor has written, the firm 'approached architecture as problem-solving, insisting on a rational basis for design, and valuing above all a building that "works well"'.[8] Smith became a partner in 1952 and Johnson followed in 1954. From 1955 the firm was henceforth known as McConnel, Smith & Johnson.

Towards the end of the 1950s, young architects in the firm included, among others, David Jackson, Tony Moore and Peter Keys (who later became well known architects in Australia in the 1970s–80s), all fresh from time in London where the issues of urban context, modernist critique and brutalism were part of daily discourse.

By the early 1970s, the firm had opened an office in Canberra and had completed a series of projects including the CSIRO division of computing research building (1964), CSIRO Headquarters building (1970), the Boulevard Complex, City Walk (1973), the Canberra House and Club (1976); the National Press Club (1976) and the Benjamin Offices (1978–79). Their work was in the prevailing Canberra style of 'simple geometric forms clad with off-form concrete or off-white pre-cast concrete panels'.[9]

The firm became noted for producing reliable, cost-efficient buildings of a reserved character with simple, straightforward designs. They had a strong focus on client satisfaction by designing basic, functional buildings, 'regarding it as a serious architectural concern, as these buildings constitute a considerable percentage of the built environment'.[10]

In 1985 Peter Johnson won the gold medal of the RAIA for services to architecture and education, in 1979 he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia and, in 2002, a Companion in the Order of Australia.[11]

2.2.6 CSIRO Headquarters, Campbell Section 38

McConnel, Smith & Johnson won the contract to design the national corporate headquarters for the CSIRO at Campbell, with Geoff Butterworth as the lead architect operating out of their Canberra office.

Construction of the first stage of the proposed development at Campbell was approved in 1969, with the five-storey office building and attached single-storey annex containing a lobby and conference centre to be constructed. The Minister for the Interior Mr Nixon announced in 1969 that the building 'would become a landmark in the area'. The NCDC awarded the contract for construction to Citra (Australia) Ltd for $1,438,996.

JR Connor's *A Guide to Canberra Buildings* published in 1970 references the CSIRO Headquarters site as being under construction. He writes that 'the complex will ultimately consist of a display centre, two office blocks, a conference centre and a library'.[12] However, the later stages of the proposed development were never fully realised. Construction was completed in 1970, with staff moving from Melbourne and Canberra to the new corporate headquarters.

The third building on site, a two-storey office building, was constructed in the early 1980s to architectural drawings prepared by the Commonwealth Department of Housing and Construction in 1981.

Geoff Butterworth continued to practice in Canberra (after McConnel, Smith & Johnson closed its office) from his own architectural firm, working on numerous office buildings and refurbishment projects throughout the city until 2000.

2.3 Summary Chronology

An overview of the history and development of the CSIRO and the buildings at Campbell Section 38, is provided as a summary chronology at Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 Summary Chronology of the Development of the Buildings at Campbell Section 38.

Date	Event or Phase of Development
1820s	First contact in the Canberra region occurs between Aboriginal people and Europeans.
1841	The New South Wales census reports that the population of the present-day Canberra city area was 451 people.

Date	Event or Phase of Development
1909	Parliament accepts the recommendation that the Molonglo district becomes the location for the Federal Capital.
1911	The new Federal Capital Territory was created on 1 January.
1913	The city of Canberra is officially named by Lady Denman. Waler Burley Griffin won the international design competition for layout of the capital city.
1916	The Australian Government establishes the Advisory Council of Science and Industry, with the headquarters at 314 Albert Street East Melbourne.
1920	The Advisory Council evolves to become the Institute for Science and Industry by an Act of Federal Parliament.
1921	The Federal Capital Advisory Committee is set up and lead by Sir John Sulman. It is replaced with the Federal Capital Commission in 1925.
1926	The Act formalising the Institute for Science and Industry is revised to form the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). It is still based in Melbourne.
1927	The CSIR has 53 members of staff located across all six Australian states. The official opening of the CSIR offices at Black Mountain takes place. Two divisions are set up in Canberra: Economic Botany and Economic Entomology.[13]
1939-1945	The CSIR works closely with the Australian Defence Forces to assist in the war effort including research into radar technology.
1949	The CSIR is renamed the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), constituted by the provisions of the *Science and Industry Research Act 1949*.
1955	The Sydney based architectural firm of McConnel, Smith & Johnson was formally established with the partnership of Kenneth McConnel, Stan Smith and Peter Johnson.
1958	The National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) is established as the principal planning body in the ACT, formed under the Commonwealth *National Capital Development Commission Act* passed in August 1957. Sir John Overall is appointed Commissioner. One of its key tasks is to facilitate the transfer of public servants from Melbourne to Canberra, including staff from the CSIRO.
1968	The Campbell site is chosen as the location for the new CSIRO Headquarters to house approximately 250 officers. A *Canberra Times* article from 28 March references 'a conference centre and a science pavilion…to be built on the lower slopes of Mount Ainslie'.[14]
1969	Sir Frederick White (Deputy Chairman of the Organisation from 1957–59 and Chairman from 1959–70 and Chief Executive from 1949-56) turns the first sod for the new five-storey building.[15]
1970	CSIRO staff move to Canberra on the completion of construction of the five-storey building and adjacent conference centre at the Campbell site designed by McConnel, Smith & Johnson.
1981	The separate two-storey office building (Building 3) is designed and constructed by the Commonwealth Department of Housing and Construction.
1989	The NCDC is abolished. Responsibility for managing Commonwealth lands within the ACT is passed to the National Capital Planning Authority (now the NCA).
2016	DOMA Group purchase Campbell Section 38. CSIRO staff relocate to the facilities at Black Mountain.

Figure 2.1 The official opening of the CSIRO offices at Black Mountain in 1927. (Source: ABC News, 14 September 2012, <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-09-14/csiro-puts-history-under-the-microscope/4260972>)

Figure 2.2 Chairman of the CSIRO Sir Frederick White turning the first sod of the new headquarters building in 1969. (Source: Canberra Times, 10 July 1969)

CSIRO staff move with their office records into the new $1.25 million building on Limestone Avenue, near the Campbell High School, yesterday. By the end of this month most of the administrative staff from Melbourne and Canberra will have moved into the new offices.

Figure 2.3 CSIRO staff moving into the new headquarters building at Limestone Avenue, c1970. (Source: <https://events.csiro.au/Events/2016/February/5/Leaving-Limestone>)

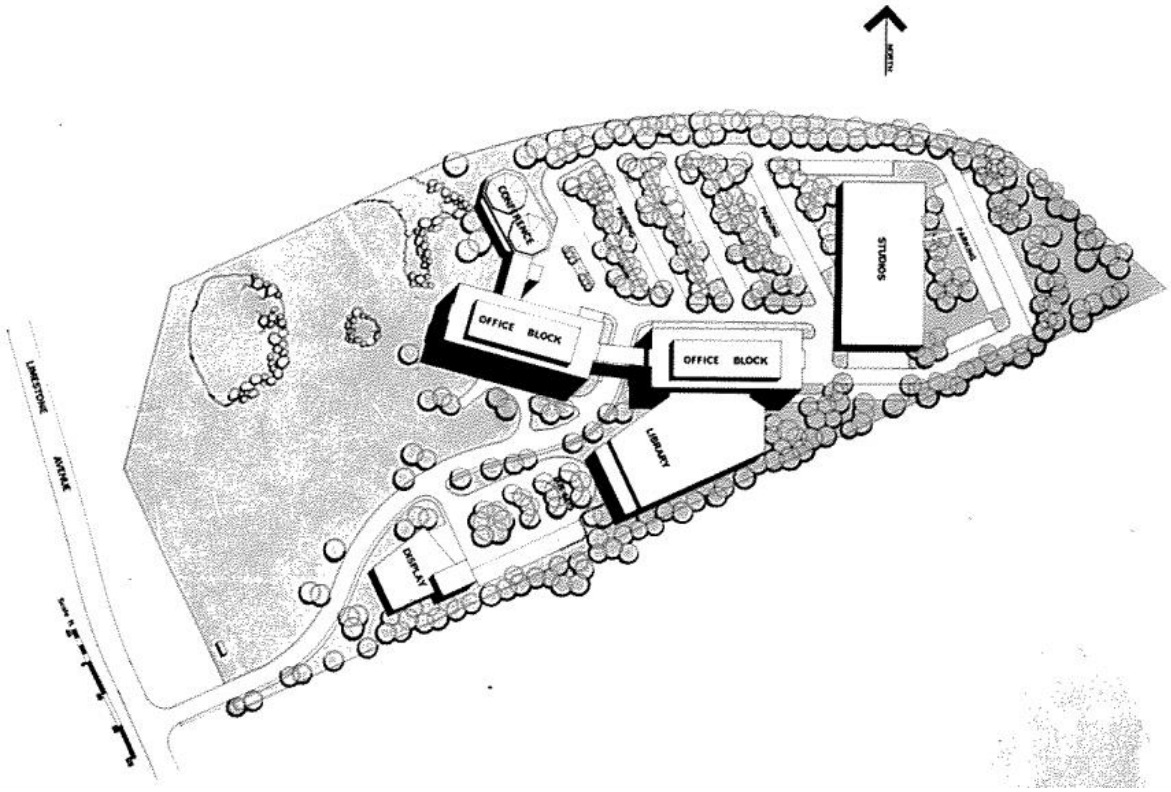

Figure 2.4 Site plan for the CSIRO headquarters, prepared by McConnel, Smith & Johnson, showing the full extent of the proposed development, including a library, additional office block and buildings which were never constructed. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

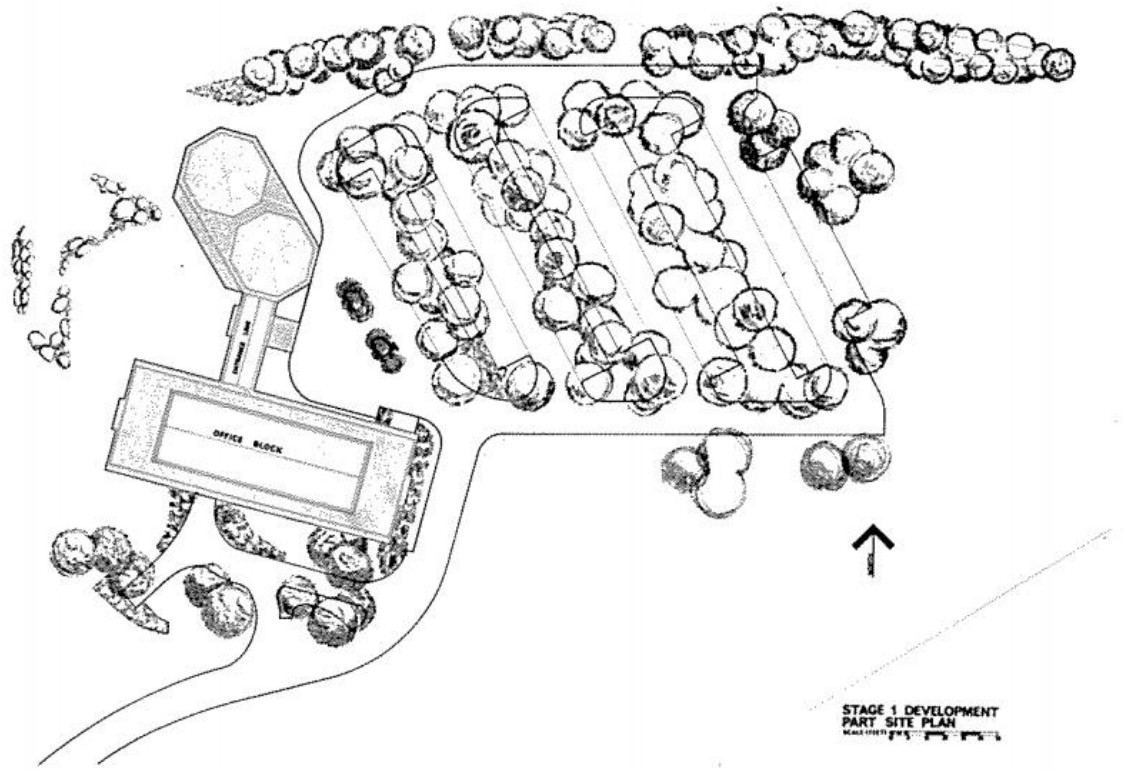

Figure 2.5 Stage 1 development site plan, showing the five-storey office building (Building 1) and adjacent lobby and conference centre (Building 2) which were constructed in 1970. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

Figure 2.6 Architectural model of the proposed CSIRO Headquarters showing the five-storey office building and attached single-storey annex. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

Figure 2.7 Architectural model of the proposed CSIRO Headquarters showing the five-storey office building and attached single-storey annex. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

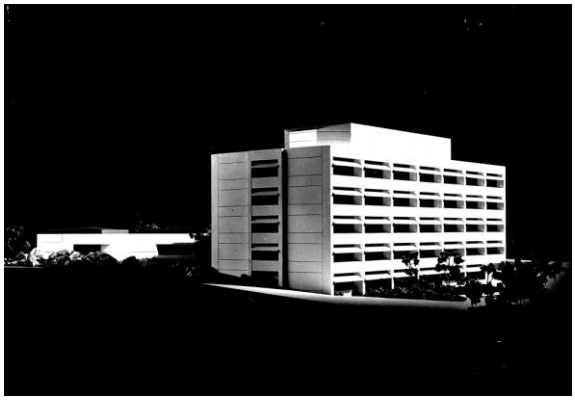

Figure 2.8 Architectural model of the proposed CSIRO Headquarters showing the five-storey office building and attached single-storey annex. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

Figure 2.9 Architectural model of the proposed CSIRO Headquarters showing the five-storey office building and attached single-storey annex. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

Figure 2.10 Architectural models by MSJ of the proposed CSIRO Headquarters comprising the five-storey office building and attached single-storey annex. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

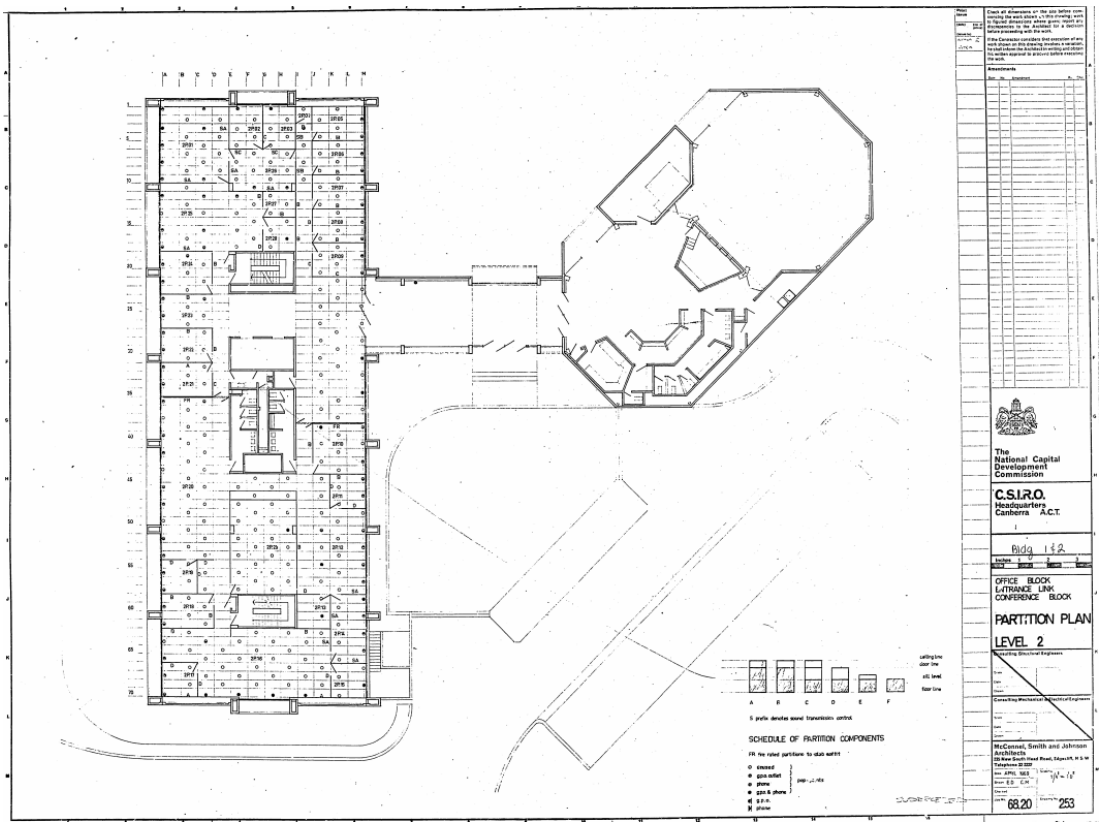

Figure 2.11 Original architectural drawings of Level 2 (main floor) of Buildings 1 and 2, with the varying timber and glazing components of the office partition walls (Source: DOMA Group)

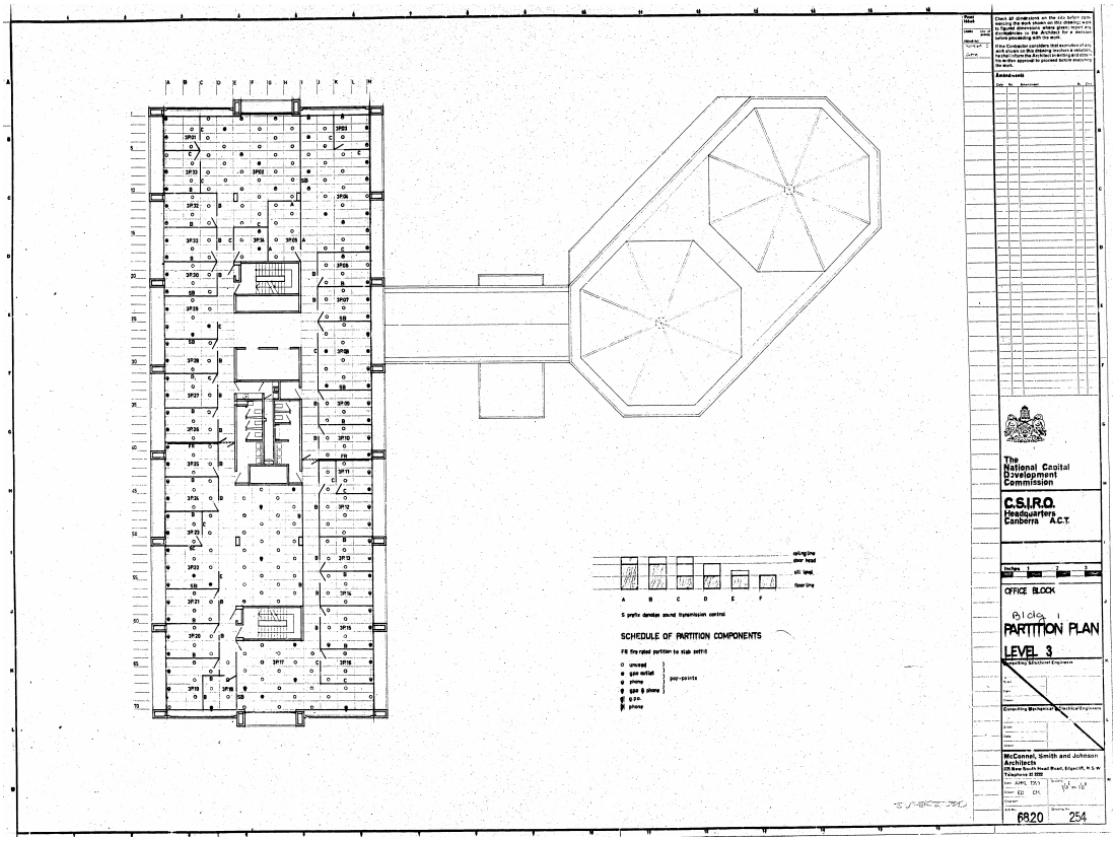

Figure 2.12 Original architectural drawings of Level 3 of Building 1, with the partition wall schedule (Source: DOMA Group)

Figure 2.13 Sir Frederick White, (CSIRO Deputy Chairman, 1957–59, Chairman 1959–70 and Chief Executive 1949–56) during the construction of the CSIRO Headquarters Limestone Avenue. (Source: <http://scienceimage.csiro.au/image/1892/frederick-white-1905-1994-/>)

Figure 2.14 CSIRO Headquarters, 1970. (Source: photographer David Moore, in Taylor, J 2007, P*eter Johnson and the Architecture of McConnel Smith and Johnson; the First Forty Years*, published in Architecture Australia, MSJ Special Issue)

Figure 2.15 View west toward Building 1 of the CSIRO Headquarters, 1984. (Source: NLA, B6295 7280/16, 31145217)

Figure 2.16 Interior fitout of the CSIRO Headquarters (Building 1), showing moveable partition wall, and original furnishings. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

Figure 2.17 Interior fitout of the CSIRO Headquarters (Building 1), showing timber partition office walls with highlight glazing, and original furnishings. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

Figure 2.18 Interior of entrance foyer to the Conference Centre (Building 2), showing extensive timber panelling, ceiling and lighting detailing and original furnishings. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

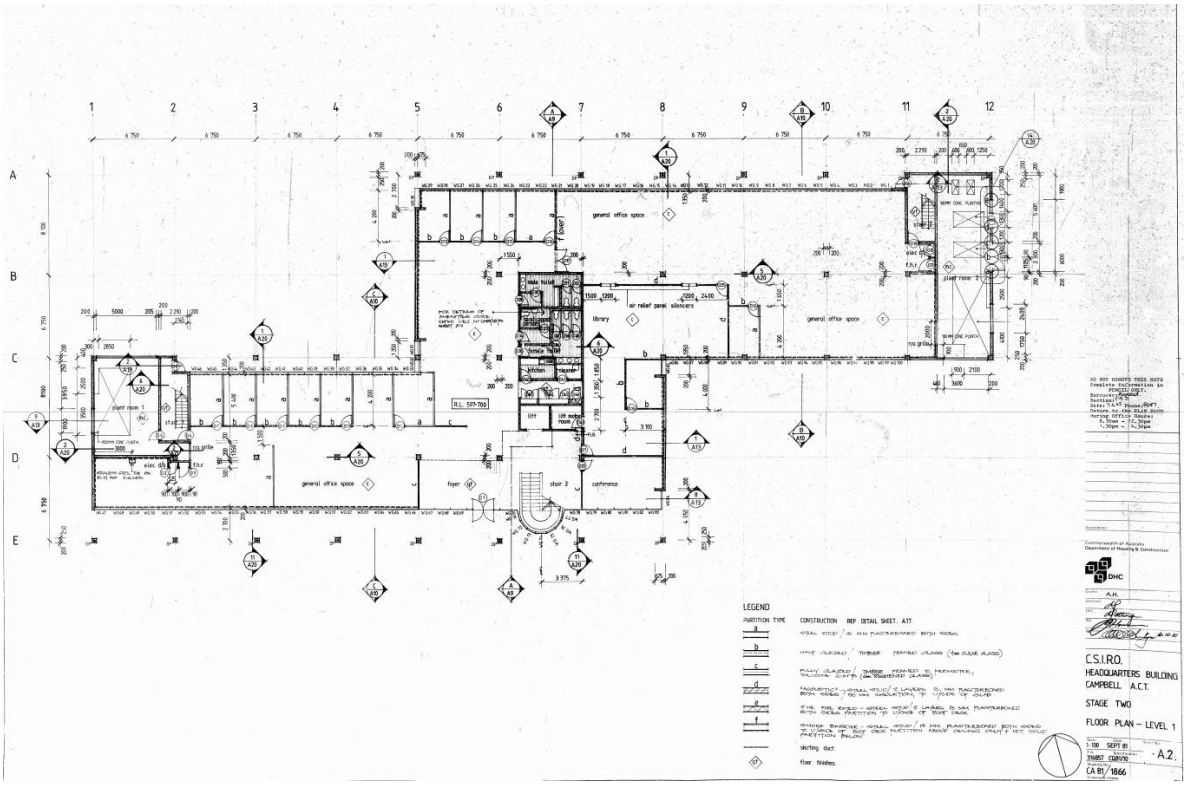

Figure 2.19 Original architectural drawings of Building 3, Level 1 (ground floor), 1981. (Source: DOMA Group)

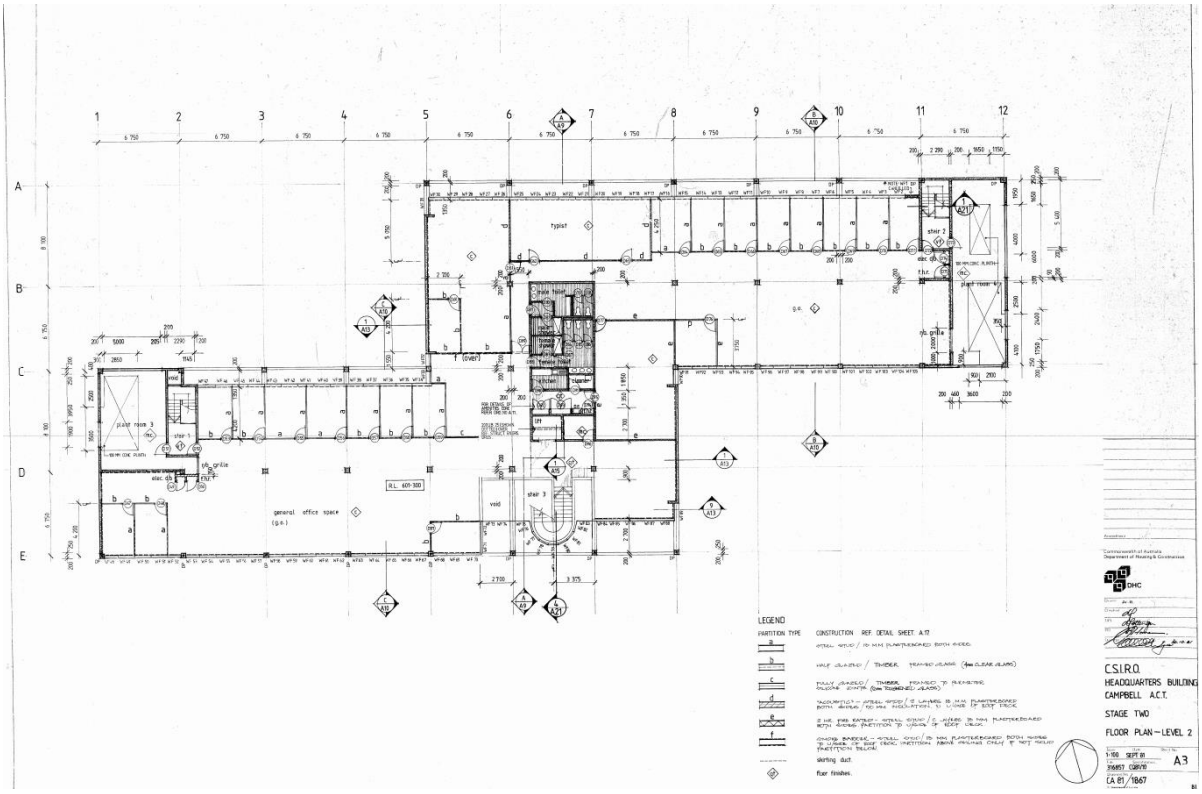

Figure 2.20 Original architectural drawings of Building 3, Level 2, 1981. (Source: DOMA Group)

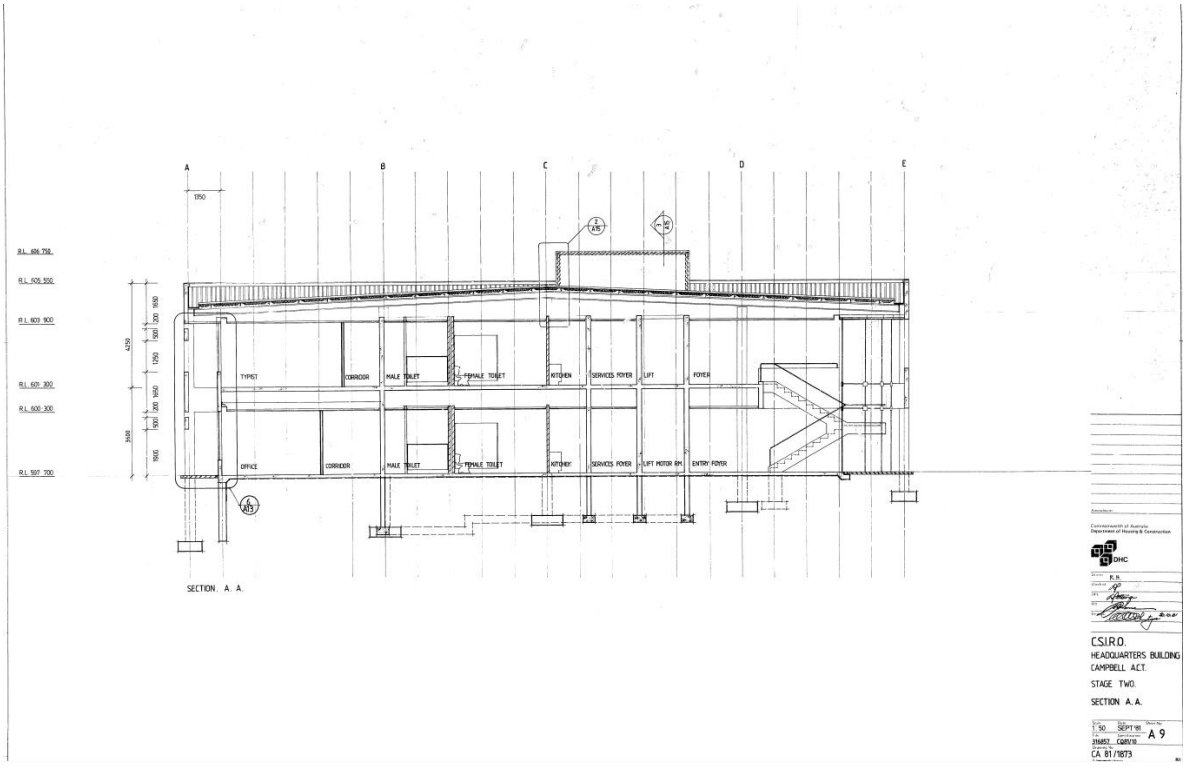

Figure 2.21 Original architectural drawings of Building 3, section detail, 1981. (Source: DOMA Group)

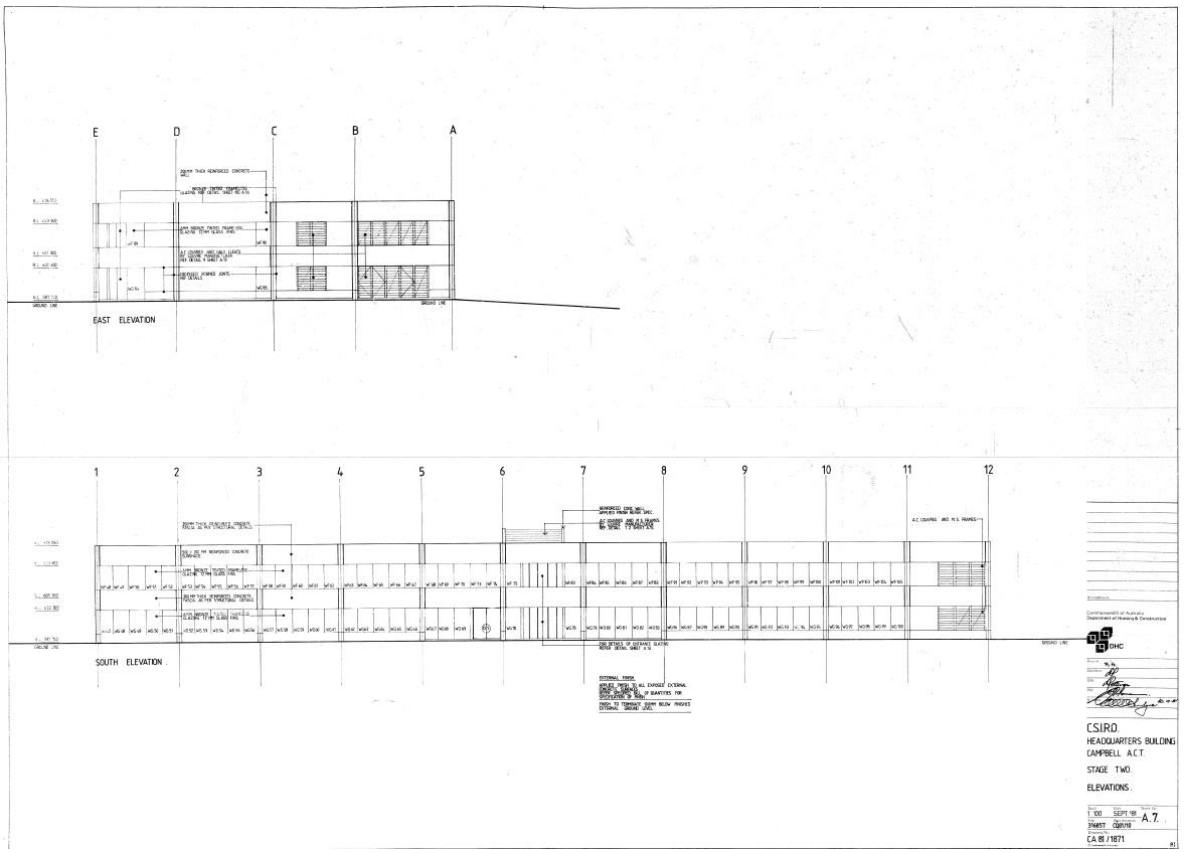

Figure 2.22 Original architectural drawings of Building 3, elevations, 1981. (Source: DOMA Group)

Figure 2.23 Interior photo of Building 3, entry foyer and stairs, 1984. (Source: NLA, B6295 7280/3, 31145204)

Figure 2.24 View east toward Building 3, 1984. (Source: NLA, B6295 7280/6, 31145207)

Figure 2.25 View south toward Building 3 with Building 1 in the background, 1984. (Source: NLA, B6295 7280/13, 31145214)

Figure 2.26 View west toward Building 3, 1984. (Source: NLA, B6295 7280I, 31145192)

Figure 2.27 View north toward Building 3 from Building 1, 1984. (Source: NLA, B6295 7280O, 31145198)

Figure 2.28 Main entry to Building 3, 1984. (Source: NLA, B6295 7280N, 32721017)

Figure 2.29 View north toward Building 3 entrance, 1984. (Source: NLA, B6295 7280G, 31145190)

Figure 2.30 View west with Building 1 on the left, Building 2 in the middle and Building 3 on the right, 1984. (Source: NLA, B6295 7280/11, 31145212)

2.4 Site Description

2.4.1 Built Elements

The three buildings at Campbell Section 38 comprise a five-storey office building (Building 1—constructed 1970), an adjoining single-storey lobby and double-octagonal roofed conference centre (Building 2—constructed 1970), and a separate two-storey office building (Building 3—constructed c1984).

Building 1 (Main Building)—1970

The main building on site, Building 1, is a five-storey rectangular office building, constructed of reinforced concrete. A large inset concrete plant room extends above the fifth floor, with a copper roof.

Externally the north and south facades of the building present as seven 'bays', with horizontal rows of windows, divided by projecting concrete walls. The narrower east and west facades have centrally located windows on each floor, with concrete panels either side. The windows are recessed into the façade, with small pebbles placed in the outer window ledges.

The angled concrete sun shade 'awnings' over each window are a key design feature, and representative of McConnel, Smith & Johnson's architectural style of at the time (and characteristic of the late twentieth century international style).

The entrance to the building is via a lobby area through glass sliding doors beneath a concrete portico in the single-storey link between Buildings 1 and 2. The lobby area has a low timber lined ceiling with concrete detailing, and moulded timber plywood panels over the former reception desk area.

Internally each floor comprises a central core containing toilets, a small kitchenette and elevator block with two stairwells at each end, surrounded by offices on the outside of a circulation corridor. Each floor has varying arrangements of offices formed by metal framed partition walls. The walls themselves differ in their design with some comprising predominantly timber panels with only upper glazing panels, and others with glazing panels from half height. The wall designs allow natural light to enter the internally positioned offices.

The positioning of the walls results in different office configurations with various sized office spaces, interchanged with larger boardroom or meeting-type areas. Some of the offices contain built-in shelving and coat cupboards, constructed of the same timber as the walls. The floors are all carpeted. A built-in drinking water fountain is located in the wall in the corridor adjacent to the kitchenette. The signage detailing on the doors (ie 'Fire Exit') is original to the design and shown in early drawings.

Building 2 (Conference Centre)—1970

The Conference Centre (Building 2) is a single-storey concrete building with a copper roof over two adjoining octagonal spaces which form a fully customised, architecturally detailed and self-contained conference facility. The Conference Centre is joined to Building 1 via the single-storey lobby area, and the entrance is through two double-doors clad in horizontal timber plywood sheets set within a concrete wall.

Within the first octagonal space is the 'conference entrance foyer', lined entirely with horizontal plywood wall panels and decorative, 'modern' moulded plywood detailing. The space contains a projector room, kitchenette area, toilets, store room, built within the form of the outer walls concealed

behind flush timber panelled doors. A four-sided timber-panelled half-height wall is centrally located and provides a partially enclosed waiting/seating area.

Eight large timber beams extend out from a central timber octagonal piece, forming a dramatic ceiling feature. Recessed between the timber beams are ceiling panels providing lighting to the space.

The second octagonal space is the 'conference facility'; it is more open than the entrance foyer, filling the entire space. It is entirely lined with plywood panels and, also has a decorative moulded plywood detailing and the same timber beam ceiling structure. Design features include acoustic timber wall detailing, sliding timber walls concealing a white board/projector screen, and cutouts in the wall to the projector room.

Building 3 (Office Building)—c1984

Building 3 was constructed approximately 10 years later than the first two structures, however was designed to be sympathetic to the existing buildings. It is a two-storey concrete office building in the form of two offset rectangular structures.

The facades display long horizontal fenestration broken up by vertical concrete elements. A full height concrete pergola structure (with detailing complementing the main building on site) extends out on the northern façade of both parts of the building, with the windows recessed, offering shelter from the sun. The windows along the southern façade of the eastern part of building are flush with the concrete wall. The southern façade of the western part of the building has recessed windows on the ground floor and flush on the first floor.

The main entrance is through glass doors to a double-height foyer where a stairwell is located within a glazed semi-circular feature wall projecting out of the façade. Internally the building contains a central core with toilets, kitchenette, elevator and stores, and varying sized offices and large open office areas. Plant rooms are located at each of the narrow ends of the building.

2.4.2 Setting and Complex

The buildings have been carefully positioned high the block, on the lower slopes of Mount Ainslie and set back from Limestone Avenue to avoid the natural rocky outcrop.[16] The main building (Building 1) is well-sited as it does not dominate the landscape. While prominent on approach and visible from Limestone Avenue and within the grounds of Campbell High School, it is partially screened by stands of mature eucalypts and the sloping site. Its prominent position on the site means it is visible from distant viewpoints, set amongst its natural landscape surroundings, with glimpses of the structure visible from the neighbouring suburbs.

The three buildings form a rough 'u' shape around a looped driveway, with the main carpark to the east. Together the three buildings present as a cohesive complex, with similar use of materials, massing, and horizontal fenestration. A freestanding concrete column and frame structure was later added to the complex (not visible in photographs from 1984), projecting east from the portico of the main entrance/lobby between Buildings 1 and 2 and extending toward Building 3. It visually links the three buildings, and creates a sense of unity in the design.

A bronze sculpture entitled 'Il Grande Ascolto' (The Great Listening) by Italian sculptor Arnaldo Pomodoro was installed outside the main entrance in 1970, comprising two large discs mounted beside each other on a bronze base facing opposite directions. It was one of only two sculptures by the artist on public display in Australia, however it was damaged and part of it was stolen in 2014.[17]

2.4.3 Exterior Photographs

The following photographs are of the exterior of the former CSIRO Headquarters at Campbell Section 38. All photographs are by GML, November 2016, unless otherwise stated.

Figure 2.31 Road entrance to former CSIRO Headquarters off Limestone Avenue. The signage block at the front and Building 1 in the background.

Figure 2.32 View looking southwest from the site, down to Limestone Avenue, and Black Mountain to the distant right.

Figure 2.33 View of Building 1 from Campbell High School, screened through the trees.

Figure 2.34 View from the main carpark toward the AWM and Campbell High School.

Figure 2.35 South facade of Building 1.

Figure 2.36 South façade of Building 1 showing concrete 'sunshade' awning detail.

Figure 2.37 North and east facade of Building 1.

Figure 2.38 East facade of Building 1.

Figure 2.39 Rear of Building 2 in foreground with north facade of Building 1 in background.

Figure 2.40 Window detail of Building 2.

Figure 2.41 View from Building 1 to roof of the lobby and conference centre Building 2, note copper elements removed.

Figure 2.42 West façade of the two-storey office Building 3.

Figure 2.43 North façade of the two-storey office Building 3.

Figure 2.44 North façade of the two-storey office Building 3, showing concrete detailing and sun shades.

Figure 2.45 South façade of Building 3.

Figure 2.46 South façade of Building 3, showing concrete framing structure visually 'joining' it to Building 2.

Figure 2.47 Concrete framing structure visually linking the three buildings.

Figure 2.48 Concrete framing structure visually linking the three buildings. Note also later added glazed panels.

2.4.4 Interior Photographs

The following photographs are of the interior of the former CSIRO Headquarters buildings at Campbell Section 38 after CSIRO had vacated. All photographs are by GML, November 2016, unless otherwise stated.

Figure 2.49 Moulded timber plywood ceiling in the single storey lobby building (joining Buildings 1 and 2).

Figure 2.50 Lowered timber panel ceiling in the single storey lobby building (joining Buildings 1 and 2).

Figure 2.51 Lobby area looking toward entrance doors to conference centre (Building 2).

Figure 2.52 Sample internal office in Building 1, showing timber partition walls and highlight glazing panels.

Figure 2.53 Sample office in Building 1, showing timber partition walls, highlight glazing panels, and custom built coat cupboard.

Figure 2.54 Sample office in Building 1, showing timber partition walls and highlight glazing panels.

Figure 2.55 Corridor in Building 1, showing offices positioned either side with timber partition walls and highlight glazing panels.

Figure 2.56 Built-in drinking fountain in the wall adjacent the kitchenette (evident on multiple floors).

Figure 2.57 Office in Building 1, showing custom designed timber shelving and storage unit, characteristically 'modern'.

Figure 2.58 Pebbles filling the 'window-boxes' of Building 1.

Figure 2.59 Later addition (circa 2000s) glazed and curved wall fitout at western end of floor five within Building 1.

Figure 2.60 Contemporary elevator area with new interior fitout (circa 2000s). Note possibly original timber lined ceiling.

Figure 2.61 Interior of entrance foyer to the conference centre (Building 2).

Figure 2.62 Ceiling of the entrance foyer of the conference centre (Building 2).

Figure 2.63 Conference centre (Building 2), showing expansive timber detailing and projector room wall cutouts.

Figure 2.64 Ceiling detail in the conference centre (Building 2).

Figure 2.65 Detail of timber in conference centre (Building 2).

Figure 2.66 Entrance doors to the foyer of Building 2.

Figure 2.67 Building 3, with stairs in curved wall entry foyer.

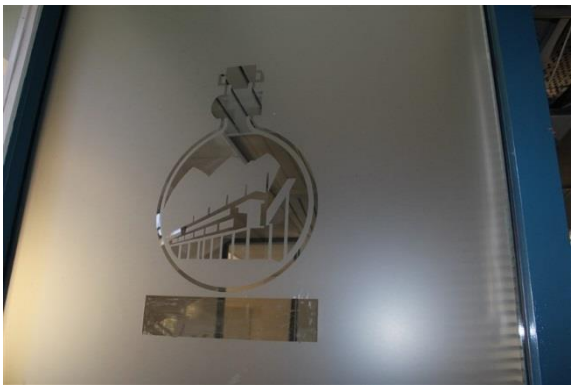

Figure 2.68 Glass etching symbol in interior of Building 3

Figure 2.69 Typical office fitout in interior of Building 3.

Figure 2.70 Typical office fitout in interior of Building 3.

2.5 Physical Condition and Integrity

2.5.1 Condition

'Condition' measures the degree to which a place retains the form and completeness of its physical fabric and the values which give the place its heritage significance.

Prior to the relocation of the CSIRO Headquarters staff to the Black Mountain site in early 2016, the buildings appeared to be in a good and stable condition.

Following a site inspection of the buildings in early November 2016, it was apparent that the condition of the buildings has deteriorated since being vacant, with increased vandalism and lack of maintenance contributing to its declining condition.[18]

The exterior of the main building (Building 1) appears to be in good condition generally, with key features intact. The interior of the main building is fair–poor with broken windows, vermin access, water ingress and the removal of parts of the interior fitout (shelving, furniture etc).

The unsolicited removal of most of the conference centre's (Building 2) copper roof in October 2016 has resulted in substantial water ingress through the remaining roof cladding and damage to the internal fabric such as the timber joinery and carpet flooring.

The exterior of the office building (Building 3) appears to be in good condition generally, with key features intact. The interior of the building is poor with broken windows, water ingress and the removal of parts of the interior fitout.

2.5.2 Integrity

'Integrity' is a measure of wholeness and intactness of a place and its heritage significance. Changes to a place have the potential to adversely affect the heritage significance, through loss of original features and unsympathetic alterations. Minor incremental changes also contribute to loss of integrity.

The integrity of the main building (Building 1) is reasonably high, with only minor changes appearing to have been undertaken since construction. These include upgrades to the foyer and lift area, contemporary curved wall and glazed office fitout in the west end of the fifth floor, a large canteen and dining area on the second (main) floor, replaced carpet and ceiling grid, and upgraded kitchenettes and bathrooms. The majority of the original timber and glazed partition walls of Building 1 remain, and the exterior the building has not changed.

The integrity of the conference centre (Building 2) was reasonably high, until the recent removal of the original copper roof; damaging the fabric. The now poor condition of the building has the potential to detrimentally impact the original architectural design and features.

The integrity of Building 3 is reasonably high, with only minor changes appearing to have been undertaken internally for the office fitout.

2.6 Comparative Analysis

2.6.1 Introduction

Comparing the former CSIRO Headquarters against other buildings of a similar architectural style, period of construction and development, provides a context for assessing the relative importance of

the buildings at Campbell Section 38. Comparison against other buildings by McConnel, Smith & Johnson also assists in understanding the representativeness of the Campbell Section 38 buildings.

2.6.2 Late Twentieth Century International Style

In Australia, the late twentieth-century international style was used mainly for commercial and institutional buildings, with a focus on rationality, comprehensibility, and simplicity, which was particularly attractive to clients who sought unpretentious efficiency and economy in their buildings.[19]

The characteristics of the style include an overall cubiform shape, often complemented by contrasting non-rectangular shapes and plain smooth wall surfaces, expressed structural frame, curtain walls and large areas of glazing complemented by contrasting textures, shade overhangs and external sun-control devices in the design, and open frame at the roof level and cantilevered elements.[20] The construction is generally steel and reinforced concrete frames with use of pre- and post-tensioned components to create dramatic forms.

Many examples of McConnel, Smith & Johnson's architectural work have been identified as late twentieth-century international style. In addition, there are several buildings in Canberra which are notable examples of this style, designed by other architects. These are discussed in brief below.

The Former Sydney Water Building, McConnel Smith & Johnson, 1963

The Former Metropolitan Water Sewerage and Drainage Board Head Office, No.115–119 Bathurst Street, Sydney, designed by McConnel, Smith & Johnson in 1963 is a significant building (identified as state significant in the 2008 CMP, and included in the Sydney LEP, 2012 I1672). It is recognised by the AIA on their Nationally Significant Twentieth Century Architecture register.

The significance of the site/building is described in the CMP and reference in the LEP listing:

- *As a fine and largely intact example of a progressive and influential Late Twentieth Century International Style high rise building.*
- *For its association with the architectural practice of McConnel, Smith and Johnson. The building is one of a group of buildings which demonstrate the gradual maturation of key characteristics of the work of this practice, in particular the use of horizontal sun shade devices and other passive climate control measures.*
- *For its demonstration of, and response to, the unique conditions of the Sydney historic and climatic environment. This building set a 'benchmark' in high rise design. The exterior of the building was to be a direct expression of its plan elements, which are defined by the structure, and the sun-control and cladding systems adopted. It was considered important to control sun penetration into the building in order to reduce heat gain, thus reducing initial and running costs of the air-conditioning system and to control sky glare.*
- *For the design of a new structural system that provided large, column free spaces and which decreased construction time. The use of materials, in particularly precast elements, was innovative for its time.*
- *Interiors retain a relatively high level of intactness, excluding the ground floor. There is a clear hierarchy of general office space and executive office space, public and staff-only areas.*
- *As the recipient of the City of Sydney Architecture Award in 1971.*[21]

The building is currently being demolished for the construction of a new apartment tower.

Figure 2.71 Former Sydney Water building (Source: David Moore, in Architecture Australia, 2007, MSJ Special Issue)

Figure 2.72 Former Sydney Water building (Source: State heritage inventory listing).

Law Courts and Law School Buildings, Sydney, McConnel Smith & Johnson, 1967/1968

The Commonwealth State Law Courts building was commissioned in 1967 and completed in 1977. The tower building, located in Queen's Square Sydney, houses the Supreme Court of NSW and the Federal Court in Sydney. It is a good example of the late twentieth century international architectural style,

The structure of the concrete floors supported on a steel frame with widely spaced columns is intended to be straightforward and economical, characteristic of McConnel Smith & Johnson architects who designed functional and efficient buildings. The various patterns created by the placement and shapes of openings and external concrete cladding respond to the orientation of the façade and respect the needs of the functions within.[22] The Law Courts building is currently being renovated with the original 1977 interior removed.[23]

The Law Courts building is located adjacent to the University of Sydney Law School Faculty building, also designed by McConnel Smith & Johnson in 1968. The Law School building is recognised as a notable example of late twentieth century brutalist architecture with its expressed precast concrete frame and narrow slot windows with projecting sun hoods, resulting in the two neighbouring buildings sharing a similar architectural language. It is currently being refurbished, which will alter the external design of the windows and add four more office floors to the top of the building.[24]

Figure 2.73 Commonwealth State Law Courts building, Sydney, 1977. (Source: David Moore, in Taylor, J *Australian Architecture since 1960*)

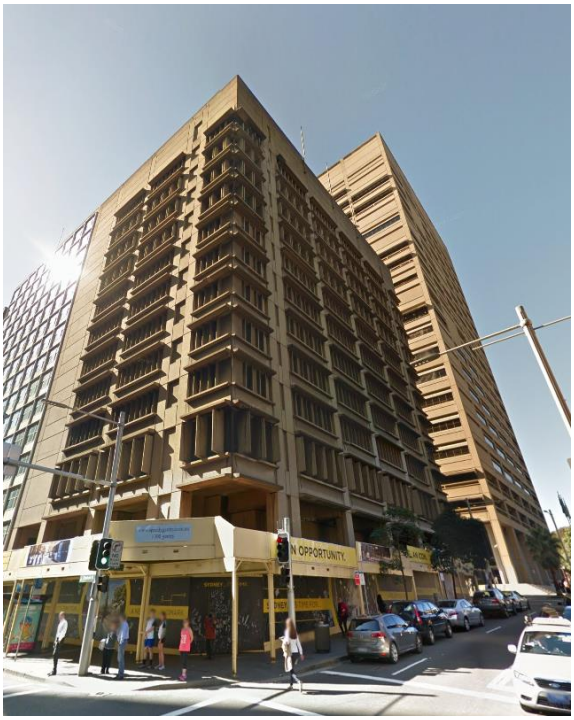

Figure 2.74 Street view of the University of Sydney Law School building, with the Law Courts building behind. (Source: Google street view, 2016)

Edmund Barton Offices, Canberra, Harry Seidler, 1974

The Edmund Barton Offices (former Trade Group Offices) building was designed by prominent architect Harry Seidler for the NCDC in 1969 with construction completed by 1974.

The building is listed on the CHL for its rarity, characteristic, aesthetic, creative and technical achievement, and associative values. It is a highly acclaimed example of the late twentieth-century international style of architecture in Australia and is the largest example in the ACT. The characteristic features of the style are its clear cubiform shape, the expression of its structural system, the control of architectural materials and detailing and the use of plain wall surfaces devoid of superficial ornamentation.

The building is important for its technical and design achievement and creative excellence, with the structural system, using precast post-tensioned 'T' floor beams supported by precast post-tensioned 'I' spandrel beams being innovative at the time of construction and the use of post-tensioned precast concrete 'T' beams now rare in Australia. Combined with the innovative design of connecting five storey wings joined by contrasting circular vertical access cores, the building provided an efficient and flexible office accommodation space.[25]

The Edmund Barton Offices (as the Trade Offices) building is listed on the AIA Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture (R090).

Figure 2.75 Edmund Barton Offices building (former Trade Group Offices), Barton. (Source: Max Dupain, <http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/heritage/photodb/imagesearch.pl?proc=detail;barcode_no=rt60227>)

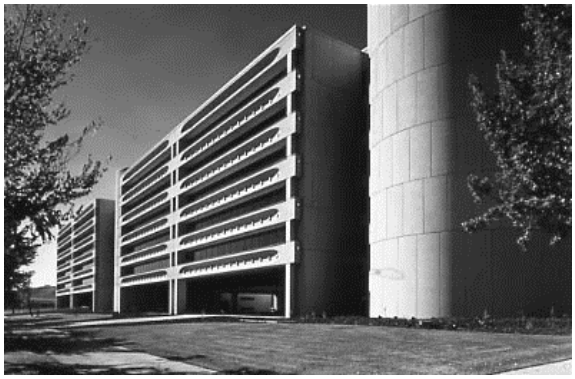

Figure 2.76 Edmund Barton Offices building (former Trade Group Offices), Barton. (Source: Max Dupain, <http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/heritage/photodb/imagesearch.pl?proc=detail;barcode_no=rt60231>)

Cameron Offices, Canberra, John Andrews, 1970–1976

Part of the large Cameron Offices complex (Wings 3, 4, 5 and Bridge), designed by renowned architect John Andrews, is listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL) for its rarity, characteristic, creative and technical achievement, and associative values. The Cameron Offices are listed on the AIA Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture (R101), and the International Union of Architects (UIA) World Register of Significant Twentieth Century Australian Architecture.

The Cameron Offices was the first building constructed in the new town centre of Belconnen, and Australia's largest office complex development at that time. Constructed to a brief by the NCDC to accommodate 4000 government employees, the design addressed the need for a sense of individual identity within a huge structure and resulted in a cohesive urban design and flexible building. [26]

The complex was one of the earliest and is a significant example of the late twentieth-century international style and late twentieth-century brutalist style in Canberra, and its low-rise rectangular form with intervening courtyards established a new design philosophy which was adopted by later Canberra's planners. Elements specific to the style include its precast post tensioned concrete, cubiform rectangular forms, structural frame expressed, large sheets of glass, and Corbusian ribbon windows.[27]

The remaining wings of the building complex were demolished in 2007–2008, and Wings 4 and 5 have been converted to use as student accommodation.

Figure 2.77 Cameron Offices, Belconnen 1976. (Source: David Moore, in Taylor, J *Australian Architecture since 1960*)

Figure 2.78 Cameron Offices, Belconnen. (Source: <http://www.architecture.org.au/news/archive-2012/322-cameron-offices-belconnen-by-john-andrews>)

Benjamin Offices, Canberra, McConnel Smith & Johnson, 1978–79

McConnel, Smith & Johnson were invited by the NCDC to design the Benjamin Offices, the second of the two large office complexes constructed in Belconnen, and required to accommodate 3500 public servants. Constructed shortly after the nearby Cameron Offices, the Benjamin Offices were built in two stages, and features elements of the late twentieth-century brutalist architectural style. The complex comprises groups of low-rise, stacked, rhomboid-shaped office floors linked by raised, open and covered pedestrian walkways. The design is typical of McConnel, Smith & Johnson's work, with straightforward construction, reinforced concrete, simple column and flat slab structure, off-form concrete external walls, horizontal detailing, and the shape of the office floors determined by the consideration of maximum space for outlook, orientation for climatic benefits and to provide variation in the work areas. To assist with orientation the building design utilises vibrant colour on the pressed metal ceiling coffers and external services to identify the various blocks. [28]

Along with the adjacent Cameron Offices, the complex was conceived as part of a larger urban system for the Belconnen Town Centre, connecting buildings with pedestrian paths allowing visitors and shoppers passage through the offices. A late change in the planning of the town centre and the location of the shopping centre resulted in the rationale of the designs for the Benjamin Offices and Cameron Offices being undermined; the raised pedestrian platforms and links with other buildings never fully realised.[29]

Benjamin Offices have been partially demolished, with the removal of some of the building 'wings' and the remaining structure has been refurbished. They have not been assessed as having any identified heritage values.

Figure 2.79 Benjamin Offices, Belconnen 1980. (Source: David Moore, in Architecture Australia, 2007, MSJ Special Issue)

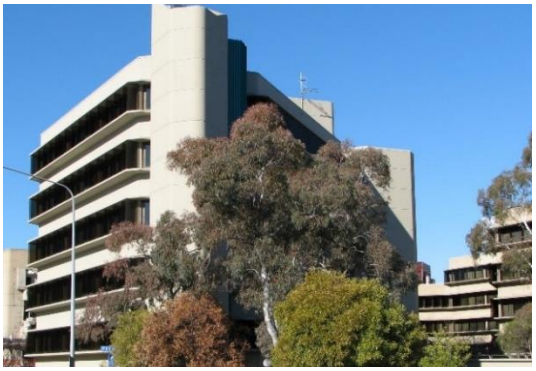

Figure 2.80 Benjamin Offices, Belconnen 1980. (Source: <http://morrispropertygroup.com.au/portfolio/benjamin-offices/>)

2.6.3 Architectural Work of McConnel Smith & Johnson in Canberra

McConnel, Smith & Johnson had a Canberra office during the NCDC's intensive development period for the Commonwealth, and designed several buildings in Canberra during the 1960s–70s, including the following:

- CSIRO (former) Division of Computing Research building (1964)—extant;
- CSIRO Headquarters (Buildings 1 and 2) (1970)—extant;
- Victorian Employees Federation building, Cnr Northbourne Ave and Macarthur Ave (1970)—partially demolished;
- New Zealand-Victoria Insurance Group building, 86 Northbourne Ave (1970)—demolished;
- IBM building, 80 Northbourne Avenue (1970)—demolished;
- Boulevard Complex, City Walk (1973)—demolished;
- Canberra House and Club (1976)—demolished;
- National Press Club (1976)—significantly altered; and
- Benjamin Offices (1978–79)—partially demolished.

The buildings all exhibit characteristic elements of McConnel, Smith & Johnson's architectural style of the time, as functional designs constructed with a prominent use of concrete, simple geometric shapes and featuring external sun-shade detailing.

Of the building listed above, four have been demolished, two have been partially demolished, and the National Press Club has undergone considerable internal change and modernisation. The condition/integrity of the CSIRO's (former) Division of Computing Research building is unknown.

None of the buildings are listed on the ACT Heritage Register or the CHL.

Figure 2.81 Former IBM building (later KPMG Building) at 80 Northbourne Ave (Source: <http://www.realcommercial.com.au/property-offices-act-braddon-5801440>)

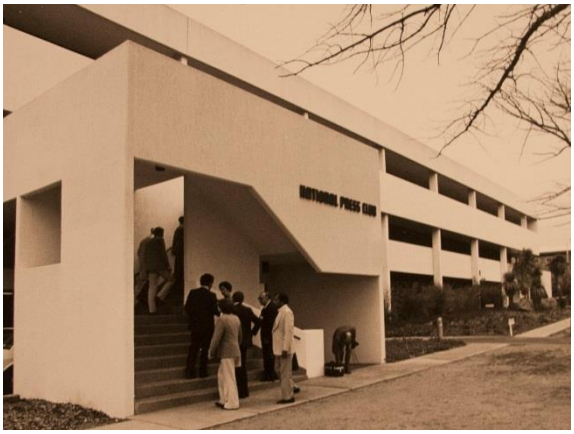

Figure 2.82 National Press Club, late 1970s (Source: <http://shenannagans.com/a-snapshot-50-years-of-press-club/>)

Figure 2.83 Former Victorian Employees Federation building, Cnr Northbourne Avenue and Macarthur Avenue. (Source: Google street view, 2016)

Figure 2.84 Canberra House and Club, Civic. (Source: Max Dupain, in Architecture Australia, 2007, MSJ Special Issue)

2.7 Summary—Analysis of the Place

The buildings at Campbell Section 38 were purpose-built as the national corporate headquarters for the expanding CSIRO, with Buildings 1 and 2 constructed as part of the original design for a larger complex. Carefully sited within the landscape setting to avoid the rocky outcrops, and set back from the main road, Building 1 presents as a dominant structure, yet is partially hidden and screened by the surrounding trees.

The buildings were constructed during the NCDC's intensive period of development in Canberra when numerous public buildings were constructed in the city and its town centres. The CSIRO Headquarters are characteristic of these buildings, which were designed to be functional with a focus on simple structural forms, constructed of precast concrete and often featuring external sun-shade window detailing. The former CSIRO Headquarters (Buildings 1 and 2) represent the functional, simple approach to form, yet with some consideration of architectural detailing and features such as the external concrete, angled, sun-shades. Decorative interiors are an integral part of the architecturally detailed octagonal conference centre.

The comparative analysis identified that the former CSIRO Headquarters are representative of the architectural work of McConnel, Smith & Johnson during the 1960s and 1970s (note Building 3 is not their design) and they exhibit characteristic elements of the late twentieth-century international

architectural style. None of the McConnel, Smith & Johnson buildings discussed above have been assessed for their heritage value, nor included in the relevant state or territory heritage register. Although the former Metropolitan Water Sewerage and Drainage Board Building is included in the Sydney LEP.

Of the three key buildings designed by McConnel, Smith & Johnson in Sydney in the 1960s period, the former Metropolitan Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board building is being demolished and the Law School building is being substantially altered. Most of the 1960s–70s buildings designed by McConnel, Smith & Johnson in Canberra have been demolished or have been significantly altered, leaving the CSIRO Headquarters as a relatively intact example of their work from the era of major public building development in Canberra by the NCDC.

3.0 Assessment of Heritage Significance

3.1 Identifying Heritage Significance

This section analyses the heritage significance of the former CSIRO Headquarters at Campbell Section 38 as determined by the criteria defined in the ACT heritage legislation and the site's attributes including:

- form (design, details, spaces, envelope, scale, character and infrastructure);
- fabric (physical material, interiors, related contents, artefacts and documentation);
- function (use, social and associational significance);
- location (setting, views and relationships between elements); and
- cultural values (traditions, associations, meanings, techniques and management systems; as well as the spirit, experience and feeling of the place).

3.1.1 Statutory Framework—ACT Heritage Act 2004

The ACT heritage legislation (*Heritage Act 2004* and the *Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill 2013*) aims to represent and protect the rich natural and cultural heritage of the ACT. The legislation establishes a system for the recognition, registration and conservation of natural and cultural heritage places and objects, including Aboriginal places and objects. Amendments made to the Heritage Act, passed on 25 September 2014, formally adopted the HERCON (Heritage Convention) criteria for assessing heritage significance.

3.2 Heritage Significance Assessment

The heritage assessment of the former CSIRO Headquarters, primarily of the buildings, is provided in the table below.

Table 3.1 Assessment of the Buildings at Former CSIRO Headquarters against ACT Heritage HERCON Significance Criteria.

Heritage Significance Criteria	Former CSIRO Headquarters Assessment Against Criteria
a) Importance to the course or pattern of the ACT's cultural or natural history	The former CSIRO Headquarters is significant as the national corporate headquarters for the important research organisation for over 40 years. The CSIRO has played a key role in the research and advancement of science and technology in Australia, since its establishment as the 'Advisory Council of Science and Industry' in 1916. The construction of the complex has a direct connection with the development of the national capital during the NCDC period (1958-1989). The Commonwealth continued to incentivise expansion and population growth of the public service, research at the CSIRO, and the Australian National University. The former CSIRO Headquarters demonstrates the NCDC's intensive development of offices and public buildings in Canberra during the 1960s and 1970s. **The buildings at Campbell Section 38 meet this criterion.**

Heritage Significance Criteria	Former CSIRO Headquarters Assessment Against Criteria
	Features intrinsic to the significance: • the main building and conference centre (Buildings 1 and 2); and • the landscape setting with Mount Ainslie as the backdrop, slightly outside the central area of Canberra.
b) Uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the ACT's cultural or natural history	The buildings at the former CSIRO Headquarters do not exhibit elements which are uncommon or rare. There are several buildings in the ACT associated with the operation of the CSIRO. The architectural style of the buildings is not rare. McConnel, Smith & Johnson, an award-winning architectural practice, designed a number of buildings for, and during, the NCDC's development period in the 1960s and 1970s. However, it is noted that most of these buildings have been demolished or substantially altered. **The buildings at Campbell Section 38 do not meet this criterion.**
c) Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the ACT's cultural or natural history	The buildings at the former CSIRO Headquarters are unlikely to yield new information that would contribute to understanding the ACT's history. Information regarding the operation of the CSIRO is well documented. **The buildings at Campbell Section 38 do not meet this criterion.**
d) Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments	The buildings at the former CSIRO Headquarters are representative of the late twentieth-century international style of architecture in Australia and the ACT. The predominant use of reinforced concrete, the structural frame expressed, the cubiform shape, plain smooth wall surfaces, and the external concrete sun control window devices are characteristic of the style. The buildings exhibit characteristic elements of McConnel, Smith & Johnson's architectural work being produced in Canberra, during the NCDC period of development. They are functional and efficient designs, in simple geometric shapes, constructed with concrete and featuring external sun-shade detailing. The headquarters are one of only few remaining intact representative examples of their work in the ACT. The buildings are representative of the intensive period of development and expansion in the city, Barton, and new town centres of Woden and Belconnen. **The buildings at Campbell Section 38 meet this criterion.** **Features intrinsic to the significance:** • the main building and conference centre (Buildings 1 and 2); and • the characteristic architectural features of Buildings 1 and 2 exhibiting the late twentieth century international style.

Heritage Significance Criteria	Former CSIRO Headquarters Assessment Against Criteria
e) Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by the ACT community or a cultural group in the ACT	The main building at the former CSIRO Headquarters has aesthetic characteristics of the late twentieth century international style, with a high level of integrity. The extensive timber panelled interior and the octagonal copper roof forms of the conference centre are striking aesthetic features of the building. There is no documentary evidence that the former CSIRO Headquarters is valued by the ACT community for their aesthetic values because this research has not been undertaken. **The buildings at Campbell Section 38 do not meet this criterion because the research has not been undertaken.**
f) Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement for a particular period	Based on the available information, the design and construction of the former CSIRO Headquarters do not demonstrate a high degree of creative or technical achievement. The buildings are functional, efficient designs (characteristic of the architectural style employed at the time for the NCDC). Documentary evidence is not readily available to categorise the headquarters as innovative or ground breaking. **The buildings at Campbell Section 38 do not meet this criterion**
g) Strong or special association with the ACT community or a cultural group within the ACT for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.	The CSIRO had a strong association with the buildings at Limestone Avenue, serving as the main corporate headquarters and providing conference facilities for the national organisation from 1971 until early 2016 when the headquarters function was relocated to Black Mountain, ACT. A social values assessment has not been undertaken to determine the community-held values associated with the place. **The buildings at Campbell Section 38 do not meet this criterion because community testing has not been undertaken.**
h) Special association with the life or works of a person, or people, important to the history of the ACT.	The buildings at Campbell Section 38 are associated with the CSIRO, the nationally important research organisation, who have played a significant role in the research and advancement of science and technology in Australia. As the corporate headquarters for the CSIRO, continuously for 45 years, the buildings have a direct association with the organisation. **The buildings at Campbell Section 38 meet this criterion.** **Features intrinsic to the significance:** • the main building and conference centre (Buildings 1 and 2); and • the landscape setting with Mount Ainslie as the backdrop, slightly outside the central area of Canberra.

3.2.1 Heritage Significance of the Buildings at Campbell Section 38

This assessment against the ACT Heritage HERCON significance criteria identifies that the buildings at Campbell Section 38 is a place with heritage significance meeting criteria a), d) and h).

3.3 Summary Statement of Significance

The former CSIRO Headquarters at Campbell Section 38 is significant as the national corporate headquarters for the important research organisation for over 40 years. The CSIRO plays a key role in the research and advancement of science and technology in Australia, since its establishment as the 'Advisory Council of Science and Industry' in 1916.

The construction of the complex has a direct connection with the development of the national capital during the NCDC period (1958–1989) in the ACT. The Commonwealth continued to incentivise expansion and population growth of the public service, research at the CSIRO, and the Australian National University. The former CSIRO Headquarters demonstrates the NCDC's intensive development of offices and public buildings in Canberra during the 1960s and 1970s. (criterion a).

The buildings at the former CSIRO Headquarters are representative of the late twentieth century international style of architecture in Australia and the ACT. The predominant use of reinforced concrete, the structural frame expressed, the cubiform shape, plain smooth wall surfaces, and the external concrete sun control window devices are characteristic of the style. The buildings exhibit characteristic elements of McConnel, Smith & Johnson's architectural work being produced in Canberra, during the NCDC period of development. The former CSIRO Headquarters buildings (primarily Buildings 1 and 2) are functional and efficient designs, in simple geometric shapes, constructed with concrete and featuring external sun-shade detailing. The headquarters is one of only few remaining intact representative examples of their work in the ACT. Buildings 1 and 2 are representative of the intensive period of development and expansion in the city, Barton, and new town centres of Woden and Belconnen. (criterion d).

The buildings at Campbell Section 38 are associated with the CSIRO, the nationally important research organisation, who have played a significant role in the research and advancement of science and technology in Australia. As the corporate headquarters for the CSIRO, continuously for 45 years, the buildings have a direct association with the organisation. (criterion h).

Figure 3.1 c1970s interior view of the entrance foyer to the conference centre (Building 2). (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

Figure 3.2 2016 view of the interior of the entrance foyer to the conference centre (Building 2). (Source: GML, 2016)

Figure 3.3 c1970s view of interior of Building 1. (Source: Mark Willett, MSJ Group)

Figure 3.4 Current 2016 view of interior of Building 1. (Source: GML, 2016)

4.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

4.1 Summary

This heritage assessment of the former CSIRO Headquarters at Campbell Section 38 identifies that Buildings 1 and 2 have heritage significance for their historic, characteristic, and associative values.

GML provides the following recommendations which we hope to be constructive for the planning process, noting that the findings of this report were possibly not anticipated at this stage of the development process.

4.2 Recommendations

The proposal to redevelop the site which would result in the demolition of the buildings to make way for new residential accommodation needs to consider the identified heritage significance of the site. The following recommendations are provided to guide DOMA through the next stages of the development process:

- submit this heritage assessment report to the NCA for advice regarding the identification of heritage values;
- consult with the NCA and confirm the process for managing the values during the development of the site (including if the report should be submitted to ACT Heritage, as per the recommendations in the DCP);
- if required by the authorities, prepare an archival record by compiling available historic documentation including original architectural drawings, and conducting a contemporary photographic recording of the buildings prior to any further removal of internal elements or demolition on site. The record should be undertaken in accordance with the NSW Heritage Office Guidelines '*How to Prepared Archival Records of Heritage Items'*, and '*Photographic Recording of Heritage Items Using Film or Digital Capture*'; and
- advise MSJ Group as the moral rights holders of the design of the former CSIRO Headquarters, about the proposed works associated with Buildings 1 and 2. This is a requirement of the *Copyright Amendment (Moral Rights) Act 2000* (which is an amendment to the *Copyright Act 1968*).

5.0 Endnotes

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