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Architectural Design Statement

Penrith Log Cabin Pub

Revision	1
Date	2020.04.02
Project Stage	DESIGN APPLICATION

Prepared By: **JP**



Brief Site History:

Lots 20 & 21 overlooks the Nepean River at the point it acts as the boundary between Penrith and Emu Plains. The area has been traditionally and culturally linked to the Darug Peoples for an estimated 5000 years. The site itself has a rich history as being the site of many generations devoted to the business of Inn keeping and hospitality. From 1813 the site was used as a camping and rest stop for explorers with the first structure, The Riverside Inn, constructed by Jacob Josephson in 1827. The Riverside Inn was closed and demolished in 1889. In 1925 the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Sir James Joynton Smith, opened The Log House Tea Room. The establishment included a train station across what is now known as High Street for use by its patrons. Following a succession of change of ownership and loss of river frontage from floods in 1960 major additions including 26 suites were added and the establishment rebranded as The Log Cabin Motor Inn. This establishment was a prized local attraction until its demise to fire in 2012.

Lot 21 is flanked by two bridges with High Voltage Electrical easements affecting roughly 40% of the useable area. The Victoria Bridge, listed in the NSW State Heritage Register, was completed in 1867 originally carried rail and horse drawn vehicles. The Yandhai Pedestrian Bridge was completed and opened in 2018 having since won multiple awards including the Good Design Award 2019. "Yandhai" in the Darug language translates to "walking in past and present" and is used to refer to the Nepean River.

Originally Lots 20 & 21 were one site, however with the construction of the Yandhai Nepean Crossing two separate lots were formed and High Voltage easements redirected to the north end of Lot 20.

Architectural Design:

Ever since the iconic Log Cabin Hotel was destroyed by fire in 2012 there has existed the desire to reconstruct and revive the original development and maintain its initial purpose. Team 2 Architects were given the opportunity to come up with a design which fit the brief of resuscitating the pub and restaurant function of the old Log Cabin within a contemporary scheme. Because the site is surrounded by a rich array of history and culture those elements were used to determine the forms and materiality of the architectural treatments. A major influence includes the Victoria Bridge with its heavy stone base and steel beams and trusses. The original pitched roof and gable design were maintained and articulated to interact parallel to the Yandhai pedestrian bridge which in turn defines the main entrance and activates the space around both structures respective entrances.

Materials:

Contemporary Stone finishes to the heavier base elements influenced by the stone piers of Victoria Bridge.



Steel framing elements reflecting the rail bridge forms and materiality.



Roofing Type

Gable pitch roofs - Standing Seam Roofing Profile, Colorbond "Shale Grey" finish

Main central roofing – Kliplok Hi Strength, Colorbond "Shale Grey" finish



Shiplap Ash Timber Look Cladding - Vertical.



Shiplap Timber Look Cladding – Horizontal.



Custom Orb Wall Cladding, dark grey finish.



Monolithic look wall panel, white / light finish.



Modwood Timber Look Decking.



Functions:

The Brief called for a revival of the Pub and Restaurant functions of the original Log Cabin. With those parameters in mind the design includes:

Ground Floor - 610m² Restaurant and Ground floor space for patrons which includes Tab sports area and is supported by a 545m² ground floor external deck area. An 11m long main bar services the ground floor restaurant spaces and incorporates low height accessible service points of sale. A smaller deck / sundowner bar services both indoor and outward onto the deck and beer garden which has views that overlook the heritage listed pump house and victory bridge as a backdrop. A small coffee area in the entrance foyer of the building provides the opportunity to run a morning coffee cart service with access to a small seated alfresco area outside separate and able to be closed off from the main pub / restaurant area. An 18 machine gaming room with open air construction and separate VIP entry.

First Floor – Roughly 230m² of fine dining restaurant space which includes a private dining room with views towards the east and Penrith city. 190m² of outside deck area is available to patrons of the fine dining restaurant and is serviced by a dual sided cocktail bar with views out towards the Nepean River and Yandhai Bridge. 350m² of dividable function room space with 180m² of dedicated deck area with premium river views for private functions and bookings which is serviced by a function bar and supported by roughly 60m² of pre function space that is able to be absorbed into the main function room space.

Dedicated service cores are provided to link Ground Floor and First Floor kitchen and service spaces which completely remove all possibility of unnecessary and hazardous interaction between front of house and back of house activities.

The majority of the northern part of the site is affected by High Voltage access easements, restricting any building to removable low height furniture and landscaping. In this area the historic beer garden function has been mimicked with grassy and paving elements that follow the built form of now demolished silos and the original built forms. A play area is located in the northern pocket of the site not under HV easements and includes equipment that comply with "Every can Play" guidelines.

Public Domain Scope:

Since Lot 20 and Lot 22 are intended to be linked by a Section 88b application, the development looks to do extensive quality of life work between the two Lots in the form of new pedestrian sidewalks and a Heavy vehicle hammerhead turning point for emergency vehicles. A pedestrian crossing which involves a traffic calming section is planned to be positioned in line with the centreline of Yandhai Bridge. No private vehicles have any need to use the part of Memorial Avenue between the parking on Lot 22 and the new Log Cabin development, and service vehicles are expected to only require access to the off street loading area in off peak hours and times of little pedestrian use. Areas outside the site boundaries earmarked for landscaping and general aesthetic improvements include nature strips off the southern edge of High Street (Great Western Highway). These will form part of a low height planted zone between the new development and the road above, improving sight lines from High Street to both the pub and Yandhai Bridge.

Perspectives:

