



NORTHBRIDGE
PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Working for the advancement of Northbridge since 1919

ABN 733 956 702

PO Box 357 Northbridge 2063

September 9 2011

Mr Nick Tobin
General Manager
Willoughby City Council
PO Box 57
CHATSWOOD NSW 2057

Dear Mr Tobin

Re: Northbridge entry sign proposal

Northbridge Progress Association is seeking the support of Council for a proposal that Northbridge entry signs should be replaced with contemporary signs that are more appropriate to a notable Sydney suburb. Such signs could also be adapted for other suburbs in this important Local Government Area.

Currently, entry signs into Northbridge are steel posts with painted sign panels. They are aged and not in good condition. In NPA's opinion, they have outlived their usefulness.

NPA has asked Northbridge architect and heritage consultant David Scobie to generate several ideas for a new entry sign for Northbridge. From these ideas, two options have been developed and are attached to this letter for discussion.

David was good enough to carry out this work for NPA on a pro-bono basis. His notes about the concept are also attached to this letter.

When a suitable design has been selected and agreed, NPA proposes that the first of these signs would be erected on Council land on the north-west corner of Strathallen Ave and Cliff Ave, facing the Suspension Bridge. NPA is willing to contribute \$5,000 towards the cost of constructing and installing this sign.

We visualise that this project would be one way that the 100th anniversary of the naming of Northbridge could be celebrated in 2013.

We suggest that a meeting be held between the appropriate Council officers, NPA representatives and David Scobie. The aim would be to review Council issues (and potential RTA issues) and gain Council support to move forward with a design, cost estimate and implementation plan. Would you mind nominating a point of contact in Council so that we can advance the concept further?

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter McNair', written in a cursive style.

Peter McNair
President

Copy: Sailors Bay Ward Councillors
Mr David Scobie

Notes accompanying sketches prepared to illustrate a range of options for a replacement suburb entry sign for Northbridge.

The proposal is intended to be capable of erection at a number of locations regarded as being gateways into Northbridge. The sites also have the potential to carry additional related interpretive messages:

- There are a range of heritage places within Northbridge which are within reasonable walking of the entry places. The proposed entry signs are capable of bearing simple interpretive plaques illustrating historic places within the area or within the suburb. Thus the new signs serve both pedestrians and those in vehicles. They serve as links between the walking trail of significant places within Northbridge;
- The sign is capable of bearing a simple graphic representation of the shape of the peninsula in order to reinforce the scale and character of Northbridge. Simple names and graphic symbols do not communicate this in the way a good direct map does – it may be engraved, incised or layered so as not to visually dominate the lettering;
- The sign is capable of communicating through the materials used in the construction, such as stone and steel, the character of the suburb and its relationship with the geography;
- Lighting is an optional extra to emphasis the subtlety inherent in two options.

Options

- A. The monolith approach: The simple stone block is visually strong and the materials emblematic.
- B. The curved approach: The contemporary and energetic element, in either stone or sheet steel.

General specifications:

- The nominal overall height is envisaged as 2700mm which is similar to existing entry signs;
- Lighting and interpretive text are illustrated and possible for both;
- The choice of materials is to be sympathetic with the location and Northbridge character while vandal resistance and weathering are essential considerations.

David Scobie B. Arch. (Hons.)

David Scobie Architects Pty Ltd

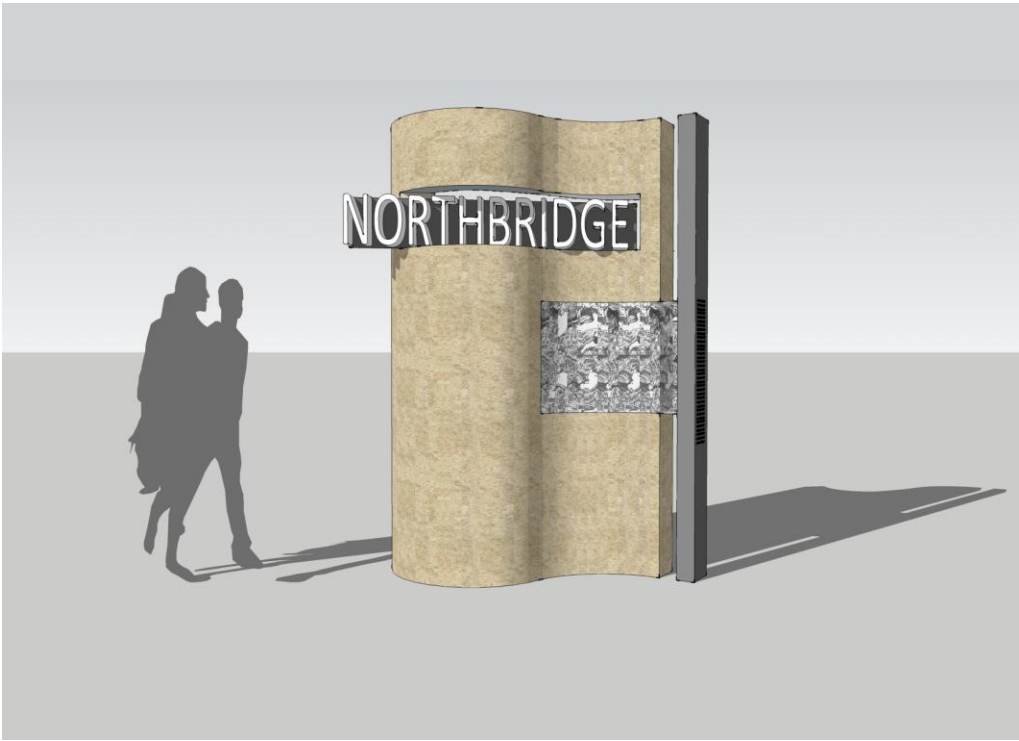
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Option A



Option B