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22 August 2005

Mr Rob Fisher
Project Manager,
Kew Residential Services Redevelopment
Department of Human Services
589 Collins Street
Melbourne Vic 3001

Dear Mr Fisher

Re: Kew Residential Services Site – Photographic Recording – Stages I & II

I refer to your letter dated 15 August 2005 attaching 2 copies of sets of black and white archival quality photographs of existing buildings in areas of the Kew Residential Site marked Stage I and II on plan 00009976/Sd, 01/1.01 dated 9/05/2005.

This survey has been carried out to address the following Permit Exemption set out in the Victorian Heritage Registration {VHR 2073} for the Kew Residential Services site.

All buildings other than B1-B6 may be demolished or removed subject to adequate photographic and other recording to the satisfaction of the Executive Director. The recording of the buildings constructed as a result of the reforms undertaken by Dr Eric Cunningham Dax and the media campaigns of E.W. Tipping of the Herald newspaper in the late 1950s and 1960s and that of Graeme Perkin, editor of the Age newspaper in the 1970s, should document the exterior and interiors of the buildings to show the changes in function reflective of this period of institutional reform and educational practices. The wards and activity centres constructed between 1958 and 1977 include the H-shaped Dax wards, the Geiger Centre, the Perkins Art Centre, the Hamer Centre and the Smorgon Centre. The constructions of these centres indicate a new recognition of the health, leisure, and educational needs of the residents. The original architectural drawings of these buildings should be located and archived as part of their history.

A total of 130 photographs have been taken, and 2 copies of these together with the original negatives have been submitted.

As required, the photographic survey covers general shots of the site, the exterior of all the buildings included in Stages I & II, including the residential properties along Princess Street, and interior photographs of a selected number of buildings, namely Building 21 including interior, which is representative of buildings 21 and 22; Unit 17-18 – interior, which is representative of units 13 – 20, and the Maintenance Building.

One set of the photographs will be lodged with the State Library, with the second being retained by the Departments Library.

I note that original drawings are being sourced for the buildings being demolished on the KRS site and that copies will be provided to Heritage Victoria in due course.

I advise that this photographic survey submitted meets the requirements of the Permit Exemption on VHR2073 for Stage I & II of the KRS site, and that for the purposes of the provisions of the *Heritage Act 1995*, demolition may proceed.

If you have any queries regarding this matter, do not hesitate to contact Ray Osborne on 9655 9757.

Yours sincerely

RAY OSBORNE
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cc

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