

Australian National University



Acton Campus — Site Inventory

Study Item/Area	University House
Acton Campus Precinct	LIVERSIDGE Precinct
Building Nos. & Names	1 (University House), 1A (Molly Huxley Building)

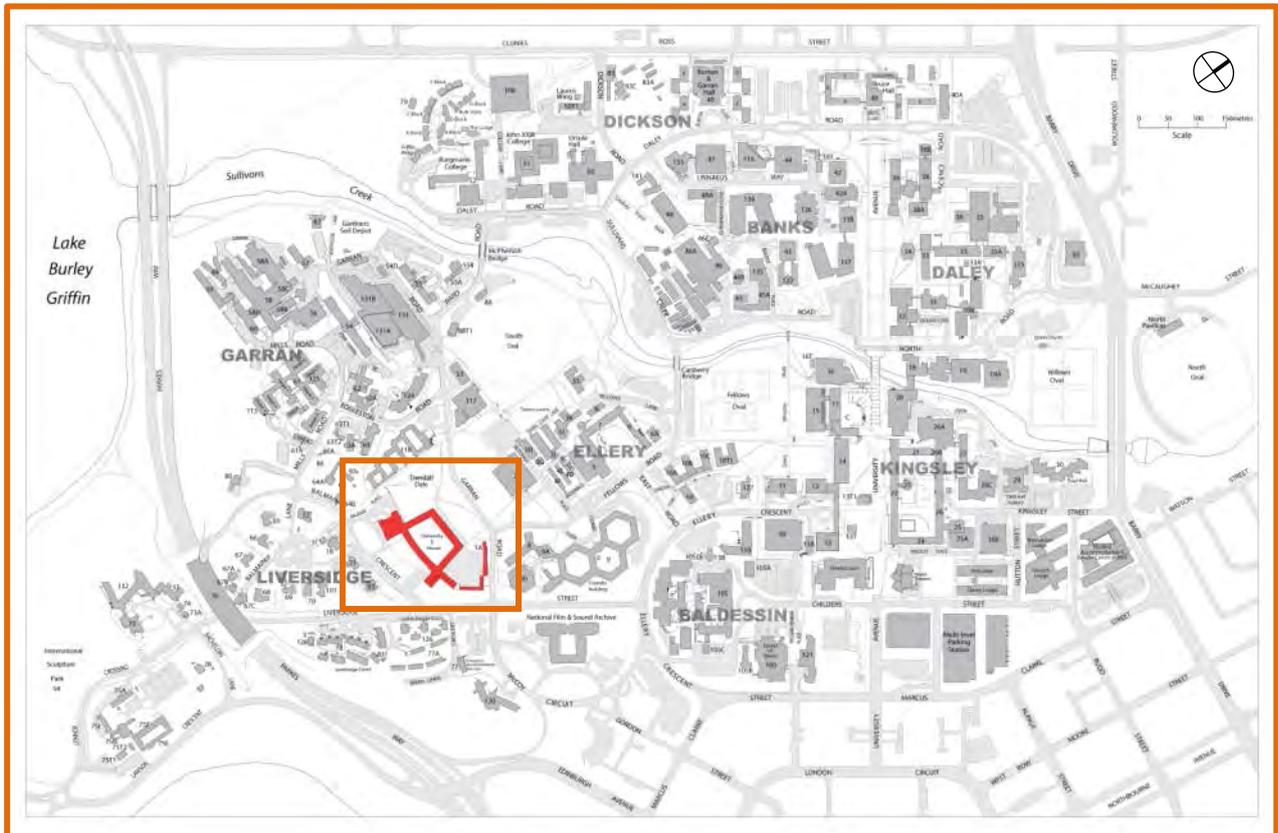


Figure 1: Location of study area within the ANU Acton Campus site.

Heritage Ranking	University House and Molly Huxley Building— Exceptional — Meets criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List
Heritage Listing	University House is individually listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL) (Place ID 105190). University House is also nominated to the ACT Heritage Register, included on the Australian Institute of Architect's Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture (Place ID R024), listed on the National Trust List of Classified or Recorded Places in the ACT, and included on the ANU Heritage Register (Place ID AC0038).
Condition	The condition noted here is at October 2011. The buildings and gardens of University House continue to be well maintained for residential and short-term accommodation and are in good condition.
Relevant Documentation	2001 Conservation Management Plan for University House was prepared by Pegrum and Associates. It provides a detailed history and description of University House and the Molly Huxley building.

Context of the Buildings



Figure 2: Position of University House in relation to the HC Coombs Buildings (Nos. 8 & 9) and RG Menzies Library (No. 2).

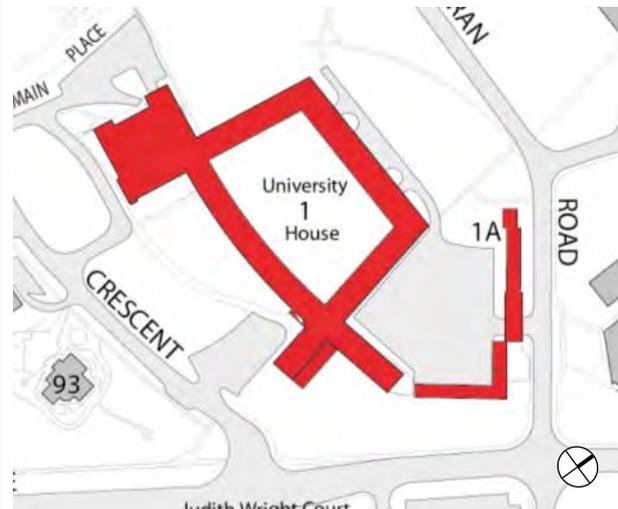


Figure 3: Configuration of the University House complex and Molly Huxley Building.

Brief Historical Overview

University House was the first major building constructed at the ANU, with initial sketch plans for University House prepared in October 1947 by prominent Architect and Professor of Architecture at the University of Melbourne, Brian Lewis. The foundation stone was laid by John J. Dedman, Minister for Post-War Reconstruction in October 1949. A shortage of skilled labour and building materials significantly delayed the construction, and the building and landscaping (designed by the eminent Lindsay Pryor) were not completed until 1953. University House was officially opened by the Duke of Edinburgh on 16 February 1954.

The building was awarded the Sir John Sulman Award for Architectural Merit from the Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA) NSW Chapter in 1954, and by late February that year, its first residents were ensconced and University House was officially opened by HRH Duke of Edinburgh. Professor A.D Trendall was appointed first Master in June 1954. University House was the primary accommodation for students and academic staff during the first years of the University.

University House originally housed 96 apartments for students and special guests; with 30 student dormitory rooms, 30 rooms for domestic staff. The building also included a 250-seat refectory, two suites of private dining rooms, and a separate suite of public rooms with its own entrance and garden for staff wives. In 1960 the eastern annex was extended for additional accommodation and meeting rooms, and during the late 1960s and early 1970s a bistro, cellar bar, supermarket and conference facilities were added to the building.

In 1995 the building was awarded the RAIA ACT Chapter 25 Year Award for enduring architecture. 64 single rooms (6 hotel and 58 student); 93 double rooms (90 hotel and 3 student); and 8 quad rooms (all hotel) were subsequently added to the building in 2010.

The Molly Huxley building within the University House precinct is named after Ella Mary (Molly) Huxley, wife of Leonard Huxley, Vice-Chancellor of the ANU from 1960-67. Molly Huxley studied history at Oxford University and later became the first lecturer in British History at the ANU (then the Canberra University College). The Molly Huxley Building was constructed as the gatehouse to University House in 1964.

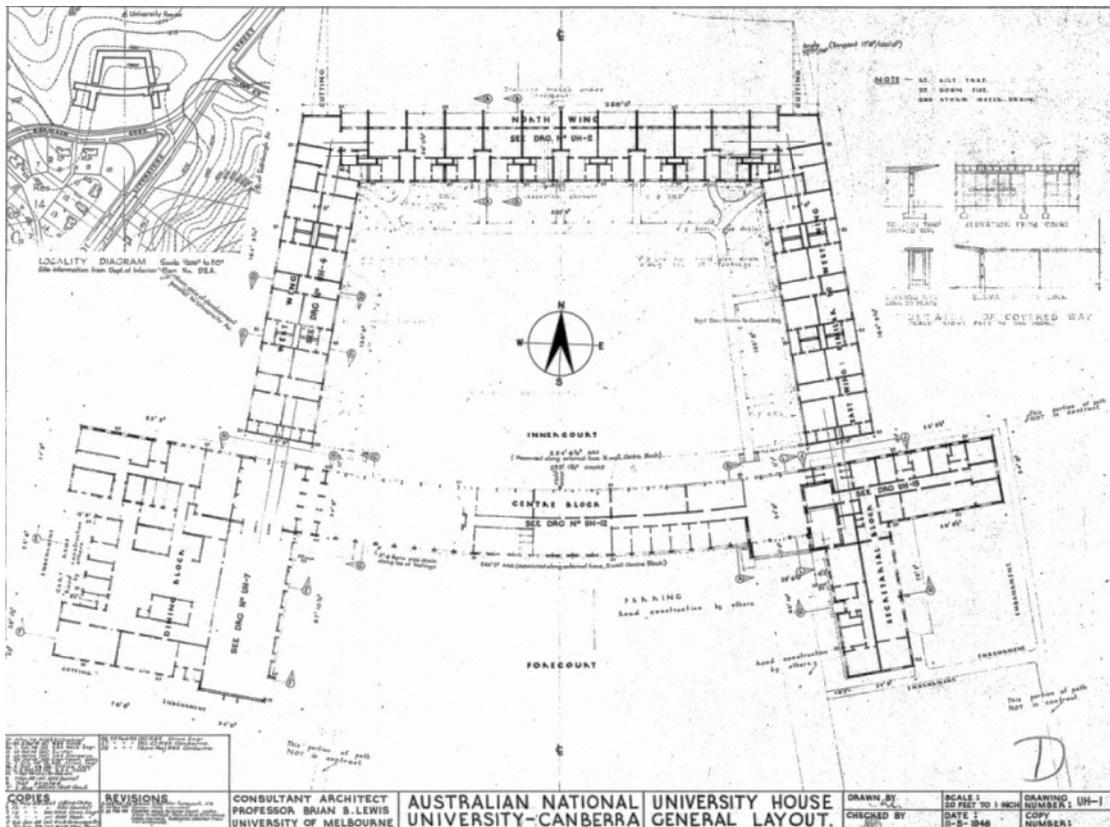


Figure 4: University House, drawn by ANU's Consultant Architect Professor Brian Lewis May 11 1946, showing the initial layout of University House before additions.

Description of University House

Buildings

The building is a large brick structure constructed around a central courtyard. The external brick walls are constructed of painted brick, with some areas rendered in a bagged finish. The gabled roof of University House is clad in glazed terracotta tiles, with a clear join in the copper roofing where it was extended over the terrace. The eave soffits are painted timber with copper gutters and downpipes.

The interior of the hotel section includes eleven individual lobbies accessible from concrete pathways within the central quadrangle. While the lobbies vary in size they have a consistent finish with face brick walls and painted plaster ceilings. The floors of the lobbies are terrazzo, in original condition with brass dividing strips.

The windows on the north facing flats are framed in steel but elsewhere they are double hung timber sashes on spiral balances. In many instances the windows retain their original hardware. All rooms on the north, east and west wings have original external balconies. In the east and west wings the balconies have a single skin rendered brickwork balustrade finished at the top with an unpinned red brick capping. All balcony floors have been coated with a paving paint in a brick red colour.

The Molly Huxley Building closely replicates the exterior features of University House.

Landscape

The landscaping of the internal courtyard and surrounding areas, originally designed by Lindsay Pryor, is relaxed and natural and has been carefully managed and maintained. There is a simple pattern of lawns and carefully selected deciduous trees in the quadrangle grouped by species. The precinct includes a variety of sculptural works: 'Relaxation' (Gerald Lewers, 1953), 'Lady Theaden Hancock memorial fountain: *Swans in flight*' (Gerald Lewers, 1961), 'Standing Figure' (Ante Dabro, 1982) and 'Withholding' (Mark Grey-Smith, 1992).

Significance Assessment against the Commonwealth Heritage criteria

University House is individually listed on the CHL. The following assessment includes the original text from the CHL Citation, and a revised assessment undertaken for this project.

CHL Citation—Statement of Significance

University House is an outstanding example of mid-twentieth century modern architecture in Australia, and is one of the largest such examples in the National Capital. Its design achievement is demonstrated by the highly successful integration of building, landscaping, art, finishes and furniture representative of contemporary, mid twentieth century style. Being constructed in a time of financial austerity, University House further reflects design achievement in its imaginative use of everyday materials and finishes such as rendered walls, timber and steel window frames, terracotta roof tiles and terrazzo paving to produce a most pleasantly resolved architectural design. The Great Hall, the curved terrace, reflecting pool, quadrangle garden, and the furniture are major design features. (Criterion F 1).

The design provides efficient accommodation for its purpose and is a valid response to the requirements of an academic residential building and university 'faculty club'. The feature of basement service tunnels and vertical riser shafts has allowed the continued functioning of building services and the operation of an attractive living and working environment. (Criterion F 1).

The design successfully incorporates the expectation to display contemporary Australian art and be a repository of Australian culture. The architectural and interior design merit of the building has been recognised by a major award for architectural design achievement in 1953, and an ACT architectural award for maintaining integrity for 25 years. (Criterion F 1).

The features specific to the architectural style, such as the bagged and painted brickwork, crisp window patterning, clear building profile, a firm control of materials and detailing, and in the use of plain wall surfaces devoid of ornamentation, collectively create a simple, strong aesthetic quality. Complementing the building's external architectural presence is the restrained landscaped treatment of the spaces between the building wings, with trees in species groups and lawns areas integrated with water and sculptures to create tranquil outdoor spaces for academic repose and a setting for the architecture. The sweep of the curved terrace reinforced by the sweep of curved reflecting pool, interfacing between the building and courtyard garden, is the strong central design feature of the complex and has successful aesthetic merit. (Criterion E1).

Internal features of Frederick Ward furniture, timber panelling, parquetry and period fittings such as the residential bathrooms, all contribute to a harmonious aesthetic. The art work of sculptures 'Relaxation' and 'Swans in Flight' by Gerard Lewers, 'Conjugation' by Mark Grey Smith, the entrance hall floor by Frank Hinders, and the mural 'Regeneration' by Leonard French are features of importance that contribute to the aesthetic value of the place. (Criterion E1).

The House is very representative of the modern architectural residential style influenced by British architectural schools. It is a fine example of a university college of the Oxford-Cambridge model of the collegiate system in the contemporary design style idiom. The contemporary design style is exemplified in the integration of the building, landscaping, furniture, fittings and art work. These many elements have been well maintained and remain intact. (Criterion D2).

The GINGKO BILOBA (Maidenhair fern trees) in the central courtyard are the oldest known surviving trees of the species in Canberra. The group of TILIA EUROPEA (Linden) on the southern lawns are regarded as notable tree specimens. (Criterion D2).

University House has a significant association with its designer Brian Lewis, Professor of architecture at the University of Melbourne. It has an association with Australian artists Gerald Lewers, Mark Grey-Smith, Frank Hinder and Leonard French, and furniture designer Fred Ward, being a repository of their important works. An association with Cambridge University, England, is commemorated by an English Oak planted by Sir Keith Hancock. (Criterion H1).

The place is significant as the first major building constructed at the Australian National University and since 1954 has played an important role as residential and social centre for the University and Canberra. Its planning reflects the British influence on the planning for the National University with the 'faculty club' concept collegiate system for residential students.

(Criterion A4. Australian Historic Themes 4.3. Developing Institutions, 6.4 Building a system of higher education).

University House is a well-known building in Canberra and is valued by the academic and general community for its associations the earliest years of the Australian National University. Its design was influence by some of Australia's most prominent academic, scientific and educational figures including Dr. HC Coomb, Mr Charles Daly and Sir Robert Garran. (Criterion G1).

Revised Statement of Significance

University House was the first major building constructed at the ANU and has played an important role as a residential and social centre for the ANU and wider Canberra since its opening in 1954. University House is reflective of the Oxford-Cambridge model for residential colleges for on-campus accommodation where students and staff live and study at the college.

The buildings (University House and the Molly Huxley Buildings) are representative of Australian mid-twentieth century architectural styles, heavily influenced by British examples and University House is one of the largest such examples in Canberra. These styles are further exemplified in the installation of custom designed furniture, fittings and art work.

University House and the Molly Huxley Building display many features of aesthetic significance including their architectural style, overall form, fenestration and detailing, restrained landscape treatments, grouping of trees by species, water features and the punctuation of modern sculpture. The simple interiors including the timber panelling, parquetry floors and period fittings as well as the custom designed Frederick Ward furniture provide a pleasing interior aesthetic.

Being constructed at a time of financial austerity, University House reflects design achievement in its imaginative use of everyday and unremarkable materials and finishes such as simple bricks, rendered walls, timber and steel window frames, glazed terracotta roof tiles and terrazzo paving to produce a simple and strongly resolved architectural design.

University House and the Molly Huxley Building have significant associations with several key figures in the history of the ANU and of Canberra including its designer Brian Lewis, modern artists and designers w Gerald Lewers, Mark Grey-Smith, Frank Hinder, Leonard French, and Frederick Ward, landscape designer Lindsay Pryor, academic advisers Sir Howard Florey, Sir Mark Oliphant, Sir Keith Hancock and Raymond Firth. University House is also strongly associated with Cambridge University, UK.

The Molly Huxley Building is strongly associated with after Ella Mary (Molly) Huxley, wife of Leonard Huxley, Vice-Chancellor of the ANU from 1960-67. Molly Huxley became the first lecturer in British History at the ANU.

Criteria	Assessment
<p>(a) Historic The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance in the course, or pattern, of Australia's natural or cultural history.</p>	<p>CHL Citation <i>The place is significant as the first major building constructed at the Australian National University and since 1954 has played an important role as residential and social centre for the University and Canberra. Its planning reflects the British influence on the planning for the National University with the 'faculty club' concept collegiate system for residential students.</i></p> <p>Attributes <i>The whole building including its grounds, courtyards and planning layout.</i></p> <p>Revised Assessment University House and the Molly Huxley Building provide insight into the early campus site planning, provision of accommodation and mark the beginning of the evolution of architecture and landscaping at the ANU. University House is significant as the first major building constructed at the ANU and the first accommodation facility for the fledgling University. The initial establishment of the ANU was an important policy of the Commonwealth Government following World War II. University House is strongly associated with the post-war planning and development of Canberra. University House and the Molly Huxley Building have played an important role as a residential and social centre for the University and wider Canberra since 1954, and have strong associations with significant figures in Canberra's planning history including Brian Lewis, Architect, Lindsay Pryor, Landscape Designer, Frederick Ward, Furniture Designer and key academic advisers including Sir Howard Florey, Sir Mark Oliphant, Sir Keith Hancock and Raymond Firth, amongst others.</p>

	<p>University House is reflective of the Oxford-Cambridge model for residential colleges for on-campus accommodation where students and staff live and study at the college, this model continued to be integrated at the ANU as the campus grew in size.</p> <p>The <i>Ginkgo Biloba</i> (Maidenhair Fern) trees situated in the central quadrangle of University House are the oldest known surviving trees of the species in Canberra. The group of <i>Tilia Europa</i> (Linden) on the southern lawns are also notable tree specimens.</p> <p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building meet CHL criterion (a) for historic values.</p> <p>Attributes</p> <p>The whole building including its grounds, courtyards and layout, significant plantings and the historical use as a residential college in the Oxford-Cambridge model.</p>
<p>(b) Rarity The place has significant heritage values because of the place's possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Australia's natural or cultural history.</p>	<p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building do not meet CHL criterion (b) for rarity values.</p>
<p>(c) Scientific The place has significant heritage value because of the place's potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Australia's natural or cultural history.</p>	<p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building do not meet CHL criterion (c) for scientific values.</p>
<p>(d) Representative The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of: A class of Australia's natural or cultural places; or A class of Australia's natural or cultural environments.</p>	<p>CHL Citation</p> <p><i>The House is very representative of the modern architectural residential style influenced by British architectural schools. It is a fine example of a university college of the Oxford-Cambridge model of the collegiate system in the contemporary design style idiom. The contemporary design style is exemplified in the integration of the building, landscaping, furniture, fittings and art work. These many elements have been well maintained and remain intact.</i></p> <p><i>The GINKGO BILOBA (Maidenhair fern trees) in the central courtyard are the oldest known surviving trees of the species in Canberra. The group of TILIA EUROPEA (Linden) on the southern lawns are regarded as notable tree specimens.</i></p> <p>Attributes</p> <p><i>The style and planning of the buildings and landscaping plus the integration of the furniture, fittings and art work. The Maidenhair fern trees in the central courtyard and the Linden on the southern lawns are also significant attributes.</i></p> <p>Revised Assessment</p> <p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building (emulating the exterior features of University House) are representative of several Australian mid-twentieth century architectural styles, heavily influenced by British examples. These styles are further exemplified in the installation of custom designed furniture, fittings and art work. These architectural styles were successfully implemented by Brian Lewis with</p>

	<p>modesty and austerity due to the financial climate at the time of construction.</p> <p>University House is also representative of the Australian interpretation of a university college in the Oxford-Cambridge model of inclusive the on-campus accommodation, an integrated system, where students and staff live and study at the college.</p> <p>University House is representative of the work of prominent Architect Brian Lewis, in a restrained modernist style, the landscape design of Lindsay Pryor, Superintendent and later Director of Parks and Gardens for Canberra, the furniture design of Frederick Ward and artists Gerald Lewers, Mark Grey-Smith, Frank Hinder and Leonard French.</p> <p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building meet CHL criterion (d) for representative values</p> <p>Attributes</p> <p>The style and planning of the buildings and landscaping and the integration of the furniture, fittings and art works into the overall design.</p>
<p>(e) Aesthetic The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.</p>	<p>CHL Citation</p> <p><i>The features specific to the architectural style, such as the bagged and painted brickwork, crisp window patterning, clear building profile, a firm control of materials and detailing, and in the use of plain wall surfaces devoid of ornamentation, collectively create a simple, strong aesthetic quality. Complementing the building's external architectural presence is the restrained landscaped treatment of the spaces between the building wings, with trees in species groups and lawns areas integrated with water and sculptures to create tranquil outdoor spaces for academic repose and a setting for the architecture. The sweep of the curved terrace reinforced by the sweep of curved reflecting pool, interfacing between the building and courtyard garden, is the strong central design feature of the complex and has successful aesthetic merit.</i></p> <p><i>Internal features of Frederick Ward furniture, timber panelling, parquetry and period fittings such as the residential bathrooms, all contribute to a harmonious aesthetic. The art work of sculptures 'Relaxation' and 'Swans in Flight' by Gerard Lewers, 'Conjugation' by Mark Grey Smith, the entrance hall floor by Frank Hinders, and the mural 'Regeneration' by Leonard French are features of importance that contribute to the aesthetic value of the place.</i></p> <p>Attributes</p> <p><i>The external architectural detailing and landscape treatments noted above, plus the Fred Ward furniture, sculptures, artworks, fixtures and fittings noted above.</i></p> <p>Revised Assessment</p> <p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building display many features of aesthetic significance including their architectural style, overall form, fenestration and detailing. The restrained landscape treatments further enhance the aesthetic qualities of the buildings in the spaces between building wings and surrounding the building. The planned grouping of trees by species, water features and the punctuation of modern sculpture create an attractive setting for the built elements. The sweeping lines of the curved terrace, reinforced by the curved reflecting pool is also a strong central design feature of the complex.</p> <p>The simple interiors including the timber panelling, parquetry floors and period fittings as well as the custom designed Frederick Ward furniture provide for a pleasing interior aesthetic. The modern art works and sculptures including <i>Relaxation</i> and <i>Swans in flight</i> by Gerald Lewers, <i>Conjugation</i> by Mark Grey-Smith, the entrance hall floor by Frank Hinders and the mural <i>Regeneration</i> by Leonard French also contribute to the aesthetic values of University House.</p> <p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building meet CHL criterion (e) for aesthetic values</p> <p>Attributes</p> <p>Architectural features including external finishes, forms, detailing, restrained landscape treatments, interior features including Frederick Ward furniture, sculptures, artworks, fixtures and fittings.</p> <p><i>While University House and the Molly Huxley Building display a high level of aesthetic values, to fully</i></p>



	<p><i>meet this criterion, aesthetic values must be demonstrated as being valued by the community. While the CHL lists University House under this criterion, it is not known if the community appreciation of aesthetic value has been formally tested.</i></p>
<p>(f) Creative / Technical The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.</p>	<p>CHL Citation</p> <p><i>University House is an outstanding example of mid-twentieth century modern architecture in Australia, and is one of the largest such examples in the National Capital. Its design achievement is demonstrated by the highly successful integration of building, landscaping, art, finishes and furniture representative of contemporary, mid twentieth century style. Being constructed in a time of financial austerity, University House further reflects design achievement in its imaginative use of everyday materials and finishes such as rendered walls, timber and steel window frames, terracotta roof tiles and terrazzo paving to produce a most pleasantly resolved architectural design. The Great Hall, the curved terrace, reflecting pool, quadrangle garden, and the furniture are major design features.</i></p> <p><i>The design provides efficient accommodation for its purpose and is a valid response to the requirements of an academic residential building and university 'faculty club'. The feature of basement service tunnels and vertical riser shafts has allowed the continued functioning of building services and the operation of an attractive living and working environment. The design successfully incorporates the expectation to display contemporary Australian art and be a repository of Australian culture. The architectural and interior design merit of the building has been recognised by a major award for architectural design achievement in 1953, and an ACT architectural award for maintaining integrity for 25 years.</i></p> <p>Attributes</p> <p><i>The successful integration of building, landscaping, art, finishes and furniture within a mid twentieth century design idiom. The imaginative use of everyday materials and finishes. The design of the building including service tunnels and riser shafts for services. Particularly significant attributes include the Great Hall, the curved terrace, reflecting pool, quadrangle garden and the furniture.</i></p> <p>Revised Assessment</p> <p>University House and its adjoining is an outstanding example of mid-twentieth century modern architecture in Australia, one of the largest such examples in Canberra. The design achievement of this building is demonstrated in the highly successful integration of building, landscaping, art, finishes and furniture representative of a modest interpretation by Brian Lewis of several mid-twentieth century architectural styles. The implementation of the adjacent Molly Huxley Building in an identical architectural design is also design achievement.</p> <p>Being constructed at a time of financial austerity, University House further reflects design achievement in its imaginative use of everyday and unremarkable materials and finishes such as simple bricks, rendered walls, timber and steel window frames, glazed terracotta roof tiles and terrazzo paving to produce a simple and strongly resolved architectural design. The Great Hall, curved terrace, reflecting pool, quadrangle garden, and Fred Ward furniture are all major design features.</p> <p>The design successfully incorporates the contemporary Australian art and sculpture and the architectural and interior design merit of the building has been recognised with the John Sulman Medal from the NSW chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects. The building also received an inaugural 25 year award from the ACT chapter.</p> <p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building meet CHL criterion (f) for creative/technical values</p> <p>Attributes</p> <p>The integration of building, landscaping, artworks, finishes and furniture, in particular, the Great Hall, the curved terrace, reflecting pool, quadrangle garden and the furniture. The imaginative use of everyday</p>

	materials and finishes.
<p>(g) Social The place has significant heritage value because of the place's strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.</p>	<p>CHL Citation</p> <p><i>University House is a well-known building in Canberra and is valued by the academic and general community for its associations the earliest years of the Australian National University. Its design was influenced by some of Australia's most prominent academic, scientific and educational figures including Dr. HC Coomb, Mr Charles Daly and Sir Robert Garran.</i></p> <p>Attributes <i>The building's integrity and the fact that it has seen little change since its establishment.</i></p> <p>Revised Assessment University House and the Molly Huxley Building are iconic and highly recognised buildings in Canberra and are valued by the academic and general community for their strong association with the establishment of the ANU, and as University House the first major building constructed on the campus. University House has served as a social and academic hub for the ANU and for the wider Canberra since its establishment in 1954, and has been the venue for many significant ceremonies and events.</p> <p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building meet CHL criterion (g) for social values</p> <p>Attributes The buildings and landscape and the use of the buildings for social, ceremonial and residential purposes. <i>University House has strong connections with the ANU and wider Canberra community, both for historic associations with the early establishment of the ANU and the provision of on campus accommodation. However, it is not known if the presence of social value (strong or special attachment to the place by an identified community group) has been formally tested.</i></p>
<p>(h) Associative The place has significant heritage value because of the place's special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Australia's natural and cultural history.</p>	<p><i>University House has a significant association with its designer Brian Lewis, Professor of architecture at the University of Melbourne. It has an association with Australian artists Gerald Lewers, Mark Grey-Smith, Frank Hinder and Leonard French, and furniture designer Fred Ward, being a repository of their important works. An association with Cambridge University, England, is commemorated by an English Oak planted by Sir Keith Hancock.</i></p> <p>Attributes <i>The building's design as evidence of the work of Brian Lewis, plus the sculpture and art work of Gerald Lewers, Mark Grey-Smith, Frank Hinder and Leonard French. Also, the furniture and fittings designed by Fred Ward and the English Oak planted by Sir Keith Hancock.</i></p> <p>Revised Assessment University House has a significant association with several key figures in the history of the ANU and of Canberra. University House is strongly associated with its designer Brian Lewis, Professor of Architecture at the University of Melbourne who had a strong influence on the planning and building design of the Acton Campus. The building is also associated with modern artists and designers whose sculptures and works were specially designed for University House including Gerald Lewers, Mark Grey-Smith, Frank Hinder, Leonard French, and Frederick Ward. The landscaping around University House was designed by Lindsay Pryor, Superintendent and later Director of Parks and Gardens for Canberra. Pryor was a significant figure in the testing and planting of trees throughout Canberra. University House is associated with the academic advisers at the time of construction who played an important role in its design and implementation, including Sir Howard Florey, Sir Mark Oliphant, Sir Keith Hancock and Raymond Firth, amongst others. University House is also strongly associated with Cambridge University, UK, an association which is</p>

	<p>commemorated by an English Oak planted by Sir Keith Hancock.</p> <p>The Molly Huxley Building is strongly associated with Ella Mary (Molly) Huxley, wife of Leonard Huxley, Vice-Chancellor of the ANU from 1960-67. Molly Huxley became the first lecturer in British History at the ANU.</p> <p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building meet CHL criterion (h) for associational values</p> <p><i>Attributes</i></p> <p>The building, internal features and fittings, sculptures, art works and furniture, the landscape and its individual commemorative plantings.</p>
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<p>(i) Indigenous The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance as part of Indigenous tradition.</p>	<p>University House and the Molly Huxley Building do not meet CHL criterion (i) for Indigenous values.</p>
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Photographs



Figure 5: Aerial view of University House October 1965. (Source: ANU Archives)



Figure 6: View of the northern façade of University House 1963, including landscaping. (Source: ANU Archives)



Figure 7: Construction of the Molly Huxley Building in 1964. (Source: ANU Archives)



Figure 8: View of Molly Huxley Building from inside the new car park, 1964. (Source: ANU Archives)



Figure 9: University House Courtyard. (Source: ANU Heritage Office 2011)



Figure 10: External view of the Great Hall. (Source: ANU Heritage Office, 2011)



Figure 11: Internal view of the Great Hall. (Source: ANU Heritage Office 2011)



Figure 12: View of the Breezeway and Courtyard of University House. (Source: ANU Heritage Office 2011).

Management Issues

Constraints and Opportunities

Constraints arise from the identified heritage values of University House and it is a requirement of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwth)* (EPBC Act) is to conserve them. The significant fabric of University House, as indicated in the attributes above, should be conserved wherever possible.

University House is of exceptional heritage value and meets the EPBC Commonwealth Heritage criteria a) historic, d) representative, e) aesthetic f) creative/technical, g) social and h) associative. Elements of exceptional heritage value are generally associated with the ANU's development and must be retained and conserved. The tolerance for change level is generally low. Loss or alteration of individual elements that may have exceptional significance would significantly diminish the Commonwealth Heritage (or other) values of the ANU Acton campus.

The **Tolerance for Change** heritage management tool, outlined in Section 7.6 of the ANU Acton Campus Heritage Study 2012,

will assist in conserving heritage values through a process of change. University House is able to tolerate a low level of change through development whereby the historic, creative/technical and associative attributes and characteristics are conserved and interpreted.

Opportunities arise from the identified heritage values of University House. The history of University House should be interpreted to maintain the historic and associative values of significant attributes identified in the assessments above. A greater degree of change may be tolerated if interpretation is of a very high quality and considered in any future development, which presents the identified heritage values for the future. Refer to the ANU Acton Campus Interpretation Plan (2012).

Recommendations

The current CMP (2001) for University House should be updated in line with the EPBC Act and its regulations.

The Conservation Management Plan (2001) (CMP) should be referred to in the preparation of advice or for proposed alterations to University House until this document has been revised.

If development resulting in loss of significant fabric is proposed, interpretation and a heritage impact assessment would be a prerequisite according to EPBC Act requirements.

Photographic recording for the ANU Archives should be undertaken prior to any potential loss of significant fabric, buildings or landscaping in any future development of University House.

A formal assessment of the aesthetic and social values of the building should be carried out.
