

# Australian National University



## Acton Campus — Site Inventory

Study Item/ Area	Melville Hall, Beryl Rawson Building and AD Hope Building
Acton Campus Precinct	KINGSLEY Precinct
Building Nos. & Names	12 (Melville Hall, including Tjabal Indigenous Students Education Centre), 13 (Beryl Rawson Building), 13A (Crawford Annex), 13T (Construction Control Site Offices), 13T1 (Australian National Dictionary Centre), 14 (AD Hope Building)

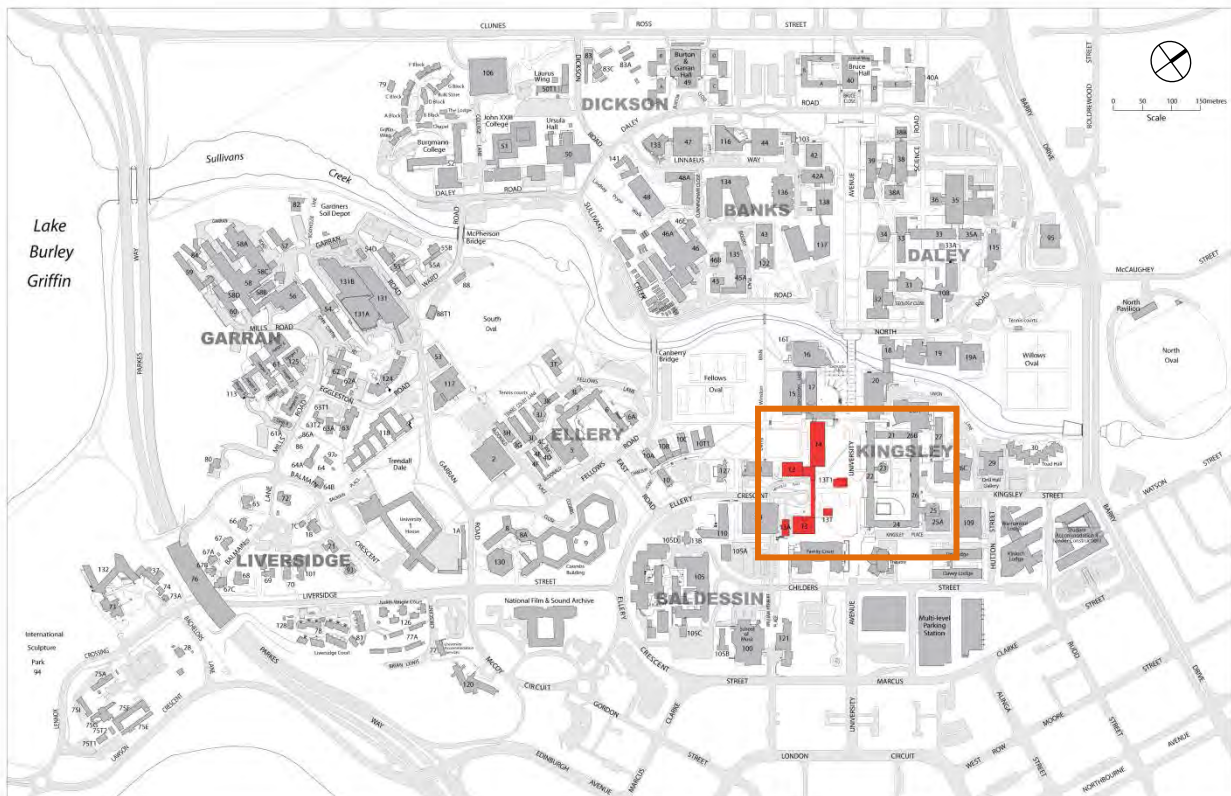


Figure 1: Location of study area within the ANU Acton Campus site.

Heritage Ranking	<p>Group/Precinct—<b>Moderate</b>—Meets the criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List</p> <p>Melville Hall—<b>Moderate</b>—Meets the criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List</p> <p>Beryl Rawson Building—<b>Low</b>—Does not meet the criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List</p> <p>Crawford Annex—<b>Neutral</b>—Does not meet the criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List</p> <p>Construction Control Site Offices—<b>Neutral</b>—Does not meet the criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List</p> <p>Australian National Dictionary Centre—<b>Neutral</b>—Does not meet the criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List</p> <p>AD Hope Building—<b>Moderate</b>—Meets the criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List</p>
Heritage Listing	None of these buildings are individually listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL).
Condition—Date	The condition of the buildings noted here is at December 2011. The buildings and trees in the area continue to be well maintained and are in reasonable condition.
Relevant Documentation	There is no relevant documentation for this area.

### Context of the Buildings

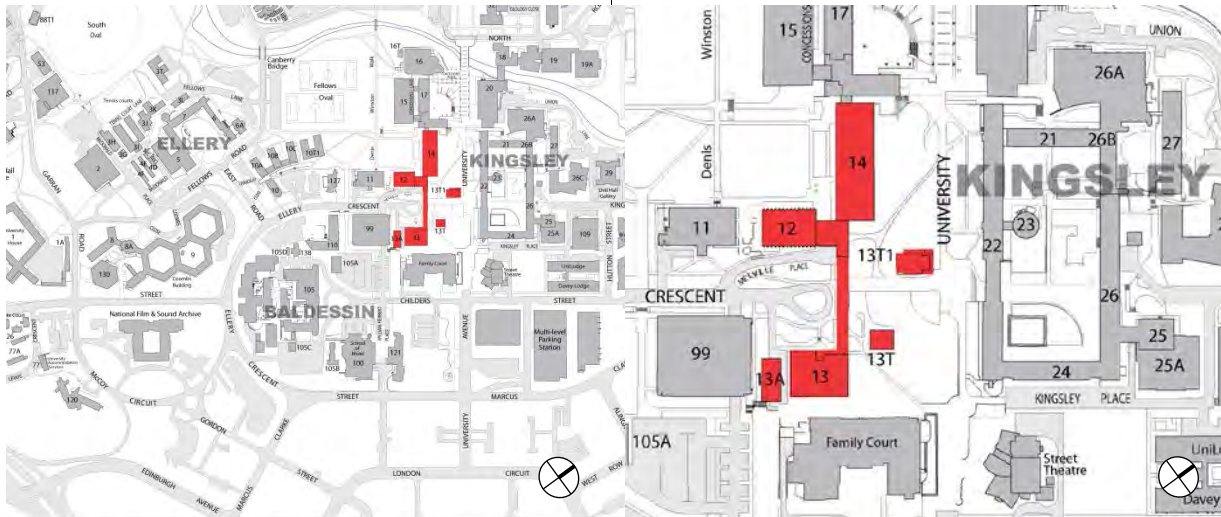


Figure 2: The configuration of Melville Hall, Beryl Rawson and AD Hope Buildings.

Figure 3: The location of the study area in relation to the Haydon-Allen Building to the north, the Family Court to the east and the Baldessin Parking Station to the south.

### Brief Historical Overview

**Melville Hall (12)** was designed by precinct architects Yuncken Freeman in 1971 and built by AV Jennings Industries the following year with simple materials and detailing typical of the architecture of the 1970s. Originally known as 'New Chancery Hall', it was designed for examinations and general university purposes. Council resolved to name the new hall after Sir Leslie Melville, ANU Vice Chancellor from 1953 to 1960, a distinguished Australian economist and who served as the Head of the Tariff Board.

Melville Hall has been the venue for many shows and events since its completion in 1971 for the ANU staff and students. Artists such as Daddy Cool, Renee Geyer, Spectrum and Billy Thorpe and the Aztecs all played at the venue within a year of its completion. It also hosted a Peter Cook and Dudley Moore show, an exhibition of Arthur Boyd works and in 1975 was chosen as the venue in which to exhibit *Blue Poles* by Jackson Pollock to the Canberra community.

The undercroft of the Hall now houses the Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre, the Examinations and Graduations Office and the Tjabal Indigenous Students Education Centre.

**The Beryl Rawson Building (13)** was constructed by Project Coordination Pty Ltd in 1986 to Geoff Butterworth and Partner's 1985 design. It was the first major construction work on campus after 1976 and was conceived as a special projects and general university group's area. The Research School of Pacific Studies (RSPaCS) originally housed at 5 Liversidge Street and in two rooms of the Coombs Building, received a ten year grant from the United Nations Population Fund (UNPFA) to establish an Australia-Japan Research Centre. In 1982 Council moved to rename the Special Projects Building after JG Crawford, and in 2010 after the completion of the Crawford School of Economics and Government (132) it was renamed the Beryl Lawson Building after Professor Emerita Beryl Rawson, who had a long and distinguished career at ANU including as lecturer in Classics from 1964, Dean of Arts from 1981, and Professor of Classics from 1989 until her retirement in 1998.

The building is currently occupied by the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS), the Research School of Social Sciences (RSSS), the Energy Pipelines Cooperative Research Centre (EPCRC) and the Forum for European-Australian Science and Technology (FEAST). The Graduate Student Centre (CASS).

**The Crawford Annex (13A)** was built in 1990 by ACTO Industries to the design of Bird, Moore and Partners Architects. This transportable building was prepared in plans in May 1989 and erected the following year. It was designed to house the Crawford School PhD offices, and has continued in use as the Graduate Office and College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS).

**The AD Hope Building (14)** was constructed in 1975 by Civil and Civic to the design of Yuncken Freeman Architects and marked a new direction in the university's architectural style with 'open plan' elements. The building was originally named the Arts V



## Description of Melville Hall, Beryl Rawson Building, Graduate Student's Centre and the AD Hope Building

building underwent a major mechanical upgrade in 1995.

**The Beryl Rawson Building** (13) was constructed to provide accommodation for special and general university purposes such as the Australia-Japan Research Centre. This rectangular, insitu, concrete framed building addresses Ellery Crescent. Central service provides access throughout the building. Exterior treatments emphasise the horizontal plane. Interior materials include metal framed glass partitions with carpet flooring. Various fit outs have occurred over the past twenty years. External access is via an entry foyer at ground level off the colonnade.

**The AD Hope Building** (14), is an elongated rectangular building with a prominent top floor, simple forms and dark tinted windows. The building has an illusionary 'in ground' siting, but addresses the elevated boulevard over the basement to the west of the central floor level. The exterior brick panels on the two lower storeys, with earthy tones, display a strong Doric character. The horizontal layering of the top floor, with precast concrete panels and dark glazing, resting on a two storey brick plinth, lighten the building's appearance. The interior is carpeted with pig hair carpet tiles, with painted block work walls and a suspended ceiling. Currently the building houses the Research Schools of Arts and Social Sciences, in particular the School of Cultural Inquiry, the Schools of Archaeology and Anthropology and the Classics Department Museum.

### Landscape

The landscape in this area continues to be well maintained. It consists primarily of open lawn areas, paths, informal garden beds and many mature native and exotic tree species. On the University Avenue boundary of the area there are several *Populus nigrus* planted by Charles Weston, and toward the buildings are dotted several Flowering Plums (*Prunus cerasifera*), Poplars, *Ulmus 'Pictorata'* and five *Cedrus atlantica*. Informal garden beds surrounding the AD Hope Building are filled with jasmine creepers and several flowering *Kniphofia*. Between the AD Hope and Beryl Rawson Buildings there are nine extant mature Eucalypts, more informal garden beds and a bronze sculpture by Patricia Lawrence entitled *Joie de vivre*, bequested to the University by Professor Beryl Rawson in 2011. Grape vines adorn the walkway between the two buildings. The entrance to the Beryl Rawson Building is landscaped with drought tolerant grasses, two *Xanthorrhoea* grass trees and a *Grevillea robusta*. Across Ellery Crescent on the eastern side of Melville Hall are six Eucalypts and several Banksia examples. Many of these are in excellent condition. To the west of the Hall adjacent to Fellows Oval is a large grassed area, fourteen *Populus alba* and a *Eucalyptus pauciflora* planted to commemorate Sorry Day 2005. The entrance to the Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre is surrounded by native, drought tolerant grasses and *Dracaena* shrubs. Periwinkle dominates the garden beds to the west of this entrance, perpendicular to the southern wall of the AD Hope Building.

## Significance Assessment against the Commonwealth Heritage criteria

Criteria	Assessment
<p><b>(a) Historic</b> 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>This group of buildings is significant as it demonstrates the rapid development of the ANU campus throughout the 1970s and 1980s. Melville Hall and the AD Hope Building are significant as buildings designed by prominent architectural practice Yuncken Freeman Architects, who designed seven of the major buildings on the campus during this period including the Chancery Tower and annexes.</p> <p>The buildings are also historically important in the development of the arts and social sciences faculties at the ANU, including history, archaeology, Classical Studies and Language Studies and in continuing the tradition of naming, and in some cases renaming, campus buildings after significant figures in the relevant faculties—such as Sir Leslie Melville, AD Hope and Beryl Rawson.</p> <p>Melville Hall is also significant for events that have been hosted within it, such as the Peter Cook &amp; Dudley Moore show of 1972 and a public exhibition of Jackson Pollock's <i>Blue Poles</i> in 1975.</p> <p><b>The buildings meet CHL criterion (a) for historic values</b></p> <p><b>Attributes</b></p> <p>The buildings as examples of the rapid development of the ANU during the 1970s and 1980s, their role in the development of the social sciences faculties at the ANU and associations with prominent people and events in the history of the ANU.</p>

## Significance Assessment against the Commonwealth Heritage criteria

<p><b>(b) Rarity</b> 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>The buildings do not meet CHL criterion (b) for rarity values.</p>
<p><b>(c) Scientific</b> 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>The buildings do not meet CHL criterion (c) for scientific values.</p>
<p><b>(d) Representative</b> 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>The buildings do not meet CHL criterion (d) for representative values.</p>
<p><b>(e) Aesthetic</b> 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>The buildings display some aesthetic values, however to fully meet this criterion, aesthetic values must be demonstrated as being valued by the community. The community appreciation of aesthetic value has not been formally tested.</p> <p><b>The buildings do not meet CHL criterion (e) for aesthetic values</b></p>

## Significance Assessment against the Commonwealth Heritage criteria

<p><b>(f) Creative/Technical</b> 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>The buildings do not meet CHL criterion (f) for creative/technical values.</p>
<p><b>(g) Social</b> 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>The buildings in this area have strong connections to the ANU community through their association with departments such as CASS, RSSS, RSASS and the Classics Department Museum however; the presence of social value (strong or special attachment to the place by an identified community group) has not been formally tested.</p> <p>The buildings do not meet CHL criterion (g) for social values.</p>
<p><b>(h) Associative</b> 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>The buildings in this group are important for their associations with their individual namesakes: Professor Emerita Beryl Rawson, who had a long and distinguished career at ANU including as lecturer in Classics from 1964, Dean of Arts from 1981, and Professor of Classics from 1989 until her retirement in 1998. Professor Emeritus AD Hope, the Foundation Professor of English at the ANU (and its predecessor the Canberra university College) from 1951 until 1968 and Sir Leslie Melville, ANU Vice Chancellor from 1953 to 1960, a distinguished Australian economist and who served as the Head of the Tariff Board.</p> <p>The buildings (especially the AD Hope Building) are also strongly associated with several other significant academics who contributed to the disciplines of social sciences, arts, history, archaeology, classical studies and languages including Professor Emerita Isabel McBryde and John Mulvaney who pioneered the study of archaeology in Australia.</p> <p>Melville Hall and the AD Hope Building are also associated with the internationally acclaimed Yuncken Freeman Architects who had a major impact on the development of the campus during the 1970s and 1980s, constructing seven major buildings. Yuncken Freeman was also responsible for such iconic buildings as the Sidney Myer Music Bowl and the BHP Building in Melbourne.</p> <p>The buildings meet CHL criterion (h) for associative values</p> <p><b>Attributes</b> Associations with prominent people and events in the history of the ANU.</p>
<p><b>(i) Indigenous</b> The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance as part of Indigenous tradition.</p>	<p>The buildings do not meet CHL criterion (g) for social values.</p>

## Photographs



Figure 5: View from the Fellows Oval towards the southern exterior of the AD Hope Building. (Source: Heritage Office 2011)



Figure 6: The entrance to the Beryl Rawson Building. The overarching walkway is visible to the left. (Source: Heritage Office 2011)



Figure 7: Tim Spellman's *Kulla's Ripple*, 2000, stands to the west of the entrance to the Tjabal Centre, on the lower level of Melville Hall. (Source: Heritage Office 2011)



Figure 8: The site of the AD Hope Building from the south as photographed on May 7, 1965. (Source: ANU Archives)



Figure 9: View from the mezzanine to the Classics Museum. (Source: Heritage Office, 2011)



Figure 10: The western façade of Melville Hall, with its row of *Populus alba*. (Source: Heritage Office 2011)

### Photographs



**Figure 11:** The School of Cultural Inquiry Conference Room, AD Hope Building. (Source: Heritage Office 2011)



**Figure 12:** Patricia Lawrence's 2011 *Joie de vivre*, near the entrance to the Beryl Rawson Building. (Source: Heritage Office 2011)

### Management Issues

#### Constraints and Opportunities

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

The AD Hope Building and Melville Hall are of moderate heritage value and meet the EPBC Commonwealth Heritage criteria a) historic and h) associative. Elements of moderate heritage value and make a contribution to the overall heritage significance of ANU Acton campus and should be retained and conserved. They require care in their management and can generally tolerate some degree of change and adaptive reuse. Loss or unsympathetic alteration could diminish the Commonwealth Heritage or local heritage values of the ANU Acton campus. The Beryl Rawson Building is of low significance in that it contributes to the overall significance/values of the ANU Acton campus, however does not fulfil criteria for heritage listing on its own merit.

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. The AD Hope Building, Beryl Rawson Building and Melville Hall are able to tolerate a moderate level of change through development whereby the historic and associative, attributes and characteristics are conserved and interpreted.

**Opportunities** arise from the identified heritage values of the AD Hope Building, Beryl Rawson Building and Melville Hall. The history of the AD Hope Building, Beryl Rawson Building and Melville Hall 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.

#### Recommendations

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 the AD Hope Building, Beryl Rawson Building and Melville Hall.

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