

Australian National University



Acton Campus — Site Inventory

Study Item/ Area	Fenner School of Environment and Society
Acton Campus Precinct	BANKS Precinct
Building Nos. and Names	48 (Fenner School of Forestry and Society), 48A (Forestry Engineering Wing, School of Resource Management and Environmental Science - Geography Department), 141 (Fenner School and Climate Change Institute)

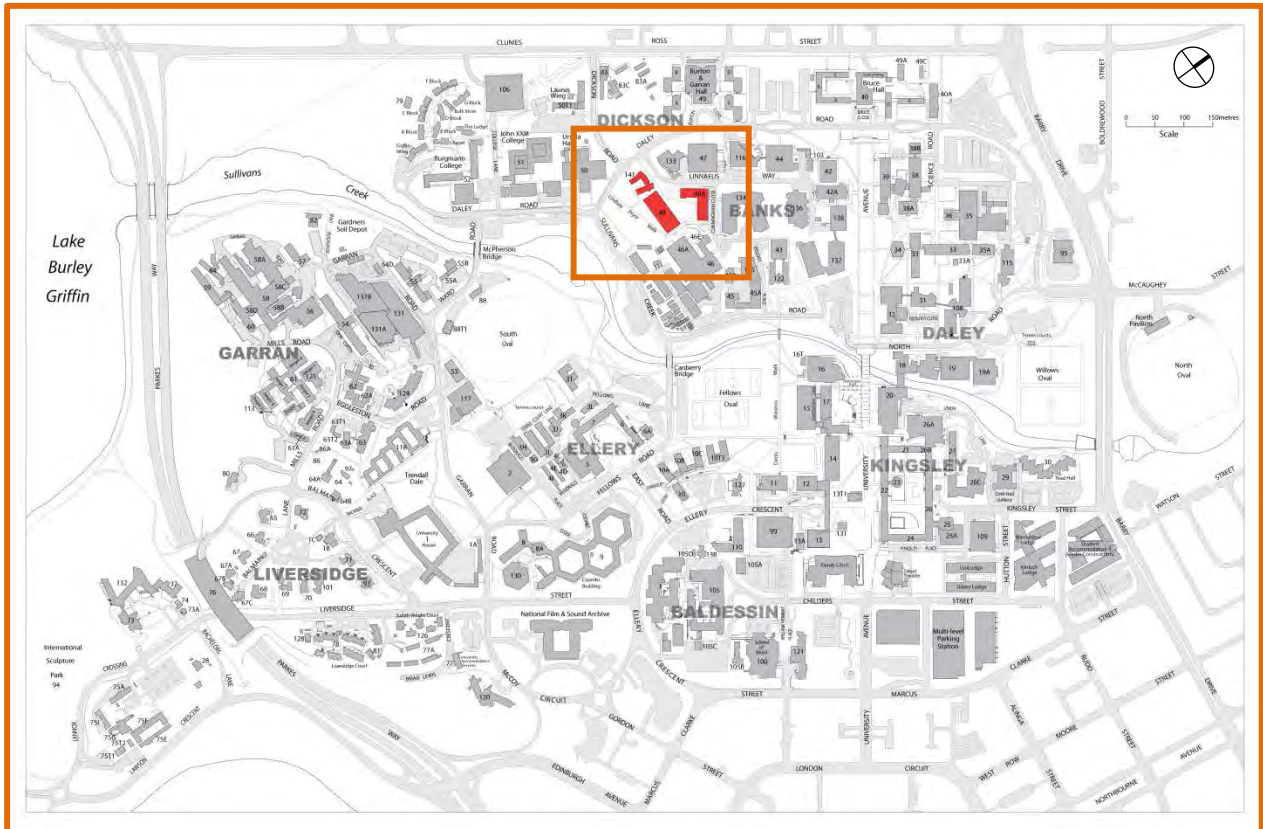


Figure 1: Location of study area within the ANU Acton Campus site.

Heritage Ranking	Fenner School of Environment and Society— Low —does not meet criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List
Heritage Listing	The Fenner School of Environment and Society is not individually listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL).
Condition—Date	The condition noted here is at March 2012. The buildings and trees of the Fenner School of Environment and Society area continue to be well maintained for student education and research and are in good to excellent condition.
Relevant Documentation	There is currently no relevant documentation for the Fenner School of Environment and Society.

Context of the Buildings

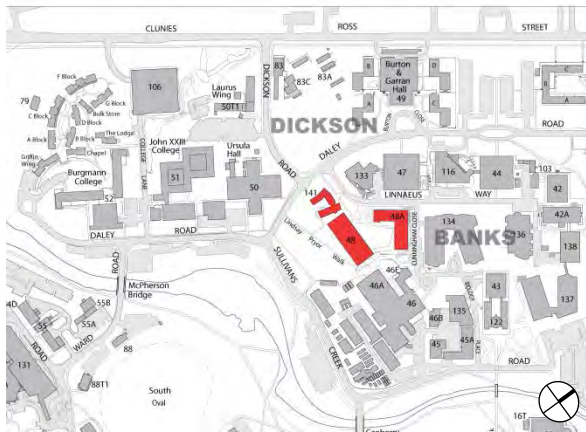


Figure 2: The Fenner School of Environment and Society in the context of the Banks and Dickson Precincts

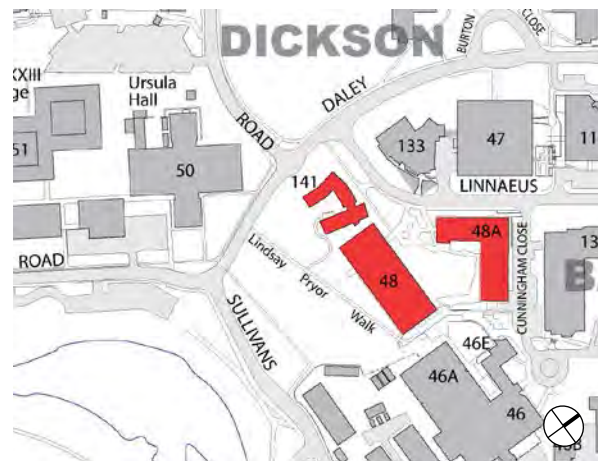


Figure 3: The Fenner School of Environment and Society in relation to Ursula Hall and Daley Road.

Brief Historical Overview

Of the three buildings on site, the Forestry Building was the first to be constructed. Designed by Eggleston, MacDonald and Secomb in 1968 it was built by Citra Australia in the following year. The official opening on May 16 1968 was conducted by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh with the unveiling of a wooden sculpture in the main foyer. Student occupation of the building also commenced in this year with the school moving from its previous site at Yarralumla. In May 1971 extensions to the engineering wing were completed and the Forestry Link opened.

The Fenner Geography Building was constructed not long after the Forestry Building. Designed in 1966 again by Eggleston, MacDonald and Secomb it was finished in 1970 and was extended west to Linnaeus Way to accommodate Forestry.

In 1990 the Geography Department moved from the John Dedman Building to form the School of Resource and Environmental Management (SREM) with the Forestry Department rename. The Forestry Link was also refurbished to accommodate the new school.

The third building on the site, the Frank Fenner Building, was opened on the October 24 2011 by the ACT Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher. The building is to house the Fenner School of Environment and Society. It was part funded under the Australian Federal Government's 'Better Universities Renewal Fund' and was supported by the ACT Government.

Description of The Fenner School of Environment and Society

Buildings

The Forestry building is a two storey redbrick building with a flat metal clad roof, overhanging approximately 1 metre from the structure. It includes wide metal flashings which conceal the metal guttering and other external plumbing fixtures. The windows are double hung sash windows with aluminium casements and flyscreens on the lower floor with top hinged aluminium casements on the upper floor. The building features a timber framework near the front entrance to create a patio style area with bicycle storage beneath for staff and students. The internal area consists mainly of wood panelling and flooring with wood and metal frame staircases. Some fixtures have been upgraded over the life of the building and include lighting and fabric changes to walls and ceilings. Some lecture rooms include plasterboard walls and ceilings with fluorescent lighting while others have painted brickwork walls.

The Geography Building is of a similar construction to the Forestry Building with only slight changes to the placement and volume of the interior fabrics and fixtures.

The Frank Fenner Building is a three storey building constructed with a combination of fabrics including brick, steel and metal panelling. The roof is flat with the external plumbing concealed from view. The windows are metal cased in a variety of sizes and styles. The building includes a design feature framework surrounding the external fire stairs on the side of the building. The internal fabric of the building includes plasterboard walls and ceilings, frosted glass panels on internal doors and rooms. Some

rooms feature wooden panelling which extends to the staircases. These have wooden treads and metal handrails. Many of the rooms and corridors have carpeted flooring.

Landscape

The landscaping around is bedded with a mix of both native and exotic plantings. This includes both trees and low growing shrubs. The Frank Fenner Building features a purpose built wetland area designed to enhance the ecology of the area and provide space for storm water runoff.

Summary Significance Assessment against the Commonwealth Heritage criteria

Statement of Significance

N/A

Criteria	Brief Assessment
(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.	The Fenner School of Environment and Society does not meet CHL criterion (a) for historic values.
(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.	The Fenner School of Environment and Society does not meet CHL criterion (b) for rarity values.
(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.	The Fenner School of Environment and Society does not meet CHL criterion (c) for scientific values.

Summary Significance Assessment against the Commonwealth Heritage criteria

<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>The Fenner School of Environment and Society does not meet CHL criterion (d) for representative values.</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>The Fenner School of Environment and Society does not meet CHL criterion (e) for aesthetic values.</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>The Fenner School of Environment and Society does not meet CHL criterion (f) for creative/technical values.</p>
<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>The Fenner School of Environment and Society does not meet CHL criterion (g) for social values.</p>

Summary Significance Assessment against the Commonwealth Heritage criteria

<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>The Fenner School of Environment and Society does not meet CHL criterion (h) for associate values.</p>
<p>(i) Indigenous The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance as part of Indigenous tradition.</p>	<p>The Fenner School of Environment and Society does not meet CHL criterion (i) for Indigenous values.</p>

Photographs



Figure 5: View of the Forestry Building of the Fenner School, including the newly landscaped wetland designed to increase biodiversity. (Source: ANU Heritage Office 2012)



Figure 6: View of the entrance to the Geography Building including immediate landscaping. (Source: ANU Heritage Office 2012)

Photographs



Figure 7: View of the newly completed Frank Fenner Building for the Fenner School of Environment and Society. (Source: ANU Heritage Office 2012)



Figure 8: View of the entrance of the Forestry Building for the Fenner School. (Source: ANU Heritage Office 2012)



Figure 9: View of a lecture room within the Forestry Building of the Fenner School. (Source: ANU Heritage Office 2012)



Figure 10: View of a laboratory within the Forestry Building of the Fenner School. (Source: ANU Heritage Office 2012)

Management Issues

Constraints and Opportunities

As the Fenner School of Environment and Society is of low significance, no **constraints** are noted.

The Fenner School of Environment and Society is ranked as being of 'Low' significance as it contributes to the overall significance/values of the ANU Acton campus, however it 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 Fenner School of Environment and Society are able to tolerate a moderate amount of change through development.

As the Fenner School of Environment and Society is of low significance and the Transportable is of neutral significance, no **opportunities** are noted.

Recommendations

Photographic recording for the ANU archives should be undertaken prior to substantial change to buildings or landscaping in any future development.