

Archaeological work on the Windsor Bridge replacement project from Thursday 16 August

The NSW Government is building a new Windsor Bridge to provide a safe and reliable crossing of the Hawkesbury River at Windsor.

Roads and Maritime Services will carry out further archaeological work in the north-eastern part of Thompson Square, from **Thursday 16 August**.

This work follows on from work carried out in the past 12 months. All archaeological work will be carried out by specialist independent archaeologists with assistance from heritage conservators.

Archaeological work

Archaeologists carrying out the earlier archaeological salvage work found several items of colonial and Aboriginal historical significance. These items included Aboriginal stone tools, non-Aboriginal artefacts (ceramics, bottles, bricks, etc), and the remains of a brick drainage system, estimated to be built in the early 1800s.

The drainage system the archaeologists uncovered includes a long circular brick drain about 1.5m in diameter and three brick box drains, closer to the surface, which formerly connected to the barrel drain.

For further information, please refer to the Conservation and Heritage section of the project website at rms.nsw.gov.au/windsorbridge.

Brick barrel drain preservation

Due to the historical significance of the brick barrel drain, Roads and Maritime is committed to protecting this heritage item. We have revised the bridge design to protect and preserve the barrel drain in place. We are working closely with heritage experts to determine the best way to interpret and document the brick barrel drain for future generations.



Brick barrel drain (showing 1930s sewer work damage) to be preserved in its current location



A section of the box drain

Box drain salvage

The archaeologists will salvage the box drains. Parts of the brick box drains are damaged, with some sections destroyed. The damage is likely the result of an earlier road being cut through Thompsons Square and other 20th century activities.

The salvage work involves carefully recording and dismantling the drains. The bricks will be conserved and available for future interpretation, subject to expert advice and consultation with stakeholders.

The archaeological team have and will continue to record and analyse all heritage finds. Information and reports will be available to the community on our project website.

Site setup

As part of the work, Roads and Maritime will be installing safety barriers and linemarking along Bridge Street. This will involve setting up traffic controls to ensure the safety of workers.

This work will be done over three nights between **Thursday 16 August** and **Thursday 23 August**, weather permitting, to limit the impact to the road network, to limit the impact to the road network. Our working hours will be between **9pm** and **5am**.

Roads and Maritime will also set up a small site compound with staff amenities within the archaeological area. The compound will include storage sheds and limited staff amenities.

Vegetation removal

To enable the archaeological work to progress, we will be clearing trees and vegetation within the salvage area. Vegetation to be removed includes five trees and noxious weed species. Trees will be replanted at the end of the project.

Full details of the replanting can be seen in the Urban Design and Landscape Plan on the project website.

The vegetation removal will be done over three nights between **Thursday 16 August** and **Thursday 23 August**, to limit the impact to the road network. Our working hours will be between **9pm** and **5am**.

Our work schedule

Work will generally be carried out during standard construction hours between **7am** and **6pm**, between **Monday** and **Friday**, and from **8am** to **1pm** on **Saturdays**. Our work is expected to take up to **two months** to complete. Further notifications will be distributed if required.

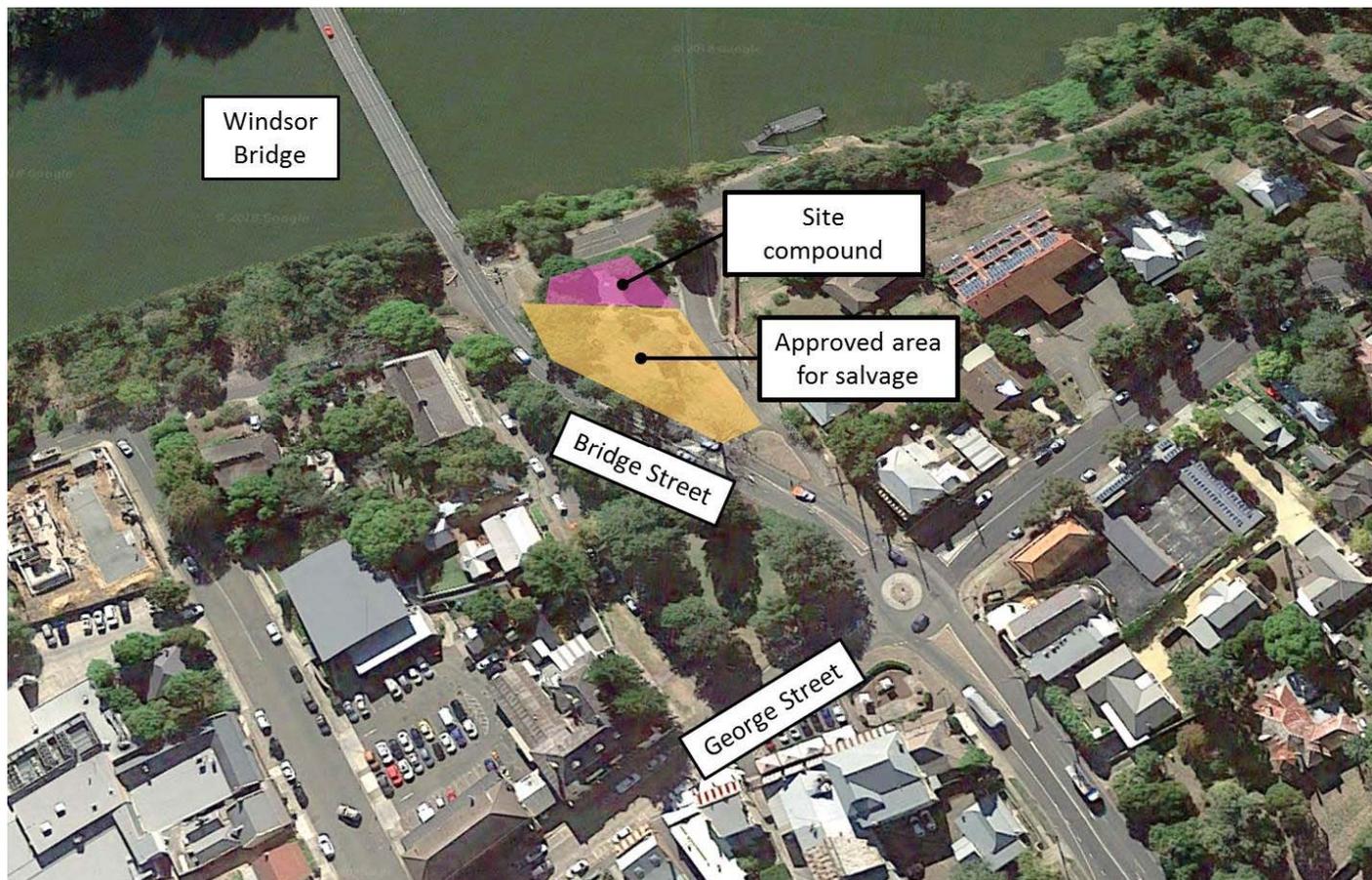
How the work will affect you

There may be some noise during the night work and we will do everything we can to minimise the impact to the community.

Traffic changes

There will be some temporary traffic changes to ensure the safety of workers and motorists during the night work. Please keep to speed limits and follow the direction of traffic controllers and signs. For the latest traffic updates, you can call 132 701, visit livetraffic.com or download the Live Traffic NSW App.

Location of our work



Note: Map and shaded areas are approximations for general information and illustrative purposes only.

Contact

If you have any questions, please contact the Windsor Bridge Project Team on 1800 983 657 during business hours or email windsorbridge@georgiou.com.au.

For more information on the project, visit rms.nsw.gov.au/windsorbridge.

Thank you for your patience during this important work.



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1800 983 657.