Sent: 3/02/2021 5:20:09 PM

Subject: Submission - DA2020/1489

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: DA 2020/1489 (Subdivision - Demolition works and the subdivision of one lot into 3 Torrens Title lots to include a 19 lot Community Title Scheme within proposed Lot 1 and associated civil works)

I am writing to express my disgust with respect to what is happening with the Oaklands Homestead. Reading the ABC's news article and seeing the vandalism in what was a extraordinary place. A unique piece of should-be heritage listed property that is part of Northern Beaches history allowed to be demolished by the obviously planned out destitution by the current owners is an outright disrespect for the local Northern Beaches culture. My friend and his family grew up in that place and I remember it being a beautiful home with so much idyllic history and nature surrounding it. This history includes locally quarried sandstone in Warriewood Valley and ties to Yugoslavian migration in the area that involves locally-grown produce. The house itself was preserved and protected for so long because the occupants knew of its intrinsic value and understood by preserving and protecting this piece of Northern Beaches history, they would be contributing to the area's collective memory for future generations to come.

The fact that the current owners allowed this to happen in order to be able to demolish, along with the culturally-ignorant comments made to the media such as 'farmhouse that has no historical significance' and 'wasn't occupied by Captain Cook', clearly shows the disrespect for Northern Beaches' collective memory. The Northern Beaches Council is partly to blame for the situation by not enforcing the current owners' legal obligation under the NSW's Land and Environment Court decision in 2017 that the historic house be 'retained and upgraded.' The council can rectify the problem with a stroke of the pen by including it in the new local environmental plan as a heritage item. This would be the bare minimal justice this historic home deserves and it would allow it to be restored to its former glory and be enjoyed by the current and future Northern Beaches generations.

Regards,

Tomas Alarcon