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Heritage Branch

Department of Environment and Science

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## Re: Part removal of a place from the Queensland Heritage Register, State Heritage Place: Ipswich Grammar School (HRN 600601)

The Heritage Committee of the local Queensland Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects understands an application has been received for the removal of part of a State Heritage Place from the Queensland Heritage Register, affecting Ipswich Grammar School, located on Woodend Road, Ipswich. We provide this submission for the consideration of the Queensland Heritage Council whereby we express our concern relating to the proposed changes to the entry affecting buildings by prominent architects that in our view contribute to the cultural heritage significance of Ipswich Grammar School.

Our committee supports the current Criterion D that identifies the significance of the affected buildings. Criterion D is copied here below, with emphasis added to highlight the relevant buildings that should remain protected:

The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of cultural places.

*The School is also important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a mid-19th century Queensland grammar school, and its evolution demonstrates key shifts in educational policy and practices as well as changes in Queensland's economic climate. The original School building was built in the early 1860s and the growth of Ipswich Grammar School over the years is reflected in its physical expansion. The original building was expanded in 1865 and further building works were carried out in 1877, 1890 and 1921. Today, the Ipswich Grammar School site is an integrated complex of buildings. Apart from the main building complex, the principal structures with heritage significance include the Music School, formerly the science block (1912); the Murray Hancock Memorial Block (1946); the Karl Langer Building (1961); and the Fox and Hancock dormitory towers (1972).*

We wish to draw to the attention of the Department of Environment and Science, and the Queensland Heritage Council that architects Karl Langer and Stephen Trotter are important figures in the development of architectural history in Queensland; their buildings have shaped the industry and have made a positive contribution to our culture.

It is recommended the Department, and the Heritage Council consider the possible significance of the Karl Langer Building and the Fox and Hancock dormitory towers as examples of the work by these architects and potentially satisfying Criterion H, for their special association with a person of importance to Queensland's history. It is also recommended these aspects are considered to potentially threshold for protection by the City of Ipswich (Council).

The importance of architect Stephen Trotter is demonstrated in various publications and awards he has received, we draw attention in particular to the obituary published in 2015 on ArchitectureAU ([Queensland architect Stephen Trotter dies, aged 84 | ArchitectureAU](#)). Karl Langer's importance is well known as identified

in various publications on Queensland's architectural history. The Institute supports the statement in Criterion H on Langer for his state-listed Chapel of St Peter's Lutheran College that notes Langer "is an architect of importance to Queensland and was one of the earliest architects to promote a local variation of modernist architecture. His work, particularly on climatic design, inspired and influenced contemporary and later architects."

Our committee does not agree the "4.5.1 Zones of Significance", in the submitted Conservation Management Plan (prepared by AHS 2023), captures sufficient area of the school grounds and consider that greater emphasis should be placed on the Karl Langer Building and provide for its protection to its southern curtilage. Similarly, the identified "Area of Low-No Significance" shown on the South-eastern side of the 1863 Great Hall should be modified to ensure the roadway curtilage to the Great Hall is protected.

We look forward to the outcome of the consideration by the Queensland Heritage Council.

Regards,



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Chair, Heritage Committee  
Queensland Chapter  
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