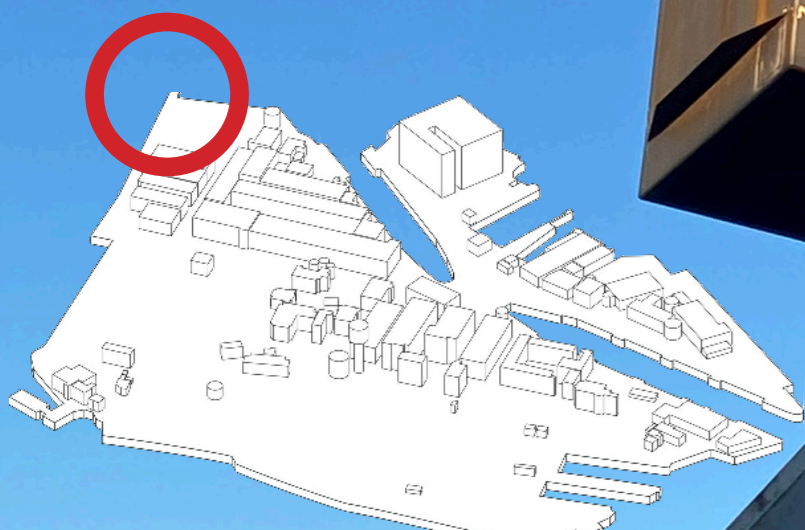


CRANE 302 COCKATOO ISLAND WAREAMAH AU



COCKATOO ISLAND PLAN



CRANE 302_EVALUATION & IDEAS

BACKGROUND

Crane 302 is a redundant late 20th Century industrial structure and is over 50 metres tall. It remains as an impressive feature of Cockatoo Island which is now managed by the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust. Activations are being considered in the concept plan for the island, including more short-term accommodation for visitors to the island.

EVALUATION - HERITAGE CRITERIA

The crane is valued for its postmodern industrial heritage character by the general public. As such it has a preservation value. It has not been altered since it was built in 1976 and since 1991 is no longer in use.

Heritage criteria to adapt the crane for hotel accommodation include:

- retain the industrial character of the crane.
- preserve the industrial features as much as possible.
- integrate a new hotel into the crane into the existing spaces / volumes, instead of adding new features onto the structure.

CONCEPT IDEAS

The crane is an industrial relic and resembles a dinosaur. It simultaneously evokes the past era of Sydney as a working harbour and prehistoric times of the ice-Age before the sea level rose.

The structure has two main 'machine rooms' which provide distinct volumes to inhabit to repurpose for a unique hotel experience.

The challenges include to:

- understand the size and proportion of the 'rooms' and understand how they are connected;
- minimise modifications to the industrial character of the crane when adapting it for accommodation; and
- provide services to the crane, such as lifts and stairs without changing the aesthetic

The dinosaur concept is realised by use of a central stair that resembles a prehistoric vertebrae, like you would see in a museum.



CRANE 302 - HISTORY

Cockatoo Island, located in Sydney Harbour, has a long history of shipbuilding and ship repair spanning from 1857 to 1991.

Originally a convict gaol, Cockatoo Island was developed by convict labour and major features include two large docks constructed by the 1860s. The Royal Australian Navy used the island and its facilities from 1913 but by the 1970s shipbuilding on the island had declined. The main purpose of Cockatoo Island from the 1970s was the maintenance and refit of submarines, until 1991 when the island was decommissioned and gradually opened to the public.

Crane 302 was one of two similar cranes brought to Cockatoo Island in 1976 and they worked on Navy submarines on the Bolt Shop Wharf at the east side of the island, near the Fitzroy Dock. After 15 years in use, the crane has now been redundant for over 30 years.

Crane 302 has heritage significance in representing the later phases of industrial maritime history in Sydney Harbour and in representing the activities of the Royal Australia Navy. The cranes also has aesthetic significance for as impressive postmodern forms in the city's harbour landscape.



Source: Historic Drawings, 1906-79, National Archives Australia: C3456 (Cockatoo Island, Establishment Drawings, Crane 277)

Source: Historic Photographs, 'Keeping the Ships at Sea - Ship Repair At Cockatoo Island 1857 to 1991', Author: John Jeremy, Published Sydney Harbour Federation Trust, 2013 (Figs 15.25, 15.28, 15.35)

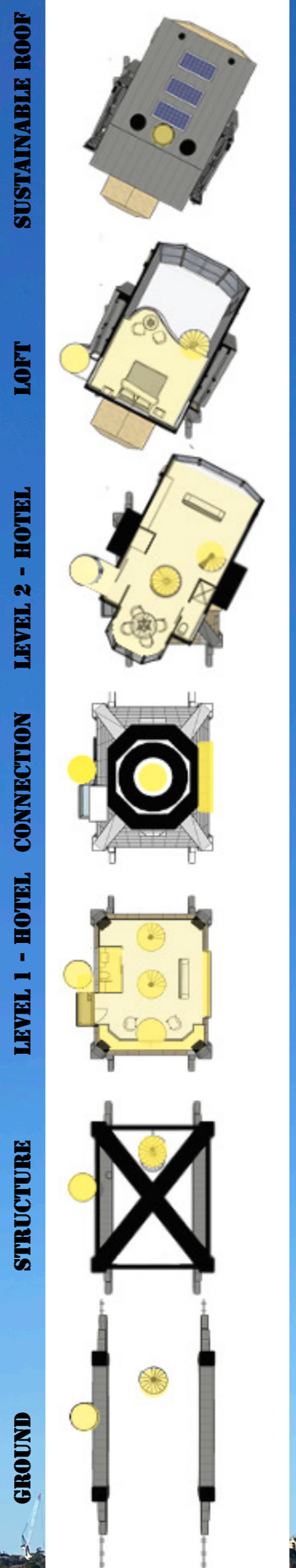
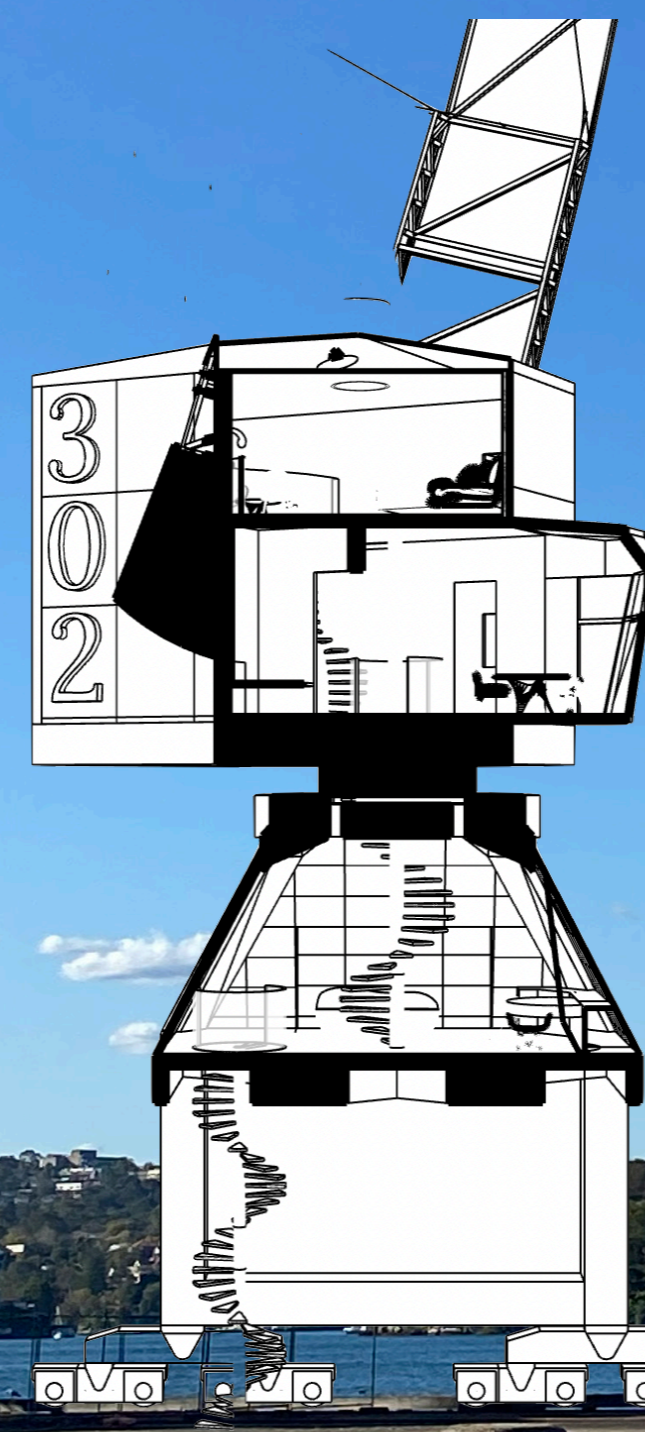
CRANE 302 - VALUE AND PRESERVATION CONCEPT

Crane 302 is on Cockatoo Island, Wareamah, in the middle of Sydney Harbour. The island is accessible by ferry and has many visitors each day.

The unique postmodern forms of the crane can be preserved, repurposed and experience by the public.

A three level hotel accessed by lift and a 'pre-historic' central stair retains the industrial character of the crane.

There are northern and north-eastern views over the harbour from the crane - notably the Sydney Harbour Bridge can be appreciated from the hotel.



AUTHOR
HELENA MACARTHUR

ST SCHOLASTICAS COLLEGE_GLEBE, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA