

# **Mt Druitt Hall**

**Ward 4 Property 9**



#### Ward 4 Property 9 – Mt Druitt Hall

PROPERTY NAME	Mt Druitt Hall
ADDRESS	85-87 Mount Druitt Road. Lots 1 & 2 Section 5 DP 1128
DESCRIPTION	An ornate single storey structure with neo-classical motifs. Decorative features include Corinthian pilasters, a balustraded parapet and pediment over the windows and ceremonial doors to the street frontage.
HISTORICAL CONTEXT	Mount Druitt Hall is an architecturally ornate building constructed by the Advancement Club for community use. It is one of only a few remaining historic public buildings in Blacktown. Built 1925. Landmark status.
LISTINGS	Blacktown City Council LEP
STRENGTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good sized hall</li> <li>• Well used as local hall</li> <li>• Management Committee are sympathetic to a variety of uses</li> <li>• In good condition</li> <li>• Ample parking</li> <li>• Room for development</li> <li>• Kitchenette</li> <li>• Toilets accessible inside/outside</li> <li>• Upstairs gallery</li> <li>• Possible office at back</li> <li>• Multiple entries to foyer</li> <li>• Stage area</li> <li>• On approach road to shops</li> <li>• Old style charm</li> <li>• Some old fashioned cinema fitout</li> <li>• Maintenance money available including funds for new floor fitout in 2004/5</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part of mini movable heritage collection has been located and returned to walls of the building</li> </ul>
WEAKNESSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Out of the way</li> <li>• Old fashioned</li> <li>• Some moveable heritage items are missing</li> <li>• Limited evening use/noise issues</li> <li>• Community support/use uncertain</li> <li>• As a traditional hall it is hard to give long term use to alternate uses</li> </ul>
OPPORTUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Room for new buildings</li> <li>• Existence of movable heritage items for use and interpretation</li> <li>• Cinema</li> <li>• Party hire</li> <li>• Small conferences</li> <li>• Fetes/market days</li> <li>• Drama uses/community theatre/music concerts</li> <li>• Community colleges/U3A</li> <li>• Market building as potential for art society</li> <li>• Physical culture/music school/music practice</li> <li>• Indoor/outdoor sport venue</li> <li>• Improved parking facilities</li> </ul>
THREATS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of local cultural groups (eg, theatre)</li> <li>• Perceptions of area may limit what type of activities are offered to the community in the hall</li> <li>• Lack of through traffic/readily identifiable audiences</li> </ul>
CONCLUSION	The building is currently used as a hall. There is room to expand and provide more facilities on site, if required. It also has the potential for more permanent uses.
RECOMMENDATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Keep the building in use as a hall with regular maintenance and cleaning</li> <li>2. Investigate possible time splitting use of facility – weekends booking as a hall, weekdays possible sole use</li> </ol>

	of facility by groups such as U3A, theatre group, etc 3. Locate and return missing moveable heritage items to site 4. Catalogue and monitor moveable heritage items 5. Investigate possible relocation of operating cinema projection resources from Blacktown Bicentennial Museum to upstairs projection room for possible screening nights. 6. Improve car park if increased usage is anticipated 7. Ensure appropriate funding is available for unexpected maintenance works such as floor and draining works, replacement/upgrade of services
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REFERENCES	SHI no 1140042 BBC Property file 164216 Jonathan Falk Planning Consultants P/L et.al. <i>Blacktown Heritage Study</i> , 1988. Local Studies File – Mount Druitt Hall
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Minimum Budgetary estimates							
Property	Ward	Proposed Purpose	Project	Priority	Reason for priority	Date	Estimated Cost (\$)
Mt Druitt Hall	4	Community Space	kitchen and services improvements	4	currently no major issues	2007-2008	30 000

Non Budgetary and Optional Budgetary Items							
Property	Ward	Proposed Purpose	Project	Priority	Reason for priority	Date	Estimated Cost (\$)
Mt Druitt Hall	4	Community Space	Investigate establishing more permanent weekday uses eg U3A	3	improve use but not a necessity	2007-2008	0
Mt Druitt Hall	4	Tourism & Interpretation	Locate and return missing movable heritage items	3	important issue but not essential. Volunteer currently working on this	2005+	0
Mt Druitt Hall	4	Tourism & Interpretation	Catalogue and monitor moveable heritage items	3	should happen for general management and control	2005+	0
Mt Druitt Hall	4	Community Space	Investigate establishing more permanent weekday uses eg U3A	3	improve use but not a necessity	2007-2008	0
Mt Druitt Hall	4	Tourism & Interpretation	Consider relocation of cinema collection to create operating specialist cinema	4	potential use but not a must. Opportunity might arise due to removal of cinema collection from riverstone	2005+	0

### Recommended Use – Community Hall

Minimum required budget	<b>\$38 000</b>
Recommended minimum non budgetary and optional budgetary items	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
Total funding required	<b>\$38 000</b>