Our ref: DOC21/266111



Ms Tessa Faucheur State Chapter Manager Australian Institute of Landscape Architects – NSW

tessa.faucheur@aila.org.au

Dear Ms Faucheur

Notice of Intention to consider listing on the State Heritage Register

Item:World War II Aeroplane Hangar, TocumwalAddress:243 McCullochs Road, Tocumwal

I am writing to advise that the Heritage Council of NSW resolved, at its meeting on 6 April 2021, to give notice of its intention to consider listing **World War II Aeroplane Hangar**, **Tocumwal** on the State Heritage Register (SHR) in acknowledgement of its heritage significance to the people of New South Wales. This advice is in accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)*.

Any members of the community, owners, managers, organisations or other interested parties are invited to make a written submission regarding the proposed listing and significance of **World War II Aeroplane Hangar, Tocumwal**. Submissions should be posted or emailed to the Heritage Council of NSW at the following address during the public submission period commencing on **19 April 2021** and closing on **17 May 2021**:

Heritage Council of NSW Locked Bag 5020 PARRAMATTA NSW 2124 heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au

Please note that the Heritage Council is unable to accept submissions received after the above closing date.

The World War II Aeroplane Hangar, Tocumwal is likely to have historical, social and cultural significance. The hangar was built in 1942 to store and maintain B-24 Liberator bomber aircraft at McIntyre Field. The hangar is likely to be significant because of its association with the 'Brisbane Line' response to the fear of invasion during WWII and its location on the largest air base in the Southern Hemisphere at that time. The 'Bellman' design hangar represents an innovative Australian industry solution to the steel shortage during WWII and is an example of the earliest prefabrication techniques for the construction of hangars for wartime operations. The design, produced by the Allied Works Council and adapted to use unseasoned Australian hardwoods, was first employed at the United States Army Air Force base at Tocumwal. The gable shaped trusses were fabricated with shear connectors and steel plate joints and, at 39.6m, remain the largest clear span timber trusses in Australia. The hangar is likely to have social significance to surviving USAAF, Australian RAAF and WAAAF personnel that served and trained at Tocumwal and is a legacy to their families. It is also

likely to be significant to the people of Tocumwal and visitors to the Murray River region. Moreover, it is likely to be significant as a large local landmark.

A copy of the draft curtilage map for this item is enclosed for your reference. Further details on the nominated item, the State Heritage Register, listing criteria, making a submission and the benefits of listing can be viewed on the Heritage NSW website at:

www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/protecting-our-heritage/nominate-listing-on-the-state-heritage-register/ If you have any questions, require further information, or if you do not have internet access and would like paper copies of the documents referred to above, please do not hesitate to contact Ashley Edwards, Senior Heritage Operations Officer at Heritage NSW, Department of Premier and Cabinet on 0472 865 267 or ashley.edwards@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

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Barrina South A/Manager Regional Heritage Operations Southern Heritage NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet <u>As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW</u> 19 April 2021

