

Thank you from Fort Street High School



Completed stone and brickwork on south-east corner of Building A.

Dear Fort Street High School community,

Thank you for your patience and support during our heritage stonework project.

The restoration of our historic buildings has been a significant endeavour, and I'm delighted to share that it's now complete. Our school now stands even more beautiful, a testament to our shared history and a source of pride for us all.

I truly appreciate your patience and flexibility. Your support was crucial to the project's success.

Thank you for being an essential part of this achievement. We can now enjoy a revitalised environment that honours our past while inspiring our future.

Regards

Juliette McMurray

Principal

For more information

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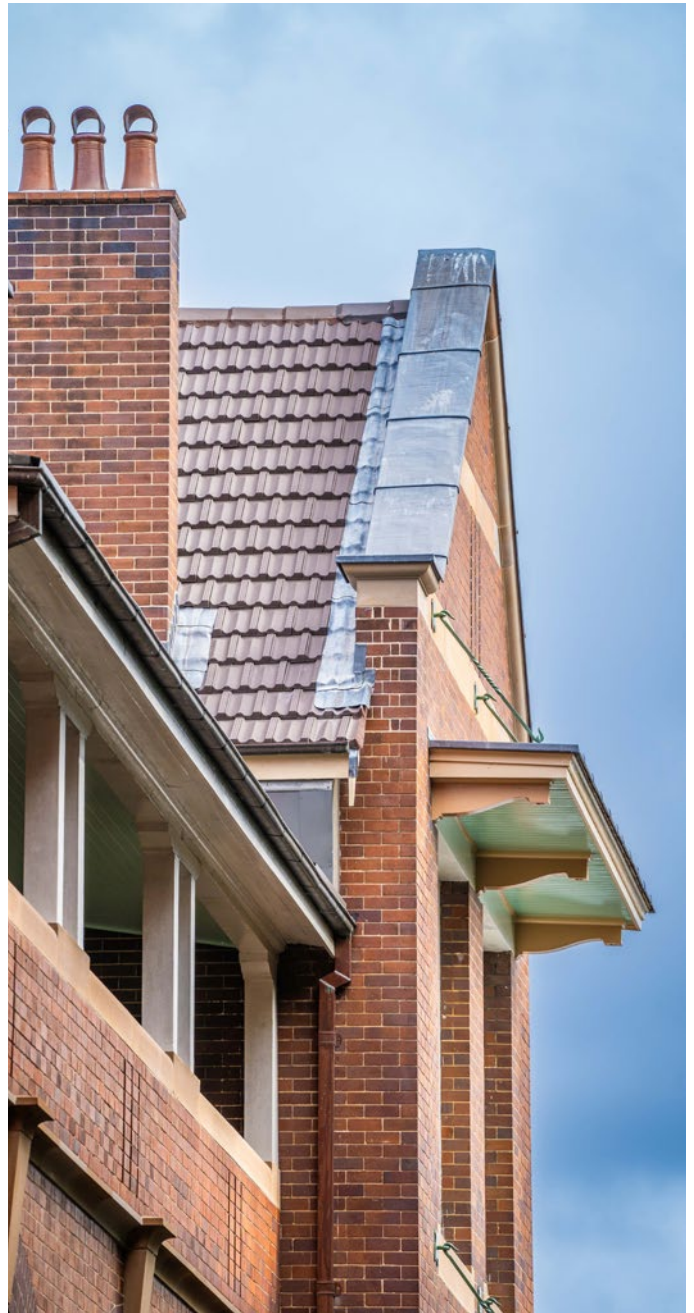
Completed chimneys, windows, stone and brickwork on east side of Building A.

Fort Street High School: where we began

The original Fort Street Model School was established in 1849 when the old Military Hospital at Sydney's Observatory Hill was converted to house the first of a system of "model" non-denominational schools, where government took over the role of education, later developing into the public school system.

The school's name came from the street, which ran to the grounds of the old hospital and refers to Fort Phillip, the colony's first defensive citadel, constructed on Observatory Hill in 1804.

In 1911, the school was split into one primary and 2 secondary schools: Fort Street Public School, Fort Street Boys High School and Fort Street Girls High School, respectively. Due to space limitations at Observatory Hill, the Boys School was moved in 1916 to a newly constructed building on its present site at Taverner's Hill, on Parramatta Road, Petersham. The Girls School remained at its original location until 1975, when the 2 schools were amalgamated to form the co-educational school at Petersham.



Completed ironwork, stonework, gables and chimneys.

Honouring our school's architectural history

Restoration of heritage stonework at Fort Street High School began in 2022. Teams of specialist traditional trades, including carpenters, stonemasons, conservation architects and engineers, dedicated thousands of hours to restoring the building to its 1916 glory. The team meticulously restored the original stonework, brickwork, façades, gables and chimneys. The team replaced damaged stone with handcrafted pieces sourced only from authentic, locally quarried sandstone. To maintain and extend the life of the heritage buildings, the team repaired and repainted external windows, gable vents and doors and completed several structural upgrades. The buildings have been beautifully restored for the school community to enjoy for many years.



Completed front façades of Building A including stone and brickwork.

Contact us

For information about school activities and operations, contact the school directly:

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