

## PORT AUTHORITY OF NSW HERITAGE INVENTORY

### State Heritage Inventory

SHI Number: 4560058		Study Number: N/A	
Item Name: Timber Cabinet 1, Enfield			
Location: Port Access Road, Rozelle			
Address: Glebe Island ERT Shed, Port Access Road, Rozelle		DUAP Region: Sydney South	
Suburb / Nearest Town: Rozelle 2039		Historic Region: Sydney	
Local Govt Area: Inner West		Parish: Petersham	
State: NSW		County: Cumberland	
Other/Former Names:			
Area/Group/Complex:		Group ID:	
Aboriginal Area: Wangal			
Curtilage/Boundary:			
Item Type: Movable / Collection	Group: Government and/ Administration	Category: Contents (movable)	
Owner: Port Authority of New South Wales			
Current Use: None			
Former Uses:			
Assessed Significance: Local		Endorsed Significance:	
Statement of Significance:  <p>The exact provenance of this cabinet is unknown, subsequently no direct historical importance or significant associations with the item have been identified. However, this cabinet may have held a commemorative purpose and subsequent historic importance / association with the relevant department or agency responsible for its early ownership. Until the item's provenance is further clarified, this can only be an interim assessment.</p>			
Historical Notes or Provenance:  <p>While the provenance is currently unknown, the use of a range of timbers associated with maritime and/or construction use suggests that these two items (Timber Cabinet 2, SHI 4560057) have been constructed from timbers used in a Sydney Ports Corporation-related building or craft. This suggests that these items could have a commemorative purpose or role. A patina of use also appears in the framing of the panelled doors that suggests previous coatings and/or coverings.</p> <p>Research was undertaken through internal contacts at the former Sydney Ports and through an inspection of previous Maritime Services Board (MSB) publications such as All A'Board, a quarterly publication of the MSB (1962-1975), The monthly Officers Journal (1925- 1934) and the official history prepared by Edna Carew, First Port Future Port: Celebrating 100 Years (2002). No reference to cabinets constructed for the MSB or its descendants has yet been identified. In addition, the Heritage Assessment</p>			

<p>for Part of the former Enfield Yard (Otto Cserhalmi &amp; Partners P/L, March 2002) does not make any reference to either timber cabinet.</p> <p>Stylistically, this cabinet has modest similarities to the Enfield item but both represent office furniture of their era. Their recent restoration and refinishing with Estapol polyurethane suggests that they were restored at the same time, c1988-89 but there was no paper tag on the base or bottom.</p> <p>The interior could not be examined.</p>			
Themes:	National Theme:	State Theme:	Local Theme:
Designer: Unknown			
Maker / Builder: Unknown			
Year Started:	Year Completed:	Circa: No	
<p>Physical Description: A cabinet with a profile-sawn footed ornamental apron across the front and sides of the cabinet with three panelled doors with hidden hinges, right-hand door is keyed to left hand side of panel frame, the centre and left doors open from left and right hand sides (respectively). Key could not be located. The sawn rear panels are also well-finished. The feet and apron are formed from profile-sawn ornamental skirting. The framing of the door panels is decorated in a two-reed moulding run directly into the framing but they do not bevel in the corners. This same moulding appears on the sides but the decoration is run vertically.</p> <p>The panels of the doors are framed and finished with cyma reversa moulding to all sides. The panels are formed from a single slab of timber resembling Australian blackwood (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>) a timber used in boat-building and maritime carpentry or jarrah (<i>Eucalyptus marginata</i>), a timber used in cladding and/or building construction. The timbers of the frames of the panel doors have not been identified and resemble Queensland maple for the horizontal framing, (<i>Flindersia</i> spp) and Australian blackwood (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>) (or jarrah) for the vertical framing and show a patina of wear that suggests the timber was recycled from some previous application.</p> <p>The top of chest (timber perhaps Australian blackwood, <i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>) is also formed from single slab of timber with a reeded ornamental moulding extending around the entire top accompanied by an abbreviated Cyma Reversa moulding. The top has been protected by a single sheet of bevelled glass.</p> <p>The panels doors have been altered and it appears that these doors were once faced with an earlier coating/fabric/card that was held in place by the mouldings. There is considerable space between the panel and moulding with fragments of this earlier coating remaining under the moulding. The patination of these panels also suggests that pins or thumbtacks were used in the four corners of each panel. The dimensions of the item are 1580 wide x 465 deep x 750 mm high.</p> <p>The top right (rear) of the cabinet reveals the top of the item lifting from drying/humidity and the top has separated from the case. One of the gluing blocks (held by hide glue) has also come away from the case, also suggesting that temperature and humidity has affected the item.</p> <p>The joining methods have not been determined.</p>			
<p>Physical Condition: The timber cabinet is in a fair condition with some issues noted including lifting of the top panel at the rear righthand side likely due to drying/humidity issues. The cabinet also has at least two examples of moderate cracking to the base structure of the cabinet, along with some general wear and scuffing likely the product of its historic use and recent location in a storage facility.</p>			
<p>Modification Dates: Covering of original panels removed, finish removed and replaced with Estapol polyurethane (Wattyl). Could not access interior of cabinet.</p>			
<p>Recommended Management: Keep in a protected location to retain and conserve, as appropriate.</p>			

Preparation of a Heritage Assessment with input from a furniture conservation specialist to provide a comprehensive understanding of the significance of the item and assist with its long-term management.					
Management: Statutory Instrument					
Further Comments: Date of construction: Late 19th century or early 20th century.					
Criteria a)					
Criteria b) The exact provenance of this cabinet is unknown, subsequently no direct significant association with the item has been identified. However, this cabinet may hold an association with the relevant department or agency responsible for its early ownership. Until the items provenance is further clarified, this can only be an interim assessment.					
Criteria c) The item and its detailing are representative of NSW office furniture of its era. Examples of similar items are uncommon in public collections.					
Criteria d)					
Criteria e) The exact provenance of this cabinet is unknown, subsequently no direct potential to yield significant information has been identified. However, until the items provenance is further clarified, this can only be an interim assessment.					
Criteria f)					
Criteria g)					
Integrity / Intactness: The top right (rear) of the cabinet demonstrates lifting from drying/humidity and has separated from the case. One of the gluing blocks has also come away from the case, also suggesting that temperature and humidity has affected the item. The coverings (coating/fabric/card) of the three front panels have been removed and the item's original finish removed and refinished with Estapol polyurethane (Watty).					
References:	Author:	Title:			Year:
	Michael Bogle	Sydney Ports Moveable Heritage Assessment			2010
Studies:	Author:	Title:	Number:	Year:	
Parcels:	Parcel Code:	Lot Number:	Section:	Plan Code:	Plan Number:
Latitude:			Longitude:		
Listings:	Name:	Title:	Number:	Date:	
	Heritage Act – S.170 NSW State agency heritage register	Timber Cabinet 1, Enfield	4560058		
Data Entry:	Date First Entered:	Date Updated:		Status:	
	07/05/2010	19/12/2022		Basic	

Image: 1



Caption: Timber cabinet with three panelled doors, reverse side. Former Sydney Ports Corporation office, Kent Street, Sydney. February 2010.

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Image By: Michael Bogle

Image Date: 1/02/2010

Image File: 4560058b1.jpg

Image: 2



Caption: Timber cabinet with three panelled doors, reverse side, Former Sydney Ports Corporation office, Kent Street, Sydney. February 2010.

Copyright: Michael Bogle

Image By: Michael Bogle

Image Date: 1/02/2010

Image File: 4560058b2.jpg

Image: 3



Caption: Timber cabinet with three panelled doors, front profile, at Port Authority of NSW furniture shed, Glebe Island, Rozelle.

Copyright: Port Authority of New South Wales

Image By: Zach Nix - NBRS

Image Date: 11/12/2022

Image File: 4560058b3.jpg



Image: 4



Caption: Timber cabinet with three paneled doors, side profile, at Port Authority of NSW furniture shed, Glebe Island, Rozelle.

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Image By: Zach Nix - NBRS

Image Date: 11/12/2022

Image File: 4560058b4.jpg

Image: 5



Caption: Timber cabinet with three paneled doors, rear profile, at Port Authority of NSW furniture shed, Glebe Island, Rozelle.

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Image By: Zach Nix - NBRS

Image Date: 11/12/2022

Image File: 4560058b5.jpg



Image: 6



Caption: Timber cabinet with three paneled doors, underside with cracking evident, at Port Authority of NSW furniture shed, Glebe Island, Rozelle.

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Image By: Zach Nix - NBRS

Image Date: 11/12/2022

Image File: 4560058b6.jpg