

Lesson 8 – Resource Sheet 1

Development proposal hypothetical

Hypothetical: A group of property developers plans to redevelop the site occupied by McDonald's and the adjacent car park (see the 1988 map). Part of their plan includes the purchase of the open space currently covered with grass and the old fig tree. The tree is a historic landmark in the local area and pre-dates the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788. The development application lodged with the local council proposes that a 10-story office block with ground-level retail outlets be built on the site. One of these will house a modern McDonald's outlet. Fifty jobs will be created during construction and more than 300 people will work in the building once complete. The pro-development council has agreed to a land swap with the developer. A new park will be developed on another site as compensation. The new park will feature three newly planted fig trees. Those opposed to the development have gone to the Land and Environment Court in an effort to have the development stopped. You are a judge of the Land and Environment Court. Will you allow the development to go ahead?

Community views on the proposed development

