

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Airport North Precinct project involved the widening of O’Riordan Street in each direction between Bourke Road and Robey Street and connecting to the one-way road system through and out of the T2/T3 domestic terminals at Sydney Airport. The project included the reconfiguring of traffic lights, improved pedestrian and cycle access, and coordination with internal airport roads to help improve traffic flow.

The Airport North Precinct involved upgrade of the roads north of Sydney’s Kingsford Smith Airport, to improve traffic flow and connections to the airport and Port Botany, two of Australia’s important international gateways for domestic and international air travel and container traffic. The objective of the Airport North upgrade was to deliver improved traffic capacity and reduced congestion along O’Riordan Street, improve access to Sydney Airport domestic terminals and improve connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.

The project involved the widening of O’Riordan Street to three lanes in each direction between Bourke Road and Robey Street to compliment the recently completed one-way pairing of Robey Street

and O’Riordan Street, the reconfiguring of the existing traffic lights on O’Riordan Street between Qantas Drive and Bourke Road and upgrading the footpath on O’Riordan Street and Robey Street.

Additionally, there were a multitude of essential underground services running down O’Riordan Street including a 132Kv cable, a high pressure gas main, telecom cables and water mains. The majority of these utility services including overhead power cables had to be relocated to accommodate the widening of the O’Riordan Street carriage way.

Tenders for the project were concluded mid-2018, with John Holland being appointed as principal contractor.

The project posed a number of challenges, as O’Riordan Street is a key link to Sydney Airport and Port Botany, two lanes of traffic in each direction had to be maintained during peak traffic times. Transport for NSW engaged with a large number of key stakeholders and businesses including Sydney Airport, Bayside Council, the Traffic Management Centre, hotels and businesses on O’Riordan Street and the local community.

Active community and stakeholder communication ensured the impacts of the construction work were reduced whilst enabling the project to be delivered in a timely manner.

To work with the demands of the road, work zones were tight and night work was required to complete larger areas of work. The onsite teams worked effectively to reach the required programme timeframes, included completing the northbound lanes on the western side within five weekend closures and with the addition of COVID-19 protocols. The Airport North Precinct proposal is part of a suite of upgrades to improve traffic flow around Sydney Airport. The Airport West

upgrade, completed in 2018, widened Marsh Street, Arncliffe to three lanes in each direction between Giovanni Brunetti Bridge and the M5 interchange.

Transport for NSW completed the Airport East upgrade in November 2019. The benefits of this project included improved road user safety by removing the existing railway level crossing on General Holmes Drive, improved traffic flow and access to the airport and Port Botany, improved movement of rail freight to and from Port Botany and reduced congestion in the area for airport traffic. The projects are also part of the WestConnex enabling works around the airport.

Due to the introduction of COVID-19 restrictions and a significant decrease in local traffic, the project was completed months ahead of schedule.

For more information contact Transport for NSW, email airportnorth@rms.nsw.gov.au, website www.transport.nsw.gov.au



DEVELOPER : Transport for NSW
BUILDER : John Holland
CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$65 million

Below SJ Read Earthworks & Haulage provided trucks and excavators for the carting of excavated material from site for disposal.



There are few companies as dedicated to digging and moving large volumes of earth than the family owned and trusted SJ Read Earthworks & Haulage.

For the Airport North Precinct road widening project, SJ Read dedicated significant personnel and equipment resources to the project, with most of their 25 strong team of drivers and operators taking part.

Founding Directors, Steve and Cheryl Read were also actively involved to ensure the more challenging aspects of the job were expertly handled. Steve undertook many night shifts early in the project to get the jersey barriers and lighting in place. The company supplied trucks and excavators for both the day shifts and night shifts, carting excavated material from site and disposing of it at a licenced tip.

A major challenge was a shutdown weekend in February 2019. Steve and Cheryl planned the logistics of the weekend well ahead of time, sourcing and arranging sufficient trucks and excavators to meet the goals set for the shutdown.

Over 5,000 tonnes of material were carted away from Friday night to Sunday night. Trucks ran continuously for 18 hours at a time with a roster of drivers to enable change over at the appropriate times. Steve stayed onsite for each 18 hour shift to ensure work went smoothly and to liaise with the project's superintendent and foreman. Cheryl also spent time onsite to manage the disposal of different materials as there were varying charges at the tip for each type of material, which had budget implications.

Steve and Cheryl established SJ Read Earthworks & Haulage in 2003 after spending

a total of 15 years in the trucking business. They brought their valuable experience on major haulage and civil projects into the company which at commencement had just one truck. The business has now grown to the point they have 25 trucks and seven excavators.

SJ Read Earthworks & Haulage will undertake any job from the home DIY renovation through to larger scale industrial projects, offering hourly rates or fixed price contracts. "We have a large range of different excavators and attachments, bobcat tyre and track loaders and a variety of tipping trucks," Steve and Cheryl said. "Together with our knowledge of the industry and hand picked team, we are equipped for any assignment."

SJ Read also specialises concrete slab preparations and can also prepare foundation footings and conduct diamond blade rock sawing.

Illustrating SJ Read's capability, the company has been actively involved in the bush fire clean up on the south coast of New South Wales around Mogo, Batemans Bay and Cobargo. "There are 2,500 houses to be demolished and removed," Steve said. "We are supplying and managing up to 60 trucks for the subcontractor working with with Nass and Laing O'Rourke."

Backed by years of experience and equipped with a large fleet of the latest excavators and trucks, SJ Read Earthworks & Haulage has been regularly engaged on some of Sydney's largest publicly funded projects including the Light Rail, NorthConnex, WestConnex and the Cronulla-Sutherland rail duplication.

They are also currently working on the Sydney Metro rail project at Marrickville and Central, also with Laing O'Rourke, and the Waterfall station development for Abergeldie.

To ensure the company can fully employ their team if infrastructure programmes are quiet, SJ Read Haulage & Excavation has diversified into container haulage, general freight and warehousing.

For more information contact SJ Read Earthworks & Haulage, 26-28 Burns Road, Heathcote NSW 2233, phone 02 9520 1970, email admin@sjread.com.au, website www.sjread.com.au

Below Solid Scapes completed a range of civil works including footpath repair across the whole Airport North Precinct project.

Below Wexcon completed concrete paving and kerb works along O’Riordan Street for the Airport North Precinct.



When integrated landscaping solutions are required, Solid Scapes is the first choice for many builders, developers and government authorities. Renowned for extensive capabilities ranging from concrete construction to artificial grass installation, Solid Scapes has developed a business based on reliability, experience and a commitment to proactive communication with clients throughout all projects.

The Airport North Precinct project, commissioned by Transport for NSW to deliver improved traffic flow and pedestrian accessibility around Sydney Airport, required Solid Scapes to deliver footpath and paving repairs, kerbing and guttering and other civil works.

“In total we will have worked on Airport North for around 18 months once the project is complete. At various times we have had up to 12 of our team on the site,” said Director, Andrew Fuda. “We often worked in very restricted areas and always had to be conscious of live traffic movements, especially when working at night.”

Solid Scapes has built up a substantial portfolio of work on publicly funded projects since Andrew founded the business in 2007. “We have been working on the Sydney Light Rail project for around

four years. In the Randwick section, we did all the footpath upgrades and landscaping. We were also involved in the construction of five of the projects substations and surrounds. This involved the excavations, concrete placing and finishing for the substation there,” explained Andrew.

Solid Scapes also work regularly alongside larger builders i.e. Lendlease, and Mirvac. At Marrickville Library, Solid Scapes undertook footpath upgrades, a childrens’ playground, and the public domain works.

The depth of knowledge and experience of Solid Scapes’ team ensures that all clients can depend on a high quality result, delivered on time and within budget.

For more information contact Solid Scapes, 114 Galston Road, Hornsby Heights NSW 2077, phone 0407 784 581, email info@solidscapes.com.au, website www.solidscapes.com.au

In the three years of operation, Wexcon Pty Ltd has pursued their vision of becoming Australia’s Form Reo Pour contractor of choice. Wexcon’s success is evidenced by their rapid growth rate and level of repeat business from satisfied clients.

Engaged by principal contractor John Holland, Wexcon accomplished an extensive range of formwork, steel fixing and concrete placement activities, across the Airport North Precinct. Their scope of work included kerb and gutter, vehicular crossings, pram ramps, driveways, footpaths, ACO drains, protection slabs and signage footings.

“The majority of work was completed on night shifts, working under lights with a road occupancy licence with continuous live traffic, so it was a challenging environment,” said Director and Operations Manager, Adrian Keane. “Working at night in cold temperatures required a specifically designed concrete mix, tailored to the conditions to be used on the project, due to the small window for concrete finishing.”

“The safety of our team and other contractors was always a top priority. We were able to manage the situation through proactive communication between Wexcon, John Holland and traffic control,” said Director and General Manager, Jason O’Gorman.

Since their establishment in 2017, Wexcon has been involved in a multitude of complex projects throughout greater Sydney, working alongside some of Australia’s top tier contractors. Completed and current projects have ranged from engagement on the Sydney Light Rail, the Sydney Metro project at Marrickville and Barangaroo, through to the Cronulla Boat Ramp Upgrade in the Sutherland Shire.

Wexcon’s success is due to the experience and expertise of their hands on directors and a skilled, well trained, enthusiastic team who are aligned to the company’s core values of delivering high quality workmanship within the financial goals of their clients.

For more information contact Wexcon Pty Ltd, Unit 9/17 Power Avenue, Alexandria NSW 2015, phone 0421 251 256, email info@wexcon.com.au, website www.wexcon.com.au

Below Norwest Group completed a full range of concreting assignments, including formwork, steel fixing, pouring and finishing.



Below SAF Group completed ITS pit and pipe installation, cable hauling, vacuum and mechanical excavation, trench backfill and compaction.



Norwest Concrete Constructions, trading as Norwest Group, is a specialist in all types of concrete structural work, including excavation.

Selected to undertake work on the Airport North Precinct road widening project on the approaches to Sydney Airport, Norwest Group completed a full range of concreting assignments. Their scope of work included covering formwork, steel fixing, pouring and finishing, drainage pits, traffic islands, f-type barriers and cycleways.

A team of 20 were involved on the project from commencement through to completion.

“The project posed a number of challenges, with the need to adjust all workplace safety practices as a result of COVID-19,” said Managing Director, Brenttin Davidson. “We were fully focussed on the need to ensure the safety of our team, fellow workers on the site and the public.”

An Australian owned family company, Brenttin founded the business in 2015 and the company has experienced significant growth. Brenttin is a ‘hands on’ Managing Director who diligently manages all projects

from start to finish around the state, supported by Norwest Group’s inhouse civil engineer.

Comprising a team of skilled operators with all the necessary machinery and equipment to perform any concreting task at a highly professional level. “Our work has recently been recognised with the awarding of all three QMS Quality Assurance ticks,” Brenttin said. “This is a tribute to the commitment of everyone on the team to delivering an excellent standard of workmanship, within budget and meeting the client’s schedule.”

Norwest Group currently has an involvement in a number of projects, including Tallawong Station on the new Sydney Metro, construction of Bunnings Campbelltown, hardscapes at Sydney University and work at Erskine Park for Roads and Maritime Services.

For more information contact Norwest Group, phone 0447 512 525, email Brenttin@norwestg.com.au, website www.norwestconcreteconstructions.com.au

SAF Group Pty Ltd is a highly skilled operator in civil works, able to successfully excavate, build and reinstate any utility requirement. Equipped with their own modern fleet of trucks and plant, SAF Group undertakes utility infrastructure construction, vacuum and mechanical excavation as well as traffic control.

SAF Group has been engaged on the Airport North Precinct project for Transport for NSW since 2018.

The project was typical of the work the group carries out on a day to day basis, completing ITS pit and pipe installation, cable hauling, vacuum and mechanical excavation, trench backfill and compaction. The work was completed in stages to suit the project timetable, with a continuous presence onsite for the first six months in 2018, then a return in 2019 until 2020.

A large part of the project was undertaken at night due to the busy location near Sydney Airport. “Working near the Pullman Hotel required a special effort to minimise noise below set levels,” Managing Director of SAF Group, Bill Fardous said. “We found ways to successfully sound-proof our trucks, particularly our vacuum trucks. In all other respects, the project proceeded very smoothly for SAF Group.”

Many of Sydney’s roads and footpaths have had surface and subsurface restoration work performed by SAF Group, including concrete manhole construction, either precast or poured in situ. The company’s skillset also extends to non-friable asbestos removal, with SAF Group holding a Worksafe NSW Asbestos Removal Class B Licence.

SAF Group is family owned and the directors oversee all operations, ensuring the highest safety and quality standards are maintained. “We pride ourselves on our strong work ethic, reliability and consistency,” Bill said.

The company’s expertise has won them many major contracts with clients including Telstra, the NBN, WestConnex, Ford Civil and Sydney Light Rail. Currently, SAF Group is working on the Rozelle Interchange and Parramatta Light Rail.

For more information contact SAF Group Pty Ltd, 33 Waterview Street, Carlton NSW 2218, phone 02 9547 2233, email info@safgroup.com.au, website www.safgroup.com.au