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## Sydney Opera House announces Contractor for Phase 2 of the Vehicle Access and Pedestrian Safety Project

Sydney Opera House today announced the engagement of John Holland as Contractor for the major works package of the Vehicle Access and Pedestrian Safety (VAPS) project. John Holland will be responsible for the excavation and construction of the new underground loading dock and upgrade of the Forecourt roadway, with work commencing in January 2012.

Work on the VAPS project commenced in February 2011. This **\$152 million upgrade** of Sydney Opera House is the biggest building works on the site since its opening in October 1973.

The project involves:

- Diversion of the Bennelong Drain, a stormwater drain servicing parts of the Sydney CBD, that runs across the Sydney Opera House site
- Excavation and construction of a new access road and loading dock under the Forecourt & Vehicle Concourse
- Raising of the existing road to remove the kerbs

Contractor Seymour Whyte has now completed the first phase of the project, the diversion of the Bennelong drain. The 19<sup>th</sup> century drain was exposed, monitored, studied and recorded by an archaeologist from Godden Mackay Logan. In addition, many essential services such as water, gas and electricity have been relocated across the Forecourt and other preparatory works have been completed on time and on budget.

More information can be found at [sydneyoperahouse.com](http://sydneyoperahouse.com)

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