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THE LODGE PREPARES FOR EXPRESSWAY

Preliminary surveying began around the Lodge in Canberra today in preparation for the widening of Adelaide Avenue.

The roadwork, which is necessary to complete a dual highway linking Canberra with new suburbs in the Woden Valley, will extend into a large section of the large gardens. The Prime Minister, Mr. Gorton, gave authority for the acquisition of the land so that there would be no delay in the expressway project, which will convert the present two-lane roadway into a six-lane highway. The four additional lanes will run through what is now part of the Lodge grounds.

Work will begin later this month on the foundations of a new boundary wall to be built around the Adelaide Avenue and National Circuit frontages of the Lodge. The wall will be off-white in colour, seven feet high and has been specially designed to act as a baffle to traffic noise. National Capital Development Commission architects have given close attention to the design and finish of the wall to ensure that it blends into the parkland setting.

The main entrance to the Lodge from Adelaide Avenue will be resited to facilitate ease of access from the expressway. Because of the re-arrangements of traffic flow, this will be an entrance only. The gateway in National Circuit will be widened and will be the only exit for vehicles.

To minimise inconvenience, the NCDC will start clearing and excavating during the Prime Minister's absence overseas at the end of this month. The wall and associated work on the boundaries will take about six weeks to complete.

CANBERRA
8 May 1968