

Site reading on your own computer

On your own computer · both tools

You download the tool, one Python file, and run it on your machine. It's the fastest route, and it keeps working from saved answers when you're offline.

YOU NEED

- **Python 3.11 or later** from python.org/downloads. On Windows, tick **Add python.exe to PATH** on the first installer screen.
- Your tool's files from aia-site-reading.pages.dev. Overlay: `site_layers_overlay.py` and `style_card.toml`. Open: the whole `site_layers-open.zip`, unzipped.
- An internet connection for the first run.

Set up once

- 1 Put the tool's files, your style card and (overlay only) your archiMap DXF in one folder.
- 2 Open a terminal **in that folder**. **Windows:** click the File Explorer address bar, type `cmd`, press Enter. **Mac:** right-click the folder and choose *New Terminal at Folder*.
- 3 Install the libraries once, for either tool. **Windows:** `py -m pip install ezdxf shapely pyproj matplotlib numpy requests scipy`. **Mac:** the same, starting `python3 -m pip`.

Site Layers-overlay

- 1 Run it with your pin: `py site_layers_overlay.py --lat -33.910706 --lon 151.143224 --dxf my_archimap.dxf --style style_card.toml --address "14 Kays Ave West, Dulwich Hill"`
- 2 Your files appear in `site_layers_overlay_out`. Leave out `--dxf` if you don't use archiMap.

Site Layers-open

- 1 Run it with your address in quotes: `py site_layers-open.py "249 Oxford Street, Paddington NSW 2021"`, or with a pin: `py site_layers-open.py "-33.8847, 151.2268"`
- 2 Your files appear in `site_layers-open_out`, as a folder and a zip.

WORTH KNOWING

On a Mac, type `python3` wherever this sheet says `py`. Add `--offline` to either tool to run from saved answers only, with no network.

IF IT DOESN'T WORK

- **'py' or 'python' is not recognised:** Python isn't on the PATH. Run the installer again and tick **Add python.exe to PATH**.
- **pip says 'externally managed environment'** (Macs with Homebrew Python): install Python from python.org and use its `python3`.
- **A layer failed:** a server was busy. Run the same line again later. Only the missing part is fetched.

BEFORE YOU RELY ON IT

Neither tool is a survey, a planning certificate or planning advice. **An empty layer does not mean the site is clear.** For example, most Sydney councils publish no flood map on the Planning Portal, and the register says so. Title, easements, the DCP and the section 10.7 certificate are always yours to check.

Questions go to office hours, straight after class.