

Our objective: the community will celebrate and conserve the State's environmental heritage

Education Programs

Our goal: school, tertiary and adult education initiatives will increase understanding of the value of heritage protection and conservation.

Providing training

This year we conducted seven courses on maritime archaeology. This was part of a new arrangement between the NSW Heritage Office and Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority to conduct regular maritime archaeology training courses (levels one and two) under the auspices of the Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology (AIMA).

The quality of research by students undertaking part two of the course is making a significant contribution to the documentation of Australia's underwater cultural heritage. Students Colin Piper, Lizzie Anderson and Ngaire Richards produced a report this year on what was previously a mystery site at Little Manly Cove, Sydney Harbour. Originally thought to be a jetty site, the team's thorough and well documented research and survey has shown this to be an early swimming enclosure. They will be submitting it for a future journal article in the AIMA Bulletin.

Resources for School Education

Teaching Heritage Website

One of our key goals is to develop initiatives in school, tertiary and adult education that will increase understanding of the value of heritage protection and conservation.

The Teaching Heritage website – www.teachingheritage.nsw.edu.au – was developed by the Heritage Office and Board of Studies for the professional development of secondary geography and history teachers. The site contains more than 1000 pages of journal articles, news reports, excerpts from heritage documents and other source material, as well as over 750 photographs.

According to Hitwise.com.au, Australia's premier web-traffic analysts, the Teaching Heritage website is currently one of the Top 100 NSW Government websites (no. 99) in terms of numbers of Australian web visitors to all NSW Government websites. During March 2004 it reached a high point of number 37 ranking.

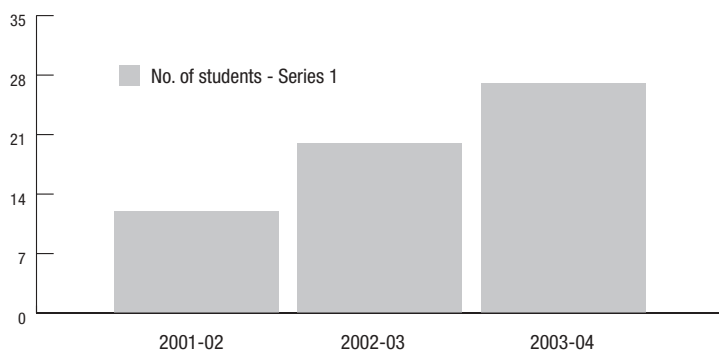
The site has an average of 232 unique visitors per month. The most popular heritage sites visited this year on the website are Rookwood Cemetery and Necropolis, Parramatta Park and Rose Seidler House. The site will undergo a major "makeover" during 2005, with new materials being added, including the addition of several new heritage sites to the very popular photographic heritage site gallery section.

Historical Archaeology School Education

The Heritage Office provided work experience opportunities for a number of students and young archaeologists this year:

- a Year 11 student spent one week at the Heritage Office as part of a work experience program;
- two archaeologists were given the opportunity to work as volunteers alongside the Heritage Office's archaeologists in order to better understand the way the office administers the Heritage Act and manages historical archaeology in New South Wales.

Measuring Our Performance: Maritime Archaeology Students



Interpretation

Since 1998 there have been a total of over 160 graduates in the Maritime Archaeology Training Course. The aim of the course is to familiarise divers and non-divers with the significance of our underwater cultural heritage so that they can appreciate and enjoy shipwreck sites and participate in archaeological research. The growing number of students reflects the work done by the Heritage Office to promote the course and the excellent word-of-mouth it has received. There has also been a growing interest and awareness in the diving community of the importance of shipwreck sites.

Promotion and Community Programs

Our goal: the public will have better access to, understanding and appreciation of heritage conservation practice and important heritage places.

Heritage Resources on the Internet

The Heritage Office Website

The Heritage Office webpage at www.heritage.nsw.gov.au is the prime access point for the community to find out about heritage in New South Wales. An average of 612 people access the site per day, an increase of 48% over the last 12 months. The site provides information about the role of the Heritage Office, its staff and services, publications and funding programs. It is also the public gateway to the online heritage database and the State Heritage Register.

The website was launched in 1997. Seven years later, the site now requires a major overhaul to make it more accessible and to provide a greater range of functions. This year we have implemented plans to move to a content management system to provide a better information service to the general public. It is anticipated that development of a new website will commence in 2004-05.

A major initiative this year was the introduction of a new mapping feature to the online heritage database that allows users to view heritage items listed on the State Heritage Register by map.

Maritime Heritage Online

Maritime Heritage Online is our key tool to link the community with information about the State's maritime heritage. An average of 80 visitors access the site per day. The site provides an array of database information, archaeological survey reports, still and moving images, electronic brochures and information about the location of shipwreck signage facilities along the length of the NSW coast and inland rivers.

During the 2003-04 year a number of additional facilities were added to the site as well as other improvements to expand the available information, including:

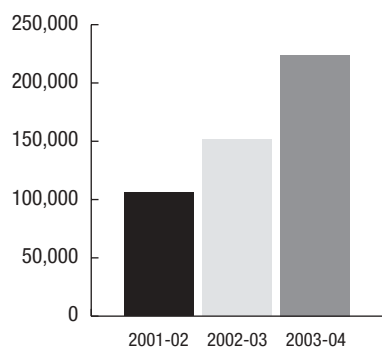
- ten streaming video clips (low bandwidth and broadband versions) to allow viewers to gain a clearer understanding of the nature and appearance of wreck sites;
- 'virtual reality' 3600 panoramas courtesy of Mal Yeo, currently the only known person, in Australia or overseas, to be developing these images underwater;
- 300 additional 'pocket histories' of shipwrecks;
- three new Heritage Office survey reports, as well as seven site/area information sheets.

Placenames Website

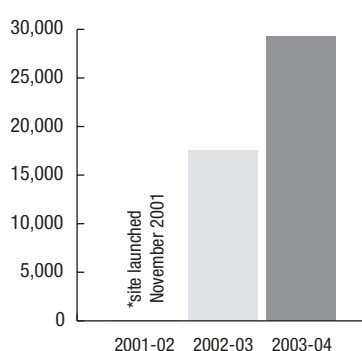
This year an initiative by the Heritage Office resulted in a fascinating internet site dedicated to place names. Based on earlier work by the Heritage Office maritime archaeologists to identify places on the NSW coast named after shipwreck events, ABC radio set up a national program featuring radio interviews and an internet site. The internet site covered all of the Australian coast and included images and audio recordings on shipwreck events that gave rise to place names. It was launched in August 2003 and continued until July 2004.

Measuring Our Performance: Visits to Online Resources

The Heritage Office website



Maritime Heritage Online



Interpretation

There were 224,063 visitors to the Heritage Office webpage in 2003-04. This was an increase of 48% over the last 12 months and reflects the growing demand for community access to online information about heritage.

In addition, there were another 29,299 visitors to Maritime Heritage Online. This was an increase of 67% over the last 12 months. Launched in November 2001, the site has proved popular with researchers, students, divers and the general community.

Publications

A major avenue for the public to gain access to and understand heritage management and conservation is through the extensive list of publications produced by the Heritage Office. The Heritage Office produces nearly 100 titles providing information on various aspects of heritage management, the Heritage Act and technical issues. In 2003-04 we maintained our commitment to ensuring this information was accurate, informative and accessible. We continued to increase the number of documents available in both online and printed formats.

This year we published:

- two issues of *Heritage NSW*, the newsletter of the Heritage Office which is distributed widely in NSW to local councils, community groups and interested general public;
- two shipwreck information sheets;
- and a variety of corporate publications including the annual report.

The following items were published online:

- *Revealing the Past: An Introduction to Historical Archaeology*, revised;
- *Objects in their Place: An Introduction to Movable Heritage*, revised;
- *Benefits of Heritage Listing*, revised;
- *Introducing the Heritage Council: the State Heritage Register*, revised.

Heritage Office Library

The Heritage Office Library was opened in March 2003. The collection continues to grow with holdings of over 8,700 items including many conservation management plans and heritage studies, thematic studies and Australian and New South Wales histories. The collection is managed by a part-time librarian, and available to the public by appointment. Individuals and organisations have made regular use of the library over the past year.

Community Programs

Heritage Volunteer Awards

Volunteering is a fundamental part of heritage conservation work in Australia. Heritage work is particularly attractive to seniors, the fastest growing sector of the Australian population. Many of the projects funded through the Heritage Incentives Program would not be possible without the involvement of volunteers.

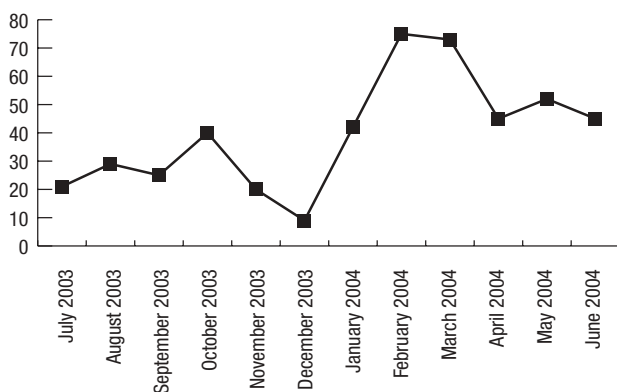
The NSW Government Heritage Volunteer Awards recognise the outstanding performance of individuals and community organisations that have fulfilled the following assessment criteria:

- significantly improved the profile of heritage management in their local communities;
- motivated and managed heritage projects; and
- promoted the value of heritage by significant means and through exemplary service.

In October 2003 Minister Beamer presented the NSW Government Heritage Volunteer Awards at a ceremony in the Jubilee Room at Parliament House. Twenty-four awards were presented with a further award presented to Thomas Martin, who had been unable to attend the ceremony, at his Rose Bay home by the Director. The 2003 recipients were:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| ■ Brian Andrews | Lower Hunter Region heritage |
| ■ Dr John Bach OAM | Australian maritime history |
| ■ June and Roy Barker | Brewarrina Mission site |
| ■ Nita Child | Copmanhurst Shire heritage |
| ■ Harold Coutts | Culcairn Station House |
| ■ Vincent Crow | Haberfield history and heritage |
| ■ Marguerite Fuller | Alstonville Plateau Historical Society |
| ■ Richard Grimmond | Route of John Oxley's 1818 expedition |

Measuring Our Performance: Use of the Heritage Office Library



Interpretation

The Heritage Office Library is a new specialist resource available to heritage professionals, heritage businesses, students, in-house officers and the general public. It is located on the ground floor of the Heritage Office and is open three days a week. In its first 18 months of operation, the library has built a growing clientele. The main users of the library were small archaeology and heritage-focused firms, Heritage Office staff and an increasing number of university students.

- Ken Halliday Sir Henry Parkes and the Tenterfield School of Arts
- Janet Hay National Trust of Australia (NSW)
- Margaret Henry Newcastle region heritage
- Jindera Pioneer Museum and Historical Society Jindera Pioneer Museum
- Douglas Lithgow Coal River Historic Precinct
- Rae McLintock Volunteer guiding, Historic Houses Trust
- Haydn Maher Finley Canoe Tree Park
- Thomas Martin Vaucluse Amateur 12-foot Sailing Club
- Heather Nicholls Cobb & Co. project
- Jillian Oppenheimer OAM National Trust of Australia (NSW)
- Robert Pauling Pittwater Heritage and Cultural Committee
- Warren Pinfeld, Dick Lunt, John White, Major Conway St Stephen's Restoration Team
- Kathie Tisdell Forbes Centenary of Federation Heritage Trail
- Gloria "Peg" Warton Port Macquarie Court House
- Dorothy Warwick Linnwood, Guildford
- Elizabeth Webb Glenreagh history and heritage
- Wollombi Tidy Valleys Convict Trail project, natural and heritage projects

New criteria and processes for the Heritage Volunteer Awards were adopted by the Heritage Council in February 2004. Future judging of nominations will be undertaken by the Heritage Council's Strategy Committee, as well as a previous recipient of a Heritage Volunteer Award who shall be invited to assist the committee.

The 2004 awards program was announced by the Assistant Planning Minister, Hon. Diane Beamer, on 7 June 2004. Minister Beamer will present the 2004 awards in the Jubilee Room at Parliament House on 28 October 2004.

Other Award Programs

We also support other community award programs through the Heritage Incentives Program. In 2003-04 we sponsored:

- the NSW Heritage Office Award in the Australian Property Institute Heritage Awards
 - winner - Walsh Bay Partnership for the Walsh Bay Project;
- the NSW Heritage Office Award for Heritage Management by a Metropolitan Council in the Metro Pride Awards
 - winner - Hawkesbury City Council;
- the NSW Heritage Office Award for Heritage Conservation in the Tidy Towns Awards
 - A (population 1-350) – Bucketty for work on the convict-built road;
 - B (population 351-1,200) – Gulargambone for the Picture Hall Project;
 - C (population 1,201-4,000) – Bourke for the Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre;
 - D (population 4,001-10,000) – Temora for the Aviation Museum;
 - E (population over 10,000) – Broken Hill for the Migrant Heritage Project.

This year's award-winning volunteers with Assistant Planning Minister, Diane Beamer, and Heritage Council Chair, Michael Collins, (front row, fourth and first from left). And Harold Coutts views his certificate.

Photographs by Paramount Studios



Maritime Archaeology Community Initiatives Wreck Spotters

The NSW Wreck Spotters Program continues to provide us with “on-the-ground” information about the state of local shipwreck sites, plus important information on newly located or exposed sites. The group of over 30 local spotters actively promote sound conservation through their reports and photographs, networks and use of local media.

This year wreck spotters provided information on the following:

- accidental detection of aircraft remains by commercial fishermen off Ulladulla;
- ship’s timbers washed ashore at Stockton, near Newcastle;
- a ship’s steering wheel uncovered on the ss *Wandra* 1915 shipwreck near Jervis Bay;
- potential shipwreck remains near Port Macquarie;
- details of the ss *Keilawarra* 1886 shipwreck near Coffs Harbour;
- research notes and earlier state of the *Centurion* 1887 shipwreck in Sydney Harbour;
- documentation of a significant shipping photographic collection at the Central Coast.

Our Wreck Spotters have been part of a significant private diving expedition to map the tss *Cumberland* 1917 shipwreck site near Eden – never before documented by free swimming divers.

Historical Archaeology Community Initiatives

National Archaeology Week

Heritage Office archaeologists contributed to the planning of National Archaeology Week and the public open day.

Public Open Days

We have continued our recent initiative of requiring developers to host public open days at significant archaeological sites that are being excavated as part of redevelopment.

During 2003-04 more than 1,200 members of the general public were given free public tours of excavations at five highly significant archaeological sites in New South Wales.

1. *KENS Site, Sydney* – this was the largest archaeological excavation ever undertaken in Sydney. Two public days were held at different stages of the development and were attended by approximately 600 visitors. Highlights included remains associated with the Aboriginal occupation of the site, the original and reclaimed Darling Harbour shoreline, early 18th century shoreline works and highly intact 19th century terraces, yards and outbuildings. (Developer: Leighton Properties, Excavation Director: Cultural Resources Management).
2. *Parramatta Children’s Court Site* – approximately 60 visitors toured this site which contained archaeological remains of the earliest period of settlement at Parramatta, including remains of 1790s convict huts, as well as evidence from later residential and commercial occupants such as a large brewery and tram sheds. (Developer: Attorney General’s Department, Department of Commerce, Excavation Director: Casey and Lowe Associates)

Case Study: Diving on WWI Heritage

A working partnership between the NSW Heritage Office and the recreational diving industry resulted in the discovery this year of new evidence about a rare WWI wrecksite.

The *Cumberland* was hit by a mine laid by the German surface raider *Wolf* on the 6 July 1917, and sank five days later near Green Cape, despite efforts to repair the damage. *Cumberland* became the first wartime casualty in Australian home waters.

The independent dive team known as The Sydney Project, which includes some of Australia’s best technical divers, was the first to survey the wreck site of the steamer *Cumberland* in deep water off Eden. The group volunteered to survey the site and provide data on its condition, size and heritage significance. A core group of divers attended

a Maritime Archaeology Training course and the Heritage Office assisted with historical reference material.

In November 2003 the divers made the first successful free dive to the *Cumberland* wreck site – the deepest wreck diving so far performed in Australia. As a result they were able to provide new insights into a previously inaccessible site. A follow-up dive was performed in June 2004. The dedication of the Sydney Project divers and their willingness to share information on this fascinating site is regarded as an example of best-practice interaction with historic shipwreck sites.

Diver with specialised equipment descends to survey the *Cumberland* wreck. *Photograph by Mark Spencer*



3. *Cunningham Street, Haymarket, Sydney* – scheduled to coincide with National Archaeology Week, this public open day attracted 100 visitors who saw remains associated with the domestic and commercial occupation of the site dating from the early 19th century, including evidence of early occupation of the area by Chinese and remains of blacksmithing activity. (Developer: Selwan Property Holdings, Excavation Director: Austral Archaeology).
4. *Barker's Mill, Sydney* – over 400 people attended the public open day at Baker's Mill, which was the site of the second steam mill erected in the colony of NSW and used from the 1820s until the 1950s. (Developer: Cross City Tunnel, Excavation Director: Casey and Lowe Associates).

5. *22-36 Mountain Street, Ultimo, Sydney* – approximately 60 people visited this site which was part of the Athlone Place Resumption which was the first slum clearance undertaken by the Municipal Council of Sydney in 1906. (Developers: Multiplex Constructions, Excavation Director: Godden Mackay Logan).

National Trust Heritage Festival

The Heritage Office is a major financial sponsor of the National Trust Heritage Festival. The office also participates by organising an event. This year a small but enthusiastic group was taken on a guided tour of Lake Parramatta, Parramatta Dam and Prospect Hill. This innovative tour was conducted by two guides: Chris Tobin to introduce the group to the Aboriginal stories of the places visited and John McClymont to recount stories from the more recent European period.



Graduating students from a Maritime Archaeology Training Course.
Photographs by Tim Smith

Measuring Our Performance: Heritage Incentives Program

The Heritage Incentives Program is one of the most diverse and successful heritage funding programs in Australia. Since 1988 it has helped communities across NSW with over 3,500 different heritage projects.

In 2003-04 a total of \$3,987,947 was approved for 154 projects.

Break-up of 2003-04 approved applications by geographic area:

Geographic Area	Number of projects	Percentage of total no. of projects	Amount \$	Percentage of total funding
Metropolitan	33	21%	1,410,000	35%
Non-metropolitan	121	79%	2,577,947	65%

Break-up of 2003-04 approved applications by applicant type:

Applicant Type	Number of projects	Percentage of total number of projects	Amount	Percentage of total funding
Local government	75	49%	1,267,142	32%
Community groups	27	17%	620,905	16%
Private	32	21%	1,005,900	25%
Religious organisations	20	13%	1,094,000	27%

Measuring Our Performance: Heritage Incentives Program (cont.)

Subject Category	Number of projects	Percentage of total projects	Amount	Percentage of total funding
Aboriginal	6	4%	82,650	2.1%
Archaeology	1	1%	20,000	0.5%
Buildings	70	45%	2,479,100	62.2%
Cemeteries	2	1%	27,000	0.7%
General promotion	4	3%	80,455	2.0%
Heritage Advisor Program	5	3%	31,119	0.8%
Industrial sites	10	7%	282,000	7.0%
Landscape	5	3%	72,500	1.8%
Local government heritage studies	18	12%	156,330	3.9%
Local Heritage Fund	8	5%	93,793	2.4%
Maritime	2	1%	100,000	2.5%
Movable items	7	5%	181,000	4.5%
Pipe organs	3	2%	70,000	1.8%
Precincts	13	8%	312,000	7.8%

Interpretation

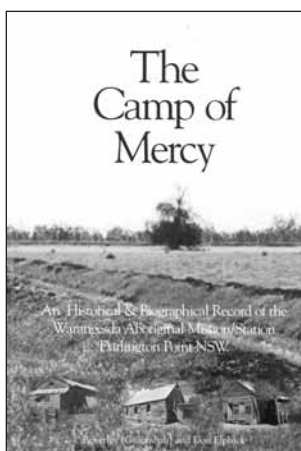
This has been a very successful year for the Heritage Incentives Program. The quality of applications to the program was very good and there was a high approval rate. This is a reflection of our increased efforts in recent rounds of the program to target applications and provide clear guidance on funding priorities.

This year's results demonstrate some of the key strategic outcomes of the funding program. Conservation work is a priority with over a million dollars allocated each year towards conserving our important heritage places. This year only items of state significance were eligible for funding.

Another focus of the program is local government heritage studies. These are a key tool in identifying a council's responsibilities in managing local heritage. This year many of the studies focussed on reviewing earlier heritage studies done in the 1980s. Community consultation is a key ingredient of these reviews.

This year priority was also given to thematic studies which identified items of state significance. Particularly sought were state-wide studies of sporting places, World War II sites, bushranging sites, scientific/experimental sites, local council buildings, river transport and cemeteries. The aim of these comparative studies is to fill in gaps of knowledge about our heritage, ultimately leading to nominations for the State Heritage Register.

Case Study: Warangesda Aboriginal Mission



This year new research on the Warangesda Aboriginal Mission was published with the help of a grant through the Heritage Incentives Program.

Warangesda, near Griffith, was one of the first missions in NSW. Established by a Congregational Minister in the 1880s, it became known as the "Camp of Mercy" and many Aboriginal people across the State have links with the site. The mission was closed by the Aborigines Protection Board in 1924 and today only four buildings

remain of the mission village: the ration shed, schoolhouse, teacher's cottage and dormitory.

The grant of \$8,400 assisted in the creation of a historical and biographical record of the mission and the publication of a book entitled *The Camp of Mercy*. The research into births, deaths and marriages provides a crucial resource for Aboriginal people researching their connections to Warangesda. It will also be an important reference tool to assist those searching for links that were severed through the Stolen Generations.

Heritage Incentives Program

We support the community and their conservation, interpretation and promotion of NSW's heritage through the largest state heritage funding program in Australia. The Heritage Incentives Program provides practical help for the many communities in NSW that are involved in conserving their heritage.

This year 154 new heritage work and study projects were approved as part of the NSW Incentives Program totalling \$3,987,947 for the upcoming two-year period 2003-04.

The Heritage Incentives Program is run as eight sub-programs:

1. biennial grants and loans to undertake conservation or presentation work on heritage items listed on local and regional environmental plans and/or on the State Heritage Register;
2. biennial grants for thematic studies, education and promotional projects;
3. year-round consideration of Aboriginal heritage projects;
4. year-round special purposes grants and loans program with an upper limit of \$5,000 per project;
5. year-round consideration of support grants for conservation management plans on items of state heritage significance, with an upper limit of \$2,500;
6. support by way of three-year service agreements to local councils to cover heritage advisory services and local heritage funds and other matters;
7. support by way of three-year service agreements to heritage agencies, for example, National Trust (NSW), Royal Australian Institute of Architects (NSW);
8. grants of up to \$4,000 for local history and archives projects through a \$40,000 grant to the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Key Strategies for Next Year

In 2004-05 we aim to:

- improve the navigation and useability of the Heritage Office website;
- publish updates of the NSW Heritage Manual;
- continue our focus on providing funding and support to rural and regional areas.
- develop a suite of user-pays services for the Heritage Office Library to offer advisors and consultants;

Case Study: Mudgee's Verandah Magic

This year verandahs in Mudgee's town centre were reinstated with the help of a grant from the Heritage Incentives Program.

This heritage conservation project has not only given Mudgee an elegant and practical solution to cold, wet winters and hot, dry summers, but it has added to the commercial vitality of the country town. The makeover helped to unify the buildings making up the town's commercial heart.

Seed funding of \$125,000 from the Heritage Incentives Program was matched by funds from the local council and financial contributions from individual shop and building owners. The project

supported local builders and suppliers and offered the opportunity to learn new skills in handling traditional materials.

Mudgee was established in the 1830s, but it wasn't until the Gold Rush in the late 1850s that it began to prosper. Many of its elegant Victorian verandahs were removed 40 years ago when it was thought that verandahs were an impediment to good traffic flow.

Mudgee's revitalised town centre after completion of the verandah project.

Photograph by Christo Aitken

