

MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE COUNCIL APPROVALS COMMITTEE
Thursday 4 September 2003 at the Orange Council Chambers,
Orange at 11:30am

Attendance

Diane Jones	Chair
Susan Macdonald	Assistant Director, Heritage Office
Bruce Pettman	Deputy
Elsa Atkins	National Trust (NSW)
Garry Fielding	Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources

Also in Attendance

Murat Gul	Heritage Office
Lucy Burke-Smith	Heritage Office
Victoria Coleman	Heritage Office

1.1 Declarations of Interest

Nil

1.2 Apologies

Mary-Lynne Taylor
Rod Leaver

3. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meetings

Amendment was made to pg 2, Section 5.2, Line 4 which stated "typography", and was changed to "typology".

The minutes of the meeting of 6th August 2003 were confirmed.

3. Action Report

Members noted the Action Report for 6 August 2003.

In relation to item 5.2 of the action report for 6 August 2003, Hawkesbury Regional Museum, members were informed that a local journalist had expressed concern over the contemporary nature of the new building. It was explained to the journalist that the Heritage Council accepts that a contemporary building may be appropriate in a historic context as long as it is sympathetic in scale, form, materials and so on as outlined in the Heritage Council Infill Guidelines.

In relation to item 5.2 of the action report for 6 August 2003, Sydney Town Hall – removal of skeletal remains, members were informed that both headstones and tombs had been discovered at the site. At the time of the meeting, development at the site had ceased and protocols set into place, while the development was redesigned to avoid the area. Members were also informed that media protocols had been developed, and that the find would be promoted once the redesign had been determined.

4. Presentations

Nil

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5. Integrated Development Applications/Section 60 and 132 Applications/Section 140 Excavation Permits

5.1 Denfield – Appin Road, St Helen’s Park

Members considered a report on an application for construction of a new pavilion set to the north of the existing original building. Concern was raised that the proposed pavilion would 1. impact on the fabric of the original building, and 2. was located too close to the original building disturbing the symmetry of the Georgian building. It was thought that the new pavilion would be better placed set back to the east creating a cluster of the newer period buildings to the rear, while leaving the original highly significant Georgian building to remain usable from three sides, usually ‘stand alone’.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council deferred consideration of the application until:

- 1. the Heritage Office explores other alternatives to the current design. These alternatives should consider grouping of the new pavilions (in line with or beyond the rear of the original building), with the original building retaining its significant position;**
- 2. a meeting should be arranged by the Heritage Office on site with the applicant to discuss the issues;**
- 3. further discussion should occur electronically with a Heritage Council advisory-committee, consisting of members: Diane Jones, Bruce Pettman and Susan Macdonald;**
- 4. subject the successful discussion the Director of the Heritage Office will be the delegated authority for approval with the above considerations.**

6. Development Application Referrals

6.1 Eveleigh Carriage Works – proposal by Ministry for the Arts

Members considered a report on an application for adaptive reuse of Eveleigh Carriage Works. The Ministry of the Arts are seeking a suitable use for the site. The Ministry of the Arts have proposed that the site be increased in height for their proposed use. Members questioned whether the increased height would affect the significance of the buildings, and if the proposed activities would cause an adverse impact on the site.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council deferred consideration of the application until:

- 1. the Heritage Office explores other alternatives to the current design. These alternatives should consider the lowering of the floor, or a combination of both raising the roof and lowering the floor, or an alternate site such as Bay 53;**
- 2. a meeting should be arranged on site with the applicant and the Heritage Council advisory-committee to discuss the issues. The Heritage Council advisory committee consists of members: Diane Jones, Bruce Pettman, Reece McDougall and Jacquie Goddard (standing in for Elsa Atkins).**

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7. Planning Instruments/Heritage Studies

Nil

8. Matters for Consideration

Nil

9. Matters for Information

Nil

10. General Business

St John's Church – Sydney City

Members were informed that Sydney City Council had refused the development application at St John's Church, after heavy protesting from local residents, partly on heritage grounds. A report on the issues will be provided at the next meeting.

Former Hospital Site - Lidcombe

Members were informed that a Counsellor from Lidcombe Council had visited the Heritage Office to discuss matters concerning the site. The Counsellor was concerned about the Heritage Office's response to the DCP for the site. The DCP had excluded use as a school, and has proposed residential or commercial use. It was generally considered contrary to the CMP. The Heritage Office staff explained the advantages of a school use, such as single ownership, minimum need for changes to the buildings, and public use. The Heritage Office maintains that commercial and residential use would subdivide the site forever, and would result in far greater heritage impacts through adaptation. The matter is currently being considered in the Land and Environment Court.

11. Next Meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 11.20am. The next meeting is scheduled for 1 October 2003.

Signed:

Date