

**HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NSW MINUTES OF
SPECIAL MEETING**



Meeting Number 334

7th November 2007

NSW Heritage Office, 3 Marist Place, Parramatta

PRESENT Michael Collins (Chair), Rosemary Annable, Jason Ardler (for Director-General Department of Environment and Conservation), Julie Bindon, Tina Jackson (National Trust of Australia [NSW]), David Logan, Reece McDougall (Executive Director Heritage Office, Department of Planning), Peter Mould (Government Architect). Sharon Sullivan AO (Deputy Chair), Janet Dore, Ross Fitzgerald, Chris Johnson (Department of Planning).

APOLOGIES Hewitt Whyman, John Robertson,

ALSO PRESENT Ric Bolzan (Heritage Office), Maxwell Gray (Heritage Office), Susan Macdonald (Heritage Office) Vincent Sicari (Heritage Office). Cameron White (Heritage Office)

1. Opening – Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting at 9.05 am.

1.2 Confirmation and Timing of Agenda

The agenda was confirmed.

1.3 Declarations of Interest

Pecuniary Interests

Nil

Non Pecuniary Interests

Julie Bindon

I was involved approximately nine years ago as a Director of JBA Urban Planning Consultants in providing advice to a potential developer of the site. That proposal did not proceed and I do not have any current conflict of interest nor would that

David Logan

past involvement create any bias or impact on my independent consideration of the sites listing or curtilage identification.

I do not have any conflict of interests. However I would note that Godden Mackay Logan Heritage Consultants provided advice to a then intending purchases (not the current owner) in 1999. I had not personal involvement at that time (nor since) and am unaware of any recommendations made at that time by my firm.

Conflicts of Interest

Nil

2.1 Currawong Workers' Holiday Camp, Currawong Beach, Pittwater

Members considered a paper in relation to the listing on the State Heritage Register the Currawong workers Holiday Camp, Currawong Beach.

Before considering the report members received four presentations.

The first presentation was from the local member Rob Stokes MP, Member for Pittwater, who supported the listing of Currawong on the State Heritage Register. He discussed the natural and cultural values of the site along with the surrounding Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, its indigenous associations and rock art and its social and its strong cultural associations as a workers holiday camp, the significance of the buildings on the site and highlighting that it was the only remaining in tact workers holiday camp. He also recommended that the curtilage for the listing should be for the whole of the site which was the original land grant.

The next presentation was from the Friends of Currawong who also supported the listing of the entire site on the State Heritage Register. They highlighted the historical and high social significance of the site, its links with the union movement its early significance as a farm during the 1800's, the importance of the retention of the cabins on the site was also highlighted along with the adverse effect of any development on the site.

The third presentation was from Eco Villages Australia and the heritage consultant Graham Brooks. Members were asked to consider a refined State Heritage Register curtilage which was coordinated with the proposed future residential subdivision of the land beyond the immediate cabins group and Midholme. Members were advised that the revised boundary is a result of additional research undertaken by the consultants and that the current proposed boundary creates serious short and long term management and coordination issues for both the Heritage Office and Echo Villages Australia. Members were also advised that if considered appropriate Echo Villages Australia would not object to the listing of the entire site on the State Heritage Register

Representatives from Pittwater Council provided the final presentation. Pittwater Council also supported the listing of the entire site on the State Heritage Register to match the

original 1835 land grant. They advised that they considered that the site met all seven criteria for State Heritage Register listing and it is the most intact remaining example of a mid century, union organised workers holiday camp in NSW and probably Australia. They highlighted its strong associations with three generations of union members along with the post war union movement. Its strong associations with industrial buildings manufacturers was also highlighted along with the earliest used of Australian manufactured fibro in NSW.

Members then considered the report and the presentations. After discussion it was

Resolved:

that the Heritage Council of New South Wales:

1. in accordance with section 33 (1)(d) of the Heritage Act, 1977 advises the Minister that the item known as “Currawong” at Currawong Beach, Pittwater, is of State heritage significance in accordance heritage assessment criteria A, B, D, F, and G;
2. recommends to the Minister, in accordance with sections 32(1) and (2) of the Heritage Act, that the Minister directs the listing of the item, “Currawong” at Currawong Beach, Pittwater, on the State Heritage Register;
3. recommends to the Minister that the appropriate curtilage for the State Heritage Register listing should be the whole of the property comprising the following lots being Lot 10 DP 1092275, Lot 1 DP 166328, Lot 1 DP 337208 and Lot 4 DP 978424;
4. notes that the listing of Currawong on the State Heritage Register does not prohibit development but the Heritage Council, in considering any application for development, would be concerned to ensure that any such development would not detract from the State heritage significance of the item;
5. considers that a Heritage Agreement under Part 3B of the Heritage Act, 1977, would be a useful management tool for the ongoing conservation management of the item;
6. in accordance with sections 33 (1)(e) of the Heritage Act 1977, gives notice of its decision to persons notified under section 33(1)(a); and
7. in accordance with section 57(2) of the Heritage Act, note that the Heritage Council Standard Exemptions will apply.

Michael Collins
Chair
Heritage Council of NSW
Date:

Next Meeting of the Heritage Council
of NSW
Wednesday 5th December 2007
NSW Heritage Office
Department of Planning
3 Marist Place
Parramatta

