

**HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NSW
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Meeting Number 344

3rd December 2008

Heritage Branch
Department of Planning
Parramatta



PRESENT Gabrielle Kibble (Chair), Sharon Sullivan (Deputy Chair), Petula Samios, Jason Ardler (for Director-General Department of Environment and Climate Change), David Logan, Julie Bindon, Ross Fitzgerald, Peter Mould (Government Architect), Tina Jackson, Rosemary Annable, Petula Samios (for Director General, Department of Planning), Chris Johnson (Observer - Department of Planning)

APOLOGIES Nil

ALSO PRESENT Tim Smith (Heritage Branch), Cameron White (Heritage Branch), Rajeev Maini (Heritage Branch), Colleen Klingberg (Heritage Branch), Siobhan Lavelle (Heritage Branch)

1. Opening – Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting at 9.00am

1.2 Confirmation and Timing of Agenda

The agenda was confirmed.

1.3 Declarations of Interest

Pecuniary Interests	Nil
Non Pecuniary Interests	Nil
Conflicts of Interest	Nil

2.0 Confirmation of Minutes

2.1 Heritage Council Meeting of 1st October 2008

Members considered minutes of the meetings of 1st October 2008.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. adopt the minutes of 1st October 2008.**

3.0 Reports

3.1 Chairs Report

The Chair advised members of her visit to Junee on the 1st December with Petula Samios to see the Jadda Centre (Former Athenium Theatre), Junee. The visit followed an invitation by the Mayor and Junee Council to discuss a forward for the successful renovation of the theatre.

Members were advised that it was agreed that the initial focus of work should be the maintenance and repairs to maintain the safety and security of the building such as the new roof. The architect and Junee Council staff were made aware of the advice available to them on building code issues from both the Technical Advisory Group and the Fire Access and Services Advisory Panel.

The members of the Heritage Council discussed the setup of a small team to assist with this project to provide practical solutions. It was agreed that the team would include – Ross Fitzgerald, David Logan, Peter Mould and Chris Johnson.

It was agreed that the work of the various panels and advisory groups needs more promotion to the community.

The Chair advised that members who were reaching the end of their term on the Heritage Council this month had been extended for twelve months by the Minister.

The Chair also advised members that further meetings had been occurring with the Minister in regards to questions raised by Cabinet for the proposed changes to the Heritage Act. Cameron White has been working on this with the Chair and the Minister's Office. Members requested copies of prepared documents to be distributed if and when possible.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. notes the report**
- 2. creates a team to assist with the Jadda Centre (Former Athenium Theatre). Team members to include Ross Fitzgerald, David Logan, Peter Mould and Chris Johnson**

3.2 Director's Report

The Director, Petula Samios presented her report covering.

- **A visit to the Great Synagogue Site**

- **Amendments to the Heritage Act**

Once a Government response is received on the Heritage Act Review report, the Bill will be presented to Parliament.

- **Corporate Plan**

The Heritage Branch has been invited to develop 5-8 key goals as part of the Department's 5-year Corporate Plan. The Branch has forwarded a list of priority areas.

- **EPHC (Environmental Protection Heritage Council)**

The EPHC Ministerial meeting was held on November 17 in Adelaide. There were two heritage items: World Heritage Governance Review and Geoparks that did not require comment by NSW. The meeting was attended by Ministers responsible for Environment and Heritage. Representing NSW was Minister Tebbutt.

- **HCOANZ (Heritage Chairs and Officials, Australia and New Zealand)**

The Heritage Branch proposes three new agenda items for the February 2009 meeting: Heritage Tourism On-Line web site launch, 2008-2010 Thematic Listing approach, and issues surrounding NSW rural heritage.

- **Macquarie listings workshop**

The Royal Australian Historical Society hosted a "brainstorm" on Macquarie's detailed inventory at History House (Friday 28 November).

- **M24 Japanese midget submarine**

The Heritage Branch conducted an additional survey. The free survey was provided by SeaBotix (WA) and the NSW Water Police and involved the deployment of a remote operated vehicle (ROV). The 2007-8 Historic Shipwreck Poster (tabled) has been printed and features M24. 2000 copies will be distributed to dive shops, clubs, relevant bodies and the public.

- **2008 Volunteers Awards**

The annual Volunteer Awards were held on Thursday 20 November at the Museum of Sydney. The Minister for Planning, Chair of the Heritage Council, Director - Heritage Branch, and Tina Jackson officiated. The event was a great success. I would like to acknowledge the work of staff for event organisation, and to the Historic Houses Trust for the venue.

- **Linnwood**

The Minister's Office has requested that the Heritage Branch meet with Holroyd Council to update on Linnwood issues. Outstanding matters include ongoing site management issues, the Part 3A application, and the proposed transfer to Holroyd Council.

- **The Hermitage**

The Hermitage residence, dating from c.1840, was listed on the SHR in 1998 as a rare early Victorian colonial house. Members of the community have contacted the Heritage Branch regarding the property's deteriorating condition (June onwards). The owners have now addressed some issues but a new inspection (November) identified additional site security threats. The Heritage Branch wrote to the owners (14 November 2008) regarding a potential order to require maintenance works under Section 120A of the Heritage Act 1977.

- **Yooroonbah Tank Traps**

Stewart Watters and Lucy Moore visited the site of the WWII Yooroonbah Tank Traps (4 November 2008), located near Armidale. The meeting included representatives from DECC to discuss the possible listing of the site on the State Heritage Register. The tank traps are spread throughout a large section of bushland, situated on land owned partly by DECC, the Rural Lands Protection Board (RLPB) and the RTA. The site fits well within the WWI & WWII Thematic Listing Program approach.

- **Mortar's Seminar**

A stone conservation forum, "Yellowblock Conversations", was held on 28th October by invitation with fifty attendees, involved in stone conservation, including masons, architects, structural engineers, Dept of Commerce and DECC staff, and quarry

owners. There was strong support for holding a series of future forums. Elisha Long also recently delivered a lecture to the Masters of Cultural Heritage course, University of Sydney, on mortars for use in masonry conservation.

• **NSW Heritage Grants**

Following Ministerial approval, the NSW Heritage Grants program 2009-2011 was launched on Saturday 18 October 2008. Advertisements were posted in 24 metropolitan and regional NSW newspapers. The Program is open until 28 November 2008. All other standing programs are open year round. The Chair of the Heritage Council has approved, under Ministerial delegation, one year's funding to councils currently participating in the Local Government Heritage Management Program. This caters for funding to support heritage advisors and local heritage funds under the 2009-2011 NSW Heritage Grants Program. Letters of offer have been sent to these councils for acceptance. Following the presentation to the Heritage Council's October meeting, the 2006-2008 Heritage Incentives Program evaluation has been released on the Heritage Branch website.

• **International recognition**

Elisha Long has been allocated a place on the ICCROM Stone Conservation Course, to be held in Italy from April to July 2009. This is in recognition of the quality and significance of conservation technical advice provided by the Heritage Branch and the Heritage Council's Technical Advisory Group. It is an extremely competitive course with only 20 places offered internationally, and carries substantial prestige for the Heritage Branch.

Bill Nethery has recently returned from the ICOMOS 16th General Assembly and International Scientific Symposium, in Québec City, Canada. Here he represented Australia ICOMOS on the International Scientific Committee on Interpretation and Presentation. Bill was also appointed an Expert Member of the International Scientific Committee on Cultural Tourism.

Stuart Read was recently elected as a contributing member of the International Scientific Committee (ISC) on Historic Gardens-Cultural Landscapes ICOMOS-IFLA. He is one of only three Australian members on this committee, along with Australia's single voting member, Juliet Ramsay and other contributing member, Professor Ken Taylor (formerly of the Australian National University).

• **Staffing**

A significant priority over the previous two months has been the filling of vacancies and confirming appointments. The following appointments have been finalised:

Ms Petula Samios', Director Heritage Branch.

Mr Tim Smith, Deputy Director Heritage Branch.

Ms Olwen Beazley, Senior Heritage Officer – Listings Team.

Mr Stewart Watters, Senior Heritage Officer – s170, Listings Team.

Ms Katrina Stankowski, Heritage Officer – Archaeologist, Conservation Team.

Ms Shikha Jhaldiyal, Heritage Officer – Architect, Conservation Team.

The formal appointment of a Maritime Archaeologist and Listings Team Officer positions are being finalised.

Ms Tracy Appel and Ms Surbjit Bhatti have been appointed as temporary Heritage Officers for a period of 3 months to address the backlog of nominations in the Listings team.

Mr Murat Gull has resigned to establish a School of Architecture in Bosnia. Best wishes to Murat.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. notes the report**
- 2. requests the Heritage Branch to provide members copies of submissions made for the Corporate Plan.**
- 3. compliments Elisha Long on achieving a place on the ICCROM Stone Conservation Course and believes that following the course there will be a need for Elisha to share her knowledge with the Australian Heritage Community.**

3.2.1 Matters approved under Delegation (Listings team)

Members noted the report.

3.2.2 Matters approved under Delegation (Conservation team)

Members noted the report.

3.2.3 Heritage Council Meeting Action Report

Members noted the report.

3.3 Members Reports

Members were advised by Jason Ardler that there had been some work carried out at the Quarantine Station site which may not fall within the current approvals. The Heritage Branch were asked to follow this up with the owners of the site.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. notes the report**
- 2. requests the Heritage Branch to carry out a site visit to the Quarantine Station to inspect recent works**

4.0 Matters for Consideration and Decision

4.1 Potts Hill Reservoirs 1 & 2 and site, Cooper Street, Yagoona - proposed listing boundary amendment

The members were advised that Landcom applied to reduce the State Heritage Register listing boundary for the Potts Hill Reservoirs Site.

As per the Heritage Council meeting on 1st October 2008 a notice of intention to amend boundary was carried out, (notification period of 14 days). Closing date for submissions was 5 November 2008 in accordance with Section 33(1)(a). The result of this notification was that no objections were received.

Members were advised that the proposal is in accordance with the Conservation Management Plan endorsed by the Heritage Council on 20 April 2005.

The members discussed the proposed boundary amendment and agreed to recommend to the Minister the proposed boundary changes as detailed in the following resolution.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. in accordance with section 33 (1)(d) of the Heritage Act, 1977 advises the Minister that the State Heritage Register listing boundary for Potts Hill Reservoir site be amended by removing part of Lot 2 DP 225818 in accordance with the curtilage shown at Annexure C;**
- 2. recommends to the Minister, in accordance with sections 32(1) and (2) of the Heritage Act, that the Minister directs the removal of part of Lot 2 DP 225818 from the State Heritage Register; and**
- 3. 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).**

4.2 Pipehead, water supply canal and associated works, Frank Street, Guildford - proposed listing boundary amendment

Members were advised that Sydney Water applied to reduce the State Heritage Register listing boundary for the Pipehead Site.

As per the Heritage Council meeting on 1st October 2008 a notice of intention to amend boundary was carried out, (notification period of 14 days). Closing date for submissions was 5 November 2008 in accordance with Section 33(1)(a). Members were advised that the consultation process did not produce any objections to the proposal and that the owners were happy with amendments recommended by the Heritage Council at its last meeting regarding the retention of additional sections of lower canal than the original plan.

The members discussed the proposed boundary amendment and agreed to recommend to the Minister the proposed boundary changes as detailed in the following resolution.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. in accordance with section 33 (1)(d) of the Heritage Act, 1977 advises the Minister that the State Heritage Register listing boundary for the Pipehead Site be amended by removing part Lot 1 DP 865978 (subject to final site survey) in accordance with the curtilage shown at Annexure D;**
- 2. recommends to the Minister, in accordance with sections 32(1) and (2) of the Heritage Act, that the Minister directs the removal of part of Lot 1 DP 865978 (and subject to final site survey) from the State Heritage Register; and**
- 3. 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).**

4.3 St Peter Paul Cathedral, Goulburn - Notice Intention to List

The members received a presentation by Bill Nethery on the proposal to prepare a Notice of Intention to list the item known as Saints Peter and Paul's Former Cathedral, 42 Verner Street, Goulburn.

Members were advised that the proposed item meets at least five of the seven Heritage Council criteria for listing on the State Heritage Register in terms of criteria a (historical values), b (associations with people or groups of people), e (research potential), f (rarity), g (representative values).

The Former Cathedral is a significant example of 19th century Gothic ecclesiastical design and craftsmanship. The Former Saints Peter and Paul's Cathedral provides physical evidence of Goulburn as a major ecclesiastical centre in the latter half of the 19th century. The Cathedral is historically significant for its close association with the development of Catholicism in southern NSW. The building has association with Bishop Polding, Cardinal Moran and Bishop Lanigan, three men of significance in the development of the Catholic Church in Australia. The building represents a good example of the work of Andrea Stombuco the architect for the building.

Members were advised that the nomination of the item was recommended by the State Heritage Register Committee at its August 2008 meeting and is also supported by the Religious Property Advisory Panel.

Members were also advised that there are no other Catholic cathedrals in regional NSW on the State Heritage Register and that there are Catholic cathedrals of significance in Lismore, Armidale, Broken Hill and Wagga Wagga which may also have significance.

The members were advised that the recommended curtilage (Lot 2 DP 91238) for the listing will enclose the State significant components of the item, as illustrated in the curtilage plan in Annexure B. The chosen curtilage is the corner lot which contains the Cathedral, the former Bishops Residence and Presbytery and the former St Brigid's school building. Adjacent to this lot are a number of other lots which contain the former convent and other buildings of potential significance to be investigated more fully at a later date.

The members discussed the proposed Notice of Intention to list and agreed that it should proceed with the proposed boundary as detailed in the following resolution.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. considers the item known as Saints Peter and Paul's Former Cathedral, Goulburn, defined in accordance with the curtilage shown at Annexure B may be of State heritage significance;**
- 2. in accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the Heritage Act, will give each person that it considers to be an affected owner or occupier written notice that it is going to consider whether or not to recommend the listing of the item concerned (a Notice of Intention to Consider Listing);**
- 3. in accordance with section 33(1)(b) of the Heritage Act, within 14 days after notice of intention to consider listing is given, will cause a notice of intention to consider listing to be published in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the item is situated, inviting submissions on the listing, specifying a date as the closing date for**

- the receipt of submissions 40 days after publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made; and**
- 4. directs the Heritage Branch to commence discussions with the owner about possible exemptions made in accordance with section 57(2) of the Heritage Act to be made in addition to the Heritage Council's Standard Exemptions, to be implemented if the item is listed on the State Heritage Register.**

4.4 St Saviours Cathedral, Goulburn - Notice of Intention to list

Members received a presentation by Bill Nethery on the proposal to prepare a Notice of Intention to list the item known as St Saviour's Cathedral, Bourke Street, Goulburn.

The members were advised that the proposed item meets at least five of the seven Heritage Council criteria for listing on the State Heritage Register in terms of criteria a (historical values), b (associations with people or groups of people), c (aesthetic values), d (community esteem), and g (representative values).

Commenced in 1874 and finally dedicated in 1884, St Saviour's Cathedral is of State significance because it is one of the finest designs by the leading colonial ecclesiastical architect, Edmund Thomas Blacket. It reflects the characteristics of a Victorian Gothic style church and has a masterly use of materials, design and detail. The Cathedral was one of Blacket's very last projects. Blacket also designed the Parish Hall adjacent to the Cathedral which was used as the Pro-Cathedral before the new Cathedral was finished.

The Cathedral has a grand scale, with nave, aisles, transepts, chancel, porches and tower; large and elaborate stone traceried windows and an impressive interior with a heavily carved hammer beam roof, clustered columns and foliage capitals, elaborately moulded arcades and chancel arch, and a striking use of figurative roundels in the nave, transepts and chancel. The tower and spire, however, were not completed until 1988/9.

The Cathedral site is the place from which the Anglican Diocese of Goulburn developed. It also provides physical evidence of the growth and importance of Goulburn as a regional centre in the latter half of the 19th century. The building has social and spiritual significance for both Anglicans and the broader community as a place of worship. It is the centre of the Diocese and it draws visitors for its aesthetic value and for the cultural collection associated with the Cathedral.

The chosen curtilage includes St Saviour's Parish Hall (formerly the Pro-Cathedral) and the Cathedral Office as well as an open area known as the Cathedral Green. The St Saviour's Cathedral precinct is 1.2 hectares and occupies a full city block designated Church Allotment in the original 1840 Goulburn subdivision.

The members were advised that the nomination of the item was recommended by the State Heritage Register Committee at its October 2007 meeting and is also supported by the Religious Property Advisory Panel.

The members discussed the proposed Notice of Intention to list and agreed that it should proceed with the proposal as detailed in the following resolution.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. considers the item known as "St Saviour's Cathedral" at Bourke Street, Goulburn, defined in accordance with the curtilage shown at Annexure B may be of State heritage significance;**
- 2. in accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the Heritage Act, will give each person that it considers to be an affected owner or occupier written notice that it is going to consider whether or not to recommend the listing of the item concerned (a Notice of Intention to Consider Listing); and**
- 3. in accordance with section 33(1)(b) of the Heritage Act, within 14 days after notice of intention to consider listing is given, will cause a notice of intention to consider listing to be published in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the item is situated, inviting submissions on the listing, specifying a date as the closing date for the receipt of submissions of 40 days after the publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made.**

4.5 Torin Building (former), Penrith - Notice of Intention to List

Members received a presentation from Mary Ann Hamilton on the proposal to prepare a Notice of Intention to list the item known as The Torin Building (former) 26 Coombes Road, Penrith.

The members were advised that the Torin Building (former) is of State heritage significance as a rare and intact example of Late 20th Century International style industrial architecture designed by internationally renowned master architect Marcel Breuer. It is the only building in Australia designed by Breuer and is one of a suite of buildings located all in Europe and America designed by Breuer for the Torin Corporation. It is a fine example of Breuer's Torin Corporation architecture and the principles of his modernist design work.

The proposed item meets at least six of the seven Heritage Council criteria for listing on the State Heritage Register in terms of criteria:

- a (historical values)*, as it demonstrates a late stage in the evolution of the design requirements for internationally renowned architect Marcel Breuer's small scale industrial buildings in an economic context of cost saving through automation;
- b (associations with people or groups of people)* through its association with the internationally acclaimed master architect Marcel Breuer and also with the noted Australian architect Harry Seidler who supervised the construction of the building;
- c (aesthetic values)* as a fine example of Breuer's small scale industrial architecture in the Twentieth Century International style, and especially of his work for the Torin corporation;
- e (research potential)*, as an important resource for understanding the design intent, detailing, construction materials and techniques of this important international architect in the Australian context
- f (rarity)* for its exceptional intactness and the fact that it is the only building designed by Marcel Breuer in Australia;
- g (representative values)* as one of a suite of 9 Torin Corporation buildings designed by Marcel Breuer, being the last to be completed by Breuer it contains architectural element and techniques refined over the 14 years Breuer worked for the Corporation.

Members were advised that the land on which the Torin Building stands has a current development consent for a subdivision that would create two lots of land, one on which the building stands and the other land immediately west of the building which was used for materials storage and delivery.

The current owners have not acted on the existing development consent and have submitted a DA to subdivide the land on which the item stands into 3 separate lots. One of the new lots would contain the Torin Building. The other two lots would be created from the current materials storage and delivery area. Penrith City Council has required the preparation of a Heritage Impact Statement to assess the impact of such a development on the Torin Building before it considers the DA further.

The members discussed the proposed Notice of Intention to list and agreed that it should proceed with the proposal as detailed in the following resolution.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. considers the item known as "Torin Building (former)" at 26 Coombes Drive, Penrith, defined in accordance with the curtilage shown at Annexure B may be of State heritage significance;**
- 2. in accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the Heritage Act, will give each person that it considers to be an affected owner or occupier written notice that it is going to consider whether or not to recommend the listing of the item concerned (a Notice of Intention to Consider Listing); and**
- 3. in accordance with section 33(1)(b) of the Heritage Act, within 14 days after notice of intention to consider listing is given, will cause a notice of intention to consider listing to be published in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the item is situated, inviting submissions on the listing, specifying a date as the closing date for the receipt of submissions of 40 days after the publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made.**
- 4. will not oppose appropriate development within the proposed curtilage on the southern side of the building and supports the proposed relocation of the laneway to the be adjacent to the southern side of the building**

4.6 Redstone, Telopea – Presentation and Recommendation to List

The Heritage Council was joined by the owners of the item Mrs Kerry Lee and Mr Kim Lee and the Heritage advisor Ian Stapleton of Clive, Lucas Stapleton & Partners.

The members received a presentation on the proposal to recommend to list the item known as Redstone, 34 Adderton Road, Telopea.

The members were advised that the item built in 1935, is a small, single-storey, sandstone and rendered brick house designed by Walter Burley Griffin with a detached garage, set in a mature garden. Redstone is an outstandingly intact example of Griffin's small-scale domestic architecture. Set in its original garden setting, it retains its original layout, exterior finishes, interior fittings and construction drawings. Redstone has remained in the ownership of the family of the original commissioning client and has been maintained by the family to Burra Charter principles. Redstone's significance is further enhanced by the existence of

the original specification and construction drawings that complement the building's exceptional intactness and integrity.

The proposed item meets at least six of the seven Heritage Council criteria for listing on the State Heritage Register in terms of criteria:

b (association) with the internationally acclaimed architect, Walter Burley Griffin;
c (aesthetic and technical values) as a fine example of Griffin's small-scale house design that is outstandingly intact which retains, in its original garden setting, its original exterior structure and finishes, original interior fixtures, fittings and finishes and original construction drawing and documentation;
d (community esteem), as an excellent, and the most intact, example of a Griffin house in NSW;
e (research potential), as an important resource for understanding the design intent, detailing and construction techniques of the architect;
f (rarity) for its exceptional intactness, as the most intact of Griffin's 19 surviving houses in NSW, and the only one located in western Sydney;
g (representative values) of the domestic architecture of Walter Burley Griffin, one of the most important architects to have practised in Australia.

The members were advised that submissions received on the proposed listing had been fully supportive of the listing.

The members complimented the Winter family on how well they have maintained the item is to its original finish and thanked them for supporting the listing. The members thanked the family for attending the meeting to illustrate support and answer queries re the item. The visitors left the meeting.

The members discussed the proposed listing and agreed to recommend the listing of the item on the State Heritage Register to the Minister as per the following resolution.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. in accordance with section 33 (1)(d) of the Heritage Act, 1977 advises the Minister that the item known as "Redstone" at 34 Adderton Street, Telopea is of State heritage significance, as shown in the plan at Annexure B;**
- 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, "Redstone" at 34 Adderton Street, Telopea, on the State Heritage Register;**
- 3. 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**
- 4. in accordance with section 57(2) of the Heritage Act, note that the Heritage Council Standard Exemptions will apply.**

5.0 Matters for Information or Noting

5.1 Draft Exempt Development SEPP

The members were advised that the Department of Planning has undertaken a review of the planning system to improve the effectiveness of the system and provide certainty for applicants by simplifying the assessment process for

development. A key component of the review and the proposed planning reforms is exempt and complying development.

The Heritage Branch has recently been requested to provide comment on typical heritage item, heritage conservation area and rural/regional area development that could be included in an exempt development schedule attached to the proposed State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development) 2008.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. requests Chris Johnson of Department of Planning to review the definitions utilised in relation to heritage matters**
- 2. notes the information in the report**

5.2 Heritage Tourism On-Line Website

The members received a demonstration by Stewart Watters on the new Heritage Tourism On-Line Website. The members were advised that the NSW Heritage Tourism on-line web site, an initiative of the Heritage Branch, compliments the EPHC and HCOANZ focus on promoting heritage tourism. The site is being finalised for launching by the Minister and lists over 500 NSW State-listed items with tourism potential. The items are either dedicated tourism attractions, part of a heritage walking tour or trail, or a commercial enterprise. It is hoped that this service will encourage visitation and exposure of the listed sites and provide opportunities to raise the profile of heritage as a tourism opportunity. The Minister has agreed to launch the web site and Tourism NSW has been approached to cross promote.

The members congratulated the Heritage Branch for their work on creating an excellent resource on Heritage Tourism for NSW.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. notes the information in the report**

5.3 Building a Better SHR: Thematic Listings Web Page

The members received a presentation of the new Thematic Listings Web page from Stewart Watters. The members were advised that as part of the implementation of the endorsed thematic listing work plan, new dedicated web pages have been developed to promote the new approach and chosen themes. The members were advised that the Branch is working with the Minister's Office regarding an announcement opportunity to launch the Thematic Listings Program. The members complimented the Heritage Branch on its website pages and the work on the implementation of the Thematic Listings Program.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. notes the information in the report.**

6.0 Reports from Heritage Council Committees and Panels

6.1 Approvals Committee

Peter Mould (Chair, Approvals Committee) commented on the report presented for the November 2009 meeting. Peter advised that good outcomes had been achieved by the Committee in regards to the proposed works for Parliament House. It was noted that many good results had been achieved by the Committee.

6.2 State Heritage Register Committee

Sharon Sullivan (Chair, State Heritage Register Committee) commented on the report presented for the November 2009 meeting. Sharon advised that she was very pleased that everything is working well and the way things are coming together such as the reduction in backlog of nominations and funding for staffing.

6.3 Aboriginal Heritage Advisory Panel

Members were advised that a quorum was not available for November 2009 meeting. They were also advised that a nomination for a new Aboriginal representative for the Heritage Council was being prepared for the Minister.

6.4 Archaeology Advisory Panel - Nil report

6.5 Fire Access Services Advisory Panel

6.6 History Advisory Panel

6.7 Maritime Archaeology Advisory Panel

6.8 Technical Advisory Panel

6.9 Religious Property Advisory Panel

6.10 Heritage Grants Panel - Nil report

Resolved:

- 1. that the Heritage Council of NSW notes the reports.**

7.0 General Business

7.1 MV Baragoola Ferry: State of SHR- Listed Vessel

Tim Smith provided an update on the status of this item. Members were advised that a new owner has purchased the vessel via online auction for \$25,000. Upon inspection, the new owner was concerned that the vessel is in serious structural state and at imminent risk of sinking. The new owner has indicated that scrapping the ferry is the only realistic option. Tim Smith advised that he inspected the vessel on 2 December 2008 and confirmed its visually deteriorated state.

The members discussed the issues facing the new owner and that the Heritage Branch should engage an independent survey of the vessel by a Naval Architect. It was also agreed that the Heritage Branch would continue to provide as much assistance as required to the new owner in regards to discussions with relevant authorities such as the Maritime Authority. The members also identified a possible future action may be to delist the ferry based on degradation of original fabric.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. request the Heritage Branch to engage a naval architect to conduct an independent assessment of condition of the vessel**

2. request to arrange as a matter of urgency a meeting with the Maritime Authority in regards to this matter

7.2 Friends of Ku-ring-gai

Members were presented a letter from the Friends of Ku-ring-gai addressed to the Chair, requesting it be tabled at the meeting. The Friends of Ku-ring-gai, recent recipients of a Volunteers Award are offering to present to their Photographic Study of Sites in Ku-ring-gai to the Heritage Council. The document has been viewed by the members and is now available at the Heritage Branch library.

Members noted the offer to present to the meeting and decided to decline the offer at this time. Members requested that the Heritage Branch prepare a reply to the Friends of Ku-ring-gai and arrange to meet with them.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. notes the information in the letter**
- 2. requests the Heritage Branch to prepare a reply to the Friends of Ku-ring-gai and arrange a meeting of the Heritage Branch with the group.**

7.3 Jenner House - letter in regards to Integrated Development Application under consideration

Members received a letter from Dr Peter Sheridan AM, Convenor, Save Jenner House Action Group in regards to his decision not to present to the Approvals Committee on the objection to the proposed works to be carried out at Jenner House, 2 Macleay St, Potts Point.

Members were advised that the Heritage Branch had received over 100 letters of objection in relation to this matter and Dr Peter Sheridan AM, Convenor, Save Jenner House Action Group had been invited to present to the Approvals Committee December meeting to present issues representing objectors.

The members discussed the request in the letter to defer the matter and agreed to request the Approvals Committee to consider the letter in their considerations of the matter.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. Notes the letter has been circulated and discussed and request that the approvals committee consider this letter in their considerations.**

7.4 Rural Heritage Green Paper

The members received a paper on Rural Heritage. The members were advised that the paper was the first draft in recognising the issues facing rural heritage and an initial look of ways of assisting the rural communities to recognise and conserve their heritage.

Members were advised with issues such as depopulation, salinity, climate change, job losses, declining income, and sale of water rights take their toll on the bush, abandonment and redundancy of our rural heritage building stock is the consequence.

The members agreed that the paper required time for discussion and contribution. It was agreed that all members would provide comment on the paper via email during the next two months to assist the Heritage Branch in preparing the paper for the HCOANZ meeting to be held in February 2009.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. Notes the information in the paper and members provide comment out of session to the Heritage Branch for inclusion in the paper.**

8.0 Presentations

The members received a presentation from Dennis Byrne, Manager Research Section, Culture and Heritage Division Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) on Aboriginal Post Contact Sites. The presentation illustrated the work carried out by DECC in assessing Aboriginal living places.

Members were advised that the types of Aboriginal post-1788 living places included: managed reserves, unmanaged reserves, fringe camp, non-govt mission, seasonal work camp, pastoral station camp, independent farm, holiday camp and town dwelling. Members learnt that one of the characteristics of Aboriginal living places is that they typically consist of a group of sites across a community as opposed to an individual site.

Members complimented DECC on the work that they had carried out and have requested that a report is made back in 2009 on a way forward in working with DECC on Aboriginal heritage sites.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council of NSW

- 1. Notes the information in the presentation and thanks DECC for their presentation.**
- 2. requests the Heritage Branch prepare a report to the Heritage Council in 2009 regarding working with DECC on Aboriginal Heritage sites.**

In closing the meeting, the Chair thanked the members of the Heritage Council and the staff of the Heritage Branch for their help, support and hard work throughout a difficult year of change and challenges, to finish the year in a better position and on a more optimistic note. The Chair believes that the hard work has enabled the Heritage Council and Heritage Branch to make a meaningful contribution to Heritage in New South Wales.

Members also supported the Chair in complimenting the staff for their work throughout the year.

There being no further items the meeting closed at 12:00 pm.