

MINUTES OF MEETING

State Heritage Register Committee

Wednesday February 7th, 2007
Commencing at 1.30 am

Heritage Office – Department of Planning
Heritage Office Library
3 Marist Place
Parramatta



1. Attendance

PRESENT

Sharon Sullivan
Hewitt Whyman
Jason Ardler
Professor Ross Fitzgerald
Rosemary Annable
Tina Jackson
Reece McDougall

APOLOGIES

John Robertson
Michael Clarke

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE
(NSW Heritage Office)

Cameron White
Bruce Baskerville
Anthony Mitchell
Perpetual Fernandes
Bill Nethery
Bronwyn Hanna

Opening – Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting at 1.30 p.m.

2.0 Declarations of Interest

Nil

3.0 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held November 2nd, 2006 were noted and adopted by the Committee.

Moved	Jason Ardler
Seconded	Ross Fitzgerald

4.0 Action Report

Cameron White informed members of matters which had been resolved under delegated authority as the December meeting had not been held. He also advised members of items on the Action Report which were to be considered by this meeting and updated members on the listings on the State Heritage Register which had been made by the Minister.

5.0 Minutes, reports and matters arising from HC Advisory Panels

nil

6.0 Presentations

6.1 Wentworth Memorial Church Vauclose

A presentation was made by representatives of the Anglican Church. The party consisted of: Paul Davies, Heritage Architect for the Anglican Church and its representative on the Heritage Council's Religious Property Advisory Panel; Evelyn Beaver, Client Manager for the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney; the Reverend Cliff Parish, Minister of the Parish of the Watsons Bay; and Mr Ian Loveridge, Church Warden.

Paul Davies explained in greater detail the significance of the church but also its current limited use and access and egress issues. Mr Davies explained that historically Church bodies had regarded listing as a threat without any real benefits. However, Mr Davies explained that the level of consultation associated with this nomination and the recognition of the Church's concerns in the report and its recommendations provides a template for future interactions with the Anglican Church. Mr Davies advised that the Church was very pleased that the recommendations recognised the potential future need to adaptively reuse the church and that the former Church Hall was excluded from the listing curtilage.

Evelyn Beaver reiterated Paul Davies' comments adding that the Church appreciated that the Office had recognised and addressed their concerns in terms of the Resolved curtilage and potential future adaptive reuse. Ms Beaver indicated that the Church, may sell the excluded former Church Hall site but that there was no such proposal in relation to the actual Church.

The members noted and thanked the Church representatives for their valuable input into the matter.

7.0 State Heritage Register – Notice of Intention to List

7.1 Hay Gaol Museum, 355 Church St Hay

Bronwyn Hanna spoke to this matter.

Hay Gaol is a complex of buildings dating from 1880 sited near the centre of the Hay township in the LGA of Hay Shire. It is currently used as a local history museum. It was nominated by Hay Shire Council, which is its owner, and which thus supports the nomination.

The complex is considered to meet all seven heritage criteria. It is aesthetically important as a James-Barnett-designed Victorian era Gaol with vernacular design detailing. Used variously as a prison, hospital, emergency housing, coercive girls' detention centre and now museum, it is considered to exhibit social issues. It has archaeological and historical research potential, rarity and representative values.

The proposed curtilage is the entire city block upon which the gaol is sited.

The Aboriginal Heritage Advisory Panel will consider the nomination. The site was used as a girl's institution, where many inhabitants were from the "stolen generation".

There are no contentious issues associated with the nomination. Members enquired if there was a CMP for site. Heritage Office staff confirmed there was not at present, but there is a proposal to write a plan.

Resolved:

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. considers the item known as the "Hay Gaol" at 355 Church Street, Hay, defined in accordance with the curtilage shown at Annexure B may be of State heritage significance;
2. in accordance with section 33(l)(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(l)(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 28 days after the publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made.

Moved: Ross Fitzgerald

Seconded: Hewitt Whyman

8.0 State Heritage Register – Recommendation to Minister

8.2 Englefield

The report was presented by Bill Nethery. Dating from 1837, it represents a fine example of the late Colonial period. The Georgian house/inn is characterised by window and door proportions and detail, and slender Doric verandah columns. It is a townscape element on the bend of the New England Highway.

Questions were raised by members about the age of the item, especially with regard to the kitchen building which may be the earliest building on the site. It was agreed

that this needs to be clarified. Members considered that the associations with John Smith were not significant at the State level. The associations of the place with Governor Macquarie who signed many land grant documents were also not considered to be of State significance either.

Members agreed to support the recommendation to list, but requested that the recommendation not be submitted to the Minister until such time as the nomination Heritage Data Form has been revised to take account of the matters identified above.

Resolved:

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. in accordance with section 33 (IHd) of the Heritage Act, 1977 advises the Minister that the item known as "Englefield" at 49 Newcastle Road, East Maitland, 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 "Englefield" at 49 Newcastle Road, East Maitland the State Heritage Register if the Minister considers the item is of State heritage significance;
3. in accordance with sections 33 (IHe) 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.

Moved: Ross Fitzgerald

Seconded: Jason Alder

8.3 Randwick Presbyterian Church - Randwick

Anthony Mitchell spoke on this matter. Dating from 1890, the Church was designed by Sir John Sulman (1849 - 1934). The Randwick Presbyterian Church is one of only a small group of Victorian Academic Classical styled churches in NSW, and the only example of the Sulman and Power's ecclesiastical architecture designed in this particular idiom. The two storey brick and stone building represents a significant departure from the predominant Gothic and Romanesque Revival styled ecclesiastical architecture of the late nineteenth century. The highly intact church interior which was designed in the form of a Greek theatre is considered to be Sir John Sulman's best non-Gothic church interior, and one of the best non-Gothic church interiors in NSW.

The proposed item meets at least four of the seven Heritage Council criteria for listing on the State Heritage Register in terms of criteria: b (associations with people or groups of people); c (aesthetic values); e (research potential); and f (rarity).

The listing covers the single lot which includes the Church, Manse and Church Hall. The Coogee Boys' Preparatory School has operated from the c.1903 school hall since 1914.

The Presbyterian Church, Randwick Council, the Local Historical Society and the Local member have all formally supported the proposed listing. Although the school has not

responded to the formal notice of intention to consider listing it is understood that it raises no objection to the listing.

Resolved:

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. in accordance with section 33 (l)(d) of the Heritage Act, 1977 advises the Minister that the item known as "Randwick Presbyterian Church" at 162 Alison Road, Randwick, 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, "Randwick Presbyterian Church" at 162 Alison Road, Randwick, on the State Heritage Register if the Minister considers the item is of State heritage significance;
3. in accordance with sections 33 (l)(e) of the Heritage Act 1977, gives notice of its decision to persons notified under section 33(1)(a);
4. in accordance with section 57(2) of the Heritage Act note that the Heritage Council Standard Exemptions will apply;
5. directs the Heritage Office to further consult the Church and Coogee Boys Preparatory School on the need for site specific exemptions in relation to the operation of the school; and
6. notes that an inventory of movable heritage and associated management recommendations should be included in any future review of the Conservation Management Plan.

Moved: Ross Fitzgerald

Seconded: Jason Ardler

8.4 Wentworth Memorial Church

Members considered the presentation made by heritage consultant Paul Pavies and representatives of the church and the Heritage Office's report.

Dating from 1964, the church represents one of the finest examples of the non domestic work of the Sydney School style of architecture. The architect of the Wentworth Memorial Church Don Gazzard (b.1929) is recognised as an important Australian architect of the mid to late Twentieth Century.

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), f, (rarity), g (representative values)

The indicative curtilage excludes the earlier c.1933 church hall which presents to Fitzwilliam Road. Whilst the former church hall is historically connected to the Wentworth Estate and represents a phase in the historical development of the estate, the RAIAs nomination is limited to the Wentworth Memorial Church.

The Anglican Church is generally supportive of the State listing, but is concerned that a prospective listing recognises the existing site constraints and the likely adaptive

reuse of the church for some other purpose at a later stage.

Resolved:

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. notes that due to its physical location the Wentworth Memorial Church has access and egress issues;
2. notes that .the Wentworth Memorial Church is irregularly used by the Parish of Watsons Bay for religious services;
3. notes that the short to long term viability of the Wentworth Memorial Church for liturgical worship and other associated ministry uses by the Anglican Diocese of Sydney is uncertain,
4. notes that in the event that the church becomes redundant for the purposes of religious worship or instruction, its adaptive reuse for some other purpose sympathetic to the significance of the building could be considered;
5. notes that the permanent retention, presentation and management of movable heritage on site may be incompatible with the adaptive reuse of the church for non religious purposes, and relocating the collection could be considered;
6. in accordance with section 33 (l)(d) of the Heritage Act, 1977 advises the Minister that the item known as "Wentworth Memorial Church and its movable heritage" at 32 Fitzwilliam Road, Vaucluse, is of State heritage significance, as shown in the plan at Annexure B;
7. 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, "Wentworth Memorial Church and its movable heritage at 32 Fitzwilliam Road, Vaucluse, on the State Heritage Register if the Minister considers the item is of State heritage significance;
8. in accordance with sections 33 (l)(e) of the Heritage Act 1977, gives notice of its decision to persons notified under section 33(1)(a);
9. in accordance with section 57(2) of the Heritage Act, notes that the Heritage Council Standard Exemptions will apply;
10. advises the Anglican Church Property Trust to consider preparing a strategy for the conservation and management of the movable heritage of the Wentworth Memorial Church which addresses the potential future adaptive reuse of the church and! or a Conservation Management Plan; and
11. advises the Anglican Church Property Trust to consult the designer of the church, Don Gazzard, on any future proposals to adaptively reuse the church.

Moved: Ross Fitzgerald

Seconded: Hewitt Whyman

9.0 State Government Heritage (Section 170 Registers/HAMS)

NIL

10.0 Interim Heritage Orders

NIL

11.0 Environmental Planning Instruments & Heritage Studies

11.1 EPI Status Report

Members considered the status report of environmental planning instrumental planning instruments reviewed by the Heritage Office.

12.0 Matters for Consideration

12.1 Compilation of the State Heritage Register

Reece McDougall spoke to this matter. This paper has been prepared following the report considered at the November meeting on options for making the State Heritage Register more representative of the variety of heritage items. At the November meeting members requested a detailed discussion paper be prepared on options for compiling the State Heritage Register.

Members discussed the need for a comprehensive State Heritage Register and the need to be more strategic regarding the assessment of nominations. The current approach of reviewing ad-hoc community nominations is not going to result in a comprehensive register in a timely manner. The current rate of an average number of listings of 30 per year is inadequate.

Members discussed an option of running a workshop of experts to review listing options. Invitees could include the National Trust and the Department of Environment and Conservation as well as heritage advisors.

The value of using heritage advisors to prepare nominations was also discussed. Local advisors know the local areas well and could be commissioned to prepare nominations. A budget allocation would be needed for advisors to target "State icons" as nominations. In addition, to ensure this work was targeted, it would be possible to identify listing themes such as pastoral homesteads for listing nominations.

Another area of strategic importance is State Government heritage. There are advantages in targeting this area as the Heritage Council would be dealing with one owner for multiple listings. Members also agreed that delegation of Heritage Council approval functions should be considered as part of any listings discussions with agencies. Heritage Council approvals exemptions should also be considered, eg works in National Parks carried out in accordance with a Plan of Management.

A further area of importance is listings on the National Heritage List. All items on the list should be listed on the State Heritage Register.

While new listings should be the major objective of the exercise, so too should the level of information on existing listings. Members noted that some listings, for

example the former Permanent Conservation Orders, did not have the same level of documentation of today's listings.

The Register of the National Estate was identified as a potential source of State Heritage Register nominations.

Members also noted the need to significantly reduce the number of nominations on hand - around 550, prior to embarking on a program which generated new State Heritage Register listings.

The Committee noted all of the above and concluded with the following main initiatives:

- i) Hold a workshop of experts in heritage to review the options of the compilation of the State Heritage Register.
- ii) Restructure the Heritage Incentives Program with a view to paying heritage advisors to prepare State Heritage Register nominations.
- iii) Make State agencies a strategic priority as a source for State Heritage Register listings, ie obtain listings from submitted S.170 Heritage and Conservation Registers. At the same time negotiate Heritage Council approval delegations and approval exemptions with State Agencies.
- iv) The State Heritage Register Committee to assist the Heritage Office by reviewing submitted nominations.
- v) The Heritage Office to, over time, upgrade the level of information on existing listings, eg former Permanent Conservation Orders.
- vi) The State Heritage Register Committee to make recommendations about gaps in the State Heritage Register in terms of items and themes.

Members agreed that these discussions be written up as a Strategic Plan for the State Heritage Register Committee for submission back to the Committee in the near future.

Resolved:

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. Subject to the Heritage Office reducing the number of State Heritage Register nominations on hand, agrees to the following initiatives to aid in the compilation of the State Heritage Register:

- i) Hold a workshop of experts in heritage to review the options of the compilation of the State Heritage Register**
- ii) Restructure the Heritage Incentives Program with a view to paying heritage advisors to prepare State Heritage Register nominations.**
- iii) Make State agencies a strategic priority as a source for State Heritage Register listings, ie obtain listings from submitted S.170 Heritage and Conservation Registers. At the same time negotiate Heritage Council approval delegations and approval exemptions with State Agencies.**
- iv) The State Heritage Register Committee to assist the Heritage Office by reviewing submitted nominations.**
- v) The Heritage Office to over time upgrade the level of information on existing listings, e.g. former Permanent Conservation Orders.**
- vi) The State Heritage Register Committee to make recommendations about gaps in the State Heritage Register in terms of items and themes.**

2. Requests the Heritage Office to prepare a strategic discussion paper, implementing these initiatives for submission to a future meeting of the State Heritage Register Committee.

Moved: Ross Fitzgerald

Seconded: Tina Jackson

12.2

The chair deferred the matter to the next meeting.

13.0 General Business

The meeting closed at 3.30 pm.

Next Meeting of the Heritage Council State Heritage Register Committee

Wednesday March 7th 2007 at 9.30 AM

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Parramatta

Minutes endorsed by the Heritage Council State Heritage Register Committee.	<hr/> Chair, State Heritage Register Committee Date:
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