

MINUTES OF MEETING

State Heritage Register Committee

Wednesday March 7, 2007
Commencing at 9.30 am

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



1.0 Attendance

PRESENT	Sharon Sullivan Jason Ardler Michael Clarke Professor Ross Fitzgerald Reece McDougall
APOLOGIES	John Robertson Hewitt Whyman Rosemary Annable Tina Jackson
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE (NSW Heritage Office)	Cameron White Bruce Baskerville Perpetual Fernandes Tim Smith Susan Lampard Patricia Hale David Nutley Bill Nethery

Opening – Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting at 9.30 a.m.

2.0 Declarations of Interest

Nil

3.0 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held February 7th, 2007 were noted and adopted by the Committee.

Moved Prof. Ross Fitzgerald
Seconded Jason Ardler

4.0 Action Report

Members enquired about Item 7.1 Queen Victoria Building from the meeting of July 6, 2005. Cameron White advised that the Lord Mayor had objected to the listing on the State Heritage Register in writing. Members discussed the benefits of holding an ongoing working party with Council staff to discuss listing matters.

Members also inquired how in the case of the Queen Victoria Building the Heritage Council had made comment on the proposed escalators despite the fact that the building is not listed on the State Heritage Register. Members were advised of a provision on Council's LEP requiring referral to the Heritage Council of DAs impacting on items assessed as state significant.

5.0 Minutes, reports and matters arising from HC Advisory Panels

Nil

6.0 Presentations

6.1 S.170 Web Site & Resource Sharing Initiatives

Tim Smith made a presentation on the State Agency Extranet Web Page which has about 300 subscribers at the moment. The site includes the following to assist State Agencies:

- Contacts: All the contact details of people who attended the State Agency Forums, enabling the staff from agencies to get in touch with each other;
- E-News: Regular feature stories in this E-bulletin detailing the work that agencies do;
- HAMS: Copies of HAMS documents endorsed by the Heritage Council;
- Presentations: presentations made by the agencies at Forums; and
- Photographs: photographs from the forums.

Tim Smith explained all the key points about the website. Members inquired whether it was possible that they be invited to the next forum. It was agreed that this would be beneficial. Tim Smith undertook to invite members.

6.2 Presentation by Department of Education and Training of HAMS

Cameron White explained that this presentation had been deferred to a future meeting of the Committee.

7.0 State Heritage Register – Notice of Intention to List

7.1 Bathurst Showground

Susan Lampard spoke to this matter. The Bathurst Showground, lies in the Bathurst LGA, is bounded by Kendall Avenue, the Macquarie River and Vale Creek, forming a triangular piece of land. There are roughly 35 buildings in the Showgrounds, dating from 1879.

This was nominated under the Central West Project. It is on four lots, three of which are owned by the Department of Lands, with the final lot being owned by the Bathurst Showground Trust. The owners support the nomination.

The proposed item meets at least four of the seven Heritage Council criteria for listing on the State Heritage Register in terms of criteria a (historical values), c (aesthetic values), d (community esteem), g (representative values). Compelling reasons that the Bathurst Showground should represent showgrounds on State Heritage Register include:

- it is an outstanding example of its type, regarding its aesthetic appeal and longevity;
- it is one of the earliest shows to be staged annually on its own site;
- aesthetically, the advice of professional architects was consulted regarding the early development of the buildings and landscaping; and
- it has consistently been ranked in the top ten showgrounds with regard to the quality of livestock, exhibits and aesthetic appeal.

The nomination will be referred to the Aboriginal Heritage Advisory Panel during the advertising period.

Resolved:

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

- 1. considers the item known as the “Bathurst Showground” at Kendall Avenue, Bathurst, 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 28 days after the publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made.**

Moved: Jason Ardler
Seconded: Reece McDougall

8.0 State Heritage Register – Recommendation to Minister

8.1 Ps Rodney, Darling River

David Nutley spoke to this matter. Now a shipwreck, this Darling River paddle steamer dates from 1875, one of only five located to-date. It played an active role in river transport of goods and people along the Darling River during the Australian riverboat era. It is located in the Wentworth LGA in the Darling River, 40 Kilometres north of Pooncarie and adjacent to Polia Station. The archaeological remains provide a tangible link to an important era of riverboat activity on the Darling River. The 32.4 m vessel was reputedly the largest paddle steamer on the river.

Burnt to the water line in an 1894 protest by unionist shearers associated with the shearer's strike of the 1890's, the engine and plant were salvaged in 1895. The wreck is a fine physical reminder of the tension and conflicts and a symbol of the politicisation of the Australian labour movement.

The item was nominated by Terry Crozier - owner of adjacent Polia Station. The owner of this item is the Department of Lands, which has supported the nomination.

The item meets all seven Heritage Criteria for listing on the State Heritage Register it terms of criteria a (historical values), b (associations with people or groups of people), c (aesthetic values), d (community esteem), e(research potential), f(rarity), g(representative values).

The item was supported for listing by the Maritime Archaeological Advisory Panel on 9 February 2006 and by the Aboriginal Heritage Advisory Panel on 4 April 2006.

Resolved:

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. in accordance with section 33 (1)(d) of the Heritage Act, 1977 advises the Minister that the item known as "ps Rodney" in the Darling River at Polia Station, near Pooncarie, 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, "ps Rodney" in the Darling River at Polia Station, near Pooncarie, on the State Heritage Register if the Minister considers the item is of State heritage significance;
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 in accordance with section 57(2) of the Heritage Act, note that the Heritage Council Standard Exemptions will apply.

Moved: Prof. Ross Fitzgerald
Seconded: Michael Clarke

8.2 Loggan Rock Avalon

Cameron White spoke to this matter. The site consists of a stone and timber cottage, with an adjoining stone tower building and 1950s addition. The item was nominated by the Royal Australian Institute of Architects in 2004 and is located at 111 Whale Beach Road, Avalon.

Dating from 1930, Loggan Rock is of State heritage significance as a rare and outstanding example of the organic architecture of Alexander Stewart Jolly a pioneer of the Arts and crafts movement in Australia. Loggan Rock demonstrates the later stages of the development of Jolly's architectural ideas as the buildings are carefully designed to be in harmony with their garden and wider landscape setting. The aesthetically distinctive cabin and tower structure:

- o is constructed from timber and stone;
- o incorporates natural rocks, boulders and tree trunks and branches;
- o displays a high degree of creative accomplishment; and
- o expresses a distinctive taste and life style which strives for harmony with nature in all aspects of living.

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), b (associations with people or groups of people), c (aesthetic values),, e (research potential), f (rarity), g (representative values). As both a rare and representative example of Jolly's architecture in this period of his career, Loggan Rock is a valuable research resource.

Resolved

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. in accordance with section 33 (1)(d) of the Heritage Act, 1977 advises the Minister that the item known as "Loggan Rock" at 111 Whale Beach Road, Avalon, 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, "Loggan Rock" at 111 Whale Beach Road, Avalon, on the State Heritage Register if the Minister considers the item is of State heritage significance;
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, recommend the Minister grant the following exemption/s from section 57(1) in addition to the Heritage Council Standard Exemptions :
 - (a) All works and activities in accordance with a current and valid development consent from Pittwater City Council or the Land and Environment Court for: DA 476/06.

Moved: Jason Ardler
Seconded: Prof. Ross Fitzgerald

9.0 State Government Heritage (Section 170 Registers/HAMS)

9.1 Heritage Asset Management Strategies Submitted for endorsement

Tim Smith spoke on the matter and provided an introduction to the current status of Heritage Asset Management Strategies (HAMS): 17 HAMS have been endorsed to date, 7 returned for further review, 11 are currently under review and awaiting formal submission and 4 have been submitted to the committee. Officers tabled the 4 HAMS submitted for endorsement.

Tim Smith then introduced the Sydney Ports Corporation HAMS noting that it was a sound and well presented document. The HAMS includes all major content required by the State Agency Guide released in January 2005.

Patricia Hale introduced Teacher Housing Authority HAMS noted that it was overall a good HAMS document and meets the principal requirements of the State Agency Guide. Patricia Hale explained that the THA provides housing for NSW government teachers in isolated rural communities. The vast majority of these dwellings have been built in the last 40 years. The THA also manages 272 residences on school sites that are owned by the Department of Education and Training.

The Committee noted the Office's recommendation that the THA should assess all properties for heritage significance before disposal and, where appropriate, investigate their listing on LEPs or the SHR.

Bill Nethery introduced the State Library HAMS noting that it is a well presented document that could be improved by a better visual layout with more photographs of heritage items. Overall, the document merits endorsement.

Bill Nethery also introduced the Department of Juvenile Justice HAMS which is likewise a substantial document, produced by the Department of Commerce. The document encapsulates most major elements of the required HAMS structure and clearly articulates the agency's commitment to addressing sound heritage outcomes.

The Committee endorsed all four agency HAMS. The Committee noted that where the Heritage Office has recommended slight editorial improvements, that these are to be undertaken by the agencies and the finalised HAMS documents be submitted to the satisfaction of the Executive Director, Heritage Office. Members also requested that in future, all conditions of endorsement recommended by the Office should be included in the HAMS summary assessment sheet for the information of the Committee.

Finally the Committee resolved to congratulate those agencies for meeting the requirements of the S.170 of the Heritage Act.

Resolved:

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. **accepts the four (4) tabled HAMS documents submitted by the Department of Juvenile Justice, State Library of NSW, Sydney Ports Corporation and Teacher Housing Authority, in accordance with the State Owned Heritage Management Principles and Heritage Asset**

Management Guidelines, issued under Section 170A(3) of the Heritage Act, 1977;

2. directs the Executive Director, Heritage Office, Department of Planning, to write to those agencies advising of same, and noting identified editorial comments for inclusion in final documents, to the satisfaction of the Executive Director (Annexure "B");
3. congratulates these agencies for their HAMS submission;

Moved: Prof. Ross Fitzgerald
Seconded: Reece McDougall

10.0 Interim Heritage Orders

Nil

11.0 Environmental Planning Instruments & Heritage Studies

11.1 EPI Status Report

Alice Brandjes from the Conservation Team presented a report on Planning Instruments referred to the Heritage Office. Alice Brandjes informed the Committee that during Oct 2006 to November 2006 the Heritage Office assessed 36 draft LEPs many of which related to house - keeping matters. The Heritage Office also assessed five Local Environmental Studies, had conducted one review of environmental factors and reviewed one regional environmental plan in the period. Ms Brandjes further explained the effect of each draft LEP as indicated in the table provided.

Resolved:

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

notes this status report.

Moved: Prof. Ross Fitzgerald
Seconded: Reece McDougall

12.0 Matters for Consideration

12.1 Ruins Policy

Bruce Baskerville presented this matter. The policy work for this matter had been undertaken jointly by the History Advisory Panel and Archaeology Advisory Panel. The policy outlines where a ruin may be of heritage significance, and describes a range of management approaches. Submitted for the Committee's consideration was:

- o a working policy statement on ruins;
- o a list of 'key issues' to be addressed in any further policy development on ruins; and

- o a list of illustrative examples for consideration in any further policy development.

Bruce Baskerville suggested that the statement be adopted as it stands and then revisited and refined after it has been in use for about 18 months.

In general discussion of the draft working policy statement, the following comments were made by members:

- o There needs for a connection between the significance of a ruin and the way the ruin is conserved – the church and the Broad Arrow Café at Port Arthur are examples of this connection;
- o The draft statement should be amended to say that a ruin can be managed as a ruin when its ruined state is a part of its principle significance (the recommendation has been amended to reflect this point);
- o The example of the PS *Rodney* shows that some ruins could have begun life as movable objects; and
- o There could be concerns that a policy on ruinization would have unintended effects and consequences by encouraging those processes instead of conservation.

Resolved:

That the Heritage Council State Heritage Register Committee:

1. adopts as a working policy statement on ruins: *A ruin is the fabric of a constructed and usually immovable structure, mostly above the ground which is in a transitional state between dereliction and an archaeological site. Ruins may have cultural significance through possession of inspirational, evocative, aesthetic and research values as well as an ability to demonstrate those values. In many cases, when an item's state as a ruin is a primary element of its significance, management through preservation will be justified, rather than partial or full reconstruction, and processes of controlled and recorded decay may be acceptable;*
2. endorses the list of 'key issues' at Annexure A to be addressed in any further policy development on ruins, noting that further issues may also arise or need be considered;
3. notes the list of illustrative examples for consideration in any further policy development at Annexure B; and
4. advises the Heritage Office of the priority to be given to any future policy development about ruins.

Moved: Reece McDougall

Seconded: Jason Ardler

13.0 General Business

Nil

The meeting closed at 12.00 pm

Next Meeting of the Heritage Council State Heritage Register Committee

Wednesday April 4th 2007 at 1.30 PM

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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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