

**MINUTES OF MEETING
State Heritage Register Committee**

Wednesday April 2nd , 2008
Commencing at 11:00 am

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



1.0 Attendance

PRESENT Sharon Sullivan (Chair)
Gabrielle Kibble
Michael Clarke
Tina Jackson
Rosemary Annable
Paul House (for Jason Ardler)

APOLOGIES Professor Ross Fitzgerald
John Robertson
Hewitt Whyman

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE
(Heritage Branch)** Cameron White
Perpetual Fernandes
Bill Nethery
Anthony Mitchell
Bronwyn Hanna
Patricia Hale
Steward Waters

Opening – Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting at 11:00 am

2.0 Declarations of Interest

Nil

3.0 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting of March 5th 2008 were noted and adopted by the Committee, with the following correction to:

Item 6.2 "Parramatta Stories" presentation by Michelle Desailly

Members indicated the correction of gender from *his* (in the last paragraph) to *her*.

Moved: Rosemary Annable
Seconded: Michael Clarke

4.0 Action Report

The action report was noted and adopted by Members. Members were advised by the Heritage Branch that the Minister has given approval for the listing of All Saints Anglican Church – Condobolin.

5.0 Minutes, reports and matters arising from HC Advisory Panels

Nil

6.0 Presentations

Nil

7.0 State Heritage Register – Draft Nominations

7.1 Sixteen Draft Nominations for review

- 1. Berith Park, 19 Billyard Avenue, Wahroonga (Ku-ring-gai LGA)**
- 2. Redleaf, 28 Woodville Avenue, Wahroonga (Ku-ring-gai LGA)**
- 3. Nazareth House, 402 Bobbin Head Road, North Turramurra (Ku-ring-gai LGA)**
- 4. Lynesta, 397 Bobbin Head Road, North Turramurra (Ku-ring-gai LGA)**
- 5. Pibrac, 11 Pibrac Avenue, Warrawee (Ku-ring-gai LGA)**

Anthony Mitchell advised the Committee that the five nominations in the Ku-ring-gai LGA were prepared by the National Trust as part of a project funded by the Heritage Office several years ago. It was noted that some of these properties were also nominated by Ku-ring-gai Council as part of their 2001 nomination of ninety eight items for State Heritage Register listing.

Anthony advised that the Branch was uncertain about the potential significance of the properties with the exception of the 1888 Horbury Hunt designed 'Pibrac' which is regarded as possessing potential State significance due to its historic and historical association with Horbury Hunt and Eccleston du Faur.

The Committee asked about Horbury Hunt designs listed on the State Heritage Register and noted that 'Highlands' at Wahroonga, 'Camelot' at Narellan and "Booluminbah" at Armidale were amongst several State listings as well as the church and the stables at Rouse Hill.

Comment

The Committee acknowledged that the nominated Ku-ring-gai items were all grand late nineteenth and early twentieth century homes listed as local heritage items on the Ku-ring-gai Local Environment Plan. However, it was the view of the Committee that the nominations as presented did not demonstrate State level heritage significance.

In respect of "Pibrac" the Chair asked that the Heritage Branch write to the Royal Australian Institute of Architects seeking their views on the significance and integrity of this house relative to the other works by Horbury Hunt already listed on the State Heritage Register.

6. Northern Rivers Conservatorium Arts Centre (Lismore LGA)

Anthony Mitchell spoke regarding the Northern Rivers Conservatorium Arts Centre nomination. He explained that the nomination of the c.1902 Arts and Crafts style former Lismore High School was prompted by the demolition of part of the building (rear of c.1911 building) by the Department of Education and Training following structural failure. The Northern Rivers Conservatorium Arts Centre Inc subsequently acquired the former Lismore High School and is now responsible for its upkeep and maintenance.

Comment

The Committee agreed that there was insufficient evidence and comparative analysis on which to base a finding of State significance.

7. Urunga Pilot Station Precinct (Bellingen LGA)

Anthony Mitchell spoke to this matter. This was a Pilot Station until 1936 and was sold by NSW Government c1940. It was then a guest house and holiday flats until 1996 when it was converted into a B&B operation or flats. It was the first house at Bellinger Heads.

The Pilot station is generally in good condition. The original roofing was corrugated iron. The verandah floors have been replaced. The original internal hardwood floors have been retained. Internal doors need restoration. The remains of an old footbridge exist as truncated piles. The channel wharf remains consist of some piles, steps and rock formations.

Pilot operations ceased in 1936 when road and rail transport to Coffs Harbour and Sydney replaced shipping.

Comment

The Committee did not consider that sufficient evidence had been provided to justify the conclusion of State heritage significance. The Committee noted that the item was not listed on the Bellingen Local Environment Plan, and agreed that as a Pilot's House and the first house in Bellinger Heads (c1868) this was an item that should undoubtedly be listed on the Bellingen Local Environment Plan. The Committee requested the Heritage Branch write to Bellingen Council recommending the inclusion of this item on the LEP. Cameron White confirmed for the Committee that it was standard procedure to write to the relevant Council recommending the addition of the nominated item to their LEP.

8. Hydraulic Power Station, Carrington (Newcastle LGA)

9. Shepherd's Hill Group (Newcastle LGA)

10. Newcastle Technical College (Newcastle LGA)

Bill Nethery spoke to the three nominations which are listed on the Newcastle LEP and have been submitted by Newcastle City Council.

Hydraulic Power Station, Carrington (Newcastle LGA)

This Power Station is a spectacular building in its setting and is presently being used for storage. It represents a landmark in energy technology in NSW and the State's largest coal loading facility for much of the last 150 years. The building is in poor condition, is vacant and requires maintenance and repair works. A number of alterations and additions have occurred throughout the life of the structure.

Comments:

The Committee advised that there were various technical inaccuracies in the engineering details in the nomination and typographical errors were noted. The Members enquired about the owners and were advised that it was owned by Newcastle Port Corporation. The Committee recommended that the item could be considered as being of State significance.

Shepherd's Hill Group (Newcastle LGA)

Bill Nethery advised that this is considered to be historically significant at a State level because of its important role in the coastal defence of NSW. It formed an important part of Newcastle's integrated defence system. The site is owned by the State Government. The grounds are in poor condition and are overgrown by bitou bush. The Cottage has a sound structure of concrete and brick, is in good condition and was used to house Newcastle's artist in residence. The building is now used to house the Royal Volunteer Coastal Safety Branch of Newcastle. The watch tower is in a poor condition - salt air has corroded the embedded steel reinforcing. The site is rare as it contains the only unmodified 8" disappearing gun emplacement in the NSW. There are other sites that had disappearing guns but these were replaced.

Comments:

The Committee considered that this item should be considered as part of a serial listing with other coastal defences.

Newcastle Technical College (Newcastle LGA)

This is a two-storey structure in Baroque Revival or Federation Anglo Dutch style, characteristic of late Victorian era. The building compliments the adjacent former Trades Hall, though it is not of the same style. The interior of the building is substantially intact, including ceilings, walls, joinery and in particular, two turned cedar staircases. The building is structurally stable following extensive repairs and strengthening work after damage in the 1989 earthquake. Generally, the building is in poor physical and visual condition. The College is associated with architect William Edmund Kemp. The building is a rare and fine example of the late 19th century educational institution.

Comments:

Members felt that the significance was local and that the aesthetic criterion in the nomination form did not adequately address comparative information about other similar buildings dedicated to "self-improvement" of the period. Acknowledgement of this item's significance as local reinforces the message that local category can contain fine items.

RAAF Officers' Mess, Glenbrook (Blue Mountains LGA)

The RAAF Officers' mess has been nominated by the Glenbrook Historical Society. It is a large two storey building of 3 wings forming a U shape around a formally landscaped courtyard. The building has a glazed-tile hipped roof and exposed rafters. The chimneys are roughcast. Internally the large ballroom has a sprung timber floor and corbelled ceiling featuring a large skylight. It is a rare example of Inter-War Georgian Revival style in the region. The land has a unique

mountain setting. The building is well located and has views over Penrith and Sydney and retains the ambience of a fine inter-war hotel.

Comments:

The Committee agreed that the RAAF Officers' Mess is a significant piece of Art - Deco architecture in the Blue Mountains area; however the nomination did not address comparative analysis. The Members advised the Heritage Branch to write to the Commonwealth to see whether heritage assessment work had been carried out on the site particularly in regards to the Commonwealth Heritage List. Members did conclude that the item was unlikely to meet the criteria for SHR listing.

11. Drumbane, Woodstock (Cowra LGA)

12. Trundle Hotel, Trundle (Parkes LGA)

13. Angledool School of Arts (Brewarrina LGA)

Bronwyn Hanna presented these three draft Nominations:

Drumbane

Drumbane, in Woodstock, is a two-storey brick house with a hipped corrugated roof, dating from 1906. It was used as a convent school between 1917-1969. The building is now a residence. The owners are the nominators.

The nomination form suggests the building is of State significance for its rarity and representativeness as "a fairly intact example of an early 20th century adaptation of a residential building into a convent school serving a rural community".

Comments:

The Committee considered the building to be of local heritage significance.

Trundle Hotel

Trundle Hotel is a two-storey pub constructed from pise c.1911 and is still in operation as a pub. It is located in the town of Trundle, about halfway between Parkes and Condobolin, in the Parkes LGA. It was apparently nominated by its owners, although the form is signed by Tracy Appel who is employed by Jillian Comber, the Heritage Advisor for Parkes LGA.

It is proposed that this building may be of State significance as a rare surviving example of a two storey commercial pise building.

Comments:

The Committee agreed that the building was of potential State heritage significance as a rare two-storey pise structure but stated that more comparative analysis is needed.

Angledool School of Arts

A school of arts building dating from c.1900 built in pise and located in a remote town north of Lightning Ridge in the Brewarrina Shire. It has been nominated by its owners. The nomination is authored and signed by Brewarrina's Heritage Advisor, Laila Haglund.

The nomination suggests that the building is likely to be of State significance for its rarity as a public building made of pise, its unusual barrel-type corrugated roof and for its representativeness as a community facility in a remote rural community.

Comments:

The Committee acknowledged that the building may be of State significance but agreed it needed further research, particularly regarding comparative significance.

14. Fairbridge Farm School for Migrant Children, Molong (Cabonne LGA)

The former Fairbridge Farm School is a rural property located between Orange and Molong in the LGA of Cabonne. It was a farm in the early twentieth century and then the site of a migrant children's home from 1939 until 1974. It was nominated by David Hill, who spent time there as a child. He has collected much documentation about the physical fabric of the place in a CD released publicly with Ian Bailiff, entitled History of the Fairbridge Settlement, Molong. He is also working on a TV documentary about Fairbridge, not yet released. He is highly critical of the way the children were treated at Fairbridge.

There are two owners of the curtilage currently proposed for the nomination - Mr Moufid Beydoun is the contact for the consortium that owns most of the site. Mr George Witty also owns a small block proposed as part of the nomination, where there is a new house.

David Hill didn't submit a completed nomination for the site, although he has made information available to the Heritage Branch. The Branch is in the process of preparing a nomination. Initial research suggests that Fairbridge may be significant for its historical role in child migration, for its historical associations with people associated with the centre, for its social significance to people associated with the centre, and as a representative of mid-twentieth century children's institutions in NSW.

The Barnardo's' former farm school for migrant children at Picton is of comparable significance within NSW. This site, located about an hour south-west of Sydney, was in operation as an orphanage for migrant children from 1929 until 1970 and is in good condition, largely intact, listed on the LEP and operating commercially as a farm-stay called "Mowbray Park".

The most significant section of the farm is probably the village which includes the dormitory buildings, Nuffield Hall and caretakers' residences.

Perhaps the main difficulty with this nomination is that listing on the SHR requires an owner to institute minimum standards of maintenance and repair. Many of the buildings are derelict or nearly so.

Comments:

The Committee agreed it may be of State significance. One option, should any SHR listing process proceed, would be to list the most significant parts of the site, rather than the whole site, taking into consideration the poor condition of many of the buildings. Members also suggested that the Branch consult the Migration Heritage Centre for comparative analysis. The Committee agreed it was important for the Branch to continue to liaise with the owners of the site and the nominator.

15. The Rock Bolting Development Site, Lambie Gorge (Cooma LGA)

The Monara Group of Engineers Australia has nominated the Rock Bolting Development Site, Lambie Gorge, Cooma for listing on the State Heritage Register in recognition of its engineering heritage significance.

The site is significant as the first field location for experiments of a pioneering Australian engineering process that influenced rock mechanics engineering worldwide and which is still in use today. The site was used by the Snowy Mountains Hydro Electric Authority (SMHEA) in the 1950s and 1960s to develop the technology of grouted rock bolting for the stabilisation and reinforcement of the exposed hard-rock class of material in underground excavations. Rock bolts revolutionised hard-rock tunnelling and quickly became a world-wide practice. The development and use of rock bolting was probably the most significant engineering development of the Snowy Scheme. There is no similar site elsewhere in the world.

The site is also of Aboriginal cultural significance and consultations will be needed with the local community to discuss significance. The site is part of the Lambie Gorge Walking Track which is an initiative of the local Aboriginal community.

The site is located within a 1.042 hectare reserve of Crown Land that is managed by the Department of Lands. It is gazetted for environmental protection as a public place.

The draft nomination does not establish the exact curtilage of the nominated site. The rock bolting technology was developed in the nearby engineering laboratories of the SMHEA Scientific Services Division. The original laboratory buildings remain, but the Heritage Branch is of the view that these buildings should not be included in the draft site curtilage as they are unlikely to be able to demonstrate the development of rock bolting technology. The Heritage Branch's view is that the draft SHR curtilage should be confined to the experimental field site.

Should the Committee direct Heritage Branch to proceed with this nomination, Heritage Branch will discuss an appropriate curtilage with the Department of Lands.

Comments:

The Committee viewed the nomination presented and advised that it was considered to be of State heritage significance and also recommended that the Heritage Branch refer it to the Commonwealth for consideration for National listing.

8.0 State Heritage Register – Notice of intention to list

8.1 Old Adaminaby and Lake Eucumbene

Patricia spoke to this matter. The item was nominated by Snowy River Council, which had previously nominated the item for an Interim Heritage Order (which will expire on June 4, 2008). The order was made to review the significance of the site in response to documented instances of the removal of relics. The SHR nomination was prepared by Council's Heritage Advisor.

Currently the Lake is at a very low capacity, exposing many sites, relics and moveable objects associated with the town of Old Adaminaby. The ruins and relics of Old Adaminaby are important to the displaced inhabitants and their descendants. The importance of the site as part of the development of the Snowy Scheme was noted.

The exposed relic - the Waterous Steam Engine is rare world wide with only two other complete examples being known, one in Inverell-NSW and the other in the Northern Hemisphere.

The proposed item meets at least five of the seven Heritage Council criteria for listing on the State Heritage Register. These criteria are:

a (historical values) for the site's demonstration of 130 years of development of a pastoral region and a rural town together with lifestyles, commerce, transport routes, associations, customs and traditions that were abruptly and unusually terminated in 1957 to create a critical component of the landmark engineering achievement of the Snowy Hydro Electric Scheme;

d (community esteem), for the site's associations with the community of relocated inhabitants and their descendants who have great regard for the site and for the events that forced immense change in their lives and for the exposed relics recently revealed by drought;

e (research potential), as archaeological evidence of the settlement, customs, lifestyles and processes abruptly terminated in 1957 and for the site's reference to the iconic Snowy Scheme;

f (rarity) as one of only two towns in Australia flooded to create dams and for the exceptionally and unexpected re-emergence of the site and its relics, 50 years after inundation and

g (representative values) as representative of similar settlement patterns of disappeared pastoral and small rural communities.

The recommended curtilage for the listing will enclose the State significant components of the item. The curtilage is defined as Lake Eucumbene to its maximum water level, including all lands within the lake that are above this level. The curtilage excludes four intact buildings that remain of Old Adaminaby above the water level.

Resolved

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

- 1. considers the item known as "Old Adaminaby and Lake Eucumbene, including relics and moveable objects" at Lake Eucumbene, 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 14 days after the publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made.

**Moved: Rosemary Annable
Seconded: Michael Clarke**

8.2 Whites Creek Aqueduct, Piper Street, Leichhardt

Steward Waters spoke to this matter. Completed in 1897 the aqueduct is one of the first major constructions undertaken using reinforced concrete in NSW and one of the first in Australia.

The item is owned by Sydney Water which proposes a reduced 3 metre curtilage for the entire length of the aqueduct. At the Annandale end it is proposed to subdivide to create one lot. At the Edna Street end it is proposed to subdivide to create 4 lots. The Heritage Branch has met with Sydney Water to discuss the proposal. The proposal is supported for the Annandale and Edna Street lots.

The proposed subdivision, sale and redevelopment of the lots would not impact on the State heritage significance of the overall item. The proposed reduction in curtilage is considered acceptable. The proposal has been discussed with Department of Planning – Land Management who indicated they had no objection.

Resolved:

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

- 1. considers that part of Lot 1 DP 343175 and part of Lot 2 DP 1046985 (part of Whites Creek Aqueduct), defined in accordance with the curtilage shown at Annexure B may not 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 removal of part of Lot 1 DP 343175 and part of Lot 2 DP 1046985 (part of Whites Creek Aqueduct) (a *Notice of Intention to Consider Removal*); and**
- 3. in accordance with section 33(1)(b) of the Heritage Act, within 14 days after notice of intention to consider removal is given, will cause a notice of intention to consider removal to be published in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the item is situated, inviting submissions on the removal, specifying a date as the closing date for the receipt of submissions 14 days after publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made.**

**Moved: Tina Jackson
Seconded: Michael Clarke**

9.0 State Heritage Register: Recommendation to Minister

Nil

10.0 State Government Heritage (Section 170 Registers/HAMS)

Nil

11.0 Interim Heritage Orders

Nil

12.0 Environmental Planning Instruments & Heritage Studies

12.1 EPI Status Report

The report was considered by the Committee.

Resolved

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

- 1. notes the status report.**

13.0 Matters for Consideration

13.1 Preparation of the Two Year Listing Strategy

Cameron White spoke to the matter. Cameron White advise that the localities, regions, item categories and themes identified by the Committee at the last meeting had been reviewed by the Heritage Branch which concluded these to be too numerous for a two year program. The views of the Committee were sought as to the recommended final make up of the strategy. Following agreement on the content, it was proposed that a draft strategy will be submitted to a special meeting of the Heritage Council in May for adoption. Following this, the strategy is proposed to be submitted to the Minister for approval.

Cameron White advised that a more strategic approach to the assessment of State Heritage Register listings will result in a more comprehensive register. This approach will also assist in ensuring that listing gaps are addressed and missing "icons" are identified and listed. Finally, the use of themes and regions will improve the assessment process of nominations by providing a better basis for comparative analysis.

The Committee advised the item types as:

Category	NSW Theme
Aboriginal missions & Living Places	Aboriginal Cultures
Coastal & harbour fortifications	Defence
Icons not listed on the State Heritage Register	Events
World War I & World War II sites	Events, Defence

Sites associated with Macquarie	Events, Towns etc., Persons
Crossing Blue Mountains	Exploration
Convicts	Convict

The localities recommended by the Committee were:

Locality	NSW Region
Colonial Landscapes in the Cumberland Plain	Sydney
Six Cities Wollongong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gosford • Parramatta • Penrith • Liverpool • Newcastle • Wollongong 	Sydney, Hunter, Illawarra
Western Division	Western Plains

Members also discussed the need to review former Permanent Conservation Order listings to ensure they are in fact of State heritage significance as well as reviewing the data quality.

The Committee recommended the Heritage Branch hold discussions with the Department of Environment & Climate Change regarding its studies on Aboriginal missions and living places.

The Committee also discussed the option of using grant funding for the preparation of community nominations.

Resolved

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

- 1. endorses the final localities, regions, item categories and themes for inclusion in a two year State heritage Register Committee listing strategy as outlined in these minutes;**
- 2. agrees on the listing strategy implementation approach outlined in the report; and**
- 3. requests the Heritage Branch prepares a report on a draft two year State Heritage Register listing strategy for submission to the May meeting of the Heritage Council.**

Moved: Tina Jackson

Seconded: Michael Clarke

14.0 General Business

The meeting closed at 2 pm.

Next Meeting of the Heritage Council State Heritage Register Committee

Wednesday May 7th 2008 at 9:30 am

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

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