



Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$5.9 MILLION IN HERITAGE FUNDING FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

NSW Heritage Minister Robyn Parker has marked Heritage Week by announcing \$5.9 million in funding to protect heritage treasures for local communities across NSW.

Ms Parker said the NSW Heritage Grants program would provide essential funds to help communities bring their local historic buildings and places back to life, fund emergency repairs and care for Aboriginal places.

“The NSW Government is introducing the first annual Call for Grants, which will make \$3 million available for heritage and conservation funding in 2013/14, and another \$3 million available in 2014/15,” Ms Parker said.

“I am always inspired by the passion that local communities express for their local landmarks, stories and histories and this funding will support them to keep them alive for future generations.

The 2013/14 and 2014/15 programs will provide:

- \$400,000 for Aboriginal heritage places
- \$1,036,000 for community, youth and seniors heritage projects
- \$2.5 million for state heritage register listed places, including \$2.2 million for major works projects and \$200,000 for emergency works, and
- \$1.8 million for local heritage places.

Ms Parker urged local councils in particular to apply for funding under the grants program. Applications are open until 3 June, 2013.

“The Local Heritage Places program will help councils manage their local heritage with their local community – either through hands on works projects, funding heritage specialists’ advice, or carrying out local heritage studies to inform council planning,” Ms Parker said.

“The Government is also providing \$200,000 over two years to help fund urgent works for State Heritage places program. Grants of up to \$10,000 have in the past funded emergency repairs to a wide range of heritage projects in need across the state.

“In the past the grants have supported projects such as creating and caring for the Nari Nari Walk along the Murrumbidgee River, restoring the spire and roof of Sydney’s oldest church, St James; work on the historic Gundagai Bridge, help build the tourism potential of the old Maitland Gaol and conserved headstones and an Aboriginal midden on Bar Island in the Hawkesbury.

“The very foundation of local communities is built on their collective and shared stories, their buildings and their heritage and this funding helps to support and protect this for tomorrow,” she said.

To find out more about the NSW Heritage Grants program, and to apply for grants, people should go to <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/Heritage/funding/index.htm>

Heritage projects funded through this funding round of the 2013-2-14 NSW Heritage Grants program will be announced in July this year.

Applications for the 2014-15 funding round will open later this year in October 2013 and successful projects will be announced in April 2014.

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