



Rob Stokes MP
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MEDIA RELEASE

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OVER 180 NEW PROJECTS TO PROTECT OUR DIVERSE HERITAGE

Heritage projects across the state have been awarded almost \$1.5 million under the NSW Heritage Grants program, Heritage Minister Rob Stokes announced today.

Speaking at a Local Government Heritage Network event in Parramatta, Mr Stokes said NSW's heritage assets were vital to the character and identity of our state, cities and neighbourhoods.

"The funding will be shared by 181 new projects that will protect heritage places and conserve historic places for future generations," Mr Stokes said.

"Heritage adds character and distinctiveness to an area, and is fundamental in creating a sense of place for a community.

"The NSW Heritage Grants program is designed to provide direct financial assistance to private owners, councils and community-based organisations to conserve and revitalise places of heritage significance.

"In order to save our heritage, we need to use our heritage. The NSW Government is committed to caring for places of heritage significance and supporting projects which protect our heritage while adapting sites for new uses.

"New heritage projects can also boost tourism and employment opportunities, particularly in rural and regional communities."

The heritage of Parramatta will benefit from \$17,000 from the NSW Government Heritage Grants Program, Parramatta MP Geoff Lee announced.

Mr Lee welcomed grants of \$9,000 and \$8,000 to Parramatta City Council that will go towards their local heritage places grants program and heritage advisory services.

"I'm delighted these grants have been awarded to these important heritage services in our local area," Mr Lee said.

A full list of projects funded under the 2014/15 NSW Heritage Grants program can be found at <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/Heritage/funding/>