



Annual Report 2001-2002

Front cover, from top left, clockwise:  
Built heritage: Belltrees Shearing Shed, Scone  
Natural heritage: tree fern, NSW  
Movable heritage: Tulkiyan house, Gordon  
Aboriginal heritage: Aboriginal hand stencils, South Coast

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HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NSW  
NSW HERITAGE OFFICE

Annual Report 2001-2002



NSW  
Heritage  
Office



Buhrich House, Sydney. *Photograph by John Gollings*

Movable heritage at Tulkiyan, Gordon. *Photograph by Jason Busch, courtesy of News Ltd.*



The Hon. Andrew Refshauge MP  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and  
Minister for Housing  
  
Level 31, Governor Macquarie Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Minister

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the Heritage Council of NSW and Heritage Office for the year ended 30 June 2002.

The report provides a comprehensive account of the activities and operations of the two organisations during the past financial year. It has been prepared under section 23 of the *Heritage Act 1977* (as amended) and the *Annual Reports (Departments) Act 1985*.

Yours sincerely,



Reece McDougall  
Director

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### Message from the Chair of the Heritage Council of NSW

In December 2001 I was appointed Chair of the Heritage Council of NSW following the retirement of Hazel Hawke. I am delighted for the opportunity to work with members of the Heritage Council to conserve the rich and diverse cultural and natural heritage of New South Wales.

In my first term as Chair of the Heritage Council I have been pursuing the key directions which the Minister for Planning, Dr Andrew Refshauge, has set for us and have maintained the council's momentum in the care of the heritage of New South Wales. I strongly support the initiatives of Mrs Hawke and the Heritage Council of NSW in empowering and involving communities in the identification and conservation of their natural and cultural heritage.

In 2001-2002 the Heritage Council continued to explore opportunities to support heritage initiatives which sustain and strengthen community identities and attachments to heritage places and collections. The State Heritage Register Project, which involves communities in finding out what places are special and significant in their local area, is a fine example of this grassroots approach to heritage management.

I am also interested in balancing heritage with the need for adaptive re-use, ecologically sustainable development and new works and structures where these are not unsympathetic or intrusive. This year the Heritage Council contributed to a number of major adaptive re-use projects, such as the Walsh Bay re-development and Scots Church in York Street, demonstrating that heritage can continue to be a vital part of the fabric of our lives in the 21st century. We want to ensure that our special places continue to be lived in and used, while retaining that connection to the past that is so important.

The emergence of Sydney as a post-Olympics international city poses particular challenges for heritage managers. I believe it is critically important for us to find creative ways of recycling our heritage assets so that we retain those features of our physical and cultural landscape that make the city special and unique.

Heritage can also assist in the revival and rebuilding of rural and regional community life. Heritage has a major role in keeping the regions alive by maintaining traditions and practices and building on their attraction for both residents and tourists.

Michael Collins  
Chair  
Heritage Council of NSW

# Mission:

Mission of the Heritage Council of NSW and NSW Heritage Office:



Helping the  
community to  
conserve our  
heritage