

Managing Change to Heritage Items

'quality advice to the Minister and the Heritage Council'



Statutory Functions

OUR GOAL: statutory functions will be carried out efficiently and the approvals system will be accountable and promote best conservation practice

The approvals function of the Heritage Council is of great importance. It is crucial to the on-going management of items on the State Heritage Register and on local councils' heritage lists. The Heritage Council seeks to encourage appropriate change to heritage items to enable them to remain viable and relevant to our community, while preserving the qualities that make them special to us.

The number of applications processed by the Heritage Council and the Heritage Office has increased in 2004-05. Ensuring that change to heritage items is appropriate remains a major challenge for the Heritage Council and Heritage Office, and specifically for the Conservation Team.

Strategies for effectively managing the continuous increase in the number of applications have been incorporated into our systems. We will continue to further develop these strategies. The Heritage Council recognises the importance of providing effective advice in a timely manner.

Delegations

A number of agencies with significant heritage portfolios and appropriate heritage expertise are able to deal with minor applications for change to heritage items under delegation. This year the authorisation to endorse exemption notifications was extended to officers of the Department of Environment and Conservation and Sydney City Council.

The use of these exemptions, authorisations and delegations will streamline the approval and exemption notification processes involving these agencies.

General Exemptions

One hundred and ninety six general exemptions have been granted this year.

Client funded consultants and in-house contractors have continued to extend the capacity of the Heritage Office. This has enabled the Heritage Office to significantly improve its productive capacity and to service, in a timely manner, very large projects that require significant numbers of approvals (such as Parramatta Rail Link, Walsh Bay, the Quarantine Station and Prince Henry Hospital).



Pine Avenue, Prince Henry Hospital. Photograph by Ed Beebe.

Opposite: Pier 8/9 Walsh Bay, Millers Point. Photograph by Yvonne Kaiser-Glass.

Conservation of Items of State Significance

Gordon Railway Station, Sydney

Gordon is perhaps the best surviving suburban railway station building group to retain an overhead booking office with an island, side platform and signal box. These high quality and intact buildings are an important part of the townscape of Gordon.

The proposed development, in its original form, raised significant concerns such as the location and design of the proposed lifts and associated structures prompting a deferral by the Heritage Council. Subsequently the application was modified and re-submitted on 16 May 2004.

The amended proposal reduced the total number of lifts from three to two and placed them to the rear of the booking office. This allowed retention of the most significant view from the south and the important relationships between the platform buildings and the booking office. The elimination of the canopies which were originally proposed over the stairs and footbridge also reduced the impact of the proposal on the heritage significance of the item. The proposed development generally addressed the concerns raised in the initial scheme. It was considered on balance that the amended proposal was acceptable and it was therefore approved.



St Michael's Cathedral and its setting.
Photograph by Ed Beebe.

St Michael's Cathedral, Wollongong

The prominent siting of St Michael's reflects the historic primacy of the Church of England in setting the direction for the Wollongong community, and the site remains a dominant landmark within a large metropolis. As the seat of the Bishop in the Wollongong region of the Diocese of Sydney, the Cathedral demonstrates the importance of the region to the State.

Edmund Blacket's design for St Michael's has some unusual features and expresses Blacket's growing architectural confidence. The church structure remains largely intact and much of the interior remains as Blacket envisioned. The church is part of a larger grouping of significant buildings that combine to form the most prominent historic group of buildings in Wollongong, and one that compares with the better civic groups in country NSW.

The proposal submitted for approval involved the construction of two five-storey buildings, offset and either side of the significant east-west axis and linked by a glazed walkway. Most of the site's 53 carparks would be positioned under the building and landscaped podium between the new buildings, the church and its garden.

The major benefit of the proposal on the heritage significance of the site is to realise commercial use of the western part of the site (which has been a long-term land use strategy of the church) to fund conservation and maintenance, as well as the church's community work. Accordingly, the church was requested to respond to the permanence and adequacy of the funding arrangement. The applicants confirmed that the funding arising from the leasing ordinance would be guaranteed by way of a heritage agreement.

The application was approved subject to conditions to redesign the external cladding, the glazed walkway and landscaping scheme and to clarify the visual impact of the ridge and plant area heights. Conditions were also placed to address the archaeology and interpretation of the site and the adequacy of the funding arrangement for the repair and maintenance of the significant buildings and elements on the site.

New Teaching Facility, The Female Orphan School site, Rydalmere

This site, and particularly the Orphan School Precinct, has outstanding historical and social significance due to its continuous occupation as an institution since 1814. It was the first permanent home of the Female Orphan School which was established in 1800, the very earliest days of the colony. The original complex and its garden setting have outstanding rarity value, and it is one of a handful of the most significant surviving monuments of the early colonial period in NSW.

The proposed teaching building uses modern design vocabulary and is well designed with a certain character of its own. Although at first glance the proposed building may appear to be a departure from the traditional architectural styles used on the campus, it is likely to sit well with the historic building stock due to the use of similar materials and a design that is *smart* but not

loud. Although the Heritage Council considered that some views would be affected as a result of the proposal, particularly views to and from the Protestant Orphan School (1850), the impact was considered acceptable.

Accountant's House, The Rocks

The Accountant's House and adjacent Housing Board building are of state heritage significance for their historical and scientific cultural values and their contribution to The Rocks area. The 1914 Accountant's House is a modest example of a Federation warehouse building that contributes to the intact nineteenth and early-twentieth century streetscapes of the precinct.

The applicant proposed to unite the Accountant's House and the Housing Board building adjacent to it for use either individually or jointly as offices, residential/commercial suites and cafes. The application also included the erection of a two-storey roof-top addition to the Accountant's House. Although the proposal included the removal of some of the original fabric, it was considered that the degree of intervention was limited and essential for the contemporary use of the buildings. The proposed additional floor, as a contemporary and sympathetic addition, was also considered acceptable subject to minor modifications.



Accountant's House, The Rocks.
Photograph courtesy of Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority.

Measuring our Progress: Changes to State Heritage Register Items

The Heritage Council is the consent authority for any proposed changes to items listed on the State Heritage Register. The Heritage Office provides support and advice to the Heritage Council to enable it to carry out this role.

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Applications for changes to State Heritage Register items (Section 60)	135	90	143
Applications for changes to other agencies under delegation (Section 60)	37	66	25
Integrated Development Applications	52	70	61
Exemptions (Section 57(2))	76	165	196

During 2004-05 we successfully met our statutory requirements regarding the processing of applications for works to heritage items:

- there has been a continued increase in applications processed by the Heritage Office from a total of 391 in 2003-04 to 425 in 2004-05, an increase of 8.6%;
- the number of Section 60 applications processed by the Heritage Office increased by 59% over the previous year. Of the 143 total, the Heritage Council's Approvals Committee dealt with eight;
- the number of Section 60 applications processed by other agencies under delegation decreased by 62%.
- in addition, 196 items were granted exemption by the Heritage Office under the new General Exemptions. These are for very minor works that in the past would have generally required an approval under Section 60 of the Act. The process involved in assessing exemptions and exceptions represents significant efficiencies in the work of the Heritage Office.
- integrated development applications decreased by 13%. Of the 61 total, six were dealt with by the Heritage Council's Approvals Committee. In addition to these integrated development applications, 26 amendments under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (Section 96) were determined by the Heritage Office under delegation;
- the number of development application referrals increased by 44%. There were 88 in 2003-04 and 127 in 2004-05.



Paspaley Pearls, Sydney. Photograph by Brad Vale.

Eveleigh Carriageworks, Sydney

The Eveleigh Railway Yards are some of the finest historic railway engineering workshops in the world and Eveleigh contains one of the most complete late-nineteenth century and early-twentieth century forge installations, a collection of cranes and power systems. The place is of international significance and is one of Australia's finest industrial heritage items. The value of the place has increased by the fact that it is comprised of assemblages, collections and operational systems rather than individual items. Conversely, the significance has been reduced by its closure, relocation of some machinery and its disassociation from the operating rail network.

It was proposed to carry out adaptive re-use of the eastern half of the carriage workshops as a large performance/training space. In the process of this adaptive re-use it was proposed to remove a number of cast iron columns between bay 17 and 18 (grid 3) and to raise the roof by about five metres. The proposal also included basic conservation works to make the blacksmith's shop and all of the carriage workshops building secure, structurally sound and watertight. Additional conservation works would be carried out as part of the long term maintenance schedule.

The proposal created a flexible and large performing space. Although it involved removal of some significant building fabric, it was considered that the building had not been in use for some years and was deteriorating in the absence of any use. On balance, in view of the opportunity provided by this proposal for conservation of the remaining historic fabric, its long term survival, public access and appreciation, the proposal was considered to be acceptable.

St Patrick's Estate, Manly

St Patrick's Estate is a place of outstanding heritage significance. St Patrick's College was the first national Catholic ecclesiastical seminary in Australia. The college and Archbishop's residence are important physical manifestations of Cardinal Moran's concepts and plans for the development of Catholicism in Australia. The siting of the major buildings, their architectural style, impressive scale, and quality of design and construction provide a legacy of grand ecclesiastical architecture for the nation.

Although the site is not yet on the State Heritage Register, the Heritage Council's Approvals Committee has provided advice to Manly Council on a number of applications including those for precincts five, six and ten at Spring Cove. The Heritage Council has also endorsed a conservation management plan for St Patrick's Estate.

In April 2003 the Heritage Council gave notice of its intention to consider listing St Patrick's Estate on the State Heritage Register. The curtilage for the proposed state listing includes all 14 precincts of the estate. The curtilage boundary for the listing originated from the boundary proposed by the nominee Tanner and Associates and the endorsed conservation management plan.

Paspaley Pearls, 2 Martin Place, Sydney

The United Permanent Building, on the corner of George Street and Martin Place, is historically significant through its association with the former Bank of Australasia, a major financial institution of the nineteenth and early-twentieth century which was later incorporated into the ANZ Bank. It is also associated with American architect Edward Raht, designer of the adjoining Equitable Life Building. The building contains richly detailed interiors, including one of the finest banking chambers in Sydney. It is also technically significant as it contains rare examples of early services in the form of bird-cage lifts and basement lavatories.

Paspaley Pearls propose to use the ground floor former banking chamber as a jewellery store. It is proposed to create an additional entrance to the banking chamber from Martin Place. This entrance will also allow disabled access to the retail outlet and to the upper floors. Within the chamber, it is proposed to remove the existing 1980s fit out, while respecting the most significant fabric. A new fit out with elevated platforms around the edges of the space is being proposed. Display cases and counters are proposed in the centre of the space. On the rebuilt and expanded mezzanine, it is proposed to divide the space into offices with glazed partitions and to install a glazed partition along the line of, and immediately behind, the balustrade.

The Heritage Council's Approvals Committee considered that the proposal was acceptable as the best opportunity to give access to the building for persons with a disability.

Managing NSW's Archaeological Resources

The Heritage Act protects the state's natural and cultural heritage and contains measures to protect archaeological resources. Anyone excavating land in NSW where they may disturb a relic needs an excavation permit issued by the Heritage Council of NSW. A relic is any deposit, object or material evidence 50 or more years old. An excavation permit is required in order to ensure that archaeological sites are excavated under proper supervision and that significant evidence of our past is not unnecessarily lost.

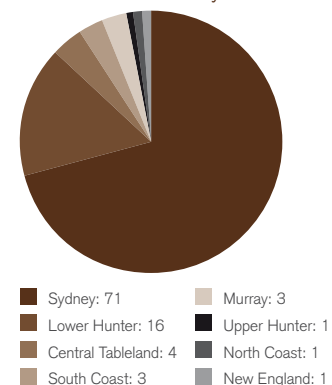
Our key strategies in the management of NSW's archaeological resources in 2004-05 were (see pages 53-55 for details):

- promoting community understanding and appreciation of NSW's archaeological assets;
- ensuring that updated information on management of historical archaeology is available to the community;
- ensuring tangible public benefits, meaningful research outcomes and protection and conservation of significant and rare archaeological resources;
- streamlining the determination of applications and improving communication with stakeholders;
- addressing archaeology at an early stage in the planning process;
- reviewing archaeological management in NSW by the Heritage Council and the Heritage Office and ascertaining its effectiveness and efficiency.

Measuring our Progress: Location of Archaeological Permits Across the State

Interpretation: Sydney Region is the area for which the majority of the archaeological permits have been issued this year, followed by the Lower Hunter Region. Within these regions the majority of the archaeological permits issued went to Parramatta City Council, Sydney City Council (both Sydney Regions) and Newcastle City Council (Lower Hunter Region) in this order. These areas contain highly significant archaeological remains and are subject to increasing development demands. The Heritage Office endeavours to find a balance between conserving our valuable past and satisfying contemporary needs.

Excavation Permits by Historic Regions (%)



The former Parramatta Hospital site is to be redeveloped as a Justice Precinct. The precinct will include children's courts, trial courts and justice offices as well as commercial and residential developments. Two existing buildings on the hospital site will be retained, Jeffery House and Noller Kiosk. A state significant colonial building 'Brislington' and its landscape will also be retained. A stage 1 masterplan for the site which sets future building envelopes was approved under delegated authority in December 2004.

The archaeology of the former Parramatta Hospital Site is listed on the State Heritage Register. The oldest continuously occupied site for public health in Australia, it was selected by Governor Phillip as part of his plan for the township. The site includes archaeological remains associated with three different hospital phases dating from 1789 to 1848. Collectively these remains are known as the 'Colonial Hospital'. It also includes remains of early convict huts.

Approval was given under delegated authority to undertake archaeological investigation of the site prior to redevelopment. The archaeological remains of the Colonial Hospital will be retained, displayed and interpreted within a combined open space and conservation zone. A comprehensive program of interpretation was implemented during the archaeological works on the site from mid-2005, including temporary signage, information brochures and public tours.

Photograph by Isabel Cobas.

This year we processed a total of 205 applications relating to archaeology in NSW, an 8% increase on the total for last year.

This year's results in detail were:

- Section 140–78 archaeological excavation permits were issued for archaeological investigations under Section 140 of the Heritage Act in 2004-05, an increase of 24% with respect to the excavation permits issued on 2003-04 (63);
- Section 144–20 Section 144 excavation permit variations were approved in 2004-05, an increase of 33% in relation to the number of s.144 approvals issued in the previous financial year 2003–04 (15);
- Section 139(4)–63 applications under Section 139(4) exceptions gazetted in March 2003 and amended in June 2004 were issued in 2004-05, a decrease of 20% in relation to last financial year;
- Section 60–under Section 60 of the Act, 16 archaeological excavation permits were issued, the same number as the previous financial year;
- a further 32 applications approved under Section 60 of the Act issued approved for the removal of, or disturbance to archaeological remains, as part of a broader scope of works approved, in order to facilitate development;
- Section 65A–two Section 65A variations were approved in 2004-05, the same number as the previous financial year. Two more variations included archaeology as part of a broader scope of works;
- Section 57(2)–26 archaeological applications were endorsed under the new s.57(2) exemptions gazetted in March 2003 and amended in June 2004, an increase of 86% in relation to 2003-04 (14).

Other state agencies also refer development applications to the Heritage Office for comment. This year we processed the following referrals involving archaeology:

- *development application referrals* – 26 development applications were referred to the Heritage Office for comments regarding potential impact on archaeological remains. This constitutes 22% of the total development applications referred to the Heritage Office ;
- *integrated development applications* – 17 integrated development applications referred to the Heritage Council required consideration of archaeological impacts. This constitutes 27% of the total development applications referred to the Heritage Office.

Strategic Directions for Historical Archaeology

This year we undertook a Strategic Archaeology Review. The aim was to review archaeological management in NSW by the Heritage Council and the Heritage Office and ascertain its effectiveness and efficiency. The objectives of the review included developing a vision for the future of archaeological heritage in NSW and to set out a clear and achievable plan for this vision.

Consultation revealed many interrelated issues, including three major ones: communication, training and artefact repository. Other issues included research outcomes and professional identity for historical archaeologists. Other broader issues related to the administration of historical archaeology under the Heritage Act, effectiveness of outcomes and the dissemination of the results from archaeological projects.

A draft report was supplied by the consultant early in 2005. The report will be finalised and made available via the Heritage Office website in the next reporting year. The Heritage Office will then consider its recommendations and develop an implementation plan based on resources and priorities identified therein. The Heritage Office will present a final review report for consideration by the Archaeology Advisory Panel and ultimately the Heritage Council.

The widespread use of exceptions demonstrates the success of Heritage Office efforts to improve efficiencies in the development approvals process.

Thirty-two percent of the excavation permits issued by the Heritage Office were for archaeological testing. The Heritage Office strongly recommends consideration of archaeological matters at an early stage of the planning process. Archaeological testing assists in identifying constraints and opportunities related to archaeology so the heritage values of a site can be adequately incorporated within the proposed design without negatively impacting on a new development, therefore achieving the best outcome for all parties involved.



Archaeological artefacts on display to public, 140 Marsden Street, Parramatta. Photograph by Murray Brown.

Measuring our Progress: Archaeological Approvals

Permit/Approval Type	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Excavation Permit (s.140)	110	63	78
Excavation Permit Variation (s.144)	9	15	20
Exceptions (s.139(4))	6	79	63
Approvals (s.60) for Archaeology	24	16	16
Approval Variations (s.65A)	1	2	2
Exemptions (s.57(2)) for Archaeology	3	14	26
Total	153	189	205

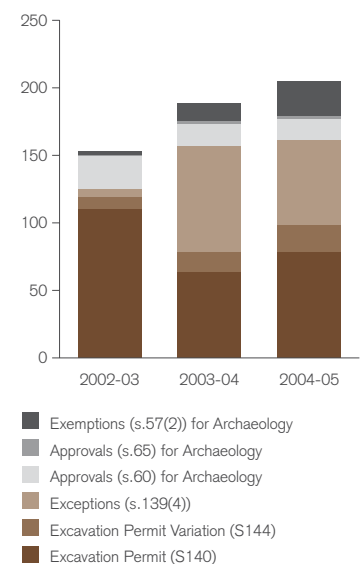
Interpretation: Of all the applications considered this year by the Heritage Office 45% related to archaeology. Thirty-nine percent dealt exclusively with archaeology, while a further 6% considered archaeological issues within broader works. Archaeological heritage management is a significant part of the work of the Heritage Office.

The total number of applications related to historical archaeology has steadily increased since 2002-03.

The number of Section 140 applications peaked in 2002-03 and has decreased quite considerably after that time. It appears that this decrease in the number of Section 140 applications stems to a great extent from the implementation of the exceptions under Section 139(4).

The number of variations of excavation permits issued under Section 144 has increased since 2002-03. The variations have assisted in streamlining the determining process for staged archaeological works (for example, archaeological testing followed by archaeological monitoring) and has also contributed to the reduction of the number of Section 140 applications.

Archaeology Approvals and Permits by Year



Streamlining Statutory Approval Processes

Standard Exemptions

The Standard Exemptions were reviewed in June 2004 to clarify the excavation exemption and exceptions for excavation permits and in June 2005 regarding exemption of development by conservation management plan endorsement. These amendments clarify the operation of the exemptions.

Progress continued this year to further streamline the approvals process. Consideration has been given to the elimination of the two-staged approvals process. Currently an integrated development application must be followed by a section 60 application for items listed on the State Heritage Register. Options have been explored with the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources to amend legislation to eliminate the duplication of the current process.

Standard Conditions

This year the Heritage Office prepared a *Standard Conditions for Approvals* document that could be used by staff and local councils in NSW conditioning approvals that included a heritage item or heritage conservation area.

The document was prepared following a review of conditions used by the Heritage Office, local councils, Heritage Victoria and English Heritage.

Standard Conditions for Approval was endorsed as a formal Heritage Council guideline in April 2004.

Standard Conditions for Approval provides applicants with greater certainty of the types of conditions which may be attached to approvals involving a heritage item or heritage conservation area. The document establishes benchmarks for conditioning against which an application may be assessed. The document also ensures a consistent approach to the conditioning of such development by the Heritage Office and local councils.

Exceptions and Exemptions

In some circumstances an excavation permit may not be required when excavating land in NSW. Usually this is where works are only minor in nature and will have minimal impact on the heritage significance of the place.

We maintain a process of review and monitoring of the use of exceptions and exemptions to evaluate and improve their operation. The types of exceptions most frequently notified are: impact on archaeological remains unlikely to have local or state significance (schedule A, 57%) and minor impact on archaeological remains (schedule B, 39%). Notifications for impact on unstratified fill (schedule C) are much less common (4%).

Likewise, the scope of works and circumstances for which exceptions and exemptions apply appear to be generally well understood by the community. In six cases the Heritage Office considered works proposed as part of an excavation permit to be of minor impact or to impact on archaeological remains unlikely to be of local or state significance and recommended that the works be dealt with as an exception under section 139(4) instead.

Conversely, all exception and exemption notifications received were considered to adequately fulfil the criteria for endorsement and no further archaeological involvement was required.

Twenty-five percent of excavation permits approved under section 141 in 2004-05 were for archaeological sites of state significance. The exceptions and exemptions continue to assist in streamlining the determining process and focusing resources of the Heritage Office and the community on significant archaeological remains.

Prosecutions Under the Heritage Act

There were no prosecutions for breaches of the Heritage Act in 2004-05.

Heritage Council Committees and Panels

Approvals Committee

Mary-Lynne Taylor (Chair), Michael Collins, Elsa Atkin (until December 2004), Garry Fielding (until December 2004), Jacqui Goddard (from February 2005), Chris Johnson, Megan Jones, Diane Jones (until December 2004), Rod Leaver, David Logan (from February 2005), Susan Macdonald, Bruce Pettman (deputy for Chris Johnson), Gary Prattley (from February 2005) (membership as at 30 June 2005)

The Approvals Committee performs in the Heritage Council's consent authority role. It approves, comments on, or suggests amendments to proposed changes to listed items.

State Heritage Register Committee

Associate Professor Ian Jack (Chair), Michael Collins, Jason Ardler (Deputy for Director-General, Department of Environment and Conservation), Michael Clarke (from April 2005), John Delaney, Professor Ross Fitzgerald, Reece McDougall, Sharon Sullivan AO, Joan Templeman (until December 2004), (membership as at 30 June 2005)

The committee is responsible for recommending to the Minister the listing or de-listing of items on the State Heritage Register, the making or revocation of interim heritage orders for items of State or local heritage significance and endorsing the heritage and conservation registers of other NSW State government agencies. For recommendations of the committee to the Minister Assisting the Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (Planning Administration) turn to pages 90-92.

Strategy Committee

Michael Collins, (Chair); Ian Jack; Reece McDougall; Mary-Lynne Taylor (membership as at 30 June 2005)

The Strategy Committee focuses on strategic issues for the Heritage Council. Its membership comprises the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Heritage Council, the Chairs of the State Heritage Register Committee and Approvals Committee and the Director of the Heritage Office.

CASE STUDY | PRINCE HENRY HOSPITAL SITE

The Prince Henry Hospital site was the most important site for the treatment of infectious diseases in New South Wales from its inception in the 1880s to its closure in 1999. As the Coast Hospital, it became the first public hospital in NSW in the post-convict era. It is listed on the State Heritage Register.

The site is being redeveloped by the State Government development arm, Landcom, for residential, aged care, community/recreation and commercial/retail uses. This year the Heritage Office continued to work closely with Landcom and Randwick City Council to produce a high quality urban design which integrates new buildings with well-cared for heritage features.

One of the major proposals considered involved the existing roads in the south of the site surrounding the distinguished Flowers Ward. Working with Randwick City Council, the Heritage Office has been able to meet the requirements necessary for new roads, while retaining and interpreting existing significant roads and paths.

A number of sites in the north are being developed by Stockland Pty Ltd, including the former Pathology Building and the Artisans' Cottages Group. The Heritage Office worked closely with the developer and Randwick City Council to realise a suitable heritage outcome for these sites. The Heritage Office also worked with Randwick City Council to prepare site specific exemptions for the Prince Henry site. Complying new buildings will now not have to be referred to the Heritage Council of NSW for approval. The Heritage Office is working with Landcom to prepare an interpretation strategy and signage policy for the Prince Henry site, to establish a site-wide approach to presentation of the site's significance and history to residents, visitors and the broader community.

Photograph by Ed Beebe.



Heritage Council Advisory Panels

The Heritage Council's advisory panels provide expert advice to the full council on a range of conservation and management issues. The committees include members of the Heritage Council with appropriate skills and experience, and a range of other heritage experts.



Mission Building, Ulgundahi Island.
Photograph by Adell Hyslop.

Aboriginal Heritage Advisory Panel

John Delaney, Heritage Council representative (Chair); Aboriginal community members: Ian Woods, Evelyn Crawford, Bill Robinson, Clive Bryant and Tanya Koeneman; independent member: Alan Coker; representatives from Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Department of Environment and Conservation, NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Local Government, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resource and the Heritage Office executive (membership as at 30 June 2005)

The Aboriginal Heritage Advisory Panel is responsible for providing advice to the Heritage Council on the responsibilities and the appropriate role in the effective co-ordination, implementation and management of programs and policies relating to Aboriginal heritage.

During the year the Aboriginal Heritage Advisory Panel saw changes to its members, gaining two new members, Clive Robin Bryant from Nambucca Heads and Mrs Tanya Koeneman from La Perouse and farewelling James Welsh. The panel also acquired two new resource officers Mr Howard Van Dyke and Mrs Constance Chatfield.

Aboriginal Heritage Project funding applications under the Heritage Incentives Program are assessed at each meeting. During the year, a total of eight applications were received for assessment. The following projects were recommended and approved by the Minister for funding:

Community Projects	
Dharriwaa Elders Group Multimedia Sites Register	\$11,960
Casula Powerhouse Museum, Survival Day 2005	\$16,435
Indigenous Fishing and Coastal Mapping Project	\$40,000
Local Government Projects	
Hunters Hill Aboriginal Heritage Management Report	\$8,000
Lane Cove, Warringah, Willoughby, North Sydney School Volunteer Program	\$40,000

Archaeology Advisory Panel

Sharon Sullivan AO (Chair); Dr Sarah Colley; Peter Douglas; Dr Wayne Johnson; Lisa Newell; MacLaren North; Mr John Rayner; Ms Wendy Thorp. (Dr Colley was granted leave of absence during 2005 and Dr Martin Gibbs served on the panel during this period) (membership as at 30 June 2005)

The panel provided comments to the Heritage Office on the initial reports prepared by a consultant as part of the Strategic Archaeology Review. Panel members have also made site visits to major archaeological sites under excavation in Parramatta during 2005. The Archaeology Advisory Panel has also formed a joint working party with the History Panel to prepare a policy on ruins.

Fire, Access and Services Advisory Panel

Bruce Pettman, Heritage Council representative (Chair), Government Architect's Office; Don Truman, RAlA; Peter Phillips, RAlA; Stephen Richardson, NSW Fire Brigades; Carol Edds, heritage consultant; Yen Luong, fire engineer, CSIRO (until March 2005) then Xijuan Liu; Julie Rudnicka, Building Systems Unit DIPNR; John Whitlock, fire testing consultant; Mark Relf, access consultant; George Lim, Local Government Building Surveyors; Shane Kelly, City of Sydney Council; Marianne Foley, consultant fire engineer; Megan Jones, architect (membership as at 30 June 2005)

The Fire, Access and Services Advisory Panel provides advice on appropriate ways of upgrading heritage buildings to meet building code, fire, access and service requirements with minimal intrusions into significant and irreplaceable fabric.

In 2004-05 the panel:

- monitored the work of the Australian Building Codes Board on the Disability Standards for Access to Premises (Buildings);
- initiated work with the Rural Fire Service to provide guidance on the treatment of heritage places in areas that are classed as being high bushfire prone;
- initiated work on the upgrading of buildings for better energy conservation following the introduction of these requirements into the Building Code of Australia and looked at the potential for major effects when substantial works are being carried out to heritage buildings.

Heritage Incentives Panel

Michael Collins (Chair); Mary-Lynne Tayler; Associate Professor Ian Jack; Reece McDougall; Sam Thomas.

It generally meets twice every two years: firstly to consider priorities for each two-year round of the Heritage Incentives Program; secondly to consider and recommend funding on applications received. It did not meet during 2004-05. It will meet later in 2005 to consider the priorities for the 2006-08 program.

History Advisory Panel

Associate Professor Ian Jack, Heritage Council representative (Chair); Dr Carol Liston; Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker; Dr Bruce Pennay; Dr Annie Clarke; Terry Kass; Sue Rosen; Sharon Veal; Richard d'Apice; with Stephen Michael Szabo as an observer (membership at 30 June 2005)

The role of the panel is to provide advice to the Heritage Council and the Heritage Office on the contribution of history to the identification, assessment and conservation of the heritage of NSW and to facilitate communication between the history community, the Heritage Council and the Heritage Office.

In order to assist the Heritage Council and the Heritage Office to meet their new responsibilities under the State Arms legislation, a new position was created for 'a person with expertise in heraldry'. Richard d'Apice AM was appointed to the panel.

The panel met four times this year and adopted six strategic projects for its current term 2004-07:

- revisions to the history pages on the website;
- developing a guideline for State Heritage Register criterion D;
- developing a ruins policy;
- developing partnerships to fund thematic histories for heritage;
- developing thematic priorities for potential national nominations; and
- surveying official heraldry and its management.

Attention has focused on three of the projects during the reporting year:

- **State Heritage Register criterion D guideline** – criterion D reads ‘an item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or a local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons’ (based upon criteria A and B guidelines). A preliminary discussion paper for the Heritage Council will be produced early in the next reporting year;
- **Ruins policy development** – a working party composed of representatives from the History Advisory Panel (Ian Jack, Anne-Maree Whitaker and Annie Clark) and the Archaeology Advisory Panel (Wayne Johnston and Peter Douglas), supported by the executive officers of each panel, will produce a preliminary report on the proposed policy in the new reporting year;
- **Official coats of arms and heraldry** – the panel provided comments to the Heritage Office on the draft policy from the Attorney General’s Department on the use of coats of arms in courthouses, and input into the new *State Agency Heritage Guide* on identifying, assessing and conserving official coats of arms. The panel has also identified a need for guidelines relating to the *State Arms, Symbols and Emblems Act 2004* to be prepared and produced in order to provide an overarching policy framework for the management of official arms and heraldry.

The panel member’s advice to the Heritage Office and the staff historians provides an important level of peer review and input into the development of guidelines and strategic advice for the Heritage Council. It is expected that this will continue in the next reporting year, confirming the valuable role played by historians in the State’s heritage system. The leadership of the panel’s chair, Associate Professor Ian Jack, has been invaluable in guiding the panel towards strategic and useful outcomes in its deliberations.

Interpretation Panel

Diane Jones, Heritage Council representative (until December 2004) (Chair); Sharon Veale; Kylie Winkworth; Kieran Hosty; John Delaney; Wendy Thorp; Jim Mein; Colleen Morris (membership at 30 June 2005)

The Heritage Interpretation Policy and Guidelines project remained the focus of the Interpretation Panel for 2004-05. Following endorsement in principle by the Heritage Council in December, the panel incorporated various editorial refinements and these documents will be available on the Heritage Office website in the next reporting year.



Design of NSW Coat of Arms by William Gullick, first shown to the public in 1906. Sydney Morning Herald, 30 March 1906.

Maritime Archaeology Advisory Panel

Antonia Syme, collections manager (Chair); Judith McDonald, industry representative (Deputy Chair); Nigel Erskine, Australian National Maritime Museum; Dr John Bach, historian; Chris Isted, Maritime Authority; Debbie Hardy, diving representative; Sgt John Marshall, NSW Water Police; Rod Leaver, Heritage Council representative (membership as at 30 June 2005).

The Maritime Archaeology Advisory Panel provides advice to the Heritage Council and the Director of the Heritage Office (as the delegated authority for administration of the Commonwealth's *Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976*) regarding management of underwater cultural heritage.

Key activities during the year included:

- overseeing the implementation of the 2004-05 work program;
- input into the developing National Maritime Heritage Strategy;
- identification of promotional opportunities and sourcing of partners for key work program strategies including the *Centurion* underwater plinth launched by Deputy Premier, Dr Andrew Refshauge in December 2004;
- management of newly reported sites of underwater cultural heritage including aircraft and historic shipwrecks and exemptions under the Heritage Act for specific sites.

CASE STUDY | CHATSWOOD TO EPPING RAIL LINK

This year we continued our work on the major heritage sites on the new Epping to Chatswood Rail Line with the state-owned corporation, the Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation.

One of the principle projects is the new Parramatta Transport Interchange which is being developed in Parramatta's city centre. Parramatta Station is listed on the State Heritage Register as it is an important historical transport hub. The 1859 building on platform four is one of the oldest station buildings still in use, and the station's intact signal box is very rare.

The changes to the station will be substantial but will provide a major public transport infrastructure asset for Parramatta and Western Sydney. With input from the Heritage Office and the Heritage Council, the scheme was designed to provide the best interface between this large project and the station's significant heritage assets. We are helping the Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDC) to prepare an interpretation plan for the station site which will enhance opportunities for heritage and archaeological interpretation in future public facilities and spaces.

Chatswood Transport Interchange is also being redeveloped as part of the new Epping to Chatswood Rail Line. In mid-2004 the TIDC advised that the station buildings and platforms were to be demolished. The Heritage Council acknowledged the local community's concern about the demolition but understood the operational rationale of the new layout would increase the station's capacity to cater for future growth and provide safe and efficient passenger movement. To balance the impact of the demolition the TIDC was encouraged to prepare and implement an interpretation plan which includes presentation of archaeological resources, movable heritage and, in particular, careful dismantling of the station's significant signal box and its re-erection and display in the new interchange.

We also worked with the corporation as it developed the Landscape and Rehabilitation Plan for the Lane Cove River Worksite within the Lane Cove National Park. The Heritage Office supported the conservation and reinstatement of the site's significant landscape walls and features which were removed to allow the construction of the cavern for the underground rail link. The accepted landscape design will retain the important physical and historical relationships and interpret the earlier layouts of the site.

Movable Heritage Advisory Panel

Diane Jones, Heritage Council representative (Chair); Tamara Lavrencic, Historic Houses Trust of NSW; Cath Snelgrove, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Environment and Conservation; Lisa Newell, Godden Mackay Logan; Maisy Stapleton, Museums and Galleries Foundation; Chris Dalitz, Ministry of Energy and Utilities; Kylie Winkworth, museums consultant (membership as at 30 June 2005)



Bathurst Cathedral Bells, All Saints Anglican Cathedral, Bathurst.
Photograph by Bronwyn Hanna.



St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney.
Photograph by Lianne Hall.

The Movable Heritage Advisory Panel continued to provide advice on the appropriate role for the Heritage Council in listing and managing movable heritage and it provided a link between the Heritage Council, museums sector, owners and the general community in promoting the value and conservation of movable heritage.

In 2004-05 the panel:

- developed a draft section 170 Movable Heritage Policy which aims to provide clear, concise advice to state agencies;
- provided advice on a range of movable heritage issues and public education projects;
- identified significant contributions by major state government agencies in recording and preserving their movable heritage assets;
- held discussions with National Parks and Wildlife Service, TAFE, State Rail Authority, NSW Fire Brigades, Roads and Traffic Authority, NSW Maritime Authority and the Attorney General's Department on their movable heritage management;
- assessed the nominations for listing of movable items on the State Heritage Register, including elements of the NSW Fire Brigade fire engine collection held at the Penrith Museum of Fire, and the Cook's Mobile Field Galley held in the collection of the Museum of the Riverina in Wagga;
- contributed expert advice on the interim heritage order over the Lachlan Vintage Village site in Forbes.

Due to the integration of movable heritage issues into the day-to-day activities of the Heritage Office through its negotiations with government and the community, the Heritage Council decided to alter the status of the Movable Heritage Panel at its February 2005 meeting. The group and its critical membership have been retained as a reference group for specific specialist advice on demand, including:

- deliberations of State Heritage Register nominations;
- impacts of major development projects on movable collections;
- the development of key policy information; and
- the consideration of interim heritage orders affecting potential collections.

Religious Property Advisory Panel

Michael Collins, Heritage Council representative (Chair); Hector Abrahams, Royal Australian Institute of Architects; Angelo Candalepas, National Trust; Paul Davies, Anglican Church; Steve Piening, Uniting Church; John Spillane, Catholic Church; Cameron White, Heritage Office (membership as at 30 June 2005)

Much of the state's significant built heritage is owned by religious organisations. The panel seeks to achieve the conservation of significant religious heritage items through the provision of guidance and advice on heritage management, encouragement and an understanding of the liturgical and practical management considerations facing religious properties.

As a result of the work of the panel the following items were formally listed on the State Heritage Register during 2004-05:

- St John the Evangelist Church, Wallerawang;
- St James' Anglican Church, Sydney;
- St Stephen's Uniting Church, Sydney;
- Anglican Cathedral Bells, Bathurst;
- St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney;
- St Mary's Cathedral and Chapter House, Sydney;
- The Great Synagogue, Sydney.

A plaque was presented to Jim Mein on 3 September 2004 for his significant contributions to the work of the panel from 1995 to 2004 which resulted in a closer and more effective partnership with the Uniting Church in Australia.

On 17 November 2004 a special function was held at Parliament House in Sydney where the Assistant Planning Minister, Diane Beamer and the panel announced the listing of the houses of worship (as listed above) on the State Heritage Register.

Technical Advisory Group

David Young, heritage consultant (Chair), Alan Croker, architect; Julian Bickersteth, conservator (to November 2004); Jacqui Goddard, architect, National Trust (NSW) and Heritage Council representative; Diane Jones, architect and Heritage Council representative (to November 2004); Caroline Lawrance, builder and architect, NSW National Parks Service; David West, materials scientist; Simon Wiltshier, structural engineer (membership as at 30 June 2005)

The Technical Advisory Group provides advice to heritage professionals and owners about conservation techniques and materials. It seeks to identify and respond to needs in the community and the professions relating to processes, materials, techniques and skills required to conserve the fabric of heritage buildings and sites.

In 2004-05 the panel:

- worked on the preparation of schedules and specifications for the conservation of the Macquarie Obelisk under a 'fee-for-service' agreement with the City of Sydney;
- initiated a wide ranging inquiry into the current and appropriate use of mortars and plasters on heritage buildings in New South Wales;
- presented a seminar on the use of lime in historic buildings on 6 June 2005 in association with the National Trust of Australia (NSW);
- held a workshop on practical conservation skills in New South Wales at the Heritage Office on 9 May 2005;
- published a technical note on the treatment of biological growth. This advice was written by David Young and made available on the Heritage Office website;
- published a brochure titled *The Repair of Tongue and Groove Floorboards*. This publication was written by Elisha Long and made available on the Heritage Office website;
- initiated plans for a recurring programme of seminars aimed at addressing common enquiries.

Site Specific Committees and Working Parties

Eveleigh Carriageworks

Michael Collins (Chair), Reece McDougall, Bruce Pettman and Jacque Goddard.

Key strategies for next year

In 2005-06 we aim to:

- implement some major improvements to the heritage statutory approvals system, including policies for managing change to heritage items;
- provide standard conditions of consent to Heritage Office staff and local councils;
- consider implementation of strategies to further streamline the approvals procedures;
- continue working on the elimination of section 60 applications following integrated development applications (a two-step process of little value to the conservation process);
- develop an implementation plan for archaeological heritage management based on resources and priorities identified in the strategic review.