MINUTES OF MEETING
State Heritage Register Committee

Wednesday 14 April 2010
Commencing at 2:30 pm

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

PRESENT
Rosemary Annable
Michael Clarke
Danny Chapman
Bruce Pettman
Gabrielle Kibble
Don Godden

APOLOGIES
Sharon Sullivan

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE
(Heritage Branch)
Tim Smith
Cameron White
Olwen Beazley
Graham Williams (minutes)
Nicole Secombe (item 8.1)
Stewart Watters (items 6.1, 9.1 & 9.2)

1.0 Opening – Welcome

In the absence of the Sharon Sullivan, as the regular Chair of the Committee, Ms Gabrielle Kibble acted as Chair for the meeting.

2.0 Declarations of Interest

Nil

3.0 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the March 2010 meeting were confirmed.

4.0 Action Report

No comment was raised on the Action Report.

5.0 Minutes, reports and matters arising from HC Advisory Panels

Nil
6.0 Presentations

A presentation was made by representatives of RailCorp’s Office of Rail Heritage on the background and process of compiling the RailCorp S170 Heritage & Conservation Register. Those RailCorp representatives were Ms Marianne Hammerton, Ms Ruth Berendt and Mr Craig McPherson.

The presenters advised the Committee that prior to the creation of RailCorp, in 2004, the compilation and maintenance of s170 Registers of railway items were the responsibility of each individual rail organisation. With the creation of RailCorp, all heritage assets under the control of the State Rail Authority (SRA) and metropolitan heritage assets under the control of the Rail Infrastructure Corporation (RIC) were vested to the one authority.

The Office of Rail Heritage was established within RailCorp in 2006 to implement the NSW Government Sustainable Rail Heritage Asset Management Strategy. In June 2008 RailCorp established an internal project team within the Office of Rail Heritage to update its s.170 Register. The s.170 Register update project and listing recommendations were presented to the RailCorp Executive and Heritage Advisory Committee prior to being approved by RailCorp’s CEO.

During the course of the s.170 Register update over 650 items/places were considered as potential fixed heritage assets as well as over 230 items of rolling stock.

The s.170 Register is supported by a detailed thematic history that provides a historical contextual background to the history of NSW railways.

The s.170 Register also includes a review of RailCorp’s extensive moveable heritage assets.

7.0 State Heritage Register – Notice of intention to list - Draft Nominations

7.1 Additional priority SHR nominations for inclusion under the Governor Macquarie theme.

Olwen Beazley introduced the proposal for the inclusion of three sites for progression for SHR listing under the Governor Macquarie theme in 2009–11, these being

- Wilberforce Park, in the township of Wilberforce
- Windsor (McQuade) Park, in Windsor
- Castlereagh Cemetery, vanished township of Castlereagh, near Penrith.

In March 2009 the SHR Committee endorsed 13 priority sites for listing under the Governor Macquarie theme for 2009–11. In discussions with Hawkesbury City Council (regarding two sites at Wilberforce currently being progressed for listing under the Governor Macquarie theme), Council indicated to the Heritage Branch Team that it would also welcome the SHR listing of Wilberforce Park and Windsor (McQuade) Park. Both parks were integral components of Governor Macquarie’s town plans of 1811, when he reserved them as the town squares. The Committee was advised that Castlereagh Cemetery had been nominated by the Heritage Branch’s Senior Archaeologist and Cemeteries specialist, Dr Siobhan Lavelle.
The SHR Committee agreed to the recommendation that the three sites be included in the Governor Macquarie 2009-11 listing theme and made the following resolution.

RESOLVED

That the SHR Committee as delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW:
1. Endorses the addition of the following three sites:
   a. Wilberforce Park;
   b. Windsor (McQuade) Park;
   c. Castlereagh Cemetery;

for inclusion as priority sites for SHR listing under the Governor Macquarie theme in 2009–11. These sites to be added to the list of 13 sites already endorsed under this theme (detailed as Annexure A in the Agenda papers).

8.0 State Heritage Register – Notice of intention to list

8.1 HMAS Sydney (1) Mast Memorial, Associated Monuments and 1839 Fort, Bradleys Head Road, Bradley’s Head, Mosman

Nicole Secombe introduced this proposal and gave members background information on the significance of the HMAS Sydney (1) mast, the various plaques and memorials associated with HMAS Sydney (1) and subsequent Royal Australian Navy vessels which have borne the name HMAS Sydney, memorial trees and the remains of the 1839 Fort.

The HMAS Sydney (1) Mast is the second (replacement) mainmast from this famous warship and was removed for preservation when the warship was scrapped. The mast was placed on the Bradleys Head fort site in the 1930s as a memorial to the Royal Australian Navy. The mast honours all Australian officers, sailors and ships lost at sea or in combat.

The mast is located on the site and remains of the 1839 gun battery, one of a series of military fortifications located on Bradleys Head as part of the 19 century defences of Sydney and the harbour.

The mast and the associated memorials and fortification were nominated by the Heritage Branch under the current World Wars I and II thematic listings program.

Members agreed to the following resolution. Comment was made that there was, however, a need for further information on the significance of the 1839 fort to be included in the listing information.

RESOLVED

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. considers the item known as “HMAS Sydney 1 Mast, Associated Monuments and 1839 Fort” at Bradleys Head Road, Bradleys Head (Mosman), 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 28 days after the publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made.

In discussing this listing proposal the question was raised in the Committee as to whether the La Perouse monument on Botany Bay had been considered for State Heritage Register listing. Olwen Beazley advised the Committee that enquiries had been made with the custodian of the site, the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW). The DECCW is reluctant regarding the listing of individual monuments on the grounds that such listing would highlight some items and this would detract from the overall multi-layered significance of the location.

8.2 The Government Cottage Archaeological Site, George Street, Windsor

The Committee was introduced to the proposal for listing the Government Cottage Archaeological Site in a presentation at the meeting of March 2010. At that meeting members agreed that action to progress the listing proposal be undertaken.

Further information on the listing proposal was provided to the Committee the agenda documents. A statement made in the agenda papers regarding aesthetic values, that the site has state significance for its views over the Hawkesbury River, was queried by the Committee. Members agreed that references to aesthetic values should be moved to Criterion A (historical values). This aspect apart the Committee considered that the site is of State significance and agreed to the following resolution.

**RESOLVED**

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. considers the item known as “Government Cottage Archaeological Site” at 41 George Street, Windsor, 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 28 days after the publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made.
8.3 Tomaree Head Fortifications 2 Shoal Bay Road, Shoal Bay

Cameron White introduced this listing proposal and gave the Committee background information on the site. It was noted that the western side of the headland was listed on the State Heritage Register in 1999 as Tomaree Lodge Landscape.

The Committee was advised that the listing proposal is for the seaward side of the headland primarily for the significance of its World War II costal defences. The complex of fortifications at Tomaree Head is rare as one of a few non-urban forts. The site was nominated by Port Stephens Council.

Tomaree Head Radar station was the first such warning station where the equipment was wholly produced in Australia, the first to be manned by mechanics trained by the RAAF, the first to have a building designed and built specifically for radar and the largest serving RAAF radar in WW2.

The site was also associated with some of the largest troop movements on the Australian mainland being a venue for beach training by Allied troops. The Tomaree Head Fortifications were unusual for the variety of defensive works and equipment stationed on the site.

The functional architecture of the remnant wartime defences contrast with the natural features of the site.

RESOLVED
That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. considers the item known as “Tomaree Head Fortifications” at 2 Shoal Bay Road, Shoal Bay, 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 21 days after the publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made.

8.4 Cox’s Cottage, 2 St Thomas Road Mulgoa (SHR no.171) Extension of Curtilage to SHR Item

Cox’s Cottage, dating from 1811, is one of the oldest weatherboard-clad dwellings in NSW and possibly the oldest occupied residence in Australia. The cottage and its immediate surrounds of Lots 3 and 4 of DP 241971 have been listed on the State Heritage Register since 1999. Prior to the SHR listing the property was protected by a Permanent Conservation Order under the Heritage Act.
The proposal considered by the State Heritage Register Committee was to extend the SHR curtilage by the addition of the adjoining Lot 2 of Deposited Plan 241971, a lot of undeveloped land of 10 hectares. This lot formed part of the original early land grant to the Cox family.

Lot 2 was bought in 1985 by the Department of Planning, in response to concerns about the heritage conservation of Cox’s Cottage’s curtilage.

In recent years community concerns were raised in regard to a 2007 proposal for the Department of Planning to sell Lot 2. The Department agreed to keep Lot 2 in public ownership and support the listing of it on the SHR as curtilage to Cox’s Cottage.

The nomination to extend the curtilage of Cox’s Cottage, to encompass Lot 2, was made by the Heritage Branch in association with the Department of Planning’s Office of Strategic Lands.

RESOLVED:
That the State Heritage Register Committee:
1. considers the item known as “Lot 2 of Cox’s Cottage” at 2 St Thomas Road, Mulgoa, 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.

9.0 State Government Heritage (Section 170 Registers/HAMS)

9.1 Endorsement of the RailCorp s.170 Heritage and Conservation Register

Following the presentation made by representatives of RailCorp’s Office of Rail Heritage the Committee considered the endorsement of the RailCorp Heritage and Conservation Register.

A copy of the s.170 Register was tabled at the meeting for the information of Members.

RESOLVED
That the State Heritage Register Committee:

a. Endorses the current RailCorp s.170 Heritage and Conservation Register;
b. Recommends that the RailCorp promote the s.170 Register on its website;
c. Requests the Heritage Branch to write to the Chief Executive Officer, RailCorp congratulating the entity on its initiatives in implementing key strategic heritage actions under the NSW Heritage Act 1977, and in its approach to integrated heritage management; and
d. Requests the Heritage Branch and RailCorp to continue to work together and provide an update regarding State Heritage Register listings.

The Committee also noted that the Railcorp S170 Register had won a heritage award at the 2010 National Trust Heritage Week Awards.

Members also requested that the letter of advice to RailCorp of the endorsement of the S170 Register should also emphasize the importance of RailCorp communicating the heritage significance of the S170 Register listed assets to operational staff and contractors.

9.2 HAMS document submitted by the Land and Property Management Authority (LPMA)

Stewart Watters introduced the item for the Committee to consider the Heritage Asset Management Strategy document prepared by the LPMA. The Committee was advised that the LPMA had appointed a full-time heritage officer to its staff and had recently launched a website, titled “Baseline” on heritage issues for the Department. The Baseline website had also recently won a National Trust Heritage award. It was noted that the LPMA had also received advice from the Government Architects’ Office in the preparation of the HAMS document.

It was also noted that the LPMA and the Department of Planning are both within the same Ministerial portfolio of the Hon Tony Kelly MLC.

RESOLVED

That the State Heritage Register Committee:

1. accepts the tabled HAMS document submitted by Land and Property Management Authority, in accordance with the State Owned Heritage Management Principles and Heritage Asset Management Guidelines, issued under Section 170A(3) of the Heritage Act, 1977;

2. directs the Director, Heritage Branch, Department of Planning, to write to this agency advising of same, and providing comments for inclusion in the final document, to the satisfaction of the Director (Annexure “B”);

3. congratulates this agency for its HAMS submission.

10.0 Interim Heritage Orders

Nil

11.0 Environmental Planning Instruments & Heritage Studies

Nil

12.0 Matters for Consideration
13.0 General Business

“Tilba” 92 Liverpool Road, Burwood

Cameron White provided the Committee with background information on this local heritage issue. Members were advised that following community concerns on the Burwood Council approved demolition proposal for this property the Minister had placed a 40 day emergency “stop work” order on the property. The order provided temporary protection, under the Heritage Act, whilst heritage investigations were undertaken.

The property had not been identified by Burwood Council as a local heritage item and was not included in the heritage schedule of the Burwood Local Environmental Plan (LEP).

Investigations by the Heritage Branch had confirmed that the property was not of State Heritage significance but was of local significance.

Burwood Council had the authority, under the August 2001 Ministerial authorisation, to place an Interim Heritage Order (IHO) on the property. The placing of an IHO would have suspended the demolition approval, whilst in effect, and enabled a period for Council consider inclusion of the property in the Burwood LEP.

Council did not make an IHO over the property.

HOD (Heritage Branch Database) Information

Comment was raised by member Mr Michael Clark of the need for careful editing of information contained or added to the database to avoid grammatical and spelling errors.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.30 pm

Next Meeting of the Heritage Council State Heritage Register Committee

Wednesday 5 May 2010
Heritage Branch Library
Parramatta.

Minutes endorsed by the Heritage Council State Heritage Register Committee.

Chair, State Heritage Register Committee
Date: