The State Heritage Register is established under Part 3A of the Heritage Act (as amended in 1998) for listing of items of environmental heritage\(^1\) which are of state heritage significance\(^2\).

To be assessed for listing on the State Heritage Register an item will, in the opinion of the Heritage Council of NSW, meet more than one of the following criteria\(^1\) or if an item satisfies only one of the criteria, the item is of such particular significance that it should be listed.

a) an item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW’s cultural or natural history;

b) an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW’s cultural or natural history;

c) an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW;

d) an item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;

e) an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW’s cultural or natural history;

f) an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW’s cultural or natural history;

g) an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW’s
   - cultural or natural places; or
   - cultural or natural environments.

An item is not to be excluded from the Register on the ground that items with similar characteristics have already been listed on the Register.

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\(^1\) *environmental heritage* means those places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects, and precincts, of state or local heritage significance (section 4, *Heritage Act, 1977*).

\(^2\) *state heritage significance*, in relation to a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct, means significance to the State in relation to the historical, scientific cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value of the item (section 4A(1), *Heritage Act, 1977*).

\(^3\) Guidelines for the application of these criteria may be published by the NSW Heritage Division.