Message from the Minister

Hon. Frank Sartor MP

Minister for Planning
Minister for Redfern Waterloo
Minister for Science and Medical Research
Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)

The great thing about heritage in NSW is the unfailing community support for local projects. However, local buildings and landmarks often have much broader significance for the growth of Australia as a nation.

For example, two recent State Heritage Register listings in Sydney’s north recognised the history of Australian culture. In August I agreed to list the 1889 Turramurra house and garden which inspired one of Australia’s leading artists, Grace Cossington Smith, on the State Heritage Register.

I have also just announced the listing of the Killara house which was once home to Seven Little Australians author Ethel Turner. Both buildings are significant to the local community, but also to Australia’s literary and artistic growth.

The challenge is to preserve heritage in a way which ensures economic and cultural growth continues. I welcome the news that Parramatta City Council has now approved a development which incorporates convict remains and preserves them in the foyer. I am also pleased that the NSW Government has now committed a total of $60,000 to help Braidwood capitalise on the tourism potential of its heritage listing.

Finally, I have announced $2.73 million in funding for 92 projects across NSW, under the Heritage Incentive Program. Projects include the showground grandstand, cultural heritage studies and even a hermit’s cave in Griffith. This support boosts tourism and rural and regional jobs and is an investment in future generations. We continue to improve the way we protect the State’s heritage and we have more work to do.

Hon. Frank Sartor MP
Minister for Planning
Minister for Redfern Waterloo
Minister for Science and Medical Research
Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)

Heritage NSW
NSW Department of Planning
3 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2124
Phone: (02) 9873 8500
Fax: (02) 9873 8599
Email: heritageoffice@heritage.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.heritage.nsw.gov.au

Chair of Heritage Council of NSW
Michael Collins

Executive Director of Heritage Office
Reece McDougall

Director-General of the Department of Planning
Sam Haddad

Heritage NSW
Editor: Lianne Hall
Design: Harley & Jones design
(02) 9639 0611

ISSN 1321-1099
H0 06/08
Print Post Approval No. PP 265003/01429
© Crown copyright 2006
Published October 2006

DISCLAIMER
Any representation, statement, opinion or advice, expressed or implied in this publication is made in good faith but on the basis that the State of New South Wales, its agents and employees are not liable (whether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damage or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking or not taking (as the case may be) action in respect of any representation, statement or advice referred to above.

Cover: This month is the centenary of NSW’s State Arms. The 1883 statue of the Maid of NSW features many of the symbols you can see in the State Arms today. To see how the design has evolved turn to page 8. Photograph by Greg Piper 2005.
Message from the Chair

Michael Collins
Chair of the Heritage Council

I am sure each of our readers will find they have a personal connection to at least one of the stories in this edition of Heritage NSW. I was particularly taken with the article on Gundagai’s famous Prince Alfred Bridge, and recall quite a few bone-shattering trips along its great length during trips down the Hume Highway in my youth.

The Iron Knight story on page five is a reminder of the tragic human events surrounding the many shipwrecks along our coastline. These decaying hulks are not just the physical evidence of past maritime activities, they are also the final resting place for many mariners and passengers caught up in their plunge to the ocean floor.

Historical archaeology continues to exert its fascination on the public – and for good reason. The footings and artefacts revealed at the historic Parramatta Hospital site (see the story on page 9) give us an extraordinary opportunity to investigate the lives of the colonists from the early days of European settlement. The Heritage Council is encouraging greater public access to our significant archaeological sites. It’s a highly effective way of encouraging the community to learn more about our collective past. I congratulate the developers, site managers, archaeologists and administrators who are helping us to achieve this aim and to interpret our heritage in urban regeneration.

New Photographic Guidelines

A new edition of Photographic Recording of Heritage Items was released this month. Making a photographic record of a heritage place documents it for the future, before it is lost or changed. These guidelines are an important tool for ensuring that this record is of the highest quality. Specific requirements on photographic equipment, archivally stable materials and photographic method aim to ensure that the photograph survives for as long as possible. The latest version incorporates specifications for digital photography, and brings the standards into line with those of other state and national institutions.


Community Heritage Study Celebrated

Volunteers in the Eastern Riverina who have charted the history of their local area as part of a community-based heritage study have been honoured in a presentation by the Lockhart Shire Council.

For months local enthusiasts in Lockhart have researched places, taken photographs, contributed stories and collected historical information to uncover the history of their area. They have identified over 150 places and compiled over 1,000 pages of local stories and heritage assessments. Their work tracks the changing settlement patterns of the area – from the first Aboriginal inhabitants, to the great pastoral stations that followed the river plains, and then the farms and small towns of the late-19th century.

The special places identified by study coordinator Dr Peter Kabaila and his team will be recommended for listing on the heritage schedule of the local environmental plan. These include archaeological sites, public edifices, parks, cemeteries, bridges, railway structures, movable artefacts and cultural landscapes. Highly significant items will be nominated for the State Heritage Register.

The study was jointly funded by Lockhart Shire Council and the Heritage Incentives Program.
In 1889 the extravagantly named *Trocadero and Academie de Musique* opened in Newtown. Although the fancy French moniker did not survive intact – it was almost immediately shortened to the Trocadero – the elaborate amusement hall survived over a century to become one of Newtown’s most famous landmarks. Now the grand dame of King Street has had a dramatic facelift.

The former Trocadero Hall, Newtown, before and after conservation work. Photographs by Brad Vale.
The Final Journey of the Iron Knight

By Tim Smith

There was no warning when the torpedo slammed into the ship’s hull off the NSW coast on the night of 8 February 1943. One of the crew told the Daily Mirror the next day that “the ship trembled all over and the lights started to jump. You could tell she was going. Her engines had stopped and she was sinking bow first at an angle of about 45 degrees”.

The ship was the BHP iron ore freighter Iron Knight and within two minutes it sank, taking 36 of its crew to their graves, including Captain Ross. Fourteen survivors managed to scramble through the floating wreckage and crawl onto a single raft, to be rescued ten hours later by a French destroyer, Le Triomphant.

The Iron Knight was lead ship in a convoy of ten vessels travelling from Whyalla in South Australia to Newcastle with important wartime cargoes. The Imperial Japanese Navy submarine I-21 had been stalking the convoy and its two naval escorts. Due to established practice, the surviving ships did not stop when the Iron Knight was torpedoed, but raced through the foaming waters to escape their own destruction.

Sixty-three years later the families of those merchant seamen who lost their lives returned to waters off the coast near Bermagui to participate in an event to remember their loved ones and mark the WWII tragedy. The remembrance on 29 July was organised by an independent team of elite technical divers, The Sydney Project, and supported by the Heritage Office.

The ceremony was made possible by the recent discovery of the lost wreck site. The Iron Knight was one of 16 vessels torpedoed by Japanese submarines off the NSW coast during World War II. Only three of these have been found.

Family members gathered aboard the fishing trawler MV Tarpin directly above the wreck site to see for the first time where the tragedy unfolded. As the first commemorative wreaths were laid into the water, several wept for their fathers and grandfathers, many of whom they had never met. Thirty-six poppies floated restlessly on the water symbolising each man and boy lost, as a minute’s silence was called by Tony Robinson from the Returned Services League of Australia.

It was a fitting tribute and steeled the Sydney Project dive team as they began their preparations to enter the water below and record Iron Knight, resting a staggering 125 metres below. This, the second deepest wreck dive ever undertaken in NSW, means that Iron Knight and her crew will not be forgotten.

The Sydney Project dive team first inspected and identified the wreck in May 2006 after a local dive charter operator, Keith Appleby, obtained snagging information from Bermagui commercial fishermen.

The successful community partnership of local fishermen, specialist technical divers and dive charter operators is behind a number of recent discoveries in the area, many at extreme depths: Cumberland 1917 at Green Cape, Bega 1908 and William Dawes 1942 at Tathra, and the Wear 1944 north of Montague Island.

The Japanese Navy submarine I-21 was one of the five mother submarines involved in the midget submarine attack at Sydney on 31 May 1942. It also shelled Newcastle on 8 June 1942, and reputedly sank the Iron Chieftain (3 June 1942), Kalingo (18 Jan 1943) and Starr King (10 Feb 1943). The submarine also damaged the Mobilube (18 Jan 1943) and Peter H Burnett (22 Jan 1943).

For more information on the Iron Knight, go to Maritime Heritage Online @ http://maritime.heritage.nsw.gov.au
Exploring Lebanese Heritage in NSW

By Freda Backes

The Lebanese are one of the largest and oldest migrant communities in NSW. A new Australian Lebanese Historical Society study, supported by the NSW Migration Heritage Centre and the Heritage Incentives Program, is highlighting the migration story of those who came to Australia and the contribution of Lebanese communities to our multilayered heritage.

The Lebanese community has a long history in NSW. Lebanese migrants have been settling in Australia from the mid-19th century. By the 1880s sizeable numbers of Lebanese were finding homes in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. The Australian Lebanese Historical Society is currently uncovering this history, perhaps unfamiliar to many in NSW. It is our task as researchers to provide a thematic history of Lebanese settlement in NSW. This will provide an opportunity for Australians of Lebanese background to nominate special places and document community collections that are important to their migration to Australia and settlement in NSW.

Because the first Lebanese arrived from the Ottoman district of Mount Lebanon in the province of Syria, they were called Syrians, or sometimes Ottomans. Until the formation of the modern state of Lebanon in 1943, the new settlers were rarely referred to as Lebanese, although some may have said they came from Mount Lebanon. At the turn of the 20th century many Lebanese had settled in and around the Sydney suburbs of Redfern, Waterloo and Surry Hills. Some established retail and warehousing businesses and factories which prospered and provided employment for the newly arrived. Churches and other places of worship soon followed. An area centred on Elizabeth Street in Redfern became the economic and social hub for the community. The area became known as Little Syria and later Little Lebanon.

These migrants were not welcomed by the White Australia Policy which came into force in 1901 and held sway until the latter half of the twentieth century. The policy originally favoured migrants from Britain and Ireland and required all to pass a dictation test in a language nominated by the immigration officer. This new federal legislation effectively halted substantial Lebanese immigration because the Syrian/Lebanese were officially classed as Asians, until there was some relaxation of the policy in the 1920s. Various official and social discriminatory practices prevented new arrivals from being employed. Lebanese Redfern warehousing businesses often gave new arrivals a suitcase of drapery, manchester and other small goods on credit to get them started. Without English language skills, and with little cash or education generally, they created their own opportunities when they hit the road as hawkers of fancy goods in suburban and rural areas throughout the State. Small goods that could fit into the case were preferred: ribbons, material off-cuts, sewing needles and pins, cotton thread, thimbles, razors, handkerchiefs, underwear and other small items of clothing. Many people remember as children their excitement when the Syrian hawker visited their out of the way property. Hawkers brought bibs and bobs to rural areas of NSW until the beginning of World War II. Once the hawkers gained experience in business and raised enough capital, they often opened shops of their own, still buying their stock from the Redfern warehouse men. Relaxation of White Australia Policy regulations affecting the Syrian/Lebanese in the early 1920s and famine in Lebanon saw a second wave of immigration. Thousands arrived in Australia before the disruptions caused by World War II halted immigration.

By 1945 almost every rural and urban centre in NSW had at least one Lebanese small business, and in many of the larger towns, small discrete communities of Lebanese appeared. They created a network of rural businesses. Frequent trips were made back to the Syrian/Lebanese quarter in Redfern to purchase stock from the warehousemen, to attend to religious observance obligations and for social events.

It was important to Lebanese settlers in NSW that they explored their heritage.
maintain contacts with other members of their scattered migrant community in a way that allowed important parts of their culture to survive. Rural Lebanese families often met in central locations for weekend picnics where they could catch up on social gossip and exchange family and business news.

It is important that we record the early settlers and their involvement in city and rural businesses which were an important part of the economic development of NSW. These Lebanese migrants and their families worked hard and became respected members of local communities. Their children were educated locally and their involvement in civic life and the social activities of towns meant that they became solid members of their communities. Eventually, they were no longer seen as being foreigners.

After World War II more migrants began to arrive from Lebanon, some sponsored by Australian troops who had served there. The factories and workshops of city industries attracted them to make their homes in Sydney and larger regional centres and, of course, they continued to look for business opportunities.

Another wave, prompted by civil discord in Lebanon during the 1970s and 1980s came to establish a safe home for themselves and their families. They were supported by policies encouraging family reunions and multiculturalism.

A feature of Lebanese migration has been the attempt of the Lebanese to maintain contact with the Old Country, sometimes in the face of difficulties caused by distance, wars and economic disruptions.

Lebanese who have made NSW their home have distinguished themselves in business, science, academia, the professions, sport and the arts from the 1800s until the present time. From all records available, earlier Lebanese migrants shared – as do those of the later waves – a common desire with all migrants to build a better life for their families.

The Australian Lebanese Historical Society project will identify and explore places in NSW where Lebanese immigrants have settled and acknowledge their integral role in the growth and development of the State. The project will lead to the identification of significant places for possible heritage listings.

We will also document community-managed collections across NSW and record migration memories and family-owned memorabilia for the NSW Migration Heritage Centre’s online Belongings exhibition.

The project draws upon historical research from the recent State Records NSW project, in partnership with the Society, tracing the history of Lebanese communities in the State back to 1865.

The Australian Lebanese Historical Society is keen to hear from anyone with information to contribute to the thematic history. Important places or collections with special connections to the story of the Lebanese community in NSW are of particular interest.

Email: mail@alhs.org.au or phone Freda Backes, President of the Society on (02) 9665 7478.

The Migration Heritage Centre at the Powerhouse Museum is a NSW Government initiative supported by the Community Relations Commission.

www.migrationheritage.nsw.gov.au
Celebrating the Centenary of our State Arms
By Bruce Baskerville

This year marks 100 years since the NSW Coat of Arms was assigned by King Edward VII on 11 October 1906. Also known as the State Arms, they were designed by the NSW Government Printer, William Applegate Gullick, a noted photographer and stamp and coin designer, and one of the State’s foremost heraldic experts.

Gullick said that his new design, which drew so heavily upon the popular heraldic symbolism of the Advance Australia Arms, was “representative of our rising position in the rank of nations ... We are but as yesterday inscribed on the roll of nations, and may sincerely hope that most of our history has yet to be written”.

The emerging design for the State Arms can be seen in these versions by William Applegate Gullick:
1. NSW Badge on a crowned shield, stamp design by Gullick, issued 1897-1910;
2. Sketches showing Gullick’s work on the rising sun crest 1906;
3. First public viewing of Gullick’s final design, Sydney Morning Herald, 1906;
4. Early re-design of Gullick’s original design, 1927 (artist unknown).

Over a century of use the representation of the Arms has changed to reflect the tastes and building materials of the era.

2. State Arms made by Wunderlich in 1936 for Rural Bank in Martin Place.

For more information go to the Research page on the website: www.heritage.nsw.gov.au
Gundagai’s famous bridge

Since a bullock driver’s dog sat on a tucker box in the early 1800s Gundagai’s location near a crossing point of the Murrumbidgee River has defined its character and entered the imagination of an entire nation. Today one of the foremost landmarks of Gundagai, the Prince Alfred Bridge and timber viaduct, is the subject of a unique heritage project.

When it was constructed in the 1860s on the original crossing used by early stockmen and explorers, the Prince Alfred bridge was called the grandest bridge in the colony. With its central iron bridge and seemingly endless timber approaches, the bridge was a major landmark on the Sydney-Melbourne route. Today the timber viaduct no longer carries traffic, but it will continue to capture the imagination of travellers, tourists and locals through a unique plan to manage its future.

An engineering triumph, the Prince Alfred Bridge was one of the first metal truss bridges to be built in NSW. The bridge was opened on the 24 October 1867 and named after Queen Victoria’s second son who was touring Australia that year – although he did not visit Gundagai.

The lengthy timber approaches to the bridge were built to cross the Murrumbidgee flood plain. Towards the end of the 19th century the timbers had deteriorated and a new northern viaduct – one of Australia’s largest timber girder structures – was built and opened in 1898.

Today the viaduct is managed by Gundagai’s Historic Bridges, an organisation which took over ownership in 1979 following a community campaign to save the defunct viaduct from demolition. Coming into the 21st century the challenge facing Gundagai’s Historic Bridges was how to manage the enormous and increasingly fragile wooden structure. Timber bridges are expensive to maintain, and despite conservation work in the late 1980s, the viaduct was naturally deteriorating due to exposure. The solution devised by Gundagai’s Historic Bridges is to conserve key sections of the viaduct and manage the remainder as a ruin.

“When we had to close the viaduct to walkers in 2003, people said we should demolish the rest, but we didn’t want to do that. It is unique and very important for Gundagai. So we are keeping it as a “managed ruin””, says Robert Butcher of Gundagai’s Historic Bridges. With the assistance of a $50,000 grant through the Heritage Incentives Program, the ends of the viaduct have been conserved and made safe. Viewing platforms have been created at the northern and southern ends and signage erected.

“People can come and walk out onto the viewing platforms – which are on the strongest parts of the bridge – and they can see the whole bridge. It means people can still understand it. They can see that it was an enormous bridge; or perhaps they can remember travelling across it when it was part of the Hume Highway,” says Mr Butcher.

Deliberately allowing a place to deteriorate is a challenging concept for people working in a field dedicated to conserving the past. But the key to the plan is that good management will make sure that aesthetic and heritage values are retained in the landscape even as the physical fabric (or parts of it) decays.

Careful choices have been made about what to conserve, what to stabilise and what to allow to crumble. The rate of deterioration will be controlled and, where possible, slowed down through such measures as pest control.

“Making sure the structure is safe is a priority. Public access has been restricted to the walkway and viewing platform, and regular inspections monitor the viaduct’s condition.

“We’ve put protective mesh over the roadway and our maintenance fellows go out and check the bridge for any unsafe elements and secure them,” says Mr Butcher.

The new viewing platforms and walkways were opened to the public this year. Already they have proved popular with tourists. With the assistance of heritage funding and a creative solution, visitors and locals can continue to enjoy Gundagai’s historic bridge now and into the future.

Since a bullock driver’s dog sat on a tucker box in the early 1800s Gundagai’s location near a crossing point of the Murrumbidgee River has defined its character and entered the imagination of an entire nation. Today one of the foremost landmarks of Gundagai, the Prince Alfred Bridge and timber viaduct, is the subject of a unique heritage project.
Uncovering colonial hospitals

Rare colonial artefacts found on the site of one of Australia’s earliest hospitals are providing insights into our past. Unearthed from the site of the former Parramatta Hospital, these fragments are providing archaeologists with new evidence of public health care dating from the convict era.

The archaeological investigation is part of the development of the new Justice Precinct on the site of the former Parramatta Hospital in Marsden Street, Parramatta. It is the oldest continuously occupied public health care site in Australia. Some of the land has been used for a hospital since 1792. The excavation, led by archaeological consultants Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd, is uncovering and recording the remains of early hospital buildings and traces of occupation.

“There are few remaining places in Australia with physical connections to the earliest days of the colony,” said excavation director Dr Mary Casey.

“The evidence from the Parramatta Hospital site is exceptionally well preserved and we have found very intact layers relating to the 1792 hospital, a significant institution for NSW at the time.”

The artefacts, deposits, privies, architectural footings and building materials paint a picture of Australia’s first colonial hospitals. As today, health was a vitally important issue for the colony, even though health services were at first primitive. The first hospital was a temporary structure known as the Tent Hospital. In 1792 it was replaced by two brick buildings at least 25m long and 6m wide, and a surgeon’s residence which was built soon after in 1799.

From 1818 a new two-storey building that became known as the Colonial Hospital catered for the health care of the convicts. In 1848 this building became the centre of one of Australia’s earliest public medical institutions when it was established as the Parramatta District Hospital.

The archaeological investigations have revealed that much evidence of this significant history still lies beneath the surface. As well as footings of the 1792 hospital, the 1818 Colonial Hospital and associated buildings and a convict hut, this excavation has uncovered a rich collection of artefacts.

Finds include lead-glazed pottery, roofing tiles from the early structure, animal bones, Chinese export porcelain, many clay pipes, and an unusual hand-painted creamware bowl. Some of the artefacts place sickness and injury on a very personal level, such as feeding vessels for invalids. And a significant, but sombre find, has been the bones of an amputated hand – a harsh reminder of the reality of health care in the colony.

The discovery of a baby burial (c. 1790s), possibly new born, to the south of the 1792 hospital is stark evidence of the fragility of life and the difficulties of child bearing in the new colony. Further examination by physical anthropologist Dr Denise Donlon, determined that there were two baby skeletons in the burial. This is possibly the oldest known European baby burial found in New South Wales.

A highlight of the excavation has been the discovery of a highly unusual jug, thought to date between 1815 and the 1820s.

“It is a high quality piece of pottery. We believe it was probably made by one of three potters who were known to be working in Sydney at this time,” says Mary Casey.

The “Wellington Jug” would have been made for a well-heeled colonial client as a commemorative vessel to represent a series of British victories in Europe and India in the early 19th century. The jug is adorned with three portrait medallions, one of the Duke of Wellington, one of his brother, the Marquis of Wellesley, and a third one of Britannia.

While some of the relics have been removed to make way for the redevelopment of the site, the most significant remains and evidence will be conserved in situ. Discussions between the developer, the Department of Commerce, and the Heritage Office have resulted in an innovative design solution that will see the creation of public space in the form of a heritage courtyard in the centre of the complex.
The scheme will preserve the entire footings of the highly significant 1818 colonial hospital; remains of a kitchen and laundry dating from 1879; the site of a c.1792 convict hut and some very fragile footings of the 1792 hospital. These remains will be interpreted in a number of different ways so that visitors will be able to read the physical evidence and understand the multilayered site.

“These are some of the most significant archaeological finds in the Sydney metropolitan area in the last ten years. It is extremely important to keep them and display them to the public,” said Michael Collins, Chair of the Heritage Council of NSW.

“The scheme will preserve the entire footings of the highly significant 1818 colonial hospital; remains of a kitchen and laundry dating from 1879; the site of a c.1792 convict hut and some very fragile footings of the 1792 hospital. These remains will be interpreted in a number of different ways so that visitors will be able to read the physical evidence and understand the multilayered site.

“This are some of the most significant archaeological finds in the Sydney metropolitan area in the last ten years. It is extremely important to keep them and display them to the public," said Michael Collins, Chair of the Heritage Council of NSW.

Together we have come up with a solution that preserves these historic remnants within a thoroughly modern development. It is an imaginative blend of the past and the present.”

Above: Remains of the privy system revealed during the excavation.
Photograph by Tony Lowe.
Inset: A pot unearthed in the storage cellar of the 1818 Colonial Hospital.
Photograph by Mary Casey.

This rare Wellington jug is one of the artefacts helping to tell us about life in the early days of the colony.
Photograph by Russell Workman, courtesy of Multiplex and the Department of Commerce.
New on the Register

“Items of particular importance to the people of NSW…”

The following places have recently been listed on the State Heritage Register:

St Anne’s Roman Catholic Church at Bondi is one of the few churches in NSW to win a major architectural award. It was designed by Joseph Fowell and Kenneth McConnel and received the prestigious Sulman Award from the Royal Australian Institute of Architects in 1935. The church represents a highlight of ecclesiastical architecture in Sydney between the world wars. It is regarded as a fine example of ecclesiastical architecture, which was widely adopted in Catholic churches in the 1920s and 30s. The main body of the church was built in 1934 and the second stage, including the final alter and apses was completed in 1964, under the supervision of Joseph Fowell. The interior is richly detailed and includes furniture and fittings also largely designed by the architects.

The woolshed was one of the largest in the Central West and in one record season 90,000 sheep were shorn there. Twenty-six of the stands have never been adapted and still retain all the original fabric of the shearing era. The names of well-known shearers painted on the stands provide an echo of 19th century working lives.

Bethanga Bridge, which spans the Hume Dam near Albury, is the first structure to be jointly listed on the state registers of New South Wales and Victoria. The bridge was built between 1927 and 1930 as part of the Hume Dam scheme. This ambitious public project at the junction of the Murray and Mitta rivers took 17 years and employed 1,000 men at its peak. It was a key element in an agreement to regulate the flow of the Murray River to supply valuable water to towns and irrigation districts. With the official state border – the southern bank of the Murray river – submerged by the dam, Bethanga Bridge is the only built structure jointly owned by New South Wales and Victoria.

Cossington was the home of Grace Cossington Smith, one of Australia’s leading modernist painters. The 1889 single-story Federation bungalow was home to the artist for most of her life. Cossington Smith began painting from a small studio in the garden and then moved into the family home. She is particularly known for her colourful and intimate interior scenes, most of which were painted at the Turramurra house. When the Smith family moved into the house in 1913, they christened their new home “Cossington” in memory of the parish in Leicestershire, England, where Grace’s grandfather had served as rector. Grace Cossington Smith adopted the extended name when she became a professional artist.

Brewarrina Aboriginal reserve mission was the longest-running mission in NSW, operating from 1886 to 1966. The site is significant as “a place of belonging” to many Aboriginal people. It was first established by the Aborigines Protection Association in 1886. Over the years people from as far away as Tiboburra, Angledool, Collarenabri, Walgett, Goodooga and Culgoa were housed at the mission. The site included weatherboard houses, a church, shop, school, manager’s house and a girls’ dormitory. Today only the original cemetery remains on the site, maintained by members of the community.

Elders from all over the State’s north-west worked closely with the Heritage Council of NSW and the Heritage Office to support the listing of this important place.

Berry Museum was designed by the noted Victorian architect William Wardell. The former bank is one of the few remaining smaller scale works by Wardell who designed such grand buildings as St Mary’s Cathedral in Sydney and St John’s College at the University of Sydney. Built for the E.S. & A. Bank in 1885, the building has a stepped gable façade, reminiscent of the medieval castles and grand houses of Scotland. Today the building remains remarkably intact and still retains much of its original fabric. It continues to play an important role in the community as the home of the Berry Museum and Berry and District Historical Society.

Old Errowanbang Woolshed near Blayney is one of the few sheds to be designed by an architect. The quality of construction and level of detailing is exceptional for a rural work building. The woolshed was built on Errowanbang Station in about 1886 of white cypress pine and approximately 5 tonnes of nails and bolts. It had 40 stands and could hold 3,000 sheep.

Berrima Bridge is the only built structure jointly owned by New South Wales and Victoria.

Built for the E.S. & A. Bank in 1885, the building has a stepped gable façade, reminiscent of the medieval castles and grand houses of Scotland. Today the building remains remarkably intact and still retains much of its original fabric. It continues to play an important role in the community as the home of the Berry Museum and Berry and District Historical Society.

With the official state border – the southern bank of the Murray river – submerged by the dam, Bethanga Bridge is the only built structure jointly owned by New South Wales and Victoria.

Grace Cossington Smith, one of Australia’s leading modernist painters, was born in Leicestershire, England, where her grandfather had served as rector.

For more information, visit www.heritage.nsw.gov.au