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Cover: The remains of the Rodney paddle steamer lie in the bed of the Darling River between Menindee and Wentworth. In 1894, the paddle steamer was burnt to the water line by a crowd of unionist shearers – a victim of the battle between the shearer’s union and the pastoralists in the 1890s.
Message from the Chair

Gabrielle Kibble AO
Chair of the Heritage Council

Earlier this year, I was given the honour of being appointed Chair of the Heritage Council of NSW. I recognise the importance of this position and the work of the Council as a whole. There is little doubt that heritage issues and decisions made by the Council are of major public interest in this State, including management of the State Heritage Register.

The Heritage Council is being serviced by a standalone branch within the NSW Department of Planning. I am pleased to report that, since my time as Chair, I have been very impressed by the dedication and professionalism of the Department’s Heritage Branch.

Many people are probably also aware that I recently chaired the Independent Panel which conducted a review of the Heritage Act 1977. This Heritage NSW newsletter includes a story on the outcomes of that review.

As Chair of the Heritage Council I would like to pursue a more proactive stance on heritage. I have some ideas on how we may be able to achieve that and I hope to have more to say on that in the next issue of the magazine.

Heritage NSW will be coming out twice each year and I am keen to use it to showcase heritage projects, events and initiatives. In that vein, we feature an excellent project in this issue – the heritage courtyard, which is part of the new $300m Parramatta Justice Precinct.

This is a case where heritage has added value to a major new development and it has been applauded by everyone involved (see page 3).

Finally, I hope most of you were able to see the ABC TV documentary on the story of Australia’s submarine the AE2, which aired around Anzac Day. The Department’s Senior Maritime Archaeologist Tim Smith has had a long standing interest and involvement in the wreck of the submarine, which lies at the bottom of the Turkish sea. Our story on page 6 revisits the vessel’s heroic role in the landings at Gallipoli in 1915, and outlines some of the work that is being done to resolve the longer term management of the wreck.

Heritage Act Review

In March this year the Independent Panel set up to review the NSW Heritage Act 1977 provided a report to the Minister for Planning, Frank Sarton MP, on its recommendations. Generally speaking, the Panel found that heritage processes are working well in NSW, but it has made recommendations aimed at enhancing the operation and fairness of the system.

The Heritage Act Review was conducted over several months by Ms Gabrielle Kibble AO (Chair), Former Director-General Department of Planning, Mr Michael Collins, former Chair of the Heritage Council of NSW, and Mr John Whitehouse, Planning & Environmental Lawyer, and one of the original architects of the NSW Heritage Act 1977.

There were 140 submissions to the Review from local government, special interest groups, professional and industry representatives, consultant firms, community and environment groups, government agencies and individuals.

The 105-page report includes 65 recommendations to improve the heritage system. The review proposed retaining the key elements of the system including local and State listings and a State Heritage Council – it does not propose major changes or water down the current system.

It does, however, find there is a need to introduce more fairness into the system, especially for owners subject to local listings. It proposes that owners should have the right to be consulted at the outset of proposed listings and to seek an independent review through a variety of means, if their house is subject to a local or State listing.

It also finds there is a need to introduce more rigor into the local and State listing system. It suggests a forward program of nominations, updated annually, which responds to public input and the government’s broad directions for listings. For instance, this forward list may recognise the need to protect heritage in a certain thematic category.

New nominations will usually be drawn from this list, while there would still be opportunity for on-the-spot public nominations in exceptional or emergency grounds.

It also presents two options for the future composition of the Heritage Council, to ensure its members have the right skills.

The Panel also identified a number of areas where reform could be undertaken and systemic processes improved. It recommended:

- the need for a separate inquiry into the management of Aboriginal heritage in NSW, given the relationships between the Heritage Act 1977, the Aboriginal Lands Rights Act 1983 and the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- the need to clarify responsibility for managing natural heritage between the Heritage Council and the Department of Environment and Climate Change.

The panel report is now being considered by the NSW Government and as a result its recommendations do not represent government policy. For a complete list of the Independent Panel’s recommendations visit www.heritage.nsw.gov.au
If ever there was any doubt about the fascination people have for archaeology then the queues to see the burial sites at the Sydney Town Hall earlier this year (right) should dispel it. That desire to see first-hand what life was like for our predecessors should make the new ‘heritage courtyard’ at the Parramatta Justice Precinct a ‘must see’. Archaeological remains from the Colonial hospital at Parramatta, which dates back to 1790, have been left in situ, and some form part of a permanent public display.

Laurie Foy, the Brookfield Multiplex Construction Manager for the Parramatta Justice Precinct is very proud of his company’s efforts to integrate the archaeology with the new development. ‘We recognised the significance of this site and knew it had to be handled sensitively. And we are proud of what we have achieved, particularly the heritage courtyard,’ he says.

According to Dr Siobhan Lavelle, senior archaeologist in the Heritage Branch of the Department of Planning, the process adopted on this site has set a new benchmark for managing archaeology on large development sites.

‘It shows that heritage and development can co-exist,’ she says.

It seems all the right elements were in place. Firstly, the site was already on the State Heritage Register, which recognised that the archaeology had state significance when plans for its redevelopment arose. The Conservation Management Plan which followed, proposed that future open space areas should be planned to coincide with the archaeological remains. And then the Masterplan for the site also recognised the importance of the archaeology, and particularly retaining it in situ.

‘The building envelopes established in the Masterplan were located so that most building footprints and underground basements were away from the high value archaeology,’ says Dr Lavelle. The site has state significance because it has been used continuously for hospital purposes from the early days of the Colonial Hospital up to the present, and shows changing medical practices and attitudes to health over that time.

The Hospital, which was built to look after convicts, was built in three phases. The first hospital, which operated from 1789–1792 was built to house 200 patients, but reportedly held many more.

Dr Mary Casey, who directed the archaeological excavation on the site in 2005 and 2006, says the hospital was not the sort of place you wanted to visit if you were sick. ‘Even if your illness didn’t kill you, you were probably going to die anyway – conditions were pretty appalling’, she says.

From 1792–1818 the Second Hospital was built – a brick building which was hardly less inviting. The Reverend Samuel Marsden described it thus: There is not so much as a room to lay a dead man or woman in until they can be removed to the grave; but the dead lie in the room with the living patients.

In 1818, a third Hospital opened still ministering to the convicts, but in 1848 it became a public hospital for Parramatta. This was demolished in 1901 and a new ‘Cottage Hospital’ was built. Several buildings were demolished during the redevelopment for the Parramatta Justice Precinct, but two buildings remain – Brislington House (1821), which is also listed on the State Heritage Register, and Jeffery House (1941–43), which will provide community health services, thereby continuing the use of the site for hospital services.

The heritage courtyard, which fronts Marsden Street, includes two small pavilions which reveal some of the archaeological remains of the Third Colonial Hospital 1818–1848, and the public hospital.

On display are the privy system within the kitchen wing, and the existing footings of the eastern half of the 1818 Hospital building. These are of sandstock brick, many of which have double broad arrow marks. Interpretive material reveals the history and evolution of the hospital buildings.

A collection of artefacts is also on display, including a jug of better quality not seen before on archaeological sites in Sydney and Parramatta, a shackle for a leg iron which would have been used on a convict from an iron gang, a George III mourning ring, and medical containers. There is also evidence of button bone manufacturing.
Dr Siobhan Lavelle says the site is rich in information about the archaeology of early Sydney. Sites of such early occupation are rare. Most of the early colonial Sydney CBD sites are now gone, making other 1790s towns such as Parramatta and Windsor especially important for understanding life in the early Colony.

‘It will become harder to find such sites, and that is why leaving the archaeology in situ here and interpreting it and making it publicly accessible is so important.’

To view the preliminary archaeological reports on the Colonial Hospital site visit: www.caseyandlowe.com.au.
The final report should be there later in the year.

Queues to see graves

Its location in the heart of the city, a rising level of interest in genealogy and a family link to the burial sites, are just some of the reasons that Dr Lisa Murray, a historian at the City of Sydney Council, cites for the 3000 people who queued for nearly two hours to view some excavated burial sites at the Sydney Town Hall, earlier this year.

‘Many of the people who came to see the archaeology had ancestors buried there, but generally speaking, there is a very high level of interest in cemeteries and cultural practices surrounding death,’ she says.

Sydney Town Hall now sits on what used to be the Old Sydney Burial Ground. Set up in 1792 it is regarded as the first permanent cemetery in Sydney. Over 2300 people were buried there up until 1829.

There have been several archaeological excavations at the site over the years, due to upgrading and redevelopment of the Town Hall and its surroundings. When the Town Hall was first built in the 1860s, remains were found, exhumed and reinterred at Rookwood Necropolis. In more recent times, work has been rerouted so that burials could be left in situ, as in Druitt Street where remains of 29 graves were found in 2003.

Plans to completely overhaul the Town Hall’s dated essential services initiated another phase of archaeological investigation in 2007. This preliminary testing found evidence of 53 graves – the human remains had mostly been exhumed. In January 2008, the detailed excavation of these graves commenced and remains of 58 graves were found, only one of which had not been partially exhumed.

Each time the site has been excavated more information becomes available to the archaeologists about the lives and lifestyles of those buried in early Sydney. Dr Mary Casey, who directed the Old Sydney Burial Ground excavation, with her partner Tony Lowe, says that on this occasion they found 25 graves where the bodies were facing west and 27 facing east.

In the traditional Christian burial they face east. ‘The reasons for this unusual orientation are uncertain, but it is possible that it reflects a variation in the burial of Anglicans and Catholics. All burials in the cemetery were under Anglican practices and this change in orientation may have been a means of indicating who were Catholic or Anglican at the resurrection.’

None of the graves contained evidence of clothing, suggesting that all bodies were interred in shrouds. Nearly all the coffins were the shouldered style, except for two, which were rectangular. Of the 58 graves, there were 8 juvenile burials, the rest were assumed to be adults. In some cases there is insufficient evidence to clarify the size of the coffin, because there was one grave but two coffins.

A report is currently being prepared, which will document the results of the archaeological program and provide details on the individual graves. While there will be no in situ interpretation at the site, there will be some interpretation or display of artefacts once the Town Hall upgrade is completed.

For more information on the Old Sydney Burial Ground visit: www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/history

Hand-coloured photographic print after a John Rae watercolour, showing a view north along George Street c.1840s. Held in the Sydney Town Hall Collection. The Old Sydney Burial Ground can be seen to the left of the picture, enclosed by a tall brick wall. A range of memorials are depicted: altar tombs, ledger stones and headstones, courtesy City of Sydney

For years of service

Dr Siobhan Lavelle was recently the recipient of a National Trust Commendation Award for her many years of voluntary work advising the National Trust, for her dedication to the Trust, and for her passionate advocacy for cemeteries and archaeology.
Australia’s naval Gallipoli hero

What is an Australian submarine doing at the bottom of the Turkish Sea, why was it there in the first place and what fate befell the vessel and its crew? Until the recent airing of a TV documentary, Tim Smith, the Department of Planning’s senior maritime archaeologist was one of only a few who knew the answers to these questions.

Late last year Tim made his second trip to Turkey to investigate the vessel – his first was in 1998 when he was part of the team which confirmed the identification of the missing Australian E-class submarine as the HMAS AE2. A discovery made by the Turkish museum director and wreck explorer Selçuk Kolay.

Tim says he still recalls the sound of the sirens of the survey vessels from that trip, blasting out in triumph in the Sea of Marmara.

‘There was a mixture of elation and emotion, as we sat above the exact spot where so much drama had unfolded in World War I.’

For many years the submarine has been a forgotten player in the making of the Anzac legend, but the role it played was recently revealed in a documentary Gallipoli’s Submarine, made by Electric Pictures, which aired on ABC TV on the eve of this year’s ANZAC Day.

It recounted how in April 1915, the AE2, which was under the command of Irishman Captain Henry Stoker (the nephew of Dracula author, Bram Stoker) had breached the heavily fortified and mined Dardanelles Strait. Its success was hard fought – it had been run aground twice, directly under heavily fortified coastal defences, scraped by deadly mine cables, and subjected to repeated attempts by Turkish defenders armed with explosive grappling hooks.

After sixteen hours submerged, and almost out of air and battery power, the AE2 crept above the famous Narrows at Çanakkale and into the inland sea.

The boat took the first Australian combatants into battle on ANZAC Day, 25 April 1915, and by stopping Turkish reinforcements, and bombardment of the peninsula by sea, saved many hundreds of lives.

Signalling its successful passage of the Dardanelles was a factor in General Sir Ian Hamilton’s decision not to evacuate the troops, following their first horrific twenty-four hours ashore.

Buoyed by the submarine’s news, thought of evacuation was overtaken by the order to ‘dig, dig, dig, until you are safe’ – the origin of the term ‘Diggers’.

Sadly, the AE2’s luck was to be short lived. On 30 April 1915, it was attacked on the surface by Turkish naval vessels, holed and scuttled, and Stoker and his crew taken prisoner. They remained in Turkey for a further three years building tunnels for the Berlin to Baghdad railway – four dying in the prison camps.

The troops which had made it on shore remained there for eight terrible months.

Despite its destruction, the AE2 showed that submarines could be effective in breaching the Straits, and thereafter Allied submarines successfully blockaded the inland waters of the Turkish Sea.

The role of the AE2 in the War has been revisited because of investigations into the state of the wreck and questions about its future management. These investigations were the reason for the archaeological expedition late in 2007, which was conducted under the auspices of the AE2 Commemorative Foundation Ltd. The Australian archaeological team, under Tim’s direction, was joined by Turkish colleagues from the Turkish Institute of Nautical Archaeology (TINA).
For the first time there may be an answer to why the Japanese midget submarine wreck M24 was found off Sydney’s Northern Beaches. According to Tim Smith, M24 Project Manager, ‘Sub Lieutenant Katsuhisa Ban and his Petty Officer Namori Ashibe did not take their submarine there on a whim’. A detailed evaluation of once classified Japanese and Allied intelligence reports, indicates far more flexibility in the allotted recovery positions for the midgets than was previously understood.

‘While it is true the midgets were to rendezvous off Sydney’s Royal National Park, M24 appears to have been taken to a previously assigned collection point off Broken Bay.

‘The wreck in fact lies halfway along this historic journey path. ‘The collection places were probably far more interchangeable, depending on conditions and operational needs’, Tim says.

It is now likely that the crew were either overcome from bad air, fatigue or mechanical malfunction. They would have arrived at the present wreck position at daybreak and have been forced to stay submerged until nightfall. This may have been an impossible situation for the crew to endure after some 13 to 14 hours in combat.

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The Rodney, reputedly the largest paddle steamer on the Darling River, became a flashpoint because the pastoralists relied on it and other river boats to transport their goods along the river, but the unions saw it as a strike breaker. The fortunes of the Rodney ended that night, but in an effort to maintain a strong union front in the rural sector, the ASU merged with other rural-based unions to form the Australian Workers' Union – one of the largest, most influential unions in Australia.

Today, the wreck of the Rodney, described by the Riverine Herald on 28 August 1894 as 'one of the finest of the river boats', lies in the bed of the Darling River about 40 kilometres north of the river town of Pooncarie, between Menindee and Wentworth. The remains of the wreck are still visible in the river and earlier this year they were listed on the State Heritage Register – a tangible reminder of those dramatic events of the 1890s.

As Warren Fahey recounted on a recent Radio National Hindsight program Squattocracy & Struggle (2 March 2008) ...

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Incentive Program grant of

With the aid of a Heritage of the son of the first Minister of 'H E Britten'. This was the name was named), and a memorial, as Milson after whom Milson Island settlers (among them James marking the burial sites of early growth of Brooklyn.

The island still has headstones and the memorial, as have survived in its original condition. When it was built in 1878 it was reputedly the first brick building in the town. Randwick Presbyterian Church was designed by influential English born architect Sir John Sulman (1849-1934), in the Victorian Academic Classical style – a rare departure from the Gothic Revival and Romanesque Revival style churches that prevailed in 19th century New South Wales. It is considered to be the first church designed by Sulman and the interior, designed in the form of a Greek theatre, is considered to be Sulman’s finest non-Gothic church interior, and one of the best non-Gothic church interiors in NSW.

The island still has headstones marking the burial sites of early settlers (among them James Milson after whom Milson Island was named), and a memorial, as well as a rock with an inscription ‘H E Britten’. This was the name of the son of the first Minister of the church.

With the aid of a Heritage Incentive Program grant of $19,000 conservation work has been completed on the headstones and the memorial, and a track which led to the church, cemetery and school has been rerouted around the rock with the inscription, and an interpretive sign erected. Work to protect an Aboriginal midden from erosion on the northern point of the island has also been completed.

Hornsby Council consulted local residents and the Aboriginal community before doing the work.

The Island is open to visitors – to get there you have to hire a taxi or boat from Brooklyn.

Bar Island, near the mouth of Berowra Creek is one of the small islands in the Hawkesbury River, relatively unknown by most Sydneysiders. Yet for a decade or two in the late 19th century it was an important community centre for the people who lived along the lower Hawkesbury River and before that, it was a place frequented by Indigenous people.
Government House was the venue for the NSW Government Heritage Volunteer Awards, where the Minister for Planning, Frank Sartor congratulated the following recipients:

**R.B. (Bruce) Crosson**
Historian Bruce Crosson has been a leading member of the Woollahra History and Heritage Society since 1986. Bruce’s knowledge of the area has led him to take most of the 100 heritage and history walks in the Woollahra area, and his skills as a writer and photographer have been used to produce a series of tour guides and articles.

**Daphne Shead**
Daphne Shead has been part of the Hill End community for 20 years and is the district’s official Family Historian. She devotes many hours to researching, teaching and promoting the Hill End Family History Register, writing for the community newsletter and maintaining a website.

**Vince Scerri**
Vince Scerri has lived in Concord for the past 36 years and is a long-term member of the Concord Heritage Society. As a highly qualified tradesman, leader and negotiator, Vince is the driving force behind the Society’s conservation of the dairy precinct of the heritage listed ‘Yaralla Estate.’

**Robin Davies**
Robin Davies has been a passionate advocate and hardworking volunteer for the conservation of local plants and native vegetation in the Macarthur region for more than 14 years. She began as a volunteer guide at Mount Annan Botanic Garden in 1997 and has been a catalyst for many local conservation projects.

**The Lake Macquarie and District Historical Society**
The Society’s adaptive reuse of the disused and run down Toronto Railway Station to the Lake Macquarie Heritage Centre has created a wonderful tourist and community heritage asset, which provides themed displays, a research library, meeting and archive rooms, and other facilities.

**Tom Wiles**
Tom Wiles is considered by many as Adelong’s living treasure for his passion for the gold mining history of Adelong. Tom has researched the State Heritage Register listed Falls Gold Workings, and has been dedicated to the establishment of the Adelong Alive Museum for which he created a working model of the crushing mill – the centrepiece of the museum’s gold gallery.

**Betty Sideres**
Betty Sideres has been involved with the Historic Houses Trust Justice and Police Museum as a volunteer guide since 2002. Betty is a loyal, reliable and passionate ambassador for the work of the Trust and is integral to the Museum’s role of interpreting the social history of NSW.

**Volunteers of the Lady Denman Heritage Complex, Huskisson Inc.**
The Volunteers group was formed in 1979 to rescue and restore the former Sydney Ferry Lady Denman, part of the wooden boat building heritage of the Jervis Bay region. The Lady Denman is now State Heritage Register listed and housed within the Lady Denman Heritage Complex at Huskisson.

**The volunteers maintain four hectares of landscaped grounds, gardens and marine reserve that last year attracted around 100,000 visitors. Last year they donated an average of 650 hours of service per week – the equivalent of 20 full-time positions.**

**The Historic Commercial Vehicle Association**
The Historic Commercial Vehicle Association was formed 43 years ago by a small group of enthusiasts with a shared interest in the state’s public transport heritage. The volunteers are recognised internationally for their energy and commitment in preserving, maintaining, interpreting and promoting the collection of vehicles, most of which are in good running condition.

**Gai Taylor**
For the past three years Gai Taylor has worked as a volunteer in the Cape Byron Lighthouse Maritime Museum, located at the base of the 106-year-old lighthouse on the Headland Reserve. The museum attracts more than 800 000 visitors each year. Gai has shown great passion and enthusiasm for her work and has enabled many visitors to ‘experience’ the maritime heritage of this unique site.
The Friends of Tulkiyan
The Friends of Tulkiyan are a small group of dedicated volunteers, mostly from the local area, who help Ku-ring-gai Council with active interpretation and promotion of the State Heritage Register listed house "Tulkiyan" at Gordon. The Friends organise and run guided tours highlighting the history of the house, and its context within the history of the shire.

Dorothea (Dot) Sawatzki
A direct descendant of the original Italian pioneers of the New Italy settlement in northern New South Wales, Dorothea, or Dot, has been integral to the New Italy Museum Committee. Dot has assisted with curating and displaying the historic information and materials within the New Italy Museum Complex, and is an enthusiastic promoter of the museum, regularly assisting with events and publications.

Friends of the Old Teachers’ College Armidale
Formed in 1997, the Friends of the Old Teacher’s College are dedicated to the history and conservation of the Old Armidale Teacher’s College, established in 1928. The State Heritage Register listed building and its magnificent garden setting now form part of the University of New England. The Friends have raised well over $1.5m to refurbish the auditorium and provide fire protection for the building. The group is also committed to retaining the art collection left in trust to the College, in 1933, by Howard Hinton.

Dr Donald Fraser
Don Fraser is a founding member of the Sydney Engineering Heritage Committee, established in 1978, and remains an active volunteer member. He also represented Sydney on the National Panel on Engineering Heritage for several years. In 1986, Don guided the development of the Australian Historic Engineering Plaque Program. He is an esteemed author of many papers, books and chapters. Last year he undertook a review of bridge items on the State Heritage Register.

The Friends of Craigmoor
The Friends of Craigmoor are a community group helping to maintain and promote Craigmoor. This 1875 house is a unique community asset, which enables visitors to gain a valuable insight into village life during Hill End’s gold rush period in the 19th century. The Friends are also helping to preserve and promote the village of Hill End through twice yearly open days.

The Cavalcade of History and Fashion Inc.
Cavalcade’s volunteers are the custodians of a unique collection of costumes that tell the story of Australian history through fashion, from the First Fleet to the present. The collection has over 8000 items – all of which have been generously donated. Celebrating their 45th anniversary this year, Cavalcade’s volunteers are involved in conserving, sorting and cataloguing the items, preparing them for exhibition, and researching the social history behind each item.

Brush Farm Historical Society
The Brush Farm Historical Society has been the driving force behind the successful campaign to conserve and reopen Brush Farm Estate. The Society was formed in the 1980s to encourage the study of local history with a special focus on Brush Farm Estate. They have strived over 15 years to educate the public about the significance of Brush Farm and its contribution to the history of NSW.

Bruce and Alison Amos
Moree’s heritage buildings owe their survival to the hard work and dedication of Bruce and Alison Amos. For the past two decades, the couple have devoted themselves to identifying Moree’s significant buildings, promoting heritage conservation and providing hands-on support. Their personal commitment is reflected in their adaptive re-use of the former derelict Houlihan Bakery building.

Meredith Walker
Meredith Walker received a special citation at the Awards ceremony as one of Australia’s most experienced and respected heritage consultants. Meredith continues to be a role model who demonstrates how professionals can empower community volunteers and develop their skills. As a member and past President of Australia ICOMOS she was involved in preparing and revising The Burra Charter and was co-author of two editions of The Illustrated Burra Charter. These documents explain the principles governing the practice of heritage conservation and are used widely throughout Australia and overseas.

Aunty Beryl Carmichael
Aunty Beryl Carmichael received her Heritage Volunteer Award from the Heritage Council of NSW. Aunty Beryl, whose traditional name is Yungahdhu is a Ngiyampaa elder from the Darling region of NSW and a descendant of the last Ngiyampaa [rainmaker], Jack King. A custodian of many Ngiyampaa stories, she runs camps for young Aboriginal people at Broken Hill and Menindee and promotes Aboriginal cultural heritage studies to schools and universities, and organisations including the NSW National Parks Service.

In 2001, Aunty Beryl was awarded a Centenary of Federation Medal for her devotion to cultural awareness and her contribution to Australian society.

In one of his last tasks as the former Chair of the Heritage Council of NSW, Michael Collins presents Aunty Beryl Carmichael with her Heritage Volunteer Award Certificate

Meredith Walker receiving her citation from the Minister for Planning, the Hon. Frank Sartor MP, photo by Paramount Studios

Meredith Walker receiving her citation from the Minister for Planning, the Hon. Frank Sartor MP, photo by Paramount Studios

Aunty Beryl Carmichael receiving her Heritage Volunteer Award Certificate from the Minister for Planning, the Hon. Frank Sartor MP, photo by Paramount Studios

In one of his last tasks as the former Chair of the Heritage Council of NSW, Michael Collins presents Aunty Beryl Carmichael with her Heritage Volunteer Award Certificate
New uses for heritage places: guidelines for the adaptation of historic buildings and sites

A new publication which showcases sustainable new uses for heritage buildings has just been released by the Heritage Council of NSW and the Royal Australian Institute of Architects, NSW Chapter. New uses for heritage places: guidelines for the adaptation of historic buildings and sites shows how a variety of heritage buildings, including railway workshops, defence buildings, industrial sites and warehouses have been given a new lease of life by adaptation.

The publication includes 11 detailed case studies, but features a much wider variety of examples throughout.

It is a useful guide for councils, developers and architects and complements the Design in Context: guidelines for the design of infill buildings, also produced by the Heritage Council and Royal Australian Institute of Architects (NSW Chapter) in 2005.

The publication is available for $25 from the Department of Planning’s offices in Sydney and Parramatta.

New guide helps sort out the levels of heritage significance

A new guideline released earlier this year, explains the meaning of the four levels of heritage significance recognised by the Heritage Council of NSW in NSW – local, state, national and world heritage.

The guide removes past confusion caused by additional levels like ‘regional’, ‘low local’ or ‘low state’. It clearly links each level of significance to its related listing and responsible government authority, and reinforces the importance of all four levels of heritage. Pictures help to tell the story.

There are over 20,000 items of local heritage significance and over 1500 of state significance.

Several councils and agencies say it has helped clarify the issue for them and Heritage Victoria has asked if they can reproduce it in their state – testimony to its usefulness. The guideline is a useful adjunct to the publication Assessing Heritage Significance, both of which can be found at www.heritage.nsw.gov.au

Rum Rebellion

Governor William Bligh was allegedly hiding under a bed when the NSW Corps came to arrest him at Government House on 26 January 1808. He was the victim of a military coup – an event which has come to be known as the Rum Rebellion. This year is the 200th anniversary of the Rebellion and to commemorate it, a special web page has been created which allows visitors to connect sites around Sydney and the participants in the events at the time. The sites include Lang Park, York, Long and Grosvenor Streets, Sydney, where the original St Philip’s Anglican Church was located. The rebels had a public meeting here on the night of the overthrow, and on a surviving area of open space previously known as Church Hill, large bonfires were lit and an effigy of Bligh was burnt. Bridge Street, Sydney is another – in 1808 it was a narrower street around the head of Sydney Cove, where the original St Phillip’s Anglican Church was located. The rebels marched to the tune of The British Grenadiers to surround Government House and arrest Bligh. There are also sites at Baulkham Hills, Parramatta, around the Hawkesbury and in Tasmania.

All of these sites are heritage listed and links are provided to the records of these sites on either the State Heritage Register or the State Heritage Inventory. There are also some wonderful images courtesy of the State Library of NSW. You can visit the site at: www.heritage.nsw.gov.au

Tidy Towns Cultural Heritage Awards

The Department of Planning sponsors the Cultural Heritage Conservation category in the Tidy Towns Awards. Recent winners are:

Category A (Population 0-350):

Category B (Population 351-1000):
Winner: The restoration of Ye Olde Bank of NSW and its operation as a living museum in Jerilderie.

Category C (Population 1201-2500):
Winner: The ongoing appeal and success of the Pioneer Park Museum and Italian Museum at Toronto.

Category D (Population 2501-5000):
Winner: The construction and operation as a living museum in Ye Olde Bank of NSW and its operation as a living museum in Jerilderie.

Category E (Population 5001-10000):
Winner: The Macquarie Heritage Centre’s program of shop, cemetery, building and museum upgrades.

Category F
Highly commended: The Aboriginal Heritage of Mambo and Wanda, Salmader Bay.

Category D
Winner: Macquarie Heritage Centre’s program of shop, cemetery, building and museum upgrades.

Category C
Highly commended: The Lake Macquarie Heritage Centre and its Toronto Heritage Afloat Festival, and Temora Heritage Committee’s program of shop, cemetery, building and museum upgrades.

Category B
Winner: The Macquarie Heritage Centre’s program of shop, cemetery, building and museum upgrades.

Category A
Winner: The ongoing appeal and success of the Pioneer Park Museum and Italian Museum at Toronto.

Highly commended: The Zig Zag Railway and the Lithgow Furnace, Fire and Forge Trail.

Category F (Population: 25 000+)
Winner: Our Heritage, Our War Heroes – the conservation and commissioning of war memorials to honour past residents of Tamworth.

Highly commended: Survey of over 240 significant landscape features in Orange promoting landscape conservation.