



STATE HERITAGE REGISTER COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

4 March 2025 | 9:00 AM – 11:20 AM

Meeting held via Teams videoconference.

ATTENDANCE

State Heritage Register Committee

Dr Brian Lindsay	Acting Chair
Dr Stephen Gapps	Member
Dr Wayne Johnson	Member
Ms Lisa Trueman	Member
Ms Natalie Vinton	Member
Ms Vanessa Holtham	Member
Mr Julian Siu	Member

Apologies

Ms Sally Barnes	Alternate Member
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Heritage NSW

Ms Elizabeth Owers	A/Executive Director
Ms Anna London	Senior Manager, Heritage Listing Programs
Ms Nicola Roche	Manager, State Heritage Register listing
Dr Stuart Read	Senior Heritage Officer (<i>item 2.1</i>)
Ms Ruth Berendt	Senior Assessments Officer (<i>item 2.2</i>)
Ms Katrina Stankowski	Manager Assessments (<i>item 2.2</i>)
Ms Sarah Hawkins	Senior Heritage Officer (<i>item 2.3, 3.1</i>)
Mr Nikolas Orr	Senior Heritage Officer (<i>item 2.4</i>)
Ms Lauren Thomson	Senior Heritage Officer (<i>item 3.2, 5.0</i>)

Secretariat

Ms Olgica Lenger	Manager Secretariat
Ms Natasha Agaki	Secretariat Officer

Item 1. Welcome and Formalities

Acting Chair Brian Lindsay opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and delivered an Acknowledgment of Country.

The committee noted there were no apologies and a quorum had been met.

The committee welcomed new appointees of the Heritage Council of NSW, Vanessa Holtham and Julian Siu.

The committee further noted that Brian Lindsay's role as Deputy Chair of the State Heritage Register Committee (SHRC) has been extended by the Heritage Council until the end of June 2025. Brian will continue to act as Chair of the committee until a permanent Chair is formally appointed.

Item 1.1 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared with items on the agenda.

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the following standing declarations:

- Dr Wayne Johnson: Place Management NSW
- Natalie Vinton: Powerhouse Museum, Ultimo and MLC Building, North Sydney
- Dr Stephen Gapps: Artefact Heritage and Environment
- Julian Siu: GML Heritage

Item 1.2 Out of Session Decisions

Nil reported.

Item 1.3 Minutes from the Previous Meeting – 4 February 2025

Resolution 2025-13
The State Heritage Register Committee: 1. Confirmed the minutes of the previous ordinary meeting (4 February 2025) as a complete and accurate record of that meeting.
Moved by Lisa Trueman and seconded by Wayne Johnson

Item 1.4 Matters Arising

Nil

Item 1.5 Action Report

Nil

Item 2 SHR Nominations – Notice of Intention

Item 2.1 Paddington Town Hall (Amendment) – NOI

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report on Paddington Town Hall (Amendment) – NOI by Stuart Read, Heritage NSW.

Key points:

- Paddington Town Hall was listed on the State heritage register (SHR) in 1999 for its aesthetic and historic values and was nominated for re-assessment by the SHRC's LGBTQIA+ Working Group in 2022. The amendment focuses on recognising intangible social values without altering the physical boundaries of the site.
- The building may be of State historic and social significance for its role in LGBTQIA+ activism in the 1970s and 1980s, for NSW law reform, and action on HIV/ AIDS.
- Heritage NSW considers that it may also be of State historical and social value for Sydney's Aboriginal community as the site of the first Aboriginal Debutante Ball in Sydney in 1966, and a fundraising event supporting 'The Freedom Ride'.
- The committee considered the proposed changes to the listing's values assessment, statement of significance, and history and noted that the amendments would help address identified gaps in LGBTQIA+ heritage and Aboriginal cultural heritage (ACH) within SHR listings.
- The committee noted advice received by Heritage NSW from the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee in regard to consultation on the ACH values and agreed to increase the submission period to 60 days to allow a more fulsome engagement with the Aboriginal community.
- The owner, City of Sydney Council, is generally supportive of the proposed amendments to the listing.

The Chair thanked Stuart Read for his presentation.

Resolution 2025-14
<p>The State Heritage Register Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the recommendations of the LGBTQIA+ Working Group to better recognise intangible social values in the history of Paddington Town Hall, SHR 00561. 2. Considers the item known as Paddington Town Hall at 249 Oxford Street, Paddington, defined in accordance with the unaltered curtilage shown at Tab 2.1C of the report, continues to be of State heritage significance and notes that it may have additional state significant values, including but not limited to LGBTQIA+ and Aboriginal cultural heritage values. 3. In accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i>, 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 an amendment of the listing for the item concerned (<i>a notice of intention to consider a listing amendment</i>). 4. In accordance with section 33(1)(b) and section 33(1)(c) of the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i>, 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 60 days after the publication of the newspaper notice and the manner in which submissions may be made. <p>Moved by Lisa Trueman and seconded by Julian Siu</p>

Item 2.2 Abercrombie Bridge – NOI

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report on Abercrombie Bridge – NOI by Ruth Berendt, Heritage NSW.

Key points:

- Abercrombie Bridge is the first of 6 bridges nominated for SHR listing by Transport for NSW in accordance with the endorsed Timber Truss Bridge Conservation Strategy (TTBCS).
- The bridge is considered significant for its rarity and representativeness as an example of an Allan Truss timber road bridge, its demonstration of technical excellence in the evolution of bridge design, and for its association with eminent government engineer, Percy Allan.
- The proposed curtilage encompasses all elements of the bridge with a buffer zone on either side and is contained within the road reserve managed by Transport for NSW.
- The committee discussed the Heritage Council endorsed TTBCS, noting the commitment by Transport for NSW to retain and conserve 27 identified timber truss road bridges.
- The committee raised concerns around the possible impacts of timber scarcity on the maintenance of these bridges. It was noted that Transport for NSW has forward planned timber supply for the implementation of this strategy and continues to explore other options such as timber composite and overseas stock for future repairs.
- The committee noted the remaining 5 bridge nominations will come to the SHRC throughout the year.

The Chair thanked Ruth Berendt for her presentation.

Resolution 2025-15
<p>The State Heritage Register Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Considers the item known as Abercrombie Bridge over Abercrombie River, Goulburn Road, Abercrombie, defined in accordance with the curtilage shown at Tab 2.2C of the report, may be of State heritage significance. 2. In accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i>, 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 <i>notice of intention to consider listing</i>). 3. In accordance with section 33(1)(b) and section 33(1)(c) of the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i>, 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.
Moved by Vanessa Holtham and seconded by Wayne Johnson

Item 2.3 Australian Museum (Amendment) – NOI

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report on Australian Museum (Amendment) – NOI by Sarah Hawkins, Heritage NSW.

Key points:

- The Australian Museum is of State significance as Australia's first public museum, its ability to demonstrate the evolution of museology, its landmark values and architectural

merit, associations with significant persons, and for its ongoing community esteem as a leading cultural institution.

- The amended values and statement of significance include potential complex social significance to Aboriginal communities as a place of resistance and decolonisation.
- A further amendment includes the removal of the Museum's collection, which is already adequately protected under the Australian Museum Trust Act.
- The Australian Museum, as the owner, is supportive of the amendments.
- Heritage NSW will consult the Australian Museum in the development of appropriate site specific exemptions as part of the listing amendment process.
- The Chair acknowledged the Australian Museum's First Nations led response to the presentation of their collection, and the extent to which the listing acknowledges the very important research work done by the Museum.

The Chair thanked Sarah Hawkins for her presentation.

Resolution 2025-16

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. **Notes** the nomination from the Australian Museum pertaining to an amendment of the Australian Museum listing SHR 00805.
2. **Considers** the item known as the Australian Museum at 6-8 College Street, Sydney, defined in accordance with the unaltered curtilage shown at Tab 2.3C of the report, continues to be of State heritage significance.
3. In accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, 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 an amendment of the listing for the item concerned (*a notice of intention to consider a listing amendment*).
4. In accordance with section 33(1)(b) and section 33(1)(c) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, within 14 days after notice of intention to consider listing is given, will cause a **notice** of intention to consider an amendment to a 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.

Moved by Natalie Vinton and seconded by Julian Siu

Item 2.4 Transport House, Macquarie Street – NOI

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report on Transport House, Macquarie Street – NOI by Nikolas Orr, Heritage NSW.

Key points:

- Transport House, Macquarie Street may be State significance due to its historical, associative, aesthetic/technical, rarity and representative values.
- The owner, Mulpha Transport House Pty Ltd, is supportive of the proposed listing subject to site specific exemptions.
- Consultation with the owners and their heritage consultant, Urbis, will continue throughout the submission period.

- The proposed curtilage encompasses the full footprint of the building, including all 7 storeys, the rooftop, the wooden escalator, and the driveway. It is consistent with the lot boundary and the local heritage listing and has received no objection from the owner or from City of Sydney Council.
- The committee noted that potential heritage impacts for any future development on the site, including maintaining the building's silhouette, sympathetic building materials and finishes, and potential shadowing and interruption of sight line, are subject to separate approval processes.
- The committee emphasised that the listing description should adequately capture the significance and visibility of the building's profile from the streetscape, and further detail on the building's interior, to ensure it is robust. This should be reviewed by Heritage NSW during the submission period.

The Chair thanked Nikolas Orr for his presentation.

Resolution 2025-17

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. **Considers** the item known as Transport House at 99–113 Macquarie Street, Sydney, defined in accordance with the curtilage shown at Tab 2.4C of the report, may be of State heritage significance.
2. In accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, 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*).
3. In accordance with section 33(1)(b) and section 33(1)(c) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, 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.

Moved by Wayne Johnson and seconded by Lisa Trueman

Item 3. SHR Nominations – Recommendation to List

Item 3.1 Lady Gowrie Child Centre – RTL

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report on Lady Gowrie Child Centre – RTL by Sarah Hawkins, Heritage NSW.

Key points:

- The original SHR nomination combined two properties, the Erskineville Housing Scheme and the Lady Gowrie Child Centre, as the Erskineville Housing Scheme Precinct.
- The landowner, Homes NSW, objected to the proposed listing of the entire precinct, but supported the listing of the Lady Gowrie Child Centre as a standalone item on the SHR.
- Heritage NSW considers that the Lady Gowrie Child Centre may meet 4 criteria for State significance – historical, associative, aesthetic/technical, and rarity.
- Heritage NSW have worked closely with Gowrie NSW, to develop site specific exemptions to assist with the ongoing management of the property as a childcare centre.

- Gowrie NSW have indicated in-principle support for the listing, subject to the granting of site specific exemptions. Homes NSW have been provided with the site specific exemptions but have not yet provided comment.
- During the submissions period, 11 submissions were received, all of which were supportive of the listing. No changes have been proposed as a result of the submissions.

The Chair thanked Sarah Hawkins for her presentation.

Resolution 2025-18

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. In accordance with section 33(1)(d) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, has **considered** the submissions received in response to its notice of intention to consider listing and considers the item known as Lady Gowrie Child Centre at 1B Elliott Avenue, Erskineville, satisfies more than one of the approved criteria for determining whether an item is of State heritage significance, being criteria (a), (b), (c), and (f), as detailed in the report at Tab 3.1A.
2. **Recommends** to the Minister, in accordance with sections 32(1) and (2) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, that the Minister **direct** the listing of the item, Lady Gowrie Child Centre at 1B Elliott Avenue, Erskineville, on the State Heritage Register, as shown in the plan at Tab 3.1C of the report.
3. In accordance with section 33(1)(e) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, **give notice** of its decision to persons notified under section 33(1)(a).
4. In accordance with section 57(2) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, **recommends** that the Minister **grant** the site specific exemptions at Tab 3.1D of the report.

Moved by Natalie Vinton and seconded by Vanessa Holtham

Item 3.2 Walter McGrath House – RTL

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report on Walter McGrath House – RTL by Lauren Thomson, Heritage NSW.

Key points:

- On 31 March 2021, the Walter McGrath House was nominated by Woollahra Municipal Council following the findings of Contemporary Building Heritage Study by Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners, 2006.
- The Walter McGrath House meets the threshold for State significance under the associative and aesthetic criteria.
- The item is an outstanding example of the work of Peter Muller, distinguished Australian architect whose early career had an important impact on modernism in NSW.
- The building is still being used as a private residence. Its current owners have made minor changes to the fabric, but significant elements are intact.
- Only one submission was received during the exhibition period, which was in support of the listing based on the house's architectural merit and significance in modern architecture in Australia.
- The owners support the listing, however no formal submission has been received.
- Draft site specific exemptions have been developed in consultation with the owners and allow ongoing conservation works, maintenance, and small changes to contemporary elements.

The Chair thanked Lauren Thomson for her presentation.

Resolution 2025-19

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. In accordance with section 33(1)(d) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, has **considered** the submissions received in response to its notice of intention to consider listing and considers the item known as Walter McGrath House at 4 Dunara Gardens, Point Piper, satisfies more than one of the approved criteria for determining whether an item is of State heritage significance, being criteria (b) and (c), as detailed in the report at Tab 3.2A.
2. **Recommends** to the Minister, in accordance with sections 32(1) and (2) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, that the Minister **direct** the listing of the item, Walter McGrath House at 4 Dunara Gardens, Point Piper, on the State Heritage Register, as shown in the plan at Tab 3.2C of the report.
3. In accordance with section 33(1)(e) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, **give notice** of its decision to persons notified under section 33(1)(a).
4. In accordance with section 57(2) of the *Heritage Act 1977*, **recommends** that the Minister **grant** the site-specific exemptions at Tab 3.2D of the report.

Moved by Julian Siu and seconded by Lisa Trueman

Item 4. Matters for Consideration

Nil

Item 5. Preliminary Assessment of New SHR Nominations

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the Preliminary Assessment of New SHR Nominations report by Lauren Thomson, Heritage NSW.

Commercial Hotel, Liverpool

This item was nominated for State heritage listing by Liverpool City Council. The committee considered the nomination, and concerns for the state of the building and its management, however unanimously felt that it was not likely to hold significance at a State level.

Resolution 2025-20

1. **Considers** that the Commercial Hotel is not likely to be of State heritage significance and therefore the nomination should not be progressed (Tab 5B of the report).

Moved by Julian Siu and seconded by Stephen Gapps

Item 6. SHR Listings Monthly Report

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report.

Item 7. General Matters**Item 7.1 Forward Agenda**

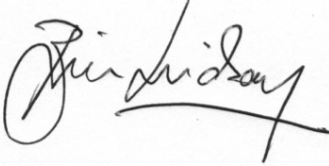
The State Heritage Register Committee noted the forward agenda.

Item 7.2 SHR nomination and listing process

The committee discussed options for a strategic review of the SHR nomination and listings process, considering how to better address priorities and gaps on the SHR. Heritage NSW noted the opportunity to share and learn from other jurisdictions and Federal colleagues around the ongoing need for prioritisation.

Meeting Close

There being no further items of business, the A/Chair, Brian Lindsay, closed the meeting at 11:20 AM.



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Dr. Brian Lindsay

A/Chair, State Heritage Register Committee
Heritage Council of NSW

1 April 2025