



HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NSW

MEETING MINUTES – 540.a

14 July 2025 | 2:00 PM – 3:22 PM

via teleconference (Teams)

ATTENDANCE

Members

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Ms Sally Barnes | Chair |
| Dr Brian Lindsay | Member |
| Mr Julian Siu | Member |
| Ms Lisa Trueman | Member |
| Ms Vanessa Holtham | Member |
| Ms Anthea Sargeant | Member |

Recused

| | |
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| Dr Nicholas Brunton | Member |
| Mr Alan Croker | Member |

Apologies

NIL

Heritage NSW

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| Ms Elizabeth Owers | A/Executive Director |
| Mr Tim Smith | Director Heritage Assessments |
| Ms Nicole Davis | Manager Assessments ACH North |
| Ms Louise Doherty | Senior Assessments Officer |
| Mr Tempe Beaven | Senior Assessments Officer |
| Ms Anna Simanowsky | Senior Assessments Officer |

Secretariat

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| Ms Olgica Lenger | Manager Committee Services |
| Ms Jo-anne Pickels | Project Officer |

IN-CAMERA SESSION

This item was not minuted.

Item 1. Welcome and Formalities

The Chair, Sally Barnes, opened the meeting at 2:10 PM. The Chair delivered an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed attendees.

The Chair noted that Nicholas Brunton and Alan Croker were recused from the meeting. There were no apologies received, and that a quorum was met.

Item 1.1 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Nicholas Brunton previously declared conflict of interest for Item 2.1 *MLC Building, North Sydney (former) (SHR 02069) – IDA for commercial development*, and Alan Croker had previously recused himself for this item. Members noted that papers were redacted from view.

Since this was the sole agenda item for this meeting, their attendance was not required, and they were recused from the meeting.

Item 2. Matters for consideration

Item 2.1 MLC Building, North Sydney (former) (SHR 02069) – IDA for commercial development

Arising from the in-camera session, at the request from some members, the Chair clarified purpose of the out-of-session meeting.

The Heritage Council of NSW further considered the information provided by Heritage NSW for MLC Building, North Sydney (former) (SHR 02069) – IDA for commercial development.

Members noted that they received the demolition plans for the first time in July 2025. Some members expressed the view that the proposal could be considered as full demolition which cannot be approved under the Heritage Act.

The Council discussed the technical aspects of the proposed changes, including the curtain wall, floor slabs, and overall structural integrity. Concerns were raised about the extent of the proposed demolition and the cumulative impacts of the proposed changes.

Concerns were re-iterated about the lack of input from a heritage architect and a specialist heritage structural engineer noting that the involvement of such specialist may have resulted in an approach which may have achieved the retention of a greater level of fabric. The discussion explored the tension between retaining heritage fabric and meeting contemporary building standards, with diverse perspectives of members.

The Chair thanked everyone for their time and effort, acknowledging the extensive work done by Heritage NSW and the thoughtful considerations of the Council members.

Resolution 2025-33

The Heritage Council of NSW resolved to:

- 1 **Note** the additional information provided to address Heritage Council concerns raised at the meeting of 2 July 2025.
- 2 **Approve** the Integrated Development Application for a commercial development that allows for the refurbishment, alterations and additions to the *MLC Building North Sydney (former)* (SHR 02069) with the General Terms of Approval outlined in Tab 1.0A of the report, as amended.

Moved by Brian Lindsay and seconded by Anthea Sargeant

As there was an equality of votes, the Chair cast a second vote pursuant to Schedule 2, clause 13(2) of the *Heritage Act 1977*.

Vanessa Holtham and Lisa Trueman do not support this resolution.

Meeting Close

There being no further items of business, the Chair, Sally Barnes, closed the meeting at 3:22 PM.



Sally Barnes

Chair, Heritage Council of NSW

6 August 2025