



HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NSW

MEETING MINUTES – State Heritage Register Committee

2 December 2025 | 1:45 – 3:45 pm

Meeting Room 20, Level 11, 4PSQ and via Teams videoconference

ATTENDANCE

State Heritage Register Committee

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| Dr Brian Lindsay | Chair |
| Dr Stephen Gapps | Member |
| Vanessa Holtham | Member |
| Natalie Vinton | Member |
| Julian Siu | Member |
| Dr Wayne Johnson | Member |
| Steven Meredith | Member |

Apologies

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| Danièle Hromek | Member |
| Sally Barnes | Alternate Member |

Heritage NSW

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| Anna London | Senior Manager, Heritage Listings Programs |
| Alexandra Boukouvalas | Manager, Heritage Programs |
| Nicola Roche | Manager Heritage Programs |
| Sarah Hawkins | Senior Heritage Officer (<i>item 2.1</i>) |
| Judith Coombes | Senior Heritage Officer (<i>item 3.1</i>) |
| Dr Damian Tybussek | Senior Heritage Officer (<i>item 4.1</i>) |
| Nikolas Orr | Senior Heritage Officer (<i>items 4.2 and 4.3</i>) |
| Darrie Wyndham | Senior Heritage Officer (<i>item 4.4</i>) |
| Caroline Ford | Policy Manager (<i>item 6.1</i>) |
| Gabby Delange | Policy Officer (<i>item 6.1</i>) |
| Lucy Albani | Director Policy & Strategy (<i>item 6.1</i>) |

Committee Services

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| Jo Pickles | A/Senior Project Officer Committee Services |
| Lily O'Connor | Assistant Policy Officer |

Item 1. Welcome and Formalities

The Chair, Dr Brian Lindsay, opened the meeting at 1:51 pm and delivered an Acknowledgment of Country. Members welcomed Steven Meredith who was recently appointed to the State Heritage Register Committee.

Apologies were noted from Danièle Hromek, and it was confirmed that a quorum had been met.

Item 1.1 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Natalie Vinton advised of a conflict of interest with item 7.1 Bowman Hall and left the meeting for this item.

Item 1.2 Out of Session Decisions

Nil

Item 1.3 Minutes from the Previous Meeting – 4 November 2025

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| Resolution 2025-90 |
| The State Heritage Register Committee: 1. Confirmed the minutes of the previous ordinary meeting (4 November 2025) as a complete and accurate record of that meeting. |
| Moved by Wayne Johnson and seconded by Natalie Vinton |

Item 1.4 Matters Arising

Nil.

Item 1.5 Action Report

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report.

Item 2. SHR Nominations – Notice of Intention

Nil

Item 3. SHR Nominations – Recommendation to List (RTL)

Item 3.1 Ball-Eastway House and Setting, Glenorie - RTL

The State Heritage Register Committee noted a report and presentation from Heritage NSW on the Ball-Eastway House and Setting. There were 8 submissions received, all in support of the listing.

The site's curtilage remains unchanged from the Notice of Intention stage and includes bushland setting and studios. No site-specific exemptions were required by the owner, and standard exemptions include provisions for Aboriginal cultural practices, bush regeneration and bushfire management.

It was noted that once listed, this item will join two other Glenn Murcutt designed listings on the State Heritage Register; Marie Short Farmhouse, Kempsey, 1975 and Simpson-Lee House II, Mount Wilson, 1994.

Resolution 2025-91

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. Has **considered** the submissions received in response to its notice of intention to consider listing and **finds** that Ball-Eastaway House and Setting at 261 Halcrows Road, Glenorie, satisfies criteria (a), (b) and (c) for determining whether an item is of State heritage significance (refer to section 33(1)(d) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
2. **Recommends** that the Minister **direct** the State Heritage Register listing of Ball-Eastaway House and Setting at 261 Halcrows Road, Glenorie, as shown in the plan at Tab 3.1C of the report (refer to sections 32(1) and (2) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
3. **Gives notice** of its decision to affected owners or occupiers, the relevant local council, and everyone who made a submission (refer to section 33(1)(e) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
4. **Notes** that Heritage Council standard exemptions will apply.

Moved by Vanessa Holtham and seconded by Julian Siu

Item 4. SHR Amendments – Notice of Intention to Amend (NTA)**Item 4.1 Lydham Hall, Rockdale - NTA**

The State Heritage Register Committee noted a report and presentation from Heritage NSW on Lydham Hall, Rockdale.

The item was originally listed in April 1999. It was restored and converted into a historic house museum and operated by a historical society. A request for amendment was made by local historians, as the original listing did not include a significance assessment. The site may meet State significance for three criteria. It is proposed to retain the listing's original curtilage and site-specific exemptions are being developed.

Resolution 2025-92

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. **Considers** the item known as Lydham Hall at 18 Lydham Avenue, Rockdale, defined in accordance with the curtilage shown at Tab 4.1C of the report, continues to be of State heritage significance.
2. 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 amendment of the listing for the item (refer to section 33(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
3. Additionally, within 14 days of giving notice to owners and occupiers, will also **publish** the **notice** in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the item is situated (refer to section 33(1)(b) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
4. The notice will invite submissions on the amended listing, explain how submissions can be made and specify the closing date for submissions, being a date no less than 14 days after the publication of the newspaper (refer to section 33(1)(c) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
5. **Decides to delegate** to Heritage NSW the recommendation to amend this listing to the Minister, following consideration of all submissions received.

Moved by Steve Meredith and seconded by Vanessa Holtham

Item 4.2 Premiers and Railway Commissioners Rail Car Collection– NTA

The State Heritage Register Committee noted a report and presentation from Heritage NSW on the Premiers and Railway Commissioners Rail Car Collection.

It was noted this is a moveable heritage collection. The proposed amendment to the collection of five rail carriages would potentially meet five criteria, while two criteria would be removed. The listing's curtilage extends to the moveable collection only, and site-specific exemptions will enable relocation of the carriages.

A Statement of Country has been prepared and will be added to the listing.

Resolution 2025-93

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. **Considers** the item known as the Premiers and Railway Commissioners Rail Car Collection, currently held at the Tank Annexe, Chullora and the Thirlmere Rail Museum, Thirlmere, defined in accordance with the curtilage shown at Tab 4.2C of the report, continues to be of State heritage significance.
2. 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 amendment of the listing for the item concerned (refer to section 33(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
3. Additionally, within 14 days of giving notice to owners and occupiers, will also **publish** the **notice** in a newspaper circulating in the area where the item is located (refer to section 33(1)(b) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
4. The notice will invite submissions on the listing, explain how submissions can be made and specify the closing date for submissions, being a date no less than 14 days after the publication of the newspaper (refer to section 33(1)(c) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
5. **Decides to delegate** to Heritage NSW the recommendation to amend the listing of the Premiers and Railway Commissioners Rail Car Collection to the Minister, following consideration of all submissions received.

Moved by Stephen Gapps and seconded by Wayne Johnson

Item 5. SHR Amendments – Recommendation to Amend (RTA)

Nil

Item 6. SHR Amendments – Decision to Amend (DTA)

Item 6.1 Petrology Collection, Londonderry – DTA

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report and presentation from Heritage NSW on the Petrology Collection, Londonderry. It was noted that a Statement of Country has been written for this item to acknowledge that these specimens have been taken from almost every Aboriginal Country from across NSW.

The collection is significant as a record of lithology and rock types of NSW, comprised of both whole geological specimens and thin sections that have been cut off rock blocks. The collection potentially meets five criteria, and the curtilage is restricted to the objects themselves.

Resolution 2025-94

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. **Considers** the item known as the Petrology Collection, currently held the W.B. Clarke Geoscience Centre, 947-953 Londonderry Road, Londonderry, continues to be of State heritage significance, supported by additional information compiled to improve the listing.
2. **Finds** that the Petrology Collection, currently held at the W.B. Clarke Geoscience Centre, 947-953 Londonderry Road, Londonderry, satisfies criteria (a), (b), (e), (f), and (g) for determining whether an item is of State heritage significance (refer to section 33(1)(d) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
3. Gives **notice** of its decision to affected owners or occupiers and the relevant local council (refer to section 33(1)(e) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
4. **Recommends** that the Minister **grant** the site specific exemptions listed in Tab 6.1C of the report (refer to section 57(2) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).

Moved by Natalie Vinton and seconded by Stephen Gapps

Item 6.2 The Ridge, Merewether – DTA

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report and presentation from Heritage NSW on The Ridge, Merewether.

It was noted that the Victorian gothic dwelling meets State significance for multiple criteria and bears witness to the practice of forced adoption in NSW. Its proposed amendment involves adding relevant information to improve the listing.

Resolution 2025-95

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. **Considers** the item known as The Ridge at 21 Hillcrest Road, Merewether, defined in accordance with the curtilage shown at Tab 6.2C of the report, continues to be of State heritage significance, supported by additional information compiled to improve the listing.
2. **Finds** that The Ridge at 21 Hillcrest Road, Merewether, satisfies criteria a and b for determining whether an item is of State heritage significance (refer to section 33(1)(d) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
3. Gives **notice** of its decision to affected owners or occupiers and the relevant local council (refer to section 33(1)(e) of the *Heritage Act 1977*).
4. **Notes** that Heritage Council standard exemptions still apply.

Moved by Wayne Johnson and seconded by Vanessa Holtham

Item 7. New SHR Nominations – Preliminary Assessment

The State Heritage Register Committee received a report from Heritage NSW on New Nominations for listing on the SHR – Preliminary Assessment, including the preliminary assessment of the Bowman Hall, Blacktown and Dawn Fraser RiverCat nominations.

7.1 Bowman Hall, Blacktown

The Committee discussed Bowman Hall, Blacktown as a potential site of State significance. This was the site of the launch of Gough Whitlam's 1972 'It's Time' campaign and it was noted it might meet one or two criteria at State level. The integrity of the site is heavily compromised, and it has been bought by a corporation who intend to demolish it.

It was noted that the site's significance relates to the events that took place rather than the physical material of the building, so plaques and interpretation could be a more practical form of recognition than State Heritage Register listing. Suggestions for alternative nominations relating to Gough Whitlam were discussed, including the Whitlam Institute within Rydalmere Hospital and Whitlam House.

Resolution 2025-96

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. **Considers** that although Bowman Hall, Blacktown, may have State significance, it is likely to be of low integrity compared to other items associated with Gough Whitlam, and will not be progressed for assessment.

Moved by Julian Siu and seconded by Wayne Johnson

Natalie Vinton left the meeting for the duration of this agenda item.

7.2 Dawn Fraser RiverCat

The Committee discussed the Dawn Fraser RiverCat and its potential for State significance.

The Dawn Fraser RiverCat is proposed to be retired in February 2026, with the RiverCat class replaced by new Parramatta River ferries. This is the last operational RiverCat of the original group named after female Olympians.

It was noted this item was unlikely to meet the threshold for State significance. Two local councils have indicated they are not likely to pursue local listing.

Resolution 2025-97

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. **Considers** that the Dawn Fraser RiverCat is unlikely to be of State significance and therefore the nomination will not be progressed for assessment.

Moved by Steve Meredith and seconded by Stephen Gapps

Item 8. Matters for Consideration

8.1 Refreshing the SHR Nomination Process

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report and presentation from Heritage NSW on refreshing the SHR nominations process. Multiple reviews have made recommendations for improving the SHR; a community-driven, early round nomination process, thematic listings program to support a more representative SHR, reform the nominations pathway to a themed batch intake and simplify and modernise the SHR nominations process. This new approach will give greater clarity and speed up processing times. The new process is currently forecast to be a two-year cycle, which could begin in the first quarter of 2027.

Resolution 2025-98

The State Heritage Register Committee:

1. **Support** the ongoing development of a proposed new approach to State Heritage Register nominations.

Moved by Brian Lindsay and seconded by Stephen Gapps

Item 9. State Heritage Register Listings Monthly Report

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the report.

Item 10. General Matters

Item 10.1 Forward Agenda

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the forward agenda.

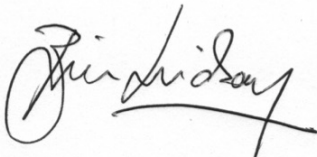
Item 10.2 2025-26 HC, SHRC, AC Leave Tracker

The State Heritage Register Committee noted the currency of the leave tracker.

Meeting Close

The State Heritage Register Committee Chair gave a special thanks to Wayne Johnson for his term on the Committee, noting that this was his final meeting.

There being no further items of business, the Chair, Dr Brian Lindsay, closed the meeting at 3:45 pm.



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Dr Brian Lindsay

Chair, State Heritage Register Committee

Date: 4 February 2026