



HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NSW

MEETING MINUTES – 510

7 December 2022 | 9:00 AM – 1:20 PM

Conference Room 14, Heritage NSW, Level 11, 4PSQ, Parramatta & via teleconference

ATTENDANCE

Members

Mr Frank Howarth AM PSM	Chair
The Hon Robyn Parker	Deputy Chair
Mr Nicholas Brunton	Member
Mr Ian Clarke	Member
Mr Paul Knight	Member
Dr Brian Lindsay	Member
Ms Colleen Morris	Member
Ms Vanessa Holtham	Member
Mr Brett Whitworth	Member
Mr Dillon Kombumerri	Observer

Apologies

Nil

External Presenters

Mr Colin Sargent	Director Design & Planning, TfNSW (<i>item 4.1</i>)
Mr David Barnard	Design Manager, TfNSW (<i>items 4.1 & 4.2</i>)
Mr Paul Davies	Heritage Advisor, TfNSW (<i>item 4.1</i>)
Mr Nicholas Wolff	Program Director, TfNSW (<i>items 4.1 & 4.2</i>)
Ms Santhurie Naidoo	Senior Mgr Planning & Environment, TfNSW (<i>items 4.1 & 4.2</i>)
Mr Josh Daniel	Environment & Sustainability Mgr, TfNSW (<i>items 4.1 & 4.2</i>)
Ms Emma McGirr	Heritage Specialist (Urban Renewal), TfNSW (<i>items 4.1 & 4.2</i>)
Ms Flavia Scardamaglia	Sen Environment Officer (Heritage), TfNSW (<i>items 4.1 & 4.2</i>)
Ms Emily Dickson	Senior Planning Officer, DPE (<i>item 4.1</i>)
Mr George Phillips	Heritage Architect, Tanner Kibble Denton Architects (<i>item 4.2</i>)
Mr Matthew Bennett	Lead Architect, Grimshaw (<i>item 4.2</i>)
Ms Tanya Kulakovska	Manager, Comms & Engagement, TfNSW (<i>item 4.2</i>)
Mr Ed Beebe	Senior Project Officer, NPWS (<i>item 5.1</i>)
Ms Natalie Vinton	CEO, Curio Projects (<i>item 5.2</i>)

Heritage NSW

Mr Sam Kidman	Executive Director
Mr Tim Smith	Director Heritage Assessments
Ms Rochelle Johnston	Senior Manager Major Projects (<i>items 4.1 & 4.2</i>)
Ms Chrisia Ang	Senior Assessments Officer (<i>items 4.1 & 4.2</i>)
Ms Lucy Albani	Director Policy and Strategy (<i>item 5.1</i>)
Ms Mariyam Nizam	Senior Assessments Officer (<i>item 5.1</i>)
Ms Ashley Edwards	Senior Policy Officer (<i>item 5.1</i>)

Ms May Willard
Ms Elizabeth Owers

Policy Officer (*item 5.1*)
Director Customer Services (*items 5.2 & 6.1*)

Secretariat

Ms Olgica Lenger
Ms Elizabeth Thomas

Manager Secretariat
Senior Secretariat Officer

IN-CAMERA SESSION

This item was not minuted.

Item 1. Welcome and Formalities

The Chair, Frank Howarth, opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and delivered an Acknowledgment of Country.

There were no apologies received for this meeting, and it was noted that a quorum had been met.

Item 1.1 Conflict of Interest Declarations

The Council reviewed the COI guidance material provided to assist members in determining the requirement for declarations and suggested it be included in the induction program for members.

Robyn Parker declared a standing perceived non-pecuniary conflict of interest related to her role as a Commissioner with the Greater Cities Commission.

Resolution 2022-51
The Heritage Council of NSW resolved to:
1. Adopt the Heritage Council of NSW <i>Conflict of Interest Guideline</i> .
Moved by Nicholas Brunton and seconded by Vanessa Holtham

Item 1.2 Out of Session Decisions

There were no out of session decisions made since the last meeting.

Item 1.3 Minutes from the Previous Meeting – 2 November 2022

Resolution 2022-52
The Heritage Council of NSW:
1. Confirmed the minutes of the previous ordinary meeting (2 November 2022) as a complete and accurate record of that meeting.
Moved by Nicholas Brunton and seconded by Vanessa Holtham

Item 1.4 Matters Arising

2A Gregory Place, Harris Park

The Council discussed the Approval Committee's deliberations regarding the development proposal for *2A Gregory Place, Harris Park* and noted that the applicant is aiming to provide a joint presentation to the Council and the Approvals Committee in early 2023.

Item 1.5 Action Report

The Heritage Council of NSW agreed to close items recommended for closure.

Item 2. Executive Director, Heritage NSW - update

The Heritage Council of NSW noted the report and verbal update from Executive Director, Sam Kidman.

Social media and communications strategy

The Council noted that Heritage NSW is transitioning into the Department of Planning and Environment's social media channels which has a much larger and more diverse following.

The Council sought to explore opportunities for maintaining a separate identity for some heritage channels.

Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand (HCOANZ)

The Executive Director provided an update on the 2022 HCOANZ forum including discussions held with other jurisdictions on the challenges associated with retaining heritage sight lines.

Membership matters

The Council congratulated Dr Nicholas Brunton, Dr Brian Lindsay and Mr Paul Knight on their recent Ministerial re-appointment as members of the Heritage Council of NSW, and subsequently extended their appointments to respective committees.

Resolution 2022-53
<p>The Heritage Council of NSW resolved to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-appoint Dr Nicholas Brunton as Deputy Chair of the Approvals Committee for the duration of his term on the Heritage Council of NSW. 2. Re-appoint Dr Brian Lindsay as member of the State Heritage Register Committee for the duration of his term on the Heritage Council of NSW. 3. Re-appoint Mr Paul Knight as member of the State Heritage Register Committee for the duration of his term on the Heritage Council of NSW. 4. Recommend to the Minister for Environment and Heritage to re-appoint Mr Paul Knight as nominee of the Heritage Council of NSW for re-appointment to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee.
Moved by Robyn Parker and seconded by Ian Clarke

Item 3. Committees Update

Item 3.1 State Heritage Register Committee (SHRC)

Robyn Parker, Chair of the State Heritage Register Committee, provided an update on key outcomes for items considered at the 6th December SHRC meeting.

The SHRC Chair acknowledged the strong collaboration between the SHRC and Heritage NSW to deliver a diverse range of heritage outcomes in 2022.

Item 3.2 Approvals Committee (AC)

Ian Clarke, Chair of the Approvals Committee, provided an update on the key outcomes for items considered at the 6th December AC meeting.

The Committee sought to finalise the guidelines for heritage proponents that will set clear expectations on the process and outcomes for conducting workshops with AC sub-committees.

The Council gave a vote of thanks to Dillon Kombumerri for his excellent leadership and contribution as Chair of the Approvals Committee for the past three years, particularly for his passion, guidance, and expertise in Connecting with Country.

Item 4. External Presentations

Item 4.1 Central State Significant Precinct (SSP) Rezoning Proposal (OSD) – Response to Submissions update

The Heritage Council of NSW received an update from Transport for NSW (TfNSW) on the key heritage matters being addressed in the Response to Submissions (RtS).

Project update

- The SSP rezoning proposal was exhibited from 23 August to 4 October with a range of submissions received
- Significant engagement was undertaken during the exhibition phase including notifications to local residents, interactive newsletters and a digital advertising campaign, community events, drop in sessions and stakeholder briefings
- Key submission themes centred around heritage, placemaking, public domain and urban design, and built form elements related to the GFA, bulk, scale and density
- Key heritage themes included Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, Mortuary Station, Central Station and Country Platforms, conserving the significant architectural character, heritage led renewal, steam trains, proximity of new development to heritage items and retention of views to the Clocktower at Central Station

In response to the Council's feedback, TfNSW advised that they will:

- seek to further integrate heritage throughout the design guide, including heritage considerations for advertising and signage, and will provide a schedule of updates for the Council's review
- adopt recommended updates to the final CMP including appending the archaeology guidelines and site plan
- strengthen the guidance for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) wherever possible, noting that impacts to ACH will be further determined at the detailed design phase
- update the archaeology section of the design guide and strengthen the historical archaeological approach to avoid impacts through design wherever possible and amend the archaeological site plan to address these concerns
- carry out testing and refinement of the proposal to further consider:
 - widening the Avenue Walk to a more consistent width
 - strengthening connections to the station
 - returning primacy to the platforms
 - increased open spaces
 - retaining and maximising key views to the Clocktower and Mortuary Station.

TfNSW noted that the delivery strategy is yet to be finalised and they will continue to engage with the Western Gateway to ensure a coordinated approach.

The Council were supportive of the heritage interpretation, the celebration of First Nations stories and archaeological heritage across the precinct. In addition, the Council was pleased to see TfNSW's response to submissions and work done to adopt the feedback received.

Resolution 2022-54

The Heritage Council of NSW:

1. **Thanks** Transport for NSW for their presentation.
2. **Commends** the development of the design and increased open space around the Mortuary Station.
3. **Reiterates** the concerns raised in the original submission regarding the bulk and scale of the development above the country platforms.

Moved by Vanessa Holtham and seconded by Nicholas Brunton

Item 4.2 Sydney Terminal Building Revitalisation Works

The Heritage Council of NSW received a presentation from Transport for NSW (TfNSW) on the revitalisation works program for the Sydney Terminal Building.

TfNSW outlined proposals for the:

- ground floor revitalisation of Pitt Street
- refurbishment and reactivation of Eddy Avenue Plaza
- design options for the entrance at the north-west corner of the Terminal Building with views and sightlines for wayfinding considered
- concept design for the east awning and installation of a new canopy over the eastern deck
- platform entry points and current design considerations to address the pedestrian accessways and retention of existing escalators, and
- the various structural considerations and future urban rejuvenation.

TfNSW presented the various design elements being developed including:

- the design considerations for the entrance to the suburban railway lines and the preferred option which creates an expanded entrance to the suburban platforms and light rail to Rawson Place and will provide sufficient scale and space required for pedestrians
- the awning design which is intended to reflect the original built form with subtle structural elements to mark it as new but not read as a feature
- the eastern building which is still being worked through and
- the overall colour palette which is under ongoing investigation.

The Council noted that:

- partial demolition at the north-west corner will improve sightlines and wayfinding from the entry to the Terminal Building and allow for greater pedestrian movement to the platforms
- the colour scheme is important to reflect as close to the original design scheme as possible
- the eastern courtyard near to the Electric Building is a prominent entry to the station and the concept design and intervention at ground level requires further work.

The Council were pleased to see the consistency of the heritage elements for the new built form areas which will enable the historic charm of the original design for the Sydney Terminal Building to be retained.

The Council thanked TfNSW for the presentation and welcomed the collaborative approach and further updates as the project progresses.

Resolution 2022-55
<p>The Heritage Council of NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thanks Transport for a comprehensive presentation. 2. Recommends Transport for NSW continue developing option 4 for the north-west corner as presented, emphasising the need for practicality and strong interpretation of the previous structures. 3. Looks forward to further progress and refinement of the design for the Eddy Avenue Plaza. 4. Recommends Transport for NSW develop a cohesive colour scheme based on historic evidence.
Moved by Colleen Morris and Vanessa Holtham

Item 5. Legal, Policy and Administration

Item 5.1 Site specific exemptions for Me-Mel (Goat Island)

The Heritage Council of NSW received a report from Heritage NSW and a presentation from the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) on the site specific exemptions sought for Me-Mel (Goat Island) for specified low risk activities and works which are not covered by the current Standard Exemptions.

Goat Island (Me-Mel) is currently part of Sydney Harbour National Park and is managed by NPWS. A high number of s.60 approvals will be required for the remediation works to be carried out by NPWS prior to transfer of Me-Mel to Aboriginal ownership.

Site Specific Exemptions s.57(2)

Heritage NSW has worked closely with NPWS to develop s.57(2) Orders to grant 14 site specific exemptions to assist with the management needs of NPWS. This is consistent with NSW Government policy and the Heritage Council's Strategic Plan to reduce red tape and streamline the approvals process for the required remediation work while maintaining the integrity of the island's heritage values.

Heritage NSW confirmed that:

- excavation is defined as 'to disturbed depth' and will only be for shallow disturbances, and
- that NPWS is able to rely on the existing standard exemptions in addition to the site specific exemptions, whilst remaining under the material threshold.

The Council suggested amended wording for asbestos removal and minor corrections to the wording of exemptions, pending legal and governance review.

The Council noted that applications for repair works will require formal approval, including repair of sea walls and repair or extraction of sandstone blocks.

Statement of Significance

The Council noted that:

- the current Statement of Significance (SoS) for Me-Mel (Goat Island) is incomplete as it only contains information on the significance of one element of the island; the Colonial Magazine, and
- the endorsed Conservation Management Plan contains a comprehensive summary statement which could potentially be adopted as the formal SoS for Me-Mel.

The Council reflected on the onerous process for updating minor and major changes to an existing SoS under the current legislation.

The Council thanked Heritage NSW and NPWS for the presentation.

Resolution 2022-56
<p>The Heritage Council of NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recommends that the Minister grants Site Specific Exemptions for Goat Island (Me-Mel) under section 57(2) of the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> (Tab 5.1.C of the report, as amended). 2. Approves the initiation of the process to revise the Goat Island Statement of Significance to align with the endorsed Conservation Management Plan (Tab 5.1.D of the report).
Moved by Nicholas Brunton and Ian Clarke

Item 5.2 Assessing Heritage Significance – consultation findings

The Heritage Council of NSW received a presentation from Curio Projects and Heritage NSW on the outcomes of the public consultation undertaken for the *Assessing Heritage Significance* guidelines.

Key points raised

- Extensive consultation was carried out for the refresh of the guidance document including public consultation via the ‘*Have your say*’ NSW Government online consultation process. The majority of submissions received were from heritage professionals working with local and state government, as well as the private sector.
- Feedback was diverse and key themes included the need for case studies that illustrate local versus state significance, gradings of significance, greater detail around the application of inclusions and exclusions and heritage significance criteria.
- Heritage NSW advised of the challenges associated with bringing together the divergent views for these guidelines.
- Overtime the refreshed document will include linkages to case studies and flow charts.
- The management of local heritage assets and inclusion of case studies are under-represented in the current document. The refreshed document has a greater focus on these elements which will support the change in use for the document going forward.

Next steps

- Heritage NSW will ensure the terminology remains consistent with appropriate references that align to the *Burra Charter* and that the document is consistent with the CMP guidelines.
- Following the editorial review, Heritage NSW will finalise the document with the DPE branding team.
- Once approved by the Executive Director, the guidelines will be published on the Heritage NSW (Environment Heritage Group) website.

The Council thanked Curio Projects and Heritage NSW for the presentation.

Item 6. Matters for consideration

Item 6.1 Heritage PitchFest Event & Grant Winner

The Heritage Council of NSW received an update from Heritage NSW on the inaugural PitchFest event which was held on 30 November to determine the winner of the Heritage Activation grant.

The Council noted that award submissions were rigorously assessed prior to the event and detailed economic and heritage assessment information was provided to the judging panel prior to the finalists' presentations.

The *Windy Station Woolshed, Quirindi NSW* was the winner of the \$1 million Heritage Activation grant with matched funding required by the applicant.

The inaugural event was deemed a great success with around 130 people attending the event at The Mint, Sydney, as well as 600 participants joining online via the live stream.

The Council noted that Heritage NSW will evaluate the 2022 PitchFest grant awards and make any necessary adjustments, should the event be repeated in future years.

The Council congratulated Lana Zegura, Elizabeth Owers and the Heritage NSW team for delivering an innovative event.

Item 7. Executive Reports

Item 7.1 Chair, Heritage Council of NSW – Monthly Report

The Heritage Council of NSW noted the verbal update provided by the Chair.

Item 7.2 Planning Report (DPE)

The Heritage Council of NSW noted the planning report.

Item 7.3 Advisory Panels Report

The Heritage Council of NSW noted the Advisory Committee and Panels report.

Item 8. Heritage NSW Reporting

Item 8.1 Heritage Operations – Monthly Reports

The Heritage Council of NSW noted the monthly reports and verbal update from Tim Smith.

The Council were advised of an emerging issue related to an Interim Heritage Order placed on the Huskisson churchyard which was granted an archaeological permit for grounds testing.

Item 9. General Matters

The Heritage Council of NSW discussed the forward agenda. The register will be updated to reflect the changes requested.

Regional Visit

The Council asked that the date for the regional visit be reset for the early part of 2023 and if possible, the itinerary updated to include a visit to the Windy Station Woolshed.

Item 10. Meeting Close

The Council thanked Heritage NSW and the Secretariat for their support during the year.

There being no further items of business, the Chair, Frank Howarth, closed the meeting at 1:20 PM.



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Frank Howarth AM PSM
Chair, Heritage Council of NSW

Date: 1 February 2023