

7 Heritage

Heritage is defined as places, objects, customs and cultures that have aesthetic, natural, historic or social significance or other special values for present and future generations (Australia ICOMOS, 1999). Heritage indicators have been selected to measure Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal heritage in the SHOROC region.

Pressures on our Heritage

Key pressures on heritage include:

- low awareness of Aboriginal heritage
- low awareness of built and natural heritage
- natural processes such as wind, water, erosion and fire
- urban development, recreation and vandalism
- destruction, deterioration and unsympathetic restoration of built heritage, and
- lack of funding to adequately maintain sites.

Condition of our Heritage

Our local heritage gives us a sense of living history and provides a physical link to the way of life of earlier generations.

Evidence of past Aboriginal occupation in the SHOROC region includes rock engravings, rock paintings, shell middens, axe grinding grooves, sites of cultural significance, fish traps, seed grinding patches, open camp sites and stone arrangements.

The region's non-Aboriginal heritage is diverse and includes historic sites, modified and built environments such as dwellings, public buildings, townscapes, gardens, reserves, buildings, roads, as well as ethnic traditions, cultural events, artworks, craft, and literature.

Regional Snapshot

Table 18: Regional Heritage Condition

Indicator	SHOROC Region				
	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	4 Year Trend
Total number of Aboriginal heritage sites	954	978	838	840	↓
Total number of non-Aboriginal heritage items	1,027	1,033	1,064	1,064	↑
Heritage conservation areas	20	20	21	21	↔

Local Snapshot

Table 19: Aboriginal Heritage

Indicator	Year	Council			
		Manly	Mosman	Pittwater	Warringah
Number of Aboriginal heritage sites	2006/07	62*	107	322	463
	2007/08	66*	105	291	376
	2008/09	68*	105	291	376
	2009/10	68*	105	291	376

N.B. Data provided to councils by DECCW through the Aboriginal Heritage Office for the 2008/09 SoE Report has revealed anomalies in previously reported Aboriginal heritage site data.

*This data includes sites within Council jurisdiction only. Previous SoE Reports (2006/07, 2007/08 and 2008/09) have also included sites managed by DECCW and the Sydney Federation Harbour Trust.

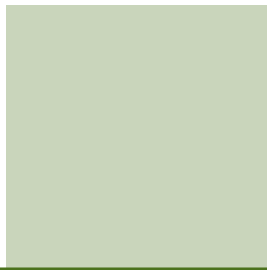


Table 20: Non-Aboriginal Heritage

Indicator	Year	Council			
		Manly	Mosman	Pittwater	Warringah
Total number of non-Aboriginal heritage items	2006/07	306	478	101	142
	2007/08	312	478	101	142
	2008/09	314	478	130	142
	2009/10	315	478	130	141
Breakdown: Number of built items	2006/07	194	437*	69	102
	2007/08	199	437*	69	102
	2008/09	201	437*	74**	102
	2009/10	202	437*	74	101***
Number of landscape items	2006/07	78	34*	20	36
	2007/08	79	34*	20	36
	2008/09	79	34*	28**	36
	2009/10	79	34*	28	36
Number of archaeological items	2006/07	34	16	7	2
	2007/08	34	16	7	2
	2008/09	34	16	28**	2
	2009/10	34	16	28	2
Heritage conservation areas	2006/07	2	11	5	2
	2007/08	2	11	5	2
	2008/09	2	11	6	2
	2009/10	2	11	6	2

*Some items in Mosman are classified as both built and landscape items, therefore the breakdown figures add up to a number greater than the total number of items.

**Heritage items are no longer broken down into built items, landscape items and archaeological items in Pittwater LEP. These numbers have been estimated and can not be used to compare with 2007/08 figures.

***Data reflects the adoption and pending gazettal of Draft Warringah LEP 2009 under which one item has been removed from the current heritage inventory as it has been deemed to have been previously altered to an extent that it does not qualify as a heritage item.

Responding to our Heritage Issues

Regional Response

Aboriginal Heritage Office

Manly, Pittwater, and Warringah Councils partner with other NSW Councils to jointly fund the Aboriginal Heritage Office (AHO). The AHO has the support of the NSW Heritage Office and DECCW. The AHO works to ensure the protection of Aboriginal sites and cultural heritage through day to day site protection work as well as longer term education, training and management advice. The office works in partnership with key stakeholders such as the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council in assisting councils and the community at large in ensuring that Aboriginal heritage is not impacted.

Highlights for 2009/10 include the completion of the Rock Art Recording Project and new exhibits and activities at the Keeping Place and Education Centre. A total of 43 Aboriginal rock art sites were fully recorded to provide a permanent record of the irreplaceable but fragile art of the region. The data will allow the AHO and councils to continue the process of prioritising key locations for conservation works, monitoring and signage.

The AHO received funding for a continuation of its volunteer monitoring program through the Department of Environment, Water Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA) Indigenous Heritage Program. More volunteers were trained in basic Aboriginal heritage site awareness and an expanded network of Site Care volunteers was established throughout the partner Councils to provide regular monitoring and care of specific Aboriginal sites. The project ran over 2009/2010 and has allowed the AHO to build a sustainable program that can continue into the future.

During 2009/10 the NSW Department of Planning grant funded a series of projects including events for schools in the area, site management reports and updates, and an upgrade of the AHO website to help promote the richness of the Aboriginal heritage of the area.

An important part of the role of the AHO is to enhance appreciation of Aboriginal heritage in the wider community. The new AHO Education Centre and Keeping Place in Northbridge has continued to expand in its exhibits and scope. Numerous resources are available for free download from the AHO website www.aboriginalheritage.org

Table 21: Status of Art Sites for Each Council LGA

Site Features	Manly*	Pittwater	Warringah	Total
Accessible	1	7	3	11
Private land	1	4	2	7
Destroyed	2	N/A	1	3
Duplicate/not in Council LGA	N/A	1	3	4
Not located	2	2	10	14
Art not visible	N/A	N/A	2	2
Total sites	6*	14	21	41

*Manly does not include North Head sites now under management of the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust.



Delivering Local Responses

Manly Council

Heritage Festival

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) held the 2010 annual Heritage Festival during April. The theme of the Festival was "The Making of Our Nation", in celebration of the 200th anniversary of Governor Lachlan Macquarie's 12 year tenure as the 5th Governor of the colony of New South Wales. The Festival also focused on local people whose lives and contributions helped shape our 'nation'. In Manly a number of free activities were organised during the Festival to promote the cultural heritage of Manly including a guided tour of Manly Cemetery, exhibition at the Manly Art Gallery and Museum, North Head Sanctuary Foundation Nursery Open Day and a guided Bantry Bluff walk at Seaforth.

History Week

The NSW History Week was held from 5-13 September 2009. The theme was 'Scandals, Crime and Corruption'. In Manly a number of activities were held to promote the rich history of the area including a display of a century of infamous crimes that made the headlines in Manly at Manly Library, exhibitions at the Manly Art Gallery and Museum, an open day at the Q-station and a number of walking tours.

Local Heritage Assistance Fund

In 2009/10 a number of heritage conservation projects were assisted under Council's annual Local Heritage Assistance Fund. This included the conservation of a sandstone front fence, reinstatement of an original bullnose and timber post verandah, replacement of a balcony balustrade with original iron lace detail, replacement of 20th century front door with a 19th century style front door to suit the architectural style of an 1860s cottage and conservation works to a grave in Manly Cemetery.

Manly Heritage Review

In 2009/10 Council continued to review a number of identified potential heritage items and undertook consultation with property owners on the heritage values of the property. As a result of this ongoing review a number of properties have been recommended for listing. Council has prepared a draft amending LEP to add six additional heritage properties to the Manly LEP 1988. Council's Heritage Planners have also been reviewing the existing heritage schedule in preparation of the new Manly LEP and updating the heritage inventory sheets for existing items.

Mosman Council

Balmoral Baths Receives Heritage Award

The rehabilitation of the Balmoral Baths and jetty, completed in 2009, received a Commendation in the heritage category for the NSW Planning Institute of Australia 'Planning for Excellence' Awards. The judges believed that the understated quality of the design faithfully respected the original materials and technologies of marine structures from the period (c1899) ensuring the baths and jetty would be enjoyed for many years to come.

Draft LEP - Proposed Listing of New Heritage Conservation Areas and Items

Mosman's Draft LEP 2010, which was developed during 2009/10 and is expected to be gazetted by the end of 2010, will include two new Heritage Conservation Areas, and seven new heritage items. The Glover and Nathan's Estates draft heritage conservation area covers approximately three hundred semi-detached and detached dwellings, and is representative of the type of late 19th century and early 20th century residential development in Mosman.



Balmoral Jetty. Source: Mosman Council.

Mosman Police Station

Council adopted a new conservation management framework for Mosman Police Station following announcement of its sale by NSW Police in 2009. A key recommendation was to subdivide the lot and dedicate the northern portion to the Council owned Hampshire Park which adjoins the Police Station site, thereby maintaining the historical garden setting of the building, as well as continuing public access to the open space around the site. The framework will ensure future use and development are sympathetic to the heritage significance of the building.

Boronia House

In 2009/10, Council completed stabilisation and restoration works to the second storey verandah of Boronia House, a Victorian Italianate two storey house on the State Heritage Register, located in Spit Junction. The project, jointly funded by the Heritage Branch, used recycled timber from a demolished paper mill in Port Botany (c. 1908) and also involved replacing old corroded bolts and missing elements to the balustrade. Boronia House continued operation as a function centre during these works.

Restoration of Clifton Gardens Jetty

The upgrade and rehabilitation of Clifton Gardens jetty commenced in 2009, with the reconstruction of the dilapidated jetty head taking priority due to its heritage value. The refurbishment was undertaken to improve the jetty for public access and maintain its aesthetic and heritage features.



Mosman Police Station. Source: Mosman Council

Pittwater Council

Heritage Report

Pittwater Council received a grant from the NSW Department of Planning to prepare a three year heritage report for the management of heritage items within the Pittwater LGA. This will assist Council to manage both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage items.

Guringai Festival

Council promoted the Guringai Festival and supported a local Sorry Day event held in May 2010 organised by the Aboriginal Support Group. The event started at Berry Park, Narrabeen for Welcome to Country then included a Remembrance Walk to Bilarong Scout Hall. In addition Aboriginal Heritage Officer Dave Watts gave a talk at Mona Vale Memorial Hall, speaking about the role of the AHO.

Northern Sydney Aboriginal Social Plan

Council maintains involvement on the Northern Sydney Aboriginal Social Plan, which is supported by 11 northern Sydney councils. The Project Officer for this plan continues to be a point of contact for the Aboriginal Community and works across a wide range of formal and informal networks. Over the last six months the Project Officer has been working on an Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing project.

Harmony Day - Indigenous Ceremony

As part of the 2010 Harmony Day celebrations, Memorial Poles were erected in front of the CEC in honor of an individual that the local aboriginal community considered significant to them. The poles were mounted and painted by Fisher Rd Special School students.



Warringah Council

Heritage Inventory Review

At its meeting on 22 June 2010, Warringah Council resolved to include a heritage review within the 2010/11 works program. The project is expected to be completed in the second half of this financial year and will be carried out by consultant resources. Council's strategic planning team will manage the review and will issue a report once the data has been gathered.

A review of Warringah's heritage inventory has not been carried out since data was gathered for the preparation of the Warringah LEP 2000, over ten years ago. The review provides the opportunity to not only review the existing heritage inventory but also, where appropriate, add new items to the list.

Guringai Festival

In 2010 Warringah Council hosted a special event at Glen Street Theatre to mark the 10th anniversary of the festival. In the morning a free panel discussed, 'The Future of Indigenous Arts' and was led by Susan Moylan-Coombs, the Guringai Festival Committee Co-Chair, Neil Armfield, Artistic Director of Belvoir Street Theatre, Emma Donovan, an established Indigenous singer/songwriter and Lydia Miller, Executive Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts, Australia Council. The highlight of the day was the performance by David Page of his production, Page 8 which offered the Guringai community a special ticket price that was subsidised by Council. This was followed by an official launch of the 2010 Guringai Festival with a special reception and live music by the Freshwater Girls. Approximately 250 people attended the show and enjoyed the launch.

In 2010 a special dinner was held at the Northern Beaches College - TAFE to mark the handing over from Council to the TAFE of a magnificent seven metre long mural which was created by local children who participated in the 2009 Guringai Festival 'Star Dreaming Rainbow Serpent' event at Glen Street Theatre.



Guringai Festival. Painting by Bibi Barba.
Source: Pittwater Council



Guringai Festival Sorry Day. Source: Pittwater Council