

COMMON TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED IN HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Adaptation - Modifying a place (or heritage item) to suit proposed compatible uses.

Archaeological site - A site containing post-1788 relics more than 50 years old or relics relating to any period of Aboriginal culture.

Archaeological zoning plan - A plan, usually produced at local government level, which identifies known or potential archaeological sites.

Australia ICOMOS - the national committee of ICOMOS, established in 1976.

Australian Heritage Commission (AHC) - An independent statutory authority which is responsible to the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment. It administers the AHC Act and is responsible for the Register of the National Estate.

Building Application (BA) - An application under the Local Government Act for approval to construct or alter a building.

Burra Charter and guidelines - Charter adopted by Australia ICOMOS which establishes the nationally accepted standard for the conservation of places of cultural significance.

Commission of Inquiry - An independent statutory process established under the EPA Act or Heritage Act to conduct hearings into matters such as an objection to the making or revocation of a PCO or an appeal against a decision of the Heritage Council.

Compatible Use - A use which involves no change to the cultural significant fabric, changes which are substantially reversible or changes which make a minimal impact.

Conjectural reconstruction - Alteration of a heritage item to simulate a possible earlier state which is not based on documentary or physical evidence. This treatment is outside the scope of the Burra Charter's conservation principles.

Conservation - All the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance. It includes maintenance and may, according to circumstances, include preservation, restoration, reconstruction and adaptation and will be commonly a combination of more than one of these.

Conservation Instrument/Conservation Order - A permanent or interim conservation order or a Section 130 or 136 Order under the NSW Heritage Act, 1977.

Conservation Plan - A document establishing the significance of a heritage item or a heritage conservation area and policies to retain that significance. It can include guidelines for additional development or maintenance associated with the heritage item or conservation area.

Cultural Landscapes - Those areas of the landscape which have been significantly modified by human activity. They include rural lands such as farms, villages and mining sites, as well as country towns, suburbs or urban centres.

Cultural Significance - See Heritage significance.

Demolition - The damaging, defacing, destroying or dismantling of a heritage item or a component of a heritage conservation area, in whole or in part.

Demolition Application - Application to a local government authority to demolish a building or other item.

Determining/consent Authority - The body with the authority to approve or refuse development applications, usually the local council.

Development Application (DA) - An application under the EPA Act for consent or permission to carry out development.

Development Control Plan (DCP) A plan prepared by a local council to provide more detailed development controls and guidelines to accompany an LEP. Often used for heritage conservation areas.

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 (EPA Act) - The statutory framework within which State and local government guide and control development.

Environmental Planning Instrument (EPI) - Made under the EPA Act, includes SEPPs, REPs, LEPs and DCPs.

Evaluation criteria involve two processes:

- (i) identification - describing the nature of a heritage item's significance (historic, scientific, aesthetic, social); and
- (ii) assessment - analysing how significant an item is - in other words, the degree of significance (rarity, representativeness, associative value).

Exemptions - Work on heritage items covered by conservation orders which can be exempted under Section 57(2) of the Heritage Act from the requirement to obtain the Heritage Council's consent.

Fabric - All the physical material of the heritage item.

Heads of consideration (Section 62 of the Heritage Act and Section 90 of the EPA Act) - The list of matters that must be taken into account when a consent authority (usually a local council) is considering whether or not to approve a development proposal under the EPA Act.

Heritage Act, 1977 - The statutory framework for the identification and conservation of heritage in NSW. The Act also describes the composition and powers of the Heritage Council of NSW.

Heritage advisor - A heritage consultant engaged by a local council, usually on a part-time basis, to give advice on heritage matters to both the council and property owners.

Heritage Assistance Program (HAP) - The major heritage financial support program in NSW. The Program is administered by the Department of Planning and includes the NSW component of the NEGP. Funds are made available each year for the assessment and/or conservation of heritage items and for educational projects. Funding is mainly provided in the form of interest-free loans or \$ for \$ grants.

Heritage conservation area - An area which has a distinctive character of heritage significance which it is desirable to conserve.

Heritage Council of NSW - the NSW Government's heritage advisory body established under the Heritage Act, 1977. It provides advice to the Minister for Planning and others on heritage issues. It is also the determining authority for Section 60 applications and has an important role in heritage education.

Heritage item - A landscape, place, work, building or relic of architectural, archaeological, aesthetic, social, cultural, technical, scientific or natural heritage significance.

Heritage precinct - See Heritage conservation area.

Heritage significance - Of aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, natural or aesthetic value for past, present or future generations.

Heritage study - A conservation study of an area, usually commissioned by the local council. The study usually includes a historical context report, an inventory of heritage items within the area and recommendations for conserving their significance.

Historic Houses Trust - The State government instrumentality responsible for maintaining and managing house museums.

Historic Shipwreck - A shipwreck that has been protected under the terms of the Historic Shipwrecks Act, 1976.

Historic Shipwrecks Act, 1976 - The national statutory framework for the identification and conservation of shipwrecks in coastal waters. In NSW the Act is administered by the Director of Planning.

Historical Archaeology - The study of Australian culture and visitation since 1788, other than Aboriginal culture and visitation.

Industrial Archaeology - the study of relics, structures and places which involved the organisation of labour to extract, process or produce services or commodities. It includes roads, bridges, railways, ports, wharves, shipping, agricultural sites and structures, factories, mines and processing plants.

Interim Conservation Order (ICO) - An order made under Section 26 of the Heritage Act to control demolition and development. The order lasts for one year or until it is revoked or a Permanent Conservation Order is made.

International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) - an international organisation linked to UNESCO that brings together people concerned with the conservation and study of places of cultural significance. There are also national committees in sixty countries including Australia (see Australia ICOMOS).

Local Environmental Plan (LEP) - A plan prepared by a local council under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act and made by the Minister for Planning following public exhibition. It regulates the carrying out of development in a particular local government area and controls the use and development of land and the conditions under which they can take place.

Maritime Archaeology - The study of the material remains of human interaction with the sea. It includes shipwrecks and other underwater relics.

Master Plan - See Plan of Management.

Measured Drawing - A technical or architectural record of a heritage item to scale, analysing the heritage significance of the fabric (e.g. dates of construction, materials, etc.).

Moveable Heritage - Heritage items not fixed to a site or place (e.g., furniture, locomotives, archives).

National Estate - See Register of the National Estate

National Estate Grants Program (NEGP) - Federal funding to each of the States for heritage projects through the AHC. In NSW the program is administered by the Department of Planning as part of HAP.

National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974, (NPW Act) - Statutory framework for the care, control and management of natural areas and Aboriginal relics.

National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) - A NSW organisation which administers the NPW Act. It acquires and manages national parks in NSW.

National Trust of Australia (NSW) - A community organisation which maintains a register of heritage items and provides advice on heritage issues. The Trust also owns and manages heritage properties throughout the state and the S. H. Ervin Gallery in Sydney.

Permanent Conservation Order (PCO) - An order made under Section 44 of the Heritage Act to protect a significant heritage item in NSW. This order remains in place indefinitely, unless revoked.

Place - A site, area or landscape or group of works, together with associated structures, contents and surrounds.

Plan of Management - In association with a Conservation Plan and its Statement of Cultural Significance and Conservation Policy for a heritage item, the Plan of Management gives guidance on how the Conservation Policy can be implemented in future development and establishes a regime for maintenance of the heritage fabric.

Preservation - Maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

Protected Zone - An exclusion zone that may be declared around an historic shipwreck.

Reconstruction - Returning a place as nearly as possible to a known earlier state by the introduction of materials (new or old) into the fabric (not to be confused with conjectural reconstruction).

Regional Environmental Plan (REP) - An REP is prepared by the Director of Planning and made by the Minister for Planning following public exhibition. It deals with matters important to a specific region, such as land use, development and the conservation of historic buildings.

Register of the National Estate - List of natural, Aboriginal and European heritage items of national significance. The Register is kept by the Australian Heritage Commission and includes both interim and permanent listings.

Relic - Any deposit, object or material evidence relating to post-1788 settlement or to any period of Aboriginal culture.

Restoration - Returning the EXISTING fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA) - Professional organisation of architects.

Royal Australian Planning Institute (RAPI) - Professional organisation of planners.

Section 60 Application - Application made under Section 60 of the Heritage Act, to make changes to an item covered by an ICO or PCO.

Section 117 Direction (G21) - Direction issued under Section 117 of EPA Act which requires local councils to address heritage issues when preparing LEPs.

Section 130 Order - An order made under Section 130 of the Heritage Act to control demolition. This order normally lasts for one year unless revoked.

Section 132 Notice - Notice of intent to demolish or harm an item covered by a Section 130 order under the Heritage Act.

Section 136 Order - An emergency order made under Section 136 of the Heritage Act to halt or prevent demolition. This order lasts for 40 days unless revoked.

Section 167 Certificate - A certificate issued by the Heritage Council specifying the conservation instruments under the Heritage Act applying to a property.

Section 170 Register - Section 170 of the Heritage Act requires each New South Wales government agency to prepare and maintain a register of heritage items in their ownership or under their control.

Standard heritage conservation provisions/requirements - Standard clauses for an LEP or REP. These specify when consent for work to a heritage item is required and the matters a council must consider in determining such an application.

State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) - A statutory document which addresses matters of State significance, or which deals with issues where the statewide application of policy is necessary. SEPPs are prepared by the Director of Planning and are made by the Minister for Planning, usually following consultation with local government, the community and public authorities.

State Heritage Inventory Project (SHIP) - The Department of Planning is currently developing SHIP to assist in achieving a co-ordinated, consistent approach to the identification and assessment of heritage items. In its present draft form SHIP consists of:

- * State historical guidelines
- * evaluation criteria
- * a computer program for a databank and register
- * a policy and procedures manual.

Statutory - Those matters which occur as a result of an Act of Parliament (e.g., statutory instruments such as environmental planning instruments).

Townscape conservation area - See Heritage conservation area.

Urban conservation area - See Heritage conservation area.