

# NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA Heritage in Trust (ACT) NOVEMBER 2012

NATIONAL TRUST

### **Causeway Hall**

Launch of Canberra Centenary Rally

Heritage at Risk



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### **Causeway Hall**

Find out more at Members Night on 21 November - Book Now Page 2

Launch of Canberra Centenary Rally

......Page 11

Heritage at Risk

# THE CAUSEWAY HALL

On 21 November, Trust members will have the opportunity to hear about the history and heritage values of the Causeway Hall. In this article, Trust Research Officer Bethany Lance provides background on the settlement of the Causeway area and on the history and preservation of the Hall. This is followed by a brief introduction to well-known Canberran Kevin Gill who will be one of three speakers on 21 November. Kevin grew up in the Causeway and will tell stories about the people and times he knew.



A Cottage at the Causeway (now demolished). No date (From NT Living Image Library)



The Causeway Hall today (courtesy Bethany Lance)



Causeway Hall Circa 1926, Mr A E Bruce on the left (From NT Living Image Library)

#### The Causeway and the Causeway Hall

'The Causeway' settlement, first officially named as such by Walter Burley Griffin in his design for the city of Canberra, is located in an area to the east of Kingston - close to the Kingston Railway Station and the Jerrabomberra Wetlands. Initially Griffin named the area 'the Causeway' as he had visions of a large embankment that would dam the Molonglo River to create his artificial lake. The original plan for a causeway and dam did not eventuate; instead a railway causeway took its place across the Molonglo River. Though the railway ceased operation in 1922 when it was destroyed by flood waters the name had stuck and it is still used for the area today.

One of Canberra's oldest residential areas, the Causeway was conceived and created from 1924-26 and was the first major construction of dwellings by the Federal Capital Commission (FCC). The settlement was established out of necessity in the

# Combined Charities Christmas Card Shop

Although there will be no National Trust Desk Diary for 2013, the Trust is producing Christmas cards – see images on the right. A pack of ten cards will cost \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members. Cards will be available from both the Office and the Combined Charities Christmas Card Shop.

The shop will be open from Monday 29 October until Thursday 13 December. The venue will be the foyer of the City Uniting Church, Pilgrim House, Northbourne Ave (the same place as last year).

The Trust has been rostered to help on Thursday 11 November and Thursday 6 December.



Front cover: Launch of Centenary of Canberra Rally, courtesy of Steve Keough coping Launch of Centenary of Canberra Rally, photos by Steve Keough and National Trust of Australia (ACT)

early stages of the Federal Capital as the workmen helping to build infrastructure for the new capital were being accommodated in temporary camps along with their families. The settlement originally consisted of 120 weatherboard cottages constructed in a grid pattern; an example of these cottages can be seen in the photograph on page 2. The cottages themselves, designed by Henry Maitland Rolland (the FCC's chief architect from 1925-27), were of a simple design and similar to those that had been erected at the Westlake camp in the early 1920s. They were meant to be a temporary solution to the housing crisis and only last five years. In the Causeway and Westlake settlements alike it wasn't until the 1950s that the cottages were seen to be sub-standard and were replaced by brick public housing. None of the cottages remain in the Causeway and only the original Causeway Hall (described below) and the grid pattern of housing in the area serve as physical reminders of the settlement.

The FCC, under the leadership of John Butters (later Sir John), understood that a more desirable and enticing lifestyle was necessary to draw workers and their families to the new city to build its infrastructure. To accomplish this, more than just the erection of proper houses and slightly better living conditions was needed. and so to invigorate the social scene the Canberra Social Services Association was established by the FCC. The Association was 'designed to promote the growth of social services, community and cultural activities, and sporting facilities. Committees were elected to deal with indoor and outdoor recreation, education, libraries, and the welfare of women and children'.1 In 1925 the Association, in collaboration with the Causeway Progress Association, set out on their first and largest community project – a community hall at the Causeway. As with all projects and initiatives of the Social Services Association, the Causeway Hall was built on a 50/50 basis between the people and Canberra's administration. This meant that 'for every pound's worth of effort, one pound would be made available by the Commission for the provision of material'<sup>2</sup> and so it was that the Causeway Hall was built and completed by voluntary labour in approximately three months.

The entire community chipped in, with the men providing labour and any expertise they could, the women provided tea and biscuits and even the children helped out where possible. Newly formed music bands accompanied the work, a children's playground was set up nearby and the workers continued into the nights and on weekends to complete the community hall. This social environment that surrounded the construction of the hall and made it the centre of the whole Canberra community has continued through till today. The hall has seen numerous concerts, weddings, church services, boxing matches, movie screenings and the ever popular Saturday night dances, and many a memory was made at these events. It is the continuation of these social events and associations that makes the Hall significant today. The memories and stories of former residents bring the Hall to life as much as a local event does today. The Causeway Hall was nominated to the ACT Heritage Register by the National Trust in 1999 and was officially listed in 2005. The National Trust initially nominated the Hall to the Register to ensure its continued conservation and preservation as a heritage site and community asset amidst fears of redevelopment in the area. With subsequent development in and around the Kingston Foreshore, it seems these fears were well founded. Thankfully the Hall has been recognised not only for its physical heritage features and its location within a landscape setting but also for its strong social associations as explained by Kevin Gill below. Such recognition, along with the hard work and dedication of the local residents, will assist to conserve the Hall and continue its social function for future generations.

#### Causeway Memories – Introducing Kevin Gill

In mid-1947 Kevin Gill arrived with his mother at the Causeway where Kevin's father, Joe Gill, was then working and living. Kevin was aged about three months at the time and much to his father's annoyance had been nursed on the flight from Queensland by the former PM Billy Hughes. Joe didn't like 'the Dirty Digger'.

Initially the Gill family lived in the staff quarters at the Mess. The Causeway Mess comprised a number of unremarkable weatherboard buildings, with a large central block and the ablutions block on the Kingston side. These buildings were surrounded by many small hut-like buildings, each divided into two single rooms. They were very basic with an old wire mattress bed, a bedside cupboard and a table with a couple of chairs. These rooms were very cold in the winter and very hot in the summer and you had to be tough to live in them. Down the back was the bottle yard. Beer and other assorted wine and spirit bottles were stacked in old banana boxes awaiting transportation by train to the breweries in Sydney.

Travelling by horse and dray Slom the Bottle-o regularly visited the Kingston, Canberra and Ainslie Hotels. As a young lad Kevin often accompanied Slom on his slow journeys around town. Slom had another successful sideline in that he collected all the food waste (slops) from these hotels and other dining establishments which he sold to local pig farmers. Slom also had an interesting silverware selection comprising many engraved pieces bearing the mark of Canberra hotels and Parliament House which he retrieved from the slops buckets.

Kevin tells a story from the early 1950s. "In the distance there was the sound of a train pulling out of Canberra Railway Station. On the Causeway side of the tracks several men in rough soiled clothes and heavy boots were milling around between the trees in a rough circle. My dad had two pennies in one hand and a bit of wood with a few quid and a couple of fivers in his other hand. Just as a couple of the blokes started calling out instructions, a young fella from the Causeway ('the Cockatoo') came rushing through the trees shouting warnings. This caused much mayhem. Slom the Bottle-o

www.nationaltrust.org.au

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tried to calm his horse as our two Great Danes, Rocky and Rolly, barked their heads off while the blokes quickly dispersed. Coming from the direction of the Mess were a number of men scrambling out of small black cars. Strangely they looked like Salvation Army Officers, but they were chasing the workers, albeit somewhat unsuccessfully. My mum later told me that this was my first two-up school raid. The 'Sallies' were of course Federal Capital Territory Police!"

Kevin recalls the Causeway community as rough and tough, typical of the 'old school' Australia where someone might knock you down, but only from the front, never by ambush. He recalls the busy life surrounding the Causeway Hall, housey-housey, dances and boozy parties and the odd staggering drunk, but he was always stopped by his parents getting too near such gatherings. Nevertheless his mother Jean often went there to play housey-housey and he couldn't believe Joe wouldn't have had a schooner or two out the back of the Hall when parties and dances were held there.

We look forward to seeing members at the Members Evening on 21 November, from 5.30-7.30 pm, in the Causeway Hall, Spinifex Street, Kingston. Refer to page 6, Members Events in People and Places for more details and how to book.

- National Trust of Australia (ACT) Interim Heritage Places Register citation 8/7/99 Classified Files.
- 2 Waterhouse J., 1992, Canberra: Early Days at the Causeway A Community History, ACT Museums Unit, Canberra, p. 64.

#### Other sources:

National Trust ACT Causeway Hall Classified File – various documents and communications

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY - ENTRY TO AN INTERIM HERITAGE PLACES REGISTER FOR: CAUSEWAY HALL, Block 1, Section 35 KINGSTON, February 2005 http:// www.environment.act.gov.au/heritage/heritage\_register/ register\_by\_suburb

**Correction:** In the last *Heritage in Trust*, it was reported on page 7 that the ACT Government had provided \$13,000 to Albert Hall to upgrade the main entrance and improve accessibility. The figure should have been \$130,000.

#### CHARTER

At the National Trust of Australia (ACT) we see that:

- Our Vision is to be an independent and expert community leader in the conservation of our cultural and natural heritage.
- Our Purpose is to foster public knowledge about, and promote the conservation of, places and objects that are significant to our heritage.
- Our Organisation is a not-for-profit organisation of people interested in understanding and conserving heritage places and objects of local, national and international significance in the ACT region.

# From the President

We are progressing through the year and have passed another AGM and welcomed in a new Council who will have the responsibility of managing the affairs of the National Trust (ACT) into the future.

We have embarked on several new initiatives:

- Canberra 100 Rally as the major contribution of the National Trust (ACT) to Canberra Centenary celebrations - launched in September and promises to be an exciting event.
- Greater sponsorship and financial support for all our events/activities including the magazine, members nights and supporters appeal.
- Changes to staffing, with Chris Wain working for two days on the Rally and two days on other National Trust business.
- Managing ACT heritage properties we are in discussions with the ACT Government re Stromlo Cottage and Gold Creek Homestead, and will be looking at other properties where we believe we can stimulate interest and assist the ACT Government to make better use of them.

We were fortunate in receiving two grants from the 2012/13 ACT Heritage Grants with one being an innovative way of presenting our heritage through the National Trust walks and smart phone applications for extra information, a first for Canberra.

All these challenges are in an endeavour to make the National Trust more financially sustainable in the long term.

We move towards the end of the year and recognition of our volunteers who are an enormously critical part of our operation.

On behalf of the National Trust I wish you a pleasant end of year, Christmas and a prosperous 2013.

Eric J. Martin, AM President



National Trust (ACT)'s President Eric Martin and Deputy Chief Minister Andrew Barr at launch of Canberra 100 Rally.

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# Do You Need Heritage Advice?

### Free heritage and architectural advice is available for heritage property owners and purchasers.

The **Heritage Advisory Service** provides guidance on renovating or extending a heritage home. The service is provided by Philip Leeson Architects Pty Ltd.



Call Philip Leeson or David Hobbes on **6295 3311 for one free appointment** either on site or at their Manuka office.

This is an independent service supported by the ACT Government

Canberra Connect 13 22 81 www.tams.act.gov.au/live/heritage



# Contents

The Causeway Hall	2
From the President	4
Member Events	6
Message from the Executive Director	7
ACT Heritage Grants Program	8
The ACT National Trust Classified Places Collection	8
ICOMOS 2013 Conference	9
ACT and Region Annual Australian Heritag Partnership Symposium 2012	
Centenary of Canberra Rally formally launched	_ 11
Trust Tour Reports	_12
Travels with the Trust	_13
Borobudur and Beyond	_14
Wright Building – A 19 <sup>th</sup> Century Survivor in the Queanbeyan CBD	_14
Our Heritage at Risk 2012	_16

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

<b>New Members</b>	\$35.00 Joi	ning Fee	
Individual	Annual	2 years	3 years
Standard	\$72.00	\$136.00	\$199.00
Concession	\$50.00	\$94.00	\$138.00
Household			
Standard	\$105.00	\$199.00	\$292.00
Concession	\$83.00	\$157.00	\$230.00
Corporate	\$660.00		

#### Life Membership

 Individual
 \$825.00

 Household
 \$1320.00

New members and renewal payments can be made online, by post, telephone or in person at our city office.

Cash, cheque and all major credit cards are accepted. Membership renewal reminders are generated one month before the anniversary of due dates.

The National Trust of Australia (ACT) is a non-profit, community-based organisation that aims to preserve Australia's heritage for future generations. Membership of the National Trust offers a number of benefits. Among them are:

- Free entry to National Trust properties around the world
- Complimentary copy of National Trust magazines quarterly
- Discount of up to 15% at National Trust shops
- An opportunity to participate in travel organised by the Trust
- Access to the National Trust's special events and activities
- An opportunity to help the Trust protect your local & cultural heritage

# People and Places

The Members page is an information page for all current and prospective members of the National Trust ACT. Our aim is to pass on any information that may be of assistance to members and also to notify members of activities that have been organised by the various committees of the ACT National Trust.

#### Novi Scripti

The National Trust (ACT) warmly welcomes the following new members:

Jeanette Ricketts and CarolVirginiBatesJanet aAnnette and Paul BriggsChristeLana and NormanVirginBurmesterTorremRichard Roe and StarAlastaJansonWrigh

Virginia Paterson Janet and Terry Rooney Christopher Ryan Virginia and Roland Torrens Alastair and Shelley Wright

### New Trust website

The Trust's new website is now up and running.

To find the ACT's site, go to the national site at www.nationaltrust.org.au, select "Australian Capital Territory" from the menu of regions and then click on "change region".

All State and Territory Trusts and the ACNT now have a website with the same format. We hope you like the new look. If you have any problems, please call the Office on 6230 0533.

# LIMITED EDITION PRINTS

### Federal Territory Sketch Map

As Canberra heads towards the 2013 Centenary celebrations, the National Trust (ACT) is producing limited edition copies of the Federal Territory A3 sketch map presented to the Prince of Wales on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone in 1920.

The prints are available to buy from the office at a cost of \$25.00 for NT members and \$30.00 for non-members.

A great Centenary gift!

### **KEEP UP TO DATE**

Are you up with the latest National Trust happenings? Maybe you have been missing out on our E News bulletins! Make sure you are on the E News list and are kept up to date with events, have access to National Trust media releases and opportunities to contribute to the valuable and important work of the Trust.

Email info@nationaltrustact.org.au with the subject heading of: Subscribe to E News

#### **Member Events**

The Volunteers and Members Committee invites Trust members to their forthcoming members nights and other events. As usual, new members are invited free of charge, and other members and friends pay a small fee to cover catering (drinks and nibbles) and other costs.

The calendar for the remainder of 2012 is:

- Members Evening Wednesday 21 November, from 5.30-7.30pm, Causeway Hall, Kingston. The History and Heritage Values of the Causeway Hall. Members will hear about the history and heritage values of the Hall and about the people who built, used and lived around it in its early days. Our speakers include Jenny Horsefield who will talk on the history and conservation of Causeway Hall, Bishop Pat Power whose pastoral care included The Causeway, and wellknown Canberran, Kevin Gill, who once lived in the area, and will tell the stories that he recalls of people who lived there. Make a diary note for a terrific night.
- Christmas Party at Huntly Sunday 9 December, 3-5.30pm. Once again John Gale has generously opened his garden at Huntly for Trust Members. All members and friends are invited to celebrate Christmas together at this annual festive event. Members: \$20, non-members: \$25.
- Volunteers Brunch Sunday 16 December, 10am-1pm at Manning Clark House. The National Trust (ACT) invites its valued volunteers to the annual brunch where we say thank you for your contributions to the Trust. The National Trust acknowledges the important work of its volunteers and would not be able to function as well without this contribution.

Further information on all events will be posted on the website and included in e-news, or you are welcome to contact the Trust office. New members will be specially invited but all members and friends are welcome. Please RSVP for all events. You can do this through the Trust office on 6230 0533 or by email to info@nationaltrustact.org.au.

The Committee welcomes ideas from the membership on speakers and topics for 2013. Topics under consideration include a Trivia Night, more from Graeme Wilson on Simpson at Gallipoli, genealogical event, talks on Oaks Estate at Oaks Estate, talks from ACT winners of the National History Challenge, presentations by National Trust Award winners from University of Canberra Heritage Studies, book launches, joint events at local heritage churches and Glassworks demonstration.

### Volunteer with the Trust

Do you have some spare time? Interested in heritage? Do you have skills in administration, data entry or research, natural, Indigenous or cultural heritage expertise, event and/or volunteer management? The ACT National Trust welcomes offers of assistance from members.

Call Liz at the office on 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au

# Message from the Executive Director

# Trusted Recipes

This recipe was a favourite with the staff and volunteers at the Old Parliament House Shop and was supplied by Jean Pound. Jean was the first Volunteer of the Year for the ACT Trust back in the year 2000. Jean used to drive from Dickson to volunteer at Lanyon on a regular basis for over ten years. Then, when the Lanyon shop closed, she moved to the shop at Old Parliament House and came in every Friday afternoon until the shop closed in 2010. Jean, who has just celebrated her 92nd birthday, now resides in Carey Gardens, Red Hill, with another long-time member of the ACT Trust, Audrey Harvey.

#### Ingredients

### Chocolate Slice

- 1 cup mixed fruit
- 4oz (125g) melted butter 1 beaten egg
- 1 cup SR Flour1 cup coconut
- 2 tablespoons cocoa
- 1 cup sugar

#### Method

1. Mix the first five ingredients together and then add the butter and beaten egg.

2. Spread in tin and bake in moderate oven for 15-20 minutes.

3. When cool spread with chocolate icing.

### THANK YOU

We would like to extend our gratitude and thanks to all those who responded and gave so generously to our Supporters' Appeal, plus everyone who gave a general donation to NT ACT during the year. The income from both will help towards our ongoing work to protect ACT's heritage now and for future generations. A sincere 'thank you' to you all. Those who wished to be acknowledged are listed below:

Joan Adler **Dorothy Bates** Stewart & Iris Campbell Mr I and Mrs K Cousins G Croker Alan Foskett Mrs J Gordon John Grant Mr R & Mrs B Griffiths **Isobel Hamilton** Endree Hay Margaret Hill John & Danielle Hyndes **Eunice** Jukes Mr & Mrs D Kennemore Jean Lester Bradley McGregor

P F McGregor Mrs Jean Moran Michael Mowat M G Ogden P W Piggin The Hon Margaret Reid Warwick Richmond Garth Setchell Gill Gould & Hugh Smith **Elizabeth Storrs** Claire Truscott Ms Catherine Walker Ms Carol Watchman Merrilee Webb Wendy Whitham Mrs Muriel Wilkinson **Beryl Williams** 

### Moving heritage interest in Australia

**E**vidence shows that community interest in the National Trust movement peaked during the 1960s and 70s. But by the mid-1980s interest had begun to decline. National Trust membership plateaued in the 1980s and began falling in the early 1990s. Membership is currently only a fraction of that in the 1960s and 70s.

The National Trusts across Australia continued to acquire more properties. When times were good this worked as government funding was available and some of the costs were recoverable by opening the buildings to the public, but by the 1990s, with rising maintenance bills and declining membership, the National Trust was struggling to stay afloat. This was even more critical in the ACT where the Trust had shied away from property acquisition so it needed that strong membership base to maintain its capability to advocate for what was left of the Territory's heritage.

The National Trust movement is now in a difficult position with resources declining, an unsympathetic government (why should a government support an organisation which frustrates its best intentions in the name of preserving our heritage) and a declining membership. Resources and time that the Trust once poured into public advocacy are now being absorbed in fund-raising, commercialisation and lobbying the government for financial support.

For the sake of our heritage we will need to have a look at our organisation and decide whether our aims are still relevant to a wide enough cross-section of the community. We need to broaden our definition of heritage. Many Trusts seem to be focussing only on one group in particular, perhaps young people, but by doing this maybe they are missing the point and risk alienating their current loyal membership or missing whole sections of the community. We need to broaden our membership across as many groups as possible.

A classic example has been illustrated in the development of the Centenary of Canberra Rally. This has proven to be an extremely popular undertaking for the Trust, but one resisted by many in the movement. It includes historic vehicles, new evolving vehicle technologies and every make and model in-between. It has proven popular with the general public, politicians and sponsors and has the potential to earn an income and showcase the Trust's aims to hundreds of thousands of people with an interest in heritage.

We need to find more of these areas of interest and "take off our blinkers" if we are to survive. We need to develop a culture of evolution and innovation and be prepared to embrace a wider and more popular view of heritage to provide the resources needed to enable us to advocate for the things we do hold as important.

> Chris Wain Executive Director

> > ULC CH DU

# **Trust Grant Projects**

### ACT Heritage Grants Program



Minister Corbell announces 2013 ACT Heritage grants. Photo: Linda Roberts

Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Simon Corbell, has announced more than \$320,000 in funds to assist in the conservation of local heritage, through the ACT Heritage Grants Program.

The National Trust (ACT) has received \$3,500 to install a Canberra Tracks Interpretive Sign at the Civic Merry-go-Round. The sign, located on-site in Garema Place Civic, will be launched in the 2013 Heritage Festival

The ACT National Trust Classified Places Collection

A significance assessment has just been completed of the ACT National Trust's Classified Places Collection of files. This was undertaken by heritage consultant Anne Claoué-Long under the Community Heritage Grants Program funded by the Commonwealth Government.

In case you have not heard of it before, the Classified Places Collection is a set of files gathering together information about all of the important heritage places in the ACT that the National Trust has an interest in. These include natural, Aboriginal and historic places, many of which were given "Classified" status by the Trust in the past, meaning that the Trust considered that they had high heritage value. Hence the name of the collection!

The Classified Places Collection files about the history and heritage of Canberra are a slice of history themselves. The four cabinets of files, located in the National Trust offices in Civic, contain key historic background information that has been used by the Trust over the past 33 years when considering what is important about these places. They are an excellent starting point for researchers to understand the history and heritage of the ACT.

They also document the important work of the Trust as a leader of community championship in heritage conservation. The file contents have been used to add detail and weight to the Trust's many successful campaigns to

and provide an insight into the history and significance of the heritage-listed Civic Merry-go-Round. We also received \$15,480 to develop and produce a user friendly and free National Trust Self-Guided Tours Smartphone App that utilises and builds upon its already popular series of self-guided walking tours around Canberra. The project will revise, update and expand the information included in up to five National Trust tours and make them more accessible to locals and visitors alike.

lobby government over significant heritage matters. They contain these stories documented in letters, newspaper articles and photographs. The conservation of some of our most cherished places, such as Lanyon, Calthorpes' House and Mugga Mugga, was championed by the Trust, and the Classified Places Collection illustrates the community attachment that these properties command.



While no individual treasures were found in the files, the collection as a whole is a treasure chest of important accessible collated information for both the ACT National Trust and the people of Canberra. In particular the photographs in the files show now-altered places and provide a benchmark for measuring how well or not a heritage place is being looked after.



The significance assessment of the collection was carried out against nationally recognised guidelines and criteria set down by the former Collections Council of Australia. Former National Trust Heritage Officers were consulted and a comparison was made between the Classified Places Collection files and other file collections on ACT heritage places held by the Commonwealth and ACT governments.



The assessment has provided the National Trust with a better understanding of the Classified Places Collection and how to manage and use it as an important active resource and archive for its valuable heritage championship work. National Trust members and others wanting to find out more about the heritage of the ACT and the work of the Trust by delving into this important local collection should contact the Trust office on 6230 0533.

Anne Claoué-Long

## Australia ICOMOS 2013 Centenary of Canberra – Imagined pasts, imagined futures...

Richard Flanagan recently wrote of James Boyce's colonial history *Van Dieman's Land*: "In re-imagining Australia's past, it invents a new future". The Centenary of Canberra in 2013 provides an opportunity for Australia ICOMOS to reflect on how heritage participates in the "imagined communities" and "imagined geographies" of the nation in a globalizing world. ICOMOS 2013 will explore how narratives of the past and visions of the future are entwined in place and how heritage is created at different scales to imagine different forms of communities and belonging – from personal heritage and local places, to virtual communities, diaspora, national and world heritage.

**Dates:** Thursday 31 October–Sunday 3 November 2013 **Venue:** Museum of Australian Democracy @ OPH

If you are interested in working on the planning and organisation of the conference over the next year or so, please email Tracy Ireland at Tracy.Ireland@canberra.edu.au



Please visit our new website or contact us about appointments, assessments, quotations and any other enquiries you may have.



LA CONDIC

# ACT and Region Annual Australian Heritage Partnership Symposium 2012



This annual Heritage Partnership Symposium was hosted in July by the Canberra Archaeological Society, the National Trust of Australia (ACT), Australia ICOMOS, the Canberra and District Historical Society, Donald Horne Institute for Cultural Heritage (University of Canberra) and the Institute of Professional Practice in Heritage and the Arts (ANU).

The theme of the symposium was Valuing Heritage: Advocating for community attachment in planning. Heritage professionals and community and government representatives presented a full programme of papers covering a range of issues relating to the theme. Over 75 people attended and participated in lively discussion and avid networking. Issues and items for discussion were collected throughout the day and the final panel addressed some meaty topics.

It was generally agreed that establishing the relevance of community values in heritage is difficult; often people don't need to think about how much they value a place until it is under threat, so their interest at a late stage in the process may seem to be vexatious. We agreed that



the assessment of community and social values should be undertaken in the early stages of heritage surveys and not left until late in the planning stages, when there may be little opportunity to

sway the outcomes of the development process. This is particularly necessary when there may be several communities with diverging or even conflicting views about the significant elements of the one place.

The language used by heritage authorities was also considered an impediment to defining and promoting the importance of community values in the significance of heritage places. Sometimes the credibility of the community which values a place may be challenged. The terminology used is worthy of further study, perhaps considering using words of more sustainable meaning to the planning and development fraternity.

Several examples of recent successful collaborations between non-Indigenous community groups, government departments and local Aboriginal organisations were presented and the audience hoped that more project leaders would follow these examples and help to promote and conserve local cultural places.

The ACT Government is also to be congratulated on its recent programme of heritage conservation of some of our favourite historic places, and the promotion of these places to a wider audience through art and performance

was applauded. We look forward to further collaborations between our community heritage groups and the authorities who help us to look after our heritage.



You can find a

summary of the presentations and the panel discussions at www.cas.asn.au. Some of the full presentations will be available on the new National Trust (ACT) website.

> Helen Cooke Photos: Dianne Dowling



# Centenary of Canberra Rally formally launched

n Monday 10 September, the ACT Government's Deputy Chief Minister, Andrew Barr, officially launched the Centenary of Canberra car rally which will be the ACT National Trust's major contribution to Canberra's 100th birthday celebrations. Mr Barr and Eric Martin, the NT ACT President, arrived at the launch in a veteran Model T Ford and left in a state-of-the-art electric vehicle.

The Minister said that the ACT Government was pleased to partner the Trust in breaking new ground for the organisation and he wished the event every success. Eric Martin noted that this is a departure from the "normal bricks and mortar" activities of the Trust and indicated the Trust's enthusiasm for preserving Australia's motoring history.

The rally will begin at the naval station at Jervis Bay and travel to Canberra via Mount Sassafras, Tarago, Bungendore and Queanbeyan. The grand arrival into Canberra will take place on Saturday 19 October 2013. The following day the vehicles will cruise down Northbourne Avenue from Exhibition Park (EPIC) ending with a massed display at Old Parliament House. There will be buskers, old time bands and competitions for the best period dress.

The rally is being jointly organised by the National Trust (ACT) and the Australian Historic Motoring Federation (AHMF). Chair of the rally organisation committee is Mr Bill Lewis who is working closely with our own Chris Wain to ensure the rally goes smoothly.

Some 2,000 vehicles are expected to take part in the rally, including cars, motorbikes and commercials, from veteran to the very latest models.

For more information, please see the National Trust website at www.nationaltrust.org.au



Deputy Chief Minister Andrew Barr and Eric Martin, at the launch of the Centenary of Canberra Canberra car rally.

Enquiries to Chris Wain on 02 6230 0533.

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You can help us to conserve and safeguard places of heritage significance for future generations by making a tax deductible donation Donations over \$2 are tax deductible

	Name:			
	Address:			
National Trust (ACT)	P/C			
First Floor, North Building	I wish to make a donation of \$			
Cnr London Cct and Civic Square,	Credit Card Payments			
Canberra ACT 2601 PO Box 1144 Civic Square,	Amex 🗍 Visa 📄 Mastercard Expiry			
Canberra ACT 2608	Card No			
Telephone (02) 6230 0533				
Facsimile (02) 6230 0544	Name on card			
Email: info@nationaltrustact.org.au www.nationaltrust.org.au	Signature			
5	Cheques should be made out to National Trust of Australia (ACT)			
	Please send me information about automatic payments			
	Cash donations accepted at the office.			

# **Trust Tour Reports**

#### **Booroomba and Braeside**

fter several days of fairly ordinary weather, Sunday the 9th of September was a glorious spring day, perfect for a visit to Booroomba which is a large, heritage-listed property situated in a valley to the west of the Murrumbidgee, near Tharwa.



Braeside cottage

Twenty-five members and friends arrived at Booroomba at 1pm, having driven up the valley to the homestead from the Tidbinbilla Rd. We spent the afternoon looking around the property which was first settled in the 1840s. As our guide Eric Martin explained, the area west of the Murrumbidgee wasn't even explored until a couple of decades after the Canberra area was settled and it was an isolated home for the early residents.

James Wright from Lanyon bought Booroomba in c1840. He built a slab homestead on the property around 1842 for his parents-in-law, Jane and William Davis, who lived there until 1860. Their successors were the McKeahnie family who lived at Booroomba for 66 years. While the previous owners had grazed cattle, the McKeahnies also introduced sheep and Booroomba has been a wool producer ever since. There are currently between 15,000 and 20,000 sheep on the property - many currently with lambs, as we saw on the drive in.

We began our tour at the main Booroomba homestead built initially probably c1850 but much altered and modernised in 1966 by Canberra architect Enrico Tagliette. There are many out-buildings quite close to the homestead including an elaborate meat store, shearers' quarters and a blacksmith's shop, still with its 19th century bellows, anvil and rows of horseshoes. The shearing shed itself is fairly new, the original one having been burnt down during a



From Booroomba homestead, we walked a few hundred metres to Braeside cottage, built around 1890 and now a delightful place where family and friends of the current owners can stay. It's thought that Braeside was built when repairs were being done to the main homestead. A haha wall around the lawn in front of the house enables residents to enjoy the view down the valley without stock intruding.

A third residence, Blythburn, was unfortunately inaccessible to us owing to the state of the road. It was built in 1882 for the McKeahnies' daughter, Elizabeth, who ran the property of the same name with the assistance of other women. It is thought that this is the only prosperous rural property in NSW at the time to have been managed solely by women. Blythburn is also notable for its ploughlands.

Our visit ended with afternoon tea which included some of Linda Roberts' home-made cakes, a real treat. Eric acknowledged the generosity of the Hyles family in allowing us to visit and members thanked Linda and Eric for their contributions to a most informative and pleasant outing: It is hoped that the trip might be run again in the autumn.

Wendy Whitham

Photos courtesy of Linda Roberts and Wendy Whitham

#### Manning Clark House

n Tuesday 17 July I joined 21 others at Manning Clark House and listened to Sebastian Clark give an informative talk about his parents, his childhood and the family home before we were taken on a tour of the house designed by Robin Boyd in 1952. Sebastian enjoyed growing up with his siblings in this delightful home and garden with amazing views. One interesting fact was that every pet they had was called "Tuppence". We explored the house and were taken up to the roof-top study (access by very steep steps) where Manning Clark wrote A History of Australia among other works. The library was very interesting with a vast collection of volumes and Dymphna Clark's collection of texts in many European languages. The piano that Manning Clark played is in the sitting room where we started the tour and our very nice afternoon tea was served in the small dining room which features the 1972 portrait of Manning Clark by Arthur Boyd.

I thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience and was very impressed with the staff of volunteers who give their time to this significant ACT Heritage Place.

Suzie Paul Photo courtesy of Robyn Long



Outbuilding, Booroomba



# Travels with the Trust

#### Radburn Housing Design

#### Sunday 4 November 1-4pm

Through the segregation of pedestrian and vehicular movement and the inclusion of communal spaces and parkland area, the Radburn design concept has left its mark in Canberra. The NCDC attempted to amalgamate bush capital planning with Radburn planning philosophy and a move to medium density housing in the 1970s. Was it successful? Come and join Paul Cohen as we visit Charnwood and Curtin. An afternoon tea at Curtin will top off the afternoon.

- Meet: End of Leycester Place, Charnwood, UBD Map 27 D14
- Cost: \$25 NT & U3A members; \$35 nonmembers
- Bookings essential: 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au.

#### **Cooma Capers**

#### Thursday 15 November 8am-6pm

Join caper coordinator Robert Abell to discover some of the rich history of Cooma. On reaching our destination in a comfortable chartered coach we will have morning tea in Centennial Park followed by a heritage tour of the town led by Suzanne Hill from the Cooma Information Centre. This will be followed by a guided tour of the Corrective Services Museum. Our next activity will be an inspection of the Snowy Hydro Discovery Centre which will also be our lunch stop. The day will conclude with a visit to the Cooma -Monaro Railway heritage precinct which also includes a short return train trip to Bunyan and afternoon tea.

Knowledgeable local guides will be available throughout our visit. There will be some easy walking but participants will need to get on and off the coach/train during the day. A BYO lunch is recommended, although light refreshments can be purchased from the coffee shop at the Hydro Discovery Centre.

- Meet: Canberra Railway Station (Kingston) car park, for departure at 8am sharp.
- Cost: \$70 NT & U3A members; \$80 nonmembers
- Bookings essential: 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au.

### Bulls Head Border Walk

#### Saturday 1 December 10am-3.30pm

This is another opportunity to join this walk which was postponed back in March due to wet conditions. Historian Matthew Higgins will lead us as we continue our series on the border walks. Morning tea will be provided at Bulls Head before we continue down the road to view one of Harry Mouatt's border mile trees-many were burnt in 2003. A walk up to the summit of Mt Franklin after looking at the shelter built on the site of another casualty of the 2003 fires. We will conclude with Bendora Arboretum - a survivor. Bring a packed lunch, water, sturdy shoes and a warm jacket.

- Meet: Bulls Head, Mt Franklin Road. Allow 45 mins from CBD. Approx 15km dirt.
- Cost: \$25 NT &U3A members, \$35 nonmembers.
- Bookings essential: 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au.

#### **Towrang Bus Trip**

#### Sunday 17 February 8.30am-6pm

There's much more to the Towrang area than just the convict built Stockade. Come on this bus tour and be surprised at what is on offer. Besides the Stockade, bridge and culverts, we will visit Danganelly (c1855),Lockersleigh (c1828), Wollondale Homestead (c1890) and at Murrays Flat view the Schoolhouse (c1881) and the former Wesleyan Church (c1859). Learn about Towrang granite and enjoy the hospitality of the local CWA who will offer us morning and afternoon teas as well as lunch.

Meet: Car park behind the Deakin Fitness Centre, Deakin Shops

#### Cost: TBA

Bookings essential: 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au.



The walls of Troy. Photograph by Peter Dowling

#### The Narrabundah Pre Fabs Walk Sunday 3 March 1-4pm

This walk will provide an insight into the history of these pre fabs, a group of 365 family homes built to minimal standards from 1948 until 1951. These houses provided urgently needed accommodation for building workers and their families who came from all parts of Australia and overseas to get Canberra up and running in those difficult post World War II days.

The walk will include many of the pre fabs in their original form or where redevelopment has preserved the outside form of some pre fabs. We shall see historic sites such as Tuckerman's store and the WHO's Drug Rehabilitation Centre, the Narrabundah schools, health centre, RSL Club, Community Hall, sporting grounds, Mothercraft Centre and the Russian Orthodox Church area.

Members of the Narrabundah Pre Fabs History Group who grew up in the area will be on hand to put their slant on the early days, while the author of the book Homes for the Workers—the History of the Narrabundah Pre Fabs, Alan Foskett, will lead the walk.

The walk will finish with coffee at one of the fine cafes now at Narrabundah shops.

- Meet: Narrabundah Shops, Boolimba Crescent
- Cost: \$25 NT & U3A members; \$35 nonmembers

Bookings essential: 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au.



Hill 60, Gallipoli Photograph by Peter Dowling

#### Borobudur and Beyond, August 2013

Expressions of interest are invited for a 7/8 day tour to Jogjakarta, the 'cultural capital' of Indonesia.

Jogjakarta is a quiet university town in the centre of the island of Java. It was the centre of ancient Buddhist and Hindu kingdoms and is the site of a number of world heritage listed ancient monuments, including Borobudur and Candi Prambanan.

It is envisaged that the tour would include:

 visits, with English speaking experts, to Borobuur, Candi Prambanan and other Hindu/Buddhist temple sites around Jogjakarta;

- an evening performance of the 'Ramayana' ballet at Candi Prambanan;
- a visit to the Sultan's palace and adjacent historical sites;
- an overnight tour into the hinterland around Jogjakarta, possibly to the Dieng plateau;
- batik shopping time;
- accommodation in a four star hotel/ cultural centre in a traditional Javanese village near Jogjakarta;
- all fares, accommodation and meals.
- **Cost:** The total cost (subject to final booking confirmations) is expected to be around A\$3,950 per person twin share. A single supplement of around \$500 would apply.

Maximum number of participants: 20. Participants could, if they so wish, add on a stopover in Bali – the airfares would be covered by the Jogjakarta tour.

Expressions of interest: to 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.gov.au



Borobodur Photograph by Michael Hodgkin

# The Wright Building – a 19<sup>th</sup> Century Survivor in the Queanbeyan CBD

Queanbeyan City Council's multi-million dollar project to revitalise the city's centre by creating a 'Lifestyle Precinct' in Crawford Street between Monaro and Morisset Streets is now nearing completion. The project has already had an important heritage impact in stimulating a major restoration / renovation of the 1926 Royal Hotel at the corner of Crawford and Monaro Streets. In fact, the hotel was the recent recipient of a Heritage Award from Queanbeyan Council. On the opposite corner, a fresh paint scheme some years ago successfully tied the 1937 Art Deco commercial building designed by Ken Oliphant into the older-style 1927 rear section of the building.

Standing largely unrecognised at the other end of the precinct, however, is another building that is worthy of recognition and conservation. This is the so-called 'Wright Building' at 200 Crawford Street. Although it is concealed beneath layers of render and paint, the roofline and general form of the building point to a 19<sup>th</sup> century origin. A photograph from the early 1920s supports this impression. The photograph shows the building with the same roofline,



The Wright Building in May 2012 (Photograph by author)



windows in the same location – though altered in shape – in the upper storey of the western elevation, same lack of openings in the northern elevation, and same overall form (minus a later addition on its southern side).

The Wright Building in the 1920s (Photograph from Queanbeyan City Library)

The 1920s photograph also permits a comparison to be made with another building, now demolished, that was erected in Monaro Street in 1869. That building, which was owned by Thomas Wilson, a local blacksmith of some means, served as the town's post office from 1870 to 1880. An 1870 Beaufoy Merlin photograph of Wilson's building shows that it was a simple two-storey unrendered brick structure of symmetrical Georgian design and, importantly, that it was all but identical to the Wright Building.<sup>1</sup> The similarity suggests that the two buildings were contemporaneous and may well have been erected by the same builder(s). The builders were most likely established



Wilson's Building, Monaro Street, Queanbeyan (H. Beaufoy Merlin photograph, 1870)

local contractors, either James Hutchison and his son John, or Thomas Samuel Jordan, son of the builder Daniel Jordan who had died in 1863.

The Wright Building takes its name from Mary Ann Wright, wife of the rather choleric John James Wright, Queanbeyan's first mayor. Despite being named for Mary Ann Wright, however, it is highly unlikely that she or her husband was responsible for erecting the structure. The original ¼-acre allotment on which the building stands was owned by John James Wright for a short period in the 1840s, but he soon sold it on without building on it. In February 1854, the unimproved lot was acquired by Martin Byrne of later Byrne's Mill fame. Byrne erected some kind of structure on the allotment, though town maps of 1859 and 1862 show the lot as vacant. In May 1866, Byrne sold the property to David Parker, a Queanbeyan tinsmith. It was almost definitely Parker who was responsible for the erection of the building that still stands there.<sup>2</sup>

In August 1871, the *Queanbeyan Age* reported that "Mr Parker's shops in Crawford-street" were under construction. This is surely the building that is now known as the Wright Building. The structure was finished and ready for occupation by September 1871. In the following year, a solicitor, a surveyor and the secretary of the Queanbeyan Pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Society all had offices in the building; a bakery and confectionery opened in the building in 1873.<sup>3</sup>

David Parker moved to Sydney in 1877 and in March 1884 sold the Crawford Street property to Mary Ann Wright. A shrewd businesswoman herself, she evidently regarded the centrally-located building as a good business investment. Although she too moved to Sydney in about 1891, she retained ownership of the property for over two decades. Over this period, she leased it to a series of tenants, apparently as a residence.<sup>4</sup>

By 1911, the property had been purchased by Nurse Mary Johnston (née Eva). She had moved with her husband and son from Williamsdale to Queanbeyan in 1908 and, in May 1910, established a lying-in hospital in the house called Yvonne, still standing at 75 Campbell Street. Nurse Johnston remained the owner of the building for a few decades and, like Mary Ann Wright, leased the building out as a residential tenancy.<sup>5</sup>

Ownership of the property passed through a few pairs of hands until it was purchased by farmers Satiri and Jon Kitsoi in January 1952. By this time, if not well before, the building was divided up into a series of flats. After the Kitsois moved to the NSW north coast, they sold the property in April 1958 to George Fajka, a hairdresser. This probably marked the point at which a hairdressing salon first occupied the building, a function that continues to the present day. In any event, the lower storey of the building was converted for commercial as opposed to residential uses from this time onward.<sup>6</sup>

Given the development pressure that has long existed in the centre of Queanbeyan, it is remarkable that

the Wright Building has survived to the present day. Doubtless it owes its survival to its solid construction and central location that has seen it continually rented for residential and business purposes for its entire lifespan of over 140 years. In fact, it is the oldest commercial building in the Queanbeyan CBD, older than such better known 19th century business premises as Byrne's Mill (1883) and Walsh's Hotel (originally the Edinburgh House millinery and drapery store, 1875). With the current development of the 'Lifestyle Precinct' in Crawford Street, the potential exists for conservation and interpretation of the Wright Building to make a positive contribution to the appearance and interest of the precinct. As such, it would also complement the refurbished Royal Hotel and the Ken Oliphant building at the other end of the precinct.

#### Brendan O'Keefe

Brendan O'Keefe is an historian and heritage consultant who has carried out numerous heritage projects in Canberra and Queanbeyan over many years.

- 1 Errol Lea-Scarlett and Tim Robinson, *First Light on the Limestone Plains: Historic Photographs of Canberra and Queanbeyan*, Sydney, 1986, pp. 70-1; Rex L. Cross, *Bygone Queanbeyan*, revised edition, Queanbeyan, 1985, p. 23.
- 2 Certificate of Title, Book 98, No. 868, Land and Property Information [LPI] NSW.
- Queanbeyan Age, 10 August 1871, p. 2; 28 September 1871, p. 3; 25 January 1872, p. 1; 2 May 1872, p. 3; 8 August 1872, p. 3; 15 May 1873, p. 3.
- Certificate of Title, Book 285, No. 775, LPI NSW; Peter Procter, *Biographical Register of Canberra and Queanbeyan*, Canberra, 2001, p. 50; Borough of Queanbeyan [Valuation Book] 1905-1907, assessment nos. 188 and 189; Errol Lea-Scarlett, 'Some women who helped to shape local history', in Rex Cross and Bert Sheedy, *Queanbeyan Pioneers – First Study*, Queanbeyan, 1983, p. 201.
- 5 Municipality of Queanbeyan Rate Book 1911-12-13, p. 9, assessment nos. 170 and 171; Municipality of Queanbeyan Valuation Book 1920-1922, pp. 12-13, assessment nos. 194 and 195; Ancell Kildmore Johnston, Ancell Johnston: Townsman, Queanbeyan, 1981, pp. 2, 8, 9; Procter, Biographical Register of Canberra and Queanbeyan, p. 94.
- 6 Municipality of Queanbeyan Valuations 1943 to 1948, p. 12, assessment no. 166; Municipality of Queanbeyan Valuation Book 1949-54, p. 13, assessment no. 173; Department of the Valuer General, N.S.W. – Valuation List, Queanbeyan, 1954, valuation no. 928.

"What House is That "– A guide to the Australian Capital Territory's Housing Styles, by Eric Martin, AM, FRAIA, with sketches by Shibu Dutta, ARAIA. This A5 booklet covers 13 Canberra house styles from 1910 to 1970 and provides basic information on the style, materials, finishes, colours and gardens. It aims to provide information to owners and builders to understand a particular house and ensure changes are managed in the best possible way. It promotes innovation and quality design to ensure that houses are sustainable with greater energy efficiency.

Available from the National Trust office in Civic for \$10.00. For enquiries call 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au.

ur Heritage @ Risk is a national program intended to raise awareness of heritage issues in Australia. Each year the State and Territory National Trusts nominate those cultural, natural and indigenous places, sites or objects which they consider to be most at risk of loss or deterioration. In the ACT both Trust members and the general public make nominations which are then assessed by the Heritage Committee. The criteria used to identify heritage most at risk are level of heritage significance and degree and immediacy of risk. Once identified, the list of places is presented to relevant government bodies and the public. Our top three are then considered by a judging committee who decide the top place for each State and Territory and produce an Australia-wide list. By identifying these sites the program aims to draw community and media attention to the kinds of threats facing our heritage and in doing so work together to reduce them.

To produce the ACT's 2012 list, the Heritage Committee reviewed 16 nominations and from this identified eight places that were of high risk and heritage significance. This includes several new sites.

Outlined below are the risks to these eight places and the actions we would like to see occur to reduce them and ultimately conserve the sites' heritage values.

# ACT Heritage-Registered Housing Precincts

#### Risk of devaluation of heritage values

There are threats from inconsistent and incomplete application of heritage and planning requirements, municipal works often inconsistent with heritage values, and lack of meaningful compliance action by the ACT Government.

Development of private leaseholds that are inconsistent with heritage and planning requirements, especially where there is substantial demolition of historic fabric and loss of significant elements, is also of concern.

#### Solution

The 13 ACT heritage-registered Housing Precincts in Canberra must be protected effectively to preserve their unique values. Preparation of comprehensive Conservation Management Plans should immediately commence for each heritage-listed residential housing precinct. The Trust has requested the ACT Government and ACT Heritage Unit to undertake an audit of the housing precincts to determine the effectiveness of the current guidelines and the most appropriate ways to make them more effective in achieving their objectives.

### **ACT Supreme Court Building**

### Risk of devaluation and loss of heritage values

The significance of the Law Courts Precinct has never officially been recognised due to the gaps in heritage protection between Commonwealth and Territory legislation.

#### Threat of Destruction of heritage features

The Law Courts Building is being refurbished and redesigned, with potentially the only things to remain of the original building being the façade, columns and coat of arms.

#### Solution

We would like to see the heritage significance of the building formally acknowledged and more of the heritage features (such as the central glassed atrium and the timber furniture fittings) incorporated in the re-design.

### Lake Burley Griffin West Basin

### Risk of devaluation of heritage values

The West Basin is currently part of the City to the Lake and Australia Forum study area<sup>1</sup> which could potentially see part of the Lake filled in to accommodate a National Convention Centre or even a stadium. Amendments 59 and 61 to the National Capital Plan have already been passed with the intention for future development of the area.

### Threat of inappropriate development

Potential impacts include reduction of the views and vistas to and from the Lake foreshore, marked reduction in community open space around the lake and impacts on established parkland setting and character of the area.

Such development will not only impact on heritage values of the Lake but on other important heritage sites around Acton and on the ANU campus.

#### Solution

The design of any proposal should be rigorously managed to ensure formal qualities and heritage values of the precinct are maintained. We do not believe that these values can be maintained with current proposals to infill part of the West Basin. We are not opposed to all plans that will see the Lake better utilised and appreciated. We therefore want to see the current Heritage Management Plan developed further to ensure the conservation of West Basin is achieved.

### **Cork Oak Plantation**

### Risk of devaluation and loss of heritage values

Listed on the Register of the National Estate and as a Site of Significance in the ACT, the Glenloch Cork Oak Plantation is located at the base of Black Mountain next to the Glenloch Interchange. The Cork Oak Plantation was established from acorns that Walter Burley Griffin had imported from Spain in 1917. This plantation is the largest mature oak plantation in the Southern Hemisphere.

#### Threat of destruction

The Cork Oak Plantation has no formal heritage listing. Recent plans released for the potential entrance to the National Arboretum show the intended route will go through the plantation involving removal of a number of the trees and possible loss of others.

#### Solution

This plan cannot be allowed to go ahead. The Plantation needs to have its heritage status officially recognised to ensure it is recognised for its importance in the ACT and to provide a level of protection so that it is preserved long into the future.

#### **Civic Pool**

# *Risk of loss of heritage values due to inappropriate development*

Civic Pool is an Olympic swimming pool complex recognised by the architectural profession for its exceptional merit. Soon after it was built in 1955/56 the RAIA (NSW) awarded its architects the prestigious Sir John Sulman Medal.

The Pool was listed on the Register of the National Estate but now has no official heritage listing or status as it falls between Commonwealth and Territory legislation. It is currently part of the City to the Lake and Australia Forum study area and as a prime development site is not safe from developers.

#### Solution

A valuable and historic recreational space in the city, this site needs to be recognised and protected from unsympathetic change.

#### **Fitters Workshop**

#### Risk of devaluation of heritage values

Constant debate about the Kingston Arts Precinct and the appropriate adaptive re-use of the Fitters Workshop has meant the heritage aspects of the site are being overlooked in its future use.

Confusing development processes undertaken to date give concerns for the future conservation of the heritage features of the site. The 2011 Development Application submission inadequately addressed the heritage values of the Fitters Workshop.

#### Solution

Heritage values and features should be the number one priority for future use. The Fitters Workshop must be appropriately conserved and a Master Plan for the whole Precinct developed and agreed before any development at the site is begun.

#### ANU Buggy Shed

#### Risk of loss of heritage values due to neglect

The buggy shed, located in the Acton Conservation Area in the ANU, is a duplex erected in 1913 to provide vehicle accommodation for two free-standing cottages of which the Constables Cottage still stands. The cottage, its associated garden and buggy shed combine to form one of the best examples of the earliest surviving government housing in Canberra.

The shed has been unroofed and exposed to the elements for some time. It is currently being held up by temporary supports but overall appears structurally unsound. Conservation reports and options have been written for the shed but no follow up work has occurred.

#### Solution

We would like to see more support of the buggy shed shown by the ANU, and its heritage significance and importance not only to the history of the ANU area but also to Canberra better recognised. In the immediate future the buggy shed needs re-roofing to slow the rate of degradation and decay. In the very near future other options for conservation need to be explored and acted upon.

Note: We are pleased to report that since the H@R list was released, the Trust has received word that funding for the stabilisation and conservation of the ANU Buggy Shed has been set aside for 2012-13. The Trust will help in any way possible to ensure the project is completed in a timely manner and to the highest of standards.

#### Heritage Listed Open Spaces

#### Risk of devaluation and degradation of heritage values

A number of our heritage-listed open spaces (such as Telopea Park) are currently being used as 'temporary' car parks and not appropriately used, monitored, conserved or managed. These heritage- listed public open spaces are generally unleased land and so not subject to the controls of the Territory Plan and our concern is that they will be increasingly abused and degraded by extended car parks. The increasing pressure on these areas not only takes up the open space but also damages root systems of significant old trees and impacts on the heritage values of the sites.

#### Solution

Creation of new car parks in heritage-listed open spaces should be banned and current arrangements better monitored and managed. We would like to see the ACT Government develop a parking strategy and an associated monitoring schedule.

#### **Bethany Lance**

1 The ACT Government's City to Lake project is aimed at establishing a framework for developments south and west of the city, identifying issues associated with linking the city to Lake Burley Griffin. The project area stretches from the West Basin to the Canberra Olympic Pool. Australia Forum is the name given to the proposed new convention centre for Canberra, with possible sites for the centre including West Basin and the Olympic Pool site.

Photographs of these places can be found on page 19.

www.nationaltrust.org.au PAGE 17



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The editors invite articles and letters from Trust members with an interest in the heritage of the ACT and these should be addressed to The Editor, Heritage in Trust, at info@nationaltrustact.org.au. Articles should in general be 500 - 600 words. Lead articles should not exceed 1500 words except with the agreement of the editors. Photos to accompany articles should be at least 1MB each. Further guidelines will be sent to contributors.

Deadlines for copy 2013: 26 November 2012, 12 March 2013, 11 June, 20 August

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Enquiries to Liz McMillan ph: 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au

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Heritage in Trust PAGE 18



Civic Pool

Canberra Swimming Pool, November 1957



Telopea Park



Supreme Court



Buggy shed



Cork Oak Plantation



Fitters Workshop

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