

THE NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (NEW SOUTH WALES) POLICY ON BUILT HERITAGE

PREAMBLE

Founded in 1945, the National Trust of Australia (New South Wales) is the oldest, independent community advocate for the preservation of built heritage in Australia. In 1946 the National Trust was the first to introduce a Register to list heritage items and places at the request of the State Government. The National Trust Register now has more than 11,570 entries. The Register is often a precursor to local government Heritage Listing, as well as State and National Heritage Listing and inscription as World Heritage.

The National Trust acquired its first property in 1952 and now owns a range of properties throughout NSW. In managing, conserving and presenting them, the Trust demonstrates the principles underlying its Built Heritage advocacy.

The term *Built Heritage* refers to built structures, cultural landscapes and objects and their appropriate curtilage which are of heritage significance and warrant recognition and conservation.

POLICY

1. The National Trust will continue to promote the conservation of built heritage. The National Trust will advocate that built items can be better cared for when in use and that conservation is more sustainable in environmental, social and cultural terms than demolition and replacement.
2. The National Trust Register will continue to be an important cornerstone for the Trust's advocacy to promote heritage recognition, protective legislation and the maintenance and sensitive continuing use and adaptive re-use of the built heritage. The National Trust will continue to produce and maintain its own Trust Register listings as a key part of its advocacy for the conservation of all built heritage and recognition of community values.
3. The National Trust supports and promotes the use of the *ICOMOS Burra Charter*ⁱ in relation to the conservation of the built heritage.
4. The National Trust will promote the view that all levels of government, corporate entities and individual citizens have a role in the conservation of the built heritage.
5. The National Trust acknowledges the role of statutory heritage listing for the ongoing conservation, management and maintenance of built heritage throughout NSW and supports the continual review and survey of potential heritage places.
6. The National Trust will advocate for sensitive development which conserves the heritage significance of built heritage items and potential heritage items.
7. The National Trust will continue to educate and advise the wider community on the proper care and management of the built heritage across NSW.

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Approved by National Trust Board: 26 March 2014

ⁱ *ICOMOS Burra Charter 2013*