HERITAGE
Valuing Canberra's history
Our plan to protect Canberra's natural, cultural and built heritage.

THE GREENS

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We believe there is a need for a clearly defined vision and 10 year plan for the protection of natural, cultural and built heritage sites - including both Aboriginal and 19th and 20th century European sites.

We also believe that there should be more community consultation to identify heritage places and how they should be protected, and that heritage vision and values should inform urban planning in new developments and in existing suburbs.

> More resources for peak bodies

The Greens will commit additional staff resources for government and non-government peak bodies so they can meet the demands placed on them. We understand that due to under resourcing there is currently a backlog in processing heritage nominations, an urgent need to develop and review Conservation Management Plans and pressure to assess Development Applications.

There are enormous expectations of key non-government heritage groups to provide input on a voluntary basis. The Greens will invest $300,000 to provide administrative support for government and non-government heritage organisations to:

» Process nominations and develop conservation management plans for Heritage Housing Precincts;

» Provide considered heritage input into redevelopment proposals for precincts such as the Yarralumla Brickworks and the Manuka Oval; and

» Identify, protect and promote Aboriginal cultural knowledge in urban planning and development

> More funding to maintain Heritage Assets

The Greens will commit an additional $100,000 every year to maintain heritage assets around the city, such as bus stops, light poles, old street signs, and gutter markings, fire hydrants, or post boxes. Many of the physical assets that reflect Canberra's history are currently neglected and are deteriorating.

> Upgrade the Sydney and Melbourne Buildings

With construction of the first stage of light rail underway, planning is underway for a Plaza between the Sydney and Melbourne Buildings.

Unfortunately, these buildings have not been maintained to a standard befitting their heritage significance, or their iconic gateway location.

The ACT Greens will:

» Commit $500,000 towards a grants program for the restoration and upkeep of the Sydney and Melbourne buildings in a co-investment model with willing owners. This could include painting, paving, lighting and signage.

> An ACT history and heritage display centre

Canberra needs a safe and centralised repository to store objects and ACT publications and records. This could potentially include an education and display centre, cafe, shop and administration and meeting space for heritage organisations.

The ACT Greens will:

» Fund a feasibility study and explore options for a history and heritage display centre, including indigenous heritage.

An ACT history and heritage display centre could be located in a number of places including the Blundells Cottage precinct or the Lyneham Flats, Northbourne Avenue for an architectural heritage museum and potentially house voluntary heritage organisations or space for the Government Architect.

> Heritage listing of the central national area and inner hills

The Greens support the national heritage listing of Canberra's central national area and the inner hills. This will protect sites of significant heritage importance while providing a framework for future development, and will included a specific reference to the Griffin's Plan.

The ACT Greens will progress negotiations with the Commonwealth to secure the heritage listing of Canberra's central national area and the inner hills.