

# 2025 NATIONAL TRUST (ACT) HERITAGE AWARDS



The National Trust of Australia (ACT) Heritage Awards recognise projects that make a significant contribution to preserving or promoting the heritage of the ACT. We welcome the nomination of any project which promotes the conservation of, or fosters public knowledge about, places, objects and issues that are significant to the heritage of the ACT.

## What is Heritage?

Heritage includes places, values, traditions, events and experiences that capture where we've come from, where we are now, and gives context to where we are headed as a community. Heritage conservation is the process of protecting and preserving culturally significant places, objects, landscapes and stories for future generations, ensuring they retain their historical, social, and aesthetic value.

## Heritage Award Categories

In 2025 awards are offered in the following categories:

### 1. *Architecture and built conservation*

Conservation or restoration works to existing heritage listed buildings; new build or adaptive reuse buildings, including small projects. Conservation and Heritage Management Plans, heritage reports and planning documents are also eligible within this category.

### 2. *First Nations heritage*

Projects that promote and advocate for the conservation, education, appreciation and a deeper understanding and celebration of First Nations heritage.

### 3. *Heritage Education and Promotion*

Projects that provide individuals with the opportunity to visit, learn, gain new perspectives on, or otherwise engage with ACT's heritage. These might include, for example, events, exhibitions, lectures, tours, interpretive signs and displays, oral histories, school projects, new books, reports, websites, guidebooks, and media in any format.

### 4. *Heritage Landscapes and the Natural Environment*

Projects to conserve the unique natural environment of the ACT. Eligible initiatives include, for example, management plans, research, bushland management and regeneration, protection of waterways and forests, landscape design and restoration of historically significant gardens.

### 5. *Heritage Resources or Tools*

Innovative tools, resources or other materials which were developed to facilitate the conduct of particular projects and/or which may assist others conducting heritage research / conservation application.

#### **6. *Local community projects.***

Local community projects for example, streetscape improvements, local restorations, community centres and facilities, playgrounds etc. of heritage significance.

### **Which projects are eligible?**

Projects must comply with the following assessment rules:

- Projects associated with buildings or objects would generally be located within and be of significance to the heritage of the ACT. Projects located or occurring outside the ACT must have a strong relationship with the ACT's heritage.
- Projects should be accessible to the public (projects related to buildings or objects should be visible from the street, a public place, or have public access). Note – First Nations projects may be exempt from the public accessibility requirement for cultural reasons.
- Projects or programs of works must have been undertaken or completed within the last 3 years (i.e. no earlier than 1 January 2022).
- Projects must not be nominated without permission of the owner of the building or object.

### **Who can nominate a project?**

Nominations are welcome from any person, group or organisation with knowledge of an eligible project, including owners, architects, consultants, local residents or others.

Projects may be nominated against more than one category.

Community groups and individuals with limited heritage expertise requiring assistance in preparing their nomination are encouraged to contact the Trust.

### **The Awards Judging Process**

Nominations will be considered by an independent Judging Panel established by the Trust. Panel members will have appropriate heritage knowledge and expertise.

The Judging Panel will apply the principles within the Burra Charter<sup>1</sup> when assessing nominations. Heritage places nominated will likely be visited.

Judges will consider nominations against the categories based on their assessment of the relative merits of each nomination. A project may be considered by the judges for

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<sup>1</sup> The Burra Charter - <http://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Burra-Charter-2013-Adopted-31.10.2013.pdf> - provides guidance for the conservation and management of places of cultural significance (cultural heritage places). The Charter sets a standard of practice for those who provide advice, make decisions about, or undertake works to places of cultural significance, including owners, managers and custodians.

an award in more than one category or, the judges may decide not to make an award in a category. The judges' decision is final.

The outcome of the judging will be announced at an Awards Event to be held in September 2025 to which entrants and their guests will be invited.

In addition to the awards described above, the Trust's Council will also consider awards to individuals or community groups in the categories of Outstanding Advocacy and Lifetime Achievement. Nominations are not sought for those awards.

### **How do I enter a project?**

Please enter in one of the following ways:

- Complete the online form at: <https://www.jotform.com/build/251738718676876>
- Download the nomination form on the Trust's website [www.nationaltrustact.org.au](http://www.nationaltrustact.org.au) and return it
  - via email to [info@nationaltrustact.org.au](mailto:info@nationaltrustact.org.au)
  - or by post to GPO Box 458, Canberra ACT 2601.

by **Wednesday 6 August 2025**. Please ensure the Declaration is completed.

Trust Office contact details: Email (preferred) – [info@nationaltrustact.org.au](mailto:info@nationaltrustact.org.au) or phone 02 6230 0533



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