

AUSTRALIA'S *Commonwealth Heritage*



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INTRODUCTION

NUMEROUS GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE PROTECTION OF HERITAGE PLACES. THEY PROVIDE INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON A RANGE OF HERITAGE MANAGEMENT ISSUES.

This section provides a thematic list of key resources and contacts which may be of assistance in managing a Commonwealth Heritage place.

COMMONWEALTH ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE ADVICE

The Heritage Division of the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts can provide heritage advice to agencies responsible for Commonwealth Heritage places. For assistance please contact the Heritage Division on (02) 6274 1111 or email your enquiry to:

✉ heritage@environment.gov.au

STATE AND TERRITORY HERITAGE AGENCY ADVICE

State and territory agencies are able to provide advice on a range of heritage issues relevant to their particular state or territory. Many of these agencies also prepare publications about matters related to heritage and conservation, these are often available for download from their websites or purchase through the agency.

Links to state and territory heritage agency websites can be accessed through the Department's web page:

✉ www.environment.gov.au/heritage/organisations/index.html

LOCATING AND ENGAGING A HERITAGE CONSULTANT

Depending on the nature of the heritage values for a particular place, it may be necessary to engage a team of consultants. Heritage consultants may be historians, architects, archaeologists, landscape architects, environmental managers, engineers, planners, etc. Ensure that the consultant that you engage has appropriate qualifications and experience in the field for which you are seeking advice. For management plans, ensure that they have appropriate qualifications and experience in applying the *Burra Charter*, the *Australian Natural Heritage Charter*, *Ask First: A Guide to Respecting Indigenous Heritage Places and Values* and/or *Significance - A Guide to Assessing the Significance of Cultural Heritage Objects and Collections* in a management planning context. Experience with Commonwealth legislation is also desirable but may not be possible. In this case it becomes important to ensure that they understand and can address any obligations under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The Heritage Division of the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts can provide advice to the consultant in this case.

The Heritage Division does not maintain a register of heritage consultants, however, state and territory agencies may be able to provide information about heritage consultants located within their area. Some of these agencies may also provide information about specialist trades and services. Below is a list of contacts for more information.

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| State/Territory | Agency name | Contact details | Web resources |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|--|
| ACT | The Heritage Unit | 13 22 81 | Please call the agency |
| NSW | The Department of Planning (Heritage Branch) | (02) 9873 8500 | www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/03_index.htm#consultant |
| NT | The Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts | (08) 8924 4142 | Please call the agency |
| WA | The Heritage Council of Western Australia | (08) 9221 4177 | www.heritage.wa.gov.au/e_pub_list.html |
| SA | Department for Environment and Heritage | (08) 8124 4960 | Please call the agency |
| QLD | Cultural Heritage Unit of the Environment Protection Agency | (07) 3227 6834 | Please call the agency |
| TAS | Heritage Tasmania | (03) 6233 2037 | Please call the agency |
| VIC | Heritage Victoria | (03) 9655 6519 | www.heritage.vic.gov.au/pages/pdfs/consultantsinfo.pdf |

Professional organisations

Website links for professional organisations providing registers of consultants in a range of disciplines including archaeologists, architects, engineers, historians, interpretation consultants and landscape architects are listed below. Inclusion in any register does not imply endorsement of the suitability of any particular consultant/supplier for any particular task.

If expertise in cultural heritage management, cultural tourism, objects or collections management and conservation services is required, state and territory heritage agencies may be able to assist.

- The Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists Inc maintains a list of consulting archaeologists which is available from its website. Areas of expertise include historical, Indigenous Australian, contact period and maritime archaeology. Visit:
www.aacai.com.au/register/index.html
- The Royal Australian Institute of Architects maintains the Australian Directory of Architectural Practices which is an extensive database of architectural practices Australia-wide. Database searches can be undertaken by name, location, suburb, areas of expertise (including heritage and conservation) and project types. Visit:
www.architecture.com.au/i-cms?page=3939#expert
- Engineers Australia includes a register of engineers across the range of disciplines. The search facility does not allow a search for engineers who may have developed specific expertise related to heritage buildings and structures. Visit:
www.engineersaustralia.org.au/nerb/
- The Australian Council of Professional Historians Associations Inc maintains a register of consulting historians for most states and territories. Visit:
www.historians.org.au/services.html#registers

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- Interpretation Australia Association has a register of consultants and suppliers. The register is based on information supplied by the consultant or supplier listed. Inclusion in the register does not imply endorsement by IAA of the accuracy of information or of the suitability of any particular consultant/supplier for any particular task. Visit:
➤ www.interpretationaustralia.asn.au/resourcesconsult.htm
- The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects website includes Directories of Landscape Architecture Practices providing an outline of the services offered and areas of expertise of each practice. This information is provided and updated by the individual practices. Visit:
➤ www.aila.org.au/directories/index.htm
- State contacts for the Oral History Association of Australia can be accessed from:
➤ www.nla.gov.au/oh/ohaa.html

GENERAL HERITAGE INFORMATION

- The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts on-line library catalogue has a large collection of books, management plans, journal articles and multi-media. The library, which is located in Canberra, is open to the public although access times are limited. Call the library directly to book an appointment to view the collection.
The library catalogue can be viewed at:
➤ leo.ris.environment.gov.au/uPortal/render.userLayoutRootNode.uP?startover=true&uP_reload_layout=true
➤ **Library contact (02) 6274 1207**
- The Heritage section of the website for the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts contains a number of links to government and non-government heritage and environment agencies. These agencies have a range of resources about heritage. Searches for heritage listed places as well as information regarding legislation can be conducted from this page:
➤ www.heritage.gov.au

CULTURAL TOURISM

- *Successful Tourism at Heritage Places: A guide for tourism operators, heritage managers and communities* (Australian Heritage Commission: 2001) provides practical information to promote the ethical use of heritage in tourism experiences.
Download from:
➤ www.environment.gov.au/heritage/ahc/publications/commission/books/successful-tourism.html
- *Steps to Sustainable Tourism* (Department of the Environment and Heritage: 2004) was developed for tourism operators, heritage and environmental managers, community groups and others with an interest in tourism. The guide outlines a series of strategic steps to achieve sustainable tourism objectives.
Download from:
➤ www.environment.gov.au/heritage/publications/strategy/sustainable-tourism.html
- *Protecting Local Heritage Places: A guide for communities* (Australian Heritage Commission: 2000) is an award winning document designed specifically for communities to identify and manage heritage places.
Download from:
➤ www.environment.gov.au/heritage/ahc/publications/index.html

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- The Ecotourism Association of Australia is a non-profit organisation which promotes the ecotourism sector. The website provides access to general information, and specific links for individuals and industry. Information about the Eco-certification Program can be accessed from the following website and application forms can be downloaded from the site. Visit:
↳ www.ecotourism.org.au
- The ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Charter (*Managing Tourism at Places of Heritage Significance*, 1999) recognises that a primary objective for managing heritage is to communicate its significance and need for its conservation to its host community and to visitors. Reasonable and well managed physical, intellectual and/or emotive access to heritage and cultural development is both a right and a privilege. It brings with it a duty of respect for the heritage values, interests and equity of the present-day host community, Indigenous custodians or owners of historic property and for the landscapes and cultures from which that heritage evolved.

Download from:

↳ www.international.icomos.org/charters/tourism_e.htm

Refer to state and territory heritage agency websites for information relative to specific areas:

↳ www.environment.gov.au/heritage/organisations/state/index.html

Please note some of the above reference material may contain information that is no longer current.

HERITAGE TRAILS

- The Queensland Heritage Trails Network links together 43 heritage places offering a range of different experiences. Journeys along the Queensland Heritage Trails Network can start from any part of Queensland, with tourist trails following sealed roads. The Heritage Trails Network was funded through the Queensland and Australian Governments in partnership with local government authorities and local communities.
↳ www.heritagetrails.qld.gov.au/default.html
- The NSW Heritage Office publication *Guidelines for Heritage Trails* (1995) outlines the steps to develop a heritage trail, selection of route, and interpretative mediums.
Download from:
↳ www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/docs/info_heritage_trails.pdf
- In WA, a co-operative program between the WA and Australian Governments, the Heritage Trails network, provides opportunities to enjoy the natural and cultural heritage of the State. Individual trails within the network can be viewed by using the link below:
↳ trails.heritage.wa.gov.au/

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INTERPRETATION

The NSW Heritage Office publication *Interpreting Heritage Places and Items Guidelines* (2005) promotes best practice in heritage interpretation. The guidelines have been developed to consider all forms of natural and cultural heritage (Indigenous and non-Indigenous).

This publication is available for free download from:

➤ www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/docs/info_interpreting.pdf

Interpretation Australia Association offers a number of publications for sale through their website at:

➤ www.interpretationaustralia.asn.au/Default.aspx?TAG=IAA.Web.Public.Resources.Publications

MARITIME HERITAGE

The Australian Maritime Museum promotes interest and research in Australia's maritime history. The Museum maintains a research library and a number of collections available at:

➤ www.anmm.gov.au/

The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts maintains the Australian Shipwrecks database which can be searched online at:

➤ www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/heritage/nsd/nsd_list.pl

The Department also maintains a list of contacts of state offices with maritime associations which can be accessed at:

➤ www.environment.gov.au/heritage/contacts/index.html

Heritage Victoria has prepared a list of useful tips on the protection of shipwreck sites and relics available at:

➤ www.heritage.vic.gov.au/page.asp?ID=118

The information provided above has been provided to assist Commonwealth agencies to understand their obligations under the EPBC Act. It should not be used as a substitute for a direct reference to the legislation.