



Solar panels on the roof of a heritage building. Photography: Ester Guerzoni

New sustainability guidelines a winner

The Tasmanian Heritage Council has released new guidelines about installing modern services on heritage buildings.

Unveiled at the Sustainable Living Expo in Hobart this month, the guidelines were welcomed by visitors to the Heritage Council's display.

Heritage Council Chairperson Michael Lynch said the aim was to encourage owners to think about balancing new technologies with heritage values and features.

"All of the trappings of the modern world have the potential to be intrusive on heritage properties. These guidelines explore ways to reduce the impact," Mr Lynch said.



Appropriately installed water tanks at the Asylum Building, Port Arthur, Photography: Port Arthur Historic Site

"Updates can be challenging, but in many cases it is possible to find a solution with minimal impact on a place's heritage values.

"For example, the Heritage Council has approved the installation of solar panels on side and rear elevations of roofs, on pergolas and even in a paddock of a Georgian homestead. These are the types of solutions that the Council supports – providing win:win solutions for owners and heritage. It's about finding the least intrusive, not the most obvious solution for each individual place."

The Heritage Council developed the guidelines in response to an increase in applications for the installation of solar panels, heat pumps and gas.

"The Council acknowledges the community's desire to move towards renewable energy sources is a positive one, and it is keen to support those personal choices.

"Similarly, the Council has a strong view that the best way to protect Tasmania's large stock of heritage places is to assure its continued use. Allowing property owners to install new technologies is important if these places are to be used and valued," Mr Lynch said.

The guidelines provide advice on installing solar panels, wind turbines, water tanks, heat pumps, air conditioners, gas installations, satellite dishes and antennae and are available at www.heritage.tas.gov.au or phone 1300 850 332.

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES, PARKS, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT



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Progress of legislative reform

Heritage Tasmania and the Tasmanian Heritage Council have been working more closely with local planning authorities than ever before. This reflects a mutual interest in working together to better recognise, protect and manage historic heritage places that are important to all Tasmanians.

Ongoing reforms aim to generate greater clarity and consistency for stakeholders among the 31 different statutory bodies involved. They will also provide a much more integrated approach to the statutory management of historic heritage and greater alignment with LUPAA.

As indicated in previous updates, the new local listing process will be outlined in the new legislation. This will replace the, at times frustrating, process of amending a planning scheme every time a new local listing is proposed. Works will continue to be defined as exempt or discretionary.

Working together in collaboration to implement the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*, under the resource management and planning system, is a key driver of the reform process. Examples of how this is occurring include:

- Supporting regional land use planning initiatives, including working on a proposed standard planning scheme heritage schedule template.
- Providing free advice on how to best protect the heritage values of local heritage places and important tourism sites across the State.
- Supporting local government to jointly conduct and implement local heritage surveys with grants, practical assistance and advice.
- Making conservation grants available to places owned by local Councils and those places entered on the Tasmanian Heritage Register.
- Helping to promote local heritage sites, events and activities, with a strong focus on community education and development.
- Working together to review and reform the current legislation, with the support of a Local Government Reference Group.
- Plans to create a single heritage data set for Tasmania and a heritage overlay in the Land Information System Tasmania (LIST).

Local authorities will be encouraged to take-up the reforms on a consensual basis, at a time that suits them and meets their individual needs.

Some local examples of our collaboration with local planning authorities is now available at: www.heritage.tas.gov.au/act_reform.html

Heritage properties benefit from funding boost

One of Tasmania's National Trust-operated stately homes, Runnymede at New Town, and a shelter for homeless men, Bethlehem House in Hobart, have received funding boosts from the State Government's Urban Renewal and Heritage Fund.

The National Trust will use its funding of \$148,000 to upgrade fire and electrical systems in the house, cottage and stables at Runnymede.

The maintenance work is important for ensuring the ongoing security of Runnymede and its significant collections.

At Bethlehem House the \$145,000 funding boost will be used for restoration work to remove rotting timber, rust and rising damp as well as repairing deteriorating stone and paint work.



Bethlehem House. Photography: Heritage Tasmania

The Bethlehem House renovations will protect part of Hobart's rich built heritage while extending the life of an important homeless and emergency shelter that's home to around 30 Tasmanian men every night.

Bethlehem House Homeless Men's Assistance Centre is a not-for-profit charitable organisation run in conjunction with the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

Heritage Icon Awards

This year's Tasmanian Heritage Icon Awards include Hobart's Theatre Royal, Tasmanian cool climate wines, and shell necklaces made by Indigenous Tasmanians.

The 10 icons and one Children's Choice Icon are selected by an independent panel from among hundreds of community nominations. The 10 Tasmanian Heritage Icons and one Children's Choice Icon now join last year's inaugural list.

Managing Director of the National Trust Chris Tassell said the community responded strongly to the Icon Awards and there was now an additional group of worthy icons that truly represent what Tasmania is about.

"We think it is a great thing that the community is able to recognise our State's distinct cultural heritage and the success of the program indicates how important these icons are to Tasmanians," Mr Tassell said.

Director of Heritage Tasmania Pete Smith said community initiatives are a really important way of identifying and celebrating those things that are important and unique about Tasmania.

"It acts as an important extension of our statutory work to protect places of local and State historic heritage significance," Mr Smith said.



*The Theatre Royal made it to the icons list.
Photography: Deirdre Macdonald*

"There are many things that are important to Tasmania, some warrant statutory protection, others don't. Initiatives such as this are an excellent way of giving members of the public the chance to say what they think is important and note-worthy about Tasmania," he added.

The Trust's partners in the icons program includes Tasmanian Perpetual Trustees and the Australian Government Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.

For further information, and to view the complete list visit the National Trust's website at:

<http://www.nationaltrusttas.org.au/icons.htm>

Pre-development assessment guidelines

Heritage Tasmania has recently produced Pre-Development Assessment Guidelines.

These new guidelines are for proponents and consultants, and help establish a clearer bench mark for the identification, protection and management of historic heritage places when new infrastructure or developments are being considered or assessed.

They apply to historic heritage places that are:

- listed in one form or another
- known but not listed, or
- discovered during the course of a development
- reflect current industry and best practice, and
- ensure Heritage Tasmania's position and stance on consultant's briefs is clear and consistent – which is one of the aims of our ongoing reform process.

Heritage Tasmania hopes this resource is useful in developing briefs for consultants and ensuring consultants are clear about recommended standards. They are subject to review, and our intention is to trial them and review them in mid-2010.

If you have any feedback, please contact Heritage Tasmania's Senior Project Consultant Angela McGowan or director Pete Smith over the next six months by telephoning 6233 2037 or emailing enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au. A copy of these guidelines is available at:

www.heritage.tas.gov.au/guidelines

Heritage Council Annual Report

The Tasmanian Heritage Council Annual Report for 2008-09 has been published. The report outlines key achievements for the financial year, and provides information about provisional and permanent entries made to the Tasmanian Heritage Register, the number of works applications, funding under the Conservation Funding Program and details of communications activities. The report is available at:

www.heritage.tas.gov.au

Brighton Transport Hub reports

Heritage Tasmania now has the following new archaeological reports in its collection:

‘Brighton Transport Hub: Sites 54 and 55, Historical Archaeological Excavation’, by Austral Tasmania. (October 2009) The report was prepared for Pitt & Sherry.

‘Brighton Transport Hub: Sites 54 and 55, Artefact Catalogue’, by Austral Tasmania (September 2009). The report was prepared for Pitt & Sherry.

The reports have been incorporated into Heritage Tasmania’s unpublished reports collection, and may be viewed in Heritage Tasmania’s office at 103 Macquarie Street, Hobart by appointment.

Lake Margaret

The Upper Lake Margaret Power Station was officially reopened this month by Premier David Bartlett.

Hydro Tasmania Chairman Dr David Crean said the completion of the redeveloped power scheme marked a significant milestone in the history of Lake Margaret.

“In 1914 the Lake Margaret Power Scheme was an innovative development to deliver electricity for the Mt Lyell Copper Mine” Dr Crean said.



Lake Margaret woodstave pipeline. Photography: David Scott

“We celebrate its return to service in much the same configuration as it was in its original state with the energy again being delivered to the copper mine.”

Dr Crean acknowledged the West Coast Community Liaison Group led by Darryl Gerrity, the Heritage Council Works Assessment Committee led by Michael Lynch and the Hydro Tasmania Working Committee led

by Andrew Scanlon and Tony Field, who found a solution that met each group’s objectives and enabled the scheme to be redeveloped.



New pipeline at right, with remnant of old pipeline at left. Photography: Hydro Tasmania

“Hydro Tasmania has been working with the local community through the Community Liaison Group to look for potential tourism and business opportunities once the redevelopment is completed, and will work with the Heritage Council to preserve the heritage values of the area” he said.

Three sections of the original King Billy pine woodstave pipeline have been preserved on site and a further three have been donated to the Queenstown Galley Museum, the West Coast Pioneers Memorial Museum at Zeehan, and the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.

Work has just commenced on the \$13.2 million Lower Lake Margaret Power Station redevelopment which will see a 3.2 megawatt mini hydro installed that will generate an additional 21 gigawatt hours of energy or enough to power around 2,200 homes. It will be completed and operational by mid next year.

This is a great outcome for an important heritage place.

Tasmanian Heritage Council Public Access Policy

Tasmanian Heritage Council (THC) documents will be publicly available under a new ‘Public Access Policy’. Minutes of meetings, copies of decisions and reports from Heritage Tasmania which assist in the decision making process, as well as Heritage Tasmania files, will be accessible.

Minutes of both Heritage Council meetings and Works Application Assessment Committee meetings are available at: <http://www.heritage.tas.gov.au/thc.html> by clicking on the relevant date.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Jobs Fund - Round 2

Australian Government

Closes 11 December 2009

More than \$90 million is available in the second round of the Jobs Fund. The Jobs Fund is an Australian Government initiative designed to maximise job and training opportunities in local communities. The Jobs Fund forms part of the Australian Government's Jobs and Training Compact and has been established to support families and communities most affected by the Global Economic Recession.

Applications close 11pm, Friday 11 December 2009.

Further information is available at:

<http://www.keepaustraliaworking.gov.au/pages/JobFund.aspx>

Consolidated Grants Program – Department of Premier and Cabinet

Closes 30 November 2009

Several of the grant programs previously administered by the Office of Children and Youth Affairs, Multicultural Tasmania, the Seniors Bureau and Women Tasmania have been combined under one umbrella and are now called the Consolidated Grants Program.

Local government and not-for-profit incorporated, community organisations can now apply for funding from the Community Development Division's consolidated grant program to deliver projects and events.

A series of grant writing workshops will be held around Tasmania during November 2009 to assist potential applicants through the application process. For further information visit:

<http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/cdd/grants>

DIARY NOTES

Let's talk about Deviot

16 January 2010, 9.00am – 5.00pm

Deviot Hall, Deviot

This one-day conference includes a number of speakers who will talk about different aspects of the history of Deviot including jetties, river steamers, the supply mill, orchards and vineyards. For further information and to register please contact: Jill Cassidy at mandjcassidy@gmail.com or 0418 178 098.

Summer School in Cultural Heritage Management

17-23 January 2010

University of Canberra, Canberra

This **seven day** Summer School is an intensive course looking at the broad issues of heritage management, and is intended for local government planners and heritage officers, state heritage officers, facilities, site and park managers, rangers, curators, others involved in heritage administration, and heritage practitioners such as archaeologists, architects, engineers and historians. For further information about this course including costs and how to enrol, please visit the website at: <http://www.canberra.edu.au/faculties/arts-design/conservation-summer-schools/cultural-heritage-management>

If you would like to contribute information, advertise an upcoming event, subscribe to receive this bulletin via email, or cancel your subscription, please contact Robyn Shaw (Communications Co-ordinator) on 6233 2067 or email robyn.shaw@heritage.tas.gov.au.

Please ensure all submissions for inclusion in the e-bulletin are forwarded to Robyn Shaw by the 1st Friday of every month.