

**Submission
No 145**

INQUIRY INTO REVIEW OF THE HERITAGE ACT 1977

Name: Mrs Sharon Thistlethwaite

Date Received: 25 June 2021

Re: Heritage Act 1977 Review

Dear Sirs/Mesdames,

I am a trustee for future generations.

In regards to the review of the Heritage Act 1977, this Act needs to be strengthened.

I have noticed that there are numerous buildings and heritage areas that are not preserved and are allowed to decay.

Especially smaller dwellings that are not particularly attractive but are good examples of housing of yester year.

Developers see an old house and their first and only thoughts seem to be, "Knock it down", usually because they "spoil" the look of the area. If all the houses had been preserved, "the new" would be the spoilers.

In country towns, the old buildings add to the appeal of a town. These encourage visitors. An example of a "new" initiative, is the art work on wheat silos, water tanks and other blank areas.

One degradation of the countryside at the moment, are solar panels. Locally they are being built on good farm land. They should be located in desert areas, where there is obviously more sunlight. There is one at Wellington that stretches for more than 3 kilometres along the road.

Heritage listed properties should have owners fined, a goodly amount, if they deliberately or by neglect, destroy a property Heritage listed.

As a country, we are only young, so many people do not understand the need for preservation of old things. Often it is only when family research is being undertaken do younger people realise what they have lost.

Local government spends millions on destroying old buildings instead of conserving them.

I care about our heritage and by being a member of the National Trust, I feel I can help in a small way to see our heritage preserved.

Thank you.