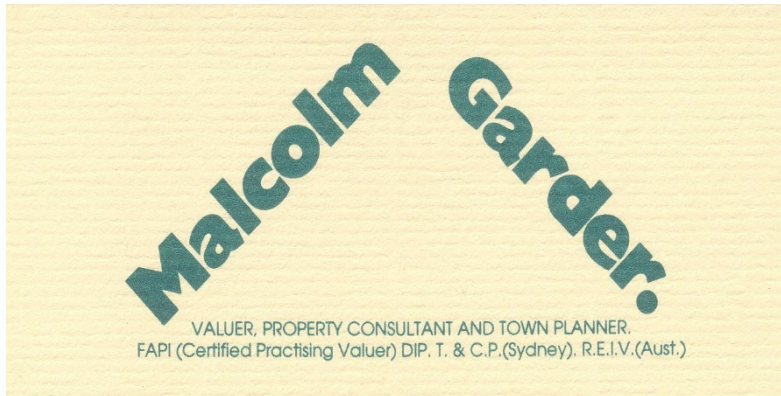


**Submission
No 216**

INQUIRY INTO REVIEW OF THE HERITAGE ACT 1977

Name: Mr Malcolm Garder

Date Received: 4 July 2021



4 July 2021

NSW Heritage Act Review 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

I have been concerned with the listing and management of properties in NSW for many years.

As a Valuer, Town Planner and Heritage Professional I have also served on The National Trust Landscape Conservation Committee; have published various professional reports and articles; been a long term member of ICOMOS, the peak heritage body assisting Government on heritage listings, both state and federal and a past member of Leichhardt Council Planning Committee, The Balmain Association and Royal National Park Cabins Consultative Committee.

Q 1 Composition of the Heritage Council.

The list of qualifications, should focus on heritage professionals, and heritage bodies such as The National Trust, ICOMOS. Those qualified in heritage conservation, adaptive reuse architecture, archaeology, conservation, environmental or cultural heritage. As a second skill, planners, valuers and property professionals.

Q 2 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Aboriginal groups and Land Councils to consult with all other concerned groups representative of all Aboriginal culture.

Q 3 Objectives of the Heritage Act

Encourage local heritage groups to work with local governments.

Take away the overriding power of the Land and Environment Court who frequently overrule the local decisions.

Q 5 NSW Government Ownership Incentives

The Heritage Council must be better funded to allow it to give heritage incentives.

In Broken Hill small incentives to residential owners have achieved a vast improvement to the heritage environment and encouraged residents to have a greater pride in their city.

Cooperative incentives with local Council, such as main street studies, are also very cost efficient and encourage other towns and communities to have a pride in their heritage.

Q 6 Taxation Incentives

Council rate deferrals are helpful when properties are not developed to their highest use. However a similar scheme could apply to Land Tax if the property is used and sold restricted to its present use.

Q 7 Commercial Incentives

See Taxation Incentives above.

Q 10 Greater Community Engagement

A strong Heritage Council membership with local community input would deliver better heritage outcomes and a robust Heritage Register.

Also see above in Q 7 community incentives

Conclusion

With a strong act, concerned heritage professionals, community engagement a much better outcome can be achieved at little cost.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Garder