

HERITAGE POLICY

Responsible Department:	Planning and Sustainability
Responsible Section:	Planning and Development
Responsible Officer:	Manager Planning and Development

Objective

- This policy is a commitment to conserve and promote the Shire’s rich heritage according to the principles of conservation and best practice. This Policy underpins the identification, conservation, and promotion of the Shire’s heritage.
- Principles: Narrabri Shire Council (Council) will be guided by the following principles:
 - The Shire’s heritage contributes to a liveable and distinctive environment, and to a caring and inclusive community.
 - The Shire’s heritage enhances its distinctive sense of identity and reflects its histories and cultural diversity.
 - The Shire’s heritage is evolving and dynamic and will be considered in planning for the future.
 - The Shire’s heritage programme aligns with its Strategic Plan, and relevant guidelines of the Office of Environment and Heritage and the NSW Heritage Council.

Introduction

Narrabri Shire has a rich diversity of heritage - Aboriginal, buildings, collections, cultural landscapes, memorials, monuments, precincts, streetscapes, and within villages. Heritage is increasingly integral to community well-being, economic sustainability and to grow sectors such as tourism.

The Policy follows the New South Wales (NSW) *Heritage Guidelines 2002, Recommendations for Local Government Heritage Management* (rev. 2011), the Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW *Due Diligence Code for Practice for Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW 2010*, and the Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) *Burra Charter*. The Strategy headings reflect those in the NSW Heritage Office Guidelines.

Policy

1. Definitions

Term	Meaning
Aboriginal cultural significance	An item, place or object that has special meaning to Aboriginal peoples or persons.
Conservation	The processes of caring for heritage places, as defined by the <i>Burra Charter</i> such as adaption, repair, reconstruction, restoration and maintenance.
Heritage item	A building, relic, landscape, tree or other item of the environment that is identified as having heritage significance.
Heritage significance	The importance or value of a heritage place as assessed using criteria defined by the NSW Heritage Council.

2. Knowledge

- 2.1. Council commits to know our heritage, which includes the following:
- Work with the community and stakeholders to value-add and inform about the Shire's heritage places.
 - Maintain the Shire's State Heritage Inventory and have a link on the Council's web site.
 - Ensure heritage best practices are followed by Council staff, contractors and in the day-to-day maintenance of heritage places.

3. Protection

- 3.1. Council commits to protect our heritage, which includes the following:
- Ensure the on-going identification and recording of places holding heritage significance, commencing with an Aboriginal Heritage Study.
 - Ensure the diversity of heritage is represented.
 - Provide guidelines for the conservation, management, and adaptive reuse.
 - Maintain effective development assessment procedures to ensure heritage is considered appropriately

4. Support

- 4.1. Council commits to support our heritage, which includes the following:
- Provide incentives to support restoration, repair and adaptive reuse of heritage places.
 - Provide technical expertise to assist the conservation and sustainability of heritage places.
 - Ensure zoning and regulatory incentives are in place to appropriately manage and support our heritage places.
 - Work with the community to conserve the Shire's heritage and provide heritage advice.
 - Strategically managing Council's heritage assets and those under its care.
 - Actively seek external sources of funding for heritage places.

5. Promotion

- 5.1. Council commits to promote our heritage, which includes the following:
- Encourage the promotion of the value of heritage places to the Shire's social and economic well-being.
 - Encourage high quality interpretation, histories and stories to increase local understanding and for tourism.
 - Raise awareness of the contribution of heritage to sustainability.
 - Encourage businesses, education facilities, community groups, etc to be involved in the conservation and promotion of the Shire's heritage.
 - Support the Shire's heritage via having a heritage advisor service, by applying for grants, and in the longer term consider establishing a Local Heritage Fund.

References

- The New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage.

History

Minute Number	Meeting Date	Description of Change
231/2017	November 28, 2017	Adopted
	August 31, 2021	Rebranded
336/2022	October 18, 2022	Adopted