

Type of issue:	Endorsement of the Australian Technology Park (ATP) s.170 <i>Heritage and Conservation Register</i>
Owner:	Redfern Waterloo Authority / ATP
Contentious Issues:	Nil
Information for consideration:	Annexure A: Recommended Conditions of Endorsement
Previous Heritage Council Determinations:	1. HAMS endorsed: 1 October 2008

Executive Summary

Endorsement of the Australian Technology Park (ATP) *Heritage and Conservation Register* for endorsement, pursuant to Section 170(6) of the *Heritage Act* 1977 is recommended.

A copy of the Register will be tabled at the meeting for the information of Members.

Summary of recommendation

That the Heritage Council *State Heritage Register Committee*, as provided in the Recommendations, endorses the submitted S.170 *Heritage and Conservation Register* prepared for the Australian Technology Park (ATP), subject to the conditions at Annexure A.

Background to Heritage and Conservation Registers

Since 1987, all state agencies which own or manage heritage assets are required to maintain a *Heritage and Conservation Register* in accordance with Section 170 of the *Heritage Act*. The Register is to be used by agencies for asset management decision making to ensure integrated heritage management as also required by the Government's Total Asset Management (TAM) Policy. Registers are due for completion and submission to the Heritage Council by December 2009, as identified in the State Agency Guide.

Requirements of State Owned Heritage Management Principles & Heritage Asset Management Guidelines

The '*Principles and Guidelines*' issued under S.170A of the Act require State Agencies to properly consider heritage issues at each stage of heritage asset management planning. They require agencies to establish heritage management structures that are integrated with existing asset management procedures in order to maximise efficiency through self management.

The Minister approved the '*Principles*' on 16th December 2004, while the accompanying '*Guidelines*' were endorsed by the Heritage Council of New South Wales at its meeting of 1st December 2004. The documents were distributed to State agency CEO's in January 2005 and available on the Heritage Branch web site.

Core elements of the '*Principles and Guidelines*' include:

- completion by each agency of a "*Heritage Asset Management Strategy*" (HAMS) to demonstrate how compliance with the *Principles and Guidelines* will be achieved, in line with service delivery requirements and budget constraints, and,
- all agencies to identify a final date (no later than five years after the issue of the *Guidelines* - December 2009) for the completion of their *Heritage and Conservation Registers*.

Background - Australian Technology Park (ATP)

The Australian Technology Park (ATP) is a subsidiary entity of the Redfern Waterloo Authority, established in 2004 to manage the revitalisation of the Eveleigh precinct in the inner city. ATP identifies heritage as a major theme at its Eveleigh precinct and has prime management of the former Locomotive Workshop Building; the former Engine Shop (National Innovation Centre) and the former Works Manager's Office (International Business Centre).

The ATP submitted a HAMS document to the Heritage Council in September 2008, as required by the State Agency Guide (Part 2: Section 2.4). The HAMS established a five-year plan to document and interpret the heritage items under their control and is linked to business plans and budget processes. The Heritage Council State Heritage Register Committee (SHRC) endorsed the document, with minor editorial suggestions, at its meeting of 1 October 2008.

The ATP's holdings are listed on the State Heritage Register within the Eveleigh precinct and contain an extensive movable collection of machinery, plant and tools. This has now been identified as over 400 individual items, fixtures, features and sub collections (the latter under a single SHI Inventory Sheet for ease of reporting). ATP has confirmed, through the s170 Register compilation process, the Machinery Collection to be of State heritage significance and is currently listed separately on the SHR (#01141).

Movable heritage

The HAMS identified the significance and value of the movable collection still retained on site (both fixed and stored), which the Heritage Council agrees is of significant heritage value requiring a considered display, interpretation, and where required, disposal strategy (meeting of 1 October 2008). The submitted s.170 *Heritage & Conservation Register* confirms that the ATP will inspect, record, inventory and display items of relevance to the agency and the Eveleigh site.

The ATP site retains an extensive Machinery Collection, including intact machinery, plant, tools and other equipment relating to the railway heritage of the site. The collection is mainly housed in bays 1 & 2 of the Locomotive Workshop, and some installed in other bays with interpretation.

Current position

Submitted in 2008, the *Heritage & Conservation Register* is extensive, thorough and includes a review of previous draft registers prepared for the site (1996 Godden Mackay), and particularly the inventories completed by the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, when under its management (2001-4). The work has included an extensive desk top and site-based review of built and movable assets, their location, condition and significance.

The ATP is fulfilling its heritage management responsibilities under the Act in a staged process, in close consultation with the Heritage Branch, Department of Planning, and the Office of Rail Heritage (RailCorp).

Heritage and Conservation Register - Key Points

The submitted s.170 Register comprises all recognised heritage assets within the ownership or control of ATP and their property holdings.

A number of items not related to the Eveleigh Locomotive Workshop (1888-1988) have been deposited at the Eveleigh Locomotive Workshops, and have been identified for relocation.

ATP acknowledges that its core function is to promote commercial office space and therefore only items relating to the core collection and the history of the site should be retained.

Significant work has been undertaken to update earlier registers, convert them to an electronic format (Heritage Branch SHI database software), and to integrate tagging and future control/storage and maintenance regimes. This has been a lengthy and significant achievement.

The Register is complemented by a clear report identifying the scale of the entity's heritage holdings, the key corporate governance of the site, and the methodology implemented to achieve completion of the register.

The study found that the bulk of the identified heritage assets in the original 1996 study have been retained on site.

1. The Register identifies 482 items, structures or collections of smaller items.
2. Of these, 403 have been identified to be retained in the S170 *Heritage and Conservation Register* listing.
3. 43 items have been identified for disposal (largely non-related site items and scrap/rubbish).
4. Approximately 47 items could not be located from the 1996 study and are presumed to have been disposed of or stolen in the last 20 year period.
5. A handful of items have been identified to require additional research to determine their function and significance to the site.
6. Most items of machinery are not in operating condition.

Disposal

The ATP has identified the need for a measured disposal program for those identified items. In some instance, other entities such as the Office of Rail Heritage have indicated an interest in obtaining individual pieces. Other suitable entities will be asked to submit an expression of interest. A disposal program and procedures will be developed, and will involve a prior photographic and recording program of individual items. The Heritage Council will be notified under established procedures (eg s170A(1)).

Approval under s60 of the *Heritage Act* may be required for those machinery items intended for disposal. It is noted that the current State Heritage Register Machinery listing (1999) does not specify any individual items, and that the tabled movable heritage collection inventory is the most detailed and available record of those items to date.

Conclusion

The Australian Technology Park (ATP) S.170 *Heritage and Conservation Register* contains heritage items significant to the State of NSW and will greatly assist the

entity in monitoring, managing and interpreting these heritage assets in an integrated manner.

Recommended

That the Heritage Council State Heritage Register Committee:

- a. Endorses the current *Heritage and Conservation Register* prepared for the Australian Technology Park (ATP), dated September 2008, and subject to the conditions identified at Annexure A”;
- b. Notes the intent of ATP that the majority of the identified movable heritage collections be retained within the site and made available for future public interpretation;
- c. Notes that the Machinery Collection specifically, is included in an existing State Heritage Register listing under the *Heritage Act*, but that 1999 listing did not specify any individual items, location or condition within ATPs holdings;
- d. Supports, in principle, the proposed disposal strategy for those identified non-core or significant items;
- e. Agrees that these items should be removed from the draft s170 Heritage and Conservation Register and be subject to a measured disposal program. That disposal program should be transparent; and
- f. Writes to the Managing Director, Australian Technology Park (ATP), congratulating the entity on its initiatives in implementing key strategic heritage actions under the NSW *Heritage Act* 1977, and in its proposed approach to integrated heritage management.

Prepared by: Tim Smith, Senior Heritage Officer

Recommended for Approval by Manager - Listings Team

Approved by the Director

**Recommended Conditions for Endorsement of the Australian Technology Park
Section 170 *Heritage and Conservation Register***

1. ATP publish the Australian Technology Park (ATP) s170 Heritage & Conservation Register on the ATP website, within the existing “heritage & history” pages;
2. undertake to prepare and implement an Interpretation Strategy and disposal strategy for Australian Technology Park’s (ATP) movable heritage items, as identified by the ATP in the tabled report (September 2008).
3. Requests the Australian Technology Park to seek the views of the Heritage Branch, NSW Department of Planning, and the Heritage Council of NSW, in the development of the planned interpretation and Disposal Strategies.