



FACT SHEET – CULTURAL HERITAGE

Lachlan Shire Council has a commitment to maintaining the cultural heritage of our area. Our cultural heritage programs are governed by the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, *Heritage Act 1977* and *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

What is cultural heritage significance?

In New South Wales, cultural heritage significance is determined according to seven criteria. These are:

- **Historical significance.** An item is important in the course of the cultural or natural history of NSW or the local area.
- **Historical association significance.** An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons of importance in the cultural or natural history of NSW or the local area.
- **Aesthetic significance.** An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW or the local area.
- **Social significance.** An item has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.
- **Technical/research significance.** An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the cultural or natural history of NSW or the local area.
- **Rarity.** An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the cultural or natural history of NSW or the local area.
- **Representativeness.** An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places or environments.

If my property is heritage listed, does it mean that I can't change anything?

If your property is listed on a Heritage register in the Lachlan Shire Council's Local Environmental Plan this does not mean that you cannot alter or change aspects of the property? Council understands that the best way to preserve important places is to maintain them and keep them occupied. This may mean upgrading services and facilities, making additions or modifications, or removing unsympathetic earlier additions. Generally owners of heritage items are encouraged to maintain the character of these places.

Consideration of the impact on heritage significance is one issue that must be assessed as part of this process. If any works are proposed in relation to a heritage item, it is recommended that Council's Environment & Planning Department be contacted in the first instance to determine whether an approval is required.





Council encourages owners of heritage items to discuss ideas for renovations or alterations with Council's Consulting Heritage Advisor, who may be able to assist in making appropriate long-term decisions about the property with regard to its maintenance and preservation. To make an appointment with the Heritage Advisor, please contact Council's Environment & Planning Department on 6895 1900, or email council@lachlan.nsw.gov.au

What support does Council provide to owners of heritage buildings?

Council offers a number of services to owners of heritage items, including:

- Heritage Advisory Service - Council's Heritage Advisor is able to provide free advice regarding building management, development and modification of buildings, and historical assessments.
- Local Heritage Fund (LHF) - Council provides small grants for works on heritage items. These works can include, but are not limited to -
 - Painting in agreed colour schemes;
 - Repairs to stumps, walls, roofs, doors and windows;
 - Replacement of guttering and downpipes;
 - Reinstating missing components, including for example verandahs;
 - Meeting the requirements of the Building Code of Australia (for example, fire services and access) for ongoing and proposed new uses.

The LHF is a program that runs once every financial year. For further information relating to the LHF, please contact Council's Environment & Planning Department on 02 6895 1900.

