



THE NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (NSW)
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THE NATIONAL TRUST HERITAGE FESTIVAL 2007

‘Places in Context – Natural and Cultural Landscapes’ 3 – 18 March 2007

Under embargo 12.30pm Monday 12 March 2007

**Dragons, Frogs and Whales -
The Winners of the EnergyAustralia National Trust Heritage Awards Announced
today.**

Tracking Chinese dragons in the Central West, an Australian Musical based on the blue metal quarry workers in Kiama, the restoration of the ‘Five Frogs Post Office’ at Carcoar and an early whaling station on the shores of Sydney Harbour – these are just some of the 31 projects that have won EnergyAustralia National Trust Heritage Awards this year.

The Awards will be presented by the Hon Meredith Burgmann and highly respected ABC broadcaster David Marr will host a special lunch on Monday 12 March 2007 at the heritage Westin Hotel in Sydney.

These prestigious Awards are the “Oscars” of the Heritage world. They attract a wide range of entries from government, industry, communities and individuals across New South Wales.

This year the panel of industry peers, chaired by Richard Francis-Jones, Design Partner fjmt Architects, included Susan Macdonald, Director, Policy and Heritage Management, NSW Heritage Office; Maclaren North, Heritage Adviser to EnergyAustralia; Alan Saunders, Presenter, ABC Radio National; Tina Jackson, Executive Director, National Trust of Australia (NSW); and Zeny Edwards, Deputy President, National Trust of Australia (NSW).

The Awards highlight the importance of built, natural and cultural heritage, the different categories providing an opportunity to demonstrate the diversity of heritage and heritage conservation.

A major change this year was the number of awards for heritage websites and CDs. As Tina Jackson, Executive Director of the Trust says, “Just as heritage may be intangible -- much more than just bricks and mortar -- we must use electronic communication to get the heritage conservation message across to new and wider audiences.”

The major award for ‘a built heritage project over \$1 million in the corporate and government sector’, went to the NSW Government Architect’s Office for the conservation of the Cleveland Street Intensive English Public School. The judges commented on the standard of the conservation work, the project’s ownership by the school community, and its enhancement of the neighbourhood streetscapes.

Other winners included The Barn Conservation Project in Mosman Bay, the home of the 1st Mosman 1908 Scout Group and the only known remaining structure relating to colonial deep-sea whaling.

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The 'Five Frogs' Post Office at Carcoar, adapted as high-grade accommodation, won an award by impressing the judges with its skilful adaptation for this new use.

An award went to 'Tracking the Dragon through the Central West', a heritage survey that records the history of the Chinese who came to Australia in the gold rush of the 1850s, though to market gardeners and bushrangers.

This year a number of books won awards. The Ku-ring-gai Council was highly commended for 'Under the Canopy, A Centenary History of the Council'.

Another winner was 'Think Local', an innovative education kit from the 2003 Lindfield Public School Centenary which encourages kids to celebrate history and heritage. This was a just one of a number of CDs and websites which drew high praise from the judges.

EnergyAustralia's special award went to the Parramatta Transport Interchange, which the judges considered to be an important rejuvenation of vital urban transport infrastructure.

Mr George Maltabarow, Managing Director of EnergyAustralia, sponsor of the Awards for 15 years, said, "We are delighted to continue to be involved with the National Trust and these major awards. Once again they prove how important heritage is and how very relevant it is to our everyday lives. This year, as in previous years, EnergyAustralia National Trust Heritage Awards set a benchmark for heritage conservation for industry and community alike."

Please see attached the full list of winners.