

State heritage items– compliance inspection program

July 2018

Introduction

There are many heritage items across NSW that have been listed as state significant due to their historical importance. These items, which can be buildings, places or objects across NSW are highly significant to the state and community and as such, their preservation is critical.

What was the objective of the inspection program?

The objective of the inspection program was to monitor compliance with heritage related conditions of approval at state significant development projects that are occurring in close proximity to, or are being integrated with, state significant heritage items.

How were projects chosen to be inspected?

The program focused on the following five State Significant Developments (SSD) or State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) projects in consultation with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH):

State Significant Development Site	State Heritage Item	Item Number
South East Light Rail Project (SSI 6042)	Central Station	01255
Sydney Metro Rail Project (SSI 15_7400)	Central Station	01255
WestConnex M4 East (SSI 6307)	Yasmar	01379
O'Connell Street Public School (SSD7372)	Kings School Group (former)	00771
Wambo Coal Mine (DA 305-7-2003)	Wambo Homestead	00200

How was the program conducted?

The program was conducted by reviewing relevant documents, conducting site inspections and meeting with relevant heritage experts and staff to determine compliance with heritage related conditions and associated management procedures.

What did the audit find?

Of the five projects inspected:

- Four projects were found to be compliant with the relevant heritage conditions.
- One non-compliance was established for the installation of an air-conditioning unit without consent at the O'Connell Street Public School (The former Kings School). In November 2017, The Department issued a \$15,000 penalty notice to the project management company overseeing the work who subsequently elected to have the matter dealt with by the court. In May 2018, the court found the defendant guilty of the offence and a fine of \$10,000 was issued in addition to a recorded criminal conviction against the project management company.