

Our ref: DOC24/215872

Subject: Parramatta Female Factory and Institutions Precinct World Heritage Proposal - commencement of nomination project

As you will know, the Parramatta Female Factory and Institutions Precinct was accepted on the World Heritage Tentative List on 28 September 2023. (see <https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6686/>)

The site of the Parramatta Female Factory and Institutions Precinct Parramatta is situated on the traditional land of the Burrumatta clan of the Dharug people. The Burrumatta had a close connection with the Parramatta River, which provided fresh water and fish, eels and other riverine resources. The local Aboriginal people have continuing cultural associations over this large area which is now the home to millions of people from many parts of the world.

The precinct was established in the 1820s and was home to tens of thousands of female convicts, orphaned children, and vulnerable girls and young women. It includes a former mental asylum, orphan school, and an Industrial School that only closed in 2008. It tells the story of women and children who were institutionalised in the various institutions operating there from 1820 to 2008, including young Aboriginal girls and boys who were forcibly removed from their families.

This site is an authentic and well-preserved precinct of buildings, archaeology and landscape that carries this history of women over time and would be a unique addition to the World Heritage List.

The precinct has been on the Australian National Heritage List since 2018 and is recognised for its outstanding heritage value to the nation as a place that demonstrates Australia's social welfare history.

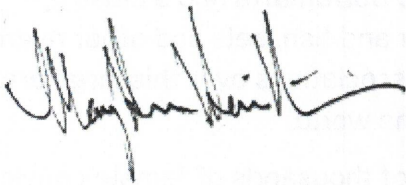
Tentative listing is the first step towards inclusion on the World Heritage List. Sites must undergo a rigorous assessment process and meet at least 1 of 10 selection criteria to be included on the List by the World Heritage Committee. Heritage NSW has been working with the New South Wales and Australian Governments on the commencement of the next step, the nomination project (involving both a Preliminary Assessment submission and a World Heritage nomination), and is pleased to inform you of the following:

- The successful procurement of Duncan Marshall AM to develop the full nomination. Duncan is a Canberra-based heritage architect and consultant with over 40 years' experience in the private, non-government and government sectors. Duncan has a long involvement in World Heritage including the preparation of nominations, training and other matters. He will be leading a team of heritage consultants in the development of the full nomination.

- Duncan and his team, in coordination with Heritage NSW will organise face-to-face consultation and stakeholder engagement later this year. There will be regular engagement throughout the process of developing the nomination.
- The Preliminary Assessment submission will be forwarded to the World Heritage Committee by September 2024. Work on the full nomination will continue while the World Heritage Committee reviews the Preliminary Assessment, and will include further consultation and stakeholder engagement.
- We expect receipt of Preliminary Assessment review from the World Heritage Committee in October 2025 which will help guide the final nomination.
- We expect the submission of the final nomination to be made by January 2027.

If you have any questions, please contact me at MaryAnn.Hamilton@environment.nsw.gov.au or 9873 8565 or David Hoffman, Senior Heritage Officer, Heritage NSW at david.hoffman@environment.nsw.gov.au or on 9873 8582.

Yours sincerely



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