



Australia ICOMOS Secretariat
Faculty of Arts & Education
Deakin University
221 Burwood Highway
Burwood VIC 3125
ph: +61 3 9251 7131
e: austicomos@deakin.edu.au
w: www.icomos.org/australia

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NSW Department of Planning and Environment

Online Submission

DRAFT SIRIUS SITE SSP SEPP, 36 - 50 CUMBERLAND STREET, THE ROCKS

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Sirius Site SSP SEPP, 36 - 50 Cumberland Street, The Rocks. I provide this letter as a submission on behalf of Australia ICOMOS.

ICOMOS – the International Council for Monuments and Sites – is a non-government professional organisation that promotes expertise in the conservation of cultural heritage. ICOMOS is also an Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee under the World Heritage Convention. Australia ICOMOS, formed in 1976, is one of over 100 national committees throughout the world. Australia ICOMOS has over 650 members in a range of heritage professions. We have expert members on a large number of ICOMOS International Scientific Committees, as well as on expert committees and boards in Australia.

The [Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter](#) (current issue 2013) is regarded internationally in providing best practice guidance for heritage related projects.

Australia ICOMOS does not comment on actual development projects but on ensuring that best practice heritage conservation has been followed. After reviewing the SEPP documentation, we are concerned that the heritage issues surrounding this site have not followed the intentions of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter 2013. In particular, the heritage value of the particular site has not been assessed under recognised criteria and the outcomes of any stakeholder consultation has either not been adequately recorded, or has not been carried out (refer Burra Charter Article 26.3).

Irrespective of current legislation, Australia ICOMOS considers that the Sirius Building site is likely to be of State heritage significance under Heritage Council of NSW criteria A (historical significance); B (associational significance); C (technical value); D (contemporary social value); and G (representative value).

Australia urges the Department to carefully assess heritage significance and its implications in finalising this SEPP, including more detailed consideration of historical, associational and social values.

Thank you again for your consideration of the views of Australia ICOMOS in this important issue.

Yours faithfully

MARY KNAGGS
Vice President, Australia ICOMOS