



WATSON ROAD
OBSERVATORY HILL
SYDNEY NSW 2000

GPO Box 518
SYDNEY NSW 2001

www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au

T: 02 9258 0123
F: 02 9251 1110

9 July 2008

Dr Robert Bruce
Director
Heritage Information Section
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Dr Bruce,

Fax No: (02) 6274 1666

National Heritage Listing – Large Erecting Shop, Eveleigh, NSW

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) strongly supports the application for re-nomination of the Large Erecting Shop at Eveleigh Railway Workshops submitted by the Friends of Eveleigh.

The Trust has also nominated the Large Erecting Shop, as one of three NSW nominations of most endangered and significant heritage places for the Australian National Trusts' Heritage at Risk 2008 Program - http://www.heritageatrisk.org.au/Large_Erecting_Shop.html

It is disappointing that a place of such international significance, under grave and immediate threat now requires a re-nomination. This does highlight serious resourcing and legislative impediments to efficient and timely action by the Australian Government to protect vital National Heritage.

The National Trust did write to the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, the Hon. Peter Garrett requesting emergency action to protect the contents of the Large Erecting Shop. Historic carriages and rolling stock are currently being disposed of by Railcorp.


The Powerhouse Museum's 3830 steam locomotive was built in 1949 in the Large Erecting Shop, was restored between 1992 and 1997 in the Large Erecting Shop and has been continuously maintained in this building by the Powerhouse Museum.

The Trust has also just heard that the Redfern Waterloo Authority is now evicting the blacksmith from the Eveleigh Workshops who has operated and maintained the historic machinery in the Blacksmiths' Shop for the past seventeen years. The Trust had not nominated the Blacksmiths Shop in Bays 1 and 2 of the Australian Technology Park complex because we believed that they were safe from redevelopment. The ATP's own promotional material states that the Blacksmith's Workshop in Bay 2 houses the largest collection of steam-powered machinery in the southern hemisphere, with some equipment still in working order.

We will now be nominating the Blacksmiths Shop (Bays 1 & 2) in the ATP complex for National Listing and we will be seeking urgent action by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts to protect this place and to retain the operation of the blacksmith. The Trust will also be contacting the NSW Heritage Branch on this issue.

The Trust again seeks a more urgent attention to the listing of the Large Erecting Shop at Eveleigh on the National Heritage List – the complete building (the Large Erecting Shop, Eveleigh), the entire contents of the Large Erecting Shop, Eveleigh when used for railway purposes and the turntable and the connected rail access from the Large Erecting Shop.

Yours sincerely,



Graham Quint
Conservation Director