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# CONFIDENTIAL

## CABINET DECISION

NO. 1752

Submission No .:

1443

Title:

NORTHERN TERRITORY HERITAGE PROGRAMME

Cabinet approved the following projects for consideration for Government funding subject to normal budgetary considerations:-

- 1. Fannie Bay Gaol
- 2. Wildman River Catchment Area
- 3. Pine Creek Conservation Work
- 4. Arltunga
- 5. Various Archaeological Sites
- 6. Military Sites
- 7. Victoria and Port Essington
- 8. Fort Dundas
- 9. Railway Precinct Pine Creek
- 10. Old Police Station Court House/Naval Headquarters
- 11. Springvale Homestead
- 12. Old Town Hall, Darwin
- 13. Pine Creek Repeater Station
- 14. Katherine Railway Station
- 15. Central Australian Aviation Museum
- 16. Darwin Aviation Historical Society
- 17. Hamilton Downs Youth Camp
- 18. Christ the King Church, Tennant Creek
- 19. Borroloola Police Station Complex
- 20. Alice Springs Telegraph Station
- 21. East Point Fortification
- 22. Hermannsburg Mission Buildings
- 23. Wimmera Hospital V.R.D.
- 24. Old Hotel Pine Creek
- 25. Southport Ruins
- 26. Palmerston Cemetery
- 27. Winnecke Mining Field
- 28. Pioneer Memorial Cemetery Alice Springs
- 29. The Residency Darwin
- 30. Lyons Cottage B.A.T. Residence
- 31. Chinese Cemetery Darwin
- 32. Daly River Copper Mines and Graves
- 33. Old Elsey Homestead
- 34. Little Flower Mission Arltunga
- 35. Barrow Creek Telegraph Station

(A. MORRIS)

Actg. Secretary to Cabinet.

16 June, 1981.

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# CONFIDENTIAL

# CABINET DECISION

NO. 1752

Submission No.:

1443

Title:

NORTHERN TERRITORY HERITAGE PROGRAMME

.2.

36. Adelaide House - Alice Springs

37. Iron Blow Mine

38. Sandfly.

Cabinet also nominated the Police Station at Maranboy and the Powell Creek Repeater Station for inclusion in the programme.

All home

Actg. Secretary to Cabinet.

16 June, 1981.

Copy No. /

CONFIDENTIAL

CABINET DECISION

NC. 1697

Submission No .:

1443

Title:

NORTHERN TERRITORY HERITAGE PROGRAMME

Cabinet deferred further consideration.

Ah. A. g. Tuiger

(M.R. FINGER), Secretary to Cabinet.

21/22 May, 1981.

# THE NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

#### CONFIDENTIAL

		1
Сору	No.	/

FOR CABINET

SUBMISSION No. 1443

Title:

NORTHERN TERRITORY HERITAGE PROGRAMME

Cabinet Member

THE HON. M.B. PERRON, M.L.A. MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Purpose:

TO ENDORSE A LIST OF SITES HAVING HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE.

Relation to existing policy:

ACCORDS WITH EXISTING POLICY.

Timing/ legislative priority:

Not applicable.

Announcement of decision, tabling, etc.:

Nil

Action required before announcement: Nil

Staffing implications, numbers and costs, etc.:

No additional staffing or expenditure

Total cost:

Nil

# CONFIDENTIAL

Departm	ent/Authority LAW.
COMMI	ENT ON CABINET SUBMISSION No.
TITLE:	NORTHERN TERRITORY HERITAGE PROGRAMME
COMME	'NTS.

There are no constitutional or legal barriers to the proposal.

SIGNED: S.R.Bailey

DESIGNATION: Director, Executive & Policy Unit for Solicitor-General

CONFIDENTIAL 16 March, 1981. DATE:

#### THE ISSUE

 To obtain Cabinet endorsement of a list of sites within the Northern Territory considered to be of aesthetic, historic, scientific or social significance, with a view to establishing a basis for the Northern Territory Heritage Programme.

#### THE BACKGROUND

- Responsibility for National Estate matters was transferred to Northern Territory Government at 1 July 1978.
- 3. A formal Commonwealth/Territory Agreement for the administration of the Northern Territory National Estate Programme was signed by the Minister for Community Development on 2nd May 1980.
- 4. Under the terms of the Agreement Northern Territory
  Government has the primary responsibility for the
  establishment of priorities and the development of
  projects within the guidelines set by the Commonwealth
  and is accountable for expenditure. The Commonwealth
  retains the right to approve the programme though cash
  variations between projects are permissible.
- 5. Under Commonwealth guidelines a balanced programme of environmental, and cultural (both European and Aboriginal) projects is sought as is the participation of all States in National surveys.
- 6. Priority is given to projects for which the State/Territory provides matching funds. Thus the Northern Territory Heritage Programme consists of projects funded by the Commonwealth (the National Estate Programme) and those funded by the Northern Territory Government.

## CONFIDENTIAL

- 7. The Department of Community Development has the carriage of the Northern Territory Heritage Programme.
- 8. Interdepartmental Co-ordination is provided through the Northern Territory Heritage Committee which is chaired by the Director of Community Services and comprises representatives of Departments and Authorities having related interests and the expertise to provide advice on particular aspects of the Programme.

#### CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUE

- 9. Each Heritage Project passes through a number of stages and can require several years to complete.
- 10. Procedures established require Ministerial approval of the expenditure involved at each stage.
- 11. Commonwealth approval is required for the expenditure of Commonwealth funds.
- 12. Cabinet endorsement is required before any site is nominated to the Register of National Estate (i.e. after basic research is completed).
- 13. The request for Cabinet endorsement of the attached list of sites (Attachment A) on which work has commenced or is proposed, does not imply any change in existing procedures or any additional requirement for funding.

#### INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CO-ORDINATION

14. The view of Departments of Law, Lands, and Transport and Works have been sought.

Department of Lands has considered each site and the comments made are attached (Attachment B).

Department of Transport and Works has advised that "This Department supports the submission in principle."

# CONFIDENTIAL

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Projects listed at Attachment A be endorsed by Cabinet as those worthy of consideration for Government funding subject to budgetary considerations.

MARSHALL PERRON <

Items 1 - 15 represent the Northern Territory projects on the National Estate Programme for 1980/81. These projects are all funded by the Commonwealth and are projected over a 3 year term. Included in this are items which were Commonwealth sponsored in previous years, but were not completed and have been re-voted for this financial year.

Items 16 - 24 represent the Northern Territory Heritage Programme for 1980/81 with proposed funding from the Northern Territory Government.

Items 25 - 29 represent sites which have been entered in the National Estate Register and which currently attract some form of assistance from this Department.

Items 30 - 45 represent sites which the National Trust and/or the Heritage Committee forsee as warranting future Government support for this restoration. These projects are proposed for entry to the National Estate Register.

		80/81	81/82	82/83
1.	FANNIE BAY GAOL (Commonwealth)	35,000 1,500	17,650	9,000

It is proposed to restore this site and maintain it as a major tourist attraction, bearing in mind its historical significance.

Cabinet has already approved in principle, the reservation of the land and the restoration of the buildings to be managed by the National Trust, provided the Trust can display to the Government its capacity to manage the project.

The financial provision outlined above covers architectural services and physical restoration to be provided by Department of Transport and Works and also the presentation of the restored buildings. A re-vote from the 1978/79 - 1979/80 Commonwealth payment is reserved to assist National Trust to formulate a management plan.

# 80/81 81/82 82/83 2. AUDIT HOUSE (Commonwealth) 5,000 NIL NIL

It is proposed to engage an architect nominated by the Housing Commission to prepare a study, documentation and estimate for the restoration of the building, which has been gazetted to the National Estate Register.

The building is the property of Northern Territory Government and it is proposed that the Housing Commission will continue to be responsible for normal maintenance costs. Extra or unusual costs arising from the need to maintain the building with methods or materials no longer in use, would be an on-going charge against the Heritage programme.

		80/81	81/82	82/83
3.	WILDMAN RIVER CATCHMENT AREA STUDY	12,000	NIL	NIL
	(Commonwealth)			

This grant is for the conduct of a biological survey in the area, and was placed on the programme at Commonwealth request in order to maintain a balance between natural and built environment.

The Northern Territory Heritage Committee raised the objection that the area is part of the second stage of Kakadu National Park and is therefore a Commonwealth responsibility.

However lack of time precluded the substitution of an alternative environmental survey.

No recommendation for future funding will be made.

		80/81	81/82	82/83
4. PINE CREE (Commonwe	K CONSERVATION WORK alth)	- Button	4,700	2,000

This project includes restoration work on the Railway Station and the Repeater Station.

It is an ongoing project that will cover maintenance of these sites over the ensuing years.

Separate funds of \$5,000 have been allocated for emergency restoration work and

security at the Repeater Station from the 1980/81 N.T. funded programme.

		80/81	81/82	82/83
5.	ARLTUNGA, DOCUMENTATION AND CONSERVATION WORK OF INDUSTRIAL SITES (Commonwealth)	10,000	7,650	9,000

On behalf of the Conservation Commission, the National Trust carried out a survey on the Arltunga goldfields east of Alice Springs.

An amount of \$25,000 was paid last year to National Trust for the completion of the project.

As a result of the report, the Commonwealth will provide funds of \$26,650 over the next 3 years for the restoration and preservation of the site as an historically significant area.

		00/01	01/02	02/03
<b>6</b> .	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES DOCUMENTATION CENTRAL AUST., N.E. TERRITORY AND MACCASSAN SITES (Commonwealth)	20,000	NIL	NIL

Northern Territory Museums and Art Galleries was funded by the Commonwealth Government for the identification and documentation of aboriginal sites of National Estate significance in the Northern Territory with recommendations for their conservation and management.

The 2-year study was funded from 1978/79, but because of the difficulty of attracting and retaining suitably qualified staff is now 12-18 months behind schedule.

			80/81	81/82	82/83
7.	MILITARY SITES SURV	VEY (Commonwealth)	11,000	NIL	NIL

As part of a national survey, the Commonwealth has provided funds for the survey and documentation of military sites throughout the Northern Territory.

The terms of reference for this survey, ie. the extent of the survey and the proposed agent, are yet to be advised.

80/81	01/02	02/03
11.000	NIL	NIL
	11,000	11,000 NIL

As with the preceding item this is a National Project, and is proposed as a survey of all 20th Century buildings throughout the Territory, including public housing 1914 - 1960.

The Housing Commission and a private architect will carry out the survey.

<u>80/81</u> <u>81/82</u> <u>82/83</u>

9. VICTORIA, FORT ESSINGTON EMERGENCY CONSERVATION (Commonwealth)

11,000

NIL

NIL

This site is recognised as an historically significant part of the Territory's heritage. However, inspections carried out by the National Trust and Conservation Commission have revealed a sad lack of care with the area.

The site is completely overgrown and historic landmarks eg. powder magazine, tombstone are in danger of destruction. The money provided by the Commonwealth is intended for emergency restoration work.

<u>80/81</u> <u>81/82</u> <u>82/83</u>

10. FORT DUNDAS, MELVILLE IS. STAGE IV (Commonwealth)

10,000

NIL

NIL

Discussions have been held between this Department and the Garden Point Council concerning the future of Fort Dundas.

The Council wish to develop the site as a tourist attraction. With this in mind, they have asked this Department for assistance in identifying and preserving the ruins.

Three stages of archaeological research have already been carried out with funds provided by the Australian Heritage Commission.

This site dates back to 1824 in historical importance and its complete development as a tourist attraction is recommended by the Heritage Committee and the Tourist Commission.

The money provided is intended for more archaeological studies and the fencing and clearing of the site.

11. KATHERINE - OLD CIVIL AIRPORT
TERMINAL BUILDING - RESTORATION
(Commonwealth)

80/81
81/82
82/83

The old Airport terminal building at Katherine was used until the gradual shift to Tindal airport in the mid 1950's.

The Katherine Council has had discussions with this Department and the Katherine Historical Society in an endeavour to obtain funds for the preservation of the old buildings.

A report on the history and the significance of these buildings to the Territory's Aviation History was prepared by Mr. John Haslett and submitted to the Heritage Committee.

The Historical Society intends to develop the site as a tourist attraction depicting the early days of the industry in Katherine.

ALLOCATION 80/81

12. CHINESE HOMESTEAD, EDITH RIVER (Commonwealth)

3,000

This privately-owned homestead is the only surviving example of early Chinese tradework in the Territory. It was built around 1920 by Chinese artisans and is of great historical worth to the area.

Preliminary documentation has been provided by National Trust.

A Grant of \$3,000 was allocated in 1979/80 from Commonwealth funds for emergency conservation and has been revoted for necessary work this financial year.

#### ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 13. RAILWAY PRECINCT, PINE CREEK (Commonwealth)

8,000

This project is entered on the National Estate Register and is particularly significant because it is a 19th Century Railway Complex which is still intact.

A re-vote from the 1979/80 Commonwealth payments provides for emergency physical conservation and restoration work to be carried out.

#### ALLOCATION 80/81

# 14. OLD POLICE STATION, COURTHOUSE/NAVAL HEADQUARTERS (Commonwealth)

4,000

A re-vote from the 1979/80 Commonwealth payments provides for consultancy fees for production of Physical and Historical reports.

These buildings date from the 1880's and are amongst the few buildings of that period of Darwin's history surviving. Their primary significance is their contribution to the townscape.

The Old Police Station/Naval Headquarters is entered on the National Estate Register.

# ALLOCATION 80/81

## 15. SPRINGVALE HOMESTEAD (Commonwealth)

4,000

The funds allocated are a re-vote from the 1979/80 Commonwealth payments and are provided for physical conservation.

Built in 1879 Springvale Homestead was the first permanent pastoral settlement in the Northern Territory. Local materials were used and the construction process was well documented by a contemporary observer. Original tree planting survives. Used as a pastoral homestead to 1970. The Homestead is now a centre of tourist operation.

#### ALLOCATION 80/81

# 16. OLD TOWN HALL DARWIN (Commonwealth)

12,600

These funds have already been paid to Department of Transport and Works for restoration works.

Discussions are being held between this Division, the Local Government Division and the Darwin City Council to determine responsibilities for this project. The Council wishes to manage the site in conjunction with the Mall, but it will not accept responsibility until all work is complete and service charges eg. lighting are paid for.

At this stage it is not known what the level of committment will be from this Department.

#### ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 17. PINE CREEK REPEATER STATION

5,000

Previously this was a National Trust project, but as they are unable to carry out the work, the conservation work necessary will be undertaken by the Department of Transport and Works.

Funds are to be used for security work and emergency restoration. An amount of \$5,000 has been allocated.

The building is to be used by the National Trust as a display centre and also by the Northern Territory Library Service as a Community Library.

Funds will be provided separately by the Commonwealth for 1981/82, 1982/83 for the continuing restoration of this site.

ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 18. KATHERINE RAILWAY STATION

11,000

The National Trust was allocated \$12,000 in 1978/79 for physical restoration of the Railway Station. Only a small amount of security work was carried out and National Trust is now unable to complete the task. It is therefore proposed that \$11,000 be allocated to Katherine Municipal Council to complete the task of restoration. Conservation work will be carried out by the Department of Transport and Works.

It is vital that this work should be carried out, and not suffer because of the apparent misuse of funds provided to the National Trust.

ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 19. FORMER R.A.A.F. AIRSTRIPS

6,000

The Heritage Committee recommended recognition of the importance former operational airfields have to the Heritage of the Northern Territory. Airstrips relating to World War II were considered to be of special significance.

Mr John Haslett of the Northern Territory Aviation History Preservation Society was suggested as an appropriate consultant and he has already provided the Department with a comprehensive report on the Katherine Air Terminal, a pre World War II building, at no cost.

The type of work required is documentation and signposting. Funds of \$6,000 have been allocated for this project.

ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 20. CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN AVIATION MUSEUM

The proposal is to restore two aircraft, one is the Flying Doctor aircraft needing restoration of its internal furnishings; the other is a Wackett aircraft needing urgent restoration of the external fabric.

The museum does not have the specific skill and therefore wishes to engage Mr Simpson, an aero-engineer, who is experienced in this kind of work for restoration of both aircraft.

Funds of \$7,900 have been allocated and the proposed agent is the Aviation Museum.

#### ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 21. DARWIN AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

7,000

The proposal is the restoration of one aircraft. This was agreed to as listed by the Heritage Committee but with the proviso that organisation work be under the general guidance of Museums and Art Galleries.

Funds of \$7,000 have been allocated and the proposed agent is the Aviation Society.

ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 22. HAMILTON DOWNS YOUTH CAMP

5,000

It was recommended that \$5,000 be made available for emergency conservation. The conservation work is to be carried out by the Department of Transport and Works.

This area is of historical significance and practical benefit to the community. The Y.M.C.A. has developed the site as a youth camp. However, the buildings, which date back to 1908, are in a state of disrepair and the money provided is for emergency restoration work.

ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 23. CHRIST THE KING CHURCH, TENNANT CREEK

2,000

Evidence of the history of the building is not available, and a full historical survey and assessment of the physical status of the building are needed.

The Tennant Creek Catholic Church is proposing extensive alterations to the building but is prepared to co-operate in retaining sections of particular heritage value.

The \$2,000 allocated represents 50% of the cost of the study and Church is nominated as the agent to carry out the work.

ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 24. BORROLOOLA POLICE STATION COMPLEX

5,000

Stage I of this project involves emergency restoration of the police station and cell blocks, to be undertaken by the Department of Transport and Works.

An architectural survey should be carried out and recommendations and estimates provided for the total restoration work, leaving the balance of restoration as Stage II.

Funds of \$5,000 have been allocated.

An amount of \$1,500 has already been paid to Borroloola Council for security fencing. Cabinet recently declined to approve the reservation of the site until full documentation is provided. This matter has been referred to the Heritage Committee.

#### 25. ALICE SPRINGS TELEGRAPH STATION NATIONAL PARK

This site is historically significant because of its contribution to the development of communication systems in the pioneer days of the Territory.

The park is managed by the Conservation Commission as a tourist project depicting the history of the Telegraph Station. This Department does not provide any financial assistance.

#### 26. ANTHONY LAGOON POLICE STATION COMPLEX

This site dates back to the mid 1890's and is a prime example of early Australian/ Northern Territory police cells, trackers quarters etc.

The buildings are substantially intact and the intention is to keep operating the block as a store and eventually develop it fully as a tourist attraction.

#### 27. EAST POINT FORTIFICATIONS

East Point Reserve contains Military equipment and fortifications (gun turrets etc.) of great historical and military significance to the Territory. The Royal Artillery Association maintains a Military Museum adjacent to the Reserve, and has made enquiries for financial assistance.

The recommendation of the Heritage Committee is that Northern Territory Museums and Art Galleries should assume responsibility for maintenance of the fortifications and collections.

ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 28. HERMANNSBURG MISSION BUILDINGS

5,000

The funds allocated are for restoration of the roof and the manse.

Established in 1877, the mission was the point of initial contact with European society for the Arunta Aboriginal people. The mission comprises an outstanding group of structures revealing a wide range of building techniques and materials use. The complex is of outstanding townscape value. It was for many years the largest settlement in Central Australia.

The Hermannsburg Mission settlement is entered on the National Estate Register.

ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 29. WIMMERA HOSPITAL, VICTORIA RIVER DOWNS

3,000

The funds allocated are for restoration work.

Built by Australian Inland Mission 1922-23 as a hospital following a serious malaria epidemic. Served as a hospital to 1942. Was built by John Flynn in an attempt at climate control. An important communications link when Pedal Radio was installed in 1933.

Wimmera Hospital is entered on the National Estate Register.

ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 30. OLD HOTEL PINE CREEK

5,000

The funds allocated are for emergency restoration.

The building is important on two grounds:

- (i) As an element in the townscape at Pine Creek and particularly in its situation opposite the historic railway station complex.
- (ii) As an example of a building technique using basic materials timber and single skin corrugated galvanised iron walls to achieve a level of sophistication and service in this once remote area.

ALLOCATION 80/81

#### 31. SOUTHPORT RUINS

NIL

The site contains evident remains of the Southport Settlement. eg. the hotel fireplace, the blacksmith's store, the stumps of the old store situated about lot 339. The site also contains relics of historical significance.

#### 32. PALMERSTON CEMETERY

Contains a number of monuments to early settlers of the Northern Territory who were instrumental in the eventual successful settlement of Palmerston (Darwin) and the Northern Territory as a whole.

Presently maintianed by Darwin City Corporation. It is envisaged that this could be developed as an historically significant site.

Palmerston Cemetery nomination form was returned as it was imcomplete, and therefore not entered in the Register of the National Estate.

#### 33. WINNEKE MINING FIELD

This Project recommended by National Trust as a locality worthy of Preservation for Historical and Architectural reasons. No documentation available.

# 34. PIONEER MEMORIAL CEMETERY (STUART MEMORIAL CEMETERY)

July 1980 - National Trust proposed a \$5,600 grant for site conservation work and Historic research and presentation.

September 1980 - Funding under consideration at that stage.

The cemetery is significant on two grounds.

- (i) As an historic record of the early residents of Alice Springs and the region and for the social history revealed through the inscriptions and other evidence.
- (ii) As examples of nineteenth century cemetery furniture in remote locations. Imported cast iron markers and fences and locally fashioned timber pieces together are of great significance.

The Alice Springs Council have given approval to National Trust to take responsibility for maintenance.

#### 35. THE RESIDENCY, THE ESPLANADE

Originally built in 1870 of stone with timber verandah. The kitchen was built of wooden logs. In 1879 the top storey was demolished and the whole building was re-built in stone over the original foundations.

This is a well-kept example of early colonial architecture and design. The Residency merits worth as an historically significant project.

#### 36. LYONS COTTAGE (B.A.T. RESIDENCE)

This building was erected in 1924 and was the residence for the manager of the British Australia Telegraph Company. It was later purchased by a former Mayor of Darwin, Mr. J.W. Lyons.

It is structurally unique in that it is the only building in Darwin constructed of locally hewn stone with asbestos roof and shingles.

It is historically significant because of its structure and also because of the former occupants of the house.

The land has been reserved for historic purposes and trustees have been appointed to manage the Reserve.

#### 37. CHINESE CEMETERY DARWIN

Nominated by National Trust for entry in Register of National Estate but returned because insufficient information supplied.

The site consists of Chinese graves circ 1920 - to date and indicates the cultural diversity of the Northern Territory and the significant contribution of the Chinese to Darwin's Social and economic development.

(No funding implications)

#### 38. DALY RIVER COPPERMINES AND GRAVES

This site was moninated by the National Trust for entry to the National Estate Register but was returned by the Heritage Commission because insufficient information was supplied.

The site contains graves of 3 or 4 miners who were speared by Aborigines on 3rd September 1884. Subsequent reprisals decimated the local Aboriginal people. Site also contains mine workings and machinery remnants of outstanding industrial archaeological value.

#### 39. OLD ELSEY HOMESTEAD

Although the homestead buildings have been relocated or demolished in the 1930's there remains significant archaeological evidence and a station cemetery at the site.

The homestead has significant historical associations for the Territory with the Overland Telegraph line, pastoral expansion and stock movement along routes intersecting near the homestead, culture contact between Aboriginals and European settlers, and World War II.

The homestead location was dramatised by the publication of "We of the Never Never" which describes day to day life of the homestead during 1902.

1980/81 - \$3,000 funds allocated to carry out a feasibility study to;

- (1) establish location of old site.
- (2) survey literature and other materials relating to the history of the site.
- (3) make detailed proposals as to the future use of the site.

Cheque paid to Elsey Homestead Reconstruction Committee.

Report on the site carried out by Dr Eleanor Crosby Commissioned by the National Trust.

#### 40. LITTLE FLOWER MISSION SITE ARLTUNGA

There are quite substantial remains of the Old Catholic Mission.

There is a well with some timbering left, a ruined structure with concrete block walls, rooms and floor with some little timber. This is built on a rise. Towards the track possibly a well, corrugated iron forming to the areas of the various floors. There is a further large concrete floor and then scattered around a number of other smaller remains which appear to be floors, some corner posts or evidence of post holes. It appears that the settlement was abandoned in the 1940's after an epidemic of some illness in which a considerable number of children died. However no graves were located.

#### 41. BARROW CREEK TELEGRAPH STATION

A report on the former telegraph station prepared by Richard Allom recommends that the historical significance of the buildings necessitates a long term regular and planned maintenance and conservation programme to be established.

Of nine repeater stations erected in the Northern Territory 1871-72 as part of the Overland Telegraph Line, this is the only station still in use. It was the site of an Aboriginal attack in 1874 and subsequent reprisals.

The Station has already been nominated for entry on the National Estate Register but was returned because of incomplete information.

#### 42. ALICE SPRINGS - ADELAIDE HOUSE

The building was built 1924-26 and was the first hospital in Alice Springs. It is arguably one of the most significant buildings in Australia because of its associations with the provision of social and medical amenities in the inland and with the development of the Flying Doctor System and with "Flynn of the Inland" generally. Its unique design was developed by Flynn as a response to particular climatic factors - a number of tunnels beneath the ground floor lead into a basement and the principle was that convection of air would cool the rest of the building.

The United Church to the rear of the building was the site of the first pedal radio transmission in 1926.

The Church has applied for financial assistance with the preservation of the building and has been working closely with the National Trust to develop works proposals which will make the building more useful without altering its historical character.

It is envisaged that the building would be used as a museum, presenting important aspects of the history of Inland Australia, and act as an acknowledgement of the personal achievement of John Flynn in erecting the building and in his wider contribution to the welfare of the people of the Inland.

#### 1979/80

\$1,000 (C'wealth) To National Trust to commission a physical and historical status report.

\$5,000 (N.T.) Conservation work on radio shed.

\$1,200 (N.T.) Appropriated for historical study to be carried out by Rev. G. Bucknall.

#### 43. IRON BLOW MINE

The mine has a long history dating back to its discovery in 1873 when ironstone was in abundance. Between 1905-6 it was the most productive mine in the Territory.

The site is of significance to the mining history of Pine Creek and is included in the Pine Creek District Heritage Scheme.

The mine is in use and the area in danger of bulldozing by operators wishing to gain access to the mine.

The site is therefore in need of protection from further vandalism.

#### 44. "SANDFLY"

The return of this historic engine from Port Augusta has been sought. No response has yet been received.

#### REMARKS

1. Fannie Bay Gaol

The listing of this site is supported.

2. Audit House

While it is agreed that the house is a good example of its type, it is questioned whether it would be possible to maintain it for a long period of time. We would also query how it could be used, other than as an expensive residence.

3. Wildman River Catchment Area

It is strongly questioned whether this area has any heritage significance as it has no outstanding characteristics or outstanding flora or fauna.

4. Pine Creek
Conservation Work

This is another site for which the cost of maintenance would be prohibitive for the use to which it can be put.

5. Arltunga

This is a site which should definitely be listed.

6. Various Archaeological Sites

The need to document sites is accepted but until the individual site can be identified and documented no further comment can be made.

7. Military Sites

The need to document sites is accepted and the same comments apply as for No.6.

8. 20th Century Buildings and Public Housing Surveys

This again is a vague project and one which we would find difficult to support. Unless significant street scenes can be identified and preserved for future generations, it is doubtful if such a survey is worthwhile.

9. Victoria and Port Essington

These sites should be maintained and preserved.

10. Fort Dundas

This site should also be preserved.

11. Katherine - Old Civil
Airport Building

We find it difficult to support this project as the building would almost certainly be expensive to maintain and in any event has a relatively short life span.

12. Chinese Homestead - Edith River

It is considered that this building would also be one that could perhaps be documented and then forgotton as there is little to recommend it other than its builders.

13. Railway Precinct Pine Creek Despite its historical background this area would be extremely difficult to maintain because of its large area in the middle of the town.

- 14. Old Police Station, Court House/Naval Headquarters
- 15. Springvale Homestead
- 16. Old Town Hall, Darwin
- 17. Pine Creek Repeater Station
- 18. Katherine Railway Station
- 19. Former RAAF Airstrips
- 20. Central Australian Aviation Museum
- 21. Darwin Aviation
  Historical Society
- 22. Hamilton Downs Youth Camp
- 23. Christ the King Church, Tennant Creek
- 24. Borroloola Police Station Complex
- 25. Alice Springs Telegraph Station
- 26. Anthony Lagoon Police Station Complex

#### REMARKS

This project is supported although the building will be only a modern reconstruction of the original building. Hardly Heritage material.

This is supported as it is an old building still serving a useful purpose.

The ruins of this building have been stabilized and the area will probably serve a useful community purpose when control is established.

This is an old iron building which, if it can be adapted for the uses intended, should be preserved.

If the local Council can control the building this project should be supported.

We would agree with the proposal for the airstrips. Any attempt to maintain them, though, could be very expensive.

This project is hardly a heritage issue and is more for museum type action.

The same comments apply to this project as for item 20.

Providing the buildings can be used as part of the total concept then this item is supported.

The study is supported but it is considered that the building is not sufficiently impressive to preserve.

This project is supported providing adequate maintainance can be ensured.

This is one of the more significant sites in the Territory.

This site is remote and well off the usual travellers path. It is hard to see the site being of practical use unless some form of road house can be established.

#### REMARKS

27. East Point Fortification

The fortifications are only partly on a reserve and the remainder on Crown Land. The proposal is supported.

28. Hermannsburg Mission Buildings

This proposal is supported. Action is proceeding, however, to issue an Aboriginal Freehold Title to the area.

29. Wimmera Hospital - V.R.D.

This is a similar situation to other isolated sites in that maintenance will depend on the goodwill of the station management.

30. Old Hotel - Pine Creek It appears that this building is so old and run down that any attempt to repair and maintain it is not warranted.

31. Southport Ruins

There are so few ruins of any substance here and most of them are on private land, that the site could hardly warrant attention.

32. Palmerston Cemetery

Should be maintained.

33. Winnecke Mining Field

The field is probably worth documenting but there are so few remains that preservation is not warranted.

34. Pioneer Memorial Cemetery - Alice Springs

Should be maintained.

35. The Residency Darwin

Should obviously be maintained.

36. Lyons Cottage - B.A.T. Residence

This building is worth preserving but only because it is a substantial structure. It is not typical of any other houses in Darwin.

37. Chinese Cemetery - Darwin

Should be maintained but it is doubted whether it is worthy of entry on the National Estate. Very few grave markers remain and only one typical Chinese armchair type grave marker remains.

38. Daly River Copper Mines and Graves

Other than as evidence of early European occupation it seems questionable whether the site has heritage significance.

39. Old Elsey Homestead

This site has significance but any new reconstruction of the homestead would hardly be historical.

40. Little Flower Mission Arltunga

There is little of substance at this site which only dates back to the 1940's. It should not be placed on any heritage list.

#### REMARKS

41. Barrow Creek Telegraph Station

This is a site worthy of preservation.

42. Adelaide House -Alice Springs

This site is probably worth maintaining but the building must be useful in the modern context.

43. Iron Blow Mine

The site is interesting because it is near other similar mining ventures of the early 1900's. Unless covered by a mining reserve, though, it is doubtful that the activities of miners can be prevented.

44. Sandfly

This old railway engine is more a museum piece than an object for heritage action.

# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT & WORKS



19 March ]981

PO BOX 2520

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REFERENCE

47.3

Secretary,
Department of Community Development,
P.O. Box 1197,
DARWIN N.T. 5794

Attention: Mr Norman

# CABINET SUBMISSION - HERITAGE SITES

This Department supports the Cabinet Submission in principle but would like to make the following comments:-

- A number of projects have funds allocated for 1980/81 and therefore urgent action is required to expend these allocations before 30 June, 1981;
- Overall the estimates appear low especially when it is considered that survey fees and consultant fees must be covered by these estimates;
- . There appears to be an amount of duplication within Items 4, 13 and 17.
- . It is uncertain whether the list is inclusive of significant sites which are funded from other sources e.g. Tennant Creek Battery is being maintained for Tourist purposes but is not included on the list.
- . The Department has been approached to survey the Sportsmans Arms Hotel in Katherine but this does not appear on the list;
- . The alignment of the Alice Springs, Darwin Railway could affect the existing rail facilities proposed for the restoration;
- It is not clear just what is envisaged by Item 19 Former RAAF Airstrips. While the concept is supported
  it would be appropriate for the consultant to liaise with
  the Department re effects on road reserve requirements
  etc. with respect to individual sites being considered.

M.J. MARTIN

Director, Secretariat