Important Heritage Repairs For Alice Springs Buildings

Heritage Minister Len Kiely today said the Northern Territory Government continues to preserve heritage-listed buildings in central Australian with $247,000 to be spent on two key projects.

“The Territory Government has allocated $247,000 towards the repairs and maintenance of the Araluen Homestead in Alice Springs and stone buildings at Arltunga Reserve,” Mr Kiely said.

“Funding for these two projects comes from our annual allocation of $1 million for repairs and maintenance to Government-owned heritage properties.

“Both sites are highly significant to our history and their preservation is paramount.

“Araluen Homestead was declared a heritage place in 2003 as the early buildings are important for their historical and social associations with pioneer aviator and pastoralist E.J. Connellan.

“The buildings - constructed between 1948 and 1955 – are testimony to Connellan’s grand visions and include the Homestead, former gardener's residence and former staff flats.

“We have allocated $93,000 to address and rectify site drainage and rising damp at the Homestead, installation of drying strips, preparation and repainting, installation of new guttering and termite treatment.

“Other works include the replacement of old galvanised water pipes to various buildings.”

Mr Kiely said that Arltunga Historical Reserve east of Alice Springs was declared a heritage place in 1995 and is the site of one of the earliest and most remote mining settlements in Central Australia.

Work is being carried out on the old Government Battery and Cyanide Works.

“These stone buildings are of a construction and style that sets them apart from the more modest and basic structures found in other parts of the Arltunga Historical Reserve,” Mr Kiely said.

“$154,000 has been allocated for the repair, lime washing and re-mortaring to stone on numerous buildings and the stabilisation of ruins using traditional stonemasonry techniques and materials.”

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