Gary Higgins
Minister for Arts and Museums

Budget 2015 - delivering action in heritage enhancement

28 April 2015

One of the most comprehensive plans addressing the enhancement of the Northern Territory’s much valued heritage sites will be developed with funding support from the 2015 Northern Territory Budget.

The NT Government has committed $6.1 million over three years for the development and implementation of the Northern Territory Heritage Enhancement Action Plan.

“There is an extraordinarily rich vein of heritage in the Northern Territory which we believe deserves better recognition and a more coordinated approach in its promotion,” Arts Minister Gary Higgins said.

“The Action Plan will look at better connectivity between heritage places, a coordinated signage policy and more use of new technology. This will produce a more memorable visitor experience and make it easier for locals to embrace our history and heritage sites.”

The $6.1 million expenditure over three years will include:

- $3.05 million for work to Government-owned places, including sites of historic interest along Territory Highways
- $1.2 million for work to enhance privately-owned heritage places
- $600,000 to enhance our regional museums
- $500,000 to replace signage at historic sites
- $100,000 for digital initiatives

“As well as providing for better and more easily accessible historic sites, the outcomes from the Action Plan will help boost Tourism NT’s cultural tourism product,” Mr Higgins said.

“This project is a Whole of Government initiative that will include the Department of Arts and Museums working closely with Tourism NT as well as other agencies such as Lands, Planning and the Environment, Business, Education, Transport and the Parks and Wildlife Commission NT to ensure the Plan is a team effort.”
“We’re not talking about reinventing the wheel here either. Existing programs such as the Conservation Program for Government owned Heritage Assets, the NT Heritage Grants Program and the Regional Museums Grant Support Program will help guide the direction of the Action Plan.

“This is an exciting step towards developing an Action Plan for the future, in appreciation of our past.”

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