# Template FOR INPUT INTO THE

**AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE STRATEGY**

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| Overview  This template should be used to provide comments on the content of the Australian Heritage Strategy. | |
| Contact Details | |
| **Name of Organisation:** |  |
| **Name of Author:** | **Dr Alan L Hill** |
| **Date:** | **9/06/2014** |
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| Questions  Please add your comments for some or all of the questions provided with the Strategy’s three high level themes below. If you have other information you wish to provide, please add this in the “Other comments” field. | |
| 1. **Improve National Leadership**   What are the most important things the Australian Government should be doing to offer leadership in heritage?  How can the Australian Government provide guidance and support for our national heritage—while still empowering other government, industry and community members to take responsibility and get involved?  What priority areas are important to you, your organisation or group?  What practical actions would you suggest to improve national heritage leadership? | |
| 1. Using EPBC Act, bilateral agreements and strategic environmental assessments to require the adequate protection of **Indigenous** and **Natural** heritage and not just European heritage protection at State and Local Government levels in Western Australia.   Indigenous and Natural heritage areas are being excluded form heritage strategies currently in Western Australia. For example the attached recent 2013 City of Swan heritage strategy which excludes high value Indigenous and Natural heritage. The attached comments were made on behalf of the local Helena River Catchment Group. The Group’s comments were acknowledged in the attached City of Swan Heritage Strategy summary of submissions. The continuing inadequate protection of the high Indigenous and Natural heritage value lands of the Helena River, Kadina Brook, Bushmead Rifle Range and Ridge Hill should also be a concern in this review.   1. Provide funding for regional Indigenous and natural heritage officers at the State level, and an Indigenous and natural heritage officer at each Local Government across Western Australia.   Provide funding for the establishment and running of strategically located Indigenous and natural heritage regional culture and wetland education centres (similar to those established by the National Trust, Wetlands and Wildlife Trust and RSBP in England) across Western Australia.   1. Establish a monument wetland strategy in Australia similar to England Heritage’s programme.   Using the EPBC powers mentioned above engage with the State National Trust to better implement improved Federal Government treatment of Indigenous, Natural as well as European heritage. Use the National Trust model in UK to improve Indigenous and natural heritage lists, and the use of IT (see the Area of Natural Beauty comments in the thesis referenced below)  Using EPBC powers mentioned above engage with the State’s Heritage Council National Trust to better implement improved Federal Government treatment of Indigenous, Natural as well as European heritage.   1. Please see my recent thesis <http://researchrepository.murdoch.edu.au/22274/> and its comments on loss of monument wetlands and heritage sites in Western Australia. Your attention is particularly directed to practical action recommendations in the final chapter, and in the final appendix. | |

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| 1. **Pursue Innovative Partnerships**   What partnerships are most needed within the heritage sector?  What heritage roles and responsibilities should be led by governments, peak heritage organisations or community groups in the 21st century?  How should resources be shared through heritage partnerships to ensure the greatest return on agreed priorities?  Can you provide examples of successful innovative partnerships you or your organisation have established? |
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| 1. **Enable encourage communities to understand and care for their heritage**   What should the Australian heritage sector be doing to help the Australian community better engage in heritage activities?  How can a shared understanding of our national heritage be developed and best celebrated together?  Do you have any examples of activities that have been successful in promoting local heritage to a broader audience?  What is the role of technology and new media in providing greater community access to heritage? |
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