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CONFERENCE PAPER ABSTRACT

NAME OF PRESENTER:	Miriam Stacy
TITLE OF PAPER:	Sustainable heritage management – Successes and challenges for heritage buildings and adaptive reuse in The Rocks, Sydney, Australia.
THEME:	<i>Theme 4: Heritage as a Pillar of Sustainable Development</i>
<p>PAPER ABSTRACT:</p> <p>This paper outlines sustainable heritage management currently applied to heritage buildings in The Rocks in Sydney Australia: a heritage precinct and the place of first European settlement located in the World Heritage Listed Sydney Opera House buffer zone and abutting the nationally significant Sydney Harbour Bridge.</p> <p>The Rocks has been in state government ownership since resumption in 1901 prompted by plaque outbreak and perceived “slum” conditions. During the mid-20th C the waterfront precinct was slated for demolition and modernist redevelopment.</p> <p>Building trade union ‘green bans’ on development in the area during the 1970s led to the adoption of state-wide protective planning and heritage legislation. Five decades of government conservation and heritage management has driven the retention, conservation and adaptive reuse of waterfront commercial, retail and residential buildings.</p> <p>This paper considers successes and challenges that drive sustainable heritage management for government and private industry in the precinct that now has a strong tourism focus and will cite examples of recent projects. The paper is presented from the perspective of a state government heritage manager/architect currently employed in The Rocks.</p> <p>Successes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying the principles in Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter to guide building conservation and adaptive reuse. • Valuing the legacy of professional conservation practices in The Rocks. • Using traditional building repair techniques, materials and skilled trades. • Developing sustainability and conservation policies for precinct and site-specific conservation management plans and technical manuals. • Encouraging sustainable development through adaptive reuse of heritage buildings. <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project complexity, early engagement, willing client and team. 	



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- Avoiding compliance issues and building damage!
- Reconciling sustainable building development standards for modern and heritage buildings.
- Choosing uses to avoid changes for building code and access.
- Establishing standards for concept and documentation.
- Facilitating good construction outcomes.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRESENTER:

Miriam Stacy is the Senior Manager, Heritage for Place Management NSW - a division of the New South Wales state government agency Property NSW.

She is an architect with a Masters in Heritage Conservation and management qualifications. She has extensive experience in strategic cultural heritage management planning and heritage asset management gained through key heritage roles in government heritage management agencies including National Parks and Wildlife Service, Office of Environment and Heritage and Property NSW and has worked in New Zealand in the Christchurch City Council's heritage team.

Miriam enjoys leading and working as part of a dedicated heritage team and looks opportunities for continuous improvement for great long-term heritage outcomes.