

# CONSERVATION OF BRUSH FARM HOUSE IN EASTWOOD

## Project Update

as at Friday, 13 October 2006

---

### Project Overview

- The restoration program for Brush Farm House commenced in December 2004
- Key milestones achieved:
  - Tanner Architects and a team of professional consultants engaged in February 2005 to undertake the design, statutory approval, detail documentation and site inspections
  - Stakeholder workshop for key stakeholder groups conducted in March 2005
  - Statutory approvals and detail design documentation completed in December 2005
  - Tender for conservation and adaptation works was awarded in April 2006
  - Conservation and adaptation works commenced in May 2006
  - Received a grant of \$500,000 under the National Heritage Investment Initiative from the Australian Government Department of the Environment and Heritage in June 2006
  - Site visit for key stakeholder groups conducted on 4 July and 11 July 06
  - Archaeological investigations completed. No artefacts were found to date
  - Hon Prime Minister and Bennelong MP, Mr John Howard, visited site on 1 September 06
  - Department of the Environment and Heritage visited the site on 9 October 06

### Target Dates for Completion

- Phase 1 (West wing, central wing, new roof over the entire building, rear verandah, front verandah and balcony) - due for completion by February 2007.
- Phase 2 (East wing and hall) - due for completion by early April 2007
- Public opening - due in mid April 2007

### Current Status

- Works completed over the last five months:
  - Temporary fencing, temporary toilets, lunch room, store room and scaffolding
  - Demolition, excavation and stripping of floor boards and joists
  - Repair and reconstruction of the floor structure and roof structure
  - Construction of new toilets including installation of hydraulic services and new sewer
  - Desalination of stone walls in basement and water proofing of brick walls in ground floor
  - Reconstruction of the skillion roof and replacement of roof over the central wing
  - Reconstruction of the front balcony columns and floor structure
  - Construction of the rear verandah new floor structure and columns
  - Installation of electrical cabling and air-conditioning units
- Works currently in progress or due to commence over the coming weeks:
  - Replacement of roof over west wing and east wing, and installation of floor boards
  - Repair or replacement of existing windows, doors, fire places and staircases
  - Removal of existing external and internal paint, repair of walls and repainting
  - Installation of sanitary appliances, electrical fittings and mechanical fixtures

### Project Budget

- Total estimated cost of Phase 1 and 2 (building works only) - \$3.3 million with funding from the following agencies:
  - ❖ City of Ryde \$1,950,000
  - ❖ Australian Government \$500,000
  - ❖ DCS \$800,000
  - ❖ NSW Heritage Office \$50,000
- Phase 3 (landscaping front garden, fencing, car parking, etc.) is currently unfunded.

### Status of Other Project Issues

- Use of basement for heritage tours is being investigated with the NSW Heritage Office.
- Negotiations with DCS on the Licence for the use of first floor, legal access and car parking are being finalised
- Use of vacant space in the ground floor and first floor is being investigated