



Jyoti Somerville Senior Associate

Jyoti Somerville is an architectural conservation expert with over 30 years' experience in built heritage conservation. Her expertise is focused on heritage assessments and conservation policies for buildings and their settings, ranging from large complex sites to individual buildings.

Jyoti specialises in nineteenth to late twentieth century architectural heritage; groups of buildings and their settings; and the conservation of complex sites in urban and regional areas. She has a proven track record working with statutory bodies and public authorities to develop and resolve heritage issues and challenges. Jyoti's work encompasses 'hands-on' conservation including condition assessments and scheduling of works for repair/restoration and adaptation of public, private and institutional buildings and sites.

Jyoti has acted as a heritage adviser and trainer for local government and she has held a number of key positions in the heritage industry including Vice President of Australia ICOMOS.

Qualifications

Bachelor of Architecture (Honours), University of Sydney
 Bachelor of Science (Architecture), University of Sydney
 'Train the Trainer' Course, National Institute of Trainers and Assessors

Professional affiliations

Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites)
 National Trust of Australia (Life Member)

'Why is it so?' The many answers to this question underlie the heritage consultant's work. By understanding the historical background, architectural character, structure, detailing and materials, an account of the past can be reconstructed to inform the present and future. For our present and future achievements stand or fall on our understanding of our past.

Key experience

Conservation management plans

- Eames House, Los Angeles, Conservation Management Plan—Client: Getty Institute
- Maitland Town Hall—Client: Maitland City Council
- Mercantile Hotel, The Rocks—Client: Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority
- St David's Uniting Church, Haberfield—Client: St David's Uniting Church
- Spectacle Island, Sydney—Client: GHD Pty Ltd
- Ashton, 102 Elizabeth Bay Road, Elizabeth Bay—Client: Southern Cross Group
- Cockatoo Island Dockyard, Sydney Harbour—Client: Sydney Harbour Federation Trust
- Minda/Minali Juvenile Justice Centre, Former Superintendent's Residences, Lidcombe Hospital—Client: NSW Department of Public Works and Services
- McMaster Laboratory, Sydney—Client: University of Sydney
- The Priory, Gladesville—Client: NSW Department of Public Works and Services
- Police and Justice Museum, Phillip Street, Sydney—Client: NSW Department of Public Works and Services, Sydney

Heritage assessments

- Built Heritage Assessment, North Penrith Defence Site—Client: Department of Defence
- Various Residences, Victoria Barracks, Sydney—Client: Defence Housing Australia
- Forrester's Hotel, Surry Hills—Client: Giles Tribe Architects
- Former Administration Building, ADI Site, St Marys—Client: Delfin Lend Lease
- Catherine Hill Bay, Conservation Area—Client: Lake Macquarie City Council
- The Mall, Leura, Proposed Development—Client: Blue Mountains City Council, Leura
- Former Price Henry Hospital Site, Little Bay, Special Elements Conservation Policies for Flowers Ward Group, Nurses' Dining Hall, Motor Garage and Henry's Trading Post—Client: Landcom
- Lawson Town Centre—Client: Roads and Maritime Services (NSW) and Blue Mountains City Council
- Former Nurses' Home, Wollongong Hospital—Client: NSW Health Infrastructure

Architectural conservation

- Pitt Street Uniting Church, Sydney—Client: Pitt Street Uniting Church
- 'Yaralla', Dame Eadith Walker Hospital, Concord West—Client: Sydney Local Health Network
- Holsworthy Historic Ruins—Client: Department of Defence
- Hunter Baillie Memorial Presbyterian Church, Preliminary Architectural Survey and Conservation Recommendations
- Bathurst Uniting Church Hall (Former Wesleyan Church), William Street, Conservation Works—Client: Bathurst Uniting Church
- Minda/Minali Juvenile Justice Centre, Former Superintendent's Residence, Lidcombe Hospital, Schedule of Conservation Works—Client: NSW Department of Public Works and Service
- St David's Uniting Church Manse, Haberfield, Assessments and Schedules of Conservation Works—Client: St David's Uniting Church
- Police and Justice Museum, Phillip Street, Sydney, Conservation and Adaptation—Client: NSW Department of Public Works, Sydney

Heritage impact assessments

- Former Nurses' Home, Wollongong Hospital—Client: NSW Health Infrastructure
- Shoalhaven Hospital Cancer Centre—Client: NSW Health Infrastructure
- HMAS Watson, Sydney—Client: Department of Defence
- The Priory, Gladesville, Curtilage—Client: East Bay Investments
- Ashton, 102 Elizabeth Bay Road, Elizabeth Bay—Client: Southern Cross Group

Heritage advice

- RAAF Glenbrook Administration Building—Client: Department of Defence
- Dame Eadith Walker Hospital, Concord West, Conservation and Adaptation—Client: Sydney Local Health Network
- HMAS Watson Residences, Sydney—Client: Defence Housing Australia
- Victoria Barracks Landscape and Built Heritage—Client: Department of Defence

Heritage studies

- West Roseville Urban Conservation Area Study—Client: Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council
- Central Sydney Heritage Inventory Review Stage 5—Client: Council of the City of Sydney
- Holroyd Heritage Study—Client: Holroyd City Council and NSW Department of Planning

Professional background

Senior Associate, GML Heritage, August 2021–present

Associate, GML Heritage, 2003–August 2021

Visiting Lecturer, Masters of Heritage, University of Sydney, 1992–2006

Director, Jyoti Somerville Pty Ltd, Architectural Conservation Consultants, 1990–2003

Senior Conservation Architect, Travis Partners Pty Ltd, 1984–1990

Architectural Design Tutor, University of Sydney, 1984

Conservation Architect, Fisher Lucas Pty Ltd, 1979–1983

Honorary positions

Vice President, Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites), 2000

Religious Property Advisory Panel, Heritage Council of NSW (representing Australia ICOMOS), 2000–2002

Religious Property Advisory Panel, Heritage Council of NSW (representing Australia ICOMOS), 1995–1999

Architectural Advisory Panel, National Trust of Australia (NSW), 1995–1999

Selected lectures/papers

'Conserving Sydney's Cathedrals—St Andrews' and St Mary's', Reflections, National Trust of Australia (NSW), 2000

'Religious Property and Local Government: The Local Government Perspective', in Tradition and Change—National Conference on the Heritage Conservation of Religious Property (1988), 2000

Various Masters of Heritage Lectures: Heritage Advisors and Local Government and Development of Conservation Policies, University of Sydney, 1992–2007

'Conservation in Country Towns', Conservation versus Consolidation Conference, National Trust of Australia (NSW), Sydney, 1995

'Introduction to Building Conservation', National Trust of Australia (NSW) Regional Seminars on Building Conservation, Woodford Academy, 1992

'Documentation for Conservation Projects', Professional Development Course for RAI (NSW Chapter), 1989

'The Villas of Woolloomooloo Hill', lecture to Friends of Elizabeth Bay House, 1980

'Architecture in Scandinavia', lecture to Department of Architecture, University of Sydney, 1979

Heritage short courses

'An Introduction to Heritage', Heritage Training Course for Council Officers, Hawkesbury City Council, 2000

'Heritage Planning and Practice for Lismore City Council and Queanbeyan City Council', NSW Heritage Office, 1996 and 1998

'Understanding and Working with Heritage Buildings', Heritage Seminar, Orange City Council, 1997

'Heritage Conservation in Australia', ITP University, Bandung, Indonesia, 1996

'How to, on Heritage', Professional Development Seminar for RAI (with M Knaggs) (NSW Chapter), 1996

'Heritage and Local Government', Professional Development Seminar for RAI (NSW Chapter), 1996

'Heritage and Local Government', Land Use Forum, Blue Mountains City Council, 1996

'Heritage Conservation and Local Government', Heritage Training Course of Council Officers, Blue Mountains City Council, 1996

Specialist consultancies for heritage authorities

Heritage Council of NSW and Australian Heritage Commission Joint Accreditation for Heritage Assessments—Client: Heritage Council of NSW and Australian Heritage Council

Review of Permanent Conservation Order Exemptions—Client: NSW Department of Planning and Environment