



Alison Starr Senior Associate

Alison Starr has over 25 years of experience as a heritage professional. She specialises in architecture, environmental planning and urban design across the public and private sectors.

Alison's architectural and heritage expertise is focused on strategic planning, policy, regulation and the provision of technical requirements, incorporating a holistic view of project design, delivery and assurance within the broader built environment.

Prior to joining GML, Alison has held roles in state and local government, providing heritage advice and assessments for multiple high-profile government and state significant infrastructure and development projects. She has expertise working with NSW State Heritage Register listings, state agency heritage registers, assessments and approvals under the NSW *Heritage Act 1977*.

Qualifications

PhD in Architecture, University of Queensland (Conferral 2025)

Bachelor of Architecture (Honours 1), University of Technology Sydney

Bachelor of Arts (Architecture), University of Technology Sydney

Bachelor of Arts (Asian Studies), Australian National University

Professional affiliations

Associate Member, Australian Institute of Architects

Member, Association of Critical Heritage Studies

Member, Memory Studies Association

Sustainability and stories—I'm fascinated by both the practical logic of sensitively extending the lifespan of heritage places, and revealing the stories that they hold within.

Key experience

Strategic heritage advice

- Green Square North, Urban Design Study—Client: Warren and Mahoney for City of Sydney Council
- Five Dock Precinct, Heritage Study—Client: City of Canada Bay Council
- Homebush State-Led Rezoning, Transport Oriented Development Precinct—Client: Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
- Brookvale Structure Plan, Heritage Advice—Client: Northern Beaches Council
- Northern Beaches Modernist Heritage Study—Client: Northern Beaches Council
- Newington Armory, Heritage Needs Analysis—Client: Sydney Olympic Park Authority
- George Street North Upgrade, Heritage Advice—Client: Hassell for Place Management NSW
- Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050, Heritage Advice and Masterplan—Client: Sydney Olympic Park Authority
- Parramatta Road Urban Transformation Strategy, Stage 2 Master Plan Heritage Advice—Client: City of Canada Bay Council
- Macquarie Street East Precinct, Built Heritage Advice for Heritage Management Framework—Client: Property and Development NSW

Heritage advice and assessments

- Macquarie Street East Precinct, Heritage Advice and Heritage Assessment—Client: Property and Development NSW
- State Library of NSW Public Domain Project, Heritage Advice, Assessment and Statement of Heritage Impact—Client: Property and Development NSW
- Glebe Island Silos, Heritage Assessment, Statement of Heritage Impact, State Heritage Register Nomination, Section 170 Consolidated Listing—Client: Port Authority of NSW
- Chase Terrace, Bourke Street, Waterloo, Heritage Assessment—Client: Warren and Mahoney for City of Sydney Council
- St Ignatius' College, Riverview, Heritage Management Advice—Client: St Ignatius' College, Riverview
- Bayview Wharf, Statement of Heritage Impact—Client: Northern Beaches Council
- Newington Armory, Heritage Advice, Impact Assessment and Staff Inductions—Client: ESA Productions 9 Pty Ltd

- Newington Armory, Heritage Advice, Impact Assessment and Staff Inductions—Client: 10PP2 SPV Pty Ltd
- Scenic World, Katoomba, Heritage Impact Assessment—Client: Water Technology
- The Domain Sydney, Soundstage, Heritage Advice—Client: Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust
- Old Parliament House, Roof Repairs, Heritage Advice—Client: TSA Management and Museum of Australian Democracy
- Camperdown Structure Plan, Residential and Commercial, Heritage Advice and Assessment—Client: Inner West Council
- George Street, Parramatta, Roof Repairs, Heritage Advice—Client: Gamuda Australia and Laing O'Rourke Consortium

Regulatory roles

- Heritage Specialist, City of Sydney Council
- Major Projects Team Leader, Heritage NSW
- Heritage Specialist, Transport for NSW
- Heritage Specialist, Sydney Trains

Heritage asset management

- Heritage Lead, Technical Standards, Transport for NSW
- Heritage Panel Chair, Country Rail Network, Heavy Rail Operations and Maintenance Tender
- Sydney Harbour Bridge Cycleway, Technical Assurance Review

Professional background

Senior Associate, GML Heritage, 2023–present

Heritage Specialist, City of Sydney Council, September 2022–December 2022

Heritage Specialist, Transport for NSW, 2013–2021

Acting Senior Advisor, Buildings and Interchanges, Transport for NSW, February 2021–May 2021

Acting Senior Team Leader, Heritage NSW, 2019

Acting Principal Architect, Transport for NSW, 2017–2019

Acting Heritage Specialist, Sydney Trains, May 2014–July 2014

Urban Designer and Planner, Caldis Cook Group, 2009–2011

Urban Designer, Ku-ring-gai Council, 2006–2008

Publications

Starr, A 2024, 'Enemies buried together: The remains of war at Cowra' in Boyle, E, and Ivings, E (eds), *Contesting Memorial Spaces of Japan's Empire*, Bloomsbury

Mitchell, D and Starr, A 2024, 'Something Happened in Cowra: Comprehending the Heritage of War Commemoration Sites and Ceremonies through Stanley Cavell's "Politics of Acknowledgment"' in Bozoğlu, G, Campbell, G, Smith, L and Whitehead, C (eds), *The Routledge International Handbook of Heritage and Politics*, Routledge

Starr, A 2022, 'Forever alongside: War cemeteries as sites of enemy reconciliation', in Aukema, J, Milne, D, Murphy, M, and Nishono, R (eds), *The Asia Pacific Journal: Japan Focus, Special Issue: Re-examining Asia-Pacific War Memories: Grief, Narratives and Memorials*

Starr, A 2014, 'Traces of memory: Australian Japanese reconciliation in a post-war Cowra landscape', *Historic Environment, Special Issue: Conflict and Compassion*, Volume 28, No. 3, 2016

Selected conference papers

Starr, A 2024, 'Giving comfort to our comrade's souls: Prisoner of War pilgrimage', Sacred Journeys 11 conference, Kyoto

Starr, A 2021, 'Roundtable: Prisoners of War, Nation-Making and National Ideals', Enemy Encounters conference, Imperial War Museum's Institute for the Public Understanding of War and Conflict and Cardiff University

Starr, A 2021, 'The Remains of War: Building Postwar Relationships When Enemies Are Buried Together', Memory Studies Association conference, Warsaw

Starr, A 2021, 'Places of reconciliation: negotiating transnational and transcultural memory in military mortuary spaces', Memories in Transit: Transnational Memory and identity across modern regimes of displacement and dispersion conference, The Centre for the Study of Global Human Movement, University of Cambridge

Starr, A 2020, 'The remains of war: building postwar relationships when enemies are buried together', Contesting Memorial Spaces in the Asia-Pacific conference, Kyushu University

Starr, A 2019, 'In the air, on the land, in the sea: using digital methods to interpret difficult heritage', Heritage of the Air (Australia ICOMOS) conference, Australian National University

Starr, A 2018, 'Never coming home: mourning and commemoration of war dead on enemy territory', Death and Culture II conference, University of York

Starr, A 2018, 'On enemy territory: the spatial politics of mourning and commemoration in Asia Pacific War cemeteries', The City Re-shaped: exploring the nexus between politics, memory and urbanism in the built environment conference, University of Leeds

Starr, A 2018, 'The enemy in our backyard: managing the human remains of war in an Australian cemetery, conference paper', New ideas on old wars: The Archaeology of War public conference, National Maritime Museum