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8 April 2003

Mr Patrick Keane
Director
Divestment Unit
Property Management Branch
Department of Finance and Administration
GPO Box 1920
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Keane

Thank you for your letter of 18 March 2003 requesting comment on a draft Report on the heritage significance of the Water Police Headquarters, Yarralumla, ACT.

The Commission understands that the Department of Finance and Administration propose to dispose of the property during the 2002-2003 financial year. The Commission commends the Department of Finance and Administration for undertaking a heritage assessment of this place prior to disposal.

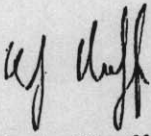
In examining the assessment, the Commission noted that there is limited information about the Water Police Headquarters and very limited information included on the design history of the residence. This lack of information limits the Commission's ability to assess the heritage values and it would request any supplementary detail that may be available.

The Commission also notes that the assessment has been prepared against the ACT Heritage Places Register criteria (refer to pages 10-11). The Commission suggests that the assessment should have concurrently compared the place against Australian Heritage Commission criteria for entry in the Register of the National Estate.

The Commission recommends that further research is necessary to provide more specific information about the significance or otherwise of the residence and the Water Police Headquarters.

Please do not hesitate to contact Grahame Crocket on the above telephone number if you require further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Keefe', written in a cursive style.

Kevin Keefe
Deputy Executive Director