

SUBMISSION7.....

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Committee Secretariat
Federal Parliament External Territories' Committee
CANBERRA

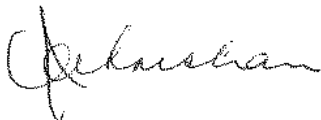
Dear Sir

Review of the Annual Reports of the Department of Transport and Regional
Services 2001-2002 and
Department of Environment and Heritage 2000-2001

Please find attached our submission to be included in the 'inquiry evidence' at
the proposed review.

We thank you for this opportunity.

Yours faithfully



G E ANDERSON and JAN CHRISTIAN



HERITAGE PROTECTION

The whole of Norfolk Island operated as a penal colony between 1788-1814 and again between 1825 and 1855. The township of Kingston was the administrative centre, serving the rest of the colony.

The Second Settlement of Norfolk Island (1825-1855) was of an entirely different character to the First Settlement. The Island was run as a penitentiary for double convicted British felons and together with the Tasman Peninsular (Port Arthur) it was the permanent site for convicts in Australia during the nineteenth century. Free settlers were not encouraged on the Island but small farms were established, by the military and privileged convicts, all over the Island. During the 1830s-40s large gaols were built at Kingston and Longridge, together with the buildings necessary for storing crops and other goods. A number of agricultural establishments including the settlement at Longridge were set up to cultivate stock and food. The penal colony was intended to be largely self-sufficient.

Norfolk Island has some of the finest examples of early Australian Settlement structures in Australia. Cottages still survive from the 1st Settlement Period 1788 to 1814.

Norfolk Island has some of the finest examples of World and National Heritage structures in Australia.

Most of the 2nd Settlement buildings are at the 'Longridge Agricultural Settlement Outstation', the Cascade Outstation and most importantly in the Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (KAVHA). All three sites are listed on the Register of the National Estate.

In KAVHA the Kingston Pier is convict built. Completed in 1847, it is the best example of early engineering work in Australia.

The Commissariat Store built in 1835 is the finest remaining colonial (pre 1850) Military Commissariat Store in Australia. It is one of the best examples of Georgian style architecture to survive in Australia.

New Military Barracks, built 1835-1837, is one of the finest Military Barrack Buildings built in Australia, comparable with Victoria Barracks in Sydney Australia. The Barrack complex contains the Officers Mess, Officers Kitchens, guardhouse and Magazine.

Government House was the residence of the Commandants of Norfolk Island during the 2nd Settlement. These included Morisset, Anderson, Maconochie, Childs and Price. Constructed in 1828 it remains one of the earliest and most intact remaining Government Houses in Australia. It contains Stables, Barn, Powder Magazine, Granary, FlagStaff, PigPens and Milking Sheds.

These structures are located in Quality Row the most extensive street of surviving pre 1850 Penal Settlement buildings in Australia.

(NB - Quotes from Clive Lucas, Stapleton and Partners, Architects Sydney 1988)

These are only a small number of the Heritage buildings, bridges, engineering works and archaeological sites in KAVHA.

The only remains of early Polynesian Settlement sites in Australia are also found within KAVHA.

KAVHA deserves more historical recognition. A World Heritage nomination for 'convict transportation' was lost to a referendum that asked the question 'do you wish the KAVHA of Norfolk Island to be nominated for World Heritage Listing', on 4 May 1998.

KAVHA is well managed under a joint management and funding agreement between the Commonwealth and Norfolk Island Governments established by a memorandum of Understanding in 1989. The Management Board's work is guided by the MOU, The Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area Conservation Management Plan and the KAVHA Business Plan. The MOU records the intention of the governments to establish the board by local statute drafted in consultation with the Commonwealth. There is some doubt to being a statutory body and its revenue raising ability. The Management Board needs to contain a strong Commonwealth membership.

The Commonwealth Grants Commission Report 1997, report on page 176, 'in 1995-1996 the Commonwealth's contribution to KAVHA was \$392,000, this seems to be one of the keys to whether or not the Norfolk Island Government could take over this function. Unless these grants continue or the Norfolk Island Government used more of its revenue raising capacity, it would not be able to continue to provide the current level of service. We do not see a level of lower service as appropriate'.


The area has national, as well as local importance and the Commonwealth needs to continue to be involved. The KAVHA Management Board's responsibility does not extend outside of the KAVHA boundary.

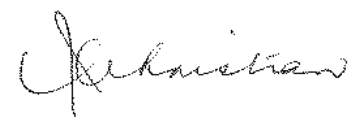
There are more important heritage sites and structures remaining outside KAVHA. There is no local management authority on the Island to manage these sites and structures. The Norfolk Island Government is legislating its own Heritage Act but does not have the financial ability to preserve these sites and structures. It should be pointed out here that the heritage sites and structures are Australian National Heritage areas and should be funded by the Commonwealth.

There are limited funding options available through The National Estate Grant Commission, but Norfolk Island has only been successful in gaining one grant of \$20,000, over a four-year period, for stabilisation work at the Longridge Agricultural Outstation. There are currently two application before The National Estates Grant Commission. Longridge and Cascade Agricultural Outstation sites are listed on the Register of the National Estate. These two

sites contain numerous ruins and structures from the Second Settlement period of 1825-1855. Structures include Military Barracks, Stable, CookHouses, Bake Houses, Police Lock-up and Cells, Chimney Bases along with other ruins and walls. They are urgent need of conservation because of their world and national interest, consideration should be given to conservation funding and management protection of these sites.

One option would be to extend the authority of the KAVHA Management Board to include all other National Estate sites on the island.


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