



Rebecca Hawcroft

Head of Heritage Places

Rebecca Hawcroft is a heritage practitioner, with over twenty years experience, providing high-level, strategic heritage planning and advice.

Rebecca specialises in heritage assessments, management and interpretation. She has expertise working with multidisciplinary teams in local and state government heritage policy and planning work, providing research, planning and implementation on a wide range of conservation projects.

Rebecca has published widely on heritage and architectural history. She has a deep interest in modernism and is the president of DoCoMoMo Australia. In 2017 Rebecca curated the National Trust award winning exhibition 'The Moderns: Sydney's European Design Legacy' for Museums of History NSW and edited the book *The Other Moderns*. She is also co-host of *Two Point Perspective*, a podcast on architecture produced by Museums of History NSW.

In 2020 and 2021 Rebecca was a sessional academic for Design, History and Theory at the University of New South Wales and is a former deputy editor of *Historic Environment*, the academic journal of Australia ICOMOS.

Qualifications

Master of Heritage Conservation, Faculty of Architecture, University of Sydney

Graduate Certificate, Museum Education and Heritage Interpretation, Australian National University

Bachelor of Arts (Hons), University of Sydney

Summer School Short Course, Conservation of Traditional Buildings, University of Canberra

Key experience

Conservation projects

- Redfern Neighbourhood Parks—Client: City of Sydney Council
- Circular Quay Redevelopment—Client: Transport for NSW
- Sydney Observatory, Conservation Management Plan Update—Client: Powerhouse
- Western Rivers Precinct Connections—Client: Parramatta City Council
- REVY Building Adaptive Reuse, Pyrmont—Client: Google

Heritage assessments

- Modern Residential Flat Buildings, Targeted Heritage Study—Client: City of Sydney Council
- Northern Beaches Modern Architecture, Heritage Study—Client: Northern Beaches Council
- Woollahra Modern Buildings, Priority Study—Client: Woollahra Council
- Woollahra Council Interwar Buildings, Thematic Study—Client: Woollahra Council
- Glebe Island Silos, Heritage Assessment—Client: Ports Authority NSW
- 83 Fitzwilliam Road, Vaucluse, Heritage Assessment and Expert Witness—Client: Woollahra Municipal Council
- 62 Cliff Road, Northwood, Heritage Assessment and Expert Witness—Client: Lane Cove Council
- 1 Alisa Close, East Lindfield, Heritage Assessment—Client: Ku-ring-gai Council
- 62 Cliff Road, Northwood, Peer Review—Client: Lane Cove Council
- 3 Trelawney Street, Woollahra, Heritage Significance Assessment—Client: Woollahra Municipal Council

Interpretation plans/strategies

- Braidwood and its Setting, Heritage Interpretation Plan—Client: Braidwood and Villages Business Chamber
- Signal Box Oral History Project—Client: Transport for NSW (with Art of Multimedia)
- Newington Armory Wharf, Heritage Interpretation Planning—Client: Sydney Olympic Park Authority
- 7 Macquarie Street, Parramatta, Heritage Interpretation Planning—Client: Point Capital
- Barangaroo Harbour Control Tower, Heritage Interpretation Planning—Client: Infrastructure NSW

- Peter Hall Recognition Project, Interpretive Planning and Stakeholder Consultation—Client: Sydney Opera House Trust (with Trigger Design)
- National Parks and Wildlife Service, Development of Internal Guidelines with National Parks and Wildlife Service Stakeholders—Client: National Parks and Wildlife Service NSW (with Trigger Design)
- Parramatta Aquatic and Leisure Centre, Interpretation Strategy, Stakeholder Consultation and Content Development—Client: City of Parramatta Council (with Trigger Design)
- Tomaree Coastal Walk, Interpretation Strategy and Stakeholder Consultation—Client: National Parks and Wildlife Service NSW (with Trigger Design)
- Minnamurra Rainforest, Interpretation Strategy—Client: National Parks and Wildlife Service NSW (with Trigger Design)
- 'Escalation Sensation', Interpretation Services—Client: Sydney Trains (with Art of Multimedia)
- 'Running on Time', Interpretation Services—Client: Sydney Trains (with Art of Multimedia)

Publication projects

- Byera Hadley Archive, Website Project—Client: NSW Architects Registration Board
- Case Studies, Better Placed Heritage Publication—Client: Government Architects NSW

Professional background

Head of Heritage Places, GML Heritage, July 2023–present

Senior Policy Officer, Heritage NSW, Department of Planning and Environment, 2022

Interpretation and Strategy Coordinator, City of Parramatta Council, 2021–2022

Heritage Consultant, Freelance, 2014–2022

Guest Curator, Sydney Living Museums, 2016–2017

Assessment Officer, Office of Environment and Heritage NSW, 2015–2016

Associate and Team Leader, GML Heritage, 2003–2013

Presentations

'Modernism in Woollahra', Paddington Library, Heritage Week, 2025
'Émigré Architects in Australia', keynote Displaced Lives conference, RIBA London, July 2024

'Connecting Digitised Archives with Places', Everyday Heritage Symposium, November 2022

'Women in the Architectural Archive', Tin Sheds Gallery, University of Sydney, March 2022

Sydney Open Panel Talk, 'Modern Sydney', Sydney Living Museums, November 2020

'Location is not Place: Questions of Connectivity in the Mapping of Digitised Collections', Digital Humanities Australasia, Adelaide, September 2018

'Beyond the Building: Creating and Supporting Communities based on Place', M&W 2015, Museums and the Web Conference, Chicago, April 2015

'In the Hands of the People: The Capture and Sharing of Intangible Values via Digital Media', ICOMOS Australia, Symposium: Grasping the Intangible at Heritage Places, Melbourne, Australia, October 2014

'Migrant Architects Practising Modern Architecture in Sydney, 1930–1960', ICOMOS International, (Un) Loved Modern Conference, Sydney Australia, July 2009

Publications

Two Point Perspective, co-host of Architecture Podcast for Sydney Living Museums, 2020–present

'Home and Away: The Bauhaus in Australia', *Frieze Masters*, Issue 8, September 2019

Chapter contributor, *Australia Modern*, eds Lewi, H and Goad, P, Thames and Hudson, 2019

The Other Moderns: Sydney's Forgotten European Design Legacy, NewSouth Press, 2017

'Returning to Place: Digital Collections and Community-based Archives', in *Historic Environment*, Australia ICOMOS, Volume 28, No 2, pp 98–111, 2016

'Binishells in NSW Schools', in *Architecture Bulletin*, Autumn 2015

'Beyond the Building: Creating and Supporting Communities based on place', in *Museums and the Web, Conference Proceedings*, 2015

'Migration and Modernity: Modernism and the European Émigré Community', in *Historic Environment*, Australia ICOMOS, Volume 25, No 2, pp 38–47, 2013

Entries on 'Hugo Stossel', 'Jean Fombertaux' and 'Binishell System', *Encyclopedia of Australian Architecture*, eds Goad and Willis, Cambridge University Press, 2011

'Modernist Houses: Going, going, gone', *Architecture Bulletin*, May/June 2010

Awards

National Trust Award, 'The Moderns: Sydney's European Design Legacy', Exhibition, Interpretation and Education

National Trust Award, 'Running on Time: Clocks and Timekeeping in the NSW Railways', Tourism and Multimedia

Australian Postgraduate Award Recipient, 'Place and Digitised Collections', University of Canberra

Deans Honours List, Master of Heritage Conservation, Faculty of Architecture, University of Sydney

Professional affiliations

President, DoCoMoMo Australia, July 2023–present

Member, National Trust NSW Building Committee

Australia ICOMOS member