EDITORIAL

This issue of Historic Environment features a selection of papers prepared for the Railway Heritage Conference, which was held at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney, on October 11-13, 1991. The conference included two days of prepared talks and open discussion and a train journey to the Blue mountains, stopping at various historic stations as well as a trip on the Zig-Zag Steam Railway. There was also a dinner at the Old Mortuary Station where the State Carriages (i.e. those built at the turn of the century for the Governor General, State Governor and Premier), were available for delegates to view.

The aim of the conference was to identify and discuss the issues facing Australia's railway heritage, particularly those arising from the modification and upgrading of our railway systems. In order to meet this ambitious goal, the programme was arranged so that the first day was dedicated to identifying the nature and extent of Australia's railway heritage. This was followed by discussion on the philosophy and practical aspects of how to best identify, assess and manage this heritage resource. Speakers represented a cross-section of disciplines and interests involved with railway heritage. They included those from both Private and Government railways, Museum and tourist organisations as well as those experienced in conservation, heritage assessment, management and traditional railway technology and history. The speakers travelled from most states, Paul Mahoney crossed over from New Zealand and the keynote speaker, Leslie Soane hailed from England where he is a director of the British Railway Heritage Trust.

The final discussion focussed on the merits and mechanics of establishing either a national or state heritage trusts of our own and the delegates voted to investigate this further at a follow up workshop.

The papers published here were all presented at the conference except one, "The S.M's Pride and Joy", written by Chris Betteridge. While less than half the papers are reproduced in this publication, everyone attending the conference was given a full set and surplus copies may still be available from the Manager, Heritage, State Rail Authority, Sydney.

The conference was well attended and proved to be a very stimulating three days. There is clearly a great deal of knowledge about and enthusiasm for, our railway heritage, coupled with a concern for its long term survival and management.

Meredith Hutton
Conference co-ordinator
AUSTRALIA ICOMOS Inc. RAILWAY HERITAGE CONFERENCE
October 11-13, 1992
Program

9.00am - 9.10am. Opening - Hon. Ross Free, Federal Minister for Science and Technology
9.15am - 10.45am. Strategic Plans for Australia’s Railways
Chairperson - Joan Domicelj
9.15am - 9.45am. Ross Sayers, Chief Executive and Chairman, State Rail Authority NSW.
9.45am - 10.15am. David Watson, Manager Protective Services
Ian Cordwell, Executive Assistant, Heritage, (V/Line Victoria)
10.15am - 10.45am Dr. Fred Affleck, General Manager Corporate Affairs, Australian National Railways
Commission, South Australia
10.45am. - 11.15am. Morning Tea
11.15am - 1.00pm. Railway History and Development
11.15am - 12noon Keynote Railway Address: Railway Heritage in Britain - Leslie Soane, Board Member and
Executive Director British Railway Heritage Trust.
12.00 - 12.30pm. Historical Development of Australian Railways - Barrie Oyster, Senior lecturer, University of NSW
12.30pm. - 1.00pm. Railways, An Archaeological Perspective - Ian Jack, Professor of History, University of Sydney.

1.00pm. - 2.00pm. Lunch
2.00pm. - 3.15pm. Traditional Technology - Government Railways Chairperson, Chris Pratten
2.00pm. - 2.25pm Railway stations - Paul Davies, Architect, Heritage Consultant.
2.25pm. - 2.50pm. Railway workshops - Carl Doring Consultant Mechanical Engineer,Industrial Archaeologist
2.50pm. - 3.15pm. Rolling Stock and Safeworking Systems - Ian Brady, Railway Historian.
3.15pm. - 3.40pm. Afternoon Tea
3.40pm. - 5.00pm. Traditional Technology - Museum and Tourist Railways
3.40pm. - 4.05pm. Puffing Billy Victoria - Phil A’Vard, Manager ??
4.05pm. - 4.30pm. Australian Railway Historical Society Qld. - Allen Callaghan, Journalist
4.30pm. - 5.00pm. Andrew Killingsworth - President NSW Rail Transport Museum.
5.45pm. - 7.45pm. ICOMOS Annual General Meeting Lyndhurst, 61 Dargham Street, Glebe

Saturday 12th October 1991
9.00am - 10.30am Managing Railway Heritage, Chairperson, Sheridan Burke
9.00am - 9.30am. The procedure of compiling a heritage inventory for the S.R.A. N.S.W. - Meredith Walker, Heritage
Planning Consultant
9.30am. - 10.00am. Management of South Australia’s Railway Heritage - Peter Donovan,
Historic Preservation Consultant
10.00am. - 10.30am. Commercial Heritage Train Operation - Professor John Galstonbury, Dean Engineering
University of Sydney
10.30am. - 11.00am. Morning Tea
11.00am. - 12.00am. Conservation Philosophy and Policy
11.00am. - 11.30am. In-situ Conservation - Don Godden, Senior Lecturer, University of N.S.W.
11.30am. - 12.00am. The Museum Approach to Conservation - Andrew Grant, Curator of Engineering and Roger Parris,
Conservator, Powerhouse Museum
12.00pm. - 12.30pm. A case study; the Water Board Heritage Policy - Lorraine Cairns, Manager, Environment, Water Board.
\12.30pm. - 1.30pm. Lunch
1.30pm. - 3.00pm. Management Strategies In Operation Chairperson - Don Ellesmore
1.30pm. - 2.15pm. Conservation in NZ. - Paul Mahoney, Senior Conservation Officer,
Department of Conservation, Wellington.
2.15pm. - 3.00pm. Conservation and the work of the State Rail Authority, Property Group - Bevis Kennett,
Group General Manager, Property, SRA.
3.00pm. - 3.30pm. Afternoon Tea
3.30pm. - 5.00pm. Railway Heritage Trusts
3.30pm. - 4.15pm. The British Railway Heritage Trust - Leslie Soane
4.15pm. - 5.00pm. Discussion. Discussant Tony Prescott
7.00pm. Conference Dinner at the Old Mortuary Station, Regent Street, Chippendale.

Sunday 13th October 1991
Rail trip to the Zig-Zag Railway, Lithgow Commentary by Tony Prescott. Depart Central 8.31am. Arrive Central 7.30pm.

Historic Environment Vol. 10. No. 1