EDITORIAL

This edition of HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT is devoted to papers submitted by Australia's post-graduate students — a first for Australia ICOMOS.

This initiative was considered to be worthwhile for a number of reasons — it allows these students a chance to publish their work; it increases awareness of ICOMOS amongst students and the benefits offered by association with the organisation and, perhaps most importantly, it helps ICOMOS members remain informed of the latest ideas, methods and philosophies taught in Australia's universities.

Most of the major academic institutions in Australia were contacted and invited to submit the better papers that students had written relating to heritage issues. A range of disciplines were contacted, including historians, architects, archeologists, engineers, planners and landscape architects. Everyone contacted expressed support for the initiative, promising to inform their students, as well as including suitable assessment tasks in their 1994 syllabus.

Your Editorial Committee felt some regret at the lack of response from some institutions. Institutions who, in the past, had been noteworthy as leaders in the field of heritage education in Australia, were unable to nominate a single student who had undertaken any studies in heritage for a number of years.

We welcome your comments, in writing, of this issue as we hope to make the publication of an edition devoted to student essays an annual event.

Mary Sheehan