

Richard Mackay, AM

Curriculum Vitae



Richard Mackay is the founder and ‘Director of Possibilities’ at Mackay Strategic, a Member of the NSW Independent Planning Commission and Adjunct Professor at Deakin University. Richard has worked in heritage management for more than 30 years. He was a founding Partner of GML Heritage Pty Ltd, a leading Australian heritage consulting practice.

Richard has been an ICOMOS cultural advisor at recent Sessions of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, is the Convenor of the ICOMOS global General Assembly to be hosted in Sydney in 2023 and has served on the National Executive Committee of Australia ICOMOS. He is a former Chair of the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee and the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area Advisory Committee. He was responsible for the ‘Heritage’ theme of the 2016 and 2011 Commonwealth State of the Environment reports. Richard has served as a member of Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter Working Party, a Non-executive Director of the NSW National Trust, a Member of the Heritage Council of NSW and as the inaugural Chair of the NSW State Heritage Register Committee.

Richard has extensive skills in facilitation and strategic direction of heritage projects and place management throughout Australia and in Asia. He has worked successfully for government and non-government agencies and corporations, devising innovative but practical solutions to complex cultural heritage challenges at places ranging from Angkor, Cambodia to Sydney’s Luna Park. He has pioneered public archaeology and community participation programs, fostered cultural tourism and sustainable livelihoods, advised senior levels of government, provided expert testimony in multiple jurisdictions and published widely on archaeology, conservation and heritage management.

Richard was the inaugural winner of the Australian Heritage Council ‘Sharon Sullivan Award’ for his contribution to Australia’s national heritage. In 2003 he was made a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia for services to archaeology and cultural heritage.

Career

Director of Possibilities, Mackay Strategic Pty Ltd 2015–

Commissioner, NSW Independent Planning Commission 2017–

Partner, GML Heritage, (and its predecessors Godden Mackay Logan, Godden Mackay and Don Godden & Associates), 1989–2015; Managing Partner /Director 1990–2008.

Research Scholar, Getty Conservation Institute, 2008–2009.

National Trust of Australia (NSW) Research Officer, Archaeologist, 1982–1988.

Awards

Australian Heritage Council, Sharon Sullivan Award for Contribution to Australia’s National Heritage, 2013.

Member of the Order of Australia, 2003.

National Trust of Australia (NSW) Voluntary Service Medallion, 1997.

Institute of Management Consultants Australia Medal, 1989.

Professional Affiliations

Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites).

Associate, Australian Committee of the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists.

Australian Archaeological Association.

Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology.

Royal Australian Historical Society.

National Trust of Australia (NSW).

Honorary Positions

Adjunct Professor Deakin University 2021–

Australia ICOMOS National Executive Committee 2016–20.

Convenor 2023 ICOMOS General Assembly 2016–

Adjunct Professor La Trobe University 1998–2019.

Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee, 2009–14, Chair 2011–14.

Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area Advisory Committee 2006–2011, Chair 2011–15.

Port Arthur Conservation Advisory Committee 2015–

State of the Environment 2016—Heritage Theme Author, State of the Environment 2011 Committee—Heritage Chapter Author.

Heritage Council of New South Wales 1999–2001, Alternate 1996–1998.

National Trust of Australia (NSW), Non-Executive Director, 1991–1996.

Archaeological Advisory Panel of NSW Heritage Council, Chair 1989–1993, 1997–2000.

State Heritage Register Committee of NSW Heritage Council, Chair 1997–2001.

Cemeteries Committee, National Trust of Australia (NSW), Chair 1988–1994.

Jenolan Caves Reserve Trust 1992–2004; Deputy Chair 1996–2000; Chair 2001–2004.

Crown Reserves Advisory Committee 1994–1997.

Gore Hill Memorial Cemetery Trust, 1987–1997 Chair 1992–1997.

Rookwood Necropolis Trust 1988–1993.

National Vice President, Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists 1987–1988.

Experience – Examples

Specialist Heritage Advice

State of Conservation—Cultural Heritage Advisor to the 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd and 43rd Sessions of the World Heritage Committee—International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS).

Australian State of the Environment Reports 2011 and 2016—Heritage Theme and Co-author Overview.

Victorian Heritage Strategy Feasibility Study—Heritage Council of Victoria.

World Heritage

Bagan Myanmar Hotel Strategy—Department of Archaeology and National Museum, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar Hoteliers Association.

Kokoda and Owen Stanley Ranges World Heritage Roadmap—Papua New Guinea Department of Environment and Conservation.

Angkor World Heritage Area, Cambodia, Heritage Management Framework—GML Heritage for UNESCO and the APSARA National Authority, Royal Government of Cambodia.

Sambor Prei Kuk Cambodia Evaluation Mission—International Council on Monuments and Sites.

Heritage Management Planning

Ha Long Bay Management Effectiveness Review— Ha Long Bay Management Department, Vietnam.

The Rocks Heritage Management Plan—GML Heritage for Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority.

Port Arthur Historic Site, Statutory Plan of Management—GML Heritage for PAHSMA.

Moore Park Showground, Conservation Strategy—GML Heritage for Fox Studios, Australia.

Archaeology

Cumberland Street, The Rocks, Archaeological Investigation—GML Heritage for Sydney Cove Authority.

Casselden Place, Melbourne, Archaeological Excavation—GML Heritage for Industry Super Property Trust.

Parramatta Historical Archaeological Landscape Management Study—GML Heritage for NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick, Destitute Children’s Asylum Cemetery—GML Heritage for South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service.

Tourism

Ha Long Bay Management Effectiveness Review— Ha Long Bay Management Department, Vietnam.

Angkor World Heritage Area, Cambodia, Tourism Management Plan—GML Heritage for UNESCO and the APSARA National Authority, Royal Government of Cambodia.

Heritage Impact Assessment

Cascades Female Factory Visitor Interpretation Centre, Heritage Impact Assessment, Statutory Plan of Management—Port Arthur Historic Sites Management Authority.

World Heritage Impact Assessment Guidance Project, ICOMOS Focal Point—ICOMOS Secretariat under the World Heritage Leadership Programme.

Defence Sites

Defence Heritage Strategy, Peer Review—GML Heritage for Department of Defence.

Maribyrnong Defence Site, Principal Heritage Advisor, Integrated Heritage Assessment, Heritage Management Plan, EPBC Referral and Expert Advice—GML Heritage for Australian Department of Defence.

Hammerhead Crane, Garden Island, Expert Advice, EPBC Referral, Public Consultation—GML Heritage for Department of Defence, Australian Government.

Industrial Sites

Mt Lyell Mine, Tasmanian Heritage Assessment—GML Heritage for The Tasmanian Government.

Broken Hill, Mining Leases Conservation Management Plan—GML Heritage for Perilya Limited.

Kandos Cement Works and Mining Leases, Heritage Advice—GML Heritage for Cement Australia Ltd.

Brooketon Colliery Heritage Assessment, Brunei—GML Heritage for the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam.

Cemeteries

Old Melbourne Cemetery, Expert Advice—GML Heritage for Melbourne City Council.

Queensland Historical Burial Grounds Survey—GML Heritage for Queensland Department of Environment.

Hawkesbury Shire Cemeteries Study—GML Heritage for Hawkesbury City Council.

Expert Witness

Millers Point, Kovacs v City of Sydney, NSW Land and Environment Court—for King & Wood Mallesons.

The Esplanade Hotel, St Kilda, Victorian Civil Appeals Tribunal—GML Heritage for Minter Ellison Lawyers.

St Patricks Church, Braddon, ACT Civil and Administrative Appeals Tribunal—GML Heritage for Roman Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

Publications

See: <https://www.mackaystrategic.com.au/resources/>

Lectures, Presentations and Papers

See: <https://www.mackaystrategic.com.au/richard-mackay-lectures-and-papers/>