

MARRICKVILLE

HERITAGE SOCIETY

Covering Dulwich Hill, Enmore, Lewisham,
Sydenham, Tempe and parts of Newtown,

Marrickville, Petersham, St Peters, Stanmore,
Camperdown and Hurlstone Park.



OUR NEXT MEETING

Rediscovering Your Garden's Heritage

SATURDAY AUGUST 24, 10.30AM
AMENITIES ROOM, PETERSHAM TOWN HALL

Garden restoration is now recognised as an essential element in any period home restoration. Rediscovering the design, layout, and most likely plantings in an old garden is as important as painting your house in heritage colors. At our next meeting, architect Lester Tropman will discuss at 19th and early 20th century gardens, their characteristics and changing styles from the grand picturesque to the suburban garden. Lester specialises in the restoration of old gardens and he was a member of the team who prepared the Marrickville Heritage Study, advising on landscape.

The cottage garden, which is popular once more, is characterised by herbaceous borders and beds of mixed annuals, perennials, bulbs and shrubs and is commonly a collection of plants given by neighbours, accumulated at church fetes or grown from cuttings. We invite members to bring along a selection of cuttings from your favorite old fashioned plants in your garden (wrapped in wet newspaper) to swap at the meeting.

Plea to Save Petersham Inn

In its latest magazine the National Trust has urged that **Petersham Inn**, earmarked for demolition, be saved (see July newsletter). The Trust says, "Marrickville Council has consented to the demolition of the historic **Petersham Inn** complex, an item already included on its Heritage Schedule. Located at 386-414 Parramatta Road, the **Petersham Inn** was designed by Rudder & Grout, the architects of **Petersham Town Hall**.

"The two storey Art Deco hotel building in brick and tiles is remarkably intact internally as well as externally. The Trust cannot support the owners' assertion that it has been significantly harmed by the major alterations carried out since the 1950s. **Petersham Inn** is extremely important in its local and regional context, and must be conserved. The consent to demolish this landmark building will reduce the heritage significance of Marrickville and raise concern about the process of delegating heritage conservation to local government."

What do members think? Has the building been irretrievably altered or does it retain heritage significance?

MARY REIBEY
INTERIORS & GALLERY
INVITES YOU TO THE OPENING

6-8 pm Tues 20 August

FAMILIAR GLIMPSES

an exhibition of works by

SUSAN COWLEY

20 August - 22 September

224 Enmore Road, Enmore
11-4 Wed-Sun (02) 516 4902



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TUESDAY AUGUST 27: Dinner at Parliament House with our local member Andrew Refshauge. Please note that we have had to cancel the previously advertised dinner for Wednesday August 28 and Tuesday evening is fully booked. Enquiries to Geoff on 568 3029.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28: Guided tour of Sydney University. Explore the campus of Australia's oldest and largest university, established in 1850 and designed by Edmund Blacket. The stained glass windows, carved cedar and intricate stonework are considered the finest in Australia. Bookings to Judith on 560 1751.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26: Carol Paterson of the Art Deco Society will give a talk and slide presentation on Art Deco Sydney, which will surprise even Sydneysiders with the range and beauty of our Art Deco buildings. We'll look at some local Art Deco treasures as well.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23: A short tour, to be announced, will precede our annual Christmas picnic with the world's best Santa Claus.

Classifications and Heritage Watch Report

You can help conserve our significant buildings, landmarks, and other features. The Classifications and Heritage Watch Committees aim to prevent the wanton destruction of our public assets by documenting them, and alerting the community to threats from private and public development. Recent notable issues include the gradual "demolition by neglect" of the old **Marrickville Town Hall**, insensitive house additions in the **Abergeldie** estate, and proposed redevelopment of the Art Deco **Petersham Inn**.

If you would like to help, the committee would love to hear from you. Phone David on 550-9379.

OUR LAST MEETING

Rouse Hill House - A Rare Treat

Rouse Hill House is unquestionably one of the most important historic houses in Australia. As an intact example of a substantial house from the Macquarie era it is rare and it was a rare treat for 40 members and friends of the society to view the house and property on July 27. **Rouse Hill House** is described as a "total, unedited, and cumulative archive" or more simply as a "time capsule" of Australian history. The most remarkable feature of **Rouse Hill House** is that it has changed so little, and that those changes which have taken place have not altered its original character.

The house was built by Richard Rouse between 1813 and 1818. It is an elegant, two-storeyed Georgian house built of dressed sandstone. Generations of the Rouse and Terry families have lived at **Rouse Hill House** and evidence of their fluctuating fortunes can be seen throughout the property. Society member Ian Rouse, a descendent of the original family, was able to enlighten us further. From Rouse Hill House we travelled to Windsor to visit the Windsor Historical Society Museum and the beautiful St Matthew's Church. Thanks to Ian for organising the day.



The stables which were built in 1876 were designed by the American architect John Horbury Hunt. Conservation works were completed in 1986 by the Department of Public Works. Photograph: Phillip Green.

Protestant Federation Girls Home

Anne Maher of Hornsby would like to know if members have any information about the **Protestant Federation Girls Home**, especially for the years 1921-1940. She writes:

"I was a resident there for 16 years from 1940 to 1956. It was referred to as the **Protestant Federation Girls Home** as we had no boys. It was founded in 1921. The foundation president was John Ness and the girls were cared for by Matron Maude Laing and Mr Laing. The original home was an old two storey house at 50 Garnet Street, Dulwich Hill.

"A new building was opened in 1947 when Edmund M Perrin was president and memorial gates were dedicated to John Ness. The old school is now occupied by the Siddha Yoga Foundation."

It is with regret that we also report the death of member Ronald Sawkins of Abbotsford who died on May 30. Our condolences to his wife Betty and family.



Maisie Cox, centre, on our annual harbour cruise, one of the many excursions she attended.

OBITUARY

Maisie Cox

Members will be saddened to hear of the death of Maisie Cox, one of our most popular members. Maisie died at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital on July 3. She was 87. Maisie (nee Lowe) grew up at Lower Portland in the Hawkesbury district and moved to Marrickville after she married. She lived in Marrickville for over 50 years at homes in Renwick Street and Holland Avenue. As a young woman Maisie was disabled by polio but she nonetheless led a full and active life. She was a great lover of music, having played church organ as a girl, and she was a talented gardener. She also took a keen interest in heritage issues.

Maisie was a foundation member of the Marrickville Heritage Society and became one of our more active older members. She was a great supporter of the society and was made a life member in 1990. Maisie attended our Annual General Meeting and the opening of the Camperdown Park Rotunda on June 22 only days before her heart attack. Many members of the society attended her funeral service at Rookwood, including her good friend and our oldest member Amy Needham. Anne Carolan spoke on behalf of the society and said it was a tribute to Maisie that she had made so many new friends so late in life.

Maisie's presence at Society meetings was always a delight and she will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by all who knew her. The Society sends its condolences to her family and in lieu of flowers we have made a donation to the Eversleigh Hospital Day Care Centre, which Maisie attended regularly. - Judith Matheson.

How to Subscribe

It's only \$12 for individuals, \$18 for households and institutions and \$6 for students and pensioners. You will receive copies of our newsletter (either posted or delivered to your door) and our journal *Heritage*. Your subscription is valid for the Society year from July 1 each year. The Heritage Society holds regular meetings on the fourth Saturday of every month. Write to P.O. Box 415 Marrickville.