



Royal Australian
Historical Society

Heritage Council
of New South Wales



Office of
Environment
& Heritage

2016 Assessors Report

RAHS Heritage Grants for Historical Research and Local Archives Grant Program

1.1 Assessment Process

The RAHS Heritage grants were assessed by Associate Professor Carol Liston (RAHS President), Dr Christine Wright (RAHS Vice President) and Mr Bruce Baskerville (RAHS Councillor).

The overall grant process was supported by Maryanne Byrne (RAHS Grants). Maryanne prepared the documentation for assessment. Maryanne attended the assessment process and recorded the project ratings; comments made by assessors; amounts allocated to each applicants, and managed any potential conflicts of interest.

Key characteristics of projects that received a high rating from assessors:

- Project had a realistic scope and clearly defined output
- Applicants showed how the relevance of the project in promoting historical and heritage understanding
- There was evidence to show that the applicant had the capacity to complete the project. Samples of this type of evidence included a realistic budget or quotes and project timetable; sample chapters and materials; examples of successful delivery, and letters of support.
- The application was clearly written and well organised.
- The project was very clear in describing its heritage significance and had good benefits and access to the community.

Key characteristics of projects that received a low rating from assessors/were rejected:

- Applicants applied for costs of printing a publication or for capital expenditure items: these are not eligible for a grant
- Inadequate supporting documentation e.g. no vendor quotes, no budget, no sample chapters, no CV's or supporting letters.
- Applicants did not describe the historical or heritage significance of their project
- No explanation on how the project would benefit the community, or how it would be accessible to the public.
- Project was not sufficiently developed to warrant grant funding at the initial stage.
- Costs covered publicity or marketing activities and not heritage outcomes.

Other observations by assessors and RAHS Staff:

- Do not leave submitting applications to the last minute. Allow enough time to proof read application, check budget figures reconcile and that all required documentation is attached to application
- Please read the grant criteria and contact RAHS Staff if you are unsure about the eligibility of your project

1.2 Key Statistics

- 25 grant applications, 12 approved funding
- Average grant amount \$2025
- Highest amount granted \$5,000
- Total amount asked for \$91,648

Analysis of project type:

- 2 have a digital component
- 4 projects will result in a publication
- 2 projects involve preservation of a collection
- 4 projects have a photographic/documentary output.

1.3 More information

If you wish to obtain specific feedback on your grant application then please email Maryanne Byrne on grants@rahs.org.au or ring History House on (02) 9247 8001.