

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Judgment Recognises Monumental Failure**

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) today welcomed the Land and Environment Court's judgement on the Ku-ring-gai-Town Centres LEP.

Justice Craig found that the local environmental plan had been made contrary to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and therefore has no legal force or effect.

The court recognised that the Minister had approved a plan that was significantly different to the one that was exhibited and examined by the public.

Essentially, the Judge found the former NSW Government had not sufficiently accounted for the community's values in making the plan.

Mr. Scott Woodcock, Policy and Communications Director for the National Trust said "this is not just a victory for Friends of Turramurra but for all Sydney. Ku-ring-gai's inter-war housing represents some of the finest examples of the period in Australia.

"Regrettably, Sydney's heritage has suffered irreversible damage during the short life of the Town Centres LEP. Entire neighbourhoods of heritage significance have already been destroyed.

"Many of the recently constructed apartment buildings display a fundamental lack of understanding of context and neighbourhood character. These new poorly sited apartments will stand for the next 100 years as monuments to a planning failure.

"Between one third and half of Sydney's architect designed houses from the 1930s to the 1960s were built in Ku-ring-gai. Every Sulman Award winner for domestic architecture between 1940 and 1956 was for a home constructed in Ku-ring-gai.

"Future urban development should preserve Ku-ring-gai's outstanding natural and cultural amenity. The Trust looks forward to working closely with the new NSW Government, Ku-ring-gai Council and the community to prepare a new respectful plan."

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