



THE NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (NSW)

Watson Road, Observatory Hill, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 518, Sydney NSW 2001

Media enquiries: Kim Carter/9258 0133/0407 771 698

M
E
D
I
A

R
E
L
E
A
S
E

For immediate release: 28 March 2006

National Trust pleased at decision to retain Rose Bay balustrade

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) is delighted by Woollahra Council's decision to conserve the historic sea wall which runs along the Rose Bay promenade.

The argument to tear down the balustrade and replace it with a metal railing similar to the one at Circular Quay did not respect its historic landmark significance and, in any event, there were serious doubts as to the survival of any metal construction that would be so exposed to the corrosive effects of salt water, said Trust President Barry O'Keefe.

"Woollahra Council has reaffirmed the integrity of its heritage list and has sent a clear signal that the municipality will respond to public concerns about the protection of important heritage in its area," he said.

"The Trust understands that any construction of this age will need maintenance, but wear and tear should never be put forward as an excuse for the demolition of such vital historic structures," he added.

The sea wall and promenade were placed on the Trust's Register in 2004 in recognition of their historic significance, both at local and state level. The promenade was built in the Interwar Free Classical style with its globe light standards representative of the civic works undertaken in the 1920s. It was one of the first public works projects in NSW to use concrete on such a massive scale for decorative work.

For more information:

Kim Carter/National Trust Media Relations
9258 0131 or 0407 771 698

The National Trust is Australia's oldest conservation organisation. It is not-for-profit and independent, relying on support from its members and the community to assist its work – which includes advocacy for the protection of built, natural and cultural heritage, conservation and education.