NATIONAL STUDY ON INDIGENOUS PLACES

Presentation by Prof Hilary du Cros

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The Whitlam Government (1972-1975) was deeply concerned about Indigenous Affairs and Cultural Heritage. The crucial issue investigated was whether the dismantling of Whitlam initiatives, active up until 2004 - the Australian Heritage Commission and its grants program and the Register of the National Estate - has reduced or enhanced the effectiveness of national policy on Indigenous places. Over the last ten years, there has been an emerging crisis regarding the preservation of Indigenous places. The 2016 national State of the Environment (SOE) report has described these places as under incremental pressure. This project investigated aspects of the last 45 years that have led to this result. A policy consultation paper, in-depth interviews and an online survey have also been completed for this study and all of these will be discussed at this event.

Prof Hilary du Cros

Professor Hilary du Cros is currently an Honorary Research Fellow of the University of New Brunswick, Canada, and an E.G. Whitlam Research Fellow at Western Sydney University. She has taught and worked in the Asia Pacific region over the last 35 years and conducted projects for the United Nations World Tourism Organization and UNESCO including a number in Australia, China (Yunnan, Guangdong and Guizhou) and Hong Kong and Macau (SARs), India, Myanmar, Mongolia, and Singapore. She has an interdisciplinary perspective on cultural heritage management, marketing and sustainable tourism development. Prof du Cros has been an expert member of the ICOMOS Cultural Tourism Committee since 1999. Her latest book is Cultural Tourism (2015) co-authored with Bob McKercher and published by Routledge, which will be going into its third edition in 2020.