

THE BURRA CHARTER – The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance.

Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the *place* itself, its *fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places* and *related objects*. *Fabric* means all the physical material of the *place* including elements, fixtures, contents and objects. *Conservation* means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural significance*. *Compatible use* means a *use* which respects the *cultural significance* of a *place*. **Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.** *Setting* means the immediate and extended environment of a *place* that is part of or contributes to its *cultural significance* and distinctive character.

Places of cultural significance enrich people's lives, often providing a deep and inspirational sense of connection to community and landscape, to the past and to lived experiences. They are historical records, that are important expressions of Australian identity and experience. Places of cultural significance reflect the diversity of our communities, telling us about who we are and the past that has formed us and the Australian landscape. They are irreplaceable and precious.

These places of cultural significance must be conserved for present and future generations in accordance with the principle of inter-generational equity. The Burra Charter advocates a cautious approach to change: do as much as necessary to care for the place and to make it useable, but otherwise change it as little as possible so that its cultural significance is retained.

In 1998 NSW State Premier exhorted local Councils and communities with populations less than 15,000 people to buy their old unprofitable theatre and seek grants from the Ministry of the Arts to get it up and

running as a community volunteer operated venture. Thirteen community's took up this offer

.Mudgee did not.

DA0081/2018 THE BURRA CHARTER.

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The Regent Theatre

Councils Heritage Consultant, Graham Hall advised Council in April 2015 that the entire Theatre clearly is of *Cultural significance*.

Accordingly in his Conclusion he stated:

“ Outright refusal would be justified on heritage grounds”

He went on to say “However in the short to medium term a viable use will need to be found or the building will deteriorate while remaining inaccessible to the public. Ongoing funding should be provided by the Council and/ or government or possibly private sponsors.”

In 2010 & 2011 we (1300 petitioners) requested Council to buy The Regent for the community and appoint a community group to develop a multi function entertainment centre on a break even basis for all our community especially our youth.

Council said No – based on a \$4.7 million EXTRAVAGANDA – we said rubbish – the community businesses and people will rally to progressively develop the theatre – slowly, carefully and involving our youth.

My objection to DA0081/2018 – As the entire theatre is of Significant Cultural Significance, the DA totally breaches LEP 5.10 and Council must refuse the DA.

Council please act NOW – BUY THE REGENT for our community – We are all concerned about the future for our youth

- their future is materially impacted by our actions and inactions.

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