ating a new niche market to attract the class of high-spending tourist the region so desper­ately needs and not simply the low to middle-low income earners that will be attract­ed to yet another bland design built to exacting standards of cost minimisation.

The site is a five star treasure. It needs a five star design possessing a full understanding of the special qualities of its location, an appreciation of the surrounding public reserves and an informed approach based on the kind of research and local knowledge of which the current EIS is totally bereft.

There is no more amusing indication of the EIS and its lack of on-site research than the remark under the exalted heading 'Climatic Characteristics' that "Westerlies are presumably modified by the Illawarra escarpment." (10.7.1)

Joseph Davis

"Demolition of Heritage Items"

The above words were actually those used to accompany a Development Application (D97/243) proposed by Illawarra Institute of Technology for a site on the north western side of Marshall Mount Road three lots south of Avondale Road and published in the WCC notices in the Wollongong Advertiser on Wednesday May 21, 1997, p. 17.

At the time of going to press I still have no idea what the actual items proposed for demolition might be but I think the advertisement itself is a good indication of the seriousness with which our Council takes the management of Heritage in Illawarra. I checked with Michael Organ (the IHS representative on Council's Heritage Committee) and he informed me that no mention had ever been made of the proposal at the Committees meetings.

It's just not good enough and confirms my suspicion (one that has always prevented me from participating in the Heritage Committee's activities) that the sloppily prepared Heritage Inventory is really just a hit list of suitable targets for demolition.

Joseph Davis