

**ARTICLE: "DEMOLITION OF HERITAGE ITEMS" BY JOSEPH DAVIS
ILLAWARRA HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN - 1 JUNE, 1997**

The above article came to my attention via a report by Dr Joe Davis submitted to the Wollongong Heritage Advisory Committee by Michael Organ on 19 June 1997.

I am concerned Dr Davis expresses views, which may be misleading and therefore wish to put forward my own views as the Heritage Officer for Wollongong City Council.

The advertisement for "Demolition of Heritage Items" is yes a good indication of the seriousness with which Wollongong Council takes the management of our Heritage. This advertisement was placed because we received a development application from Yallah TAFE for the demolition of the house at Logbridge Farm. This however, is only an application for the consent to proceed. The advertisement is meant to notify any interested persons that such an application is before Council and give them the opportunity to object or support the proposal. In this case, it was made clear the proposal was for the demolition of a Heritage Item so that anyone with an interest in protecting our heritage could make a submission.

As the Heritage Officer, I received no enquiry from Dr Davis as to the nature of the advertisement for Logbridge Farm. No objections to the proposal have been received.

The application was not referred automatically to the Heritage Committee because it is not within the Terms of Reference of that Committee to look at development applications which affect items of Local Significance, however it was discussed at our meeting in June.

Dr Davis further goes on to exempt himself from any responsibility for the protection of heritage in our city by condemning the Heritage Inventory and ridiculing the hard work and commitment of the Heritage Committee.

I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Heritage Committee for their valuable contribution in advising Wollongong Council on Heritage issues and ask that they not be discouraged by the views put forward by Dr Davis. Without their contribution my job as heritage officer would be even more difficult.

Please publish this letter in the Bulletin.

Yours faithfully

Louise Thom
Heritage Officer