Your Aboriginal Heritage Office

The Aboriginal Heritage Office is a partnership of eight local Councils.

The role of the Aboriginal Heritage Office is to ensure the protection of Aboriginal sites and cultural heritage within the partnering council areas.
About the Aboriginal Heritage Office (AHO)

The partnership of Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Manly, North Sydney, Pittwater, Warringah, Willoughby and City of Ryde Councils in establishing this unique office is at the forefront of protecting Aboriginal heritage. The AHO’s responsibilities are to ensure the protection of the Aboriginal sites and cultural heritage in the eight local government areas. Sites are under threat every day from development, vandalism and natural erosion. The sites cannot be replaced, and once they are destroyed, they are lost forever. The AHO works tirelessly with the Council and community to safeguard this important resource for future generations.

Photos: AHO staff at work and example of Aboriginal sites.

As part of day to day work, Aboriginal sites in your council area are monitored and long term management reports are developed to ensure the conservation and protection of these sites. The sites that are located in the partner Council areas are still in reasonable condition and contain key secrets to our country’s
The Aboriginal Heritage Office has many responsibilities; one main aspect of the role is to give the Aboriginal people and non-Aboriginal people involved with Council an avenue of approach to discuss issues or concerns they may have. An important part of the AHO is to communicate with school groups and teach children an ethos of understanding to appreciate the unique culture of the Aboriginal people.

The Guringai people, who once occupied this area, left important evidence of their past and way of life before colonisation. The sites are of significance to the Aboriginal people because they are evidence of the past Aboriginal occupation of Australia and are valued as a link with their traditional culture. By studying these sites using the science of archaeology we gain insight into the daily life of Aboriginal people in this region. The sites are thus important to all Australians today.

The AHO now has museum and keeping place, that is open to the public on weekdays or by arrangement. For further information please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Aboriginal Heritage Office
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