



## GET THE FACTS - HERITAGE INFORMATION SERIES

### 28. THE DIVERSITY OF HERITAGE

One of the challenges facing heritage conservation practice in Australia is how to deal with the forms of social meaning that different community groups, families and individuals attribute to places and landscapes through their lived experiences, memories and associations. Conventionally, heritage conservation has focused on fabric with less emphasis on the non-material aspects of cultural heritage. There is, however, increasing recognition that intangible values play an important role in how people interact with their

social and cultural environments and the importance of these values impact on the ways in which people respond to conservation needs. The diversity of cultures and place-relationships within Australia is now increasingly recognised. Post-Second World War and recent migrant communities such as those from Italy, Vietnam, Lebanon, Macedonia and Greece have actively created their own heritage within Australia based not only on the translocation of cultural traditions and social practices but also on the processes

of adapting to a new cultural landscape and negotiating cultural spaces within a dominant culture. Conventional heritage practice has tended to privilege places of the dominant cultural groups to the exclusion of places of value to 'marginal' groups eg. migrants, women, and urban indigenous peoples.

Ref; Time, Memory, Place and Land; Social Meaning and Heritage Conservation in Australia by Annie Clarke & Chris Johnston.