



*Image: Winners of the 2019 John Herbert Award
Home: a suburban obsession - State Library Queensland*



Queensland Heritage Awards 2026

GUIDELINES AND ENTRY CRITERIA

*National Trust of Australia (Queensland)
acknowledges Traditional Custodians of
Country throughout Australia and recognises
the continuing connections to lands, waters
and communities.*

*We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander cultures, and to Elders past,
present and emerging.*



National Trust Queensland awards outstanding projects that demonstrate excellence in the protection, conservation and celebration of Queensland's environmental, built and cultural heritage.

The National Trust Queensland Heritage Awards are a prestigious acknowledgment of the quality of heritage work that is carried out across the State. The Awards aim to showcase the entrants, promote best practices, encourage innovation and collaboration, and celebrate the diversity of heritage places in Queensland.



KEY DATES

Award Nominations Open: 9:00 am on Thursday, 15 January 2026

Award Nominations Close: 11:59 pm on Friday, 13 March 2026

Notification of Shortlisted Entries: April 2026

Awards Presentation evening: Wednesday, 20 May 2026

Ticket sales and venue details will be announced soon.



ENTRY CRITERIA

- A member of your project team must be a current National Trust Queensland member. [Join now.](#)
- **For the Criteria of dates: 1 January 2023-31 December 2025** - a single award entry fee applies and must be paid online as part of your entry. This fee allows you to submit up to three (3) separate entries across different award categories.
- **For the Criteria of Significant Projects dates: 2019-2022**, a single award entry fee applies and must be paid online as part of your entry. This fee allows you to submit only one (1) entry.
- Award entries must be submitted online via the Heritage Awards page on the National Trust Queensland website along with all supporting documents, and must be received by **11:59 on Friday, 13 March 2026**.
- All supporting documents (such as photos, reports, and statements) should include the project name in their file names.
- National Trust Queensland accepts no responsibility for the loss or misdirection of entries. Please keep a copy of your nomination and supporting materials for your own records.



ENTRY CRITERIA

- Each entry must be for a Queensland project completed between **1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025 | The Significant Project Category must be between 2019-2022.**
- Entries and supporting documentation will be kept by National Trust Queensland. They may be used for promotional and other purposes at the discretion of National Trust Queensland. By entering these awards, you agree to the use of your entry and images for promotional purposes.
- Entries that receive an award will receive one framed certificate, plus unframed certificates for those companies/individuals listed in the project team identified in the online nomination process.
- All winning entries will receive:
 - A certificate presented at the Awards Presentation evening; and
 - A digital National Trust Queensland award winner seal for use in your electronic communications; and
 - Promotion through the National Trust Queensland website, social media and member newsletters.



NOMINATION FEES

- Please ensure that payment is completed online as part of your entry process. Should you require assistance with online payments, please email: heritageawards@nationaltrustqld.org
- All payments must be received before you submit your entry.
- Only entries that have completed payment by **11:59 pm on Friday, 13 March 2026**, will be judged.
- **Entry fees:**
 - **\$85** Community Groups; Associations; Registered Charities
 - **\$240** Corporations, Businesses, Government
 - **\$50** Significant Projects
- Payment can be made via the Heritage Awards page on the National Trust Queensland website.



AWARD CATEGORIES

- Entries can be made in any of the categories outlined in the following pages.
- Each project can only be entered into once (i.e. you cannot enter the same project in different categories).
- You may enter as many entries as you wish.
- Each entry will be subject to the Terms and Conditions, and one entry fee will cover up to three (3) separate entries, and for Significant Projects, the entry fee will cover one (1) entry only.
- JotForm is being used for entries - should you be entering more than one entry, you will need to complete separate JotForms for each entry.
- Please note there are two (2) different entry forms, one for 2023-2025 entries and one for Significant Project 2019-2022 entries.



THE CATEGORIES

category 1

First Nations

Recognising excellence in the conservation, interpretation, education and/or celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage to promote greater understanding, engagement and appreciation in the community.

category 2

Landscape

For projects that relate to landscape sites of heritage value, involving their management and/or conservation.

This includes natural, designed and urban landscapes, landscapes of archeological value, as well as cultural landscapes; indigenous and/or non-indigenous.

category 3

Heritage

Reports/Resources **Publications**

For any publication or resource that relates to the protection, conservation and/or promotion of a place or places of heritage value located in Queensland.

This may include:

- research papers,
- websites,
- archaeological publications,
- heritage guidelines
- fact sheets,
- heritage studies,
- management plans,
- as well as strategies (in print and/or online formats)



THE CATEGORIES

category 4 **Interpretation/ Exhibition/Tours**

For projects that serve to promote, interpret and/or educate in an engaging way the history and significance of a place of heritage value located in Queensland.

This may include curriculum-based educational projects and resources, interpretative signage, or a special interpretation, exhibition or tour relating to a place or item.

category 5 **Collections Interiors/Objects**

For projects that relate to the conservation of historic collections, interiors and/or objects.

Moveable objects are included in this category.

category 6 **Adaptive Re-Use**

For projects that provide a new use to an existing place of heritage value located in Queensland.

The project must demonstrate excellence in how it complements, utilises and/or re-purposes the existing fabric of heritage value.

The project may also involve new developments which are sympathetic to the original or early uses and fabric of the site.

category 7 **Built Conservation**

For projects that relate to the conservation of our built heritage, including major conservation, restoration and/or repair works for a place entered on a local, State and/or National heritage register, or otherwise recognised for being of heritage value.



THE CATEGORIES

Significant Projects 2019-2022

Significant Projects will be considered only from projects completed between 2019-2022 that are entered under the same seven (7) award categories.

Entries submitted in the Significant Project category that fall within the 2019-2022 eligibility period are not eligible for consideration for the John Herbert Award.

National Trust Queensland acknowledges that the Queensland Heritage Awards have not been held since 2019. However, to ensure consistency, clarity and fairness as the awards program moves forward, eligibility and criteria must be aligned.



THE CATEGORIES

John Herbert Memorial Award for the Most Outstanding Project

This Award is presented to the most outstanding entry across all categories.



JUDGING CRITERIA

- ❖ All entries must be within the spirit of the Awards.
- ❖ The Judges reserve the right to change categories for an entry if they consider the entry better suits a different category.
- ❖ Entries will be judged solely on the information supplied to NTAQ as described in the entry submission form – no additional research, interviews or site inspections will be undertaken.
- ❖ Judges reserve the right not to issue awards in each category if they consider that the entries do not meet the criteria and standards of the awards.



JUDGING CRITERIA



Judges will compare and contrast nominations based on the following:

- How does the project embody the objectives and principles of the Burra Charter?
- How does the project reflect best practice heritage?
- How does the project display innovative approaches or solutions?
- How did the project meet/fulfil a genuine need?
- How do the project outcomes reflect the project cost and aims?
- How did the project have tangible community benefits, for example, community engagement, education or consultation?
- Did the project involve underrepresented aspects of Queensland's heritage?



JUDGING CRITERIA



John Herbert Award for the Most Outstanding Project

- The winner from each category will be in contention for the John Herbert 'Most Outstanding' project.

The judges will consider the following points for the John Herbert Award:

- What is the outstanding nature of the project?
- How did the project generate outstanding heritage benefits?
- How did the project lead the way into forward-looking heritage practice and/or outcomes?
- How did this project tangibly affect the standard of best practice in Queensland?



IMPORTANT NOTE - JUDGING

Due to the large number of entries and the scope of submissions from around Queensland, judges cannot conduct personal inspections or undertake further research on projects entered in the Heritage Awards.

Judging is based on the written and photographic evidence you provide. Please ensure your nomination form and all supporting documents clearly and accurately represent the project you are putting forward.





Join us and submit
your entries for the
Queensland Heritage
Awards 2026.



Thank you!

National Trust of Australia (Queensland)

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Queensland Heritage Awards

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