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CONFERENCE PAPER ABSTRACT

NAME OF PRESENTER:	Mary Knaggs
TITLE OF PAPER:	<i>Towards a Heritage Quality Framework: Heritage Implementation & Monitoring of Cultural Heritage for Sustainable Outcomes</i>
THEME:	<i>Theme 4: Heritage as a Pillar of Sustainable Development</i>
PAPER ABSTRACT:	
<p><i>Analysis of the Australian heritage industry and associated professions and trades reveals that the quality of heritage conservation outcomes has declined in recent decades due to incremental changes in education, training, business, management and society. The strong interest in cultural heritage that was enjoyed around the time of the Australian Bi-centenary, when legislation to protect cultural heritage places was enacted in most jurisdictions and training programs were provided by VET and Tertiary institutions, has declined in recent times. The exact reason for this is hard to identify, however. It is clear that the situation has declined most notably over the past decade. As a result numbers of competent practitioners have fallen away and the training of others is limited in several critical areas. This includes heritage management/consulting professionals, but also traditions trades/skills.</i></p> <p><i>Declining levels of competent workers with the skills needed to conserve traditional buildings have resulted in the widespread use of lower skills and inappropriate alternative methods. As a result Cultural heritage values and the long term sustainability of cultural heritage places are being incrementally eroded. A Heritage Quality Framework is seen as a method of raising standards, stimulating training and monitoring heritage outcomes.</i></p>	
BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRESENTER:	
<p><i>Mary Knaggs is a heritage consultant with over 30 years' experience in heritage conservation in both government and the private sector. Trained and qualified as a heritage architect Mary has broadened her knowledge of heritage conservation including a Master of Philosophy (Urban History) and a Master of Museum Studies degree. Mary is involved in many aspects of the heritage community including being current Vice President of Australia ICOMOS.</i></p> <p><i>Mary has been involved with policy development and the preparation of guidelines for government and is currently the coordinator of the Australia ICOMOS initiative on the Australian Heritage Quality Framework and the Executive Committee representative (and initial convenor) on the Australia ICOMOS Fabric Conservation Reference Group.</i></p>	