

CAMDEN COUNCIL

Media Release



11 August 2016

Historic Macaria to Become New Camden Art Gallery

Camden Council will transform the 19th century Macaria building in John Street, Camden into a public art gallery following its resolution to allocate \$500,000 to this project at the Council meeting of 26 July 2016.

Macaria was home to part of Camden Council's Administration Offices, with staff now relocated to the new Oran Park Administration Building, which opened on 8 August 2016.

The proposal to feature up to 70 artworks by the late Australian Camden artist Alan Baker including 'still life', 'portraits', and 'landscape' was received as part of the public expression of interest process to utilise Macaria and inspired the art gallery project.

Mayor of Camden, Councillor Lara Symkowiak, said she was pleased that Council is demonstrating commitment to the Camden Council Art Policy with the decision to use Macaria as an art gallery space.

"Art plays a significant role in fostering community and cultural identity, and Council strives to ensure that Camden is a place that retains and develops its creativity, uniqueness and vibrancy."

"The New South Wales Government Office of Environment & Heritage classifies Macaria as a heritage place and transforming it into a public art gallery supports that classification. Art has forever been a significant part of Camden's cultural heritage."

Funds will also be allocated to employ a curatorial staff member who will develop the gallery's operations and collection policy.

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