



Minister for Planning,  
Tony Kelly



Labor Member for Kingsford Smith  
Peter Garrett



The Mayor of Randwick,  
John Procopiadis



The President of the Greek Orthodox  
Community Harry Danalis

# HERITAGE PROTECTION FOR HISTORIC CHURCH

The first Greek Orthodox church established in Australia and the southern hemisphere has been given the State's highest level of heritage protection.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, announced Holy Trinity in Bourke Street at Surry Hills has been placed on the State heritage register.

"The church's construction began in 1898 and was finalised in 1931, and has serviced migrant communities including Christian Orthodox Greeks, Lebanese and Russians that settled in Australia, particularly in Sydney, in the late nineteenth century," the Minister said.

"Before this church was established, there were no social or cultural institutions to support newly-settled migrants.

"The church was a communal venue which allowed migrants to maintain the traditional culture, values and language of their homeland.

"Therefore, the church is being given State heritage protection not only for its historical value as a built structure, but also its social significance to NSW."

The church's listing was nominated by the Mayor of Randwick, **John Procopiadis**, who welcomed the announcement.

"The church continues to be used for its original purpose as a spiritual centre for Christian Orthodox worship," said Councillor Procopiadis.

"It occupies a prominent position in the streetscape and has maintained many of its original elements including the altar, main chandelier and hanging lamps."

The listing means:

- Any major works at the site would be subject to decisions or advice from the Heritage Council of NSW as well as the City of Sydney Council;
- The church will now have increased access to State Government heritage funding; and
- The church will be required to be maintained to certain standards of repair.

