



**Media Release:**

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### **Public Comment on Pitchi Ritchi Sanctuary**

The Heritage Advisory Council has announced today that they will be seeking public comment on the proposed heritage listing of the Pitchi Ritchi Sanctuary.

Pitchi Ritchi Sanctuary, which lies to the south of Alice Springs beyond Heavitree Gap, was designed by Leo Corbett and Victorian sculptor William Ricketts in 1955 and was the first man made tourist attraction for the town.

Chairperson of the Heritage Advisory Council Dr Brian Reid said at the Council's recent meeting it was decided to accept the nomination.

"Initially the Heritage Advisory Council decided not to recommend the site as it appeared the Sanctuary was not of sufficient significance for it be considered", Dr Reid said.

"In the wake of this decision it became obvious that there was substantial community regard for Pitchi Ritchi Sanctuary with *Heritage Alice Springs* expressing its concern and the formation of the *Save Pitchi Ritchi* action group.

"As a result of these concerns the Heritage Advisory Council has decided to go back to the public for comment on the proposed heritage listing for the Sanctuary."

Notices will be placed in newspapers by early February 2008 seeking public comment.

Under the Heritage Conservation Act is it the role of the Heritage Advisory Council to assess the significance of places that have been nominated to the NT Heritage Register against criteria set out in the *Heritage Conservation Act*.

For further information on heritage listed sites in the Northern Territory go to [www.nreta.gov.au/heritage](http://www.nreta.gov.au/heritage)

Ends

**Media Note – For more information contact Dr Brian Reid on 0429 389 840**

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