



Marion Scrymgour
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

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NT GOVERNMENT HERITAGE LISTS ALICE SPRINGS SITES

The Alice Springs Pioneer Drive-In and the Seven Mile Aerodrome will be listed as Heritage Sites, Heritage Minister Marion Scrymgour said today.

“Our heritage places are very important in shaping the Territory’s identity and also play a huge role in our tourism industry - which of course has flow-on economic benefits for the NT,” Ms Scrymgour.

“I am pleased to announce today that we are heritage listing these two important sites in Alice Springs.

“The NT Government is placing a priority on better protection, conservation and interpretation of our heritage.”

Ms Scrymgour said the Pioneer Drive In was a good example of a heritage-listed place being incorporated into a building development. Part of the site will be developed into a unique resort which will enable visitors to watch films on the heritage listed screen.

“The Pioneer Drive-Inn was constructed in 1963 and is of significance as it is the only remaining Drive-In in the Territory.

“It represents a particular era in the Australian cinema industry, that of the Drive-In of the mid 50s and 60s when Drive Ins were the most popular form of cinema entertainment,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“Certain features such as the screen, café/projector room building and open space are particularly evocative of the Drive In culture and are reminders of a way of life and technology that was once common.”

The Aerodrome at Alice Springs Airport was built in 1939, with its most intense usage occurring in the early 1940s during the build up of aerial forces to assist the war effort in the Dutch East Indies.

The facility was made a RAAF Base from 1942 until 1946, with several of the buildings reflecting military usage during WWII.

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