



Protests planned at Shed 26 as Grand Design's Kevin McCloud signs on to support

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Kevin McCloud, MBE, writer, designer and Grand Designs presenter has signed on to Save Shed 26, joining forty prominent experts and leaders who wrote to Premier Steven Marshall MP and Cedar Woods Chair William Hames on Friday, seeking their urgent intervention to halt the demolition of Shed 26.

Signatories include highly respected architects and academics, prominent international, national and local museum directors, trade union officials, Kaurna leaders and custodians, all Port Adelaide elected members of Federal, State and Local jurisdictions, arts leaders, and Port Adelaide community organisations.

The full letter can be viewed here: <https://indaily.com.au/opinion/2019/05/03/an-open-letter-regarding-shed-26/>.

Save Shed 26 will be reissuing the statement of concern on Tuesday morning with additional signatories.

In his email to Save Shed 26 on Friday night, Mr McCloud said "The conservation of historic buildings is about our industrial and commercial past as much as it is about churches and twiddly columns. We can't let the quieter, more modest buildings be swept away when they're so much a part of who we are and where we've come from. And their contribution to the uniqueness of place is almost beyond measure and something you can't reproduce with the new-fangled. To clean up our past by removing its artefacts is to Bowdlerise it to a point where our story no longer makes sense and we become aimless."

Protests planned this week

Save Shed 26 will commence protesting on the site this **Tuesday 7 May at 8am.**

Spokesperson Emma Webb said, "We continue to call on the South Australian Government and Cedar Woods to reconsider their decision to demolish Shed 26. Meanwhile we call on everyone concerned about this reckless destruction of state heritage to join with us at 8am on Tuesday at Shed 26, on Semaphore Road, across the road from Lefevre Primary School."

Background and timeline

On 6 December 2018, the SA Heritage Council, a panel of heritage experts appointed by the Government, provisionally listed Shed 26 as state heritage and invited written public submissions. The SA Heritage Council received its largest ever response to its call for written submissions, with 80% of the submissions in support of state heritage listing.

On 22 March 2019, the SA Heritage Council found that Shed 26 is state heritage, with the building meeting four high-threshold criteria for state heritage (a, d, f and g). Shed 26 only needed to meet one criterion to be state heritage listed.

On 17 April, Minister for Environment and Water David Speirs MP, used his powers under the Heritage Places Act to scrap Shed 26's heritage listing, paving the way for its demolition by developer Cedar Woods.

Last week, Shed 26 was fenced off from public access. In an emergency meeting with Save Shed 26, brokered by Member for Port Adelaide Susan Close MP, Cedar Woods confirmed it would be demolishing the building this week.

Shed 26 has been found to be state heritage for its contribution to the economic development of South Australia, its outstanding cultural significance, its strong importance to the community and generations of workers, and its special association with the South Australian Harbors Board and the Government dockyards.

"In addition to major concerns around the trashing of state heritage processes, other issues surrounding Shed 26 include dubious planning processes that have left the community feeling duped by the developer and the Government, and the missed opportunity for a truly world class waterfront development that respects and embraces heritage – as Port cities are doing all around the world, but not here in South Australia. It is a tragedy." said Emma Webb.

The Australian Institute of Architects, SA, have also issued a letter condemning the planned demolition of Shed 26 -

https://repository.architecture.com.au/download/Australian-Institute-of-Architects-Response-to-Removal-of-Interim-State-Heritage-Listing-for-Shed-26.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1wj3GR5sGldglgWQ_35I9PyV9H5fnI5aeXpabbnZ8HAXB6lRMC5T6Bzxo

Contacts

Emma Webb – 0407 154 870

Tony Kearney – 0408 232 740