

AAC – Letter to the Editor – Blue Mountains Gazette

Dear Editor

I write regarding the article entitled, 'Historic Greenhays in Springwood is set to be demolished', published on 18 March 2019.

The article reports several one-sided and misleading claims against the private certification system.

The actual party responsible for demolishing the house is the owners.

The role of the accredited private certifier in this development is to ensure that the project is undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act), not to make value judgements about the site.

These decisions are embodied in the legislation developed by the NSW Government with input from Local Councils throughout NSW.

The accredited certifier's legislated role as a public official is to protect the community's interest as set out in the Act.

To insinuate that the accredited private certifier is somehow to blame for this process is bizarre and displays a complete lack of understanding about the role of certification in the planning and development system.

Yours sincerely

Jill Brookfield
Chief Executive Officer
Association of Accredited Certifiers