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Historic NSW Buildings Transformed Into Stunning Homes

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Across New South Wales, historic buildings are finding new life as distinctive residences, with former police stations, castles, and community halls undergoing remarkable transformations. These unique properties are attracting buyers looking for character and history, often at a time when the conventional housing market remains challenging.

In the Illawarra region, the original Gerringong Police Station at 89 Fern Street has been listed for the first time in more than 90 years, with a price guide between \$3.5 million and

\$3.7 million. Built in 1882, the sandstone structure once served as both a police station and a jail until 1933.

Listing agent Angie Ritchie from First National Coast & Country Gerringong described the renovation as “meticulous,” noting that many of the original features remain intact. These include fireplaces, metal cell doors, barred windows, and even the peephole once used to monitor prisoners. The property’s current living area was formerly the exercise yard for inmates.

In Sydney’s north, Castle Cove is home to one of Australia’s rare castellated mansions. Known as Innisfallen Castle, the residence at 14 Cherry Place was constructed in 1902 from sandstone and boasts a crenellated tower, three stories high. Originally built in English Gothic perpendicular style, the home once included a maid’s quarters accessible by a separate staircase.

With only two owners in its 120-year history, the eight-bedroom, four-bathroom estate sits on over 8,000 square meters of landscaped grounds and includes a tennis court. The property is heritage-listed, having been added to the NSW Heritage Register in 1999, ensuring its architectural and historical significance is preserved. Listing agent Ben Torban of Biller Property confirmed that there has already been interest above \$30 million.

These listings highlight a growing trend among buyers who value unique architecture and historical charm. Across the state, disused barns, warehouses, silos, and community halls are being reimagined as residences, offering a distinctive alternative to modern developments.

Such conversions often preserve original features while introducing contemporary comforts, blending past and present in ways that enhance both lifestyle and heritage. With limited availability of such properties, they continue to command significant attention in the premium real estate market.

As more buyers seek individuality in their homes, these transformed landmarks stand as a testament to craftsmanship, history, and the enduring appeal of distinctive Australian architecture.