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C316**CULTURAL HERITAGE**

This policy applies to all properties affected by a Heritage Overlay.

This policy includes an overall Heritage Policy and 50 individual local planning policies that apply to particular heritage areas within the municipality.

Policy Basis

The Municipal Strategic Statement identifies the need for a local policy to ensure the cultural heritage attributes and assets of the City of Greater Geelong are recognised and preserved.

The City of Greater Geelong's heritage, comprising individual buildings, precincts, structures, monuments, significant gardens and trees, natural environments and aboriginal sites, is a significant part of the City's attraction as a place in which to live, visit, do business and invest. It is through this heritage diversity that the City's community expresses its rich culture. The cultural heritage of the region brings economic and cultural benefits and improves the community's quality of life. The diversity of heritage places allows for interpretation of the region's development and the tastes and lifestyles from the past. It assists in understanding the City's foundation and growth from wool sales and exports, to gold discovery, through to expansion in industry and manufacturing. It also enables appreciation of individual house design and neighbourhoods that contribute to the character, image and sense of place of each of the City's heritage areas.

The largest concentration of these heritage assets is found in the inner area of Geelong and broadly defines the character of the inner City area. Beyond, there are significant concentrations of heritage places, namely within the suburban areas of Belmont, Hamlyn Heights and North Geelong together with concentrations in the rural/coastal townships of Lara, Barwon Heads, Drysdale and Fyansford. These have largely shaped the character of the City of Greater Geelong as it is known today.

The identification, assessment and protection of heritage places has occurred over a number of years as part of an on-going heritage study process. Recognition and protection of heritage places is seen as a crucial component of planning in the City of Greater Geelong. The development of good conservation practices will ensure the retention and viable re-use of the City's significant and contributory heritage places.

Objectives

- To encourage the retention of culturally significant and contributory heritage places within Heritage Overlay areas.
- To encourage development to be undertaken in accordance with the accepted conservation standards of the ICOMOS Burra Charter.
- To conserve and enhance the natural or cultural features of an area or site and to ensure that any alterations or development complement their form and appearance.
- To ensure that new development and external alterations of existing buildings make a positive contribution to the built form and amenity of the area.
- To encourage the retention or re-instatement of streetworks including street trees and bluestone kerbs, street construction form, asphalt footpaths, channels and crossovers.

Policy**Exercising discretion**

Where a permit is required for demolition, it is policy to:

- Require an application for demolition to be supported with documentation which demonstrates:
 - That the demolition will contribute to the long-term conservation of the fabric of the part of the building being retained.
 - That the demolition involves the removal of later inappropriate modifications.
 - That the cultural heritage significance of the place will be enhanced.
 - That significant fabric removed will be re-instated when circumstances permit.
- Discourage demolition of sites that are not of cultural heritage significance within a heritage area until a planning permit for the replacement development is approved and a bona-fide contract for the new work has been confirmed.

Where a permit is required for subdivision, use or development, it is policy to:

- Require that all buildings and works should be in accordance with the City of Greater Geelong Heritage and Design Guidelines, 1997.
- In the case of major development and subdivision of a large or complex site, the preparation of a Conservation Management plan for the whole place should precede the application. The plan should be prepared in accordance with the principles of the Australian ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).
- In the case of any development that causes ground disturbance that may impact on a known post contact archaeological site, an archaeological survey to assess the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological significance of the area should precede the application.
- Encourage replanting of a similar type of tree where the removal of a significant street tree is unavoidable.
- Encourage all new and replacement street furniture to be established in accordance with the City of Greater Geelong Urban Furniture Manual.
- Support the retention and maintenance of existing bluestone kerb and channel within the Heritage Areas (except in the Rocky Point, Girton Crescent, The Dell, Drydale and McLeods Waterholes Heritage Areas). Where this is not possible, Council will support the following:
 - Where a street is predominantly bluestone (70%), re-instatement of original street detailing should occur.
 - Where a street is fragmented between bluestone and concrete, this should form the basis of the kerb and channel in the street.
 - Where a street is predominantly concrete, this should form the basis of the kerb and channel in the street.
 - In laneways with bluestone detail, the bluestone detail should be retained and pavements should be reconstructed with either a chip seal and gravel or asphalt surface.
 - Where a concrete tray is used with bluestone kerb, the concrete should be treated with a colour mix to give a faded grey colour.
- Require an application to subdivide land to provide documentation which demonstrates:
 - That the pattern of the proposed subdivision will not adversely affect the significance of the original subdivision.
 - How the subdivision will enhance/conservate the significance of the surrounding heritage buildings and/or precinct.

- That the effects of the subdivision on the cultural heritage significance of the place are minimised.

References

Geelong Region Historic Buildings and Objects Study Volumes 1-3, prepared by Allan Willingham for the Geelong Regional Commission, (1986).

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The Australian ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter), Australia ICOMOS (1988).

Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study, Volume 1 (excluding Belmont precincts) and Volume 2, prepared by Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd (2000).

Belmont Heritage Areas Report, Volume 1, prepared by Dr David Rowe, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd (2007).

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Belmont Heritage Report: Individual Citations, Volume 3, prepared by Dr David Rowe, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd (2007).

Statement of Significance for the former stables to Armytage House and classrooms 19-21 Hermitage Road, Newtown, prepared by Dr David Rowe and Kevin Krastins (2003).

Geelong Sale Yards Conservation Management Plan, prepared by Dr David Rowe and Wendy Jacobs (September 2007).

Newtown Heritage Study, Volumes 1-3, Adopted July 2009, prepared by the City of Greater Geelong (2008).

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