

# Living Heritage Grants Program

Successful Projects: Round 1  
2016 –17

A river punt, a water tower, a theatre and a gun battery are among the significant heritage places from across the state receiving heritage grants through the first contested round of Victoria's Living Heritage Grants Program. Round 1 of the Contested Grants Stream (2016-17) will provide a total of \$1.65 million for urgent conservation works or studies to 20 significant heritage places across Victoria.

The Living Heritage Grants Program is an initiative of the Victoria State Government and will support the repair and conservation of 'at risk' heritage places and objects identified as being of State significance and included in the Victorian Heritage Register under the provisions of the *Heritage Act 1995*.

There will be subsequent funding rounds in 2017, 2018 and 2019.



**Captain John Mills House, Port Fairy**  
National Trust

A grant of \$200,000 has been awarded to undertake a range of urgent conservation works to the interior and exterior of the building, including specialist wallpaper conservation. The house, built from 1843, is one of the oldest buildings in Victoria, and is currently infrequently opened as a museum owing to its current poor condition. Conservation works will allow increased public access to the place, including the use of rooms for low-rent leases and community hire.



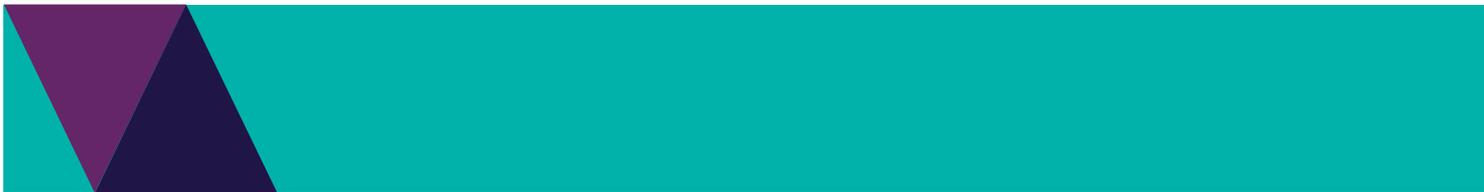
**Tarnswarncoort, Warncoort**  
Privately owned

A grant of \$50,000 has been awarded on a matched funds basis for stage 1 documentation works and stage 2 priority conservation works to the stone barn and carriage house buildings. Works will include masonry and structural repairs, and works to the roof, drainage system and timber carpentry. "Tarnsie", established as a grazing station in 1840, is a popular agri-tourism site and the stone barn and carriage house buildings are used for woolcraft workshops and exhibitions. The site is open to the public every weekend.



**Psyche Bend Pumping Station, near Mildura**  
Psyche Bend Historic Site Reserve Committee

A grant of \$50,000 has been awarded to undertake urgent reconstruction and repair works to the timber beam and support structure and two suction pipelines. The works will ensure that this element of the site, which has been in operation since the 1890s, can continue to function. Psyche Bend, built in the 1890s to irrigate more than 100,000 hectares around Mildura, is integral to the region's irrigation heritage, and is the oldest pump of its type in the world. Psyche Bend is open to the public three times a week, and for special events and excursions.



**Barmah Punt, near Echuca**  
Moirra Shire Council

A grant of \$200,000 has been awarded to undertake urgent conservation works, including the excavation and lifting of the punt from its current location, its removal to a new cradle structure, and prioritised stabilisation repairs. The Barmah Punt is the oldest surviving cable punt ferry on the Murray River, and was integral to intercolonial trade and communication between Victoria and New South Wales. The punt is located in Jack Edwards park and is readily accessible to the public.



**Fletcher Jones Factory and Gardens**  
Privately owned

A grant of \$70,000 has been awarded on a matched funds basis to undertake urgent conservation works to the corroded 'Silver Ball' water tower and roof repairs to the adjacent Quonset Hut, Round Room and main office building. The Silver Ball is a popular Warrnambool landmark, and the funding will complement community initiatives that celebrate the treasured Australian brand and the history of this significant heritage place. There are plans to convert factory buildings into a motorsport museum, and the gardens are open to the public daily.



**Mortuary Chapel, Bendigo Cemetery, Bendigo**  
Bendigo Cemeteries Trust

A grant of \$200,000 has been awarded for urgent conservation works to the mortuary chapel's exterior and interior. Currently closed to the public owing to its poor structural condition, the conservation works will allow the multi-denominational chapel to once again become available for weddings, music recitals, receptions, and its original function as a mortuary chapel. The Bendigo Cemetery is open daily.



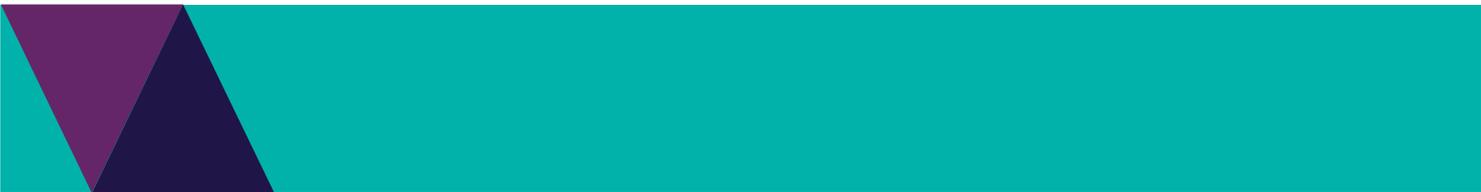
**Globe Theatre, Winchelsea**  
Surf Coast Shire Council

A grant of \$70,000 has been awarded for urgent timber repairs to joinery and exterior trim, roof repairs, and treatment of rusted pressed metal ceilings. The Globe Theatre, originally constructed as a performance hall in 1926, is a much-valued heritage asset in Winchelsea, and is currently used by local community groups and schools for a range of events. Once conservation is complete, the Council plans to return the building to its early use as a public cinema.



**Traralgon Court House, Traralgon**  
Latrobe City Council

A grant of \$115,000 has been awarded for essential interior and exterior conservation works to the Court House, including repairs to the roof and drainage, masonry and urn repairs, external timber joinery and trim repairs and repairs to internal plasterwork. A prominent landmark in Traralgon, representing Traralgon's importance as a regional centre for communications and civic administration, the Latrobe City Council plans to reactivate interior spaces within the Court House with the assistance of local community groups, and to establish a café on the premises.



**Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex, Maryborough**  
Central Goldfields Shire Council

A grant of \$35,000 has been awarded to prepare a Conservation Management Plan, including a structural assessment of the pool edge, concrete pump house and displacement tank, to inform priority works. The Maryborough Olympic Pool, a rare and intact example of a swimming pool complex designed in the 1930s, is a highly-utilised community asset, and identifying and undertaking urgent conservation works will ensure that it can remain open and accessible to the public.



**Portland Battery and Gun, Portland**  
Glenelg Shire Council

A grant of \$30,000 has been awarded to prepare an engineering report, including geotechnical investigation, to determine the extent of damage caused by water ingress. The Portland Battery site, built in the 1880s to prevent invasion by the Russians, is currently closed to the public owing to its poor condition. Investigation is required to guide urgent conservation works, and the completion of identified works will allow the site to be reopened to the public.



**Bendigo Trades Hall, Bendigo**  
Bendigo Trades Hall and Literary Institute

A grant of \$25,000 has been awarded for urgent roof replacement works and investigation of damage caused by water ingress. The building dates from 1896 and is one of the only surviving purpose built trades halls in Victoria. It is now accessed by over 50 community groups annually for a wide range of activities and events.



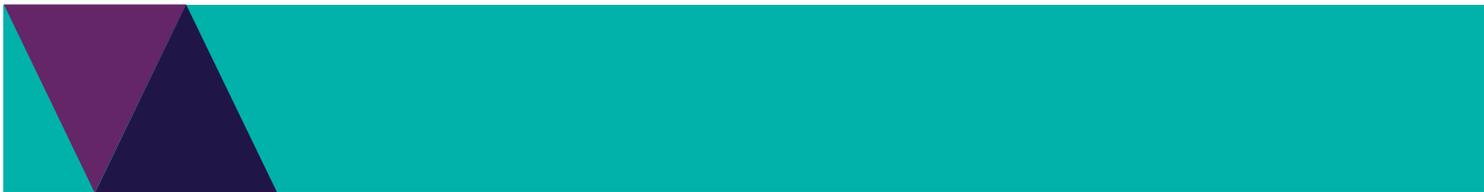
**Tyntyndyer Homestead, Beverford**  
Tyntyndyer Homestead Inc.

A grant of \$20,000 has been awarded to prepare a Conservation Management Plan, including a prioritised schedule of works and a maintenance plan. The site is one of Victoria's earliest homesteads and has a long association with local Aboriginal communities. Identifying and undertaking priority works will allow the site and its collection to once again be accessible to the public.



**Curator's Cottage, Portland Botanical Gardens, Portland**  
Glenelg Shire Council

A grant of \$70,000 has been awarded to undertake urgent interior and exterior conservation works, including masonry repairs, roof and defective flashing and drainage repairs, remediation of internal water damage and reinstatement of original internal wall finishes and trim. Public access to the cottage museum is regularly facilitated by the Portland Historical Society, and the proposed works will provide appropriate protection to the historical collection housed within, and more frequent access by the public.



**Former Footscray Town Hall, Footscray**

Maribyrnong City Council

A grant of \$200,000 has been awarded to undertake urgent repairs to the building's portico, including conservation of the portico plasters and renders, and repairs to the decorative tile entrance flooring and steps. The Town Hall is a prominent Footscray landmark, and the portico once served as the grand entrance to the meeting and reception rooms. Plans are currently underway to reactivate these spaces, and the funded works will assist in allowing the building to function as originally designed.



**Mount Martha House, Mount Martha**

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council

A grant of \$50,000 has been awarded to undertake urgent repairs to the building's exterior timber elements. Prominently located on Mount Martha's Esplanade, the timber facade has incurred rot and salt damage as a result of its coastal surrounds. Mount Martha House, originally built as a hotel and once used as a camp for boys of missing soldiers and POWs in WWII, is a highly-valued community asset, hosting a range of community events, classes and a childcare centre. Completion of the required works will improve insulation of the place's interior, and will ensure its ongoing use and availability.



**Ercildoune, Footscray**

Footscray Historical Society

A grant of \$45,000 has been awarded to undertake urgent works to address the rotting cedar window frames at Ercildoune. Originally built for the National Bank of Australasia in 1876, the building is now owned and managed by the Footscray Historical Society, and public access is facilitated through tours, exhibitions and research opportunities. The works will mitigate further deterioration to the building's original fabric, and will improve the insulation and health and safety conditions of the building's interior.



**Churchill Island, Phillip Island**

Phillip Island Nature Parks

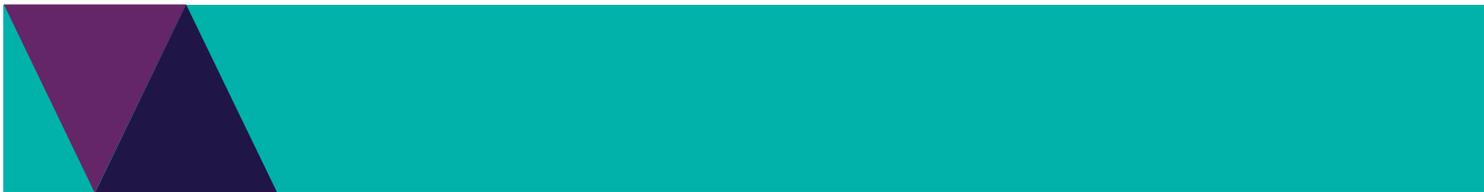
A grant of \$75,000 has been awarded to undertake urgent conservation works to six buildings on the Churchill Island site. Funded works will include roof, wall and floor repairs, and works to mitigate rising damp, salt attack, corrosion cracking, and deteriorated joinery. Churchill Island is the site of the first European settlement in Victoria, with James Grant and the *Lady Nelson* establishing two timber structures and a garden there in 1801. Churchill Island is a popular tourism destination, and is open to the public daily.



**Columbarium, Box Hill Cemetery, Box Hill**

Box Hill Cemetery Trust

A grant of \$25,000 has been awarded to undertake a condition report of the columbarium to guide essential works. The columbarium is currently at risk structurally, and has been closed to the public owing to safety concerns. The columbarium was built in 1929, and represents an early and unusual means of storing cremated human remains at a time when cremation remained a minority practice. The identification and completion of required works will allow the crematorium to reopen to the public. The Box Hill Cemetery is open daily.



**Ebenezer Mission, Antwerp**  
Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation

A grant of \$45,000 has been awarded to prepare a Conservation Management Plan to guide future works at the site. The land on which Ebenezer is located is of great significance to the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadwadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk peoples and the former mission is the oldest of its type in Victoria. The identification and completion of priority works will allow the site to be opened to the public for tourism, education programs and other functions.



**Castlemaine Market Building, Castlemaine**  
Mount Alexander Shire Council

A grant of \$75,000 has been awarded to undertake urgent works to mitigate rising damp and salt damage to the building's interior. Built in 1862, the place is a rare surviving example of an early colonial market building and is representative of Castlemaine's grandeur and prominence during the Gold Rush years. The Castlemaine Market Building remains a highly-visited community space, functioning as the town's information centre and hosting a range of exhibitions.

For more information on the Living Heritage Grants Program, please call 03 9938 6851 or email [living.heritage@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:living.heritage@delwp.vic.gov.au)

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