

Refer also to the relevant Planning Scheme – including the State Planning Policy Framework, the Local Planning Policy Framework, and applicable Zones and Overlays (particularly the Heritage Overlay).

14.1 Objectives

To encourage the Restoration and Conservation of Heritage Places

To ensure that public works enhance the character and appearance of Heritage Places through appropriate works

To ensure that Contributory Elements in the public domain are conserved

To allow for reasonable change within Heritage Places, while ensuring that all other heritage objectives are met

14.2 Rationale

The aim of conservation is to retain the cultural significance of a place...Conservation is based on a respect for the existing fabric, use, associations and meanings. It requires a cautious approach of changing as much as necessary but as little as possible. (Burra Charter)

For Cultural Heritage Significance to be conserved in an Individual Heritage Overlay (HO), the majority of the significant parts of the Heritage Place, and their relationship to the setting within the Heritage Place, should be retained.

Local, state and national governments and agencies can provide a best-practice example of heritage management to the community by adopting a consistently high standard of retention and Maintenance of the Contributory Elements for which they are responsible.

Many aspects of the public domain are important components of the Heritage Place, e.g. road treatments, laneways, streetscape elements, street tree plantings, drains, kerbs, parks and gardens. They often display treatments, materials, standards of construction or styles that are from or are typical of the period of development of the heritage area; or display techniques that are important records of

development. Inappropriate new civic treatments can have a detrimental impact on Cultural Heritage Significance and the appearance of a heritage area.

Elements that might contribute to the significance of an area or streetscape include:

- **stone paving, kerb and channel, spoon drains, early concrete kerbing and road pavement, some asphalt paving and crossovers;**
- **horse troughs and hitching posts;**
- **bollards;**
- **lamp, tram and rail standards, light fittings, seats, street furniture;**
- **street tree avenues, single trees and Avenues of Honour;**
- **buildings such as public toilet facilities, rotundas, pavilions;**
- **historical markers, statues, fountains and artworks; and**
- **parks and gardens, paths, layout and plantings, individual trees, vistas and views to landscape features.**

14.3 Matters for Consideration

In assessing proposals for the construction of new buildings or works in the public realm, consideration should be given to whether:

- **all Contributory Elements in the public realm have been identified;**
- **Contributory Elements are conserved;**
- **the proposed new works (roads, footpaths, kerb and channel, pavement treatments and tree plantings, etc.) respect the Heritage Place;**



Heritage
VICTORIA

HERITAGE
COUNCIL
HERITAGE
COUNCIL
HERITAGE
COUNCIL

- the proposed new works diminish the prominence of Contributory Elements within the Heritage Overlay; and
- the proposed works would affect the long-term health of trees that contribute to significance.

14.4 Development Guidelines

The following guidelines and examples are intended to assist when changes to civic areas, utilities or services are being considered. They are based on some common settings, but will not be appropriate for every situation. Heritage Places should be approached on a case by case basis and there is no 'one-size-fits-all' answer to development. Use the Statement of Significance to inform decisions.

It is acknowledged that there may be other ways to achieve the objectives. Where alternative methods are proposed, the proposal or planning permit application should be accompanied by a written explanation that shows how the objectives will be achieved.

14.4.1 Roads, Gutters, Kerbs, Footpaths and Laneways

Prior to the replacement or repair of roads, footpaths, laneways, kerbs, surface drains or channels, or the adoption of standard engineering designs for these features, the Cultural Heritage Significance of the existing features should be considered. Any change that could affect the Significance and appearance of these Contributory Elements may diminish Cultural Heritage significance. Parts that contribute to significance should be retained.

Changes to the shape and position of roads and footpaths are undesirable.

14.4.2 Services

Services should be located away from sensitive areas.

Where the replacement of services requires removal of Contributing Elements, existing conditions should be carefully recorded, components (e.g. bluestone) stored where possible and reinstated to match pre-intervention form.



Inappropriate placement of modern services close to Contributory Elements of a Heritage Place

14.4.3 Traffic Management Devices

The installation of speed humps, roundabouts, traffic islands public transport shelters and the like, should not affect parts which contribute to significance, significant views, or the context for abutting Contributory Elements.

New management systems should be designed in a manner which retains parts which contribute to significance.

14.4.4 Medians and Tree Planting

Median strips that change the proportions of a street, interrupt vistas or create visual clutter distracting from the streetscape appearance should be avoided. In some cases inappropriate planting of a new median strip will exacerbate the intrusion. For example, straight broad streets often provide distant views and vistas to buildings, landmarks or features and provide an open aspect for Contributory Elements. Tree planting in new medians will affect existing character.

Heritage Areas often contain tree avenues that are Contributory Elements within the HO. The position, planting interval and species combine to create a particular character for the street. Refer to Chapter 9 – Landscapes, Gardens and Trees.

Planting of trees in streets should take into account the historic Form of the street.



Position of landscape elements. This elm avenue planted in the road pavement has a distinctive streetscape character

14.4.5 Street Lights, Bollards etc.

Street furniture which contributes to significance should be retained and integrated into any new works programs.

14.4.6 Pedestrian Malls and 'Streetscape Improvement' Schemes

The creation of pedestrian malls that change the nature of a shopping area by changing its relationship to the street and passing traffic, both vehicular and pedestrian, could have a negative impact on heritage values.

Consideration of the impact of any 'streetscape improvements' including materials, furniture and features, should have regard to the heritage setting of the streetscape and buildings. The introduction of pseudo-historical elements should be avoided.

14.4.7 Street Signs

Retain street signs that contribute to the significance of the Heritage Place.

This page has been left blank intentionally.

Published by the Victorian Government Department of Sustainability and Environment Melbourne, January 2007.

© State of Victoria, Department of Sustainability and Environment 2007. This publication is copyright. No part may be reproduced by any process except in accordance with the provisions of the *Copyright Act 1968*.

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne 3002.

Printed by Communications Management Australasia
2/47 Wangara Road, Cheltenham 3192.

Printed on 100% Recycled paper.

ISBN: 1 74152 679 5

For more information, contact Heritage Victoria on (03) 9637 9475 or visit our website: www.heritage.vic.gov.au.

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss, or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

Also available in this series:

Introduction	Landscapes, Gardens, Trees
Subdivision and Consolidation	External Painting and Finishes
Demolition	Fences
Removal and Relocation	Signs
New Buildings in an Area Heritage Overlay	Change of Use
External Alterations and Additions to Contributory Elements	Civic areas, Utilities and Services
External Alterations and Additions to Non-contributory Elements	Archaeological Sites
Internal Alterations	Glossary of Terms
	Further Information