

About heritage studies

Heritage places are part of the rich tapestry of who we are as a community and help to connect us to our past.

What is heritage?

Heritage encompasses many things – the way we live today, our values, our traditions, our environment, our knowledge and experiences.

A heritage place can include an individual building, a precinct covering a large number of properties, trees, gardens, an aboriginal place or natural habitat.

Why protect heritage?

Heritage places are important to our community and should be protected to ensure they survive for future generations to view, understand and appreciate.

As Melbourne's population continues to increase, we will continue to balance the growing population with protection of Moonee Valley's heritage. Because of this increasing development and change, it is important for us to put plans in place to ensure this change does not result in the loss of important heritage places and new development is sensitive to the heritage fabric of Moonee Valley.

How does Council protect heritage?

Council undertakes heritage studies to assess the heritage significance of the place. Those properties identified as having heritage significance will have the Heritage Overlay applied.

Why is Council involved in heritage?

Council is required under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to protect significant heritage places within Moonee Valley. Council protects local heritage in accordance with State Government legislation, guidelines and processes.

How are heritage studies prepared?

The Moonee Valley Heritage Gap Study 2014, identifies gaps in Moonee Valley's heritage protection.

Heritage studies are prepared based on the priorities identified in our Moonee Valley Heritage Gap Study.

Heritage studies are detailed investigations into properties and places which may have heritage significance. They include:

- research into the history of a place or area
- information as to why a place may be significant and identifies what about the place is significant
- recommendations to protect the place through statutory planning controls (i.e. Heritage Overlay)
- a Statement of Significance for each place or precinct.

We follow State Government legislation, guidelines and processes when preparing heritage studies. We use heritage experts to undertake the research and they provide their findings to us in the form of studies and reports.



How are the recommendations of the heritage studies implemented?

In order to implement the findings of a heritage study, we need to make changes to the Moonee Valley Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay to places of heritage significance. To do this we must follow a process stipulated by the State Government. This process is called a 'planning scheme amendment'.

In order to undertake a planning scheme amendment, Council must first seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to amend the Moonee Valley Planning Scheme.

The community is consulted and given the opportunity to provide feedback. Council will take all submissions received during the exhibition period into consideration. If Council cannot resolve the concerns, the submission will be referred to an independent planning panel, appointed by the Minister for Planning. The panel will review and consider all submissions referred and make recommendations to Council about the amendment in the form of a report.

The report and amendment will be considered by Council, and if adopted, the amendment is referred to the Minister for Planning for consideration.

The Minister for Planning considers the Panel's report and whether or not to approve the amendment.

How does Council decide to prepare heritage studies?

The Moonee Valley Heritage Gap Study 2014 groups places and areas together by theme and priority and identifies gaps in our heritage protection. These places are then investigated further as part of a heritage study. For example, places which are very rare or very poorly represented on the Heritage Overlay are proposed to be a high priority for future work. This allows Council to ensure the Heritage Overlay reflects the cultural richness and diversity of Moonee Valley and devote our funds most effectively.

Visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/heritage to view the priorities for future heritage studies, as set out in the Moonee Valley Heritage Gap Study 2014.

Moonee Valley Language Line

العربية	Arabic	9280 0738	Ελληνικά	Greek	9280 0741	Español	Spanish	9280 0744
廣東話	Cantonese	9280 0739	Italiano	Italian	9280 0742	Türkçe	Turkish	9280 0745
Hrvatski	Croatian	9280 0740	Somali	Somali	9280 0743	Viêt-ngu	Vietnamese	9280 0746

All other languages 9280 0747

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