

Ballarat and UNESCO's historic urban landscape approach

CITY OF
BALLARAT



“The things I
love about
BALLARAT
are the tree lined
streets, heritage
buildings, parks,
gardens, statues
and its difference
to other cities.”

Ballarat Imagine Community Conversation



INTRODUCTION

In September 2013 Ballarat became the first city in Australia to become part of an international pilot program to implement UNESCO's Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL).

Ballarat is implementing the Historic Urban Landscape approach through a strategic cooperation agreement with the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (WHITRAP).

This is a crucial step to ensure future growth and change in Ballarat is managed in a more holistic and inclusive way, with a commitment to incorporating HUL knowledge and research into future planning and development strategies.

ABOUT THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE (HUL)

The Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape was adopted on 10 November 2011 by UNESCO's General Conference.

It aims to ensure conservation of cultural, historical and natural values are not separated from planning and development considerations.

UNESCO's approach to managing historic urban landscapes is holistic; integrating urban heritage conservation and social and economic development goals.

This approach moves beyond the simple preservation of the physical environment to a broader focus which takes into account the existing built environment, intangible heritage, cultural diversity, socio-economic and environmental factors, and local community values.

**URBAN HERITAGE IS A SOCIAL,
CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC ASSET FOR
THE DEVELOPMENT OF CITIES.**

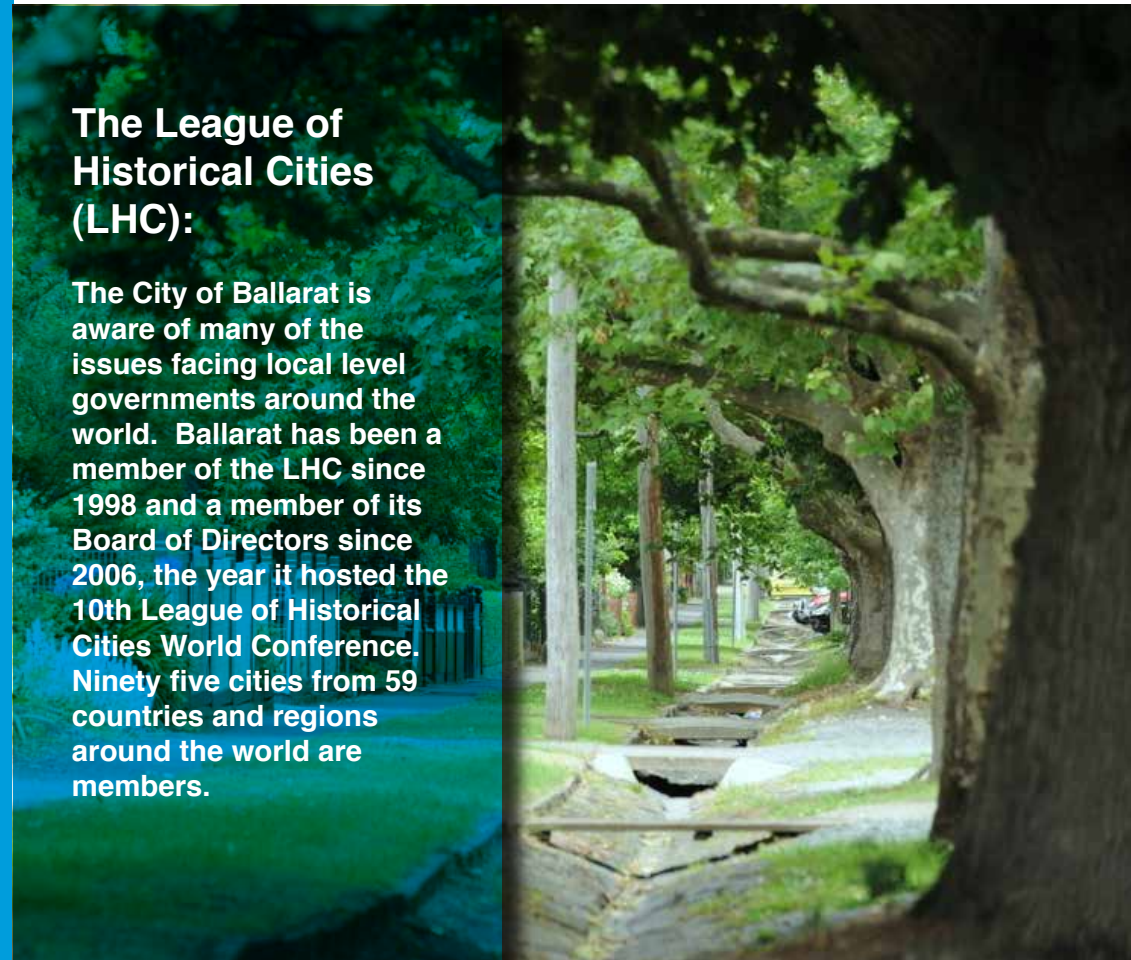
WHY BALLARAT SIGNED ON TO THE HUL PILOT PROGRAM

Regardless of their size or history cities across the world are dealing with fundamentally similar challenges and issues; being part of the pilot program enables Ballarat to tap into best practice expertise and global city experiences. Ballarat believes the HUL can help the city grow without compromising its heritage; by providing a road map on how to address change without losing Ballarat's character.

UNESCO's values-based approach involves working collaboratively with communities; the HUL recommendation clearly acknowledges the significant and essential role Local Government's play in protecting and enhancing the historic urban landscape.

The League of Historical Cities (LHC):

The City of Ballarat is aware of many of the issues facing local level governments around the world. Ballarat has been a member of the LHC since 1998 and a member of its Board of Directors since 2006, the year it hosted the 10th League of Historical Cities World Conference. Ninety five cities from 59 countries and regions around the world are members.



BALLARAT HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Ballarat Heritage Advisory Committee (BHAC) brings together key players and interested community members to advise on heritage conservation, management, promotion and education in order to achieve relevant outcomes for the Ballarat community.

BHAC's vision is to 'secure Ballarat's future as a world-class heritage place and experience.'

The City of Ballarat's investment in the HUL program is a response to this vision.



BALLARAT IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Like many other historic cities Ballarat is facing the challenge of balancing rapid growth with the need to preserve and protect key elements of its heritage and lifestyle.

Ballarat is one of Australia's fastest growing regional cities; its current population of around 96,000 is increasing by 2000 each year and is forecast to grow by up to 50% in the next 27 years, taking the number of residents to around 200,000 by 2040.

Such growth brings its own challenges: how to enhance Ballarat's heritage and values, while meeting the community's employment, housing, environmental and lifestyle needs.

'In 2013, the Ballarat community:

Is proud of its unique and beautiful city – its heritage buildings and streetscapes, Lake Wendouree, its parks and gardens, its street trees and bushland.

Loves the Ballarat lifestyle – a great sense of community, the advantages of living in the country but with the facilities, events and services you'd expect from a major regional city.

Has mixed views on growth and change.

We:

- want the benefits that growth can bring, like better community facilities, more entertainment options and a busier, more vibrant CBD;
- but we're concerned about change, protecting our heritage and retaining our ability to get around easily.'

Ballarat Imagine Community Conversation
Today Tomorrow Together: The Ballarat Strategy - Our Vision For 2040

Eureka Flag
Museum of Australian Democracy
at Eureka

*"Today's community has
its own story – it is rich,
diverse and personal – but
most of all it is connected to
Ballarat."*

BALLARAT'S *Unique Story*

Ballarat has a long and rich heritage; over 40,000 years of Aboriginal culture continues to inform modern-day Ballarat.

Ballarat's urban heritage and diverse community is more recent: it is one of the world's most substantial and intact mid-19th century historic cities; born out of the hunt for gold, and one of the most important mass migrations of people in the 19th century during the 1850's gold rushes.

Rich deposits of gold were first discovered in 1851: the Ballarat goldfields were some of the most productive in the world; by 1853 nearly 10,000 kilograms of gold was mined and some 20,000 miners from around the globe had made their way to Ballarat. The city's magnificent built heritage, its landmark buildings, parks and gardens, priceless statues and descendants of these pioneers are a lasting legacy of this golden era.

In 1854 the Eureka Rebellion - Australia's only armed civil uprising – took place on Ballarat's goldfields: 28 people died in a pre-dawn battle at the Eureka Stockade when angry miners and government troopers clashed over the administration and collection of gold licences.

The events at Eureka are an intrinsic part of Australia's story; they have etched Ballarat's place in the history books.



BALLARAT'S HERITAGE CREDENTIALS

Heritage is extremely important to Ballarat's identity, its community and its future; the City of Ballarat is committed to developing and advancing strategies to enhance heritage initiatives.

Ballarat Imagine and Today, Tomorrow, Together: The Ballarat Strategy – A Community Conversation

In 2013 Ballarat embraced Historic Urban Landscape methodology to embark on its most ambitious and successful conversation with its community - Ballarat Imagine - which asked residents what they value most about Ballarat, and what they imagine for its future.

It was the biggest response ever to a community consultation; nearly six and a half thousand items of feedback sharing the community's thoughts, aspirations and ideas. Heritage, history, natural beauty and a great lifestyle were valued the most; with heritage rated the most highly.

Feedback is already being used to shape projects and influence strategies so that growth can be managed without negatively impacting on Ballarat's heritage and liveability.

Ballarat Imagine guides Today Tomorrow Together: The Ballarat Strategy, which fills a growing gap in Ballarat's long-term planning; it guides growth and development by answering questions like 'which areas will grow'; guides infrastructure and service delivery to ensure coordination with community needs; and helps the City of Ballarat respond appropriately to the social, economic and environmental challenges of the future.



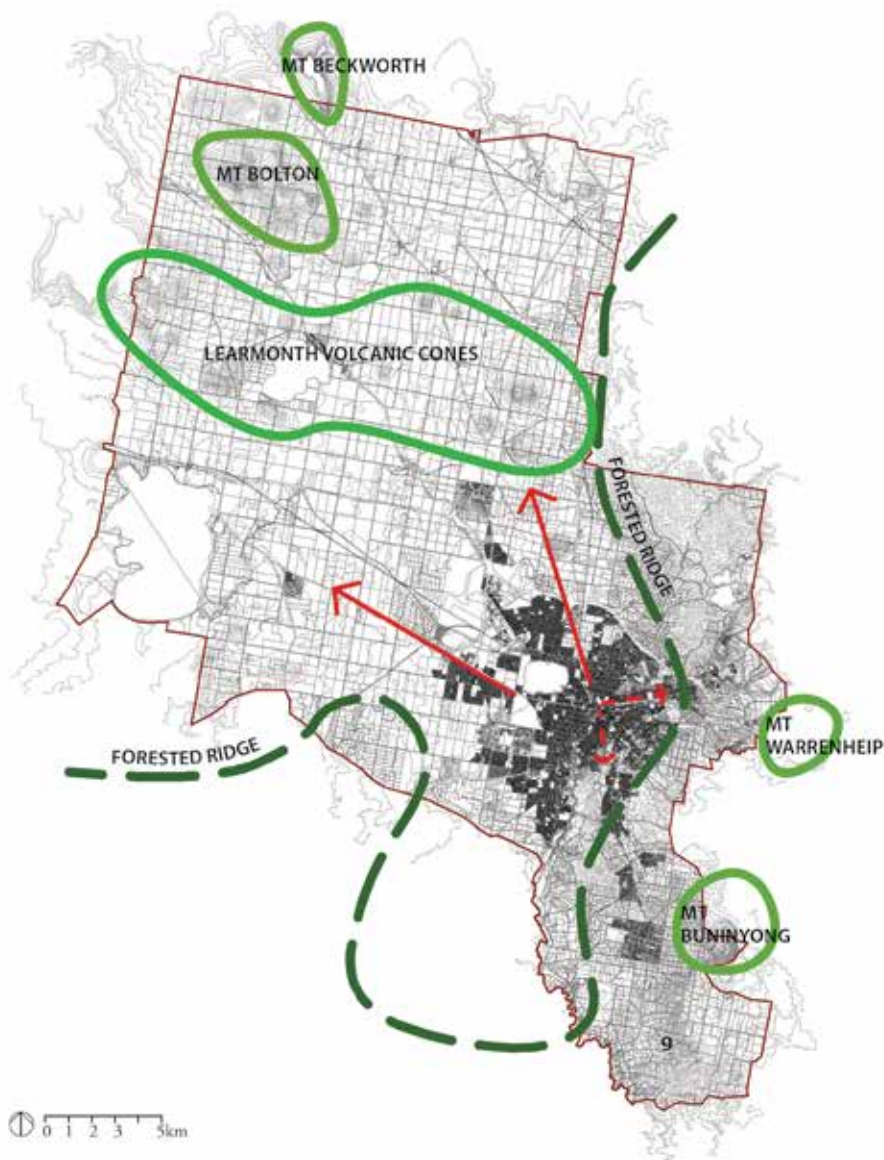
*Dr Ron van Oers discusses
HUL at Ballarat's expert session*

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM: UNESCO'S RECOMMENDATION ON THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE

In September 2013 Ballarat joined with the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region (WHITRAP) and Deakin University's Cultural Heritage Centre for Asia and the Pacific to host a symposium explaining the significance and benefits of HUL.

Representatives from Australia's leading universities, the Heritage Council of Victoria and Australia ICOMOS, National Trust of Victoria (Australia), State and Local Government and members of the Ballarat Heritage Advisory Committee, the Ballarat Strategy Community Reference Group, and the Ballarat community took part.

The Symposium included an Expert Session to debate the application of the HUL in Ballarat, focussing on the areas of community, landscape and policy/planning. At the session experts highlighted the need to undertake innovative new ways of engaging with communities, investigate how to integrate the HUL approach in the Ballarat Planning Scheme and evaluate current processes and approaches – which will be included in Stage 2 of Ballarat's HUL program.



MAPPING BALLARAT'S HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE STUDY – STAGE 1

In 2013 the City of Ballarat's City Strategy unit commissioned Context Pty Ltd to undertake the Mapping Ballarat's Historic Urban Landscape Study – Stage 1 in partnership with Deakin University and Federation University Australia PhD candidate David McGinniss. It explored what operationalising the HUL means in the Australian context; investigated the many ways of seeing Ballarat from a landscape and community perspective; provided an indicative landscape character framework and visual assessment of the rural and urban landscape of the entire municipality; and, proposed potential ways forward for Stage 2 which will begin in early 2014.

This study was essential for the City of Ballarat and researchers to explore the mindset shift and process change required by the HUL approach; a useful first step in beginning the HUL journey.



‘The HUL approach proposes that new urban management tools be developed, recognising that each place and cultural setting may need different tools. The four types of tools are:

1. Civic engagement tools designed to empower people to identify key values in their urban areas, articulate their aspirations and visions, set goals and agree on actions to safeguard their heritage and promote sustainable development.

2. Knowledge and planning tools to enable understanding of the urban landscape, recognition of cultural significance, and provide for the assessment and monitoring of change.

3. Regulatory systems to enable the effective conservation and management of valued aspects of the urban landscape, tangible and intangible, and the integration of change.

4. Financial tools designed to help build capacity, support private and public investment and partnerships’

‘Other projects currently underway through the City of Ballarat will contribute to the achievement of [the HUL’s] bold goals.’

Context Pty Ltd, 2013, Mapping Ballarat’s Historic Urban Landscape Study Stage 1, Final Report, p.10 & p.2



THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE APPROACH IN ACTION IN BALLARAT

PRESERVING BALLARAT'S HERITAGE STRATEGY:

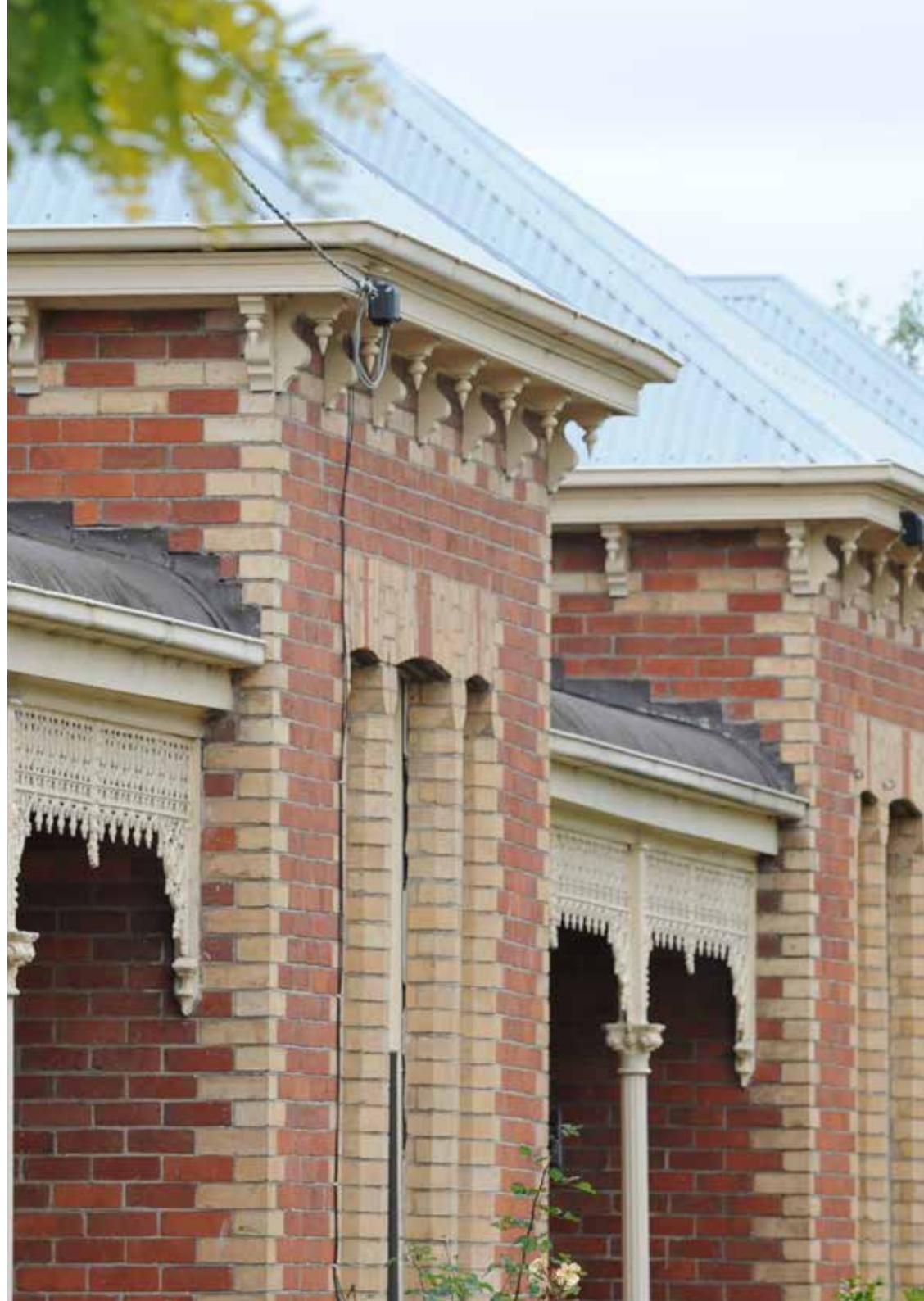
Conceived as a strategy to combat the neglect of heritage places this dual award winning strategy outlines positive initiatives to assist and encourage owners of heritage properties to undertake conservation works. Ongoing funding has been committed to allow the roll out of achievable, preventative measures using a wide-ranging, innovative change management model.

The Strategy has been recognised with awards from the Planning Institute of Australia and the Heritage Council of Victoria.

A snapshot ...

Using a varied toolkit the Strategy aims to have:

- *a heritage-friendly and community-minded city with a motivated and skilled workforce;*
- *an engaged, proud community and robust community partnerships advocating for better heritage outcomes and better use of resources;*
- *all policy, planning and funding decisions underpinned by heritage principles;*
- *information systems that contain heritage data for informing the community, research, planning and system reform;*
- *a thriving, well-presented and attractive city with increased property values and positive economic and social implications;*
- *local heritage conserved for future generations;*
- *a system that is appropriately resourced and structured to support community values which include cultural heritage, sustainability and liveability.*



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Visiting Ballarat

Ballarat Business & Economy

Council Information & Plans

City of Ballarat Home Page

Planning Building and Strategy

Heritage

CITY OF BALLARAT

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HERITAGE OVERLAY

HERITAGE OVERLAY

Colpin Avenue and Colpin Avenue on Wendouree Parade and 1409 Gregory Street LAKE WENDOUREE, BALLARAT CITY

Show Photo Maps and Streetview

Heritage Overlay Number

HQ184

For further details, contact the local council or go to [Planning Schemes Online](#)

Precinct

Colpin Avenue Heritage Precinct

Level of Significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Planning Maps Online

Visit Planning Maps Online for this Precinct

Statement of Significance

Statement of Cultural Significance

The Colpin Avenue Heritage Precinct has significance as a highly intact streetscape of predominantly single storey interwar dwellings constructed largely between 1933 and 1941. These properties have mature garden settings, well designed and constructed front fences and set within a streetscape of grassed nature strips (without footpaths), distinctive brick kerb and channel and rows of mature Pin Oak street ... more

History

Historical Evidence

(refer to historical figures in Appendix 2.2, in attachments section of this citation. Alternatively, refer to attached images.) The Initial Years The Colpin Avenue Precinct is located between Lake Wendouree and Gregory Street in the Parish of Ballarat, County of Grenville, and was originally part of the Ballarat pastoral run held by the Yulle cousins, William Cross Yulle and Archibald Buchanan Yulle from 1838 to ... more

Description

Precinct Boundaries

(refer to map in attachments or images sections of this citation) The Colpin Avenue Heritage Precinct is comprised of all the properties in Colpin Avenue, together with the properties at the corner of Colpin Avenue and Wendouree Parade, and the property at 1409 Gregory Street, east of the north end of Colpin Avenue.

Physical Evidence 1.3.1 Building Character & Appearance

(refer to photos in the attachments or images sections of this ... more)

Heritage awards recipients 2013

Wadawurrung Aboriginal Corp win Heritage Innovation award for mapping project

BALLARAT HERITAGE DATABASE – HERITAGE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

<http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/pbs/heritage/ballarat-heritage-database.aspx>

The Ballarat Heritage database contains 10,000+ records from heritage studies undertaken since the 1970s. It's searchable by heritage place, street address or heritage overlay number; it includes relevant Statements of Significance, information about a place's history, a physical description and photographs; giving residents, researchers, statutory planners, developers and the general public easier access to local heritage information. It's also available in the City of Ballarat's GIS system for Strategic Planning uses; linking and cross-referencing with other planning tools.

KNOWLEDGE AND PLANNING TOOLS

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TOOLS

BALLARAT HERITAGE AWARDS – PARTNERSHIPS CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

<http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/ae/awards-and-ceremonies/ballarat-heritage-awards.aspx>

The awards are a celebration of the community's desire to conserve Ballarat's heritage; winners are rewarded for demonstrating excellence in creative/adaptive reuse of heritage places, sympathetic new design in historic areas, conservation of places, collections and stories, heritage related skills, innovation and outstanding community contribution to heritage.

They are organised by the City of Ballarat in partnership with the National Trust of Australia (Vic), Ballarat Branch and are open to organisations, individuals and heritage place owners.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TOOLS

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THE PEEL STREET STORY – UNEARTHING REAL STORIES

<http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/pbs/heritage/heritage-project-and-studies/peel-street.aspx>

With financial assistance from both the Australian Government's Your Community Heritage Grants Program and the City of Ballarat's Preserving Ballarat's Heritage Strategy, a short web-based film was made on the redevelopment of Peel Street South.

'The Peel Street Story' came about after the local community asked to tell their story. The film captures memories of people who lived and worked in the street, as well as historical information about the buildings, one of which dates from around the time of the Eureka Stockade.

The project shows that repairs to dilapidated heritage buildings are achievable and even derelict heritage places mean something to the community.

'The Peel Street Story' is available on the City of Ballarat website and on YouTube.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TOOLS



PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE TOGETHER GRANTS PROGRAM

<http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/pbs/heritage/heritage-grants-and-loans.aspx>

Since its inception in 2010 this grants program has allocated \$165,000 to 34 commercial/not for profit and private/residential heritage place owners for conservation projects.

Ballarat Heritage Restoration Loans

Over \$400,000 is available in low interest loans for owners to undertake commercial/not for profit and private/residential heritage conservation projects.

FINANCIAL TOOLS



PLANNING PROTECTION – BALLARAT'S HERITAGE OVERLAYS

<http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/pbs/city-strategy/ballarat-planning-scheme.aspx>

The first heritage planning controls were put in place in Ballarat in the 1970s; today over 10,000 properties, places, precincts and features are in Ballarat Planning Scheme Heritage Overlays.

Around 70 state-listed buildings are listed for their significance to the state of Victoria and the site of the Eureka Stockade has a national heritage listing. This level of heritage protection is a result of a passionate community, pro-active Local Government, and many dedicated heritage and planning professionals.

The City of Ballarat has developed a Heritage Gaps master plan and continues to undertake heritage studies in order to protect places of significance in Ballarat.

REGULATORY SYSTEMS



More information on these and other City of Ballarat programs and projects can be found at www.ballarat.vic.gov.au

To find out more about the City of Ballarat's Historic Urban Landscape program contact Susan Fayad, Coordinator Heritage, City Strategy, City of Ballarat at susanfayad@ballarat.vic.gov.au or by phone at +61 3 5320 5677

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This document references and acknowledges the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/638> and UNESCO's brochure titled 'New Life for Historic Cities: The historic urban landscape approach explained' available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/727/>

