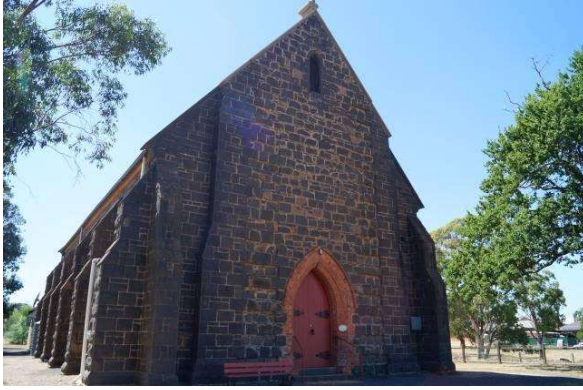


HERITAGE STRATEGY 2014-2018

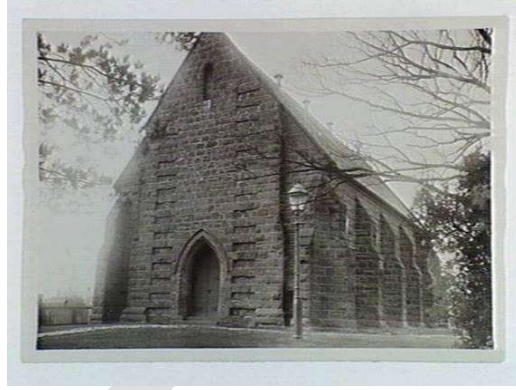


Consultation Draft June 2014

Prepared by
Amanda Jean,
Central Goldfields Shire
Heritage Advisor



Church of England at Talbot 2014



Church of England at Talbot 1965 (slv)

CONTENTS

Executive Summary

Page 3

Part 1: Background and Context

What is a Heritage Strategy?

What is Heritage?

- 1.1 Heritage in Central Goldfields Shire
- 1.2 Policy Context
- 1.3 Heritage Studies
- 1.4 Achievements in Heritage Management

Part 2: The Heritage Strategy

Knowing

Protecting

Supporting

Communicating and Promoting

2.1 Strategy Action Plan

Part 3: Implementation

Part 4: Monitoring and Review



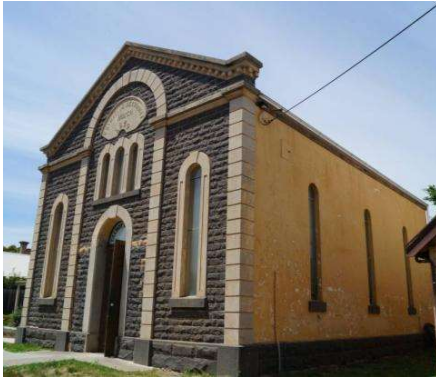
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Central Goldfields Shire Council Plan recognises the important role of heritage in the Shire and identifies the need to protect the Shire's heritage character. It recognizes that the historic environment has a key role to play in contributing towards the goal of sustainable communities and enhancing social capital by providing a diverse, vibrant and creative local culture, encouraging pride in the community and cohesion within it; and a 'sense of place

Heritage places within the Central Goldfields Shire are highly valued by the community and heritage places also have a high economic value and contribute significantly to tourism within the Shire. One of the key initiatives in the Plan is to *complete the heritage gaps assessments and seek improved planning controls to protect Central Goldfields Shire's heritage buildings.*

A comprehensive review of heritage controls was completed in August 2005 by Dr David Rowe of Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd and Wendy Jacobs, Architect & Heritage Consultant, set out in the Report '*Heritage Review Stage 1 for Central Goldfields Shire, Maryborough.*' The review covered existing heritage areas in Bealiba, Betley, Carisbrook, Dunolly, Maryborough (priority), Moliagul and Talbot. Importantly it included a review of the existing extent of proposed heritage areas as recommended in current heritage studies. These heritage studies are:

This review has found that the Central Goldfields Shire has a rich heritage that primarily relates to its 19th century gold mining history and development. There are a large number of places and areas identified as being of cultural heritage significance. The four existing heritage studies, notably the Shire of Bet Bet Conservation Study (1987), Talbot and Clunes Conservation Study (1988), Maryborough Heritage Study (1992) and the Former Shire of Tullaroop Heritage Study (2002) are all considered to be of high quality and provide sufficient information on the significance of heritage places within these existing and proposed heritage areas.



Talbot Museum operates from the former Primitive Methodist Church built in 1869, (photo 2014)

There is a total of 1005 heritage places in the Shire. The total number of existing heritage places in the Shire is 982, given that 23 heritage places have been demolished since the completion of the heritage studies (particularly in Maryborough). Of this total, there are 58 places of State significance, 443 places of Local significance, and 106 places of contributory significance in heritage areas.

However, there is a lack of consistent and clear heritage management policies across the whole Shire, which has resulted in part from the fragmented nature of the existing heritage studies given that they were prepared for previous municipalities prior to amalgamation over a range of time periods. The studies also provide different recommendations for heritage management within the Shire.

The findings of the Review recommended that the extent of the heritage precinct in Maryborough be re-aligned 'The Maryborough East and West Heritage Areas proposed in the Maryborough Heritage Study are not considered worthy of heritage overlay controls.'

There are also 269 places identified as being of historic interest. Most of these places were originally proposed as being included in a heritage area, although as a consequence of this review the heritage areas over these places have been recommended for removal given the lack of a high proportion of significant building stock, landscaping, and engineering infrastructure.

In the past, Council has primarily focussed on undertaking extensive heritage assessment studies (both new and reviews) and statutory implementation, with significantly less focus on other overarching directions about the broader aspects to heritage protection and conservation (e.g. the supporting, communicating and promoting of our heritage). There is potential for Council to direct resources and efforts to all aspects of heritage conservation guided by a comprehensive, best practice heritage strategy.

In Central Goldfields heritage relates to a wide variety of places including buildings and groups of buildings, landscapes, trees, gardens, parklands, archaeological sites, as well as spiritual and religious places that included places from the 20th century as well as the 19th century gold rush. Council is the property owner, responsible authority and planning authority of several key heritage places, including the town hall buildings. The Central Goldfields also contains many historical archaeology and Aboriginal cultural heritage places.

There are in addition many local resident groups and community organisations with a strong interest in heritage who engage in community conservation projects such as attending to Honour Avenues, agricultural shows, former mining areas, tourism and creative arts programmes.



The Book shop Talbot 2013

PART 1 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

What is the Purpose of a Heritage Strategy?

The management of heritage assets is a Council responsibility, to be jointly managed with other service delivery responsibilities. The objective of managing a heritage asset is to identify, protect, conserve and present its cultural heritage significance for current and future generations. Planning including heritage policies and strategies are an important part of what Central Goldfields Shire Council does.

The Heritage Strategy sets out specific objectives, approaches and future actions for the long term management of heritage. In accordance with the '*Municipal Heritage Strategies: A guide for Councils*' works are identified and priorities recommended against which, timeframes and costs for items are set out in a Strategy Action Plan. A heritage strategic approach therefore looks at:

- *Where we are now* – it reports on positive heritage measures already employed
- *Where we want to go* – it prioritises work to be done in the future and budgets for these
- *How will we get there* – it is a management tool
- *How will we know when we have got there* – it reports on and celebrate achievements

The Central Goldfields Shire Heritage Strategy is set out in two parts. The first section provides the overarching policy context for heritage protection and management. And in the second section a Strategy Action Plan highlights the vision and key objectives for heritage protection and management within the shire. It also identifies key actions needed to give effect to the vision and objectives.

The preparation of a Heritage Strategy includes a review in the form of a checklist of Council's Heritage responsibilities and management. The checklist assists in understanding Council's current heritage status and informs the strategy, particularly the action plan in the management areas of knowing, protecting, supporting, communicating and promoting heritage.



Dunolly 2013

What Is Meant By Heritage?

The term cultural heritage¹ encompasses several main categories of heritage:

Cultural heritage is defined as the legacy of bio-physical features, physical artefacts and intangible attributes of a group or society that are inherited from past generations, maintained and valued in the present, and bestowed for the benefit of future generations. It recognizes that cultural knowledge arises from human-nature relationships and shared perceptions of the natural and built environments; and that landscapes are the ultimate expression of such knowledge.

Underwater cultural heritage includes all traces of human existence having a cultural, historical or archaeological character which have been partially or totally under water, (shipwrecks, human remains, underwater ruins, crafts and and objects of prehistoric character).

Natural heritage includes natural sites with cultural aspects such as cultural landscapes, physical, biological or geological formations that have associative values from an aesthetic or scientific conservation or natural beauty point of view; and which constitute the habitat of threatened species of animals and plants of outstanding value from the point of view of science or conservation.



Maryborough Town Square and Railway Station forecourt 2013

Cultural heritage management is the process of investigation, consultation and making decisions about the conservation of heritage places through the assessment of heritage

¹ UNESCO Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws Black's Law Dictionary, Act-Law (Bryan A. Garner ed., 8th ed. 2004).

values. Cultural heritage places may include tangible heritage and intangible heritage such as a culture’s language, corporate history and branding, religion, music and dance, oral history, arts, traditional ecological knowledge and use of the area’s plants and animals. The tangible and intangible features and associations of a material ‘thing’ may be construed as central to cultural identity and landscape memory of a particular cultural group.

The definition of heritage management has been evolving from an object-based approach towards a more all-inclusive approach where notions of intangible, setting, context, urban and sustainable development accompanied by a greater consideration of the social and economical function of historic cities is recommended by UNESCO (Historic Urban Landscape Declaration 2011) and the Australian ICOMOS Burra Charter (revised 2013). A landscape-based approach is expected to be the future path in heritage management as well as a key indicator for sustainable urban development. The steps undertaken in this approach allow identifying cultural significance and change agents that are defined by four variables: attributes (what), values (why), stakeholders (who) and strategies (how).



Birthing Tree outside Talbot and wild ducks on Deep Creek, Carisbrook, 2013

Cultural landscapes. The principle behind a cultural landscape is that ‘the significance of individual features is derived from their inter-relatedness within the cultural landscape’. Sites and places are not seen in isolation but are considered part of a wider network. Heritage assessment recognizes that the biodiversity and ecosystem of a cultural landscape is based less on ‘intact’ ecosystems, than on a complex and extended history of settlement and land use. Attributes of a cultural landscape are embodied in the topographical spatial characteristics of distance, boundaries, perspectives, horizons as well as connected material properties and relational processes such as experience of places, its environmental and socio-economic functions, aesthetic qualities and local community.²



Moolort Plains 2013

² Heritage Victoria *Draft Guidelines For Assessing Culturally Significant Landscapes In Victoria* for the Victorian Heritage Register, 2001.

Heritage in the Central Goldfields Shire

The Central Goldfields Shire is a long region roughly divided in half by a low range of north – south hills that create two different topographical and drainage catchments.

The eastern section of the Shire is drained by the Tullaroop Creek (Birch and Creswick Creek) and the Tullaroop Reservoir which flows into the Loddon River, a tributary of the Murray River. The area is located within the north-eastern most part of the Newer Volcanic region of the Western Volcanic Plains of Victoria, the third largest volcanic plains in world.^[2] The large basalt plain contains a series of about 18 or more swamps and wetlands known as Moolort Plains wetlands.

The swamps are either, red gum wetlands, freshwater meadows, or shallow freshwater meadows. The dominant tree species is Buloke (*Allocasuarina luehmannii*) which occurs with Slender Cypress Pine and Grey Box. The Moolort Plains Wetlands and Buloke Grassy Woodlands are important biodiversity hot spots, and come under the commonwealth legislation as an endangered ecological community.

Drainage of wetlands to create agricultural land has played a major historical part in the loss or damage to Victorian wetlands. The wetlands here are treasured by the local community and are also cultural landscapes of great beauty. The ecological systems and natural resources are integral to the cultural heritage of the Dja Dja Wurrung people.



Moolort Plains Wetlands 2013

The Central Goldfields Shire lies within the Dja Dja Wurrung clan lands and was heavily populated by local Indigenous clan members during the time of gold discovery. There are many archaeological features of importance to the Dja Dja Wurrung that include large stone arrangements, scar trees, canoe and birthing trees, networks of rock wells, ancient camp sites and oven mounds, scattering of artefacts and important flora and fauna sites associated with traditional crafts and practices.

Extensive gold mining occurred in this area in the early 1850s, when thousands of miners worked the Back Creek where gold was first found near Talbot, Majorca, Timor, Amherst and at Bealiba, at one time the centre of a population of 30,000. Wheat and other crop farming is the dominant agricultural activity now in the area.

The Shire is located within the heart of the Box-Ironbark ecosystem, of which only 15% remains throughout Victoria. The Box-Ironbark vegetation is most prominent in the central section of the

It led in the 21st century for legal recognition of the Dja Dja Wurrung clans' claim of continued existence of Native Title on Crown Land within the area.

The western half of the Shire drains into the Avoca River, a tributary of the Murray River. The Avoca River is a terminal anabranching river system that splits into a series of channels to cross over a low alluvial plain terminating into Lake Bael Bael, Lake Timboran, Lake Tyrell and the Avoca Marshes, wetlands of international significance, recognized under the Ramsar convention.

The wetlands of Victoria vary greatly in character and distribution and are among the ecosystems most vulnerable to change. Wetland ecosystems are fundamental linked to hydrology which is one of the most important historic themes of the Central Goldfields. It creates the unique history and character of the Shire.

Hydrology as a central historic theme links the world of the Dja Dja Wurrung who navigated the extensive wetlands with traditional canoes with gold mining that was dependent on water and manipulating the hydrology of the region, to agricultural and the creation of ornamental lakes and parklands in order to water manage mining sludge channels and wastelands.

The exploratory expedition led by Major Mitchell through the area in 1836 gave impetus to the taking up of large tracts of lands from 1840 by squatters for the grazing of mainly sheep. Some fine examples of bluestone homes and remnants of sheep washes and shepherd huts, still in existence today, testify to this era of first white settlement.

The gold rush greatly influenced the landscape of the region and gave birth to a number of bustling townships. Deep lead mining took over from the alluvial rushes and returned substantial yields with some mines continuing to operate right through until c 1914.

Land within the Shire was divided up under the Land Acts of the 1860's and 1870's. Farming families began to take up mostly 320 acre farms in the area from the 1860's. The settlement pattern and agricultural activity of the 1860's and 1870's has broadly determined the land use patterns that the region relies on today.



Moolort Plains and Majorca mining landscape 2013

Policy Context

The Role of Council

Places of heritage significance are managed via a range of legislative requirements by local, state and federal government bodies and agencies. The management requirements for heritage places depend on the heritage significance of the place. In addition to legislative requirements, broader state policy considerations and strategies support owners and managers of heritage places to maintain and conserve those places. The following is a list of the legal requirements and policies as they relate to Central Goldfields Shire.

State Policy Context

Section 4 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 sets out objectives for planning in Victoria. These include objectives to:

- *Provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land [Section 4(1)(a) – Planning and Environment Act 1987]; and*
- *Conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value [Section 4(1) (d) – Planning and Environment Act 1987.*

Clause 15.03-1 of the State Planning Policy Framework relates to heritage conservation. The objective of this Clause is to ensure the conservation of places of heritage significance. Strategies include among other things:

- *Identify, assess and document places of natural and cultural heritage significance as a basis for their inclusion in the planning scheme.*
- *Provide for the protection of natural heritage sites and man-made resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and biological diversity.*
- *Provide for the conservation and enhancement of those places which are of aesthetic, archaeological, architectural, cultural, scientific, or social significance, or otherwise of special cultural value.*
- *Encourage appropriate development that respects places with identified heritage values and creates a worthy legacy for future generations.*
- *Retain those elements that contribute to the importance of the heritage place.*
- *Encourage the conservation and restoration of contributory elements.*
- *Ensure an appropriate setting and context for heritage places is maintained or enhanced.*
- *Support adaptive reuse of heritage buildings whose use has become redundant.*

Clause 15.03-2 relates to Aboriginal cultural heritage. The objective of this Clause is to ensure the protection and conservation of places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance.

Local Policy Context

The Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) at Clause 21 of the Central Goldfields planning scheme sets out the key strategic planning, land use and development objectives for Central Goldfields Shire, and the strategies and actions for achieving the objectives. The MSS provides the basis for the application of zones, overlays and particular provisions in the planning scheme, and decision making by Council. In this regard the MSS provides the basis for heritage management and protection in Central Goldfields Shire.

Clause 21.10 and 21.11 Central Goldfields Shire's Municipal Strategic Statement Objectives:

- Conserve and enhance those buildings, works, streetscapes, areas, precincts, objects, trees and sites in the Shire which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest or otherwise of special cultural or social value.
- Protect the shire's heritage from intrusive and unsympathetic development

Strategies among others are set out within Clause 21.2.10 in relation to achieving these objectives:

Continue to identify and protect places of heritage, natural or cultural value.
Promote recycling and the re-use of heritage buildings for compatible new uses.

- Promote the protection and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and values.
- Utilise the Heritage Restoration Fund to assist in funding appropriate heritage restoration projects, in consultation with the Heritage Adviser.
- Continue to joint fund, with the Department of Infrastructure, a Heritage Advisory Service in the Shire to assist with expert advice on a broad range of heritage matters including heritage education and promotion initiatives.
- Promote sympathetic design and construction in respect to new "in-fill" developments in the vicinity of listed buildings and in heritage precincts and areas.

Implementation of these objectives and strategies are achieved by:

- Include in the Heritage Overlay schedule the recommendations of the various heritage/conservation studies undertaken within the Shire including Maryborough, Bet Bet, Talbot and Tullaroop studies.
- Use of the Aboriginal cultural resource management grid map and guidelines provided by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria as a reference document in the assessment of land use and development applications with potential to affect sites of aboriginal cultural significance.
- Use of a Heritage local policy to guide decision making in the assessment of proposed developments that have heritage value or proposed developments that have the potential to have a visual impact on adjacent heritage buildings or places
- Use of an Urban Design local policy in the assessment of development proposals to protect the heritage identity and image of urban areas in the shire

A list of further strategic work is identified in the MSS.

- Complete the Shire's heritage studies including Stage Two of Tullaroop Heritage Study.

Clause 22.03 Central Goldfields Shire's Local Heritage Objectives:

- To encourage sympathetic design and construction of "in-fill" developments in the vicinity of listed buildings and heritage precincts and areas.
- To protect and enhance the cultural significance and visual character of heritage buildings, site and places.
- To protect and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage values.

Victorian Heritage Act 1995 and Victorian Heritage Register

The Victorian Heritage Register was established by the Heritage Act 1995. It lists the State's heritage places and objects that are significant to the historic development of the whole area of Victoria. The Heritage Council of Victoria determines what places are included in the Victorian Heritage Register, and only places of significance to the State of Victoria are added. Heritage places under the Victorian Heritage Register can include buildings, trees, parks and gardens, streetscapes, archaeological sites, shipwrecks and structures. A list of these places can be found at the Heritage Victoria website at <http://vhd.heritage.vic.gov.au/>. Places listed on the Victorian Heritage Register are automatically included in the Heritage Overlay of the Hepburn Shire Planning Scheme.

Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006

The Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 provides protection for all Aboriginal places, objects and human remains in Victoria, regardless of their inclusion on the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register or land tenure. Some of the objectives of this Act are to:

- *To recognise Aboriginal people as the primary guardians, keepers and knowledge holders of Aboriginal cultural heritage;*
- *Recognise, protect and conserve Aboriginal cultural heritage in Victoria ways that are based on respect for Aboriginal knowledge and cultural and traditional practices;*
- *To promote the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage as an integral part of land and natural resource management;*
- *To establish an Aboriginal cultural heritage register to record Aboriginal cultural heritage;*
- *To provide appropriate sanctions and penalties to prevent harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage.*

Heritage Studies

Heritage studies are prepared for the municipality by consultants engaged by Council. Heritage studies provide an inventory of buildings, precincts and other places of aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social or other special importance within a locality of the municipality. Below is a list of all adopted heritage studies that relate to the Central Goldfields Shire:

- C. McConville & Associates, ***Shire of Bet Bet Conservation Study (1987)***;
- Richard Aitken, ***Talbot and Clunes Conservation Study (1988)*** prepared for the Shire of Talbot and Clunes;
- D. Bick, C. Kellaway, P. Milner & J. Patrick, ***Maryborough Heritage Study (1992)***;
- R. Ballinger & A. Ward, ***Former Shire of Tullaroop Heritage Study (Stage 1) (1999)***;
- R. Ballinger & W. Jacobs, ***Former Shire of Tullaroop Heritage Study (Stage 2) (2002)***;
- Dr David Rowe Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd and Wendy Jacobs Architect & Heritage Consultant, ***Central Goldfields Shire Heritage Review, Stage 1, 2005.***

Achievements in Heritage Management

The following is a list of some of the achievements in heritage protection and management for Central Goldfields Shire in recent years

Knowing:

- Continually reviewing, identifying and improving the heritage provisions of the Planning Scheme to ensure that it does not contain errors or anomalies.
- Much of the Shire consists of cultural heritage landscapes, natural and geological heritage features as well as national, regional and conservation forest, parks, gardens, swamps, lakes and nature reserves.

Protecting:

- **Developing policies** for community arts, tourism and cultural heritage. These include; *Draft Central Goldfields Shire Heritage Strategy*.
- **Preparation of the Permit Exemptions Document for Maryborough Heritage Precincts** for non-contributory and contributory buildings.

Supporting

- **Conservation works gardens:** The Central Goldfields Shire Council manages and maintains the Shire's public parks and recreation reserves. Recent highlights include the successful completion of works to the Maryborough Recreation Park, Maryborough Swimming Pool, Maryborough Railway forecourt urban design project, Talbot, Scandinavian Crescent road upgrade, Central Goldfields Art Gallery signage.
- **Conservation works trees:** Council manages and maintains the Shire's War Memorials and Honour Avenues including;
- **Conservation works buildings:** Council conserves and maintains many heritage buildings. Recent successful completions include restoration to the Maryborough Town Hall ceilings.

Communicating and Promoting

- **Celebrating the Shire's heritage:** Council manages and maintains the Shire's historic bridges.
- **Interpretation and Collections:** Assisting local historical societies, and other groups with applying for heritage funding.
- **Partnering with communities:** The preparation of heritage walking trail brochures, namely
- **Education:** Providing *Heritage Advisory Service* to the community. Approved work on the heritage guidelines for heritage places.

PART 2: THE STRATEGY

Key Issues to Be Addressed By This Strategy

A number of key issues are identified below that this Strategy has an opportunity to address. These issues are separated into the four key themes for this Strategy:

Knowing

- There is no overall thematic history of the natural and cultural landscapes of Central Goldfields Shire prepared, which would assist in identifying and prioritising for future heritage studies.

Recommendations arising from the Heritage Study Review (2005)

- Preparation of Heritage Objectives and Policies for the whole Shire and for each specific heritage area (with a consistent structure and format), to assist the Planners with the ongoing management of heritage places in the Shire.
- The objectives and policies should focus on the particular “type” of heritage area to be managed, given that three types of heritage area have been identified in the Central Goldfields Shire as follows:
 - Heritage areas primarily defined by significant heritage building stock, streetscape fabric, views, landmarks and early layout pattern. These areas are especially found in Maryborough, Dunolly and Carisbrook;
 - Heritage areas that combine a central significant township area (with significant heritage building stock, streetscape fabric, views, landmarks and early layout pattern); and surrounding open cultural landscapes of high historical and aesthetic value. These areas include Bealiba and Talbot;
 - Heritage areas primarily defined by open cultural landscapes of high historical value that include some surviving and significant building stock. These areas include Betley and Moliagul;
- Further assessment of the cultural heritage landscapes (and other possibly heritage areas) identified in the previous heritage studies.
- Preparation of Heritage Citations for those individual heritage places and places within heritage areas to assist in the management and understanding of the significance of the places.
- Corrections to existing heritage citations using the community information provided in Heritage Review Study Appendix 23.
- Review of the heritage components in the Central Goldfields Shire Planning Scheme.
- Consider implementing the recommendations arising from the Heritage Review Study, 2005, and re-assess the list of Places of Historic Interest in the Shire; the 269 places of Historic Interest identified in the review.

- Engagement of a consistent and regular heritage advisory service to help implement the objectives and policies and thereby assist the Shire's Planners in the decision-making process for planning applications and to promote the heritage values of the Shire to the community.
- Further archaeological studies in sensitive cultural landscape areas.

Protecting

- There are no specific Heritage Guidelines to assist owners of heritage places carry out restoration, repairs and conservation work;
- Consider implementing the recommendations arising from the Heritage Review Study, 2005, and discuss with Heritage Victoria the need for further progress in relation to the places within the Shire that have been nominated for the Victorian Heritage Register; It is recommended that the 62 places recommended and/or nominated for the Victorian Heritage Register be reviewed and assessed by Heritage Victoria.
- Consider implementing the recommendations arising from the Heritage Review Study, 2005, regarding the heritage precincts in Maryborough. It is recommended that the existing Maryborough Heritage Area HO206 be removed from the Central Goldfields Planning Scheme and replaced with the following 8 heritage areas once further fieldwork, supporting background and objectives and policies have been prepared
- Consider implementing the recommendations arising from the Heritage Review Study, 2005, that other planning overlays be considered in those areas (particularly the Maryborough East and West areas identified in the Maryborough Heritage Study) currently included in the Maryborough Area overlay HO206 but proposed for removal as a result of this review. Other overlays that could be considered include (but are not limited to): Design and Development Overlay (DDO) and Neighbourhood Character Overlay (NCO).
- Consider implementing the recommendations arising from the Heritage Review Study, 2005, regarding the heritage precincts in Carisbrook Area HO209 (Map 3) to be altered to reflect the boundaries shown in Map 20. Further work is required to provide a supporting background and statement of significance for the preparation of specific objectives and local policy for the area for inclusion in the Central Goldfields Shire Planning Scheme.
- Consider implementing the recommendations arising from the Heritage Review Study, 2005, regarding the 49 identified heritage places outside the proposed heritage areas and requiring citations be prepared simultaneously with the proposed eight (8) heritage areas in Maryborough. Subject to a Planning Scheme amendment, these places should be included on the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay.
- Consider implementing the recommendations arising from the Heritage Review Study, 2005, regarding the 34 additional places requiring citations in proposed heritage areas in Maryborough be prepared. As a minimum, it is recommended that basic details including address, proposed level of significance and a photograph for

each place be prepared simultaneously with the Maryborough Heritage Areas and listed in the Planning Scheme as contributory places until further work is carried out.

- Consider implementing the recommendations arising from the Heritage Review Study, 2005, regarding the additional places requiring citations in the outlying towns, particularly Dunolly and Bealiba, be prepared. As a minimum, it is recommended that basic details including address, proposed level of significance and a photograph for each place be prepared simultaneously with the preparation of the objectives and policies for the Dunolly and Bealiba Heritage Areas. These places should be listed in the Planning Scheme as contributory places until further work is carried out..
- Consider implementing the recommendations arising from the Heritage Review Study, 2005, regarding further heritage assessment of cultural landscapes identified in the previous heritage studies and where necessary objectives and policies prepared for inclusion on the Central Goldfields Shire Planning Scheme. These cultural landscapes are at:
 - Goldsborough (identified in Shire of Bet Bet Conservation Study).
 - Dunolly-Burnt Creek Valley (identified in Talbot & Clunes Study).
 - Craigie & Majorca (identified in the Shire of Tullaroop Study Stage 1).
 - Middle Creek (identified in the Shire of Tullaroop Study Stage 1).
 - Moolort (identified in the Shire of Tullaroop Study Stage 1).
 - Timor (identified in the Shire of Tullaroop Study Stage 1).
- Consider implementing the recommendations arising from the Heritage Review Study, 2005, regarding a review the current Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) to reflect Council's key strategic planning in relation to heritage. The review should include Section 22.03 "Heritage" in the Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) of the Central Goldfields Planning Scheme be reviewed and amended to incorporate additional policies and objectives.

Supporting

- The free Heritage Advisory service is well used but very limited. Council provides support for local community groups who wish to manage, interpret and celebrate historic places and events the demand may soon exceed the capacity to provide this service under current resources.
- There are no policies or guidelines for the management of Council owned and managed heritage assets and infrastructure.

Communicating/Promoting

- Council's website and Citizen's Service Area is not currently used to its best advantage in providing information to the community about heritage in the region.
- Interpretation of the shire's cultural landscapes is an important goal for tourist promotion.

The directions reflect the main themes set out in the Local Government Heritage Strategies Information Guide 2010, prepared by Heritage Victoria.

Strategy Action Plan

The following Action Plan outlines how to implement each action (in many cases more than one department will be responsible). It also prioritises the implementation of actions. Actions are prioritised based on the following levels:

- 1st (High priority) – to be implemented within 1 year.
- 2nd (Medium Priority) – to be implemented within next budget-3 years
- 3rd (Low Priority) – a priority within 3-6 years.

Knowing

Scope: Town Planning Scheme and Policies, Guidelines, Procedures, Heritage Overlay state and federal legislation

Objectives: Ensure that legislative obligations are met

Four Year Action Plan	Status	Time frame
K1 Prepare a thematic natural and cultural environmental history that focuses on the mining and rural areas where cultural landscapes and natural heritage is integral to the identity of the place	Develop a 'Statement of Significance' for the Shire that covers all aspects of heritage including natural, mining, landscapes, Indigenous and built form and intangible values.	1 st Priority
K2 Review and update heritage citations for existing heritage places - complete citations for individually listed properties - review of heritage precincts within Maryborough.	Implement the recommendations from the 2005 Central Goldfields Shire Heritage Review Study which have not been completed yet.	1 st Priority
K4 Identify places of natural and cultural landscape significance. Prepare a Significant Tree Register that includes Avenues of Honour, ornamental and memorial gardens, cemeteries, important Aboriginal scar trees and remnant vegetation associated with the history of land-use development, including history of viticulture.	Areas of natural value have been identified in the MSS and heritage studies. Proposal to consolidate data on cultural landscape significance including those identified in the South West Landscape Assessment Study Review (2013 dpcd) which identified almost the parts of the Shire as an area of landscape significance ranging from national, levels.	2 nd Priority
K6 Review and identify gaps that have been overlooked in previous heritage studies and which constitute thematic gaps such as dry stone walls, mining landscapes, abandoned former mining towns, Chinese settlements and memorial sites, 1930s sustenance workers bush projects.	Report that reviews the gaps in the existing studies	3 rd Priority
K8 Ensure that places of heritage significance on public land are included	Review the scope of heritage place studies and reviews to	2 nd Priority

Central Goldfields Shire Heritage Strategy
[Draft Consultation Copy: June 2014]

within the Heritage Overlay.

K9	Create a separate policy for the collections of heritage objects and include a separate section in the Policy for Acquisitions for heritage related objects and arts.	ensure that all relevant places are included and protected. Cross reference the heritage strategy with the Natural Heritage Strategy and Action Plan Policy for Acquisitions and De-acquisition of heritage related objects and arts including such things as Honour Rolls,	3 rd Priority
K10	Undertake an Indigenous Heritage Policy/Strategy. Develop internal procedures when undertaking capital works projects to identify whether there are any requirements for a Cultural Heritage Management Plan	Undertake an Indigenous Heritage Strategy/Policy	2 nd Priority
K11	Develop an online heritage places information system to meet the needs of the community that links with Heritage Victoria's HERMES information system.	Develop an online heritage places information system	2 nd priority
K12	Public Arts/Tourism Policy, prepare Public Arts Strategy	On going	Priority

Protecting

Scope: To protect and value all heritage places and put in place policies to support decision making around heritage conservation. Property management of Shire's heritage assets including buildings and parks. To plan for and manage natural heritage assets in accordance with relevant federal, state and local legislation, policies and strategies

Objective: Protecting heritage requires a proactive approach, combining legal protection with clear guidance where change is proposed. Lead by example with a strategic approach to the management of the Shire's heritage assets in a manner that will show Council as a responsible and proud custodian of the Shire's heritage.

Four Year Action Plan	Status	Time frame
P1 Prepare Heritage Guidelines and Heritage Policies , preparation of easy to follow urban design guidelines with local examples	Heritage Guidelines and Heritage Policies in progress	Priority
P2 The prominence of historically significant natural and cultural vistas is protected in the MSS and the Planning Scheme. These controls should be reviewed to ensure there are no gaps or inconsistencies. To enhance the long-term protection of geological and geomorphological values. By undertaking landscape planning with adjacent councils and other agencies.	Develop a Natural Heritage Strategy and Action Plan identifying suitable planning scheme controls providing long-term protection for Scenic Hilltops and Major Ridgelines.	2 nd priority
P3 Update the Council Asset Management Plans to include conservation management plans for Council owned and managed heritage assets and infrastructure.	Ensure that relevant sites and objects of heritage significance have been identified	Priority
P4 Protect remnant, native vegetation on private and Council-managed land. Develop Flagship Areas	Seek perpetual protection for native vegetation sites	3 rd Priority

	and ensure that they are considered in future development	through covenants and planning controls.	
P5	Regularly review the heritage overlay and maps to ensure that they are accurate	On-going action	3 rd Priority
P6	Continue to update the heritage overlay to listing of places on the Australian Heritage Council Register of National Estate and Register of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria)	Strengthened statutory protection for geological sites and features and natural sites.	3 rd Priority
P7	Develop and deliver a training program to educate Council staff on the statutory requirements of heritage protection,	Raise community awareness about native fauna and flora	3 rd Priority
P8	Ensure the Planning Scheme Review analyses the effectiveness of heritage policies and guidelines contained within the Central goldfields Shire Planning Scheme	Every three years	3 rd Priority

Supporting

Scope: To support heritage groups and community in heritage initiatives.

Objective: To enhance opportunities to build heritage skills.

Four Year Action Plan		Status	Time frame
S1	Continue to offer the Heritage Advisory Service and Arts Officer as free professional advice to owners and managers of heritage places	Continue with the heritage advisory service	Priority
S2	Heritage Advisor and Tourist/ Arts Officer to train staff on submitting heritage impact statements and benefits of cultural community participation projects.		3 rd Priority
S3	Continue to annually explore opportunities for financial support from to provide for community heritage assets.	Assist the community with heritage grant funding.	Priority
S4	Prepare and make available to the public a brochure promoting the Heritage Advisory Service and Arts Officer.	Develop a heritage brochure on services within the Shire.	3 rd Priority
S5	Support the local historic societies and museums	provide links to Council's website.	2 nd priority
S6	Support landowners, community groups and schools in protecting and enhancing natural heritage assets.	Develop interpretation material and projects to promote local tourism	2 nd Priority
S7	Investigate the cost and practicalities of developing a Financial Assistance Program	Provide incentives for restoration of key elements of streetscapes e.g. verandahs	3 rd Priority

Communication and Promoting

Scope: Recognise and celebrate the community's diverse cultures and heritages.

Objective: To actively work in collaboration with local and Indigenous communities, to help them tell their stories through art, performance, and storytelling via a diverse range of projects

Four Year Action Plan	Status	Time frame
C1	Investigate establishing an interpretation centre for Central goldfields ' past, present and future as part of combined Museum project.	Investigate establishing an interpretation centre for Central Goldfields Shire Priority
C2	Improve and expand the heritage information available through the Council's website and through mobile devices and make heritage studies and data publically available.	Educate and raise awareness within the local community about natural heritage values 2 nd Priority
C3	Continue to interpret and provide the wider community information about the Shire's Indigenous landscape and culture and modern Indigenous stories.	Promote local Aboriginal history. 2 nd Priority
C4	Continue to development brochures for heritage walking trails, and link this into the Cycling and Walking Strategy and the Travel Smart map for the area.	Develop a Natural Heritage Strategy and Action Plan Increase numbers of community participating in natural heritage events. 2 nd Priority
C5	Provide a link to and from the Heritage section of Council's website to the Local and Family History section for the local libraries	Promote positive aspects of heritage conservation through case studies. 3 rd Priority
C6	Continue to support local communities recording and presenting of their local stories through the Arts Officer.	Start a Memory project, designed to capture and share memories of d landscape. 1st Priority
C7	Promote the HeritageChat network to Council and attendance at Heritage workshops	Enhance accessibility of heritage information to public 3 rd Priority
C8	Develop a strategy to improve interpretation and signage in relation to Council owned and managed natural and cultural heritage places.	Increase in the extent of native vegetation on Council managed land. 2 nd Priority
C9	Improve the ways for involving the various communities of the city with identifying heritage matters, values and places that have meaning to them. Lack of knowledge about the distribution of fauna populations is a challenge all biodiversity managers face.	Undertake community participation surveys, to better understand local heritage values, 2 nd Priority



Avoca Hotel Staff Outside the Talbot Leader (slv 1880)

Part 3: Implementation

The implementation of Council's Heritage Strategy requires:

- Adoption of the Heritage Strategy by Council to establish the future direction for Council on heritage matters.
- Setting up a Steering Committee within Council to oversee the implementation of actions identified in the Heritage Strategy.
- Allocation of resources to effectively undertake policy actions.

Part 4: Monitoring and Review

Ongoing implementation and effectiveness of the Heritage Strategy will be monitored to ensure that the objectives and actions are being achieved. Monitoring and reviewing of the Heritage Strategy will consist of:

- A report to be provided to Council annually that details how actions within the Strategy has been implemented.
- Ongoing review of the Strategy at the time of the annual report to Council, with a full Review of the Strategy to occur ancillary to the Planning Scheme Review.



'Back to Bealiba, Here We Are Again'. Lenlethen Studios, P. W. Smith, St. Arnaud. 1920-1930s.(SLV Gift of Ms. Elizabeth Mackenzie, 1990)