

Minutes

Heritage Advisory Committee

Date: Tuesday, 09.03.2021 (Microsoft Teams Meeting)

Councillors: Cr. Bridgid O'Brien (BOB)- Chair, Cr. Anab Mohamud (AM) and Cr. Edward Crossland (EC)

Attendance: Alexis Arrowsmith (AAr), Greg Chenhall (GC), Ian Wight (IW), Janet Taylor (JT), Jeffrey Atkinson (JA), Kirsteen Thomson (KT), Laura Campbell (LC), Malcolm MacDonald (MM), Terence Nott (TN), Ursula Chandler (UC), Ivan Gilbert (IG) - Group Manager, CEO's Office, Richa Swarup (RS) - Sr. Advisor City Heritage, CoY.

Apologies: None

diverse

vibrant

exciting

inclusive

<p>1. BOB provided a Statement of Recognition of Wurundjeri Land.</p>	
<p>2. <u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>BOB welcomed the members.</p>	
<p>3. <u>Confirming the minutes of the previous HAC meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the HAC meeting of 17.12.2020 were adopted unanimously.</p>	<p><u>Actions</u></p> <p><i>No specific action needed.</i></p>
<p>4. <u>Actions arising from the previous meetings</u></p> <p>HAC pointed out that following matters raised in previous meetings still await a formal response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of the Heritage Advisory Committee raised about the role of the HAC is still awaited. • Planning applications referred to VCAT including where there has been a failure to determine a planning application within 60 days): HAC was of the opinion that Council should initiate a process that allows for proper community input to Council where matters are being referred to VCAT. • Heritage resourcing: HAC was concerned that without additional resourcing implementation of Heritage Strategy would not be possible therefore council should prioritise providing extra staffing resources. <p>RS met with the Manager Strategic Planning and the Director of Planning and Place Making. It was agreed that HAC will be consulted on future interim DDOs, when timelines allow.</p> <p>RS noted the City webpage on Heritage will be updated this financial year.</p> <p>RS noted that future intersection upgrades and other traffic works in heritage areas could be discussed at the next HAC meeting.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>That Council should provide a response on the matters of</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Role of the HAC.</i> - <i>Process for community input to Council on large scale developments where matters are referred to VCAT</i> • <i>That HAC Councillors take up the matter about heritage resourcing during the budgetary process.</i>

<p>5. <u>Bridge Road and Victoria Street activity centres</u></p> <p>HAC members appreciated the opportunity to provide feedback on the Bridge Road and Victoria Street interim DDOs before documents were finalised for presentation to the Council.</p> <p>HAC desired that the Committee should be provided with a copy of the summary notes (of HAC members' feedback) that has been sent to the consultants by the officers.</p>	<p><u>Actions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>That RS ask the Strategic Planning officers to provide the summary notes to HAC.</i>
<p>6. <u>A history of 100 queer places and objects in Victoria</u></p> <p>GC presented a brief summary of the report commissioned by Heritage Victoria which highlights 100 places and objects significant to Victoria and Australian LGBTIQ+ communities (Attachment 1). He also presented a list of those places that are located in the City Yarra and recommended a few actions for Council's consideration.</p> <p>The HAC supported his recommendation stated below and suggested that Council consider funding these works.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The City of Yarra commission commemorative plaques for the places identified (and places with the two precincts) that do not have LGBTIQ+ interpretation information available. The City of Yarra to write to the Heritage Council of Victoria recommending for inclusion of those places in the Victorian Heritage Database also note the cultural significance of the LGBTIQ+ sites in the online database. Based on the Council Resolution of 15 December 2020, (https://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/about-us/council-and-committee-meetings/past-council-and-committee-meetings/2020-council-meetings) Council officers use the VH Report as a starting basis for the action: "undertake a thematic heritage study for places and objects of social and cultural significance to the LGBTIQ+ community in the City of Yarra and explore possible mechanisms for their retention (in terms of use and function), protection, celebration and acknowledgement." <p>JA noted it would be useful if Yarra had a unified approach to for all plaques.</p> <p>AA noted the opportunity for public outreach and communications as well as follow-up up Victorian tourism opportunities.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>That HAC Delegate report includes HAC's recommendation to the Council and for appropriate funding of actions a and c.</i>
<p>7. <u>A framework for managing Council's own heritage assets</u></p> <p>A draft framework for managing Council's own heritage assets was circulated by RS prior to the HAC meeting for seeking their feedback.</p> <p>HAC was pleased to see one of the key priority areas of the Heritage Strategy being implemented and applauded Council for initiating such a framework for leading` by example in managing its own heritage assets.</p> <p>KT suggested that such a document should have signatures of the directors of different divisions of the Council as their endorsement of the document and commitment for the actions.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>That the HAC delegates report include the success story and HAC's appreciation of the Council initiating such a framework and for leading by example in managing its</i>

<p>TN and JA have provided asset details of Linier Park reserve. RS clarified that this would be a great resource during preparation of a CMP which is a part of the implementation of the framework.</p> <p>LC suggested that references to the Archaeological and Aboriginal cultural heritage be included in the framework.</p> <p>MM noted a theme that could be included is transport.</p> <p>IW was of the opinion that this document is first of its kind for any council and needs to be promoted.</p>	<p><i>own heritage assets.</i></p>
<p>8. <u>Guidelines for solar panels on heritage properties</u></p> <p>RS informed HAC about Council's new guidelines for solar panels on heritage properties. She also informed that these guidelines implement a targeted action (9) of the Heritage Strategy.</p> <p>RS to provide link to online resource to HAC members.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>That RS forward the web link to the HAC members.</i>
<p>9. <u>World Heritage Environs update</u></p> <p>RS informed HAC that there is a delay in completion of the component documents due to stretched timelines for consulting with First Nations People consultation.</p> <p>She also informed that the draft World Heritage Environs Area Strategy Plan is under preparation and is likely to be exhibited in June-July this year.</p>	<p><u>Actions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No specific actions needed.</i>
<p>10. <u>Victorian Heritage Restoration Fund</u></p> <p>RS provided an update on the current model of Victorian Heritage restorations fund supported by the Council. She also mentioned that \$30,000 towards the strategic component of this fund and the funding criteria under this category needs to be reviewed.</p> <p>She invited ideas from the HAC members about the type of projects that can be considered under this funding.</p> <p>AA suggested that these funds can include restoration of cultural heritage infrastructure. AA also noted heritage could be further promoted in Yarra News. RS to seek Councillor support and then speak with the Communications Department on that.</p> <p>RS requested the members to send their ideas by email so that the modifications to this component of the VHRF (Yarra) funding can be further discussed in the next meeting. RS to bring the CoM and a possible CoY model to the next meeting.</p>	<p><u>Actions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>That HAC provide their ideas and suggestions to RS by email.</i>
<p>11. <u>Tanner Street Precinct and Am 269</u></p> <p>IW circulated a paper by email to the members prior to the HAC meeting relating to Tanner Street industrial heritage (Attachment 2) and presented two recommendations for the HAC's views and support.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p><i>That HAC Delegate Report include HAC's advice to the Council.</i></p>

<p>HAC unanimously supported IW's recommendations stated below and suggested that the HAC Delegate report include it as HAC's advice to the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In recognition of the significance of the Tanner Street industrial area and the threat posed by the possible extension of the Swan Street Major Activity Centre boundary to that significance, that Council be advised to abandon this part of Amendment 269. • In view of the lack of clarity about the extension proposal in the exhibited material for Amendment 269, should the Council wish to continue with the proposed boundary extension, Council be advised that this should be included in a separate amendment and be exhibited accordingly. 	
<p>12. <u>Dates for forward meetings</u></p> <p>No preference for any day was indicated by the members in the meeting. It was decided that RS would continue to work with the Councillor support unit to identify suitable dates and a schedule for the year would be provided to the HAC members.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p><i>That RS confirms the HAC meeting schedule for 2021.</i></p>

Yarra's LGBTIQ+ Cultural Heritage

A new report commissioned by Heritage Victoria highlights some of the more significant cultural heritage places and objects relating to Victoria and Australian LGBTIQ+ communities. It is proposed the City of Yarra take actions resulting from the report.

Background

Heritage Victoria commissioned the Australian Queer Archives [AQuA] (formerly the Australian Lesbian and Gay Archives [ALGA]) to prepare a report of 100 significant Victorian LGBTIQ+ places and objects. Community engagement occurred via various means including the use of the Victorian Government *Engage* website.

The report was launched by Ro Allen (Commissioner for LGBTIQ Equality) with Steven Avery (Executive Director of Heritage Victoria) and key people from AQuA and the community. The report was launched on Monday 1st March 2021, which was also the day of the 40th anniversary of the decriminalization of sex between men.

The 256-page report (size 8MB) is available via these links:

<https://www.heritage.vic.gov.au/about-us/our-programs-and-initiatives/a-history-of-lgbtqi-victoria> (accessed 3rd of March 2021)

or

<https://alga.org.au/2021/4986> (accessed 3rd of March 2021)

Report Aims

As quoted from the report,

“This report has several aims:

- To identify 100 places and objects with unique meaning and significance to the LGBTIQ+ community in Victoria.
- To provide the Victorian and Australian LGBTIQ+ community with a sense of its own history and heritage, thereby strengthening its collective identity and wellbeing.
- To prompt historians and heritage professionals to consider LGBTIQ+ history in future analyses of the built environment, material culture and archival records.
- To inspire communities to recognise their own LGBTIQ+ history and heritage through commemorative plaques, history walks, public artworks and publications.
- To provide publicly accessible information for statutory authorities, heritage organisations, collecting institutions, archives, libraries and other groups interested in heritage preservation.
- To offer a preliminary model for future studies of LGBTIQ+ heritage and to address any methodological issues related to identifying queer heritage.

“

An article about the Report was in The Age (Monday 1st March, 2021) and the text from that is included in the **Attachment**.

Yarra's places and objects in the report

The table below summarizes the report's Yarra places and objects.

Item #	Page #	Area	Place/Object	Location(s)
1	18-19	Activism & Protest	Gay Liberation Centre	23 Davis Street, Carlton North & 259 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy
2	24-25	"	3CR Community Radio	21 Smith Street Fitzroy
3	32-33	"	Women's Cultural Palace	74 Moor Street, Fitzroy
4	34-35	"	Sybylla Press & Correct Line Graphics	193 Smith Street, Fitzroy
5	54-55	Commemoration	The AIDS Memorial Garden	101 Yarra Bend Road, Fairfield
6	60-51	"	Courage, 2014	Whitlam Place, 209-217 Napier Street, Fitzroy
7	110-11	Precincts	Gertrude Street Precinct <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shrew Women's Bookshop • Women's Liberation Building • Key Club • Builders Arms Hotel • Public Spaces 	Fitzroy (Various)
8	114-116	"	Northside Precinct <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Laird • The Gatehouse • Club 80 • Wet on Wellington 	Collingwood (Various)
9	158-159	Social Life, recreation and Gathering Places	Builders Arms Hotel	211 Gertrude Street, Fitzroy
10	174-175	Spiritual & Cultural Life	St Mark's Anglican Church	250 George Street, Fitzroy

Recommendations

That:

- 1) The City of Yarra commission commemorative plaques for the above places (and places with the two precincts) that do not have LGBTIQ+ interpretation information available. See "Plaque Model Photos" below for an example.

- 2) The City of Yarra write to the Heritage Council of Victoria recommending the Victorian Heritage Database also note the cultural significance of the LGBTIQ+ sites in the online database (and include relevant information from the Heritage Victoria Report). A model for this is the former Aboriginal Church at 258 Gore Street, Fitzroy which is described (photos below) at <https://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/1709>
- 3) As per the Council Resolution of 15 December 2020, (<https://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/about-us/council-and-committee-meetings/past-council-and-committee-meetings/2020-council-meetings>) Council officers use the VH Report as a starting basis for the action:

“undertake a thematic heritage study for places and objects of social and cultural significance to the LGBTIQ+ community in the City of Yarra and explore possible mechanisms for their retention (in terms of use and function), protection, celebration and acknowledgement.”

Plaque Model Photos — Example: 258 Gore Street, Fitzroy



Attachment — The Age, 1st March 2021

Celebrating heroes of queer history

The Age - Monday, 1 Mar 2021 - Page 15

“

When David McCarthy came out to his family as a 14-year-old , homosexuality was a crime. It would not be decriminalised for another nine years. “I remember my father talking about the law change,” Mr McCarthy recalls. “He said, ‘This sort of change, son, only comes about very rarely.’ ”

Now president of Australia’s only LGBTQI+ radio station, JoyFM, Mr McCarthy spent his teenage years and early 20s being treated as a criminal for being himself.

Today it is 40 years since the Hamer Liberal government’s repeal of the state’s sodomy laws came into effect. To mark the occasion, the Australian Queer Archives, in conjunction with Heritage Victoria, will release a list of 100 icons of the state’s LGBTQI+ history.

A History of LGBTIQ Victoria in 100 Places and Objects is described as a groundbreaking study of queer people, places, objects and stories that have shaped our state.

They range from venues such as Mandate, Tasty and Val’s Coffee Lounge to a map of Melbourne beats and love letters exchanged between Melbourne men Ben Morris and Harry Bruin in 1919, which were seized and used by police in an unsuccessful attempt to prosecute them for homosexual sex. (Police were forced to drop the matter in court, as the men did not describe sexual acts in their letters, and expressing love for someone of the same sex was not illegal.)

Also included in the register is ephemera including a Victorian “mourning brooch”, constructed from gold and the intertwined strands of hair of squatters Anne Drysdale and Caroline Newcomb, commissioned by Ms Newcomb after her partner’s death in 1853.

In a foreword to the report, Australian Queer Archives patron Dennis Altman said the list offered an LGBTQI+ history of Victoria, and in fact did much more.

“Reading it is to muse on the ways in which queering the history and geography of Victoria opens up a series of questions about the shared history of us all, Indigenous and settlers alike, who live in the lands we still name after a dead British queen,” Professor Altman wrote.

Creating the list came with its challenges: keeping records of a “criminal” relationship came with grave risks, leaving much of this history obscured or lost.

Planning Minister Richard Wynne said the list would help guide future decisions. Communities will be able to apply for heritage protections based on buildings being included in the register.

“

Copyright © 2021 The Age

TANNER STREET INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE COMPLEX:

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF SWAN STREET MAJOR ACTIVITY ZONE BOUNDARY

Background

When preparing a submission on Amendment 239 on behalf of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria my attention was drawn to a proposal to incorporate this mixed-use zone between Tanner Street and Richmond Station into the Swan Street Major Activity Centre. This arose through a question raised at the virtual Town Hall Meeting on Amendment 239 held on Monday 23 November. A resident of

nearby Lennox Street had noticed that the boundary had been changed on the Strategic Framework Plan at Clause 02.04.

In its submission the Society expressed its strong opposition to this proposal for the following reasons:

1. This area is a rare example of an extensive industrial complex of great heritage significance that should not be subject to the development pressures inherent in its inclusion in a Major Activity Centre.
2. The boundary extension is unnecessary as the complex already performs the function of a higher density residential and commercial area.
3. Attempting to introduce further intensive development will place the heritage values of the place at risk.

The Society was also concerned that serious errors had occurred in exhibiting the change as part of amendment 269.

Heritage Considerations

The area bounded by Botherambo Street, Tanner Street and Stewart Place and Stewart Street immediately north of Richmond Station contains an extraordinary collection of multi-storied former textile mills built in the early 20th Century (see photos next page). It has a significant history linked to Australia's wool industry, the preeminent company being Australian Knitting Mills producing the Kookaburra and Golden Fleece brands. During the First World War AKM produced the uniforms for Australian Soldiers. Most of these factories have now been converted to apartments or offices including co-working spaces, and all appear in good condition. A very good view of the complex can be obtained from the train leaving and entering Richmond Station to the east.

I believe the complex could be compared with the Foy and Gibson complex in Collingwood or the Bryant and May buildings in Church Street Richmond, both of which are on the State Heritage Register, although the area has suffered from one or two poor conversions.

There is possibly some industrial use still present but most buildings have been converted to apartments, with some offices and studios therefore performing just as one would wish for an area so well served with public transport. There is no need to disrupt this with more intensive development that would compete with the dominance of the major heritage buildings such as AKM and Kayser. I am therefore asking for HACs support in recommending to the Council that this proposed extension be abandoned.

This area is also too important to simply be included in the largely residential Richmond Hill Heritage Overlay Area. The area deserves its own history, a separate HO, and a more detailed Statement of Significance than it was possible to provide in the recent heritage review.

Procedural Omissions in exhibiting the proposal to extend the Activity Centre Boundary

It is hardly surprising that I discovered this proposed extension by accident. The web site for this amendment provides excellent plain English explanations spanning the whole range of policies. Indeed the web site is an exemplary effort to explain this wide-ranging document. However, I could find no mention of the boundary extension there. The 'go to' place for this information should be at Clause 11.031L Activity Centres, which provides maps showing the boundaries of all activity centres in the scheme. But the map for the Swan Street activity centre does not show the proposed extension. ^[1] Apart from picking this up on the very small scale Strategic Framework Plan, as far as I can tell it is necessary to go to the Statutory Documents where the Explanatory Report refers to a background document: ^[1] _[SEP]

1. Activity Centres – roles and boundaries, City of Yarra, October 2019

This shows the proposed boundary extension. I do not believe that the route to this information is appropriate. What is missing is a clear statement in an obvious location that the amendment proposes to implement the extension. I am therefore seeking the support of the committee to recommend to Council that in the event that the Council decides to proceed with the proposal that this part of the amendment should be re-exhibited.

Moved that:

1. In recognition of the significance of the Tanner Street industrial area and the threat posed by the possible extension of the Swan Street Major Activity boundary to that significance, that Council be advised to abandon this part of Amendment 269.

2. In view of the lack of clarity about the extension proposal in the exhibited material for Amendment 269, should the Council decide to support the proposal that Council be advised that this should form part of separate amendment and be exhibited accordingly.

Ian Wight

2 March 2021



