



CITY OF GOSNELLS

Heritage Strategy 2018 – 2022

Creating great places

Contents

Background	4
Guidelines for use	5
Strategy Content	6
Strategic Priority 1: Places within the City are vibrant and attractive	6
Strategic Priority 2: The community is proud and harmonious	8





Cover image: Wilkinson Homestead orchard, 2016
Image: Wilkinson Homestead, 2016

Background

There are two heritage related goals in the City's Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028 which form the basis for the City's Heritage Strategy 2018 – 2022. These are:

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Places within the City are vibrant and attractive – Identify, protect and conserve our historical buildings and places.

Through this goal, the following outcome will be achieved:

The City's built heritage is recorded and significant places are conserved and protected from destruction.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

The community is proud and harmonious – Identify and celebrate our social heritage and contemporary culture.

Through this goal, the following outcome will be achieved:

There will be increased knowledge and appreciation of the City's social history and contemporary culture.

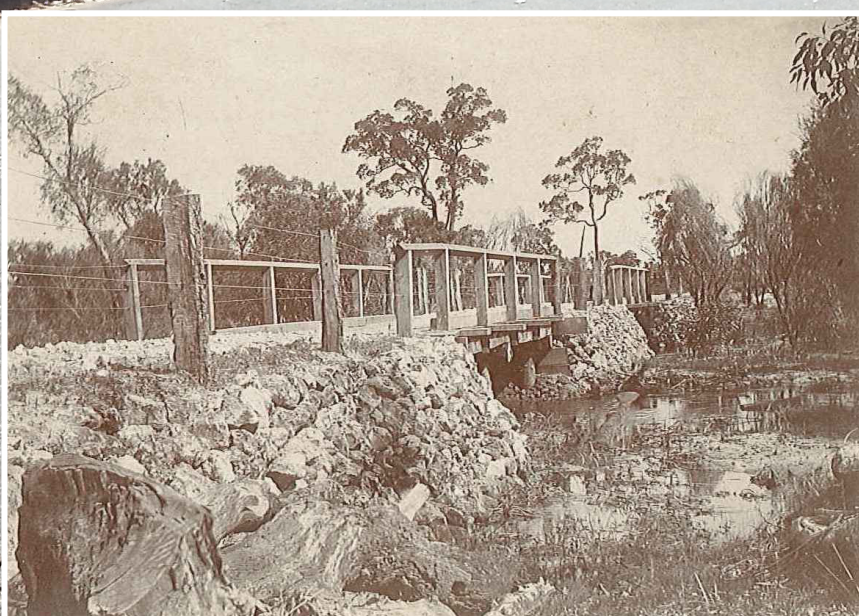
With the completion of the City's inaugural History and Heritage Strategy 2008 – 2016 staff, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, have developed a new Heritage Strategy which aligns with the aims of the City's Community Plan 2018 – 2028.

The new Strategy actions reflect the progress contained within the City's previous Heritage Strategy, such as continuing to develop and maintain historic collections. It also addresses the changing needs and contemporary practices of the digital environment through actions that take into account the potential for increased online collaboration and consultation with the community.



Guidelines for use

The Heritage Strategy 2018 – 2022 contains a number of actions to be undertaken within the stated period. Responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of the Strategy rests with Heritage Services. Where relevant, tasks will be undertaken in conjunction with relevant directorates. Any implementation of actions contained within the Strategy will be included in future operational budgets for Council's consideration.



Background image: Fremantle Road Bridge, 2016
Foreground image: Private bridge over Southern River, 1916

Strategy Content

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1:

PLACES WITHIN THE CITY ARE VIBRANT AND ATTRACTIVE – IDENTIFY, PROTECT AND CONSERVE OUR HISTORICAL BUILDINGS AND PLACES.

The Community Plan states a vision of the City's future where the City's built heritage is recorded and, where very significant, protected from destruction. The City has a proud history in supporting built heritage. It has preserved one significant building, the Wilkinson Homestead, as a museum, and has a detailed Heritage Inventory which is available to view on the City's website. (It should be noted that the State Government is responsible for legislation to protect heritage and the Heritage Council is the principal body tasked with preserving heritage).

This outcome will be achieved through four Heritage Strategy actions.

ACTION 1.2 A: RECORD AND PROTECT THE CITY'S HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND PLACES

The City will review its Heritage Inventory as required by the Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990. This may be subject to variation if the Heritage Bill 2017 or subsidiary legislation is enacted. Increased community consultation as a means of acquiring new listings and information is envisaged through increased online participation options.

Through this initiative, the City will:

- Review the City's Heritage Inventory
Timeframe 2021
- Maintain and support the Wilkinson Homestead Museum
Timeframe 2018 – ongoing
- Protect and preserve the City's most significant buildings and features and ensure appropriate records are kept of other heritage buildings and features. The City, leading by example, will continue to prepare conservation plans for all City-owned Category 1 and 2 buildings and sites listed on the Heritage Inventory. Plans will address maintenance and repair requirements in accordance with the conservation plans, heritage guidelines, and standards.



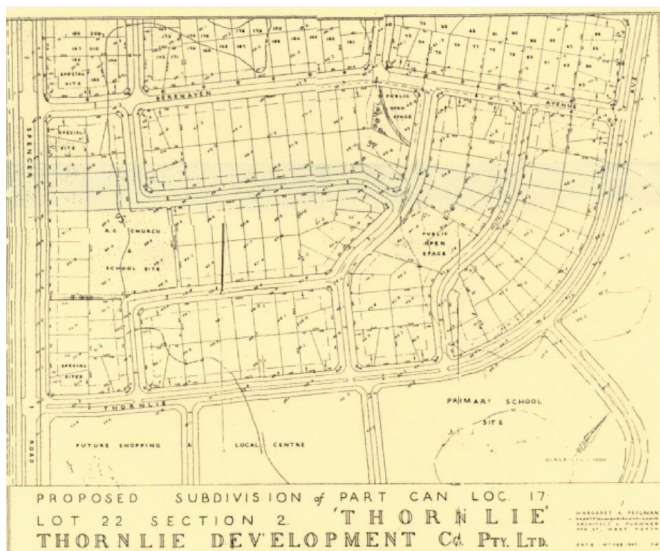
Gosnells Civic Centre, c1970

For Category 3 sites owned by the City, a condition report will be documented and a section addressing the specific heritage conservation needs of the site will be maintained and applied. Places which are new on the Heritage Inventory, or have changed category, will have plans or reports prepared accordingly.
Timeframe 2020 – ongoing

ACTION 1.2 B: CREATE AND IMPLEMENT APPROPRIATE PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, AND CONSERVATION PROVISIONS FOR HERITAGE SITES WITHIN THE CITY.

Local government has a role in support of the State Planning Policy 3.5 (Historic Heritage Conservation) through:

- Ensuring that heritage provisions in local planning schemes are consistent with the Model Scheme Text (contained in the Town Planning Amendment Regulations 1999)
- Ensuring that heritage places and areas are carefully identified consistent with common standards provided by the State Heritage Office
- Ensuring due regard is given to heritage significance in development assessment planning schemes and planning strategies
- Adopting local planning policies affecting places entered in the City's Town Planning Scheme heritage list.



Subdivision of Lot 22 Thornlie, 1957



Maddington Primary School, 2016

Development within the City of large blocks often associated with heritage sites is becoming more common and the nature of the development may mean the decision making process is beyond the control of the City. For smaller developments, the opportunity to offer development concessions, such as providing a reduced number of parking bays in order to encourage appropriate and sympathetic re-use of heritage sites, has been an effective alternative to the loss of the heritage components.

Until the Heritage Act of Western Australia 1990 is updated with appropriate legislation that addresses the issue of heritage properties being lost through lack of maintenance, wilful neglect, or subdivision and development, the City will consider a variety of options to prevent this from happening to places on the City's Heritage Inventory. This may comprise changes to local policy and procedures, including the introduction of a local law such as to address demolition by neglect similar to City of Stirling's Local Planning Scheme No.3 – Amendment No.27, and/or lobbying the State Government to introduce other relevant legislation.

Timeframe: 2019 – ongoing

ACTION 1.2 C: PROVIDE ONSITE RECOGNITION OF THE CITY'S HISTORIC PLACES

Onsite recognition of places listed within the City's Heritage Inventory will be implemented. A small brass plaque consisting of the City's Crest will be provided to all owners of places listed within the 2016 Inventory with a request that the owner displays the plaque at the front of the property, for example, by attaching it to their letterbox or door.

Timeframe: 2018



Orange Room, Knowledge Centre, Gosnells, 2017

ACTION 1.2 D: PROVIDE INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE FOR OWNERS OF HERITAGE SITES WITHIN THE CITY

Research shows that owners of heritage properties are often subject to higher costs for maintenance and renovation work due to the need to be considerate of the site's heritage aspects. The City will continue to offer financial support through its Condition Rewards Scheme, which provides an annual amount to owners based on the condition of the building. In the 2016/2017 financial year, all property owners who received a reward under this scheme maintained or improved the condition score on their inventory-listed property. Guides to appropriate construction of additions, extensions, and renovations will also continue to be offered.

Timeframe 2018 – ongoing

The City will continue to provide information on external grants, benefits, concessions and responsibilities for owners of heritage properties. Under the City's Community Sponsorship Program (Policy CP3.2.2.) grants will continue to be available to the local community to undertake heritage activities, such as conservation works of damaged historic memorabilia, digitisation of historic club records, or restoration of a headstone in the Kenwick Pioneer Cemetery.

Timeframe 2018 – ongoing

Public information sessions on heritage themes have recently been offered to the community and have been a great success. General information about the history and heritage of local properties, family history, and the history of the area will continue to be available.

Timeframe 2018 – ongoing

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2:

THE COMMUNITY IS PROUD AND HARMONIOUS – IDENTIFY AND CELEBRATE OUR SOCIAL HERITAGE AND CONTEMPORARY CULTURE

The City of Gosnells has a long and interesting history. Aboriginal people lived in this area for thousands of years, mapping and cultivating the land. From 1829 their lifestyle changed forever when an influx of British migrants arrived. From then much of the area was used for orchard farming and some of the old farmhouses are amongst the oldest surviving buildings in Western Australia. After the Second World War, Perth had its largest influx of migrants from overseas since the Gold Rush. Many of these migrants made their homes in the City of Gosnells, where we continually welcome a diverse mix of cultures from around the globe.

Respect for culture and heritage is integral to a peaceful and healthy community. The City of Gosnells recognises the fundamental role that culture and heritage plays in the City's engagement with the community. An understanding of heritage is vital to establish a proud and harmonious community. That is, it is crucial to understand where we have come from when we look to move forward.

The Community Plan states a vision of the City's future where the City's social history will have been captured and preserved for posterity. This will be achieved through six Heritage Strategy actions.

ACTION 2.2 A: DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN LOCAL COLLECTIONS

The City will continue to maintain and develop the various historic collections to ensure the knowledge is retained for future generations. Collection management procedures will ensure the collections retain only the most significant and relevant items, but as time passes the quantity of material and objects will continue to increase, as should the overall value of the collections. Records of objects within the City's historic collections are now maintained online and are publicly accessible where appropriate.

Finalise conversion of records from Mosaic and Amlib systems to Spydus.
Timeframe 2018

Finalise the business continuity plan for the City's heritage collections and Museum.
Timeframe 2019

Develop the Significant Object Preservation Plan.
Timeframe 2019



Orange Room, Knowledge Centre, Gosnells, 2017

ACTION 2.2 B: PROMOTE THE CULTURAL GIFTS PROGRAM

The Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program was set up in 1981 to foster the growth of collections of Australian cultural institutions by providing a financial inducement to private owners of cultural materials to donate them to public institutions. The City's Wilkinson Homestead Museum collection and the Local History Collection are registered as Deductible Gift Recipients under this program and donors to these collections are able to make a claim. The option for donors to claim tax benefits for their donations to these collections will be promoted.

Timeframe 2018 – ongoing



Gosnells Repertory Players cast of *The Princess of Poppyland*, 1949



Thornlie Homestead, c1925

ACTION 2.2 C: PROMOTE HERITAGE AWARENESS WITHIN THE CITY

Current methods such as exhibiting and promoting collections through the heritage publishing program and Orange Room exhibition space will be added to, with additional opportunities being developed through digital media and public information sessions.

Provide regular heritage-themed talks for the community.

Timeframe 2018 – ongoing

Develop online exhibitions for the City's collections.

Timeframe 2018 – ongoing

Develop Teacher Resource Kits.

Timeframe 2018

Assess potential sites for a new heritage trail.

Timeframe 2019

Produce an update to The Gosnells Story covering the urbanisation period.

Timeframe 2020

ACTION 2.2 D: SUPPORT AND PROMOTE LOCAL INTEREST GROUPS

The success of local interest groups such as the Thornlie Living History Group, the Restoration Workshop volunteers, the volunteers engaged with the Wilkinson Homestead Museum's education program, and numerous other individuals assisting with various heritage activities, proves the value of volunteer contributions in liaison with staff, in achieving the aims of the Heritage Strategy. Volunteer involvement will continue to be encouraged. The City supports its volunteers under the Volunteer Services Policy 3.4.1.

Timeframe 2018 – ongoing

ACTION 2.2 E: ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION THROUGH ONLINE INTERACTION

With the increasing numbers of people using email, social media and other digital media to connect with local government services it is timely to provide opportunities for people who don't have the ability to physically visit the City's facilities. Whether that be due to distance, time, or other constraints, online access would enable the community to contribute to and participate in decision making and knowledge sharing.

Develop a social media presence for Heritage Services.

Timeframe 2019 – ongoing

ACTION 2.2 F: CONDUCT THE CITY OF GOSNELLS HISTORY AND HERITAGE AWARDS

The City announced the first winners of the History and Heritage Awards in 2012, with awards presented every two years since. Past entries and nominations have been of a high standard, although not numerous, and a 2017 review has resulted in some amendments being made to Award categories. Past Awards have resulted in interesting historic material being added to the City's collections, and some exceptional people and groups being recognised for their endeavours.
Timeframe 2018 – ongoing

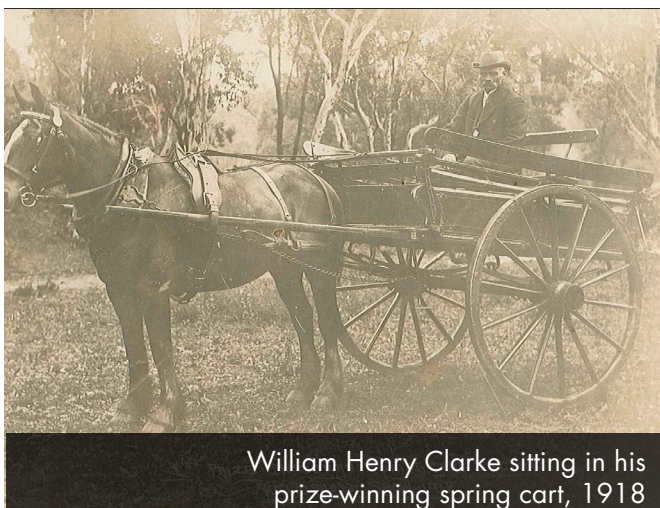
The City of Gosnells Heritage Strategy will be reviewed again in 2022.



Thornlie swimming pool, 1988



Myrtle Flanagan in a garden, c1930



William Henry Clarke sitting in his prize-winning spring cart, 1918



Mait and Dorrie Armstrong in front of their house on Albany Highway, Gosnells, c1980

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in alternative formats.**

