

The City of Melbourne Heritage Review—December 2021 update

According to a City of Melbourne Media release (issued 18 November 2021) the City is moving to protect one of the city's oldest and most cherished neighbourhoods, with the release of the final **Carlton Heritage Review**.

More than 20 new sites in Carlton have been identified for heritage protection, including the much-loved Lincoln Square, the Chinese Church of Christ and a former manufacturing building at RMIT University.

Heritage portfolio lead Councillor Rohan Leppert said the Carlton heritage review is the latest in a series of independent expert reviews to identify and protect the city's heritage 'We've been stepping up our protection for sites of significant heritage value to Melbourne, providing certainty and clarity to landowners, businesses and the community,' Cr Leppert said.

'As Melbourne continues to evolve and suburbs like Carlton attract more attention from developers, businesses and new residents, it's important that the Melbourne Planning Scheme reflects what is valued by the community. The Carlton Heritage Review will soon go to public exhibition, to ensure that proposed heritage protections meet public expectations.'

[caption id="attachment_3617" align="alignleft" width="481"]



Former
Children's Hospital Administration Block – 15-31 Pelham Street[/caption]

Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece said Carlton's unique history and character deserve the strongest level of heritage protection.

'Everywhere you turn in Carlton there are architectural jewels and historic places, such as the site of the former Children's Hospital Precinct on Pelham Street. Established in 1876, this was Victoria's principal hospital for children and paediatric care for almost 90 years.'

It is expected that this public exhibition will commence in February 2022, but for those CRA members with a commitment to Heritage, most (if not all) of the documents that will be exhibited in 2022 may be downloaded from the City of Melbourne website:

<https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/committees-meetings/meeting-archive/pages/Future-Melbourne-Committee-16-November-2021.aspx> (Agenda Item 6.3)

Most of the important files are included in the download Parts 2, 3 and 4.

Part 2 of 4 includes the Methodology Report, and the Thematic Environmental History (from p.47)

Part 3 of 4 includes the Revised Statement of Significance for the Carlton Precinct (from p.345), and

Part 4 of 4 Attachment 5 (from p.121) the Permanent Protection Files Am C405

Navigating these documents presents quite a challenge; there is considerable repetition, and some of the important files are 'split' between two parts (for example, the Citations for the Existing Heritage Places are spread over Parts 2 and 3). These Citations include Statements of Significance for the 'Individual' Heritage Overlays, which are also filed separately in the Permanent Protection Files (Am C405).

Further, the Revised Statement of Significance for the Carlton Precinct repeats much of the content from the Thematic Environmental History. For residents wanting to track how the Heritage Places have translated from the former letter gradings into the new Significant/Contributory Grading System will be disappointed. Unlike the West Melbourne Heritage Study, there is no comprehensive table that tracks ALL the grading translations.