



# Heritage Advisory Service

## Introduction

The City of Victor Harbor has a unique character, which is highly valued by residents and visitors to the area. Victor Harbor and the surrounding area has been a popular seaside holiday destination for over 130 years. The many surviving historic buildings in the region make a substantial contribution to its character and to the appeal of the area for tourists and holidaymakers who contribute to the region's economy.

The City of Victor Harbor is committed to conserving the built heritage in Victor Harbor. There are approximately 25 State Heritage Places and 95 Local Heritage Places in the Council area. The Heritage Advisory Service is in place to assist in the management of heritage assets.

## Background

South Australia's Heritage Advisory Service was initiated by the State Heritage Branch in July 1987, with the appointment of an advisor on a trial basis to the District Council of Burra. This area was chosen because of its high concentration of heritage places and its identification as a State Heritage Area (formalised in 1993).

Since then, the scheme has been expanded and there are 12 heritage advisors providing services to at least 24 metropolitan, regional and country councils.

## What does the Heritage Advisor Do?

Heritage Advisors provide advice and assistance in matters relating to heritage places to Council, State Government Departments,

property owners and community groups. The advisor assists in the effective management of heritage assets including buildings, sites, relics, trees, heritage landscapes, precincts, streetscapes, cemeteries, archaeological sites, industrial heritage sites and movable items.

The principal roles of a Heritage Advisor are to

- provide advice to Council to assist in the assessment of Development Applications concerning places on the State and Local Heritage registers and places within a Conservation Zone, Historic Area or Historic Adjacent Overlay. The role is advisory and Council remains the decision making authority.
- provide advice to building owners and managers regarding maintenance, preservation, reconstruction, restoration and adaptation of heritage places.
- provide advice and assistance in the implementation of heritage funding and applying for available heritage grants.
- provide advice to building owners and managers concerning relevant heritage legislation and regulations.
- assist Council with conservation of its heritage assets.
- assist Council through the promotion of heritage awareness (e.g. signage, heritage awards, information brochures, heritage trails, interpretation etc).
- assist Council in the formation of heritage policies.
- attend meetings of Council's Heritage Advisory Group and provide assistance for projects and advice to assist decisions and recommendations.

**For more information visit [www.victor.sa.gov.au](http://www.victor.sa.gov.au) or call 8551 0500.**

Heritage Advisors provide general advice and direction for building owners and managers. They do not provide design services, inspection services or advocacy services, and are not a substitute for building owners and managers engaging their own consultants.

The service is therefore restricted to providing sufficient advice for the building owner or manager to proceed in a way which will have a positive outcome for the historic place concerned.

### **Who are the Heritage Advisors?**

Heritage Advisors are professional consultants with heritage expertise who advise state and local government and the local community on heritage matters.

Heritage Advisors generally have qualifications in architecture, history or related fields and have practised in these fields for considerable time, gaining specific expertise in matters

related to heritage conservation. Most have also undertaken training in heritage conservation additional to their tertiary qualifications.

### **Who engages the Heritage Advisor and how are they paid?**

Heritage Advisors are engaged on a part-time contractual basis by the local Council or Heritage South Australia. Both the Council and Heritage South Australia contribute to the cost of the service which is provided at no cost to the public.

### **How can I make an appointment with Council's Heritage Advisor?**

Enquiries regarding the heritage advisory service should be directed to Council.

Staff will assist in arranging an appropriate meeting which may also involve relevant Council officers.

*The above information is advisory and a guide only to give you a general understanding of the key points associated with Council's Heritage Advisory Service. It is recommended that you seek professional advice or contact the City of Victor Harbor regarding any specific inquiries or for further assistance concerning the use and development of heritage places.*

*Being properly prepared can save you time and money in the long run.*

*While care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of material contained in this publication, no responsibility will be accepted for any errors or omissions.*

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