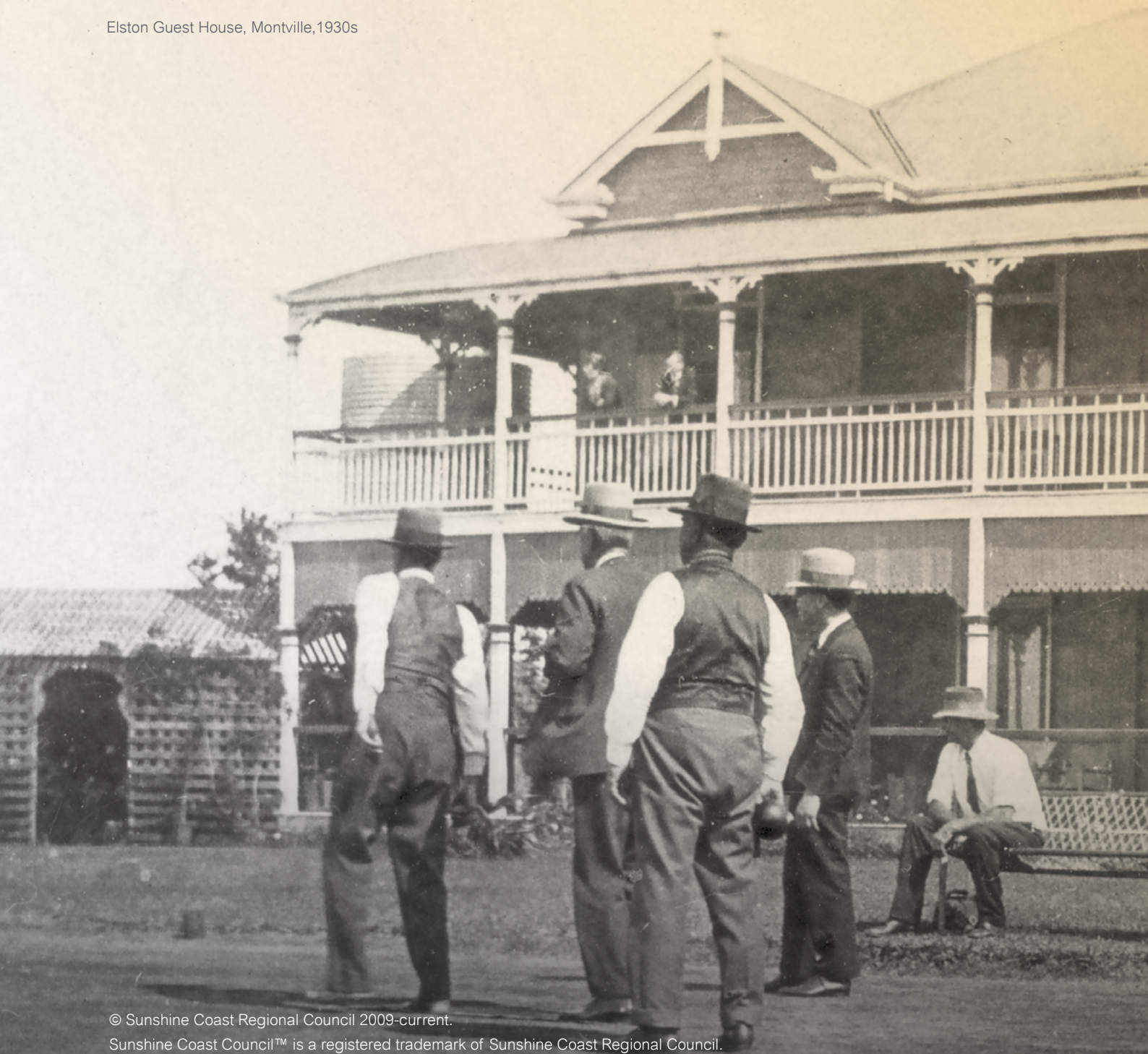


Sunshine Coast
Heritage Plan
2015-2020

December 2015 edition



Elston Guest House, Montville, 1930s



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Disclaimer

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Executive summary

Heritage can be described as all the things from our past and present which we consider important enough to be passed on to future generations.

In a practical sense our heritage shapes who we are and where we came from – contributing to our sense of identity and belonging, and our memory of place.

It is a significant contributor to the character and identity of the Sunshine Coast. It is woven into our natural, built and cultural environments. It is a fundamental element of the region's sense of community and plays a major role in the desirability of the Sunshine Coast as both a place to live and a place to visit.

Sunshine Coast recognises that acknowledging and appreciating the Coast's heritage can only be achieved if we act in a planned and coordinated way – in how we promote heritage, encourage interaction with heritage sites and collections, identify and interpret our heritage, and then activate and celebrate our heritage.

The *Sunshine Coast Heritage Plan 2015-2020* (the Plan) aims to provide council with this coordinated approach. It aims to provide a pathway to define and begin fulfilling its heritage conservation and management goals in ways which align with, but does not duplicate, the heritage roles and responsibilities of state and federal governments.

The Plan itself has been informed by a range of stakeholders including the council endorsed Sunshine Coast Heritage Reference Group, the region's Traditional Owners, the Jinibara and Kabi Kabi, and key regional and state-based heritage experts.

While it acknowledges the significant contribution of these groups it also identifies the need for ongoing partnership with owners of heritage places, heritage-based organisations, custodians of heritage places, the wider community, and state and federal government agencies, if it is to succeed in achieving its heritage vision for the region.

'Our heritage is our gift for the future' is the vision of the plan and articulates the value council places on the Sunshine Coast region's rich heritage. To achieve this vision, the Plan has been structured around the five outcome areas of: knowledge, conservation, support, communication and advocacy. These outcome areas and their respective goals are described as:

Outcome Area	Goal
Knowledge	Heritage, its value and significance to the Sunshine Coast community is comprehensively researched, understood, identified, recorded and shared.
Conservation	Best practice conservation management and innovative solutions protect and conserve the Sunshine Coast's natural and cultural heritage for current and future generations.
Support	Ongoing support for heritage places through programs, events, training, financial assistance, incentives and specialist advice fosters a sense of pride in the community and provides an opportunity to stimulate and support the growth of heritage.
Communication	Increased visibility of heritage through cultural activities, creative expression, exhibitions, events, education partnerships and community development strengthens community identity, robustness and increases the demand for heritage.
Advocacy	Key stakeholders in heritage have an increased awareness and appreciation of the region's diverse heritage.

The outcome areas are interrelated and will be managed through a cooperative approach across council. This approach will ensure that council's response to heritage matters is integrated into its business practices and is carried out in a balanced and sustainable way.

Lastly, while this Plan has aligned itself with the proposed changes to the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*, which is currently in draft, it is acknowledged that a minor review of this document may be required following the Queensland Government's anticipated endorsement and roll out of the new legislation in late 2015. Should any statutory changes require amendments within the Plan, this will be undertaken in 2016 and any minor amendments will be presented to council for acknowledgement.

Introduction

Heritage is interwoven into the fabric of our everyday life. It is all around us in the stories that have become our history. It is the story of how the Glass House Mountains were formed, the role of our rivers, the function of large open space and urban breaks and why the coastal areas are so important. It is the small encounters of our history that we come across as we visit our rural towns, join in community celebrations and walk through the national parks that remind us of our past.

It is the knowledge we gain from understanding and knowing our past that help identify what is important and then work towards protecting those things for tomorrow. A brief history of the Sunshine Coast is captured within Appendix 1 of this Plan, and provides a broad overview of where the Sunshine Coast has come from as a region.

It is acknowledged that the history provided in Appendix 1 is only a small part of the many histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in the Sunshine Coast region. The Historic Cultural Heritage Study (Action Item 1.1.1 of the Implementation Plan) and the development of an agreement with Traditional Owners will assist in identifying places of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage significance (Action Item 1.1.4 of the Implementation Plan).

Our heritage is central to the character, identity, liveability and prosperity of the Sunshine Coast, and is interwoven within the region's landscape. It is a fundamental element of the region's sense of community in an environment of rapid growth and change. Heritage plays a major role in the desirability of the Sunshine Coast as both a place to live and a place to visit, with the character and identity of the hinterland and beaches being key elements of the region's success. Heritage makes a significant contribution to the image, identity and the natural advantage of the region.

Acknowledging and celebrating the region's heritage, through its diverse landscape, culture, history, stories, significant places and objects needs to be coordinated in a way that promotes and encourages interaction, interpretation and activity between residents, as well as visitors.

This Heritage Plan aims to deliver on this. It provides an important pathway for council to define and begin fulfilling its heritage conservation and management goals and priorities for the future.



Fairview, Maleny 2014

What is heritage?

“The popular answer is that Heritage is the things, places and practices that define who we are as individuals, as communities, as nations or civilisations and as a species. It is that which we want to keep, share and pass on.”
(Donald Horne Institute for Cultural Heritage).

Heritage can be broadly defined as the qualities and attributes possessed by places and objects that have aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural or social value for past, present or future generations.

No longer seen as just monumental remains of cultures, heritage as a concept has gradually come to include tangible, intangible, moveable and immovable heritage.

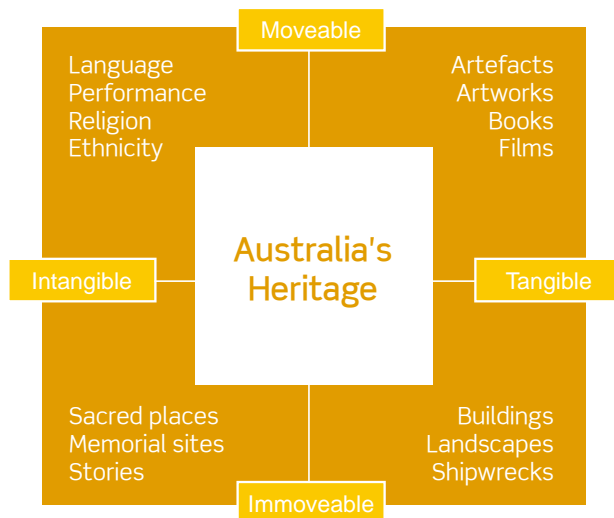


Figure 1: Taken from A Strategy for Australia's Heritage, Department of the Environment (Australian Government)

Heritage is therefore diverse and is present everywhere. It is old and new; it is cultural and natural; it is buildings, trees and landscapes; it is traditions, language, stories and the arts. It can be intrinsic and spiritual.

It is dynamic and evolving, and is in everything that we value and have special association with. Sometimes we can hold it, other times we cannot, but the memory may always retain special significance for us. Each part of heritage helps us to learn from the past and helps us to define who we are.

Why is heritage important?

With everything we do, we place a mark on the world we live in. These marks, collectively define the region's historical record and enrich people's lives. They contribute to the identity of people and places, our sense of belonging and connection to the past.

Heritage is an important asset of the Sunshine Coast region. Heritage holds great value, in that it:

- provides a shared understanding of who we are, where we came from and informs where we are going
- calls for the remembering of past people, events, eras and practices
- brings cultures together to revive traditions
- has aesthetic value
- provides a sense of belonging and identity
- contributes to the local character
- provides lessons from the past
- empowers the community to interpret and shape their culture
- provides people with connections to their past and present - temporal, emotional and physical - and with the collective environment
- defines the image and identity of the region and contributes to the natural advantage of the region
- creates opportunities for the community to come together
- has the potential to support economic development and tourism.

By protecting heritage, we can conserve the things that have helped shape the Sunshine Coast's community of communities. We can also ensure that our stories, traditions and places continue to be celebrated and experienced by future generations.

This document aims to help council realise that future.

Sunshine Coast Council's role

Heritage management and conservation is governed by a myriad of legislation and policy at the national, state and local level. Appendix 3 provides an overview of the different responsibilities of local, state and federal government which are outlined through legislation and other strategies and policies.

In light of these heritage responsibilities, the heritage roles of council can be described as:

- knowing, understanding and valuing the Sunshine Coast's tangible and intangible heritage
- recording and maintaining an up to date list of culturally significant places and artefacts
- ensuring measures are in place to conserve the heritage of the Sunshine Coast today and into the future
- communicating and celebrating the region's rich heritage
- advocating and partnering with heritage bodies, organisations and the community to achieve collaborative heritage outcomes.

This Heritage Plan focuses on those areas of heritage with which council has direct involvement, or where it can exercise some influence.

It is acknowledged that valuing and protecting the region's heritage cannot be done without the significant contribution of owners of heritage places, heritage-based organisations, custodians of heritage places, the wider community, as well as state and federal government. Through this Plan, council will seek to further develop partnerships with key stakeholders so that heritage protection can be sustained into the future.

Council focusses on heritage outcomes via its:

- Cultural Heritage Services – council's key heritage advocates who administer the Heritage Levy; support the council endorsed Sunshine Coast Heritage Reference Group and drive a range of heritage programs and initiatives in the community
- Heritage Library – provides the community with ongoing access to an extensive collection of historical and current materials relating to the Sunshine Coast
- Strategic Planning – develops and amends heritage strategies within the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014, including the Significance Statements for places listed on the local heritage register
- Environment and Sustainability Policy – develop strategic policy direction and planning for heritage needs within an environmental and social context
- Development Assessment – assesses development applications and provides advice on developments with a heritage element
- Parks and Gardens, Environmental Operations and Transport and Infrastructure Management – look after council's open spaces, reserves and landscapes and ensure that any work considers and appreciates its natural and cultural heritage value
- Community Development – connects with members of the community with a heritage focus, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders through the implementation of council's Reconciliation Action Plan
- Property Management – looks after council's own heritage assets and ensures these are well maintained into the future
- Economic Development – facilitates economic opportunities for the Sunshine Coast relating to heritage, including cultural tourism as part of broader tourism development opportunities
- Community Grants – supports heritage programs and initiatives through funding
- Galleries – presents the region's heritage for the community to access and enjoy
- Records and Archives – ensures council's records are documented and can provide a historical record of what and when things have happened within council.

Plan framework

Purpose

The Heritage Plan is an exciting step towards providing council with an integrated and holistic framework to guide the identification, protection, conservation and management of the region's heritage into the future.

The Plan will ensure that council is well placed to manage and conserve the heritage of the Sunshine Coast, natural, built and intangible, into the future.

The Plan:

- identifies the importance and value of protecting and enhancing the region's heritage
- sets out council's heritage management and conservation goals
- identifies the key actions required by council over the next five years to achieve council's heritage goals
- provides clarity around council's future role and responsibilities in relation to all heritage conservation and management.

This Plan builds upon bodies of work already prepared within council in relation to heritage. These include the Cultural Heritage Background Paper prepared as part of the Our Place Our Future community consultation program in 2009, and an extensive internal discussion paper prepared in 2012.

The Plan's five year timeframe will see a range of identified actions implemented and partnerships formed to underpin an agreed sustainable approach for council to value the region's heritage.

Scope

The Heritage Plan covers all aspects of the Sunshine Coast's cultural and natural heritage for which council has direct responsibility or where it can have some influence. It is complementary to council's other policies and strategies, as well as state and federal legislation.

The Plan considers the extensive scope of the region's heritage and its many custodians, however only makes recommendations for those elements which council can have a role. It is noted that Aboriginal cultural heritage is included within the overall scope of this Plan. The content and actions which have been developed around Aboriginal cultural heritage have been developed in consultation with the Traditional Owners.

The Traditional Owners acknowledged council's desire to develop a database of significant cultural heritage places for Jinibara and Gubbi Gubbi (Kabi Kabi) peoples, however they indicated that their preference was for council to reference the database used by the State, which is guided by the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*. In agreement with the Traditional Owners in the Sunshine Coast region, a cultural heritage agreement will be developed separate to this plan, and this is reflected in Action Item 1.1.4 of the Implementation Plan; Develop an agreement with Traditional Owners which will assist in identifying places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance.

The Plan identifies council's heritage vision and priorities for the future. The Plan focuses on five key outcome areas to provide direction for the future.

- 1 Knowledge: Surrounds what council will do to build upon its knowledge base of its tangible and intangible heritage.
- 2 Conservation: Relates to putting measures in place to conserve and promote the region's heritage assets.
- 3 Support: Involves coordinating policies, initiatives, partnerships and other measures that help achieve positive heritage outcomes.
- 4 Communication: Involves promoting, celebrating and growing the community's awareness and appreciation of the region's heritage.
- 5 Advocacy: Involves engaging with key stakeholders with the aim of positively influencing heritage outcomes.

The above outcome areas are commonly used in heritage strategies across Australia, with research undertaken by the Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand also recommending the use of a standard strategic model to produce local heritage strategies. The outcome areas are also endorsed by the Queensland government and the Queensland Heritage Council who reviewed the Plan.

How this Plan was put together

The methodology used to prepare this Plan is set out in the following.

Stage 1: Contextual Research

Involved reviewing existing bodies of work relating to heritage; understanding the legislative and policy environment; understanding how other local governments are working in this space, and reviewing the strengths and opportunities of council's current work in heritage conservation and management.

Stage 2: Initial Consultation

The council endorsed Sunshine Coast Cultural Heritage Reference Group and a working party of four councillors (identified by their peers) were engaged at this stage to ensure that the purpose and scope for the Plan were on track, and to understand and test some of the key priorities for the future. At this stage, five outcome areas of the Plan were agreed upon – Knowledge, Conservation, Support, Communication and Advocacy.

Stage 3: Preparation of Draft Plan

Involved the preparation of a draft Plan based on collating and balancing the findings of the contextual research, outcomes of consultation, as well as the outcomes of a Strengths and Opportunities exercise (refer to Appendix 4). This stage involved consulting with key internal and external stakeholders of the draft Plan. The purpose of this was to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within the draft Plan, and ground-truth the recommendations. This stage included engaging with all nominated internal stakeholders, the community heritage sector, the Sunshine Coast Heritage Reference Group and Traditional Owners.

Stage 4: Public Exhibition of Draft Plan

Following endorsement from council, this stage involved the public exhibition of the draft Plan.

Stage 5: Finalisation of Plan

This stage involved revising the Plan as a result of the public exhibition, and presenting the final Plan to council for adoption and implementation.

Heritage context and Policy Framework

National and State Context

All three levels of government in Australia are responsible for heritage conservation and management. Each tier of government has its own set of legislation, policies, advisory bodies and portfolios of responsibility. This sets the framework for Sunshine Coast Council's regulatory obligations and broader heritage considerations. An overview of the national and state heritage context and policy framework is located at Appendix 3.

Relationship with the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014

The *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014* is one tool which council uses to identify, value and protect the region's heritage. It plays an important role in the protection of the region's heritage-listed places.

The *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014* is one regulatory mechanism to achieve the goals of the Heritage Plan. As the actions from the Implementation Plan are realised and more detailed information on cultural heritage is available, this information may inform future planning scheme revisions. The following provides a snapshot of the relationship between the Heritage Plan and the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014*.

A further overview of the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014* is provided within Appendix 3.

Table 1: Relationship with the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014

Sunshine Coast Heritage Plan	Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014
What is it?	
Council's regional action plan for heritage conservation and management.	Council's regulatory tool for ensuring the conservation of listed heritage places. The Planning Scheme also sets the Strategic Framework for development across the Sunshine Coast and ensures character and amenity in each local plan area is maintained.
What is its focus?	
Regional.	Generally relates to individual sites and character areas.
What is its scope?	
Sets high level goals to protect and value the region's tangible, intangible, movable and immovable cultural and natural heritage, not already covered in other legislative documents.	Specific to heritage places identified on the local and state heritage registers, as well as character areas.
What does it do?	
Ensures that council is well placed to manage and conserve the Sunshine Coast's heritage into the future.	Ensures that development on or adjoining an identified heritage place is compatible with the heritage significance of the place; and that the streetscape character and significance of identified character areas is conserved and enhanced.
When is it applied?	
The Heritage Plan will be continually implemented for the next five years, and will direct council's cultural heritage activities and initiatives.	Only for assessable development that requires an application to be lodged with council.

Relationship with other policies and strategies

Council has a platform of existing strategies and policies which have heritage related themes and actions contained within them.

This illustrates council's varying levels of involvement and influence across many areas, and the importance council already places on heritage conservation and management.

Figure 2 shows council's other policies, plans and strategies which have a heritage element and contain specific directed actions.

This Heritage Plan does not replace council's existing policies, plans and strategies.

The Plan instead provides the overarching direction for council in terms of heritage conservation and management as a whole. The Plan aims to provide consistent heritage goals and align council's efforts in a coordinated, effective and innovative manner.

An extensive review of council's current policy framework, in which this Plan sits, is provided as Appendix 3.

Figure 2: Existing council plans, strategies and policies with a heritage element.



Current snapshot

Existing achievements

The effective management and conservation of the region's heritage requires a multi-layered approach from policy development to program implementation. Council is already achieving a lot across this spectrum. Below is a list of some of those achievements and community initiatives:

- the introduction of the Heritage Levy in 2009, which is still continuing today. The levy program provides ongoing funds towards a range of heritage-related initiatives
- the establishment of the Sunshine Coast Cultural Heritage Reference Group, endorsed by council, and which includes representation from the Jinibara and Kabi Kabi Aboriginal groups, local heritage organisations, local museums, historians and heritage architects
- partnerships with an active and committed network of heritage organisations who are passionate stewards of the region's heritage
- the adoption of the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014*, including the list of local heritage places and their statements of significance (Appendix SC6.10A of the Scheme), which aim to protect and enhance heritage-listed places across the council area. Refer to Appendix 2 for heritage places owned by council (or in council's trusteeship)
- the establishment of the value of heritage within council with multiple units working towards protecting the region's tangible and intangible heritage. The presence of heritage initiatives in a wide range of existing council strategies shows that council is already strongly committed to achieving heritage outcomes
- steps taken towards conserving its own heritage assets, with conservation planning and management being undertaken for Bankfoot House and Fairview. More broadly, council is also managing the region's landscape heritage
- development of an Arts and Heritage Collections database that provides community access to a wide array of registered items at one central, online point
- adoption of the *Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan*
- the promotion and capturing of the region's heritage through projects such as heritage walks and tours, e-newsletters, heritage stories via interviews, and online formats such as HistoryPin

- the provision of financial support for local heritage community organisations and heritage events, both through the Heritage Levy and the Community Grants program
- the establishment of the Heritage Advisory Service to assist owners of heritage places
- the region's heritage knowledge bases are continually growing via a range of initiatives, including the heritage library, the Picture Sunshine Coast initiative and other digital projects.

This Plan seeks to build on council's current initiatives and achievements, by providing clear and common goals and direction for the future.



Bankfoot House, Glass House Mountains (current)

Opportunities and challenges ahead

This Heritage Plan seeks to address the key opportunities and challenges facing council in the conservation of the region's heritage value. The key opportunities and challenges for council are:

- closing the current gaps in the identification, understanding and knowledge of the region's tangible and intangible heritage
- understanding and complementing the layered legislative framework that governs heritage
- formalising agreements and protocols between council and the region's traditional owners, the Jinibara and Kabi Kabi peoples, on how and when to engage on cultural heritage matters
- improving current and developing new tools, particularly in light of technological trends, to better share and celebrate the region's heritage
- ensuring that the region's heritage continues to be valued and conserved during a time when the Sunshine Coast is undergoing change via population growth

- development of innovative and sophisticated approaches to the management, conservation and realisation of the region's heritage
- exploring the region's cultural heritage tourism opportunities, and how these can be accessed and promoted further
- ensuring that the Heritage Levy is funding heritage initiatives in a coordinated, effective and strategic way
- securing sufficient financial, physical and human resources to deliver successful heritage conservation outcomes
- developing ongoing partnerships and improving relationships with other heritage stakeholders, to assist in the fluid sharing of information and achieving collaborative outcomes. This includes strengthening the existing network of community-run museums
- understanding the viability of heritage assets for tourism purposes.

A more detailed look at the opportunities and challenges for council is provided as Appendix 4.



Action Plan

Vision

This Heritage Plan's overarching vision for heritage on the Sunshine Coast is:

**Our heritage is our gift
for the future**

This vision provides council's five year goal for the conservation and management of the region's heritage. It provides direction for assigning resources and developing programs and services in the quest for excellence in heritage conservation management. Council will strive to achieve this vision by implementing the actions set out within the following sections of the Plan.

Outcome areas

To achieve the vision, the Heritage Plan identifies a series of priorities for the future which are structured under the five key outcome areas:

1. Knowledge
2. Conservation
3. Support
4. Communication
5. Advocacy.

The outcome areas are interrelated and will be managed through an integrated and cooperative approach in council, where council areas will collaboratively undertake their actions (as set out within the Implementation Plan). This cooperative approach to conserving and managing heritage both now and into the future will ensure that council's response to heritage matters is integrated into its business practices and is carried out in a balanced and sustainable way.



Mount Beerwah, c.1932

The five outcome areas focus on the heritage actions required for council to achieve its heritage vision.

A background rationale for each outcome area provides an overview of the key challenges and opportunities

facing council, and identifies the gaps which council will work towards narrowing.

Further detail of the opportunities and challenges for council are provided within Appendix 4.

Figure 3: Relationship between Heritage Plan vision and outcome areas.



1. Knowledge

Goal

Heritage, its value and significance to the Sunshine Coast community is comprehensively researched, understood, identified, recorded and shared.

Rationale

A comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the region's heritage is critical to confidently plan for our long term heritage needs. There are opportunities for council to further build on its knowledge to ensure this occurs.

The gap in this area is that council does not have a comprehensive understanding of what items and sites are significant to the Sunshine Coast's heritage, in either a list or a map format. A positive step towards understanding what stories, places, vistas and objects of the Sunshine Coast are of heritage significance is to undertake a heritage study. A heritage study looks at the historical processes of the Sunshine Coast, and assesses the significance of the remaining evidence of those processes today.

The scope of the heritage study would ideally include the region's cultural and natural heritage, thereby providing council with a complete picture of these aspects. Such a heritage study will guide council and the community in how to properly take into account the heritage of the Sunshine Coast when carrying out planning, development or when generally undertaking heritage initiatives.

Council's heritage library is a key community resource, which currently provides a significant repository of heritage knowledge. The heritage library has developed an extensive local studies collection comprising photographs, oral history interviews, books, maps, newspapers, booklets, brochures and pamphlets. The continued growth of this valuable resource will provide a central knowledge base for the community. The capturing of contemporary events will be an important aspect of this, so these events are not forgotten.

Council acknowledge that there are many histories associated with Aboriginal, Torres Strait and South Sea Islander families and the Sunshine Coast region. The extent of Indigenous history included in the Heritage Plan was limited as it was the understanding and the intention of council at the Sunshine Coast Cultural Heritage Reference Group (SCHRAG) that a more detailed history of Aboriginal, Torres Strait and South Sea Islander people would be one of the results of the agreement with Traditional Owners to work towards identifying areas of Indigenous significance, as outlined at Action Item 1.1.4.

There are some gaps in understanding what heritage collections, stories and other materials are owned, managed, housed and resourced by private individuals and small community organisations. Exploring ways to further centralise the existing knowledge base which exists across these many stakeholders will need to occur in the future, to ensure that all elements of the region's heritage are acknowledged, documented and celebrated.

Attached to this is the need to explore the digitisation of the region's heritage. Council has made significant groundwork on this with the establishment of the Arts and Heritage Database. Further advancing the digitisation of the region's heritage will ensure that knowledge resources are accessible in a digital age. Collections can be presented in a contemporary format which enables simple and fast access on a local and global scale via the council's library website. In addition, exploring how digital formats can be integrated into council's heritage programs and initiatives (such as walks, films, social media sites), is a key opportunity which has the potential to provide a platform for community access both locally and more generally for those interested in heritage education and tourism opportunities.

Finally, council has a role in helping to build strong partnerships to allow the fluid sharing of information and the passing on of knowledge. Council has established relationships with state departments, peak bodies and local heritage organisations. Building on these partnerships and developing new ones, will be a key mechanism to improving the knowledge of the Sunshine Coast's heritage.

Strategies

- 1.1 Ensure the region's cultural and natural heritage is comprehensively researched and documented.
- 1.2 Build upon council's knowledge of known items, places and records of significance.
- 1.3 Ensure that information of the region's heritage is available for all to access.
- 1.4 Actively strengthen relationships with the external stakeholders so that information can be shared and knowledge bases can be built upon.

The strategies should be read in conjunction with council's:

- Cultural Development Policy
- Heritage Levy Policy
- Reconciliation Action Plan
- Open Space Strategy
- Biodiversity Strategy
- Recreation Trails Plan
- Cemetery Plan
- Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme.

Refer to the Implementation Plan for targeted actions which council will undertake over the next five years to help achieve the above strategies.



Testing the Kom'bar (Bark Canoe), Gubbi Gubbi Gun'doo Yang'ga'man canoe project.
Photographer: John Waldron, Sunshine Coast 2013.

2. Conservation

Goal

Best practice conservation management and innovative solutions protect and conserve the Sunshine Coast's natural and cultural heritage for current and future generations.

Rationale

Heritage conservation is about recognising the region's heritage, identifying what's important and taking all the necessary steps to retain those aspects. Recognising, understanding and conserving heritage significance is the key to maintaining a strong identity, culture and a well-developed respect for heritage.

The Sunshine Coast is a region undergoing rapid change and growth. Consideration of how council will conserve and integrate our heritage into our evolving region needs to occur. Successful heritage conservation policies and programs allow for change to occur while also keeping an eye on the past and the proposed vision. The Burra Charter (National standard) provides ongoing guidance for council in relation to how to conserve and manage heritage assets into the future.

A number of conservation initiatives have been progressed by council with the financial assistance of the Heritage Levy program. These include the development of conservation management plans for council owned historical buildings, the restoration of significant items such as the Shay Locomotive, the provision of assistance with emergent heritage issues, and the establishment of a Heritage Advisory Service to enable the owners of heritage buildings on the Sunshine Coast to receive preliminary free advice before starting works.

Despite some movement forward in the area of conservation, there are opportunities for council to progress.

The complex nature of heritage means conservation can be complicated. The separation of responsibilities across different levels of government, multiple statutory and non-statutory lists and registers (some of which contain information of a confidential nature), reactive processes and inequitable protection all contribute to what can be confusing when developing a localised heritage framework.

The conservation and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage requires greater clarity. Ensuring that effective protocols are put in place so that fluid and open engagement occurs between council and the area's Traditional Owners is a key priority moving forward.

There is also little understanding amongst the community of the costs, rationale, processes and legal requirements involved in conserving and maintaining heritage places. Establishing simple and easy to understand heritage conservation resources (for both council and the community) has the potential to break down barriers and reduce confusion amongst heritage stakeholders. Resources such as the Burra Charter, the Australian Natural Heritage Charter and the Australian Heritage Commission guides for protecting local heritage places, provide a helpful starting point.

Finally, there are other opportunities for council to progress its own effective conservation practices. These include finalising an audit of council's own heritage assets, and ensuring processes are in place for their conservation and activation. Ensuring that processes and criteria for how places are included and removed from council's list of local heritage places (which do not necessarily have to be old), and what items to include and remove from council's collections needs to be developed.

Strategies

- 2.1 Ensure best practice heritage conservation management is integrated into all council heritage practices.
- 2.2 Assist the community and council in the understanding of, and care of, heritage places.
- 2.3 Ensure council's heritage places are vibrant and active spaces.
- 2.4 Ensure Traditional Owners are engaged with in an effective and timely manner in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage matters.
- 2.5 Ensure council-owned heritage assets are managed in accordance with best practice heritage conservation principles.

The strategies should be read in conjunction with council's:

- Cultural Development Policy
- Heritage Levy Policy
- Reconciliation Action Plan
- Open Space Strategy
- Biodiversity Strategy
- Social Infrastructure Strategy
- Climate Change and Peak Oil Strategy
- Waterways and Coastal Management Strategy
- Recreation Trails Plan
- Cemetery Plan
- Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme.

Refer to the Implementation Plan for targeted actions which council will undertake over the next five years to help achieve the above strategies.



Bankfoot House, 1915

3. Support

Goal

Ongoing support for heritage places through programs, events, training, financial assistance, incentives and specialist advice fosters a sense of pride in the community and provides an opportunity to stimulate and support the growth of heritage.

Rationale

Contemporary management and support for heritage looks for new opportunities to celebrate, learn from, and enrich people's lives through their local heritage. Cultural heritage management often involves not only recognising and protecting cultural heritage, but also supporting and encouraging the ongoing restoration, enhancement, community participation and use of cultural heritage places, objects and values.

Council owns and manages a wide array of heritage buildings, places and landscapes, and has significant collections of documents, images, objects, public art and monuments in its care. Council houses these collections, archival material and resources within its own properties such as Bankfoot House, its Bli Bli archive facility, depots and at local library branches. Ensuring processes and adequate facilities and resources are in place for council's heritage assets to be handled and managed effectively will need to occur in the future.

Council is not the only custodian of heritage on the Sunshine Coast. Traditional Owners, community organisations and individuals, private landholders, religious organisations, environmental organisations, and other levels of government are amongst the range of custodians of the region's tangible and intangible heritage. The contribution of community groups to heritage conservation is particularly significant across the Sunshine Coast region, with community museums, historical societies and friends groups each undertaking their own initiatives to support heritage conservation on the Sunshine Coast.

Council has a role in ensuring that these custodians have the support they need to care for the region's heritage assets, and have skills and resources to ensure good conservation practices. Undertaking a review of the Heritage Advisory Service, investigating the introduction of an incentives scheme for private landholders, and offering professional development and networking opportunities are ways council will provide more enhanced support in the future.

Support will also need to be provided to help build on the cultural tourism opportunities of the Sunshine Coast. The Sunshine Coast is well positioned as a national and international tourism destination, and is therefore ideally placed to maximise the opportunities associated with cultural tourism (refer to the Communication theme for further detail). Ensuring that owners of heritage and tourism providers are well supported to maximise on this opportunity will be an important step for council moving forward.

Finally, the Heritage Levy Program and Policy are council's key tools to producing on-the-ground outcomes for heritage management and conservation. This is in addition to the heritage categories within council's successful Community Partnership Funding Program, and Community Grants program. It is noted that the demand on the Heritage Levy is great and that the funds are limited. However, through the endorsed Heritage Levy Policy, the council endorsed Sunshine Coast Cultural Heritage Reference Group provides expert advice to council on where the funds may be spent for council's final consideration. This Plan will provide an agreed strategic direction for the Heritage Levy and council's decision making.

Strategies

- 3.1 Ensure the community and council are able to access professional advice and support on heritage matters.
- 3.2 Build the capacity of the region's network of heritage community organisations.
- 3.3 Support programs and events that promote the Sunshine Coast's heritage.
- 3.4 Support the development of a robust cultural heritage tourism industry on the Sunshine Coast.
- 3.5 Monitor the success of council's evolving commitment to heritage conservation and management.

The strategies should be read in conjunction with council's:

- Cultural Development Policy
- Heritage Levy Policy
- Reconciliation Action Plan
- Open Space Strategy
- Social Infrastructure Strategy
- Waterways and Coastal Management Strategy
- Community Events and Celebrations Strategy
- Recreation Trails Plan
- Libraries Plan
- Cemetery Plan
- Public Art Policy.

Refer to the Implementation Plan for targeted actions which council will undertake over the next five years to help achieve the above strategies.



Maroochydore Beach, c.1950

4. Communication

Goal

Increased visibility of heritage through cultural activities, creative expression, exhibitions, events, education partnerships and community development strengthens community identity, robustness and increases the demand for heritage.

Rationale

Council recognises the importance of raising awareness of heritage and acknowledges that resourcing heritage programs, services and facilities provides the opportunity to assist the community to promote, celebrate, interpret and conserve significant Sunshine Coast heritage and cultural identity.

Communication and promotion of heritage is closely linked with knowledge and understanding. The greater the knowledge and interest in heritage, the greater the potential for respect, appreciation, sympathetic reuse, conservation, and demand for heritage related activities and opportunities. Building heritage interest and demand also increases the need for industries, skills, trades and education necessary to support the heritage sector.

While there are many current opportunities to experience the region's history and heritage, there is potential for council's communication and celebration of heritage to be enhanced. Council has the opportunity to better target and grow heritage audiences through multiple means, including via the support and promotion of events, programs, and activities, and engagement with established and potential heritage champions within schools, universities and historical societies.

The opportunity for the community to access or view council's heritage collections could be improved. Currently, publicly accessible heritage collections are held by both council and the community. There is potential to investigate a hierarchy of regional heritage precincts, with Nambour and Landsborough specifically

to be considered as part of this investigation, and Landsborough Museum to be included in any exploration of regional interpretative spaces.

The National Tourism Strategy identifies cultural tourism as a potential growth area in Australia, with the Sunshine Coast being in an excellent position to maximise upon this opportunity. State government's *Arts for All Queenslanders Strategy 2014-2018* highlights that 'cultural tourism is a niche market that has the potential to contribute to the Queensland tourism economy. Research tells us that, though small in numbers, cultural tourists stay longer and spend more.' Gaining additional knowledge around the region's potential cultural heritage tourism opportunities will need to be explored further, to ensure that the Sunshine Coast is well positioned to capitalise on the benefits and economic gains of cultural tourism.

To increase demand and take advantage of cultural heritage tourism potential, council will also need to ensure that a coordinated identity or message promoting local heritage is in place. Investment is required to make heritage attractive to the general public, tourists and young people in a way that removes the perception that heritage is old and boring. The development of a marketing strategy is a key step to achieving this. This could consider the implementation of contemporary marketing techniques, the development of a brand and using the latest technologies to communicate in more engaging and effective ways.

Strategies

- 4.1 Effectively package and promote the region's heritage, as something to be valued, experienced and celebrated.
- 4.2 Strengthen partnerships which identify and communicate cultural heritage tourism opportunities.
- 4.3 Interact and collaborate with schools, educational institutions and other relevant organisations to help promote the region's diverse heritage.

Refer to the Implementation Plan for targeted actions which council will undertake over the next five years to help achieve the above strategies.

The strategies should be read in conjunction with council's:

- Cultural Development Policy
- Heritage Levy Policy
- Reconciliation Action Plan
- Community Events and Celebrations Strategy
- Open Space Strategy
- Biodiversity Strategy
- Waterways and Coastal Management Strategy
- Rural Futures Strategy
- Major and Regional Events Strategy
- Recreation Trails Plan
- Libraries Plan
- Cemetery Plan
- Regional Economic Development Strategy
- Collections Policy.



Bankfoot House, Glass House Mountains, 1930s

5. Advocacy

Goal

Key stakeholders in heritage have an increased awareness and appreciation of the region's diverse heritage.

Rationale

The scope and complexity of heritage means that different levels of government have varying responsibilities across the spectrum. As council does not have full control over the heritage matters that impact at the local level, advocacy is prudent to achieving positive, on-the-ground outcomes.

Internally within the council organisation, there is a need to educate the organisation on the importance of heritage and its conservation, as well practical conservation tools. Greater awareness about heritage has the potential to reduce perceived confusion and complexity around heritage.

At a local level, council can provide advice for owners of heritage places and community organisations on heritage related matters through the Heritage Advisory Service. Engaging with all interested parties will be important for the effective negotiation of complex heritage planning issues, and for achieving the best heritage outcomes.

At the state and federal level, council has the ability to advocate for important issues that will have a direct impact on the region. This could relate to legislation, policies and strategies, or more specific matters such as heritage lists. In particular, advocacy for a reduction in red tape to assist in protecting at risk sites and buildings across the region are key opportunities to progress. It will be important for council to advocate with a united front on matters that will impact on our heritage.

Strategies

- 5.1** Advocate at all levels on heritage-related matters which impact at the local level.

Refer to the Implementation Plan for targeted actions which council will undertake over the next five years to help achieve the above strategies.

The above strategy should be read in conjunction with council's:

- Heritage Levy Policy
- Reconciliation Action Plan
- Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme.



Burgess family at Bankfoot House c.1913

Implementation Plan

The following Implementation Plan sets out the actions which council will undertake over the next five years to work towards achieving the strategies identified within this Heritage Plan.

1. Knowledge

Action	Time frame	Funding	Lead	Partners
Strategy 1.1: Ensure our cultural and natural heritage is comprehensively researched and documented.				
1.1.1 Undertake a Historic Cultural Heritage Study of the Sunshine Coast Note: The scope of the Historic Cultural Heritage Study should include a thematic history of the region which includes landscapes, built environment, parks and open spaces.	2015-18	Heritage Levy funding	Strategic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Relations • Parks and Gardens • Environmental Operations • Environment and Sustainability Policy • In consultation with (external): Local heritage organisations • SCHRG* *Other council branches as appropriate
1.1.2 Pending the outcomes of the Historic Cultural Heritage Study, prepare a list of council's heritage places in the region.	2018	Core business	Strategic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Relations • Environment and Sustainability Policy • In consultation with (external): Local heritage organisations • SCHRG
1.1.3 Pending the completion of Action 1.1.1 undertake a review of the <i>Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014</i> by updating the local heritage register (and overlay mapping) contained within the planning scheme.	2019-20	Project funding request	Strategic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Relations • Environment and Sustainability Policy • Environmental Operations • Parks and Gardens • In consultation with (external): Local heritage organisations • SCHRG
1.1.4 Develop an agreement with Traditional Custodians which will assist in identifying places of cultural heritage significance.	2015	Core business	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Relations • Environmental Operations • Parks and Gardens • In consultation with (external): Local heritage organisations • SCHRG

Action	Time frame	Funding	Lead	Partners
1.1.5 Develop a register of Heritage Trees within the council area.	2018	Heritage Levy funding	Parks and Gardens	• Community Relations
Strategy 1.2: Build upon council's knowledge of known items, places and records of significance.				
1.2.1 Develop a Digitisation Plan for council's heritage collection, and contribute to the development of a regional Digitisation Plan with heritage organisations and agencies.	2016	Heritage Levy funding	Community Relations	• ICTS
1.2.2 Continue to develop the Arts and Heritage Database as a regional heritage management tool and access point. This will include building on the digitisation of the region's heritage with local heritage organisations, with a view to capturing a whole of region collection.	Ongoing	Core business	Community Relations	• In consultation with (external): Local heritage organisations
1.2.3 Encourage local heritage organisations and the Heritage Library to capture and share contemporary events within their knowledge databases.	Ongoing	Core business	Community Relations	• In consultation with (external): Local heritage organisations • University of the Sunshine Coast
Strategy 1.3: Ensure that information of the region's heritage is available for all to access.				
1.3.1 Continue to grow the Heritage Library, as a place of learning, programs, understanding and research.	Ongoing	Core business	Community Relations	• In consultation with (external): Local heritage organisations
Strategy 1.4: Actively strengthen relationships with the external stakeholders so that information can be shared and knowledge bases can be built upon.				
1.4.1 Continue to establish partnerships with relevant state and federal heritage agencies and departments and key partners including the State Library of Queensland and educational institutions such as the University of the Sunshine Coast.	Ongoing	Core business	Community Relations	• Strategic Planning

2. Conservation

Action	Time frame	Funding	Lead	Partners	
Strategy 2.1: Ensure best practice heritage conservation management is integrated into all council heritage practices.					
2.1.1	Implement a framework to provide for the periodic updating of the local heritage register contained within the <i>Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014</i> , based upon the processes and criteria identified in the Historic Cultural Heritage Study.	2018 - Ongoing	Core business	Strategic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Relations • In consultation with (external): SCHRG
2.1.2	Ensure that council operations and reviews of existing council policies, plans and strategies with a heritage element consider the Burra Charter and this Heritage Plan.	Ongoing	Core business	Council-wide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning • Property Management
Strategy 2.2: Assist the community and council in the understanding of, and care of, heritage places.					
2.2.1	Prepare informative resources for council and the community to assist in the practical conservation of heritage assets.	2017	Heritage Levy funding	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning • Property Management
Strategy 2.3: Ensure council's heritage places are vibrant and active spaces.					
2.3.1	Facilitate the adaptive re-use of council's heritage facilities, with the aim of achieving sustainable use outcomes.	Ongoing	Heritage Levy funding (as required)	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Management • Community Facilities and Planning • In consultation with (external): Friends Groups associated with Historic Houses
Strategy 2.4: Ensure Traditional Owners are engaged with in an effective and timely manner in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage matters.					
2.4.1	Develop a cultural heritage agreement and protocols with Traditional Owners.	2015	Core business	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Facilities and Planning • Environmental Operations • In consultation with (external): • Traditional Owners

Action	Time frame	Funding	Lead	Partners	
Strategy 2.5: Ensure council-owned heritage assets are managed in accordance with best practice heritage conservation principles.					
2.5.1	Undertake a condition assessment of council's heritage assets.	2015	Core business	Property Management	• Community Relations
2.5.2	Develop conservation management plans for council-owned heritage assets, which include interpretation plans and disaster management contingency plans, and ensure that implementation is actioned by the relevant council department.	Ongoing	Heritage Levy funding (as required)	Property Management	• Community Relations
2.5.3	Develop a Collections Policy, and associated collection planning, which holistically looks at council's public art, art collection, sister city gifts and cultural heritage collections.	2015-16	Core business	Community Relations	• Community Programs and Events

3. Support

Action	Time frame	Funding	Lead	Partners	
Strategy 3.1: Ensure the community and council are able to access professional advice and support on heritage matters.					
3.1.1	Continue to support the role of the Sunshine Coast Cultural Reference Group.	Ongoing	Core business	Community Relations	
3.1.2	Review the Heritage Advisory Service to ensure an informed response to heritage properties.	2015	Core business	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning • Environment and Sustainability Policy • Development Services
3.1.3	Investigate the introduction of operational mechanisms (such as local laws and regulations) and incentives programs (similar to the successful Land for Wildlife program) to assist owners of identified heritage assets.	2017	Core business	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment and Sustainability Policy • In consultation with (external): SCHRG • Owners of heritage places
3.1.4	Ensure the delivery of efficient and integrated internal heritage management services to the community in line with the Queensland Heritage Act are appropriately resourced.	2015	Core business	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Services
3.1.5	Undertake a feasibility study for additional storage space for the Sunshine Coast region, to ensure the region is equipped with sufficient storage space to house council-owned and non-council owned heritage items and collections.	2018	Heritage Levy funding	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Management • Community Facilities and Planning • Environment and Sustainability Policy
3.1.6	Investigate the introduction of exemption certificates for certain development on local heritage places through the <i>Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014</i> .	2016	Core business	Strategic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Services
Strategy 3.2: Support programs and events that promote the heritage of the Sunshine Coast.					
3.2.1	Continue to support heritage related events, activities and programs via the Heritage Levy which maximise community participation and involvement.	Ongoing	Heritage Levy funding (as required)	Community Relations	
3.2.2	Review the Heritage Levy Policy in consideration of this Plan, and to ensure maximum benefit and equitable distribution of heritage levy funds.	2015	Core business	Community Relations	

Action	Time frame	Funding	Lead	Partners	
Strategy 3.3: Support the development of a robust cultural heritage tourism industry on the Sunshine Coast.					
3.3.1	As part of the council's overall tourism objectives, establish partnerships with tourism bodies and the heritage sector, and provide assistance where possible.	2016	Core business	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic development In consultation with (external): Sunshine Coast Destination Limited
3.3.2	Support the enhancement (e.g. beautification, interpretation) of heritage places that will assist in experiencing and understanding the heritage of the Sunshine Coast.	Ongoing	Heritage Levy funding (As required)	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunshine Coast Destination Limited
3.3.3	Support the development of an annual Sunshine Coast wide program which invites heritage houses to be open to the public e.g. Open House program, in collaboration with the heritage network and peak tourism bodies.	2016	Heritage Levy funding (As required)	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunshine Coast Destination Limited Local heritage organisations
Strategy 3.4: Build the capacity of the region's network of heritage community organisations.					
3.4.1	Continue to provide a professional development program (including business skills development) to the heritage sector on an annual basis.	Ongoing	Heritage Levy funding (As required)	Community Relations	
3.4.2	Investigate and implement appropriate governance models for supporting community partnerships across the heritage network.	2016	Core business	Community Relations	
3.4.3	Host meetings/workshops with the heritage sector on an annual basis to further develop a collaborative network of heritage tourism organisations.	Ongoing	Heritage Levy funding (As required)	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunshine Coast Destination Limited In consultation with (external): Heritage sector (museums, heritage agencies, private collections)
Strategy 3.5: Monitor the success of council's evolving commitment to heritage conservation and management.					
3.5.1	Measure the Plan's performance indicators on a periodic basis.	Ongoing	Core business	Community Relations	

4. Communication

Action	Time frame	Funding	Lead	Partners	
Strategy 4.1: Effectively package and promote the region's heritage, as something to be valued, experienced and celebrated.					
4.1.1	Develop internal and external Marketing Strategies informed by a Cultural Heritage Study and thematic history to guide the promotion of the region's heritage, and raise awareness and appreciation within council and the general community. Explore as part of a Marketing Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the use of digital technologies to provide a range of contemporary channels to interpret, celebrate and increase the awareness of Sunshine Coast heritage the greater promotion of the Heritage Levy and the projects which it funds. 	2016	Heritage Levy funding	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications Branch
4.1.2	Undertake a feasibility study to investigate the establishment of a regional interpretation space/ precinct on the Sunshine Coast, pending the outcome, review the master plan for the Landsborough heritage precinct.	2017	Heritage Levy funding	Community Facilities and Planning Branch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Relations Environment and Sustainability Policy Parks and Gardens
4.1.3	Develop a central heritage portal on council's website.	2016	Core business	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICTS

Action	Time frame	Funding	Lead	Partners	
Strategy 4.2: Strengthen partnerships which identify, communicate and celebrate cultural heritage tourism opportunities.					
4.2.1	Partner with Sunshine Coast tourism bodies, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups and the Sunshine Coast museum sector to identify and realise cultural heritage tourism experiences.	2017	Core business	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development • Parks and Gardens • In consultation with (external): • Sunshine Coast Destination Limited • Traditional Owners • Local heritage organisations
4.2.2	Collaboratively undertake an assessment of the region to identify and promote potential cultural heritage tourism opportunities, and their viability/ realism as a tourist experience.	2017	Core business	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development
4.2.3	Develop engaging heritage collateral, including calendars, brochures, signage, newsletters, 'good news' articles, and other collateral as identified in 4.1.1 in partnership with the region's key heritage stakeholders to assist in promoting cultural heritage tourism experiences.	2018	Heritage Levy funding	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In consultation with (external): • Sunshine Coast Destination Limited • Local heritage organisations • Community museums
4.2.4	Expand the existing heritage interpretive trails and promote these to the broader community and peak tourism bodies	Ongoing	Heritage Levy funding (As required)	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Operations • Parks and Gardens
Strategy 4.3: Interact and collaborate with schools, educational institutions and other relevant organisations to help promote the region's diverse heritage.					
4.3.1	Formalise partnerships with schools and the University of the Sunshine Coast to facilitate heritage education.	Ongoing	Core business	Community Relations	
4.3.2	Investigate establishing a tailored educational program for young people within the region's museums and heritage programs, to showcase career opportunities and provide an engaging experience within the heritage industry.	2019	Core business	Community Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local heritage organisations

5. Advocacy

Action	Time frame	Funding	Lead	Partners
Strategy 5.1: Advocate at all levels on heritage-related matters which impact at the local level.				
5.1.1	Actively advocate within council for heritage goals as identified in the Sunshine Coast Council Heritage Plan, to be considered and valued in council programs, projects and services where relevant.	Ongoing	Core business	Community Relations
5.1.2	Strengthen partnerships with other levels of government with the aim of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> aligning expectations and objectives supporting positive heritage outcomes within the Sunshine Coast Region highlighting council's specific concerns in relation to heritage matters under the authority of other levels of government. 	Ongoing	Core business	Community Relations



Cotton Tree Jetty, c.1925



Burnett Family, Buderim c.1897

Monitoring and review

Monitoring

The actions contained within the Implementation Plan will be reported upon on an annual basis. This is required to ensure that the desired outcomes and actions are being achieved.

Review

Two reviews will occur to the Sunshine Coast Heritage Plan over the next five years.

- The first review (minor) will follow the Queensland Government's review and amendment of the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*, which is due for completion towards the end of 2015. It is acknowledged that consultation with the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has already occurred as part of the development of this Plan and considerations to possible changes have already been made to ensure the Plan has adaptability to possible changes in the Act. Should any statutory changes require amendments within the Heritage Plan this will be undertaken in 2016 and any minor amendments will be presented to council for acknowledgment.
- The second review will occur in 2019. At this time, council will evaluate all actions completed, and set new actions to ensure that heritage priorities remain firmly on council's agenda.

Measuring the Plan's success

A series of performance indicators have been established to measure the success of the Plan – see below.

The completion of the Plan's actions will also be an indicator of the Plan's success.

Together, monitoring the completion of the Plan's actions and the measuring of the below performance indicators, will indicate council's evolving commitment to heritage conservation and management on the Sunshine Coast.

Key Performance Indicators

Knowledge	Increase the research conducted on the region's heritage.
Conservation	Increase the number of people who access the Sunshine Coast Cultural Heritage Reference Group and the Heritage Advisory Service for advice and support.
Support	Increase in programs and events funded via the Heritage Levy that strive to achieve good heritage outcomes.
Communication	Increase the number of people accessing heritage information via council's website and Arts and Heritage Database, accessed through council's library catalogue.
Advocacy	Increase in engagement between council and external stakeholders (community organisations, other levels of government etc.).

Moving into the future

The Sunshine Coast Council Heritage Plan provides council's heritage roadmap for the next five years.

It is anticipated that over this time, council will be filling the gaps and building on the knowledge of the region's heritage; putting measures in place to conserve our diverse history; ensuring that council provides custodians of heritage with the support they need, and ensuring the message about the region's heritage are communicated to the community and our visitors in effective ways.

Focusing on these areas means that council will do much of the groundwork needed to set a solid foundation for our future work around heritage. Some of the actions identified within this Plan are just the first stage of the journey, and are fundamental for achieving some of council's longer term aspirations.

The consultation which was undertaken for the Plan raised many thoughtful suggestions that could also help to achieve positive outcomes in regards to heritage conservation and management. Many of these ideas have been incorporated within the Plan, and others have been noted and will be looked at more closely once council has established its solid foundation.

Moving into the future, council is looking forward to strengthening partnerships with the heritage sector and other external agencies, and enhancing how we work within the heritage field.

Underpinning what council will be doing over the next five years is the notion that council values our region's rich and diverse heritage. Our heritage has value – for our current and future generations. Our heritage is our gift for the future.



Caloundra Lighthouse, Caloundra, c.1940

Appendix 1: A short history of the Sunshine Coast

Aboriginal history

Our region's development and industry are relatively recent but our Aboriginal history dates back many thousands of years and evidence of that time remains with us today.

This is only a small part of the many histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in the Sunshine Coast region. The Historic Cultural Heritage Study (Action Item 1.1.1 of the Implementation Plan) and the development of an agreement with Traditional Owners will assist in identifying places of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage (Action Item 1.1.4 of the Implementation Plan). These actions will grow the collective knowledge around Indigenous and non-Indigenous histories on the Sunshine Coast for the benefit of all residents and visitors to our region.

The Kabi Kabi and Jinibara are the traditionally connected Aboriginal people of today's Sunshine Coast Council area. The Kabi Kabi people lived along the coast and inland on the adjacent ranges, while the Jinibara people lived in the south-western parts of the region. Tribal boundaries were marked by rivers and mountain ranges and a number of major trading routes passed through the Sunshine Coast.

The Kabi Kabi and Jinibara had an excellent knowledge of the land and they hunted the ranges, fished the rivers and lakes, and gathered seafood from the ocean for many thousands of years. The Kabi Kabi and Jinibara walked the country in family groups, coming together when food was plentiful. One of the most significant and largest of these social gatherings were the Bunya festivals in the Blackall Ranges where people from all over the region and beyond gathered to sing and dance, exchange news, settle disputes, arrange marriages and undertake initiation ceremonies.

The Kabi Kabi and Jinibara place great cultural value on the region and its biodiversity. The Kabi Kabi and Jinibara people have an inherent spiritual connection with their traditional lands. Their extensive knowledge, land use practices and connection with the natural environment ensured mutual sustainability and provided ongoing social, cultural and spiritual context.

The coming of Europeans changed the lives of the Traditional Owners. Following the establishment of the penal colony in Redcliffe in 1824, many Aboriginal people died as a result of the expansion of white settlement into the region.

Most of the historical Aboriginal peoples have moved into the area since 1965 when the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act repealed previous laws, dating from 1897, which had restricted indigenous people's rights to own land, travel and vote.

During the mid 1800s Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell instructed surveyors to use Aboriginal names when naming places and features. Many Aboriginal words are still used today to describe parts of our region's geography and landscape. Names such as Beerwah, Caloundra, Mooloolaba, Maroochydore, Mudjimba, Ninderry, Coolum, Nambour, Yandina and Eumundi are but a few derived from Aboriginal words, making the language of the local Jinibara and Kabi Kabi peoples become an intrinsic part of the landscape in modern days.

The early Europeans

Lieutenant James Cook observed the peaks of the Glass House Mountains from his ship, *The Endeavour*, in 1770. He named them after the furnace cones of the glass factories in his native Yorkshire, which they resembled. Some 29 years later, Matthew Flinders conducted a survey of the Glass House Mountains from the summit of Mount Beerburum.

The first Europeans to live on the Sunshine Coast were drawn to the region's abundant timber and grazing potential. The Blackall Ranges were first traversed by European explorers in the 1840s. Cattlemen arrived in the mid 1850s looking for suitable grazing land. After about a decade of trying to graze large runs in the region, many forfeited their leases. A period of poor markets together with the impenetrable scrub and vines inhibited their success with cattle.

The area was, however, abundant with timber, and the bountiful forests were opened up by timber-getters who began to clear the land of its resources. Large quantities of red cedar were extracted from this area during the 1880s, as well as white beech, hoop and bunya tree. The Sunshine Coast area is said to have accommodated the highest concentration of timber mills and produced the greatest volume of timber in all of Queensland.

By the 1890s, the timber getters turned to felling hardwood; however poor timber prices eventually led to

the demise of timber mills. Land clearing by settlers later made way for other agricultural activities, including dairy farming, crops and pasture.

The late 1860s also saw the first sugar cane grown in the Maroochy district, with Joseph Dixon planting cane on the north side of the Mooloolah River. These efforts were quickly abandoned due to flooding, and Dixon moved his operations to Buderim Mountain, establishing the Buderim Sugar Mill. It was the emergence of the sugar cane plantations which saw South Sea Islanders brought to the area to labour in the cane fields.

Gold rush fever reached the region in 1867 when gold was discovered at Gympie. A road to Gympie was in place in 1868 on which the Cobb and Co. Coach took two days to travel. The journey from Brisbane to Gympie was broken at the Cobb and Co. staging post set up by William and Mary Grigor at Bankfoot House at Glass House Mountains, an overnight stop at Cobb's Camp at present day Woombye, and at James Low's House, Yandina. The Cobb and Co. Coach route followed an old Aboriginal pathway which today, is known as Old Gympie Road. This pathway was along the shared boundary between the Kabi Kabi and Jinibara peoples.

Local Government was established in this area when the Caboolture Divisional Board was constituted on November 11, 1879. The Board's area covered the

present Caloundra, Kilcoy, the Blackall Ranges, which included the Maroochy watershed and Caboolture, North Pine River and Kedron Brook areas.

In 1888 Pine Rivers and Redcliffe seceded with the Maroochy Divisional Board being constituted in 1890 from both Caboolture and Widgee boards.

A bridge was opened across Weyba Creek in 1886 which allowed direct access to the seaside from Gympie. Explorer William Landsborough took up land in the area now known as Golden Beach in 1881. During the 1880s, fears of a Russian invasion prompted fortifications at Battery Hill and Bulcock's watchtower at Caloundra.

The 1890s saw the opening of the railway line from Caboolture to present day Landsborough and the demise of the fledgling town of Campbellville. A cyclone in 1893 resulted in Australia's highest rainfall in a 24 hour period. The cyclone also resulted in the SS Dicky being blown onto the beach near Bunduwah Creek.

North West Passage Moreton Bay was first sounded in 1879. In 1896, this was lit and involved the construction of the lighthouse for Caloundra Head on land donated by Robert Bulcock. Moreton Central Sugar Mill was also completed in this year, beginning the growth of Nambour as a sugar town.



Australia Day Procession, Nambour, c.1925

The 20th Century

Timber and dairying kept hinterland towns such as Maleny busy in the early 1900s. Also in the early 1900s surf rescue was restricted to two life buoys made available on Kings Beach for visitors to perform their own beach rescues. In 1916 the first Sunshine Coast surf lifesaving club was established at Maroochydore, only the second in Queensland.

Maroochy and Landsborough Shires were constituted in 1902, and 1912 respectively, resulting in the Maroochy and Landsborough Divisional Boards being recognised as councils.

Soldier settlements were established at Beerburrum with the Governor of Queensland visiting the area to inaugurate the Beerburrum Soldier Settlement in 1916. Farm plots of 20 to 40 acres were allocated to returned soldiers with a view to giving repatriated soldiers an opportunity to start a small farm and populate the area. By 1918, sheep farming at Beerburrum began to fail due to dingoes attacking the sheep. The soldiers turned to crops such as pineapples. The scheme failed within 12 years due to poor soils and agricultural inexperience. In 1932, the Tobacco Settlement Scheme was introduced as an attempt to create work for unemployed farmers on failed pineapple farms at Beerburrum. By 1933, the state government began trials of forestry plantations in the Beerburrum area.

Caloundra was not connected by road until 1935 when a gravel track was constructed. Despite his best efforts on multiple occasions, Robert Bulcock had failed to lobby for the rail to connect to Caloundra. It was thought that Caloundra would never be anything more than a holiday destination.

During the Second World War, Caloundra was the eastern end of the Brisbane Line, and controlled forts on Bribie and Moreton Islands. Areas such as Battery Hill, Currimundi, Kawana and Mount Coolum continued to be used for live firing practice by the military. The area was at that time not considered to be of much use for any other purpose. The coast was protected from the threat of invasion with fortifications constructed on Bribie Island.

Until the 1950s small towns such as Caloundra, Mooloolaba and Coolum were unconnected by road. Known at the time as the Near North Coast, the area was popular for holidays, with simple beach shacks constructed near the beaches.

After the war there was a building boom on the Coast, with the well-heeled from surrounding areas building holiday homes in prime beachfront positions. The real breakthrough for tourism, however, arrived with the completion of the David Low Way from Maroochydore to Noosa in 1959.

A development lease was issued in July 1960 to develop the land between Caloundra and Mooloolaba in return for the construction of a road to connect the two towns. Filling of the swamps, levelling of coastal dunes and clearance of unexploded ordinance began in earnest. The 1950s and 1960s marked the start of a new era for the region with major social changes resulting from the movement away from a hinterland-based rural farming economy to a new focus on coastal development, accompanied by the growth of the tourism industry.

The opening of the Maroochy Airport in 1961 marked another major milestone for the region. The airport has undergone significant expansion and has been renamed as the Sunshine Coast Airport.

Our more recent history – becoming the Sunshine Coast

The name Sunshine Coast was launched in December 1958 at the inaugural dinner of the Sunshine Coast branch of the Real Estate Institute of Queensland. The institute was arguing to replace the term Near North Coast, which the branch considered was not sufficiently distinctive and had no significance for southerners. The name was officially adopted in November 1966 to cover the Landsborough, Maroochy and Noosa shires.

The early 1950s and 1960s saw the emergence of strong opposition to activities which threatened the idyllic lifestyle of the coastal villages and its surrounding environment.



Kings Beach, c.1929

Sand mining near Mount Coolum and on several beaches was thwarted through the concerted efforts of activist groups and the eventual election of Frank Nicklin in 1957, who supported tourism over sand mining.

During the 1960s, the Sunshine Coast's surfing culture started to flourish, as a growing number of board riders discovered the region's pristine coastline and great beach breaks. Elsewhere in the region, pockets of the hinterland were becoming a haven for people seeking an alternative lifestyle as a growing number of people turned their backs on the city and moved to the country.

In the 1970s, 80s and 90s the combined skills and philosophy of architects Lindsay and Kerry Clare, Gabrielle Poole and John Mainwaring saw the creation of architecture which was sensitive to the landscape and climate, featuring solar orientation, covered verandas and local materials. This school of architecture was to become known as the Sunshine Coast style of Architecture or Sunshine Coast Vernacular. The effect of these design features was to create a particularly identifiable architectural style that could be identified as explicitly, Sunshine Coast.

On December 19, 1987 Landsborough Shire was declared a City with the name Caloundra City chosen for the area. Throughout the 1990s, the large areas of land dedicated to sugar cane came under threat as the viability of cane became eroded by incremental subdivision of cane land and a drop in sugar prices. By 2003 the Moreton Central Sugar Mill in Nambour had closed.

While the David Low Way had opened up the ribbon of coastal subdivisions, further urbanisation led to the construction of the Sunshine Motorway. The first section between the Bruce Highway and Nicklin Way opened in 1988, followed by the stretch from Nicklin Way to David Low Way two years later.

Population growth persisted with the ongoing urbanisation of the Sunshine Coast. From 1991 to 2013, the population had nearly doubled from 136,000 residents to 278,000 residents. Population growth also led to the development of new shopping centres across the Coast and the region's largest, Sunshine Plaza at Maroochydore, opened in 1995.

The significance of our regional ecosystems and the efforts the community has put into preserving these systems has received significant international recognition in the last two decades. In 1993, the Pumicestone Passage was included in the declaration of the Moreton Bay Marine Park and later that year the Park was recognised as an internationally significant wetland and bird habitat under the RAMSAR Convention.

Queensland government made widespread changes to the structure of local government across the state in 2008, resulting in the amalgamation of Caloundra, Maroochy and Noosa councils to form the new Sunshine Coast Council. The local government amalgamations created upheaval and distress among many local communities across the state. This resulted in Noosa residents voting to de-amalgamate, with the separation of Sunshine Coast Council and Noosa Council completed in 2013. During this time, the region also rode the wave of uncertainty that emerged from the global financial crisis in 2009.

On Tuesday 20 November 2012 at a special sitting of the Federal Court held within traditional Jinibara country at the Woodfordia property, near Woodford, His Honour Justice Reeves, made the determination giving the Jinibara people non-exclusive rights to the land, recognising the Jinibara People as Native Title holders of land in the Sunshine Coast hinterland. In 2013, Kabi Kabi First Nation lodged a Native Title claim over an area within the Sunshine Coast, which is currently being determined by the Federal Court.



Appendix 2: Council-owned heritage places

As of January 2015, council's list of heritage places contained within the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014* contained 236 heritage places. These included both state listings, and local listings. The following provides a snapshot of those heritage places which council owns, or are within council's trusteeship.

Buildings

- Former Bli Bli School Residence (Principal's house)
- Tilstead
- Maroochydore Scout Den and Hut
- Drill Hall (former)
- Witta School Community Centre (old)
- Bli Bli Presbyterian Church (former)
- Harry Board's House
- Fairview
- Former Landsborough Shire Council Chambers
- Kings Beach Bathing Pavilion
- Montville Memorial Precinct
- Bankfoot House
- Caloundra Lighthouses

Cemeteries

- Yandina Cemetery
- Mapleton Cemetery
- Old Nambour Cemetery
- Diddillibah Cemetery
- Woombye-Palmwoods Cemetery
- Kenilworth (Gheerulla) Cemetery
- Witta Cemetery
- Mooloolah Cemetery
- Caloundra Cemetery
- Peachester Cemetery
- Beerburum Cemetery
- Campbellville Settlement and Cemetery

Memorials/private graves/tram tracks/jetties

- Yandina War Memorial
- Dixon Family Graves
- Palmwoods-Buderim Tramway Track Foundation and Formwork Remnants
- Queen Of Colonies Monument
- The Landsborough Monument
- Military Jetty

Reserves, parks and trees

- Bli Bli School Memorial Trees
- Mapleton RSL Park
- Razorback Lookout Park
- Woombye Memorial Park
- Parsons Bank Park
- Wirreanda Park
- Settler's Park
- Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve
- Woolston Wood
- Norfolk Pines Along Esplanade, Victoria Terrace, Kings Beach
- Norfolk Pines Along Esplanade, Esplanade Headland, Kings Beach
- Norfolk Pines Along Esplanade, Esplanade Headland, Kings Beach
- Peace Memorial Park
- Norfolk Pines Along Esplanade, Bulcock Beach
- Peach Trees Settlement
- Norfolk Pines Along Esplanade, Monash Park Esplanade
- Norfolk Pines Along Esplanade, Ayliffe Park Esplanade
- Norfolk Pines Along Esplanade, Seaview Terrace
- Norfolk Pines Along Esplanade, Beerwah Terrace
- Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve
- Dunethin Rock
- TH Brown Park

Key council-owned heritage keeping places

Bankfoot House

Bankfoot House is a State heritage listed property, owned by council and located near the township of Glass House Mountains. Bankfoot House is the oldest surviving residence in the Glass House Mountains, and has played a significant role in the local community for over a century, providing a lunch stop for the Cobb & Co coach, accommodation for travellers, the Post Office, store and butcher's shop, and a centre for district activities. The grounds also include a number of significant trees.

The former Caloundra City Council purchased the house and contents from the Ferris family in 2004, establishing the property as a House Museum with a collection of approximately 6,000 items. The Bankfoot House Management Plan, including a heritage garden plan was endorsed by council in 2005.

Bankfoot House is opened one day per month, and by appointment. The Friends of Bankfoot House host tours of the house and surrounding buildings for visitors, schools and tour groups, and present displays about the house and its history at a range of community events.

The Mary Grigor Centre, a new archival and interpretive building funded through council's Heritage Levy, was constructed onsite in 2015. This building extends the heritage experience currently available at Bankfoot House and enables better access to and care of the collection. It also has a multi-purpose space available for use by community groups and organisations for meetings, workshops and events.



Bankfoot House

Fairview

Fairview is a council-owned State heritage listed property located in North Maleny. The residence was constructed in 1907, and is one of the oldest surviving pit sawn timber residences in the area. The property is important in demonstrating both the early development of Maleny as an agricultural settlement and the pattern and expansion of dairying in Queensland in the early 1900s.

Fairview is located within the Maleny Community Precinct and was purchased by the former Caloundra City Council in 1995. The Fairview Management Plan and Garden Plan were presented to council in 2014 (funded through the Heritage Levy). The Friends of Pattermore House were granted a lease of the house in 2014, and will provide a community heritage program into the future.



Fairview

Landsborough Museum

The Landsborough Historical Museum is located within the heart of the historic town of Landsborough. The museum is the original Landsborough Shire Council Chambers, designed in 1924 by renowned architect Walter Voller. Council owns this State heritage listed place, which is leased to the Landsborough and District Historical Society. In 1988, a new building was added to the complex.

The Landsborough and District Historical Society open the doors of the museum to the public four days a week, displaying the large social history collection pertaining to the heritage of our community. The museum also offers a research service, and presents an engaging schools program through a team of committed volunteers. The Landsborough Museum is a key facility within the historical precinct of the original Landsborough township.



Landsborough Museum

Sunshine Coast Council Heritage Library

The Heritage Library is accessible through two locations (Nambour and Kawana) within the Sunshine Coast Libraries network, and offers an extensive collection of 15,000 items, including print, digital, oral histories and realia, as well as heritage programming and research services. Art-E-Facts is the online Arts and Heritage Catalogue offering the community with 24/7 access to Cultural Heritage, Public Art and Sunshine Coast Art Collections via the Sunshine Coast Libraries catalogue.



The Heritage Library

Appendix 3: Heritage context and policy framework

Today's broad definition of heritage and the involvement of three levels of government mean that the heritage policy framework in Australia is diverse and complex.

All three levels of government in Australia are responsible for heritage conservation and management. Each has its own set of legislation, policies, advisory bodies and portfolios of responsibility.

The overarching principles for conserving heritage places arise from The Burra Charter. These are universally recognised and applied by each government authority in Australia. The current legislative framework deals with different aspects of heritage separately.

National context

Since the end of World War II there has been an increase in the worldwide focus on protection of heritage. In Australia, this focus has particularly increased since signing the World Heritage Convention agreement in 1974. As a party to an international agreement, the Australian government is required to enact the principles and philosophies of the convention in our country.

In 1997, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) sought better protection of the environment and heritage through the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Environment (IGAE). Changes to environmental legislation allowed better identification and protection of heritage through the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. The Act confirms and enacts Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention.

Another key feature of the COAG agreement was to produce a national heritage strategy within 12 months of the agreement. A public consultation paper for the Australian Heritage Strategy was released for comment in 2012, with *A Strategy for Australia's Heritage* released for public comment in April 2014.

From 2005-06 the Productivity Commission looked at the conservation of Australia's historic heritage places. The inquiry focused on built heritage, physically created places and created landscapes. It identified the importance of heritage to our sense of identity and the

role of government in helping to protect heritage places. The report outlines the costs of heritage, identifying that historic heritage also provides an important cultural benefit to the wider community.

The Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand reviewed the Productivity Commission's report. Several projects were developed out of these findings to advance the reform of national heritage policy. The list of projects, as at the last review in 2009, includes:

- developing national standards for data collection and reporting measures
- national cooperation on research for:
- heritage and environmental sustainability (for domestic heritage buildings)
- heritage and environmental sustainability (commercial heritage buildings)
- heritage economics research
- Historic Shipwrecks National Collaborative Research Project
- development of a comprehensive national heritage inventory and information portal
- development of national standards and guidelines for conservation and management of heritage places
- policy innovation in relation to guidance on:
- heritage assistance programs
- promoting sustainable heritage tourism
- the management of unsustainable heritage places
- cooperation on heritage promotion and public engagement
- working with local government
- Heritage Trades and Professional Training Project
- heritage and the effects of climate change.

National legislative framework

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984

Aims to preserve and protect from injury or desecration areas and objects in Australia that are of particular significance to Aboriginal people in accordance with Aboriginal tradition.

Australian Heritage Council Act 2003

Establishes the Australian Heritage Council and identifies the role of this national heritage advisory body.

Environmental Protection and Biodiversity, Conservation Act 1999

Provides protection for Australia's natural, historic and indigenous heritage places that are of outstanding national heritage value to the Australian nation, including World Heritage properties. It also sets up the National and Commonwealth Heritage lists.

The Glass House Mountains National Landscape is included on the National Heritage List. Moreton Bay is also listed as a Ramsar protected wetland.

Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976

Protects all shipwrecks older than 75 years and associated relics within Australian waters. The jurisdiction extends from the high water mark to the edge of the continental shelf. Some 15 shipwrecks are currently recorded as being within coastal waters in the vicinity of the Sunshine Coast Region.

Native Title Act 1993

Provides for the recognition and protection of native title and establishes ways in which future dealings affecting native title may proceed, sets standards for those dealings, and establishes a mechanism for determining claims to native title. Native title holders have the right to negotiate for the protection of heritage places over which native title applies.

Protection of Moveable Cultural Heritage Act 1986

Ratifies the 1970 UNESCO Convention giving this global statutory instrument the force of law in Australia. The Act controls the import and export of moveable cultural heritage into, and from Australia. It also sets up and gives authority to the National Cultural Heritage Committee.

National strategies

Australian Heritage Strategy – Draft for consultation

Aims to provide a framework for leadership, partnerships and community engagement for heritage. The Strategy looks to support the work of individuals, organisations, and governments by providing a common direction for the recognition and protection of Australia's heritage, and builds on the existing management arrangements for heritage.

Tourism 2020 Strategy

Identifies that nature based tourism and Aboriginal culture and heritage is an opportunity for Australia's tourism industry. It builds a foundation for development potential in the \$94 billion tourism industry.

National advisory bodies

Australian Heritage Council

Nominates and assesses National and Commonwealth heritage listings, promote the identification, assessment, conservation and monitoring of heritage and to advise the Minister on matters relating to heritage and heritage policy.

Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand (HCOANZ)

This is the vehicle for advancing national heritage policy. The committee provides expert advice to the COAG Standing Council on Environment and Water.

National Cultural Heritage Committee (NCHC)

Assesses applications for export permits of protected cultural heritage material and manages the National Cultural Heritage Account which can assist organisations to acquire Australian protected objects for preservation.

State context

Queensland has its own suite of legislation and policy which complements the national policy framework. The COAG agreement determined that the national, state and local responsibilities for heritage conservation should not be duplicated. The state policy framework and conservation measures deal with heritage matters of state significance. Queensland legislation also sets up the platform for local heritage registers which are then managed by local government.

The Queensland government is involved in projects managed through the Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand (HCOANZ) committee. The State has made efforts to progress the coordination and direction of heritage conservation arising out of this work and the outcome of the Productivity Commission inquiry. These include the release of the Queensland Heritage Strategy and the inclusion of a requirement for keeping local heritage registers in an amendment to the Queensland Heritage Act 1992 in 2007.

State legislative framework

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003

The primary Act affecting Aboriginal cultural heritage in Queensland. It provides for effective recognition, protection and conservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage and sets up a duty of care for all Queenslanders to protect it.

Libraries Act 1988

Focuses on encouraging the collection, preservation and promotion of library material in local libraries. The Act considers that information collected should be relevant to Queensland and that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture should be maintained.

Native Title (Queensland) Act 1993

Validates past acts and confirms certain rights about native title in accordance with the Native Title Act (Cwth) 1993. It also provides for consistency with standards set by the Commonwealth Act for future dealings affecting native title.

Nature Conservation Act 1992

Creates opportunity to protect wildlife and habitats through Protected Areas and Significant Aboriginal Areas. The Act recognises that management of protected places involves protection of both cultural and natural

resources. It also reinforces the national obligations for the management of World Heritage areas. The Nature Conservation Act is the state level mechanism to protect world heritage places.

Public Records Act 2002

Provides a regulatory framework for the management of public records, including their creation, preservation and use. It identifies local government responsibilities for the proper management, preservation and accuracy of records in its possession. The Act also provides the authority for the State Archivist to establish and manage repositories and other facilities to store, preserve, exhibit and provide access to public records and other materials.

Queensland Heritage Act 1992 (under review in 2014)

The State's principal legislation for the conservation of Queensland's non-Aboriginal heritage places, archaeology and shipwrecks for current and future generations. It establishes the Queensland Heritage Council (refer item under heading state advisory bodies for more detail) and the Queensland heritage register. A review of the Act in 2014 has resulted in a number of changes due to commence in the second half of 2015. Among other parts of the Act, these changes involve its local heritage provisions. Sunshine Coast Council will no longer require exemption and will be taken to comply with the requirement to identify local heritage places in its area because of the local heritage provisions already made in its planning scheme. It will also have additional tools to assist in streamlining development involving local heritage places, such as exemption certificates.

Sustainable Planning Act 2009

Enables Queensland's statutory planning framework. It sets out the process for making statutory planning instruments such as local planning schemes and policies, regional plans and standard planning provisions. It states how planning schemes must be written and the matters they must address which includes areas or places of heritage significance. The Act includes the process for assessment of development applications known as the Integrated Development Assessment System (IDAS) and integrates a coordinated referral process.

State strategies

South East Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031

A statutory document which purpose is to manage regional growth and change and to set out strategic policy, actions and regulatory provisions for addressing emerging regional growth management issues.

Queensland Heritage Strategy

Establishes a framework for managing the state's heritage balancing heritage conservation with growth and development. It sets up a vision for Queensland Heritage to ensure that:

“Queenslanders will recognise the vital contribution of heritage places to their community's identity, lifestyle, culture and economy, and commit to identifying, conserving and managing Queensland's heritage for the benefit of present and future generations.”

The strategy identifies five key directions to support the vision:

- improving the way Queensland understands and values its heritage
- embedding heritage in mainstream policy and planning
- strengthening Queensland's investment in managing and conserving its heritage
- leading and partnering with government, community and industry to conserve Queensland's heritage
- building the capacity of government, community and industry to conserve Queensland's heritage.

State advisory bodies

Queensland Heritage Council

An independent statutory body, whose key responsibility is to decide which nominated places are of state significance and should be entered in the Queensland heritage register. The council's other functions include providing strategic advice to the Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection about Queensland's cultural heritage, encouraging interest in and understanding of this heritage, and giving advice about the appropriate management of places.

Community and professional organisations

National Trust of Australia (Queensland)

The National Trust of Australia (Queensland) [NTA(Q)] is a membership-based community organisation that works to promote the natural, Indigenous and cultural heritage of our state. The focus of NTA(Q)'s activities is heritage and environmental education.

Australia ICOMOS

Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) is a non-government, not-for-profit organisation of cultural heritage professionals formed as a national chapter of ICOMOS International in 1976. Australia ICOMOS' mission is to lead cultural heritage conservation in Australia by raising standards, encouraging debate and generating innovative ideas.

Sunshine Coast context

Sunshine Coast is well advanced in the development of strategic policy to guide the region into the future. The addition of a Heritage Plan to this framework will ensure that as we move forward, we protect our identity and learn from the past.

The following sets out the existing policy framework which the Heritage Plan sits within.

Sunshine Coast policy framework

Corporate Plan 2014-2019

Lays the foundations for the future of the Sunshine Coast, reinforcing the vision – ‘To be Australia's most sustainable region – vibrant, green, diverse.’

The Corporate Plan reflects council's commitment to maintaining the unique identity and character of the Sunshine Coast.

The Corporate Plan identifies the following as an outcome to be achieved from 2014-19:

- 2.3 Culture, heritage and diversity are valued and embraced.
- The preparation of a Sunshine Coast Heritage Plan is a Corporate Plan priority for 2014-15:
- 2.3.1 Develop and implement a heritage strategy.

Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015

The *Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015* has been developed to provide the long-term social direction that builds on the region's positive social attributes and identifies shorter term initiatives for responding to the social needs of the region, further developing our community strengths.

Specifically, the Social Strategy guides council in its commitment to 'support an engaged, resilient and inclusive community that embraces diversity.'

The *Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015* incorporates the existing social commitments comprised in council policies, strategies, plans and charters into one single overarching high level document. With the addition of a social vision, aims and key initiatives aligned with the four Corporate Plan outcomes, it clearly sets out council's long-term intention.

The core intent of the Strategy is to improve community outcomes by:

- supporting initiatives that build the capacity of our volunteers
- supporting and enabling community groups to be self-reliant
- welcoming people from different cultures
- preserving our heritage
- maximising access to infrastructure to improve levels of community activity and engagement celebrating with events that contribute to our communities.

Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-33

The *Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-33* provides a 20-year vision and blueprint for sustainable economic growth. It will help to ensure the region actively participates in the global economy and deliver the lifestyle and opportunities for local residents and businesses alike.

The plan will achieve four clear goals for the region over the next 20 years:

- \$33 billion economy. This is nearly triple what it is now
- 100,000 new jobs in high-value industries
- 20% of goods and services produced for export
- household incomes that exceed the Queensland average.

This Strategy recognises tourism, sport and leisure as one seven high value industries which will be a critical building block for the economy. This is particularly relevant from a Heritage perspective as cultural tourism has the potential to generate significant economic benefits for the region.

Reconciliation Action Plan

Aims to promote understanding between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and other Australians living on the Sunshine Coast. The Plan shows council's commitment to the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples. The Plan contains a number of actions which particularly relate to heritage, including:

- build partnerships, relationships and programs including but not limited to SCING (Sunshine Coast Indigenous Network Group), Black Swans, and the Cultural Heritage Reference Group
- develop a series of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander interpretive signage to raise public awareness of and acknowledge the region's rich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage
- make sure Traditional Owners are consulted on cultural heritage planning and management according to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*
- include identified areas of cultural significance (which can be made public) on the GEO Hub mapping system
- contribute to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs and projects to the current Cultural Heritage work that council is facilitating
- inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander material in heritage collections.

Open Space Strategy

Seeks to strengthen linkages between cultural heritage, recreation and tourism through interpretation and protection of cultural values in open space. The Open Space Strategy recognises that landscape and public open spaces contribute to community identity.

The Strategy contains the following actions relating to heritage:

- Strategy 1.2: Work collaboratively with the community for the protection and enhancement of our cultural heritage in open space
 - 1.2.1 Strengthen linkages and interpretation of cultural heritage in open space

- 1.2.2 Work collaboratively with Traditional Owners to strengthen connections through projects and programs
- 1.2.3 Identify and map known cultural heritage sites on council land for ongoing protection and opportunities such as cultural trails.

Biodiversity Strategy

Recognises the important connection between landscape and heritage. The Strategy articulates the need to recognise and respect the Traditional Owners connections to the landscape. The Strategy contains the following principles specifically relating to heritage:

- recognise and respect Aboriginal Traditional Owners connections to the landscape and their role as traditional natural resource managers.

The Strategy contains the following actions specifically relating to heritage:

- investigate developing a Biodiversity Interpretive Trail Network that provides community and visitor access to the region's natural assets in a range of settings such as canoe trails, wetland boardwalks, viewing platforms, rainforest, waterways and coastal trails and cultural heritage walks
- improve our knowledge of local cultural heritage values and develop appropriate management responses.

Social Infrastructure Strategy

Identifies the physical needs that support the growth and development of communities and the region. Amongst a range of observations and recommendations in relation to cultural heritage, the Strategy identifies:

- the need for further storage space to house cultural collections. A future direction of the Strategy is to 'consider a regional community and cultural storage facility at the proposed Council Depot (Beerwah)'
- the need for an Art Gallery/Museum to potentially be developed within the Caloundra South development
- the value of the region's cemeteries, and the need for additional cemetery space.

The opportunity to integrate cultural facilities into community hubs also provides an opportunity to build on the character of distinct localities and the heritage of those places.

Climate Change and Peak Oil Strategy

Identifies that risk assessment is required to mitigate the impacts associated with climate change and peak oil. The Strategy recognises that cultural, spiritual and social values and traditions are embodied in the landscape and infrastructure.

Waterways and Coastal Management Strategy

Provides council with direction and a management framework to ensure the region's natural waterways, constructed water bodies and coastal foreshores are ecologically healthy and well managed. The Strategy informs council's planning and operational activities, guides decision making and stakeholder engagement, supports community initiatives and drives a range of on-ground actions. The Strategy contains the following principles specifically relating to heritage in relation to natural waterways:

- cultural heritage and social history associated with natural waterways are protected, promoted and well managed
- the connections of Aboriginal Traditional Owners to the landscape and their ecological knowledge are recognised and respected.

The Strategy contains the following principles specifically relating to heritage in relation to coastal foreshores:

- cultural heritage and social history associated with coastal foreshores are protected, promoted and well managed
- the connections of Aboriginal Traditional Owners to the landscape and their ecological knowledge are recognised and respected.

Rural Futures Strategy

Guides future activities in the rural areas of the Sunshine Coast over the longer term, so that the natural beauty of the rural areas is maintained, community expectations for the hinterland are realised and the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of these areas is enhanced. The Strategy contains the following action specifically relating to heritage:

- 3.4.4 Undertake a range of rural tourism promotion programs around culinary tourism, agri-tourism, farm stays, food trails, culture and heritage.

Major and Regional Events Strategy

Guides council and the Sunshine Coast Events Board on building the region's competitive advantage to host major and regional events that boost the region's economy.

The Strategy aims to leverage and grow existing events, and help develop the region to retain these events and attract new events. There is a focus on events that take advantage of our natural environment.

The Strategy identifies the following as an opportunity for the Sunshine Coast:

- cultural and/or heritage events targeted at both young families and the older tourism market: a growth sector nationally and key visitor market to the Sunshine Coast (Tourism Research Australia, 2011).

A performance indicator for the success of the strategy is the following:

- greater focus on cultural and heritage aspects of the region.

Community Events and Celebrations Strategy

Outlines council's role in community events, and provides a way for council to assist the Coast in becoming a more event-friendly region. The Strategy highlights that council wishes to ensure the heritage and distinctive character of each of the region's individual communities is celebrated and protected, and that council are respectful of our cultural heritage and at every opportunity wish to preserve the history of the region and acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land. The Strategy contains the following actions specifically relating to heritage:

- present a balanced event program that includes an appreciation for the heritage of all residents in the region and a respect for the area in which the event is being held
- promote and support events that recognise and add value to the region's significant beach and surfing heritage. These events help contribute to the region's social cohesion by increasing community participation, health and wellbeing. Examples of events include, but are not limited to, Pa and Ma Bendall Surfing Classic, Our Lady Rosary Surfabout, Noosa Festival of Surfing, Outrigger Canoe National Marathon Titles, Mooloolaba and ironman/ironwoman competitions
- support community events that enhance the preservation of cultural sites, heritage facilities and the region's oral and social history
- sponsor the following festivals and community events that promote our heritage values and preserve the history of the region:
 - biennial Sunshine Coast Heritage Forum
 - annual Indigenous Heritage Festival (Bunya Dreaming)

- biennial Sunshine Coast Heritage Festival – showcase of Community Museums.

Recreation Trails Plan

Guides decision-making with respect to the region's trail development for the next ten years, evaluates the existing trail network, and informs council's planning including the planning scheme, strategic documents, funding allocations and operational activity. The plan contains the following strategies and actions specifically relating to heritage:

- Strategy 4.1: Foster an appreciation and awareness of our cultural heritage, natural environment and geographical landscape to all
 - 4.1.1 Provide a variety of thematic and engaging interpretative signage in areas where there are strong cultural heritage links, or unique natural environment or geographical landscape
 - 4.1.2 Continue to improve existing and further develop heritage walks
 - 4.1.3 Investigate developing and supporting community walks such as the indigenous Bunya festival or Glass House Mountains Walks
- Strategy 4.3: Opportunities are provided for interpretation, celebration and ongoing protection of cultural heritage sites along the trails
 - 4.3.1 Identify cultural heritage sites along the existing and proposed trail network
 - 4.3.2 In conjunction with the indigenous community provide cultural heritage interpretative information, where appropriate, including trail head information, via the use of interpretative signage and web based information.

Libraries Plan

Sets the direction for library operational and infrastructure matters over the next ten years, and aims to ensure a popular and responsive library service for the Sunshine Coast region into the future.

The Libraries Plan outlines that part of the libraries role and purpose is to 'house, protect and promote community heritage.'

The Plan identifies that an operational plan will be developed for the region's libraries, with an underlying element of this being that libraries will 'remain an integral leader in keeping the region's past alive through the collection, preservation and interpretation of local heritage stories and materials.'

The Plan also identifies that a new library will be developed in the Maroochydore Principal Regional Activity Centre. For this new library development, the Plan identifies that 'acting as a regional library, there are opportunities to establish the Maroochydore CBD library as the primary heritage services and collections branch, acquiring the heritage library spaces currently contained within the Nambour and Kawana library branches.' The Plan goes on to identify that to provide a sustainable single library service, there is a need to investigate the requirements for co-locating the Maroochydore library with the services provided within the Maroochydore CBD. Considerations for this would include establishing the proposed CBD library as the dedicated regional heritage service and collection space for the network.

Cemetery Plan

Guides the management, operations and planning of council's cemeteries over the next 15 years. The cultural value the region's cemeteries is identified within the Plan, with a key strategy of the Plan being to 'Maintain and improve the provision of cemetery facilities as an essential community service, and enhance the cultural value, community awareness and benefits of cemetery services and facilities.' The plan contains the following actions specifically relating to heritage:

- 2.1 Liaise with local community groups to exchange historical research and cemetery data for entry into council's database
- 2.2 Continue to provide neat and presentable cemeteries, which are well maintained and meet community expectations
- 2.3 Seek and apply for government grants for maintenance and improvements of historical cemeteries
- 2.4 Continue to build and develop partnerships with community groups and government agencies/ initiatives (e.g. Mission Australia and the Work for the Dole program)
- 2.5 Investigate the development and implementation of a regionally based 'Friends of the Cemeteries' group to work with council to maintain the integrity and historical significance of the region's cemeteries.

Other Strategies and Plans

Several other plans and strategies have been developed and adopted for the Sunshine Coast region. Whilst addressing the fundamental premise of the corporate vision, these plans do not specifically reference heritage. Nevertheless, the concept of intergenerational equity and forward thinking are intrinsic to these documents and align with the concepts of heritage conservation and sustainable development.

Local planning instruments

Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014

The Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014 has been prepared in accordance with the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*. The Planning Scheme is a legal document that controls the way land, buildings and structures are used and developed in the Sunshine Coast Council area to make sure the right development happens in the right locations.

The Planning Scheme contains a number of parts that individually and collectively aim to protect and enhance cultural heritage values in the local government area, with the listing of heritage places and character areas undertaken in accordance with specific criteria contained in the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*.

Part 3 Strategic Framework

The Community identity, character and social inclusion theme (Element 3 - Cultural heritage and character) of the Strategic framework states that places of cultural heritage significance, including areas of built environment character, areas of streetscape and landscape heritage, and Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal places are to be protected.

Development is to be sensitive in its design response and the manner in which it relates to and addresses places of cultural heritage significance. Where a distinctive historical character is formed by a cluster of buildings or streetscapes, that character is maintained and, where possible, enhanced. The adaptive re-use of heritage places is encouraged where sympathetic to cultural heritage values.

Part 8 Overlays

The Planning Scheme contains the Heritage and character areas overlay code to manage land use and assess development on heritage places. The purpose of the Heritage and character areas overlay code is to ensure that development on or adjoining an identified heritage place is compatible with the heritage significance of the

place and the streetscape character and significance of identified character areas are conserved and enhanced. The code does not apply to Aboriginal cultural heritage which is protected under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*, or Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage which is protected under the *Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.

Schedule 2 Mapping

The Planning Scheme contains a series of Heritage and Character Areas Overlay Maps that identify spatially land subject to the Heritage and character areas overlay code. The mapping includes state heritage places as well as local heritage places and neighbourhood character areas.

Schedule 6 Planning Scheme Policies

The Planning Scheme is supported by the Planning Scheme policy for the *Heritage and Character Areas Overlay Code*. The policy provides advice and guidance for achieving certain outcomes of the *Heritage and Character Areas Overlay Code*, including guidance for the preparation of a heritage impact assessment report and conservation management plan.

Appendix SC6.10A of the policy (*Significance statements for local heritage places*) records and provides a statement of significance for identified local heritage places. It essentially contains a list of non-Aboriginal places of cultural heritage significance to the Sunshine Coast Council area. The appendix is consistent with the statutory provisions for a local heritage register required by the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* and provides the necessary content to ensure that heritage is considered in the planning scheme.

Background Studies

Cultural Heritage Background Study (2009)

The *Cultural Heritage Background Study* was prepared to accompany the draft policy documents exhibited in the Our Place, Our Future community consultation. It provides a concise overview of the legislative framework and current planning scheme provisions as they relate to heritage. It also suggests some key directions for heritage in the future and an indicative framework for heritage policy moving forward.

The study identifies a number of challenges and opportunities for heritage on the Sunshine Coast. The issues identified in the *Cultural Heritage Background Study* relate to:

- growth pressures
- built heritage identification and protection
- managing the impacts on cultural and natural landscapes
- identification and protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage
- collections management
- climate change
- management and governance.

The *Cultural Heritage Background Study* suggests an overarching vision for Sunshine Coast cultural heritage as - "A community which protects, manages and celebrates its shared cultural heritage."

The background study identifies five (5) outcome areas designed to address key challenges for Sunshine Coast cultural heritage:

- Outcome Area 1: Character and Identity is valued and preserved
- Outcome Area 2: Natural and Cultural Landscapes are protected and appreciated
- Outcome Area 3: Safe keeping of collections and Archiving
- Outcome Area 4: Cultural experiences are celebrated and enjoyed
- Outcome Area 5: Economic value is realised.

Several guiding principles are proposed in the Background Study to inform the preparation and delivery of Sunshine Coast cultural heritage.

The principles cover the following elements:

- Protection
- Community Involvement
- Legislative Obligations
- Recording
- Innovation
- Access
- Coordination.

The strategies suggested in the Background Study arise from these principles in each suggested Outcome Area. Comments on the proposed strategies were invited from the community during the Our Place Our Future public consultation period.

Strategic policies

Heritage Levy Policy

On 24 June 2010 council endorsed a Heritage Levy Policy. The policy provides scope for council to levy each rateable property in the region with a \$5 (as of 2014/2015) Heritage Levy. It also provides for the establishment of the Sunshine Coast Cultural Heritage Reference Group. This group is responsible for overseeing the strategic use and distribution of money collected through the Sunshine Coast Heritage Levy. It is made up of nine independent community members selected for their experience and expertise in heritage and museum fields.

The Heritage Levy Policy demonstrates council's commitment to supporting cultural heritage and recognises the importance of heritage in the community. The following is the policy statement:

"Council demonstrates its commitment to supporting cultural heritage through the collection of a heritage levy, recognising the important role that heritage plays in building social capital. The resources generated from the levy will encourage greater protection, awareness and celebration of cultural heritage within the Sunshine Coast given the increasing impacts of growth on cultural sites, places, knowledge and artefacts.

Council will provide transparent and equitable processes in the management and administration of the heritage levy. All requests for support, information and access to funds will be managed through a consistent process in accordance with associated council strategies, priorities and guidelines."

The guiding principles for the management and administration of the levy are:

- promotion of heritage values and strategies across the region
- implementation of heritage programs and projects across the region
- recording and preserving the history of the region including its oral and social history
- establishing partnerships that have the capacity to enhance the preservation of heritage facilities and resources
- identification, recording, protection and restoration of cultural heritage including Aboriginal heritage, landscape heritage, historical heritage and collections.

The allocation of the revenue from the Heritage Levy is guided by a 5-year program.

Cultural Development Policy

The purpose of this policy is to outline the principles which guide council's contribution to cultural development and detail the position and key priorities to enrich the cultural vitality of the Sunshine Coast. The vision of the policy is 'a culturally and creatively vibrant, green and diverse region.'

One of the outcomes of the policy is a 'culturally active and historically valued places and spaces', which involves the following key focus areas:

- Create meaningful, liveable and culturally active places and spaces that reflect, recognise and respect the distinctiveness of the region's communities, localities and environment.
- Preserve, protect and activate the region's cultural heritage, culturally significant assets, history and memories.
- Support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and multicultural events and celebrations.
- Establish governance processes around how council manages its collections.

The policy identifies that a key responsibility of the Regional Strategy and Planning department is to develop a Cultural Heritage Strategy for the region. This responsibility now lies with the Community Services department, as set out within the Corporate Plan.



E.S. & A Bank, Maleny, 1908

Public Art Policy

The purpose of this policy is to outline the framework and principles which guide the provision of public art in the Sunshine Coast region. The following is the policy statement:

“Sunshine Coast Council recognises the importance of public art in creating vibrant and attractive places across the region, and is committed to the incorporation of innovative, stimulating and relevant public art that enhances public spaces and enriches the character and identity of local communities.

A dynamic public art program will contribute to council's vision of becoming Australia's most sustainable region – vibrant, green and diverse by promoting innovation and

creativity. Building the capacity of the local arts industry through focused industry development initiatives, will also contribute to the enhancement of the creative industries sector for the Sunshine Coast region.

A coordinated approach is required to ensure that public artworks are relevant, meaningful and physically appropriate to local communities.

The *Public Art Guidelines* which support this policy detail the project identification, commissioning, procurement, management, maintenance and deaccessioning procedures for public art throughout the region, ensuring an integrated approach to public art that is consistent with council's vision.”



Steven Bordonaro and Cassie Munson bring Caloundra's history to life on a wall on the corner of Moreton Pde and Dingle Ave, Kings Beach.

Appendix 4: Heritage strengths, opportunities and challenges

Knowledge

Strengths

- Appendix SC6.10A (Significance statements for local heritage places), as set out within the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme, has identified places of local heritage value, owned or managed by council or in private ownership.
- Heritage places identified within the Sunshine Coast Council List of Heritage Places are mapped on council's GIS mapping system.
- Council has a dedicated Cultural Heritage Services Team who are responsible for facilitating the management, protection, identification and celebration of the region's heritage.
- A Heritage Study will commence in 2014/2015 which will be used to inform future amendments to the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014*. The content of the Heritage Study will underpin planning and heritage management decisions.
This will be a beneficial body of work which will provide a comprehensive understanding of the heritage of the Sunshine Coast, and will help identify and prioritise the key stories and places for future conservation.
- The Heritage Library is a significant body of heritage information and images about the region, accessible to the community across a range of formats and places, including online and digital options. The Heritage Library collection is a dynamic body of information and content which provides a knowledge evidence base for heritage documentation and decision making.
- Council's Heritage Library is open six days per week, and Bankfoot House is currently open one day per week.
- Picture Sunshine Coast is a significant heritage image collection of over 10,000 images recording and providing a heritage evidence base for the history of the Sunshine Coast.

Challenges and opportunities

- A Cultural Heritage Study is proposed in 2015/2016 which will be used to inform future amendments to the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014*. Given the time needed to complete this exercise, this body of work will follow the development of the Heritage Plan, and will be more useful in informing future version/updates of the Heritage Plan.
- Lack of cultural knowledge and incomplete mapping places particular pressure on protecting Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- Gaps exist in the knowledge about South Sea Islander heritage on the Sunshine Coast. The Queensland government recognises South Sea Islanders as a distinct cultural group.
- The Sunshine Coast is blessed with some spectacular and unique landscapes which contribute to our region's identity. Council does not currently have a clear understanding of our natural heritage, and a plan to address the ongoing protection of cultural landscapes and our natural heritage. Council's Biodiversity Strategy, Recreation Trails Plan and the Open Space Strategy do however touch on elements of natural heritage conservation.
- The legislative separation of heritage into natural, Aboriginal and European heritage creates artificial barriers and can give a false representation of the heritage value and the level of protection.
- Ensuring adequate resourcing, developing and maintaining expertise and balancing competing priorities are challenges for council to overcome to ensure council comprehensively captures and records the region's heritage.

Knowledge

Strengths

- The Sunshine Coast has rich heritage collections in the Heritage Library, community museums, historical societies, historic houses and in private ownership. Individual community museums contain a vast number of artefacts, images items and records which help to articulate the Sunshine Coast's heritage.
- The Heritage Levy supports a range of local heritage initiatives, including the care and restoration of historic houses, support for the heritage sector, Aboriginal initiatives, new buildings, heritage tourism and opening up access and conserving regional collections.
- The Heritage Levy supports the development of and access to heritage collections on the Sunshine Coast.
- The Heritage Levy is supported by the Sunshine Coast Heritage Reference Group (SCHRG), a panel of community and heritage experts who support the development of the levy program for the expenditure of levy funds.
- The Heritage Library and Picture Sunshine Coast collections can be viewed online 24/7 from any location via the library catalogue.
- Contemporary cultural heritage tourism initiatives encourage community participation in their local heritage.

Challenges and opportunities

- A new integrated Arts and Heritage Database will now enable the community and researchers to source information on heritage resources held in both the library collection and Bankfoot House collections online in a single search, with the aim to extend to including significant items in local museum collections.
- Strengthening relationships with other key heritage stakeholders has the potential to improve the sharing of knowledge.

Conservation

Strengths

- Council has recently adopted the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014* which details places of cultural heritage value, and looks to protect those places on the list when triggered by a development application.
- At the local government level, funds to provide support for heritage conservation have been available since 2010 when the Sunshine Coast Council approved the Heritage Levy. The levy provides revenue which resources:
 - heritage management
 - conservation and protection programs
 - capital works
 - community partnerships
 - development and support programs for the heritage sector
 - cultural heritage tourism initiatives.
- The Cultural Heritage Levy identifies a specific expenditure category to protect emergent heritage situations, and provides for maintenance and capital works for historic houses.
- The Cultural Heritage Levy Policy and guidelines identify heritage protection as a priority outcome, and allocates funding within the annual Levy program.

Challenges and opportunities

- The Sunshine Coast community expects council to take have a role in conserving our heritage places.
- The existing legislative framework governing conservation and management of heritage throughout Australia is multi-level and complex due to the reactive nature of its development. The distinction, responsibility and jurisdiction assigned to local, state and commonwealth government is not clear from the community perspective.
- A vast amount of the region's heritage is owned, managed, housed and resourced by private individuals and small community organisations. Many local heritage facilities and collections rely predominately on volunteer support and have limited revenue streams, relying on grants or fundraising for survival. Funding opportunities for museums or private owners are also limited.
- Community museums in the Sunshine Coast region rely on volunteer resources to undertake day to day conservation activities, fundraising and administrative tasks.
- At the local level, community requests for council to acquire places of heritage significance with the intent of heritage protection, is an area not currently addressed through a Sunshine Coast Council policy position.

Conservation

Strengths

- The Heritage Levy is supported by the Sunshine Coast Heritage Reference Group (SCHRG), a panel of community and heritage experts who support the development of the levy program for the expenditure of levy funds.
- There are a number of active community organisations and museums across the region who are actively pursuing the conservation of the region's heritage.
- An audit is being undertaken on council-owned or managed state or local heritage listed assets to understand the scope of works required to conserve these assets and to identify the financial outlay required to do so. This will help create a prioritised list for council's assets.
- Council is housing its heritage in a number of facilities across the region. Council's physical infrastructure which houses heritage collections, artefacts, archival material and library resources include Bankfoot House, Nambour Heritage Library, and Kawana Heritage Library. Items of council's heritage collections are also housed in Nambour Museum (The Shay Locomotive) at Caloundra depot (parts of the wreck of the SS Dicky) and at the Nambour works depot.

Challenges and opportunities

- Gaps exist in disaster management for heritage infrastructure and resources in council's management plans and policy. Bankfoot House has a Disaster Recovery Plan. No recovery, process, protocol or emergency work in relation to other council-owned or managed Sunshine Coast local heritage places currently exists for council's other sites.
- Specific manuals detailing appropriate care and management of council-owned or managed heritage listed places are not available.
- There is little understanding amongst the community of the costs, rationale, processes and legal requirements involved in conserving and maintaining heritage places.
- Heritage is sometimes perceived to reduce property values and is seen as a threat to the concept of 'progress'.
- Incentives to conserve heritage places are limited, and private owners often do not qualify for state or local grants, tax benefits or funding opportunities. Lack of incentive to conserve heritage can lead to 'demolition through neglect' and ultimately, a loss of local heritage and local character. Council has explored heritage incentives through the rates in the past, however an equitable rationale was not found and therefore could not be supported.
- The majority of council's heritage listed assets do not have a conservation management plan or interpretation plan or significance statements to guide ongoing care or maintenance regimes.

Conservation

Strengths

- All heritage work is undertaken by council in compliance with the Burra Charter (National standard) and in accordance with the requirements of the Queensland Heritage Act for state heritage listed places. This legislation is administered by DEHP through a rigorous approval process.
- The Heritage Levy has funded some projects which have seen the digitisation of heritage, and many options are available online.
- Regional and council-owned heritage collections require contemporary collection planning to guide the development, access and management of the collections. The Heritage Advisory Services is funded through the levy and offers free heritage advice from a panel of heritage experts to owners of state or local heritage listed places.

Challenges and opportunities

- The Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme provides for assessment of new development on places identified as having heritage value. The scheme also identifies where additional assessment is required where a place contributes to local character in identified character areas. The scope of identification of heritage places and character areas is not comprehensive at present. Development of criteria to help capture the places of greatest value to the Sunshine Coast region may assist in balancing growth with conservation of heritage values for future generations.
- The lack of reciprocal referral responsibilities for consideration of local heritage issues for state government or public sector works impacts on local communities. The local values are not afforded an equitable weight or consideration as for state values. Yet, to the community, the local value may be just as important in articulating local culture and identity.
- The provisions intended to protect places of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage are often ineffective and reactive. Hidden behind a 'duty of care process' the responsibility to identify and protect Aboriginal heritage is far too easy to ignore in practice. The *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* is administered by the state, which sometimes proves difficult when local places are under threat.
- Council has no jurisdiction to take action to prevent damage to local Aboriginal places. The difficulty with applying the legislation is complicated by the notion that the State owns all Aboriginal cultural heritage and much of the recorded cultural heritage is not available to the public. It is noted that state protection offers greater protection as it is legislative. However access to information about Aboriginal cultural heritage can be difficult to access, and to share at point of planning application.
- The development of a regional Digitisation Plan has the opportunity to guide the preservation and access of existing paper based heritage collections.

Support

Strengths

- The Heritage Levy has been in place five years, and was unanimously supported by council 2014/2015. The Sunshine Coast community has indicated support for the Heritage Levy.
- Council's Heritage Levy provides a key tool to support heritage management and conservation across the region. The Levy program is developed collaboratively with a community reference group (SCHRAG) and endorsed by the full council.
- The Heritage Levy Policy contains guiding principles which help to inform how funding is directed through the Levy. There is demonstrated support within council for the protection and conservation of heritage across the region.
- Council has a team of 4.2 FTE staff to support cultural heritage initiatives and conservation. A further 2.7FTE support the Heritage Library. Other areas of council also assist with heritage matters at varying levels, including Regional Strategy and Planning and Infrastructure Services.
- The contribution of community groups to heritage conservation is significant across the Sunshine Coast region, with community museums, historical societies and friends groups each undertaking their own initiatives to support heritage conservation on the Sunshine Coast.

Challenges and opportunities

- The demand on the Heritage Levy is great, however the funds are limited. The Cultural Heritage Reference Group is authorised through the Heritage Levy Policy to provide input on where the funds are spent. Guidelines to assist in distribution of the heritage levy funds have been prepared (with an emphasis on access and protection), yet the focus of that distribution has not yet been achieved at a more strategic level.
- Clarity around heritage initiatives for council are not clearly articulated within council's Heritage Levy Policy and Guidelines and other strategic documents.
- A cross-council integrated heritage team supporting and linking heritage programs is not currently in place.
- The legal framework around care, access, identification and protection of heritage in Queensland is complex and delivered by three levels of government. Clarification of council's exact roles is needed.
- Securing adequate skills and resources to undertake and oversee heritage management is a big challenge for council and the community.

Communication	
Strengths	Challenges and opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council's libraries contain a comprehensive heritage library collection. • The Heritage Levy funds a suite of information and skill based learning programs for the heritage sector and the community. • Collaborative community heritage programs are hosted by cultural heritage services, galleries and libraries. • Interpretive signage increases awareness of our heritage. Council has established a Heritage Trail throughout Buderim to help community and celebrate the heritage of this area. • The region appears to be well placed to leverage of the region's tourism drawing power, and promote the region's cultural tourism opportunities. • Heritage Hype is a regular e-news produced by council and circulated through community and industry networks. This is a tool which helps promote heritage and the outcomes council is achieving. • Sustained and increased heritage presence on social networking sites, including Twitter, HistoryPin and Facebook has the potential to produce high visibility and reach into online communities. • Community museums, historical societies and friends groups each provide their own information sessions and activities to promote heritage in their locality or area of interest and undertake their own fundraising activities and advertising. Their market reach is however limited by funds and resources. • The Sunshine Coast demographic traditionally includes a cohort of new residents who identify as sea changers. Awareness of the region's heritage contributes to a sense of place for new residents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council's website is not currently used to its best advantage in providing information to the community about heritage opportunities or information. Opportunity exists to explore how council can communicate and promote the region's heritage to the community more effectively online. • Opportunity exists to explore developing a brand for Sunshine Coast heritage which could be informed by a detailed thematic history conducted within a Heritage Study. • Council does not have a consolidated database of heritage places (Aboriginal, South Sea Island, European and natural) for the region, which can be communicated to the community via a user-friendly format (e.g. community accessible GIS layer). • The region has a number of smaller museums which are run by volunteers. Being run by volunteers, these museums face a number of challenges in regards to resourcing, sustainability and promotion. • The National Tourism Strategy identifies cultural tourism as a potential growth area in Australia. A lack of coordinated identity or message promoting local heritage is inhibiting the Sunshine Coast's ability to increase demand and take advantage of this potential. Investment is required to make heritage attractive to the general public, tourists and young people in a way that is engaging and contemporary. • Increased cultural heritage tourism events and opportunities would create more visibility and participation in local heritage. • An overall marketing plan for the Heritage Levy is under development, but is not in place currently.

Advocacy	
Strengths	Challenges and opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council continually engages with state government and other external organisations to share knowledge and advice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity exists to strengthen relationships with external partners, and advocate more strongly on heritage matters that impact at the local level.

Appendix 5: The wider network of museums and keeping places

Council supports the heritage sector through the Community Partnership Fund program and a range of heritage grant opportunities. The Heritage Levy annually provides a suite of practical skills based programs to build capacity, engender partnerships, and support the care of heritage collections and places.

Sunshine Coast Heritage Reference Group (SCHR) is an expert community committee advising on heritage matters and the Heritage Levy program.

Discover Eumundi

Discover Eumundi Heritage and Visitor Centre is open three days per week and provides visitor information and interpretive displays of historical objects, photographs and documents. The museum is the former Eumundi Methodist Church, and is owned and operated by the Eumundi & District Historical Association.



Discover Eumundi

Nambour and District Historical Museum

Open four days per week, Nambour Museum showcases country life and the rich heritage of the local district, including major industries such as sugar cane and telecommunications. The museum building is State owned, and is operated by the volunteer based Nambour and District Historical Museum Association Inc. Nambour Museum is home to key items of the council heritage collection, including the Shay locomotive.



Nambour Museum

Kenilworth Museum

Open one day per week, Kenilworth Museum provides a Living History theme, featuring farm family life, and machinery and dairying exhibitions. The museum building is owned by the State with council as trustee, and is run by Kenilworth & District Historical Association Inc.



Kenilworth Museum

Queensland Air Museum

Open daily, the museum contains a collection which includes historic aircraft, full size replicas, large scale models, aircraft engines and airfield equipment. The museum is owned by the State with council as trustee, and is leased to the Queensland Air Museum. Volunteers care for the collection and operate the museum.



Queensland Air Museum

Pioneer Cottage Buderim

Pioneer Cottage was built in approximately 1880, and was donated to the Buderim War Memorial Community Centre in 1965. The cottage operates as a popular house museum showcasing the early days of the town. Pioneer Cottage is managed by the Buderim Historical Society.



Pioneer Cottage, Buderim

Yandina Historic House

Built in 1899, the Yandina Historic House (known as Tillstead and Kenaldare) is leased from council by the Yandina & District Historical Society Inc. The house is open daily, and operates as a heritage place and historical society, also offering café and craft shop facilities.



Yandina Historic House

Maleny Historical Village

Maleny Historical Village is open two days a week for visitors and tours. Priscilla Cottage, built in 1895 by Charles Bryce, was the family home of Ben and Priscilla Bryce. The collection includes the possessions of three generations of the pioneering family. The complex is also home to the historic Lawley House, also donated to the Maleny Historical Society.

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