

20th November 2020

# The former Ballarat District Orphan Asylum, Ballarat Orphanage and Ballarat Children's Home

200 Victoria Street, Ballarat East

Preparation of preliminary design concepts for heritage interpretation  
as part of site redevelopment

## Project Brief

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Contents

1	Introduction .....	2
2	Objectives.....	3
3	Project Outcomes and Deliverables.....	3
4	Selection Process and Submission Requirements.....	4
5	Project Timing and Budget.....	5
6	Consultation and Engagement.....	6
7	Project Governance.....	7
8	Attachments.....	7
9	Due diligence, risk and quality management.....	8
10	Format of materials.....	9
11	Variations and future work .....	9
12	Conflicts of interest.....	9
13	Contact .....	9
14	200 Victoria Street Site .....	10

# PART A: PROJECT BRIEF

## 1 Introduction

The City of Ballarat is seeking the services of a suitably qualified individual or firm with relevant expertise and resources, to prepare graphic design concepts for heritage interpretation for the former Ballarat District Orphan Asylum, Ballarat Orphanage and Ballarat Children’s Home at 200 Victoria Street, Ballarat East.

Design work is needed to help determine an overall budget for heritage interpretation at the site, the direction for which has been developed with an Ex-Resident Working Group. The appointed consultant will be required to produce preliminary design concepts and provide indicative costings for completing design and delivery of the proposed designs, which will be used by the City of Ballarat to seek funding commitments from internal and external sources. Progressing the design concepts into fully specified drawings is outside the scope of the current project and will form part of further work once funding has been confirmed.

Procurement of services for this project will be undertaken in a two-stage selection process, in order to facilitate involving the Ex-Resident Working Group in decision making and to ensure the best possible design outcome for the site (see Section 4 for full details).



Figure 1: 200 Victoria Street development site, overlaid with the approved development plan and six confirmed locations for formal heritage interpretation (see the Heritage Interpretation Guide for full details)

## 2 Objectives

As a place of regret and healing, the 200 Victoria Street site presents a special opportunity and privilege to represent its past in a way that makes sense of a multitude of complex feelings and perspectives. The City of Ballarat is committed to achieving the best possible outcome for ex-residents and is assembling a highly qualified team of consultants and Council officers to ensure this. It is therefore of critical importance that the successful consultant holds not only the appropriate design skills and experience, but also the ability to empathise and take inspiration from the stories and ideas of ex-residents in a respectful manner.

Council is currently applying the HUL approach to its strategic planning processes (visit the [HUL Ballarat](#) website for more information), and it is intended that heritage interpretation at the 200 Victoria Street site will be a successful HUL case study for how community connections and stories can meaningfully inform place design in a major urban redevelopment. The City of Ballarat is applying the HUL approach to this project by allowing the ideas and stories the Ex-Resident Working Group to inspire design outcomes, rather than having the process be led solely by practitioners. This has meant that the focus is not on traditional approaches to interpreting 'historical themes' on site, but rather, reflecting a living community connection.

## 3 Project Outcomes and Deliverables

It is expected that the following **project outcomes** will be achieved:

- Prepare preliminary design concepts in consultation with the City of Ballarat, the Ex-Resident Working Group and consultants at ASH Tree Projects
- Liaise with landscape architects at the City of Ballarat regarding integrating and connecting the interpretive elements, notably into the site's two public reserves
- In consultation with the Working Group, consider appropriate spaces within the Elm tree reserve for a public art commission
- Seek indicative quotes from fabricators to produce all aspects of the design proposal, including for completing detailed design (these estimates should be as accurate as possible, acknowledging that the designs are preliminary at this stage and will change as the project progresses)
- Attending up to two meetings with the City of Ballarat, ASH Tree Projects and the Ex-Resident Working Group
- Allow for one round of changes to draft design concepts, based on consolidated feedback from the City of Ballarat, ASH Tree Projects and the Ex-Resident Working Group

The following activities and documents are the **key deliverables** for this project:

1. **Interpretive design concepts** – Preparation of design concepts responding to the Interpretation Guide, proposing how interpretation at each of the six locations could look and engage audiences, as well as how interpretation across the site could be linked through subtle, integrated design language. Also consider how the interpretive elements, including the public art commission, could be integrated into landscape design of the two public reserves
2. **Indicative costings** – Provision of indicative costings for implementing all elements of the interpretation (aside from the public art commission), including development of detailed designs, broken down for each of the six locations.

The following activities and documents are **outside the scope** of the current project:

- Stakeholder management
- Researching and preparing interpretive content beyond what is set out in the Interpretation Guide
- Preparing detailed design drawings (the contractor must provide cost estimates for this only, and will be commissioned separately once funding is confirmed)
- Overseeing production and installation of the interpretation and landscape design (this will also be a subsequent project)

## 4 Selection Process and Submission Requirements

Selection for this project will be a two-stage procurement process described in detail below.

### 4.1 Stage One

The first stage will be a general EOI, with submission requirements outlined below. Following review of EOI submissions, up to three shortlisted consultants will be chosen by the City of Ballarat in consultation with ASH Tree Projects and the Ex-Resident Working Group, based upon the Stage One selection criteria. Each shortlisted consultant will receive a fee of **\$2,000** to develop their proposal to the second stage.

Note: Any actual or perceived conflicts of interest must be noted in Stage One submissions.

#### Submission Requirements Stage One:

- Statement outlining capacity to achieve the two key project deliverables (see Section 3) and meet project timeframes
- Personnel and relevant experience
- Examples of previous work in public realm interpretation design
- Examples of previous work dealing with intangible cultural heritage and sensitive subject matter
- If a consortium is proposed, examples of previous collaborative projects

#### Selection Criteria Stage One:

- Ability to achieve project deliverables and meet the required timeframes (30%)
- Capacity to provide appropriate design responses for complex and intangible subject matter (30%)
- Aesthetic and creative capacity demonstrated through previous work (20%)
- Experience in relevant public realm heritage interpretation design (20%)

### 4.2 Stage Two

At stage two, the shortlisted consultants will submit a summary of their design approach/ideas with sample imagery for further consideration. A final consultant from among the shortlist will then be selected by the City of Ballarat, in consultation with ASH Tree Projects and the Ex-Resident Working Group, based on the criteria outlined below. The successful consultant will be awarded a **\$15,000** contract to proceed with the project outcomes and deliverables in full, as outlined in Section 3.

Note: The City of Ballarat will schedule video call meetings with each of the three shortlisted consultants (individually) to clarify expectations and answer questions regarding the project generally or submission requirements for this stage. All relevant information will be distributed to each of the three consultants.

#### Submission Requirements Stage Two:

- Summary description of the proposed design approach responding to the guiding principles, key messages, primary source material and site parameters set out in the Interpretation Guide (not expected to be extensive)
- Sample imagery representing the proposed design approach and aesthetic (e.g. suggested materials palette, colours and recommended interpretive mediums that complement the primary source material provided in the Interpretation Guide)
- Methodology explaining how the required outcomes and deliverables will be achieved
- Confirmation of project personnel and ability to meet timeframes and budget

#### Selection Criteria Stage Two:

- Understanding of stories and community connections to the site, demonstrated through response to the Interpretation Guide (35%)
- Quality and suitability of the proposed design approach and aesthetic in addressing site parameters (35%)
- Ability to meet project timeframes, outcomes and deliverables (15%)
- Experience and expertise of the proposed consultant team (15%)

## 5 Project Timing and Budget

### 5.1 Timeframes

The following table provides a timeframe for the two-stage procurement process and overall project deadline.

<b>Monday 23 November 2020</b>	EOI open for Stage One submissions
<b>Friday 18 December (5pm)</b>	EOI closed for Stage One submissions Submissions reviewed by City of Ballarat
<b>Monday 18 January 2021</b>	Shortlisted consultants advised to develop Stage Two submissions Video call meetings (individual) with shortlisted consultants
<b>Monday 15 February (5pm)</b>	Stage Two submissions due and invoiced Submissions reviewed by City of Ballarat
<b>Monday 22 February</b>	Award contract to successful consultant Proceed with project delivery to an agreed methodology
<b>Monday 22 March (5pm)</b>	Submission of first draft for review by City of Ballarat City of Ballarat to provide consolidated feedback within 5 business days
<b>Monday 19 April (5pm)</b>	Submission of final design concepts addressing feedback Project completion deadline
<b>City of Ballarat will use design concepts to seek project funding</b>	
Future project work will include (to be quoted and commissioned once full funding has been secured): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Address any feedback provided by developers</li><li>- Incorporate completed public art concept (to be commissioned by City of Ballarat separately) into final design in collaboration with artist</li><li>- Completion of detailed design drawings</li><li>- Oversee fabrication and installation of interpretive elements and landscape design as needed</li></ul>	

### 5.2 Budget

#### *Stage One Fee*

Following review of EOI submissions, up to three shortlisted consultants will be awarded **\$2,000 each** to develop their proposals to the next stage.

#### *Stage Two Fee*

The successful consultant will be selected from among those shortlisted and awarded a fixed fee contract of **\$15,000** for the project, in addition to the stage one fee.

Any budget which exceeds the specified budget amount should outline why, cost all elements beyond the proposed budget and list any impact from not accepting the consultant's proposal for achieving the goals of the project, as outlined in this brief.

The consultant's fixed fee contract will be inclusive of all activities required to achieve the objectives of the specifications, including travelling expenses and disbursements.

All prices shall remain valid for acceptance for at least 90 days from the date of submission of offers.

## 6 Consultation and Engagement

The consultant is not required to undertake their own community and stakeholder engagement as part of the current project, as this has already been done extensively by the City of Ballarat. Notes from these discussions will be provided to the successful consultant to inform their work.

A summary of the key stakeholders and how they will be involved in this project is provided below.

### *Ex-Resident Working Group*

The Ex-Resident Working Group is made up of stakeholders named in the approved Development Plan who must be consulted in developing heritage interpretation for the site. Additional participants have been invited by the City of Ballarat in response to broad community connections and stakeholder interest. The group will be involved in selecting the successful consultant and provide critical inspiration and feedback throughout the project.

The **Ex-Resident Working Group** consists of:

- Three ex-residents, representing different eras of the site's operation
- Stolen Generations Officer, Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative (BADAC)
- Ash Tree Projects consulting historians
- Cafs (Child and Family Services) representatives as required
- City of Ballarat officers as required

### *Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative (BADAC)*

BADAC were invited to be part of the Ex-Resident Working Group in acknowledgement that there was no Aboriginal representation among those ex-residents who were named as stakeholders in the Development Plan. As a site that housed many members of the Stolen Generations from Ballarat and other areas, it was critical that the project incorporated this perspective. BADAC provides a range of support services for the health and wellbeing of local Aboriginal peoples, many of whom are members of the Stolen Generations or are their descendants. In this capacity, BADAC are providing valuable input into how the stories and experiences of the Stolen Generations should be represented.

### *Child and Family Services (Cafs)*

Child and Family Services in Ballarat (Cafs) is the modern incarnation of the institution that once ran the 200 Victoria Street children's home from 1866 until its closure in 1983, which is their main stakeholder interest in this project. Cafs have a legacy and research centre in their offices at 115 Lydiard Street North, Ballarat, which holds a range of information about the running of the Victoria Street institution and administration records relating to its former residents. Cafs recognise that the Victoria Street site is a place for former residents to share their stories and experiences, rather than interpreting from the institution's perspective.

### *Developers*

There are three separate owner/developer consortiums for the 200 Victoria Street site, divided as follows:

1. Supermarket development
2. Childcare Centre development and Magnolia tree public reserve
3. Residential subdivision and Elm tree public reserve

The process being undertaken by the City of Ballarat to engage with ex-residents in developing the heritage interpretation is a requirement of the site's Development Plan Overlay, which each of the site owners/developers is aware of. The City of Ballarat will present the completed design concepts and indicative costings (i.e. the project set out in this brief) to the developers for their feedback at this conclusion of this project, which will then inform subsequent design work.

## 7 Project Governance

The project has a range of stakeholders with varying needs and levels of investment in the site and its heritage. The successful contractor will work in close collaboration with the City of Ballarat, an Ex-Resident Working Group and the expert consultant team at ASH Tree Projects, who have been appointed by the City of Ballarat to assist with project management, stakeholder management and to prepare the Interpretation Guide.

### *City of Ballarat*

The City of Ballarat will be managing the delivery of heritage interpretation at the site and negotiating landscape design of its two public reserves in communication with the developers. The City of Ballarat will be the main contact for this project and maintain overall responsibility for acceptance of project deliverables.

### **Project Manager:**

John Dyke, Heritage Advisor Strategic Projects

[johndyke@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:johndyke@ballarat.vic.gov.au)

0419 416 795

### *ASH Tree Projects Pty Ltd*

Ember Parkin and David McGinniss from ASH Tree Projects have been engaged to assist with project management, facilitate consultation and stakeholder liaison, as well as research and develop the Interpretation Guide. In their capacity as researchers at Federation University over the last several years, Ember and David have developed relationships with Cafs and some ex-residents and have detailed knowledge of the site and its stories that has proven invaluable for this project. ASH Tree Projects will be the points of contact for any queries regarding site history, ex-resident stakeholders, the Interpretation Guide and primary source material.

Ember Parkin

ASH Tree Projects Pty Ltd

[ember@ashtreeprojects.com.au](mailto:ember@ashtreeprojects.com.au)

0431 983 376

David McGinniss

ASH Tree Projects Pty Ltd

[david@ashtreeprojects.com.au](mailto:david@ashtreeprojects.com.au)

0403 679 277

## 8 Attachments

Landscapes plans for the Elm and Magnolia Reserves are attached for information along with the Interpretation Guide, which must be used to underpin the methodology and design response in all submissions.



## 9 Due diligence, risk and quality management

### *Project Management*

- The Consultant will be required to work in close liaison with the Project Manager during the project to ensure that services are delivered to an acceptable standard and in accordance with this project brief; and
- All meetings must take place in Ballarat unless otherwise agreed.

### *Intellectual property*

- Ownership and the rights to use any of the material submitted for the project shall remain with City of Ballarat;
- All Intellectual Property developed in this project is the property of the City of Ballarat;
- The contractor is to grant the City of Ballarat an unconditional license for the use of any and all pre-existing Intellectual Property necessary for the completion of the project and use of the project outcomes. Where such intellectual property rests with a subcontractor, it is the contractor's responsibility to obtain such licenses on behalf of the City of Ballarat; and
- In agreeing to undertake this work, the contractor agrees to waive Moral Rights to creations resulting from this project.

### *Research and local context*

- An Interpretation Guide outlining the interpretive content has already been developed and the consultant is expected to base their design proposal off this document, rather than suggesting an alternative direction; and
- The Services must be tailored to Ballarat, including Ballarat specific costs and local prices. Recommendations must be suited to the site conditions, including consideration of exposure to the elements.

### *Risk Management*

- Assessment of constraints and risks must take a conservative approach and be cognisant of likely changes over time due to climate change and ongoing maintenance requirements; and
- Estimates of utility and community infrastructure and facility costs must be informed by any relevant risks and constraints identified.

### *Communications*

- The consultant must not meet with any stakeholders, including landowners, without representation of the City of Ballarat being present, unless otherwise agreed;
- The consultant must not discuss the project or any associated issues with stakeholders, landowners and other parties except where required to complete the Services. Any enquiries received that fall outside of the Services are to be directed to the Project Manager; and
- The Consultant must not discuss the project or any associated issues with the media and is required to immediately direct any media enquiries to the Project Manager.

### *Documentation*

All documentation must:

- Be produced in a format approved by the Project Manager
- Provide analysis, conclusions and clear recommendations in addition to reporting technical findings;
- Be written in concise, clear and plain English;
- Clearly state all assumptions; and
- Be delivered with ample time for review, as agreed (allowing for review time by multiple internal stakeholders at the City of Ballarat, and by the Ex-Resident Working Group).

## 10 Format of materials

All analysis and mapping materials are to be provided at both draft and final report stages in the following formats:

- Reports – Microsoft Word (.docx) and Portable Document Format (.pdf)
- Mathematical and financial materials – Microsoft Excel (.xlsx)
- Spatial analysis and mapping materials – ESRI Shapefile format and high-quality Portable Document Format (.pdf) file (file size as required for project documentation/reports and suitable for supporting A1 size)
- All other materials – To be agreed with the Project Manager in advance

## 11 Variations and future work

- All variations must be approved in writing by Council, before any additional work is undertaken and or invoiced
- Additional work required at the completion of the project may be undertaken by agreed variation to the scope of works

## 12 Conflicts of interest

Consultants must declare to the Project Manager any matter or issue that may be perceived to be or may lead to a conflict of interest regarding their Tender or supply of the Services. Tenders must describe a strategy for avoiding conflicts of interest.

## 13 Contact

All queries regarding this brief should be directed to:

John Dyke  
Heritage Advisor Strategic Projects, City of Ballarat  
PO Box 655, Ballarat, Victoria, 3353  
M: 0419 416 795  
[johndyke@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:johndyke@ballarat.vic.gov.au)

# PART B: BACKGROUND

## 14 200 Victoria Street Site

### 14.1 Site brief history

There were three different children’s residential institutions on the site of 200 Victoria Street: the Ballarat District Orphan Asylum (1866-1909), the Ballarat Orphanage (1909-1968), and the Ballarat Children’s Home (1968-1983). More than 4,000 children stayed at these institutions over the 117 years of its operation at this site: eating, sleeping, playing, learning at the onsite primary school or in surrounding schools, and working to sustain the institution by performing domestic tasks, helping run the onsite farms and orchards, or in other forms of work. Between 1866 and 1965 – at the Orphan Asylum and Orphanage – the children lived in a large Victorian-style building. During the Ballarat Children’s Home era, they lived in smaller cottages and wings. Children were sent to these institutions from all over Victoria and Australia and made their homes in many different places when they left. The stories and lives of the children from these institutions and the adults they have become are a key part of this city’s identity. The site and institutions that operated there are remembered with a complex mixture of fondness, regret and grief, reflecting the mixed legacies that these institutions have left in contemporary Ballarat.

### 14.2 Redevelopment

After the 200 Victoria Street site was purchased by property developers in 2011, former residents of the Orphanage and the Children’s Home successfully campaigned to save some of the few remaining historic structures and trees, the remainder of which had been demolished and removed. Heritage fabric retained at the site includes four main features:

1. Toddler’s block building (1929) which will become a childcare centre
2. Schoolhouse building (1919) which will be integrated into the construction of an IGA supermarket
3. A brick wall (c.1880s’) running the length of the site’s western boundary which will be stabilised and retained
4. Three significant trees (one Magnolia and two Elms), which provided residents and staff with sites of play, commemoration and reflection are also protected and will be incorporated into two public reserves

The approved Development Plan requires that heritage interpretation be integrated into six key locations in the redevelopment to signify the remaining historic features and reflect the many layers of stories embodied by the site. The developers engaged a graphic designer to prepare concepts and suggested content for each of the six locations, however the concepts are not supported by the former residents which is why further design work is being undertaken. While the original concepts are not being used, the six locations set out in the documentation are definitive (see Attachment 1).

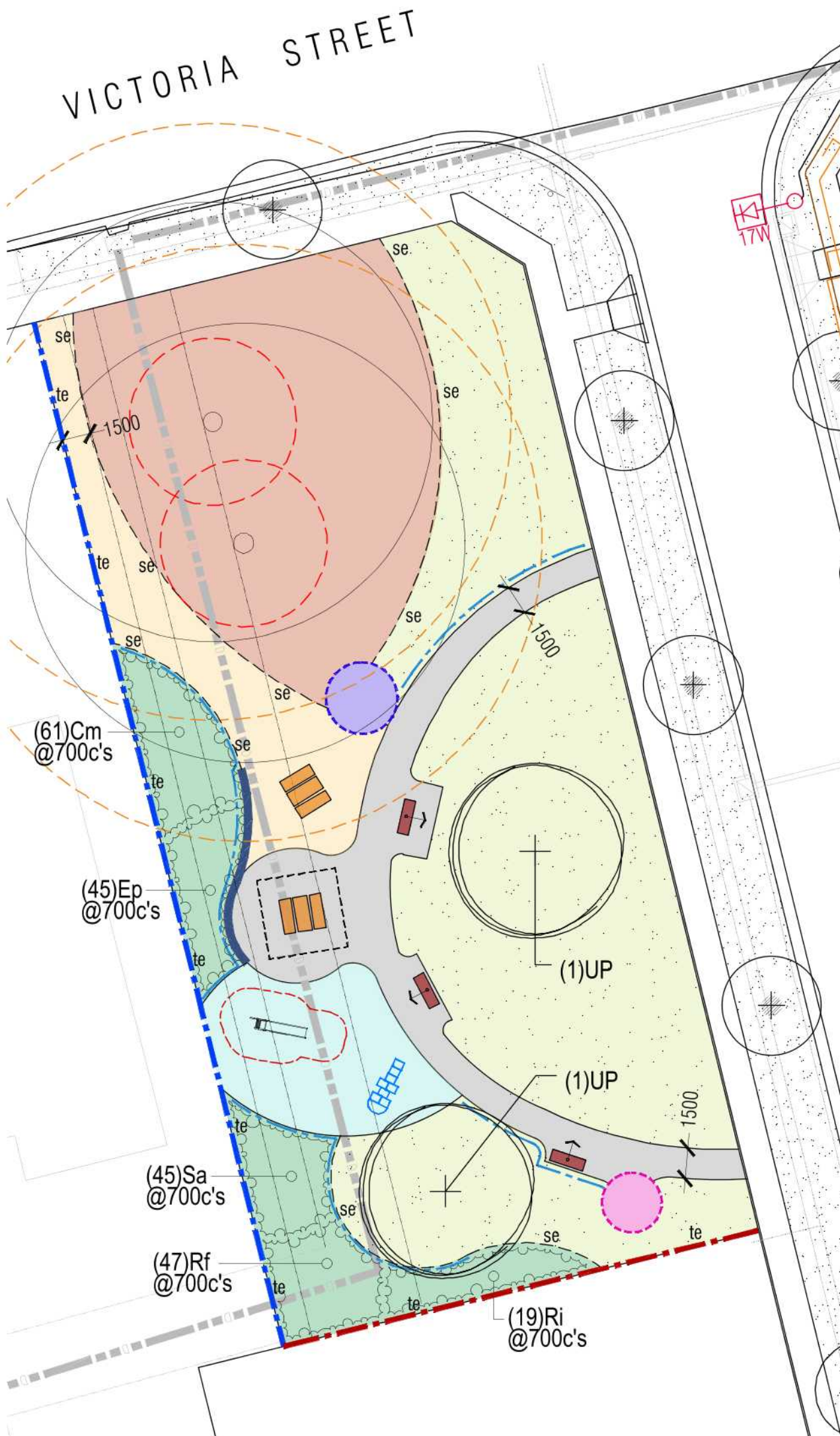
# PART C: ATTACHMENTS

- Development Plan
- Landscape Plans for Elm & Magnolia Reserves
- Heritage Interpretation Guide

## Development Plan



*Development site, overlaid with the approved development plan and six confirmed locations for formal heritage interpretation*



**Legend**

- Existing Ulmus x hollandica (Dutch Elm) trees to be retained (positions to be confirmed on site). TPZ indicated with orange dashed line & SRZ indicated with red dashed line. Refer 'Tree Protection & Management Plan' (Shepherd Tree Management), 14.05.2020.
- Street trees (Refer Stage 1 Street Tree Landscape Plan).
- Tree planting in turf areas. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
- Groundcover planting in wood mulched areas. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
- Turf areas. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
- Potential art installation (by Council).
- Potential art installation &/or area for site interpretation (by Council).
- 'Hop-Scotch' court on 'Play Mat' rubber tiles soft fall area.
- Kompan Stainless Steel Slide-M332,124cm high (red dashed lines indicate fall zone) on 'Play Mat' rubber tiles soft fall area. Available : Kompan, t : 9744 5581
- 'Oxley Ring' Pedestrian Barrier fence (PF 109). Refer City of Ballarat, Urban Design Manual - Part A: Street & park Furniture Guidelines, Version 4.1, 2013. Fence height to be confirmed with Council prior to ordering.
- Gravel paving. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
- Wood mulched area. Refer 'Tree Protection & Management Plan' (Shepherd Tree Management), 14.05.2020.
- Concrete paving. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
- 'Fiesta Seat' with 2no. armrests (PF 002). Arrow indicates direction of seat view. Refer City of Ballarat, Urban Design Manual - Part A: Street & park Furniture Guidelines, Version 4.1, 2013.
- 'Fiesta Picnic Setting' (PF 007). Refer City of Ballarat, Urban Design Manual - Part A: Street & park Furniture Guidelines, Version 4.1, 2013.
- 'Peninsular Series' Shelter, K302 (4 x 4m). Available : Landmark, t:1300 768 230.
- Curved brick wall / seat (400mm high).
- Timber paling boundary fence (1.95m high) to Lot 1.
- Steel edging. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
- Timber edging. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
- Agricultural drainage (connected to storm water system). Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5

**Plant Schedule**

KEY	BOTANICAL NAME (COMMON NAME)	MATURE SIZE height x width (m)	PURCHASE SIZE	QTY. guide only
<b>Trees</b>				
UP	Ulmus parvifolia (Chinese Elm)	18 x 20	45 litre cont./1.8m high	2
<b>Groundcovers</b>				
Cm	Clivia minita (Kafir Lily)	0.6 x 0.7	150mm pot	61
Ep	Escallonia 'Pink Pixie'	0.7 x 0.7	150mm pot	45
Ri	Rhaphiolepis indica 'Snow Maiden'	0.7 x 0.7	150mm pot	19
Rf	Rosa 'Flower Carpet'	0.6 x 0.8	150mm pot	47
Sa	Syzygium australe 'Tiny Trev'	0.8 x 0.7	150mm pot	45

**Notes**

- Contractor to verify the location of all services prior to the commencement of any works, including Electrical Cables, T-joints, Straight-joints, Service T-joints, Cable joints, Service Cables and Service Pits. Trees to be installed in accordance with Powercor Tree Planting Guide.
- Contractor to verify all dimensions and levels prior to commencement of works.
- Contractor to note that required location and dimensions of works may not exactly correspond with existing conditions.
- Confirm exact street tree locations with Council and Services Providers prior to ordering trees. Contractor to confirm offset & depth of electrical cables prior to ordering trees.
- Verify all plant quantities.
- Prior to ground preparation and planting works, apply non-residual knockdown non-selective herbicide eg. "Roundup" to all "Mulch Circles". Ensure adequate "die off" of existing grass and weeds prior to ground preparation works.
- Street Trees to be managed to ensure no twisted trunks or multiple branching. Contractor to facilitate quarterly inspections with Council's Street Tree Officer.
- All plant material, staking, guarding, mulching (mulch to be maintained to depths as specified) is to be replaced as necessary/maintained (including dead,diseased and poor performing plant material as determined by the Landscape Architect) for a period of 78 weeks following the date of Practical Completion as certified by the Landscape Architect. Dead, diseased and poor performing plant material as determined by the Landscape Architect is to be replaced quarterly. Mulch is to be maintained to depths as specified for the full 78 week period.
- Provide quarterly maintenance activity report during the 78 week maintenance period including plant losses, dead, missing\* & diseased plants to be replaced.
- Contractor to arrange for Council sign off of works at Practical Completion & Final Completion. Contractor to notify Landscape Architect of Council acceptance of works at Practical Completion & Final Completion.
- DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG. CALL 1100.
- Street Tree & Reserve Offset Clearances :  
3m from pedestrian pathways in reserves (species dependant), 3m from driveways (species dependant), 4m from power poles, 4m from light poles (species dependant), 2m from service assets (including junction boxes, pits etc), 2m from service conduit crossing, 3m from fire plugs, 2m from domestic service tapping points, 2m from stormwater outlet points. Distances provided may be subject to changes dependant upon the site and species selected. Contractor to confirm exact tree locations with Council at a pre-commencement site inspection and prior to ordering tree stock.

\* Plant material that is vandalised to be replaced at cost to Principal. Report vandalism immediately



'Peninsular Series' Shelter



Curved brick wall / seat



'Oxley Ring' Fence



'Fiesta Seat'



'Fiesta Picnic Setting'



Hop - Scotch



Stainless Steel Slide - Kompan

No. Issued	Date-Drawn
01 Preliminary - power submission	09.07.2020-d
02 Client approval	13.07.2020-d
Client approval	27.07.2020-d
NBN revisions	14.09.2020-d
Client approval	05.10.2020-d
03 Planning	06.10.2020-d

Client:  
Victoria Street Development Pty. Ltd.

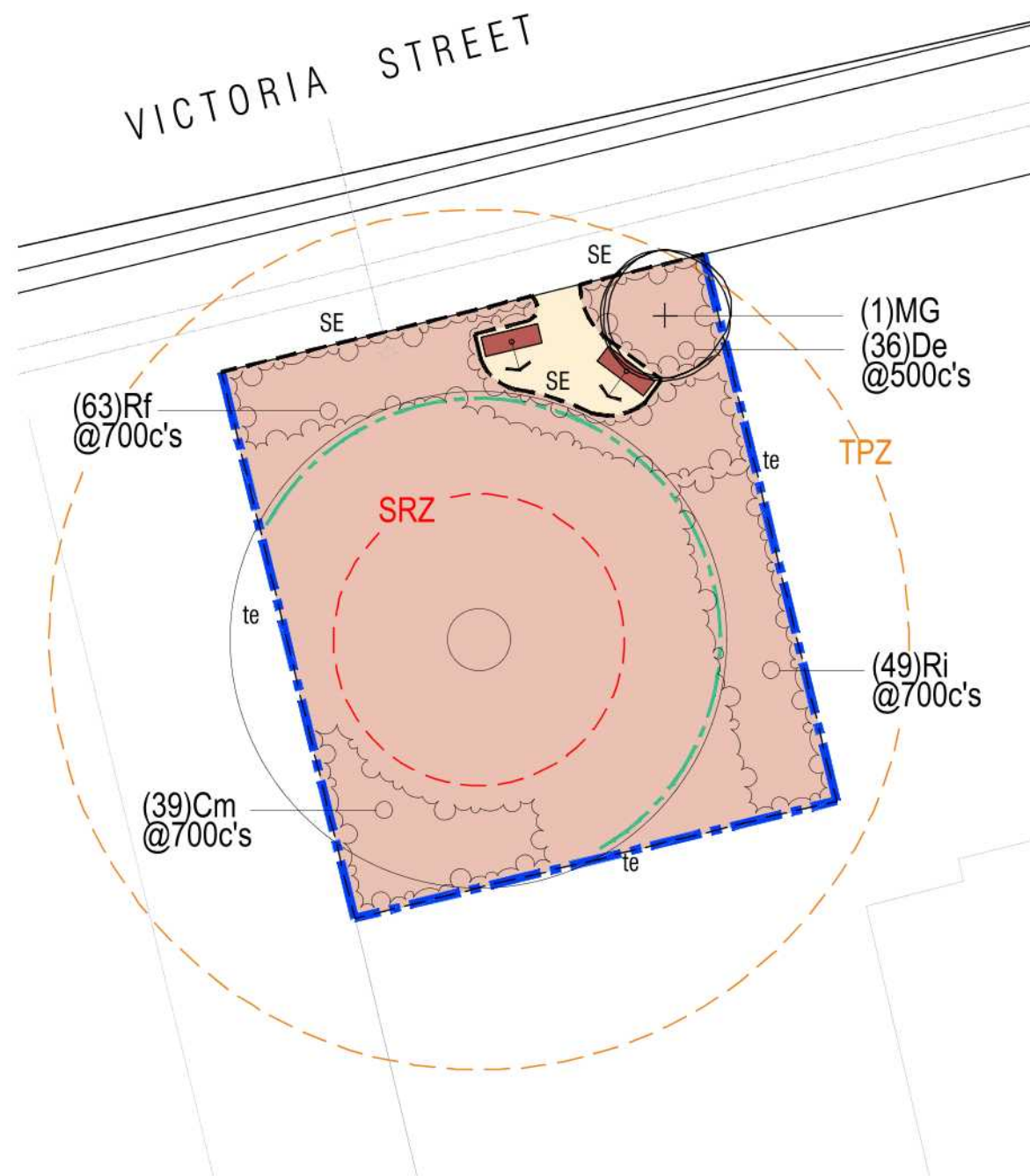
Project:  
8 Lot Subdivision  
200A Victoria Street  
Ballarat East

Drawing Title:  
Stage 1 Reserve No. 1  
Elm Reserve  
Landscape Plan











**MEXTED RIMMER**  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

MEXTED RIMMER ASSOCIATES PTY LTD  
A M N B S O O R S O O Z  
14 MC LARRY PLACE GEELONG VIC 3220  
TEL : 03 5229 1414 FAX : 03 5223 2930  
EMAIL : mail@mextedrimmer.com

Designed: G.M.	Date: 06.10.2020	Drawing No. L3.03
Drawn: d	Proj. No. 2890	Sheet No. 3 of 3
Checked: G.M.	Scale: 1:125 @ A1 1:250 @ A3	



### Legend

-  Existing Magnolia grandiflora to be retained (position to be confirmed on site). TPZ indicated with orange dashed line & SRZ indicated with red dashed line. Refer 'Tree Protection & Management Plan' (Shepherd Tree Management), 14.05.2020.
-  Tree planting in wood mulch area. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
-  Groundcover planting in wood mulch areas. Refer 'Tree Protection & Management Plan' (Shepherd Tree Management), 14.05.2020 Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
-  'Oxley Ring' Pedestrian Barrier fence (PF 109). Refer City of Ballarat, Urban Design Manual - Part A: Street & park Furniture Guidelines, Version 4.1, 2013. Fence height to be confirmed with Council prior to ordering).
-  Gravel paving. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
-  Wood mulched area. Refer 'Tree Protection & Management Plan' (Shepherd Tree Management), 14.05.2020.
-  'Fiesta Seat' with 2no. armrests (PF 002). Arrow indicates direction of seat view. Refer City of Ballarat, Urban Design Manual - Part A: Street & park Furniture Guidelines, Version 4.1, 2013.
-  Steel edging (100mm max. above existing asphalt paving). Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
-  Timber edging. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5
-  Irrigation to existing tree. Refer 'Tree Protection & Management Plan' (Shepherd Tree Management), 14.05.2020. Refer City of Ballarat, Landscape Design Manual, 20.08.2012-Version 5



'Oxley Ring' Fence



'Fiesta Seat'

### Plant Schedule

KEY	BOTANICAL NAME (COMMON NAME)	MATURE SIZE height x width (m)	PURCHASE SIZE	QTY. <small>(guide only)</small>
<b>Trees</b>				
MG	Magnolia grandiflora 'Little Gem'	6 x 3	45 litre cont./1.8m high	1
<b>Groundcovers</b>				
Cm	Clivia minita (Kafir Lily)	0.6 x 0.7	Forestry tube	39
De	Dianella 'Emerald Fountain'	0.5 x 0.5	Forestry tube	36
Ri	Rhaphiolepis indica 'Snow Maiden'	0.7 x 0.7	Forestry tube	49
Rf	Rosa 'Flower Carpet'	0.6 x 0.8	150mm pot	63

### Notes

1. Contractor to verify the location of all services prior to the commencement of any works, including Electrical Cables, T-joints, Straight-joints, Service T-joints, Cable joints, Service Cables and Service Pits. Trees to be installed in accordance with Powercor Tree Planting Guide.
2. Contractor to verify all dimensions and levels prior to commencement of works.
3. Contractor to note that required location and dimensions of works may not exactly correspond with existing conditions.
4. Confirm exact street tree locations with Council and Services Providers prior to ordering trees. Contractor to confirm offset & depth of electrical cables prior to ordering trees.
5. Verify all plant quantities.
6. Prior to ground preparation and planting works, apply non-residual knockdown non-selective herbicide eg. "Roundup" to all "Mulch Circles". Ensure adequate "die off" of existing grass and weeds prior to ground preparation works.
7. Street Trees to be managed to ensure no twisted trunks or multiple branching. Contractor to facilitate quarterly inspections with Council's Street Tree Officer.
8. All plant material, staking, guarding, mulching (mulch to be maintained to depths as specified) is to be replaced as necessary/ maintained (including dead, diseased and poor performing plant material as determined by the Landscape Architect) for a period of 78 weeks following the date of Practical Completion as certified by the Landscape Architect. Dead, diseased and poor performing plant material as determined by the Landscape Architect is to be replaced quarterly. Mulch is to be maintained to depths as specified for the full 78 week period.
9. Provide quarterly maintenance activity report during the 78 week maintenance period including plant losses, dead, missing\* & diseased plants to be replaced.
10. Contractor to arrange for Council sign off of works at Practical Completion & Final Completion. Contractor to notify Landscape Architect of Council acceptance of works at Practical Completion & Final Completion.
11. DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG, CALL 1100.
12. Street Tree & Reserve Offset Clearances :  
3m from pedestrian pathways in reserves (species dependant), 3m from driveways (species dependant), 4m from power poles, 4m from light poles (species dependant), 2m from service assets (including junction boxes, pits etc), 2m from service conduit crossing, 3m from fire plugs, 2m from domestic service tapping points, 2m from stormwater outlet points. Distances provided may be subject to changes dependant upon the site and species selected. Contractor to confirm exact tree locations with Council at a pre-commencement site inspection and prior to ordering tree stock.

\* Plant material that is vandalised to be replaced at cost to Principal. Report vandalism immediately

No. Issued	Date-Drawn
01 Client approval	22.10.2020-d
02 Planning	22.10.2020-d

Client:  
Victoria Street Development Pty. Ltd.

Project:  
200A Victoria Street  
Ballarat East

Drawing Title:  
Magnolia Reserve  
Landscape Plan



Designed. G.M.	Date. 22.10.2020	Drawing No. L1.02
Drawn. d	Proj. No. 2890	Sheet No. 1 of 1
Checked. G.M.	Scale. 1:100 @ A1 1:200 @ A3	



Memory map drawn by former resident of Ballarat Children's Home, 2019

# Heritage Interpretation Guide 200 Victoria Street, Ballarat East

**Prepared by Ash Tree Projects**

To inform concept designs for development at 200 Victoria Street, Ballarat East, site of the former Ballarat District Orphan Asylum, Ballarat Orphanage and Ballarat Children's Home

To find out more contact the City of Ballarat  
[heritage@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:heritage@ballarat.vic.gov.au) 03 5320 5500





## Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Ballarat acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land we live and work on, the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung People, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend this to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

Please note: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that this website may contain photographs of deceased persons.

**Prepared for the City of Ballarat by Ash Tree Projects and the Ex-Residents Working Group February 2020.**

**Photographs in this document have been provided by Cafs Ballarat.**

### Cover - Ballarat Children's Home Memory Map Key

Memory map developed by former Ballarat Children's Home Resident, Deborah Findlay.

#### Buildings

- A. Superintendent's living accommodations.
- B. Toddler's block
- C. Toddler's swimming pool
- D. School portable for grades 1 & 2
- E. 3BA Bluebirds Cottage: Price Wing, Baxter Wing and Railway Wing
- F. Enclosed walkway from toddler's block to dining room
- G. Covered walk from toddler's block to administration office.
- H. Multi-purpose building including:
  - 1. Under-cover walk.
  - 2. Large dining room for all cottages
  - 3. Kitchen
  - 4. Laundry and boiler room
  - 5. Firstly used as the trampoline gym, then Badminton Hall
  - 6. Clothing and sewing large room
  - 7. Concert and film hall
  - 8. Boys outside toilet
- I. Albert Leach extension
- J. Albert Leach Cottage: Tulloch Wing and M.B. John Wing
- K. School portable for grade 3
- L. Administrator's office.
- M. Farrell Cottage; Farrell North & East Wings
- N. Two netball courts
- P. In-ground swimming pool
- Q. Outdoor girls' toilet
- U. Sloyd room - used for woodwork and then used storing gardeners' tools
- R. Small Shelter Sheds.
- S. Ballarat Children's Home State School Grades 4,5 & 6

#### Outdoor spaces

- 1) Trees used to make tree houses.
- 2) Creek
- 3) Paddocks
- 4) Trees used to make tree houses
- 5) Trees used for climbing and for bows-and-arrows
- 6) Paddocks
- 7) Haystack
- 8) Milking Shed
- 9) Baby Animals Pen
- 10) Farmhouse



## “We were here” – “Never hidden or forgotten”

**These are histories and stories that have not often been told ... until recently.**

So much so, that there is a commonly used term to describe people who have experienced institutional Care as children:

### **Forgotten Australians**

The citizens and leaders of Ballarat have a responsibility to make sure the people of 200 Victoria St, and their experiences, are not forgotten again.

## Contents

<b>Context</b>	<b>3 - 4</b>
<b>Interpretive approach</b>	<b>5 - 9</b>
<b>Site briefs</b>	<b>11 - 16</b>



# Context

## Purpose of this document

This Heritage Interpretation Guide was prepared by Ash Tree Projects for the City of Ballarat, based on discussions with an Ex-Resident Working Group and broader stakeholder consultation in 2019-20.

The guide will inform the design of interpretive elements at several locations on the former site of the Ballarat District Orphan Asylum, Ballarat Orphanage, and Ballarat Children's Home, at 200 Victoria Street, Ballarat East. It provides context, content and site parameters to inform a series of design concepts that will be used by the City of Ballarat to seek funding to deliver the project.

The City of Ballarat is applying the Historic Urban Landscape (or 'HUL') approach to this project by allowing the ideas and stories the Ex-Resident Working Group to inspire design outcomes, rather than having the process be led solely by practitioners. This has meant the focus is not on traditional approaches to interpreting 'historical themes' on site, but rather, reflecting a living community connection.

## Background

### Brief site history

There were three different children's residential institutions at 200 Victoria Street: the Ballarat District Orphan Asylum (1866–1909), the Ballarat Orphanage (1909–68), and the Ballarat Children's Home (1968–83). More than 4,000 children stayed at these institutions over the 117 years of its operation at this site: eating, sleeping, playing, learning at the onsite primary school or in surrounding schools, and working to sustain the institution by performing domestic tasks, helping run the on-site farms and orchards, or in other forms of work.

Between 1866 and 1965, at the Orphan Asylum and Orphanage, the children lived in a large Victorian-style building. During the Ballarat Children's Home era, they lived in smaller cottages and wings. The children were sent here from all over Victoria, Australia and the world, with all sorts of backgrounds and experiences, including hundreds of Aboriginal children now acknowledged as the Stolen Generations. Former residents went on to make their homes in many different places when they left. Nevertheless, their lived experiences during their time at these institutions and the adults they have become are a key part of Ballarat's identity. The site and the institutions that operated there are remembered with a complex mixture of fondness, grief, regret, and many other emotions that are difficult to express, reflecting the mixed legacies that these institutions have left in contemporary Ballarat.

Only three built forms remain from these years: the Toddlers Block, the old Schoolhouse and the old wall along Stawell Street, as well as three historic trees. The memories of those children who lived here – their pain, their friendships, their tears and their laughter – will live on forever. Never hidden or forgotten.

## Site redevelopment

After the 200 Victoria Street site was purchased by a consortium of property developers in 2011, former residents of the Orphanage and the Children's Home campaigned for several years to save the site's built heritage from being completely erased. They succeeded in saving the few remaining historic structures and trees evident today, the remainder of which were demolished and removed. Conversely, this protection was not able to be achieved through an individual Heritage Overlay (although the site was already included in the Victoria Street Heritage Precinct HO177), despite there being a living and very engaged community connected to the site that demonstrated its social significance. Instead, a Development Plan Overlay was introduced to guide how the proposed development would incorporate the remaining tangible site features, as well as highlighting the need to interpret its deeply meaningful intangible heritage.

### Heritage fabric retained at the site includes four main elements:

- 1 **Toddler's Block building** (1929) which will become a childcare centre
- 2 **Schoolhouse building** (1919) which will be integrated into the construction of an IGA supermarket
- 3 **A brick wall (c.1880s')** running part of the length of the site's western boundary along Stawell Street, which will be stabilised and retained
- 4 **Three significant trees** (one Magnolia and two Elms), which provided residents and staff with sites of play, commemoration and reflection and will be incorporated into two public reserves.

## Ex-Resident Working Group

The developers have agreed for the City of Ballarat to lead a consultation process with a Working Group of former residents of the Ballarat Orphanage and/or Ballarat Children's Home, and family, to develop an approach for how their stories will be told in the redevelopment. This approach is documented here in the Heritage Interpretation Guide prepared by Ash Tree Projects.

The Working Group has involved Phyllis Cremona, Frank Golding, Deb Findlay, Vicki Peart, and remotely, Joyce Kendall. Meetings and discussions have been held with the Working Group over the period between June 2019 to February 2020. This extends and refines significant efforts by many individuals over the preceding decade, as the plans for this site have been developed, contested, and adjusted. Further input was also gathered from other former residents at a reunion of former Orphanage and Children's Home residents in November 2019 and February 2020.

The contemporary organisation now known as Child and Family Services Ballarat (Cafs) – formerly the Ballarat Children's Home, Ballarat Orphanage and Ballarat District Orphan Asylum – has been involved in discussions and in providing materials and sources but has not driven the development of this interpretation guide. It is worth noting that in Cafs Ballarat's custodianship are a series of artefacts removed from the site prior to building demolition that may be returned as part of the interpretation, as well as historical records documenting the daily operations of the institution, including snippets that provide a narrow insight into the lives of its residents.



## Interpretive approach

This section outlines a set of guiding principles, key messages and an audience description that together form an overarching interpretive approach for the 200 Victoria Street site. It is intended that the design response will fit within this framework, together with the first-person voices provided below and in the list of further resources.

### Guiding principles

The following guiding principles have emerged directly from consultation with former residents and should be taken as non-negotiable objectives when it comes to interpreting their stories and experiences.

#### All site interpretation must:

- 1 Be from, for and about former residents, not the institution
- 2 Be in everyday language... our language... rather than 'history speak'
- 3 Be expressive and creative, not dark and depressing
- 4 Be truthful and real
- 5 Cater to multiple audiences, including former residents, but also support connections for new residents and other site users
- 6 Recognise that the histories of this place – complex as they are – will not be hidden or forgotten.

### Audience

The main audience for this site is former institutional residents and their families. However, the Ex-Resident Working Group recognise that as a result of the redevelopment, other audiences will seek to understand and engage with the site's history, or may form their own connections to the place as they pass by or visit in their everyday activities.

#### The three audiences that have been identified are:

- 1 **Former institutional residents and their families;** People with a direct connection to the site, including those who spent time in the Orphanage or Children's Home, former staff members, or family members of people who lived or worked at the site.
- 2 **Interested people seeking out knowledge about the history of the site;** People who may be visiting the site intentionally to learn more about the history of children's institutionalisation in Ballarat.
- 3 **Site users;** including shoppers, day-care droppers, residents of new housing development and locals from elsewhere in Ballarat.





## Key messages

The types of recollections shared by former residents about their experiences living in the institution continually raise common themes, despite crossing several institutional eras and generations of living memory. These stories and experiences have been synthesised into four key messages with the Ex-Resident Working Group, which are intended

to be the critical or 'take away' points that will resonate with all audience types when they visit. The key messages are not necessarily tied to distinct areas or features of the site, but where they are this has been pointed out in the 'Locations for heritage interpretation' section.

The four key messages are:

1

### Relationships

Many of us lost our families and cultures when we were sent here.

Many of us also made new families when we lived here.

2

### Everyday life

We worked so hard, usually for nothing. Some of us got a living out of it, but most of us didn't. It was our childhood though.

For better or worse  
- it has made us who we are today.

3

### Confusion

We didn't know why we were here, when we would leave, and where we would go after.

4

### Pain and healing

Every child who grew up in the Orphan Asylum, Orphanage, and Children's Home survived the setbacks and obstacles set in their path as best they possibly could.

Some of us have never recovered from the pain, punishment and abuse we experienced here. We lost a part of ourselves when we came in here.

## KEY MESSAGES

## Former Residents' voices

The diagram below includes examples of words spoken or written by former residents of the site associated with each key message. There are many more quotes and recordings that have been gathered over the years that could be used to help represent these messages. Shortlisted design consultants will be granted access to a range of source materials including letters, oral histories, testimonies, memorabilia videos and photographs.

There are many historical photographs that could be used to convey these messages.

Any quotes or photographs intended for use in final design plans may be subject to consent and negotiation with those individuals and/or their families. The City of Ballarat and Ash Tree Projects will assist with this process.

1

### Relationships

***"There is really nothing wrong, but we are just unhappy because we want to be with our own people."***

(Aboriginal girl in a letter, aged 9, 1951)

***"We had all the kids to play with. They were all our brothers and sisters."***

(An Aboriginal girl from the Ballarat Orphanage reflecting later in life)

2

### Everyday life

***"I don't remember much of my earlier years. But I do remember the floggings I copped as a young girl and the work we were made to do, like scrub and polish the dormitory floors, that 's how I done my knee. They worked us hard that orphanage did."***

(A girl from the Ballarat Orphanage reflecting later in life)

***"Yeah, they had a beautiful big farm up there and that's where the boys used to go after school and milk cows and do that. ...They had a big gym down the back. There used to be the swimming pool and then there used to be a room that we used to have films in every Saturday."***

(A girl from Ballarat Orphanage reflecting later in life during an Oral History interview)

## VOICES

3

### Confusion

***"I never in any way relinquished my right to claim my children."***

(A mother of two children in the Ballarat District Orphan Asylum, 1869. Letter published in the Ballarat Courier.)

***"None of it was so not normal. We thought it was, but it wasn't."***

(A girl from Ballarat Children's Home, reflecting later in life – 2019 Reunion)

***"There were a lot of good times, a lot of bad times. Mainly bad times."***

(A girl from Ballarat Orphanage, reflecting later in life – 2020 Reunion)

4

### Pain and healing

***"As children here, we were never loved, never cuddled. It affects us to this day. But talking about it, it's part of healing. Twenty five years ago, I couldn't even say the words 'Ballarat Children's Home' without breaking down and crying. Not now though. We share all the stories together and when you do that, the stories just keep on coming."***

(Adapted from a chat between former residents of the Ballarat Children's Home, at the November 2019 reunion.)



200 Victoria Street, site development plan showing heritage interpretation sites.

### Locations for heritage interpretation

- |                                     |                                |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Elm tree open space reserve       | 4 Schoolhouse building         |
| 2 Historic toddlers' block building | 5 Stawell Street historic wall |
| 3 Magnolia tree open space reserve  | 6 Farm Lane                    |

### Site considerations

The site at 200 Victoria Street is being redeveloped to include residential housing (approximately 30 blocks), two public reserves incorporating the historic trees, as well as a kindergarten and IGA supermarket with associated carparking. As part of the approved Development Plan, it

has been agreed that heritage interpretation will be located in six identified areas. Specifically, where the interpretation will be placed within each area is negotiable and will depend on the chosen medium/s and levels of public access in each space.



### Overall design considerations

Design parameters and opportunities for each of the six locations are described below. However, some overarching design considerations must be taken into account for all aspects of heritage interpretation are as follows.

#### Cohesiveness

It is critical the design language across all six locations is cohesive and the developers are open to discussion about how linkages could be made between each location through, for example, markers or symbols to assist with wayfinding.

#### Integration

Wherever possible, it is desirable for interpretation be incorporated into permanent infrastructure such as garden beds, footpaths, seating, exterior walls of existing buildings, fences, etc. The intent is to seamlessly integrate interpretation into the site, rather than taking the traditional 'interpretive signage/plaque' approach.

### Layering interpretive mediums

There is a wealth of primary source material capturing a wide range of stories and experiences of many former residents in a variety of mediums including audio recordings, film and photographs. It is important that the interpretation draws on this valuable material and utilises it in a range of mediums. Heavy reliance on the written word should be avoided, although text will of course be necessary to a degree.

#### Objects and symbolism

The stories of former residents are highly evocative and bring to life the historic buildings and objects associated with the site. Several building items were removed from the site prior to demolition and are being stored by Child and Family Services Ballarat. The design response should look for opportunities to symbolise these and potentially other objects in the interpretation. In the case of the Schoolhouse building/IGA supermarket (site 4), it may be possible to return some of these items for display or as an integrated design feature in a publicly accessible area within the supermarket.





## Site 1: Elm Trees Open Space Reserve



### Site and development context

Located adjacent to the former Toddlers' Block, the 1298m<sup>2</sup> area contains two historic elm trees and is set to become a public reserve that the City of Ballarat will maintain in the long term. As pictured, this area once incorporated a playground for the junior children set amongst the elm trees.

### Vision

Given its relatively large size, the Ex-Resident Working Group have identified this space as one with the greatest opportunity to become a gathering space in the future. They aspire to one day be able to hold regular reunions in this space (currently these are organised by Child and Family Services Ballarat at another venue), which is why some form of play, shelter, seating and means of preparing food are a priority. They hope that this also becomes a valued community asset for residents of the new development and surrounding area.

### Design requirements

- 'Anchor' or entry point for site heritage interpretation
- Potential to interpret all four key messages utilising a variety of mediums
- Shelter, seating and barbecue for gatherings
- Suitable root protection zone for elm trees (TBD in consultation with City of Ballarat's Vegetation Planning Officer)
- Children's play space (though not necessarily formal play equipment, such as a hopscotch grid)

- Public art installation (to be commissioned separately by City of Ballarat but a suitable space for this must be identified)
- Stolen Generations sign to be re-introduced as part of existing Koorie Heritage Trail.

### Further quotes and references

A Mother of two children who had been staying at the Ballarat District Orphan Asylum. From a letter to the Ballarat Courier in 1869, in response to being denied the right to take her children out of the Orphan Asylum by the Committee of Management:

*"I never in any way relinquished my right to claim my children."*

A boy from the Ballarat Orphanage, writing in later years about visits from his parents:

*"After one visit, the Superintendent sidled up to me and said in an offhand way, "Your father upsets you; I'm going to cut out these visits". My cheeks caught fire. I had never complained. How could this man know what I felt? I loved it when Mum and Dad visited, even if I was a little sad when it was time for them to leave. I knew life went on when they left and I was careful to shed no tears. I wanted to challenge this man of authority, to tell him he was the one who upset me, not my Dad. But I didn't know the words. Or have the daring. Humiliated, I said nothing and just went and sat on the wall so nobody could see my rage. My father upsets me? That was a lie! The Orphanage upset me."*

## Site 2: Toddlers' block building



### Site and development context

Originally opened in 1929 and further developed in 1939, the Toddler's Block housed the youngest children at the Orphanage and Children's Home. The building will be fully restored and retained to become a kindergarten, which means that public access inside the building will be restricted to site users. Interpretation must be limited to the Victoria Street frontage of the building and potentially along any shared boundaries that are publicly accessible, notably that with the elm tree open space reserve.

### Vision

The Ex-Resident Working Group are conscious that the primary users of this building will be children, and so any interpretation should be interactive and engaging for children as well as adults.

### Design requirements

- Interpret the former use of the building, potentially through Key messages **1 Relationships**, **2 Everyday life** and **3 Confusion**
- Interactive and playful interpretation element, such as Rubik's Cube and tic tac toe
- Located in publicly accessible areas such as Victoria Street frontage and/or shared boundary fence between kindergarten play area and Elm tree open space reserve.

### Further quotes and references

A girl from Ballarat Children's Home, reflecting later in life:  
"Probably from a toddler, I think I grew with the other

girls that I lived with. And I ... basically I told myself that that was my family". "Personally my family, back in those younger days, were the staff and the girls I lived with. I knew their dislikes, and I knew what they liked, and I knew their hobbies and what they liked to do, and ate... As for my [biological] sisters, well I didn't know a thing about them, only that I was told that they were my sisters". "I came close to one girl ... I mean we just so, so close. We became blood sisters and we stuck up to each other and we helped each other with our fights ... you couldn't ever break us... we formed a bond of what sisters really were... We'd sit there for hours, and we'd write poems, and we'd write stories and we would promise each other that we would stand by each other, because nobody was going to help us."

A girl from the Ballarat Orphanage, writing for the Ballarat Girls School Magazine in the 1950s:

"As I live in the Ballarat Orphanage I thought it might interest you to hear of the life we lead.... First I will take you to the Toddler's Block. Here young children from two to eight are cared for by five members of the staff and five of the older girls. These girls make the children's beds, polish the floors, and wash the dishes, and, most important of all, scrub the children. The remainder of the older girls do the housework.

A boy from the Ballarat Orphanage, providing testimony to an Inquiry later in life:

"I was about 12, and my exact weight was 69 pounds. I had to lift bags of pollard and bran, which weighed about 120 pounds. They were one on top of the other and you took the top one off."

## Site 3: Magnolia Tree Reserve



### Site and development context

A 255m<sup>2</sup> reserve containing a significant magnolia tree. Ashes of some former residents who died since leaving the institution have been scattered here. The site is to be bounded by the supermarket car park on the west side and childcare centre carpark on the east side.

### Vision

The Ex-Resident Working Group see this smaller public reserve as an ideal space for quiet contemplation, supported by landscape design providing a sense of enclosure and separation from the rest of the development. Because the ashes of some former residents were scattered here, they feel this is the appropriate space to acknowledge those who have passed and the struggles that many care leavers have faced and continue to face.

### Design opportunities

- Interpret Key message 4 **Pain and healing**
- A memorial space acknowledging the lasting impact of childhood institutionalisation
- Acknowledgement of residents who died while living in the institution, and after leaving
- Seating with integrated interpretation oriented around the Magnolia tree
- Suitable root protection zone for Magnolia tree (TBD in consultation with City of Ballarat Vegetation Planning Officer)

- Landscape design to create a semi-private contemplative space
- Rose garden.

### Further quotes

A girl from the Ballarat Children's Home, reflecting in later life:

*"This site was so unique it had what any child could imagine a back yard could be, own farm paddocks, pool, sporting grounds, trees, creek own school living 24/7 had all the materials we didn't need gifts or toys we used our own imagination to build our own toys every square inch of the grounds were used trees become cubby houses, used to make borrow arrows, soup tins out of kitchen bins made great stilts... This site has physical, spiritual and healing presence."*

A boy from the Ballarat Orphanage, providing testimony to an Inquiry later in life:

*"I was about 12, and my exact weight was 69 pounds. I had to lift bags of pollard and bran, which weighed about 120 pounds. They were one on top of the other and you took the top one off."*

A girl from the Ballarat Orphanage, reflecting later in life:

*"You don't want to let it ruin your life – the memories and experiences. But it's always in the background."*

## Site 4: Schoolhouse building



### Site and development context

The 1919 schoolhouse building is to be incorporated into the supermarket entrance and will become a retail space, ideally a café but may potentially have other tenants such as private commercial offices. At this stage the interior layout has not been finalised, however it should be assumed that public access to the schoolhouse building interior may well be limited. Interpretation should therefore be located on the building façade, although the developer is also open to discussing opportunities for an object display or design feature incorporating some of the items removed from the site. This would be located somewhere within the supermarket interior, likely close to the entrance.

### Vision

This location has been challenging to plan for, as the future tenant and interior design are unknown at this stage. What the Ex-Resident Working Group would like to achieve is a sense of the building's former function as a schoolhouse and potentially incorporating some of the items that were removed from the site and are now being stored by Child and Family Services Ballarat.

### Design requirements

- Interpret Key message **2 Everyday life**
- Locate interpretation along Victoria Street frontage

- Possible object display and interpretation inside Schoolhouse building / supermarket
- Large mural on supermarket wall fronting Stawell Street (to be commissioned separately by the City of Ballarat and not part of this brief).

### Further quotes

Edward Date, Head Teacher, Ballarat District Orphan Asylum School, 1882. Writing to the Department of Education to explain why attendance and achievement at the school was below average:

*"Eight girls of the fifth class are kept out every afternoon for housework in the Orphanage... "I may state that the same girls are not out continuously. The girls alternate weekly."*

*That is to say, the systemic disadvantage faced by these girls was understood and recognised by the school, the Orphan Asylum and the State, but strategies were employed not to fix the problem, but to work around it.*

School Inspector's Report, 3 August 1916 (Reporting on the Ballarat Orphanage School):

*"With the absence of home lessons and the necessity for the punctual dismissal of all pupils to meet the requirements of the institution beyond the school rooms there is little opportunity of forcing progress."*

## Site 5: Stawell Street historic wall



### Site and development context

The western wall of 200 Victoria Street was constructed in the 1880s to contain children within the institution. The wall has been preserved for its heritage value as a good example of a structure of its type, but is also socially significant, with many poignant stories associated with it. The wall is in poor condition and will be undergoing structural fortification, and so any interpretation that needs to be physically placed on or connected to the wall must be discussed with the developer's construction team.

### Vision

The wall will frame the main entry to the supermarket from Stawell Street and once formed a physical boundary between the institution and the outside world. For the Ex-Resident Working Group, the wall presents an opportunity to embody this in a very powerful way.

### Design requirements

- Interpret Key messages **1 Relationships** and **3 Confusion**
- Sculptural public art feature representing many poignant stories of children interacting with the wall (looking over it, sitting on it, escaping over it, playing near it)
- Must have minimal impact on structural fabric of the wall.

### Further quotes

A girl from the Ballarat Children's Home, reflecting later in life:

*"We'd all walk to school because [my school] wasn't far from the Children's Home, and it was really good. You know, sitting there, and the Home kids would all gang at recess and lunchtime and we'd eat all our lunches together. You know, it was quite exciting having our little lunch bag, but after months of the same thing and the sandwiches become stale because they were made the night before and they'd be sitting in the bags and whatever.*

*Each morning we'd walk to school, there used to be a train track with a bridge, and we'd take out our apple or fruit or whatever, and we'd flick the paper bag with our sandwiches. After so many years of doing it, you could see all the Home kids bags of lunches, just tossed over these rails onto the railway lines. I got hungry at school, because I only had an apple..."*

## Site 6: Farm Lane



### Site and development context

There was a farm onsite since the very early days of the Orphan Asylum, which is where many of the boys would work, sometimes because they wanted to, often because they had to. Girls would usually work in domestic duties such as cleaning, cooking, and looking after other children. Once the Ballarat Children's Home could no longer rely on the children's labour, as community attitudes changed in the 1970s, it was no longer possible to run the institution as efficiently as before. In the early 1980s, the Ballarat Children's Home was no longer viable, and the children moved out of the institution into smaller units around Ballarat. The location designated for interpretation here is next to or part of a footpath in a planned residential area, making it very restricted in terms of space.

### Vision

The original intent behind location six was to interpret the farming operations of the institution, which were primarily located at the southern end of the site. This presents difficulties given this will be in the new residential area and may be out of place. It would be acceptable to the Ex-Resident Working Group for this content to be interpreted in the more publicly accessible areas of the redevelopment (within sites 1-5 or proposing an alternate location) if this achieves a better audience outcome.

### Design requirements

- Emphasis on Key message 2 **Everyday life**
- Low visual impact, potentially integrated with concrete footpath.

### Further quotes

A girl from the Ballarat Orphanage, writing for the Ballarat Girls School Magazine in the 1950s:

*"Upstairs there are six bedrooms and, depending on the size of the room, a varying number of girls attend to each. The long passage is done by everyone who works upstairs. In the girls' department below, seven bedrooms, two sitting rooms – the staff's and the girls' – and two flights of stairs have to be attended to. These are done by the girls who attend the primary school. The senior girls have a responsible job every morning. First, forty pieces of toast have to be made. Then one goes to supervise the work upstairs and another oversees downstairs activities. The worst job is having to look after the smaller girls. They have to be got ready for school and given clean clothes and bathed. This job is done by one senior girl and a member of staff. So much for the girls, but the boys do their share. They rake the lawns and paths, sweep the yards, and cart in the wood and work on the farm. After school the boys do the garden while the girls darn the boys' socks."*



To find out more contact the City of Ballarat

 [heritage@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:heritage@ballarat.vic.gov.au)  03 5320 5500