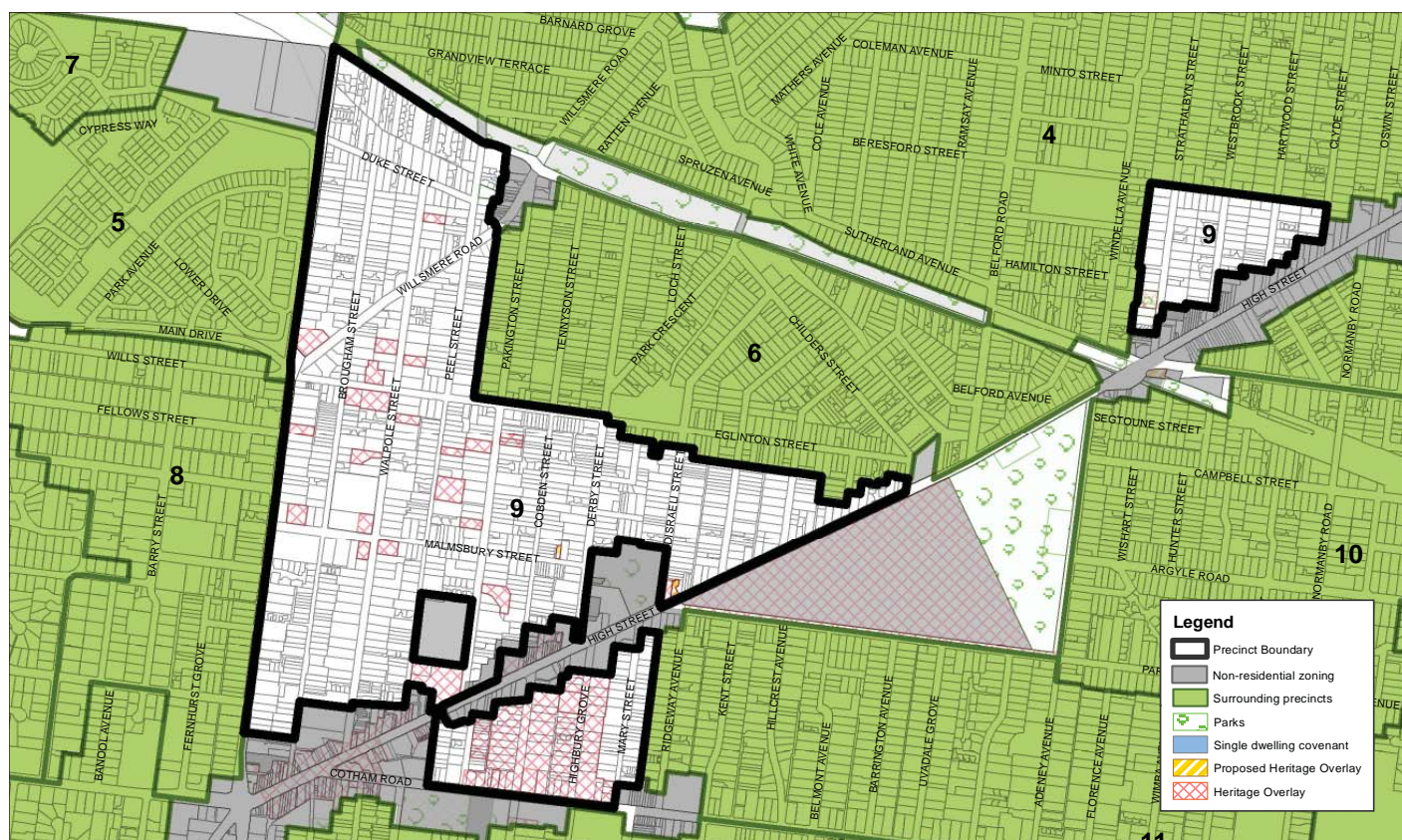


Precinct Statement

Adopted 24 September 2013, Re-adopted November 2015



DESCRIPTION

Precinct 9 is a medium sized precinct on sloping topography within Kew, and includes an additional section in Kew East, north of High Street. A number of heritage buildings such as historic churches and Victorian mansions are scattered throughout the precinct, including in the south east corner of the precinct along Highbury Grove and Charles Street which is within the Glenferrie Road heritage overlay area (HO150).

The precinct contains a range 1 and 2 storey detached dwellings and 2 and 3

storey apartments that date from the 1880's until now. No building type or style predominates, however most apartments in the precinct date from the post war era. Roof forms vary with many older homes exhibiting pitched roofs while the later apartments and dwellings have flat roofs. On-site car parking, where it exists, is generally located to the side or rear of buildings.

Materials vary with timber, face and rendered brick all common. Front setbacks vary from less than 5m to 9m in some cases. Many dwellings are set close together with side setbacks of less than

1 metre in many instances. Lot frontage widths vary greatly. Front fences are generally low to medium in height. Front gardens are predominantly small in size.

Footpaths feature throughout the precinct, however few streets have nature strips and / or street trees. The size and plantings in rear gardens varies greatly. Protecting the large trees that do exist, and encouraging additional vegetation would soften the area's otherwise built up character.

The area has a relatively dense, eclectic feel created by the mixture of apartments

Design Guidelines

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Mixture of 2 to 3 storey apartments and detached dwellings;
- Varying building eras and styles;
- Few nature strips and street trees;
- Small to medium front setbacks;
- Narrow or no side setbacks; and
- Rear gardens of various sizes.

PREFERRED CHARACTER STATEMENT

To facilitate development of a diverse range of housing that integrates with the scale and form of buildings in the precinct, which respects the historic houses in the area and enhances the landscape setting of dwellings.

This will be achieved by:


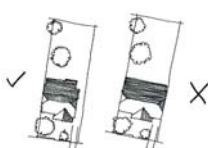

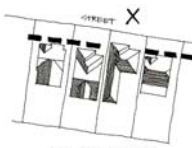


- Encouraging the retention of large trees;
- Ensuring buildings are consistently setback from the front boundary to retain and enhance the existing streetscape rhythm;
- Ensuring new developments and additions respect the predominant scale and form of buildings in the streetscape;
- Ensuring design that integrates with the heritage styles of the precinct;
- Ensuring car parking structures do not dominate the streetscape;
- Maximising soft landscaping and minimising areas of hard surfaces; and
- Encouraging low or open style front fences.

THREATS/ISSUES

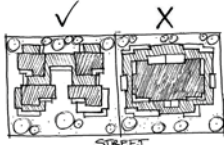

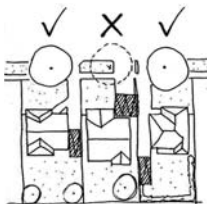
- Boundary to boundary development;
- Buildings that dominate the streetscape;
- Period reproduction design;
- High front fences that disrupt the rhythm of the street;
- Car parking structures in front setbacks that obscure views of the dwelling behind;
- Loss of historic buildings; and
- Removal / loss of large trees.

Design Guidelines

TABLE OF ELEMENTS

CHARACTER ELEMENT	OBJECTIVE	DESIGN RESPONSE	AVOID	ILLUSTRATION
VEGETATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance the landscaped setting of dwellings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure front gardens incorporate soft landscaping that complements the streetscape. Ensure the retention of large trees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of large trees. Front gardens dominated by hard surfaces. Loss of front gardens. 	 <p><i>Encourage landscaped gardens</i></p>
SITING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain and enhance the existing streetscape rhythm. To maintain the existing backyard character and enhance the area's leafy feel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure buildings are setback no less than the average distance of the front setback of the adjoining properties on either side or 9m, whichever is less. Ensure buildings are setback from at least one side boundary in accordance with the prevailing streetscape spacing. Ensure new development on a corner site is adequately set back to provide a transition between the adjoining buildings. Provide a secluded private open space area with a minimum dimension of 4m to enable the planting and retention of large trees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dwellings set too far forward. Attached, boundary to boundary development. Dwellings built too close to their rear boundary with other residential properties. 	 <p><i>Side setbacks</i></p>  <p><i>Siting on corner sites</i></p>  <p><i>Front setbacks</i></p>
BUILDING MATERIALS AND DESIGN DETAILS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure building materials and articulation complements and enhances the character of the streetscape. To minimise period reproduction design. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Break buildings into separate elements and use different colours and materials that integrate with surrounding buildings and enhance the streetscape character. Ensure new dwellings and visible additions complement the historic buildings in the precinct. In the heritage overlay area, ensure rooflines of new buildings, extensions and additions incorporate sloping roofs with greater than 10 degrees roof slope and reflect the existing character of surrounding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bland design such as sheer or plain rendered façades. Period reproduction design. 	 <p><i>Integrate with heritage streetscapes</i></p>  <p><i>Avoid bland design</i></p>

Design Guidelines

CHARACTER ELEMENT	OBJECTIVE	DESIGN RESPONSE	AVOID	ILLUSTRATION
BUILDING HEIGHT AND FORM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure buildings integrate with the scale of buildings in the street. To ensure new development transitions in height between different scales. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure buildings are no higher than 3 storeys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New built form elements at the interface that are more than 1 storey above the height of adjoining built form. Large bulky buildings that dominate adjoining dwellings. 'Block-like' apartment buildings which have a footprint that is both wide and deep. 	 <p><i>Preferred apartment building layout</i></p>
FRONT BOUNDARY TREATMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain the predominant low to medium front fence heights. To ensure fences in front of heritage properties are appropriate to the era and design of the house. To maintain views of front gardens. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure front fences are no more than 1.5m or the average fence height in the street (whichever is less). Ensure the retention of original front fences where heritage overlays apply. Front fences along declared main roads (RD1Z) may be up to 2m in height where this is consistent with the prevailing fence height on the neighbouring properties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High solid front fences. Fences designs that are inappropriate to the era and design of the dwelling. 	 <p><i>Avoid high front fences</i></p>
CAR PARKING STRUCTURES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To minimise the loss of front gardens and the dominance of car parking structures. To ensure basement or under-croft parking areas do not increase the visual bulk of buildings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure car parking structures, including entrances to basements, are setback at least 1m behind the dwelling facade and are designed to minimise their prominence. Ensure basements project no more than 0.5m above natural ground level, unless the finished floor level of abutting properties is greater than 0.5m. Where possible, locate the entry to basement garages to the side or rear of dwellings so they are not visible from the street. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driveways and car parking structures that dominate the front setback or obscure views of the dwelling. Basement ramps that commence at the street frontage. Basement garages accessed from the primary street frontage on lots with a frontage less than 10m wide Basement garage doors set forward of the building line. Driveways, basements and ramps that cover the extent of the site. 	 <p><i>Location of car parking structures</i></p>

General Information

ABOUT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER STUDY

This Precinct Statement was completed in 2012. The methodology involved a review of the Residential Urban Character Study from 1996 as well as substantial community consultation and fieldwork. As a result of this review the City's residential areas have been divided into 75 precincts.

The common characteristics of each area in terms of building scale, setbacks, building style and form and the area's landscape character were taken

into account when determining the boundaries of each precinct.

The resulting Neighbourhood Precinct Character Statements describe the existing character of each precinct as well as the precinct's preferred future character.

Those characteristics most valued by the community were reflected in the preferred character statements. The accompanying design guidelines table

provides direction for new buildings which ensure future development assists in achieving the area's preferred character.

The Boroondara Neighbourhood Character Study is based on an analysis of existing neighbourhood character and does not take into account other planning policy objectives such as housing capacity, access to services and sustainability.

HOW THE PRECINCT STATEMENTS WILL BE USED

The Precinct Statements will be used when assessing planning permit applications in residential zones. In instances where no planning permit is required (e.g. for single dwellings on lots over 500m²), the Precinct Statements will be used when assessing report and consent applications to vary the siting requirements of the Building Regulations.

New development proposals will be assessed against the directions contained in the "objective", "design response" and "avoid" columns in the design guidelines Table of Elements. Proposals will need to demonstrate how they meet the objectives in the table if they do not meet the relevant "design response" or "avoid" criteria.

With the exception of the guidelines relating to rear garden character, the view from the street will be used to assess consistency with the design guidelines. Existing development that does not comply with the design guidelines should not be used as a precedent when designing new buildings or building extensions.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

The Precinct Statements will be used in conjunction with other policies and guidelines in the Boroondara Planning Scheme.

Where a conflict occurs between the Precinct Statements and an existing Design and Development Overlay or Council's Heritage Policy, the provisions of the Design

and Development Overlay or Council's Heritage Policy will take precedence.

REVISIONS TO NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER PRECINCT STATEMENT 9

- 20 October 2015 - Update precinct boundary to exclude 1 to 9 Bright Street, Kew.

Glossary

CHARACTER ELEMENTS IN DESIGN GUIDELINES TABLE OF ELEMENTS

- **Building Height and Form** – refers to building height (as measured from natural ground level), roof form and the massing of building elements.
- **Building Materials and Design Details** – refers to external building materials, façade articulation and design elements such as verandahs, awnings, window configurations and eaves.
- **Car Parking Structures** – refers to the presence and location of on-site car parking structures such as garages, carports, driveways and uncovered car spaces.
- **Front Boundary Treatment** – refers to the presence, height and style of front fences.
- **Lot Frontage** – refers to the width of lots.
- **Siting** – refers to front setbacks, side setbacks and the area's rear garden character.
- **Vegetation** – refers to the trees and landscaping on the site.

GENERAL TERMS

- **'Box'-like** – refers to a building with proportions and detailing that give the building a box-like appearance. Typical characteristics include sheer two storey walls, no or narrow eaves, a symmetrical, un-articulated front facade and a low pitched or flat roof form with parapet detailing.
- **Historic Buildings** – refers to early buildings that date from the establishment of the area or that are important to the area's history.
- **Heritage Buildings** – refers to historic buildings that are subject to statutory protection through a Heritage Overlay or the Victorian Heritage Register.
- **Period Reproduction Design** – refers to design that incorporates mock heritage detailing such as Mock-Georgian and Mock-French Provincial elements.
- **Front Setback** – The distance between the front property boundary and the dwelling, categorised as:
 - **Small:** 0 to 5 metres
 - **Medium:** 5 to 9 metres
 - **Large:** 9+ metres
- **Front Fence Height:**
 - **Low:** 0.5 to 1.2m high
 - **Medium:** 1.2m - 1.5m high
 - **High:** over 1.5m high
- **Roof Forms:**
 - **Flat** – refers to a roof with a gradient of 10 degrees or less.
 - **Pitched** – refers to a roof with two slopes that meet at a central ridge.
- **Multi-Unit Dwellings:**
 - **Flats / Apartment Buildings** – refers to several dwellings contained in a multi-storey structure.
 - **Town Houses** – refers to dwellings of 2 or more storeys that have their own entrance and private yard, but which adjoin another dwelling.
 - **Villas** – refers to groups of dwellings which have their own entrance and private yard, which may or may not adjoin another dwelling, but which generally share common areas such as driveways and car parking.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Understanding Planning Terms Information Sheet, City of Boroondara, (search for this title at <http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au>).

What house is that? A Guide to Victoria's Housing Styles, Heritage Victoria, (search for this title at <http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/heritage>).

ResCode provisions, Clause 54 and 55 of the Boroondara Planning Scheme at <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/boroondara/home.html>.