

ADDENDUM :

A response to the Heritage Indicators as prepared by Melanie Attwell, Heritage Consultant

Heritage Indicator 1 : Archaeological / Paleontological Integrity

New development within Precinct One is to promote and consolidate its archaeological / paleontological integrity within a physical context that is potentially of national, if not international significance.

The interpretive complex is located over 50 metres from the areas identified as high potential fossil occurrence. The interpretive complex is, however, so sited to maximise both visual and physical connections to the excavated valley and The Dig.

Heritage Indicator 2 : Spatial Geometries and Relationships

New development within Precinct One is to compliment and capitalise on existing spatial geometries and relationships in order to bring structure and coherence to what is currently an unstructured landscape.

The vehicular and pedestrian routes will form a sequence of inter-connected spatial experiences, underscored by visual alignments, focal points and view cones.

From entering the gateway; the approach to the parking / arrival area; the sunken pathway to the "Visitor's Village" complex, the pedestrian "Street" located halfway up the 15 metre high overburden embankment; the visual and physical links to "The Dig"; all combine to give the visitor a legible, well-structured and inter-connected "sense of place".

Heritage Indicator 3 : Retention and Consolidation of Existing Tree Patterns

Existing tree belts and clusters are to be retained and consolidated, particularly where marking primary road alignments and established development clusters.

Existing tree belts and tree groupings will be retained where the patterns clearly appear intentional, i.e.

- The Arboretum is to be expanded as a point of interest within itself.
- The Olive Grove is to be expanded as representation of the agricultural past and partly to provide screening for overflow parking.
- The existing clumps of Eucalyptus trees will be retained and integrated with the extended olive grove and the selected trees planted to provide shade and screening to the envisaged parking plaza.
- The linear lines of Eucalyptus trees serving as both windbreaks and landmarks, will be retained to form part of a future maintenance programme.

Heritage Indicator 4 : Consolidation of Existing Road Systems

Maximise the use and consolidation, where possible, of the existing road and track networks within and around Precinct One.

The existing entrance gate and road will be retained and upgraded. The approach road and parking plaza will to a large extent occupy existing gravel tracks and informal turning and parking surfaces. Service roads follow existing routes and, where not needed, removed and vegetated.

Heritage Indicator 5 : Location of the New Visitor's Centre with regard to Site Interpretation

The location for the new visitor's centre must be suitable for promoting the interpretation of the precinct's archaeological / paleontological (pre-) history and the discovery of its fossil finds through the past mining activities conducted here.

The visitor's village and street is slightly elevated above the Dig and valley floor, allowing panoramic and close-up views of the elements that represent the area's natural and cultural history.

Heritage Indicator 6 : Development and Infrastructure Footprints

Minimise new development and infrastructure footprints within and around Precinct One.

See architects and engineers notes.

Heritage Indicator 7 : Use of Locally-derived Energy Sources and Local Materials

Maximising the use of natural and locally-derived energy sources and locally-sourced materials for new development within the precinct and surrounding areas.

The use of local "dust to dust" materials such as calcrete and granite is seen as the basic construction materials for road, pathway and building construction.

Timber from local commercially-grown forest to be used on boardwalks, decks and building structures. Solar and wind energy are being given high priority towards a more sustainable place.

Heritage Indicator 8 : Architectural Response to Local Conditions

The architecture of the new visitor's centre must reflect a pragmatic response to regional climate and local physical conditions.

See architects notes.

Heritage Indicator 9 : Architectural Response to the Landscape

The architecture of the new visitor's centre must reflect a direct response to the landscape and spatial characteristics of Precinct One, while at the same time being a landmark structure in a landscape generally devoid of building landmarks.

Roof lines of The Village buildings will be below the ridgeline of its embankment setting, allowing the geometric overburden profiles to dominate on approaching the site.

The concept of a village on the hillside, of buildings along a level street, is in itself a visible and clear structuring device. The mixed variety of functions as reflected in the built form and the consideration being given to spaces between buildings.

Heritage Indicator 10 : Landscaping and Visual Intrusions

Visual intrusions affecting the spatial qualities of Precinct One are to be removed / transformed or otherwise mitigated.

On entering the site, the clean geometry of the 30 metre high sloping overburden embankment on the south of the road will stand in contrast to an evergreen tree-line on the north site, screening the electrical power lines and sub-station. In other instances landform, tree and shrub planting will be used to soften and emphasise views, complement buildings, define outdoor spaces and lend continuity to circulation routes.