

GEE LONG HERITAGE AWARDS

Celebrating excellence in heritage

2025



We Acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We Acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

You Yangs, Little River

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The Geelong Heritage Awards are a wonderful opportunity to recognise the incredible effort and passion that goes into protecting and celebrating our region's unique heritage.

Our region is home to a diverse array of historic places, and these awards shine a light on the exemplary projects that have conserved, restored, and imaginatively repurposed these places over the past year.

This year's nominees have truly raised the bar. Their projects showcase innovation, remarkable craftsmanship, and a strong commitment to sustainable practices.

Through their work, they are not only preserving our rich history but also ensuring that it can be appreciated and enjoyed by future generations.

For the first time, the 2025 Geelong Heritage Awards are aligned with our UNESCO City of Design designation and are held in association with the inaugural ROAM Geelong festival. This connection rightfully places our city's history at the heart of a program that champions the very best of our arts and culture.

I would like to thank the Heritage Advisory Panel for their diligent and thoughtful work in judging these Awards. I know that with such a high calibre of entries across all categories, selecting the winners must have been a challenge.

To all the nominees, congratulations. On behalf of the City of Greater Geelong, thank you for your commitment to preserving, promoting, and reimagining the rich tapestry of our region's heritage.

Cr Dr Stretch Kontelj OAM

Mayor

City of Greater Geelong



2025 AWARD CATEGORIES

RESTORATION OF A HERITAGE PLACE AWARD (INCLUDED IN A HERITAGE OVERLAY)

This award recognises best practice restoration work that returns fabric back to a known earlier state or conserves integrity and demonstrates application of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter.

NEW WORK IN A HERITAGE OVERLAY AWARD

This award recognises sympathetic design of new buildings or structures within heritage conservation areas or within a cultural heritage landscape, and demonstrates fulfilment of local guidelines and the Burra Charter.

SUSTAINABILITY AND GREENING OF A HERITAGE PLACE AWARD (INCLUDED IN A HERITAGE OVERLAY)

This award recognises the contribution of heritage conservation to sustainability, and demonstrates an understanding of the environmental performance of heritage buildings and places and in improving their performance with sustainable design.

CREATIVE REUSE OF A HERITAGE PLACE AWARD (INCLUDED IN A HERITAGE OVERLAY)

This award recognises adaptive reuse of a heritage place, a process that changes a disused or redundant place to a different purpose, demonstrating fulfilment of local guidelines and the Burra Charter.

HERITAGE INTERPRETATION AND PROMOTION AWARD

This award recognises initiatives that interpret or promote Geelong's heritage in ways that engage, inform and inspire the community.

NEXT GENERATION HERITAGE AWARD

This award recognises the work of students and emerging scholars whose research or creative projects deepen understanding and appreciation of Geelong's heritage.

JENNIFER BANTOW OAM HERITAGE AWARD

This award recognises excellence in specialist trades, architecture or conservation practice that demonstrates outstanding skill and commitment to the preservation of Geelong's heritage places.

HERITAGE AWARDS ADVISORY PANEL

Chair, Councillor Rowan Story AM, RFD

Members

Janine Barrand AM

Margie McKay

David Rowe

John Rush

Tracey-Lea Smith

RESTORATION OF A HERITAGE PLACE AWARD (INCLUDED IN A HERITAGE OVERLAY)

164 Bellarine Street, Geelong Restoration, repair and painting

Recipient of Major Heritage Fund Grant

Significance: Local

The Federation styled timber bakery at 164 Bellerine Street was built in 1892 for Charles Newberry to a design by the local architects, Watts and Durran. There, Newberry sold 'cheap and pure bread', at 4 pence a loaf. Yet, the bakery was not to endure as Newberry died two years later in 1894 and it was then used as a hairdresser's shop.

One of very few detached Federation era commercial premises still surviving in central Geelong, the shop retains its characteristic form, siting and notable details including the stepped parapet and timber and glass shopfront.

In recent times, the building has been subject to dilapidation due to its timber construction. Careful attention to detail has been a basis for the restoration and repairs of this building. Together with a new colour scheme (as a contemporary interpretation of traditional colours for the period), these works have greatly enhanced the appearance of this important building.



Shop, 164 Bellerine, Street, 2018, showing signs of dilapidation.



Shop, 164 Bellerine Street, 2025.

RESTORATION OF A HERITAGE PLACE

NEW WORK IN A HERITAGE OVERLAY

SUSTAINABILITY AND GREENING OF A HERITAGE PLACE (INCLUDED IN A HERITAGE OVERLAY)

16 Avon Street, Geelong West

Relocation on the site, restoration, alterations, and additions

Significance: Conservation Desirable

Designer: Tim Adams, F2 Design

Builder: Brady Lane

The modest gabled single storey timber dwelling at 16 Avon Street, Geelong West, appears to have been constructed in 1889-90. By 2010, the dwelling had experienced several alterations with the replacement of the front windows, verandah and fence, and rear works. The dwelling is characteristic of the rudimentary, modestly scaled dwellings constructed in Geelong West throughout the 19th century for Geelong's working class employed at nearby industries.

The works to this dwelling have involved relocating it further forward on the site (but within the range of front setbacks of neighbouring dwellings), construction of a new post-supported skillion front verandah, installation of paired timber framed double hung front windows and contemporary, single storey gabled rear additions. The proposal has transformed the dwelling, celebrating its modest Victorian character to Avon Street whilst providing a respectful, distinctive rear addition with a sustainable outcome. The clever interpretation of the rounded timber picket fence tops has completed this amazing transformation.



16 Avon Street, Geelong West, 2008.



16 Avon Street, Geelong West, 2025.

CREATIVE REUSE OF A HERITAGE PLACE AWARD (INCLUDED IN A HERITAGE OVERLAY)

66 Elizabeth Street, Geelong West

Significance: Contributory

Alterations and additions – adaptation of a former shop into a studio and dwelling

Architect: tsai Design (Hidy Wong and Jack Chen)

Builder: CTM Modern Construction

The brick shop at 66 Elizabeth Street was built as part of a pair in 1924, replacing earlier weatherboard shops. It was first occupied by Knight and McKenzie, butchers, whose business operated from the earlier weatherboard shop.

At the front, the office of tsai Design retains the shopfront character but introduces an operable façade wall. This transforms throughout the day, opening to draw daylight deep into the space and spark curiosity from passersby, then closing at night for privacy.

At the rear, a new courtyard was inserted to deliver much-needed natural light and a sense of openness to the living spaces. A modest two-storey extension rises above, carefully set back from the street to maintain neighbourhood privacy while providing essential amenity for modern family life.

The result is a home and workplace that celebrates the building's past while creating a vibrant and adaptable environment for the present.



Former Butcher's Shop, 66 Elizabeth Street, Geelong West, 2009



Adapted and restored former shop, 66 Elizabeth Street.

RESTORATION OF A HERITAGE PLACE

NEW WORK IN A HERITAGE OVERLAY

24 Stephen Street, Newtown

Alterations and additions – adaptation of a garage into a dwelling

Significance: Not significant

Designer: Charles Maccora Design

This modest gabled brick building was the stables for the mansion, 'Hendra' built in 1891-92 in Aphrasia Street, the property extending to Stephen Street. The stabling was later converted into a garage.

This proposal has involved the adaptation of the former garage as part of a dwelling development. A highly contemporary gabled roof form clad in standing seam metal sheeting is located at the rear. A narrow flat-roofed single storey wing forms an entrance way and an enclosed link between the rear of the garage, a courtyard and the two storey dwelling proper.

The outcome has provided for a dwelling on a highly constrained site. It celebrates the garage as the principal streetscape feature, the use of the standing seam metal cladding providing an aesthetic connection between the old and the new. It is a remarkable outcome where heritage values and contemporary design can work together to achieve a respectful and innovative outcome.



Garage, 24 Stephen Street, Newtown, 2015



Garage and new dwelling, 24 Stephen Street, Newtown, 2025.

RESTORATION OF A HERITAGE PLACE

CREATIVE REUSE OF A HERITAGE PLACE AWARD (INCLUDED IN A HERITAGE OVERLAY)

Former Pilkington Factory - The Glass House, Pivot City

287-307 Melbourne Road, North Geelong

Adaptation from a former glass factory into commercial uses

Significance: State

Owner: Hamiton Group

Designer: Another Dimension Building Design

Builder: Hamilton Group

The former Pilkington Glass factory was designed and built in 1936 by Ewen Laird, drawing on the contemporary work of European Modern functionalist architecture, particularly the work of the celebrated Willem Dudok.

The strong cuboid forms, white-painted brickwork, simple lines, long horizontal steel framed ribbon windows and the transparent glass stairwell, promoted a radical progressive image in architectural

design that symbolised the anticipated progress of Geelong as an industrial city.

In recent years, the former glass factory has undergone substantial internal transformation while celebrating its clever and creative exterior. At the rear, more conventional saw-toothed steel framed structure has been uncovered, and the previous manufacture of glass is commemorated in the vast glazed recessive shopfront facades. This remarkable outcome provides a new commercial vibrancy, ensuring that this highly significant former factory complex has a long-term future.



Pilkington Factory, c.1936.



The Glass House, Pivot City, 2023

HERITAGE INTERPRETATION AND PROMOTION AWARD

The Geelong Historical Society website

The website of the Geelong Historical Society has been transformed from a static page into a vibrant, multimedia resource for both members and the wider community. Designed by Secretary and Webmaster, Michael O'Donnell, in collaboration with President, Harry Roberts, the site now features engaging text, video, and audio stories that celebrate Geelong's rich heritage.

A dedicated Members Only section provides updates on Society activities, monthly meetings, and guest speakers, as well as access to a fully indexed digital archive of *Investigator* magazine, spanning 60 years. The website also supports community engagement by promoting events from other local heritage groups.

Through its revitalised website, alongside its monthly speaker program and quarterly magazine, the Geelong Historical Society continues its 80-year tradition: telling the stories that keep Geelong's past alive.



INVESTIGATING GEELONG'S HISTORY

Fostering research that explores Geelong's rich history.

The Geelong Historical Society was founded in 1944, and is dedicated to fostering and presenting historical research, and collaborating with exhibitions and public programs, to highlight the historical significance of Geelong and District.

For further information, please see our current Lecture Syllabus in [Lectures](#).

Attend our Lectures →

NEXT GENERATION HERITAGE AWARD

Donya Masoomi Khameneh

"The evolution of heritage, community engagement, and community values in the transformation of Geelong's wholesale landscape".

Donya is a final-year PhD candidate, in the School of Architecture and Built Environment at Deakin University, whose research examines the evolution of heritage perception in Geelong's wholesale landscape. Through this project she has developed an authoritative understanding of how heritage is both formally and locally managed, and how professionals and the public have viewed it over time.

Her study analyses 50 years of planning documents to trace professional thinking and uses historical newspapers to uncover earlier public attitudes. To capture present-day perspectives, she conducted stakeholder interviews and surveys documenting contemporary views. This comprehensive, multi-source approach gives her a deep understanding of how heritage concepts and values shift across groups and time periods.

Donya's research has also fostered a keen sensitivity to local social associations with heritage places and equipped her to identify participatory approaches within power structures and governance systems, enabling more inclusive and sustainable heritage management.



JENNIFER BANTOW OAM HERITAGE AWARD

Geoff Saunders FRAIA

Geoff Saunders is a graduate of Deakin University and has been associated with McGlashan Everist Architects (later PMDL-McGlashan Everist), established in 1955 by David McGlashan and Neil Everist, for over 45 years. Now retired, Geoff was a Director (to 1996) then Executive Director (from 2022).

Geoff has been responsible for the successful delivery of numerous educational, institutional, commercial and award-winning projects. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects, was a State Government appointment to the Geelong Performing Arts Centre Trust from 2013 to 2022 and a member of the Deakin University, School of Architecture and Built Environment's Advisory Board from 2008 to 2014. Geoff has been involved in some remarkable heritage and design outcomes that truly highlight the UNESCO Clever and Creative status of our City. This has included the transformation of the former Dennys Lascelles Woolstore in Moorabool Street into the National Wool Museum and the adaptive reuse of the then neglected complex of woolstores fronting Western Beach Road into the waterfront campus of Deakin University. These are just two of numerous local projects where Geoff has assisted with the protection of Greater Geelong's heritage in innovative ways.

Geoff is an esteemed architect and a true professional whose mark on our heritage and design attributes will endure for many years to come.



RIGHT: Deakin University waterfront campus (1934 wing), 2025.





Deakin University Waterfront Campus adapted former woolstores complex designed by McGlashan Everett Architects, 2025.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Geelong Heritage Awards celebrate excellence in conserving and reimagining our built heritage, reflecting Geelong's designation as a UNESCO City of Design.

The 2025 Awards were announced at Wurriki Nyal, Wednesday 15 October 2025.

IMAGE CREDITS

Australian Institute of Architects (page 12)

BWRH Greater Geelong (page 9)

City of Greater Geelong (pages 5-6)

David Rowe (pages 5, 7, 8, 13, 14-15)

MHG Asia Pacific (page 9)

Shahin Jamirad (page 11)

The Geelong Agency (page 6)

tsai Design (page 7)

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