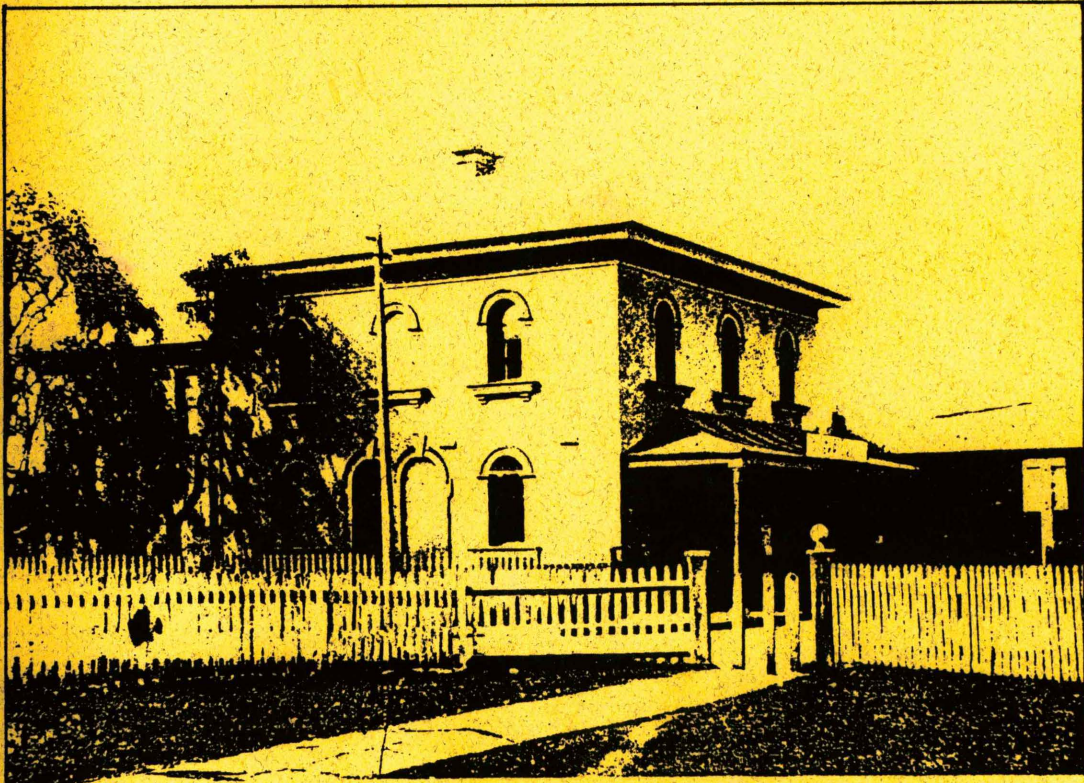




NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL

**WALLSEND
HERITAGE
MAIN STREET
STUDY**



Post and Telegraph Office Wallsend 1932

PUBLISHED BY E. F. HULME, 51-51 NORTH WALLSEND

**EJE LANDSCAPE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
412 KING STREET
NEWCASTLE**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
EJE TOWN PLANNING

AND

CYNTHIA HUNTER, CONSULTANT HISTORIAN

VOLUME 1: MAIN REPORT

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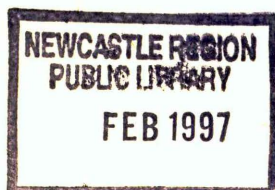
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WALLSEND:
'enjoy the difference'

■ PART A: BACKGROUND

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 BACKGROUND TO STUDY**
 - 1.2 AIMS OF STUDY**
 - 1.3 THE STUDY AREA**
 - 1.4 THE STUDY TEAM**
 - 1.5 METHODOLOGY**
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-

1.1 BACKGROUND TO STUDY

In 1995, Newcastle City Council resolved to establish a Wallsend Main Street Program which in part was to be funded by a special business rate for the designated Wallsend Business District. To oversee the expenditure of the money collected, Council established a formally constituted committee under Section 355 of the Local Government Act, 1993. This Committee became known as the Wallsend Town Committee.

Because the Wallsend area contains numerous valued old buildings, some being recognised heritage items, Newcastle City Council considered it appropriate that a Heritage Main Street Study be undertaken for Wallsend business centre. To help fund this an application for part funding was sought from the then NSW Department of Planning under its 1995/96 Heritage Assistance Program. The money granted as the result of a successful application, along with funds contributed by Council, was used to fund this study with additional assistance in kind being given by Council and the Wallsend Town Committee.

1.2 AIMS OF THE STUDY

The main aim of any Heritage Main Street Study is to see the protection and sensitive upgrading of heritage items. To achieve this an entire shopping neighbourhood is placed under scrutiny so that, old buildings as well as heritage items are given much needed attention. The thought here is that economic viability is an important factor in promoting the longevity of any building. To successfully achieve this, stimulus needs to be injected into the commercial centre of a district not only by providing townscape improvement schemes but also by creating a well patronised shopping precinct. To ensue this occurs the Heritage Main Street Study forms part of a broader Main Street Program which also takes into consideration: organisation; adequate provision of a range of goods and services; marketing, and, promotion to name just a few key areas of concern.

Specific aims of the Wallsend Heritage Main Street Study are as follows:

- * To protect and maintain recognised heritage items and other buildings that make a positive contribution to the urban character of Wallsend.
- * To create a harmonious and balanced theme to unify development within the commercial centre without introducing monotony and stifling creative yet respectful individuality.
- * To rekindle the interest and pride of local business owners, operators and patrons of buildings within the commercial centre, both public and private.
- * To provide a focus of attention to enable diverse groups, local government and community groups to work together improving the image of Wallsend.

- * To provide practical and imaginative recommendations with the aim of enhancing the physical appearance and amenity of all elements of the Wallsend commercial centre.
- * To assist in the fostering of civic pride by creating a new environment based on the best elements of the past whilst catering for the needs of the present and future community members.

1.3 THE STUDY AREA

The study area is comprised of two components:

1. The **General Study Area** which is predominantly the centre precinct of Wallsend comprised of shops, offices and residences; and
2. the **Core Study Area** which focuses on the Commercial centre of Wallsend.

The General Study Area is to be addressed in a manner which allows the Core Study Area to be placed in a meaningful and wider context instead of being considered in unreal isolation. The General Study Area will have recommendations made which address issues relating to street landscaping whereas the Core Study Area will have a greater emphasis on improvements to individual buildings as well as broader streetscape issues. Figure 1.1 indicates the extent of the two areas.

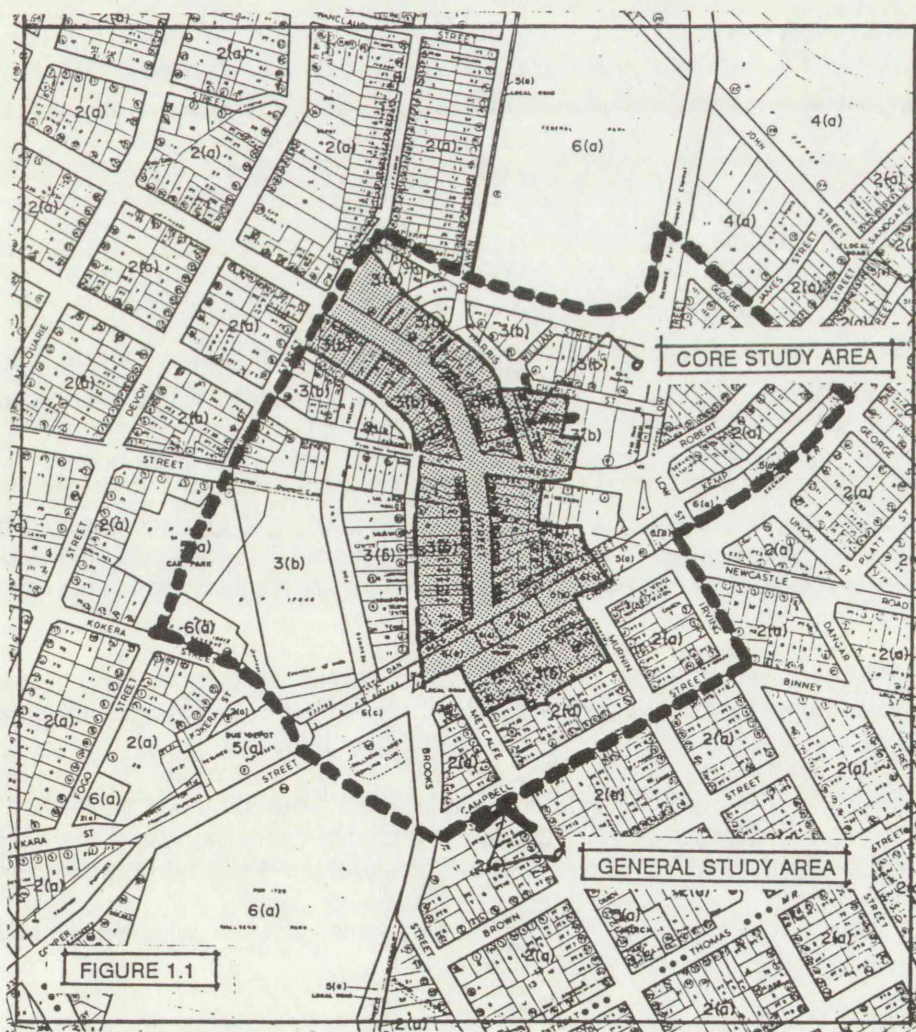


FIGURE 1.1 THE STUDY AREA

1.4 THE STUDY TEAM

A study of this nature relies on the skills and expertise of more than one person. Although the work has been principally undertaken by the staff of EJE Landscape and its consultant historian, Cynthia Hunter, assistance has also been given by other divisions of the EJE Group, namely EJE Architecture and EJE Town Planning. Key staff members from each division who participated in the study are as follows:

| | | |
|---|-------------------|---|
| * | EJE Landscape | Phillip Williams B.Sc(Arch), B.Land Arch, Hort Cert, MAIH, AILA |
| * | EJE Architecture | Barney Collins B.Sc(Arch), B.Arch (Hons 2) M.Bldg Sc. (Conservation) ARAIA |
| * | EJE Town Planning | Ian Grant B.Sc(Arch), M.Urb Reg Plan, MRAPI |

Other staff members who have assisted in the preparation of this study include Lyn Patrick (EJE Landscape) and Chris Dwyer (EJE Town Planning).

1.5 METHODOLOGY

The approach taken for this study has three main components:

1. Research and investigation
2. Analysis of data collected
3. Synthesis into recommendations and implementation strategies.

Overlying this has been a process of community consultation either directly through public meetings and workshops, or indirectly via community representatives attending steering committee meetings.

To give further details, key elements of the work undertaken are given below:

1. **Historic Research:** This involved the undertaking of general research to understand the development of Wallsend and Plattsburg and detailed research of individual buildings and building sites for the purpose of uncovering specific details which may be incorporated into existing buildings.
2. **Building and Item Survey:** This involved in studying each building in the Core Study Area and completing Building Worksheets which, amongst other things, include recommendations for carrying out improvements to contributory buildings.
3. **Building and Infill Guidelines:** This involved the preparation of detailed guidelines to set down principles to carrying out building repairs, renovations and new projects with the aim of developing an integrated theme throughout the Wallsend Commercial Centre.
4. **Colour Schemes:** This involved the preparation of a few colour schemes for major building periods common throughout Wallsend.
5. **Signage:** This involved the preparation of signary guidelines to control the type and location of signs used throughout the Core Study Area.

6. **Concept Streetscape Design:** Drawings were prepared to indicate what townscape and urban design improvements could be incorporated in both the Core Study Area and the General Study Area, especially at entry points and approach roads to the Wallsend Commercial Centre.
7. **Implementation:** In consultation with the steering committee and other interested parties implementation strategies were devised to enable projects to be commenced to assist in the general acceptance of the reports recommendations.

1.6 STRUCTURE OF THE STUDY

The study has been divided into two volumes: Volume 1 - Main Report and Volume 2 - Building Worksheets. Volume 1 has been further divided into five main sections as follows:

- Part A: Background
- Part B: The General Study Area
- Part C: The Core Study Area
- Part D: The Guidelines
- Part E: Appendices (including Draft Development Control Plan)

Volume 2 contains a worksheet for every building occurring within the Core Study Area. Each worksheet includes background information, old and current photographs, specific recommendations and preferred colour schemes. Each worksheet is meant to give relevant advice for individual owners, in addition to the Guidelines contained in Volume 1.

o

2.0 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Between the 1820s and 1830s, land in the Wallsend district, close to Newcastle and well watered by Ironbark Creek and the extensive wetlands stretching towards the Hunter River, was taken up for agricultural settlement by several European families whose names remain in some of the streets and places in the vicinity of the Wallsend business district.

Coal mining at Newcastle was at first a government-and-convict venture followed by a period under the direction and 'monopoly' of the British 'Australian Agricultural Company'. By the 1840s, this monopoly was under challenge by other colonists who wanted to establish mines in the coal-rich Lower Hunter area. In 1854, the Minmi Coal Company of J. and A. Brown began mining and, in 1855, built a rail line linking Minmi with wharves at Hexham. In the 1850s, it was known that land in the vicinity of Wallsend was coal bearing, the seam almost three metres thick. Alexander Brown, formerly employed by the AAC, had purchased some of this land.

Meanwhile, a railway line between the port at Newcastle and Maitland via Hexham, was finally opened, in 1857/8. This line was of advantage to those who wanted to develop the coal measures about Wallsend.

In 1858/9, the formation occurred of a private venture, the Newcastle Wallsend Coal Mining Company (NWCC). Additional land was secured. The NWCC built a branch rail line which joined the Newcastle to Maitland line near Waratah. Shaft were opened. A mining workforce was engaged. At its peak, this mining venture was among the largest and most progressive in the southern hemisphere.

Scottish, Northumberland and Welsh miners came to the Wallsend area in the 1850s and early 1860s. Their community life did not perpetuate the reputation of some of the older mining areas where convicts had made up the workforce. In fact, Wallsend soon established a distinctive identity that was reflected in its institutions, and the social and commercial life of the community.

In 1860, the NWCC opened up a formal subdivision for private housing and commercial purposes near its main pit. Most streets were named after directors of the company. At first, a Mr Thomas Fryer delivered goods to the mining community from Newcastle. Soon after, he set up a shop. Another shop was opened by Mr Thomas Johnson. A postal service was then established in Johnson's store. Soon elaborate hotels and shops developed about Cowper, Murnin and Metcalfe Streets. As time passed, the company provided land, and financial assistance, for community purposes such as schools, churches, school of arts, and so on.

The company allowed an occasional carriage or van to be attached to the coal train for the conveyance of goods and passengers. Later, a company railway station was built at Wallsend and a more regular services provided until 1887 when government steam trams were introduced, to Plattsburg. With growth, demand increased for additional trams, between Wallsend and Newcastle, Minmi, Speers Point, Lambton and Waratah. Furthermore, enterprising people provided horse drawn buses and wagonettes. Transport has been a significant aspect of Wallsend's community life since the earliest years.

A major strike of miners in the wider district, against reduced wages, broke out in 1861. Amongst the striking miners were practical men from the Minmi mines who took a lease of coal bearing land ('Plattsburg') and opened, in 1865, a cooperative coal mining company under the management of James Fletcher. After four years output the cooperative venture ceased, due to 'underfunding' it is said, but the mine continued to operate and production increased.

Opening this mine brought into being another settlement, called Plattsburg. Already, the earliest district hotel, (approximately on Sandgate Road), said to date from 1860, was in full trade. Homes were built at Plattsburg and a business area developed around Devon and Mary Streets. It was in Devon Street that the 'Miners Advocate' (later the 'Newcastle Morning Herald'), was first published, in 1875.

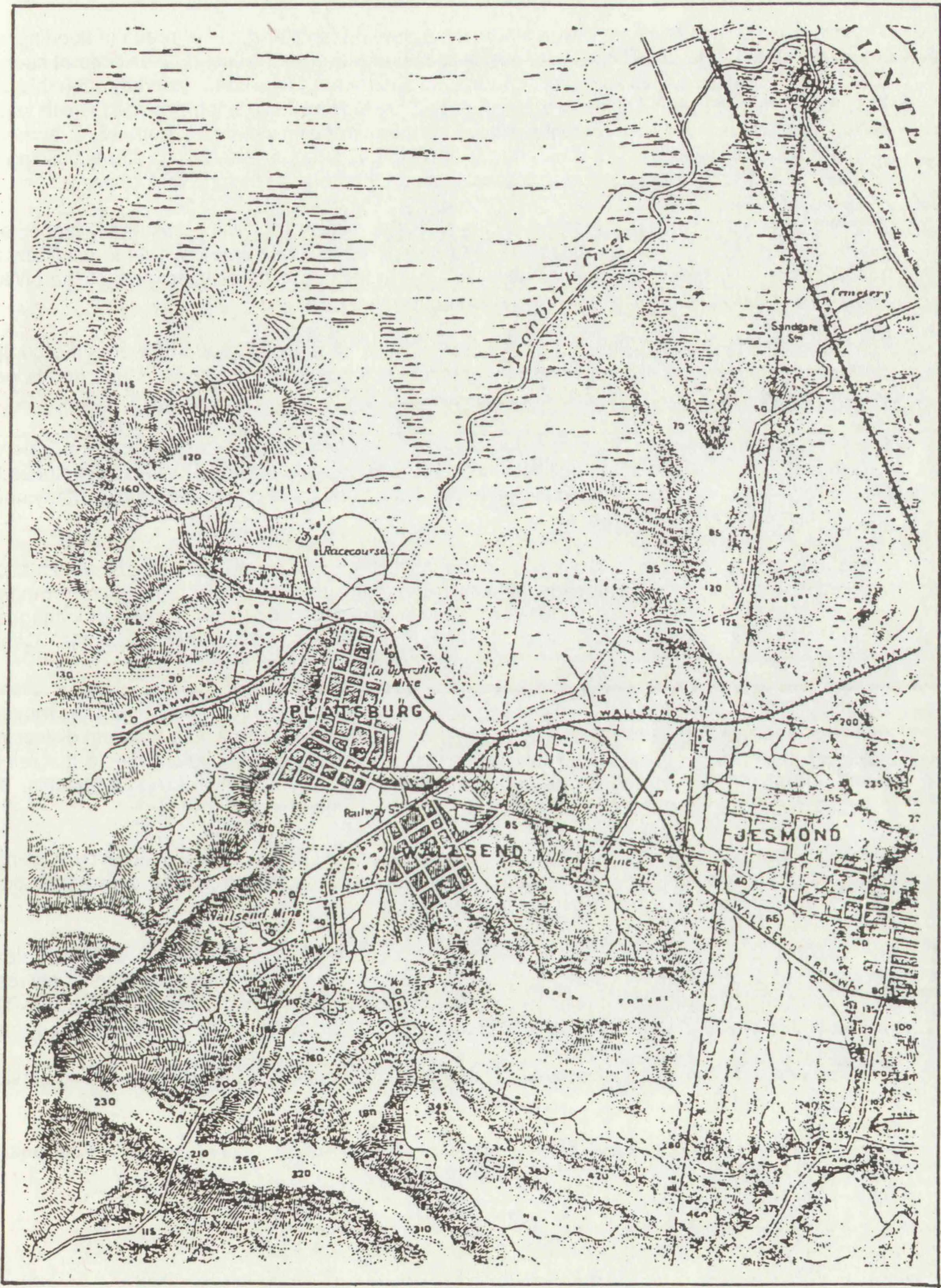


FIGURE 2.1: WALLSEND AND PLATTSBURG, 1892

The commercial centres of these two communities were on high land, out of reach of flooding which was prevalent on lower land. At first Plattsburg was separated from Wallsend by an area of such low-lying land, part swampy, used as an athletic ground. In time, a road was constructed through this land which became Nelson Street. Business premises of all kinds were built along this road which was in close proximity to both mining settlements and linked their shopping centres. From 1870, something of a building boom lined Nelson Street with many elaborate Victorian premises, two storey building with wide and decorative verandahs supported by posts, used for hotels, stores and residences.

The two localities were also separated by the NWCC's railway line, which was neatly fenced and had a gated crossing place at Nelson Street. Another barrier existed, less physical but more influential: that of social class. Wallsend retained its association with the more affluent aspects of the NWCC while Plattsburg maintained its strong working class roots.

The shops and hotels along Nelson Street were built high up from the road and were entered up several steps to their doorways. This minimised inundation at times of minor floods. Major floods were more serious, water rising to a metre or so in some shops.

The first shops along Nelson Street included Cooperative Society retail stores, and other private ventures. Nelson Street became one of the busiest streets in the Newcastle district. Business directories for 1880, and 1901, show a vigorous commercial centre with many trades and numerous hotels. Many hotels were later converted to business premises.

Wallsend commercial centre has always been quick to respond to modern trends, no doubt due to its population and vitality. In the decade 1914 to 1924, many premises were renewed or remodelled with up-to-date shop fronts. About 1930, several other premises underwent significant changes, in part influenced by new materials and styles, in steel, glass, tiles, and Wunderlich products. Cantilevered awnings began replacing the elaborate Victorian verandahs.

Coal mining at the Wallsend district mines began to decline from the 1930s. Mining families moved to new districts and families whose wage earners were employed in the increasing number of district industries replaced them. The 1950s saw rapid expansion in Wallsend's population due to the release and development of new housing land around the town, previously held by mining companies. This was reflected in a period of revived business activity and the renewal of many shops.

Local Government initiatives have influenced the appearance of the shopping street by such measures as the reconstruction of Nelson Street, in the 1960s, the ordering of the removal of verandah posts, also in the 1960s, and the removal of overhead power lines, in the 1980s.

The 1970s saw further expansion in the surrounding Wallsend population due to the release and development of further new housing land around the town. Again, the business community responded by replacing old styles with new ones, reflecting modern trends in retail and financial institutions. The 1989 earthquake resulted in damage to several century-old buildings which were subsequently demolished.

In 1995, Wallsend Main Street reflects all of the major influences of 130 years of providing service to the surrounding community.

For further details refer to Appendix A: Historical Context Report, and Appendix J: Additional Historic Flooding Context, Appendix B: Historical Details.

■ **PART B: THE GENERAL STUDY AREA**

4.0 RECOMMENDED WORKS

- 4.1 LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS
 - 4.2 LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN
 - 4.3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM
-

4.1 LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS (refer Figure 4.1)

Key points to be addressed in the Wallsend commercial area, are vehicular and pedestrian circulation and legibility. Primarily, there is a need to draw visitors into the centre and this will require landscape works to highlight entry avenues and entry nodal points.

Secondly there is a need to improve access between the two commercial centres of Wallsend Plaza and Nelson Street, across the stormwater channel which currently acts a visual and physical division. The effect of this division is that the two commercial centres tend to compete rather than complement one another. By improving cross-access and developing the theme of Nelson Street services to offer a different range of services and a unique atmosphere, a symbiotic relationship may be encouraged.

Three pedestrian routes are identified over existing bridge crossings, at Dan Rees Street, at Tyrrell Street and midway at the pedestrian bridge to Wallsend Plaza. All three require special attention to define clear pathways from Nelson Street and from Wallsend Plaza, to each bridge access over the stormwater channel. The central crossing requires an access route to be established via one of the existing properties between Nelson Street and Council Street, probably requiring the construction of an arcade.

Thirdly the opportunity to link Nelson Street with other assets in the area, eg. lunch venues, sporting facilities, public reserves, community facilities such as child care and the enterprise centre, should be maximised. Proposed pedestrian links include a longitudinal link between Federal Park and Wallsend Park, utilising the stormwater channel as an access route. Concurrently, radiating paths from Nelson Street have been identified for landscape upgrade and improved pedestrian access to provide escape routes from the main street. Pedestrian pathways identified for attention are; west along Tyrrell Street to the public reserve on the corner of Bunn Street, east along Tyrrell Street to the drainage reserve on Low Street, Clarke Street between Nelson Street and Federal Park, Dan Rees to provide safe access to Wallsend Park.

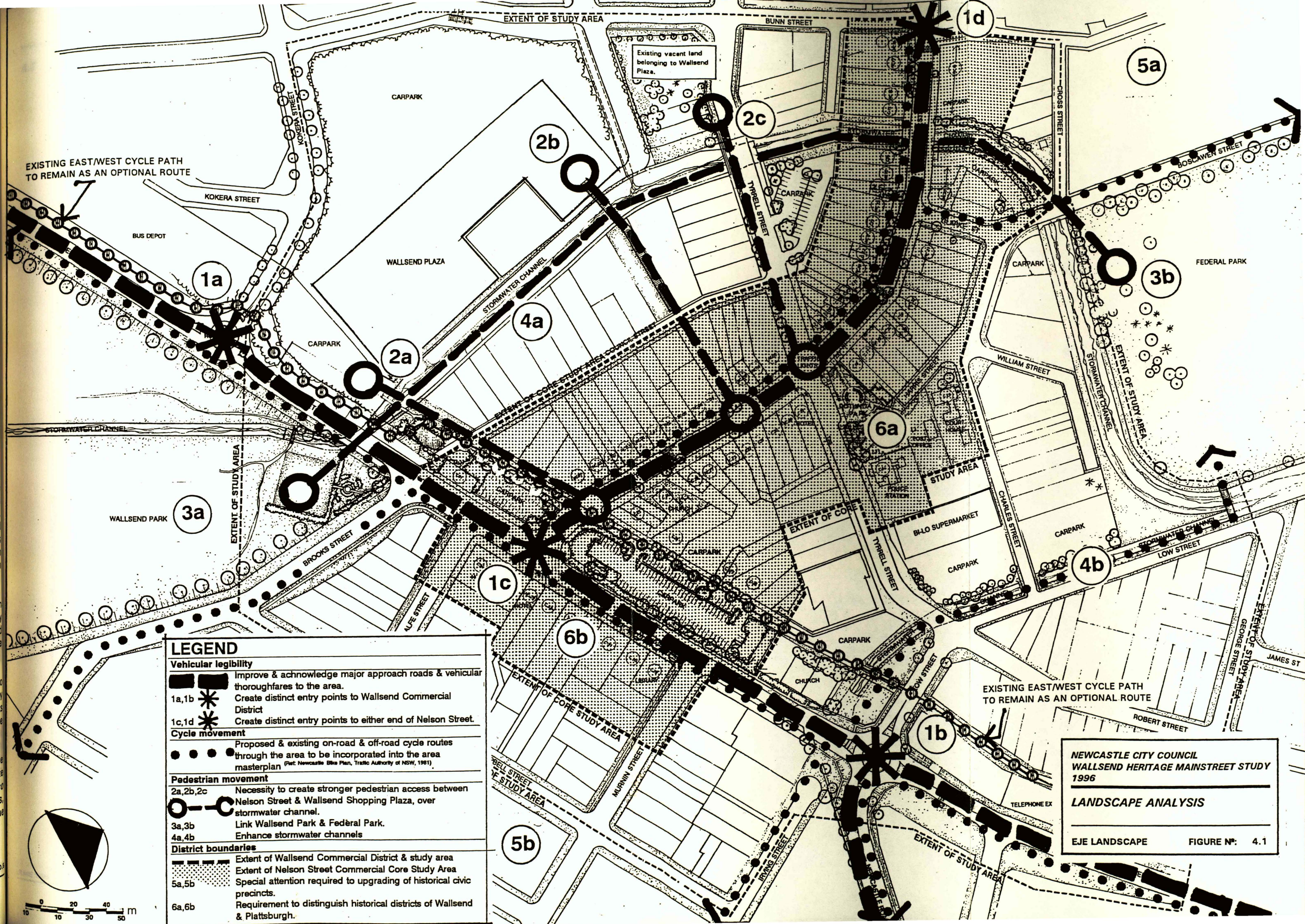
The need to address the local area history is of prime importance to achieve an environment which has roots in the social and economic traditions of the region. For this reason the boundary between Plattsburg and Wallsend, along Dan Rees Street and Kemp Street, has been identified in the analysis and addressed in the landscape recommendations, by reinforcing a large scale street planting along Cowper Street.

Major improvements to the mainstreet building facades along Nelson Street is recommended to create a more cohesive and appealing streetscape. As well as the need for contextually appropriate architectural improvements, there is the need to carry out landscape improvements to generally develop the industrial coal theme and to create an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere for the area.

It is prime importance that all opportunities are taken to maximise existing resources, (such as the heritage precincts at Rotunda Park and along Cowper Street, to utilise the attractive microclimate and space around the stormwater channel at the northern end of Nelson Street for *alfresco* dining); minimise the impact of negative elements, (such as traffic along Cowper Street, carparks, the rear facade of Wallsend Plaza); and where possible, turn problems into assets, (such as the stormwater channel).

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JOB NO 3200



LEGEND

Vehicular legibility

- Improve & acknowledge major approach roads & vehicular thoroughfares to the area.
- 1a,1b * Create distinct entry points to Wallsend Commercial District
- 1c,1d * Create distinct entry points to either end of Nelson Street.

Cycle movement

- Proposed & existing on-road & off-road cycle routes through the area to be incorporated into the area masterplan (Part: Newcastle Bike Plan, Traffic Authority of NSW, 1991)

Pedestrian movement

- 2a,2b,2c ○○ Necessity to create stronger pedestrian access between Nelson Street & Wallsend Shopping Plaza, over stormwater channel.
- 3a,3b ○○ Link Wallsend Park & Federal Park.
- 4a,4b ○○ Enhance stormwater channels

District boundaries

- Extent of Wallsend Commercial District & study area
- Extent of Nelson Street Commercial Core Study Area
- 5a,5b Special attention required to upgrading of historical civic precincts.
- 6a,6b Requirement to distinguish historical districts of Wallsend & Plattsburgh.

NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL
WALLSEND HERITAGE MAINSTREET STUDY
1996

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

EJE LANDSCAPE FIGURE Nº: 4.1

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4.2 RECOMMENDED WORKS - LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN (Refer Figure 4.2)

The following is a summary of recommendations for specific parts of Wallsend. The numbering on this list is cross-referenced to the proposed Landscape Masterplan. For details regarding specific elements it is necessary to cross reference to Part D: The Guidelines. Where appropriate italics and a chapter reference have been used to assist in cross referencing eg. *signage* [11.0].

4.2.1 VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

1 Approach Roads

1a Cowper St

- *Ficus obliqua* (Small-leafed Fig) as street tree planting where possible
- Paving Type A generally with Paving Type B to driveways and Paving Type C to key heritage buildings and pedestrian nodal points.

1b Newcastle Rd

- *Lephostemon confertus* (Brushbox) to reinforce existing street planting

2 Vehicular Entry Nodes

2a Cowper St/Newcastle Rd roundabout

- *Ficus hillii* (Hill's Fig)

2b Cowper St/Kokera St roundabout

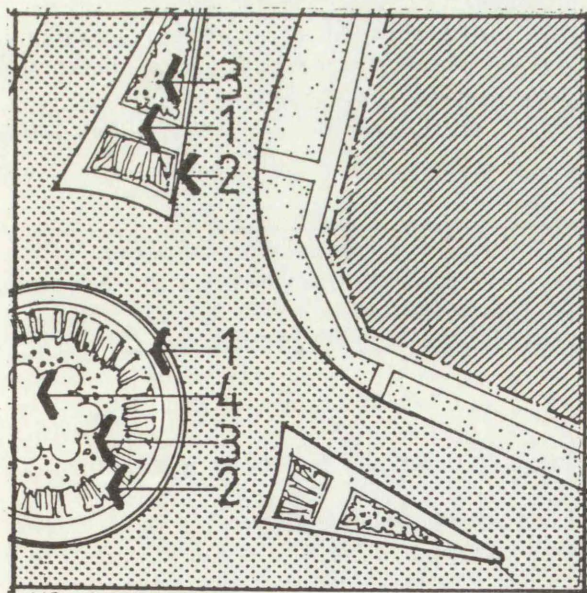
- *Ficus hillii* (Hill's Fig)

2c Cowper/Nelson St intersection

- *Ficus hillii* (Hill's Fig)

- To highlight the separation that once existed between Wallsend and Plattsburg, it is suggested that a granite sett, at-grade threshold/rumble strip with inset railway lines be installed in the alignment of the original railway easement.

Understorey Planting to Roundabouts



LEGEND - Option No.1

Australian theme of blue foliage with mauve highlights.

- 1 White river pebbles equal to Cowra white river pebbles nom.10-15mm dia.
- 2 *Festuca ovina glauca* (Blue Sheep's Fescue tussock grass) with white river pebbles as mulch.
- 3 *Pennisetum alopecuroides* (Swamp Foxtail Grass - Tussocky grass to 1m with purplish seedheads)
- 4 *Melaleuca linariifolia purpurea compacta* (Weeping blue/grey foliage to 1.3m with purple tips) or *Leptospermum polygalifolium 'Cardwell'* (1.5m weeping, flowering Tautoon) or *Leptospermum 'Copper Sheen'* (2m high copper-foliaged shrub)

LEGEND - Option No.2

Bright contrasting colour with annual display

- 1 Red scoria gravel paving.
- 2 Low perennials eg *Dampiera stricta* (Blue Dampiera), *Hibbertia stricta* (Guinea Flower)
- 3 *Phormium 'Bronze Baby'* interplanted with *Anigozanthos 'Dwarf Delight'*. (Bronze-foliaged dwarf NZ flax with red-flowering Kangaroo Paw)
- 4 *Melaleuca bracteata 'Golden Gem'* (Gold/green 1.5m high shrub)

Above: Plan (1:1000) showing proposed options for understorey planting to roundabouts.

The two planting schemes are suggestions only with the aim of creating brightly coloured compositions to mark the entry. The use of annuals has been suggested which the Town Committee may like to consider. Although such gardens are expensive to maintain, the costs involved may be warranted if the work is viewed more as promotion rather than landscaping. All gravel should be comprised of particles less than 7mm and stabilised.

3 Nelson Street Mainstreet

- *Sapium sebiferum* (Chinese Tallow-wood) tree planting to roadway islands similar to existing, where possible.
- Paving Type A generally with Paving Type B to driveways and Paving Type C to buildings of interest or pedestrian nodal points (see 10.2).
- rationalisation of street furniture types and placement.
- enhancement of building facades in accordance with guidelines in the report.
- rationalise street signage eg. regulate placement and form, develop a hierarchy, simplify and co-ordinate.
- weather protection with awnings.
- create safe pedestrian crossings along Nelson Street as shown on the landscape masterplan.
- encourage increased pedestrian and non-vehicular circulation along Nelson street with LATM devices and parking outside of the mainstreet.
- encourage pedestrian progression along the street by addressing the following:-
 - * continuous building facades (avoid vacant blocks or increased building setbacks).
 - * utilise bends to create interest.
 - * develop sub-zones along Nelson Street (eg. Civic focus around Tyrrell Street intersection)

3 Nelson Street Sub-zones

3a Civic focus (Rotunda Park, Police Station & Post Office, Lemongrove Pub, along Tyrrell Street)

- emphasise the heritage theme
- develop as an activity focus eg. lunch, concerts, markets, etc.

3b Northern end of Nelson St with a more recreational focus

- develop a casual, quiet, relaxed atmosphere with an emphasis on outdoor activities due to the pleasant environment eg. *Alfresco* dining, the canal, ameliorated micro-climate eg. street tree planting, shade, water, psychological/physical division from the roadway, antique shops, restaurants, cafes, etc.

3c Southern end of the street with a more utility focus

- more on-street short-term parking for quick shopping stops,
- shops offering more essential goods and services rather than recreational use eg. chemists & medical facilities, fast food, hardware, banks, mixed retailers, real estate agents, fruiterers, government agencies,
- strong link to supermarkets eg. Bilo & Wallsend Plaza, and public car parks.

4 Core Roads

4a Tyrrell St

- *Eucalyptus scoparia* (Willow Gum) where awnings, access points permit
- Paving type A to both sides of road, with type B at driveway crossings, & type C & D at points of interest or intersections, if suitable.
- Street furniture placed at appropriate intervals.

4b Bunn St

- *Eucalyptus scoparia* (Willow Gum) to both sides of road where possible.

4c Low St

- *Eucalyptus scoparia* (Willow Gum) to both sides of road where possible.

4d Council St

- *Eucalyptus scoparia* (Willow Gum) to eastern side of road only.
- Paving type A, & type B at driveway crossings

4e Dan Rees St

- *Ficus obliqua* (Small-leafed Fig) or *Lephostemon confertus* (Brushbox) to tie in with existing Cowper St planting.
- Paving type A to footpaths, & paving type B to roadway.
(NB. Also refer 'Vehicular Entry Nodes - Cowper St/Nelson St intersection').

4f Clarke St

- *Eucalyptus scoparia* to both sides between Federal Park & Nelson St.
- Paving type A, & type B at driveway crossings to western side of Clark St.

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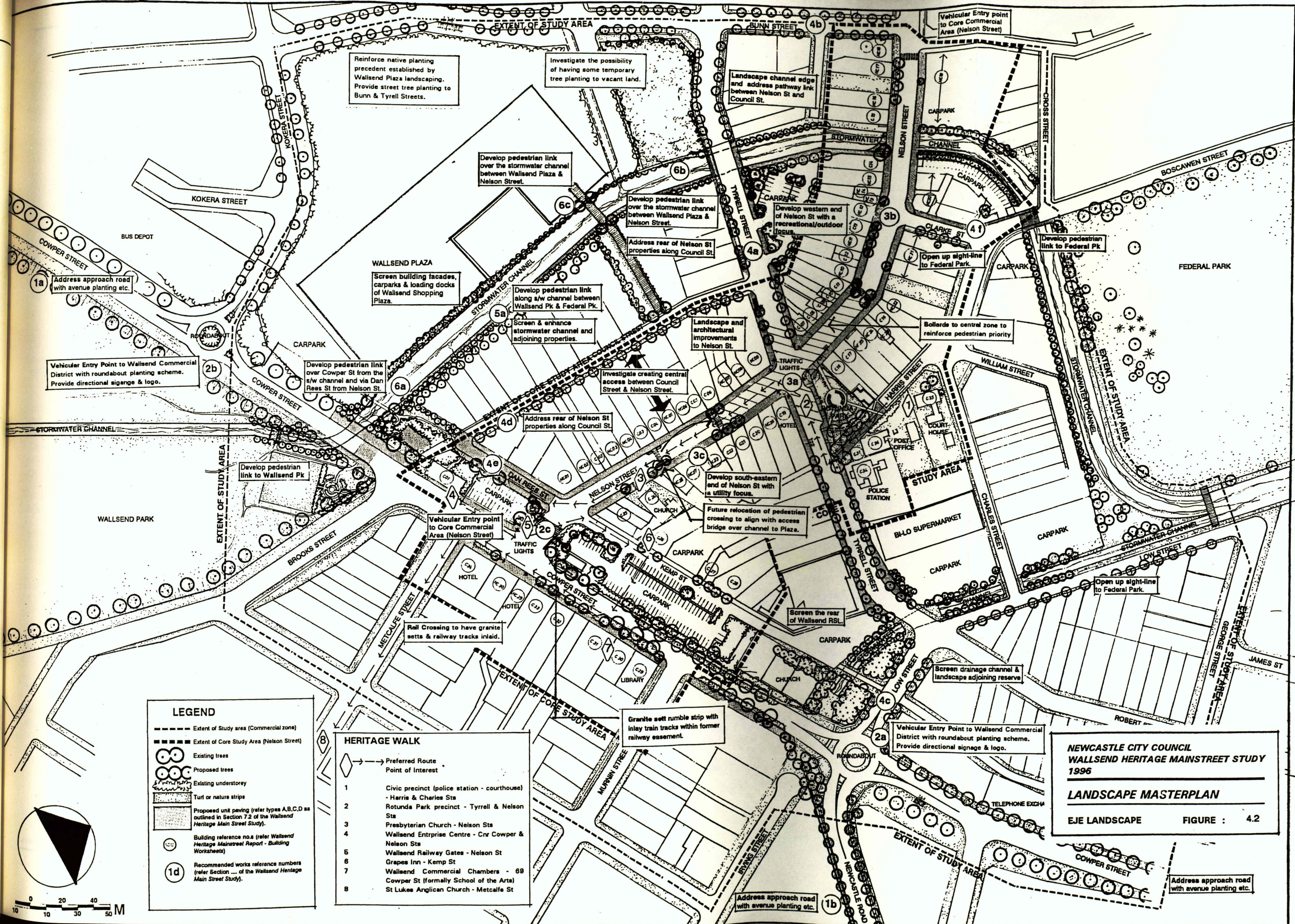
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LEGEND

- Extent of Study area (Commercial zone)
- Extent of Core Study Area (Nelson Street)
- Existing trees
- Proposed trees
- Existing understorey
- Turf or nature strips
- Proposed unit paving (refer types A,B,C,D as outlined in Section 7.2 of the Wallsend Heritage Main Street Study).
- Building reference nos (refer Wallsend Heritage Main Street Report - Building Worksheets)
- Recommended works reference numbers (refer Section 7.2 of the Wallsend Heritage Main Street Study).

HERITAGE WALK

- 1 Civic precinct (police station - courthouse) - Harris & Charles Sts
- 2 Rotunda Park precinct - Tyrrell & Nelson Sts
- 3 Presbyterian Church - Nelson Sts
- 4 Wallsend Enterprise Centre - Cnr Cowper & Nelson Sts
- 5 Wallsend Railway Gates - Nelson St
- 6 Grapes Inn - Kemp St
- 7 Wallsend Commercial Chambers - 69 Cowper St (formerly School of the Arts)
- 8 St Lukes Anglican Church - Metcalfe St

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1996

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

EJE LANDSCAPE

FIGURE : 4.2

4.2.2 PEDESTRIAN LINKS

5a S/W Channel between Federal Pk & Wallsend Pk

- *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Paperbark) & *Casuarina cunninghamiana* (River Oak) lining the channel where possible and screening adjoining buildings, etc where required. Co-ordinate with Hunter Water to check plantings are outside the 100 year flood capacity to avoid obstruction.
- *Lephostemon confertus* (Brushbox) to nodal points.
- Investigate the construction of a cantilevered walkway along the channel between Cowper Street and Tyrrell Street, Nelson Street and Clarke Street. Walkway RL will must be equal to the underside of existing bridges.
- Paving type to eastern side of stormwater channel between Nelson St & Tyrrell St, to co-ordinate with existing crushed gravel paving used at the Tyrrell/Council St carpark.
- Address the requirement for safe, easy pedestrian access across roadways, ie. Cowper Street, Tyrrell Street, Nelson Street and Clarke Street.
- Investigate the possibility of excavating sediment traps to the base of the channel in key locations where a view of permanent water would be more desirable than the concrete channel base. Ensure the peak flow capacity is not affected.

6 Transverse links between Wallsend Plaza & Nelson Street

6a Southern Connection at Dan Rees St

- Carry out improvements to bridge structure (eg. balustrading).
 - Define pedestrian route with improved paving and planting scheme.
 - Connect with easily legible links to Wallsend Plaza & Nelson St, with legible pathways.
 - Take measures to reduce traffic hazards along Dan Rees St and through Plaza carpark.
 - Take measures to reduce impact of traffic along Cowper Street.
 - Provide weather protection where suitable.
 - Carry out nodal planting at crossing point.
 - Improve legibility with signage, sight lines, consistent paving surfaces, directional indicators, etc.
- (NB. Also refer 'Core Roads - Dan Rees Street', & 'Approach Roads - Cowper St')

6b Northern Connection at Tyrrell St

- Carry out improvements to bridge structure (eg. balustrading, paint scheme).
 - *Lephostemon confertus* (Brushbox) nodal planting at bridge crossing.
 - Provide paving (Type A unit paving or compacted crushed gravel paths) to define the pathways to W.Plaza & Nelson St.
 - Take measures to reduce traffic hazards & impact on pedestrians at driveway & roadway crossings.
 - Provide weather protection where possible.
- (NB. Also refer 'Core Roads - Tyrrell Street')

6c Central Connection

- Provide for future connection to Nelson St, via an arcade connection. Recommended locations include, C04(currently TAB/Outlawed Clothing), NC05(Formerly Mitre 10), NC06(Freddy's Sportscene/Holliday's Shoes, NB. refer building sheet where extension of C05 building is recommended for this site).
 - Redesign entry to Wallsend Plaza to make more legible & inviting.
 - Carry out improvements to bridge structure (eg. balustrading, paint scheme).
 - *Lephostemon confertus* (Brushbox) nodal planting at bridge crossing.
 - Provide paving (Type A unit paving) to define the pathways to W.Plaza & Nelson St.
 - Take measures to reduce traffic hazards & impact on pedestrians at driveway & roadway crossings.
 - Provide weather protection where possible.
- (NB. Also refer 'Core Roads - Council Street')

4.2.3 PUBLIC RESERVES

- 7a Rotunda Park
 - Deciduous trees as nominated in current park design with *Araucaria cunninghamii* (Hoop Pine) as a specimen tree located near the corner of Tyrrell and Nelson Streets.
 - Paving to tie in incorporate recommended paving patterns where possible.
(NB. Also refer 'Civic Heritage Areas')
- 7b Federal Park
 - planting scheme & landscaping to be reviewed
 - open up view corridors along Clarke Street & Low Street to Federal Park.
 - address planting along stormwater channel
- 7c Wallsend Park
 - *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig) to perimeter
 - *Lephostemon confertus* (Brushbox) along pathways.
 - planting scheme to be reviewed
 - open up & frame view corridors where possible
- 7d Tyrrell/Bunn St Reserve
 - Mixed natives (dominantly *E.scoparia*, *C.cunninghamiana* & *M.quinquenervia*, with *Grevillea robusta* & *Lephostemon confertus* used as accents)
- 8e Low St Drainage Reserve
 - Mixed natives (dominantly *E.scoparia*, *C.cunninghamiana* & *M.quinquenervia*, with *Grevillea robusta* & *Lephostemon confertus* used as accents)

4.2.4 DRAINAGE CHANNEL

Having long been an issue of concern for the residents and the business community of Wallsend, it would be desirable to carry out aesthetic improvements to the drainage channel to enhance the general character and presentation of the local area.

The stormwater channel has been identified as a suitable easement for the location of a longitudinal pedestrian/cycleway linking Wallsend and Federal Parks. Coincidentally, the stormwater channel is a physical obstruction between the old commercial core of Nelson Street and the new Commercial complex of Wallsend Shopping Plaza. *Section 4.2.2: Pedestrian Links (Recommended works: 5a, 6a, 6b, 6c)*, provides a list of recommended works to improve these circulation issues, however the stormwater channel also requires further consideration to resolve its aesthetically displeasing appearance. Suggested upgrading works include the following:-

Schemes to take advantage of the channel's purpose as water course, to capture and detain water for aesthetic and microclimate amelioration.

- The construction of weirs (similar to that existing in Wallsend Park) at key points such as the two overhead walkways, as well as Tyrrell St and Nelson Street bridges. The viability of weirs may be limited by the effect they will have on upstream flooding. Refuse traps would be necessary and intermittent maintenance to remove sediment.
- Excavation works to the floor of the channels to provide permanent ponding at strategic points along the channel. Excavating to create ponds will be similar to creating a sedimentation pond. Vehicular access will be required to carry out intermittent maintenance to remove sediment.
- Excavation work longitudinally to the floor of the channel to provide a permanent water course effect. A meandering formation may be desirable to counter the regularity of the existing concrete channel.

Schemes to aesthetically improve the surface treatment of the existing banal grey concrete lining.

- An opportunity exists to carry out town art along the walls of the channel. It is noted that careful consideration should be given to ensuring that any artwork along the channel is low maintenance and has a unifying factor to avoid the appearance of disjointed graffiti. It is desirable that artwork be contained in a nominated zone running horizontally along the channel. It is suggested that the perpetuation of the coal seam as a local theme might be useful in this regard.
- Surface treatment to lining such as the fixing of aggregate and river pebbles to the floor

of the channel to replicate a stream bed. The viability of this option may be limited by the resultant reduction in flow capacity.

Preliminary discussions with Hunter Water indicate that the issue of maintenance and upstream flooding caused by any reduction in flow capacity will be of prime importance in determining the viability of any upgrade works to the stormwater channel.

Any design work should be informed by and consistent with the recommendations the Ironbark Creek Total Catchment Management Strategy (1996).

4.3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

The task of implementing the recommendations of this study will primarily be the responsibility of the Wallsend Town Committee. Therefore, it has been the role of the Committee to review this document and devise a program which establishes a sequence of events to enable improvements to Wallsend to be effected. Appendix I contains the implementation program as devised by the Committee with assistance given by EJE Landscape.

The process used when formulating the program was first to define individual projects, set priorities and then to give them a priority rating in a manner as noted below:

Immediate: (< 1 year)

These projects would fall into one of three categories: those which are simple and easy to implement; those which are in the process of being completed, and those which have a long lead time requiring involved planning and negotiations.

Short Term: (1-4 years)

Generally, this would also include projects that could be readily implemented either due to low capital costs or ease of planning and seeking approvals. However, there is also a need to include a number of high profile projects that would be able to win the support of shopkeepers and community members who may be indifferent to the area's upgrading.

Medium Term: (4-7 years)

These projects would be those which take longer planning and/or have a higher capital costs.

Long Term: (> 7 years)

These projects would tend to require large amounts of capital to complete and therefore would require a longer lead time to raise the funds. Otherwise, long term projects would be those which are dependent on the completion of other projects or those of reduced significance.

For a more detailed explanation of the implementation process and the implementation program itself, refer to Appendix I.

■ **PART C: THE CORE STUDY AREA**

5.0 OVERVIEW: THE CORE STUDY AREA

- 5.1 INTRODUCTION & SPECIFIC AIMS
 - 5.2 DESCRIPTION OF CORE STUDY AREA
 - 5.3 URBAN LANDSCAPE CHARACTER
 - 5.4 CONSERVATION POLICY & PRINCIPLES
-

5.1 INTRODUCTION & SPECIFIC AIMS

This section of the report is concerned with the buildings contained within the Core Study Area which relates to the commercial centre of Wallsend (ie Land Zoned 3B: District Business Zone). Information and recommendations contained throughout this section are intended to assist building owners, shopkeepers and Council in the upgrading of buildings for the purpose of improving the urban character of the area.

Specific aims of this part of the report may be stated as follows:

- to provide advice to Council and the Wallsend Business Community which would enable them to take measures to conserve and enhance the identified heritage character and heritage items of the area; and,
- to provide advice, information and guidance to building owners and Council to enable appropriate restoration or refurbishment, painting, signage and/or infill development.

5.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE CORE STUDY AREA

The Core Study Area (Figure 3.1) relates primarily to the two main streets of Wallsend ie Cowper Street (between Metcalfe and Murnin Streets) and Nelson Street (between Cowper and Bunn/Clarke Streets). Also included is a section of Dan Rees/Kemp Street which runs parallel to Cowper Street and incorporates the former railway easement which is now mainly used for car parking.

These two streets represent the traditional 'Main Street' area of Wallsend and so contain most of the old commercial and civic buildings.

In recent years the commercial centre of Wallsend has grown beyond these two streets, however, until quite recently, with the construction of Wallsend Plaza, the emphasis has always been centred here. Traditionally main street areas have been severely affected by the competition posed by modern shopping complexes with the convenience of generous parking areas, air conditioning and all-weather protection proving to be too strong. Wallsend, however, has the potential of allowing these two 'rivals' to work together in attracting people from other areas by combining the two styles of shopping. Therefore, the link between these two areas has been an important part of the streetscape design as covered in Part C of this report.

The differences provided by the traditional shopping area can now be treated as a distinct asset to be developed and promoted so that people may have a choice, but what is important is that their first choice will be to come to Wallsend so that they may *enjoy the difference*.

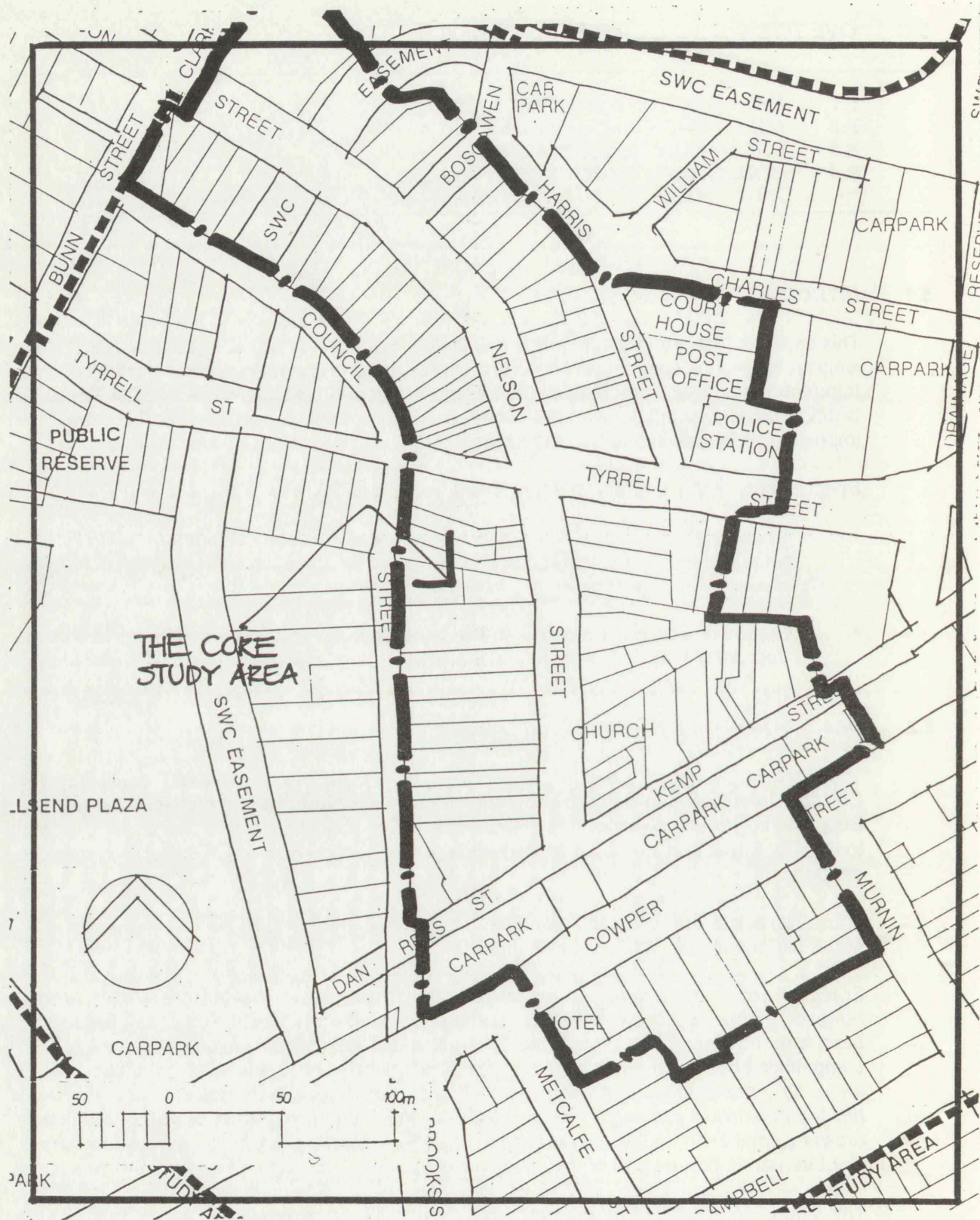


FIGURE 5.1: THE CORE STUDY AREA

5.3 URBAN LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

As stated above, the Core Study Area may be defined as Nelson Street (between Bunn/Clarke and Cowper Streets) and Cowper Street (between Murnin and Metcalfe Streets) with the two streets forming a T-intersection of the south-eastern end of Nelson Street.

The buildings located in Cowper Street are isolated from the remainder of the Study area by the former railway easement, now primarily used as a landscaped car park characterised by stately figs. Cowper Street is also characterised by a change in scale and quality. Being part of the Wallsend township, the buildings tend to be larger and more imposing. It is felt that any enhancement recommended for the Core Area should acknowledge and reinforce this separation whilst still ensuring a link back to the buildings in Nelson Street. Cowper Street presents a strong and attractive streetscape which is certainly a feature of Wallsend equal to the Post Office/Rotunda Park precinct.

Nelson Street, being part of the worker's town of Plattsburg, is more pedestrian with a strong commercial bias. The quality of the buildings generally is not as good as Cowper Street, however, there is still some high points which help to reinforce a strong theme although the degree of fragmentation is higher.

Two important elements that give Nelson Street a unique quality are 1) the gentle arc occurring as one moves north-west away from Tyrrell Street, and 2) the presence of the Park with its attractive rotunda and other nearby buildings (eg the Post Office, Lemon Grove Hotel etc).

The curved section of Nelson Street avoids the 'gun-barrel effect' that is so common in suburban strip shopping centres. This curving creates interest as a sense of anticipation is fostered by not having the entire shopping centre revealed in one glance.

The park, occurring at the centre of Nelson Street, provides relief by allowing the shopping strip to open up and transfer the emphasis back to the public buildings in Harris Street.

Any future schemes for Wallsend should seek to highlight these two features whilst trying to conceal the high proportion of non-contributory buildings within Nelson Street.

Key features of the streetscape of Wallsend are as follows:

- Comprised predominantly of commercial buildings
- Varying degrees of harmony between groups of building
- Few vacant blocks although sufficient open space (eg Rotunda Park and drainage channel) to provide relief.
- Without one strong theme but a balanced mix of buildings from different eras.
- A variance of streetscape quality between Cowper and Nelson Streets supported by a sense of separation.
- Appealing road layout which avoids the monotony common in many suburban shopping strips.

It is the above set of attributes that characterise Wallsend at present and have been used as the basis when formulating changes and improvements. Further to this, there has been an attempt to include historic themes, particularly those of coal mining and early settlement (refer also 10.1 Development of Preferred Theme).

5.4 CONSERVATION PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES

The intention of the guidelines that follow (Section 5.0) is to assist building owners in the commercial centre to make a positive contribution to Wallsend's built heritage. What happens to non-heritage buildings also has an impact on both the local character and the streetscape.

The number of heritage buildings in the Commercial Centre is not high but they do have an impact which exceeds their proportional contribution, and so they and other buildings defined as contributory (refer Section 6.2) are seen as the basis of setting the theme for Wallsend. Therefore, any new work, be it to old buildings or relating to new development, should respect this theme (heritage character).

It should be noted that this approach to revitalising Wallsend does not aim to freeze development in time. The right to modernise older buildings and the need to have new ones is recognised and strongly supported. What is required is that changes to buildings take place in the most sympathetic and consistent manner. Those elements that led to a building being regarded as contributory should be retained and enhanced.

Generally, buildings should be dealt with using the renovation guidelines (refer Section 5.0), however, recognised heritage items will require specialist advice. Where heritage items are concerned, the approach to be adopted will be based on "The Burra Charter"¹.

This document is based on an international convention, "The Venice Charter", for conserving outstanding monuments and sites. Included in "The Burra Charter" is a set of definitions and conservation principles which basically promotes the retention of original *fabric*² as important in preserving an item's *cultural significance*².

It is not in the scope of this study to detail conservation principles, however, the following extracts from "The Burra Charter" may assist in giving a better understanding.

Conservation means all processes of looking after a place so as to return its cultural significance. It includes maintenance and may according to circumstance include preservation, restoration, reconstruction and adaption and will be commonly a combination of more than one of these.

The aim of conservation is to return or recover the cultural significance of a place and must include provision for its security, its maintenance and its future.

Conservation is based on a respect for the existing fabric and should involve the least possible physical intervention. It should not distort the evidence provided by the fabric.

The conservation policy appropriate to a place must first be determined by an understanding of its cultural significance and its physical condition.

¹ Australia ICOMOS, "The Australian ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter)", 1988.

² These are terms defined in "The Burra Charter" and are given specific meanings when applied to heritage conservation work (refer also Appendix E).

When undertaking work in the Core Study Area, two policies need to remain firm:

1. **All features of significance should be conserved in accordance with the principles of "The Burra Charter".**

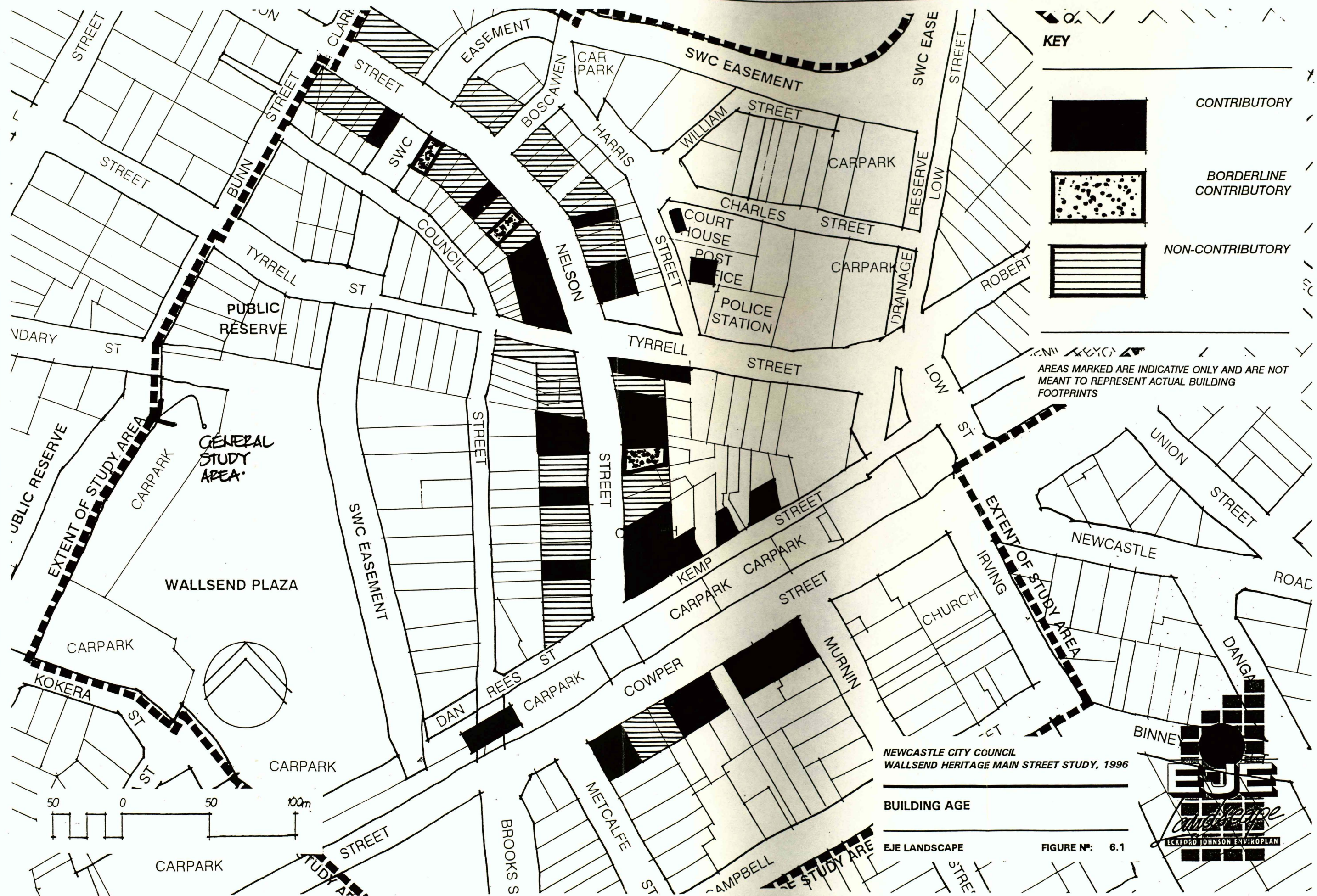
This means to retain all original fabric. Any inappropriate alterations should be removed and original features reconstructed, but only when reliable information is available to do so. New work should not pretend to be original work. It should be apparent, on close inspection at least, that the work is new. This policy relates specifically to heritage items (refer 4.2.1).

2. **Take every opportunity to improve the appearance and unity of the area's streetscape qualities.**

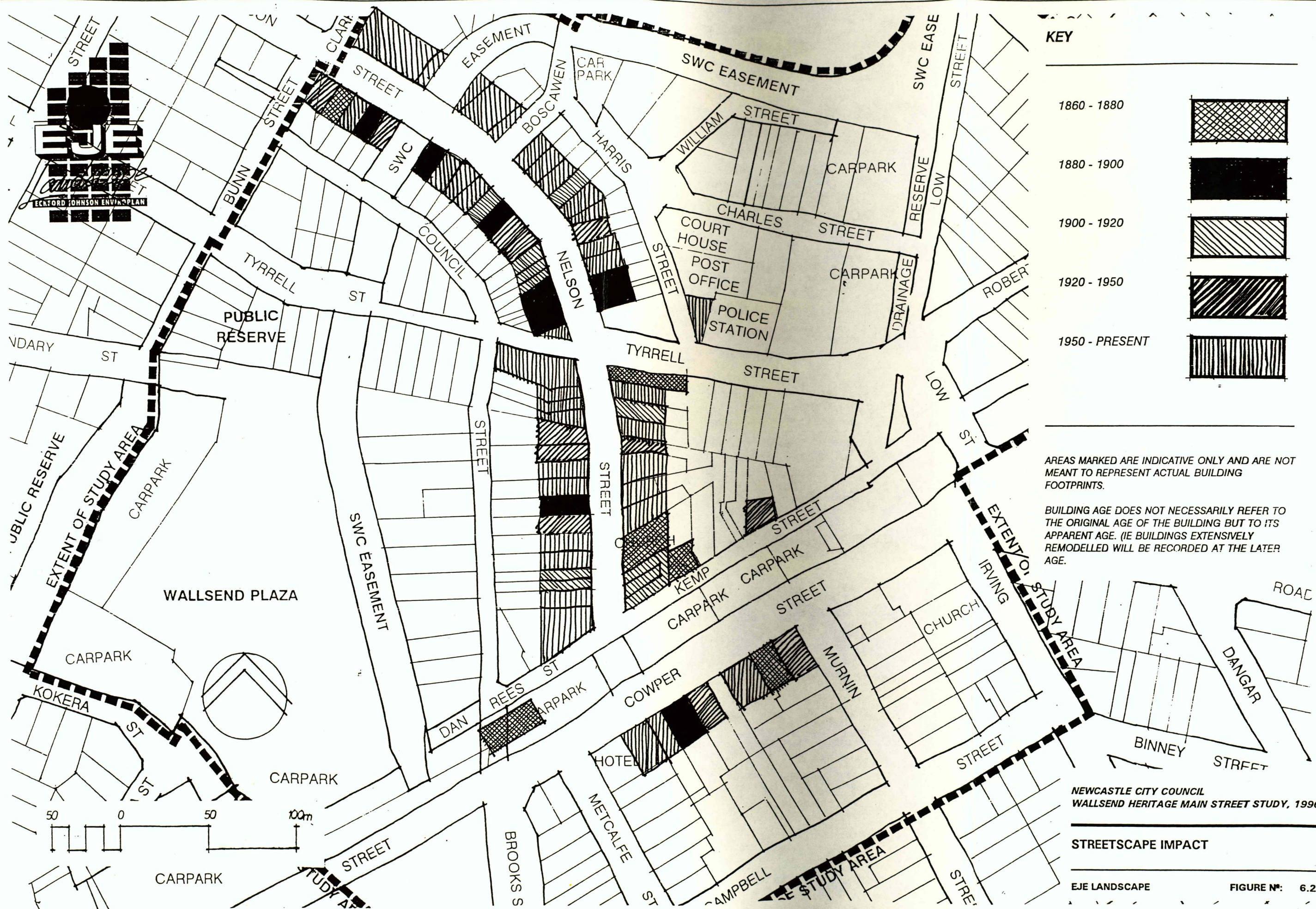
In most cases this will mean following the guidelines but it is an important decision to make as deviations away from this will lessen the impact of work by others who are trying to comply.

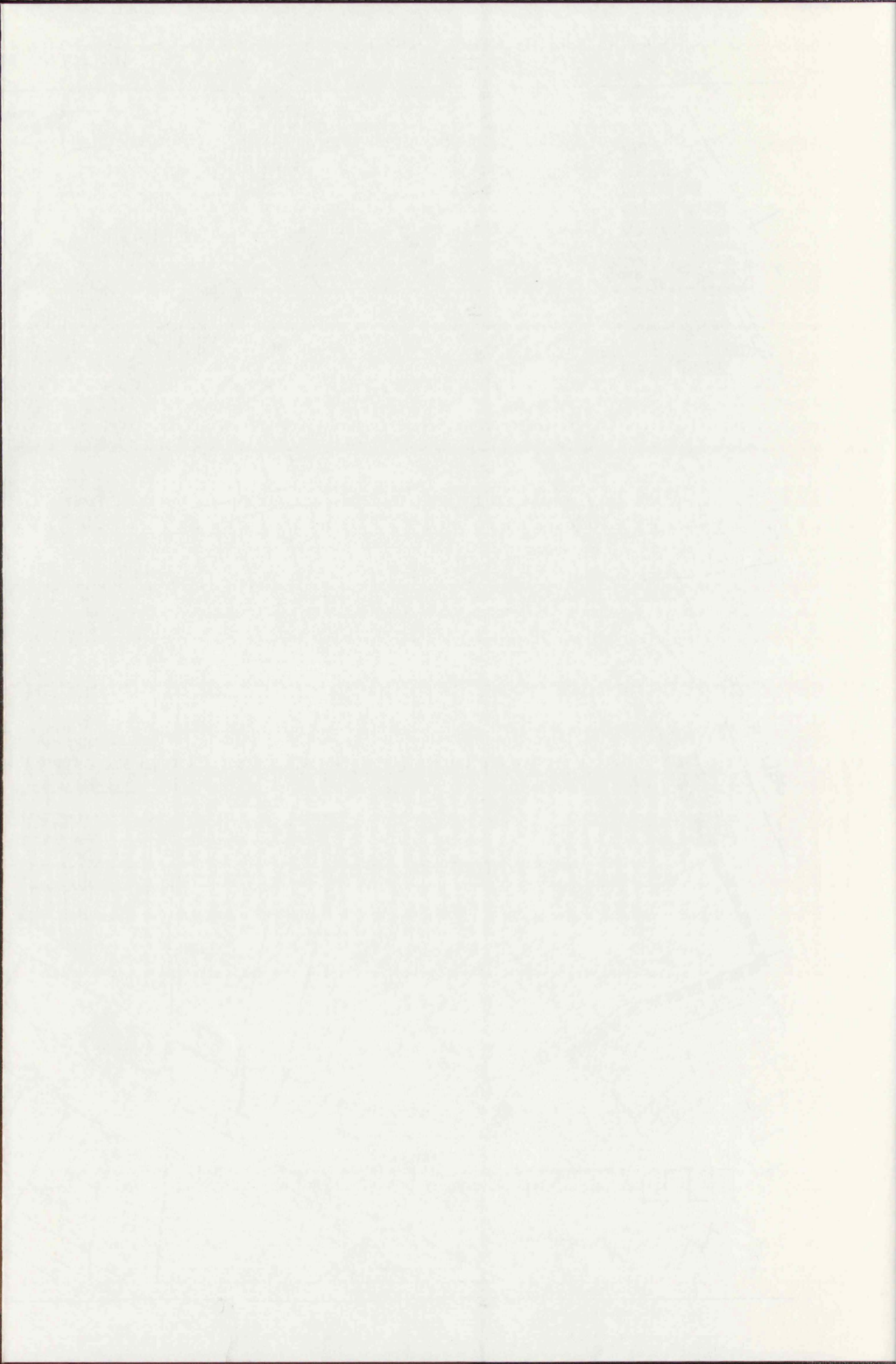
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WALLSEND MAIN STREET HERITAGE STUDY



WALLSEND MAIN STREET HERITAGE STUDY





From the above it can be seen that buildings constructed after 1950 have the lowest proportion of buildings that are non-contributory in spite of the largest representation. It should be noted that even though the time period is +40yrs most of these buildings were contributed after 1970. As for the four other periods, they are all well represented except for 1900-1920 with the proportioning of contributory buildings being fairly even. It should also be noted that approximately one third of the buildings surveyed was built before 1900 which is a remarkably high proportion and of which 27% were contributory.

From the above it can be stated that no one building period predominates either as total representation or as contributory building with the exception of 1950-present however these buildings are better suited as redevelopment sites.

6.4 COMMON BUILDING CHARACTERISTICS

In spite of the different styles of architecture present within the study area, there are still many characteristics shared by most buildings. Table 6.3 is a comparative analysis of all contributory buildings. Using this table, it is possible to prepare a list of common characteristics which will assist in the preparation of infill guidelines (Refer Section 8.0)

- * 1 or 2 storey (nothing larger)
- * Unrelated treatments between ground and first floors. Up until the turn of the Century, these awnings were simply-supported and frequently double storey. In some locations the stone bases can still be found incorporated into the sandstone kerb.
- * Most ground floor shopfronts reworked in order to open up the interiors of shops to the outside.
- * Greater void to solid ratio for ground floors.
- * Greater solid to void ratio for first floors.
- * First floor windows proportioned vertically, frequently occurring as single openings (ie not banked together).
- * Strong skyline image.
- * Low levels of facade articulation used to break up large wall areas into smaller panels.
- * Use of decorative elements (e.g. tied piers, recessed panels, string courses, mouldings etc.) used sparingly but more commonly on older buildings.
- * Buildings constructed on boundary presenting as a flat face to the street.
- * Face brick or stucco being the most common wall treatments.

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WALLSEND MAIN STREET HERITAGE STUDY

TABLE 6.3

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF CONTRIBUTORY BUILDINGS

| 1.NO. | 2. NAME | 3. BUILDING TYPE 1. Freestanding 2. Attached/Abutting | 4. NO OF STOREYS | 5. GROUND FLOOR 1. Retail 2. Service Provider 3. Office 4. Other | 6. FIRST FLOOR 1. Residential 2. Office/Amcilliary 3. Service Provider 4. Storage | 7. MATERIALS 1. Face brick/Painted Brick 2. Stucco/Rendered 3. Tiles 4. Profiled Metal 5. Weatherboard/Timber 6. Stone | 8. SHOPFRONT 1. Open 2. Full height/¾ glazing 3. Traditional | 9. DISPLAY 1. Formal Window 2. Semi-Formal 3. Shop Display | 10. PARAPET 1. Simple 2. Simple Decorative 3. Stepped 4. Stepped and Decorative | 11. ROOF 1. Concealed 2. Hipped 3. Gabled 4. Metal 5. Tiled 6. Other | 12. AWNING 1. Simply supported 2. Suspended/cantilever 3. Boxed 4. Open Framed 5. Bullnosed |
|-------|---------------------------------|---|------------------|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| C.01 | Wallsend Enterprise Centre | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1(1) | N/A | N/A | N/A | 1,4 | N/A |
| C.02 | Alams Building | 2 | 2 | 1/2 | 1 | 2(1) | 2/3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.03 | National Australia Bank | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1(3) | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.04 | TAB | 2 | 2 | 2/1 | 1 | 2(3) | ½ | 1/1 | 2 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.05 | Parade Fashions | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2(3) | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.06 | Harvey World Travel | 2 | 2 | 2/2 | 3 | 2 | 2/2 | 3/1 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| C.07 | Castle Realty | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2(2) | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.08 | La Petite Salon | 2 | 2 | 2/3 | 1 | 2(3) | 3 | ½ | 2 | 1 | 1,5 |
| C.09 | Clarkes Real Estate | 2 | 2 | 3/3 | 2 | 2(3) | 3,3 | ½ | 2 | 1 | 2,4 |
| C.10 | Fruit Shop/Barber | 2 | 2 | 1/2 | 1 | 2(1) | 1/3 | 3/2 | 2 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.11 | Former Wallsend Furniture Store | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2(3) | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.12 | Former Wallsend Pawn Broker | 2 | 1 | 1 | N/A | 1(3) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.13 | Remtex | 2 | 1 | 1 | N/A | 1(3) | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2,4 |
| C.14 | Vic Kearns Furniture | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1(4) | 1(2) | 1(3) | 3 | N/A | 2(4) | N/A |
| C.15 | Harris Wheeler | 2 | 2 | 1,2 | 2 | 1(2) | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.16 | Moore's Building | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4(3) | 1(3) | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.17 | St George Bank | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2(3) | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.18 | Greater Building Society | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2(2) | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.19 | Lemon Grove Hotel | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1(3) | 3 | 3 | N/A | 2 | 2,4 |
| C.20 | Hamburger Haven | 2 | 1 | 2 | N/A | 2(2) | 2/1 | 3/3 | 4 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.21 | Former Westpac | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3(3) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | N/A |
| C.22 | Doctors Surgery | 2 | 1 | 2 | N/A | 2(2) | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | N/A |
| C.23 | Pettigrew Newsagency | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1(?) | 1(3) | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.24 | Presbyterian Church | 1 | 1 | 4 | N/A | 2(3) | N/A | N/A | N/A | 3(4) | N/A |
| C.25 | Butchers Shop | 2 | 1 | 1 | N/A | 2(3) | 3/2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2,3 |
| C.26 | Grapes Inn | 1 | 2 | 2/4 | 1 | 6 | 3 | N/A | N/A | 3(6) | 1 |
| C.27 | Thup Tim Thai | 1 | 2 | 2/4 | 2/1 | 2 | 3 | N/A | N/A | 3(4) | N/A |
| C.28 | Wallsend Veterinary Hospital | 1 | 1 | 2 | N/A | 1 | 3 | N/A | 1 | 1 | N/A |
| C.29 | Wallsend Branch Library | 2 | 1 | 4 | N/A | 1 | 3 | N/A | 1 | 1 | N/A |
| C.30 | Wallsend Commercial Chambers | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2(2) | 3 | N/A | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| C.31 | Wallsend Pet Shop | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1(1) | 3 | N/A | 3 | 1 | N/A |
| C.32 | Mal Grants Auto Spares | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1(?) | 1(1) | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | N/A |
| C.33 | Terminus Hotel | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1(?) | 2(2) | 3 | N/A | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| C.34 | Colliery Inn Hotel | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1(?) | 1(1) | 3 | N/A | 1 | 1 | 2(3) |
| C.35 | Police Sergeants Residence | 1 | 1 | 4 | N/A | 1(1) | N/A | N/A | N/A | 3(4) | N/A |
| C.36 | Former Wallsend Post Office | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1(?) | 2(2) | N/A | N/A | N/A | 2(4) | N/A |

NOTES

1. No = Reference number as given on Building Worksheet
2. Name = Current name
5. Ground Floor: Where two numbers are given then there is more than one use.
6. First Floor = Where two or more numbers are given then there is more than one use.
7. Facade Materials: Number in brackets refers to sheet wall treatment
8. Shopfront: Traditional refers to the presence of original wall openings or the layout resemble earlier shop-front designs with a low wall supporting a large display window and top hamper.
11. Roof: Where a second number is listed, it refers to the type of material used as viewed from the street.
12. Awning: The first number indicates how the awning is supported with the second number indicating the type of construction.

■ PART D: THE GUIDELINES

7.0 GUIDELINES: RENOVATION

- 7.1 INTRODUCTION
 - 7.2 CHANGES TO HERITAGE ITEMS
 - 7.3 KEY DIAGRAM AND DEFINITIONS
 - 7.4 PARAPETS
 - 7.5 AWNINGS & VERANDAHS
 - 7.6 FENESTRATION
 - 7.7 SHOPFRONTS
 - 7.8 REAR ELEVATIONS & APPROACHES
 - 7.9 MATERIALS
 - 7.10 ORNAMENTATION
-

7.1 INTRODUCTION

The following renovation guidelines are intended to be used when modifications and/or improvements are proposed for contributory buildings (refer Section 6.2). The aim of the guidelines is to give practical advice to ensure that any work done on such buildings is done in a manner which goes to improve their appearance so that they may further enhance the preferred character of the Wallsend Commercial Precinct. It should be noted that the Building Worksheets, Colour Guidelines and Signage Guidelines are also to be referred to when carrying out work.

These guidelines may also be used for non-contributory buildings, however, by definition, these buildings make a negative impact on the desired character of Wallsend and so it would be preferable that such buildings were redeveloped in accordance with the Infill Guidelines.

As noted in Section 6.2 the recognised heritage buildings occurring within the study area are as follows:

- C:01 Wallsend Enterprise Centre (formerly Wallsend Locomotive Shed)
- C:24 St Andrews Presbyterian Church
- C:30 Wallsend Commercial Chambers (formerly Revival House/Fellowship House/Wallsend School of Arts)
- C:35 Terminus Hotel
- C:34 Colliery Inn
- C:35 Sergeant's Residence
- C:36 Former Wallsend Post Office

7.2 CHANGES TO HERITAGE ITEMS

Included in the group of contributory buildings are seven recognised heritage items. These buildings require specialist input so that proper conservation techniques are applied to retain their cultural significance and so the application of the following renovation guidelines may not be adequate. It is, therefore, necessary to consult with Newcastle City Council's Planning and Development Division before working on such buildings so that individual guidance may be given.

7.3 KEY DIAGRAM & DEFINITIONS

Figure 7.1 refers to the main elements addressed in the guidelines that follow.

Definitions of the main elements as applied to the guidelines are as follows:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| AWNING: | A suspended or cantilevered canopy located between the ground and first floors. |
| FACADE: | The front face of a building. |
| FENESTRATION: | The arrangement of openings (ie windows and doors) to the first floor. |
| ORNAMENTATION: | Applied decoration used primarily to improve the appearance of a building. |
| PARAPET: | A projecting wall used to conceal or partially conceal the roof. |
| SHOPFRONT: | The front, ground floor section of the facade including doorway, display windows and surrounds. |
| VERANDAH: | The open area attached to the building with a roof supported by the building on one side and posts or columns on the other. It may be single or double storey. |

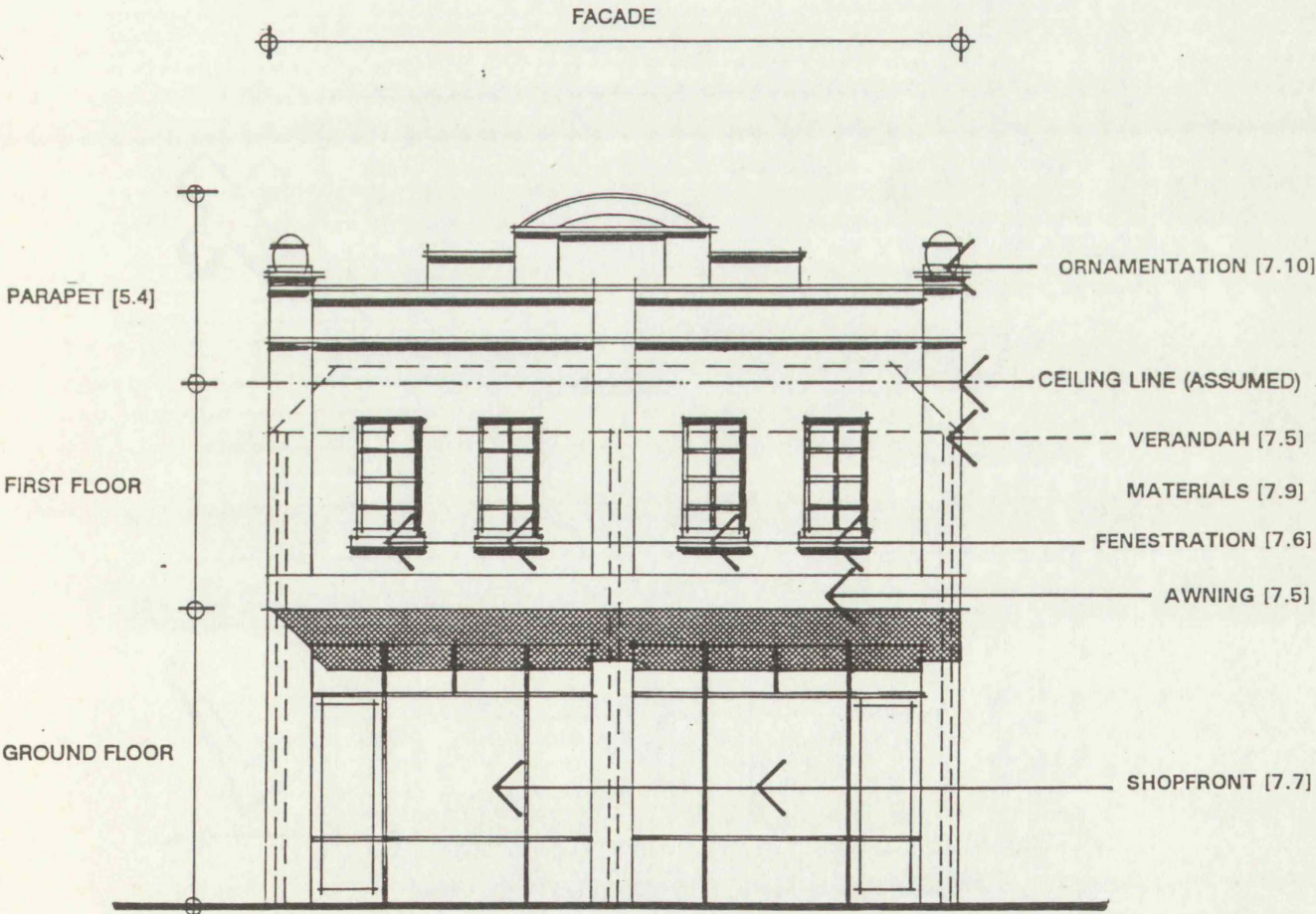


FIGURE 7.1 KEY DIAGRAM

7.4 PARAPETS

Guidelines

- * *Make repairs to existing parapets and check for structural adequacy.*
- * *Reinstate lost sections of parapets including decorative urns, finials etc based on adequate research (eg old photographs, engravings etc)*
- * *If existing parapets are overly simple or of the wrong scale then reconstruct parapet to introduce more detail and to create greater interest.*
- * *Give consideration to what impact the parapet will have on the skyline and seek to improve.*
- * *Parapets should not be sloping but be kept close to the building line with allowances for minor projections.*

Comments

Parapets play an important role in establishing the character of Wallsend. In the survey of contributory buildings (refer 6.4) the majority of buildings had parapets that were either stepped and/or included decorative elements. They form an important element within the streetscape and deserve to be given sufficient attention to maintain their importance. Designs for changes to parapets should be based on existing parapets found elsewhere on contributory buildings.

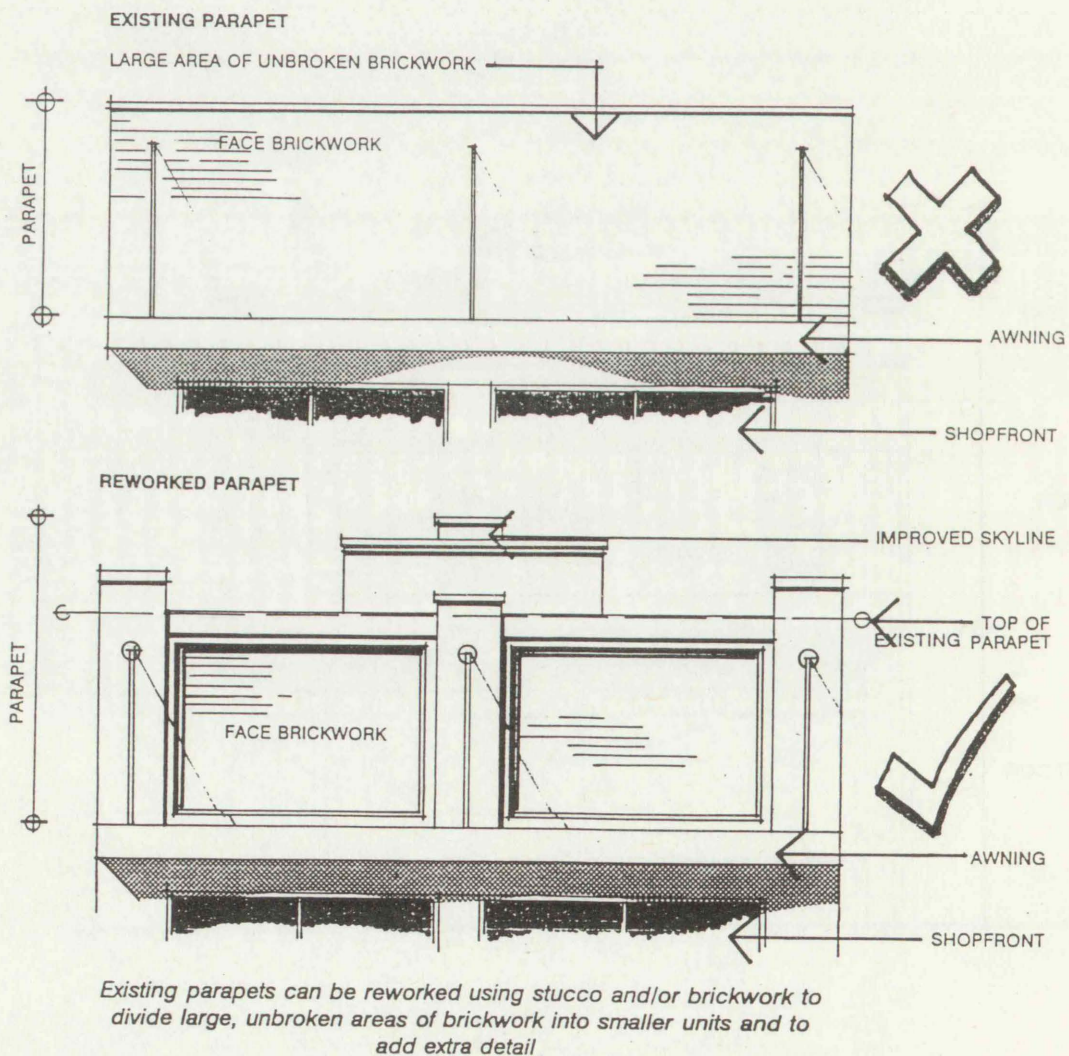
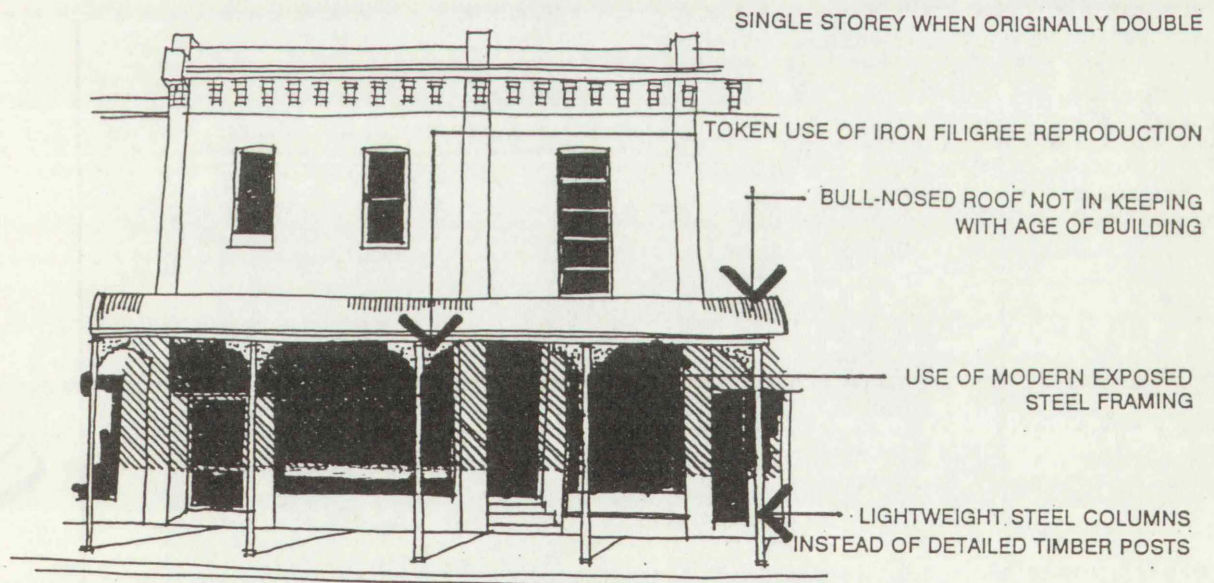


FIGURE 7.2 REWORKING EXISTING PARAPETS

7.5 AWNINGS & VERANDAHS³

Guidelines

- * When replacing awnings/verandahs, ensure that the style reinstated is compatible with the age of the building. Contact Council's heritage adviser for advice on specific buildings.
- * Remove and replace lightweight open framed awnings/verandahs with appropriately detailed structures.
- * Only replace awnings with verandahs if originally provided. Design should match original. The following buildings have been identified as having had verandahs.
 - 173-175 Nelson Street Alam's Building (Double) - C:02
 - 151-153 Nelson Street TAB/Outlawed Clothing (Double) - C:04
 - 105-107 Nelson Street La-Patite Salon⁴ (Double) - C:08
 - 101-103 Nelson Street Clarkes Real Estate (Double) - C:09
 - 95-97 Nelson Street Fruit Shop/Barber (Double) - C:10
 - 91 Nelson Street Former Wallsend Furniture Store (Double) - C:11
 - 63-65 Nelson Street Vic Kearn's Furniture Store (Double) - C:14
 - 104-106 Nelson Street St George Bank (Double) - C:17
 - 108-110 Nelson Street Greater Building Society (Double) - C:18
 - 146-150 Nelson Street Butchers Shop etc (Single) - C:25
 - 18-20 Kemp Street The Grapes Inn (Double) - C:26
 - 77 Cowper Street The Terminus Hotel (Double) - C:33
 - 18 Tyrrell Street Former Wallsend Post Office (Single/Double) - C:36



The above awning is inappropriate as it is a modern misinterpretation which does not match the age of the building. A more authentic double storey verandah would have been better, otherwise a suspended/cantilevered awning that did not try to recreate an old style would have been preferred.

FIGURE 7.3 INAPPROPRIATE AWNING ADDITION

³ In accordance with the definitions given in Section 7.3, an awning is a suspended/cantilevered canopy whereas a verandah is supported by the building on one side and posts or columns on the other.

⁴ The current verandah to this building is inappropriate (refer Fig 7.3)

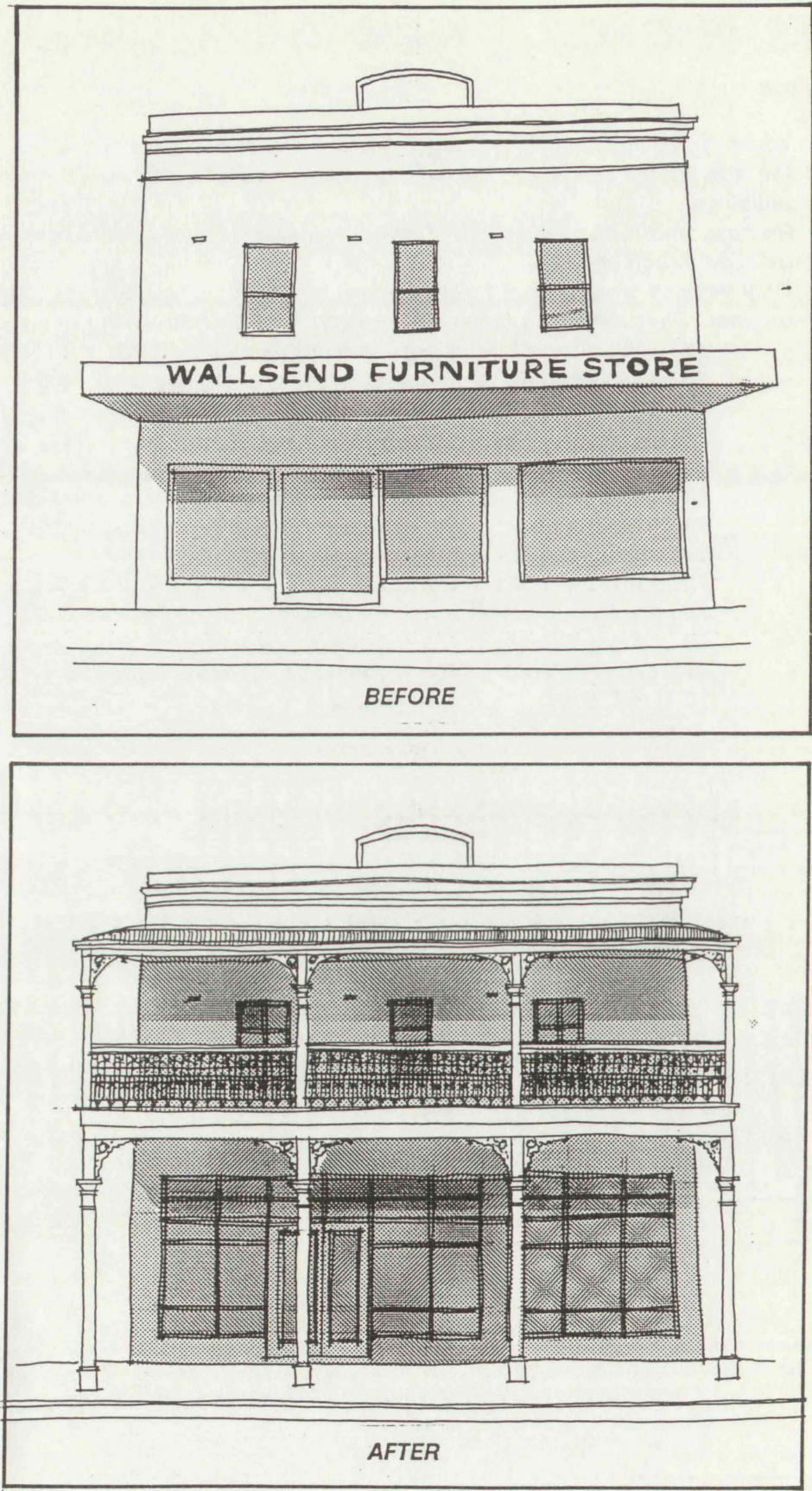


FIGURE 7.4 AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THE REINSTATEMENT OF A PREVIOUSLY EXISTING VERANDAH CAN ENHANCE THE FACADE OF A BUILDING.
91 NELSON STREET, WALLSEND

- * *Height of awnings should be regulated to ensure that they occur at a constant level with only minor variations as required to meet structural constraints.*
- * *Allow awnings to 'belong' to individual buildings and not to run together*
- * *Do not use barrel vaults and inclined awnings*
- * *Do not use modern materials such as plastics and glass*
- * *All awnings to be lined with traditional materials such as pressed metal sheets (where available), FC⁴ sheets (or similar vandal-resistant flat sheeting) and mini-orb corrugated iron (or similar)*

Comments

The impact created by awnings and verandahs can not be over-emphasised. Design, material's selection and colours need to be considered carefully. The general aim is to introduce uniformity without the result becoming monotonous and uninteresting.

The reinstatement of double storey verandahs although desirable, may be hard to justify on economic grounds and potential returns to the property owner. If possible, incorporate appropriate uses to the first floor to gain benefit in the increased floor area (eg upstairs balcony to residence, outside eating area for restaurant etc).

All verandahs will need to comply with Council's building regulations and so this should be investigated at the project's outset.

7.6 FENESTRATION

GUIDELINES

- * *Maintain and repair all original windows and doors.*
- * *Reinstate old-style windows where modern replacements have been introduced (ie aluminium frames) or enlargements made.*
- * *All windows within a facade should be matching.*
- * *Where there is a need to increase light into buildings, enlarge existing windows but maintain the same proportions and details or add additional windows having regard for the overall appearance of the facade (ie maintain balance).*
- * *Avoid banking windows but have as single units.*

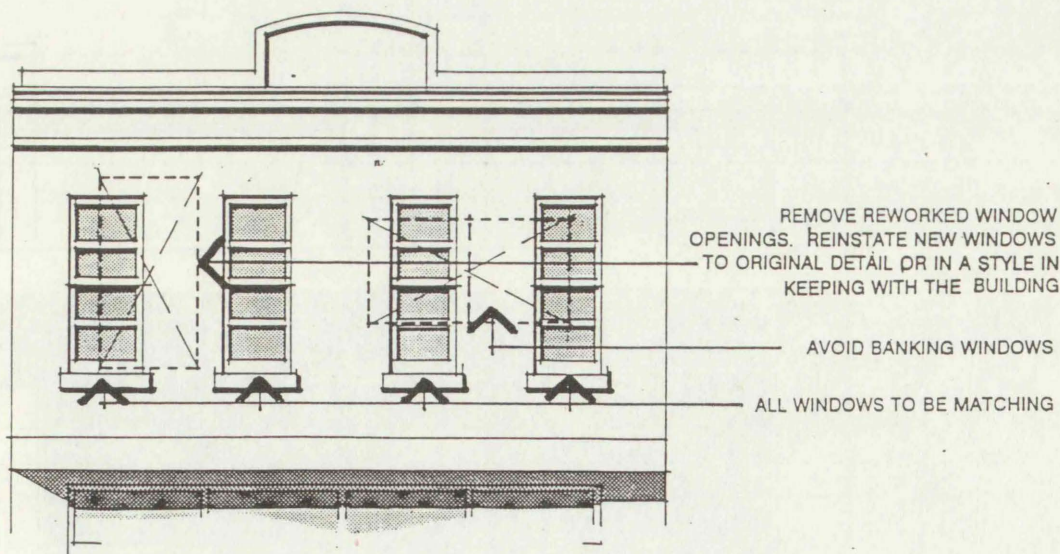


FIGURE 7.5 REINSTATING APPROPRIATE FENESTRATION

⁴ FC = Fibrous Cement/Asbestos Cement

COMMENTS

Fenestration is an important element in the appearance of a facade. Often old buildings have windows replaced and openings enlarged. Frequently this will be done on an-as-needs basis with only one or two windows being treated and not all at once. The main concern with fenestration is to have a proper regard for the overall appearance of a building facade and the need for all elements to complement the style and age of the building.

7.7 SHOPFRONTS

GUIDELINES

- * *Retain all original shopfront elements, where existing, and incorporate into reworked frontages.*
- * *Carry out remodelling work to make shopfronts complementary to the rest of the building.*
- * *Avoid use of open shopfronts and large areas of plain glass.*
- * *Keep shopfronts on the building line with recesses for doorways and display windows.*
- * *Reintroduce traditional elements such as top hampers and low walls.*
- * *Use mullions and other structural elements to break up large expanses of glass.*
- * *Aim to have shopfronts contributing to the overall appearance of a shop and streetscape rather than trying to have them being insignificant elements and relying on shop interiors and displays to create an image*

- ① RECESSED DOORWAY
- ② LARGE AREAS OF GLAZING STILL MAINTAINED FOR DISPLAY PURPOSES
- ③ ADDITIONAL MULLIONS INCLUDED TO CREATE A SHOPFRONT MORE IN KEEPING WITH THE STYLE OF THE BUILDING
- ④ TOP HAMPER REINSTATED
- ⑤ LOW WALL CREATED IN GLAZING

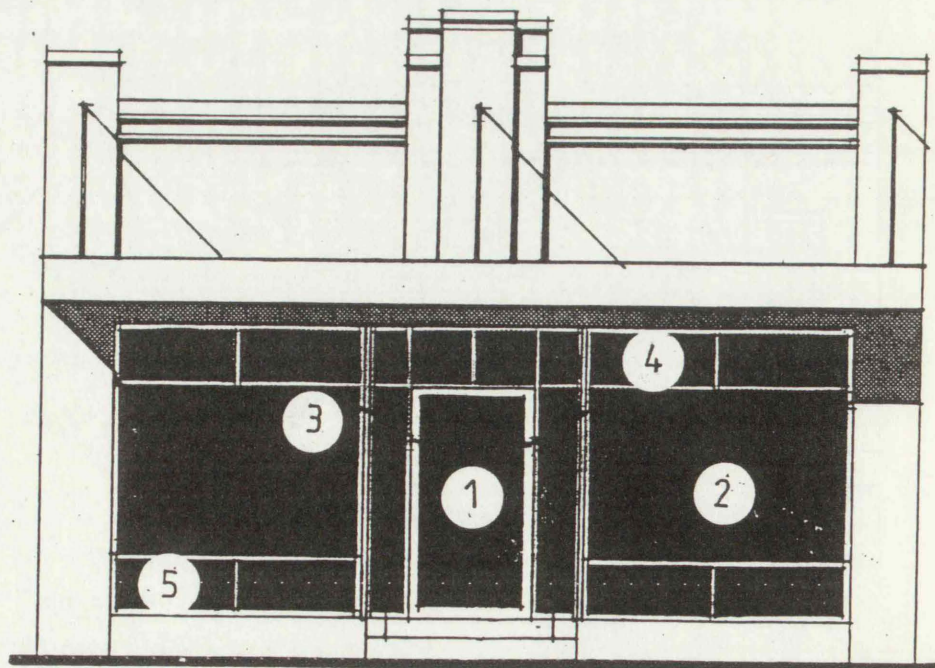


FIGURE 7.6 REDESIGN OF SHOPFRONTS

COMMENTS

It is appreciated that the above guidelines conflict with modern marketing practices where the aim is to have shopfronts almost non-existent so that customers may be easily enticed into attractively presented shops.

However, it must be appreciated that the aim of the Main Street Program is to have all businesses working together to create an attractive environment which will encourage people to visit Wallsend rather than choosing to go elsewhere. And the reason for their choice will be the different shopping environment created in contrast to the sameness presented by the large shopping complexes. It is the unique physical environment provided by traditional shopping centres that the shopping complexes cannot match and so it is this aspect of Wallsend that should be developed. Instead of the emphasis being placed on individual shops the focus should be centred on the entire shopping centre with the aim of making it the attraction. Once people have been encouraged to visit the main street area, then individual businesses can concentrate on winning over shoppers but to be successful it requires for people to be there in the first place.

7.8 REAR ELEVATIONS & APPROACHES

GUIDELINES

- * Give consideration to improving the rear elevations of buildings.
- * Remove all extraneous additions.
- * Give consideration to the provision of rear and/or through access to the main street.
- * Seek to provide customer parking where ever possible to the rear of shops.
- * Negotiate with adjoining owners to amalgamate areas to efficiently improve parking arrangements.
- * Introduce soft landscape elements, including trees, wherever possible to help improve amenity and to screen unsightly areas that cannot be properly treated.
- * Provide other screens to those areas required for storage or the location of plant and equipment.
- * Paint schemes, details, signage etc should relate to the front facade.
- * Consider extending and/or introducing parapets to conceal unattractive roofs.
- * Provide adequate lighting for safe access and to highlight the building.
- * Use contrast paving through rear carparks to define pedestrian access.

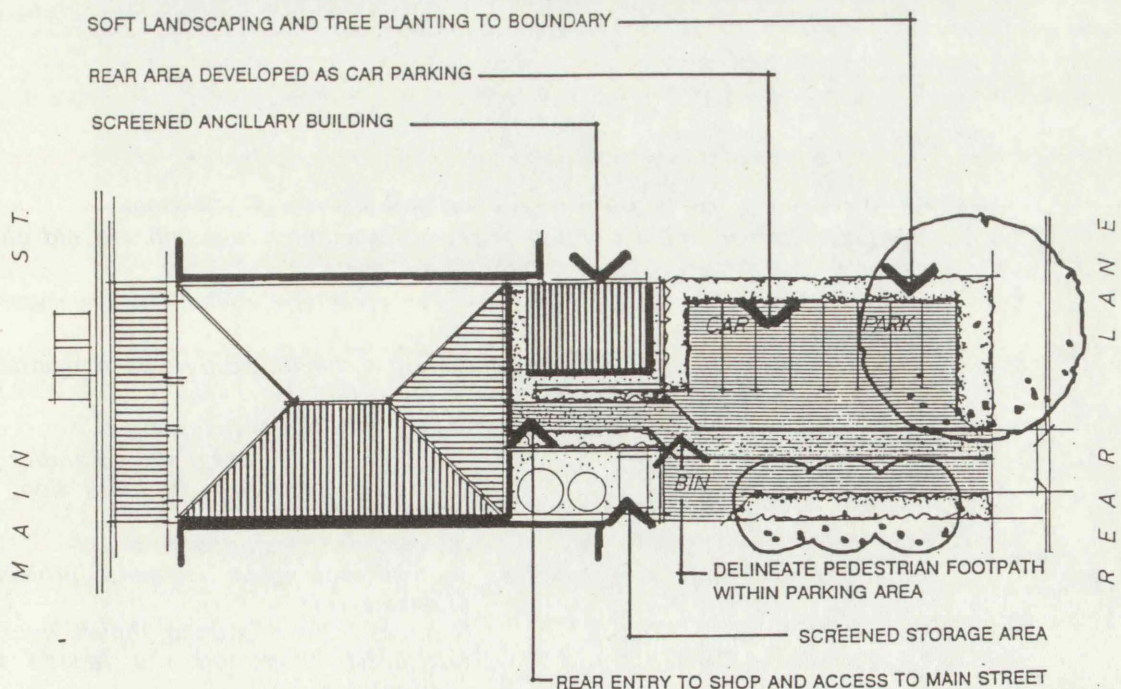


FIGURE 7.7 IMPROVEMENTS TO REAR ACCESS

COMMENTS

Over the past few decades, the shopping area of Wallsend has expanded beyond the main street area caused by a shortage in suitable development sites and the increased demand for parking. As a consequence people are now no longer confined to travelling along Nelson and Cowper Streets when doing their shopping but are wanting to come from behind the main street shops. The rear elevations which were once unseen now provide the opportunity of creating a second frontage. This is particularly true for buildings located between Nelson and Council Streets where people move between Wallsend Plaza and the main street.

It is necessary to critically look at these areas and to make improvements to overcome their poor condition and unsightly appearance. Each shopkeeper/property owner should look at these areas in the eyes of their customers and to ask what the rear of their properties is saying about their businesses and to determine whether this is a suitable image to be projecting.

7.9 MATERIALS

GUIDELINES

- * *Maintain and repair existing materials wherever possible.*
- * *Avoid the use of new technology materials (eg profiled metal sheeting, moulded and pre-cast elements, flat sheet and composite panels etc).*
- * *Preferred materials include face brick, painted brick and stucco. In some instances weatherboard may also be a suitable alternative.*
- * *Should applied finishes be required for brickwork then paint or stucco/cement render should be used.*
- * *Avoid the use of modern coating products (eg Granosite) and other applied finishes.*

COMMENTS

Of the buildings which remain in the study area, brickwork has been the basic building material, prior to which timber would have been, but such buildings have not lasted the effects of time. In the survey of contributory buildings (Section 6.4) 50% of all buildings had a stucco finish whilst a further 40% had either facades of brickwork or painted brickwork. Of this 40% most would have been face brickwork but they have been subsequently painted over the years.

7.10 ORNAMENTATION

GUIDELINES

- * *Make repairs to existing ornamentation and adequately maintain.*
- * *Reinstate former ornamentation based on adequate research (eg old photographs) or seeking advice from Council's heritage adviser.*
- * *Use additional ornamentation to develop character, breakdown large wall areas and to create interest.*
- * *Use examples from other buildings occurring within the study area to maintain consistency and to assure appropriateness.*
- * *Appropriate types of ornamentation would include the following:-*
 - *COPINGS:* *Capping courses often sloped and/or projecting.*
 - *CORNICES:* *Projecting decorative features along the top of a wall*
 - *MOULDINGS:* *An ornamental stucco strip*
 - *PILASTERS/ENGAGED PIERS:* *Vertical rectangular elements projecting from the face of a wall.*
 - *RENDERED PANELS:* *Discrete areas of stucco applied over brickwork*
 - *STRING COURSES:* *Horizontal bands on the facade to emphasise horizontal divisions.*
 - *STUCCO:* *A thin decorative finish, commonly cement render, applied to external masonry walls.*

COMMENTS

There has been a tendency not to use applied decoration on modern buildings, however, it does have an important role to play and many of the contributory buildings would have had some form of embellishment to their facades. New ornamentation does not need to be lavish. It should be used sparingly where former details are unknown or where it has been decided to introduce some additional treatments. Ornamentation should be in scale with the building and should be located where it may have the most impact (eg parapets). Most borderline-contributory buildings could be improved with the use of ornamentation and so adding to the overall richness of Wallsend as it once had.

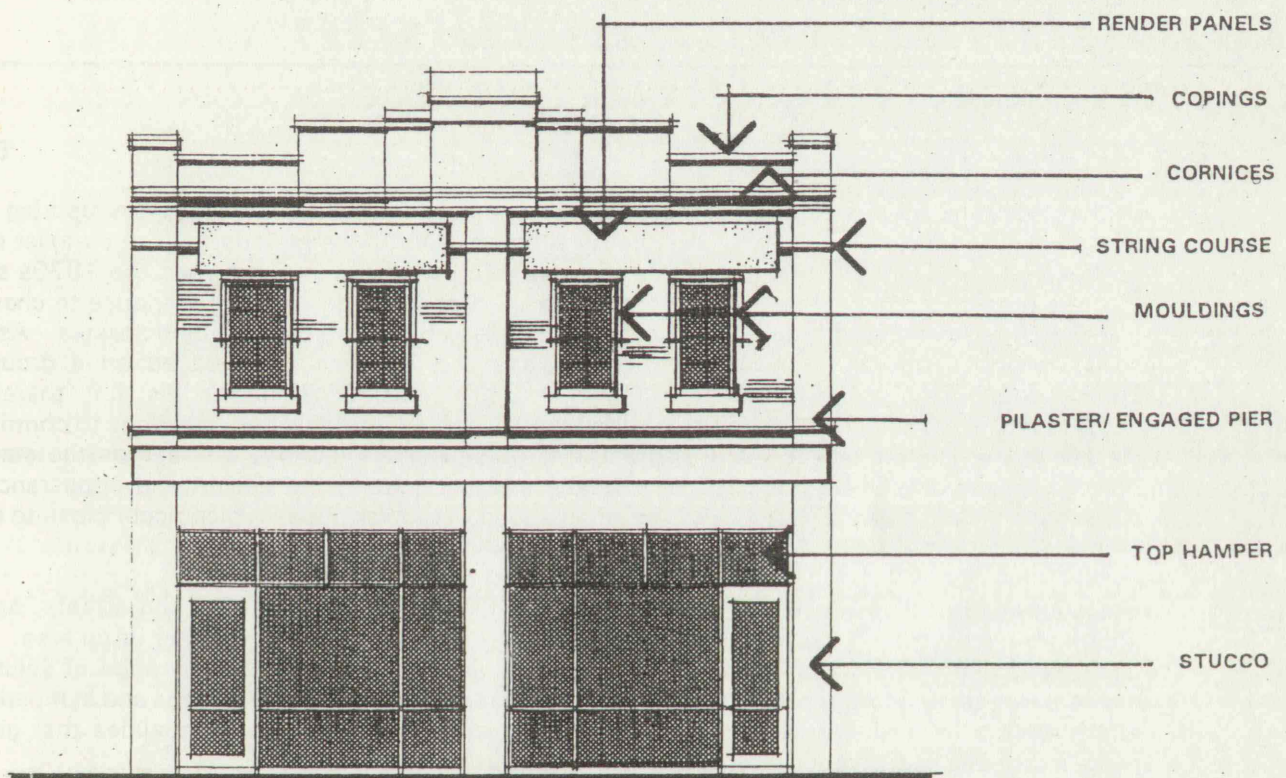


FIGURE 7.8 TYPES OF ORNAMENTATION

Further comments on flooding.

Where there is a risk identified (refer Section 2.8 appendix G, 'Draft Development Control Plan') materials and construction will need to be flood compatible. Evidence can be obtained in Annexure 'B' of Council's DCP 18 'Interim Policy on Floodplain Management for the Hunter River Floodplain'

8.0 GUIDELINES: INFILL

- 8.1 INTRODUCTION
 - 8.2 SITING & SETBACK
 - 8.3 SCALE & SIZE
 - 8.4 FACADES
 - 8.5 PARAPETS
 - 8.6 ROOF FORM & SHAPE
 - 8.7 FENESTRATION
 - 8.8 MATERIALS
 - 8.9 ACTIVE SHOPFRONTS
-

8.1 INTRODUCTION

Within Wallsend the tastes and technologies of several generations are well represented (eg Late Victorian, Federation, Inter-War). Architectural styles from these periods tend to co-exist quite successfully. Buildings since the 1950s and in particular, those younger than the 1970s seem to have been designed using different parameters. In part this has been in response to changes in building regulations, availability of new technologies and changes in aesthetic tastes. As this study is endeavouring to develop a strong urban character which is based on a group of contributory buildings there is a need to design new buildings which reinforce this. It is, therefore, the purpose of these guidelines to define parameters which will enable new buildings to contribute to the desired character. In many respects the guidelines should only be seen as the starting point. There will still be the need to examine and understand the design and appearance of contributory buildings that have been identified and in particular those which occur close to each site under consideration.

Good infill is building which while, sympathetic with surrounding buildings and streets, has to create new structures that enhance and complete the preferred urban character of an area. Infill does not mean imitation or following inflexible design rules. A considerable range of solutions may emerge to any design problem after careful analysis of surrounding buildings and sympathetic interpretation of their design elements. Infill aims to preserve the special qualities that give a place character in a manner that respects the old but reflects the new.

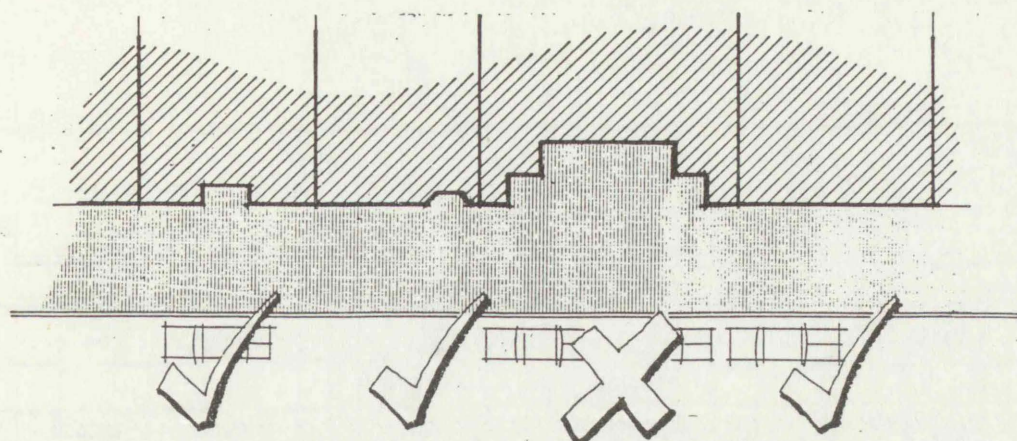
8.2 SITING & SETBACK

GUIDELINES

- *Site buildings to maintain street patterns and to conform with the orientation of nearby buildings.*
- *Generally locate buildings on front building line.*
- *Avoid using setbacks that are greater than 25% of the entire width of the building.*
- *Generally have setbacks associated with doorways and/or display areas in accordance with old-style shop fronts.*

COMMENTS

Often in long strip shopping centres there is a need to encourage the occasional setback so that relief can be provided for pedestrians and shoppers. Fortunately, Wallsend does not have this need as such places are already provided eg Rotunda Park, the former railway corridor, in front of the former Westpac Bank etc. It is therefore more important to strengthen the existing pattern to ensure that adequate consistency is maintained. This is done by conforming to existing setbacks and orientation.



Setbacks should be no greater than 25% of the building's width.

FIGURE 8.1 PREFERRED SETBACKS

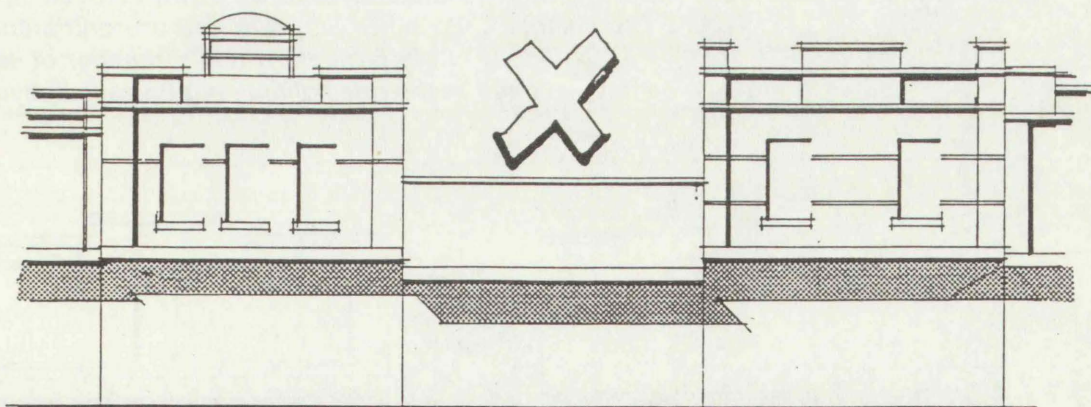
8.3 SCALE & SIZE

GUIDELINES

- Relate infill buildings in scale and size to immediate neighbours where contributory otherwise they should act as a traditional form.
- Avoid introducing sharp contrasts in scale and size relative to adjoining buildings.
- Where neighbouring buildings are non-contributory then reference should be made to nearby contributory buildings remembering that non-contributory buildings will eventually be replaced and no longer impact on the streetscape character of Wallsend.

COMMENTS

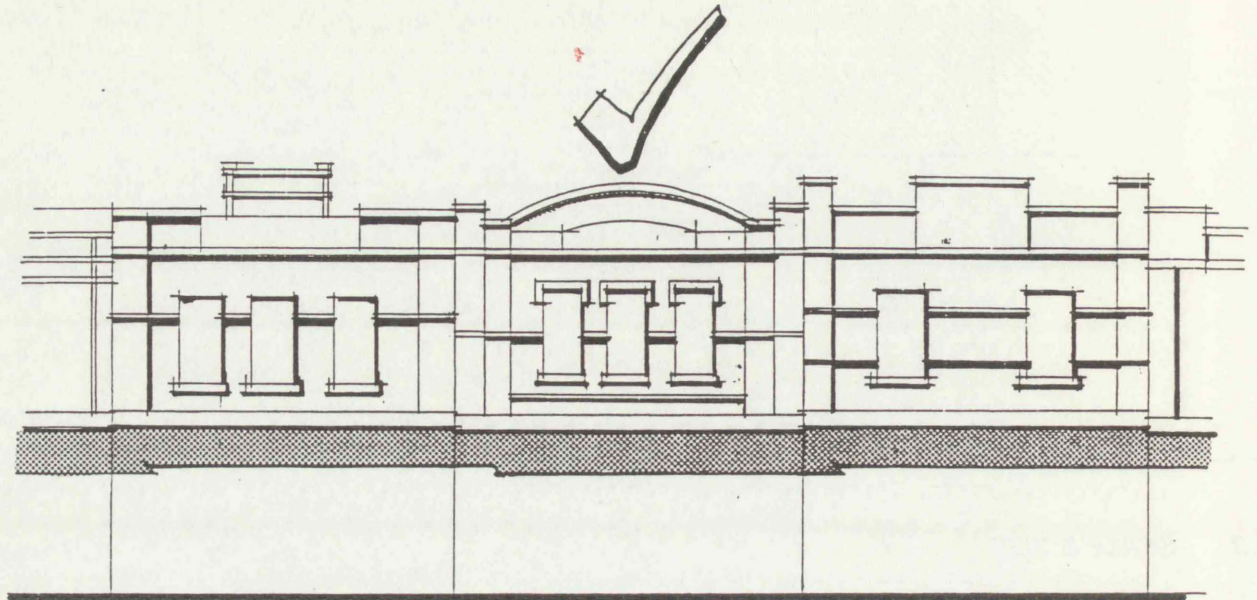
Size is a simple characteristic to get right. Scale⁶, however requires a greater degree of judgement and therefore is more difficult. To achieve the correct scale, one must study existing buildings and imitate their sense of scale. By doing this the preferred urban character of Wallsend based in contributory buildings will be fostered.



Infill buildings should take their reference from neighbouring contributory buildings.

FIGURE 8.2a SCALE & SIZE (NOT PREFERRED)

⁶ Scale refers to how people perceive the size of building elements or spaces relative to other forms in the same or similar context. For example if doorways for contributory buildings were twice the size of standard doorways, then the new size would become the appropriate scale.



Modern building yet resembling adjoining buildings without copying.

FIGURE 8.2b SCALE & SIZE (PREFERRED)

8.4 FACADES

GUIDELINES

- **Proportion** - *facades should be broken up using vertical and horizontal elements to match existing proportions of nearby contributory buildings. These elements could include blade/party walls, engaged piers/pilasters, string courses, cornices, mouldings etc.*
- **Wide Facades** - *avoid long runs of blank facades. If they do occur, then break up into smaller units in keeping with nearby contributory buildings. This is likely to be a problem where a number of separate sites are developed as the one building (eg Barrads Babyland, NC:07).*

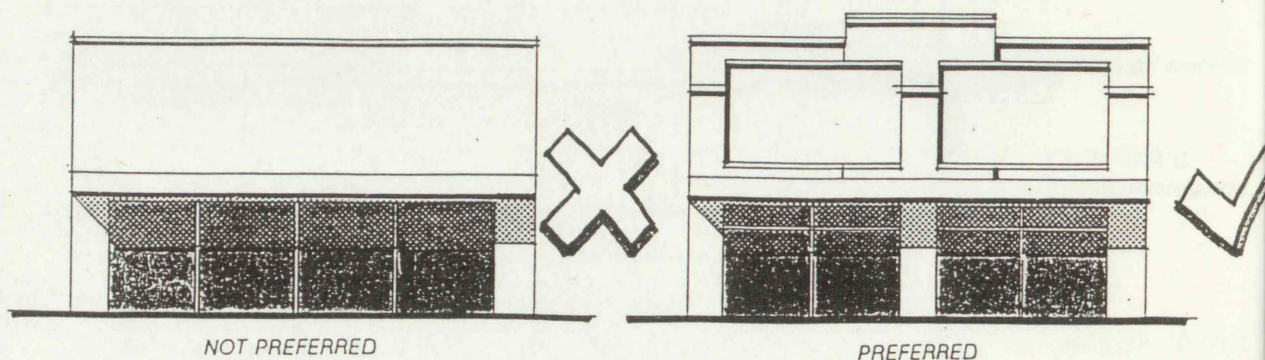


FIGURE 8.3 TREATMENT OF WIDE FACADES

8.5 PARAPETS

GUIDELINES

- *Introduce parapets only where appropriate. This will apply in most instances, however, with corner sites and detached buildings, it may be acceptable to choose not to have a parapet and instead, expose the roof form.*
- *Parapets needs to relate to contributory buildings in terms of height, design and detailing.*
- *Use parapets to create an interesting and attractive skyline. This may be achieved by having stepped and decorated parapets.*
- *Broken parapets (ie parapets that are not continuous and reveal partial sections of roof) may be acceptable if the impact of the revealed roof form is taken in to consideration of the building overall design and contributes to the urban character of Wallsend.*

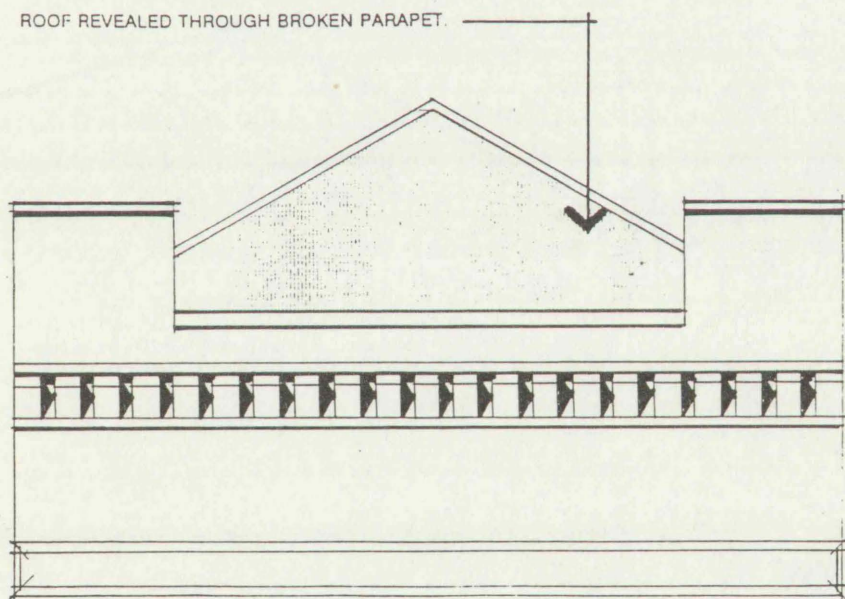


FIGURE 8.4 BROKEN PARAPET

COMMENT

Parapets can be used to help adjust size and scale where double and single buildings occur alongside one another.

Often high parapets have been used on buildings that once had richly decorated verandahs. This was done to ensure that the parapets would be sufficiently visible and so enabling them to successfully compete with the verandah. This should be taken with account when such verandahs are not proposed for buildings although the tendency would be to reintroduce the high parapets.

8.6 ROOF FORM & SHAPE

GUIDELINES

- Concealed roofs hidden behind parapets are generally the preferred approach.
- When exposed, roof shapes should be simple, and typically gabled, hipped or skillioned.
- Avoid the use of complicated roof shapes.
- Conceal all chimneys, vents, ducts, pipes etc. If this is not possible, then locate in least conspicuous location.
- Preferred materials should be corrugated iron sheets (colours: clear/grey, white and dark shades of red/no blues, greens or yellows). Slate and shingles may also be used near to 19th century buildings. Do not use square profile sheets (eg Klip-lok, Trimdek)

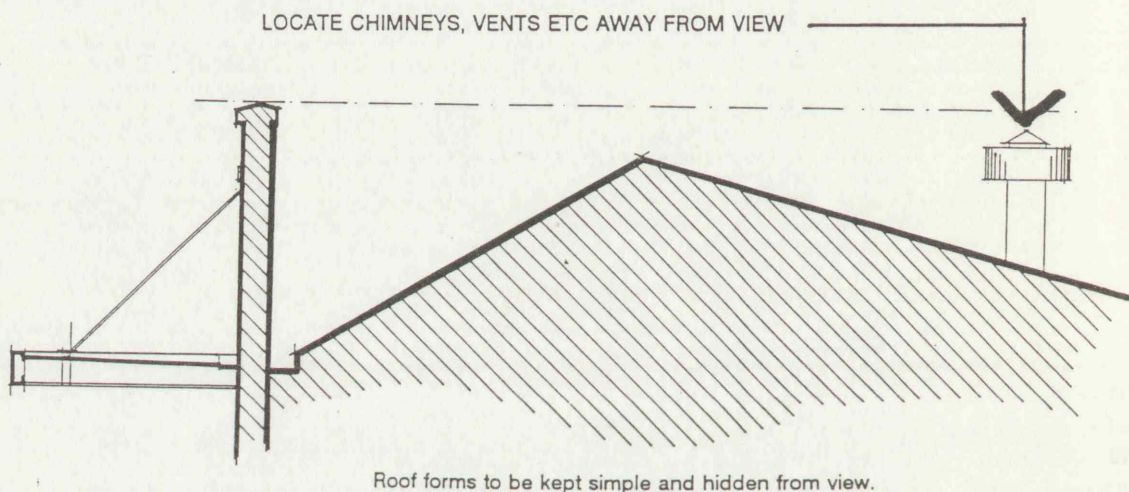


FIGURE 8.5 USE OF PARAPETS

COMMENTS

The general aim should be to make roofs inconspicuous whenever possible.

8.7 FENESTRATION

GUIDELINES

- The window/opening to wall ratio for the first floor band should be approximately 1:4 (eg 25%) although this may be varied between 1:5 (20%) and 1:3 (33%). This is to ensure that buildings have a solid appearance to them.
- Openings should have a vertical emphasis.
- Avoid windows which emphasise the horizontal and avoid banking windows.
- Window designs should include mullions to break-up large areas of glass.
- Timber sections preferred rather than aluminium sections
- Refer Section 7.6

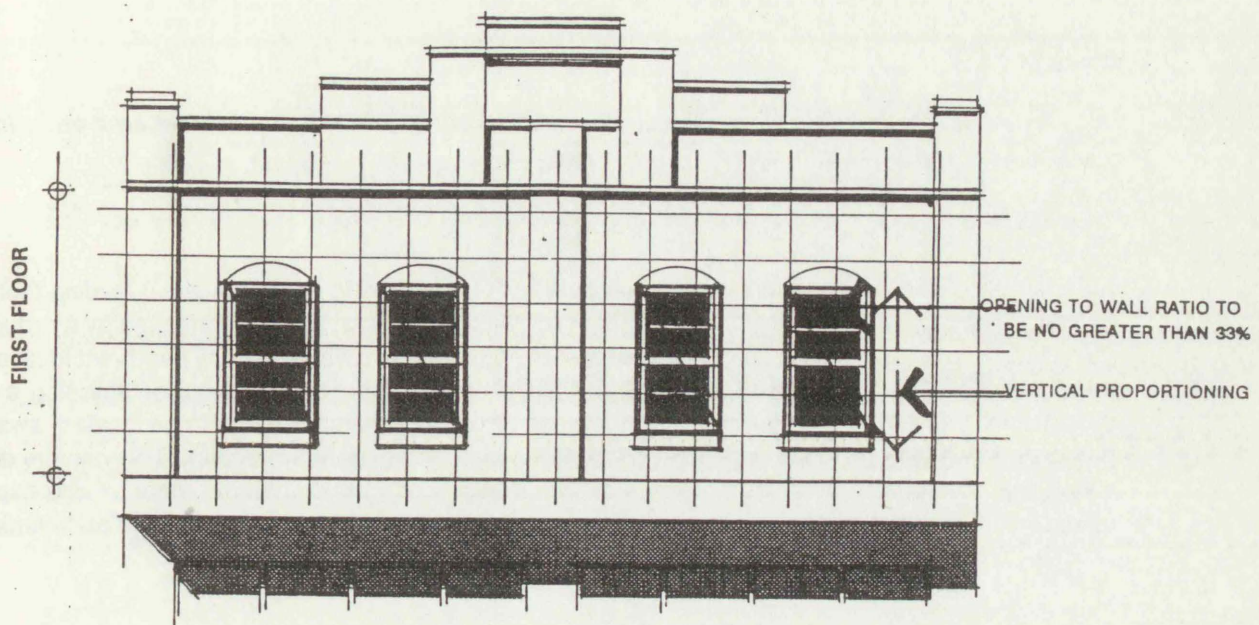


FIGURE 8.6 FENESTRATION

COMMENTS

When locating openings in infill buildings, give consideration to their impact to the overall design of a facade and its impact on the urban character of Wallsend. Other issues such as rhythm⁷ and balance⁸

8.8 MATERIALS

GUIDELINES

- Seek to use materials that blend in with the materials used on nearby contributory buildings. Some latitude may be given providing colour selections help to blend the old with the new.
- Preferred materials are face brick, painted brick and stuccoed brickwork.
- Avoid the use of profiled and fleet sheets and obviously modern building materials (eg precast sections, moulded FC & GRP).
- Modern materials can be used providing their proportions and details match. Use colour and final contrast as unifying elements.
- Avoid use of modern aluminium shopfronts unless consideration is given to appropriate detailing.
- The preferred roofing material should be corrugated iron sheets. Use Colorbond finish roof colours consistent with section 8.6 requirements.

⁷ Rhythm refers to the existence of a discernible pattern created by a regular spacing of solids (walls) and voids (openings).

⁸ Balance, in this context, refers to an evenness of proportioning of major elements within a facade. This is most easily achieved through symmetry although an asymmetrical facade may also have balance based on the size and location of its various components.

8.9 ACTIVE SHOPFRONTS

GUIDELINES

- *Wherever possible maintain an active shop front within the main street area ensuring that continuity is maintained.*

COMMENTS

An active shop front creates interest which encourages pedestrians to be drawn along leading them from one business to the next. Where interruptions occur, businesses can be disadvantaged by a reduction in pedestrian movement. Banks, surgeries and other service providers which occupy shopfront locations are the main cause as these businesses design their shops introspectively without establishing a strong connection to the street. There is a need for these types of businesses either to be located away from the main street (eg first floor locations) or to make their shops more appealing. This may be done by giving greater consideration to the design of shopfronts and to make interiors more inviting especially reception areas with the use of bright colours and attractive furnishings. Closed curtains and blanked out windows should be avoided.

9.0 GUIDELINES: COLOUR

- 9.1 INTRODUCTION
 - 9.2 HERITAGE BUILDINGS
 - 9.3 PAINTING BUILDINGS
 - 9.4 PROPOSED COLOUR SCHEMES
-

9.1 INTRODUCTION

Of all the proposed recommendations included in this report, it is expected that controlling colour schemes will have the greatest initial impact as painting can be done relatively cheaply and can be applied to an entire facade or building. The impact of such works can be dramatic often transferring a building's appearance and its impact on the streetscape. It is, therefore, important to ensure that this work is done properly and in a co-ordinated manner so that the combined impact of many buildings can achieve a desired effect which contributes to the overall urban character of Wallsend.

Included in this section of the report are seven complete colour schemes which should be used as the basis of all colour schemes. Whilst these schemes are intended as a guide only, variations to the schemes should be done only after careful consideration of the prevailing circumstances and having regard for neighbouring buildings.

The greatest threat to a co-ordinated approach occurs when individual owners seek to do something different either to make their business stand out or to comply with an imposed corporate colour schemes. The benefits to individuals are obvious but the impact on the overall urban character being developed can be very detrimental. It will be the role of the Main Street Co-ordinator or the Town Committee to encourage individuals to comply with the guidelines. Should disputes arise, then it would be prudent to seek assistance from a qualified third party such as Newcastle City Council's Heritage Adviser or trained colour consultants conversant with the aims of a main street study generally and the objectives of this study in particular.

9.2 HERITAGE BUILDINGS

Where recognised heritage buildings occur then proper conservation principles should be applied, a summary of which follows:-

- If possible, colour schemes should be based on evidence collected during on-site investigations (eg paint scrapings and laboratory analysis).
- Further research should be undertaken using old photographs and paintings. Although this may not convey actual colours, it will help to show where contrasting colours have been used and general tonality.
- Seek expert assistance from those trained in heritage conservation.
- Should the above not provide a clear indication of earlier colour schemes then select period colour schemes either using heritage colour charts or referring to technical manuals/books (eg "Colour Schemes for Old Australian Houses" by Ian Evans, Clive Lucas & Ian Stapleton, The Flannel Flower Press, Sydney, 1984).

Such colour schemes may not be accurate, however, they will be in keeping with the age of the building.

9.3 PAINTING BUILDINGS

The following recommendations should be carried out when painting buildings.

- *Surfaces which were originally unpainted should not be painted.*
- *In painting exterior surfaces, masonry should generally be painted in a flat finish. Whereas joinery items should be done in a gloss finish.*
- *When preparing surfaces for painting it is generally recommended that surfaces be cleaned back to a stable surface without removing earlier/original layers which could be used as a reference source at a later time.*
- *Masonry (sandstone, brick and stucco/cement render) which was originally unpainted but subsequently painted over can be treated in two ways.*
 - 1 *The paint can be removed using a chemical stripper which is remove with high temperature steam. This procedure should be used with care by first trialing a sample panel to determine the effect on joints and/or masonry surfaces.*
 - 2 *The masonry may be painted to resemble the original material. This is only suitable where such works will be valued at a distance (? first floor facades).*
- *Sandblasting or high pressure water systems should not be used for removing paint from brickwork or stonework. This harsh treatment often damages the surface of the brick or stone and leads to deterioration. Jointing mortars may also be damaged thus leading to water penetration and accelerated deterioration.*

9.4 PROPOSED COLOUR SCHEMES

In the sheets that follow seven proposed colour schemes have been given covering three main periods.

- 1 Mid to Late Victorian (1860-1900)
Schemes 1 & 2
- 2 Edwardian/Federation (1900-1930s)
Schemes 3 & 4
- 3 General Colour Schemes (> 1930)
Schemes 5,6 & 7

All seven colours schemes have been devised so that they are appropriate for the nominated building styles as well as compatibility with one another. This is to ensure that there is a consistent theme to unify buildings of different eras whilst contributing to the desired urban character for Wallsend.

Generally the base colours are warm tones to reflect the face brickwork occurring in many of the buildings with the more significant variations occurring in the trim colours.

The general colour schemes (schemes 5, 6 & 7) tend to have more muted tones of hues chosen for the earlier buildings. This is to give greater prominence to the older buildings to balance with the greater number of younger buildings.

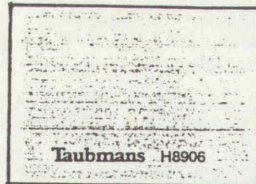
Generally, the trim colours of the same era may be intermixed or new ones introduced providing that the basic harmony within a colour scheme is maintained. Base colours (ie walls) should be as suggested with only minor tonal variations tolerated.

Where it is essential to use corporate colour schemes, they should be restricted to locations where signs may be positioned (refer section 11.0) whilst using a proposed colour scheme in all other locations.

It should be noted that all colours as specified are Australian Standard colours (AS2700s) unless otherwise noted with Taubman equivalents given where possible. Although Taubmans has been cited, this does not mean other brands cannot be used. Generally all paint manufacturers should be able to match the colours nominated.

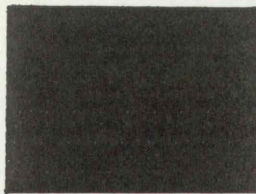
○

SCHEME 1



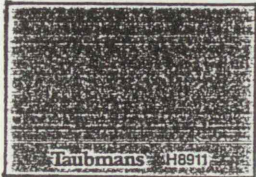
RAFFIA AS-X31

WALLS (INCLUDING CHIMNEYS).
WINDOW & DOOR FRAMES.
BALUSTERS TO BALUSTRADES.



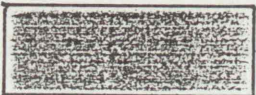
VENETIAN RED
AS-R62

BASECOURSE & RENDERED WINDOW HEADS & SILLS.
WINDOW SASH.
LEAF & FANLIGHT TO DOORS.
BRACKETS &/OR VALENCE TO VERANDAHS & AWNINGS.
VERANDAH/BARGE MOULDINGS.
HANDRAILS TO BALUSTRADES.
MOULDINGS & BRACKETS TO COLUMNS.
GUTTERING & FASCIAS.



PALE OCHRE
AS-X21

PARAPET MOULDINGS & STRINGER COURSES (INCLUDING LETTERING).
VALENCE FRAMING &/ OR BARGE BOARDS TO VERANDAHS & AWNINGS.
COLUMN SHAFTS.

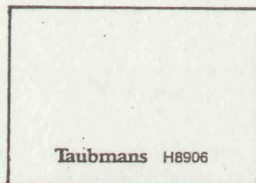


SERPENTINE
AS-G22

SOFFIT OF VERANDAH ROOF, RAFTERS & WALL PLATE

NOTE: ALL COLOURS AS SPECIFIED
ARE AUSTRALIAN STANDARD
COLOURS AS 2700 S U
OTHERWISE NOTED.

SCHEME 2



RAFFIA AS-X31

WALLS (INCLUDING CHIMNEYS).
VERANDAH/ BARGE MOULDINGS.
BALUSTERS TO BALUSTRADES.



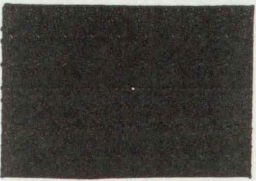
GOLDEN TAN
AS-X53

PARAPET MOULDINGS & STRINGER COURSES.
WINDOW & DOOR FRAMES.
PANELS & MOULDINGS TO DOORS.
VALENCE FRAMING &/ OR BARGE BOARDS.
COLUMN SHAFTS.



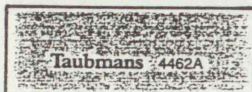
DARK BROWN
AS-X65

BASECOURSE & RENDERED WINDOW HEADS & SILLS.
VERANDAH/ BARGE MOULDINGS.
GUTTERING & FASCIAS.
MOULDINGS & BRACKETS TO COLUMNS.



BOTTLE GREEN
AS-G11

WINDOW SASHES.
LEAF & FANLIGHT TO DOORS.
HANDRAIL TO BALUSTRADES.
VALENCE &/ OR CORNER BRACKETS TO VERANDAHS & AWNINGS.
COLUMN SHAFTS.



SERPENTINE
AS-G22

SOFFIT OF VERANDAH ROOF, RAFTERS & WALL PLATE.

WALLSEND HERITAGE MAIN STREET STUDY PROPOSED COLOUR SCHEMES

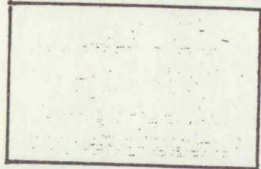


SCHEME 3



ALMOND BARK
8233A
TAUBMANS

BASE WALL COLOUR.



RAFFIA
AS-X31

RENDERED BASECOURSE & STEP RISERS.
DOOR FRAMES, TRANSOMS & FANLIGHT SASHES.



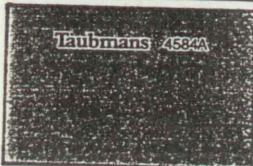
DEEP INDIAN RED
AS-R64

WINDOW FRAMES, TRANSOMS, MULLIONS, ARCHITRAVES & CORNICES.
DOORS
VERANDAH POSTS & BEAMS.
BARGE BOARD MOULDINGS, GABLE BATTENS & SHINGLES.
LOUVE VENT FRAME.
GUTTERS, FASCIAS & DOWNPIPES.



COFFEE
AS-X52

WINDOW SASHES.
RAISED MOULDINGS TO VERANDAH POSTS, VALANCE & VERANDAH
BRACKETS.
EXPOSED PURLINS & BARGE BOARDS.
FASCIAS.
LOUVRES (TO LOUVRED VENTS).

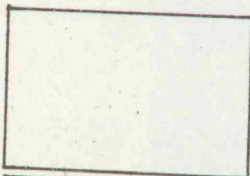


VELVET MOSS SOFFIT TO VERANDAH ROOF, RAFTERS & WALL PLATE.
4584A
TAUBMANS

EXPOSED RAFTERS & BLOCKING PIECES.
EAVES SOFFIT.
AWNING BRACKETS & RAFTERS.

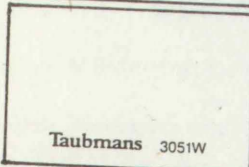
NOTE: ALL COLOURS AS SPECIFIED
ARE AUSTRALIAN STANDARD
COLOURS AS 2700 S UNLESS
OTHERWISE NOTED.

SCHEME 4



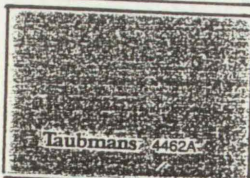
MANILLA
AS-Y45

BASE WALL COLOUR



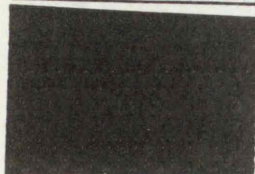
OFF WHITE
AS-Y35

WINDOW SASHES, DOORS & FANLIGHT SASHES.
VERANDAH POSTS & BEAMS.
BALUSTERS TO BALUSTRADES.
SOFFIT TO VERANDAH ROOF & AWNINGS.
FASCIA, BARGE BOARDS & EAVES SOFFIT.
ROUGHCAST.
DECORATIVE TIMBER TO AWNING.



PALM GREEN
AS-G44

RENDERED RAISED MOULDINGS TO CHIMNEY.
WINDOW & DOOR FRAMES, TRANSOMS & MULLIONS.
RAISED MOULDINGS TO VERANDAH POSTS AND VERANDAH BRACKETS.
BARGE BOARD MOULDINGS.
EDGING TO AWNING ROOF.



HOLLY
AS-G12

FRONT DOOR, SIDELIGHT & FANLIGHT SASHES.
SCREEN DOOR.
HANDRAIL TO BALUSTRADES.
COVER BATTENS TO GABLES.
GUTTERS, BARGE ROLLS & DOWNPIPES.





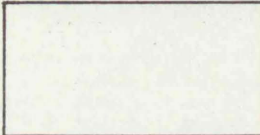
ALLSEND HERITAGE MAIN STREET STUDY PROPOSED COLOUR SCHEMES



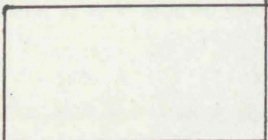
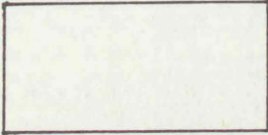



JOB NO: 3200.5
DATE: APRIL 1996

GENERAL COLOUR SCHEMES


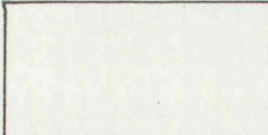
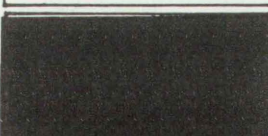

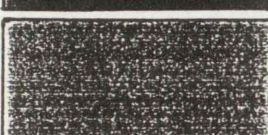
SCHEME 5

| | | |
|---|---|--|
|  | UPPER FACADE. (EXCEPT WHERE FACE BRICK) | LIGHT GREY AS-N35 |
|  | LOWER FACADE. TRIM COLOUR 1. | SLIPPERY ROCK, 90YY28/067, DULUX (MASTER PALLETTE) |
|  | TRIM COLOUR 2. | DEEP BRONZE GREEN AS-G63 |
|  | TRIM COLOUR 3. | SALMON PINK AS-R42 |
|  | TRIM COLOUR 3. | SAND AS-Y44 |

SCHEME 6

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------|
|  | FACADE (EXCEPT WHERE FACE BRICK) | PARCHMENT AS-Y43 |
|  | TRIM COLOUR 1. | OFF WHITE AS-Y35 |
|  | TRIM COLOUR 2. | GREEN GR AS-N32 |
|  | TRIM COLOUR 3. | DEEP BRON AS-G63 |
|  | TRIM COLOUR 4. | VENETIAN R AS-R62 |

SCHEME 7

| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  | UPPER FACADE (EXCEPTING WHERE FACE BRICK) | SAND AS-Y44 |
|  | LOWER FACADE TRIM COLOUR 1. | CREAM AS-Y34 |
|  | TRIM COLOUR 2. | REDGUM AS-R53 |
|  | TRIM COLOUR 3. | YORKSHIRE TEAL, 90GG18/116, DULUX (MASTER PALLETTE) |
|  | TRIM COLOUR 4. | BRONZE GREEN, 4043A, TAUBMANS |

VALLSEND HERITAGE MAIN STREET STUDY
PROPOSED COLOUR SCHEMES



10.0 GUIDELINES: STREET DETAILS

- 10.1 DEVELOPMENT OF PREFERRED THEME**
 - 10.2 PAVING**
 - 10.3 FURNITURE SELECTION**
 - 10.4 COLOUR FINISHES TO FURNITURE**
 - 10.5 FURNITURE PLACEMENT**
-

10.1 DEVELOPMENT OF PREFERRED THEME

A typical heritage theme has not been adopted as the centre is well represented by buildings of many ages many of which are not true heritage items. The approach has been to adopt a modern theme, but one which is based on the selection of elements that have an appearance which is suitable for use in the context of old and new buildings.

This has mainly been achieved by choosing street furniture which has a certain level of detail usually used for ornamental purposes. Overlying this there has been the decision to echo the town's coal-mining background which, with the early operation of Welsh and Scottish coal mines, was the main reason for the establishment of Wallsend-Plattsburg and its later economic success. The introduction of the coal-mining theme has been done in a subtle way as a means of influencing the selection of materials rather than being overt such as the inclusion of coal-mining artefacts.

Consistent with this historical theme, street furniture and design detailing has been based on the following criteria:-

- * Cast metallic products have given preference over lightweight, welded products.
- * Form which evokes the heritage theme, but is simple to relate to the contemporary character.
- * Patterning which is reminiscent of the structural configurations found in industrial buildings and plant machinery.
- * Proportioning and forms which are aesthetically appealing and unique without being overwhelming.

10.2 PAVING

The existing Newcastle theme of paving has the potential to unify all areas within the local government area. It is important that the NCC paving theme be continued in Wallsend, however the pattern and use of the preferred pavers has been changed to make the paving unique to Wallsend.

It is recommended that the NCC paver selection be adopted, but it is suggested that they be layed in a pattern which is distinct to Wallsend. The clay unit paver selection shall be; Bowral NCC London Chestnut as the body selection, with Bowral NCC Harvest Fleck as the banding.

At nodal points or adjacent to special contributory buildings, additional patterning not part of Rotunda design special designs for feature paving could be commissioned to provide interest and to complement unique aspects of the area. (eg. similar to work carried out in Hamilton).

- * Pit covers
Proprietary item: ACO Ancillary Polycrrete Products^m. Access covers in paving shall be lightweight, circular & square proprietary items as required, designed to accept unit paving to match surrounding. Where vehicular traffic crossings exist or where delivery vehicles etc may access the pavement, heavy-duty covers must be installed.

- * Bus Shelters
Purpose made: Newcastle City Council Standard.

10.4 COLOUR FINISHES TO FURNITURE

Selected Base Colour

Where possible provide two-pack epoxy finish to all metal furniture components, otherwise provide powder-coat finish. The selected base colour shall be:-

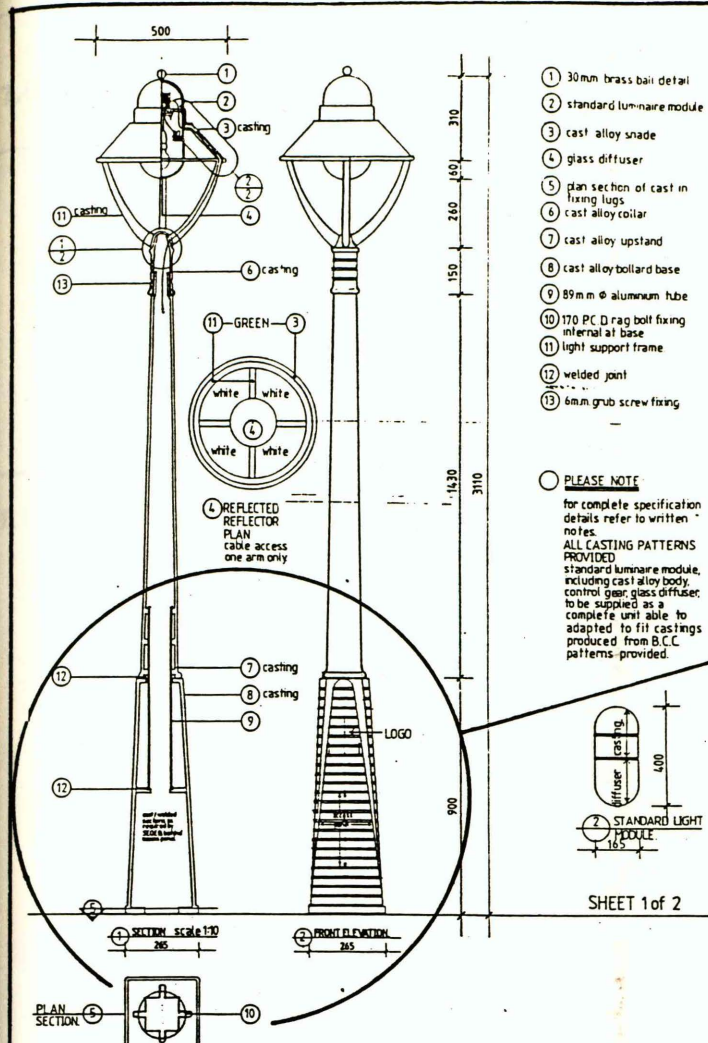
- * Two-pack epoxy finish shall be equal to AS 2700s - Deep Bronze Green [G63]
- * Powder-coat finish shall be Dulux Black 32694

10.5 FURNITURE PLACEMENT

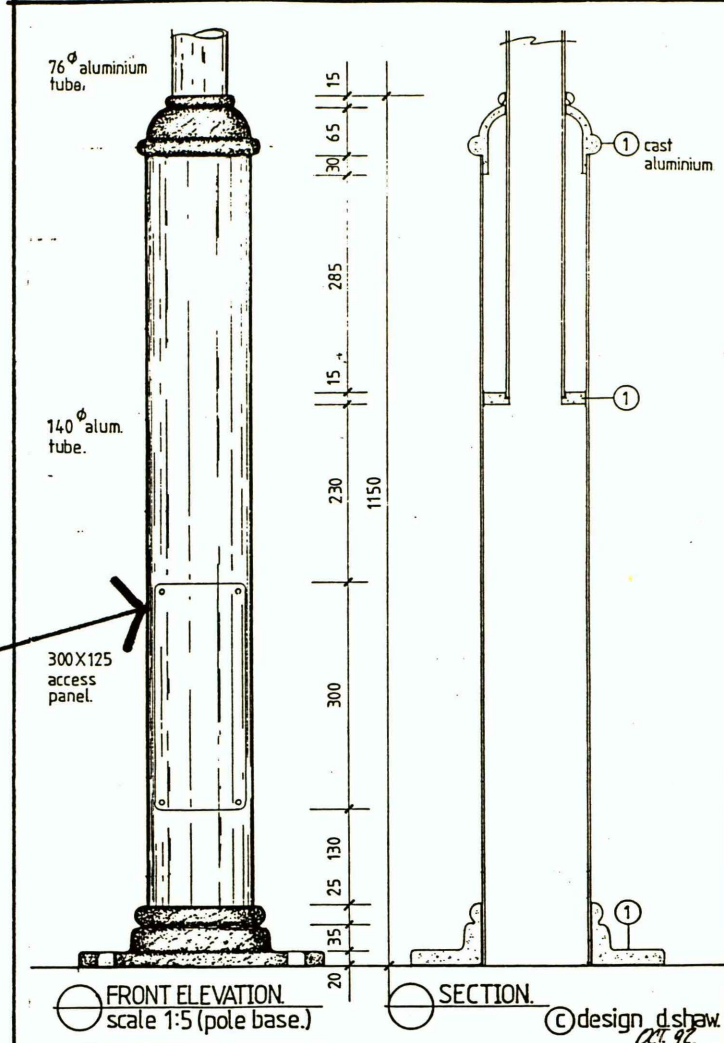
The following broad principles have been given consideration as a general model for the placement of furniture items:-

- * Along streets in the core area
 - Provide street tree planting at approx. 15m centres, each with tree guard & tree grate.
 - Provide rubbish receptacles at high use areas eg fast food outlets, bus stops
 - Set of 3 Bicycle racks at 2 locations where bicycles are frequently used as the method of transport, eg. video stores, fast food shops.
- *
 - Bench seats at approx. 30m centres.
 - Possibly locate bollards at the edge of footway pavement to provide additional protection to pedestrians from vehicular traffic.
- * Pedestrian crossings
 - Provide street tree plantings with accessories
 - Provide rubbish receptacle
 - Provide bench seat where possible.
- * Park, plaza areas, special contributory buildings
 - Post lighting
 - Bench seating
 - Drinking fountains
 - Rubbish receptacle
- * Movement management
 - Balustrade fencing around outdoor cafe seating, over bridge crossings, etc to direct pedestrian movement & provide safe edges.
 - Bollards where necessary to deny vehicular access.

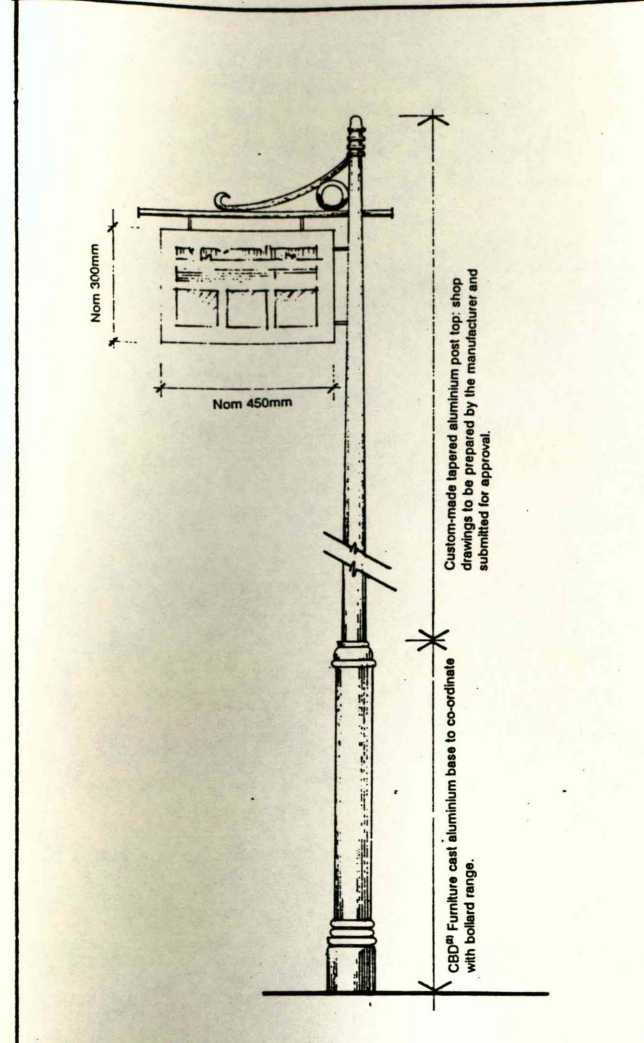
These principles have been applied to the preparation of the concept streetscape design for the Wallsend core area.



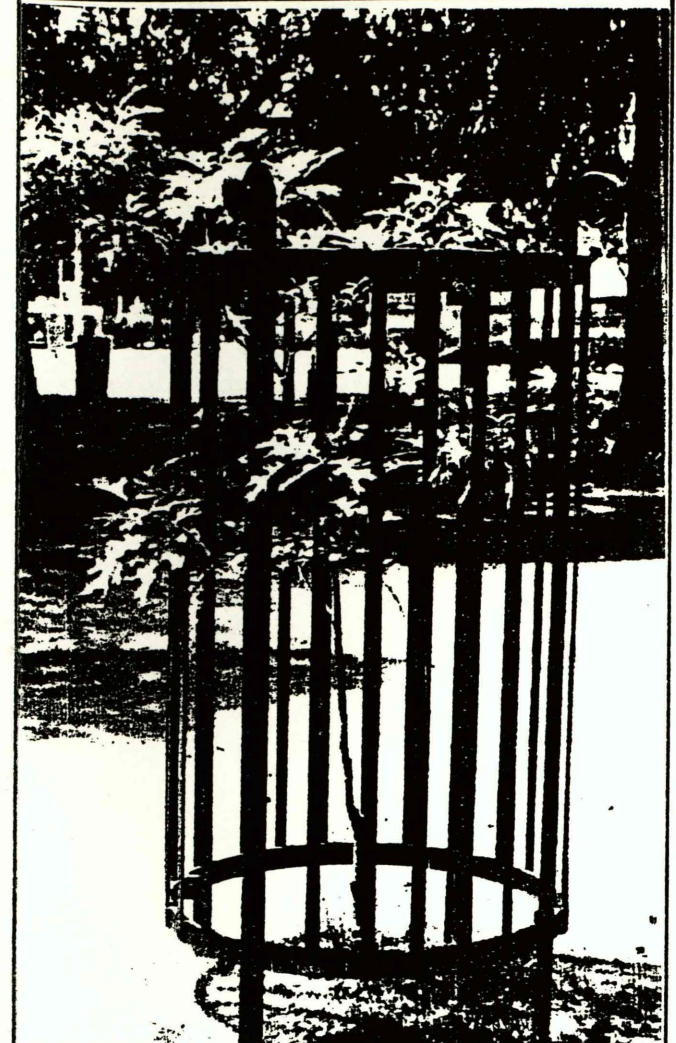
Post Lighting - Shade
CBD[®] Street Furniture with cast aluminium collar, light support frame and shade. Combine with CBD[®] cast aluminium base to match post lighting.



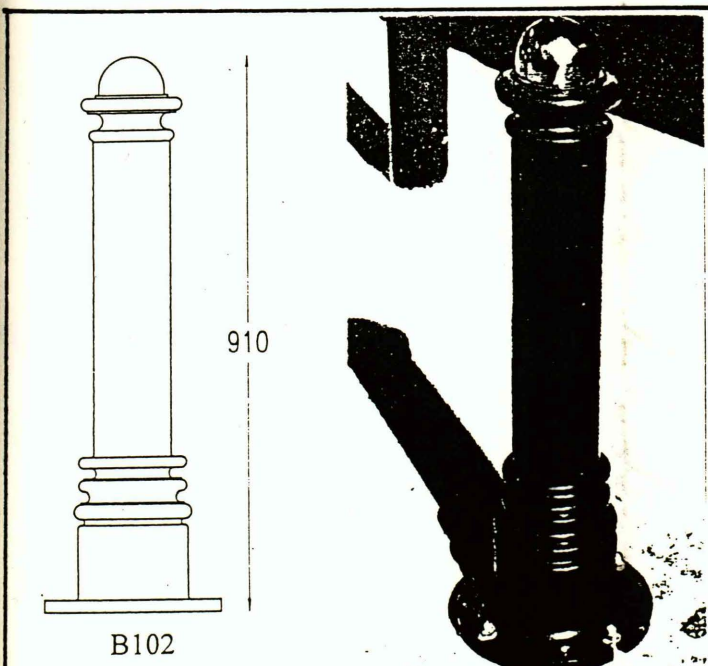
Pole Base & Pole to Post Signage and Post Lighting
CBD[®] Street Furniture cast aluminium pole base to co-ordinate with selected bollard range & aluminium pole.



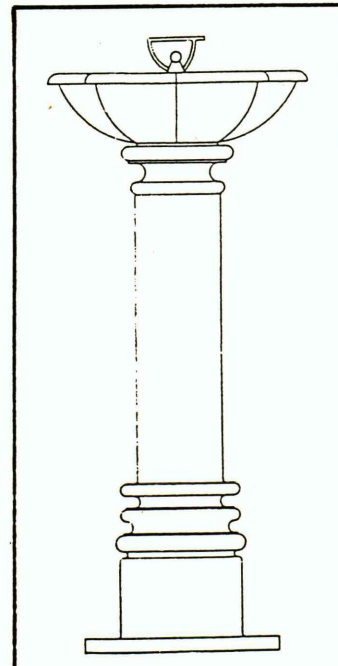
Post signage
CBD[®] Street Furniture Cast aluminium pole base with custom-made post top and supporting arm.



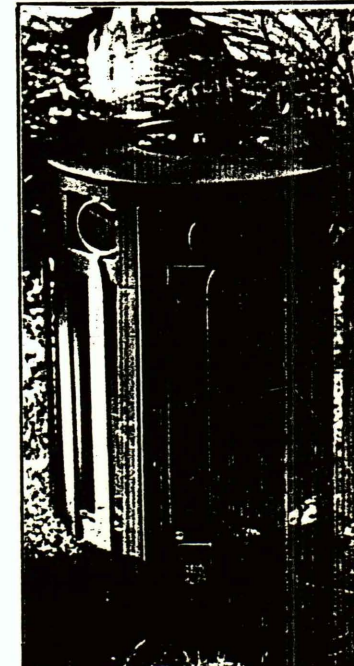
Tree Guards
Canon[®] TG7, simple steel palisade style with rolled top detail.



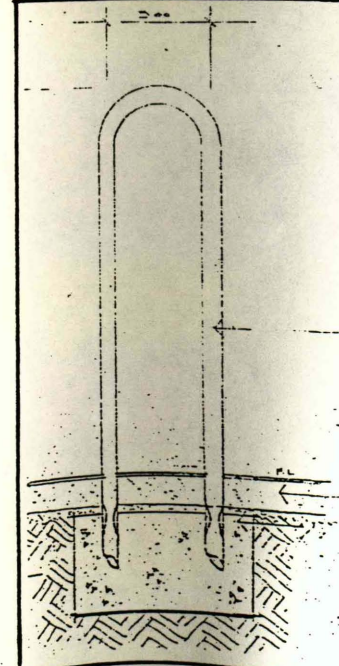
Bollards
Canon[®] Dover Bollard. Cap to be powder-coat finished in contrasting highlight colour.



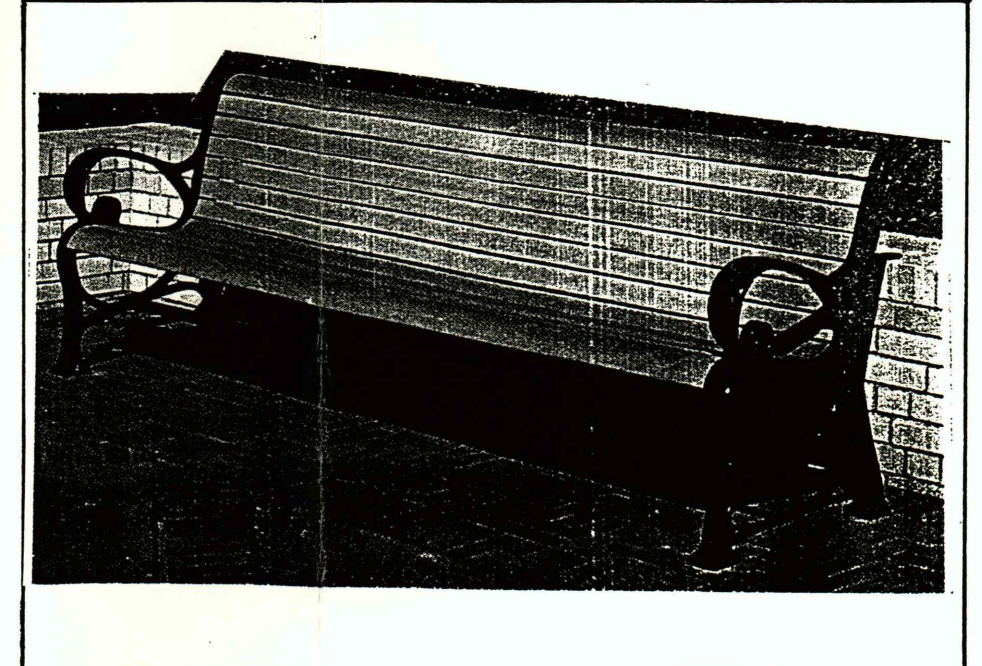
Drinking Fountains
Canon[®] F102 with Dover Bollard.



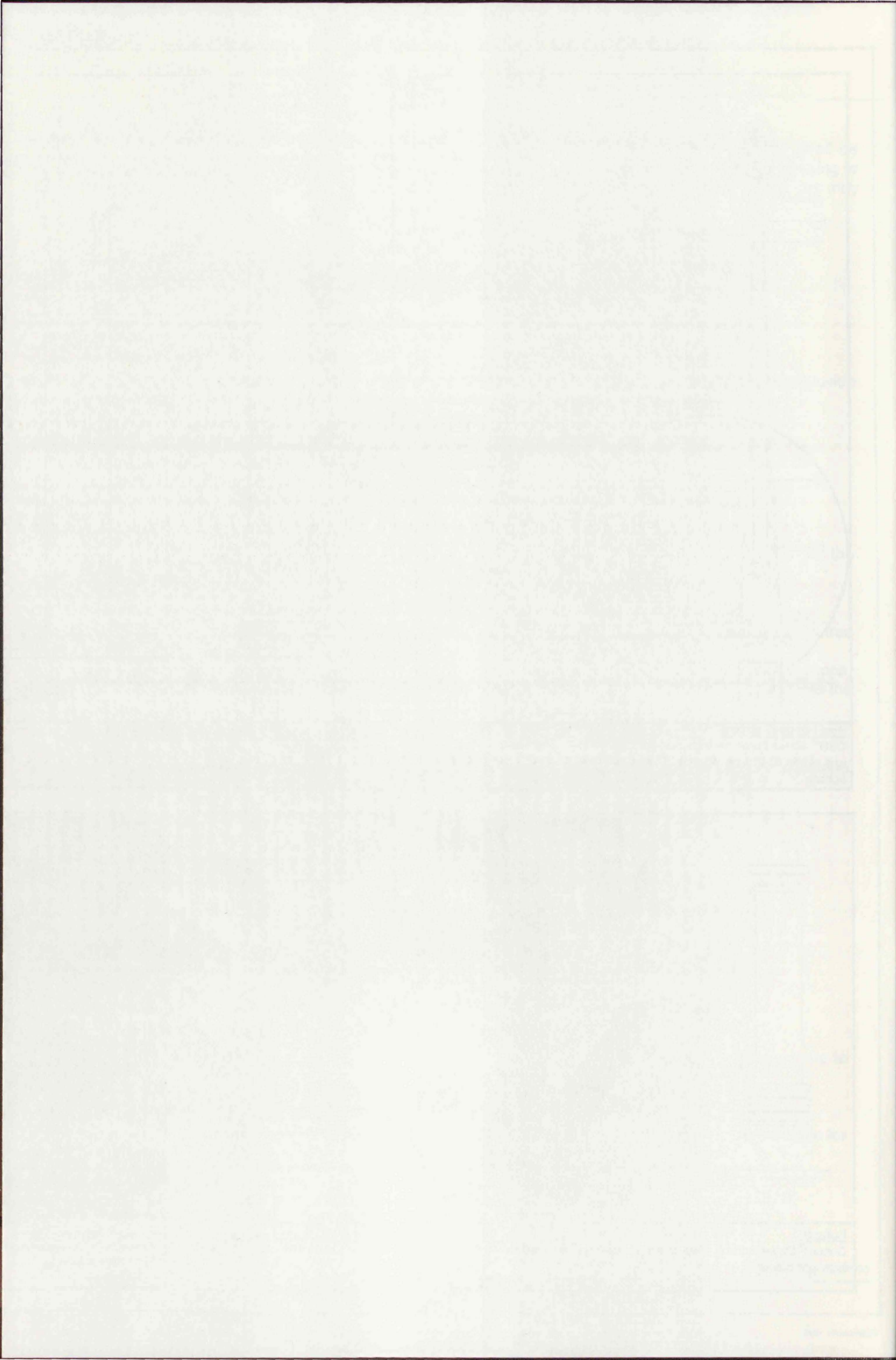
Rubbish Receptacles
Emerdyn[®] side-opening Tivoli rubbish bin with lid.



Bicycle Racks
NCC standard Canberra bike loop. INSTALLED IN SETS OF THREE



Benches/Seats
TimberForm[®] Restoration bench



11.0 GUIDELINES: SIGNAGE

- 11.1 INTRODUCTION
 - 11.2 GENERAL AIMS
 - 11.3 SCOPE OF GUIDELINES
 - 11.4 SITING SIGNS
 - 11.5 GENERAL PRINCIPLES
 - 11.6 SIGNAGE GUIDELINES
 - 11.7 LETTERING AND LAYOUT
 - 11.8 STREET SIGNS
-

11.1 INTRODUCTION

Traditional strip shopping centres, such as Wallsend are well known for the disharmonious appearance they present. This predominantly arises from the inconsistencies existing between the various buildings but overlying this is a profusion of signs all vying for attention. The net result creates an unattractive urban character which discourages shoppers who instead visit shopping centres with better images (ie more atmosphere).

It is acknowledged that the function of a sign is to be seen and to convey a message, and so, when such an element is not adequately controlled, there exists a tendency to erect bigger, more noticeable signs in competition with surrounding signs. This results in greater disharmony and an overabundance of visual clutter. These signs not only overlap and obscure one another but they also obscure the more positive attributes of a shopping centre, namely the contributory buildings.

As this study is seeking to improve the overall image of Wallsend, it is axiomatic that guidelines are required to set limits and to co-ordinate the use of signs so that they may fulfil a useful purpose but not in a negative or detracting manner.

11.2 GENERAL AIMS

As with the other guidelines within this report, there is an underlying aim of putting forward controls which seek to make Wallsend an attractive place for people to shop and socialise. Other aims for signage guidelines as follows:

- To ensure adequate business identification
- To minimise the negative impact of too many or poorly located signs.
- To create a compatibility of signage throughout the area in terms of scale and character within the area.
- To maintain equal viewing rights
- To avoid conflicting with necessary regulatory signage (eg directional signs, parking signs, cautionary signs etc).

11.3 SCOPE OF GUIDELINES

These guidelines apply to all signs that are attached to buildings within the core study area both contributory and non-contributory. The guidelines seek to supplement existing controls (ie NCC's DCP No 19, "Outdoor Advertising Sign Code"⁸). When required, assistance should be sought from Council Officers who have been trained in interpreting such control documents to achieve the most favourable result for all concerned (ie both the proponent and the general public).

⁸ DCP No. 19 applies to all signs, notices and other devices which are used to promote a business, service or product that are visible from any public place.

11.4 SITING SIGNS

The following section on the siting of signs has been based on material included in "Outdoor Advertising: An Urban Design Approach"⁹

The siting of signs on buildings may be divided into three distinct categories.

1. Ground floor and awning/verandah signs aimed at pedestrians.
2. First and second floor wall and parapet signs generally intended to be read up to one block away and aimed at pedestrians and slow moving vehicles.
3. High wall and sky signs for the long distance viewer.

As the commercial precinct of Wallsend is not viewed from a distance, Category 3 signs are not recommended. Therefore the guidelines that follow relate to Categories 1 and 2 only.

When locating signs on buildings the following method, known as the Grid Analysis Technique shall apply.

STEP 1 Divide the facade into the main design lines to form a series of panels as shown on the below figure.

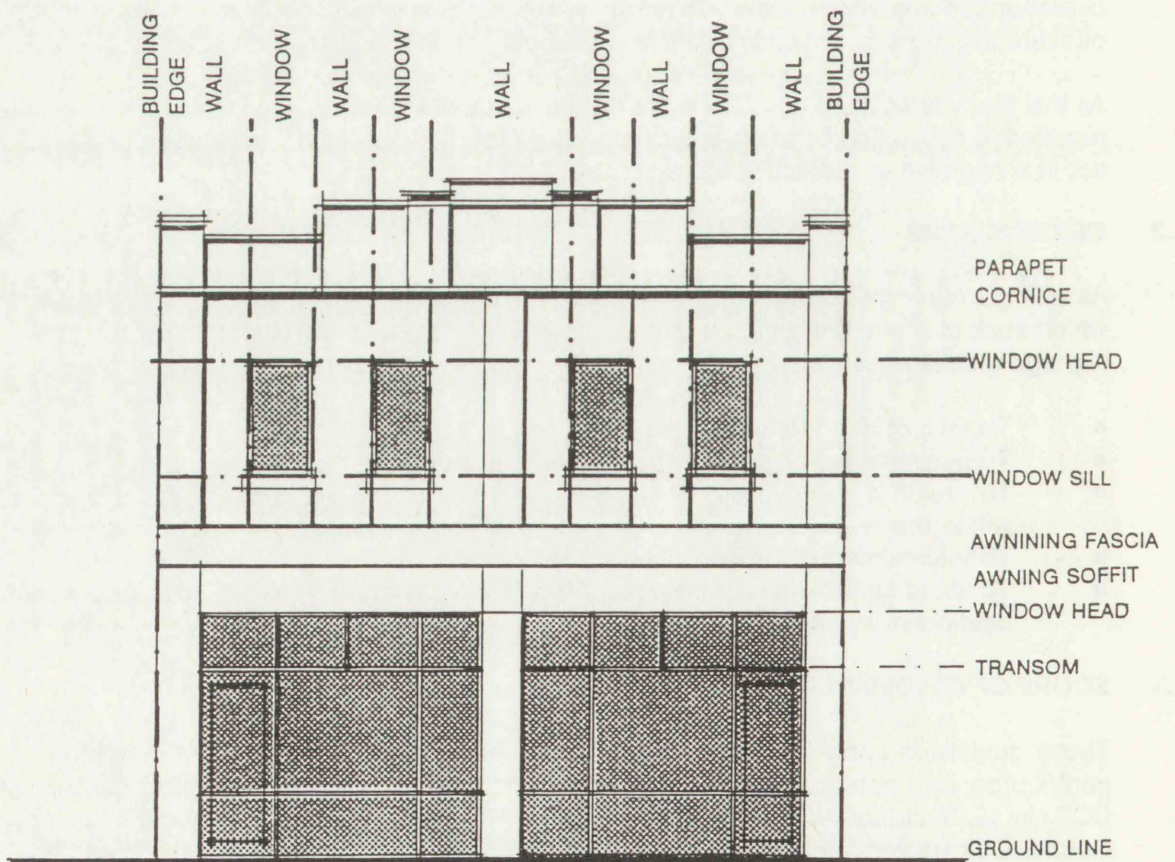
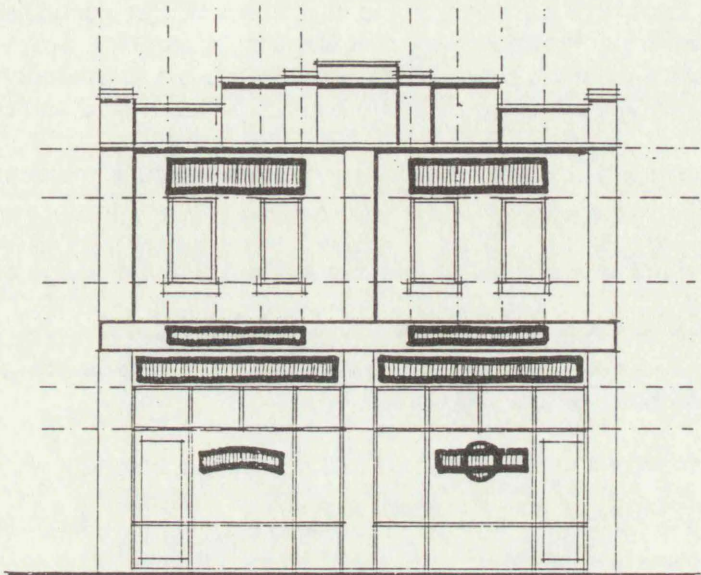


FIGURE 11.1 GRID ANALYSIS TECHNIQUE

⁹ NSW Department of Planning/Victorian Department of Planning and Housing "Outdoor Advertising: An Urban Design Approach", 1995.

STEP 2 Identify sign panels either used separately or formed together. Generally panels may be either horizontal or vertical, however it is recommended that all signage in Wallsend be horizontal.



Note: Signs to relate to grid locations or architectural features and so ensuring that architectural characteristics of the building are maintained. Signs to be in scale with building.

FIGURE 11.2 USING GRID ANALYSIS TECHNIQUE TO LOCATE SIGNS

STEP 3 Apply technique giving consideration to adjoining buildings trying to repeat the use of similar panels. The below figure shows how the techniques can introduce uniformity whilst still allow minor variations. Note: Sign panels do not have to be rectangular to still comply all signs need to do is fit within the grid without obscuring architectural details.



FIGURE 11.3 DEVELOPING PATTERNS & THEMES

11.5 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

At the early stages of planning to erect a sign a conscious decision should be made to provide quality signage. This means signage that is: complementary to the urban character of Wallsend; to the building to which it is applied, and to the business it is seeking to promote. Seek professional advice (eg advertising companies, marketing consultants, graphic artists, architects etc) regarding the design of signage should the skills not be available to make such judgements. The added cost is a small price to pay when offset against the benefits well designed and positioned signs can have.

When designing signage the following principles should be adopted.

- *Consider the impact of any proposed sign on the streetscape quality of Wallsend. All signs should seek to improve and develop the image of Wallsend and not detract from it.*
- *Consider the appropriateness of a sign to a building with respect to its age, style, function, scale and colour.*
- *Carefully locate a sign so that it does not compete with other signs.*
- *Aim to reduce the number of signs on a building ensuring that those signs erected have the greatest effect.*
- *Ensure that the architectural features of a building are not obscured by signage.*
- *Signs should promote a business rather than advertise products sold except when associated with a special promotion or sale.¹⁰*
- *Use traditional signage, including lettering on heritage buildings.*
- *Keep signs within the building envelope (ie no projecting signs).*
- *Preference should be given to non-illuminated (ie signs that have an integrated light source eg neon, box-illuminated, back-lit) signs. If required, illuminated signs should only occur below awning level including shop windows.*
- *Where a business features a number of signs ensure that there is compatibility between them such as using similar type faces, colours and graphics. Consideration should also be given to the compatibility of signs promoting different businesses on the one building.*

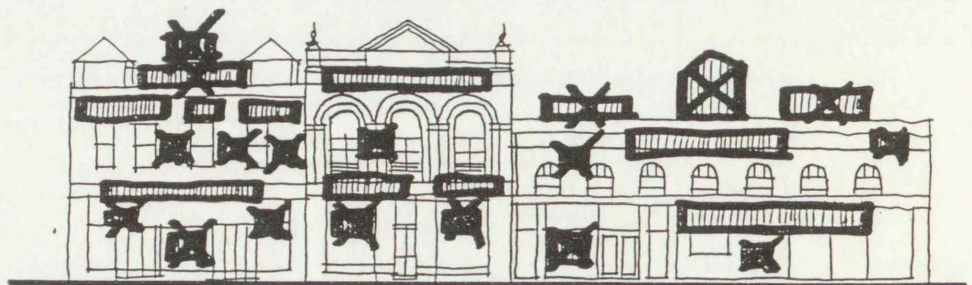


FIGURE 11.4 REDUCE THE NUMBER OF SIGNS WHERE POSSIBLE

¹⁰ This applies only when such signs are temporary (ie last only a couple of weeks and are then removed).

11.6 SIGNAGE GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are recommended to ensure that signage within the Wallsend Commercial Precinct is adequately controlled to prevent it from having a negative impact on the area's urban character.

Since there are few heritage buildings, a more flexible approach has been adopted, however, with the aim being to follow more traditional models.

GUIDELINES: General

- All signs to be horizontal in direction (avoid the use of vertical signs).
- All signs shall comply with siting requirements (refer 8.4)
- Do not locate signs in locations as noted in Figure 8.5
- The following signs¹¹ will not be permitted in
 - projecting signs
 - above awning signs (ie located on awning)
 - advertising panels
 - pole signs
 - roof signs
 - fin signs

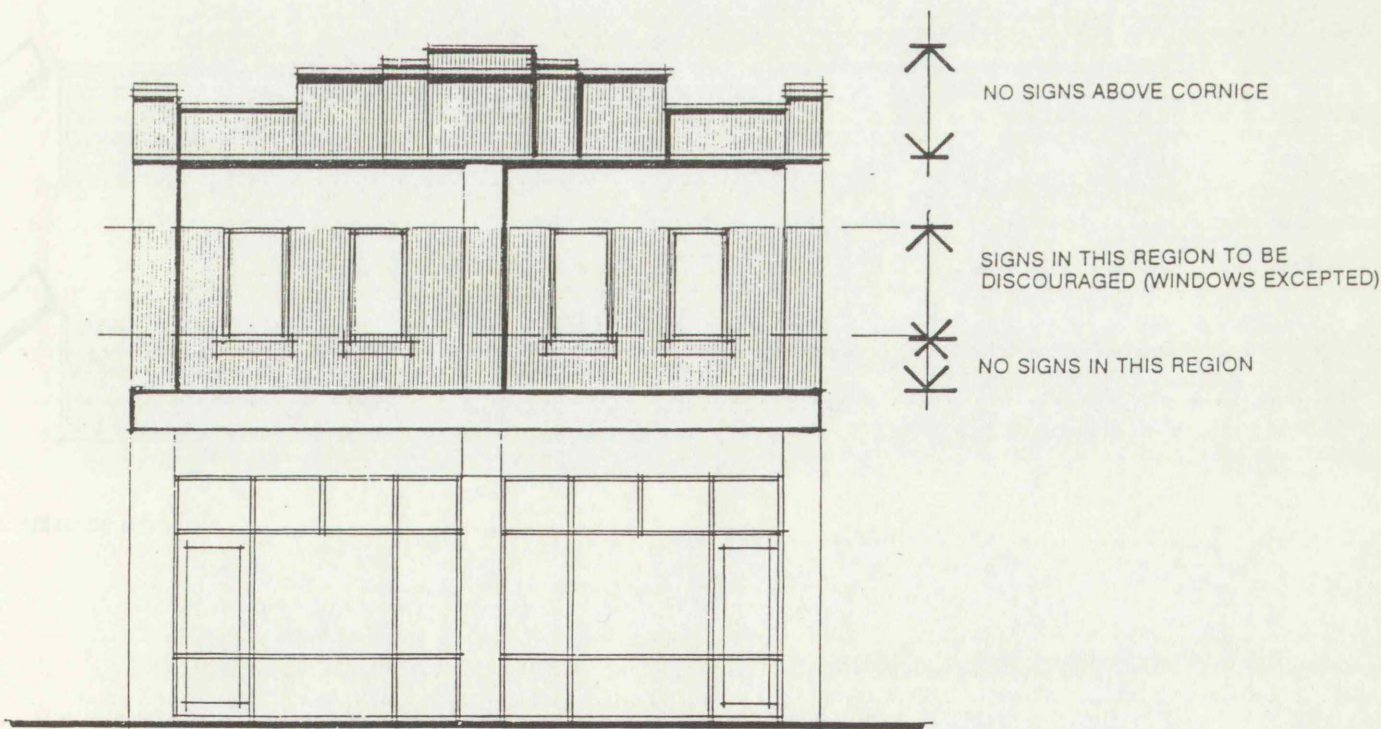


FIGURE 11.5 WHERE SIGNS ARE TO BE DISCOURAGED

¹¹ Refer Appendix F

- *Progressively replace all signage not complying with these guidelines*
- *All product advertising shall be discouraged in preference to promoting the business (eg Pettigrew's Newsagency) and/or the type of business (eg newsagent).*
- *Flashing or moving signs shall not be allowed.*
- *Signs are not to be positioned such that they obscure architectural features or other signs.*
- *Corporate signage and livery shall comply with these guidelines.*
- *Total signage area shall not exceed 0.6m per lineal metre of street frontage per business.*
- *All signs relating to a building should be complementary to one another.*

GUIDELINES: Above Awning Signs

- *All above awning signs to be lit from an external source (ie floodlit). Therefore there shall be no neon/self-illuminating signs.*
- *All above awning signs shall be flush with the wall surface with an allowance of 100MM for profiled letters*
- *Encourage the use of above awning signs for upstairs businesses only.*

GUIDELINES: Awning Fascia Signs

- *Awning fascia signs shall consist of contrast lettering on the base awning colour or boxed with the base colour surrounding the box.*
- *Awning fascia signs shall be located central to the business it is promoting.*



FIGURE 11.6 TYPICAL AWNING FASCIA SIGNS SHOWING HOW BASE COLOUR TO AWNING IS TO BE USED

GUIDELINES: Below Awning

- *Below awning signs are to be preferred in the following order:*
 - *suspended under awning*
 - *top hamper*
 - *shop windows*
 - *on walls (last)*
- *Drop canvas blinds shall not be used to carry signage. (These blinds should be a single colour in keeping with the building's colour scheme).*

GUIDELINES: Heritage

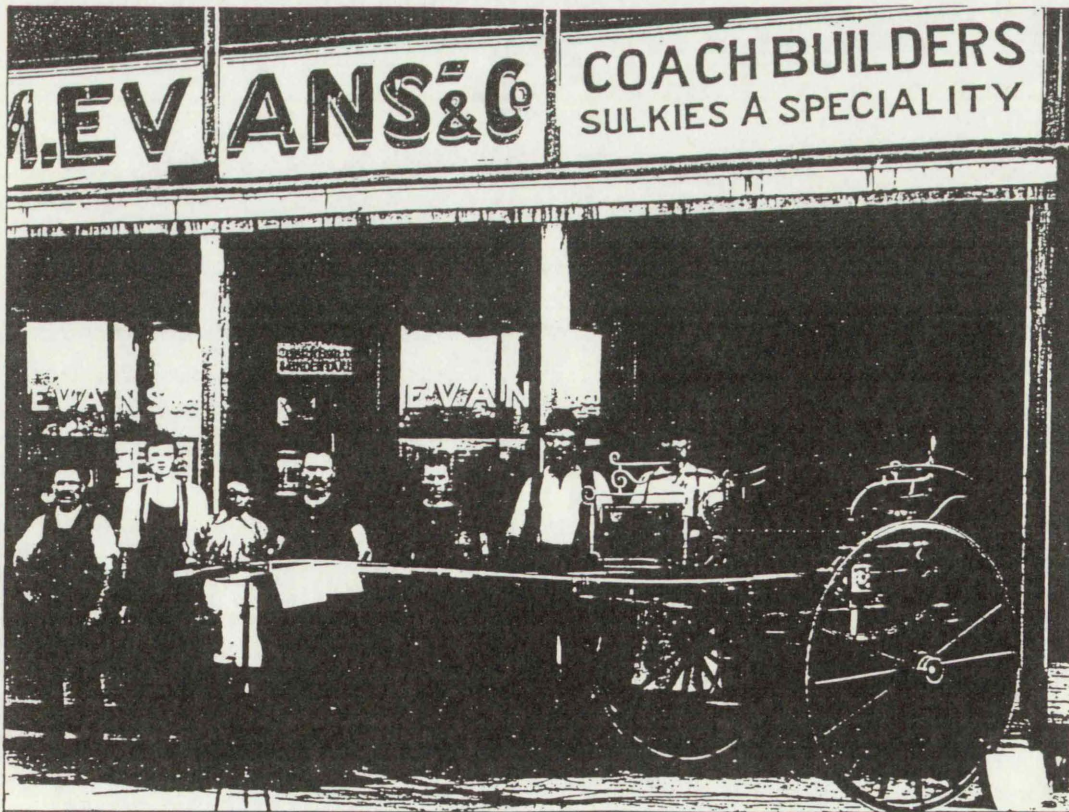
- Signage on heritage buildings shall be designed in accordance with original signage details as researched.
- Maintain and repair all extent signage contemporary to the building's age. This particularly applies to permanent lettering. Where painting such signs would lead to ambiguity due to a change in name or function then paint letters in a slightly different tone to the building's base colour.
- All lettering and layout shall be consistent with the age of the building.

GUIDELINES: Temporary Footpath Signs

- Such signs should be complementary to other signs located on the building.
- Only one temporary sign per business.
- Signs to be professionally made.
- Signs to be located for the benefit of pedestrians and not vehicles.

11.7 LETTERING AND LAYOUT

From early photographs of Wallsend (ref Figure 8.7, Figure 8.9 and Building Worksheets) most of the lettering used for signs around the late 19th and early 20th century was a simple unembellished typeface. Lettering was commonly in capitals with the occasional use of shadowing to create special effects. There is little evidence that exotic typefaces were used. It would seem that the main aim of signage was not for effect but to inform people of the location and purpose of a business (as can be noted below):

**FIGURE 11.7**

EMPLOYEES OF R.M. EVANS & Co, COACH BUILDERS AND UNDERTAKERS OF WALLSEND, RALPH SNOWBALL, c.1916

SNOWBALL COLLECTION OF THE HUNTER PHOTO BANK, NEWCASTLE REGION PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The preferred lettering styles this era tended to be:

- Egyptian (Antique)
- Ionic (Fat Clarendon) and
- Grotesque (Sans serif)

It was not uncommon to mix these typefaces up on the one sign, however, every word within a line would invariably be the same style.

As mentioned above, capitals predominated with the size of words varying considerably within the same sign.

When embellishment did occur it was usually in the form of scrolls or illustrative figures. As for enriching individual letters it was common for letters to be flared, given highlights, presenting shaded faces or giving them cast shadows.

The setout of traditional signs has generally organised around an axis cutting through the centre of the sign with words neatly arranged to fill the space available.



FIGURE 11.8 EXAMPLES OF PREFERRED LETTERING STYLES
from LETRASSET TECHNICAL MANUAL

GUIDELINES: Lettering

- *The use of traditional typefaces should be encouraged (ie Egyptian, Ionic, Grotesque). Other type faces may be used which are similar with the aim of selecting plan styles.*
- *Impact should be created in the manner by which words are arranged.*
- *The use of capitals should be encouraged.*
- *The use of graphic symbols (eg logos) should be kept to a minimum and carefully located within a sign.*
- *Embellishment should be limited to scrolls, highlights, shaded faces and shadows.*

The above guidelines should be applied more stringently for older, contributory buildings with reference being made to early photographs. For later buildings the use of the guidelines should be encouraged to maintain consistency throughout the precinct although other lettering styles related to the style of the building would be acceptable.

A useful reference when designing signs for old buildings, especially those which are heritage items is:

"Lettering and Signs on Buildings c.1850-1900" by George Tibbits, Technical Bulletin 2.2, Australian Council of National Trusts, 1984.



FIGURE 11.9

AN EXAMPLE OF TURN OF THE CENTURY SIGNAGE
C. FIRKIN & Co, NELSON STREET, PLATTSBURG (1899)
SOURCE: UNKNOWN

11.8 STREET SIGNS

A number of government organisations have control over street signs (e.g. Newcastle City Council, Roads & Traffic Authority etc). Often these organisations are working to Australian Standards with the aim of providing optimal legibility. Therefore, the option to influence the nature of these signs is limited. For example, Newcastle City Council has adopted a standard street sign consisting of black letters on a white, reflective background with the size and style of lettering also predetermined. Even with this being the case, it may be possible to negotiate with Council to have its regulations relaxed for all such signage occurring within the Core Study Area. The intention of which is to try and further define the area with a different type of street sign being consistent with other themes designated for the area. Although this may lead to reduced legibility, it can be argued that traffic speeds within the Core Study Area are generally less than other areas and so this reduction may not lead to significant problems. It should also be noted that many councils within the Sydney Metropolitan Area have chosen not to follow the Australian Standard and still have a distinctive yet functional system of street signs (e.g. Sydney City Council, North Sydney Council, Lane Cove Council).

It is recommended that street signs including street names, park names, directional signs (e.g. toilets, public phones, pedestrian walkways etc) be done in the following manner.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Lettering Style: | Clarendon Bold or Clarendon Bold Condensed |
| Lettering Colour: | Equal to AS 2700s - Vivid Yellow [Y13] ¹³ |
| Background Colour: | Equal to AS 2700s - Dark Green [G61] or AS 2700s - Black ¹⁴ |
| Logo: | Incorporate Wallsend Logo whenever possible |



FIGURE 11.10 PREFERRED STREET SIGN

¹³ Colours to be chosen from range available in High Intensity Grade Reflective Sheets

¹⁴ Colour to match the colour selected as the pole/frame colour.

■ **PART E: APPENDICES**

APPENDIX A: HISTORICAL CONTEXT REPORT

- A.1 WALLSEND (1820 - 1970)**
 - A.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: A SUMMARY**
 - A.3 PROFILE OF WALLSEND/PLATTSBURG IN 1884**
 - A.4 WALLSEND AND PLATTSBURG COOPERATIVE SOCIETY**
 - A.5 EMPLOYMENT OTHER THAN COAL MINING**
 - A.6 MARKERS OF PHYSICAL CHANGE IN WALLSEND'S 'MAIN STREET'**
 - A.7 CULTURAL LANDMARKS**
 - A.8 SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS**
 - A.9 COMMERCIAL LANDMARKS**
 - A.10 CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT IN WALLSEND AND PLATTSBURG**
-

A.1 WALLSEND (1820-1970)

Between the 1820s and 1830s, land in the Wallsend district was taken up by several European families for the purpose of agricultural settlement. The locality was close to Newcastle and well watered by Ironbark Creek, flowing into the Hunter River near Hexham. These early settlers were interesting colonists and brief mention of them will be made when places and names that contribute to the heritage of the 'main street' are mentioned.

Coal mining at Newcastle was at first a government-and-convict venture followed by a period under the direction and 'monopoly' of the British 'Australian Agricultural Company' (AAC). By the 1840s, this monopoly was under challenge by other colonist who wanted to establish mines in the coal-rich Lower Hunter area. In 1854, the Minmi Coal Company (J. and A. Brown) began mining and in 1855, built a rail line linking the Minmi mine to wharves at Hexham. In the 1850s, it was known that land in the vicinity of Wallsend was coal bearing, the seam almost three metres thick. Alexander Brown, formerly employed by the AAC, had purchased some of this land.

Meanwhile, from 1853, first a private venture later taken over by the government, finally brought about the realisation of a railway line between the port at Newcastle, and Hexham and Maitland, in 1857/8. This line was of advantage to those who wanted to develop the coal measures about Wallsend.

In 1858/9, the formation occurred of the Newcastle Wallsend Coal Mining Company (NWCC) with a capital of £100,000 made up of 10,000 shares of £10 each. In addition to Brown's land, other land in the Parish of Teralba was purchased for the purpose: portions 16 to 20, then 15, and 14. The NWCC built a branch line which joined the Newcastle to Maitland line near Waratah. The first shaft was 'A pit', worked from 1859. Shortly after this, 'B pit' was opened, and then 'C pit', in 1867. The company later acquired 8000 acres of land and opened 'Wallsend Tunnel'. At its peak, the venture was among the largest coal mines in the southern hemisphere.

Alexander Brown was the driving force behind the venture and the company's first superintendent. Brown, a native of Northumberland, England, chose the locality name 'Wallsend', himself. Mining at Wallsend was 'the most modern in the world'. For example, the company was the first to erect steam cranes at Newcastle. It is also said that the NWCC began by providing its work force with 'better conditions than normal', for example, the NWCC was to the fore in introducing horses to the pits thereby removing the primitive labours of wheeling heavy skips, by man and boy power. The NWCC built some brick, 2-room homes for their employees that they rented to them at 1/6 per week.

A large section of the Scottish, Northumberland and Welsh miners that came to the Wallsend area in the 1850s and early 1860s were God-fearing and thoughtful men with a respect for law and order. Their community did not perpetuate the reputation of some of the older mining areas where convicts had made up the workforce. In fact, Wallsend soon established a distinctive identity that was reflected in its institutions, and the social and commercial life of the community.

The industrial history of coal mining in the district is a separate and lengthy study. In 1860, the NWCC opened up a subdivision for private housing and commercial purposes near its A pit. (Cowper, Campbell, Brown, Thomas, Whitten, Martendale by Brooks, Metcalfe, Murnin and Irving Streets). Soon hotels and shops developed about Cowper, Murnin and Metcalfe Streets. As time passed, the company provided land, and financial assistance, for community purposes such as schools, churches, and so on.

The company allowed an occasional crude carriage or van to be attached to the coal train for the conveyance of goods and passengers (mining families) to Newcastle. Later, a railway station was built at Wallsend and a more regular service provided until 1887 when steam trams to Plattsburg were introduced. With growth, demand increased for additional trams, between Wallsend and Newcastle, Minmi, Speers Point, Lambton and Waratah. Furthermore, enterprising people provided horse drawn buses and wagonettes. Transport has been a significant aspect of Wallsend's community life since the earliest years.

As noted, the commercial life of Wallsend was in and around Cowper, Metcalfe, and Murnin Streets. At first, a Mr Thomas Fryer delivered goods to the mining community from Newcastle. Soon after, he set up a shop at Wallsend. Another shop was opened by Mr Thomas Johnson. A postal service was then established in Johnson's store. By 1860, and in the following years, there were several trading establishments conducted by the following people:

- Thomas Fryer (the Northumbria Stores)
- William Johnson son of Thomas (the Post Office Stores)
- John Truscott (grocery)
- George Firkin (general store in Murnin Street)
- P. W. Young (butchery)
- W. M. Perry (bakery)
- E. Boggis (drapery), J. B. Hogg (bootmaker)
- Bell and Seymour (boot store)
- R. Shaw (grocery)
- Miss Finch (drapery)
- Dugald Cameron (butchery)
- Donald McKay and H. D. Clark (general stores)
- W. Kerr (blacksmith)
- J. Harris (bootmaker)
- Mrs Pratten (butchery)
- Thomas Crooks (stationery)
- Mr T. Smith (fancy goods)
- Campbell and Cant (bakery) and so on.
- The Wallsend and Plattsburg Cooperative Society took over the stores of Messrs Donald McKay and H. D. Clark, in 1871.

The earliest hotels, built in the 1860s, were Mark Fryer's Colliery Inn, Thomas Johnson's Post Office Hotel ? Traveller's Rest, and William Harris' Cooperative Hotel (later the National Hotel). {ref: N&HDHSJ 7/8, also 1955 commemoration program}.

A major strike of miners in the district, against reduced wages, broke out in 1861. Amongst the striking miners from the Minmi mines were practical men who set about to take up coal bearing land themselves and form a cooperative coal mining company. Suitable land was selected, and leased.

The leased land was formerly part of an estate of 1280 acres, called 'Maryland', granted to the wife of Dr George Brooks, formerly Mary Stephens Cowper. Dr George Brooks came to Newcastle in 1823 as assistant surgeon of the military establishment there and married Mary in 1828. Brooks himself secured additional land adjacent to 'Maryland'. A family home was built.

In 1861, Mrs Brooks estate was partitioned to form several portions, each in favour of her children. One portion became the property of her daughter Mrs Platt, who married Mr Platt (son of Lt. J. L. Platt, landholder of Iron Bark Creek). Another portion was known as Brookstown, another Lemon Grove, and another Low Farm. The mining cooperative leased part of Mrs Platts portion.

In 1865, this cooperative mine was formerly opened. James Fletcher was manager. (He had previously been mine manager for J. and A. Brown's Minmi mine.) Coal won was at first taken to a wharf on Iron Bark Creek and lightered down the creek to ships in the port of Newcastle. Later, a railway line, with viaduct across the creek, and joining with the existing NWCC railway line, was necessary. After four years output the cooperative venture ceased (it has been said that the venture was undercapitalised) but the mine continued to operate under new management and production increased.

Opening this mine brought into being another settlement, called Plattsburg, located between John (later Tyrrell) Street and the cooperative mine (near Sandgate Road). Already, the earliest district hotel, (approximately on Sandgate Road), said to date from 1860, was in full trade. Homes were built at Plattsburg and a business area developed around Devon and Mary Streets. Names associated with the earliest commercial activities here were:

W. Allen (butchery)
D. Howell (grocer)
Mrs Duncan
H. Wilkinson (butchery)
Mr Green (draper)
R. Richmond (boot store)
R. Bonsfield
A. Sneddon (blacksmith, and later colliery proprietor)
J. Meikle (bakery)
Alex. Sneddon (blacksmith)
Mr Cummings (blacksmith)
Mr D. Renfrew (blacksmith)
Mr Tracy
Frank Reay (chemist)
Robert Todd (auctioneer)
and 'about ten hotel keepers'. In 1866, two of the hotels were the 'Miners Arms' and the 'Black Diamond'.

It was in Devon Street, Plattsburg, that the 'Miners Advocate' (later the 'Newcastle Morning Herald'), was first published, in 1875. James Fletcher, former manager of the cooperative colliery, became its (?second) proprietor.

The commercial centres of these two communities were on high land, out of reach of flooding which was prevalent on lower land. At first Plattsburg was separated from Wallsend by an area of such low-lying land, part swampy, (called the "Duck Swamp") used as an athletic ground. In time, a road was constructed through this land which became Nelson Street. Business premises of all kinds were built along this road for it was in close proximity to both mining settlements and linked their shopping centres.

Then, the two localities were only separated by the NWCC's railway line, which was neatly fenced and had a gated crossing place at Nelson Street. Apparently an attempt was made to shift the natural course of Iron Bark Creek by the building of a canal to carry the water across Nelson Street. This functioned as desired in all but the most severe floods. Then, the water broke over the banks of the canal and followed its natural course, which was later right through Phelan's Theatre.

The shops and hotels along Nelson Street were built high up from the road and were entered up several steps to their doorways. No doubt this was to minimise minor flooding of the premises. Major flooding was an occasional disaster. At times, water came up to counter tops. A reconstruction of Nelson Street was undertaken in 1966, raising the level up nearer to the shop entrances.

The first stores along Nelson Street included those of a Lambton and Wallsend Cooperative Society, and businesses of R. Campbell, W. Turnbull, T. Turnbull, R. Lewis, W. Thomas, W. Jenkins and C. Trubody. Later establishments were those of Mrs R. Williams, and Messrs J. D. Jones, J. Truscott, G. Froome, T. Firkin, R. Thomas, F. Witherspoon, S. Hall, C. Firkin and D. McKenzie. Some of these names were business people in the older parts of Wallsend and Plattsburg. Nelson Street became one of the busiest street in the Newcastle district.

After the establishment of the Nelson Street shopping centre, a price-cutting draper Mr Markham, set up in a store in Metcalfe Street, on the site of the present Masonic Hall. His frequent 'stunts' attracted bargain-hunters from all parts of the district. Later he moved to Newcastle. 'Mad Markham' had considerable impact on late nineteenth century retailing throughout the Lower Hunter district.

Business directories for 1880, and 1901, are appended. These show the considerable extent of commercial activity at Wallsend. In 1888, a major fire outbreak destroyed six shops in Nelson Street: a milliner, a general store, a draper, a bootmaker, a boot store and a billiard salon. This prompted the setting up of a fire brigade.

Many hotels flourished in Nelson Street, and nearby streets. Hotels that were subsequently converted into business premises became, in 1924, the shops of Messrs. J. Truscott, Ltd., Mr J. D. Davis, Mr A. James, Mr R. Byrnes (auctioneer), Mr E. J. Wiggs (estate agent) and 'the fish shop', part of Messrs C. Firkin and Co., Ltd.'s 'Emporium', a property occupied by T. J. May (chemist) and H. Gibbs (shoe store), and the premises of P. Callaghan (tailor). Mr G. W. Jones converted another old hotel into a cinema. This list, printed in 1924, accounts for 10 hotel conversions.

Wallsend commercial centre has always been quick to respond to modern trends, no doubt due to its population and vitality. In the decade 1914 to 1924, many premises were renewed or remodelled with up-to-date shop fronts. These alterations gave Nelson Street a 'changed face'. Development in this decade was undertaken by R. M. Evans and Sons, Wallsend and Plattsburg Cooperative Society, John Truscott Ltd., A. J. Plumridge, Mrs Bain, Mr A. H. Roberts, Mr T. F. Sherlock, C. Firkin and Co., Ltd., Mr W. Sephton, Mr Joe Smith, the trustees of the estate of the late T. Gale, Mr J. J. Punton, and Mr W. Gordon. The locality population was almost 7500 people. The analysis of businesses in Nelson Street in 1924 was:

- 6 grocery, crockery and hardware stores
- a 'cash and carry' grocery
- 4 butchery shops
- 2 fish shops
- 10 refreshment rooms with fruit and confectionary shops
- 2 cooked provision shops
- 3 pastry and cake shops
- 2 chemist shops
- 5 drapery and men's wear shops
- 1 infants wear shop
- 2 millinery and dress making establishments
- 4 tailors shops
- 2 furniture factories and showrooms
- 4 shoe stores
- 3 shoe repairing depots
- 1 electrical goods shop

- 1 watchmakers shop
- 2 news agencies
- 2 stationery and booksellers shops
- 1 tinsmiths shop
- 2 harness-making shops
- 5 barber and tobacconists shops
- 1 florist shop
- 2 estate agencies
- 3 motor garages.

In or near the shopping centre were:

- 2 dental surgeries
- 2 doctors dispensaries
- 2 banks (a branch of the Australian Bank of Commerce and a flourishing branch of the Government Savings Bank)
- 1 post office

Away from the shopping centre were:

- various mixed businesses
- 5 bakeries
- and the dairies of the town.

Coal mining at the Wallsend district pits began to decline from the 1930s.

About 1930, several commercial premises in the shopping streets underwent significant changes, in part influenced by new materials and styles, in steel, glass, tiles, and Wonderlich products. Cantilevered awnings began replacing the elaborate Victorian verandahs.

The 1950s saw rapid expansion in Wallsend's population due to the release and development of new housing land around the town. This was reflected in a period of revived business activity.

The 1970s saw further expansion in the surrounding Wallsend population due to the release and development of further new housing land around the town.

A.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: A SUMMARY

1874: Wallsend incorporated, including Plattsburg. James Fletcher first Mayor in 1874 and 1875, then John Neilson for the next four years.

1876: Plattsburg becomes a separate municipality with James Fletcher Mayor in 1877.

1914: A conference was held to consider the amalgamation of the two municipalities.

1915: both councils amalgamate, shortly after the outbreak of War.

The industrialisation of Newcastle that followed the setting up of the B. H. P. (1913+) led to suburban growth generally. The fragmented pattern of local government - there were 12 separate municipalities in the district- was rendered obsolete.

1938: Wallsend Municipality joins with the greater Newcastle Council.

James Fletcher: No account of Wallsend would be complete without a brief statement about the life of James Fletcher.

James Fletcher was born in Scotland in 1834, arrived in N. S. W. in 1852 and joined those miners seeking gold. He later came to Newcastle and worked as a miner for the Australian Agricultural Company at Hamilton and Glebe, becoming a spokesperson for workers. He came to the Wallsend district in the 1860s as a manager for J. and A. Brown at Minmi. Fletcher became president of the Miners Union. Subsequent disputes over wage reduction led to the opening of the Cooperative Coal Mine at Plattsburg in 1865 (the site of this venture is the present Wallsend High School). Fletcher became manager of the Cooperative mine which, after a few years, passed into private hands, in part due, it is said, to lack of capital by the shareholders to adequately develop the mine.

During the 1860s and 1870s, sizeable settlements developed around the NWCC's 'A pit' and the Cooperative mine. Fletcher was among the men whose efforts secured incorporation for Plattsburg and Wallsend. Fletcher founded the newspaper 'The Miners' Advocate'. After serving in local government, Fletcher moved to state politics for 10 years. He died in 1891, aged 57 years. His contribution to the society in which he lived and worked is marked by a statue in Newcastle and a bust in the Plattsburg Park wherein is the Rotunda.

A:3 PROFILE OF WALLSEND/PLATTSBURG IN 1884.

After 26 years, before which the area was vegetated lowland and ridges, the area had a population of 7000 persons. There were 9 churches most with Sabbath schools, two institutions with libraries, several lodges and temperance societies, clubs that fostered cricket, turf events, athletics and rowing, and so on, a fine Court House, 5 district Justices of the Peace and a visiting Police Magistrate, a police barracks and three police officers, a new Post and Telegraph Office with three letter carriers, 16 hotels and about 100 places of business. The two Municipal Councils collected £1400 in taxes which were used to improve civic facilities. Three nearby collieries yielded 3000 tons of coal each week, won by a workforce of 1300 men and boys. Horse-drawn omnibuses provided a local service each twenty minutes, and four times a day to Minmi. At the railway station, the women of Wallsend needed the help of two porters to assist them with their goods. (NRL file, Wallsend, article dated 22.2.1884)

A:4 WALLSEND AND PLATTSBURG COOPERATIVE SOCIETY

The Wallsend/Plattsburg Cooperative Society has contributed significantly to the social and economic history of the region. The Cooperative Society's history is inseparable from the historic identity of the Wallsend business district. Since its inception, the Society's store or stores have occupied several foremost spaces in the town. Although no longer part of the retail scene, the Society's presence for about 120 years justifies some acknowledgment of its contribution to the Wallsend 'main street' and its business heritage.

The British mining families who came to the Hunter Valley in the second half of the nineteenth century brought with them customs of solidarity, trade unionism and cooperative institutions, essential to their survival and powers of negotiation with the industrialists who needed their labour.

In the Newcastle district, a retail cooperative was operating in 1861, at Hamilton. This was a time when a significant district-wide strike was organised and cooperative purchasing and retailing lessened the family hardships stemming from meagre incomes. Following this strike, in 1862, miners under the leadership of James Fletcher, set about to establish their own cooperative coal mine, for the same benefit, which they did on land leased at Plattsburg. This cooperative mine operated until 1870.

By 1866, the retail cooperative had grown and was known as the Borehole (later Lambton) and Wallsend Cooperative, having by then established a branch at Wallsend. In 1870, the Wallsend branch became an independent cooperative known as Wallsend and Plattsburg Cooperative Society.

The retail store subsequently established made rapid progress due to the surrounding large and stable mining population. About 1880, the Society was able to move from rented premises to the first of its own stores, with a branch at Minmi. A bakery was established. The 1890s saw set-backs caused by economic depression and damaging floods but a reversal of fortune then changed the cooperative's outlook as it entered the twentieth century. In 1902, it expanded into bootmaking and repair, millinery, tailoring, and additionally leased one and purchased two additional shops in Nelson Street, and in 1906, a butchering establishment.

By the mid century, the Society was still an important part of the retail life of Wallsend but, with the decline of the area as a mining centre, which began about 1929, the Society's future became less certain and the decision was made in 1961 to join with the Newcastle Cooperative Society.

It was at this time that a single modern large building was erected to house the Wallsend branch of the Newcastle and Suburban Cooperative Society.

Wallsend's unique contribution to the 'Cooperative Phenomenon' is a major one. On the district scene, it is noteworthy that a Newcastle 'Store' was not established until 1898. The first meeting held to promote its establishment was called for by Mr A. W. Markham. It has been noted that previously, (1889), A. W. Markham, a draper and merchant, conducted 'Empire House' in Metcalfe Street (see old photo) prior to opening a store in Newcastle.

In 1898, Newcastle was a comparatively small centre separated by open spaces from the scattered suburban municipalities such as Wallsend.

In 1912, the Wallsend cooperative (together with West Wallsend and Cessnock) joined with Newcastle in a structure that enabled more favourable wholesale buying of food and merchandise. In time, other district cooperatives also joined this development.

When, in 1961, the Wallsend and Plattsburg Cooperative Society joined with the Newcastle Store's retail enterprise, its membership was 2000.

At its peak, the ensuing 'Newcastle and Suburban Cooperative Society' was the biggest and most successful cooperative venture in the southern hemisphere. The retail cooperative movement flourished in the Lower Hunter because working people realised the benefits of self-help and banded together to make their wages go further. As such, the mining, railway, and industrial workforce, and others, were materially benefited during hard economic circumstances that included industrial unrest, depressions and two world wars. Until the 1960s, it was the predominant retail force in the district. The 1960s brought a transition of workers. Many men were then employed in the various heavy and manufacturing industries.

From this time the demise of cooperative retailing was fast approaching and building modern stores was unable to stop the trend. The cooperative movement was a victim of emerging affluence generally and apathy towards its objectives.

The last of the Society's stores closed in 1981, after 120 years trading.

The 'Store' was not the only victim of the changed shopping trends. Many 'family business', some almost 100 years old, were weakened by the influx of 'chain stores'.

A.5: EMPLOYMENT OTHER THAN COAL MINING.

At various past times, the Wallsend district had industries such as a foundry, brickyards (one operated from 1891, another from 1905 to 1977), sawmills, coke companies and a gas company (1883 - 1929), providing workplaces for many breadwinners. These industries set up because of the nearby and already-established coal mining. Provision of food, clothing, home goods, retail shopping generally, other commercial establishments and professional services for this working population also provided employment to a large number of men, women and young people in the commercial centre.

Transport: The former railway and the rail corridor remain as a significant feature of the historic landscape/streetscape near the main streets of Wallsend, indicative of their past dominant role in the organisation of the town. Part of the role was as a dividing line between Wallsend and Plattsburg localities with widely different origins. Chronological milestones associated with train and tram transport are listed below:

| | |
|----------|---|
| 1859/60: | NWCC builds railway to connect mine with the Great Northern Railway. |
| 1863: | Branch line built to link Cooperative mine with NWCC line. There was a demand from passenger and shippers of goods for the storekeepers to provide a service which took the form of a van being attached to a coal train. Horse drawn buses supplemented the railway service. |
| 1868: | A building was provided as a store shed - 'station', at Wallsend. |
| 1876: | Plans made for a new station building. |
| 1877: | The Goods Shed was built for the NWCC as part of the company's railway system. |
| 1887: | Steam trams were laid on to Plattsburg. With this service, the NWCC closed its passenger service, but was persuaded to reopen the line for passengers again in 1922. However, the train service ceased in 1926. |
| 1889: | NWCC built the brick Station at Wallsend, for its own use. |
| 1912: | Tramline extended from Wallsend to Speers Point. |

| | |
|---------|---|
| 1926: | Steam trams replaced by Electric trams |
| 1930s | Wallsend steam train service gave way to the tram Seville, and the station was converted to office space. |
| 1935: | The 'Goods Shed' closed for use as a goods shed. Subsequent uses were as a car garage, and a tram museum. At this time, 1935, the NWCC plant was being dismantled after being sold (N. M. H. 15.5.1935, 2 photos) |
| 1949: | Last tram to Wallsend. |
| 1980: | Railway Station taken over by NCC. |
| 1984: | Railway Station building relocated to Wallsend High School. |
| 1991/3: | Restoration and landscaping of the Goods Shed. |

A.6 MARKERS OF PHYSICAL CHANGES IN WALLSEND'S 'MAIN STREET'.

A.6.1 Fire: The occurrence of the major fire in Nelson Street that destroyed many shops in 1888, may have encouraged the subsequent building of more brick premises.

Subsidence: the undermining of the land by coal extraction - in places the seam was from ten to thirty feet from the surface - brought many problems from land subsidence over the years.

A.6.2 1964: Verandah Posts Must Go!

In the 1960s, Wallsend's 'Main Street' was subjected to a major change when Newcastle City Council directed that 'old verandah posts along the street must go', (N. M. H. 6 June 1964) after 80 years of holding up awnings and verandahs, in part for the decoration of their buildings but also for the shelter of shoppers and pedestrians. Some redecoration of shops accompanied the alterations necessary to respond to the 'no verandah posts' ruling.

A.6.3 1966: Reconstruction of Nelson Street

In 1966, major road reconstruction works varies the level of Nelson Street.

The 1960s brought major changes to Wallsend 'main street'. This was in part due to the changing composition of the suburb - the transfer of the work force from a mining one to one serving the various industries of the Newcastle district. The industries that brought regular wages to workers, as opposed to the sometimes irregular circumstances of mining, were the Sulphide Corporation at Speers Point, (Wallsend was formerly connected to Speers Point by tram), and the B. H. P. Steelworks.

Many of the old miners' homes were replaced with more substantial buildings when new estates were opened up for new homes (1930s and 1970s). Population growth rendered existing facilities, eg. banking, inadequate and rebuilding or major alterations were carried out on several key business sites. Family businesses, some of several generations duration, gave way to modern chain stores. The newer population saw no reason to support the cooperative retailing enterprise and therefore hastened its demise. The people were willing to allow retail profits to leave the community rather than retain them within it.

A.6.4 Street poles to go also

A new street lighting system was operating in 1980. Underground cables replaced overhead wires.

A.7 CULTURAL LANDMARKS

Due to the cultural traditions of the emigrant founders of the Wallsend community, - the many Scottish, Northumberland and Welsh miners that came in the 1850s and early 1860s - Wallsend soon established a distinctive identity that was reflected in its institutions and social life. Wallsend became a noted place for choirs and singers, conductors and musicians, bands and bandmasters, and teachers of music. Eisteddfods were introduced in the 1860s and 1870s. Following the establishment of the Wallsend and Plattsburg Musical and Literary Society, eisteddfods became district events on an even larger scale.

Bands played at picnic races, and at dances on the green (Wallsend Park). Bands would go the rounds on Christmas and New Years Eve, and play at the various sports that were frequently staged. The Rotunda was a focus for band performances.

A.8 SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Wallsend Racecourse opened in 1866 and 1500 people came to the first race meeting! The racecourse, and jockey club, were a significant part of district recreational activities, and continued until about 1930.

In the 1880s, Wallsend became famous for its Aussie Rules cup. (Newcastle rules clubs are still competing for the cup, the oldest Rules trophy in Australia).

The Wallsend Soccer Club was formed in 1887 and is still functioning.

Other sports with large followings were cricket, tennis, cycling, motor cycling, bowls, and so on.

In general, the NWCC provided land for these community purposes. Such land was usually at first low lying and swampy. The supporters of each activity then set about to improve the sites and years of toil were frequently necessary to reclaim them.

The Soccer Club sold its grounds in 1982 for development as a 'super market'.

A.9 COMMERCIAL LANDMARKS

Firkin's Drapery Store, Hosiery and Ladies Outfitters dates back to Wallsend's earliest years when George Firkin opened a store in Murnin Street. His family continued in business. In 1889, Caleb Firkin, who was born in Wallsend in 1863, moved part of the business into a former hotel building that he recently bought. In 1920, the business was turned into a limited liability company, and additions to accommodate a men's wear section were added in 1925. In 1964, the front of the building was still in its original form, although the rear had been extended in depth and width over the years. Caleb's son entered the business in his 17th year, in 1914. He was still manager in 1964.

In 1944, Caleb Firkin was the first president of the Wallsend Chamber of Commerce, the earliest such Chamber of Commerce outside Newcastle. Firkin's Store was a notable example of a Wallsend family business extending over several generations. Such businesses faced extinction in the 1960s.

In 1978, a report (N. M. H. 7 November 1978) said that Firkin's Store was closed and deserted and soon to be demolished. It was said that 'Winns have bought the premises and additional land to the rear, opening to the street behind with intent to build a large and expansive department store'. This did not eventuate however, but the announcement indicates the climate for redevelopment that prevailed at that time.

Thompson's bakery. In 1891, H. Thompson set up a bakery at Pit Town near Wallsend to supply bread to miners and their families. His son, Percy, took over in 1921, and his brothers opened additional bakeries at Belmont, Warners Bay, and Boolaroo. In 1948, the family started to make bread rolls for weekend use, and in 1952, 'Pro Rol' bread was developed. In 1957, Thompsons introduced a cheap bread to be sold through supermarket stores. Later, Thompson's pies were introduced with success, also lamingtons. In 1981, fourth generation Thompsons continue the business. Thompsons appears a remarkable success story of a family business, and one that started in Wallsend and remained associated with Wallsend up to 1984. (In 1984, 'Buttercup' company took over the business.)

A.10 CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT IN WALLSEND AND PLATTSBURG.

1860: As may be expected for a predominantly British, Welsh and Scottish mining community, the earliest church services in Wallsend were conducted outdoors by Primitive Methodist preachers, in 1860.

1861: Wesleyan Methodists erected a slab church in 1861, replaced by a masonry church in 1866 and again in 1876.

- 1861: Welsh Baptists opened a church in Nelson Street in 1861. Here, at Christmas 1861, the earliest eisteddfod held in the northern districts took place.
- 1863: Primitive Methodists built a timber church in Devon Street, Plattsburg, in 1863, replaced by a more substantial building in 1869.
- 1864: In 1864, a timber church opened for the Church of England congregation, replaced in 1880 by a stone building.
- 1867: In 1867, a Presbyterian Church was opened although Presbyterian services had been held from time to time in other premises.
- 1870: A United Methodist Free Church was built in Mary Street, Plattsburg, in 1870.
- 1875: An early timber church for Roman Catholic worship, date of building not known, was replaced in 1875 by a brick building.

APPENDIX B: HISTORICAL DETAILS

- B.1** **WALLSEND STREET NAMES**
B.2 **PLATTSBURG STREET NAMES**
-

B.1 **WALLSEND STREET NAMES**

Metcalfe: Michael Metcalfe was a founding director of the NWCC.
Murnin: Michael Egan Murnin was a founding director of the NWCC.
Kemp: Charles Kemp was a founding director of the NWCC.
Irving: Clark Irving was founding director of the NWCC.
Campbell: Alexander Campbell was a founding director of the NWCC.
Dangar: Henry Dangar was a founding director of the NWCC.

B.2 **PLATTSBURG STREET NAMES**

Nelson: Among the leaseholders of the land for the cooperative venture was one miner James Nelson. Is he the man after whom the principal street of Plattsburg was subsequently named? However, Mr John Young Neilson (1832-1889) was a member of the School of Arts, and a member of the first Wallsend Council in 1874, a Mayor for 4 years and 28 years manager of the NWCC.

Boscowan Street was named for Charles Boscowan Ranclaud, who, with Mr Pendleberry, administered the estate of Ann Clark (viz. Clark Street). Part of this administration included the transfer of land for the Post Office. Mr Pendleberry was Ann Clark's son-in-law. Ann Clark purchased 520 acres known as the Lemon Grove Estate.

Clark Street: named for Ann Clark, inheritor of the Lemon Grove estate.

Mary Street: named for Mary Brooks nee Mary Stephens Cowper, to whom Maryland was granted.

Tyrrell(I) Street: ? named for W. B. Tyrrell, a storekeeper of Nelson Street in 1880, or Ed. Tyrrell, a music teacher, in 1901.

Bunn Street: ? Mr J. Bunn was a tailor at Wallsend in 1901.

Dan Rees: Daniel Rees was a miner living in Fletcher Street in 1901.

WALLSEND.

The chief mining township in the coal district of Northumberland County is eight miles distant from Newcastle, situate in a valley running in a N.E. direction from the head waters of Lake Macquarie to the banks of the Hunter. The Newcastle Wallsend Coal Company's Pit is situated about half a mile from the township proper. The seam worked by this company is a continuation of the Borehole seam, and is considered equal to any coal in the world. The company have also a tunnel in the S.E. portion of their field, and, if they had the trade, 2,500 tons per diem could be sent out. About 650 men and boys are employed on the works, besides thirty-six working horses underground. The colliery is under the management of J. Y. Neilson, Esq., J.P. The Purified Coke Company's Works are situated in close proximity to the Coal Company's new tunnel, where the small coal, previous to being put into the ovens, is cleansed by washing; manager, Mr. E. Taylor. Wallsend can also boast of a Foundry, where heavy and extensive castings are often successfully made for the different colliery works in the vicinity. The township was proclaimed a municipality about seven years ago. The council comprise nine aldermen: Mr. J. P. Tyler being Mayor at the end of 1880, and Mr. J. Daniels, council clerk. There are four places of worship—Church of England, a fine stone edifice just completed, Wesleyan, two Congregational (English and Welsh), a Masonic and Orange Lodge, and six Friendly Societies of different orders, including two Good Templar Lodges, English and American Constitutions; a Public School, of which Mr. J. J. Walsh is head teacher, with 430 on the roll; a Denominational (Church of England) with Mr. A. J. Yarrington head teacher, number on the roll 147, average attendance, 131-5. The School of Arts is a fine edifice, second to none in the colony out of Sydney. The business places, hotels, &c., as regards size and style of architecture, are superior to any out of Newcastle. Mr. J. H. Walker is railway station-master, and a commodious goods shed, railway-station, and spacious platform, built of brick has been erected by the Wallsend Coal Company. There are two banks, viz., branches of the Joint Stock and Australasian. The line through the town is enclosed by a neat palisading, and planted on each side at intervals with Moreton Bay fig trees, and in a few years the approaches to the railway will excel any other in the district. Wallsend, like the other towns in the mining district, has not been exempted from the general depression of the past year, but there are signs of a return to its former prosperity. Annual amount of rates, £700; population, 4500. Independent of the ordinary trains 'busses run hourly between Wallsend, Plattsburg, and the City of Newcastle.

Companies.

Wallsend and Newcastle Coal Mining Company; J. Y. Neilson, Esq., J.P., manager

Wallsend Purified Coke Company; E. Taylor, Esq., manager

Banks.

A.J.S. Bank, Kemp street; Mr. W. Boyd, manager

Bank of Australasia; Mr. J. M. Yelland, manager

Herald and Advocate Branch Office for Wallsend and Plattsburg, Mr. T. Ahnwick Manager.

Storekeepers.

W. W. Johnson, Kemp street
T. Fryer, Kemp street

E. Boggis, Metcalf street
W. D. Evans, Metcalf street
R. Shaw, Metcalf street
D. Duncanson, Metcalf street
T. Firkin, Murnain street
J. Hopkins, Irving street
W. Gibson, Platt street
D. Mitchell, Platt street
J. M'Alpine, Platt street
W. Gillespie, Cowper street

Saddler.

B. Wells, Metcalf street

Butchers.

P. W. Young, Kemp street
P. Pratten, Kemp street
T. Parker, Kemp street
J. Garrett, Metcalf street
H. Wilkinson, Metcalf street
W. Gillespie, Thomas street

Bakers.

W. Perry, Platt street
W. Blackwell, Metcalf street

Ironmonger.

J. P. Tyler, Murnain street

Hotels.

Colliery Inn, Kemp street, J. Trotter
Traveller's Rest, Kemp street, W. Henderson

Institutions.

Municipal Council; Mr. J. P. Tyler, Mayor; J. Daniel, Council Clerk
Wallsend School of Arts; President, Mr. J. Y. Neilson, J.P.; Secretary, Mr. H. Rushton

Churches.

Church of England, Rev. Tollis
Wesleyan, Rev. Wiles
Congregational, Rev. Adams
Welsh Congregational, Rev. Lewis

Metropolitan, Kemp street, G. Robinson
Co-operative Inn, Kemp-st. W. Harris
Railway Hotel, Kemp-st. R. Reay
Scotch Thistle Hotel, Metcalf-st. W. Gray
Australian, Metcalf-st. J. Watkin
New Ballarat, Thomas-st. W. Tildsley
Albion, Newcastle-st. T. Peel
Royal Exchange, Newcastle street, J. Longworth

Foundry.

— Morgan, Newcastle street

Hairdresser.

J. Senimens, Kemp street
Blacksmith and Wheelwright.
J. and J. Corbett, Kemp street
J. Young, Metcalf-st

Bootmakers.

W. Hogg, Metcalf street
J. Truebody, Metcalf street
J. Harris, Murnain street

Milliners.

Mrs. Boggis, Metcalf street
Miss Swinburn, Metcalf street
Miss Mitchell, Platt street
Miss Hutchinson, Platt street
Miss Hogg, Metcalf street

Undertakers.

W. Tyler, Murnain street

from: 'The Newcastle Directory 1880/81'

from SHAW, W. H. & CO.
the Newcastle Directory
1880/81

PLATTSBURG.

THIS township adjoins Wallsend, and was formerly a portion of that borough, but a division took place in 1876, when it was proclaimed a separate municipality, governed by nine councillors, over which Mr. James Richardson presides as Mayor, Mr. T. Abel as Council Clerk. At the northern extremity is situated the Co-operative Colliery and Offices, which are in close proximity to the Colliery screens, over which the coal passes into waggons for transit to Newcastle. The original Co-operative tunnel is now worked out, and the coal is being worked from a tunnel on the Wentworth Estate, and hauled from thence by stationary engines up an incline to the screens. The colliery is the property of W. Laidley, Esq., of Sydney, and is under the management of Mr. J. Fletcher, J.P. It gives employment to upwards of 430 men and boys in and about the workings, and there are about 36 horses employed underground and about the works, Mr. J. Richardson, head hostler. The output of round and small coal is about 1250 tons per diem. The seam varies from 8 feet to 8 feet 6 inches in thickness, and is known as the Wallsend seam, being a continuation of the seam worked by the A. A. Company at Newcastle. The colliery line is connected with the Wallsend line about three quarters of a mile distant from the screens. The township contains a commodious Court House and Lockup, also a Post and Telegraph Office; a neat two story brick built structure, situated in close proximity to the Court House, over which Mr. O. Haydock presides. In the township there are five places of worship—Presbyterian, Baptist, United Methodist, Primitive Methodist, and Roman Catholic; a Mechanics' Institute,—lately erected,—a spacious two story building, situated in Mary street, Mr. J. Fletcher J.P. President, Mr. T. Abel, Hon. Sec. The Public School, in order to meet the increased requirements, has been enlarged, and contains nearly 400 scholars on the roll, with Mr. Youll head master. There is also a Roman Catholic School (Mr. J. Purcell head master), and two private schools, presided over respectively by Miss Scarth and Miss Wallace. The improvements in the Municipality have been very extensive during the past year, and the Government has constructed a road communicating with Minni, along the side of which, about a mile distant from the town, is situated the private residence of Mr. Fletcher, manager of the colliery. The Medical man for the two collieries of

Wallsend and Plattsburg is Dr. Andrew Nash, whose residence and surgery is situated in Nelson-street. Mr. A. F. Moore's cordial manufactory is an important institution, and the cordials sent out are acknowledged to be of excellent quality. The annual value of rates last year, amounted to £800 but in consequence of the unprecedented depression in the district, property has much depreciated in value, but there is evident signs of a re-action, when it will doubtless rise to its original value. Population about 3,500.

Companies.

Co-operative Colliery:—W. Laidley, Esq., proprietor; James Fletcher, sen., manager; J. Fletcher, jun., colliery surveyor.

Institutions.

Mechanics' Institute; Mr. J. Fletcher, sen., president; Mr. Thomas Abel, secretary.

Municipal Council; Mr. J. Richardson, Mayor; Thos. Abel, Council clerk.

Chemist and Druggists.

Dr. A. Nash & Co., Nelson street

Mr. Marquaint, Mary street

Insurance Agents.

J. & J. Grierson, City Mutual, Kemp-st

T. Alnwick, Royal, Nelson street

T. Abel, Mercantile Mutual, Devon-st

Registrar—T. Alnwick, Nelson street

Post and Telegraph Offices—Mr. O.

Haydock, Post and Telegraph Master

Commission Agencies.

T. Alnwick, Nelson street

J. B. Tyrrell, Nelson street

Storekeepers.

R. P. House, Commercial stores, Kemp-

street

J. and J. Grierson, Kempstreet

S. McLimont, Nelson street

T. Turnbull, Nelson street

W. Turnbull, Nelson street

R. Lavis, Nelson street

J. Truscott, Nelson street

—Williams, Nelson street

Jones & Davies, Nelsonstreet

W. B. Tyrrel, Nelson street

J. McLaughlan, Devon street

A. Coxen, Devon street

T. Robinson, Devon street

G. Harris, Devon street

S. Hall, Devon street

Mrs. Duncan, Devon street

W. Chaucer, Devon street

A. Richardson, Devon street

D. Howell, Devon street

J. Cuthbertson, Kendrick street

W. Beveridge, Hannah street

Butchers.

H. Wilkinson, Devon street

G. W. Allen, Devon street

Bakers.

W. Shoesmith, Kemp street

W. Blackwell, Nelson street

J. Meikle, Devon street

Hotels.

Grapes Inn, Kemp street, F. Parkes

Commercial, Kemp street, W. McLean

Northumberland, Nelson st, W. Ralph

Lemongrove, Nelson st, J. Lewis

Old Prince of Wales, Nelson st, T. Reen

Queen's Head, Mary street, J. Brown

Great Northern, Mary st, E. Lowrey

R. Forester, Devon street

Beehive, Devon street, T. Davis

Tattersall's, Devon street, D. Jones

Royal, Devon st G. Cowell

Blacksmith.

Renfrew and Sons, Mary street

W. Gordon, Nelson-street

News Agencies.

Thomas Alnwick, Herald and Advocate

Nelson street

T. McCrae, English and Colonial, Nelson

street

Bootmakers.

H. Sykes, Nelson street

J. Portus, Nelson street

McMullen & Co., Nelson street

R. Hughes, Nelson street

Kidd & Co., Nelson-street

Tailors.

G. Stewart, Nelson street

A. McAllister, Nelson street

Tobacconists.

H. Solly, Nelson street

T. Smith, Kemp street

Undertakers.

—Wallace, Devon-street

—Froome, Kemp-street

from: 'The Newcastle Directory 1880/81'

Auckland, Invercargill, Adelaide, Wanganui, Napier.

PLATTSBURG—Trades and Professions.

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TRADES AND PROFESSIONS.

ATTORNEY

Cronin Thomas, Kemp st

AUCTIONEERS

Higgs E., Charles st
Kerr J. F., Nelson st

BAKERS

Broderick John, Nelson st
Crawford E. M. L., Harris st
Cummings Wm., Mimi rd
Dobell John, Council st
Perry Ewart C., Railway st
Scott James, Robert st
Shoesmith George, Buun st
Shoesmith Matt. E., Harris st
Slott James Hans, Clarke st
Wilkinson Francis P., John st
Wilkinson W. Harold I., Devon st

BLACKSMITHS

Alan Enoch, Cross st
Attwood Thomas, Robert st
Bower George, Devon st
Craig James, Robert st
Edwards Alexander, Mary st
Garatty James Joseph, Hannah st
Gordon John, Francis st
Gordon W. J., Clarke st
Hes Arthur, Quarry lane
McKenzie David, Nelson st
Martin Angus, Mary st
Morris D. D., Charles st
Morris D. D., Charles st
Oliver Richard, Hope st
Renfrew David, Mary st
Thomas Thomas, Mimi rd
Watson James, Clarke st

BOOTMAKERS

Best Richard, Wentworth st
McKenzie Duncan, Clarke st
O'Keefe Edward, Buun st
Richmond R., sen., Mary st
Thomas Rees, Nelson st
Thurling Wm., Nelson st

BUTCHERS

Dean Robert, Nelson st
Dean Wm., Nelson st
Fahey John, Devon st
Ingram Anthony, Rosehill
Murwan J., McNaughton's lane
Roberts A. H., Harris st
Stone R. F., Nelson st
Stone Wm., Nelson st
Thomas C. H., Rosehill
Weakley Robert, Nelson st
Wilkinson John, Mary st

CARPENTERS

Bennett Arthur, Harriett st
Bennett Charles S., Clarke st
Broadfoot W. J., Buun st
Davies Daniel R., Devon st
Donnan F., Wentworth st
Drounfield W. H. S., Kemp st
Lawson James, Wentworth st
Magin Andrew P., Hannah st
Musgrave Jonathan, Devon st

CARPENTERS (Continued)

Snowdon Robert J., Mary st
Snowdon Robert, Mary st
Owen J. Wm., Wentworth st
Stone Henry, Hill st
Sykes Thomas, Loftus st
Wallace James S., Wentworth st

CLERGYMEN

Kessell Rev. S., Clarke st
M'Ilvoy Rev. T., Boecowan st
Richards W., Devon st

COACHBUILDER

Garaty J. F., Hannah st

COLLIERY MANAGER

Barr James, Maryland

COLLIERY OWNER

Sneddon A., jun., George st

CORDIAL MANUFACTURERS

Atkinson J. T., Devon st
Groves W., Clarke st

DRAPERS

Davidson David, Devon st
Firkir Caloh, Robert st
Firkir Thomas, jun., John st
Herd Walter, Devon st
Jones Charles D., Kemp st
Ruse David Stephen, Nelson st
Thompson David S., High st

GASWORKS

Gas Co.'s Works.

GROCERS

Capewell Alfred, Clarke st
Drury Wm. H., Nelson st
Edwards Edmund, Mary st
Hodge Archibald, Robert st
Horne Charles H., John st
Horne Edward A., Robert st
Jones George H., Nelson st
Truscott Lambert, Nelson st

HAIRDRESSERS

Fisher T., Clarke st
Payne Samuel J., Nelson st
Reay Thomas, Wentworth st

HOTEL KEEPERS

Carrington—J. B. McAniff, Nelson st
Commercial—James Estell, Kemp st
Grapes Inn—Wm. Peters, Kemp st
Great Northern—W. Larkin, Devon st
Imperial—A. E. Howard, Nelson st
Lemon Grove—Joseph Lewis, Nelson st
Northumberland—C. H. Johnson, Nelson st
Post Office—A. Drummond, Nelson st
Queen Head—Joseph Howell, Mary st
Racecourse—Luke Wild, Mimi rd
Royal—Elvis Leach, Devon st
Tattersall's—Alexander Frew, Devon st

IRONMONGERS

Frowne George, Kemp st
Griffin Alfred, Robert st
Kirk John, Nelson st
Tyler A. E. P., Nelson st

LIBRARIAN

Calvert E., Devon st

PRINTER

Smith H. B., Macquarie st

PHOTOGRAPHER

Petergrew W., Hill st

SADDLERS

Fordham J., Nelson st
Heally L. J., Kenrick st
Mugrove T. H., Clarke st
Rae W. E., Mary st

STATIONERS

McCrae Thomas, Nelson st
Mansfield Albert, Nelson st

STOREKEEPERS

Bousfield Robert, Devon st
Burnley R., Nelson st
Cuthbertson J., Kenrick st
Horne W. J., Nelson st
Howell David, Devon st
Kirk John, Nelson st
Millington W. H., Nelson st
Patterson Olaf, Devon st
Truscott John, Nelson st
Young Hugh, Wentworth st

SURVEYOR

Youll G. C., Wentworth st

TAILORS

Gale Thomas, Nelson st
Gay Samuel, John st
Hitchcock A. J., Devon st
Houston Joseph, Macquarie st
M. Allister H., Nelson st
Muir George, Nelson st
Sinclair Thomas, Macquarie st
Stewart George, Nelson st

TINSMITHS

Davis J. J., Devon st
Lawler W. J., Nelson st

VETERINARY SURGEONS

Marston C., Devon st
Richardson J. W., Brook st

WATCHMAKERS

Gott James, Clarke st
Ralph A., Devon st

from: 'Federal Director of Newcastle & District, 1901'

SARGOOD, BUTLER, NICHOL & EWEN, Importers & Warehousemen.

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WALLSEND—Trades and Professions.

TRADES AND PROFESSIONS.

BAKERS

Broderick J., Brookstown
Cook Wm., Brook st
Cummings, Geo., Brown st
Green C., Brown st
Gunn E., Metcalfe st
Thompson Henry, Pittown

BANK MANAGERS

Rogers H. T., Kemp st
Turner, J. Henry, Kemp st

BLACKSMITHS

Beecham J., Brookstown
Duguid J., Murnain st
Gilbert C. M., Whitton st
Morris S., Whitton st
Morris Wm., Whitton st
Roberts A., Metcalfe st
Rushton Hy., Campbell st
Smart F. C., Whitton st

BOOTMAKERS

Goodson A., Heaton
Green W. J., Brook st
Hughes E. E., Metcalfe st
Morris A. E., Thomas st
Simpson J., Irving st
Stephenson T. W. N., Pittown
Stewart G. W., Campbell st

'BUS PROPRIETORS

Gillespie C. E., Whitton st
James T., Murnain st

BUTCHERS

Brodie W., Thomas st
Dean R., Kemp st
Hill Thos. G., Murnain st
Johnson W. T., Murnain st
Johnson Ann & Sons, Company's Farms
Kuprecht C. J., Metcalfe st

CHEMISTS

Brooks T., Low Farm
Jones W., Kemp st

CLERGYMEN

Crosby Rev. E. E., Metcalfe st
Powell Rev. W., Whitton st
Yarrington Rev. C. T. L., Brook st

COLLIERY MANAGERS

Maddison R., Campbell st
Ross A., Wallsend

DOCTORS

Bean H. K., Brook st
Fulton O. H. C., Thomas st

DRAPERS

Hays Richard B., Murnain st
Jones D., Brook st
Morgan A., Thomas st

GARDENERS

Baldwin Hy., Brook st
Mewett W., Pittown

HAIRDRESSERS

Elliott R., Whitton st
Firkim Hy., Irving st

HOTEL KEEPERS

Albion Wm. Smith, Newcastle rd
Australian J. Watkins, Metcalfe st
Colliery Inn—W. Hetherington, Kemp st
National George White, Kemp st
Rad Lion Mrs. Gilmour, Murnain st
Terminus Albert Young, Kemp st

IRONFOUNDER

Morgan E., Thomas st

IRONMONGER

Tyler A. F. P., Murnain st

LIBRARIAN

Jones Daniel, Murnain st

REGISTRAR

Fryar T., jun., Kemp st

SADDLERS

Hanna C. A., Irving st
Trotter Jos. J., Murnain st

STOREKEEPERS

Brooks J., Metcalfe st
Evans J. H., Pittown
Forbes J. A., Brown st
Fryar T., Kemp st
Goulden F., Heaton
Howell L., Platt st
JOHNSON, W. W., Kemp st
Jones Thomas H., Brook st
Lees David, Thomas st
Firkim Mrs. E., Murnain st

TAILORS

Bunn J., Newcastle rd
Llewellyn T. J., Thomas st
Panton J. J., Pittown

TINSMITH

Anderson F. J., Campbell st

WATCHMAKER

Harvey A., Thomas st

W. W. JOHNSON,

Wholesale and Retail Grocer, Draper,
Ironmonger, Timber Merchant, &c.

Established 42 Years

LARGE & VARIED STOCK TO SELECT FROM.

All Goods First-class Quality.

Proprietor of Steamships "MAGGIE JOHNSON" and "PINAFORE." Steamers leave COCKLE CREEK four days a week for TORONTO, BELMONT, SWANSEA and CRANGEN.

STEAMERS FOR HIRE: Terms, &c., on application to

W. W. JOHNSON,

KEMP STREET, WALLSEND.

APPENDIX C: INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

- C.1 INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS: CONTRIBUTORY**
 - C.2 INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS: NON-CONTRIBUTORY**
-

C.1 INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS: CONTRIBUTORY

| BUILDING ¹ NO. | CURRENT NAME | ADDRESS | AGE | ARCH MERIT ² |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| C:01 | Wallsend Enterprise Centre | 76 Cowper Street | 1877 | M-H |
| C:02 | Alam's Building | 173-175 Nelson Street | 1903 | M |
| C:03 | National Australia Bank | 155-157 Nelson Street | 1940-50 | M |
| C:04 | TAB | 151-153 Nelson Street | 1880's | M |
| C:05 | Parade Fashions | 141-143 Nelson Street | 1915-40 | M-H |
| C:06 | Harvey World Travel | 137-139 Nelson Street | 1940-50 | M |
| C:07 | Castle Realty Property Group | 109 Nelson Street | 1993 | M |
| C:08 | La Patite Salon | 105-107 Nelson Street | c1890 | L-M |
| C:09 | Clarkes Real Estate | 101-103 Nelson Street | c1890 | M |
| C:10 | Fruit Shop/Barber | 96-97 Nelson Street | c1900 | M |
| C:11 | Former Wallsend Furniture Store | 91-93 Nelson Street | c1900 | M |
| C:12 | Former Wallsend Pawn Broker | 83-85 Nelson Street | 1930-40(?) | M |
| C:13 | Remtex | 75 Nelson Street | 1860-1880(?) | M |
| C:14 | Vic Kearns Furniture | 63-65 Nelson Street | 1880-1900(?) | M |
| C:15 | Harris Wheeler | 57-61 Nelson Street | c1930 | M |
| C:16 | Moore's Building | 92 Nelson Street | 1928/29 | H |
| C:17 | St George Bank | 104-106 Nelson Street | 1886 | L-M |
| C:18 | Greater Building Society | 108-110 Nelson Street | c1880s | M |
| C:19 | Lemon Grove Hotel | 112-114 Nelson Street | c1860 | M |
| C:20 | Hamburger Haven | 118 Nelson Street | c1920(?) | M |
| C:21 | Former Westpac Bank | 122 Nelson Street | c1960(?) | M-H |
| C:22 | Doctor's Surgery | 124 Nelson Street | 1930-40 | M |
| C:23 | Pettigrew Newsagency | 126-130 Nelson Street | 1989 | L |
| C:24 | Presbyterian Church | 144 Nelson Street | 1867 | M-H |
| C:25 | Butcher's Shop | 146-150 Nelson Street | c1910(?) | M |
| C:26 | Grapes Inn | 18-20 Kemp Street | 1864-67 | M-H |
| C:27 | Thup Tim Thai | 10-12 Kemp Street | c1880(?) | M-H |
| C:28 | Wallsend Veterinary Hospital | 8 Kemp Street | c1930(?) | M |
| C:29 | Wallsend Branch Library | 67 Cowper Street | 1948 | M-H |
| C:30 | Wallsend Commercial Chambers | 69 Cowper Street | 1875 | H |
| C:31 | Wallsend Pet Shop | 71 Cowper Street | c1870 | M |
| C:32 | Mal Grant's Auto Spares | 75 Cowper Street | c1860 | M |
| C:33 | Terminus Hotel | 77 Cowper Street | c1870 | M |
| C:34 | Colliery Inn Hotel | 87 Cowper Street | c1940 | H |
| C:35 | Police Sergeants Residence | 18 Harris Street | 1885 | H |
| C:36 | Former Wallsend Post Office | 18 Tyrrell Street | 1882 | H |

WALLSEND HERITAGE MAIN STREET STUDY

WORKSHEET SUMMARY: NON CONTRIBUTORY BUILDINGS

| BUILDING ¹ NO. | CURRENT NAME | ADDRESS | AGE | ARCH MERIT ² |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| NC:01 | Fig Tree Corner | 179-121 Nelson Street | 1970-80(?) | L-M |
| NC:02 | Eagle Boys Pizza | 177 Nelson Street | 1970-80(?) | L |
| NC:03 | Wennen Real Estate | 167-171 Nelson Street | Remodelled | L |
| NC:04 | State Bank | 159-163 Nelson Street | 1970-80(?) | M |
| NC:05 | Former Mitre 10 | 147-149 Nelson Street | Remodelled | L |
| NC:06 | Freddy's Sport Scene | 145 Nelson Street | 1970-80(?) | L |
| NC:07 | Barrads Babyland | 129-135 Nelson Street | 1975-85(?) | L |
| NC:03 | Kavaras Fish & Chips | 125-127 Nelson Street | 1970-80(?) | L |
| NC:09 | Toyworld Building | 121-123 Nelson Street | 1950-60(?) | L |
| NC:10 | Surgery | 87-89 Nelson Street | Unknown | L |
| NC:11 | Angsara Wok | 79-81 Nelson Street | Unknown | L |
| NC:12 | Bargain Box Fabrics | 71-73 Nelson Street | c1870 | L |
| NC:13 | House of Peking | 69 Nelson Street | Unknown | M |
| NC:14 | House of Peking | 69 Nelson Street | Unknown | L |
| NC:15 | Wallsend Video Warehouse | 67 Nelson Street | 1890-90(?) | M |
| NC:16 | Dental Surgery | 53-55 Nelson Street | 1880-1900(?) | M |
| NC:17 | Blanch Residence | 51 Nelson Street | 1860-1880 | L |
| NC:18 | Evans Funeral Directors | 49 Nelson Street | 1920-30(?) | M |
| NC:19 | Department of Social Security | 60 Nelson Street | c1990 | L-M |
| NC:20 | The Summaland Centre | 68 Nelson Street | 1960 | L-M |
| NC:21 | CES: Job Start | 78-82 Nelson Street | c1990 | M |
| NC:22 | Nelson Arcade | 88-90 Nelson Street | 1960-70(?) | L |
| NC:23 | Treasures Hand Made Crafts | 94 Nelson Street | c1950 | L |
| NC:24 | Wallsend Arcade | 96 Nelson Street | 1960-70(?) | L |
| NC:25 | Commonwealth Bank of Australia | 100-102 Nelson Street | c1980 | M |
| NC:26 | The Chemist Shop | 116 Nelson Street | Remodelled | L |
| NC:27 | Amcal Chemist | 136 Nelson Street | Unknown | L |
| NC:28 | Wallsend Surgery | 140-142 Nelson Street | 1980-90(?) | L |
| NC:29 | BJB Auto Spares | 79-81 Cowper Street | Unknown | L |
| NC:30 | Mixed Businesses | 83-85 Cowper Street | Unknown | L |
| NC:31 | Former Wallsend Post Office | 14 Tyrrell Street | 1952 | L |

1. Building No refers to reference number given on Building Worksheet (see Appendix D)
2. Ratings: L=Low, M=Moderate, H=High

APPENDIX D: HERITAGE CONSERVATION TERMS

The following is a list of terms which have specific meanings when applied to heritage conservation.¹

Burra Charter and guidelines - Charter adopted by Australia ICOMOS which establishes the nationally accepted standard for the conservation of places of cultural significance.

Compatible Use - A use which involves no change to the cultural significant fabric, changes which are substantially reversible or changes which make a minimal impact.

Conservation - All the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance. It includes maintenance and may, according to circumstances, include preservation, restoration, reconstruction and adaptation and will be commonly a combination of more than one of these.

Cultural Significance - See Heritage significance.

Demolition - The damaging, defacing, destroying or dismantling of a heritage item or a component of a heritage conservation area, in whole or in part.

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 (EPA Act) - The statutory framework within which State and Local Government guide and control development.

Environmental Planning Instrument (EPI) - Made under the EPA Act, includes SEPPs, REPs, LEPs and DCPs.

Evaluation criteria involve two processes:

- (i) identification - describing the nature of a heritage item's significance (historic, scientific, aesthetic, social); and
- (ii) assessment - analysing how significant an item is - in other words, the degree of significance (rarity, representativeness, associative value).

Fabric - All the physical material of the heritage item.

Heritage Act, 1977 - The statutory framework for the identification and conservation of heritage in NSW. The Act also describes the composition and powers of the Heritage Council of NSW.

Heritage Council of NSW - the NSW Government's heritage advisory body established under the Heritage Act, 1977. It provides advice to the Minister for Planning and others on heritage issues. It is also the determining authority for Section 60 applications and has an important role in heritage education.

Heritage item - A landscape, place, work, building or relic of architectural, archaeological, aesthetic, social cultural, technical, scientific or natural heritage significance.

¹ Modified from "NSW Heritage: Common Terms and Abbreviations Used in Heritage Conservation", NSW Department of Planning, October 1993.

Heritage significance - Of aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, natural or aesthetic value for past, present or future generations.

Interim Conservation Order (ICO) - An order made under Section 26 of the Heritage Act to control demolition and development. The order lasts for one year or until it is revoked or a Permanent Conservation Order is made.

Local Environment Plan (LEP) - A plan prepared by a local council under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act and made by the Minister for Planning following public exhibition. It regulates the carrying out of development in a particular local government area and controls the use and development of land and the conditions under which they can take place.

Measured Drawing - A technical or architectural record of a heritage item to scale, analysing the heritage significance of the fabric (eg dates of construction, materials, etc).

Moveable Heritage - Heritage items not fixed to a site or place (eg furniture, locomotives, archives).

National Estate - See Register of the National Estate.

National Trust of Australia (NSW) - A community organisation which maintains a register of heritage items and provides advice on heritage issues. The Trust also owns and manages heritage properties throughout the state and the S.H. Ervin Gallery in Sydney.

Permanent Conservation Order (PCO) - An order made under Section 44 of the Heritage Act to protect a significant heritage item in NSW. This order remains in place indefinitely, unless revoked.

Place - A site, area or landscape or group of works, together with associated structures, contents and surrounds.

Plan of Management - In association with a Conservation Plan and its Statement of Cultural Significance and Conservation Policy for a heritage item, the Plan of Management gives guidance on how the Conservation Policy can be implemented in future development and establishes a regime for maintenance of the heritage fabric.

Preservation - Maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

Reconstruction - Returning a place as nearly as possible to a known earlier state by the introduction of materials (new or old) into the fabric (not to be confused with conjectural reconstruction).

Regional Environmental Plan (REP) - An REP is prepared by the Director of Planning and made by the minister for Planning following public exhibition. It deals with matters important to a specific region, such as land use, development and the conservation of historic buildings.

Relic - Any deposit, object or material evidence relating to post-1788 settlement or to any period of Aboriginal culture.

Restoration - Returning the EXISTING fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

Section 170 Register - Section 170 of the Heritage Act requires each New South Wales government agency to prepare and maintain a register of heritage items in their ownership or under their control.

Standard heritage conservation provisions/requirements - Standard clauses for an LEP or REP. These specify when consent for work to a heritage item is required and the matters a council must consider in determining such an application.

State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) - A statutory document which addresses matters of State significance, or which deals with issues where the statewide application of policy is necessary. SEPPs are prepared by the Director of Planning and are made by the Minister for Planning, usually following consultation with local government, the community and public authorities.

State Heritage Inventory Project (SHIP) - The Department of Planning is currently developing SHIP to assist in achieving a co-ordinated, consistent approach to the identification and assessment of heritage items. In its present draft form SHIP consists of:

- * State historical guidelines
- * evaluation criteria
- * a computer program for a databank and register
- * a policy and procedures manual.

Statutory - Those matters which occur as a result of an Act of Parliament (eg statutory instruments such as environmental planning instruments).

○

APPENDIX E: FURNITURE SUPPLIER/DISTRIBUTOR LIST

The following contact list relates to numbering annotated in Section 9.3 - 'Furniture Selection'.

| No. | Name & Address | Tel. | Fax. |
|-----|--|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | Gatic Australia 10 Waltham Street Artarmon NSW 2064 | 02) 439 7788 | 02) 439 6312 |
| 2. | Canon Marketing Australia 64 Admiralty Drive Paradise Waters QLD 4217 | 0755) 312 353 | 0755) 915 610 |
| 3. | W.K. Moodie & Associates Suite D, 33 College Street Gladesville NSW 2111 | 02) 816 1133 | 02) 816 3417 |
| 4. | Urban Design Furniture 81-83 Charles Street North Coburg VIC | 03) 350 6366 | 03) 354 9220 |
| 5. | CBD Furniture (Street & Garden Furniture Co. by David Shaw) 27 Rogers Street West End QLD 4101 | 07) 844 1951 | 07) 844 9337 |
| 6. | Emerdyn p/l 24 Wiggs Road Riverwood NSW 2210 | 02) 534 1314 | 02) 534 5298 |
| 7. | ACO Polycrete Products p/l 185 Briens Rd Northmead NSW 2152 | 02) 630 2788 | 02) 630 2733 |

APPENDIX F: TYPES OF SIGNS

The following table has been extracted from Ordinance 50 of the Local Government Act, 1919 which was repealed in July 1993. Nevertheless, the definitions given below are still in common usage.

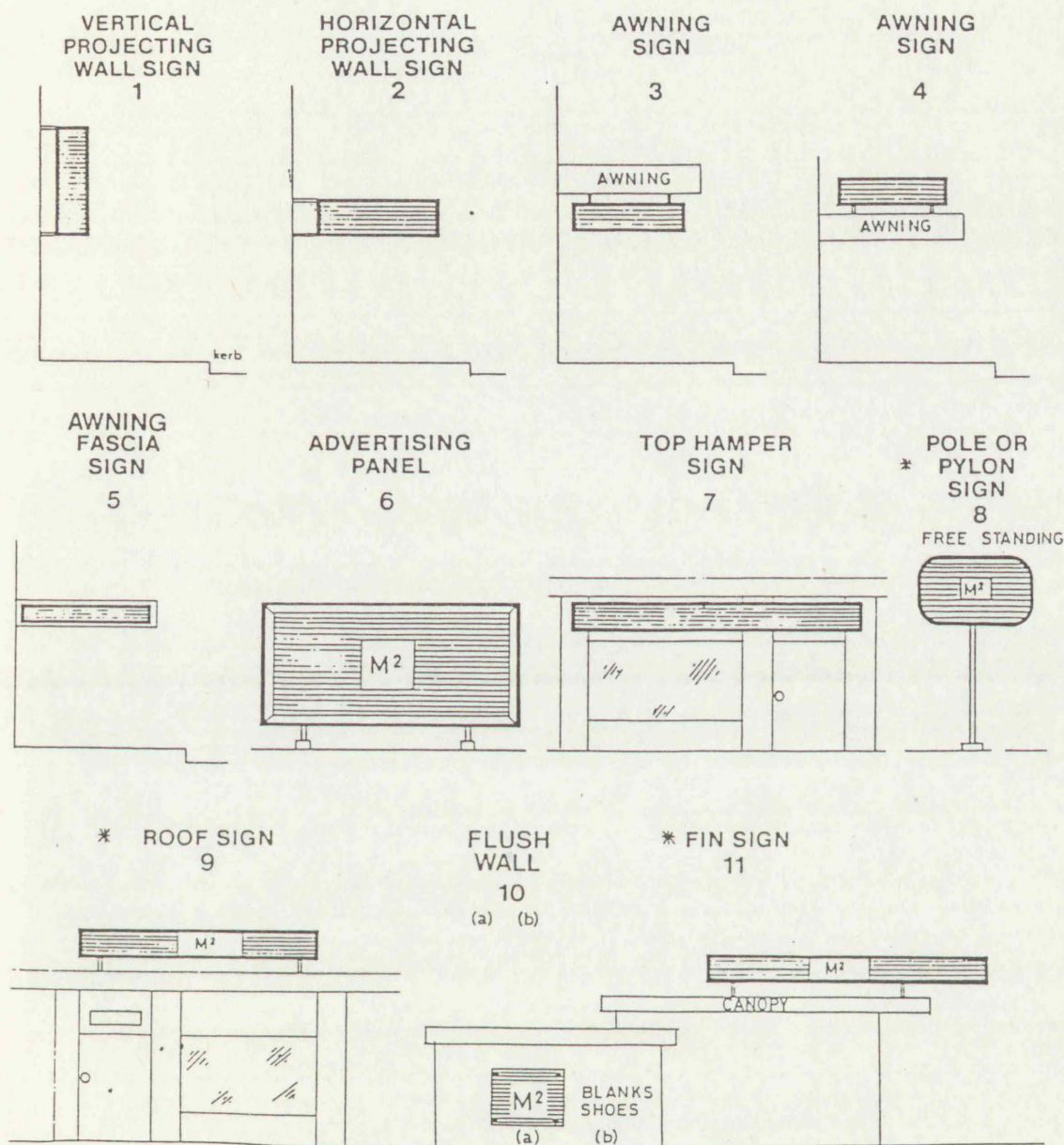
0.55, Sch.1

REGULATION OF ADVERTISEMENTS, ETC.

SCHEDULE 1.

Cl. 3.

| COLUMN 1. | COLUMN 2. |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Description of advertising structure | Class of advertising structure |
| Attached to the fascia or return end of an awning | fascia sign |
| Attached to an awning (other than the fascia or return end) | awning sign |
| Erected on or above the canopy of a building | fin sign |
| Erected on or above the roof or parapet of a building | roof sign |
| Attached to the transom of a doorway or display window of a building | top hamper sign |
| Attached to the wall of a building (other than the transom of a doorway or display window) and not projecting horizontally more than 0.3m from the wall | flush wall sign |
| Attached to the wall of a building (other than the transom of a doorway or display window) and projecting horizontally more than 0.3m from the wall | projecting wall sign |
| Illuminated (as to any part of the advertising area) at frequent intervals by an internal source of artificial light and whether or not included in any other class of advertising structure | flashing sign |
| Illuminated (as to any part of the advertising area) by an external source of artificial light and whether or not included in any other class of advertising structure. | floodlit sign |
| Erected on a pole or pylon independent of any building or other structure | pole or pylon sign |
| Attached to a building and capable (as to any part of the advertisement or advertising structure) of movement by any source of power (whether or not included in any other class of advertising structure) | moving sign |
| Any other advertising structure which is unilluminated, including a hoarding or bulletin board | advertising panel |



Figures F1. Types of Signs

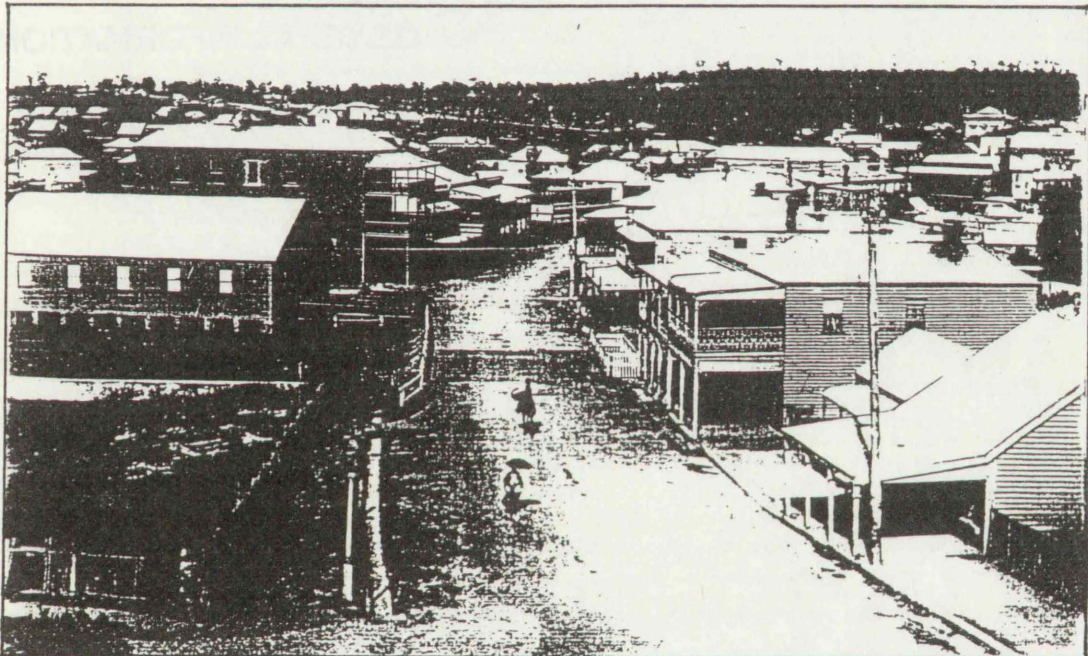
It should be noted that the above drawings are for reference only. In accordance with the guidelines (ie Section 7), projecting signs (1 & 2) above awnings signs (4), advertising panels (6), pole signs (8), roof signs (9) and fin signs (11) are not permitted in the Wallsend Commercial Precinct.

APPENDIX G: DRAFT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN



NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL

**WALLSEND
HERITAGE
MAIN STREET
STUDY**



**DRAFT DEVELOPMENT
CONTROL PLAN**

EJE TOWN PLANNING

412 KING STREET
NEWCASTLE

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

EJE LANDSCAPE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

AND

CYNTHIA HUNTER, CONSULTANT HISTORIAN

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PART 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

The Wallsend Business District contains numerous valued old buildings, some of which are recognised heritage items. Newcastle City Council considered it appropriate that a Heritage Main Street Study be undertaken for the Wallsend Business District and secured funds from the NSW Department of Urban Affairs and Planning - Heritage Assistance Program.

Wallsend's business district has the potential to become a unified precinct whilst still maintaining individuality within building design. Townscape improvement that is possible within the precinct includes the strengthening of the 'entry points' to the area; provision of pedestrian links between the precinct and Wallsend Plaza, Wallsend Park, Federal Park, and also within the precinct; and the identification and enhancement of nodal focus points such as Rotunda Park.

This Development Control Plan proposes policies and advice on the future direction of the Wallsend Business District, determined from the Wallsend Heritage Main Street Study, prepared by EJE Landscape in March, 1996.

1.2 Citation

This document, which may be cited as Newcastle Development Control Plan No. **, is a Development Control Plan as provided for under section 72 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (EPA) Act 1979. It was adopted by Council on ** of **** 1996 and came into operation on ** of **** 1996.

1.3 Aims

The aims of the Plan are:

a) to provide a set of Design Principles

and Guidelines that will encourage appropriate development/ improvements to reinforce the existing character of Wallsend.

b) to encourage the conservation and restoration of buildings with heritage significance.

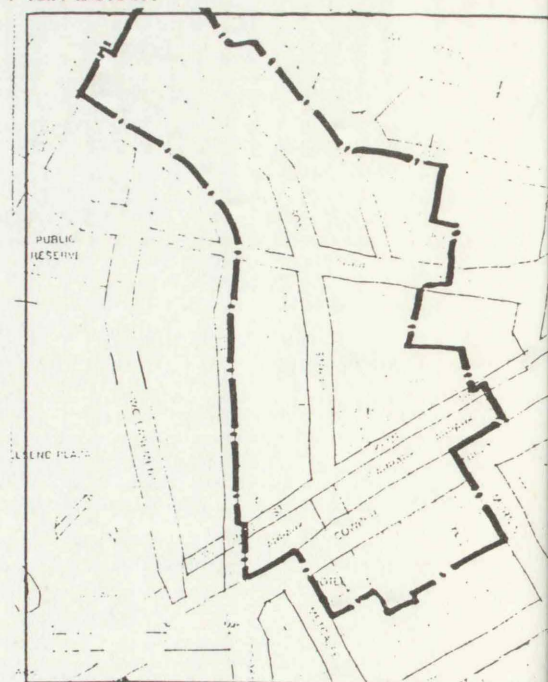
c) to assist developers in the design of new buildings and additions/renovations to existing buildings.

1.4 Land to Which this Plan Applies

This Plan applies to land in Wallsend, Newcastle, and relates to Cowper Street (between Metcalfe and Murnin Streets) and Nelson Street (between Cowper and Bunn/Clarke Streets), Wallsend.

These two streets represent the traditional 'Main Street' area of Wallsend and so contain most of the old commercial and civic buildings.

The area is shown by heavy edging on the Plan below.



1.5 History of Area

The Wallsend district was settled for agricultural purposes by several European families in the 1820s-30s. In the late 1850s however, it was coal mining that set the theme for the future of Wallsend, through the Newcastle Wallsend Coal Mining Company, led by J. and A. Brown.

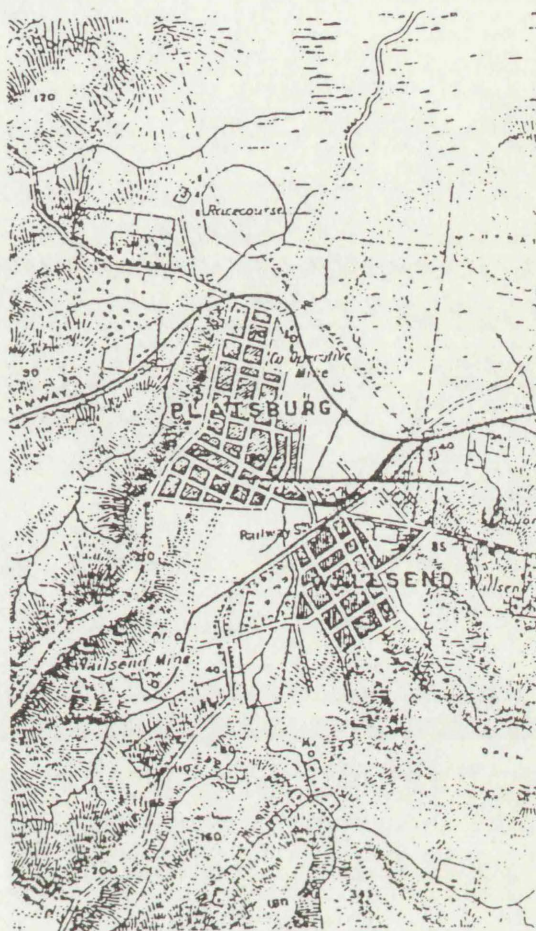
Wallsend then experienced a boom of hotels, shops, a post office, schools, churches, school of arts, etc. throughout the 1860s, all reliant on the mining population of the surrounding area.

In 1865, after a major strike by miners in the district, a cooperative coal mining company, led by James Fletcher, opened a mine in the new area of 'Plattsburg'. There was a distinct social divide between Wallsend and Plattsburg, the former being more affluent, the latter being associated with its working class roots. The name Plattsburg no longer exists and the whole area is now known as Wallsend.

From 1880 to the early 1900s, Wallsend experienced vigorous growth and the commercial activity was reflected in the building of new shops and the renovation of existing in new materials and designs. The 1930s saw a decline in mining and therefore business in Wallsend. However in the 1950s new housing came onto the market from the mining companies, and renewal of many shops then took place.

From the 1970s to the present, the town of Wallsend has again undergone major changes due to further expansion of housing, and the effects of the 1989 earthquake and subsequent demolition of historic buildings.

Prior to settlement flooding would have been a natural process helping to shape the local landscape and environment. The narrowing of the Wallsend Plattsburg catchment suggests that the land to which this Plan applies was originally part of a natural floodway. This is consistent with historic evidence of frequent flooding in



WALLSEND AND PLATTSBURG, 1892

the Tyrrell and Nelson Street areas, even prior to the extensive development of the catchment that exists today. Although early commercial development appears to have been consciously placed on the higher ground of Plattsburg and Wallsend each side of where flooding was thought to occur, eventually Nelson Street was constructed across the low lying partly swampy land to connect the two town centres. From 1870, something of a building boom lined this portion of Nelson Street. Although raised floor levels suggest flooding was considered, over time major flooding of shops in this portion of Nelson Street was still experienced, with reports of shop windows being broken by flood waters, and inundation up to counter height.

PART 2

GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1 Other Relevant Documents

This Plan makes reference to other planning documents which Council will take into consideration when determining applications. The documents referred to are:

- a) Newcastle Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 1987. This is the statutory planning instrument for the control of development throughout the City of Newcastle.
- b) Newcastle DCP No.19 - Outdoor Advertising Code.
- c) Newcastle Development Control Plan (DCP) No.24 - Car-parking Code. This Plan establishes detailed guidelines and requirements for car-parking throughout the City. Where this DCP and DCP 19 differ, this DCP shall preside.
- d) Newcastle DCP No.33 - Landscape Design Principles & Guidelines.
- e) Council's Shoptop Housing Policy.
- f) Wallsend Heritage Main Street Study - 1996.
- g) Wallsend Landscape Masterplan - 1996.

2.2 Submission of a Development Application

Development Applications (DAs) are required for the following:

- a) New development or redevelopment
- b) Major alterations and/or additions

to any building

- c) Change of use from one form of development to another (eg. office to shop)
- d) Heritage Items (as identified in the LEP) - any alterations or additions affecting the exterior of the building.

This Plan will be considered by Council in assessing development proposals. Council may refuse consent to a development which does not comply with this Plan, or may modify the development by way of conditions so that it does comply.

Applicants are advised to contact the relevant planning officer for the area prior to lodging a DA to discuss their proposal. Council's Planning staff will consult Council's Heritage Advisor on all applications affecting heritage items.

A full explanation of the Development Application process is set out in Council's DA Guide. A copy of the Guide can be obtained from Council's Customer Enquiry Centre which is located on the Ground Floor of the Council Administration Office at 282 King Street, Newcastle. The telephone number of the Customer Enquiry Centre is (049) 299 495.

2.3 Heritage Conservation

A Heritage Item is a building listed under Schedule 4 of the NCC LEP 1987. The Items that exist in the area covered by this DCP include:

- 1 Fellowship House (former School of Arts), 69 Cowper St.
- 2 Wallsend Locomotive Shed, 76 Cowper St.
- 3 Terminus Hotel, 77 Cowper St.

-
- 4 Stables, 81 Cowper St. (rear of 4 Campbell St.)
 - 5 Wallsend Civic Precinct, Harris St. Including:
 - Public Reserve
 - Rotunda
 - Post Office
 - Courthouse
 - Police Office
 - Police Station
 - Lockup
 - Stables

These items and area have been identified as having heritage significance. The preservation of these buildings is encouraged and a Development Application is required for any alterations or additions proposed for these items. It is suggested that contact be made with Heritage Advisory Service free of charge to provide expert advice on the restoration of properties which are of heritage significance and/or in conservation areas.

2.4 Landscape Design

The Wallsend Landscape Masterplan applies to the area covered by this Plan. The specific aims of the Masterplan are:

- ☐ to reinforce the entry points and corridors to the commercial precinct;
- ☐ to improve linkages and circulation within the commercial area of Wallsend; and
- ☐ to enhance street environment and amenity.

The provisions of Council's DCP 33 - Landscape Design Principles and Guidelines, should be considered in any Development Application.

2.5 Car Parking

The use of existing public car parking is encouraged. Where development is proposed, the applicant shall provide car parking in accordance with Council's Car-Parking Code (DCP No.24)

Access from the main street frontage of

commercial buildings is discouraged. Rear land access is suitable provided the design of the entrance and exit to the property enhances the streetscape of the lane way or rear street.

2.6 Zoning

Newcastle LEP 1987 (as amended) should be read to obtain the current zoning of the property.

2.7 Definitions

This DCP adopts the Newcastle Local Environmental Plan (LEP) definitions and those as appear under the EPA Act Model Provisions 1980. Specific words and phrases particular to this DCP include:

AWNING:

A suspended or cantilevered canopy located between the ground and first floors.

FACADE:

The front face of a building.

FENESTRATION:

The arrangement of openings (ie windows and doors) to the first floor.

ORNAMENTATION:

Applied decoration used primarily to improve the appearance of a building.

PARAPET:

A projecting wall used to conceal or partially conceal the roof.

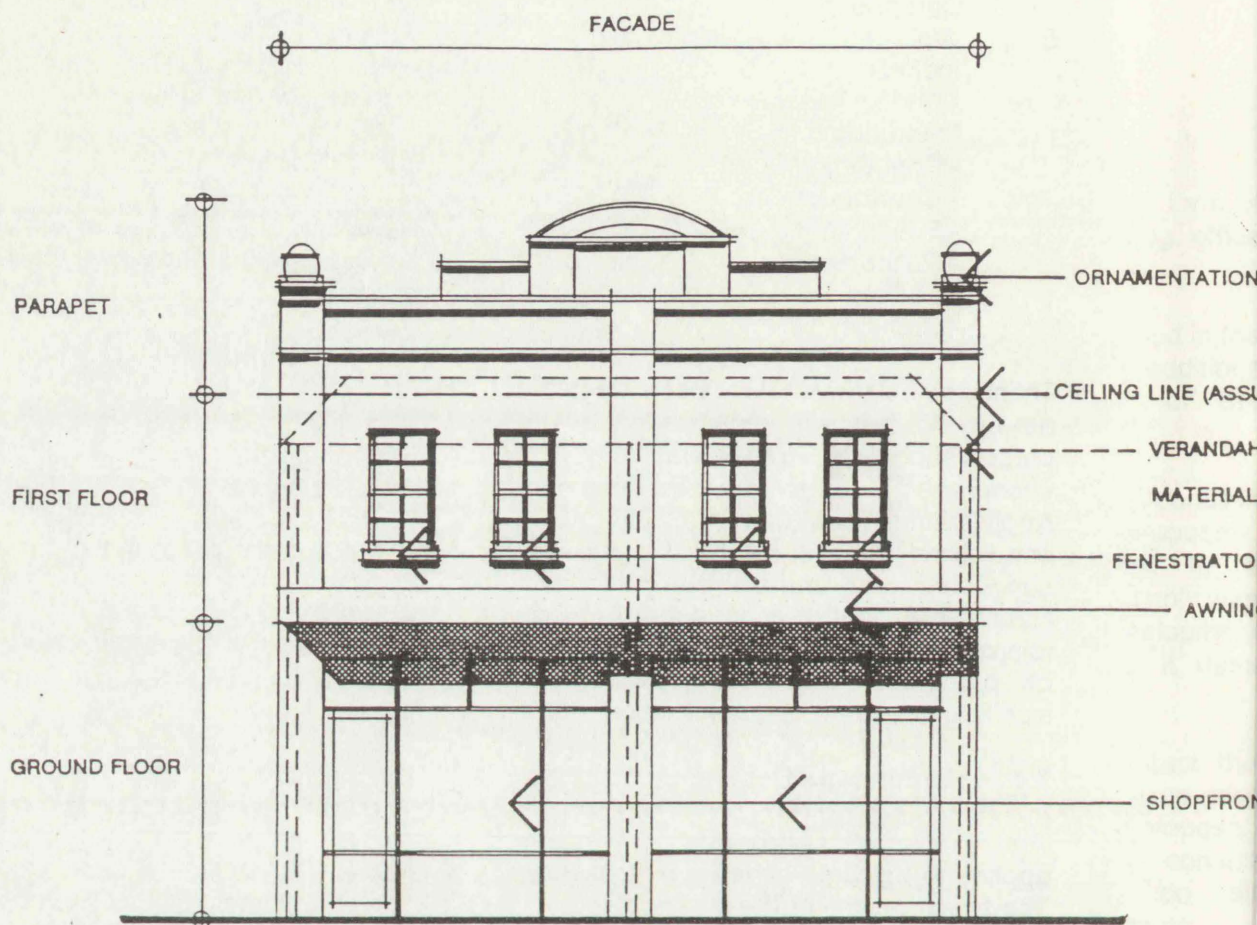
SHOPFRONT:

The front, ground floor section of the facade including doorway, display windows and surrounds.

VERANDAH:

The open area attached to the building with a roof supported by the building on one side and posts or columns on the other. It may be single or double storey.

Please refer to the following diagram for a graphic explanation of these features.



KEY DIAGRAM

Council, in cooperation with other relevant Authorities has commenced the preparation of a City Wide Flood Management Plan. This is a major undertaking, and (subject to funding) is expected to take several years to complete. For the present, (other than DCP 18 - Interim Policy on Floodplain Management for the Hunter River Flood Plain 1988), Council does not have an adopted Flood Management Policy for the area of this Development Control Plan. In the interim, Development proposals will be considered on a merits based approach in accordance with the principles of the NSW Government Floodplain Development Manual (1984), based on the best available flood information at the time.

Council's flood information in the area of this DCP is incomplete. For legal reasons, flood information can only be obtained in writing. To guide and facilitate obtaining this advice, Council's "Flood Information Application Form" should be used.

PART 3

URBAN STRUCTURE

3.1 Approaches

The Wallsend Business Precinct is approached by major arterial roads including Newcastle Road, Minmi Road and Lake Road. These approaches should be acknowledged through the use of minor legibility keys such as signage from the south along Lake Road from the freeway roundabout, from the north along the western end of Nelson Street from Minmi Road, from the east along Newcastle Road from the Wallsend roundabout, and from the north east along Cowper Street from Minmi Road.

Nearer identification can be achieved through landscaping along Cowper Street between the Lake Road roundabout and the Newcastle Road roundabout, among Tyrrell Street from the Newcastle Road roundabout to the Bunn Street intersection, and along Kokera and Bunn Streets, between Cowper and Nelson Streets.

The design of corner buildings should recognise their importance as dominant elements in the streetscape

Through the above identification and treatment, the Wallsend Business Precinct will become an obvious and attractive destination for passers-by as well as the local population.

3.2 Linkages

Pedestrian links in the precinct include access via three existing bridge crossings at Dan Rees Streets, Tyrrell Street and the footbridge to Wallsend Plaza. These links should be enhanced and people encouraged to utilise them. This can be achieved through the creation of definite pathways from Nelson Street and Wallsend Plaza to each bridge access.

The opportunity to link Nelson Street with

other assets in the area such as lunch venues, sporting facilities and public reserves, should also be maximised.

Other opportunities exist to develop pedestrian links between open spaces such as a linear link along the stormwater channel between Wallsend Park and Federal Park, and radiating links from Nelson Street to open spaces and other facilities.

3.3 Edges

The commercial centre of Wallsend should be confined to the corresponding business zone, as identified in the zoning plans of the Newcastle LEP 1987.

The treatment of the rear elevations of buildings as discussed in section 3.1.5 should be noted due to the edge that these elevations create.

Other edges that form the Wallsend Commercial Precinct include the stormwater channel, Cowper Street, and Charles Street. These areas should be treated as per recommendations in the Wallsend Landscape Masterplan (including plantings and hard edge treatments).

3.4 Landmarks

The following landmarks should be retained and where appropriate enhanced to enforce their status within Wallsend:

- Rotunda Park
- Post Office, Court House and Police Station Group
- Colliery Inn Hotel
- Wallsend Enterprise Centre (Tram Building)
- St Andrews Church
- Lemon Grove Hotel, and
- The Railway Gates

PART 4

URBAN FORM

4.1 Height

Buildings within the commercial precinct of Wallsend shall have a maximum height of two storeys, with a third level only permitted if it is to be used for residential purposes and is set back from the street.

4.2 Density

The existing commercial floor space ratio (FSR) that applies to areas zoned commercial in Newcastle is 1.25:1. However Council may consider proposed redevelopment of existing commercial buildings applications on their merit.

4.3 View Corridors

Views to significant landmarks should be preserved. Additional views within the precinct should be retained and where appropriate enhanced. These views are identified in the Wallsend Heritage Main Street Study - Site Analysis by EJE Landscape, 1996.

PART 5

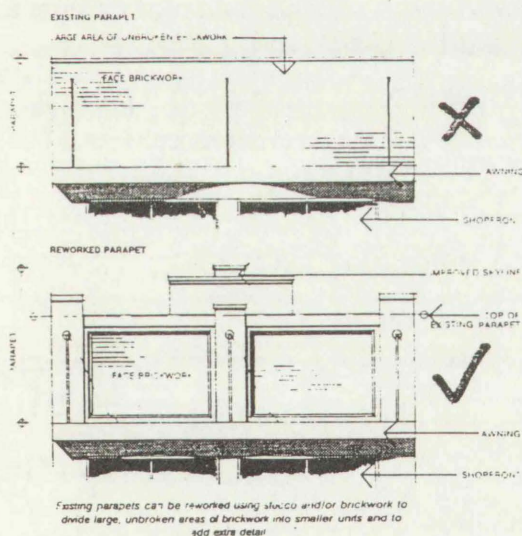
CHANGES TO BUILDINGS

5.1 Building Elements

5.1.1 Parapets

The majority of parapets in the Wallsend Commercial District are either stepped and/or include decorative elements. Designs for changes to parapets should be based on existing parapets found elsewhere in the area.

Parapets should not be sloping but be kept close to the building line, and consideration should be given to what impact the parapet will have on the skyline.



REWORKING EXISTING PARAPETS

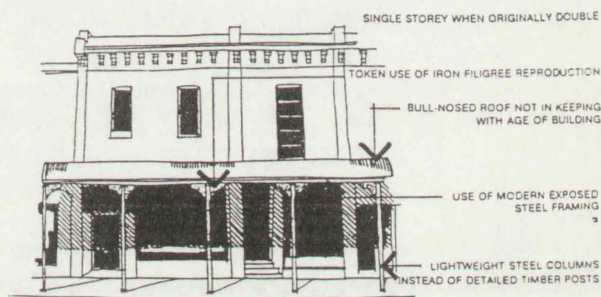
5.1.2 Awnings and Verandahs

A major consideration when designing an awning or verandah is ensuring that it is in keeping with the age of the building.

Further, only when it is demonstrated that a building once had a verandah or awning, is it appropriate to replace the structure. In this case, the design should match the original.

The use of barrel vaults, inclined awnings, and modern materials (such as plastics and glass) are not encouraged.

All verandahs need to comply with Council's building regulations. Please contact Council's Environmental Management Division for advice in this regard.



INAPPROPRIATE AWNING ADDITION

5.1.3 Fenestration

Fenestration is an important element of the facade of a building. Buildings should have complementary first floor fenestration to those of existing contributory buildings.

Proportional arrangements are suitable, whilst fenestrations with a large amount of glazing, emphasised vertical or horizontal treatment, banking of windows rather than single units, or blank walls are not encouraged.

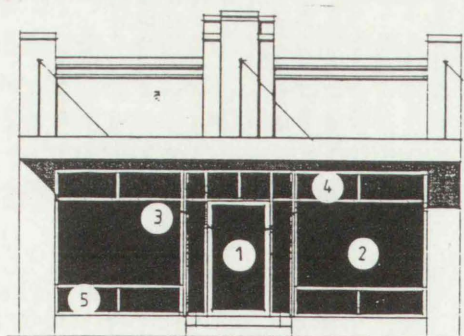
5.1.4 Shopfronts

Wallsend Commercial Precinct has the opportunity to provide the customer with a unique shopping experience. The major way this will be achieved is through ensuring that each building conforms to a theme based on preeminent evidence, but provides visual variety within the theme.

The commercial precinct of Wallsend should be treated as a whole. In this respect, the following guidelines should be considered:

- shopfronts should be complementary to the rest of the building,
- there should be an avoidance of open shopfronts and large areas of plain glass,
- shopfronts should be kept on the building line with recesses for doorways and display windows,
- aim to have shopfronts contributing to the overall appearance of the shop and streetscape.

- ① RECESSED DOORWAY
- ② LARGE AREAS OF GLAZING STILL MAINTAINED FOR DISPLAY PURPOSES
- ③ ADDITIONAL MULLIONS INCLUDED TO CREATE A SHOPFRONT MORE IN KEEPING WITH THE STYLE OF THE BUILDING
- ④ TOP HAMPER REINSTATED
- ⑤ LOW WALL CREATED IN GLAZING



REDESIGN OF SHOPFRONTS

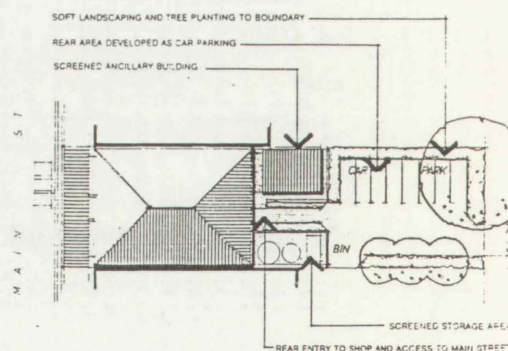
5.1.5 Rear Elevations and Approaches

Because of the changing nature of pedestrian movements and the use of streets other than Nelson and Council

Streets, the rear elevations of shops which were once unseen now provide the opportunity of creating a second frontage

The following guidelines reflect the changing nature of the area with regard to rear elevations and approaches.

- consider provision of through access to the main street,
- provide customer parking in rear yard areas, possibly with the amalgamation of adjacent property
- introduce soft landscaping elements into rear areas, including screens where appropriate
- the colour, materials, signage, etc., should relate to the front facade of the building,
- adequate lighting to be provided
- provide awning or verandah to rear elevation,
- introduce a rear parapet to conceal roof line, and
- use brick paving consistent with design guidelines to improve legibility of pedestrian routes



IMPROVEMENTS TO REAR ACCESS

5.1.6 Materials

The majority of buildings in the Wallsend Commercial Precinct are constructed of face brick or stuccoed finish. These are the preferred use of materials for renovation.

As such the use of new materials such as profiled metal sheeting, moulded and pre-cast elements, flat sheet and composite panel, etc., are not recommended.

Applied finishes such as paint or stucco cement render should be used. Modern coating products such as Granosite should be avoided.

5.1.7 Ornamentation

Ornamentation has an important role to play in the appearance of a building. New ornamentation should be in scale with the building.

Where possible, ornamentation should reflect that of what has been on the building in the past, and as seen in old photographs and/or sketches of the building, or on advice from Council's Heritage Advisor.

Specific guidelines for ornamentation include:

- maintain consistency (especially in relation to scale) with other buildings in the area
- appropriate types of ornamentation include:
 - Copings - capping courses often sloped and/or projected
 - Cornices - projecting decorative features along the top of a wall
 - Mouldings - an ornamental stucco strip
 - Pilasters/Engaged Piers - vertical rectangular elements projecting from the face of a wall
 - Rendered Panels - discrete areas of stucco applied over brickwork
 - String Courses - horizontal bands on the facade to emphasise horizontal divisions
 - Stucco - a thin decorative finish, commonly cement render, applied to external masonry walls.

PART 6
INFILL DEVELOPMENT

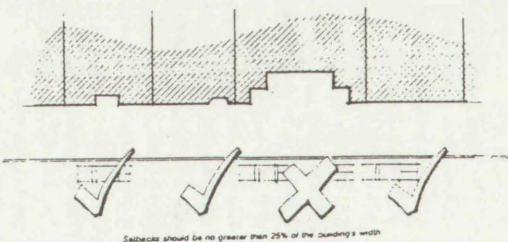
When designing new development for vacant land, the applicant should refer to the document "INFILL" produced by the Heritage Council of NSW and the RAI (NSW Chapter), 1988.

6.1 Siting and Setback

Strengthening of the existing lineal pattern of the Wallsend Commercial District is encouraged.

This continuity, combined with existing breaks in the straight edges of the street such as Rotunda Park and the former railway corridor, will enable consistency between new and existing building relationships.

Setbacks greater than 25% of the building's width are to be avoided. Setbacks are to be consistent with adjoining properties.

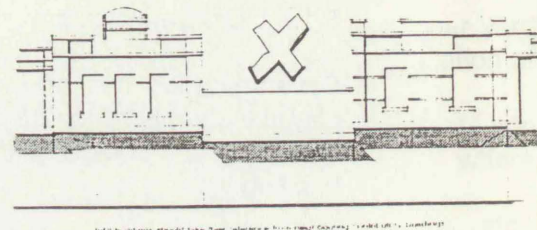


PREFERRED SETBACKS

6.2 Scale

'Scale' refers to how people perceive the size of building elements or spaces relative to other forms in the same context. For example, if doorways for existing buildings were twice the size of

standard doorways, then the existing doors would become the appropriate scale.



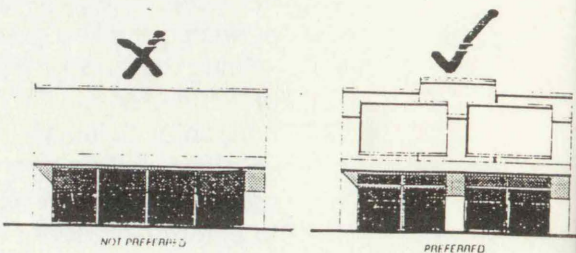
MAINTAIN SCALE AND SIZE

6.3 Facades

The composition of the facade for new buildings should incorporate shopfront, awning or verandah, first floor fenestration and parapet.

Facades should be broken up using vertical and horizontal elements to match existing proportions of existing buildings.

A continuation of wide, blank facades is to be avoided. This can be achieved through the use of horizontal and vertical elements as described above, or through the breaking up of the facade into smaller units.



TREATMENT OF WIDE FACADES

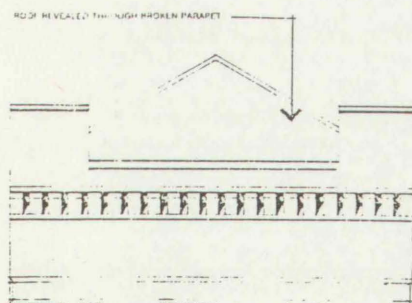
6.4 Parapets

Parapets should be introduced where possible, however it may be applicable not to use parapets on corner sites and detached buildings.

Again the design of parapets should relate to existing buildings in terms of height and detailing.

Broken parapets (ie parapets that are not continuous and reveal partial sections of roof) are acceptable provided they contribute to the urban character and consider the overall building design of Wallsend.

High parapets are not generally recommended unless they are associated with a two storey verandah or other design that requires the parapet being raised in order to be seen.



BROKEN PARAPET

6.5 Roof Form and Shape

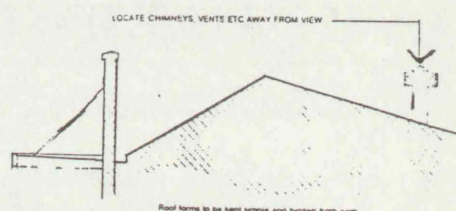
Roofs are to be hidden from view where possible. This can be achieved through the use of parapets (as seen above).

If exposed, roof shapes should be generally simple, uncomplicated structures. Chimneys, ducts, vents, etc are to be concealed and/or located to the

rear of the roof, at the least obvious position.

Preferred roof materials include corrugated iron sheets, slate and shingles. Klip-lok and Trimdek-type profile materials are not acceptable.

Colours of the roof material should be clear/grey, white and dark shades of red, with no blues, greens or yellows.



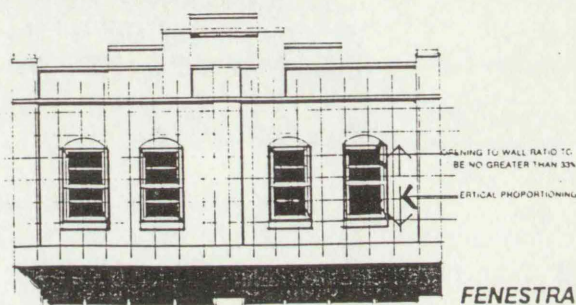
USE OF PARAPETS

6.6 Fenestration

To ensure that buildings have a solid appearance to them, the window/opening to wall ratio for the first floor band should be approximately 1:4 (25%), although this may be varied between 1:5 (20%) and 1:3 (33%).

The openings should have a vertical emphasis, include mullions to break-up large areas of glass, and use timber sections rather than aluminium. The banking of windows should also be avoided.

The fenestration of the building should consider the impact to the overall design of the building and the impact on the character of Wallsend.



FENESTRATION

6.7 Materials

The preferred materials for new infill development are face brick, painted brick and stuccoed brickwork. Also, materials that blend in with the materials used on existing buildings, with some latitude on colour selection, are also suggested.

Modern materials may be used providing their proportions and detail match the existing context. Avoid the use of profiled and fleet sheets and obviously-modern building products.

6.8 Active Shopfront

An active shopfront creates interest which encourages pedestrians to be drawn along leading them from one business to the next. Where interruptions occur, businesses can be disadvantaged by a reduction in pedestrian movement.

Service providers (banks, surgeries, etc.) tend to be the main cause of these interruptions due to introspective design of shop fronts with little connection to the street.

Consideration should be given to making interiors and reception areas more attractive through the use of bright colours and attractive furnishings. Closed curtains and blanked out windows should be avoided.

6.9 Colour Schemes

As painted colour schemes form an integral part of the character of the streetscape, new infill development and renovations to existing building should be painted according to the schemes as set out in the Wallsend Heritage Main Street Study - Design Guidelines, prepared by EJE Landscape, 1996.

6.10 Outdoor Dining

Outdoor dining is encouraged in this precinct. Reference should be made to Council's Policy for Outdoor Eating.

Outdoor dining furniture should enhance the character of the street, and be in-keeping with section 8.2 - Furniture.

PART 7 SIGNAGE

When designing signage the following principles should be adopted:

- signs should improve and develop the character of Wallsend, not detract from it;
- the sign should be appropriate to the building in terms of age, style, function, scale and colour;
- locate the sign so that it does not compete with other signage;
- use a minimum number of signs on one building;
- do not obscure architectural features of a building by signage;
- signs should promote the business, not products the business sells (except temporary 'sale' signs);
- traditional signage must be used on heritage buildings;
- no projecting signs are to be used;
- non-illuminated signs are preferred. Where signs are lit, they should only be below under the awning level;
- compatibility with the same business signs, or signs on the same building, is encouraged (ie same type/size and colour for each building).
- Vertical signage should be avoided.

The following signs will not be permitted in the area:

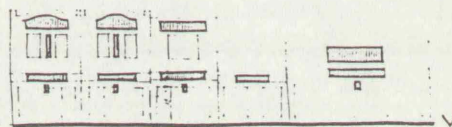
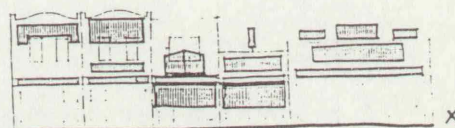
- projecting signs
- above awning signs
- advertising panels
- pole signs
- roof signs
- fin signs.

Signage on heritage buildings shall be designed in accordance with the original signage details as researched. All maintenance, repair, etc. should be

consistent with the age and style of the heritage building.

These guidelines seek to supplement existing controls (ie NCC's DCP No.19 - 'Outdoor Advertising Sign Code').

For more assistance with signage, please refer to Council's Heritage Advisor, or Council's Environmental Management Division.



DEVELOPING PATTERNS & THEMES

PART 8

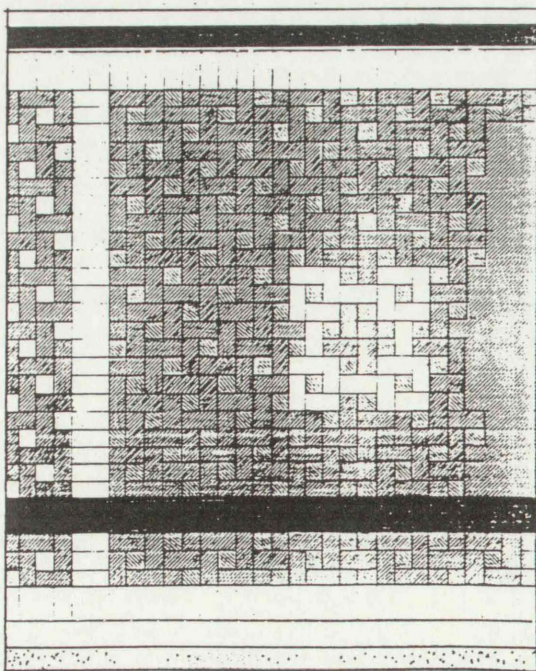
STREET DETAILS

8.1 Paving

Although the Newcastle theme of paving has been the basis for the suggested layout, the pattern and preferred pavers have been changed to make them unique to Wallsend.

At nodal points or adjacent to special buildings, or particularly public areas, such as Rotunda Park, special designs for feature paving could be commissioned to provide interest and to complement unique aspects of the area.

Reminiscent of a coal seam, a banding of charcoal concrete pavers could run longitudinally along the footpaths, in a fairly loose configuration. This treatment of the footpath and adjacent areas is intended to relate the past activities of the Wallsend area to the present. The local community and visitors alike may gain an understanding of the Wallsend's coal mining past through this treatment.



Proposed Wallsend Main Street Paving Design

8.2 Furniture

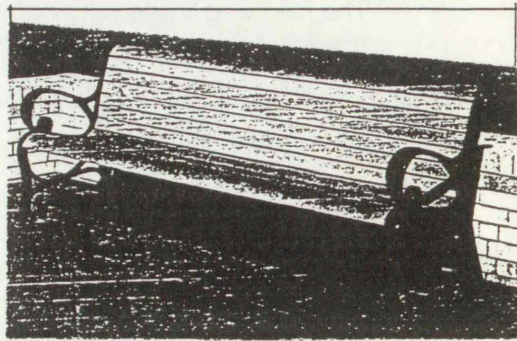
The street furniture selected for the Wallsend commercial precinct is reflective of the themes as identified in section 8.1 above.

Street furniture items include:

- Benches / Seats
- Bollards
- Balustrade Fencing
- Drinking Fountains
- Tree Guards
- Tree Gates
- Rubbish Receptacles
- Post Lighting
- Post Signage
- Bicycle Racks
- Pit Covers
- Bus Shelters

Note: The future development of the Wallsend Commercial Precinct relies not only on this Development Control Plan, but also on other Council policy and controls, such as the 'Shoptop Housing' policy.

When a proposal is submitted to Council, these policies and guidelines should also be taken into account. Please contact Council's Planning and Development Division for advice in this instance.



Benches/Seats

TimberForm⁽¹⁾ Restoration bench with custom backrest.

APPENDIX H: AMENDMENTS TO N.C.C. LEP, 1987

The following items were identified during the Wallsend Heritage Main Street Study performed by EJE Landscape, Newcastle, as having the possibility of being of heritage significance to at least the community of Wallsend/Newcastle, and therefore worthy of inclusion on Newcastle's LEP 1987, Schedule 4 - Heritage Items.

These items should be treated as having at least local significance until further investigation can be carried out to determine their appropriate significance.

| Description of Heritage Item | | Suggested Significance |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Cowper Street, 27 | Colliery Inn Hotel | Local ¹ |
| Cowper Street, 75 | Former Ambulance Station | Local |
| Nelson Street, 75 | Truscott's General Store | Local |
| Nelson Street, 92 | Moore's Building | Local |
| Nelson Street, 112 | Lemon Grove Hotel | Local ² |
| Nelson Street, 124 | Former Bank of New South Wales | Local |
| Nelson Street, 144 | St Andrew's Presbyterian Church | Local ¹ |
| Kemp Street, | The Grapes Inn | Local ² |
| Kemp Street, 10 & 12 | Terrace Houses | Local |

¹ - Already classified by the National Trust of Australia (NSW)

² - Full extent of alterations needs to be assessed (outside and inside)

APPENDIX I: IMPLEMENTATION

1.0 Implementation

The following implementation program has been prepared by the Wallsend Town Committee in consultation with EJE Landscape and is intended to give guidelines to enable projects to be undertaken in a logical sequence.

1.1 Overview

The success of a study such as the Wallsend Heritage Main Street Study can only be measured by the long term impact it has in guiding the future development of Wallsend.

It will be the role of the Wallsend Town Committee to oversee the execution of the recommendations. To achieve this, the committee must not only assume the role of a co-ordinator, but as promoter as well. It should be remembered, however, that the carrying out of building and townscape improvements is only one task the committee needs to concern itself. It is important that the other aspects of the Main Street Program such as organisation and promotion be continued.

1.2 Further Negotiations

The recommendations contained elsewhere in the report seek to give solutions to a range of problems. Often the ideas suggested need to be fully investigated and developed further before they can be implemented. This is particularly important when the works suggested may impact on stormwater management and flooding (refer 1.3)

It would be sensible for the Wallsend Town Committee to devise a 'business plan' for all the recommendations made within this report. The business plan would not only consider timing but it would also address funding issues and the approximate cost for each item. Although most of the expensive projects are long term and so would not directly concern the committee initially, at least lead times could be identified and so inform the committee when fund raising would have to commence. This would ensure that money would be available when required.

Generally, discussions with Newcastle City Council and other government agencies will be required for many of the major initiatives. It would be wise to commence discussions with Council, as soon as practical. In many cases, the Council may be only the first in a series of consultations. Therefore, the Wallsend Town Committee should be prepared to put in the effort to get things done properly.

In the program that follows, there has been an attempt to indicate what work further needs to be done before a project can be carried out.

1.3 Flooding Impact

Many of the proposed works need to be further investigated to determine if they are compatible with the flood environment, or if they have potential flood issues that need to be managed. Based on present incomplete flood information, those proposed works presently considered to require further investigation for flood related issues are:

- * All proposals within the existing concrete lined stormwater channels
- * All proposals to screen and enhance stormwater channels and adjacent lands
- * any landscaping that changes the finished surface levels (for example mounding).

These identified works may be potentially damaged by flood flows, potentially alter flood behaviours, or present a potential risk to life and limb.

As part of implementing the Ironbark Creek Total Catchment Management Strategy, Council is undertaking a high definition technical flood behaviour and hazards study in the Wallsend Plattsburg catchment. It will be some time before this study is complete due to the complexity of the computer based flood analysis.

It will be necessary to incorporate these proposals into the computer based flood models to assess their significance and any design requirements. (These investigations would be subject to funding being available).

1.4 Funding

It seems unavoidable but funding will always be a major problem for many of the suggested projects. The Wallsend Town Committee will have to show imagination and diligence when seeking funding. It may be worthwhile to have discussions with other Main Street Committees and to draw from their experiences (e.g. Paddington, Lithgow, Mayfield, Hamilton).

Council may often be seen as the first source of funding, however, it should be remembered that Council is concerned with the development of all shopping centres throughout Newcastle and not just Wallsend. One of the roles of Council is to ensure that the money it collects is spent equitably and so money potentially available for Wallsend would be limited. Fortunately the commercial area of Wallsend has a rate levy in place to help fund projects.

The Wallsend Town Committee is likely to get a more favourable response from Council when seeking funding if it is able to demonstrate that not all the money is to come from Council. Therefore, instead of seeking full funding for a project, other options should be considered including:

- * partial funding
- * dollar for dollar funding
- * low interest loans.

In some circumstances, Council may be able to assist with the provision of labour and equipment with the materials being supplied by the Wallsend Town Committee, or conversely, the committee may be able to provide the labour, (e.g. street tree planting and establishment).

In any event, the Wallsend Town Committee will have to generate funds to enable it to operate effectively. Some options which should be considered are as follows:

- * annual subscriptions
- * sponsorship
- * fund raising activities
- * donations
- * contributions in kind.

It is recommended that a sub-committee be formed which can devote all its energies for the single purpose of fund-raising. On occasions there may be a need to form a sunset committee to address funding and co-ordination of a large capital intensive project.

Numerous organisations and government bodies may be approached concerning funding for various projects. The success of these approaches may be how the funding is used.

The following sources may be approached for funding:

- * NSW Ministry for the Arts
- * Dept of Urban Affairs and Planning
- * Dept of Tourism
- * Dept of Land & Water Conservation
- * Dept of Industrial Relations & Employment
- * Australia Council (Federal)
- * Community, Environment, Art & Design (CEAD) Program.

1.5 Suggested Program

To assist in the implementation of the recommendations made in this report the following programme has been devised which divides the required tasks into 4 time frames:

1. Immediate (< 1 year)
2. Short Term (2-4 years)

- | | | |
|----|-------------|-------------|
| 3. | Medium Term | (4-7 years) |
| 4. | Long Term | (> 7 years) |

Generally, short term activities are inexpensive and easy to achieve whereas medium and long term activities are either more expensive or more complicated to implement requiring negotiations and greater public support.

As a general principle, the committee should seek to publicise every thing it does. The success of one project should be used to fire the next and so on. As the momentum develops and the benefits of earlier projects can be readily seen, it should then be possible to tackle the more difficult projects.

1.5.1 Immediate - < 1 Year

- * Actively introduce the property enhancement programme
- * Construct coal mining sculpture
- * Complete current works in the Rotunda Park
- * Complete current works on 'Glass House' project
- * Implement the designated 'Heritage Walk' through the introduction of identification panels and brochures/signage etc
- * Implement the Cowper Street Traffic Management Proposal
- * Introduce a tree planting program to create avenues to the entrances of the town
- * Conduct community survey to:
 - identify Wallsend Business District dislikes
 - identify Wallsend Business District likes
 - identify items/shops most needed
- * Prepare marketing brochure/package, including results from the above, demographic profiles and key features summary to be used to attract new businesses into the area.
- * Introduce a pro-active program to fill vacant premises by directly approaching successful businesses operating elsewhere
- * Prepare Business plan
- * Arrange for a professionally prepared logo design
- * Seek the installaton of Heritage telephone boxes

1.5.2 Short Term - 1-4 years

- * Actively pursue the street paving program
- * Conduct a parking audit with a view to increasing the number of car parking spaces, and making effective use of existing spaces including encouraging staff to park away from the Wallsend Business District
- * Determine a strategy for the channel that divides the central business district and a course of action to implement the strategy including the identification of a source of funding
- * Revisit the 1988 traffic study and identify any matters or concerns that may now need to be addressed
- * Introduce two (2) sets of railway tracks across Nelson Street to link the two (2) railway gates and accompanying suitable raised threshold which will also serve as a main entry point to the Wallsend Business District
- * Introduce a similar raised threshold where the channel goes under North Nelson Street and include tiles/pavers to reflect the water course. This will also act as an entry point to the Wallsend Business District
- * Introduction of banners in to the Wallsend Business District and particularly reinforce the entrances and Wallsend Business District
- * Introduce a Wallsend Business District lighting program to improve the:
 - 'nightscape'
 - safety
 - encourage evening dining/shopping
- * Commence an illumination program of our significant heritage items commencing with the Wallsend Enterprise Centre
- * Commence negotiations for gateway identification mechanisms including signage and tree planting
- * Commence street furniture program
- * Construct Feature entrances
- * Instigate a full facade treatment to a selected shop

- * Prepare Investment prospectus
- * Organise Heritage events
- * Initiate Signage program
- * Promote alfresco dining
- * Introduction of niche-orientated businesses based on market surveys and analysis.

I.5.3 Medium - 4-7 years

- * Arrange for the removal of power poles in Dan Rees Street
- * Enhance linkage between Dan Rees Street and Plaza and other linkages between Plaza and Nelson Street
- * Create Cycleway linkages
- * Locate and install an historic tourist tram

I.5.4 Long Term - > 7 Years

- * Have installed a supplementary canal to reduce the demand on the existing canal
- * Carry out improvements to Wallsend Park and Federal Parks with linked cycleway/footpath
- * Integrate Main Street shops and services with Wallsend Plaza
- * Seek the development of Council Street to enable it to become an active part of the Wallsend Business District and to not act merely as a service road as it currently does
- * Encourage the development of an arcade linking Nelson Street to Wallsend Plaza
- * Undertake the controlled expansion of Wallsend Business District.

APPENDIX J: ADDITIONAL HISTORIC FLOOD INFORMATION

Introduction

This historic overview of flooding in the Wallsend Plattsburg catchment is extracted from the Ironbark Creek Total Catchment Strategy (Vol 2), and is reproduced to give an overview of historic evidence relating to flooding in the study area.

Historic Flood Information

Australian rainfall is very different to English rainfall. Its extreme variations were not always understood by early settlers who apparently made their development decisions as though they were still in England where centuries of experience with more uniform rainfall patterns allowed development close to rivers and watercourses. The differences were found early in the life of the Australian colonies when in 1817 Governor Macquarie issued an order that settlers 'pay due consideration to their own interests, and to the frequent Admonitions,...(to) remove their residences from within the floodmarks to...the highlands,...(as) the too fateful experience of years has shown the sufferers the inevitable consequences of their wilful and wayward habit of placing their residences and stockyards within the reach of floods, as if putting at defiance that impetuous element which is not for man to contend with...'.

The settlement of the Ironbark Creek catchment seems to have not benefited from Governor Macquarie's proclamation. It is believed that the first development in the Ironbark Creek Catchment may have been in 1859 when a village 'Pittown' was built by the Newcastle Wallsend Coal Company. Pittown is described as being 'composed of two rows of cottages' and being 'an untidy place with no defined streets set in the midst of an otherwise unspoilt wilderness' (Docherty p8). A brief overview of flooding since settlement (as reported by the local newspapers) follows.

1864: Creeks lagoons and swamps were filled to overflowing. There was destruction among the coal properties in the Wallsend district. About two miles of the railway across Hexham Swamp was 'seriously injured'. The bridge across Ironbark Creek 'was laid prostrate by the flood' being 'completely overturned'. (8 June 1864 Unidentified Newspaper)

1870: The Hunter River flooded. 'The loss of crops at Hexham is much greater than it has been for the past twenty or thirty years. The river is said to be up to Mr J Hannell's balcony on Monday.' The local creeks also flooded. 'At Minmi, several houses in the immediate vicinity of the creek, (which runs through the township), have been flooded, and some damage done to the crops.' The Ironbark Creek Bridge was reported to have been damaged again, being 'deeply covered in water' with two people nearly having drowned. (24 and 26 March 1870 Newcastle Chronicle)

1889: 'Visitors to Wallsend ... would have come to the conclusion that they had come to an inland sea, as all the low lying land was completely covered.' 'Portions of Boscawen and Council Streets, being the approaches to the bridges crossing the Ironbark Creek drain were washed away,...as the water rushed down ... like a river with great force.' 'Mr Penrose house in Harris Street was completely surrounded by water which compelled him to remain indoors.' Nelson Street shops were reported to have flood damage, and the Wallsend Jockey Club racecourse was reported to be completely underwater. (28 May 1889 Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate.)

1890's: Some concrete stormwater channels in the lower portions of Wallsend were constructed.

1893: The Hunter River floods, with waters reported to have reached Nelson Street Wallsend. (This Hunter River Flood was one of the largest on record)

1895: 'As anticipated, the continuous downpour of rain has resulted in the lower portion of Nelson Street being flooded from John Street to the bridge in Nelson Street.' (23 Jan 1895 Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate.)

1897: There was a Royal Commission into the drainage of Wallsend Plattsburg.

1908: 'The Hexham Swamps, which for a year or more have belied their name, are once more a great sea of water. ... The creeks around West Wallsend are running high, and in some places bridges have been washed away.' 'Maryland and Wallsend co-operative Collieries were idle all day.' 'John Street (Wallsend), for a distance of about 100 yards was still in a state of flood,...and several of the residents were taken from their houses in a boat and landed on higher lands adjoining.' 'The water in Council Street, at the rear of the Nelson Street Properties must have had a depth of not less than three and a half feet, and empty cases were floating about the back yards like so many miniature boats.' 'At Boscawen Street the bridge over the Stormwater drain was submerged, and a sea of water extended from Harris Street to the Co-operative Colliery railway embankment, all the flats on either side of the drain being submerged. Federal Park must have had quite three feet of water upon it.' 'The Newcastle Police received a telephone message from the Minimi Police stating that the rain there had been so tremendously heavy, that a boat had been got in readiness in case of emergency. The water courses around Minmi run into tidal creeks, and it was feared that when the tide backed up...a considerable part of the town would be inundated.' (24 February 1908 Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate, and 24 February 1908 Unidentified Newspaper, and 25 Feb 1908 Newcastle Chronicle.)

1913: The Hunter River flooded. 'The land was covered from Ironbark Creek to Hexham Swamp.' (17 May 1913 Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate.)

1920: 'An immense body of water rushed into the stormwater drain which passes through Wallsend into Ironbark Creek. It became evident that the drain would not carry off the great volume of water, and in the afternoon it overflowed its banks and entered the business places in the lower parts of Nelson Street ... (causing)...considerable damage. ...The plate glass window of Mr Davies' grocery store collapsed, and in the Co-operative Society's drapery branch the water rose almost to the height of the counter. In Mr James' boot store the water was three feet deep. ...Mr Dobel, who has lived in the lower portion of Nelson Street for almost 30 years stated it was the highest he had seen in the locality, the water going beyond the point reached in the big flood of 1893.' (10 December 1920 Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate.)

1927: ' (Flood waters) entered all the buildings in the lowest section of Nelson Street...up to a foot or so. In Council Street ... there was a depth of five feet. The mark left on the window ... at the Corner of Council and Tyrell Street was four feet above the footpath. ... All the lowlands in the vicinity of the main channel, including the Wallsend Park ... and Federal Park contained big expanses of water. Part of the Wallsend racecourse area, and the whole of the swampland from the Co-operative colliery line down to Hexham are now covered, the sombre trees and fence tops on the swamps standing out in contrast to the glistening water.... The whole of the bridge piles of the Cardiff road bridge near the Chinese Gardens at South Wallsend were carried away.' ... 'In Hexham Swamps some five hundred head of cattle ... were swum out by their owners ... to dry land at Sandgate and Tarro.' (18 April 1927 Newcastle Morning Herald.)

1930: Hexham Swamp was full (Hooper Collection). It is believed that the concrete lined stormwater channel through the Wallsend business district was doubled in width at about this time.

1937: Properties at the lower end of Irving Street Wallsend were reported to have flooded despite stormwater drainage improvements a few years earlier. Residents were reported to have said that the water reached points not reached before. (4 Jan 1937 Newcastle Morning Herald)

1946: 'The lowest part of Wallsend business centre was flooded yesterday for the first time since the capacity of the main stormwater channel through the heart of the town was duplicated in 1930...In Council Street near the channel the water reached depths of four to seven feet. ... Water flowed through the factory of Bramco Radio components. ... The Nelson Street Bridge was covered. ... When the channel flow washed over the tramway bridge south - west of Kemp Street, traffic over the bridge was suspended.' (19 April 1946 Newcastle Morning Herald.)

1955: The Hunter River flood of record. (Other similar Hunter River floods occurred in 1820 and 1893.) Lower areas around Hexham swamp were inundated, and many people were evacuated from their homes in areas such as Birmingham gardens and Sandgate.

1963: Photos of notch marks recorded by residents indicate the flooding in 1963 was much higher than the flooding experienced in 1988 and 1990 in the adjacent Dark Creek catchment (New Lambton, Jesmond, Birmingham Gardens). Anecdotal evidence suggests the Wallsend Plattsburg may have experienced similarly severe flooding.

1971: The Wallsend - Minmi road was covered with water about 200 yards west of the Racecourse Hotel. ..(21 Jan 1971 Newcastle Morning Herald)

1988: There was extensive flooding through out many reaches of the Ironbark Creek catchments. Much of the urbanised areas were severely affected, such as in Elmore Vale, Wallsend, and Jesmond. In Elmore Vale especially, a lot of the houses affected by the flooding were relatively new. The Hunter River was not in flood during this event.

1990: There was extensive flooding again through many reaches of the Ironbark Creek catchments. In the urbanised areas, the flooding was similar, but not as severe as the 1988 event. The Hunter River was also in flood during this event, and Hexham swamp was extensively inundated, although the levee between the Hunter River and the swamp was not overtopped.

APPENDIX K: DISCUSSION ON FLOOD MANAGEMENT CONTEXT

Flooding would have been one of the forces that helped to shape the landscape and environment prior to white settlement. The narrowing of the Wallsend Plattsburg catchment suggests that the study area was originally a natural floodway. Historic evidence seems consistent with this, with frequent flooding in the Tyrrell and Nelson Street areas experienced even prior to the extensive development of the catchment that exists today (Appendix J). Continued occupation of the study area is contingent on evolving ways of responsibly living with the ever present risk of flooding.

Flooding in the study area can arise from the upstream Wallsend Plattsburg catchment, from the wider Hexham Wetland (Ironbark Creek) catchment filling Hexham Wetland, and from Hunter River flooding, or combinations of these sources.

Potential flood risks and hazards are significant. For example, it has been estimated that, under present conditions, the largest flood which the Hunter River can produce would inundate Nelson Street to a depth of approximately two (2) metres (Lower Hunter River Flood Study August 1994). Flooding from the local catchment tends to occur with little or no effective warning.

The existing concrete lined storm water channel that bisects the study area was constructed on a different alignment to the original creek. The channel was constructed in an era (believed to be in the 1890's and 1930's) when it was not possible to confidently calculate what level of flood risk remained to be borne by the surrounding community. Flooding after construction of the channel has continued. It is believed that this flooding has tended to follow the original flood patterns. Recent catchment computer modelling has confirmed the limited capacity of the present artificial channel. Existing development close to the channel would appear to inhibit any consideration of increasing the capacity of the existing channel.

The Ironbark Creek Total Catchment Management (TCM) Strategy (1996) concluded that attempting to eliminate the local catchment flooding by constructing large flood storage basins in the upstream Wallsend Plattsburg catchment was not feasible. It was found that the flood storage basins would need to be larger than the catchment topography could reasonably accommodate, and that the economic benefits could not be justified when compared with the likely costs. The TCM strategy recommended that house raising and purchase of properties where appropriate be pursued. The TCM strategy also recommended that long term (50 to 100 year) planning horizons be adopted, and that implementation studies be carried out to produce Flood Management Plans for existing and future conditions. These studies have commenced, but it will be some time before they are completed.

The longer term planning horizons recommended in TCM strategy require consideration of possible impacts of likely global warming. The EPA's report "Major Findings: Regional Impact of the Greenhouse Effect on New South Wales" (Oct 95), indicates extreme rainfall and flooding will become more frequent, and that it is possible urban flood damages may increase up to tenfold.

The long term potential implications of continuing a heritage of occupying the floodplain need careful consideration. This will only be completely possible when high definition technical flood behaviour studies and the accompanying Flood Management Studies are carried out (subject to funding) resulting in a Flood Management Plan incorporating community consultation.

The present legislative environment relating to flooding requires that the NSW Government Policy be followed, presently expressed in its merits based Floodplain Development Manual (1984 - currently under review-). In this interim period prior to the completion of a Flood Management Plan for the region, (as required by the manual), and in the absence of an adopted Council Flood Management policy for local urban flooding, it would appear most reasonable to:

- Not intensify development and occupation beyond present levels.
- Ensure any preservation, restoration, reconstruction or adaptation works are flood compatible.
- Make decisions for applications on existing buildings based on best available flood information at the time, but build in flexibility as flood knowledge and management practices evolve.

- Identify those portions of strategies in this study that have potential flood impacts, and only implement these strategies after appropriate flood studies have been completed defining the nature of the flood impacts, and the measures required to manage those impacts.
- Give the highest priority to managing the potential risk to life arising from flooding.

APPENDIX L: INNOVATIVE URBAN STREAM STRATEGIES

On 2 August 1996 Council convened a broad spectrum group including community representatives, landscape architects, specialist environmental and catchment managers, academics, and government authorities to creatively workshop strategies and concept plans for the future in the lower portions of the Wallsend Plattsburg catchment.

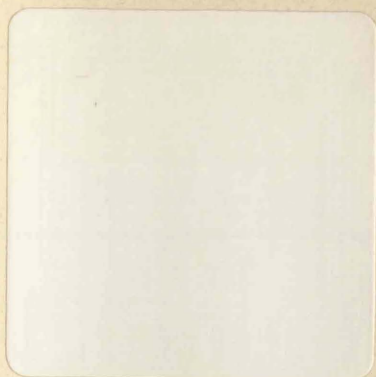
The workshop included a focus on the area of this Heritage Study. Coordination with this Heritage Study has continued after the workshop. The proposals in this Heritage Study relating to waterways were supported in principle by the workshop.

The Workshop identified for the longer term, the possibility of creating a bifurcation of the main stormwater channel immediately downstream of Cowper Street, and following a path in the region of Kemp and Low Streets, join a possibly widened and naturally restored channel along Federal Park. This would allow a water sensitive design in harmony with the urban landscape, that would be highly valued by the community.

All concept proposals relating to waterways would be subject to hydraulic review and feasibility investigation following the completion of a high definition flood study, subject to funding.

The workshop will be separately reported.

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