

Important changes for heritage property owners

Owners and managers of places entered on the Tasmanian Heritage Register will find making changes to their place easier following recent amendments made by the State Government to the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*.

This fact sheet provides information about these changes and what you need to do to make changes to a place on the Heritage Register. You will also find information here about other services and resources available to you.

Simpler and cheaper

Previously, if you wanted to make changes to a place on the Heritage Register you had to lodge a development application with your local council and a separate works application for the Tasmanian Heritage Council.

Now it's just one development application lodged directly with your local council, who will forward it to the Heritage Council for you, and advertise it, if required.

In some instances the fees for lodging an application and the associated advertising costs will be less. It is up to your local council to set and collect these fees.

Works approval process

If you want to undertake works to a place entered on the Heritage Register you need to get formal approval. This may take the form of a 'certificate of exemption' or a 'permit'.

Certificates of exemption

There is a range of works that do not impact on a place's heritage values such as removing and replacing non-significant internal furnishings and fabric, undertaking maintenance work to prevent rising damp and interior painting.

In these types of circumstances the Heritage Council can issue a certificate of exemption so you do not need to submit a development application. General information about the types of work that might be exempt from requiring an application to be made can be found on our website by searching for 'Interim Works Guidelines'.

To find out what the situation is at your place, check the guidelines and then call one of Heritage Tasmania's works advisors on 1300 850 332.

Be aware, that even if the Heritage Council issues you with a certificate of exemption you may still need to lodge a development application with your local council to comply with your local planning scheme over matters such as the height of buildings and privacy. We recommend that you contact your local council for further information.

Permits

If you do not have a certificate of exemption to undertake works to your place from the Heritage Council, you will need to lodge a development application with your local council. Your local council will forward your application to the Heritage Council to assess any impacts on the historic heritage values of the place.

The application will also be assessed by your local council in accordance with their planning scheme for broader planning considerations such as height, overshadowing, privacy and setbacks.

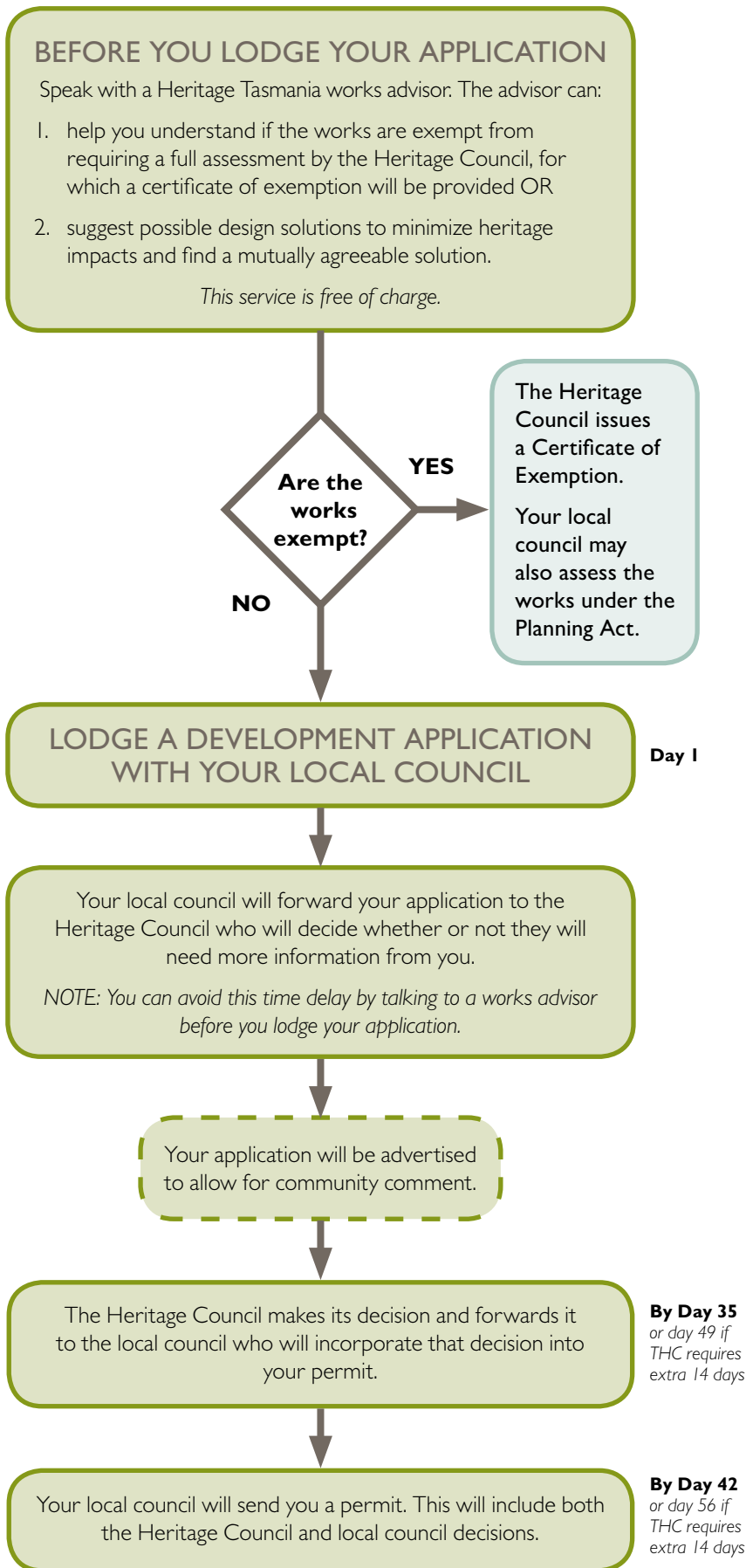
Your local council will issue a single permit if the application is approved by the Heritage Council and your local council.

Works guidelines

We have developed Interim Works Guidelines to help you, tradespeople and other heritage professionals plan and carry out work on your property. These guidelines explain everything from the approval process, to appropriate ways of undertaking repairs and maintenance, installing modern services such as solar panels, building an extension through to managing historic plantings and more. The guidelines can be found on our website by searching for 'Interim Works Guidelines'.

New Development Application Process

The new process for lodging a development application is outlined below.



Did you know

In the 2012-13 financial year the Heritage Council approved 98 per cent of works applied for. A further 198 certificates of exemption from submitting a development application were issued, saving owners time and money.

Ideas and inspiration

You might be surprised with the type of work you can do to a place on the Heritage Register. For some inspiration and insights have a look at *Residential Solutions* which provides 12 real life Tasmanian stories about homeowners and the changes they made to their properties. It also provides useful advice about how to undertake restorations, maintenance and additions to a house.

A second booklet called *Heritage Solutions* provides a further 12 case studies which include the transformation or restoration of historic buildings into beautiful homes, educational facilities, a gallery, office and tourist venture.

Both booklets and a range of brochures about managing historic heritage are available on our website. Simply visit the website and search for 'publications' or give us a call and we will send you copies of the publications you are seeking.

Where to find heritage expertise

We have a Heritage Services Directory available on our website. In the directory you will find professionals, including tradespeople, with specific skills in historic heritage work. They range from people who can do conservation plans, plasterers, builders, archaeologists and much more. Visit our website and search for 'Heritage Services Directory'.

Be informed

We recommend that you check out the information on our website first and then talk to us before investing any time and energy in getting plans drawn up. That way you will know how best to manage the heritage values of your place, before you get too advanced in your thinking. We provide free resources and advice to people who own properties on the Heritage Register.

About the Tasmanian Heritage Council and Heritage Tasmania

The Tasmanian Heritage Council and Heritage Tasmania work together to manage the State's historic heritage places, implement the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995* and maintain the Tasmanian Heritage Register.

The Heritage Council is the statutory body responsible for implementing the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*. It makes decisions about which places to enter on the Heritage Register and assesses development applications for works to those places.

Heritage Tasmania is part of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment. It co-ordinates heritage strategy, policy and activity for the State Government, supports the Heritage Council implement the Act, and runs a community education program.

Tasmanian Heritage Register

Each place on the Heritage Register has a document called a datasheet which explains why it is on the Register. If you would like a copy of a datasheet, simply contact us with the address details of the place and we will send a copy out to you.

The Heritage Register is established under the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*. Further information about the Heritage Register is available on our website.

Places entered in the Heritage Register

Types of places entered in the Tasmanian Heritage Register include houses, public buildings and churches, barns, sheds, cemeteries, walls, historic plantings, lighthouses and more.

If your place is on the Heritage Register it is quite likely that the whole title, including features such as walls, will form part of the listing. If you are unsure, contact Heritage Tasmania and ask us.

Works to a cottage on the Heritage Register

The owners of this Georgian cottage carefully restored the two front rooms. The Heritage Council approved the demolition of a dilapidated skillion and its replacement with a new kitchen which respected the size and shape of the former skillion.

The Heritage Council also approved construction of a new extension which includes bedrooms, a bathroom and living space.



Photos: DPIPWE





BEFORE

Photos: Booth + Watts

Inner city warehouses transformed into a new home

These one time warehouses have been successfully converted into a new home. The owners sought advice from a Heritage Tasmania works advisor to discuss their concept before commencing work, so they knew what they could do. The owners' clever design has produced a beautiful and contemporary home.

Compliments, complaints and ideas

If you have any feedback or ideas about how we can improve our services and the information available to you please feel free to contact us and pass them on. Compliments and complaints are also welcome. We are keen to improve our service to owners, developers and the general public, and hear about what we are doing well.

Keeping in touch

To keep up-to-date about heritage events, funding opportunities, information on historic heritage places and professional development opportunities, subscribe to the Heritage e-News. It is free and is published monthly.

Simply send an email to enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au and type 'subscribe e-News' in the subject line or give us a call.

Other changes

If you would like to learn more about all the changes we've made to the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*, please visit our website.

Contact Us

Tasmanian Heritage Council

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