

## **Helen Lardner**

Architect, Director HLCD Pty Ltd; President, Australia ICOMOS

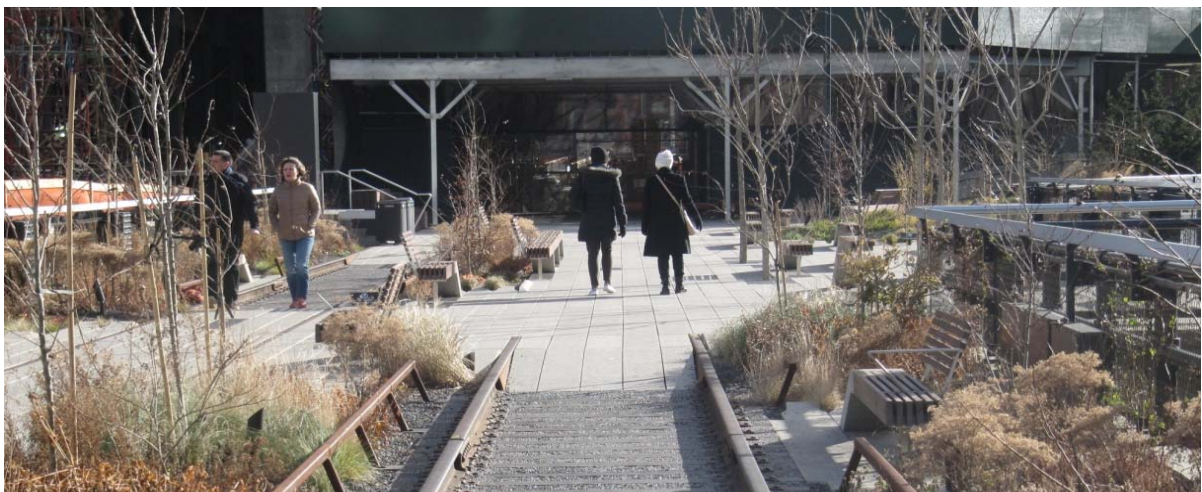
- Registered Architect and sole director of the thriving, innovative and award-winning company HLCD Pty Ltd for over 25 years, with a focus on high quality conservation and adaptive reuse of large scale and complex places, including commercial sites, railway and road infrastructure, industrial and contaminated sites, housing estates, institutions and Defence bases.
- President, Australia ICOMOS and well-respected leader in cultural heritage and architecture in Australia, with strong client relationships and professional networks.
- Locally and internationally recognised expert in heritage conservation, twentieth century architecture, industrial places and urban renewal.
- Extensive knowledge of Australian statutory heritage frameworks, including the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, *Heritage Act 2017* and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- Trusted advisor to government, private and institutional clients, as well as professional colleagues in architectural, archaeological and environmental firms, with a focus on risk management and international best practice outcomes.
- Published author in a range of media, including international texts, reference documents in planning schemes and architectural journals, and author of hundreds of heritage reports such as conservation management plans, development guidelines and heritage impact statements.
- Strong collaborator with co-workers, clients, heritage colleagues, other disciplines and on site.

### **HLCD Pty Ltd**

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The High Line, New York City, © Helen Lardner



Helen is the director of HLCD Pty Ltd, a successful and innovative heritage consultancy in Victoria. A registered architect, Helen undertook a Master of Architecture in Conservation. With over 25 years' experience, Helen is highly respected nationally and overseas. She has held expert appointments on the Australian Heritage Council, Victorian Heritage Council and as a sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria. She is currently Chair of the Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority Conservation Advisory Committee and a member of the Victorian Design Review Panel. Since 2013, Helen has evaluated new development within World Heritage places and assessed places for ICOMOS, providing expert advice to the World Heritage Committee. Helen is the President of Australia ICOMOS.

### **Experience**

1991 - present	Director, HLCD Pty Ltd
2014 - present	Chair, Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority Conservation Advisory Committee
2016 - 2017	Planning Panels Victoria Sessional Member (2 years, including Melbourne Metro)
2016 - present	Victorian Design Review Panel Member
2013 - present	ICOMOS expert missions and assessments for World Heritage places, including Japan and UK
1991 - present	State Government Tribunal & Panels, expert witness
2010 - present	Deakin University Cultural Heritage & Museum Studies Academic Advisory Board Member
2012 - 2014	Australian Heritage Council Historic Expert Member (3 years)
2008 - 2014	Heritage Council of Victoria (HCV) Member
2009 - 2014	HCV Chair of Registrations
2008 - 2014	HCV Chair, Industrial Engineering Heritage Committee
2008 - 2014	HCV Member, Technical Advisory Committee
2008 - 2015	Kyushu Yamaguchi World Heritage Advisory Committee, Japan
2011 - 2013	Mint Incorporated (now known as Working Heritage) Committee Member (DELWP)
2008 - 2009	World Heritage Committee Australian Delegation – Seville, Spain & Quebec, Canada
2003 - 2004	Lecturer, Silpakorn University, Bangkok for Deakin University (part time)
1990 - 1994	Architect, Heritage Victoria (part time)
1991 - present	Guest lecturer, Architecture; senior design studios, Deakin, Melbourne & RMIT Universities
1985 - 1989	Employment at a range of architectural practices

### **Professional Memberships**

Australia ICOMOS Member

- Australia ICOMOS Executive Committee: 2017-2020, 2006-2009  
Australia ICOMOS Current President 2019-2020  
Australia ICOMOS World Heritage Reference Group member

ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Twentieth Century Heritage Expert Member

Australian Institute of Architects (AIA) A+ Member

- AIA Awards (Victoria) Heritage Jury - Chair 2014, Member 2010, Chair 2005

Victorian Planning & Environmental Law Association Member

The International Committee for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage (TICCIH) – Australian Coordinator

### **Education**

2000	Master of Architecture (Melbourne)
1996	Registration as an Architect
1995	Business & Practice of Architecture (Post Grad)
1993	International Specialised Skills Fellowship for Overseas Study
1993	Technology of Stone Conservation UNESCO/ICCROM Italy
1991	National School in Cultural Heritage Management (Canberra)
1988	Bachelor of Architecture (Melbourne)

### **About HLCD Pty Ltd and Helen Lardner**

HLCD Pty Ltd specialises in complex heritage places, such as industrial sites, institutions and major infrastructure, requiring a multidisciplinary team approach to renewal. Helen's role often includes job procurement, team leadership and a practical focus on cultural asset management. She has extensive experience in facilitating the transition of development projects from initial assessment through to implementation. As a strong advocate for good heritage solutions, Helen often provides strategic input on large scale developments. In 2015, she completed a role as the National Coordinator for natural, built and Indigenous heritage for the Base Security Improvement Program works at 16 bases in Victoria, NSW, ACT and Queensland for the Department of Defence.

### **Trusted relationships**

Helen is a leading heritage professional in Australia and this is reflected in her appointments to the Australian Heritage Council, Victorian Heritage Council, and university and government advisory boards. She is also held in high regard by her peers as President of Australia ICOMOS and Chair of the Australian Institute of Architects (Victoria) Heritage Jury.

Peak industry bodies employ Helen to make key submissions on their behalf, such as the 2016 Heritage Council of Victoria submission to the *Heritage Act 1995* Review, and the 2017 Working Heritage submission to the VEAC Investigation into Heritage Places on government land.

HLCD has long and established relationships with many clients. Government clients include local Councils, State government and related entities like Working Heritage, and Commonwealth Departments, like the Department of Defence. We also provide expert architectural conservation advice to major Victorian developers including Glenvill, ICD Property and Stamoulis Group, as well as smaller scale investors, property owners and institutions. We collaborate with other award-winning architects on a variety of projects, including Six Degrees Architects, Kerstin Thompson Architects and MGS Architects. We regularly work with other consultants such as archaeologists, engineers, historians, quantity surveyors and archaeologists. We also have strong connections with builders and specialist heritage trades in Melbourne.



The Former Swan Inn & surrounds, Fyansford – a cultural heritage landscape (description next page)

## Selected projects

### Materials conservation



Helen's Masters of Architecture focused on the conservation of porous materials, including brick, stone and glass through study at the ICCROM course and thesis at the University of Melbourne. Consequently, she has done many stone and brick related projects, including conservation of buildings, lime kilns, cemeteries and war memorials.

The technically challenging project of stabilisation of the State-listed Former Royal Mint boundary walls for Working Heritage was short listed in the AIA Victorian Heritage Awards. This included engineering for stability and drainage, and materials conservation for stone and brickwork. The project also included the establishment of a pocket park, which is publicly accessible. It was a large project in the city and HLCD had previously completed the conservation management plan for the Royal Mint complex.

### Architectural conservation advice

HLCD has provided a range of services over many years for complex sites. For the two award-winning projects illustrated, HLCD undertook the following services. Banbury Village: conservation management plan, part of redevelopment design team with MGS Architects reusing an industrial site as housing, heritage impact statements for local government permits, archival recordings and interpretation strategy. Eynesbury Station: conservation management plan, documentation of conservation works, heritage architecture for redevelopment of hotel complex, housing village and golf course, heritage impacts statements and facilitation of heritage permits from Heritage Victoria, archival recordings and interpretation strategy.



Banbury Village, Former Olympic Tyre Factory, UDIA award for medium density development



Eynesbury Station Redevelopment, winner of the Victorian Architecture Awards Heritage Category

Former Swan Inn and surrounds, Fyansford is a project where HLCD undertook a conservation management plan for the cultural heritage landscape, which includes an 1842 Inn and stables, a ford, bridges, important vegetation and archaeological relics. Following a fire at the site, we worked with structural engineers to stabilise the building and undertook stone repairs and re-roofing. All works were coordinated with archaeologists and subject to both Heritage Victoria permits and consents as a place of State significance. (Photo previous page).

## Heritage planning and statutory processes

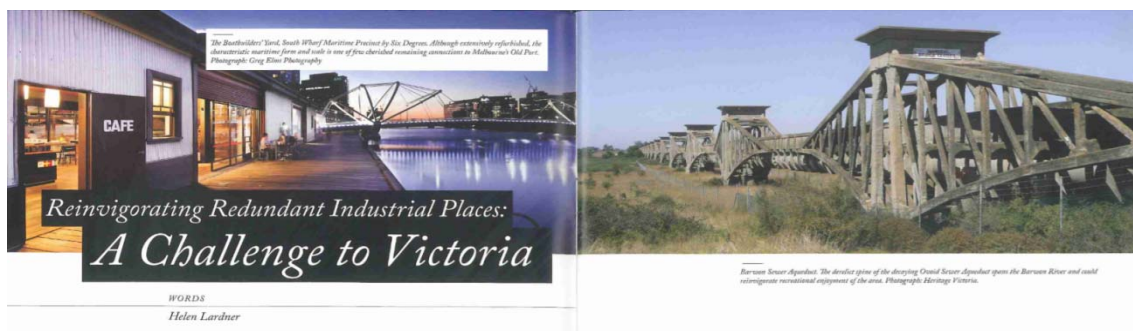
Helen has more than 25 years' experience working as a consultant to local, state and Commonwealth government and private clients in adaptive reuse, infill and additions within conservation areas. She has been a heritage advisor to numerous councils and authored heritage and design guidelines adopted in planning schemes in municipalities, such as Hobsons Bay, Mornington Peninsula, Geelong and Whitehorse. Her knowledge of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, *Heritage Act 2017* and *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) has meant that she has appeared as an expert witness at numerous planning panels and tribunals, in addition to providing advice to a range of clients. Previously Helen was a sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria and the member responsible for heritage on the Melbourne Metro Rail Project. In her previous roles as a member of the Heritage Council of Victoria for six years and a member of the Australian Heritage Council for three years, Helen has executed duties in relation to these Acts.

## Adaptive reuse and urban renewal

Breathing new life into places with significant heritage and environmental values is Helen's favorite work, as it brings together valuing the best of the past with cutting edge contemporary design and sustainability. Helen is a member of the Victorian Design Review Panel and is internationally recognised as an expert in this area. Her international work has included assessing mining development, new residential townships and commercial development within the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site and assessing the significance of places within 'The Modern Industrial Heritage Sites in Kyushu and Yamaguchi', Japan on the World Heritage List.

Helen often contributes to local discourse on urban renewal, revitalisation and reuse of industrial places to advocate for better quality outcomes. Her article 'Reinvigorating Redundant Industrial Places: A Challenge to Victoria,' Architect Victoria, 2015 Summer can be found at:

<http://archvicmag.com.au/2015-summer/reinvigorating-redundant-industrial-places-a-challenge-to-victoria>



As initiator and Chair, Helen led the Heritage Council of Victoria symposium, held in conjunction with the University of Melbourne, on the adaptive reuse of former industrial places in July 2013. The associated Issues Paper and Case Studies are available on line at

<http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/heritage/projects-and-programs> and have been reproduced on websites overseas. The aim of this work was to inspire developers, authorities and others to strive for better outcomes and Helen's presentation is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-7GpYLh5FI>

Helen also spoke at Melbourne Conversations 'Heritage and development innovation: making Melbourne a world leader' in July 2012; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gmb8040AwU8>.

### **Design and masterplans**

HLCD does small scale contemporary interventions for heritage places and sets guidelines and provides advice for masterplans and infill development at a larger scale.



A bold contemporary new entry was constructed for La Mama Theatre at the State heritage listed Former Carlton Court House. This project in steel and translucent, coloured danpalon consists of a small bar and covered entry way between self-supported buildings without impact on the heritage fabric. There were complicated fire services and access requirements but the use of the building as a small performance space is an excellent outcome. This project increased the financial returns for the theatre by creating a great space for the audience to linger and was short listed in the AIA Victorian Heritage Awards.

The Bendigo Kangan Institute is a large tertiary education campus in the rural city of Bendigo. HLCD undertook the conservation management plan for the site, which includes buildings on the State heritage register and within the local heritage overlay. HLCD worked with a team including MGS Architects on master planning a substantial redevelopment. HLCD then continued collaborating with the design team of Architectus and Six Degrees Architects to design two new multi-storey buildings, landscaped grounds and adaptive reuse of heritage buildings.



The 1875 Continental Hotel Sorrento is a landmark building of State significance. Working with Six Degrees Architects and the project team, HLCD advised on the retention of heritage values during design, liaised with Heritage Victoria and the Council to achieve permits, and prepared Heritage Impact Statements. It was exciting to restore the iconic hotel and continue its historic hospitality and accommodation functions. Further hotel accommodation and a wellness centre are being developed on adjacent land, making it economically viable for specialist conservation works.