



Dr Helen Doyle

Associate

Dr Helen Doyle is an historian with over twenty years' experience in heritage and conservation. She specialises in developing thematic frameworks and thematic histories for a range of places, including municipalities. She has expertise in preparing heritage assessments and conservation management plans of places, precincts, and complexes. This includes urban and rural places; parks and gardens; cemeteries; industrial sites; and Aboriginal places. She has experience in Aboriginal cultural heritage and the recognition of Aboriginal cultural values in heritage reviews, interpretation plans and thematic histories. Helen has also prepared significance assessments for local history collections, and text panels for interpretative signage and exhibitions. Prior to joining GML Heritage (formerly Context), she worked as a freelance historian for various heritage consultancies.

Helen is also an award-winning writer and experienced editor. She was an assistant editor for the major reference work in Australian history: *The Oxford Companion to Australian History*, eds G. Davison, S. Macintyre and J. Hirst (Oxford University Press, 1998).

Qualifications

PhD, School of Historical Studies, Monash University
 Master of Arts (Public History), Monash University
 Bachelor of Commerce, University of Melbourne
 BA (Hons), University of Melbourne

Heritage is about exploring and better understanding place in all its complexity. It recognises the challenges in acknowledging different layers of history and the different meanings and values that may be embedded in a place.

Key experience

Thematic histories

- Parkville Thematic Environmental History—Client: City of Melbourne, 2023
- South Yarra Thematic Environmental History—Client: City of Melbourne, 2022
- Bass Coast Thematic Environmental History—Client: Bass Coast Shire Council, 2021
- Wyndham Thematic Environmental History—Client: Wyndham City Council, 2021
- Mildura Thematic Environmental History—Client: Mildura Rural City Council, 2020
- Banyule Thematic Environmental History—Client: Banyule City Council, 2018
- Horsham Heritage Study (Thematic Environmental History)—Client: Horsham Rural City Council (for Grieve Gillett), 2012
- City of Melbourne Thematic Environmental History—Client: City of Melbourne, 2011
- Corangamite Heritage Study (Thematic Environmental History)—Client: Corangamite Shire Council (for Heritage Matters), 2011
- Regional Water Supply Heritage Study: Melbourne Region, Stage 1, Thematic Environmental History—Client: Melbourne Water and Heritage Victoria, 2009
- Victoria's Water Supply History, Vol. 1 Thematic Environmental History—Client: Heritage Victoria, 2007
- Moyne Shire Heritage Study, Stages 1 and 2—Client: Moyne Shire Council, 2001, 2002

Aboriginal cultural values assessments

- Royal Exhibition Buildings and Carlton Gardens First Peoples Cultural Values Assessment, prepared for Museums Victoria and Heritage Victoria, 2022
- Shrine to Sea Aboriginal Cultural Values Assessment, prepared for DELWP, 2022
- North and West Melbourne Aboriginal Cultural Values Assessment—Client: VPA and City of Melbourne, 2020
- Maribyrnong Waterfront Aboriginal Cultural Values Assessment—Client: City of Melbourne, 2020
- Acknowledging Shared Values—Client: Victorian Heritage Council and Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council, 2015

Heritage studies and assessments

- Moonee Valley Heritage Study, Stage 2—Client: Moonee Valley City Council, 2020
- Yarra River (Birrarung) Cultural Heritage Scoping Study—Client: Melbourne Water, 2018
- Ballarat East Town Hall Gardens Heritage Assessment—Client: City of Ballarat, 2018
- Stonnington Victorian Houses (Heritage Review)—Client: City of Stonnington, 2016
- Southbank Boulevard & Dodds Street Ecological, Heritage and Cultural Place Assessment—Client: City of Melbourne, 2015

Conservation management plans

- Abbotsford Convent Conservation Management Plan—Client: Abbotsford Convent Foundation, 2020
- Port Arthur Historic Site Landscape Management Plan—Client: Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority, 2000

Heritage interpretation

- Kananook Creek Interpretation Plan—Client: Rush Wright Associates, 2022
- Town Hall Station Interpretation Plan—Client: Lendlease, 2022
- Avelry Interpretation Plan—Client: Lendlease, 2021
- 'Shared Stories', a series of interpretation signage for the City of Warrnambool, in conjunction with Grieve Gillet, 2010

Exhibitions

- Yarra Ranges Regional Museum, 'Oil Paint and Ochre: The incredible story of William Barak and the de Purys, 2015'
- 'Moreland Remembers World War I', travelling exhibition, City of Moreland, 2015.

Professional background

Associate, GML Heritage Victoria (formerly Context), 2019–present

Senior Consultant, Context, 2013–2019

Freelance Historian

Awards

Best Temporary or Travelling Exhibition Award: Museums & Galleries National Awards, for 'Oil Paint and Ochre: The incredible story of William Barak and the de Purys, 2015', Yarra Ranges Regional Museum, 2016

Winner, Centenary of World War I Award, Victorian Community History Awards, for *Suburbs at War: The Cities of Malvern and Prahran during the Great War*, 2015

Commendation, Victorian Community History Awards, for 'Moreland Remembers World War I', travelling exhibition, City of Moreland (text panels and image sourcing by Context), 2015

Commendation, Victorian Community History Awards, for *The Church on the Hill: A centenary history of St Brigid's, Crossley, and its Irish-Australian community*, 2014

PIA Award, Melbourne Water Supply Heritage Study, prepared for Melbourne Water, 2008

Monash Graduate Award (3 years)

Australian Postgraduate Course Award (1 year)

Publications

Latrobe Valley Social History, published by DELWP, 2019

Life on the Bend: A social history of Fishermans Bend—Client: Fishermans Bend Taskforce (DELWP), 2017

Suburbs at War: The Cities of Malvern and Prahran during the Great War (City of Stonnington, Malvern)—Client: City of Stonnington, 2015

Triolo, Rosalie, Doyle, Helen, and Johanson, Katya, *Writing and Publishing Local History: A guide for first-time authors and historical societies*, revised edition, Federation of Australian Historical Societies, Canberra, 2017

Doyle, Helen, *The Church on the Hill: A centenary history of St Brigid's, Crossley, and its Irish-Australian community*, Bridin Books, Abbotsford, 2014

Attwood, Bain with Doyle, Helen, *Possession: Batman's Treaties and the matter of history*, The Miegunyah Press, Carlton, 2009

Lemon, Andrew, Morgan, Morgan and Doyle, Helen, *Buried by the Sea: A history of Williamstown Cemetery*, Australian Scholarly Publishing, Melbourne, revised edition, 2005

Dingle, Tony and Doyle, Helen, *Yan Yean: A history of Melbourne's early water supply*, Public Record Office Victoria, Melbourne, 2003

Bull, Philip, Devlin-Glass, Frances and Doyle, Helen (eds), *Irish-Australian Studies: 1788–1998: Proceedings of the 8th Irish-Australia Conference*, Melbourne, 1998, Crossing Press, Sydney, 2000

Articles and chapters

Doyle, Helen, 'Irish Catholic opposition to the 1872 Education Act: The case of Crossley', special issue of the *Victorian Historical Journal*, vol. 94, no. 1, June 2023

Doyle, Helen, 'The Landscape of Murndal', Australian Garden History Society, Melbourne, 2021

Doyle, Helen, 'Local history and countryside decline in Victoria', in Brodie, M and Davison, D (eds), *Struggle Country: The rural ideal in twentieth-century Australia*, Monash e-Press, Clayton, 2005

Doyle, Helen, 'Back to the country, back to the past: "Back-to" celebrations in Victoria 1917–39', Bendigo Bank Regional History Conference Proceedings, Bendigo, April 2005

Doyle, Helen, 'Allegations of disloyalty at Koroit during World War I', in Bull, P, Devlin-Glass, F and Doyle, H (eds), *Irish-Australian Studies: 1788–1998: Proceedings of the 8th Irish-Australia Conference*, Melbourne, 1998, Crossing Press, Sydney, 2000

Doyle, Helen, 'The Irish landscape of Koroit, Victoria', in *Irish-Australian Studies: Proceedings of the 8th Irish-Australia Conference*, Hobart, 1995, Crossing Press, Sydney, 1997

Select contributions

Introduction for 'City Precincts' in Richard Broome et al. (eds), *Remembering Melbourne, 1850–1960*, RHSV, Melbourne, 2016

Entries on 'Murndal', Casterton, and 'Ercildoune', Ballarat, in Richard Aitken and Michael Looker (eds), *Oxford Companion to Australian Gardens*, Oxford University Press, South Melbourne, 2002

Approximately 350 short entries for Graeme Davison, John Hirst and Stuart Macintyre (eds), *Oxford Companion to Australian History*, Oxford University Press, South Melbourne, 1998

Co-writer, *Monash Biographical Dictionary of 20th Century Australia*. D W Thorpe, Port Melbourne, 1994.

Professional appointments

History Member, Heritage Council of Victoria, 2023

Alternate History Member, Heritage Council of Victoria, 2021–2023

Board Member, History Council of Victoria, 2021

Judging Panel, Victorian Community History Awards, 2020

Professional affiliations

Australia ICOMOS (Full International Member)

Professional Historians' Association (Victoria)

National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

Royal Historical Society of Victoria

Irish-Australian Cultural Network