Goulburn Mulwaree Council Residential Heritage Colour Guide

Heritage Colour Guide for Residential Buildings

What is the Heritage Colour Guide?

- The Goulburn Mulwaree Council Heritage Colour Guide provides suggestions for appropriate external paint colours when restoring or undertaking work to a listed heritage building, or a building within a heritage conservation area.

- The guide outlines the periods and indicative dates of each style of architecture generally found in the Goulburn Mulwaree Local Government Area.

- First, the guide explains how a paint colour is to be selected, and if paint is appropriate for the building. Then each architectural era is explored, providing colour swatches and examples. Finally, roofing colour is examined.

- If you have any questions about the information outlined in this guide, or wish to propose variation from these colours, contact Council's Heritage Officer.

Painting Considerations

- Before restorations works are conducted on heritage buildings, consideration should be made of the historic character of the property, and the surrounding streetscape.

- The type of building material and details influence the extent of appropriate paint finishes. For example, buildings constructed of face brick masonry or stone should not be painted. However, if a building is constructed of weatherboard, it can be painted in line with the correct historic period.

- This guide provides detail on where buildings are to be painted in order to preserve original features and details. The colour and location of paint influences building character, and therefore is an important element in the preservation of listed historic items, and buildings in a heritage conservation area.

- It is not appropriate to paint or render face brick masonry or stone.

How Do I Select a Paint Colour?

Selecting a paint colour involves the following stages.

1. Where Possible Obtain a Paint Sample

While it is desirable to paint an old house in its original colours, it may be difficult to discern these.

It is easiest to search for old colour schemes in areas which have not been exposed to sun, rain and wind; such as under verandahs or balconies and behind columns or posts.

Modern attachments such as electrical boxes and cupboards may also reveal original or early colours beneath.

Old photographs, even if black and white, can reveal the placement of light and dark tones, and the overall number of colours.

Paint scrapings can also be taken, either using a coarse grain of sandpaper or a curved scalpel blade. This will reveal the layers of colours down to the base material. A smear of vaseline will bring the colour up.

How Do I Select a Paint Colour? (cont.)

2. Determine the Architectural Era of the Property

Using this guide and research from historic building records, local library records, and external research, determine the property's architectural era. Texts such as *Colour Schemes for Old Australian Houses* by Evans et al. 1984 and *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture* by Apperly, et al. 1989 are helpful resources.

3. Select Colours from this Guide

Consult this guide for colours most appropriate to the architectural era of the building.

How to Use This Guide

- Colours are indicated under two categories of walls and detailing.

- Annotated photographs illustrate the colours used on each part of the property.

- This guide uses Australian Standards 2700 (AS2700) colours, corresponding HEX (Hexadecimal), and RGB code*.

- The AS2700 code and paint name can be presented to paint shops for colour mixing.

Federation c.1890 – c.1915

The Edwardian period, more commonly known in Australia as Federation, saw a variety of styles. Subvariants of the period including Federation Queen Anne, Federation Weatherboard, Federation Arts and Crafts, and Federation Bungalows.

- Federation Queen Anne, Arts and Crafts, and Federation Bungalows were commonly constructed of redbrick masonry. The only painted section of these properties were the detailing, such as gable ends, bargeboards, finials, timber frieze, sash windows, verandah posts, and window casements.

Walls (buildings not constructed of face brick)
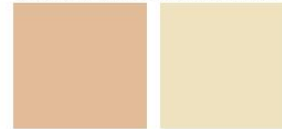
X42 Biscuit HEX #E2BC99 R226; G188; B153	Y34 Cream HEX #EFE2BE R239; G226; B190
Y24 Straw HEX #E8C584 R232; G197; B132	

Detailing

G12 Holly HEX #21422D R33; G66; B45	G32 Opaline HEX #AFCBB9 R175; G203; B185	N14 White HEX #F2F3E9 R242; G243; B233
R62 Venetian Red HEX #76372B R118; G55; B43	X51 Tan HEX #8F5F31 R143; G95; B49	X41 Buff HEX #C28A43 R194; G138; B67

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Do Not Paint or Render Masonry

*Australian Standards 2700 is a selection of 206 colour standards for general purposes. Each colour has one letter and two numbers, plus a unique paint name. This information can be presented to paint shops.

HEX (Hexadecimal) and RGB (Red, Green, Blue) are numerical combinations that are used to display colours in digital format (ie. computer software and web colours).

Georgian c.1820 – c.1840

The Georgian period, otherwise referred to as the Colonial period, was Australia's first predominant architectural style. Buildings were simple in construction and restrained in detailing. Facades were symmetrical, with a main entry at the centre flanked by two, three, or four sets of subordinate openings. Roofs were hipped and traditionally had shingles. Walls were red face brick with stone dressings. Verandahs were a common addition in Australia to provide shade from sunlight and shelter from the elements.

Exterior wall surfaces were traditionally limewashed in colours like off white and light beige.

Timber work including windows and doors were painted in one colour. Colours included beige (light creams), drab (dull light-brown), and dark green. If two colours were used, a darker colour such as a drab or crimson was selected for the door, door frame, shutters and window frames.
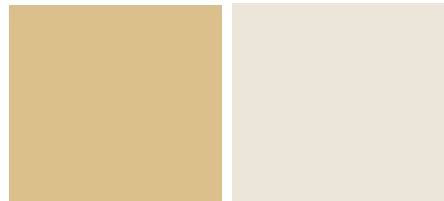
Walls (buildings not constructed of face brick or stone)

Y32 Flummery
HEX #E7DF9E
R231; G223; B158

G43 Surf Green
HEX #C8C8A6
R200; G200; B166

Y34 Cream
HEX #EFE2BE
R239; G226; B190

Y44 Sand
HEX #DCC08B
R220; G192; B139

N14 White
HEX #F2F3E9
R242; G243; B233

Detailing

R64 Deep Indian Red
HEX #532E2B
R83; G46; B43

R53 Red Gum
HEX #8D4337
R141; G67; B55

X41 Buff
HEX #C28A43
R194; G138; B67

G12 Holly
HEX #21422D
R33, G66; B45

X51 Tan
HEX #8F5F31
R143; G95; B49

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Do Not Paint or Render Masonry

Victorian c.1840 – c.1900

Victorian architecture spanned from the early 1840s until the late 1890s. This architectural era saw many styles including early Victorian cottages (c.1845 - c.1865), Victorian terrace housing, and Victorian Italianate. Properties constructed in the late Victorian period (c.1880s - c.1900) were considered High Victorian as their level of details and exuberance coincided with a prosperous economy.

- Walls for properties that were not constructed of face brick masonry were painted in colours like buff (earthy light yellow/ brown), light beige, biscuit, or dark buff (earthy brown and beige).

- Details like window sashes, windows and doors were painted in dark reds and dark greens. The frames were sometimes painted in contrasting colours like beige or off white.

- Complex and ornate buildings emphasised trim and framing elements. For example, verandas had brackets and mouldings painted in opposite colours to verandah posts. Cast iron lacework was commonly painted in dark greens and dark reds.

Walls (buildings not constructed of face brick or stone)

Y53 Sandstone
HEX #D4BF8E
R212; G191; B142

Y65 Mushroom
HEX #A99685
R169; G150; B133
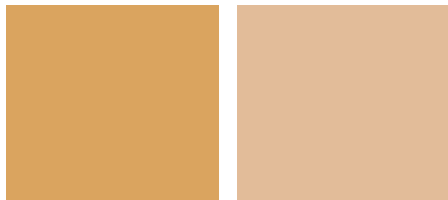
X21 Pale Ochre
HEX #DAA45F
R218; G164; B95

X42 Biscuit
HEX #E2BC99
R226; G188; B153

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Detailing

G44 Palm Green
HEX #99B178
R153; G177; 120

G12 Holly
HEX #21422D
R33, G66; B45

Y54 Oatmeal
HEX #C9A97F
R201; G169; B127

Y35 Off White
HEX #F4E8D3
R244; G232; B211

R64 Deep Indian Red
HEX #532E2B
R83; G46; B43

R62 Venetian Red
HEX #76372B
R118; G55; B43

X65 Dark Brown
HEX #4F362D
R79; G54; B45

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Federation c.1900 – c.1915

The Edwardian period, more commonly known in Australia as Federation, saw a variety of architectural styles. Subvariants of the period include Federation Queen Anne, Federation Weatherboard, Federation Arts and Crafts, and Federation Bungalows.

- Federation properties were commonly constructed of redbrick masonry, hence the use of paint for wall surfaces diminished. Despite this, properties like weatherboard bungalows used creams and buffs (earthy light yellow).

- Details used a combination of appropriately selected complementary colours. In some cases, windowsills were pained in dark greens or dark reds, window and door frames in dark greens, sashes in creams, veranda posts and beams in dark reds, and varandah brackets in pale creams.

Walls (buildings not constructed of face brick)
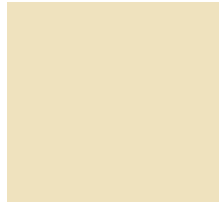
X42 Biscuit
HEX #E2BC99
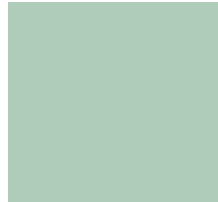R226; G188; B153

Y34 Cream
HEX #EFE2BE
R239; G226; B190

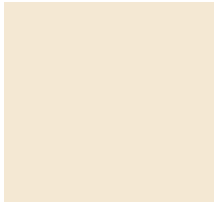**Y24 Straw**
HEX #E8C584
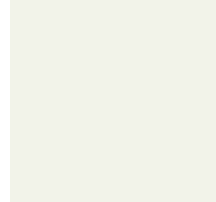R232; G197; B132

Detailing

G12 Holly
HEX #21422D
R33; G66; B45

G32 Opaline
HEX #AFCBB9
R175; G203; B185

Y35 Off White
HEX #F4E8D3
R244; G232; B211

N14 White
HEX #F2F3E9
R242; G243; B233

R62 Venetian Red
HEX #76372B
R118; G55; B43

X51 Tan
HEX #8F5F31
R143; G95; B49

**X41 Buff**
HEX #C28A43
R194; G138; B67

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Interwar c.1915 – c.1940

Three architectural styles were common in the interwar period, the Californian Bungalow, Spanish Mission, and the Interwar Bungalow.

Californian Bungalow & Interwar Bungalow

- The Californian Bungalow was derived from California due to its suitability in hot climates, and its relative cost-effective construction, which saw its prominence spike in post war suburbs. Most Californian Bungalows are constructed from earthy materials like clinker brick. Low pitched roofs, multiple street facing gables, and forward-facing asymmetrical verandahs characterise this style.

- The interwar bungalow took design influence from the Californian Bungalow. These properties supplemented expensive masonry with gyprock as a more cost-effective building solution.

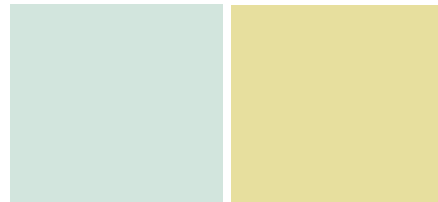- Masonry surfaces, including face brick and tiles, remained unpainted.

Walls (buildings not constructed of face brick)
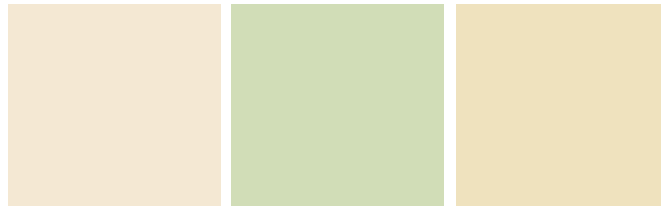
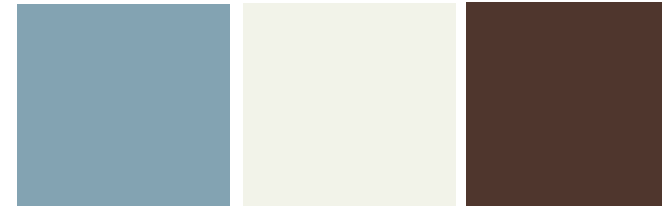| Y35 Off White HEX #F4E8D3 R244; G232; B211	G42 Glacier HEX #D5E1D1 R213; G225; B209	Y34 Cream HEX #EFE2BE R239; G226; B190
B35 Pale Blue HEX #D2E5DD R210; G229; B221	Y32 Flummery HEX #E7DF9E R231; G223; B158	

Detailing

B44 Light Blue Grey HEX #8DA8AE R141; G168; B174	N14 White HEX #F2F3E9 R242; G243; B233	X65 Dark Brown HEX #4F362D R79; G54; B45
N41 Oyster HEX #998F77 R153; G143; B119	Y65 Mushroom HEX #A99685 R169; G150; B133	R62 Venetian Red HEX #76372B R118; G55; B43

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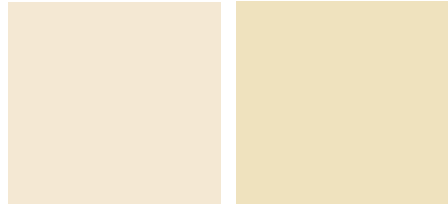
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Do Not Paint or Render Masonry

Interwar c.1915 – c.1940

Spanish Mission

- Spanish Mission architecture gained popularity in Australia due to the prominence of the style in California. The use of arched colonnades with twisted columns, arched gates, arched windows and arched doorways were common. Windows were multi paned in groups of two or three. Painted timber shutters were also common.

- Main structures were constructed from solid brick with a stucco render applied in rough swirls to mimic the mud brick of the original Californian missions.

- Roofs were made of ochre coloured terracotta tiles. These were not painted.

- Paint colours used included pastel whites and creams. Details were often painted in a contrasting pastel white, cream or pastel colour.

Walls

Y35 Off White	Y34 Cream
HEX #F4E8D3	HEX #EFE2BE
R244; G232; B211	R239; G226; B190

N14 White	G47 Crystal Green
HEX #F2F3E9	HEX #ADCCA7
R242; G243; B233	R173; G204; B167

Detailing

Y35 Off White	N14 White	B35 Pale Blue
HEX #F4E8D3	HEX #F2F3E9	HEX #D2E5DD
R244; G232; B211	R242; G243; B233	R210; G229; B221

| G26 Apple Green	G33 Lettice	G32 Opaline
HEX #5C923C	HEX #7B9953	HEX #AFCBB9
R92; G146; B60	R123; G153; B83	R175; G203; B185

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Post War c.1945 – c.1970

The post war period spanned from 1945 until the early 1970s. Faced with post war material shortages, many homes were mass manufactured, using cost effective materials. The two most common building materials were brick veneer, or asbestos fibro. Often houses were 'L' shaped and double or triple fronted. Modernist architecture also rose to prominence during this era.
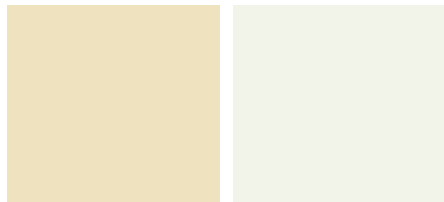
- Paint shortages in this period resulted in colour schemes based on paint affordability and availability. Weatherboard and fibro buildings were painted in whites, off whites, pale creams, and ivory. Details were painted in colours like parchment, pale blue, white, and off white.

- The main structure of masonry properties remained unpainted.

Walls (buildings not constructed of face brick)
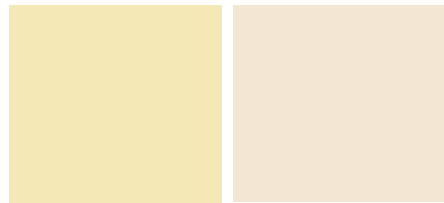
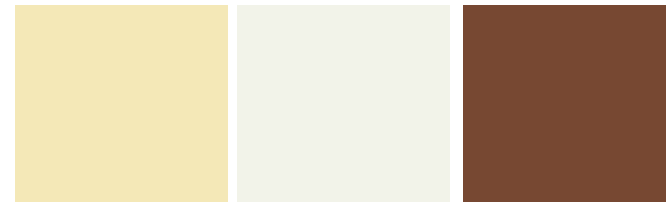|	
Y35 Off White HEX #F4E8D3 R244; G232; B183	X33 Warm White HEX #F3E7D3 R243; G231; B211
Y34 Cream HEX #EFE2BE R239; G226; B190	N14 White HEX #F2F3E9 R242; G243; B233

Details

Y43 Parchment HEX #D3C9A3 R211; G201; B163	B35 Pale Blue HEX #D2E5DD R210; G229; B221	R62 Venetian Red HEX #76372B R118; G55; B43
Y35 Off White HEX #F4E8D3 R244; G232; B183	N14 White HEX #F2F3E9 R242; G243; B233	X55 Nut Brown HEX #774832 R119; G72; B50

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Roofing

- Roofing types, materials, and colours varied according to each architectural period. If the property has either slate or terracotta tiles, they should not be painted.

- Properties that did not feature tiles had short sheet galvanised iron. This was traditionally left unpainted; however, later alterations have seen some of these roofs pained in dark reds, greens, and greys.

- Recommended colour options include:

| R63 Red Oxide HEX #663333 R102; G51; B51 | G11 Bottle Green HEX #253A31 R37; G58; B49 | G12 Holly HEX #21422D R33; G66; B45 | N54 Basalt HEX #585C63 R88; G92; B99 | N33 Lightbox Grey HEX #B4B5B5 R180; G181; B181 |

For further information, please contact Council's Heritage Advisor.

(02) 4823 4444