

NOMINATION TO THE ACT HERITAGE REGISTER

Please note that the information below represents indicative heritage values only, and not the views of the ACT Heritage Council (the Council).

This nomination is yet to be assessed by the Council against the heritage significance criteria established under the Heritage Act 2004.

Acceptance of a nomination is a preliminary, threshold step and ought not to be taken as indicative of any particular outcome concerning the Council's assessment of the nomination.

Blocks 1, 3-16, 19-27 Section 21 KINGSTON KINGSTON SHOPS

The Kingston Shopping Precinct was the earliest and predominant retail area servicing the new community from the beginnings of Canberra as the nation's capital in the 1920s until the Civic Centre expanded in the late 1940s/early 1950s. The Kingston Shopping Precinct has retained a continuity of use and function since this time, with the Precinct adhering to the same form and layout from its initial planning and design.

The Kingston Shopping Precinct has an important association with the early development of Canberra as the nation's capital. The Centre, together with neighbouring places in the Griffith, Kingston and Barton areas, illustrates the immediate and changing needs of the community, as evidenced in their dates of construction and use from the establishment of the city in the 1920s.

The heritage value of the Kingston Shopping Precinct is primarily vested both in its planning as a low scale shopping centre and the physical fabric even though it has been partially changed over time and contains added layers of development.

The historical planning of the area remains evident in the precinct today, with predominantly narrow-fronted shopfronts with continuous horizontal awnings, a maximum of two storey frontage to Kennedy and Giles Streets, and in key areas of the precinct such as Green Square and Highgate Lane.

The Kingston Shopping Precinct, together with the Manuka Shopping Precinct, set a precedent for all subsequent ACT suburbs, as a small, self-contained shopping precinct designed to service the surrounding community. Noting that the majority of suburban shopping precincts are smaller in size than Kingston, this aspect of urban planning none the less provides the ACT with a unique character and identity.