



Much of the heritage quality of buildings from late Victorian and Federation eras which are the predominant types in Conservation Areas, is reliant upon the colours and textures of original materials. In particular, the styles rely on face brickwork, sandstone, slate and terracotta tiles. Most owners are aware of the benefits of adopting 'Heritage Colours' when repainting timber joinery but are not aware that the painting of face brickwork or stone not only destroys heritage value but can also create severe problems in the long term.



Painting of face brickwork detracts from the intactness of the architectural style and character of many buildings. For example, one of the essential qualities of Queen Ann and Arts and Craft buildings is the colour, texture and pattern of the brickwork.

Painting of face brickwork, which destroys heritage values would not be approved for heritage items and buildings in conservation areas and is strongly discouraged in other areas.

## Colour Schemes

The use of authentic heritage colour schemes can make even an ordinary building most attractive.

A narrow range of colour schemes, based on greens, reds, creams, buffs and crimsons with occasional grey/blue/white, is typical with heritage buildings. Appropriate paint colour and attention to detail can breathe new life into old buildings.



Some tips to choose appropriate colours:

- Careful scraping back of paint layers may reveal past colours
- Specialist laboratory paint analysis is possible
- Old photographs give many clues to tonal relationships
- Books and heritage colour charts help. A range of books is available at Mosman Local Studies Collection in the Library.



When the work involves the addition of new building fabric, external materials to be used must be the same as or compatible with the original. Restraint is called for in not 'overrestoring' buildings to an appearance they never possessed. Traditional colour schemes should be applied in the manner that would once have existed.

Before you consider repainting your property please consult Mosman Residential Development Control Plan and publications on heritage colour schemes at Mosman Library. The Mosman Heritage Advisory Service can provide advice on any proposed colour schemes.

