

Scotland, Edinburgh, Newtown.

Most older cities value their historic precincts, and although Australian cities are much less mature, they also have their valuable precincts. Their value is related to their context and their authenticity, both as a precinct and as the values of various elements. A famous example is Edinburgh's "New Town", Scotland so named because it was built as a series of precincts to provide better housing for the more wealthy as the "old town" became overpopulated and those living there increasingly suffered poor health from poor hygiene. The "New Town" and adjoining precincts are now a major tourist asset for Edinburgh based on the conservation value while still providing a very urban inner city lifestyle. It provides an exemplary model of the need to protect and preserve character at the precinct as well as individual element levels and of the benefits of so doing, a lesson we have yet to learn.

