

Central Geelong Urban Living



Ryrie St, Geelong
\$2-8m, 2009

The Central Geelong Urban Living (CGUL) project initiated by VicUrban seeks to bring urban style living into the central area of Geelong through the use of existing buildings and sites. Harrison and White were one of three firms selected to undertake design feasibility, and were assigned the site of 174 Ryrie Street.

This advanced study looked into several options for introducing medium density housing into a typical shop front site, currently with underused land to the rear. Working with DARMS property group, several strategies involving the re-use of the existing building and new rear building works were examined. Key considerations of urban design linkages, heritage, fire protection and sustainable design were key parameters. The housing proposed is a flexible mix that can be targeted as either affordable subsidised housing and/or private housing. The architectural strategy was to maximise north facing apartments and to produce a contemporary urban building that was both non-regular in its articulation whilst working with development constraints.