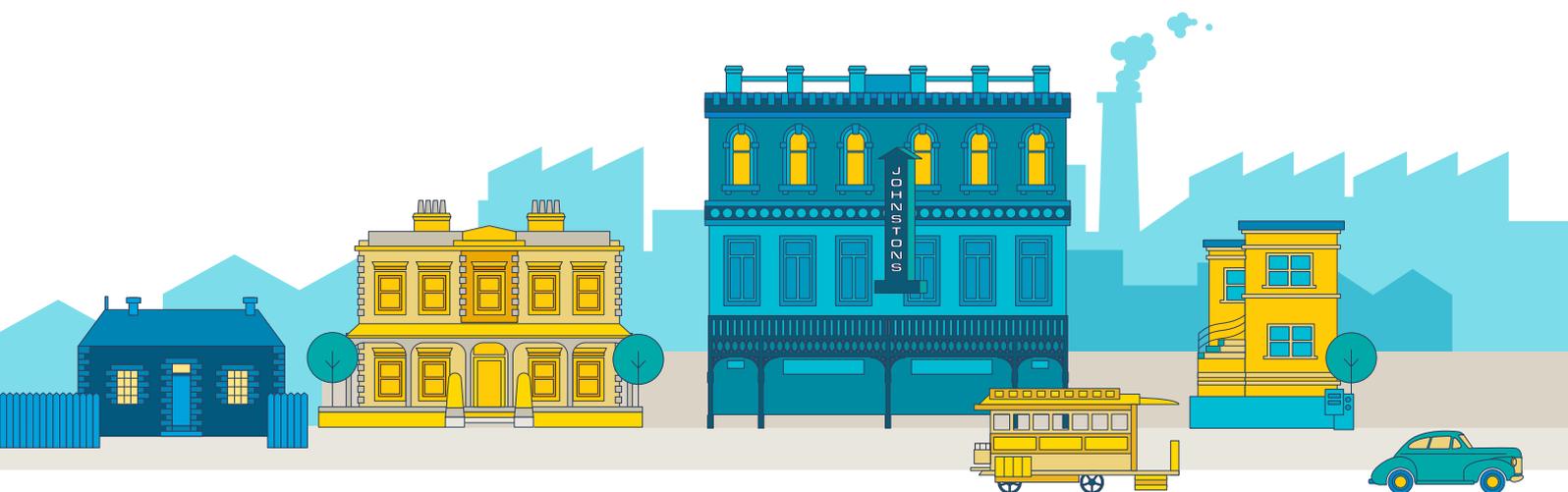


Timeline of Housing in Yarra



1830–1850: GRID ROADS AND FIRST SUBURBS

Fitzroy was Melbourne’s first suburb, following the subdivision of land between Melbourne City and Alexandra Parade in 1839.

Some suburbs, such as Carlton, were comprehensively surveyed and laid out while other areas, such as Collingwood and Richmond, were relatively unplanned. These areas had disjointed and often narrow streets and lots, and were places where cheaper housing was built.

1850–1890: GOLD RUSH TO MARVELLOUS MELBOURNE

Introduction of grand houses in parts of Yarra in areas like Princes Hill, Carlton North, Fitzroy North and Richmond Hill.

More modest housing was constructed in Fitzroy, Collingwood, Abbotsford and Richmond for workers employed in developing industries nearby.

Melbourne’s first cable tram routes were developed along the main roads in the latter part of the 19th Century, attracting long corridors of shops and businesses, forming the beginnings of what we recognise today as Yarra’s major activity centres.

Many of Yarra’s historical landmark buildings, including St Ignatius’ Church and the town halls with their characteristic clock towers, were built during this period.

1920–1950: DEPRESSION AND AUSTERITY

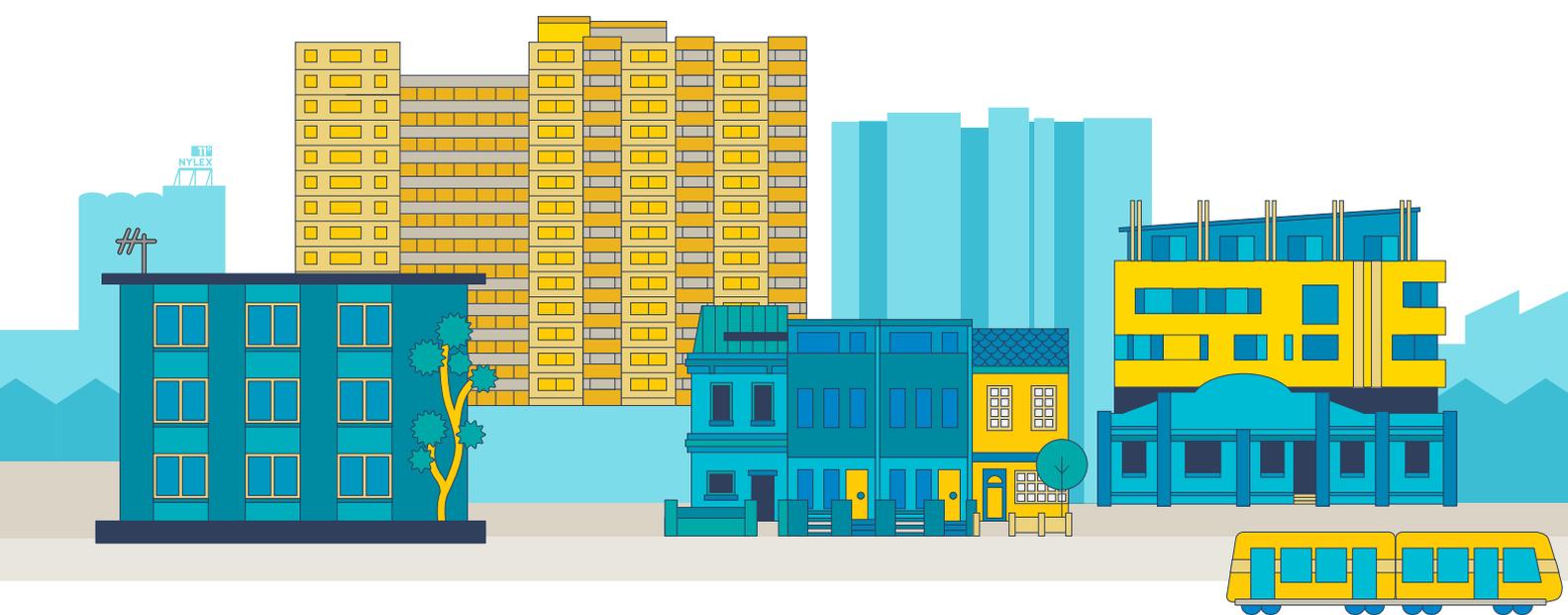
The population decline of the interwar period resulted in different patterns of residential development across Yarra with some expansion of industrial buildings.

During the Depression, the poorer parts of Fitzroy, Collingwood and Richmond were affected by poverty and classified as slums.



The people, places, activities, and economy in Yarra have all undergone significant change in the past years, decades and centuries.

The rich and varied history of Yarra is reflected in its built form and mix of residential, industrial, and commercial areas.



1950–1980: POST-WAR CHANGE

In the 1950s, while many families were moving to Melbourne's new suburbs, newly arrived migrants from southern European countries were moving to Yarra. Many of them joined the workforce of the thriving textile, clothing and footwear industries. These new residents brought new foods, languages and a change to the street life and culture.

The Housing Commission's slum clearance projects in the 1950s and 1960s also had a huge impact on Yarra. Whole blocks of houses were demolished and replaced with towering housing estates, dramatically changing the streetscape. Yarra's built form was also being changed by the Melbourne-wide boom in the development of apartment buildings.

1980–2015: RETURN TO THE INNER-CITY

The increasing popularity of the inner suburbs in the 1980s as places to live spurred the support for heritage protection for areas of cultural significance and provided the foundations for Yarra's existing heritage controls.

The turn of the millennium saw no slowing in demand for inner city living, business and leisure. Property development continued, diversifying to include creative work spaces, such as design and architectural studios, and niche manufacturing in industries that had a long history in Yarra, such as fashion and food production.

As urban consolidation gained more support in Melbourne in the early 2000s, development was actively directed to activity centres and former industrial areas within the inner city.

Recent changes in Yarra reflect a global trend of people wanting to live closer to city centres to access employment, an inner city lifestyle, nightlife and vibrant places. But change is not new; the area known now as the City of Yarra has been evolving since European settlement in the 1830s.