PLANNED PROJECTS

Entry Precinct Upgrade
Working Heritage will undertake works to enhance the experience of arriving at Carome. This project will introduce new planting and signage at the site entry and also incorporate screening vegetation in key areas to frame views towards the Homestead. Upgrades to the road will improve functionality while maintaining the rural character of Carome.

Mill Site Viewing Deck
The historic significance of Carome is linked to its location as one of the first water powered mills in Victoria. A key project is to reveal, conserve and interpret the mill site. This could be achieved through a viewing platform at the river’s edge which will provide seating and interpretative signage.

Activation of Agricultural Sheds
The sheds to the east of the homestead are historically significant, providing strong connections to former agricultural activities on the site. These structures offer opportunities for the introduction of community, tourism and cultural activities. In particular, these sheds lend themselves to use by makers or artisans who would benefit from a semi-industrial environment within a natural setting.

Expansion of Community Garden
The expansion of the community garden offers opportunities to foster further community involvement in Carome. Such initiatives may include additional gardens plots and improved signage and wayfinding.

Outdoor Dining Expansion
The current hospitality use of the homestead is an excellent fit for the building, and the focus on local produce and craft supports the long-term ambitions for the site. Another key project is to expand the outdoor dining area to the north of the homestead where seating and tables can take advantage of and northerly aspect views of the surrounding river environs and establish strong connections with existing pedestrian and cycle paths.

WORKING HERITAGE
Working Heritage is a Committee of Management appointed by the Victorian Government to manage heritage places on Crown Land. Since its inception in 1998, Working Heritage (formerly Mint Inc) has taken on the management of 15 heritage places, undertaking conservation and building works to give the properties a new lease of life and a sustainable future.

HISTORY
The site is of historical significance as it was associated with one of the state’s earliest water-powered flour mills, known as the Carome Mill. This mill was one of a chain of water powered mills established along the Plenty River in the mid-nineteenth century. The Homestead was built in 1861 from local bluestone and is situated at the east of the site. Working Heritage began managing Carome in 2009.

THE PLAN
The Site Management Plan sets out to improve and develop Carome to ensure it is a valued and well utilised place for the local community, residents of the City of Whittlesea and visitors from further afield. It was developed through research, consultation with the community and consideration of different options and aims to conserve and promote the site’s cultural heritage. Working Heritage is now directing resources to Carome and will work with community groups, tenants, Parks Victoria and the City of Whittlesea to implement the Site Management Plan.
THE MASTERPLAN