
Coleraine Avenue of Honour



23130 Avenue of Honour
Coleraine 1272



23130 Avenue of Honour
Coleraine 1273



23130 Avenue of Honour
Coleraine plaque 1274



23130 Avenue of Honour
Coleraine plaque 1276



23130 Avenue of Honour
Coleraine plaque 1275

Location

Glenelg Highway COLERAINE, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

-

Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - April 26, 2003

What is significant?

The Coleraine Avenue of Honour is located 2 kilometres west of the township of Coleraine on the Glenelg Highway. There are two sections of planting, one dedicated to those who died in active service, and the other to those who served and returned. The avenue was planted after 1919 by the Coleraine branch of the Returned Services League as a living memorial to those who served in World War One between 1914 - 1918. The planting closest to the township is dedicated to those who died in the First World War, and consists of closely planted mature *Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Horizontalis' extending west for 1 kilometre on both sides of the Glenelg Highway. The second planting is an Avenue of *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa* extending west beyond the *Cupressus*. The avenue is dedicated to those who served and survived the war. There are no individual memorial plaques on trees, but there is a large ironstone boulder with a bronze plaque located in a lay-by in the middle of the avenue on the north side. The *Cupressus macrocarpa* are in good condition and retain a high degree of integrity. The *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa* are in poor condition and much of the integrity of this planting has been compromised through removal of trees.

How is it Significant?

The Coleraine Avenue of Honour is historically, socially and aesthetic significance to the township of Coleraine and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it Significant?

The Coleraine Avenue of Honour is historically significant for its commemorative association with servicemen and women who died in the First World War. Planted after 1919 as a memorial to those who died and served between 1914 -1918, the avenue provides an important historical focus for the township of Coleraine. The use of *Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Horizontalis' as the planting is not unusual for a memorial avenue, but the use of an *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa*, an Australian native is uncommon. The use of native species is historically significant when contrasted to the almost always European species used for Avenues of Honour or memorial plantings. The Avenue is socially important for its relationship with the community as a living memorial. The Avenue is of aesthetic significance as it dominates and contrasts with the surrounding landscape. It provides a dark formal focus along the Glenelg Highway, an extension the main street thorough the township of Coleraine. The Avenue was planted as a living memorial and is recognised by the Returned Services League and the community for its continuing commemorative importance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1919,
Hermes Number	125519
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The avenue is in fair condition. The *Cupressus macrocarpa* 'horizontalis' have been maintained in good condition, although some of the trees have large wounds from limb loss. The *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa* section of the avenue is in poor to fair condition as many of the trees have been lost or removed, and there has been little maintenance performed. The memorial boulder and plaque are in excellent condition.

Physical Description 1

The Coleraine Avenue of Honour consists of two plantings located on either side the Glenelg Highway, starting approximately 2 kilometres to the west of the township of Coleraine. The two plantings form an avenue dedicated to the men and women of Shire of Wannon who served in World War One 1914 - 1918. The two distinct sections of the avenue are represented by different species of trees. The eastern part of the avenue planted with *Cupressus macrocarpa* 'horizontalis', representing those who died in active service in World War One. The

western section of the avenue is planted with *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa*, representing those who served and returned alive.

A memorial ironstone boulder and simple bronze plaque, donated by the nearby Rigby Brothers Quarry lists the names and ranks of those who died in active service in World War One. This is situated in a lay by off the Glenelg Highway, and was erected in 1994 by the local Coleraine Apex Club.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 8: - Developing Australia's cultural life
8.8 Remembering the fallen

Theme 9 - Marking the phases of life
9.7 Dying
9.7.3 Remembering the dead

Usage/Former Usage

Memorial
Picnic area

Integrity

High Degree of Integrity

Veterans Description for Public

The Coleraine Avenue of Honour is located two kilometres west of the township of Coleraine on the Glenelg Highway. There were two sections of planting, one dedicated to those who died in active service, and the other to those who served and returned. The avenue was planted after 1919 by the Coleraine branch of the Returned Services League as a living memorial to those who served in the First World War. The planting closest to the township was dedicated to those who died during the war. It comprised of closely planted mature *Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Horizontalis' extending west for 1 kilometre on both sides of the Glenelg Highway. The second planting was an avenue of *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa* extending west beyond the *Cupressus*. That avenue was dedicated to those who served and survived the war.

In 1994, the Coleraine Apex Club erected a memorial plaque to those who died from the Shire of Wannon. The bronze plaque carries a list of their names and rank and is mounted on a large ironstone boulder donated by the nearby Rigby Brothers Quarry. This bronze plaque is located in a lay-by in the middle of the avenue on the north side. On February 7th 2009, fifty-four trees were lost in the Black Saturday fires. They were replanted on April 24th 2010. Avenues of honour were planted throughout Australia in the early 1920s to commemorate those Australians who had served, and in many cases fallen in the First World War. Common plantings were *Cupressus macrocarpa*, as they were a dark, sombre tree, closely associated with cemeteries and symbolism of death. Although other trees were used, they were primarily European, and often had special symbolic significance. It was not common to see Australian plants included in Avenues of Honour or memorial plantings.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>