
Main Street Tree Avenue and Bills Horse Trough, Main Street (Western Highway), GREAT WESTERN



GW 12 - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, 2004

Location

Western Highway GREAT WESTERN, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 16, 2004

The avenue of American Ash trees (with some Oaks and Eucalypts), Main Street (Western Highway), Great Western, has significance as a predominantly intact row of trees on both sides of the road that were initially planted in 1934 by the Great Western Progress Association. Equally importantly, the second phase of the planting in 1936, formed part of the "Sun-News Pictorial" and Country Roads Board tree planting scheme, having been instigated by the Great Western State School in conjunction with the Great Western Progress Association. The planting scheme was marked by an official planting ceremony, and in 1937 the Great Western State School was awarded a prize as part of the State-wide tree planting scheme.

The avenue of American Ash trees (with some Oaks and Eucalypts), Main Street (Western Highway), Great Western, is **aesthetically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates significant visual qualities within the central Great Western township and contribute substantially to the local landscape.

The avenue of American Ash trees (with some Oaks and Eucalypts), Main Street (Western Highway), Great Western, is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the tree planting schemes of 1934 and particularly of 1936. The initial planting of 60 trees was carried out by the Great Western Progress Association. The second planting formed part of the State-wide *Sun-News Pictorial* newspaper and Country Roads Board scheme, and was the result of the work of the children of the Great Western State School in association with the Great Western Progress Association. The success of the tree planting was not only measured in the aesthetic contribution the trees made to the town, but in the prize received by the Great Western State School from the *Sun* newspaper for the development and planting of the avenue. The Great Western School was one of five schools along the Western Highway awarded prizes as part of the tree planting scheme.

The avenue of American Ash trees (with some Oaks and Eucalypts), Main Street (Western Highway), Great Western, is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is recognised and valued by the Great Western community as an important aesthetic contribution made by the Progress Association and State School children in the early 20th century.

Overall, the avenue of American Ash trees (with some Oaks and Eucalypts), Main Street (Western Highway), Great Western is of **LOCAL** significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;
Hermes Number	105062
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The avenue of American Ash trees (with some Oaks and Eucalypts) is situated on both sides of Main Street (Western Highway), from the southern approach to Great Western (immediately south of the Stephenson Street junction), to the northern approach (half way between the Brunel and Stephenson Street junctions with the Western Highway).

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/>