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# King George's Park, McMahon Street, ST ARNAUD



SD 117 - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, 2004



SD 117 1 - Photograph from St. Arnaud, A Pictorial Journey - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, 2004

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## Location

McMahon Street ST ARNAUD, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 17, 2004

King George's Park, McMahon Street, St. Arnaud, was created in 1913 on the former 'public battery' crushing plant that had been established in the 1850s. The park has significance as an early 20th century public recreation reserve and for the large number of exotic and native trees that form a memorial to the fallen soldiers of the First World War.

King George's Park, McMahon Street, St. Arnaud, is **aesthetically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates important visual qualities as identified by the grassed sports oval and surrounding mature poplar, holly oak, pine and red gum trees.

King George's Park, McMahon Street, St. Arnaud, is **historically** significant at a **NATIONAL** level. It is associated with the creation of a public recreation reserve in 1913, and importantly with the planting of over 80 exotic and native trees dedicated to the fallen soldiers in the First World War. One particular tree is associated with Sgt. William Young, the first Australian to fire a shot under war conditions in 1914. The Park is also associated with the establishment of a crushing plant in the 1850s by James Coleman (early storekeeper), and soon after with Edward Butcher, Edward Chapman and Seymour Tenney. The crushing plant became known as 'the public battery' because Butcher, Chapman and Tenney made the machine available to the public to crush small loads of stone.

King George's Park, McMahon Street, St. Arnaud, is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is highly valued and recognised by the St. Arnaud community for cultural and commemorative reasons associated with the fallen soldiers in the First World War.

Overall, King George's Park, McMahon Street, St. Arnaud, 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	111443
Property Number	

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## Physical Conditions

King George's Park is located in McMahon Street, St. Arnaud. It comprises a public recreation reserve, with a grassed oval surrounded by approximately 47 remaining mature memorial trees. These mature trees are a mixture of different species of popular, holly oak, pine and gums.

*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/>*