Springvale Garden of Remembrance and War Cemetery





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Springvale Cemetery Columbaruim.jpg

Location

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PRINCES HIGHWAY SPRINGVALE, Greater Dandenong City

Municipality

GREATER DANDENONG CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Other Names AUSTRALIAN WAR GRAVES, Hermes Number 125548

Property Number

Veterans Description for Public

The Victorian Garden of Remembrance is situated within the Springvale Necropolis, Melbourne. The original garden was opened in the early 1960s and was extended in 1988. The extensions were officially opened by the then Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon. Ben Humphreys, MP on March 3rd 1989. The Garden has a plaque capacity of 70,000. The entry building houses the register books which list the wall and row number of each individual plaque. The necropolis contains forty-eight First World War burials and eighty-seven from the Second World War.

Near the entrance to the Garden of Remembrance, is a large granite stone with a commemorative plaque collectively honouring all those whose names are inscribed in the Garden. On each side of the pathways are walls bearing plaques commemorating individual veterans.

Adjacent to the Victorian Garden of Remembrance is the Springvale War Cemetery. During the early months of the Second World War, this land was set aside for the burial of men and women of the services dying in the Melbourne area, by agreement between the Minister for the Army and the Necropolis Trust. Here lie 611 Commonwealth service personnel and four Dutch war burials. Many of those buried died of wounds in the Heidelberg Military Hospital after return from operational areas while others died as a result of accident or sickness. Noteworthy features include the stonework of the buildings and the walls surrounding the War Cemetery.

The Cross of Sacrifice was unveiled on 5 December 1948 by His Excellency the Governor of Victoria, Major General Sir Winston Dugan. Behind the Cross is a shelter containing the Victoria Cremation Memorial, dedicated to 75 Australian servicemen who died in Victoria during the Second World War and whose remains were cremated.

Seven Victoria Cross winners are among the First and Second World War burials at Springvale, in the War Cemetery, Botanical Cemetey. The graves, set in manicured lawns, are complemented by roses to symbolise caring remembrance. The War Cemetery is maintained by the Office of Australian War Graves on behalf of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

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/