
Ararat Boer War Memorial Fountain



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Location

Barkly Street ARARAT, ARARAT RURAL CITY

Municipality

ARARAT RURAL CITY

Level of significance

-

Heritage Overlay Numbers

Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The Ararat Boer War Memorial is located in front of the John Fox Gardens and the Town Hall, Town Hall Square, Western Highway. Established in 1905, the fountain was initially planned to mark Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee, but Cr Hargreaves suggested that it should also commemorate those of Ararat's volunteers 'who sleep in the war-scarred veldts of South Africa'. Ararat had sent twenty-one volunteers and those who survived received gold medals from fellow citizens. Empire patriotism was strong. When the mayor interrupted the formal opening ceremony for the new Town Ball in 1899 to read out a telegram giving news of a British victory in the Transvaal, the audience cheered and spontaneously broke into 'Rule Britannia'. The fountain was apparently obtained ready made. Hargreaves informed his fellow councillors that he had obtained the design from a Melbourne firm and

tabled a photograph showing the kind of fountain which could be obtained for between 100 and 125 pounds. The modellers were Wardrop and Scurry of North Melbourne.

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|---------------------------|---|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Ararat Rural - Ararat Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard & Dr Margaret Pawsey, 1994; |
| Construction dates | 1905, |
| Hermes Number | 125768 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Conditions

The fountain is in fair condition.

Integrity

The fountain has excellent integrity. It is largely intact and is missing only a few details and elements. It is not functioning and the pond is empty.

Physical Description 1

The fountain is a conventional design with four equal aspects, guarded by winged lions, decorated by monstrous fish and surmounted by an arched structure and a large flat dish. The whole appears to be made from pressed cement which has been painted. The modellers' names appear in plaques on each arm. Other plaques commemorate the late Queen and the Boer War. The fountain is sited in a circular pool on axis with the facade of the Town Hall.

Notable features - overall form and detail.

Veterans Description for Public

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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/>