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# Seymour Memorial Swimming Pool



Seym 15.jpg



Seym 16.jpg

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## Location

Lesley Street, SEYMOUR VIC 3660 - Property No 105208

## Municipality

MITCHELL SHIRE

## Level of significance

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## Heritage Overlay Numbers

## Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2006

The history and description that precedes this Statement of Cultural Significance is the source of the evidence for the statement below.

Seymour Kings Park Precinct is historically significant at the LOCAL level (AHC criteria A.4). The mixture of residential and commercial structures from around the turn of the 19th century demonstrates the nature of the development of the town after the arrival of the railway in 1872 as it occupies the interstitial space between the old town centre and the new centre and is located around the most direct route between the two centres. The avenue of plane trees is expressive of the importance of Tallarook Street as the major link.

The establishment of Kings Park and its continuing backdrop of woodland are illustrative of its original landscape as billabong and floodplain that discouraged the type of subdivision that occurred elsewhere along Tallarook Street. The park is significant for its continuing use as showgrounds since 1907 some few years after the establishment of Seymour's own Agricultural Society. The significant oaks and palms are important indicators of that history while the large native trees represent the original character of the landscape.

The precinct is aesthetically significant at the LOCAL level (AHC Criterion E.1).

The avenue of plane trees on Tallarook Street makes a major contribution to Seymour's civic landscape, the view north along Tallarook Street terminated by low hills provides a sense of the towns relationship to the countryside, the oaks and palm trees are important elements in the landscape of Kings Park while the while the large native trees in and bordering Kings Park trees provide an backdrop to the setting evocative of the original landscape. The houses dating from the turn of the 19th century retain most of the pleasing features and garden settings that are representative of their period of construction while the commercial buildings retain their original scale and massing. The fence and gateways to Kings Park and the Memorial Pools are good examples of civic building of the period while the former market gates are excellent examples of design and workmanship from the 19th century.

The Park Gates are scientifically significant at the LOCAL level (AHC Criterion F1.) by demonstrating excellence in design and craftsmanship.

Kings Park is socially significant at the LOCAL level ( AHC Criterion G.1) as evidenced by its continuing use as a public park and showgrounds. The fence and gateway to Kings Park and the War Memorial Pools express the civic and community pride of the 1960s when the pools were created 'by the citizens of Seymour'.

Overall, Seymour King's Park precinct is culturally significant at the LOCAL level.  
Sourced by Lorraine Huddle P/L 2006

Heritage Study/Consultant Mitchell - Mitchell Shire Heritage Study, Lorraine Huddle Pty Ltd, 2006;

Hermes Number 127205

Property Number

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## Physical Description 2

Public, Recreational

## Physical Description 1

The War Memorial Swimming Pools are located on the south-eastern side of Lesley Street. They have been sunk into a low mound giving a pleasant elevation for users sitting around the pool. A low brick administration and service building separates the pool area from the pleasantly treed car park area and Alexander Street to the North West.

Access to the pools is via Lesley Street on which a double gateway has been created by the erection of a freestanding brick wall erected across the centre of the street and matching brick columns at the sides to create a separate entrance and exit. While designed to accommodate the wrought and cast iron gates salvaged from the Melbourne Fish Market which have been relocated to the main entrance to Kings Park On the approach side the light cream brick wall bears the name of the pool in large bronze roman capital letters and bears a plaque commemorating the construction of the pools by the citizens of Seymour in memory of all who served and died in defence of the country. A plaque on the other side commemorates the opening of the pools by the Governor Major-General Sir Rohan Delacombe in 1966.

## Historical Australian Themes

- 8.1.1 Playing and watching organised sports
- 8.7 Honouring achievement
- 8.8 Remembering the fallen

## **Veterans Description for Public**

The Seymour War Memorial Pool, located on the south-eastern side of Lesley Street, was opened King's Park by the Governor Major-General Sir Rohan Delacombe in 1966. On the approach side the light cream brick wall bears the name of the pool in large bronze roman capital letters and bears a plaque commemorating the construction of the pools by the citizens of Seymour in memory of all who served and died in defence of the country. A plaque on the other side commemorates the opening of the pools by the Governor.

*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/>*