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## Jelly Palm, Stone Pine and Oak Trees



Jelly Palm, Stone Pine and Oak Trees WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay Heritage Study 2006



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### Location

74 Pasco Street WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay City

### Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO252

### Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The trees, comprising a Jelly Palm (*Washington Robusta*), Stone Pine (*Pinus Pinea*) and Oak (*Quercus Robur*), established c.1900-1930 at 74 Pasco Street, Williamstown.

How is it Significant?

The trees at 74 Pasco Street, Williamstown are of local historic, aesthetic and scientific (horticultural) significance to the City of Hobsons Bay.

Why is it Significant?

Historically, they are significant for their ability to illustrate garden fashions in Williamstown during the Victorian and Edwardian eras. (AHC criteria A4 and G1)

Aesthetically, the oak and palm are significant as locally rare examples mature specimens of these species, within a suburban garden context. They enhance the setting of the house and make an important contribution to the historic landscape character of Pasco Street. (AHC criteria B2 and E1)

Scientifically, the Jelly Palm and the Stone Pine are horticulturally significant as rare mature examples of these species in a domestic setting (AHC criterion B2)

Heritage Study/Consultant Hobsons Bay - Hobsons Bay Heritage Study, Hobsons Bay City Council, 2006;

Hermes Number 22231

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

This jelly palm, stone pine, and oak are situated in the garden of a large Victorian-era weatherboard house on a corner site. Botanica (1997) provides the following descriptions:

*Butia capitata* (Butia, Wine or Jelly Palm)

This palm can be variable in shape, reaching a height of up to 20 ft (6 m). It has a rough gray trunk and long, gray-green fronds, which are arching and recurved. The fragrant yellow or purplish flowers are borne in very large panicles on a strong stalk, emerging among the frond bases, and may be followed by a large weight of juicy yellow or orange fruit up to 1 in (25 mm) in diameter; their sweet, edible pulp is used for jellies or fermented to make wine. A vigorous and easily grown palm, it is useful for landscaping.

*Pinus pinea* (Stone Pine)

*From southern Europe and Turkey, this species can reach 80 ft (24 m) in the wild and has a flattened crown atop a straight, though often leaning trunk with furrowed, reddish gray bark. The rigid, paired needles are 4-8 in (10-20 cm) long and bright green. The globe-shaped cones are shiny and brown; the edible seeds are known as pine nuts. Once established this pine copes with most conditions, including dryness and heat.*

*Quercus* sp. (oak)

*Most oaks are from temperate regions but a surprisingly large number of the 600 or so evergreen, semi-evergreen and deciduous species come from tropical and subtropical regions of Mexico, Southeast Asia and even New Guinea. Oaks range from shrubs 3 ft (1 m) high to trees of 120 ft (36 m), and are mostly very long lived; some species have been used for centuries for their hardwood timber. Their leaves, mostly lobed and leathery but in some species thin and lustrous, provide a dense canopy for a multitude of animals, birds and insects and make wonderful compost for acid-loving plants. The leaves of some deciduous oaks develop magnificent hues during the cooler months before they drop. Oaks can be divided into 'white oaks' and 'red oaks', the former with rounded leaves and edible acorns that mature in one year, while the latter have pointed leaves and acorns that mature in 2 years and are too bitter to eat. The female flowers are small, insignificant and greenish, while the male flowers appear as yellow catkins in spring.*

## **Integrity**

Condition

Good.

## **Physical Description 2**

Context

The trees enhance the setting of the Victorian era house on the same site and are a contributory part of the surrounding landscape and streetscape, with its Victorian and Edwardian-era emphasis.

## **Historical Australian Themes**

Creating private landscapes

## **Physical Description 3**

*Associations*

Unknown

*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/>*