
RESERVE - F.G. PIKE RESERVE



FG Pike Reserve, Mason Street

Location

26 Mason Street, RESERVOIR VIC 3073

Municipality

DAREBIN CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO276

Heritage Listing

Darebin City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

Pike Reserve on Mason Street, Reservoir, an inter-war park acquired in the 1920s, and developed in 1929-30 by curator Mr Eagles who planted shrubs and palms, is significant. The following elements contribute to the significance of the place:

- the form of the park, which comprises mature exotic specimen trees within lawns
- the mature Canary Island Palms, Elm trees and Ash trees
- the position of and use as the children's playground on the eastern side of the park (not fabric)

Later alterations and/or additions, including the fences, the path materials, the furniture and landscaping are not significant.

How is it significant?

Pike Reserve on Mason Street, Reservoir is of local historic and aesthetic significance to Darebin City.

Why is it significant?

Historically, Pike Reserve is significant as one of a group of parks acquired by Preston Council in the 1920s at a time of suburban expansion in order that they fulfil their obligations and satisfy contemporary town planning principles to provide places for public pleasure and recreation, and as a relatively unusual example of its type in Reservoir. (AHC criteria A.4, B.2)

Historically, Pike Reserve is also significant for the representative evidence it provides of the type of works undertaken as a demonstration of civic pride that followed Preston's becoming a city (1926) and recognition of contemporary town planning principles. (AHC criterion D.2)

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|---------------------------|---|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Darebin - Darebin Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2011; |
| Construction dates | 1927, |
| Other Names | Pike Reserve, Mason Reserve, Mason Street Gardenette, |
| Hermes Number | 27107 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

Pike Reserve is a pocket park situated in the northeast corner of Mason and Arlington Streets, Reservoir. The reserve includes mature exotic specimen trees set in lawn, and is similar in this regard to other parks of a similar era in Darebin. The mature tree species include - 4 x ash (*Fraxinus* sp.), 3 x elms (*Ulmus* sp.), 2 x Canary Island palms (*Phoenix canariensis*), 1 paperbark (*Melaleuca* sp.), and 1 eucalypt.

A bitumen pathway runs diagonally across the park, northwest to southeast, per the alignment noted in the 1945 aerial photograph of the park. The street boundaries are defined by recent, low, treated pine post and rail barriers. There is no planting around the perimeter. The north and east boundaries are defined by the rear fences of adjacent residential properties.

The northeast corner is used as a children's playground, with recent equipment and surfaces. The park is also a space for passive recreation.

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/>