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# Canary Island date palm rows and oak, Johnson Reserve



Essex St trees

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## Location

off Essex Street MAIDSTONE, Maribyrnong City

## Municipality

MARIBYRNONG CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO117

## Heritage Listing

Maribyrnong City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Canary Island date palm rows and the oak, Johnson Reserve, are significant to the City of Maribyrnong:

- as distinctive and mature trees which are uncommon within the general planted context of the City, judged by their maturity, type and numbers ( Criterion B2);
- for their contribution to this distinctive inter-war public landscape created within the City under the noted Footscray municipal parks and gardens Curator David Matthews ( Criterion A4, H1).

## Australian Heritage Commission (AHC) criteria

The Australian Heritage Commission criteria consist of a set of eight criteria which cover social, aesthetic, scientific, and historic values. Each criterion has sub-criteria written specifically for cultural or natural values. The relevant criteria are:

B.2 rarity

A.4 demonstrates well the course and pattern of history, important historic events

H.1 association with important person or group

Heritage Study/Consultant	Maribyrnong - Maribyrnong Heritage Review, Jill Barnard, Graeme Butler, Francine Gilfedder & Gary Vines, 2000;
Construction dates	1935,
Other Names	`Phoenix canariensis', `Quercus' sp.,
Hermes Number	29088
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

Long rows of mature Canary Island palms as border to grassed open reserve. There are also oak (large), elm and ash trees. There are 6 palms on the north side, 21 on the west side, and 7 on the south, a total of 34 palms.

This massive palm from the Canary Islands grows to 50 ft (15 m) tall with a spread of 30 ft (9 m), and has a sturdy trunk up to 3 ft (1 m) across and arching, deep green fronds up to 12 ft (3.5 m) long. Small yellow flowers in drooping clusters in summer are succeeded by inedible, orangeyellow, acorn-like fruit. This palm needs plenty of room to show off its dramatic symmetrical shape. In areas prone to frosts, plant an advanced specimen when the danger of frost has passed {Botanica}.

## Physical Conditions

good (partially disturbed, well preserved)

## Integrity

substantially intact/some intrusions

## Physical Description 2

### Context

Located around an open grassed reserve with little detailed landscape otherwise, inter-war and Edwardian-era housing in area, with some basalt kerb and channel in View St.

## Historical Australian Themes

### Thematic context

**Australian Principal Theme** Developing cultural institutions and ways of life

**PAHT Subtheme** Creating landscape

**Local Theme(s)** Reserves and parks

## Physical Description 3

**Map (Melway)** 41H2

**Boundary description** The trees and sufficient land around each to allow for root zone and canopy protection, nominally 1m beyond the drip line, root zone or canopy perimeter whichever is the greatest.

**Heritage Significance** City

**Creation date(s)** 1935-40c

**Local Government Area** City of Maribyrnong

**Ownership Type** Public

*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/>*