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## Tram Shelter



Tramway Reservation  
Dandenong Road



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### Location

Dandenong Road CAULFIELD EAST, Glen Eira City

### Municipality

GLEN EIRA CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0230

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO19

### Heritage Listing

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The Dandenong Road tramway and central reservation forms the key element in one of Melbourne's "landmark" boulevards, imparting character to this City and demonstrating the important early role of the Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust not only to the municipalities of Caulfield and Malvern but to all of Melbourne's south-eastern tramway suburbs. Its special importance and unique character at the State level is demonstrated by the P. & M. T. T.'s ornamental centre span poles and by the surviving passenger "rest house" at Hawthorn Road. The span poles are more decorated than the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board's later designs of the 1920's (in Fitzroy Street, Victoria Parade, Peel Street and at the Bylands tramway museum - ex William Street). They compare with the earlier British centre span poles in Pall Mall, Bendigo (now substantially altered) and are representative of the highest standards in electric street tramway construction practice during the Edwardian period.

The span poles also have local significance in that they recall the P. & M.T.T.'s practice of providing similar poles throughout its network of lines in 1910.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Glen Eira - Caulfield Conservation Study, Andrew Ward, Architectural Historian, 1994;
Other Names	Tramway Reservation,
Hermes Number	43735
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

This reservation is situated in the centre of Dandenong Road, commencing just east of Chapel Street and finishing at Glenferrie Road. The major part is situated on the common boundary of the Cities of Malvern and Caulfield.

The principal elements are the electric double track tramway with centre span poles and open ballasted road bed, grass verges and treed avenue. The verges are approximately 6 metres wide, with reductions in width for turning lanes. They have pitched edges, along the south (Caulfield) alignment only whilst the tramway also has pitched edging, retaining the ballast. Mature plane trees predominate although every third tree on the south (Caulfield) side is a palm.

The tramway is traversed in part by routes 64 (East Brighton) 535 (Malvern Burke Road), and 69 (Kew Cotham Road - St Kilda Beach). The centre span poles are prominent picturesque features carrying the overhead wires from the western end of the reservation to Hawthorn Road.

Pole No. 50 marks the commencement of the tramway reservation at Orrong Road abutting Caulfield's northern and western boundaries. This pole has been stripped of its ornamental base casting and bracket arms. Pole No. 51 has its bracket arms cut back to the ornamental spandrels. An additional pole of recent origin has been provided alongside. Pole No. 52 is typical and substantially intact, having a dome base with ornamental casting. This casting is distinguished by its cylindrical form which reduced in diameter with height and foliage ornamentation. Reductions in pole width are achieved by a smooth transition, in lieu of the original cast iron

mould whilst the bracket arms now extended, are fitted into a circular casting and enriched with elaborate wrought iron spandrels. At the top, 4 electric wires are carried on insulators with metal brackets forming part of the overall design and there is an unusual bell shaped finial.

These poles continue with minor interruptions to pole No. 89 at stop No. 42 (Hawthorn Road) where there is a most substantial timber waiting shelter in the Arts and Crafts manner. Symmetrical on plan, this structure has a Dutch gabled shingled roof with terra cotta ridge tiles and framed and panelled timber screen containing 4 slatted timber seats. Ornamental bracket and ceiling joist terminations express the style of the structure.

The reservation continues as far as Glenferrie Road without centre span poles, the grassed reservation retaining elements of the mostly abandoned rockeries at this location.

## **Physical Description 2**

Condition: Good, plantation between Hawthorn and Glenferrie Road, Fair.

## **Physical Description 3**

Integrity: Good, alterations to span poles, as noted, to grassed reservations and street channels, as noted. Integrity of reservation east of Hawthorn Road is poor.

## **Historical Australian Themes**

Caulfield's electric tramways.

*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/>*