
METHVEN PARK

Location

7 METHVEN STREET, BRUNSWICK EAST, MORELAND CITY

Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO113

Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2008

Methven Park is of local significance as one of the earliest public parks in the Brunswick area. It retains much of its original character, with only minor modern accretions. It is linked to the original surrounding subdivision and contributes significantly to the heritage character and amenity of the local neighborhood.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Moreland - City of Moreland Heritage Review, Allen Lovell and Associates, 1999; Moreland - Keeping Brunswick's heritage: A Report on the Review of the Brunswick Conservation Study, Context Pty Ltd, 1990; Moreland Heritage Nominations Study, Extent Heritage, 2022;
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Hermes Number	59170
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Property Number	
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Physical Description 1

A rectangular park surrounded by housing to the south, east and west and light industry to the north. The area was originally Methven's Quarry, then filled by the council at the end of last century. The formation of the park is linked to the subdivision of the surrounding area. The park contains a number of avenue and specimen trees set in lawn.

The alignment of the central gravel path is an original feature of the park. An early electricity substation is situated in the southeast corner of the park. It is constructed of red brick, painted green. The iron roof is gabled. A contemporary structure is sited adjacent to the substation and two playground areas are located in the northern section of the site. They have no cultural significance.

A mature avenue of Elm (*Ulmus procera*) which follows a central gravel path dominates the park. The trees are in relatively good condition and contribute significantly to the surrounding streetscape. Other mature specimens on the site include Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) and Plane (*Platanus x acerifolius*). The northern, western and southern boundaries feature dense plantings of exotic shrubs and small trees, including an extensive Sweet Pittosporum (*Pittosporum undulatum*) hedge on the southern boundary. There is some evidence of the introduction of inappropriate native plants on the eastern boundary.

Potential Threats

Further introduction of inappropriate native species and introduction of additional specimen trees, which would alter the character of the park. The existing trees have been allowed to grow to their full potential and form an effective landscape scheme. Introduction of inappropriate paving materials. Elm Leaf Beetle and Elm Bark Beetle are both serious pests of Elm trees, capable of causing major damage and even killing mature trees. As yet, Dutch Elm disease is not known in Australia.

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/>