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# Yapeen War Memorial



Yapeen 1.jpg



Yapeen 2.jpg

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## Location

Vaughan Springs Road YAPEEN, Mount Alexander Shire

## Municipality

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

## Level of significance

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## Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 10, 2003

The war memorial and Bent Park, Yapeen, are aesthetically and scientifically significant at a LOCAL level. They demonstrate important visual qualities and craftsmanship, with the configuration of the elongated obelisk, chamfered base and stepped plinth, set in a small open grassed park amongst exotic trees.

The war memorial and Bent Park, Yapeen, are historically significant at a LOCAL level. The park is associated with the Victorian Premier Thomas Bent, who was instrumental in having the area reserved following a visit in c.1908. The war memorial is associated with Private Colin Tierney and Acting Sergeant Robert Topham who fought and died in the Second World War.

The war memorial and Bent Park, Yapeen, are socially significant at a LOCAL level. The park is recognised and valued by the Yapeen community for recreational reasons. The war memorial is recognised and highly valued by

the Yapeen community for cultural, social and commemorative reasons in relation to Colin Tierney and Robert Topham who fought and died in the First World War.

Overall, the war memorial and Bent Park, Yapeen, are of LOCAL significance

Heritage Study/Consultant	Mount Alexander - Shire of Mount Alexander: Heritage Study of the former Shire of Newstead, Wendy Jacobs, Phil Taylor, Vicki Johnson, and Robyn Ballinger, 2003;
Other Names	Vaughan Springs Road, Yapeen,
Hermes Number	125794
Property Number	

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## Historical Australian Themes

Thematic Context

4. Towns and Settlements

10. Community Life

## Physical Conditions

Good

## Integrity

Substantially Intact

## Physical Description 1

The war memorial is set in Bent Park, being comprised of open grassed space and large exotic trees, and is bound by an introduced tubular steel post and rail fence.

The monument is comprised of an elongated granite obelisk supported on a chamfered base and a stepped plinth of two courses. The chamfered base contains an inscription with the details of Private Colin Tierney and Acting Sergeant Robert Topham who died in Burma and Papua New Guinea during the Second World War

## Veterans Description for Public

The Yapeen War Memorial, on Vaughan Springs Road, comprises of an elongated obelisk. The memorial is mounted on a chamfered base and stepped plinth, set in a small open grassed park amongst exotic trees. Following the Second World War local residents erected the obelisk in the recreation area known as Bent Park. The memorial is specifically dedicated to Private Colin Tierney and Acting Sergeant Robert Topham who fought and died in the Second World War.

The details of the commemorative inscription read:

*VX60104 Private Colin Tierney, aged 30, 2/2nd Motor Ambulance Company, Australian Army Service Corps, 2nd AIF, who died of illness on 27 June 1943 and is buried in Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery, Myanmar [Burma], Grave a14.D.10.;*

and

*VX58799 Acting Sergeant Robert Francis Topham, aged 28, 2/3rd Independent Company, 2nd AIF, son of John Thomas Topham and Elizabeth Topham, of Yapeen, Victoria, who died of wounds on 17 August 1943 and is buried in Lae War Cemetery, Papua New Guinea, Grave N.D.16.*

*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/>*