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# Pinus pinea



T12181 Pinus pinea



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## Location

K Road,, WERRIBEE VIC 3030 - Property No T12181

## Municipality

WYNDHAM CITY

## Level of significance

Regional

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Contribution to landscape

Aesthetic significance

Historical value

Outstanding example of species

This Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*) represents one of four species from the genus *Pinus* used by the Chirnsides in their shelter belt plantations around the property and south of the mansion towards the mouth of the Werribee River and as far as the shores of Port Phillip Bay. This late nineteenth century specimen was selected and planted circa.1863 - 1870 by Thomas Chirnside's nephew, Robert. Robert Chirnside was the Manager of Werribee Park (1859 - 1866) and then a tenant (1866 - 1873). The tree typifies the arboricultural material available in the nineteenth century. Pine species were commonly used in the layout of botanic gardens, large

private estates and arboretums alike. Their use in shelter belt plantations towards the mouth of the Werribee River and to the shores of Port Phillip Bay indicates their adaptability and tolerance to various conditions. Pinus pinea proved very hardy in the plantations that were planted south of the mansion to the mouth of the Werribee River and beyond to the shores of Port Phillip Bay (*Werribee Park. Messrs. T. And A. Chirnside's. Australasian, 26 January 1886*). This 1886 article states: "...The Italian Stone Pine is also a most useful tree for shelter along the coast..." The article highlighted this species' ability to resist saline winds and created a micro-climate for other tree species to grow like Pinus radiata

The Chirnside Family's contribution to Victoria's pastoral and agricultural growth is notable as leaders and pioneers of the colony's pastoral industry. Their vast land holdings in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland made them one of the wealthiest families in the colony. The grandeur of their influence and wealth is reflected in their opulent Roman Renaissance Revival style mansion at Werribee Park and its stately garden.

There are less than six specimens of Pinus pinea still in existence on former Chirnside plantation lands south of Werribee Park. These are located outside the Werribee Park precinct. This K Road specimen is the only specimen still growing in a prominent public location. The others are located along the Werribee River bank behind cultivated agricultural land. The K Road specimen was one of 3 or 4 specimens growing at this site on both sides of the road. They were in line with the Southern Drive from Werribee Park which led to the deer park where Thomas Chirnside farmed his Red Deer herd. This lone Stone Pine on K Road stands as a remnant specimen representing one of the most expansive tree planting endeavours west of Melbourne in the late nineteenth century.

Measurements: 26/05/2012

Spread (m): E-W 25.7; N-S 19.5

Girth (m): 3.05

Height (m): 19.0

Estimated Age (yrs) 136-149

Condition: Good

Access: Unrestricted

Classified: 24/09/2012

Other Names Mediterranean Stone Pine, Italian Pine, Stone Pine, Umbrella Pine, Italian Stone Pine,

Hermes Number 191406

Property Number

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*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/>*