

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated 06/04/20



FINLAY AVENUE OF ELMS, MANIFOLD CLOCK TOWER AND PUBLIC MONUMENT PRECINCT



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MANIFOLD CLOCK TOWER AND
PUBLIC MONUMENT PRECINCT
SOHE 2008



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1 finlay ave of elms precinct
camperdown j c manifold monument &
ave of elms



finlay ave of elms precinct camperdown
avenue view



finlay ave of elms precinct camperdown
detail of clock tower



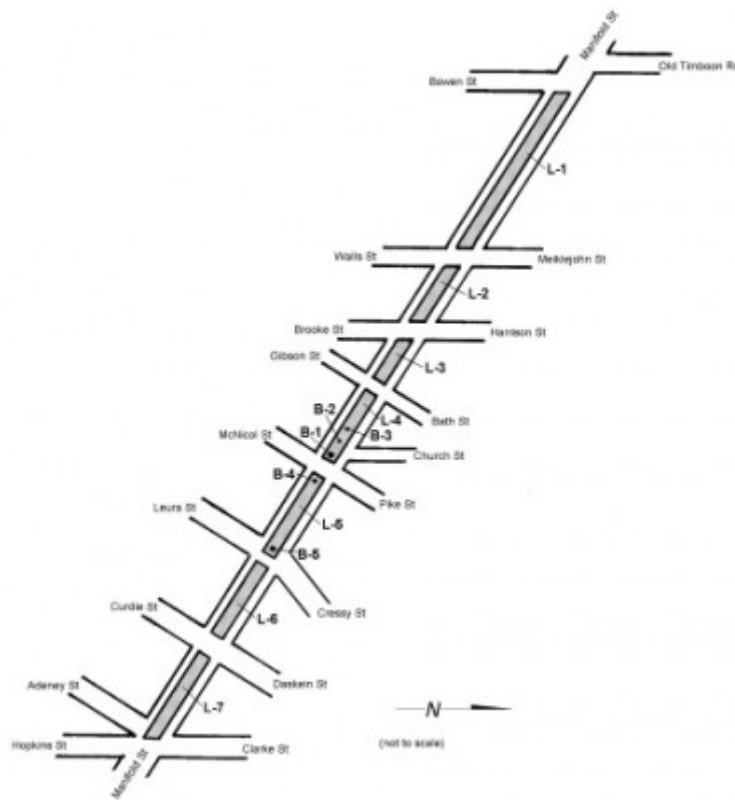
finlay ave of elms precinct camperdown
empire war memorial



finlay ave of elms precinct camperdown
soldier's memorial



finlay ave of elms precinct camperdown
view of clock tower



finlay avenue of elms manifold tower and monuments registration plan

Location

MANIFOLD STREET CAMPERDOWN and PRINCES HIGHWAY SKIBO, Corangamite Shire

Municipality

CORANGAMITE SHIRE

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0647

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO9

VHR Registration

December 17, 1986

Amendment to Registration

February 26, 1998

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 24, 1999

What is significant?

The Finlay Avenue of Elms, Manifold Clock Tower and Public Monument Precinct, Camperdown, forms a dramatic central landscape feature in the town. The 30 metre high, red brick clock tower of 1896-97 was built with a bequest from Thomas Manifold, of the wealthy pioneering family renowned for their local patronage. The Late Victorian Medieval Revival style tower, which incorporates eclectic French Gothic elements, is Camperdown architect Michael McCabe's most substantial work, while the clock itself is a fine example of an English Flat Bed Turret Clock circa 1890. The tower is strategically located in the centre of the Finlay Avenue of English elms (*Ulmus procera*, approximately 290 trees) which was originally planted in 1876 with the support of the Finlay pastoral family of Glenormiston. It was the first such public avenue of trees planted in Victoria, and is regarded as one of the most outstanding elm avenues in Australia. It extends along the main thoroughfare of the town, and is complemented by many significant public and commercial buildings. The avenue incorporates a fine collection of monuments and commemorative statues, including the Empire/Boer War Memorial (1902), Soldiers' Memorial (1929), JC Manifold Monument (1922), and Daniel Curdie Memorial (1934) which commemorates another local pioneering family.

The Empire Memorial was one of the first Boer War memorials in Victoria, and was carved in the image of the first local soldier to die in that war. The JC Manifold monument commemorates a prominent public benefactor and politician, and its naturalistic execution by Sydney sculptor Nelson Illingworth was a break from academic traditions. The 1929 Soldiers' Memorial is a distinguished and highly accomplished rendition of the 'Spirit of Empire' figure, by sculptor PR Montford.

How is it significant?

The Finlay Avenue of Elms, Manifold Clock Tower and Public Monument Precinct, Camperdown is historically, architecturally, socially and aesthetically important to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Finlay Avenue of Elms, Manifold Clock Tower and Public Monument Precinct, Camperdown is historically, aesthetically and socially important as a celebrated and instantly recognisable landmark feature in Western Victoria. It also represents outstanding town planning practice. The Clock Tower is a State landmark, a permanent symbol of Manifold patronage in Camperdown, and a remarkable legacy of a pioneering family. The Finlay Avenue of Elms is important as a rare and notable Australian landscape feature, and the earliest public avenue of trees in Victoria. It is also associated with an eminent Western District family. The Tower and Avenue Precinct form a dramatic and complementary setting for the public monuments and memorials, which are significant for the events and individuals they commemorate, as well as their prominent landmark qualities.

The Manifold Clock Tower is architecturally important as a rare example of a Late Victorian Medieval Revival style clock tower, which successfully incorporates eclectic French Gothic elements. It is the most distinguished free-standing clock tower in the State and is unrivalled in rural Victoria for its dramatic streetscape qualities. The individual monuments are important for their artistic merit and strategic location and as contributory elements to the significance of the precinct.

Permit Exemptions

EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITS:

(Classes of works or activities which may be undertaken without a permit under Part 4 of the Heritage Act 1995)

General Conditions:

1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
5. Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

Finlay Avenue of Elms

- * General horticultural maintenance.
- * Repair, replacement or installation of water systems.
- * Repair, replacement or installation of seating and other outdoor furniture.

Public Monuments

- * Minor repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.

Manifold Clock Tower Exterior

- * Minor repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.
- * Maintenance of the clock mechanism and face.
- * Removal of extraneous items such as pipe work, ducting, wiring, etc, and making good.
- * Installation or repair of damp-proofing by either injection method or grouted pocket method.

Construction dates 1896,
Architect/Designer McCabe, Michael,
Heritage Act Categories Registered place,
Other Names Pioneer memorial, War Memorial,
Hermes Number 194
Property Number

History

Associated People: Assoc.People MANIFOLD FAMILY

Extent of Registration

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under Section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended in that the Heritage Register Number 657 in the category described as a Heritage Place is now described as:

Finlay Avenue of Elms, Manifold Clock Tower and Public Monument Precinct Manifold Street (between Bowen Street and Hopkins Street), Camperdown Corangamite Shire Council.

EXTENT

1. All of the land marked L-1 to L-7 on Diagram 600393 held by the Executive Director being all of the median strip of Manifold Street, Camperdown between Bowen Street and Hopkins Street.
2. All of the approximately 290 *Ulmus procera* (English elms) within the land marked L-1 to L-7 on Diagram 600393 held by the Executive Director.
3. All of the buildings and structures marked as follows on Diagram 600393 held by the Executive Director:

B-1 Manifold Clock Tower
B-2 Empire/Boer War Memorial
B-3 Daniel Curdie Memorial Cross
B-4 J. C. Manifold Memorial Statue
B-5 Soldiers' Memorial

Dated 5 February 1998

RAY TONKIN
Executive Director

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G8 26 February 1998 p.435]

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 data owner.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>