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## Former Memorial Park



Former Memorial Park, 36  
Greysharps Road,  
Hurstbridge



Former Memorial Park, now  
Ben Frilay Oval, 36  
Greysharps Road,  
Hurstbridge

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### Location

36 Graysharps Road HURSTBRIDGE, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

### Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO260

### Heritage Listing

Nillumbik Shire

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - April 2, 2013

What is significant?

The former Hurstbridge Memorial Park located at 36 Greysharps Road, Hurstbridge comprising the Ben Frilay Oval and the reserve extending down to Diamond Creek.

How is it significant?

The former Hurstbridge Memorial Park at 36 Greysharp's Road, Hurstbridge is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to the Shire of Nillumbik.

Why is it significant?

The former Hurstbridge Memorial Park is historically significant as an early civic and recreation site associated with the establishment of the Hurstbridge Township and community in the early 20th century. The land has been used for recreation purposes since 1910 and in 1920 it was purchased for the formation of a Memorial Park that included a football oval. The site is important for its associations with prominent resident and orchardist Robert Nehemiah Sharp on whose land the former Memorial Park is situated. The former Memorial Park is historically significant for its demonstration of the types of memorials established to honour those who fought in the World Wars. In 1923 the reserve was formally dedicated as a lasting memorial to all of those who served in the First World War. (Criteria A, B & H)

The former Hurstbridge Memorial Park is aesthetically significant as an intact feature of the early 20th century appearance of the Hurstbridge Township. The reserve area has remained undeveloped since it was cleared for orchard purposes in the late nineteenth century and provides a visual reminder of the early appearance of Hurstbridge including the treed backdrop to the township along the Diamond Creek. (Criterion E)

The former Hurstbridge Memorial Park and in particular the Ben Frilay Oval is socially significant for its associations with the Hurstbridge Football Club, which has used the oval on the site as its home playing venue since 1922. As a result former and current Hurstbridge Football Club members, players and supporters have special associations with the site as a place to gather and support the local football team. (Criterion G)

Hermes Number 194880

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

The former Hurstbridge Memorial Park is located on the west side of Graysharps Road and extends down to the Diamond Creek. It consists of a park area along Diamond Creek, the Ben Frilay Oval and an asphalt car park at the end of Graysharps Road. The reserve area is generally cleared with native trees located along the banks of the creek forming a treed backdrop to the reserve.

The oval has a post and beam boundary fence. The brick clubrooms at the southern end of the oval were constructed in circa 1980s and do not contribute to the significance of the place. The viewing boxes located around the oval are also late additions and do not contribute to the significance of the place.

There are two entries off Graysharp's Road to the reserve. One of these is just before the Hurstbridge Bowling Club, and is an unsealed track. The other is through the asphalt car park at the end of Graysharp's Road.

*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/>*