
REMNANT GARDEN

Location

Henty Highway and Brown Street BRANXHOLME, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 12, 2003

What is significant?

The remnant garden on the Corner of Henty Highway (Creek Street) and Brown Street is a typical nineteenth century allotment which has originally been a suburban cottage and garden. The plantings appear to be the remains of an orchard surrounding a small residence, although no structures remain on the site. Specimens of Osage Orange (*Maclura pomifera*), Fig (*Ficus carica*), Apple (*Malus* sp.), Pear (*Pyrus comminus*), and Mulberry (*Morus nigra*) as well as several different variety of plum (*Prunus* sp.) remain. An unusual planting of Hornbeams (*Carpinus caroliniana*) defines the eastern boundary, and part of the northern boundary. The land was first taken up by an A. Bradley, about which very little is known. It is likely that one of the later owners of the site was responsible for the planting of the orchard and other trees around the cottage (now archaeological remains only). The garden retains a high degree of integrity, and is now in fair condition.

How is it significant?

The remnant garden is of historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The remnant garden is of historical significance as a rare surviving example of an early nineteenth century town-based orchard and garden associated with a small residence. The garden provides an insight into how we once lived, with a focus on growing our own fruits and vegetables. The specimens in the garden are also of historical interest, particularly the Osage Orange (which was not a common Australian planting from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries) and for the use of Hornbeam as a boundary planting. The site may have further historical connections to the abandoned timber cottage and extensive orchard on the other side of the Arrandoovong Creek, which also has an unusual and extensive range of trees.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1880,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23311
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

In fair condition

Physical Description 1

No structures survive, however, the site appears to have been residential and, if it followed the example of the other buildings in Creek Street, it would have faced west towards the Arrandoovong Creek. Disturbed uneven ground that the residence was located towards the main road. A simple picket fence survives along both street frontages.

Several important exotic plantings survive including the remains of what may have been a small orchard, with a specimen of Osage Orange (*Maclura pomifera*), a Mulberry (*Morus nigra*), a Pear (*Pyrus cominus*), Apple (*Malus sp.*) and fig (*Ficus carica*). The northern boundary is defined by a row of five Hornbeam (*Carpinus carloninana*) and a row of an unknown variety of yellow fleshed plum (*Prunus sp.*). A closely planted row of Hornbeam (*Carpinus carloninana*) trees define the eastern boundary of the site. Several Hawthorns (*Crataegus sp. unknown*) have suckered throughout the site, particularly in the western half of the site.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life
8.12 Living in and around Australian homes
8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

Usage/Former Usage

abandoned

Integrity

Fair degree of integrity

Physical Description 2

A. Bradley, first owner.

Physical Description 3

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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/>