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# Washingtonia palm



Cowper St 78 palm

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## Location

78 Cowper Street, FOOTSCRAY VIC 3011 - Property No 3021002800

## Municipality

MARIBYRNONG CITY

## Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO112

## Heritage Listing

Maribyrnong City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Washingtonia palm at 78 Cowper Street is significant to the City of Maribyrnong:  
- for its maturity and rarity within the City (Criterion B2).

Australian Heritage Commission (AHC) criteria

The Australian Heritage Commission criteria consist of a set of eight criteria which cover social, aesthetic, scientific, and historic values. Each criterion has sub-criteria written specifically for cultural or natural values. The relevant criteria are:

## B.2 rarity

Heritage Study/Consultant	Maribyrnong - Maribyrnong Heritage Review, Jill Barnard, Graeme Butler, Francine Gilfedder & Gary Vines, 2000;
Construction dates	1895,
Other Names	`Washingtonia filifera',
Hermes Number	29084
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

A large specimen located north of what appears to be a brick Edwardian-era villa (78), on a vacant grassed area close to the footpath.

The *Washingtonia* genus is made up of 2 species of fan-leaved palms from arid parts of western Mexico, southern California and Arizona. Their stately appearance makes them ideal specimen or avenue trees. They have an upright, single trunk, and are sometimes called petticoat palms because the dead fronds hang down in a mass around the trunk, almost to the ground. The large leaves have many strap-like segments and spiny leaf stalks. The small white flowers cluster at intervals on long flowering branches that arch out well beyond the leaves. The fruit are small dark drupes {Botanica}.' *Washingtonia filifera* is from southern California and Arizona. This palm develops a fat trunk and grows 40-50 ft (12-15 m) tall. The greyish green leaves form a broad, spherical crown about 15 ft (4.5 m) across. The common name of cotton palm derives from the white, cotton-like threads on and between the leaf segments. Its small hard black berries ripen in winter {Botanica}.

## Physical Conditions

The tree is in good condition.

## Integrity

The house and the tree are substantially intact/some intrusions.

## Physical Description 2

### Context

Set next to a late Victorian-era duplex.

## Historical Australian Themes

**Thematic context**

**Australian Principal Theme** Developing cultural institutions and ways of life

**PAHT Subtheme** Creating landscape

**Local Theme(s)** Cultural development

**Physical Description 3**

**Map (Melway)** 42D5

**Boundary description** The trees and sufficient land around each to allow for root zone and canopy protection, nominally 1m beyond the drip line, root zone or canopy perimeter whichever ever is the greatest.

**Heritage Significance** City

**Creation date(s)** 1895c

**Local Government Area** City of Maribyrnong

**Ownership Type** Private

*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/>*