
HO77 - War Memorial



Obelisk War Memorial



War Memorial

Location

High Street MELTON, Melton Shire

Municipality

MELTON CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO77

Heritage Listing

Melton City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The First World War, Second World War, Korean War, and Vietnam War Memorials, on High Street Melton have significance as important memorials to the local soldiers who fought and died in these wars.

The obelisk war memorial on High Street Melton is aesthetically significant at a LOCAL level (AHC D.1, E.1). It demonstrates important visual qualities that include the smooth finished granite obelisk supported by the stepped rough faced and tooled granite pedestal on a concrete base.

The war memorials on High Street Melton are historically and socially significant at a LOCAL level (AHC A.4, H.1, G.1). They are associated with the local soldiers who fought and died in the First World War (1914-1919), the Second World War (1939-1945), the Korean War (1950-1953) and the Vietnam War (1962-1973). The earlier obelisk memorial is of the predominant and instantly recognisable form of war memorial erected all over Australia following the First World War. The recent memorial is also expressive of a veterans-led 1990s movement to heal social divisions created by the Vietnam War, and to accord due recognition to those who served in it. It was opened by the Australian Deputy Prime Minister in 1998. The prominent location of the memorials in the Melton townscape attests the high cultural and commemorative value in which they are held by the local community.

Overall, the First World War Memorial and Vietnam War Memorial off High Street, Melton, are of LOCAL significance.

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|---------------------------|--|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Melton - Shire of Melton Heritage Study phase 2, David Maloney, David Rowe, Pamela Jellie, Sera Jane Peters, 2007; |
| Construction dates | 1920, |
| Other Names | High Street, Melton, |
| Hermes Number | 30107 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

Physical Description -

The war memorials at High Street, Melton, are situated on the rise on the hill within the median strip. Both are located within two circular grassed beds bordered by narrow flower garden beds and bluestone edging. A timber flat pole is situated to one side of the earlier memorial.

The earlier memorial consists of a smooth finished granite obelisk that is supported by a stepped rough faced and tooled granite pedestal on a concrete base. Inscribed on three sides of the obelisk, under a wreath with the inscription 'Melton District Heroes', is a list of some 100 Melton District soldiers who fought in 'The Great War'; on the other side, under the heading 'Fallen Heroes', is a list of some 30 names of locals who died in the First World War. There are also plaques, without individual names, to those 'Fallen Comrades' of the Second World War, Korean War, and South East Asian War. It is inscribed also 'Lest we forget'.

The second grassed bed contains the Vietnam War Memorial. It comprises two pointed double-sided cream brick piers with red brick cappings. The piers rest on a tiled triangular base that has commemorative plaques on each of the three triangular points. It has plaques which record sentiments such as: 'The people of Melton remember all who served suffered and died, Vietnam 1962-1973', and 'Vietnam 1962-1973: Together Then, Together Again'.

Integrity

Integrity - Substantially intact

Historical Australian Themes

Melton Historical Themes: 'Community'

Physical Conditions

Physical Condition - Good

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/>