

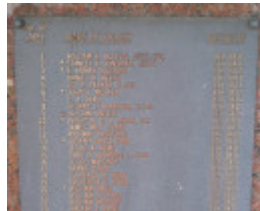
# AVENUE OF HONOUR AND ARCH OF VICTORY



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ARCH OF VICTORY SOHE  
2008



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PROV2089 Avenue of  
Honour Arch Victory 10.05



PROV2089 Avenue of  
Honour Arch Victory 10.05  
Precint



PROV2089 Avenue of  
Honour Arch Victory 10.05  
rotunda



PROV2089 Avenue of  
Honour Arch Victory 10.05  
cairn



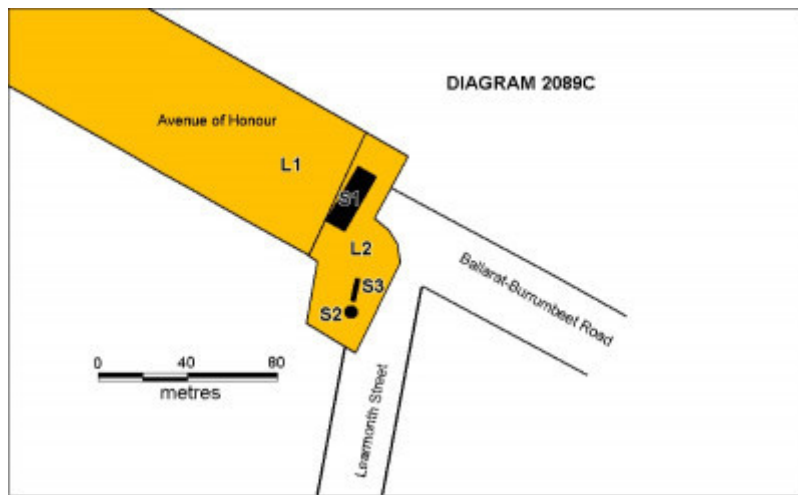
PROV2089 Avenue of Honour Arch Victory 10.05 trees



PROV2089 Avenue of Honour Arch of Victory plan 2089A



PROV2089 Avenue of Honour Arch of Victory plan 2089B



PROV2089 Avenue of Honour Arch of Victory plan 2089C

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## Location

BALLARAT-BURRUMBEET ROAD ALFREDTON AND CARDIGAN AND WINDERMERE AND WEATHERBOARD AND BURRUMBEET AND LUCAS, BALLARAT CITY

## Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H2089

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO154

HO150

## VHR Registration

March 9, 2006

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

### **What is significant?**

The Avenue of Honour (1917 - 1919) and Arch of Victory (1920) were erected as memorials to the people of the Ballarat and the surrounding district who enlisted in World War I. The Avenue of Honour consists of 3,771 trees planted at regular intervals of approximately 12 metres along 22km of the Ballarat-Burrumbeet Road. The Arch of Victory marks the beginning of the Avenue of Honour at its eastern end. The Avenue of Honour, with the Arch of Victory, was officially opened by the Prince of Wales on 3rd June 1920.

The planting of the Avenue commenced in June 1917 on the suggestion of Mrs W. D. Thompson, a director of clothing firm E. Lucas & Co, Ballarat, that an avenue of trees be planted in honour of the men and women of the district who had enlisted for service. The planting of one tree for each enlisted person began in June 1917 with funds of £2,000 raised by the 500 women employed in the factory, known as the 'Lucas girls'. The planting, carried out in eight phases over the next two years until its completion in June 1919. The planting, done by staff of the Lucas factory with the support of local farmers included 23 species of trees, mostly exotic deciduous species planted in single lines along either side of the road at regular spacings of 10 - 12 metres. Each species was usually planted in blocks of about 25 trees on either side of the road. The trees were numbered and allocated to individuals as close as possible to their order of enlistment, beginning at the Ballarat end. Plaques were originally attached to each timber tree guards giving the individual's name, the unit in which he or she enlisted and their number in the avenue. In 1934 these were replaced by permanent bronze plaques at the base of each tree, of which more than 80% are still in place.

Following cessation of hostilities in 1919 and completion of the avenue plantings, the 'Lucas Girls' led by Mrs W. D. Thompson began planning and fund raising of £2600 for a commemorative arch to provide an entrance to the Avenue of Honour. The Arch of Victory, designed by H.H. Smith, Head of the Art School at the School of Mines Ballarat, was a grand cement rendered masonry structure of a single central arch flanked by wide piers 20metres in width, spanning the roadway, and 18metres high. The arch, erected in 1920, is crowned by the 'Rising Sun' symbol of the Australian Commonwealth Military Forces beneath which the words Avenue of Honour and Victory are written prominently across the arch. In addition to the initial costs, for the Avenue of Honour and the Arch of Victory, a further £400 was donated by the public to a Maintenance Fund, with a returned soldier employed to attend to the trees.

During the First World War, the Avenue of Honour played a commemorative role and provided a stimulus for more people to enlist. Unlike other forms of memorials, avenues of honour and in particular the Ballarat Avenue required a high level of community participation in their creation which took place over a substantial period of time. Subsequently the Arch of Victory and Avenue of Honour became emblems of civic commitment to the war effort.

There have been a number of changes to the Avenue of Honour. Several of the original 23 species did not flourish and were replaced with species of Elms and Poplars which are the dominant genera of trees in the Avenue. In 1997, the Avenue consisted of 3,332 trees of forty different species and cultivars. Approximately half were found to be of fair to poor health and a management strategy developed, including the replanting of some trees.

In 1936 a memorial Cairn and Cross of Remembrance were erected at the Learmonth end of the Avenue where a tribute tree was also planted in 1959 in memory of Mrs W. D. Thompson. In 1938 a Memorial Rotunda was constructed 180m west of the Arch of Victory originally containing a 'Book of Remembrance' with the name of every person for whom a tree was planted, information now contained in a Roll of Honour on engraved metal sheets. In 1994 the avenue was cut by the Western Freeway Bypass, with the removal of sixteen trees which were replaced by trees in the freeway reserve.

The Arch of Victory remains intact but with the addition of memorial plaques in 1954 and 1987 to commemorate those who served from 1939-1945 and in the more recent conflicts in Korea, Borneo, Malaya and Vietnam. In 1993 the Arch of Victory Precinct, opened by Edward 'Weary' Dunlop, was created by the relocation of the 1938 Memorial Rotunda and Roll of Honour to the road reserve immediately south of the Arch and the construction of the adjacent Memorial Wall with 72 bronze plaques recording the names and tree numbers of service people honoured in the Avenue.

### **How is it significant?**

The Avenue of Honour and Arch of Victory, Ballarat is of historic, architectural, aesthetic and social significance to the State of Victoria.

### **Why is it significant?**

The Avenue of Honour is of historic significance as one of the earliest known and the longest example of this uniquely Australian form of memorial. Planting of memorial trees had been common during the Boer War but the Avenue of Honour at Ballarat was an early planting of an avenue of trees along a roadside as a memorial, setting

a precedent which was soon followed by the planting of 91 other avenues in Victoria, principally in Central Victoria, between 1917 and 1920.

The Avenue of Honour is historically significant as representative of memorials that first appeared in Australia during World War I commemorating not just the dead but all those who enlisted for service in an egalitarian form where each individual, regardless of rank, was equally recognised for their service.

The Arch of Victory Precinct and Avenue of Honour, including the Memorial Cairn at the end of the Avenue, is historically significant as a collection of memorial types and structures that represent various forms of memorialisation in Victoria over the twentieth century.

The Arch of Victory is of architectural significance to State being an outstanding landscape monument, in the tradition of the Roman and Napoleonic victory arches erected across major routes or carriageways. It is the only memorial arch in Victoria constructed at such a grand scale. Other arches commemorating World War I such as at White Hills Botanic Gardens Bendigo (H1915), and in Murtoa were constructed as entrance gates to public gardens and have neither the size nor prominent location of the Arch of Victory. The association of the Arch of Victory with an Avenue of Honour is unique in Victoria.

The Avenue of Honour and Arch of Victory is aesthetically significant as an outstanding designed landscape and living memorial with the grand arch heralding the start of the roadside planting of more than 3800 trees over a length of 22 kilometres of roadway.

The Avenue of Honour and Arch of Victory is of social significance to the State of Victoria as a well recognised symbol of community endeavour and cooperation during war time. It is of social significance as being Victoria's best known war memorial with the exception of the Shrine of Remembrance. The significance of the Avenue of Honour and Arch of Victory to the Ballarat community, to the descendants of those commemorated by trees in the Avenue and to the Returned Services League is reflected in the continual use of the area for memorialisation over the course of the twentieth century culminating in the creation of the Arch of Victory precinct.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

**Places of worship:** In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

**Subdivision/consolidation:** Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### Specific Exemptions:

**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. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works 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

works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component. General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan endorsed by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: The existence of a Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan endorsed by the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan. General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable. Landscape: Management and maintenance of trees including formative and remedial pruning, removal of deadwood, pest and disease control, cabling (and similar supportive works), and planting and removal. The process of gardening, mowing, removal of dead plants, disease and weed control and mulching. The replanting of the same tree species as the tree removed. Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard; Pruning of Amenity Trees AS 4373. Removal of plants listed as noxious weeds in the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994. Repairs, conservation and maintenance to structures and hard landscape elements and name plaques. Installation, removal or replacement of garden watering and drainage systems beyond the canopy edge of listed trees. Emergency or safety works to trees.

Construction dates	1865,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	BALLARAT AVENUE OF HONOUR, BALLARAT ARCH OF VICTORY,
Hermes Number	4220
Property Number	

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## History

### HERITAGE STUDY

TAKEN IN ESSENCE FROM THE ROMAN THEN NAPOLEONIC VICTORY ARCHES OF 1805 -6 THIS IMPOSING ARCH IS IN A COMPARATIVELY AUSTERE NEO-CLASSIC FORM. THE SEVERITY OF THIS GLEAMING WHITE GATEWAY IS AUGMENTED BY DOMELETS SET OVER THE FLANKING PAVILIONS TO THE ARCH (MUCH IN THE MANNER OF BRITISH ARCHITECT TOWNSENDS DESIGN FOR THE WHITE CHAPEL ART GALLERY LONDON OF 1901) AND THE GIANT DAWNING SUN BETWEEN. MANY COMMENORATIVE ARCHES MOSTLY TEMPORARY HAVE BEEN ERECTED OVER ROADWAYS IN VICTORIA. THIS IS A LONE SURVIVOR AND IS MATCHED INTER-STATE PERHAPS ONLY BY BRIDGE PORTALS SUCH AS THE WALTER TAYLOR BRIDGE INDOOROOPIILLY(1936) SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE (1931) AND NORTHBRIDGE SYDNEY (C1890). THE TREE AVENUES TO WHICH THIS ARCH IS A GATEWAY ARE ESSENTIAL AS ACCOMPANIMENTS TO THE ARCH AS THEY ARE COUNTERPOINT. THE ONLY SUBSTANTIAL ROAD ARCHWAY IN VICTORIA IF NOT AUSTRALIA COMPLETE AND LARGE EXAMPLE OF A NEO-CLASSICALLY STYLED MEMORIAL AND A NOVEL BUT TRADITIONAL EXPRESSION OF WAR COMMEMORATION IN AUSTRALIA.

20THCCIT

On H.H. Smith

Head of the Art School at the School of Mines Ballarat,

as designer of the Arch of Victory in Ballarat, see the

## Extent of Registration

Heritage Act 1995  
NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act 1995, I give notice under section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 2089 in the category described as a Heritage Place: Avenue of Honour and Arch of Victory, Ballarat–Burrumbeet Road, Alfredton, Cardigan, Windermere, Weatherboard, Burrumbeet, Ballarat City Council.

### EXTENT:

1. All of the trees planted in along the Ballarat-Burrumbeet Road and all memorial name plaques associated with the trees within the land marked L1 on Diagram 2089A held by the Executive Director.
2. The structure marked as follows on Diagram 2089B held by the Executive Director
  - S4 Memorial Cairn and Cross of Remembrance
3. All of the land marked L1 on Diagram 2089A and 2089B held by the Executive Director being the Ballarat-Burrumbeet Road reserve extending approximately 22km between the Learmonth Street and Weatherboard-Learmonth Road but excluding the road pavement and shoulders to a width of 5m from the centre line on either side of the road for the section between the Arch of Victory and the Western Highway and excluding the road pavement and shoulders to a width of 3m from the centre line on either side of the road for the section from the Western Highway to the Weatherboard-Learmonth Road.
4. All the structures marked as follows on Diagram 2089C held by the Executive Director
  - S1 Arch of Victory
  - S2 Memorial Rotunda and Roll of Honour
  - S3 Memorial wall
5. All the land marked L2 on Diagram 2089C held by the Executive Director known as the Arch of Victory Precinct.

Dated 9 March 2006  
RAY TONKIN  
Executive Director

*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/>*