
BRUNSWICK PARK

Location

423A-425A VICTORIA STREET,, BRUNSWICK VIC 3056 - Property No 9726

Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO184

Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2008

Brunswick Park is of local interest as the first park in the Brunswick area created to meet the leisure needs of the community. Other parks were the result of landfill operations, and were essentially by-products of quarrying activities. The park also has long associations with a number of local sporting groups, forming part of the cultural heritage of the local community.

Heritage Study/Consultant Moreland - City of Moreland Heritage Review, Allen Lovell and Associates, 1999;
Moreland - Keeping Brunswick's heritage: A Report on the Review of the Brunswick Conservation Study, Context Pty Ltd, 1990; Moreland Heritage Nominations Study, Extent Heritage, 2022;

Hermes Number 59177

Property Number

Physical Description 1

A suburban reserve consisting of a passive recreational park, and structured sporting areas. A grant of land was made to Brunswick Council by the then Premier of Victoria, Thomas Bent. The park was established in 1908 with a playing field for football, as well as a croquet lawn and a formal park area. The Bowling Green was established in 1926.

Remnant Fabric (Man Made):The site contains a number of structures including club buildings for the croquet and bowling greens that were probably built following the establishment of the two clubs. The main extant grandstand was built in 1925 following the burning down of an earlier structure. A weatherboard structure in the formal part of the park is reputedly a tollbooth from either Sydney Road or Lygon Street. However, as noted by Johnston (1990) the structure is Edwardian in appearance and the tollbooths were constructed at a much earlier date, being removed from their sites in 1877. It has either been updated at some stage, or else has a different origin.

Remnant Fabric (Vegetation):The structural plantings consist of Elm (*Ulmus procera*), Desert Ash (*Fraxinus oxycarpa*), Common Oak (*Quercus robur*) and Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*). Other specimen trees include Kapuka (*Griselinia littoralis*) and Norfolk Island Hibiscus (*Lagunaria patersonia*). A Golden Privet Hedge (*Ligustrum ovalifolium`Aureum'*) is located on the northern boundary of the formal park area. Other hedge plantings, both of which are overgrown, include a row of Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster* sp.) to the east of the main grandstand, and a Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) row to the west of the bowling green. A number of native garden beds have been established recently throughout the site.

Potential Threats: Further introduction of inappropriate native species. Failure to replace senescent exotic plants with the same species, eroding the character of the park. Vandalism to park structures.

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/>