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# Tooradin State School site and trees

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## Location

50 Tooradin Station Road, TOORADIN, Casey City

## Municipality

CASEY CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO195

## Heritage Listing

Casey City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 14, 2004

### What is significant?

The former site of Tooradin State School, comprising the four Peppercorns (*Schinus molle* var. *areira*) along front fenceline, two English Oaks (*Quercus robur*), one Canary Island Oak (*Quercus canariensis*), one Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*), two Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*) and two Kurrajongs (*Brachychiton populneus* - one located on footpath outside property line) and archaeological remains of the former school, at 50 Tooradin Station Road, Tooradin.

### How is it significant?

The former site of Tooradin State School is of local historic, social, aesthetic and scientific significance to the City of Casey.

### Why is it significant?

Historically and socially, it is significant for its strong associations with the local community as the original site of the Tooradin State School, which operated here from 1875 and once formed part of a public buildings group including the Public Hall (still extant), and the Catholic Church (now gone). The trees are now the only elements associated with the former school to remain on the site. (AHC criterion A4, D2 and H1)

Aesthetically, the surviving mature trees on the site contribute to the historic cultural landscape of Tooradin and are local landmarks that mark the site of the former school. (AHC criterion E1)

Scientifically, it is of archaeological significance for its potential as a long term public school to provide further evidence about the early development of Tooradin. (AHC criterion C2)

Heritage Study/Consultant Casey - Casey Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2004;

Other Names Tooradin Primary School Trees,

Hermes Number 63180

Property Number

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## Usage/Former Usage

School, reserve

## Physical Description 1

The former site of the Tooradin State School is opposite the public hall and adjacent to the Tooradin Channel. Two sheds are the only buildings extant on site, although concrete slabs footings from earlier structures, which included both school buildings and the Marine Centre (demolished by fire) are still visible. Further archaeological evidence of structures and school yard areas is likely. Some timber posts from an earlier fence remain adjacent to or between sections of the present chain mesh fence.

Surviving mature trees, most in fair or poor condition, are typical of schoolyard plantings and include:

- 4 x Peppercorns (*Schinus molle* var. *areira*) along front fenceline, small trunk diameter and canopies indicating relatively recent planting
- 2 x English Oak (*Quercus robur*) - One is in fair condition, 12m high, while the other is in poor condition, 8m high)
- Canary Island Oak (*Quercus canariensis*): fair condition, 15m high, uneven canopy 4-6m wide.
- Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*): poor condition, 15m high.
- 2 x Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*): both in poor condition, 18m high.
- 2 x Kurrajongs (*Brachychiton populneus*), one located on footpath outside property line

There are other relatively recent native and shrubby plantings, plus a number of weed species.

## Physical Conditions

Fair

## Intactness

Moderate

## Historical Australian Themes

Community & Culture; Educating

*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/>*