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# Cranbourne War Memorial



Cranbourne War Memorial front    Cranbourne War Memorial rear face    Cranbourne War Memorial

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## Location

High Street, CRANBOURNE, Casey City

## Municipality

CASEY CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO168

## Heritage Listing

Casey City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 8, 2004

### What is significant?

The Cranbourne War Memorial, originally constructed c.1919, then relocated by 1952 to adjacent to the Cranbourne Shire Offices, and to the present site in c.1990, at High Street, Cranbourne.

### How is it significant?

The Cranbourne War Memorial is of local historic and social significance to the City of Casey.

### Why is it significant?

Historically and socially, the Cranbourne War Memorial is significant for its associations with the local community as one of two memorials erected in the town to honour the memory of those who served and died in the two World Wars. (AHC criteria A4 and G1)

### Theme

#### 8. Building community life

Heritage Study/Consultant	Casey - Casey Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2004; Cranbourne Town Centre Heritage Overlays Review, Plan Heritage, 2020;
Construction dates	1919, 1949,
Hermes Number	63223
Property Number	

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### Usage/Former Usage

Memorial

### Physical Description 1

The Cranbourne War Memorial currently stands on the east side of the Greg Clydesdale Square, near the edge of the footpath along South Gippsland Highway. The Memorial is set on a low hexagonal bluestone- paved platform reached from the footpath by three steps. A group of flagstaves stand behind it on the lawn. The mature trees and grass lawns provide an appropriate and contextual setting to the war memorial.

The Memorial is a simplified cenotaph constructed of four large sections of sandstone on a minimal plinth. It appears that the sandstone is not solid in construction but comprised of vertical slabs around a core (possibly of concrete or rubble fill). Large flat slabs cover the sides of the cenotaph, while the front and rear faces have slightly recessed slabs with a filet edge around a recessed panel that extends the height of the cenotaph.

The topmost section has a raking top and, on the front, contains a bas-relief image of an angel flanked

by rows of helmeted men standing shoulder to shoulder wielding long rod-like objects. It appears that this is the only element of the cenotaph to survive from 1939. The top of the rear face has a slightly projecting slab with the engraved images of three servicemen and one servicewoman, which appears to be later in date than the angel bas-relief. There is raised bronze lettering on the lower blocks of the front and rear of the cenotaph reading: 'Erected to the memory of the citizens of the Shire of Cranbourne who fought in World Wars 1914-1918 / 1939-45. And in Korea & Vietnam / Malaya / Timor / Iraq / Afghanistan'.

The top step and sawn bluestone paving of the platform are recent in date, though the two lower steps are older. A power point has been added to the base of the cenotaph at its rear. Apparently due to theft on the back face of the cenotaph, some of the cast-bronze lettering and numbering has been replaced with poorly matching new elements that appear to be glued onto the stone (while original letters and numbers would have had concealed mechanical fixing).

The cenotaph is in a fairly good condition, though there are many chips to the edge of the sandstone slabs and some loss of pointing to the rear face.

## **Physical Conditions**

Good

## **Intactness**

Good/moderate - although it is not located on its original site.

## **Historical Australian Themes**

Community & Culture; Commemorating

*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/>*