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# Prunus ilicifolia

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## Location

Kew Residential Services, Princess Street,, KEW VIC 3101 - Property No T12063

## Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

## Level of significance

Regional

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 16, 2008

Contribution to the landscape of an historic garden  
Rare or localised:

The specimen of *Prunus ilicifolia* (Holly-leaved Cherry) forms part of a group of trees to the Main Drive, near the original entry off Princess Street. This small evergreen tree has distinctive leaves with spiny margins and is part of the planting within the grounds of Victoria's pre-eminent nineteenth century mental institution.

The *Prunus ilicifolia* is also of significance due to its rarity; it is one of less than ten known specimens in the State of Victoria.

Kew Lunatic Asylum, later known as Willsmere Mental Hospital, was constructed in spacious grounds on a hilltop overlooking the Yarra River in 1868-1872. The entry gates and lodge were constructed in 1873. It is believed that the avenues lining the drives were planted after this time. Kew Cottages was established to the east of the asylum in 1887 between the Main Drive and the Lower Drive.

Measurements; 28/02/2004

Spread (m): 11

Girth (m): 1.3

Height (m): 8.2

Estimated Age (Yrs): 80-100

Condition: Fair

Access: Restricted

Classified: 04/03/2004

Other Names Holly-Leaved Cherry,

Hermes Number 69102

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

Spread N-S: 11.5m Spread E-W: 11m

Height: 8.2m

Date Measured: 28/02/2004 Measured With: Clinometer

Measured By: B Gallacher

Estimated Age: 80-100 years.

Is the specimen: Wild / Cultivated? Cultivated.

*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/>*