

Quercus robur



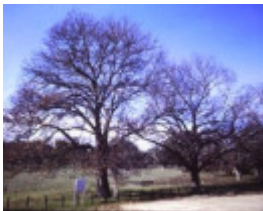
T11919 Quercus robur.
Removed



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Location

Taradale Public Park, Metcalfe - Taradale Road, TARADALE VIC 3447 - Property No T11919

Municipality

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

Level of significance

State

Heritage Listing

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 16, 2008

Historical significance

The two Royal Oaks are historically significant as commemorative trees planted to celebrate the wedding of the Prince of Wales to Princess Alexandra in 1863. Along with other plantings in Castlemaine, Maldon and Daylesford which celebrated the same event, they are important as being among the oldest commemorative oak plantings in Victoria. They are also important as being among the earliest tree specimens which remain to mark the existence of the former Taradale Botanical Gardens, established in the same year. Both the oak trees and the public gardens reflect Taradale's gold rush prosperity and the local community's desire to draw attention, not only to their success and accomplishments, but also to their loyalty. From the Victorian Heritage Register VHR 1389 "On 19th May 1863 celebrations were held at Taradale to commemorate the marriage of Prince Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, eldest son of Victoria and Albert and future King Edward VII, to Princess Alexandra, which had taken place on the 10th March. Arches were erected over the High Street Bridge, lights were displayed outside private homes and the general public enjoyed a 'sumptuous repast' supplied at the expense of the Municipal Council. Hotels provided free drinks, 250 children received 'buns, tea and fruit', and in the evening there was a grand fireworks display and bonfires on surrounding hills. The focus of the day's festivities was provided by a procession of the Municipal Council, Magistrates and Oddfellows who marched with the community to the Public Park accompanied by the Vaughan Brass Band. Here they officially planted two English oaks in honour of the Royal pair."

The two trees are of aesthetic significance as outstanding specimens of mature English oaks which contribute significantly to the landscape. The two trefoil-headed commemorative plaques which stand beside the trunks of the trees are important elements in the significance of the place.

The second tree planted for Princess Alexandra died and was removed in November 2006.

Measurements: c1983

Spread (m): 19.5

Girth (m):3.95

Height (m): 19.5

Estimated Age (yrs): 120

Access: Unrestricted

Classified: 29/11/1983

Other Names English Oak, Royal Oaks,

Hermes Number 71425

Property Number

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/>