

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: AVENUE OF HONOUR

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Hamilton Highway Scales Street PENS HurST

STUDY NUMBER: 271

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: Penshurst

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

PARISH: PARISH OF YALIMBA

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 475J D10-E9; VicRoads 233 Q10; located in the Hamilton Highway, part of which is Scales Street, on the east side of the township of Penshurst.

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



Avenue of Honour, Hamilton Highway and Scales Street, Penshurst

Image Date: 21/05/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the surviving trees and the road reserve.

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: AVENUE OF HONOUR

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Hamilton Highway Scales Street PENSHURST

STUDY NUMBER: 271

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The Penshurst Avenue of Honour consists of mixed traditional plantings located on either side the Hamilton Highway, the main plantings including London Plan (*Platanus x acerfolia*), English Oak (*Quercus robur*), *Ulmus procera* (English elm), although it appears that random other species have been used to replace these. The avenue has been planted as a living memorial dedicated to the men and women of Shire of Mount Rouse who served in World Wars One and Two. When the avenue was planted, each tree had a brass memorial plaque with the name of a soldier on it. These were removed at some time during the twentieth century.

HISTORY:

Avenues of honour were planted throughout Australia in the early 1920s to commemorate those Australians who had served, and in many cases fallen in the First World War 1914-1919. Common plantings were *Cupressus macrocarpa*, as they were a dark, somber tree, closely associated with cemeteries and symbolism of death. Although other trees were used, they were primarily European, and often had special symbolic significance. It was not common to see Australian plants included in Avenues of Honour or memorial plantings.

The Penshurst Avenue of Honour was planted to commemorate those who served in World Wars One and Two. There has been little information available regarding the decision on planting the avenue, the species selection or those who were involved. It is believed that the members of Penshurst RSL were responsible for raising the funds and Organising the planting of the avenue of honour in Scales Street. The trees were originally planted with a small brass plaque indicating the name of someone who had served. These were removed in the twentieth century.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 8: Developing Australia's cultural life
8.8 Remembering the fallen

Theme 9 - Marking the phases of life
9.7 Dying
9.7.3 Remembering the dead

CONDITION:

The trees are in good to fair condition. The commemorative plaques have been removed.

INTEGRITY:

Good degree of integrity but several trees are missing.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The Avenue of Honour was planted along the Hamilton Highway in the 1920s to honour the men of Penshurst and district who served in World War One. Later plantings were added for those who served in the Second World War. It was a typical response but of interest for being aesthetic rather than the more practical construction of a memorial hall. The memorial plaques associated with each tree have been removed although some survive elsewhere.

How is it significant?

The Avenue of Honour is of historical, social and aesthetic significance to the Southern Grampians Shire and to the district of Penshurst.

Why is it significant?

The Avenue of Honour in Penshurst is of social significance as a living memorial to all who served in World

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: AVENUE OF HONOUR

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Hamilton Highway Scales Street PENSURST

STUDY NUMBER: 271

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

Wars One and Two, including those who died and those who survived. Historically, it marks the loss and horror associated with World Wars and the community's respect and response to this sensibility. It is significant as an aesthetic rather than a pragmatic response.

COMPARISON:

056 Avenue of Honour, Glenelg Highway, Coleraine

189 Avenue of Honour, Penshurst - Byaduk Road, Byaduk

096 War Memorial, Glenthompson, Glenelg Highway, Glenthompson

ASSESSED BY: tfh

ASSESSMENT DATE:

08-May-02

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year	Page
	"Cannon has new location" Hamilton Spectator	02/05/1995	1995
