

Westfield Reserve

This is part of the Yarra Bend National Park but was early this century still the Fitzroy City Council Quarry.¹ The planting here, like Northcote Park but more so, is of such a varied and indiscriminate nature as to possess little landscape value or sense of period.

Mature Silver Poplars (A) line the Yarra Bend Drive and thus frame the reserve on the east. However these trees have been drastically pruned back, presumably because of nearby wires. Similar trees exist in a group to the west whilst some young European Ash (B) line what formerly was a riverside track (C) in this location (partially gone); to the south. The north border is composed of an uncertain mixture of Mahogany Gums (D), Cypress (E) and a mature Gum at the north-west corner, whilst another former walkway is indicated by the survival of a Lombardy Poplar (F) row, going north-south. A Golden Elm and a variety of recently introduced natives, in particular a row of inappropriate young Blue Gums (G), create further visual confusion.

The reserve was named after Cr T H Westfield JP who was elected to the Heidelberg Council in 1931 and became its President 1934-5. The planting was complete by 1937.

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Base: Lands Department 1960

